



ROCKVILLE SISTER CITIES CORPORATION NEWSLETTER

www.RockvilleSisterCities.org

The Rockville Sister Cities Corporation (RSCC) is a non-profit service organization founded in 1986 to facilitate and maintain Rockville's Sister City relationships established by the City of Rockville in 1957 with Pinneberg, Germany and with Yilan City, Taiwan in 2019. These relationships are based on educational, cultural and governmental exchanges as well as a vital local program, pursuant to the people-to-people program initiated by President D. Dwight Eisenhower in 1956.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Drew Powell**, President, RSCC

In light of recent events, the Rockville Sister Cities Corporation (RSCC) wishes to proclaim our support and solidarity with those who seek peace and mutual cooperation, those who wish to live free and those who cherish self-determination. We understand more than ever that the Sister Cities International Program of people-to-people diplomacy and mutual understanding is crucial to world peace.

Rockville's Sister Cities Program continues to move forward even during difficult times. Evidence of this are the remarkable RSCC events and programs that bring Rockville's diverse cultural communities together in celebration of our differences and shared aspirations as well as our continuing cooperation with our partner organizations in Pinneberg and Yilan City. Within the past six months, the Rockville Sister Cities Corporation hosted or sponsored no less than eight major events, including: the Dim Sum Fund Raiser, the Rockville - Taiwan Bubble Tea Festival, RSCC's Annual Membership Meeting, the German-American Day Picnic, the "Celebration of Friendship" (On Site Sculpture 30th Anniversary) and the Rockville Lantern Festival.

The Rockville Lantern Festival, held on Friday, February 11, 2022, was a spectacular success. More than 500 guests attended, which included theater patrons and families engaged in kid-friendly activities in the Social Hall. The program, emceed by **Xi Chen** and RSCC Member, **Max Wappel**, included opening remarks by Montgomery County Executive, **Marc Elrich**, Montgomery County Councilmember (District 3) **Sidney Katz**, President of the AACC, **Dr. Cindy Shao**, RSCC Director and GM of WQER LP 96.7FM Radio, **Dr. Sean Lin**, and myself. It was truly an honor that County Executive Elrich presented proclamations to Dr. Shao, Dr. Lin and the Rockville Sister Cities Corporation for their efforts in bringing people together to celebrate Lunar New Year and the Lantern Festival. The Rockville Lantern Festival was an amazing team effort on the part of so many, including the RSCC Board of Directors, who put in countless hours in their service on behalf of the greater Rockville community. Performances included a traditional

Indian Dance by the **Natananjali School of Dance**, a spectacular performance of the Gu Zheng (traditional Chinese musical instrument) by the **Alice Gu-Zheng Ensemble**, a dazzling yoyo performance by the **Fasca DC Yoyo Team**, a demonstration of Falun Gong meditation by the **Falun Dafa Association of Washington D.C.**, a brilliant magic show by **Mr. Sun-Ping** and an Asian hip hop dance by the **Millennial Global Youth Pop Dance Team**.

Not only is the Rockville Sister Cities Corporation engaged in bringing Rockville's multicultural communities together, but also helping where we can. The RSCC officially launched its "Glove Drive" to assist the **Cocody University Hospital (CHU)** in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire with its shortage of latex gloves. All donations of latex gloves, in unopened boxes, as well as money, are being accepted. All sizes of latex gloves are needed, including small, medium, large and extra-long. Please see www.rockvillesistercities.org for more information.

The Rockville Sister Cities Corporation aims to restart international exchange programs, curtailed by the pandemic. To this end, the RSCC participated in virtual programs, including regular teleconferences with our counterpart organizations, the **DAGPR** and the **YSCC** in Pinneberg, Germany and Yilan City, Taiwan, respectively. We also assisted in initiating ongoing virtual student exchanges between Rockville's **Richard Montgomery High School** and Pinneberg's **Theodor-Heuss-Schule**. Similarly, working closely with the YSCC in Yilan City, Taiwan, the RSCC is initiating a College Level International Exchange Program (CLIEP) between **Montgomery College**, Rockville Campus and **National Yilan University**, plus creating linkages and future exchanges between Richard Montgomery High School and **National Yilan Senior High School**. We hope that the Rockville Mayor and Council can travel to Yilan City, Taiwan sometime in 2022 for their reciprocal governmental exchange.

