

# 姉妹都市

## SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 7, Issue 1

Our Fifth Decade of Friendship

May 2003



### 45th Sister-Kobe Anniversary: Visit to Kobe, November 2002



Former Kobe Mayor Kazutoshi Sasayama, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and Kobe Mayor Tatsuo Yada at a reception honoring our rich 45 years of sister city exchanges.

Mayor Greg Nickels led a 40-person 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary delegation to Kobe last November. The delegation included representatives from the **Port of Seattle, Trade Development Alliance, Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, SEAFAIR, and YMCA**, as well as many SKSCA members. As part of the delegation, 12 SEAFAIR Student Ambassadors visited Kobe for a homestay and educational program. SEAFAIR's **Beth Wojick** and **Eric Radovich** and volunteers **Kevin Martinez & Bob Hudson** chaperoned.

The delegation's main activities included: the opening of a one-month Seattle photo exhibit at Kobe City Hall to introduce Kobe citizens to Seattle; tours of several disaster preparedness centers and exhibits, in-



A group of the Seattle delegation enjoys the fall color in the Arima Hot Springs area of Kobe.

cluding a local elementary school and community center; lectures on Kobe's Medical Industry Project and transportation infrastructure; a jazz concert with Kobe jazz musicians; and lunches hosted in Japanese homes. Twelve students from high schools around Seattle participated in exchanges and study tours with local Japanese high schools, which included homestays with Japanese host families through the SEAFAIR student ambassador exchange program.

A big thank you to our anniversary sponsors: **United Airlines, YMCA, Seattle Mariners, Seattle Center, and the Kobe Trade Information Office**. Additional thanks to **The Seattle Times, Seattle's Convention & Visitors Bureau** and the **City of Seattle** for their support of the Seattle Sister City Photo Exhibition in Kobe.



Port of Seattle Commissioner Paige Miller, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, Kobe Mayor Tatsuo Yada, and Kobe City Council President Michihiro Yokoyama cut the ribbon on the Seattle photo exhibition held at Kobe City Hall. Thanks to The Seattle Times, Seattle's Convention & Visitors Bureau and the City of Seattle for their support of this exhibition.



Posters made by students to welcome the Seattle delegation to Minato Elementary School to view their disaster-safe community efforts.

**THANK YOU!!**

### A Big "Thank You" to our Corporate Sponsors!

We greatly appreciate the support of the following businesses and organizations.

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YMCA of Greater Seattle



### Message from the Chair

*Karin Zaugg*

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association! Thanks to your efforts, this past year's 45th anniversary events exceeded everyone's expectations. In July we hosted a 40-person delegation led by Kobe Mayor **Tatsuo Yada** and Kobe City Council President **Michihiro Yokoyama**. The delegation participated in the 5th annual Kobe Day with the Mariners event, opened a Kobe photo exhibit, marched in the SEFAAIR Torchlight Parade, and held a business seminar on new opportunities within the medical biotechnology cluster in Kobe. In November, Mayor **Greg Nickels** also led a 45th anniversary delegation to Kobe. You can learn about their time in Kobe on the front page.

In 2002 SKSCA also held the 7th annual Kobe Earthquake Remembrance Ceremony and rededicated the Kobe Bell after extensive restoration work completed by the Seattle Center. In recognition of our active and successful programs, the SKSCA was granted the Best Overall Program award for a sister city program by the Mayor of Seattle in November. All of the above activities would not have been possible without your support!

Thank you for renewing your membership and continuing to support SKSCA. We're welcoming a new Director of the Kobe Trade Information Office this spring, and making some changes to the Board which we will make official later this year. We hope you will continue to partner with us in strengthening the individual and business ties between Seattle and Kobe that make ours such a vibrant sister city relationship.

### "Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association" in the Works!!

The first informal meeting of the Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association met to brainstorm about forming a citizen group in Kobe. From left to right: **Karin Zaugg**, SKSCA President, **Yoichi Aoki**, Fukiai High School, **Tomoharu Kamiki** and **Eiko Makita** of Kobe City Hall, **Eri Yagi Sometani** and **Hitomi Murase**. Kamiki-san and Makita-san both came to Seattle on study missions from the economic bureau.



