



Around Our World

ROANOKE VALLEY SISTER CITIES, INC.

Volume 17, Issue 1

January–April 2013

A love letter to our Sister City Lijiang:
“Greetings from the Blue Ridge Mountains”

Rebecca Chang – Vice-Chair, Lijiang Sister City Committee

This early morning in May at the feet of Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains, the City of Roanoke at a young thirteen-decades age, rests in a large nest of forested hills and some scattered lakes. Cardinal birds sing songs greeting spring’s dawn. The sun is rising in a pale blue sky. In the refreshing morning breeze, crystal dewdrops dot the white, violaceous and crimson azalea petals and green leaves. One could feel lost amidst its vibrancy of colors and freshness of fragrance. What a glorious day awaits us on this beautiful morning...

At the same moment in time, half a world away, in the sky-high northwest of China’s Yunnan Province, nestled at the broad foot of Jade Dragon Mountain is the ancient City of Lijiang. Its sun is slowly beginning to set behind the arching snow-capped mountain. Hanging under the eaves of weathered traditional-style shops, thousands of the red lanterns are starting to light up, one after another, announcing approaching night. In a mesh of tributaries, the river flows along-side the city’s stone streets reflecting the brilliant colors and hues. In the colorful reflections, gold fish swim happily around each other. Ancient Dongba hangings, also under the shop and building eaves, are lit one after another. Music



wafts in and out of deep winding alleys, carried away on the cool night breeze heading for the old “Silk Road” to the south. In the town square, Naxi, Tibiten, Yi and people from dozens of other minority tribes dance to ancient traditional music and songs. Brilliant and bright azaleas bloom beautifully, just as in Roanoke, on mountainsides, by lakes, and in gardens. Our dear sister city Lijiang is embracing a wonderful spring evening...



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Although Roanoke and Lijiang seem so different by history, culture, language, and geographic locations, the two cities have much in common. They both have people who care for each other; work to promote respect, mutual understanding, harmony and peace. Just look around Roanoke Valley: Here in Roanoke on May 18th, resident people from 103 ‘root’ countries and heritages celebrated the diversity of the city in a 23 year-old annual festival. It’s well known as “Local Colors.” The founder of this wonderful multicultural year-long program is Pearl Fu, who has roots in the Yi tribe of Yunnan. Pearl is also well known as the Founder & Chair of the Roanoke-Lijiang Sister City.

In Lijiang, over twenty different tribes have lived peacefully together for a thousand+ years. Yet they keep their individual traditions, languages and culture. Shangri-la is nearby! At the same time the people find a common language to tie them together as a citizen of the City of Lijiang.

In her Mother Pearl’s footsteps, Colette Fu, a photojournalist, artist, former Fulbright scholar to Yunnan and Lijiang, is skillfully documenting and preserving the colors and cultural “DNA” of their dozens of diverse peoples.

This basic tenacious tie to unity is why we are more alike than different. We are sisters and brothers in the human family. We are messengers to each other, each in our own cities and countries.

In this beautiful spring morning, as vice chair-person of the Roanoke/ Lijiang Sister City Committee --- with my own roots in the north neighboring Province of Sichuan (aka Szechuan) in its capital City of Chengdu, I am privileged to send greetings to you, our dear sister

city, Lijiang. There’s so much yet we can learn from each other, do together with each other and be up-front we can make this world more harmonious, more sharing, more peaceful.

Sincerely, your proud and loving sister in *both* cities, Rebecca, (Bairong – 白蓉).

* I took these photos during multiple times I have visited Lijiang, and will again! They show some of the true colors of Lijiang. R.C.



**“PATRICK CAVALHEIRO,
Musician from Santa Catarina, Brazil”** by Rose Ann Burgess



Maristane Rocha, Luigi's Restaurant, welcomes Patrick to Roanoke

Patrick Cavalheiro, in association with the *Partners of the Americas* visited Virginia, April 5 to 17th . He began studying music at the age of seven. Patrick has become proficient in piano, violin, cello, orchestra and choral conducting.

