

Member Update: January 29, 2018



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Message from the President

Happy New Year from your board of directors! We wish you and your families the very best for this New Year and for all of 2018! As we put together the calendar for the next few months, we are amazed at how quickly our March annual meeting has appeared on the horizon. To me, it doesn't seem possible 2018 has arrived!



With winter settling in and the students back from their winter break, check with them and make sure their children have adequate cold-weather clothing and gloves. Some families from warmer climates may not fully understand “wind chill” and the effects it may have on unprotected skin.

The officers will start getting some relief on their schedules and can begin looking forward to their elective courses. That will give them a little breather from the heavy reading and studying that’s been their norm for the past 5 months. This may also free up more time for them for family and for their sponsors. Keeping in touch with them from now until the spring break remains important.

For our March 11, 2018 annual meeting, your board of directors is doing something new. Bar-B-Q! We’re looking forward to a different menu and offering a more relaxed atmosphere. We’ll have a private room, but it’s limited in space to 50 folks. So, get your prepaid reservations in early so you’ll have a spot for this important meeting.

Again, have a wonderful and Happy New Year with many blessings! Thanks for your continued support of our mission and our chapter! As always, if I can be of any assistance, please let me know!

Randy Pace
President
Board of Directors
Greater Kansas City Chapter People to People International
816-810-4004 Phone

Annual Meeting: Sunday, March 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Jack Stack BBQ Freight House Location

The annual meeting for Greater Kansas City People to People is Sunday, March 11, 2018, at Jack Stack BBQ Freight House, Kansas City, MO, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The cost of \$23 per person will include Beef Brisket, Smoked Turkey Breast, Hickory Pit Beans, Creamy Coleslaw, Cheesy Corn Bake and your choice of dessert, and coffee or tea, as well as the gratuity. An invitation, a slate of proposed officers and a ballot will be mailed to all current members. You may pay by mailing in a check to GKCPTP, c/o Karen Haber 5900 N. Beaman Ave. KC, MO 64151 *or* by going to our [website annual meeting](#)

[page](#). We look forward to seeing you there! Seating limited to 50 people.

Greater Kansas City People to People Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

Freight House Private Dining Room

101 W. 22nd St.

Kansas City MO 64108

(816) 472-7427

For more information, contact Karen Haber at 816-741-9518 or karen@kchaber.com.

Calendar

Note: holiday dinner dances and food fairs are "invitation only." Be sure to RSVP when you get the invitation in the mail from the Fort. You should have agreed to which event you would attend with your officer early in the year. Contact him or her now if you don't recall.

(Many of you may have already attended your event this late into the sponsor year.)

[Click here](#) to download calendar in PDF.

Date	Event	Place	Time
Feb 19	President's Day holiday	—	—
Feb 21	Know Your World presentation: Iraq	Eisenhower Auditorium, Lewis and Clark, Fort Leavenworth	3:45 p.m.
Feb 22	OISS Line Dancing	TBA	TBA
Mar 2	Spring Food Fair Group 1	Frontier Conference Center, Fort Leavenworth	6:00 p.m.
Mar 9	Spring Food Fair Group 2	Frontier Conference Center, Fort Leavenworth	6:00 p.m.
Mar 11	Annual Meeting	Jack Stack 101 W. 22nd St. Kansas City, MO 64108	1 – 3:00 p.m.
Mar 14	Know Your World presentation: Congo	Eisenhower Auditorium, Lewis and Clark, Fort Leavenworth	3:45 p.m.
Mar 19 – 23	Spring Break holiday	—	—
Apr 12 – 20	IMS Gettysburg/DC Trip Group 1	—	—
May 15	Ramadan Begins	—	—
May 17 - 25	IMS Gettysburg/DC Trip Group 2	—	—
May 28	Memorial Day holiday	—	—
Jun 1	Sponsor Appreciation	Eisenhower Auditorium, Lewis and Clark, Fort Leavenworth	7:00 p.m.
Jun 14	International Graduate Badge Ceremony	Eisenhower Auditorium, Lewis and Clark, Fort Leavenworth	TBA

Renew Your LAC Card in February!

