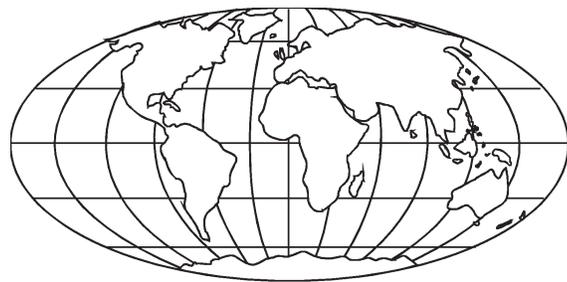


EL CHISME

de Neighbors Abroad



Volume 49, Number 4

SISTER CITY PROGRAM ■ PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA U.S.A.

July-August 2011

Bastille Day Potluck Picnic
Thursday, July 14 • 4:30 to Dark
Seale Park, 3100 Stockton Pl. Palo Alto



Note new location!

*See Albi article for directions or
Call Michel Campmas (650) 856-2214)
for questions or information.*

Presidents' Report

June was not bursting out but rather fluttering in as Neighbors Abroad members and guests took advantage of every breeze to lift their kites into a cloudy sky. Although the weather on June 5 was not ideal, it was far better than what we had expected when we read the weather report. We had come prepared with signs to postpone Kite



Day for a week if thunderstorms really materialized.

Keiko Nakajima and Yasuo Kishimoto had created a number of fine kites. Their handmade kites out-flew most of the commercial models. The challenge next year, at our Second Annual Kite Day, will be

to match their expertise and try to create our own kites.

We were especially happy to meet several visitors from China who brought their families to take part. A visiting Fulbright researcher and several graduate students responded to an invitation that Barbara had issued earlier in the month at Bechtel International Center. Kite flying as an activity has the advantage of universal appeal and needs no common language other than smiles and laughter.

Having gotten off to a real "flying start", we have a great schedule of summer activities ahead of us, with the French Bastille Day picnic and songfest July 14 and the Crayfish Feast August 28. The August event will be shadowed by the sad news about Stig Hagström but the Swedish traditions that reflect the Hagström legacy continue.

Remember to invite your Francophile friends and neighbors to join us on July 14. And be sure to sign up for the Crayfish Fest if you want to be sure of a seat at the table!

Barbara and Joe Evans

Join the Enschede Committee for a visit to the SF Legion of Honor Museum to view a spectacular exhibit of sixty Dutch & Flemish Masterpieces from the van Otterloo collection.

We are only able to offer the opportunity to drive to eight (8) people, but others are welcome to join. I will get group tickets for anyone from Neighbors Abroad who joins us. The special individual group ticket will be: \$12.00/adults; \$10.00/seniors; \$8.00/youth & college students. To get the group rate there must be over 10 participants. Lunch will not be provided. You may bring your own lunch or buy lunch in the museum café. RSVP no later than June 30.

Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2011 Time: 9:00 A.M.
Place: Meet at the Art Center on Newell Road
Contact/RSVP: Joni Reid (650)322-1378 or jonisreid@gmail.com

Scholarship Winners Announced

Each year Neighbors Abroad awards one scholarship to a Palo Alto High School student and one to a Gunn High School student.

The Palo Alto High School scholarship will be given to Shireen Jaffer. Shireen is a delightful young woman who will enter University of Southern California (USC) in the Thematic Option program, which is an honors program for first year students. Shireen explained she is going to USC because of the numerous foreign exchange



Shireen Jaffer and Joni Reid

programs and international opportunities. She said, "USC would be the perfect place for me to study business and fulfill my goal of dealing with entrepreneurs across the world to eradicate poverty."

