



MEDFORD - ALBA

"For 30 Years a People to People Program"

- 1959 - Mayor John Snider attends a "People to People" conference called together by President Dwight Eisenhower. The conference held in Boston encourages American towns and cities to form Sister City relationships with towns and cities abroad.
- 1959 - Medford selects Alba, Italy to be Sister City by recommendation of a committee that Mayor John Snider had appointed. Alba chosen by virtue of its geographic and agricultural similarities to Medford.
- 1960 - Alba and Medford formally enter Sister City Relationship via first Trans-Atlantic Teletar Telephone conversation. Edward R. Murrow, Chief of State Department Office of INFORMATION sets up call between Medford Mayor John Snider and Alba Mayor Cagnasso.
- 1962 - Pino Dutto is first resident of Alba to visit Medford. The young attorney stays for 3 weeks.
- 1962 - First Medford residents visit Alba for one week stay. Among group are Julie Tummers, Bert Pree, Mr. & Mrs. Gene Orr, Carl Janouch and Billi Stanley.
- 1963 - Enrico DeMaria, young Accountant/Lawyer from Alba visits Medford for 3 weeks.
- 1963 - Mr. & Mrs. John Snider and daughter Mary Ann visit Alba for first time. 3-week visit.
- 1963 - Maple Park Grove located near the Medford Armory is named Parco d'Alba and dedicated to Veterans of Foreign Wars.

- 1964-1968 - Various visits to Medford by Alba residents and Medford residents visit Alba.
- 1969 - Enrico DeMaria brings wife Bianca Rosa to Medford for 3-week visit. Watches moon landing with John Snider and family.
- 1972 - Doug Snider lives and works for architectural firm in Alba for 6 months.
- 1972 - Alba Mayor Gianni Toppino dedicates Alba Drive (off Barnett).
- 1972 - Ten Alba students visit during summer and live with Medford host families.
- 1977 - Mayor Ben Fagone and wife Helen visit Alba during Truffle Festival for 2 weeks.
- 1978-1983 - Various visits to Medford by Alba residents and Medford residents visit Alba.
- 1984 - Medford hosts 12 Alba students for 3 week June Non-Academic Exchange.
- 1984 - Medford hosts 15 Alba students for 3 week September Academic Exchange. Pier-Mario Mignone - Chaperone.
- 1985 - Alba hosts 20 Medford students for 3 week March-April exchange. Larry Walker, Principal St. Mary's High School - Chaperone.
- 1985 - Medford City Council approves name change of Library Park to Alba Park. Dedication ceremony held in Alba Park, August. 14, 1985, with operatic performance by Laretta Brovida of Alba.
- 1986 - Bianca Rosa DeMaria and family dedicate tree in Alba Park in memory of deceased husband Enrico.
- 1987 - Alba hosts 24 Medford students for 3 week March-April exchange. Stephanie Johnson, Vice Principal South Medford High School and Mary Ann Sorensen, Language Teacher South Medford High School Chaperone.
- 1987 - Medford hosts 15 students for 3 week September Academic Exchange. Marisa Troia and Marinella Castagnotti - Chaperones.
- 1987 - Mayor Jerry Lausmann and wife Donnis visit Alba during Truffle Festival for 2 weeks.

1989 - Alba hosts 26 Medford students for 3 week March-April exchange. Judy Morris, Art Teacher South Medford and Arnold Bleicher, Language Teacher North Medford chaperones.

1989 - Alba hosts 1,300 athletes from 9 cities to 5th Twin Town Olympiad. Fred, Scott and Peggy Spiegelberg head a delegation representing the City of Medford. Chip Wright's 5 member karate team participates.

1989 - Nancy Collins and Liz Smith, two Medford Alba Sister City Committee Members attend Sister City International Convention in Portland, Oregon, August 19th thru 22nd. Medford students attending are Kelley Collins, Kim Smith, Christy Tuttle and Rob Billingsley.

1989 - Medford hosts 15 students for 3 week September Academic Exchange. Bruna Galeasso chaperones.

1991 - Medford hosts 25 students for 3 week September Academic Exchange. Pier Mario Mignone and Damiano Verri chaperone.

1991 - Establishment of twin town schools and first children's art exchange.

1991 - Melinda Martin Lester, Director of the Rogue Valley Dialysis Center, makes a presentation at an Italian Nephrology meeting in Alba.