In Florianópolis, through the University of Southern Santa Catarina, UNISUL, he is the conductor of the UNISUL Orchestra and is the first violinist of the UNISUL Quartet. He is a very busy musician as he works as a professor of string instruments at the Association of Friends of Music in Cacador, Santa Catarina. He also conducts the chamber and symphonic Orchestras as well as the choirs.

Patrick is also employed in the City of Curitiba, teaching violin, conducting the orchestra, the children and youth choirs. Along with studying music, he has majors in business administration and accounting.

His stay in Virginia began in Richmond where he first visited cultural and historical sites in the city. Many members of *Partners* made him feel welcome by entertaining him in their homes. He worked with students in several private schools in Richmond. He also coached a youth harp ensemble of over 25 harpists for their upcoming appearance at Lincoln Center.

The highlight of his trip in Richmond was serving as guest conductor of the Richmond Symphony Orchestra as they presented a special concert to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Several choral students from Hollins University sang in the all-college choir that was a part of the event. Patrick was invited by the General Assembly as a special guest at the pre-concert reception.

Patrick came to Roanoke on Sunday, April 14, with Judith Cline and Bill Krause. He attended a rehearsal of the Roanoke Youth Symphony and observed several music classes at Hidden Valley High School. He was entertained in the home of Rose Ann Burgess, a Board member of *Partners of Americas*, for a dinner attended by Florianópolis Sister City members as well as *Partners* members living in the area.

On Monday, Bill Krause took Patrick to Heartwood in Abingdon. This facility is a center for regional culture, with a bookstore, performance space and exposition area for artists and craftsmen. They had lunch with Jack Hinshelwood, executive director of the *Crooked Road Foundation* and Jonathan Romero, a Virginia based composer of symphonic music as well as other styles of music.

After lunch, Jack and Patrick traded “licks” on the fiddle, with Jack playing mountain music and Patrick playing tango and bossa nova. Bill also played a beautiful handmade Anderson guitar. Patrick had a great time listening and playing a style of music that was new to him.

Tuesday was spent sight seeing in Roanoke. Of course, the Mill Mountain Star is the first stop for any visitor. He was in awe at the beauty of St. Andrew's Catholic Church. The organist, Kelly Wheelbarger, played the organ for him and he also had a chance to play some Bach. A friend had told him about Greene Memorial Methodist Church so he admired the windows and architecture there.

Mayor Bowers greeted him in his office. He was most gracious to him and presented Patrick with mementos of the city. The afternoon was spent going to the Link Museum, the Transportation Museum and the Hotel Roanoke, with David Helmer as his guide. The evening dinner was at Luigi's. Wednesday, he visited at Hollins University before he boarded his plane that afternoon and headed back to Brazil with fond memories of Virginia.



Patrick conducting the UR Orchestra

Rose Ann

“Bienvenue aux Habitants de Saint-Lô”

Mary Jo Fassié (Chair) & Cammie Williams

On Friday, April 26, we had the pleasure of greeting ten visitors from Saint-Lô, led by Jeanine Vérove, Présidente of the St.-Lô /Roanoke Committee in France. The next day, Cornelia Marin, artist from Saint-Lô, arrived with Paulette Lemarigner.

We gladly welcomed these 12 visitors, with a potluck dinner at Larry and Regina Rackow's on Sunday evening. Guests recounted time spent with families on Friday and Saturday. They enjoyed the relaxed pace of the weekend given that they had just spent a week in New York. Some hiked while others attended the ballet or local festivals. Jean Mesnidrey was even treated to a glider ride with the Henshaws!

