



ROCKVILLE SISTER CITY CORPORATION  
NEWSLETTER

[www.rockvillesistercities.org](http://www.rockvillesistercities.org)

Rockville Sister City Incorporated (RSCC) is a non-profit corporation founded in 1986 in order to support and promote mutual understanding through personal experience based on Youth, Educational, Cultural and Commercial Exchanges among Sister Cities throughout the World.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Brigitta Mullican President—RSCC

There is always something to celebrate. In February our counterpart the Pinneberg organization, the German-American Society, celebrated its 30th Anniversary. Unfortunately, no one from Rockville was able to attend their celebration, but RSCC did send a beautiful flower arrangement for the occasion and our Mayor and Council sent a congratulatory letter. We thank Dunja Baker for arranging for the delivery of the beautiful flowers and banner from the RSCC.

Before we all know it 2017 will be here and the City of Rockville and RSCC will be celebrating its 60th Rockville-Pinneberg Sister City Anniversary. We are very thankful for all the **corporate** sponsors we have who support our program, and we are planning for the big anniversary. It is hoped that many supporters will help us celebrate in Pinneberg and in Rockville.



Flower arrangement of Rockville Sister City Corporation

the price of \$3,099 For RSCC Members - \$150.00 is tax deductible. The trip is scheduled for September 7-19, 2014 and will cover 8 fabulous Chinese cities including our Sister Friendship City of Jiaxing.

### Board Meeting Schedule

Rockville Sister City Corporation Board meetings are open to the public. The meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month (except December) starting at 7:30 p.m. in Rockville City Hall on 111 Maryland Avenue. The scheduled dates for 2014 are:

January 14	July 8
February 11	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	

The 2014 Annual RSCC Membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 23 in the Rockville Glenview Mansion.

With our Jiaxing Friendship Sister City Relationship, we are again offering a **tour to China** at a very reasonable cost. The entire proposal is on our website. This trip is available to anyone, but an individual RSCC membership of \$20 is required. By April 30, 2014, we need 10-20 people to guarantee

### Corporate Sponsors Recognized

\* Indicates new business sponsor

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**RSCC Participates in Multicultural Day**  
**by Chris Malone**

On Saturday January 25, 2014, the Rockville Sister City Corporation (RSCC) participated in a Multicultural Day at St. Mary's Parish, Rockville, Maryland.

The RSCC provided several displays and tables listing facts about Germany and the RSCC's 50 year sister city relationship with Pinneberg, Germany. The RSCC engages each year with Pinneberg in mutually beneficial exchanges, which include cultural, educational, artistic, and musical programs.

The RSCC tables featured traditional clothing, food, books, brochures, exhibits, photographs, and items from Germany. The display included lederhosen, leather shorts with suspenders worn by men and boys, and a kinder cone, a cone like container given to a child to commemorate the first day of school.

The RSCC team included President, Brigitta Mullican, Board members, Liz Von Kaenel, Steve Fisher, and Marika Brown, and RSCC member Clair Whitaker. The team gave out gummy bears, chocolate Lebkuchen cookies, and Springerle anise cookies to children that correctly answered questions about Germany and stamped passports.

Groups from five continents and thirteen countries presented displays, which included the USA, Germany, Ireland, Poland, Armenia, China, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nigeria, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Uganda. In addition, eight countries presented

musical, artistic and dance performances representing the culture of the county.

Children played a passport game by visiting the table of each country and having their passport stamped after sampling the food or learning one interesting fact about the country. After collecting a stamp from each country for their passport, each child then received as a prize a one-of a kind Multicultural Day T-shirt created by the 8th grade class of St. Mary's School. View photos of this event on our Facebook Photo Album at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.603775423021280.1073741878.202838053115021&type=1&limit=353731b34b>

**Unannounced visit results in cultural exchange**

by Elizabeth Waibel Staff writer



*Daniel Morris Pinneberg Mayor Urte Steinberg, left, meets with Rockville resident Daniel Morris during his visit to Pinneberg.*

There was an article in the January 15, 2014 **Rockville Gazette** about Daniel Morris, a Rockville student who made a surprise visit to Pinneberg, Germany where he received a warm welcome from Bürgermeisterin Urte Steinberg. The article can be viewed at: <http://www.gazette.net/article/20140115/NEWS/14011972>

[1/0/rockville-student-receives-warm-welcome-in-pinneberg&template=gazette](http://1/0/rockville-student-receives-warm-welcome-in-pinneberg&template=gazette)

## Wine Tasting – March 28, 7-9 pm

The Rockville Sister City Corporation will hold its Spring Wine Tasting Benefit on Friday, March 28, 2014, 7.00 pm at the Glenview Mansion, Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville MD.

