



The Bridge

June 2010

Roseburg Sister Cities, Inc. – Friendship & Understanding since 1993 – Roseburg, Oregon & Shobu, Japan

The President's Corner by Janet Johnston

Dear Members and Friends,

Roseburg Sister Cities has been busy this spring with several 'outreach' booths, thanks to the efforts of Marliene Winfield Swanson, Akiyo Riggs, Yumi Castle and their helpers (read details in this issue). A number of Middle School Exchange students assisted Marliene Swanson with a "Garden Clean Up" recently (see photos & article in this issue).

Our Membership Committee has been busy contacting former and prospective members to update our Membership Data Base. Their efforts have added about 20 more to our 2010 paid membership! Thank you to those who have sent in their Dues and those who are planning to do so! We appreciate your support, so we can continue our efforts to promote the Sister Cities programs and provide funds to support our Delegations.

As mentioned in an earlier issue, our Sister City –Shobu has merged with 2 other towns and all three are now part of Kuki-City (details in separate article). As a result, the Exchange program in Shobu is now being entirely administrated and managed by the Shobu-Roseburg Association. In order to give them time to organize their program, it was decided that



we will NOT be sending a Delegation from Roseburg to Shobu this fall, but will resume with a Delegation in Fall 2011. We will be further discussing the Exchange Visits with the Shobu Delegates when they are here in June to make some decisions for our future Exchange schedules.

Check out the new Directional Signs to both our Sister Cities – Shobu and Aranda de Duero – now installed in front of Roseburg City Hall! (See photo included in this issue). Our thanks to the City of Roseburg and HD Honscheid for their efforts in spearheading and producing these signs!

Also included in this issue are more details on the 2010 June Delegation visit. We are busy getting the final arrangements confirmed and hope that you will take this opportunity to join us at some of the events to welcome and participate with our Delegation, most of whom you will recognize, as they have visited Roseburg in the past – several a number of times. If you are interested in joining us on the Bus Trip, please call me ASAP, as I have to confirm room & event reservations and meal counts for the activities on this trip.

President's Corner continued on Page 2...

Roseburg Sister Cities, Inc.
P.O. Box 1643
Roseburg, Oregon 97470
www.roseburg-sister-cities.org



"A Mother & Her Colt"
Sculptor, Mr. Toshio Ogino, Shobu



Let's talk Literature!

The Japanese-interest book group is looking at a change of pace for the next meeting. We'll meet on September 15th at 6:30pm to discuss a book of short stories by Mary Yukari Waters. **The Laws of Evening**, c. 2003.

"In this dazzling and critically acclaimed debut collection, Mary Yukari Waters provides a rare glimpse into the heart and humanity of a society in the midst of immense change. These graceful, expertly crafted stories, set in Japan, explore the gray areas between the long shadow of World War II and the rapid advance of Westernization...With these stories of upheaval and renewal, estrangement and reconciliation, Waters provides keen insight into the experience and sensibility of different generations as they confront an altered world."

Read the book and join us for a lively discussion! For information, contact Georgia French: gfrench@rosenet.net

'President's Message' continued...

I look forward to seeing you in June to celebrate our 2010 Delegation from Shobu and, as always, if you have suggestions for our Sister Cities program, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone 541-430-2885 or email: janetsmail77@gmail.com (this is a new email address, however, my other email address will still work too)

Sincerely,
Janet Johnston
2010 President
(541) 430-2885; janetsmail77@gmail.com

Shobu has a new name!

"Shobu-cho Kuki-shi"

If you are sending mail to Shobu in the future, please address as follows:

Name
Street number & Street Name
Shobu-cho Kuki-shi
Saitama Ken, JAPAN
(area code did not change)

As a result of the merger, Shobu, Minami District (former population of approx 22,000-with a density of about 800 persons per sq km); Kurihashi, Kitakatsushika District (former population of approx 26,000-with a density of about 1656 persons per sq km); Washimaiya, Kitakatsushika District (former population of approx 34,000-with a density of about 2427 persons per sq km) and Kuki, Minami District (former population of approx 73,000 (with a density of about 2870 persons per sq km) now comprise Kuki-Shi (city) of Saitama with a approx population of 157,000.

June 2010 Delegation Activities

Thursday, June 24 - Welcome Delegation

- o Pick up @ Portland Airport
- o Presentation/Tour World Forestry Center-Portland
- o Lunch
- o Tour of Hull-Oakes Lumber Mill-all manual operation & produces largest solid wood timber products in OR

Friday, June 25 – Local Activities

- o Tour RSC Friendship Garden, view new directional Signs @ City Hall
- o Tour new Public Services Bldg – Fire/Police
- o Tour Umpqua Dairy
- o Catered Lunch @ DC Museum

- o Tour Museum
- o Welcome Reception – Roseburg Country Club (Cost \$30 per person)
- o For Reservation/RSVP by 6/15 to Gerri Behan (541-378-6171) or gerri@gerriscrystals.com

Saturday, June 26 – Host Families entertaining Delegates

Sunday, June 27 – Farewell Potluck Dinner, Armstrong home, Umpqua, OR

- o For Details/Sign Up by 6/22 – contact Suzi Armstrong @ 541-459-1548 or email: sarmstrong@computerconnect.net

Monday, June 28- Thursday, July 1 – Bus Trip/Departure

- o Will include – Sisters Lunch, Bend-Outlet Stores; overnight Kah-Nee-Ta Resort; Indian Dancers performance; Mt Hood; overnight Hood River Inn; Fruit Loop tour; Columbia Gorge; Multnomah Falls; Bonneville Dam; overnight Portland; Portland Airport Departure.
- o For costs/details – contact – Janet Johnston (541-430-2885) or email: janetjohnston@prurep.com

Japanese Language Classes offered!

