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SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 11, Issue 2

Celebrating 50 Years of a Vibrant Sister City Relationship

December 2007

50th Sister City & 40th Sister Port Anniversary Celebrations in Kobe May 17-23, 2007

Seattle City Councilmember **Jan Drago**, Port of Seattle Commissioner **John Creighton**, and SKSCA President **Karin Zaugg Black** led a 75-person Seattle delegation to Kobe to celebrate our 50th anniversary of our sister city relationship and 40th anniversary of our sister port relationship.



Group at tree planting at Seattle Forest in the Kobe Arboretum

The delegation commemorated our anniversaries with ceremonies, tours, a symposium on sister city relations and more. They learned about Kobe's Medical Industry Project and Kobe's sake industry; toured the Port of Kobe by boat; met with Kobe Chamber of Commerce companies, and previewed some art pieces from (Continued on page 7)

50th Sister City & 40th Sister Port Anniversary Celebrations in Seattle October 9-12, 2007

Kobe City Mayor **Tatsuo Yada** led a delegation of 67 people from Kobe to celebrate our anniversaries from October 9-12, 2007. This delegation included representatives from the City of Kobe, Port of Kobe, Kobe City Council, Kobe Women's Group, Kobe Labor Unions, Kobe-Seattle Sister City Associa-

tion, Foreign Language University and the Kobe City Philharmonic Chorus.

During their visit, the delegation celebrated the opening of the *Japan Envisions the West* exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum; presented the world's largest Kimono to



Mayors Yada and Nickels exchange baseball jerseys

the people of Seattle at City Hall; visited Kobe's sister Starbucks store at the World Trade Center; and planted trees to commemorate the 50th sister city and 40th sister port anniversaries. In addition, the **Kobe City Philharmonic Chorus** performed on three occasions; at the October 10th reception, the City Hall Lunchtime Concert and the Seattle Art Museum *Japan Envisions the West* exhibit which opened on October 11th.

See page 2 for details on the July 28 - 30 visit by Vice Mayor Uzaki and the delegation from the Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association

A Big THANK YOU to Our Corporate Sponsors!

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

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Message from the Chair

I a

Happy Holidays!

2007 is drawing to a close - what an amazing 50th anniversary year it as been! Thank you all so much for your support in mak-

ing all of our events and programs such a success.

We had a year filled with jazz, Kobe sake, Washington wines, student exchanges and delegation trips. We had 75 people travel to Kobe in May, and hosted not one, but two, delegations from Kobe in July and October.

Most recently of course we hosted **Mayor Tatsuo Yada** and a Kobe delegation of 67 people to open the "Japan Envisions the West" exhibit from the Kobe Museum at the **Seattle Art Museum**. I hope you visit SAM soon if you haven't already!

I urge you to renew your membership or make a donation to SKSCA for 2007. We mailed out a letter and invoice prior to the October events, and have gotten the feedback from some that the invoice printed on the back of the letter was missed. We are still trying to balance our budget after a busy and expensive year, so your donation or membership renewal is much appreciated.

All donations to SKSCA are tax-deductible; SKSCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with IRS tax identification #23-7034425. Please visit our website www.seattlekobe.org to make your payment online via credit card, or send renewal checks to SKSCA, c/o Stacey Jehlik, 3115 NE 65th St., Seattle, WA 98115. Call or email Stacey (stacers@speakeasy.net or 206-523-2220) if you have any questions about your membership or renewal.

Warm wishes for the holiday season,

Karin Zange Black

Seattle Art Museum – Japan Envisions the West Exhibit

The Seattle Art Museum is showcasing the splendid exhibition Japan Envisions the West: 16th -19th Century Japanese Art from Kobe City Museum. Japan Envisions the West includes 142 cultural treasures from the Kobe City Museum, many of which have never traveled outside of Japan before. The exhibition features rare and exquisite paintings, prints, maps, ceramics, lacquer ware, metal ware, glass ware, leather ware and textiles. Demonstrating not only how Japanese and Westerners comprehended and appreciated each others' cultures, the exhibition also raises important contemporary questions about how we perceive people and cultures different from our own.