Reservations received by March 20 are \$25 or \$30 at the door. Please make check payable to RSCC and send names, contact information and check to Rockville Sister City Corp., Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave, Rockville, MD 20850. For the reservation flyer and additional information, please visit [www.rockvillesistercities.org](http://www.rockvillesistercities.org) or contact Brigitta Mullican at rockvillesistercities@gmail.com.

## RSCC President Visits RSCC Members in Florida

While in Florida, President Brigitta Mullican had the opportunity to meet with RSCC members who have relocated to Florida, where the weather has been better than all the snow and cold weather we have had in Rockville this year.



Brigitta Mullican with Dick & Judy Knorpp in Naples, FL

In Naples Brigitta and RSCC member George Albrecht were invited to lunch at Dick and Judy Knorpp's home. Dick is one of the original founders

of RSCC, which was incorporated in October 1986. He and Judy moved to Naples 2 ½ years ago.

In Sarasota Rotraut and Larry Bockstahler invited Brigitta and George for dinner to toast the Pinneberg German American Society for their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. Rotraut served as the RSCC president for two years and was very involved in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary planning.



Rotraut Bockstahler and Brigitta Mullican in Sarasota, FL

In Clearwater, FL, George and Brigitta were hosted by Myrtle Sachs, who served as RSCC Secretary in 1996. She became active in the Clearwater Sister City program.



Brigitta with Myrtle Sachs in Clearwater, FL

## Chinese New Year Exhibit – “Year of the Horse”

The Rockville Citibank on Rockville Pike exhibited Bing Huang's Chinese New Year Art. The Branch Manager,



Angela Mitchell, became a fan of Bing's artwork and offered to arrange exhibition space for his paintings, themed on 2014 being the Chinese New Year "Year of the Horse." Several members of the RSCC Board attended the receptions and exhibit.

Bing provided calligraphy work for the Chinese New Year activities held at Lakeforest Mall in Gaithersburg, Md., Jan 27 through February 7. He was given a sweatshirt with a "Year of the Horse" emblem. Bing donated the sweatshirt to the RSCC for a raffle item for a future event.



RSCC supporters: Gerri Hampton, Bing, Brigitta Mullican, Pat Rodgers, Marika Brown, Gerrie Checkon, (back row) Norm Hampton, George Albrecht, Jack Rodgers)

## **Jiaxing News**

Jiaxing has expressed interest in having a relationship between Guangchen Middle School in Jiaxing and one in Rockville.

## **Rockville Students visit Pinneberg**

By Gerrie Checkon

Sue Thorpe, Wootton High School student coordinator, has retired from MCPS and has coordinated three student exchanges involving Wootton High School. She has recommended Michael Dickel, a Wootton High School teacher, to finalize trips to Pinneberg. A group of four students, three girls and one boy, will visit Pinneberg, Germany from June 20 to July 3. The trip will include a trip to Berlin. There is still an opportunity for additional students to participate, with final plans coming

together in late Spring. Mr. Dickel is coordinating details with Silke Werner, his Pinneberg teacher contact. The Pinneberg students participating in an exchange at Wootton High School will arrive September 28 and leave October 12. The group includes two teachers, twelve students (three boys and nine girls), and Johann, Angelika's five year old son. Oliver Grosscurth is organizing the trip in Pinneberg. He also plans a short 3-4 days visit to New York City during that time. Kristen Daugherty, the Wootton coordinator has been identifying potential hosts.

## **German American Day – October 6, 2014**

The Rockville Sister City Corporation is planning to celebrate German-American Day in October. Arrangements have been made to have the event at the Mykonos Grill Restaurant, where we will have the entire facility for our event. Please plan to attend, and share this information with your friends. We plan for a surprise.

