



ROCKVILLE SISTER CITY CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

www.RockvilleSisterCities.org

The Rockville Sister City Corporation (RSCC) is a non-profit corporation founded in 1986 to enhance and maintain the friendship and 'Sister City' relationship established by the City of Rockville in 1957 with Pinneberg, Germany, based on youth, educational, cultural and commercial exchanges pursuant to the People-To-People Program initiated by President D. Dwight Eisenhower in 1956 to promote world peace.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Drew Powell**, President, RSCC

It's hard to believe that 2017 is almost over. This is the time of year, when we can reflect on all that has been achieved and look forward to all that is yet to be accomplished.

2017 was an incredibly successful year for the Rockville Sister City Corporation! Thanks to the hard work of RSCC's Board of Directors and General Membership, the Rockville Sister City program moved forward on many initiatives and seminal events. The City of Rockville and RSCC welcomed a delegation from our Friendship City, Jiaxing, China, in January. We updated our membership process, which included a tiered corporate structure, resulting in increased contributions. We created a scholarship fund for deserving high school students. RSCC took part in the annual Volksmarch and in Hometown Holidays festivities, such as the Memorial Day parade and volunteer beverage service, which raised substantial funds.

In early June, a twenty-eight member delegation comprised of RSCC members, including Rockville Mayor, **Bridget Donnell Newton**, City Councilmembers **Beryl Feinberg** and **Mark Pierzchala** as well as City Clerk/Director of Council Operations, **Kathleen Conway**, visited Rockville's Sister City, Pinneberg, Germany, when Pinneberg hosted 60th Anniversary celebrations. Upon our return, the Rockville Sister City Corporation held its annual Membership Appreciation event, where RSCC members met with the Rockville Mayor and City Council. In July, RSCC was represented at the 61st Annual Sister City International Conference in Virginia Beach, VA. RSCC held another very successful Dim Sum fundraiser with over forty in attendance.

RSCC's Annual Meeting was very productive and several RSCC directors and members were recognized for their heroic efforts in planning Rockville's 60th Anniversary Sister City celebrations.

On October 2nd, the City of Rockville welcomed a Pinneberg Delegation at Rockville City Hall. Pinneberg Delegation excursions to the Philips Museum, Renwick Gallery, Udvar-Hazy Space Center and a visit to Great Falls, Maryland, for a C&O Canal barge ride, capped off by a delicious dinner at Gordon Biersch, were a delight for all. On October 5th, the Pinneberg Delegation visited Congressman **Jamie Raskin**'s Capitol Hill office, toured the U.S. Capitol and was then joined by the Pinneberg Indian Summer Tour at the home of **Bridget and Fred Newton** for the "Mayor's Reception." On October 6th the day started with a guided tour of Rockville and concluded with two large-scale events; the Bench Dedication Ceremony at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and the Gala Reception at Rockville's historic Glenview Mansion. On October 7th, all sixty of our Pinneberg guests attended *Rocktoberfest*, a large public gathering that included music, German-themed cuisine and many varieties of locally crafted beer, which was followed by a Farewell Party hosted by the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department.

Moving forward, in 2018 amongst other initiatives, RSCC will help to facilitate a Rockville–Pinneberg student exchange as well as a Rockville–Jiaxing student exchange. The Rockville Sister City Corporation will also explore the possibility of new Sister City relationships and our policies and procedures that can make those relationships a reality. Here's wishing our friends in Jiaxing, Pinneberg, Rockville, and all over the world, Happy Holidays and a safe and prosperous New Year! ☀

Drew

RSCC Welcomes New Member to Board of Directors



Christian Jessen-Klingenberg

During its November 15, 2017 monthly meeting, the Rockville Sister City Corporation Board of Directors voted unanimously to accept **Christian Jessen-Klingenberg** as a member of the Board. Mr. Jessen-Klingenberg, will be heading up RSCC's Student Activities Committee, which

includes student exchanges and RSCC's Scholarship Program. "I'm looking forward to working with local schools to set up student exchanges with Rockville's Sister and Friendship Cities," said Mr. Jessen-Klingenberg. Remarkably, Christian recently resided in Rockville's Sister City, Pinneberg, Germany, before accepting a teaching position at the [German International School, Washington, D.C.](#) Christian now resides in the City of Rockville with his wife, Katharina and his sons Frederik and Alexander.

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**SAD NEWS**

RSCC is saddened to report on the passing of loyal RSCC member and supporter **John Goon**. He "passed away on October 22, 2017 at age 68. John is survived by daughter Amy Goon (Roy) Monitor; son Martin Travis (Megan) Goon and grandchildren Zoe and Romy. He is also survived by brother Lyman (Donna) Goon and sister Dorleen (Patrick) Black. **A memorial service was held [Saturday November 18, 2017]**, at Rockville United Church, 355 Linthicum Dr., Rockville."