The new year looks bright as Rockville continues to move forward with its Sister Cities Program and none of this would be possible without the continuing support of the entire RSCC Board of Directors, our dedicated General Membership and the City of Rockville.

Drew

Rockville Lantern Festival, Jan. 11, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater

The RSCC Jiaxing Committee hosted a very successful 3rd Rockville Lantern Festival this year. Event held at the City Fitzgerald Theater on January 11. Asian cultural performances showcased in the theater, while information, activity and food tables filled the lobby and downstairs social hall. [See description above.] Images from the event:



Falun Dafa Association of D.C. demonstrate Falun Gong



Alice Gu-Zheng Ensemble perform

Video Links: Yoyo performance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ew4Oaq8JeOg>, Hip-hop performance: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q6612b87JFw>



Dr. Sean Lin, RSCC Jiaxing Comm. Chair and lead event organizer.



Mont. Co. proclamation of appreciation, presented by Co. Exec. Marc Elrich



Sidney Katz [Mont. Co. Councilmember, Dist. 3], Marc Elrich [Mont. Co., Co. Executive], Drew Powell [Pres., RSCC]; Max Wappel & Xi Chen [event emcees]



In the lobby of the Fitzgerald Theater.



Calligraphy and paper folding activity tables, in the social hall

RSCC & DAGRP, German-American Recipe Book



A project for the RSCC Pinneberg Committee in conjunction with our DAGRP brethren is a joint German-American Recipe Book. The masterpiece is done (kudos editor Allison Chang, RSCC Dir.). The concept is sharing recipes special to RSCC & DAGRP members, to bring us comfort during this pandemic time stress and make a shut-in cross-cultural exchange. This is an e-book now,

available only to RSCC members, via passwording of the .pdf file. Access posted on the RSCC website. The password will be shared to members-in-good standing via email notice. Feel free to talk this recipe book up and encourage others to become members for their own access.

The recipe book contains 61 recipes (101 pages), with chapters featuring entrees, sides, desserts and drinks. RSCC recipes in English and DAGRP recipes in original German with translation. We thank the DAGRP for their delightful and bountiful contributions.

Here is an assortment of a few recipes:

- *Zwiebelkuchen* Onion Cake
- Maryland-style Crab Cakes
- *Miesmuscheln im Weissweinsud* Mussels in White Wine
- Cornell Chicken
- *Rinderouladen* Beef Roulade
- *Eingelegte Zucchini* Pickled Zucchini
- Summer Coleslaw
- *Kartoffelpuffer* Potato Pancakes
- *Quarkpudding*
- *Slevanka*
- Chocolate Caramel Cheesecake
- Apple Pie Whiskey
- *Eierlikoer* Eggnog

POTATO PANCAKES
Potato Pancakes

My grandmother gave me this recipe. She would fry 8 potato pancakes then stack them on top of each other. She would fry 8 potato pancakes then stack them on top of each other. She would fry 8 potato pancakes then stack them on top of each other.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 1/2 lbs potatoes
- 1 egg
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 1/2 cup oil

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Peel the potatoes.
2. Grate the potatoes.
3. Mix the potatoes with the egg, the flour and the salt until you get a sticky consistency.
4. Fry the potato pancakes in a pan until browned on both sides.

