

The Bridge

June 2009

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

The President's Corner by Janet Johnston

Greetings Roseburg Sister City Members and Friends,

I think we're all ready to enjoy some summer sunshine and activities, after a rather wet and cold spring!

KOYAMA/KOMATSU VISIT:

Thank you to everyone who participated in the activities for the visitation this Spring of Mr & Mrs Koyama and Mrs Komatsu. It was a success on every level. Please see a letter from Steve Renquist with Master Gardeners and a thank you from Mr & Mrs Koyama and Mrs Komatsu for the hospitality they enjoyed while visiting Roseburg. I would especially like to thank Wally & Yuki Taylor for their assistance in sharing the hosting of our guests; Diana & Steve Brown for hosting a Potluck Dinner at their home and transportation from Portland; Heidi & John Cozier for hosting a Potluck Dinner at their home and



transportation from Portland; Kim, Harry & Scott Gandy for transportation to Portland of our guests on their departure; and David & Kellene Soder for not only sharing the hosting of our guests, but also opening their lovely home for our Japanese Dinner with our guests and assisting with organizing this event.

STORAGE ROOM:

I'm pleased to announce that Mariliene (Winfield) Swanson, Yuki Taylor and Barbara Iwata have graciously taken on the task of reorganizing our Storage Room. Wally Taylor donated storage shelves which will make it easier to store and find items when needed. They are going to make a new inventory of our gift items and decorating items, as well as paper goods for events that we have on hand.

President's Corner continued on Page 2...

Roseburg Sister Cities, Inc.

P.O. Box 1643

Roseburg, Oregon 97470

www.roseburg-sister-cities.org

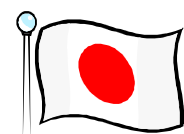
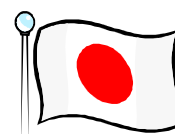
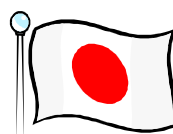


"A Mother & Her Colt"
Sculptor, Mr. Toshio Ogino, Shobu

SHOBU GIFT QUILT – Watch for it on Display Soon!

In 2007, the Shobu Delegation presented Roseburg Sister Cities with a handmade quilt, with signatures of all the delegates on the back side. The theme of the quilt was 'fire' symbols and therefore it was thought that it would be appropriate to hang this quilt in the Fire Station. It has been stored at the Roseburg City Fire Station awaiting the completion of the new Community Services Building.

The Building is scheduled to be completed in August 2009 and Georgia French, Roseburg Sister Cities member, is constructing a hanger for the Quilt. The Board is working on a plaque to be placed with the Quilt with an explanation of its origin. *See picture on page 2.*



'President's Message' continued...

If you know of any public locations that might be interested in displaying some of our gift items, we do have some that are available for loan. We just received some items back that were on display at the Douglas County Library with the 150th Oregon Celebration. We have an ongoing display in Roseburg City Hall. Just contact me to discuss the details, and I'll be happy to make the arrangements with our Display Committee.

JUNE DELEGATION:

We were surprised and disappointed to receive a letter from this year's Delegation from Shobu cancelling their trip, due to the Swine Flu scare (see separate letter from Shobu-Roseburg Association).

We do **have two Visitors coming from Shobu on an 'unofficial' visit** - Sanae Kawamoto, who many of you who have traveled to Shobu will remember, as she has served as one of our Interpreters for our Delegation while in Shobu. Accompanying Sanae, is one of her English language class students, Yumi Yoshie, on her first visit to Roseburg. We invite you to join us to visit with Sanae and Yumi at a **Potluck Dinner on June 21st** from 4 pm to 8 pm at John & Suzi Armstrong's ranch in Tyee. **Call Suzi Armstrong ASAP @ 430-7530 for Potluck choice and directions if you can join us.** This will be our only group activity this summer, so we hope to see you there!

OCTOBER DELEGATION:

Jeannie Burpee, **2009 Delegation Leader** is finalizing the Delegation members and they will have their first group meeting on June 21st. The Delegation will be touring in the Nagano area of Japan this year, in addition to home stays in Shobu. If you have any questions, you can contact Jeanne Burpee at 672-2536.

SAVE THE DATE!

Our **Annual Meeting** will take place on November 15th at 5 pm at Linus Oakes. Please put this on your calendar and plan to join us for a Potluck dinner and Election of Officers.

Sincerely,

Janet Johnston, President
janetjohnston@prurep.com
430-2885



Book Club: Next meeting - Fall 2009 - contact Georgia French, 459-2416 or frenchwoman@myway.com for date and time.