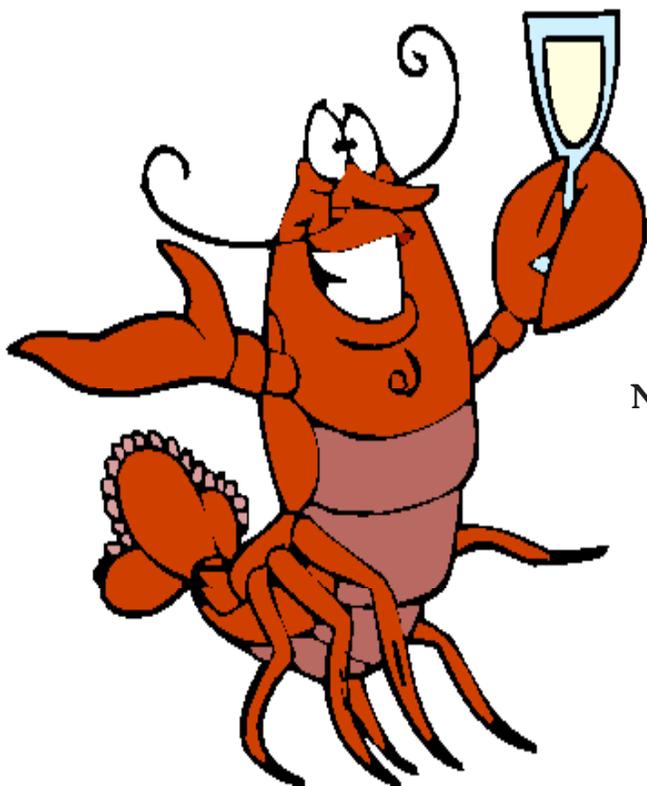
The Gunn High School scholarship will be awarded to Maria Micaela Flores. Micaela was nominated to and attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington DC. Micaela will attend St. Mary's College in the fall. Micaela would like

to be a Social Studies teacher which will combine her interest in teaching and international studies. She is bilingual and has tutored children in



Joni Reid and Micaela Flores

Spanish and at the Spanish Art Camp. Micaela received awards from the Gunn High School Social Studies Department (the Book Award for Excellence) and a certificate for Academic Excellence from the Foundation for a College Education.



Annual Swedish Crayfish Fest

Sunday, August 28th
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Lucie Stern Center Patio

Note alternate location due to Art Center remodeling.
(Enter patio directly through gate near parking lot.)

\$30 per person

*Join us for this annual celebration,
Neighbors Abroad style. Lots of fun,
songs, crayfish, and Swedish treats.
Reserve early for this popular event.*

Reservations must be prepaid. Send your check for \$30 per person payable to Neighbors Abroad to Bruce Wilner, 842 Marshall Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Phone 856-7883.

LINKÖPING

The Linköping news is not actually from there, but from Stanford, where Stig Hagström has died at age 78. A memorial service was held on June 14 at Stanford Memorial Church. We offer our condolences to his family. Please see the remembrance on page 4.



CRAYFISH! (and singing, and meatballs, and other Swedish treats.)

On a much happier note, the Linköping Committee will conduct its annual Crayfish Dinner on Sunday, August 28, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., at Lucie Stern. Attendance will again be limited to 40 persons, so we may sell out early. Send your check for \$30 per person, payable to Neighbors Abroad, to Bruce Wilner, 842 Marshall Drive, Palo Alto, 94303, phone 650-856-7883. It is not really a reservation until it is a prepaid reservation.

Bruce Wilner



Save the date: Neighbors Abroad Family Fun Day and International Fair is coming on Sunday, October 2, 2011

You can help now by looking through your collection of items from around the world for things to donate to the International Store that is part of Family Fun Day. Marion Mandell is collecting them at 250 Parkside Dr. Palo Alto or call 650-493-3798 for pickup.

You can help later by helping on October 2, or bringing your family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy the activities, food, and crafts at the event.



IN MEMORIAM STIG HAGSTRÖM

Stig was the Godfather of the Palo Alto-Linköping sister-city connection. Until Stig arrived, Palo Alto knew nothing of Linköping, Sweden. When Stig and Brita-Stina settled here, and decided that they were citizens of both places, they hoped that the rest of us might also be.

Stig was a notable person in the field of Materials Science, and held professorships at MIT and Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory before coming to Stanford. In 1969 he helped to found Linköping University in Sweden, and was among the first professors appointed there. He served as chair of the Science Department and established the University's first graduate and undergraduate science programs. He was twice elected to four-year terms as vice-chancellor of the university, in 1970 and in 1974.

During his second term at Linköping, he took a leave of absence to join the General Sciences Laboratory at Xerox's Palo Alto Research Center. Stig rose to the position of senior research fellow before leaving PARC to become chairman of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Stanford in 1986. He also served as director of Stanford's Center for Materials Research.

It was during his PARC years that Stig (and especially his wife Brita-Stina) advocated joining Linköping and Palo Alto as sister cities. He also forged several links between Stanford and Swedish universities, notably the Wallenberg Global Learning Network, Stanford Center for Innovations in Learning, and Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource. There are always "visiting scholars" from Linköping University at Stanford.