Unfortunately, rain was in the forecast

for Monday so we had to cancel our group hike; we visited museums instead. At O. Winston Link, we enjoyed seeing the human documentaries that he included in his train photos. Also, there was an unexpected bonus of an exhibit by Vivian Maier who was French but moved to New York and Chicago and worked as an au pair in the 60's. Her street photos were clever and natural. What a shame that her talent was only discovered after her death. All enjoyed their lunch at Nawab. We then visited shops on the Market before finishing our day at the Transportation museum.

On Tuesday, the group gathered in front of the Market Building for a tour of Roanoke led by Norma Jean Peters. The Saint-Lô visitors loved the Sister City Columns in Century Plaza and took lots of photos of the one dedicated to their city. They found the tribute to Martin Luther King and the symbolism of the bridge a fitting emblem to the end of segregation. Later that morning, the group gathered in Mayor Bower's office for a chat and the traditional photo in the mayor's chair. After lunching in the Market Building, the group was transported to the D-Day



*Saint-Lô residents visit Century Plaza,
Tuesday, April 30, 2013*

Memorial which impressed all by its size and historical references.

Their visit ended too soon as the ten travelers departed Wednesday for Charlottesville and then to Culpeper to visit with Sally Howie, the daughter of Major Thomas Howie who led the American troupes to liberate St-Lô and lost his life in battle. On Thursday, they visited the DC before leaving for France on Friday.

Cornelia Marin's visit was made possible through a Mini-Arts and Cultural Plan Implementation Grant from Roanoke and the Foundation for Roanoke Valley. During her two-week visit, Marin created a temporary installation at Wilson Hughes Gallery in downtown Roanoke called "L'Evolution de la Femme (The Evolution of Woman)." Marin's work was exhibited during an invitation-only viewing on May 9 at the gallery. In addition, she participated in three outreach programs at the Taubman Museum of Art and was introduced to Mayor Bowers and Roanoke City Council. Our thanks to Suzun Hughes, Bernard Marie and Mary Jo Fassie for translation duties.

Many thanks to the host families, our committee and Jeanine Vérove for organizing another great visit. A return trip is tentatively being planned for the summer of 2014.



*Visitors from St-Lô gather at the Rackows
on Sunday, April 28. Jeanine Vérove is on the left next to Cornelia Marin, St-Lô artist.*

“Here’s the Latest News”

Dr. Charles L. Downs

After spending over 60 hours collaborating with Executive Director Jack Tompkins and volunteer John Makay in completing RVSC grant applications for the City of Roanoke and for Roanoke County, we knew their specific requirements now necessitate having formal business plans and a universal Strategic Plan.

Accordingly, at VTCSOM (School of Medicine) on February 20, 2013, we secured the assistance of President and Dean Dr. Cynda Johnson and her helpful staff for an extensive Strategic Planning Session. With fine representation from our liaison sister city committees and community board members, we identified 3 specific areas where we need to develop Action Plans. Copies of the discussion transcript and power-point presentation have been e-mailed to all and also are available by e-mail through Jean Broyles (LVQDAY@cox.net), RVSC Liaison Secretary.

Jack and I are meeting with Ad-hoc Committees on Programs, Public Relations and Funding. Specific actions for measurable results in each area are being developed. These recommendations will be presented to the BOD on May 1 for comment and tweaking.

The May 1st meeting’s recommendations and revisions will require final approval at the BOD meeting, together with adoption of our annual budget, Wednesday, June 26th , 5:30 p.m., at South Roanoke United Methodist Church.

At our Annual Meeting at Roanoke College, April 20, 2013, we welcomed as guest speakers Thomas A. Lisk, Esq, current Chairman of Sister Cities International and middle son of RVSC’s decades-long servant E.D., the late David K. Lisk; and also welcomed another distinguished citizen diplomat, M. Nicolas Valcour, Honorary Consul - Republic of France in Virginia, introduced by St.-Lô member, Bernard Marie.