SÜSSER AUFLAUF MIT VANILLESOSSE
FRAUKE VORPAHL, DAGRP

250 g margarine oder Butter
4 Eier
250 g Zucker
1 Prise Salz
1 Zitrone abgerast
500 g Mehl
1 Packung Backpulver
1 Packung Vanillin
ca 200 ml Milch (kann auch etwas mehr sein, aber keine mehr nehmen, der richtige Teig muss kommen von dem Löffel runter)

Die Eier werden mit dem Zucker verquirlt, dem Öl und dem Margarine/Butter hinzu. In diese cremige Masse gibt man auch noch das Mehl, die Prise Salz und die Milch und ein wenig Vanillinpulver/essenz. Zitronenschale, in der Eier nur dem Mehl gibt man das Backpulver und vermischt das alles zu einem cremigen Teig.

In den Teig kommen nun die Früchte (bei Johannisbeeren, geschälte, in Stücke geschnittene, möglichst saure, häufig sehr süßes Apfels, Zwetschgen oder Pfirsiche, Mandarinen in Stücken oder auch abgeraspelte Zitrusen aus dem Glas. Der Teig soll am Ofen verstreichen und in eine halbkugelförmige gehen. Mit Margarine / Butter bestreuen.

Bei 175 Grad / 350 Grad / ca 55 - 60 Minuten
Das ist ziemlich sehr gut Vanilleheide, Tüte Vanilleextrakt nach Anweisung kochen

Für die kleine Auflaufform heissen hier das Rezept. Man kann diesen Teig ein bisschen mehr in eine Springform füllen und als Kuchen essen mit Schlagsahne dazu, auch sehr lecker!

Example in German

SWEET CASSEROLE WITH VANILLA SAUCE
FRAUKE VORPAHL, DAGRP

250 g margarine or butter
4 eggs
250 g sugar
1 pinch salt
1 grated lemon
500 g flour
1 packet German baking powder
-200 ml milk (can also be a bit more, but you have to watch the creamy batter); it should fall slowly from the spoon)

Whisk eggs with sugar, then add in margarine/butter. Grate the flour, salt, milk, and lemon rind. Add baking powder to the rest of the flour and mix everything into a creamy batter.

New some seasonal fruits into the batter, such as apples, plums, cherries, or sliced sweet cherries.

Mix the batter with the fruit and pour into a casserole pan. Sprinkled with the graham/cracker.

Bake 55-60 minutes on -350 F / convection

This goes very well with vanilla sauce made with 1 packet of vanilla sauce powder. Follow instructions on packet.

For a small casserole pan, have the recipe. You can also put the batter into a spring-form pan and eat it as cake with whipped cream, very yummy.

Example English translation

RHEINISCHER SAUERBRATEN
RHEINLAND SAUERBRATEN
"RHEINISCHER ZOWLIH BRAHTUN"
6 PERSONEN - SERVES 6
INGE ECK, DAGRP

Zutaten / Ingredients:
1,5 kg (3,3 lb) Fleisch (Schweinshaxe) (1/3 lb for broiling beef)
Für die Marinade / For the Marinade:
4 Zwiebeln (4 onions)
2 Zwiebeln (2 onions)
2 Esslöffel Öl (2 tablespoons)
2 Esslöffel Salz (2 tablespoons)
1 Esslöffel Pfeffer (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Senf (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Worcestersauce (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Essig (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Knoblauch (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Petersilie (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Majoran (1 tablespoon)
1 Esslöffel Thymian (1 tablespoon)

Das Fleisch in eine große saure Schüssel geben, die mit 1/2 Liter Wasser gefüllt ist. Das Fleisch mit Salz und Pfeffer bestreuen. Die Marinade über das Fleisch geben und gleichmäßig auf das Fleisch verteilen. Das Fleisch in eine große saure Schüssel geben und mit Wasser füllen. Das Fleisch in eine große saure Schüssel geben und mit Wasser füllen. Das Fleisch in eine große saure Schüssel geben und mit Wasser füllen.