50th Sister City & 40th Sister Port Anniversary Celebrations in Seattle July 28-30, 2007

Kobe City Vice Mayor Isao Uzaki and Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association President Eri Yagi led a delegation of 43 people from Kobe to celebrate our anniversaries from July 28 - 30, 2007.

The delegation included representatives from the City of Kobe,



July delegation group pose at the reception at the Olympic Sculpture Park

Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association, Silver College Seniors exchange program, Kobe YMCA students, Kobe City High school students involved in the Seafair festival ambassador exchange program, and the Kobe Festival Representative **Tomoko Mizogu-**

chi.



Mayor Nickels and Vice Mayor Uzaki pose with Kobe YMCA students

During their visit, the delegation marched in the Seafair parade, presented gifts to the Seattle's Children's Museum for the Kobe street exhibit, opened a photo exhibit about Kobe and our sister city history at Seattle City Hall, and cheered on Ichiro and Johjima at a special Kobe Day with the Mariners event at Safeco Field. We also celebrated with

the visiting delegation at a reception at SAM's Olympic Sculpture Park.

Thanks to our friends at YushinDaiko; a Japanese Ameri-

can Taiko Group and Seattle Kokon Taiko Group who marched in the Seafair Parade with us, and Consul General Kazuo Tanaka who supported Kobe City Vice Mayor Isao Uzaki's throwing the first pitch at the Mariners game.

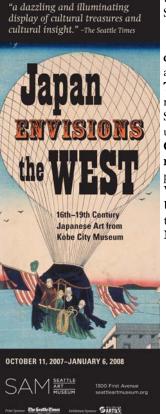


Mrs. Haga and Eri Yagi help Karin model one of the kimonos

Save the Date!

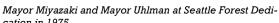
March 24 - 4th Annual Jazz Audition more details coming soon

Please visit the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association's website at www.seattlekobe.org and the Kobe Trade Information Office's website at www.cityofkobe.org to keep up-to-date about Kobe related events.



Celebrating 50 Years of Friendship - October 2007







Kobe City Assembly Chair Maejima, Mayor Yada, Seattle City Councilmember Jan Drago and Mayor Nickels sign an agreement to continue our relationship for the next 50 years

Gift of 50 Cherry Trees

In honor of the 50th sister city and 40th sister port anniversaries, the City and Port of Kobe gifted Seattle with 50 cherry trees. Port of Seattle Commissioners and the Kobe delegation planted

one tree at POS Terminal 5 – Jack Block Park next to Salty's restaurant on Alki, and Mayor Yada and Mayor Nickels planted one at the Seattle Center near McCaw Hall and the Kobe Bell. Other trees will be planted at various sites around the city over the coming year: Seattle Center, Kobe Terrace Park, Elliott Bay Park, Terminal 5/Jack Block Park, and along Lake Washington Boulevard.



Above: Mayor Yada, Councilmember Jan Drago, Karin Zaugg Black, Mayor Nickels and City Assembly Chair Maejima pose in front of the cherry tree at the Seattle Center



Right: Mr. Itokawa and his wife talk about the Big Kimono

kimono from the Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association at a ceremony at City Hall with Seattle City Council-

members Jan Drago and David Della. The Kimono hung in Seattle City Hall lobby for the week of October 8-12, 2007. (see page 5 for a photo of the Big Kimono and the volunteers who helped put it up)

Gift of the Big Kimono

ily presented the world's largest

Mr. Yoshihiko Itokawa and his fam-



Below: Seattle Art Museum's Mimi Gates and Yukiko Shirahara pose with Mayor Yada



Brenda Handley of Gobo Enterprises poses with Karin Zaugg Black in the kimono given by Kobe in July



The Kobe Philharmonic Chorus performs at Seattle City Hall with the Big Kimono

Honoring Our Early Founders

Former Mayor Gordon Clinton and longtime sister city association leaders Griffith Way and Annette Pascoe were honored for

their contributions to this 50year-old relationship by Mayor Yada at the reception held at the Port of Seattle. We thank them for all their years of service and support!



