

A Newsletter for the Members of
People to People International Arizona Chapter
November, 2005

Board Meeting Calendar 05-06

November 10
December 8
January 12
February 9
March 21
April 20
May 18
June 15

All members are welcome to attend. Contact a board member for location details.

Meet the AZ Chapter Board

President:

Margaret DuBois

Treasurer:

Ruth Allen

Recording Secretary:

Tracy Justinak

Publications:

Cindy McParland

Youth Travel Leader:

Diane Davis

Youth Group President:

Chris Okawa

Special Projects:

Yefim Toybin, Grace Wright, Annette Petzel, Todd McParland,
Reyn DuBois, Yolanda McDonald



Looking back at 2005

Our chapter continues to grow in numbers and in strength. We have had many successes in goals within our adult and youth group. Members in our area can be very proud of our efforts to spread peace through understanding.

AZ Home stays

Our 2005 efforts to host visitors in Arizona has been very successful and most rewarding for the participants.

We were proud to host world traveler Mechtild Lutze from Berlin, Germany. Mechtild visited the Phoenix area, Flagstaff, and the Grand Canyon in June. Mechtild was impressed with the beauty of Arizona and the friendly home stay experiences.

The Phoenix chapter also welcomed guests Mr. & Mrs. Genci Mucaj from Albania. The luncheon and cultural exchanges were especially enjoyed within our adult group. We were happy to share ideas about fundraising and charitable distributions.

Most recently, in late October, the chapter hosted Dr. Vladimir Mironovich, from the Republic of Belarus. A warm reception from chapter members was held in the home of Henry Temes. Dr. Mironovich made visits to the AZ Dept. of Commerce,

the City of Scottsdale Convention & Visitor's Bureau, and Allied Building Products Co. Dr. Mironovich was most appreciative of the efforts made by board members to provide a meaningful program of events and for the host family hospitality. The *Meet the Diplomat's Program* continues to be a successful event thanks to the efforts of our Arizona citizens.

AZ Hosts Southwest Conference

Phoenix sponsored the SW Chapters Conference April 15th and 16th. The conference was well attended. Great ideas and discussions were shared among members and leadership. Meetings were held at the Days Inn Hotel with a special luncheon and tour of the Wrigley Mansion.

Membership Socials

International Women's Day Celebration



In March The Arizona Chapter of PTPI celebrated *International Woman's Day* with local chapter members, Russian, and Bulgarian friends from the American-Russian Cultural Forum. The guest speaker was A.S.U. professor, Dr. Elizabeth Brandt. Her presentation was about women and their struggles around the world. Following was an international buffet and music for dancing. It was an interesting and enjoyable evening. Each woman attending received a long stem rose to commemorate the evening.



Arizona Youth Travel

Under the supervision of board member, Ruth Allen, several high school students of mixed ages, had the opportunity to travel to northern Italy & Switzerland this summer. Their experiences included cultural exchanges, home stays, and the formation of life long friendships. An average cost of travel was approximately \$3,000 for a 2-3 week trip. Parents of the travelers expressed their appreciation to the board for the opportunity. And they expressed interest in having more travel opportunities in the future. Perhaps Japan? We're working on it! The following essay expresses the excitement and learning experiences of one student traveler.

A Student Travel Essay

Hi, my name is Chris and I am a youth ambassador who went to Italy and Switzerland in mid June for three weeks. I applied for a scholarship with PTPI-AZ by writing an essay on why I wanted to go to Italy and Switzerland, which included to meet new people, learn how people live there, where and how the schools are etc. What this trip was to me was a great experience to have over my lifetime and a chance to learn about the history of different places and people. I've made lots of friends there that are Italian, Swiss, German, and Swiss /German.

It was really a great experience to have because most of the people were very kind, curious and friendly. Learning how different people live changes how you operate and do things, because maybe you never thought of doing certain things that way until you see it. For me it was the food and certain things you put on food, like vinegar and oil on salad and things. Maybe for you it could be something totally different, but you never know unless you go out and join People to People!! So I hope you do and you can have fun with it like I did. It was an experience I won't forget.

-C.Dooley

Milan, Italy -School Picture



Youth Travel Scholarships

Along with student fundraising opportunities, travel scholarships are available through our People to People chapter. Several students have successfully applied and received money for travel. Don't miss this chance to get to your dream destination! See details on our web site or contact Ruth Allen at: ruta1@ptpi.org.

AZ Teens to Attend Global Youth Forum

AZ youth members Anya Arndt and Chris Okawa will attend the 2005 PTPI Global Youth Forum in Washington D.C. on Nov. 9-13.

At PTPI's Global Youth Forum, young achievers from around the world explore various perspectives and skills while also experiencing an exciting new group of diverse people and cultures. A variety of dynamic speakers, interactive workshops and rewarding activities highlight this unique youth conference. Students leave the Global Youth Forum equipped with the tools and inspiration necessary to take action in promoting peace, tolerance and mutual understanding in their communities and nations. This year we will be looking closely at the media's role in global understanding.

The Global Youth Forum is open to students between 13-18 years of age. You may find more information on the ptpi.org web site.

We look forward to hearing about their experiences at the next board meeting and we will certainly report their perspective to our members on our chapter web site. (www.ptpiaaz.org)



Don't miss our 17th Worldwide Conference in Sydney!

Make plans now to attend PTPI's 50th Anniversary Celebration and 17th Worldwide Conference in Sydney, Australia! This exciting event is planned for August 23-27, 2006. Go to www.ptpi.org to register and read about the details.

Arizona Chapter Award

This past year the Arizona chapter received a \$250.00 award from the Kansas City headquarters for the most new paid memberships. The award money is deposited into our general account and is used to pay chapter expenses. This year we will use the money to update our web site.

This award is a great incentive to renew your membership for 2006. A renewal form is enclosed and we urge you to sign up by January 31st 06. If you just signed up for a membership this past month you do not need to renew but please pass on the form to a friend. Send your renewal form to Ruth Allen as indicated on the form. Thanks!

Check out our *new*, updated web site at

www.ptpiaz.org

It will be up and running by May, 2006