### SKSCA Board of Directors 2001-02

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Stacey Jehlik, Vice Chair	206-523-2220	stacers@attglobal.net
Sean Young, Secretary	206-728-0610	sean@hyogobcc.org
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Katsuko Kataoka Brooke	425-861-7865	kk.brooke@verizon.net
Mari Maruyama Carpenter	425-398-1153	mmaruyama@laurasian.org
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Marc Porter	206-264-3842	portm@perkinscoie.com
Takumi Ono	206-235-5235	takumi_ono@junglecity.com
Alex Parle	206-527-3672	aparle@earthlink.net
Iku Skeels	425-637-1938	skeels@winstarmail.com
Hide Sueyoshi	206-346-4317	hsueyoshi@seattlemariners.com

### SEFAAIR Student Ambassadors write about their experiences in Kobe

A group of SEFAAIR student ambassadors participated in the 45th Sister City Anniversary delegation in November, 2002. **Eric Radovich**, SEFAAIR Vice President & Director of the Ambassador Program writes, "This trip provided a host of memories for some pretty amazing students. These impressions will last forever for most, and perhaps even be the impetus for them to pursue careers internationally. More importantly, cross-cultural friendships were developed that will last a lifetime and bring more understanding to the differences of people around our world. It's hard to capture what the SEFAAIR Ambassador Program trip to Kobe meant to the students who made the trip with us, but here are just a few excerpts from the student diaries written upon their return."



"The only thing that I did not like about this trip was how short it was. I would have liked to stay there much longer. I know that, sometime in the future, I'll come back to the beautiful city of Kobe. The things that I value the most from the trip are not seeing all the sites, buying random junk, and getting cool free stuff, but the relationships that I cultivated with all the wonderful people that I met. The other ambassadors, the chaperones, the teachers, the students, and the Minami family made my experience incredible. As I flip through my photo album and see their pictures, I hope to not only look back on, but also look forward to, some of the best days of my life." **James Kuo**, Garfield High School



"First and foremost: Arigatoo Gozaimashita SEFAAIR! Thank you for this once-in-a-life-time opportunity to represent Seattle, and even America, in this exchange. I know that I have come back a changed person. The experiences that I had the privilege to partake in, in going to Japan, have given me a new appreciation for differences in culture. During those days, I stepped out of my comfort zone and readily embraced all the possibilities that this Ambassadorship had to offer." **Mikaela Rodkin**, Ballard High School



"You've just won a week of fantasy! Travel to Japan with friends and enjoy one of the world's friendliest cultures!" This only scratches the surface of describing our time in Kobe. This trip has been so great! The days went by in kind of a blur of chopsticks, public transportation, and a foreign language I have yet to grasp, but best of all I learned something from every minute of it." **Jessie Culbert**, Lake Washington High School

SAVE THE

### UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

**Aug. 2** - 6th Annual Kobe Day with the Mariners and celebration of the 40th Hyogo-Washington Sister State relationship. More details coming soon! (7:05 p.m. game)

**Sept. 13-14**—Aki Matsuri at the Bellevue Community College main campus.

## Changes at the Kobe Trade Information Office (KTIO)



**Mr. Takaaki Matsuda**, who has been the Director of the **Kobe Trade Information (KTIO)** office for the last three years has returned to Kobe. We thank Matsuda-san for all his hard work here in Seattle, especially with the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary events. We are sad to see him and his wife **Yoko** leave us, but we know we'll see him again soon! Matsuda-san will be working as Manager of the Industrial Affairs Division in the Industry and Agriculture Promotion Bureau back in Kobe. Matsuda-san writes to the SKSCA members and friends in the greater Seattle community: "I would like to express my sincere appreciation for all the assistance and friendship you have extended to me during my stay here. Seattle was a very good place to live and work because we have a strong 46-year sister city relationship and many supporting organizations and individuals. I am looking forward to seeing you again in Kobe."



*Takaaki & Yoko Matsuda*



**Sandy Weiss**, who was the Assistant Director at KTIO for five years, has also left the office to go back to her consulting business doing event planning and other contract projects. A big thanks to Sandy for all her hard work for promoting business and friendship between Seattle and Kobe! Luckily for us, she's still in town and continues to assist the KTIO with projects to promote business development with

Kobe. You can reach her at [sandy@weissolutions.com](mailto:sandy@weissolutions.com).



**Mr. Takeshi Yamamoto** is the new Director of the KTIO for the next three years. He has moved here with his wife Atsuko and two sons, Kentaro aged 11 and Shinji, aged 9, who are already big Seattle Mariners fans! Yamamoto-san writes, "I am excited to work in Seattle, which has such a strong history with the city of Kobe. I know my family and I will enjoy living here. We look forward to meeting many SKSCA members." Mr. Yamamoto previously worked in the International Department of the City of Kobe under **Mr. Kiyoyuki Kanemitsu**. SKSCA president **Karin Zaugg** worked with him in Kobe as well. We are excited to welcome the Yamamoto family to Seattle.