Honorees Griffith Way, Gordon Clinton and Annette Pascoe pose with Mayor Nickels and Karin Zaugg Black and Mayor Yada

Gordon Clinton

Gordon Clinton was Mayor of Se-

attle from 1956-1964 and instrumental in establishing the Seattle-Kobe Sister City relationship, one of the first such relationships, 50 years ago. Many similar sister city relationships were formed between Washington state and Japan after the successful relationship between Seattle and Kobe. Mr. Clinton helped to establish and promote the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle and expand international awareness of Seattle as a great city with strong ties to Japan and Asia. He retired from political office in 1964 and became a practicing attorney. He served as the legal representative for the Consul General of Japan in Seattle for 10 years and was instrumental in aiding the Japanese American community in helping to draft legislation to end the Alien Land Law in 1966. He also served as President of the Japan-America Society in 1973. Mr. Clinton has remained very active in promoting Seattle's relationship with Japan through the years. He



The Seafair Queen, Mayor Haraguchi, the Native American carver, and Mayor Clinton at the Seattle Totem Pole Dedication at Kobe City Hall in 1961

led many delegations to Japan with members of the Japan-America Society and the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association, as well as on behalf of Unicef in 1975, during which he received the Third Class Order of the Rising Sun from the Emperor of Japan.

Griffith Way

Griffith Way is a native of Seattle whose adult life has revolved around Japan since August 1945, when he first landed in Japan as a young Naval officer trained as a Japanese interpreter and translator. Shortly after graduating from the University of Washington Law School in 1949, he volunteered to work on a new community organization, the Washington State International Trade Fair, which was the first helping hand from the U.S. aimed at assisting Japan to establish new markets abroad, and created the basis for the 1961 Seattle World's Fair. In 1954 Way became associated with a major law firm in Tokyo, Blakemore & Mitsuki. Dividing his time equally between the two countries he was active in the representation of major American and European companies doing business with Japan. In 1957, Griffith Way and his

wife Patricia traveled to Kobe at the request of Mayor Gordon Clinton to officially sign the sister city relationship agreement. Way has been a member of the Board of the Seattle Art Museum for many years. During their years in Japan he and his wife, Patricia, acquired an extensive collection of modern Japanese paintings and prints. Way was one of the earliest collectors outside of Japan to focus on late 19th and early 20th century Japanese painting, and the Way collection is among the more significant collections of modern Japanese painting in the United States. Way was a member of the Japan Alpine Club and climbed extensively in the Japan Alps. At the present time Way manages the Blakemore Foundation that gives grants to individuals for the advanced study of Asian languages and to American museums and universities to support exhibits and projects that help to improve the understanding of Asian art in the United States.

Annette Pascoe

Annette Pascoe was involved in the Seattle-Kobe sister city relationship early on through her involvement on the PTA Council of the Seattle Public Schools where she helped create the pen pal program for junior high school students between Seattle and Kobe. She first went to Kobe in 1959, served as President of the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association in 1970-1971, and was actively involved in the sister city program for over five decades. Annette and her husband Will were also active in the Japan-America Society. Annette was a leader in the sister city program when most of the other presidents were men, and had the support of their companies. She and Will hosted a Japanese exchange student in the 1960s for two years and established a long-time relationship with that Japanese family. They were involved in numerous trips to Kobe and

exchanges over the years. Annette and Will were married for 63 years before Will passed away in 2004, and raised four children: Richard, Carole, Roger and Kenneth. They have nine grand-children and four great grandchildren.



Honoree Annette Pascoe with longtime Kobe volunteer leader Michiko Seno

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If we inadvertently forgot your name, we apologize.

Seattle-Kobe 50th Anniversary Honorary Committee

Mayor Greg Nickels
City Councilmember David Della
Consul General Kazuo Tanaka
Diane Adachi, University of Washington
Mimi Gates, Seattle Art Museum
Brenda Handley, Gobo Enterprises
Chris Helm, Davis Wright Tremaine
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Howard Lincoln, Seattle Mariners

Tomio Moriguchi, Uwajimaya Tay Yoshitani, Port of Seattle

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Yukiko Shirahara, Seattle Art Museum
Bill Stafford, Trade Development Alliance
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Volunteers - We couldn't have done it without you!!

