

International Outlook

Lima Sister Cities Association



August 2012

Volume 16, Issue 3



Established April 28, 1994

A Message from the President

Dear LSCA Members,

The 2012 LSCA trip to Japan was a fantastic experience for those who went to Harima-cho and now it is our turn to provide a wonderful exchange program for our group coming this August 22, 2012. I know this will be a memorable time for both the guests coming from Harima-cho and the wonderful volunteers who will be hosting our 13 visitors.

In this newsletter you will receive an update on the upcoming activities. The LSCA dedicated officers, board members and volunteers have been so valuable to the association and the community.

The Japanese Garden, at the corner of Eureka and Elizabeth St. has suffered (as I am sure your garden and lawn has) from the severe heat and lack of rain. The LSCA garden committee has worked to keep it presentable for our August visitors to see. Michelle Britt, past youth traveler to Japan, has co-coordinated the LSCA and Girl Scouts to earn her Golden Award, by working with the Garden Committee to keep the garden looking its best. Thank you Michelle.

I look forward to enjoying the upcoming Welcome Party with you at the Dick and Mary Smallwood home this August 26. This is a wonderful opportunity for our guests and hosts to relax, and for you to meet our Japanese guests and share in a variety of activities and cultural experiences.

I invite each of you to become active in the LSCA activities. We need your support as future board members, officers and volunteers keeping LSCA a vital active organization in the community. We encourage you to come and share with us many new experiences in the future.

Read on and find out more about our past events and future plans.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Karen Phipps



Japan Committee Report

Submitted by Co-Chair Mary Buckley

Is there anything as precious as a friend? And anything as gratifying as reaching out to make a new one? Hosting a visitor from our sister city offers this experience, but even if you're not hosting, you'll have the opportunity to meet our guests, tour Lima sites with them, share a smile and a meal (and maybe a game of Frisbee!) and perhaps most significantly, see Lima and Allen County through their eyes. If you're hosting, you've no doubt already reviewed the schedule of group events and chosen activities to fill your free time with your guest(s). Know that you're welcome to accompany the group on Thursday and Friday for our Lima tours, if your schedule permits. Likewise, non-hosts are welcome to join the group around town on these days, August 23 and 24. Please check out the schedule elsewhere in this newsletter.

During the days of the visit you never know when you may see one of the visitors at the mall, the Allen County Fair, church, a local restaurant, a high school football game, or the Neil Armstrong Museum. If you do, by all means, say hello! And, of course, we're hoping for a big turn-out at the Farewell Party and picnic on Sunday, August 26, at the home of Dick and Mary Smallwood, located at 501 Breese Road, Lima. The party will begin at 1:00p.m. (bring a lawn chair!) with the meal at 1:30 (bring a dish to share!), followed by group activities and presentations. Dick has lined up numerous Native American, pioneer, and more modern demonstrations for the afternoon, and our guests have diverse elements of their culture to share with us, as well. One of the young ladies in the group will present a dance, the group leader will be teaching and demonstrating calligraphy (and has said he wants every attendee at the party to give it a try!), and a tea ceremony instructor will be teaching us about the intricate details of this elegant Japanese tradition.

The visiting group includes ten adults and three high school students. A few members of the delegation, including Harima-cho International Friendship Association coordinator Mami Ishikawa, have visited Lima before, so you may have met them during previous visits. We invite all LSCA members and friends to join them and us, renew old friendships, create new ones, and spread goodwill from Lima literally to the other side of the world!

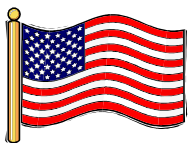
Questions about the upcoming visit? Please call one of the Japan Committee Co-Chairs for information:

Mary Buckley mbuckley2@woh.rr.com (419) 331-7504 or (419) 231-6369

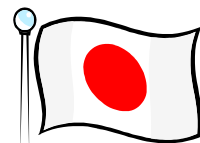
Keiko Hahn keikoh@roadrunner.com (419) 225-3816

Sandra Liechty phoebe@bright.net (419) 296-3063

LSCA President Karen Phipps kphipp1@woh.rr.com (419) 991-4339



Lima Sister Cities Association



Cordially invites you to join us in a

Harima-cho Farewell Picnic

Sunday, August 26, 2012

1:00pm to 6:00pm

Home of Dick and Mary Smallwood

501 Breese Road

Please don't miss this opportunity to meet and visit with our guests: Mr. Kiyoshi Waki Vice President of HIFA; Mrs. Yoshiko Okita a member of the HIFA Board of Directors; Mrs. Mami Ishikawa a member of the HIFA Staff and of course the students and their chaperones.

