

CHRONOLOGY OF THE ASPEN SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP WITH SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA

At their November 12, 2002 meeting the Aspen City Council unanimously voted to proclaim San Carlos de Bariloche, Argentina as a sister city of Aspen. This followed a two-year trial relationship. The mayor of Bariloche and other officials attended a formal signing ceremony in Aspen in April of 2003 and officials from Aspen attended a similar signing ceremony in Bariloche in November 2003. Below is a brief history of our relationship with our newest sister city.

September 2000

Delegation from Bariloche, including tourism officials and local businessmen, visited Aspen. The concept of becoming sister cities was born.

November 2000

Official delegation from Aspen, including representation from the City of Aspen, Aspen Sister Cities committee, and the Aspen School District, visited Bariloche to further explore the potentials of a sister city relationship.

January/February 2001

Student members of the Club Andino Bariloche and three ski coaches stayed in Aspen for one month of ski training. The Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club sponsored this exchange.

April 2001

Rachel Richards and the Aspen City Council signed proclamation designating Bariloche as a “trial sister city” for a period of two years.

June 2001

Atilio Feudal, intendente de Bariloche, and Gustavo Ezquerro, president of Bariloche Sister Cities Committee, signed proclamation designating Aspen as a sister city “en prueba” for a period of two years.

January/February 2002

Club Andino made a second ski-training visit to Aspen.

April 2002

Twelve eighth grade students and two teachers from the Aspen Middle School visited Bariloche for two weeks as a student exchange.

Summer of 2002

Official delegation from City of Aspen, Aspen Skiing Company, and Aspen Sister Cities visited Bariloche. This delegation helped to celebrate Bariloche’s centenary anniversary.

July/August 2002

Members from the Aspen Valley Ski and Snowboard Club trained in Bariloche for three weeks.

October 2002

Seven students from three private schools in Bariloche and a headmaster spent two weeks as a student exchange in Aspen.

October 2002

Aspen Valley Hospital sent a shipment of donated hospital supplies to the public hospital in Bariloche. Federal Express provided the shipping.

January 2003

Reni Ezquerro from the Bariloche Adaptive Ski Program attended a weeklong monoski camp at Challenge Aspen. The president of Sister Cities, Bariloche (Gustavo Ezquerro) made a semi-official visit to Aspen.

January/February 2003

Ten skiers and two coaches from Club Andino Bariloche trained in Aspen for one month. The skiers stayed in family homes, trained six days a week, and competed in some local races.

January – March 2003

Two senior girls (Angie Pena and Luli Estevez) from Bariloche enrolled in Aspen High School for the third quarter. They stayed with local families and took a normal junior level class load. This was our first experience with an extended student exchange program.

January – May 2003

Jonathan King from Aspen High School traveled to Bariloche to take language classes and attend a local school. Jonathan stayed with the family of Angie Pena, who was attending classes in Aspen at the same time.

April 2003

A delegation from Bariloche including the mayor, Alberto Icare, came to Aspen to sign the official documents of sister city status.

A group of 15 eighth grade students from Aspen visited Bariloche for a two-week exchange.

April 2003

Two private donors gave \$800 to two of our private school partners in Bariloche. This money will be used to the benefit of the music programs of the two schools.

June 2003

A second shipment of medical supplies was sent from Aspen Valley Hospital to the Hospital Zonal in Bariloche.

August 2003

Challenge Aspen made a week long visit to Bariloche to work with the adaptive ski program. Challenge Aspen has entered into a multiyear agreement with the adaptive ski program in Bariloche to improve the level of their program. The agreement includes, technical assistance and instruction, joint fund raising, equipment sharing and donations, and participant exchanges.

October 2003

One teacher and three eighth grade students from Bariloche came to Aspen as a continuation of the student exchange program. Aspen is preparing 12 students to return the visit in April of 2004.

November 2003

An official delegation representing the City of Aspen, Aspen Sister Cities, Aspen Valley Hospital, Aspen Skiing Company, and the Aspen tourism industry attended a reciprocal official signing ceremony in Bariloche. With this ceremony the sister city relationship between Aspen and Bariloche is now official.