<u>July events:</u> Chris Allegri , Patricia Belyea, Dave Brumpton, Mark Carpenter, Maia Lucas, Yoshi Miki, Frank Montgomery, Mary Montgomery, Masae Nakagawa, Yuri Nishiyama, Masaru Odoi, Koryn Rolstad, Sheila Siden, Liz Stone, Michael Stone, Vik Stone

October events: Aaron Armstrong, Annelise Ogaard, Jean Chen, Jon Edwards, Marcy Edwards, Akiko Miura Nunn, Jolene Prewitt, Amy Scott, Fred Taucher

Interpreters: Takako Ohwada and Turid Gronning

<u>Big Kimono:</u> Yuri Nishiyama (lead), Junko Austin, Aaron Armstrong, Katsuan Banan, Jonathan Bannister, Althea Cudaback, Walter Heyman, Grant Laughlin, Suzanna Mar, Nobue Nanba, Miaki Nakashio, Yumi Nagakura, Keith Orton, Deborah Paine, Sandra Sakai, Michiko Togashi, Peggy Weiss, Joe Zdenek and other City of Seattle staff members



Volunteers after hanging the Big Kimono in City Hall

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50th activities are organized by the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association and supported by the following organizations: City of Seattle, Consulate General of Japan, Hyogo Business & Cultural Center, Japan-America Society of the State of Washington, Japan Business Association of Seattle, Japanese Cultural & Community Center, Kobe Trade Information Office,

and the Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle.

8th KOBE Jazz Vocal Queen Contest

This year's 8th KOBE Jazz Vocal Queen Contest was held on May 19th and 20th in Kobe and was part of the events to commemorate the 50th sister city anniversary in Kobe. I had the honor of being invited as one of the judges for this year's event and shared the judging chair with a prestigious panel of judges.

One thing that struck me as different at this year's competition was the vocalists' choice of material. Many of them sang pop oriented songs and original compositions in addition to the standard jazz repertoire. Some jazz purists may take issue with their choices, but this has been a trend that has been seen in the performances of Herbie Hancock and Nora Jones, as well as Chick Corea. I would say that the vocalists are right on the cutting edge of what's happening.



Miwa Wakabayashi, the 2007 Kobe Jazz Vocalist Queen gave a wonderful concert on October 15th at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley

The grand prix award went to **Miwa Wakabayashi**, who then performed at Seattle's Jazz Alley on October 15, 2007. In addition to the contestants, other performers included **MAMI**, Kobe's 2006 Jazz Vocal Queen, and winners of the third Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Competition adult division, **Emi Meyer**, and high school division, **Jennifer Hoyt**.

Both Emi and Jennifer were excited to be in Japan to represent Seattle and SKSCA. They were impressed by how polished the Japanese vocalists and other musicians were. Emi Meyer commented that, "My involvement in the Kobe Jazz Festival exponentially expanded my perspective and musical

community. Before my performance, vocalists from across Japan showcased their talents for a panel of established musicians and composers, presenting diverse interpretations of what "jazz" can be. That is what moves me about jazz - there is no single way it should be played. I performed my own original songs in addition to well-known jazz standards. Although I am trained as a jazz pianist, reinventing the idiom with my own voice makes it relevant to me. My experience in Kobe confirmed to me that music is a universal language."

William Montgomery, President, Seattle Music Teachers Association

A big thank you to Dimitriou's Jazz Alley, Kobe Trade and Information Office, and Sankei Travel for their support of our jazz program, and the board and volunteers of SKSCA who donate their time. A special thank you goes to the City of Kobe, Shinkaichi Music Street, Art Farmer Company, Dentsu, and especially Yoshio and Yumi Imai, without whom none of this would have been realized.

Kobe Jazz Day at Jazz Alley

SKSCA was pleased to present the 8th annual Kobe Jazz Day at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley on October 15th featuring the 2007 Kobe Jazz Queen, **Miwa Wakabayashi**.

It was a magical evening, with Miwa charming the audience members with her songs and grace. As a special treat, she invited **Gail Pettis** to join her on stage to sing *Misty*. Ms. Pettis then sang one of Ms. Wakabayashi's favorite songs, *Black Coffee*. Gail was our Seattle Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist winner in 2006, so it was a pleasure to have her sing with us again.