In Sweden he was friend and confidant to royalty and political leaders. In 1992, he was appointed chancellor of the Swedish university system, where he undertook a vast restructuring of the county's 37 colleges and universities, and assumed responsibility for some 150,000 students.

Among his many honors, Hagström was knighted by the King of Sweden, and was a recipient of the Royal Order of the Seraphim, a Swedish Royal Order of chivalry created in 1748. Hagström served as chair of the Royal Academy of Engineering Sciences in Sweden and as an adjunct member of the Nobel Committee for the Physics Prize from 1988 to 2000, helping to select the winners of that prestigious prize. He authored or co-authored more than 100 scientific and technical papers.

And he would, from time to time, come to the meetings of the Linköping Committee.

ENSCHEDÉ



I received an email from Palo Alto's vice mayor indicating, "...an economic development component" may be added for Palo Alto's sister cities." I am pleased to announce I was recently apprised that a formal Economic Alliance (Agreement) was signed by the mayors of Palo Alto California and Enschede the Netherlands in September 2007.

This agreement is in keeping with the message from Palo Alto's vice-mayor. Members of the Economic Alliance from Enschede have made several visits to Palo Alto since 2007 including one in January 2011, when a six member delegation from Enschede/Twente visited Bay Area cities and companies.

The Economic Alliance began in 2005 when visitors and leaders from Enschede and Palo Alto commenced to discuss ways to "enhance the sister city relationship and take advantage of opportunities for business development in both countries" (Palo Alto City Manager's Report, 9/07). Palo Alto and Enschede have shared a sister city relationship since 1980. The report continued, "The Alliance expresses the mutual intention of Enschede and Palo Alto to foster economic development and collaboration." The Economic Alliance included "room for student research" and arrangements were made with "the municipalities of San Francisco, Palo Alto and Stanford University."

Paul Bijleveld is a key member of the Enschede Alliance delegation and is a professor of regional development at Saxion University in Enschede. While in Palo Alto in January 2011 Paul and the delegation visited the water treatment plant and met with Palo Alto's Mayor Sid Espinosa.

In May I received an email from Irene Vernes, the International Affairs Advisor for the Economic Division of the city of Enschede. Ms. Vernes wrote she received my name and email address, as the Enschede contact in Palo Alto, from Paul Bijleveld and that she will be "my contact person at the City of Enschede for the sister city relationship between Palo Alto and Enschede." I will plan to meet Ms. Vernes and Paul Bijleveld when I return to Enschede this summer.

Students from Enschede Visit Palo Alto

Pieter van der Lugt and Niek van Dalen are two students from the Saxion University in Enschede the Netherlands. Their professor is Paul Bijleveld. Pieter and Niek are in the Bay Area to conduct a research about clean tech communities for their final thesis. Their research is part of an existing project in which the Region of Twente (county) and the City of Enschede cooperate with partners in the Bay Area in the development of clean tech communities.

Pieter told me, "The goal of our research is to formulate policy guidelines for the development of a clean tech community in the Region Twente."



Left to Right: Madeleine Smeets; Pieter van der Lugt; Niek van Dalen; Harm ten Hoff; Will Stone; Ruth Carleton; Pierro & Ann Pianetta

I hosted a dinner for Pieter and Niek on June 3rd with Dutch and American friends.

Queen's Day Celebration

Madeleine Smeets and I went to the Queen's Day celebration which was held in SF at Union Square on April 30th. This is the first time the Dutch Consulate formally sponsored a Queen's Day celebration in Union Square. We had a chance to chat with Consul General Bart van Bolhuis and International Trade Director of the Netherlands Consulate



Madeleine eating herring the Dutch way.

Peter Laanen. The square was filled with Dutch and non-Dutch Americans—and lots of orange. Stalls were erected that sold herring, Indonesian food, and Dutch products. Grolsch was the only beer sold at the event. And, Grolsch beer is made in Enschede! Three young musicians, from the



Consul General Bart von Bolhuis and Joni Reid.

Netherlands, who won the prestigious Princess Christina Music Award were featured and performed both the Netherlands and the American national anthems.

Dave Blank Wins Simon Stevin Meester Prize 2011

The STW Technology Foundation has awarded Prof. Dave Blank the title of Simon Stevin Meester 2011. Blank is Professor of Inorganic Materials Science at the University of Twente and scientific director of MESA+, Institute for Nanotechnology since 2007. He will receive half a million euros to be spent on research of his choice. The Simon Stevin Meester prize is the largest award given for technological-scientific research in the Netherlands. The prize is intended for top researchers who are successful in linking excellent fundamental scientific research to socially relevant issues and applications.