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/washingtonpost/obituary.aspx?n=john-goon&pid=187098822> ) (Published in The Washington Post on Oct. 31, 2017.)



John was very active in the gaming community of Rockville. He hosted a free weekly games club at the Rockville United Church every Friday. The club usually had 25 - 30 players per meeting. John hosted several

community service outreach programs for young NIH patients/families and the elderly and offered Student Service Learning hours to student helpers. Our condolences to his family; we shall miss him.

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aner mit Gustav Allersmeier (ganz rechts vor dem) ittes. Von links Arthur Streeter, Gary Funkhouser, W

JUL 18, 1968 - DEUTSCHES FRÜHSTÜCK ZU MAGER - History flashes back for long-time RSCC Member **Gary Funkhouser**.

GERMAN BREAKFAST - TOO MEAGER

Pinneberg - Three young Americans from the sister town of

Pinneberg, Rockville in the state of Maryland (USA), are currently cycling through Europe. Accompanied with letters of recommendation from the town committee in Rockville, they paid a visit to Pinneberg recently.

They are the art student **Gary Funkhouser** (19) as well as the brothers **Wilfred** (16) and **Arthur Streeter** (19).



On Tuesday afternoon the three young men, who were ready to take a break, suddenly stood at the door of Pinneberg district delegate, **Gustav Allersmeier**, and handed him a letter. Allersmeier, who previously had been in America, had visited Rockville a few years ago, where he had several friends. In Pinneberg he acted as an interpreter on the occasion of a counter-visit. "My wife quickly cooked a big pot of food," Allersmeier said smiling about the nice guests from America. He took them to Pinneberg Town Hall, where they handed over a letter from Rockville's mayor [possibly **Frank Ecker** or **Achilles Tuchtan**] to mayor [**Hans-Hermann**] **Kath**. They found a cordial reception in the [Geschwister-Scholl-Heim](#) on Mühlenstraße. In the meantime

Funkhouser and the brothers Streeter visited the town hall, the County Hospital - one is a medical student in the first semester - and the [Tree School Strobel & Co.](#), as well as a city stroll through Pinneberg. The docent of the Scholl Heim, **Herr Hartmann**, drove with them to the ship embankment facility in Schulau to show them this unique facility.

The young men had \$600 to spend on their eight-day trip through Europe. On 21 June they arrived by plane in London, rented three bikes for three dollars a week, and had to leave five English pounds as a deposit. From London it was by boat to Rotterdam, from there partly by bike, partly by train, to Zurich, Liechtenstein and through parts of Switzerland to Austria. On their rented bicycles, they traveled about 1000 kilometers. They still recall muscle soreness in the legs and four busted bicycle tubes. On their trips they stayed overnight in youth hostels. This morning they traveled from Pinneberg to Copenhagen. The trip through Denmark is supposed to last until July 22nd; from Esbjerg they will take a ship to Newcastle. A week across Scotland will conclude the European Trip. Then it's from London on a plane back to Maryland. The enterprising Americans are enthusiastic about Germans because, according to their experiences so far, they are "so friendly". Also they found the many cycling routes in Germany beautiful. Only the somewhat meager breakfast in youth hostels and hotels does not correspond to American habits. So they "pig out" on pastries every morning, and they're satisfied. [Translation by **George Albrecht**]

SEP 2017 - FREDERICK OKTOBERFEST

Oktoberfest crowd embraces German culture
by **Allen Etzler** aetzler@newspost.com

Sep 30, 2017 – For [RSCC Member] **George Albrecht**, the German culture is something he's lived.

Albrecht served two tours in the Army in Germany, and grew up fascinated with the culture. He took language classes in high school, and then took several more in college at West Point and overseas.

"I've just always been really interested in it," Albrecht said. "My grandfather on my paternal side

was German – [baptized] in the Ulm Cathedral", Albrecht would later learn....

"I've never seen so many people wearing authentic German garb at this event," [Oktoberfest Chairwoman] **Amy Benton** said. "I think it's amazing, and I love some of the outfits that we've seen people wearing. I had a pair of *Lederhosen* of my own, but it was a little chilly for me to wear them."

Albrecht steadfastly takes advantage of opportunities to celebrate German culture. And he did so Saturday, joining several thousand people for the second day of Frederick's Oktoberfest at the Frederick Fairgrounds.

Albrecht lives in Rockville, which, like Frederick, is one of three cities in Maryland with a sister city in Germany. Hagerstown is the other. So he came up for the festival to see how Frederick's is run, as Rockville prepares for "Rocktoberfest" - its own version of the Oktoberfest festival - next weekend.