1992 - Alba hosts 8 Medford students for 3 week March-April exchange. Pat Warner, French teacher from North Medford chaperones.

1992 - Medford students from Grace Christian school win first prize in City of Alba art contest.

1992 - Twin Town Olympics in Krems, Austria, July 16th-20th. Medford sends soccer, karate, boys basketball teams for the Olympiad. Dick Entinger heads adult delegation.

1992 - Susan Whipple coordinates Children's artwork from Medford and Alba display along with history of our Sister City program at the National Children's Museum in Washington, D.C. Nancy Collins and Liz Smith and Pina Toppino attend special reception in Washington. Nancy and Liz are guests in Alba at Truffle festivities in October.

1993 - Alba hosts 19 Medford students for 3 week March-April exchange. Steve and Mary Boyarsky, Medford teachers chaperone. The group also tour "Old Europe" (Vienna, Salzburg) with students from the Liceo Scientifico for one week.

1993 - The Sister City Association receives a grant from the Oregon Economic Development Department to help defray the costs of a career exchange between Medford and Alba. A Nephrology nurse will receive on the job training. Participants will share knowledge of the philosophy, techniques and methods of their dialysis programs in order to improve patient care.

1993 - Visitors from Alba include Pino and Giovanni Dutto (the first ever exchange participant and his 18 year old son) and Chicca Stoffo and Cristiana Veberti. Medford visitors to Alba are the Hoell family, Chris Dennett, David Shaeffer, Carrie Smith, and Mark, Stephanie and Brooke Johnson and Pat Shute and her granddaughter.

1993 - Both St. Mary's and Grace Christian participate in Alba's Christmas Art Contest. Each school wins a prize.

1994 - Giorgio and Laura Sordo spend the New Year in Medford.

1994 - 32 students and three teacher chaperones, Maria Cane, Renata Ceste, and Nunziata Proietto, from Alba's Istituto Magistrale participate in an academic exchange in March.

1994 - Doug Snider and his family spend spring vacation in Alba. Tom, Judy, and Sarah Morris and Judy's twin sister visit Alba in July.

1995 - 35th anniversary of the Sister City Association; Tom and Sarah Morris, Tom's parents, John and Nancy Hamlin, Jim and Verdell Coleman, Pat & Linda Dunlevy, Maureen Connolly and Arlety Tree are in Alba for the October Truffle Festival.

Roberto Pachetta & Monica Rainieri visit in August and stay with Maureen Connolly, the Sniders and the Beitlers.

1996 - September 5 to 18 Incoming Exchange. Istituto Tecnico statale Commerciale e Per Geometri "L Einaudi" Chaperones are Fernanda Pasquero Caffaro and Gianfranco Giri.

1997 - March - April, 1997 Outgoing Exchange Chaperones are Joy Hagedorn and Sharon Rogers. Accompanying the group is Joy's fiance, Thor Winetrout. Sarah Morris returns to Alba in the spring and makes presentations to schools concerning Medford and the Sister City Program. A delegation of 39 headed by the Mayor, Enzo DeMaria, Pina and Gianni Toppino and Gianni and Dorina Graziano visit Medford in April during Pear Blossom festivities. Visitors during the summer to Alba: the Gossners and Anna Haberlach. Jane and Mack Gossett are our official representatives at the Truffle Festival in Alba in October. Roberto Pachetta returns to Southern Oregon. Enrico Rivetti and his friend visit Medford for the month of June. Hosts are the Ledfords and the Folletts. His hosts are Maureen Connolly and the Doug Snider family. Giovanna Vaschetto, a 21 one year old student studying to be an interpreter spends the school year at Southern Oregon University on a \$5,000 tuition scholarship. Giovanna is hosted by several area families, including the Jonassons and John and Nancy Mair from Ashland.

1998 75 members of the Rogue Valley Chorale, headed by Lynn and Doris Sjolund, ended their Italian tour with a weekend in Alba. Some members of the group stayed with host families. The group performed in the newly renovated concert hall and at Sunday Mass in the cathedral. Private visits continued with the Morris' returning twice to Alba, a gourmet group spent time in Alba, Stephen and Liz Smith were in Alba for the Truffle Festival, Paul Macomber of the Mail Tribune was in Alba and Dr. Jim Trappe from OSU was in Alba to film the truffle festival for American TV. Several Italian families also visited Medford. They included

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A group of 24 students from the IPSSC and Liceo Classico schools traveled to Medford from September 9<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup>. The group was chaperoned by Lucia Toppino and Bruna Galleasso. The 21 girls and 3 boys stayed with host families from North, South, St. Mary's and Cascade Christian high schools.