May 04, 2011-Twente University News

Tot Ziens, Joni Reid



Ginger and Dirk Van der Linden came to Palo Alto for a visit and joined Gerwin and me for dinner on 5/26/11.



International Trade Director Peter Laanen with Joni Reid at Queen's Day

ALBI



Trip to the Albi Region in the Fall

As you already heard in our previous articles, a group of 19 cyclists and non cyclists is getting ready to visit the Albi region in the fall. We heard from Jean Pierre Remazeilhès, my French counterpart, that a preparation meeting was held in June with the host families to work out the logistics of what will surely be a memorable event. September is coming soon and all the American travellers are getting excited.

Bastille Day is coming at a new location...

As is the tradition every year, we will be celebrating *La Fête du 14 juillet* (14th of July Celebration), known in the U.S. as “Bastille Day,” named for the Citadel whose fall was a major milestone of the French Revolution that led to the end of the centuries-old monarchy.



Preparing to sing at 2010 Bastille Day Picnic

This event will take place on Thursday July 14 (you could have guessed!) from 4:30 p.m. to dark at a NEW location: Seale Park, 3100 Stockton Place in Palo Alto. You can leave your car either on Stockton or on Louis Road where there is an access path. This park is as nice, quiet and shady as Ramos Park, our previous location, with some additional convenient facilities.

We will be having a Potluck Picnic with many opportunities for you to sample or share some French delicacies while singing French folkloric and patriotic songs. Do not miss our Grand Classics: *La Marseillaise*, *Frère Jacques*, *Au Clair de la Lune* and more. Utensils and soft drinks will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating together 1789, the French Revolution!

À bientôt,
Michel Campmas

OAXACA



Well, as often happens our timing is off! The group of students from Gunn High School are in Oaxaca now but we will have to wait two months (next edition of *El Chisme*) to hear about their trip. You may remember that sixteen of them were going to Oaxaca to work on service projects for Niño-a-niño and the Albergue (orphanage), in addition to the chance to check out the wonderful tourist attractions of the Oaxaca area. I'm sure they are doing fine and having a wonderful time.

Right now, are you all looking over your treasures from all over the world to see what you want to donate to the famous International Store which is part of the October 2 Family Fun Day International Fair at Lucie Stern Community Center patio? Remember, your items can become someone else's treasures now. And since all items for the sale are donated and all workers are volunteers, all proceeds from the sale go DIRECTLY to Neighbors Abroad's Children's Projects. It's not too early—you may bring your items, from around the world, to my house NOW—250 Parkside Drive, Palo Alto, or call (650) 493 3798 for pick-up.

Also—remember, if you or anyone you know, is going to Oaxaca, we have MANY ready-packed suitcases for the Albergue and Niño-a-Niño just waiting for travelers to take them. Also, if you're not going but want to help someone else take a suitcase, the Adopt-a-suitcase Fund is in need of replenishing. Thanks!

¡Hasta Luego!
Marion Mandell



Sampling French Food at the 2010 Bastille Day Picnic

TSUCHIURA



Konnichiwa!

I'd like to thank Joe and Barbara, our Co-Presidents, for pioneering our first "Kite Day" on June 5. It was a joyful afternoon with young and old from the Palo Alto community. Superintendent Mr. Tominaga of Tsuchiura City sent me his hand-made kite. It test-flew very well, so we copied and made a few of them with newspaper and sticks. Some participants in Kite Day enjoyed our newspaper kites very much.

Around this time for the last eight years, my students and I have been very busy in preparing for the trip to Japan. However, due to the devastating earthquake which happened on March 11, our trip was cancelled. I feel very empty without this yearly event during summer vacation, but our exchange program will resume next March when we welcome students from Tsuchiura.

Starting with this issue, Yasuo Kishimoto, Advisor to the Tsuchiura Committee will share an article about Tsuchiura:

Arigato for your support,

Keiko Nakajima

Focus on Tsuchiura

The City of Tsuchiura is located about 100 miles northeast of Tokyo. The express train of the Japan Railroad takes only 45 minutes between the cities. Tsuchiura is located by Lake Kasumigaura, the second largest freshwater lake in Japan. "Tsuchi" means soil and it must have signified the vast fertile land rich in natural greenery. "Ura" means inland harbor and signifies the proximity to the Lake. The population of the City, as of March, 2006, is 143,789, more than double that of Palo Alto.

