



Seattle Hiroshima Club

シアトル広島県人会



Nami (Tsukasa) Namekata
President, 2016-2018
Seattle Hiroshima Club

President's Message

On March 15, 2016, I received the announcement of the Kenjinkai International Youth Exchange Program in Hiroshima 2016 from Mr. Koso Inaba, who is in charge of overseas Kenjinkai at the International Affairs Division, Hiroshima Prefectural Government as described in another article in this newsletter. We greatly appreciate Hiroshima Prefecture's invitation of two youth delegates and two adult delegates from our club and they will

have the honor to meet the governor of Hiroshima and attend the annual peace memorial ceremony to pay respect to A-bomb victims and wish for peace in the world on August 6. In the coming fall issue of newsletter, we will have special reports on experiences in Hiroshima by two youth delegates.

Hiroshima has been in the spotlight in the world because of President Barack Obama's historic visit to Hiroshima on May 27. We hope that his visit can help to reduce or ideally eliminate nuclear weapons from the world. In the 6/2/2016 issue of the North American Post Ms. Rikuko Tanaka, a member of our club, talked about her experience as a survivor of A-bomb explosion. Please visit <http://bit.ly/HopeforPeace> (link is case sensitive) to read her interview summary. As a reminder, you can also watch the interviews of 8 A-bomb survivors with whom our club interviewed in 2008 by visiting the link: <http://bit.ly/SHCinterviews>. Please share this link with your friends and emphasize the importance of peace.

On August 7, Seattle Hiroshima Club will host the A-bomb memorial service jointly with Seattle Buddhist Temple (1427 S. Main St., Seattle, WA 98144) at 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM. Please join us.

As you may have already known, the 2016 Kumamoto earthquakes happened on April 14–16, 2016 near Kumamoto Prefecture in southern Japan.

Continued on Page 2

UPCOMING EVENTS

Curry Dinner benefitting Keiro Northwest

July 12 (3:30p - 7:00p):

contact: phiroo@keironw.org

Seattle Bon Odori

July 16 & 17

1427 Main Street

Contact: akirakaren@comcast.net

White River Bon Odori

July 23 (4p - 9p)

3625 Auburn Way N, Auburn

Contact: obon@wrbt.org

Tacoma Bon Odori

July 30 (5p - 9p)

1717 S Fawcett Ave, Tacoma

Contact: taco-ma.buddhist.temple@tacomabt.org

Seattle Hiroshima Club Golf Tournament at Foster Golf Course

July 18

Contact: akiyamarj@comcast.net ;
shimizugt@comcast.net

SYNCOA Golf Tournament at Bellevue Golf Course - UW Nikkei Student Scholarships

July 27

beth@kawaharas.com

Hiroshima to Hope Lantern Float at Green Lake

August 6 (6 pm - 9 pm)

Contact: shimadas@frontier.com

Seattle Hiroshima Club Picnic at Perrigo Park in Redmond

August 14

Contact: gloriashigeno@hotmail.com

Keiro NW Golf Tournament at Fairwood Golf & CC.

August 26

Contact: phiroo@keironw.org

Kawabe House Summer Fest

August 28 (11a - 4p)

Contact: akiyamarj@comcast.net ;
danskaku@comcat.net

President's Message Continued....

A foreshock of magnitude 6.2 happened on the evening of April 14.

The main earthquake happened after midnight with a magnitude of 7.0 on April 16. A total of 48 people died in the two earthquakes. About 3,000 more were injured. There was severe damage in and around Kumamoto. Many structures including Kumamoto-Castle fell and some of them caught fire and infrastructures, especially water, electricity and gas supply are destroyed. More than 44,000 people had to leave the area because of the disaster and most of them suffer hard living in shelters. Some of our club members said that their relatives in Kumamoto evacuated to the safe building because of danger in living in their damaged houses. Our club has sent the Kumamoto Prefectural Government the cash donation expressing our deepest sympathy for the victims' families and our wish for a speedy recovery.

Kenjin Kai Day

By Russell Akiyama

Seattle Hiroshima club is participating in the planning for the second annual Kenjin Kai Day. This year the event will be held in the do-jo hall at JCCCW on Sunday, October 2nd from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Hiroshima Club Past President Fumi Groves is co-chairing this effort with Kurt Tokita of JCCCW. The goal of Kenjin Kai Day is to expose the community to the different Kenjin Kais in the greater Seattle area. This event would showcase each Kenjin Kai and may help to recruit new members. Russ Akiyama is representing Hiroshima Club at these meetings. Advertising for the event is being developed. As more information is received, it will be shared with Hiroshima Club membership. Please save this date and time to attend.

From Hiroshima to Hope Lantern Float August 6, 2016

By Karen Iwamura Akira

August 6, 2016 marks the 71st anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki as *From Hiroshima to Hope* has every year since 1985. FHTH honors the victims of the bombing and all victims of war and violence with a lantern floating ceremony on the NW shore of GreenLake. This event of over 1000 lanterns is one of the largest commemorations of the bombing held outside of Japan.

The following Hiroshima Kenjinkai Club members are an intrinsic part of this ceremony: Shirley Shimada (lead), Kuniko Takamura (koto, since 1985), Aiko Fujii (calligraphy), Kiku Hayashi (JACL), Ritsuko Kawahara (koto), Herb Tsuchiya (reader).

This all volunteer event is family oriented, handicapped accessible, ASL interpreted, and free to the general public. It promotes nonviolent conflict resolution, commits to preventing war, and respects all people.

Calligraphy and Lantern preparation begins at 6:30. The family program with musical performances and speakers begins at 7:00. TORO NAGASHI or lantern floating begins at approximately 8:30 PM.