**Ms. Devin Tokizawa** has also recently joined the KTIO. She writes, "I became interested in Japan after studying the language in high school and living in Osaka during the summer of 1997, at which time I also visited Kobe. After high school I studied Japanese language, history, economics and literature at the UW where I met my husband, **Takuya**, a Japanese national from Gunma prefecture who works as a glassblower in Seattle. I graduated from the UW with a degree from the Jackson School of International Studies with a focus on Japan in August, 2002. I began working at the KTIO this past February and am very excited to be involved in promoting trade between the City of Kobe and Seattle. I look forward to volunteering in the many Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association events around Seattle."



### Soba Masters from Kobe Hold Soba Cooking Class

The **Hyogo Business & Cultural Center** hosted a group of Soba masters from Kobe (Sobabito no Kai) in January who presented the art and skill of making authentic soba noodles at a cooking class held at North Seattle Community College. All materials were brought from Kobe, including the ingredients and tools. The two masters, **Ando Katsohiro** and **Kawamoto Hitoshi**, along with their five apprentices, first demonstrated the preparation of soba noodles. The group then assisted the students while they made their own batches. The class ended with a tasting of the dish *zaru soba* and the opportunity to ask the chefs questions about the detailed craft.



### SKSCA Awarded Sister City Best Overall Program Award!!

**Mayor Greg Nickels** presented SKSCA Board member **Bruce Robb, Jr.** with the "Best Overall Program 2002" award at the annual sister cities reception on November 20, 2002. The award reads, "Seattle's Sister Cities Award for Best Overall Program 2002 to SKSCA for its members' outstanding contribution in promoting understanding, friendship and goodwill with Kobe, Japan." Certainly something for all of us to be proud of after a busy year!

**Way to go!**

## Kobe Earthquake 8th Year Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony at the Kobe Bell, January 16, 2003

The SKSCA held its annual Kobe Earthquake Remembrance Ceremony at the Kobe Bell on January 16, 2003. This year the ceremony used a Kobe candle lantern that matched the candle lanterns used in Kobe for this year's remembrances. Participants lit candles for a moment of silence and rang the Kobe Bell in memory of those who perished in the 1995 disaster at 12:46 p.m., which corresponds to the minute of silence and ceremonies taking place in Kobe in the



*Yutaka Sasaki, Cherry Blossom Festival, and Karin Zaugg, SKSCA, light the lantern.*

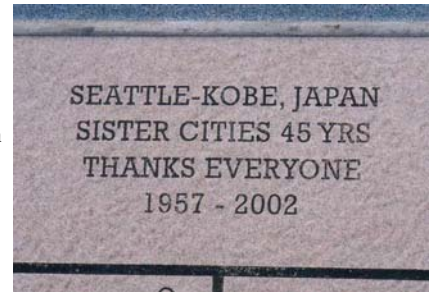
early morning of the 17th.

The Kobe Bell was a gift from the City of Kobe to the City of Seattle in 1962 in honor of the World's Fair. In 1961 the City of Seattle gave Kobe a Native American Totem Pole, which stands next to Kobe City Hall and serves as the major symbol of the sister city relationship in Kobe.



## Commemorative and Memorial Tiles at Seattle Center

In honor of the 45<sup>th</sup> sister city anniversary and also in memory of **Shin Ono**, son of **Yukari & Toshihiko Ono**, Director of the Kobe Trade Information Office from 1997-2000, the SKSCA purchased tiles at the newly renovated Fisher Pavilion at the Seattle Center. Please look for them on the east side of the circular design the next time you visit the Seattle Center.



This tile reads: "In loving memory of cheerful Shin Ono, Ambassador from Kobe 1992-2001."



The Franklin High School Quaker Band and Jazz Lab has returned from a successful trip to Kobe and the Kansai region.

The group of 37 students and 23 adults was led by teachers **Robert Pitzer**, **Ralph Neubeck** and **Kory Kumasaka**. "We arrived at Kansai Airport on Feb. 17 and proceeded to Kyoto. On the morning of the 18th our concert band and Jazz Lab both performed a public concert at Kyoto Station. It was well received by the audience and was covered by KBS television on three of their newscasts later that day. In the afternoon, the Jazz Lab performed again, this time for the families that would be hosting our students for the next two days. After the music, families and students met, and, after a gift exchange, they were on their way. On Wed. students toured the Kyoto area with their host families and all returned on Thurs. morning. There had been some trepidation among several of the students about staying with people they didn't know in a foreign country, but everyone was very happy upon their return.