RSCC History, Lecture *January 22, 2022, online*

In January, RSCC was asked to tell its own history, as an installment of the Glenview Lecture Series, host by Peerless Rockville and the City of Rockville. These usually occur, as public history-themed lectures, live at Glenview Mansion, while now occurring as online web shows. RSCC Board Members Drew Powell, David Hill, and Hannelore Quigley each did segments on Sister City history generally, Rockville's Sister City history and RSCC, and brief histories of each Sister City and cultural exchange. A recording of this lecture was made and will be posted on the RSCC website (shortly if not already there).

Also, these presentation slides and more extensive research material than could fit in our time slot are available for any future use purposes.



Remote Meetings with Our Sister Cities, *December 18 and January 22, online*

While we cannot travel to meet, RSCC is doing what everyone else is doing... going online.

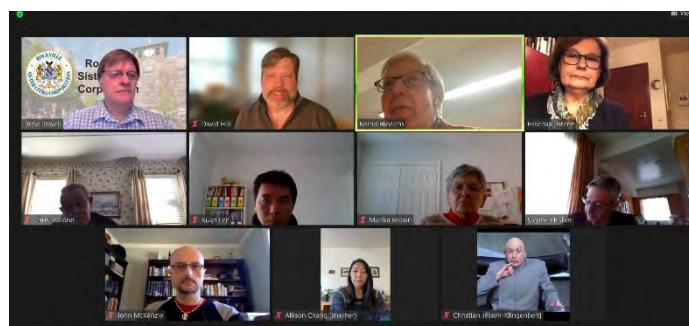


L-R top: David Tang, Gilbert Santiago, Marika Brown, John McKenzie, Max Wappel; bottom: Eva Chang, Denise Chu, Dr. Lee, Wang Shihcheng

The RSCC Board met with the Yilan City SCC on December 18. The time difference was a scheduling challenge (late evening in Taiwan, early morning in Rockville). The Yilan attendees were just finishing a Christmas party, which is why they are all together on their end of the conference session. The major topics were the likelihood of a Rockville delegation getting to Yilan City in 2022 (finally after deferring visits in Oct., 2020 and all

of 2021), and a possible college level student exchange with Montgomery College.

Then in the New Year, RSCC Board met with the DAGRP (Pinneberg) on January 22. Not quite the time difference challenge, while still appreciable. Major topics were catching-up on what has happened lately, reviewing scheduled events for 2022, handling of the German-American Recipe Book, and perhaps a student high school level student exchange and when that might occur per travel restrictions.



L-R, T-B: Drew Powell, David Hill, Berndt Hinrichs, Felicitas Lorenz, Chris Malone, Kuan Lee, Marika Brown, Steve Fisher, John McKenzie, Allison Chang, and the "Evil Doctor" [Christian Jessen-Klingenberg]

PPE for CHU De Cocody Hospital in Cote d'Ivoire, Donation Fund



RSCC seeks donations in-kind or cash contributions for sealed packages of sterile medical gloves, as new project to support the CHU de Cocody (Hospital) in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast, Africa). This hospital desperately

needs this personal protective equipment and RSCC is responding to a local outreach on its behalf, with a new donation fund. Cash contributions will be used to purchase medical gloves, to go with in-kind contributions in an upcoming shipment. See the RSCC website (URL lower left) for details. *[We also remember the support and generosity of Yilan City in sending \$75,000 of PPE to the City of Rockville, in our time of need, early in the Covid pandemic. We pay it forward.]*

RSCC Organization News

- RSCC formed a new Finance Committee, chaired by Treasurer & Dir., John McKenzie. Initial topics are reviewing reporting practices, categorizing line items, and anticipatory planning as the organization looks to post-pandemic opportunities.
- RSCC is discussing re-engaging in student exchanges with our sister cities as the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. Currently in thinking are: a high school level exchange with Pinneberg, via Richard Montgomery HS, and a college level exchange with Yilan City, via Montgomery College. More news to come when the public health conditions stabilize and further planning solidifies.
- RSCC Director for Communications, David Hill, submitted a request to the Rockville Planning Commission to (re)name a street in the City to honor our Yilan City Sister City relationship. This would be complimentary to already extant Pinneberg Avenue. This idea now on the table of the government body that performs street naming. As the formation of new streets is few and far between in our already mostly built-in cityscape, when this can occur is uncertain. While initial feedback is: it is a good idea and worth fitting to opportunities.



