



LAKEWOOD SISTER CITIES NEWSLETTER

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SUMMER 2010

WELCOME BARBIE
IS
HOT SUMMER FUN!



Five Australian students arrived on Saturday, July 17 for the 2010-11 student exchange. Daniel's park was once again the venue for the July 18 welcome picnic attended by nearly 60 LSC members and students. .

Hamburgers, hot dogs, dessert and beverages were provided by the student exchange with the membership adding an incredible assortment of side dishes.

The Australians were introduced by their American student hosts. John Osterberg & Bruce Binns manned the BBQ grills for the hungry masses.

Peggy Moulton coordinated the affair, assisted by Beth Jankowski and Jene' Meier.

On a serious note: VP of Youth Board member Denise Newman provided new information regarding the future status of visitations that could be affected by pending Department of State regulations.

That won't stop this years' exchange from enjoying the great things their host countries have to offer! The Oz students will be exposed to our culture by staying with the American host families enjoying the Colorado mountains with camping trips and skiing, coupled with touring many southwestern states for the next six months.

-Paul Scherschel

Introducing "Prodigy," our 2010-2011 American Exchange Students



Our next Australian Student Exchange group, "Prodigy," consists of 5 Jefferson County High School students and families eagerly anticipating the upcoming year of adventures with their Aussie counterparts.

The much anticipated Pairing Potluck was held on March 27th. It was a fun night. No time was wasted before the American students began their Toastmasters® classes. A big "thank you" to Heather for her guidance to the students. Each student presented their final speeches on a topic that was important to them. At the end of the Toastmaster ceremony, **Tai Parker** was selected as our representative at the Sutherland Shire Debutante Ball in June 2011.

I am proud to present short biographies of the 2010-2011 American Prodigy students:

Hi, my name is **Kelly Allison Binns**. I'm 15 years old and attend Golden High School. Just so you know a little bit more about me I love to play sports and hang out with all my friends. The sports part is what really connects my partner and me...well that and our personalities kind of just match up and we get along super well. It's perfect because we never run out of things to talk about! For the final Toastmasters® speech we were told to give a speech on something that we strongly believe in. I chose the topic of why I believe puppy mills should be banned by law forever. I gave the best examples that I could find and ways to help out. That's also another one of my great traits; if I feel strongly about something I stick by it and never back down. That's a trait I wish everyone had it gives you great character! So now you know a bit more about me, my partner, and my speech!

My name is **Evan Hammer**. I am an aspiring actress, animal lover, in tune to my cultural surroundings, and a well-rounded person. I love theater and film acting and I excel at English. I am a very outgoing person who likes to have fun and I cheerlead for my high school. Brianna Thorsby, my Australian Exchange Partner, is just the same! She has been involved with acting since she was little. She plays net ball in Australia and we both love English. She is very social and close to her family. One would describe her as a bundle of fun. My Toastmasters® speech, titled "Bullets in a Crayon Box," dealt with a more somber topic. It focused on the Lords Resistance Army, mainly composed of child soldiers, in the northern parts of Uganda. I spoke about the horrors of the LRA and the organizations trying to stop them.

My name is **Eric Daniel Österberg**. I live in Lakewood, Colorado and I am going to live with Bronte Dalla-Bona during my Australian Exchange. In my exchange group, Prodigy. I am the only boy among nine girls! I am prepared to act as a responsible ambassador of the United States. While in Australia I hope to completely immerse myself in a new lifestyle. I love to play lacrosse and hope to play either rugby or basketball once in Australia. I also look forward to acquiring a tan (losing my Colorado paleness). My mom, dad and I are the only ones living in our house right now. My sister and brother-in-law live in Virginia and my two older brothers live in an apartment here in Lakewood. I am looking forward to having Bronte as my "sister", along with her 3 younger sisters, and having another family that will deal with me when I'm cranky or sleep in until 1 pm. How will they deal with me when I try my hardest to avoid having my hair cut? Though I have not been with my Australian family I know that I will love them and miss them when I have to leave. Being gone for six months may seem nerve-wracking, but I can't contain my excitement when looking forward to that time-consuming flight towards my unforgettable experience in Australia.

Hi my name is **Tai Parker**. I am a sophomore at Arvada West and am on the track team. I am interested in science and wish to study it in college. I have two dogs, Dani and Jagger. In my spare time, I like to watch anime, draw, read, or hang out with friends. My exchange student is Brittany. She is 15 and goes to Kirrawee High School in Gynea Bay. She is very athletic and plays hockey, baseball, and unique Aussie sports. My speech topic for the final Toastmasters® class is entitled "The Exception to the Rule," describing how I feel about human nature and life in general.

Jennifer Sutton is 16 years old and a sophomore at Chatfield Senior High. She enjoys running on the Chatfield Cross Country Team and jumping on a competitive jump rope team. Aside from her sports, Jennifer enjoys just hanging out with her friends from church and school. She will be welcoming her exchange student, Holly Petrou, to Denver in Mid July.

