



2008 Challenge: TOMORROW

July 8-28, 2008

SHANGHAI

ZHENGZHOU

MOON LAKE

BEIJING

July 6, 2008

Phoenix, Arizona

MEET THE STAFF. Hi to all who are supporting and following the journey of Challenge: TOMORROW 2008 participants. The Challenge: TOMORROW staff members met in Phoenix, Arizona on July 6th and 7th for two busy and exciting days. Many of us were meeting for the first time and learning about what each person has to contribute to this amazing experience awaiting us in China.



Jerrie Ueberle, Michael Bishop, Rachel Crum, Cheryl Carlson, Pat McGill, Julie Frentz

I am Julie Frentz, the Curriculum Director for Challenge:TOMORROW. I live in Waunakee, Wisconsin, where I am an elementary school principal at Van Hise Elementary School in Madison, Wisconsin. This is my 2nd year of Challenge:TOMORROW. I love this program because it gives us the opportunity to experience another country and culture and share our visions for a better world.

My name is Jerrie Ueberle. I founded Global Interactions after my first trip to China in 1984. In the past 24 years, thousands of Americans and Chinese have come together in symposiums, conferences, and study programs to learn from one another and discover possibilities for working together. Challenge: TOMORROW is the youth program for cultural competence, leadership, and discovering possibilities for a world that works for all.

I'm Pat McGill. I spend most of my waking hours thinking in Spanish. I've been teaching Spanish for thirty years to students from preschool age to adult. My husband and I live on a farm in eastern Nebraska where minimum tillage practices and set aside acres help offset our carbon footprint. Being good stewards and helping others are important to us, as is our family, including four grown children, their 3 spouses and our three amazing grandchildren!

I'm Cheryl Carlson. I have been a teacher for 11 years in a variety of capacities and locations. I currently live in the Phoenix area and enlighten young minds in the area of English/Language Arts. I love to travel and have been many places. I have always been fascinated with the Far East and I am looking forward to finally being able to visit and explore China and its culture.

My name is Michael Bishop. I have spent my career as a scientific communications expert to bridge the knowledge gap between individuals with technological training and experience and those who often lack such experience. In that time I have seen many individuals develop very strong opinions about some of the scientific questions that affect a global society. In Challenge Tomorrow, I hope to have an opportunity to re-examine some of these highly publicized opinions in a venue that is at the forefront of modern industrial development, China, with a group of very dedicated young people to whom we must entrust the future of the planet.

My name is Rachel Crum. For the last year, I have been an intern for Global Interactions. I am a senior at Arizona State University where I am majoring in Global Studies. I have spent a semester in Italy where I discovered a passion for architecture, art, traveling, and learning about other cultures. Throughout my education, I have developed an enthusiasm for the environment. My goal is to contribute toward the sustainability and preservation of the environment not only for my own, but for future generations and to share these ideas with others around the world.



MEET THE STUDENTS Three Challenge: TOMORROW students, their parents, and past participants joined us for a reception in Phoenix. Tom Craft, Dylan MacDonald, and Lee Padover had the chance to meet each other, the staff, and talk about China before we left. We will meet the rest of the students in L.A. on the 8th!



My name is Tom Craft. I participate in varsity football, basketball and baseball at my high school. I also balance the most rigorous course load. I am an active member of my church and its youth group, and am passionate about my volunteer work with key club and hospice.



I am Dylan Macdonald. I am a member of the Valley Vista High School track team, I run the 300 hurdles and 200-meter dash, and I am devoted to improving my time in my sophomore year. I also have a strong desire to become a fighter pilot in the Air Force and afterwards an aeronautical engineer, astronaut, or an international airline pilot. I am confident that I can achieve one of these careers though hard work and dedication.



My name is Lee Padover, I'm 15 years old, and I live in Scottsdale, Arizona. Because I was born in New York City, I believe I am open-minded and love to embrace different cultures. I hope to travel around the world and learn all I can about the people in it. Some of my interests include playing and listening to music, discussing historical events, and designing unique buildings. I am interested in China because I have been studying Mandarin for over two years and I have a great relationship with my teacher, who has also taught me a lot about Chinese culture.

