

Tucson Council for International Visitors



January/February 2011

Pat Watson,
Executive Director

“Make your home the center, but never the boundary.”

We, at the Tucson Council for International Visitors have the wonderful opportunity to do just that. We open our doors and hearts to visitors from all around the world. Sharing food, stories and hospitality with people from all different countries, cultures, religions and nationalities is an opportunity granted through your membership with TCIV. We embrace the opportunity to work toward Citizen Diplomacy, one handshake at a time. With your support and participation we are able to show the world just how wonderful the area of Southern Arizona is, the communities, the people, and the businesses.

For a number of years TCIV was lead by a wonderful woman, Eloise Brown. Sadly, Eloise passed away in October of 2010 leaving the Council without an Executive Director and Programmer. She left a legacy of great programming for the visitors and a passion for what she did.

At the January TCIV board meeting it was determined that there needed to be a choice made to fill the rolls of these two positions. I was selected to assume the duty of the Executive Director and until another was found, to do the programming with the assistance of the other board members. (We now have a new programmer!! Judi Hasbrouck has begun taking over the programming duties and will do a superior job.)

My experience in working with the International Visitor program goes back for a number of years. I have been the programmer for the Iowa Council for International Understanding in Des Moines, Iowa and a member of TCIV since moving to Tucson in 2008. These experiences showed me importance of not only providing the visitors with quality programming but also the value of having the visitors experience an evening in the homes of members to get to know the people of the area in a less structured, more relaxed environment.

I look forward to the journey of Citizen Diplomacy with each of you at my side. No one person can do what is needed, it requires the involvement, commitment and willingness of each person to enable TCIV to grow, share and make a difference in the world.

January Event

Tucson Council for International Visitors



Some of those attending



Donna Rinehart

TCIV hosted a reception for members at the Holiday Inn Express on E. Wetmore in January. At this gathering we were able to get to know each other a little better, welcome some new members to the organization and recommit to making TCIV the best it can be.

February Board Meeting Highlights

Pat Watson will be attending the National Council for International Visitors in Washington D.C. February 16 – 20th. This annual conference offers the opportunity to meet with the organizations that send visitors to us and expand our reach to others. We hope to increase the number of visitors to Tucson dramatically over the next couple of years.

March Visitors

The program for the 8 Russians and 2 Escort Officers has been organized for the time period of March 23 – March 26. On March 25th the visitors will be going to Tubac for the day and meeting with a number of local officials and community members at a luncheon at the Stables restaurant at the Tubac Golf and Country Club at 12:30. Members of TCIV that would like to join them are most welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending, please notify Pat Watson at 668-6073 or patwatson@patwatson.com so reservations can be made to accommodate everyone.

The visitors will be home hosted while they are here on Thursday, March 24.

April Highlights

In April it had been tradition to host a member picnic. This year there has been a change and instead of a picnic there will be a luncheon held in Tucson (location still being determined) with a keynote speaker of interest to all. More exciting details of this event, scheduled for April 16th, will be sent to you as all the final preparations are completed. But, for now, mark your calendar for a luncheon for TCIV on April 16!!

To contact the council please email patwatson@patwatson.com or call 520-668-6073. You can also call the office and leave a voicemail but for quicker response you should call Pat. Thank you.

To those who have paid their dues to TCIV, our heartfelt thank you. To those that meant to send the check and just haven't done it yet, please do so. We want you to be involved in TCIV, share the experiences and join us in the expanded programming that will be taking place in the next year! Don't miss out on the opportunity to gather with others that are also Tucson's Citizen Diplomats!