Several private visits took place in the fall of 1998. Visitors to Alba during the Truffle Festival included Stephen and Liz Smith and Tom and Judy Morris. Bette and Bill Haberlach, Leslie and Gene Meyerding, Allan and Collette Wright, Linda and Ken Pons and Dick and Marilyn Bamford also stopped in Alba while touring Italy.

1999 In the spring of 1999, 23 students and chaperons Liz Kellogg and Jeanne Rasmussen participated in a three week exchange to our Sister City.

Catherine Moore conducted a tour of Italy that included a stay in Alba. The group included Medford residents, Marilyn and Bob Kaufman, Lloyd and Nancy Bendickson, Marty and Dick Moore, John and Tommie Retzlaff.

2000 Alba Wine Tasting fundraiser at Wolfgang's on March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Lois Langlois, Lynda Weinhold, Donald Stoltz, Dana Grey are in Alba for the Easter holiday.

Pina and Gianni Toppino are in Medford to help celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with Britt's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in Jacksonville. The opening of the Classical Festival celebrates the two anniversaries with an Italian themed weekend celebration.

Summer visitors to Alba are Kim and Mike Wisnovsky, Jeff Holiday and the White-Hoppe family.

In October Stephen and Liz Smith, Doug and Carol Snider are official city representatives at the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the sister city relationship with Alba. In attendance are representatives from Alba's other sister cities: Banska Bystrica, Czechoslovakia, Beausoleil, France and Bobligen, Germany.

Also visiting in October are Roland and Thais Pacey.

2001 In January Giovanni Dutto arrives in Medford to spend several months with the Snider family. He works at Sabroso in marketing research and helping with Italian language classes during the outgoing exchange orientation. In March, there is an Alba winetasting at Wolfgang's to honor his visit.

In March Steve Halterman from Ashland tours Alba wineries. And from March 22 to April 12<sup>th</sup> 25 students accompanied by South Medford art teachers Peggy Strain and Ray Foster and his wife, Diane, participate in an exchange with the Istituto Magistrale School.

Stephen and Liz Smith are in Alba in May 2001.

Visitors to Alba in the summer include Tanya Allen, Sarah Morris, Spencer, Tony and Sandy Barbieri and family.

2002 In March-April students from Alba travel to Medford accompanied by Silvana Balocco and Renata Ceste.

In August, Jacksonville celebrates Festa Italiana. Pina and Gianni Toppino ( Larry and Nancy Collins) are here as well as Aldo Vacca and his wife, Maria Carla (Kim and Mike Wisnovsky) and Elena and Pietro Ratti (Pat Shute).

In October, Mayor Lindsay Berryman and her husband, Dr. James Berryman are in Alba.

2003 Cynda Rickert, South principal, and Becky Kleinhesselink lead a group of Medford students to Alba in March. In return the Istituto Tecnico Commerciale E Per Geometri "L. Einaudi" visit Medford in September. Chaperons are Sergio Moscone and Cynda Rickert.

2005 Teresa Baumbach (St. Mary's) and Gary and Francie Ghidinelli (North) head a group of 30 students to Alba.. Host school is the Liceo Scientifico.

In return, Italians travel to Medford accompanied by Adriano Delpiano and Luisella Vernone and Simone Rovera.

August visitors to Medford are Mayor Giuseppe Rossetto, Vice Mayor Giulio Abbate and Elena Usan.

Stephen and Liz Smith visit Alba, staying in Neive at a Bed and Breakfast.

2007 Peter Adesman, Dr. Paul Jorisco, Bill Williams, Maurice Torano, Dale and Judy Linger, Karen and Stuart Foster, Stephen Gambie and family also visit Alba..

24 students participate in an exchange to Alba staying with hosts from the Liceo Classico and the Liceo Artistico. Chaperons are AnnaMarie Sayles from South and Rebecca Lovett from St. Mary's.

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