On Thurs. we left Kyoto for Kobe, where we had lunch in Kobe's Chinatown. Following lunch and some shopping, we proceeded to the City Hall where the entire student group was photographed in front of the totem pole from the people of Seattle. A guide from the City of Kobe took us up to the observation level of the city hall

## Franklin High School Quaker Band and Jazz Lab travel to Kobe and Kansai



building. Students and adults alike were interested in the displays about Kobe's various

sister cities, noting that they were often seaports and cities with lush natural surroundings. A delegation of five met with **Mr. Mizohashi**. Then our entire group was treated to a visit to Meriken Park and the Earthquake Museum, which the students found both interesting and sobering. Many were amazed at the quick reconstruction of the city after the 1995 disaster.

That evening our group moved on to Osaka where we visited the World Trade Center Tower for a night time view of the city. On Fri., our two musical groups participated in an all-day exchange with the students of **Kansai Soka Junior and Senior High Schools**. The exchange included performances, and assembly, welcoming and departure ceremonies and campus tours. On Saturday our group spent the day at Universal Studios Japan. The entire entourage returned to Seattle on Sunday, February 23rd. Thanks to the wonderful assistance of people such as SKSCA president **Karin Zaugg** and the people of the City of Kobe, our tour was a wonderful exchange and learning experience. Our students have a better understanding of and respect for the people and culture of Japan because of this experience. Thank you!

Spring has sprung and baseball is in the air. With a new manager, a few new faces and a new marketing campaign, "Viva la Mojo", the 2003 season is underway for the Seattle Mariners. Both on and off the field, there is quite a lot for fans to anticipate!

Determined to reclaim the West this season, the 2003 Seattle Mariners believe the World Series is within their grasp. New manager Bob Melvin knows he's inherited one of the best squads in baseball – one that has averaged 100 wins three years running – and his belief that the Mariners can reach the World Series is neither bombastic nor doubtful. The club spent the off season addressing core needs. Rather than dismantling a winning team, the club signed a couple of players who can make the difference and kept the core intact. The Mariners re-signed veterans Edgar Martinez, Jamie Moyer, John Olerud and Dan Wilson and added left-fielder Randy Winn and bench stars Greg Colbrunn and John Mabry. The Japanese fans can also continue to be thrilled by the performances of all three Japan natives, Ichiro Su-



zuki, Kazuhiro Sasaki and Shigetoshi Hasegawa.

In addition to the excitement on the field, fans have great events to enjoy off the field. The Mariners continue to look for ways to celebrate their close ties with friends across the Pacific. Upcoming promotions at Safeco Field that may interest SKSCA members in particular:

July 8: Salute to Japanese Baseball Day

August 2: 6th Annual Kobe Day at the Mariners & 40th Anniversary / Celebration of Hyogo-Washington Sister-State relationship (SKSCA group section – more details coming soon)

Good seats for these games and others are still available!

**Call (206) 622-HITS  
or purchase tickets online at  
[www.seattlemariners.com](http://www.seattlemariners.com).**

## CORPORATE MEMBER PROFILES

### Japan and America: A Year of Anniversaries

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the inception of relations between Japan and the US. From its simple beginnings —marked by the arrival in Japan of Commodore Matthew Perry with his "Black Ships" in 1853 and the signing of the Treaty of Peace and Amity in 1854 — this remarkable, bilateral association has grown into one of the closest political, cultural and economic relationships of our time. The American and Japanese peoples commemorate this 150th anniversary of those rich relations with the full confidence that our ties will forever be bound by genuine friendship and shared values.

For over half of those 150 years, the Japan-America Society of the State of Washington (JASSW) has been dedicated to building communication, understanding, and long-lasting relationships between the peoples of Japan and Washington state.

### Japan-America Society

Founded on July 24, 1923 by leaders of the Seattle business, academic, and diplomatic communities, charter membership stood at 104 American and Japanese members interested in forging close business ties and improving relations through frequent meetings and social events. Today, almost 80 years later, the JASSW's general membership consists of over 150 companies involved in U.S.-Japan business and trade, and over 800 members with a variety of interests in Japan and U.S.-Japan issues.

Approximately one-third of their members are Japanese, two-thirds American.

The Society offers 30-40 programs each year in a variety of subjects for its members and the interested public. Their award-winning Japan in the Schools Program brings Japanese cultural and language programs to over 2,000 Washington State elementary and high school students each year.

To find out more about the Japan-America Society, what they do, and how you may become a member, please visit their always up-to-date extensive website at [www.us-japan.org/jassw](http://www.us-japan.org/jassw).

# New Membership/Membership Renewal/Volunteer Form May 2003

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

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Please enclose your mailing label if there are any changes. Thank you!!

SKSCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, IRS tax identification # 23-7034425.

Membership dues are a tax deductible donation.

**Individual \$30    Family: \$50    Senior/Student: \$15    Corporate: \$125**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a **current** member renewing my dues and I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a **new** member and I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in volunteer opportunities. Please send me more information.

Please mail this form and a check to:



**SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION**

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