Sister Club Aeropuerto Club of Mexico City, Mexico

This history is presented in two ways, a summary and a synopsis taken from the Rotary year histories. (Note: The underlined words are links but only active on the respective Rotary year history.)

Summary

The sister club relationship was initiated by Roberto Ferrio in Rotary year 1985-86. A small delegation from the Aeropuerto Rotary Club visited the Rotary Club of Space Center (Club) to determine the feasibility of forming a sister club. The Club agreed to such a formation and visited the Aeropuerto Rotary Club in Rotary year 1985-86 to consummate the agreement. In Rotary year 1987-88, the history record indicated that a second visit was planned but records were not available to substantiate that the visit was made unless this visit is referred to in the Rotary year 1992-93 Board of Directors meeting minutes noted below. The Aeropuerto Rotary Club (38 adults) made a visit to the Club in Rotary year 1989-90. The caption in the April 30, 1990 Blastoff indicated that the friendship was growing.

There were no available information for Rotary years 1990-91 and 1991-92 regarding the sister club. However in Rotary year 1992-93, the Board of Director meeting minutes dated July 7, 1992 stated that "The Aeropuerto club wants to know what Space Center's level of interest is because we have not made a club visit there for two years." Further, the Board of Director's Meeting minutes dated March 3, 1993 noted: "The trip to Mexico in March to the Aeropuerto Club has been called off due to a lack of sign-up. It has been suggested that we should terminate our club relations committee with Aeropuerto because this is the third year that we have set up a plan and then canceled it. There has been an invitation to come tour an underground river grotto on March 27-28 if anyone in the club wants to go to Mexico. It was decided to not actually terminate the committee yet, and try for a no-frills trip in the future."

Therefore it is assumed that little or no contact was made in Rotary years 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93. In Rotary year 1993-94, President Vic Maria and wife Norma made a trip to the Aeropuerto Rotary Club to exchange plans and ideas. The ensuing available history records were silent about the sister club.

Synopsis

Rotary Year 1985-86

May 20, 1986 BOD meeting minutes, Bob Wren announced the coming visit of two to three couples from the Aeropuerto Club in Mexico. They are coming to talk about the formation of a sister club with us. A cocktail party, NASA tour, luncheon, and Gilley's trip are planned. Roberto Piero from the Oyster Creek Club also will be with them to facilitate their visit.

Rotary Year 1986-87

One activity was establishing a sister club relation with the Aeropuerto Club of Mexico City. The Club was approached during the previous Rotary year by Roberto Ferrio to establish a brotherhood between them and Space Center Rotary Club. Ferrio, who was from Mexico City and working in Houston, wanted to see if the Club might be interested in establishing a sister club arrangement with a club located by the Mexico City airport; the tie being, among other things, aerospace. The Club agreed to look into it. He related how he had met and became friends with one of our crew members, Dick Covey, and he was very enthusiastic about ties with Mexico since the Mexico City District Rotary clubs were very excited about and supportive of our space program. The Museum of Mexico had only the Russian story and exhibits at that time. Some of this had to do with widespread beliefs in Mexico that the Aztecs, Mayans, etc. had ties with UFO's and past alien visitors. This relation was culminated in a meeting in Mexico City attended by 40 of the Club's members and their spouses February 19-22, 1987. The Fraternity Declaration (certificate one in English and certificate two in Spanish), special banner reflecting the relationship, and the banner of the Aeropuerto Club of Mexico City were presented to President Hargrove during the visit to Mexico City (photo of the exchange).

Rotary Year 1987-88

Blastoff March 21, 1988 noted: "MAR 27-APR 2

VISIT FROM MEXICO CITY'S AEROPUERTO CLUB MEMBERS. About 15 couples from the Mexico City Aeropuerto Club are expected to visit us. Can you house one couple 3/30- 4/2? Also, see Carlos if you can help on the transportation then." There were no Board of Directors meeting minutes for this period to provide additional information however the Blastoffs were issued every week and there was no write ups or photos in the ensuing editions to verify that the visit was made.

June 21, 1988 BOD meeting minutes, Aeropuerto Rotary Club visit: The tentative date for the return visit to Mexico City is October 7 through 10; this is a holiday weekend in both countries.

Rotary Year 1988-89 No available information

Rotary Year 1989-90

The Club remained active with its sister club in Aeropuerto, Mexico. Pictures and caption (<u>April 30, 1990 Blastoff</u> below) of the Aeropuerto Rotary delegation provide some insight into the warm relationship. An <u>agenda</u> dated February 1, 1990 for a visit to the Aeropuerto Club contains information about the activities planned and the number of guests.



Rotary Year 1990-91 No visit (see Rotary year 1992-93)

Rotary Year 1991-92 No visit (see Rotary year 1992-93)

Rotary Year 1992-93

Board of Director's Meeting minutes dated July 7, 1992 noted the following: "The Aeropuerto club wants to know what Space Center's level of interest is because we have not made a club visit there for two years." Bill Geissler Board of Director's Meeting minutes dated March 3, 1993 noted: "The trip to Mexico in March to the Aeropuerto Club has been called off due to a lack of sign-up. It has been suggested that we should terminate our club relations committee with Aeropuerto because this is the third year that we have set up a plan and then canceled it. There has been an invitation to come tour an underground river grotto on March 27-28 if anyone in the club wants to go to Mexico. It was decided to not actually terminate the committee yet, and try for a no-frills trip in the future."

Rotary Year 1993-94

President Maria and his wife Norma visited the sister Club of Aeropuerto, Mexico City, Mexico and exchanged plans and ideas. View a picture of President Maria and wife Norma and the equipment furnished by the Women of Rotary in the Aero Puerto Rotary Club in Mexico City. View photos of the Maria's trip to Mexico.

Rotary Year 1994-95 No available information