We had an excellent attendance (68). Due to the unavailability of the Wortmann Ball Room in March, the annual dinner meeting this year held in April proved to be a bonus, the weather was wonderful. *Next year March 29th!*

CLD

THOMAS A. LISK

ECKERT SEAMANS CHERIN & MELLOTT, LLC
 707 E. MAIN STREET, SUITE 1450
 RICHMOND, VA 23219

Tom Lisk, a native Roanoker, is the Chairman of Sister Cities International. While Tom first became involved in the Sister Cities program participating in Roanoke with the Wonju and Kisumu relationships, he later was elected as the Chairman of Sister Cities International National Youth Program in 1980. Thereafter, Tom was elected to the SCI National Board of Directors in 1981. Tom later moved to Richmond Virginia to practice law. In Richmond, he continued to be active in the Sister Cities program when he was appointed by City Council to serve on the Richmond Sister Cities Commission and later was elected to serve as Chairman of the Commission. After a 28-year hiatus, Tom again was elected to the SCI Board of Directors in 2009 and in 2012 was elected to serve a two-year term as Chairman of the Board.

In his spare time, Tom is a partner in the Richmond, Virginia office of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, where he practices in the areas of corporate law, administrative law and legislative affairs. Tom has been recognized by Virginia Business magazine as a member of its "Legal Elite" for Lobbying/Regulatory, by Best Lawyers in America for Administrative Law and Government Relations Law, and by Virginia Super Lawyers for Administrative Law.

Tom is a graduate of Washington & Lee University where he was awarded a B.A., cum laude, in Politics in 1980 and a J.D. in 1985.

"Pskov's New News" Dr. Sasha Saari, Chairperson

Be on the look out for a good report from Dr. Cynda Johnson in the next issue of AOW! Cynda and her husband Bruce have just returned May 18th from a trip to Russia where they met with members of the Pskov City Administration for discussions about our Sister City initiatives. We look forward to hearing details of their trip!

Closer to home, Miss Olga Glazkova has returned to Pskov after studying at Ferrum College for a full academic year under the auspices of our long standing student program. Olga was widely liked by students, staff and faculty. She was involved in numerous campus activities and by all accounts actually brought the audience to tears with her solo during the college's "spring choir" concert. She took part in a number of theatrical performances - and all of this while maintaining superb grades in her academic courses. She will be missed. But the program will continue! The Pskov State University has informed us that their student participant for Ferrum's fall semester has been chosen: Dmitrii Golovin will arrive in Virginia in late August. Sasha

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Koreans in "Parade of Nations"



"Love Song" lovers Park, Pyeong-Kwang & Kim, Yi-Jeong



Marching Korean Dancers- keeping the beat!



Lovers together at the end of "Sarang-ga"



Bamboo flutist Choi, Yeo-yeong casts a music-spell assisted by drummer Mr. Kang



Hour-glass drummer Kang, Young-Gu in his unfailing strong steady beats.



Ms. Kim- Sedate movements in dance with crescendo whirling & jumps.



Kim, Yi-Jeong in humble bow, Korean-style



Classic Korean unison whirling, percussion dancing



Lauran Glover smiling; Gracie Glover musically steps to the rhythm



Percussion dancer - whirling gigantic ribbon (36+ ft. long), never touches the ground!



Ms. Grace Elizabeth Glover taking everything in!



Jay Saunders, Pres. L.C. awards Chae, Byung-Doo, Pres. Wonju City Council and Ms. Kim for excellent cultural artistry. Pearl Fu assists.

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Next stop: Insa-Dong. We look around at antiques, art, and many stores. I was asked by Eun-Suk before the trip took place which orphanage I would like for us to tour... one in Seoul with "Holt Adoption," or one farther away but with more children (Jecheon Infant Home)?

[Editor's note: Part II of Lauran's 'Korea Odyssey' continues in AOW Vol. 17, issue 1. It's an unanticipated climax: the unveiling of woven long-term relationships beyond happenstance.]

O

"Truly...Happy Trail" Lauran Roth Glover, P.A. [Part II]

"Jecheon"

N

For no particular reason I chose the orphanage farther away, "Jecheon Infant Home," headed by "Jane White" - the American Founder and President... hmmm... why does that name sound familiar? We'll go there tomorrow.