To treat our guests with a wide variety of American Cuisine we ask that you please bring your favorite covered dish along with your lawn chair, which will enable you to sit and enjoy your meal (we will eat at 1:30pm) and the entertainment that our guests and the Smallwood's have planned for you.

Reminder!

If you received this Newsletter in the mail please let us know your e-mail address so we will be able to send you the newsletter and our membership notices and cut down on expenses.

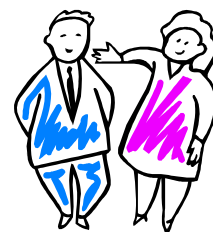
Thank you!

Contact Agnes Kouns at: 419-331-4506 or e-mail at limasistercities@hotmail.com

Welcome New Members!

Margie Geiger Sandra Hochstettler
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Miller

Your support helps ensure the success of our International Mission. Thank you!



HIFA Visit August 2012

Please feel free to join us for some or all of the tour.

Wednesday, August 22

7:20 p.m. Group arrives in Dayton from Chicago
8:45-9:00p.m. Group arrive New Creation Lutheran Church

Thursday, August 23

9:15 a.m. Hosts drop off guests at Japanese Garden
9:15-9:45 a.m. Japanese Garden
9:45 a.m. Walk/carpool to Municipal Building
10-10:30 a.m. Meet Mayor Berger in Council Chambers
10:30 a.m. Walk across the street
10:45-11:15 a.m. ArtSpace
11:15 a.m. Walk down the street
11:30 a.m.-12:00p.m. Civic Center Tour
12-12:30 p.m. Kewpee lunch on stage provided by the
Allen Economic Development Group
12:45 p.m. Carpool to the Allen County Museum
1:00-3:00 p.m. Museum and MacDonell House tour
3:00-3:30 p.m. Hosts meet guests at the Children's Garden

Friday, August 24

9:15 a.m. Hosts drop off guests at the Bradfield Center
9:30-11:00 a.m. Games, etc., at the Bradfield Center
11:00 a.m. Carpool to St. Rita's
11:15-11:30 a.m. St. Rita's gift shop, Starbucks
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch at St. Rita's cafeteria
12:45-1:45 p.m. Hospital tour
2:00 p.m. Carpool to library
2:15-2:45 p.m. Library tour
3:00-3:30 p.m. Hosts meet guests at the Children's Garden

Saturday, August 25

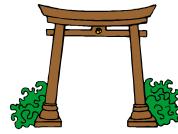
Free time!

Sunday, August 26

A.M. Free time
1:00-6:00 p.m. Farewell Party at Smallwoods'
1:30 Eat
Mr. Waki's "calligraphy corner"
Ms. Fukami's "tea corner"
HIFA Performances: By Akane, group song/dance
Enjoyable entertainments by Dick & Mary Smallwood

Monday, August 27

6:00-6:15a.m. Hosts drop off guests at the New Creation
Lutheran Church.
6:30 a.m. Advantage Travel Bus transportation to the
Dayton Airport
10:05 a.m. Group departs Dayton for Chicago



Notes from Japan

A letter from our Harima-cho

Greetings everyone,

Nubia and I hope you all are enjoying the summer. Friends and family stateside have been remarking on what an exceptionally dry and hot summer it has been across much of the United States. The summer in Harima-cho has been typical, extremely hot and humid, and I even hear my wife from tropical Nicaragua complain of the heat from time to time. However, we find ways to avoid the heat. I enjoy spending the hottest part of the afternoon in the air-conditioned library a few blocks from our apartment.

At the end of last month, the friendship association held the annual kid's camp and as always Nubia, Karen, Brayden and I, along with some other foreign teachers from Takasago and Inami-cho, volunteered to lead the English section of the camp. It went off without a hitch and the day was overcast and breezy to boot. Also, Nubia gave a cooking class last month with her good friend Leslie, who happens to be from Honduras, Nicaragua's neighbor to the north on the Central American isthmus. The class was suitably titled "Central American Cuisine Class" and garnered quite a bit of attention from HIFA members as little of the Latin American region is familiar to people around here. I think the most surprising thing on the menu for HIFA members was Nubia's "Pineapple Rice Refreshment". As you might imagine, any novel way of consuming rice peaks the interest of the Japanese.

The month of July is a very slow time at school. It becomes so hot the students find it hard to concentrate and begin to look forward to the summer vacation towards the end of the month. This was also Jonathan, who works at Harima High School, and Brayden's last month. In August two new teachers are already lined up to take their places and unbelievably, since I still feel like the new guy, I will be the most senior ALT in town. I've already been asked by the Board of Education to accompany BOE personnel to pick up James from Canada, who will be working in Brayden's old post at Minami Junior High and just recently Nubia and I have met Amy from Ireland who will work at Harima High. Take care everyone, best regards,

Kyle