



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

The Rockville Sister City Board has been busy this last quarter. I want to thank all those who volunteered to work one of the beverage/beer stations for two full days for the 2014 Rockville Hometown Holiday. A special thank you goes to Liz Von Kaenel who organized the Sister City participants for the 60th Annual Rockville Parade.

The Sister City website has been improved and is up-to-date with our upcoming activities. Please visit and bookmark the link on your browser and let us know if you have suggested improvements, comments or recommended activities. (Please remember, the website is maintained by volunteers, and is basic, but functional.)

Please save Sunday, October 5 for our German American Day and Friday, November 7 for our fall wine tasting events. This year we have reserved the Mykonos Restaurant for our group to celebrate the German American Day.

Everyone is welcome to join us so please invite your family and friends.

Our newest corporate sponsors are Case Design & Remodeling and American Custom Contractors. We are thrilled to now have 13

corporate sponsors. These sponsorships are critical for helping our sister city programs.

Our sister city funds mainly come from membership dues and donations and are tax deductible. If you are not a member of RSCC and are reading this, we invite you to join us. An application is on the back of this newsletter. And if you have any questions or suggestions about RSCC, please call Brigitta Mullican on 301-230-0890 or contact us at: [rockvillesistercities@gmail.com](mailto:rockvillesistercities@gmail.com).

**Annual Membership Meeting**

The Annual RSCC Membership meeting will be on Tuesday, September 24 at the Glenview Mansion. We welcome nominations for the Board.

**Rockville Hometown Holidays and Memorial Day Parade**



*Pinneberg's Wreath*

On Memorial Day, our counterparts at the German-American Society in Pinneberg

(DAGRP) always send a beautiful wreath to honor our deceased service members. This has been the case for decades, and shows the deep and lasting friendship between countries that once fought against each other in two World Wars. We thank our friends in Pinneberg for their expression of respect and sympathy to our service members, and for attesting to our steadfast "people-to-people" relationship.

After the wreath laying ceremony, RSCC members joined with the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Dragon Dancers of the Chinese Culture and Community Center in the parade. Thanks to Liz Von Kaenel and her decoration crew for the hard work and many hours spent on the RSCC "float-truck" - and to all the volunteers at the Hometown Holiday "refreshments" tent !!

**Wine Tasting – November 7, 2014**

The Rockville Sister City Corporation will hold its Fall Wine Tasting Benefit on Friday, November 7, 2014, 7.30 p.m. in the Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville MD.

Reservations received by October 29 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. A sign-up flyer will be available in September. Check the RSCC website for all upcoming events.

**Twinbrook Multicultural Day**

On Saturday June 7, 2014, the Rockville Sister City Corporation (RSCC) participated in Twinbrook Multicultural Day at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. The day featured arts and crafts, food, country displays

and family entertainment from around the world.

Multicultural Day celebrated Rockville’s diverse community by share its global experiences, entertainment and food.

**Former DAGRP President visits Washington DC**

Hans Georg Beplat, former President of the German-American Society in Pinneberg (DAGRP), took an extended vacation cruise and bus tour across the United States in May, and DC was one of his last stops before returning to Germany. RSCC Members Brigitta Mullican and George Albrecht were able to join Hans Georg for dinner at the Cheesecake Factory near his hotel in Tyson’s Corner, and Hans Georg and George visited the Udvar-Hazy Museum before Hans Georg moved on to New York City. Just another example of how "tight" personal relations remain among friends across the Atlantic.

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

**Plan to Attend**  
**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

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.

### **RSCC Director Recognized by Meridian House**

Liz Von Kaenel, long-time RSCC Director, was recognized recently by the [Meridian International Center](#) ("Meridian House") for her exceptional volunteering over the past three decades. Liz regularly hosts diplomats from around the world for dinner, giving those diplomats a feel for "American Hospitality", as well as "American Cuisine." Meridian asked Liz to bring her "Visitors' Map" to its Volunteer Appreciation Reception in June, a world map where Liz has placed colored pins to designate the home towns of visitors she has hosted. That translates to about 300 visitors from 62 different countries, over a period of 30 years! Congratulations, Liz!