Street sign in Rockville, for Pinneberg Ave. (in southeast Twinbrook)



Street sign in Pinneberg, for Rockvillestrasse (St.).



Might we have Yilan St./Rd./Ave./Pl. [etc.] in Rockville?

2022 Membership Renewal Reminder

A reminder to renew your membership to RSCC if it expired at the close of 2021. While the organization switched to year-running membership periods, many longer-time members have membership periods aligned to the calendar year, as a

former practice. So if that's you, please renew to continue supporting the RSCC and its many activities—as duly outlined just in this single newsletter.

RSCC Library Display, 2022, December, Rockville Memorial Library Lobby



RSCC created a display for the lobby of Rockville Memorial Library again for December 2021, kudos to Dirs. Drew Powell and Liz von Kaenal. The theme this year was describing what our sister cities do for the end of year holidays. This is good way to showcase our sister city cultures seasonally.

Around Rockville



Speaking of the library, here's a December daytime picture of Town Square with the City Christmas Tree, the ice rink, and library to right (background). Just in case you have been staying

inside, and missed seeing this, due to COVID-19 or the cold weather.

And during the pandemic, the City updated our boundary welcome signs with Yilan City as our latest Sister City addition.



In Memoriam: Jim McConkey



Former RSCC President Jim McConkey died on Jan 4. Among other distinctions, Jim led delegations to both Pinneberg and Jiaxing. He and his wife Winifred hosted many exchange students in their home.

They loved to travel too. Thanks for the memories, Jim.

<https://www.pumphreyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/James-Frederick-McConkey-Jr?obId=23588277#/obituaryInfo>]

Catching-up Events *[while newsletter publication was on hiatus]*

Two noteworthy RSCC events happened since the pandemic shutdown. As the newsletter was on hiatus, we re-post notice of these to make sure members know about them.

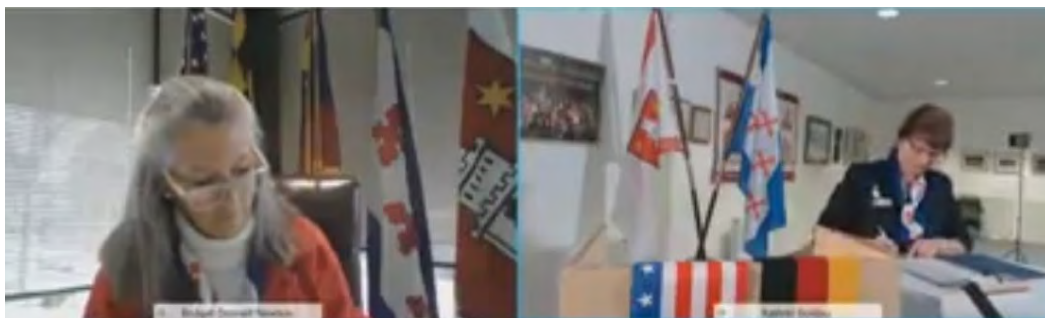
First, early in the pandemic, Yilan City Sister City Corp. heard the news that the U.S. was short on personal protective equipment (PPE: masks and gloves), for public health. Therefore, they made a very generous and timely donation, along with TECRO (Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office), of \$75,000 worth of PPE. The City distributed this equipment to first responders (mostly police, paramedics & firefighters) that needed to be on the public forefront, while most of us sequestered during the harsh first outbreaks of COVID-19. We are humbled by this supportive outreach from our friends across the ocean.



Mayor Newton and Council Member Ashton, with TECRO representatives receive the PPE shipment in front of City Hall.