Membership

By Curt Nakayama

The membership committee consists of 3 members, Beth Kawahara, Karen Morikubo and Curtis Nakayama. For the last several months we have been inactive because of several issues that need to be addressed and resolved by the Board and members of the Seattle Hiroshima Club (Club). The committee would like to invite members to comment about membership and volunteer to join our committee.

Should non-descendants of Hiroshima immigrants and spouses be permitted to be full-fledged members with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities as immigrants and their descendants?

Currently the bylaws committee of the cabinet is examining our club's requirements for membership and how those requirements may impact other club activities. Some of those activities are: qualification for scholarships, qualifying children or grandchildren for the Hiroshima Prefectural Exchange Program, receiving the Club newsletter, attending the year end annual meeting

Should the club be actively seeking members from the many Japanese business employees who are in Seattle on a temporary basis? If so, how? Should people interested in Hiroshima for any reason be allowed to join? If so, how do we find them? Should our club be more active in recruiting new members? How?

If you have the answers to all or some of the questions, we would be interested in hearing from you.

Hiroshima Student Summer Trip

By Curt Nakayama

In mid-March the Seattle Hiroshima Club received a letter to invite us to send two students ages 15 to 18, along with an adult leader to Hiroshima for an orientation and cultural experience. The trip is for 10 days which includes a visit to the Hiroshima Prefecture Government and a meeting with the Hiroshima Prefecture Governor. There will be visits to Hiroshima businesses, schools, cultural events, a home stay and participation in the Peace Memorial Ceremony. Because of the short amount of time we had to respond to the Prefecture, the applicant required information was emailed to all members in good standing.

We received four excellent responses, all of whom would have represented the Club and their families honorably. Two were chosen along with Board member Kimie Kuramoto as the leader. The members will get an opportunity to meet them at the General meeting in January. The two chosen are:



Kira Christa Chiemi Kusumi, daughter of Raymond and Jean Kusumi and granddaughter of Shogo and Fusako Kusumi.



Emily Kikumi Ko, daughter of Jeff and Tina Ko and granddaughter of Jim and Tom Zumoto.

2017 SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

By Beth Kawahara

In 1964, the Seattle Hiroshima Club began offering scholarships to outstanding high school graduates. At that time, the club wished to encourage and help the children of active members pursue their college education. Fifty-two years later, this tradition of recognizing and helping outstanding high school students is still ongoing. And so we ask you, the grandparents and parents, to help us in this search of finding and honoring our outstanding future generation.

Each year SHC offers three \$1,000 scholarships. If you know of a high school student who is a junior (11th grader) now, with a minimum 3.8 cumulative grade point average, and is thinking of attending a college in the fall of 2017, we ask that their parent/guardian complete the membership application and pay their \$10 SHC 2016 membership dues by October 31, 2016, if they are not members already. For more information regarding the membership application, please contact Curtis Nakayama at curtn@comcast.net.

Applications for the scholarship will be available in the high schools by the end of September, 2016, or by contacting Beth Kawahara at bethkawahara@yahoo.com. The deadline for completed applications will be December 23, 2016.

Gardens of the Anthropocene

By Frances Palmer

Hiroshima Club Board Member Midori Thiel's artist daughter who lives and works in Germany, has been commissioned by the Seattle Art Museum to visualize the future of Seattle's vegetation and plant life at the Olympic Sculpture Park, through virtual reality and using a download of the art on a Smartphone or I-Pad. Titled "Gardens of the Anthropocene," your visit to the Sculpture Park will show the imaginative plants against the backdrop of the Park itself.

Learn to Play Bridge!

By Irene Mano

Irene Mano is helping to teach a bridge class for beginners as well as experienced players at Seattle Betsuin. She and her cohorts are patient and fun. Email Irene at ma2geor@aol.com.

Seattle Hiroshima Newsletter Notice

Karen Iwamura Akira

SHC Members, you are our treasure. We embrace, support and promote what you do within and outside of Seattle Hiroshima Club. In this spirit we will list your upcoming activities in which you personally participate or serve in a leadership capacity. Most importantly, we seek your story of what happened at that specific event.

We also look forward to articles about what has happened or is happening to you or your family during your youth, education, career, retirement, or what it is you love to do. Our newsletter depends on you.

Shoulds:

Articles should be sent in MS WORD format and PHOTOS must be unformatted. Send to Sharon Kosai (skosai@comcast.net) or Karen Iwamura Akira (akirakaren@comcast.net). Listings or articles will be accepted from paid members and their immediate family. Please keep us apprised of any marriages, births or deaths in your family. You will be notified when your article is received. Articles received after the deadline may possibly be published in the next issue.

The deadline for submitting articles for the next newsletter is September 15th.

Seattle Hiroshima Club Annual Picnic

Sunday, August 14, 2016

11:00 to 3:00PM

Perrigo Park, Redmond, WA

It's time for a picnic! We have reserved a spacious picnic shelter at [Perrigo Park](#) in Redmond. The park has a children's play area, sand volleyball court, basketball court, soccer field and friendly trails. Parking and restrooms nearby. There will be games, food and fun for adults and children.

We welcome club members, family and friends to make this a memorable event. Directions, food sign-up and details will be sent in July via Evite and U.S. mail. We look forward to seeing you there!



Photo: Happy picnickers. 2015 Magnuson Park, Seattle

Seattle Hiroshima Club 2016 - 2018 Officers

Tsukasa Namekata namekata@comcast.net	President
Curtis Nakayama	1 st Vice President
Karen Iwamura Akira	2 nd Vice President
Russell Akiyama	Recording Secretary
Shizu Kaku	Corresponding Secretary
Kimie Kuramoto	Japanese Recording Secretary
Dale Kaku	Treasurer
Dale Kaku	Investments
Shogo Kusumi	Auditor
George Shimizu	Auditor

Contact Us

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