### **Want to become a Director of the RSCC Board?**

The City of Rockville has two vacancies to fill on the RSCC Board, and the Board itself has one vacancy to fill between now and the September Annual Membership Meeting. If you would like to become involved in the activities and operations of RSCC, call President Brigitta Mullican at 301-230-0890 for more details. We gladly seek your recommendations and ideas; put them into action by becoming a Director.

### **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. Mr. Dickel is coordinating details with Silke Werner, his Pinneberg teacher contact.

### **Wootton High School Students Travel to Pinneberg**

Plans are also being made between Wootton and a high school in Pinneberg for the second leg of the annual student exchange later this year. From September 28 to October 12, 12 students and 2 teachers from Pinneberg will attend Wootton and be hosted by Rockville families. Mr. Dickel will also be finalizing details of that exchange on his forthcoming visit.

Student exchanges are one of the activities sponsored by the Rockville Sister City Committee (RSCC) to foster friendship, cultural awareness and political understanding which is at the heart of the international sister city program.

### **Membership**

By Nancee Simonson

Renewal: William Vogel

New Corporate Sponsors:

- Case Design & Remodeling,
- American Custom Contractors

Total Memberships for June: 103

- Corporate: 13
- Family: 47
- Individual: 41
- Honorary: 1

### **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).

### **Regensburg Cathedral Choir Performed at the German School**

Members of the Regensburg Cathedral Choir, known as the *Domspatzen* (The Cathedral "Sparrows"), performed at the German School in Potomac, Maryland, May 2nd. Drawing influences from the Baroque and classical eras, along with modern German folk music, the Regensburg Cathedral boasts an immense repertoire.

Several RSCC members attended. The 62 singers and 4 adults were hosted by German School families; among them was the German School Headmaster Herr Waldemar Gries.

### **Gift from Pinneberg – Welsh Park Sculpture**

Have you ever seen the rather unusual sculpture that sits in Welsh Park on the corner of Mannakee and Martins Lane? It was a gift from the City of Pinneberg, created by the sculptor Gabriele Schmidt-Heins and dedicated in October 1991.

Although artists are loathe to reveal the specifics of their inspiration, over the years certain insights come to light. The following description (believed to be from Ms. Schmidt-Heins' initial proposal for construction of the sculpture), may not be 100% true, but

nonetheless seems like a plausible everyman's guide for interpretation.

*The accessible sculpture "On Site" symbolizes a modern "Thingstätte", an open-air meeting place where Germanic tribes met for conducting matters of social, judicial and military importance.*



*The circular form symbolizes eternity.*

*The five pillars are colored in an earth tone; - four top plates are blue, a spiritual color -- while the northern pillar's black top plate represents the transitoriness or impermanence of all things.*

*The inner surfaces are scored in halves, moving to infinitely smaller divisions.*

No matter how you view it, our relationship with our friends in Pinneberg remains a real work of art!



**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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**Rockville-Twinbrook Real Estate**  
Victor Llewellyn, Contact

[VictorLlewellyn56@gmail.com](mailto:VictorLlewellyn56@gmail.com)  
Phone: 301-807-4575 or 301-424-0900 ext 113



**Law Office of Thomas K. Brown, LLC**  
22 West Jefferson Street Suite 401, Rockville, MD 20850  
Phone: 1-888-783-9180 [tbrown@thomasbrownlaw.com](mailto:tbrown@thomasbrownlaw.com)



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Phone: 301-294-0222 or 1-800-466-4660 Fax: 301-294-5324  
<http://www.internationaltvlonline.com/>



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<http://rockvilleredi.org/>



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Attn.: Kate Nelson  
15728 Crabbs Branch Way, Rockville, MD 20855  
301-417-1000  
<http://www.americancustomcontractors.com/>

**ROCKVILLE SISTER CITY CORPORATION (RSCC)**  
**Membership Application/Renewal Form - RSCC is a Tax Exempt, Not-For-Profit Corporation**

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 2014.**

Additional tax deductible contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Please print. 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 check payable to: **RSCC** Send to: Rockville Sister City Corporation, c/o Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850

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

- 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;  Other (specify below)

(These are not commitments, but do help us understand our members' interests.)

Other Comments, Suggestions, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Application/Renewal Form (Revised 06/22/14-gwa)

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