January/February 2004

Club Andino Bariloche, for the fourth year, sent twelve skiers and two coaches for a month of ski training. One racer, Tomas Gonzales, was invited by Aspen Valley Ski Club to stay an additional three weeks to train with coach Casey Puckett.

January – April 2004

Three high school students from Bariloche attended junior level classes at Aspen High School for the third quarter. The three Aspen families who hosted these students have a child of the same age and will be sending these Aspen High students to Bariloche for a similar experience there.

March 2004

Ten members of the Aspen Group of the Colorado Mountain Club traveled to Bariloche for a week of hiking, tourist excursions, and meeting the Bariloche community. Plans are being made for a similar group to come from Bariloche in the fall.

April 2004

The third annual middle level student exchange went to Bariloche. There were two teachers and 11 students in attendance.

Luke Farrell, Aspen High School graduate and recent graduate from Middlebury College, is in Bariloche on an extended stay. He is volunteering in some of the schools teaching English and ecology classes. In addition, he is taking some Spanish classes for his own self-improvement.

June 2004

A group of six Aspen High School juniors traveled to Bariloche for three weeks of intensive Spanish language training. This is a pilot project conceived by principal Kendall Evans that may be expanded to include all juniors who are involved in the International Baccalaureate program in Spanish at AHS. While in Bariloche, the students live with families, attend one daily class at one of the local schools, and take up to 6 hours per day of intensive language classes offered by local teachers exclusively to this small group. Kendall Evans and Linda Lafferty were the trip chaperones.

September 2004

Challenge Aspen made its second visit to Bariloche to conduct workshops on the instruction of skiing to handicapped skiers. This year three handicapped skiers from Aspen also were present to give ski demonstrations. At the same time, the Aspen visitors conducted talks with leaders of Bariloche to determine the feasibility of implementing a wheel chair donation program.

Two doctors from the Bariloche hospital, Dr. Norberto Delfino and Dr. Ernesto Barbieto, visited Aspen. While in Aspen they attended the Aspen Fall Orthopedic Conference, toured Aspen Valley Hospital, and meet with the hospital staff and administration.

A shipment of eight large boxes, including arthroscopic surgical supplies was sent to Hospital Ramon Carrillo.

October 2004

Six eighth grade students and one teacher from Bariloche visited Aspen. Aspen is preparing ten students and two teachers to return the visit in April 05.

January 2005

Club Andino Bariloche made its fifth trip to Aspen for a month of ski training. This year there were eleven skiers and two coaches. We thank the Aspen Skiing Company for providing complementary ski passes for the group and Aspen Valley Ski Club for providing logistical assistance and use of club facilities.

Four senior students from Bariloche enrolled in Aspen High School for the third quarter. It is notable to mention that two of the students came to Aspen as part of the first student exchange program four years ago.

April 2005

The fourth consecutive eighth grade student exchange program traveled to Bariloche. This year there were ten students who were accompanied by Niki MacLean of the Aspen Middle School and Katie Tveite from Aspen Country Day School.

April 2005

The fourth shipment of medical supplies was sent to Bariloche. This shipment included nearly \$300,000 worth of orthopedic surgical supplies. The arrival of the shipment coincided with the visit of five orthopedic surgeons from Aspen who presented

didactic and practical workshops on orthopedic surgery to the medical community of Bariloche. The participating surgeons were Thomas Higginbotham, MD, William Clancy Jr., MD, Norman Harris, MD, Ferdinand, Liotta, MD, and Mark Purnell, MD.

June 2005

Eight Aspen High School students participated in the second Intensive Language Program in Bariloche. Chaperones were Kendall Evans and Lance Finkbeiner.

September 2005

The Mobility Project, a U.S. based foundation, traveled to Bariloche and distributed 198 wheel chairs and a number of other mobility devices to the needy of Bariloche and surrounding communities. These donated wheel chairs were custom fitted to each recipient by a team of expert volunteer fitters from Aspen and the Mobility Project. Recipients were given instruction in the use of the mobility devices and many took advantage of “sports camps” (including skiing) to learn recreational uses of the devices. The project was supported and sponsored by Aspen Sister Cities, Bariloche Sister Cities, and Challenge Aspen with the financial support of the Aspen and Bariloche communities.