Here's a great opportunity to learn some helpful Japanese phrases to better communicate with our Delegates and friends in Shobu! Yumi Castle is offering Japanese Language Classes to RSC members for \$5 (one hour classes). For dates and times, please contact Yumi direct at yumicastletrading@hotmail.com or call her at 541-957-9974.



June '10 Delegation from Shobu

Host Family: Dr Jon & Jeannie Burpee

- Eiji Arai - President, Shobu-Roseburg Assn Delegation Leader
- Hamako Arai - Board Member, Shobu-Roseburg Assn

Host Family: Drs. Jason & Andrea Gray

- Tsutomu Sato -
- Toshiko Sato - Vice President, Shobu-Roseburg Assn

Host Family: John & Heidi Cozier

- Yuichiro Tanaka (2nd Visit to Roseburg)

Host Family: Wally & Yuki Taylor

- Mieko Hirakawa (1st Visit to Roseburg)

Healthy Kids Day

Akiyo Riggs, Yumi Castle and Marliene Swanson set up an activity for Saturday, April 17th, Healthy Kids Day at the Douglas County YMCA. There was a TV set up to play Japanese exercise videos as well as a table set up for children to make bookmarks.

Yumi and Akiyo taught the students how write their names in Japanese characters (hirigana and katakana). Diana Brown joined our group and used her calligraphy skills to write student's names in English above the Japanese characters. The bookmarks had the Roseburg Sister Cities web address and post office box address printed on the back.

We were able to answer many questions and tell the "Sister Cities Story" to many folks who stopped by our table. This is the second community outreach activity that Roseburg Sister Cities has participated in this year!

Friendship Garden News

Nineteen Middle and High School students joined Marliene Winfield Swanson and Rolf Bloomquist at the Roseburg Sister Cities Gardens Wednesday, April 28th, for several hours of weeding and cleaning. Rain showers did not dampen their enthusiasm or energy as they removed king sized weeds, over grown bamboo, slugs and even a garter snake. The appearance of our Gardens was greatly improved due to their work.

The students are eagerly looking forward to their journey to Shobu in mid July of this year where they will enjoy several days of home stays and tours in Japan. Marliene furnished apples and a bag of candy to keep the energy level up and later the students went to the Dairy Queen for ice cream, furnished by the

Student program. Rolf will be leading this year's delegation of 20 students and teachers.

For further information about the Student program you may contact Rolf at Rbloomquist@roseburgk12.or.us

Proclamations for Shobu Mayors

In recognition of the recent merger of Shobu with Kuki City, the Board voted to request Proclamations from the City of Roseburg to the two Mayors who have served since the Exchange program began, recognizing them for their support and participation in our Exchange program – former Mayor Junji Endo and Mayor Toshio Nakayama (whose position as Mayor was eliminated with the Merger).

The proclamations were framed and mailed to Shobu and presented at the Shobu-Roseburg Association Annual Meeting in May.

Mayor Nakayama was present to receive his Proclamation and had the following comments to the Shobu-Roseburg Association:

Mr. Arai, President, presented the proclamation to Mr. Nakayama and he said in his acceptance speech:

"This proclamation is not only mine, ours. You all work so hard to keep our sister city program with Roseburg. That's why I got this honor from Roseburg. I really appreciate you."



Mr Eiji Aria, President of Shobu-Roseburg Assn., presenting Proclamation to Mayor Toshio Nakayama. at their Annual Meeting.

New Directional Sign installed by the Roseburg Sister City Aranda de Duero, Spain Group in front of City Hall. Looks great!



Please Join or Renew Membership!

New Membership *Renewing Membership*
(*\$25 Per Household, Tax Deductible*)

Make checks payable to: Roseburg Sister Cities, Inc.

Mail to: P.O. Box 1643, Roseburg, OR 97470

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ *Email* _____

Check Below to let us know your areas of special interest.

Friendship Garden (behind Do. Co. Library)

Committee Helper

June Hosting - Help w/visitor events, dinners, sightseeing, etc. (4-7 days, June) Host Family
 Helper

Annual Visit To Japan: (usually Oct.; 9-12 days)

Travel as Delegate

Special Committees: Future Board Member

Membership Speaker Bureau member

Displays-help do Newsletter

Japanese Interpreter Japanese Film Festival

Storage Room

Nov. Annual Dinner-helper

Historian/Scrapbook

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The next newsletter publication is Oct, '10. Ideas, comments, suggestions, or submitting articles, please contact Jonna Wagner at 530-3184 or e-mail scrappinrealtor@yahoo.com (Also contact to be removed from mailing list.)



Friendship Garden News
Garden Helpers!