J

To finish the day in Seoul, we visited the famous "North Tower"...also a treat with breathtaking views of the expansive Seoul City, 12 million residents! We return to Wonju and check into the 5-star Hotel Interburgo where even the television screens in our room greet us by name when we enter... amazing!! It's another wonderful meal and then off to bed to get ready for tomorrow.

U

October 9: We arrive at "Cheongpung Cultural Heritage Complex" and have another wonderful lunch of Bibimbap ("Stir fried rice and veggies.") We travel to "Jecheon Infant Home," 30 miles due south of Wonju.

P

We are seated around Jane White. She is telling us about the home. There are photographs of tiny sweet faces under the coffee table glass, as they serve us tea and cookies. She tells us the story of her assistant who will soon take Jane's place, thinking to retire.

A

Her assistant suffered a leg amputation in a train accident when she was only about 4 years old. "She was spared further amputation and her life by a wonderful surgeon working at Wonju Union Christian Hospital. Eun-Suk pipes in, states that my father was also a surgeon there at that time... you guessed it... once I mentioned, "My Father is Dr. Roth," Jane's eyes got wide. She exclaimed with glee, "HE was the very surgeon that saved her life." She went on that my adopted sister, Joy came from this very home, and that Jane was her escort who personally flew with Joy to our home in Roanoke when she was 8 years old, 1977, arriving on Easter Sunday... The world became very small! At that point, she realized exactly who I was and gave me a big hug and told me about how she and my Father were supported by churches back in the United States. "We were good friends and knew each other very well. Your Dad treated many of our kids."

G

Truly, God works in wonderful and mysterious ways! (By this time my travel companions were wondering why we couldn't go anywhere without Koreans knowing who "Dr. Roth" is! I'm wondering the same thing. Have they given me such royal treatment because of parents who have set an honorable legacy?) I'm definitely feeling I'm in a second home!

E

In an aura of continuing surprise, we head back to Wonju to a wonderful farewell reception hosted by the Deputy Mayor, Yong-Hoon Park. More reporters await us. We are given copies of newspapers in which articles and photos are printed from along the way.

October 10: We have a meeting with the wonderful Chairman Chae (remember the pears?) where we thank him profusely for amazing hospitality (best in the world, I believe)! We were able to do some shopping in Wonju and go to the famous "E-mart" – a huge Korean mall-type store where we were able

to pick up goodies/gifts to bring home. We also had lunch at the same service area (remember the toilets?) where we had started our trip. Then off to Incheon airport. We exchange gifts and said ‘goodbyes’ to people who had become as extended family, including our wonderful bus driver, Mr. Lee and our incredible hostess, Eun-Suk. As I stood in the customs line, a part of me felt like I was leaving home... strange. It took me time to process all that happened.

What I brought home with me was not in my luggage; it was something I never expected. I felt Korean! I’m still very American. This is where my citizenship and most of my life has been. I have served in her armed forces (USAF) and reside here in Hampton, Virginia. But I felt so welcomed and they truly made me feel as though I was a long-lost daughter... everyone kept thanking our parents for raising us so well. I also echo my parents whose actions so long ago lovingly brought me from that “hospital doorstep” to theirs and have truly “raised me well”.

The Honorable Mayor Weon and his staff, Chairman Chae, Vice Mayor Park, Dr. Kim, Mr. Lee and the wonderful and amazing Miss Eun-Suk Jeong deeply wanted to welcome us back home to Korea. It was a “Happy Trail” that ended with my renewed sense of identity of a heritage lost so many years ago--- now restored.