Challenge Aspen continued work with its ongoing project of mutual assistance with its sister organization, Desafío Bariloche. This was the third year that Challenge Aspen has traveled to Bariloche.

October 2005

Ten eighth grade students and one chaperone visited Aspen for the annual Student Exchange Program. This marks the fourth annual exchange program from Bariloche on the 8th grade level involving a total of 32 students and four adults over the four years.

January 2006

Three high school students from Bariloche attended the third quarter of school at Aspen High School. These students were Gastón Mary, Mariana Carluccio, and Joaquin Ruiz. They took junior level academic classes for the quarter. We were all impressed by their English language skills. This is the fourth year of the extended exchange program involving a total of 14 students from Bariloche.

January 2006

The Club Andino Bariloche conducted its sixth annual month long ski experience in Aspen. This year there were nine young skiers and two coaches/chaperones. We are always grateful to the Aspen families who provide housing for the group, the Aspen Skiing Company for providing passes, and the Aspen Valley Ski Club for providing clubhouse space. Over the six years of this program nearly 80 young skiers from Bariloche have visited Aspen.

April/May 2006

Ten Aspen eighth grade students and two chaperones traveled to Bariloche for the annual student exchange. This is the fourth year of this exchange program with a total of over 50 eighth grade students and eleven teachers from Aspen traveling to Bariloche.

April/May 2006

Fourteen medical professionals from Aspen traveled to Bariloche to present the second annual International Sports and Orthopedic Conference. The conference was sponsored by Hospital Ramón Carrillo in Bariloche and presented by the professionals from both communities. The Aspen doctors also conducted four demonstrations surgeries for the Bariloche doctors. This year's contingent from Aspen included orthopedic surgeons, anesthesiologists, physical therapists, and medical supply company representatives.

At the same time, the fifth shipment of donated medical supplies was sent to Bariloche. This shipment of 34 large boxes included surgical equipment and supplies, an ultrasound machine, and orthopedic implants, plates, screws, and fixators. Shipping was again provided completely free of charge by Federal Express. Aspen Moving and Storage provided all the packing labor and materials.

May 2006

A small group from the Aspen area representing the United Jewish Appeal visited the Jewish community in Bariloche.

June 2006

Sebastian Di Nardo, the marketing director for EMPROTUR (the tourism promotion agency for Bariloche), visited Aspen for the Food and Wine Festival.

June 2006

Seven Aspen High School junior Spanish students traveled to Bariloche for the third annual Intensive Language Program. They stayed for three weeks of intensive Spanish language training provided by private tutors and hosted at San Patricio School. The students took six hours of language training (two hours of grammar and four hours of "excursion Spanish") a day, stayed in the homes of local families, and enjoyed the local tourist attractions including some early season skiing. Their chaperone was Janis Dybdahl who was their Spanish instructor at AHS. Twenty-one Aspen High students have now taken part in this program.

August 2006

Aspen Valley Ski Club sent a group of youth skiers to Bariloche for a three weeks of ski training. Much to the delight of the kids and their coach (Pat Callahan), this was a very snowy period and they spent much of their time skiing powder.

October 2006

Eleven eighth grade students from Bariloche visited Aspen for the now traditional student exchange program. One of their chaperones this year was the principal of one of the three private schools with which we have worked since the inception of this program.

January/February 2007

For the seventh consecutive year, Club Andino Bariloche sent a group of seven young skiers for a month of ski training.

At the same time, a representative from the municipality of Bariloche came to learn about the operations of the Aspen ski areas. He works for a department of the city of Bariloche that oversees the ski area of Cerro Catedral.

January 2007

Nine medical professionals came to Aspen for the third annual Physicians Exchange Program. This year's participants represented orthopedics, anesthesiology, physical and occupational therapy, general surgery, and cardiac rehabilitation. One member also studied how the Aspen Valley Medical Foundation functions with the hope of forming a similar foundation in Bariloche.

April 2007

Eleven eighth grade students from the Aspen Middle School and Aspen Country Day School visited Bariloche for the annual student exchange program. The chaperones for this trip were Donna McFlynn and Mari Carbonetti.

April/May 2007

Fifteen medical professionals from Aspen traveled to Bariloche. While there, they conducted demonstration surgeries, conducted instructional clinics, and presented a two day conference on modern medical practices.