The Americans will play the hosts for the first six months. Here is the full list the host students, their parents and their Aussie partners:

Host Student	Host Parents	Aussie student
Kelly Binns, Golden High	Bruce & Janet	Bianna Pender
Evan Hammer, Lakewood High	Jay & Charissa	Brianna Thorsby
Tai Parker, Arvada High	Andy & Deb	Brittany Davey
Eric Osterberg, Green Mountain High	John & Rhonda	Bronte Dalla-Bona
Jennifer Sutton, Chatfield High	Allan & Rhonda	Holly Goffer-Petrou

-Beth Jankowski

IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!

Now Recruiting for Lakewood Sister Cities Program

Every now and then it becomes necessary to put the word out for help in managing this organization. With adult and student programs that are on-going, volunteers are needed to step up in order for this excellent program to continue.

In many similar cases an organization finds itself in financial difficulty; not so with Lakewood Sister Cities. We are financially sound for years to come, but we have a core group of volunteers who have worked hard to get us financially stable and they now need your help to keep the program viable.

We will be seeking willing adults to commit to two or three hours per month. No special education or training is necessary, since we have sufficient people to help you for the first few months. The position of Treasurer needs someone with a business or accounting background and some fundamental computer skills. Adults with life experience are needed to serve as officers and heads of committees.

The Thursday September 16 Board meeting is open to all members outlining the open board and committee positions and to learn of the immediate needs of LSCP. **We will be seeking willing adults to commit to two or three hours per month. No special education or training is necessary, since we have sufficient people to help you for the first few months. The position of Treasurer needs someone with a business or accounting background and some fundamental computer skills. Adults with life experience are needed to serve as officers and heads of committees.** A full explanation of the duties of open positions will be addressed and members will be encouraged to volunteer.

We have just completed a visitation of 23 visitors from our sister city in Stade, Germany. Many long-time friendships were renewed and new ones formed. An excellent program of activities was scheduled and our German friends were delighted. They invited 30 of our members to come to Stade in 2012 for an in-home exchange of up to 10 days to be entertained and shown how hospitable they can be. They always have a great program of activities including boat rides and festivities that have proven to be memorable.

We have other sister cities in England and Australia, that have suffered from the recent world recession. These relationships need to be renewed and new ones formed so we can continue to offer our members exciting and educational travel opportunities.

Please place September 16 on your calendar and plan to attend these special events so we can continue to make Lakewood Sister Cities Program envied by all.

-Your Lakewood Sister Cities Program Board

Fourth Visit of Big Band from Stade a Great Success!!



Wheat Ridge Band and Orchestra members hosted 36 students and two sponsors from Stade, Germany from May 12 to May 20. The exchange was a great success and left the students and families with tearful farewells and plans to see each other again.

Thanks to all the parents, Sister Cities members and former students who helped drive and who participated in many ways to make everything run smoothly.

On Saturday, the students rode busses up to Breckenridge to participate in a Jazz Festival with three other schools. They also had a chance to do some shopping in Breckenridge.

Sunday was a free day to spend time with their families. During the week the German students gave concerts at the German American Chamber of Commerce and at Wheat Ridge High School. They also attended the final concerts for both the band and choir.

Extracurricular trips to Red Rocks and Buffalo Bill's grave, downtown Denver Colorado Springs and Manitou and on the final day, a trip to the zoo gave them an introduction to our many and varied sites. While they were touring the Wheat Ridge students were busy preparing for senior finals and graduation. Of course there was plenty of time for shopping!!

Special thanks for all the planning by Christy Muncey and Janine Burns. As of June 2, Christy has moved on to grad school at CSU. We will miss her and wish her well. The new band director is Mike Vallez, who will begin work in August with the marching band camp. We look forward to meeting him then!

-Kathy Van Liere

GERMAN ADULT EXCHANGE VISIT IS "NON-STOP ACTION"



Twenty-three Germans from our sister city of Stade, Niedersachsen, and its environs visited our communities from May 30th until June 10th. Sixteen Lakewood Sister Cities households hosted the visitation and provided a touch of American-style living as well as a continued sense of brotherhood with our friends from across the seas.

Activities were planned to provide a wide-ranging experience while here in Colorado. In addition to the wonderful welcoming and farewell dinners, the group hiked Roxborough State Park; attended a Rockies game; toured the Mint, the Capitol, and the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, rode the Georgetown RR and toured the mine, followed by a trip up to Mt. Evans and a pizza party at Beau Jo's. They had a luncheon with the Lakewood Mayor Bob Murphy and then toured historical Lakewood. Additionally, each host person or family provided other optional activities on scheduled "free" days.