Tsuchiura has prospered as a city of commerce since the Edo Era (1603-1867). With vast fertile land, Tsuchiura has earned itself fame as the country's largest producer of agricultural products, including lotus roots, and for its ornamental plants and flowers. With Kasumigaura, processed fish products such as Kasumigaura smelt and tsukudani (a freshwater fish boiled in sweetened soy sauce) are very popular. With proximity to the Tokyo Metropolitan area, Tsuchiura is now home to many large company headquarters as well as their manufacturing plants.

Because of its rapid development in recent years, Tsuchiura has evolved from that of a city in an agricultural belt into being a satellite metropolitan city. Furthermore, with its convenient location from Tokyo, adjacent to the college and research area of Tsukuba Science City, near Narita International Airport and next to Kashima port, Tsuchiura is considered an important component in the plans to renovate Japan's metropolitan area and Tsuchiura is expected to grow even more in the future.

Yasuo Kishimoto

PALO



Mabuhay! An Anniversary

This past June 12, the 113th Celebration of the Philippine Declaration of Independence of June 12, 1898 occurred. At that time Filipino revolutionary forces led by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo declared the sovereignty and independence of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain following its defeat at the Battle of Manila Bay.

Sadly, however, this declaration was not recognized by the United States or Spain. The Spanish government ceded the Philippines to the United States in the 1898 Treaty of Paris. Philippine Independence was not recognized by the United States until July 4th, 1946 in the Treaty of Manila! At first, Independence Day in the Philippines was celebrated on July 4th until the former date, June 12th became official in 1964.

It is fascinating and also tragic to learn about U.S. colonialism in the country of our sister city Palo.

Books!

Heidi Berndt, Will Stone and I recently collected some books from the "free for non-profits" shelves at the Friends of the Public Library—temporarily housed at Cubberley. If there is anyone who could collect more children's books in good condition at the next monthly sale during June it would be most helpful! Bert Torres is graciously storing the books until they can be packed and shipped.

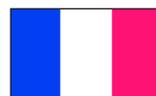
A word from the Past

Recently a beautiful hand carved plaque from Palo emerged when our storage area at the Art Center was being removed. It is a plaque honoring our sister-city hood with Enschede, the Netherlands. It is dated August 1980 and is signed by Jeremiah Acevedo. What a special object sent by our beloved sister-city Palo!

Mabuhay! Ruth Carleton



*Soldiers at the time of
Philippine Independence*



Neighbors Abroad Plus Community Events Calendar

July 2011

Wednesday, 13th, 7:30 p.m.

Neighbors Abroad Board Meeting; Cubberley Community Center, Room A3, 4000 Middlefield Rd. This is behind the Library next to the amphitheatre. (Art Center location closed for remodeling.)

Thursday, 14th, 4:30 p.m. to dark

Bastille Day Party at Seale Park, 3100 Stockton Place in Palo Alto. See cover and page 6—Albi.

August 2011

Wednesday, 10th, 7:30 p.m.

Neighbors Abroad Board Meeting; Cubberley Community Center, Room A3, 4000 Middlefield Rd.

Sunday, 28th, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Swedish Crayfish Fest; Lucie Stern Community Center Patio, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. \$30.00 per person, prepaid reservation required. See information on page 3.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, October 2

Family Fun Day and International Fair. Lucie Stern Community Center Courtyard, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

Next El Chisme Deadline—August 10, 2011

- Send your articles to Mary Ashley
- E-mail: meashley@pacbell.net
- 3114 Cowper St., Palo Alto, CA 94306

EL CHISME de Neighbors Abroad



Neighbors Abroad
P. O. Box 52004
Palo Alto, CA 94303
U.S. A.

NEIGHBORS ABROAD is a volunteer organization which maintains and carries out the activities of the City of Palo Alto's officially recognized Sister City Program with Palo in the province of Leyte in the Philippines, Oaxaca in Mexico, Enschede in the Netherlands, Linköping in Sweden, Albi in France, and Tsuchiura in Japan. Its activities have served and continue to serve the community interests of international and intercultural understanding.

Barbara & Joe Evans, Co-Presidents	856-0618
Jim Newton, Treasurer	854-4360
Mary Ashley, Newsletter	494-1829
Ann Pianetta, Membership	424-9070

<http://neighborsabroad.org>