Summer 2007

Aspen High School student, Jenny Eloise McCaslin, spent the majority of her summer taking intensive language instruction and attending classes in Bariloche. We understand that she also took good advantage of the near record snow year in Bariloche and did some great skiing.

September 2007

Adaptive ski instructor, Hannah Christian, from Challenge Aspen spent the month in Bariloche working with the local adaptive ski program – Desafío Bariloche.

October 2007

Nine eighth grade students and two chaperones came to Aspen as part of the annual student exchange program.

January 2008

Three students from Bariloche (Sol Maña, Danila Mazzei, and Mercedes Borau) came to Aspen to study at Aspen High School for the third quarter.

February 2008

Two volunteer firemen from Aspen, Willard Clapper and Blair Elliot, traveled to Bariloche to investigate the possibility of establishing a continuing relationship with the fire department of Bariloche. While there, the two visited all the substations, discussed training protocols and techniques, discussed future exchange possibilities, attended joint training exercises, and participated in local fire suppression activities.

March 2008

Two landscape architects/planners, Bill Kane and Carolina Segura, from Design Workshop in Aspen traveled to Bariloche to participate in a two day discussion regarding city planning in mountain communities. The conference was sponsored by FASTA University of Bariloche.

March 2008

Twelve medical professionals traveled to Aspen as part of the fourth annual Aspen Bariloche Medical Exchange Program. Their stay lasted a week and included peer observations, surgical observations, workshops and lectures. At the same time, ground work was laid for the future of the program which includes the donation of newer technology equipment to the hospital in Bariloche and the continuing education of the Bariloche staff in the use of that equipment.

April 2008

Nine eighth grade students and two chaperones conducted the annual middle level student exchange program to Bariloche. This was the reciprocal visit to the one in October by Bariloche.

April 2008

Fifteen medical professionals from Aspen traveled to Bariloche to complete this year's medical exchange program. While there the orthopedic surgeons did demonstration surgeries and presented a two day workshop on orthopedic practices. This year's exchange also included professionals in fields including occupational therapy, physical therapy, nursing, cardiac care, and woman's care. In several of these fields, strong professional and personal relationships have been formed which will insure positive advancements in the exchange program.

Summer 2008

Five Aspen High School students and one chaperone spent three weeks in June participating in the Intensive Language Program in Bariloche. Four of the students extended their stay by staying from one week to one month longer.

September 2008

Hannah Christian spent three weeks teaching adaptive skiing lessons with Desafío Bariloche. This was the second year of volunteer work in Bariloche for Hannah.

October 2008

Project C.U.R.E. of Centennial, Colorado made a three day inspection tour of Hospital Zonal Ramón Carrillo in Bariloche to determine the hospital's eligibility to receive donated medical supplies and equipment. After an exhaustive study of the hospital, Project C.U.R.E. determined that Ramón Carrillo is eligible to receive an initial donation of three 40 foot containers of supplies and equipment. It is hoped that the first container can be sent in 2009.

October 2008

Eleven eighth grades students and two chaperones from Bariloche visited Aspen for nearly two weeks as part of the annual “student exchange program.”

January 2009

Three students from Bariloche enrolled at Aspen High School for the third quarter. They took classes ranging from biology to ceramics to weather and astronomy. The three girls who had excellent English language skills were Florencia Gattas, Morena Fernandez, and Clara Antolin.

April 2009

Our largest eighth grade student exchange delegation of thirteen students traveled to Bariloche for the annual student exchange program. They were accompanied by teachers Kamala Marsh and Zeke Tiernan (both of which are alumni of the Aspen School District.)

April 2009

The fifth annual medical exchange program sent twelve medical professionals to Bariloche. The program which is headed by Mark Purnell MD and financed by donations through the Aspen Sports Medicine Foundation conducted demonstration surgeries, gave a series of lectures and talks, and discussed future donation programs. This year the delegation consisted of orthopedic surgeons, an occupational therapist, an athletic therapist, and a dentist. The Aspen Bariloche Medical Exchange Program is working collectively with Project C.U.R.E. of Centennial, Colorado to provide a series of large medical supply and equipment donations. The major hurdle to be met is that of satisfying the extremely complex and strict Argentine importation laws. It is hoped that we will eventually be able to send up to three 40 ft. containers of supplies to the Bariloche hospital. The Aspen Bariloche Medical Exchange Program is completely supported by private donations to the Aspen Sports Medicine Foundation.