From our guests' reactions and comments, the visit was a tremendous success. Thanks to all of those who hosted and also to those who accepted leadership responsibility for activities. It's certainly been a group project and one shared by so many people. Kudos to everyone who participated and made the exchange such a warm and friendly experience. And if laughter and smiles are any gauge of success, we sent some happy campers back to Deutschland. And, of course, they departed as our friends.

-Charlene and Jack Stout, Janet and Ed Tyrrell

World's First Rodeo Won by an Englishman!

By Breck Swords

(Here's another excerpt from my upcoming book. It seems the Colorado-UK connection goes back a long way!)

In 1983, Pecos, Texas celebrated the 100th birthday of "The World's First Rodeo." Then, in 1988, Prescott, Arizona celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Prescott Frontier Days, and even registered a trademark for its designation as "The World's Oldest Rodeo."

The controversy achieved the pinnacle of absurdity when Pecos threatened to sue the creators of the game Trivial Pursuit for its question "What rough-and-tumble Western sport was first formalized in Prescott, Arizona?" Of course, Prescott threatened to sue if the answer was changed. When the dust had settled, Trivial Pursuit had stuck to its guns; as far as they were concerned, Prescott was still the site of the oldest rodeo.

Overlooked in all this hype and hoo-hah of the nineteen eighties was a magazine article written in the eighteen eighties. The July 8, 1889 issue of Field and Farm magazine featured a report of a rodeo held in Deer Trail, Colorado, on July 4, 1869.

Of course, informal get-togethers had been held by cowboys for years. What sets the Deer Trail event apart is that was the first organized event, complete with a prize from a sponsor- a brand new suit of clothes from the Denver Dry Goods Company. Cowhands from three ranches, the Campstool, the Mill Iron and the Hashknife, came to ride. **Our English friends will be gratified to hear that the winner of the world's first rodeo was an Englishman named Emilnie Gardenshire of the Mill Iron Ranch, who busted a Hashknife bronco named Montana Blizzard. Gardenshire was the first cowhand to win a prize, thus making him the first professional rodeo contestant.**

In his 1955 book, Trailing the Cowboy, Westermeier excerpts Field and Farm's dramatic description of Gardenshire's ride:

Emilnie Gardenshire let it be known that he wanted the worst animal in the pen, and he got it in the shape of a bay, from the Hashknife ranch, known throughout the section as the Montana Blizzard. Gardenshire, rawhide whip in hand, crawled aboard cautiously and, once firm in his seat, began to larrup the bay unmercifully. For fifteen minutes the bay bucked, pawed, and jumped from side to side, than, amid cheers, the mighty Blizzard succumbed, and Gardenshire rode him around the circle at a gentle gallop. It was a magnificent piece of horsemanship, and the suit of clothes, together with the title "Champion Bronco Buster of the Plains," went to the lad from the Mill Iron ranch.

The event wasn't called a "rodeo" at the time; it was referred to as a "bronco busting contest." According to rodeo historian Ralph Clark, the word "rodeo" wasn't used until 1916 or so. These events were often known as 'cowboy competitions' or 'cowboy tournaments'. The word itself comes from the Spanish word "rodear," which means "to round up."

In 1969, the Colorado Legislature weighed in: Colorado House Joint Resolution No. 1025 declared that the first rodeo held in the world was in Deer Trail, Colorado on July 4, 1869. Won by an Englishman.

OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS



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Fund-Raising Corner

Don't forget to buy King Soopers and Safeway Gift Cards.

Here is a simple way to have King Soopers pay LSCP whenever you shop at their stores. There is **no cost for our members**. You will not be taking money from the family budget to purchase these cards. Just purchase a card for \$100, which prepays your grocery purchases. Once you have spent the \$100, **any cashier can reload the card** and Lakewood Sister Cities Program will continue to receive \$5.00 for every \$100 you spend at King Soopers. You do not need to repurchase a gift card if you continue to make purchases at King Soopers within any 90 day period.

We also have Safeway gift cards that give us 5% for every dollar purchased at Safeway stores, but they can not be reloaded to benefit LSCP.

These cards are available at any LSC board meeting

If you are unable to attend a board meeting, you can call Julie Longwell at 303-985-5205 or Denise Newman at 303-231-9177 and they will arrange for you to purchase the gift cards of your choice.

Let's not lose the opportunity to have King Soopers and Safeway give us money for shopping at their stores.

GOT A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS?

TELL US!

If you've recently changed your email address, you're probably not getting our LSC members' emails any more. These email groups are managed by Yahoo, so, to re-join, just do this:

- go to our web site at lakewoodsistercities.org
- click on "Message Board" at the left of the page. This will take you to the Yahoo page for the group "LSC-All."
- click on the blue "Join this Group" button

If you're a Yahoo member, sign in. If not, join Yahoo. There's no obligation, and you can specify any email address when joining the LSC group (not just your Yahoo email address.)