Albrecht participated in the German spelling bee, where competitors had to spell German words such as "*Bohrmaschine*" and "*Erfahrung*." Albrecht breezed through the competition and ended up taking first prize, which was a \$150 gift card from the Downtown Frederick Partnership.

"Once you know how the word is said, it's pretty easy to spell, because German spelling constructs are all pretty similar," Albrecht said. "It's a pretty structured language."



George Albrecht invites the audience to come to Rocktoberfest, while moderator (and Frederick Sister City President) **Stephan "Fritz" Buckingham** (left) and 2nd and 3rd Place Winners look on. The winning word was *Hufeisenklee*. Google it!



Roger & Char Musser (former Frederick Sister City President), George Albrecht, Brigitta Mullican, "Fritz" Buckingham, and Sybille Faucette show off their German attire (except for George).

OCT 2-8, 2017 – 60th ANNIVERSARY A HUGE SUCCESS

Rockville and Pinneberg celebrated the 60th anniversary of their Sister City partnership in grand style (see the recent RSCC special newsletter and our website - <http://rockvillesistercities.org/>). A total of sixty Pinneberg citizens traveled to Rockville to help us celebrate a week full of events and activities. It was truly a week to remember!

OCT 2, 2017 – PROCLAMATION VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WDVGuDYQVae>



October 6, 2017 - At Glenview Mansion (photo by Joel Perlsh)

60th Anniversary Photos

Special thanks to our event photographer, Joel Perlsh, for documenting this momentous occasion. His photos can be found at

<https://joelperlish.smugmug.com/Events/PINNEBERG-ROCKVILLE-SISTER-CITY-60th-ANNIVERSARY-OCT-2017>

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OCT 2-8, 2017 – RSCC RECEIVES PEERLESS RECOGNITION by Bob Wright, RSCC Director

During the 60th anniversary celebration, [Peerless Rockville](#) presented a certificate of recognition at ceremonies in the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater on Friday, October 6th. The leadership from Germany, Pinneberg *Bürgermeisterin* **Urte Steinberg** and *Deutsch-Amerikanische Gesellschaft Rockville-Pinneberg* (DAGRP) President **Bernd Hinrichs**, and Rockville’s Mayor **Bridget Donnell Newton** and **Drew Powell**, RSCC President, accepted the certificate from Peerless Rockville’s **David Hill**, Vice President, and **Nancy Picard**, Executive Director.



Peerless presented this to RSCC at the F. Scott Fitzgerald awards ceremony

OCT 7 – ROCKTOBIERFEST

The City of Rockville held its own Oktoberfest-like party in Town Square to again welcome our guests from Pinneberg, and to create a celebratory atmosphere for Rockville citizens and visitors.

Watch some local coverage of the event here:

- <http://www.localdvm.com/news/i-270/rockville-community-celebrates-connection-to-sister-city/829891809>

From: Bernd Hinrichs [President, DAGRP]

Sent: Wednesday, **October 11, 2017**

Subject: More Photos from 60th Anniversary Week



Bernd Hinrichs

“Dear Drew, Thank you for the fantastic photos - they are great. Your photographer Joel did a great job! In the meantime some of us returned to Pinneberg - tired but knowing we took part in a great anniversary performed by our friends from Rockville!

Thank you again! All the best to you, Bernd”

OCT 15, 2017 – RSCC PARTICIPATES IN WORLD OF MONTGOMERY

Enjoying a visit to the RSCC Booth

The [World of Montgomery festival](#) is held each year in October to celebrate the rich diversity of Montgomery County. The festivities include the traditions, music, food, dance and art from a variety of countries represented in Montgomery County’s culturally diverse community. This year’s event was held at Montgomery College in Rockville on Sunday, October 15th, from Noon-4:00 pm. The

Rockville Sister City Corporation attended for the fourth year, representing Rockville’s Sister City, Pinneberg, Germany and German culture. The nut-crackers and gummy bears were a real favorite for kids of all ages!

OCT 22, 2017 – RSCC ON THE ROAD TO FREDERICK, MD

The three German-oriented Sister Cities in the region (Rockville, Frederick and Hagerstown) got together to represent their organizations at the Schiff-erstadt Museum’s Oktoberfest on October 21, 2017. It was the first attempt to “join forces” in advertising the German-American ties to our respective cities; hopefully more joint activities will follow.

ASKING FOR HELP !!