May 2009

Five volunteer firemen from Bariloche visited Aspen for a week. While in Aspen the firemen participated in joint training exercises with the Aspen Volunteer Fire Department, visited all the Aspen fire stations along with other facilities in the valley, received orientations in the use of equipment to be donated by Aspen to Bariloche, and visited the many tourist attractions of the Roaring Fork Valley. This new exchange program is sponsored by the Aspen Volunteer Fire Department, Aspen Sister Cities, the City of Aspen, and by many generous “in kind” donations by the Aspen and Roaring Fork Valley communities.

June 2009

We were unable to conduct the high school Intensive Language Program to Bariloche this year because of swine flu concerns in Bariloche.

October 2009

Eleven eighth grade students form Bariloche came to Aspen as part of the annual student exchange program. They were accompanied by two teachers.

January – March 2010

A high school student from Bariloche, Martin Bonzi, enrolled in Aspen High School for the third quarter. He stayed with the family of Aspen student Carson Campbell.

March 2010

A group of nine medical professionals from Bariloche visited Aspen for two weeks. Each visiting practitioner from Bariloche was paired with medical professionals in Aspen for peer study. The participants this year were: Dr. Tomas Trapani, Orthopaedic Surgeon mentored by Mark Purnell, MD, Lindsay Harris, MD, Leelee von Stade, MD, and Tito Liotta, MD. Dr. Mariano Flores Velazco and Dr. Cecilia Campora, Physiatrists mentored by Jan Alling, PT, Krista Fox, OT, Eric Willsky, MD, Giora Hahn, MD and staff at Craig & Children's Hospital in Denver. Dr. Orlando Garcia Cerocchi mentored by Mike Goralka, MD. Dr. Marta Santos mentored by Mindy Nagle, MD and her staff at All Valley Women's Care. Claudia Chiguay, Cardiac Rehabilitation mentored by Jan Alling, PT and Melody Durham, RN, BSN. Juan Jose Garay, Nurse mentored by Kathryn Chamberlin, RN and her staff at Aspen Valley Hospital.

March and April 2010

An instructor, Lucas Corallo, from the Bariloche's adaptive ski program (Desafío Bariloche) worked as an intern with Challenge Aspen for six weeks.

April 2010

A group of 15 eighth grade students and two chaperones traveled to Bariloche for the annual student exchange program. This was the largest exchange group (to date) to travel to Bariloche. The chaperones for this year's trip were Maria Carbonetti and Michele Berkowitz.

September 2010

An instructor, Angie White, from Aspen's adaptive ski program (Challenge Aspen) worked as an intern for Desafío Bariloche for two weeks. She also spent time visiting and working with the students of Bariloche special school for the disabled, Cre-arte.

September 2010

Aspen and Bariloche celebrated the ten year anniversary of the beginnings of our sister relationship by hosting a dinner in Bariloche for all the participants of the very first official delegation to visit Aspen in September of 2000. All but three of the original 15 participants were present!

October 2010

Fifteen students and two chaperones from Bariloche visited Aspen for the annual student exchange program. This was the largest student group to visit Aspen from Bariloche. The chaperones for this year's exchange were Andy Schwartz and Ana Suarez.

November 2010

Krista Fox, occupational therapist, from Aspen Valley Hospital traveled to Bariloche for a week of peer study and work with her colleagues at Ramón Carillo Hospital. Krista has now traveled to Bariloche on five different occasions and has hosted visitors from Bariloche on several occasions. With this trip, Krista is beginning what we hope will be a new and improved method of delivering mutual assistance between our two medical communities. That is: rather than sending large delegations to each other's cities, we are now sending small or individual delegations for more focused and concentrated work.

November 2010

Dr. Ernesto Barbieto, Orthopaedic Surgeon, from Bariloche visited Aspen for a week of peer study and work. He worked primarily with Dr. Tito Liotta and Dr. Leelee VanStade with emphasis on shoulder surgery. He also was able to work on the medical staff for the Aspen Women's World Cup competition.