“Today” is called “the present” in which to rejoice. Each day here was a present beyond measure! I’m grateful for the sincere friendship and hospitality so generously given every day by Honorable Mayor Weon and his staff, especially Miss Eun-Suk (Ji-Woo) Jeong, who treated me as a sister from day one! So not only did I receive a gift of renewed sense of self; but one of unbreakable ties to special people in my country of origin --- to which I hope to return soon. **LRG**

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Holt Adoption Agency in Seoul



Jane White (head of table) at Jecheon Infant Home



*Roanoke Sister City Display
City Hall, Wonju*



*My “mug shot” as an orphan
before being adopted*

In Memoriam

Phyllis Eanes [1916- 2013]

In a message dated 1/24/2013 9:36:14 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, lvqday@aol.com writes:

“All: Don’t know if you saw the obituary for “Phyllis Eanes” or if you knew her? She was 97. I noted that she had been a treasurer for the RVSC in the past and a director of the Wonju Committee. I thought you might want to add her name to a list of deceased members for the Annual dinner.

“Phyllis and I (Jean Broyles) attended the Huntington Court UMC; she was a daughter of missionaries to China. Her talks (at church) probably influenced my interest in missions!”

Jean Broyles 1-24-13

Jean: 1-24-13

Thanks for bringing this to our attention. Yes, Dot and I knew her well. We first met Phyllis at the Roanoke Civic Center (1975?) during an international program involving Roanoke’s Wonju Sister City. I was wearing an authentic Korean man’s outfit for the occasion; she was wearing a light blue Korean Hanbok! She was attracted to me because of my classical Korean man’s suit. She was a person of diminutive stature, a friendly voice, ready smile, a servant personality--- always helping the Wonju Sister City Committee with good deeds including paying vouchers, as treasurer.

In conversing about Korea, we discovered she was the daughter of missionaries in Peking (Beijing). who enrolled her to the English Language Mission School in PyungYang, now capital of North Korea. I just happened to know a missionary friend who went to the same school. We discovered that Phyllis was the *roommate* of Margaret Judy (nee Brannan), our missionary friend. While spending only her high school years in North Korea, during her lifetime she loved the Korean people, traditional dress, customs and cuisine. *It was a miracle for us to meet that day in Roanoke.* Years later, when the Judys visited us in Roanoke, we got the roommates to relive life 56 years ago.

More to report: Phyllis’ son owns and manages “Paul’s Restr” at 13 Franklin Rd., 982-9583. Incidentally, Phyllis was a Sunrise Avenue ‘older’ neighbor of Gordon Blake, Co-Chair of Pskov Sister City.

About Margaret Judy: she was born in Wonsan, North Korea about 1916. Consequently, she was fluent in vernacular Korean. In North Korea, her Father was a well known preacher, Rev. Brannan, a Methodist Church itinerant pastor. Her husband, Rev. Carl Judy from West Virginia, was also a multi-talented pastor. They lived in the oldest western brick house in Wonju, much like the houses around Roanoke Valley. June 25, 1950, their family escaped the North Korean invaders by a day driving to Pusan. Carl returned to Wonju after the War, 1953, and had to reclaim the mission property and then be site-manager of the construction of the *original* Wonju Union Christian Hospital, dedicated November, 1959. I joined the mission and Korean staff, including a very young Chief of Surgery, Dr. Young U. Kim, and served as a medical/ surgical missionary, 1961-1972. Dr. Kim had trained and covered the ER in the Old Jefferson Hospital in Roanoke. Very small globe!

Of additional interest, 47 yrs. ago, Jan. 23, 1968, the North Korean East Coast port city of Wonsan was where our “spy” (intel-gathering) ship, “USS Pueblo,” was seized by North Koreans. Incidentally, a crew member of the USS Pueblo in captivity was Mr. Charles W. Ayling, a current Roanoke -- Windsor Ave. --resident!*

Dr. Roth

* The Pueblo was seized off North Korea on Jan. 23, 1968, while it was on an ‘intelligence-gathering’ mission. North Korea says the ship was inside its coastal zone, disputed. Navy records said it was in international waters. One crew member was killed in the attack, and 10 were wounded. The crewmen were held captive for 11 months.