Koyama Visit Thank You!

To Roseburg Sister Cities:

Dear President Janet,

We wish to thank you most sincerely for your special arrangement for our visit. Our stay was beyond our expectation, we met many dear old friends, we could have good chat and enjoyed eating with them. We had so wonderful time that we felt as if we had been in a fairyland.

Thank you for your invitation for the brunch and novelty gifts.

All of dishes were very delicious and we admired your beautiful table setting.

Thank you again for your concern for our hotel and picking up and sending off. We very much appreciate what you've done for us.



Sincerely yours,

Chiaki and Yasuko Koyama

Shobu Quilt!

(See story on page 1.)



Our Friends from Japan Help the Master Gardeners

In February, our friends, Chiaki and Yasuko Koyama, came to Roseburg to help teach classes for the Master Gardener Program at our "Spring Into Gardening" Seminar. Our seminar was at UCC on Saturday, February 28. Traveling with Chiaki and Yasuko was their translator, Sumiko Komatsu.

At the seminar, Chiaki taught a class on the principles of bonsai for 24 attentive students who were from the Roseburg area. About half of the class was new to the art of bonsai so Chiaki had to explain the process very carefully and let Sumiko explain the steps to everyone. After giving his power point presentation Chiaki went around the room and worked with each student individually. We realized how much fun everyone was having so we allowed Chiaki to make his 1.5 hour class a 3 hour class. Even at the end of three hours there were many students still working with Sensei.

In another room just next door Yasuko was busy setting up her classroom for her presentation which was called, The Art of Ikebana, Ikenobo Style Japanese Flower Arranging. The Master Gardeners had purchased some flowers from a local florist to use in the class. We had received some guidance from Yasuko on what type, color, and size of flowers would work best for her class. Luckily for us Yasuko was able to visit the florist the day before her class with Akiyo Riggs to verify what she needed. Akiyo was very helpful leading up to the class by getting vases that were traditional style for Ikebana. She also helped translate emails from Japan to keep me informed. During the Ikebana class Yasuko had 12 students who were very excited to learn the art of Japanese flower arranging. After the class many of the Master Gardeners were so excited to show others their beautiful arrangements, they came around to the other classrooms with their vases. All of us involved in the seminar were very pleased with the quality of the classes given by our visiting friends. It was a very busy day for our translator Sumiko Komatsu. Having to work with the teachers presentations and translate so many questions from the students. We were happy Akiyo and others were there to help Sumiko at times.

After the weekend seminar, Chiaki Koyama met the Master Gardeners at our Discovery Garden near River Forks Park. When visiting the Discovery Garden the previous year, Chiaki had requested a chance to return during winter to prune our Japanese Garden in a true

Japanese style. So, during his first day in the garden Chiaki pruned every plant in a way that would return them to the proper scale. Most of our trees had gotten too large. Chiaki pruned for at least six hours that day with just a short break for lunch. He kept the Master Gardeners running to clean up after him. On the second day Chiaki returned to rearrange the hand washing area stones outside of our tea house. He also transplanted some new shrubs to give the hand washing area more privacy. Chiaki was very happy to help us with the Japanese garden because the garden had been started by his good friend Wiley Wood. Roseburg is very lucky to have such good friends as Chiaki and Yasuko Koyama, and Sumiko Komatsu.

Steve Renquist
Oregon State University Extension

Sanae Kawamoto: She has helped us for many years as an Interpreter during our October Delegation visits, and who visited Roseburg with the 2007 June Delegation with her daughter.



...Meet Our Friends!

Yumi Yoshie: This is her first time to visit Roseburg. She is a student of Sanae's English class.



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.
(usually 4-7 days in June) ___Serve as Host Family ___Helper

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

___Delegate selection help ___Travel as Delegate

Special Committees: ___Future Board Member ___Membership

___Speaker Bureau member ___Displays-help do ___Sushi Night

___Japanese Lang./Interpreter ___Japanese Film Festival ___Newsletter

___Nov. Annual Dinner-helper ___Historian/Scrapbook ___Storage Room

Liaisons: ___Japanese students UCC/RHS ___City Hall/Chamber Commerce

*The next newsletter publication is **Oct. '09**. Ideas, comments, suggestions,
or submitting articles, please contact Jonna Wagner at **530-3184** or e-mail
scrappnrealtor@yahoo.com (Also contact to be removed from mailing list.)*



Jo Lane Open House

Friendship Garden