**Save the Date**  
**German-American Day Dinner**  
Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
4:00 PM – 6:30 PM



**Mykonos Grill Restaurant**  
121 Congressional Lane  
Rockville, MD 20852  
[Gerrie.checkon@longandfoster.com](mailto:Gerrie.checkon@longandfoster.com)

## **MEMBERSHIP**

By Nancee Simonson

The Rockville Sister City Corporation thanks the following supporters for their membership dues and

additional contributions. Our main source of income is our membership dues.

**Family Members**

Gary & Dunja Baker  
Rotraut & Larry Bockstahler  
Jerol & Tom Briggs  
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George Albrecht	William Michie
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Victor Chang	Michael Moran
Gerrie Checkon	John Moser
Emily Cooke	Brigitta Mullican
Beryl Feinberg	Virginia Onley
Steve Fisher	Stephanie Riddick
Patricia Gallalee	Nancee Simonson
John Goon	Janice Solomon
John Hall, Jr	Betsy Thompson
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Susan Hoffmann	Elizabeth von Kaenel
Bing-Jib Huang	Alice Von Saunders
Chris Luckman	Lois Vuolo
Lynn Mandujano	Josephine Wang
Phyllis Marcuccio	James Wasilak
Eileen McGuckian	Patricia Wolf

**Become a Member**

We invite anyone who is interested in joining us to fill out the membership application in this newsletter. The only requirements for membership are completing the application and paying annual dues. Members, who haven't done so already, please don't forget to renew your membership. The RSCC membership application is also on our website at: [www.rockvillesistercities.org](http://www.rockvillesistercities.org).

If you visit any of our RSCC sponsors, please identify yourself and thank them for their support to our program.

## Corporate Sponsors - Calendar Year 2014

The Rockville Sister City Corporation gratefully wishes to acknowledge the following Corporate Sponsors.

**Please remember our Sponsors in your shopping and professional travels.**



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<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/>



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[tbrown@thomasbrownlaw.com](mailto:tbrown@thomasbrownlaw.com)



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**Rockville**  
Economic Development, Inc.  
(REDI)

**Rockville Economic Development, Inc.**  
95 Monroe Street, Rockville, MD 20850  
(Contact: Laurie Boyer)  
Phone: 301-315-8096  
<http://rockvilleredi.org/>

**THANK YOU, SPONSORS,  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF RSCC!**

**ROCKVILLE SISTER CITY CORPORATION (RSCC)**  
**Membership Application/Renewal Form**

I would like to (check one) \_\_\_renew, or \_\_\_apply for membership. Enclosed is my tax deductible payment (check one):  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Individual, \_\_\_\_\_ \$30 Family, or \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Corporate Membership, for the Calendar Year \_\_\_\_\_.  
Additional tax deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_, Total **enclosed** \$\_\_\_\_\_. RSCC is a Tax Exempt, Not-For-Profit Corporation.

**Please print below.**

**Please provide your email address. Otherwise we have no way of keeping you informed of our activities and events.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

For internal use only. We do not release to other organizations.

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_, Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_, Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: RSCC Send to: Rockville Sister City Corporation, c/o Rockville City Hall,  
111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850-2364

**AREAS OF INTEREST: (TO ALL MEMBERS, NEW & RENEWAL, PLEASE, PLEASE CHECK AT LEAST ONE.)**

I would be interested in: \_\_\_Hosting visitors from Pinneberg; \_\_\_Hosting exchange students (high school); \_\_\_Fundraising;  
\_\_\_Helping with membership drive; \_\_\_Helping w/ Wine Tasting Events; \_\_\_Helping w/ Memorial Day Parade; \_\_\_Organizing  
Cultural or Sport Exchanges; \_\_\_Bicycle Tours; \_\_\_Developing or Helping with Other Events; \_\_\_Serving on Board of Directors;  
\_\_\_Just participating; \_\_\_Other (specify below) (These are not commitments, but do help us understand our members' interests.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments, suggestions, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

**Memberships are for the calendar year. There is no prorating of memberships.**

Application/Renewal Form (Revised 03/04/14)

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Rockville Sister City Corporation  
c/o Rockville City Hall  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850-2364