“Report on Obunga Outreach 16/2/13” - Dr. Ruby Sokwala, M.D.

On Saturday 16th Feb 2012, our team of 3 ladies from “Fellowship Bible Church,” Kisumu, visited the “Green-life Widows and Orphans Group.”

Since 2012, we have been supporting them: with clothes, food, sewing machines, training by Mary Aloka in making baskets and other items for income generation. The floors in two classrooms were cement, among other activities.

The Lord put it on our hearts to minister the word to them before Kenya’s general elections of 4th March 2013*. As part of the FBC Evangelism program, with the blessings of Pastor F. Obala and Elders Robert and Peter Raila, our team of 3 ladies went with great expectations.

We are so happy to report that 15 out of the registered 17 widows attended. We got to know each one by name, age, occupation and # of dependants.

Mary and Margaret ministered in Dholuo (Luo, Nyanza language) and distributed 15 copies of the “Daily Bread” (devotional) in Dholuo. Then the widows had time to share with us as we all enjoyed a snack and juice.

All sent FBC their thanks and greetings in the Lord. We were blessed, uplifted by their joy and dependence on the Lord in spite of trying circumstances. We promised a follow-up, after national elections, and urge members of FBC to continue praying for their protection and provision, even as they pray for us.

Mary, Margaret and Ruby
Fellowship Bible Church, Kisumu

*Two thousand five hundred year old satire from the world’s first democracy!

*...We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office!
Aesop, Greek*

++++
Mon, 18/2/13, Fran Obala Pastor Fransis Obala <franobala@yahoo.com>
From: Fran Obala - Pastor F. Obala

Thanks, Dr Ruby, for a powerful quote. It carries a very powerful message.*

Once you are through with your report, just kindly send it to me through the church`s e-mail so I can forward it to the members. Blessings!!

Pastor Fransis Obala Fellowship Bible Church, Kisumu.

Cell no:0720-286115 E-mail:franobala@yahoo.com

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At present, while our Kisumu SCC is inactive, this “Dr. Ruby” e-report came from our long-time pillar of the Kisumu-Roanoke SCC. *A blessing!* Dr. Marylen Harmon

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“OPOLE news” - Dr. Kris Bulas Slowikowski

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Our community outreach program continued with a showing of the movie “Nine Days that Changed the World” at the South County Library in Roanoke County in February 2013. This film depicted Pope John Paul II first visit to Poland after his selection to the papacy and how that visit spurred the Polish population to quietly revolt and ultimately bring about the end of the Polish communist regime.

Audience members of Polish descent tearfully remembered that period as many actually lived and had experienced that historic visit. This film was produced by Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista – who is of Polish descent. The film introduced Karol Wojtyla as a young man, through his life changing events leading to priest hood, papacy and his influence on world history. The non-Polish members in the audience were very moved and appreciated the Opole committee’s commitment to educating Roanoke’s citizens on topics regarding their Sister City and items of interest regarding Poland.

Several individuals in the Roanoke community also attended a very interesting meeting in March 2013 sponsored by the University of Virginia in Charlottesville regarding the massacre of several thousand Polish officers during World War II in Soviet Russia at a site called “Katyn.” Until recently Russia denied knowledge and responsibility for the officers’ disappearance – despite mass graves found at the Katyn Forest site. Experts from Poland, Russia and the USA participated at this unique event.

We are looking forwards to Local Colors annual celebration on May 18th. K.S.



Coy lovers’ dance- ‘Sarang-ga’



Solo flute ‘Daegeumsanjo’ songs



Closing with gift exchanges! (SML)



Circular dance , ‘Sangmo’ plume hats.