Lena Ousvatova, a student intern with the City of Pinneberg, plans to come to Rockville from February 28 to March 28, 2018 for the purpose of shadowing various government officials at the municipal, county and state levels. Plans are for her to visit different departments at Rockville City Hall; spend time with District 3 County Councilmember **Sidney Katz**, who will introduce her to County Council operations; and then time with District 17 State Senator, **Cheryl Kagan**, in Annapolis to learn about the workings of the Maryland Legislature. Lena’s graduate school studies are focused on communications and culture. She will need host housing accommodations during her four-week visit; RSCC Director **Marika Brown** has offered to host Lena for two of the four weeks she is here. If you can help with accommodations during the other two weeks, please contact RockvilleSisterCities@gmail.com

NOV 3, 2017 – RSCC RECEIVES PEERLESS AWARD by Bob Wright

The Rockville Sister City Corporation is proud that Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd., has recognized the value of the contributions of the Rockville-Pinneberg Sister City program to the culture of Rockville. On November 3, 2017, at Glenview Mansion, RSCC received an award for the cultural contribution of the Sister City program to the City of Rockville.



Rockville Sister Cities Corporation 60th Anniversary



Peerless Rockville recognizes the City of Rockville, the City of Pinneberg, Germany, and the Rockville Sister City Corporation on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of their partnership. This program nurtures international understanding through educational, cultural, and humanitarian activities. By exchanging ideas and experiences, this continuing relationship encourages diversity and transatlantic connections, which contributes to Rockville's unique heritage.

First begun under President Eisenhower as part of the "People-to-People" program, and intended to forge relationships with foreign nations, the program continues as a labor of love for both of the cities. Peerless Rockville recognizes the importance of this continuing relationship between Rockville and Pinneberg as an important aspect of Rockville's history, and an intangible yet valuable piece of Rockville's culture.

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CHANGE IN NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION DATES

Because the RSCC By-Laws now designate an unspecified date in September for RSCC's Annual Meeting, and because it is felt that the General Membership should be provided with a timely copy of the latest and most up-to-date Newsletter at that meeting, it is felt that the Publication Schedule should be shifted slightly to the end of the following months: February, May, August, and November.

In both November and February, emphasis will be placed on Membership Renewal, during the January - February time-frame (helping us to standardize renewal times and improve our budgeting and funds management). Thanks for your understanding, and **remember to renew your RSCC dues in Jan/Feb 2018!**

RSCC THANKS ITS NEW (AND RENEWING) MEMBERS FOR 2018

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS GOOD FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR; YOU CAN HELP OUR ACCOUNTING RECORDS IF YOU RENEW OR JOIN DURING JANUARY/FEBRUARY EACH YEAR. THANK YOU!

Thank you to the following members who have already renewed for 2018. Although we greatly appreciate your eagerness to renew, *we want to remind you that the RSCC membership is on a calendar year basis, from January to December.* If you renew or join **after** January 1 and **before the end** of February, it will greatly help our record and bookkeeping efforts.

And remember, you can join or renew using PayPal if you desire. Just ensure all your pertinent information is included in the "comments" box.

Brigitta Mullican, Membership Chair

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- B.F. Saul (Todd Pearson, POC)
- International Travel Consultants (Gabriele Williams, POC)

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(Italics indicate additional contribution. Thank you!)

FAMILY:

- *Bridget and Fred Newton (2018)*
- *Over, Eric and Laurie (2018)*

INDIVIDUAL:

- *Curtis, Tom (2018)*
- *Michie, Bill (2018)*
- *Vuolo, Lois (2018)*
- *Whitaker, Claire (2018)*

STUDENT:

HONORARY:

- *Hsu, Dr. & Mrs. Nelson (for having donated the Peony Garden at the Glenview Mansion)*
- *Treschuk, Terry (retired Rockville Police Chief)*

Thanks to all of you for your support of RSCC and for your timely renewals!

If your name is missing, misspelled or otherwise needs correction, [please let us know immediately.](#)

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**THANKS TO ALL OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS
 FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF RSCC !**

ROCKVILLE SISTER CITY CORPORATION (RSCC)

Individual/Family Membership Application or Renewal - RSCC is a Tax Exempt, Not-For-Profit Corporation
(We welcome Corporate Sponsors! Please find our Sponsor information at <http://rockvillesistercities.org/>)

I would like to (check one) renew, or apply for membership. Enclosed is my **tax deductible** payment (check one):

\$25 Individual **OR** \$40 Family

Additional **tax deductible contribution** of \$_____ **Total amount enclosed** \$_____

Memberships are for the calendar year (January to December). There is no prorating of your membership.

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: _____

PREFERRED Phone: _____ (This is my Work Home Cell)

Make **check** payable to "RSCC" and send to: Rockville Sister City Corp., c/o Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850-2364
OR you may pay by [PayPal](#) (click) --- be sure to include all applicable information!

AREAS OF INTEREST: (TO ALL MEMBERS, NEW & RENEWING, 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 10Mar 2017-gwa)

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c/o Rockville City Hall
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