It's our turn! It's now time for GKCPTP sponsors to renew our Local Access Control (LAC) passes.

Mike Brettmann of the International Military Student Division (IMSD) at Fort Leavenworth notified GKCPTP a few months ago about upcoming changes to improve Local Access Control (LAC) procedures going forward.

Because Summer renewals are an extremely busy time with officers leaving and officers coming to Fort Leavenworth, a change was necessary to alleviate the Summer workload. IMSD and the Visitors Control Center (VCC) agreed to issue the majority of GKCPTP

sponsor LACs in February and have them expire a year from that date. Below is a summary of changes:

Current Sponsors (class of 2018):

- All GKCPTP sponsors holding LACs will renew them in February of 2018
- Use the same form ([see attached blank LAC form](#))
- Complete only the first 2 sections, stop after the Criminal History question. Do not sign or date the form.
- Send the form to Sharon Valasek at svalasek@kc.rr.com or Pat Burnett at dburnett5@gmail.com.
- We will submit to IMSD for processing and notify each sponsor once the LAC is approved.
- We will provide instructions to each sponsor for picking up the new LAC pass. VCC hours are 7:00 to 4:00 on weekdays, 8:00 to 4:00 weekends.

Consequences and Exceptions:

- IMSD will work with GKCPTP sponsors who are going to be gone during February to find a month that suits them
- The consequences of not renewing in February is the wait will be longer and unless sponsors have a good reason it will not go to the top of our list.
- Sponsors can use their current pass to the expiration date.

New (future) Sponsors (class of 2019) and those who are/will no longer be sponsoring:

- In May of 2018 when GKCPTP has assigned sponsors for the IMS Class of 2019, IMSD will collect LACs from any sponsors from the 2018 class who are no longer sponsoring and destroy those LACs
- New sponsors must submit their applications by the 15th of June each year so IMSD has enough time to process their paperwork before the sponsor Icebreakers.

IMSD will hold a meeting each Wednesday with the VCC to reconcile the LAC status (submitted LACs and what their status is).

These improvements should lighten the load for all parties during the busiest time of the year when the officers arrive. Please let me ([Sharon Valasek](#)) or [Pat Burnett](#) know if you have any questions.

Get to Know Members Jeff and Mary Jane Muchow



Photo above: the Muchow family

My wife, Mary Jane, and I joined the chapter in 2007 after learning about the sponsorship program and the Command and General Staff College (CGSC) at Fort Leavenworth from Col. Scott Weaver, U.S. Army Retired. We have thoroughly enjoyed ten years of sponsoring officers from countries around the world. Having an opportunity to learn about customs of these foreign officers and sharing local sites and events along with dinners in our home has been enlightening and enjoyable. The foreign officers participating in the CGSC program are remarkable individuals and we believe our role in welcoming them to our country provides an indelible and lasting impression about Americans.

I was born near Sioux Falls, SD on a farm with an agriculture background that led to a B.S. and M.S. in agricultural economics. Following graduation, I spent nine years as a flight instructor in fighter aircraft in the U.S. Air Force. After Vietnam, I decided to return to

food and agriculture and have enjoyed a career in managing startups and turnarounds in various food processing engagements. Managing a China joint venture for three years and an assessment of 39 state farms in Russia provided insights to global enterprise development and the role of U.S. agriculture in feeding less fortunate countries.

MJ and I have lived in Overland Park for 17 years and are blessed with one son who graduated from K-State University and is now a mechanical engineer in an oil refinery in Corpus Christi, TX. We are also blessed to be involved with foster children programs through Church of the Resurrection and You thrive in Kansas. I have served on the GKCPTP board for the past five years. In February 2018, we will be traveling to Santiago, Chile to visit two of our former officers attending CGSC in 2007 and 2008.

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