Second, we noted that Rockville and Pinneberg missed signing a conventional Sister City agreement. This is because our sister city relationship, starting 1957, pre-dates current Sister City Intl. protocol. Yet this warranted fixing. Thus, in Nov. 2020, RSCC and DAGRP conducted a joint signing ceremony, live and virtually, to formalize such a conventional agreement.

Something that agreement states is the cities agree we have been sister cities since 1957, and it sets the date of Nov. 8 as our anniversary date (the date in 1957 when Rockville Mayor Dickran Hovsepien first visited Pinneberg with the Rockville resolution in hand, and the Pinneberg Council re-voted to formalize their prior tentative resolution)



Mayor Newton in Rockville, and Bürgermeister Steinberg in Pinneberg signing the joint resolution, live and virtually, Nov. 8, 2020.



Learn a new Language: Mandarin Chinese Classes (Online)



The Washington DC Taiwanese School (WDCTS) is offering online classes in Mandarin Chinese: Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Conversational. This is a great way to learn or brush up those language skills. RSCC members are offered a \$20 discount.

Link to more information: <https://wdcts.org/mandarin-learning/>

Thank you RSCC Director David Tang for arranging this opportunity for RSCC members to gain language skills relevant to our Yilan City and Jiaying relationships.

Sponsors

The Rockville Sister Cities Corporation gratefully acknowledges the following Sponsors.

GOLD Sponsorship



Kavalan Distillery, Yilan, Taiwan
<https://www.kavalanwhisky.com/en>

Mingo Lin

Bronze Sponsorship

Law Office of Thomas K. Brown, LLC
 Immigration and Family Law in Maryland

Thomas K. Brown Law Office
tbrown@thomasbrownlaw.com



Rockville Sister Cities Corporation (RSCC)

<http://rockvillesistercities.org>

Membership Application/Renewal Form

Today's Date: _____ This is a: New Membership or Renewal

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution for (check one only):

Corporate Sponsorship Levels

Student (free) \$25 Individual \$40 Family \$100 Bronze \$250 Silver \$500 Gold

\$ _____ Additional (tax deductible) contribution.

\$ _____ Total Enclosed Your Check # _____

Make your check payable to "RSCC" and mail it and this completed application to:
Rockville Sister City Corporation, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850

OR

Email this form to rockvillesistercities@gmail.com and pay via PayPal by link:
<http://www.rockvillesistercities.org/wp/purchase-donate/>

Please print the following information:

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
(if applicable, for family)

+Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____ Type: Home Work Cell

Please check areas of your interest or participation below:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting visitors from Sister/Friendship Cities | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural exchanges |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting students from Sister/Friendship Cities | <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising events | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Wine Tasting events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Day Parade event | <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as committee chair |

Other comments or suggestions:

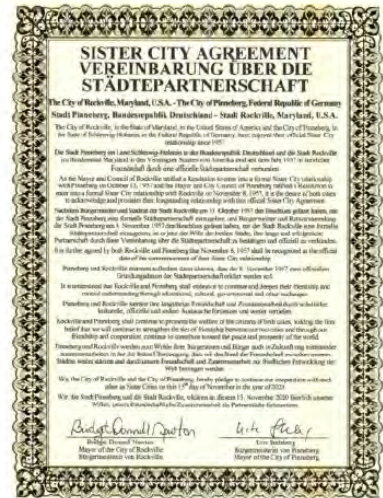


1957 Pinneberg Resolution

“... [T]he Pinneberg City Councilors, ... have unanimously voted to enter into Sister City Relations with Rockville We hope that this ... will, ... lead to strong friendly relations and personal ties between the two cities and their citizens; and that this, ... will strengthen the understanding between peoples in the world for the benefit of our citizens ...”

Statement of purpose from the 1957 Pinneberg Resolution.

See inside for story.



2020 Joint (re)Agreement

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