Flute & hourglass drum duo (SML)

ROANOKE VALLEY SISTER CITIES -CALENDAR - www.rvsci.us

May: 2013

- 1st -- RVSC Corporate Bd. meeting - South Rke U. Methodist Church, 5:30 p.m.
- 16-20th – Wonju Guests' visit: special performances
- 18th - Local Colors – Jefferson St. & Elmwood Park, 11a.m. - 5 p.m. "Bigger and Better!"
- Wonju- Drummers & Dancers performance, dignitaries at L.C. [early afternoon – don't miss it!]

June: 2013

- 26th - RVSC Corporate Bd. meeting - South Rke U. Methodist Church, 5:30 p.m.

July: 2013

- 14th - St.-Lo Bastille & RVSC Corp Bd. picnic meeting, Longwood Park, Salem, 5 p.m.

August: 2013

September: 2013

October: 2013

- 3 - 6th _Ferrum College - 100th Anniversary festival.

Contact persons: [www.rvsci.us] Regularly check it out ---it's beautiful.
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Annual Membership - Roanoke Valley Sister Cities New Renewal

July 2013 – June 2014

Cities: Wonju Kisumu Pskov Florianopolis Opole Lijiang St. Lo

Individual: \$15 - one city ___ # cities x \$15 = ___ [Example: 7 cities x \$15 = \$105]

Family: \$30 – one city ___ # cities X \$30 = _____ Total # of family members ___

DONATION: Donor \$50 // *Sponsor* \$100 // **Judge** \$250 // **Consul** \$500 //
 President \$1000

Specify for: RVSC Corporate _____ // &/or for: City// Cities - per city _____ **TOTAL**
AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ **Check(s) #** _____ **Date** _____

Name (Please print) _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____
Tel. (home) _____ (cell) _____ **E-mail** _____

Make Check(s) to "Roanoke Valley Sister Cities"

Mail to RVSC - P.O. Box 136 - Roanoke, VA 24002
 All gifts/donations are tax deductible to extent provided by law
 501 c 3 – Fed. ID #51-0246592 [www.rvsci.us]

Membership Totals for 2013-14 (as of 5-22-13)

City	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Wonju	88	82	94	72	82	85	74	65	74	62	60	98	70	46
Kisumu	55	52	64	83	57	65	68	51	50	46	44	50	29	24
Pskov	68	64	66	68	78	70	57	58	63	36	41	35	42	35
Florianópolis	47	44	45	46	41	46	42	32	39	38	43	54	61	51
Opole	30	24	16	16	28	27	30	18	22	20	30	32	41	37
Lijiang	64	64	68	95	44	55	42	34	43	37	36	46	17	21
St.-Lo	69	60	76	63	87	76	71	67	67	62	60	52	58	69
totals	421	390	429	443	417	424	384	325	358	301	314	367	318	283

"Membership year" starts July 1st each year. Dues pd after April 1st 2013 continue active membership to June 30, 2014.

S I S T E R C I T I E S C A L E N D A R

ROANOKE VALLEY SISTER CITIES, INC.
P.O. BOX 136
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P. 1 – 2 “A Love Letter to Lijiang” – Rebecca Chang
P. -3 Florianópolis: “Patrick Cavalheiro” - Rose Ann Burgess
P. 4 –5 “Bienvenue aux Habitants de Saint-Lô” – Mary Jo Fassié & Cammie Williams
P. 6 - “Here’s the Latest News” Dr. Charles Downs
P. 7 - “SCI Guest C.V.” – Thomas A. Lisk, Esq.
“Pskov’s New News” Sasha Saari

P.8 –9 Center fold Local Colors Photogallery –May 18th (Bruce Muncy)

P. 10-11 - Wonju – “Truly ... Happy Trail” Part II - Lauran Roth Glover

P. 12- “In Memoriam - Phyllis Eanes”
P. 13 - Kisumu - “Report on Obunga Outreach 16/2/13” - Dr. Ruby Sokwala

P.14- “Opole News” Dr. Kris Bulas Slowikowski
Photogallery - Korean Drum & Dance –Local Colors & SML (Michael Liew)

P.15- “Calendar & Membership Page”

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