While in Seattle, Miwa had the opportunity to sing with the **Bill Anschel Trio** at Hiroshi's on Eastlake as a guest of **Greg Williamson**, and at the Bellevue Hyatt's 0/8 Seafood Grill and Twisted Cork Wine Bar as a guest of **Gail Pettis**. The SKSCA's hope of creating a real exchange between jazz musicians in our area with those singers from Japan seems to be taking root! We couldn't be more pleased and grateful. We hope we will see many more interactions between musicians from both sides of the Pacific for many years.



Miwa and Gail Pettis sing an impromptu duet at the October 15th Jazz Concert. Photo credit: Shihou Sasaki/ The North American Post

<u>Seattle Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition</u>

Every year since 2000, the winner of the Kobe Jazz Vocalist QueenContest held in Kobe's Shinkaichi neighborhood, the birth-place of Japanese jazz, has visited Seattle to perform at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley. SKSCA has developed a reciprocal program now in its fourth year: an audition to send two female jazz vocalists from Seattle to perform in Kobe. This year's 4th annual Seattle Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition will be held on March 24, 2008, and is open to

female vocalists in the greater Seattle area.

Vocalists must submit application materials to SKSCA by February 6, 2008 (more details and the application will be posted by mid-December 2007). Finalists will be selected based on their applications and taped performances, and will perform in a live audition at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley on Monday, March 24th. Two vocalists will be selected to travel to Kobe, one high school

student and one adult, to be guest singers at the 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Queen Contest in Kobe in early May, 2009. Please mark your calendars to come hear these talented performers and support our unique exchange activity!

For more information, please contact Mari Carpenter at mmaruyama@laurasian.org or 206-619-1951.

May Celebration, continued from page 1

the Kobe Art Exhibit "Japan Envisions the West: 16th-19th Century Japanese Art", currently at the Seattle Art Mu-

The delegation planted a tree in the Seattle Forest of the Kobe Arboretum,

gifted the Kobe Airport two pieces by local artist Koryn Rolstad, and opened a 50th Photo Exhibition of Seattle photos, including photos by local architect Roger Williams. Some members of the group also attended the Kobe Queen Jazz Contest and heard local Seattle vocalists - and SKSCA jazz audition winners - Jennifer Hoyt and Emily **Meyer** perform.



Below: Breaking the sake barrel at the reception at Sorakuen Garden



Above: Group at the Courtesy Call with Mayor Yada



CORPORATE MEMBER PROFILE

Seattle Yacht Club A Partner in the Seattle-Kobe Relationship for over 25 Years



photo exhibit

In 1981, the Suma Yacht Club of Kobe and the Seattle Yacht Club forged a sister-club relationship based on their shared passion for boating and the challenges of sailboat racing. The centerpiece of this fellowship is the Takarabune Re-

gatta, a multi-day event featuring team racing in one-design sailboats. A number of social and cultural activities are conducted in conjunction with the competition.

The Seattle sailors narrowly won the 10th Takarabune Regatta, held in Kobe in 2005. The Suma sailors will be looking to bring the trophy home during the next competition, to be held in Seattle in the spring of 2008. The real prize, of course, is the camaraderie that develops between the participants.

The members of Seattle Yacht Club look forward to once again welcoming their good friends from Kobe to the waters of the Emerald City.

About Seattle Yacht Club

Since 1892, the Seattle Yacht Club has encouraged yachting and boating of all kinds and the development of the recreational marine advantages of the Pacific Northwest. Today, the club stages a variety of community activities ranging from youth sailing

classes to navigation and sailing competitions to the annual Opening Day parade of boats down the Montlake Cut. Through an associated charitable foundation, the club's members provide financial support for activities that promote and educate the public in the knowledge and skills of boating, with an emphasis on supporting youth engaged in amateur competition.



The Takarabune Regatta

The club's main facility at Portage Bay features moorage and dining as

well as meeting and banquet space. Members also enjoy the use of nine outstations with shore-side facilities and moorage while cruising in the United States and Canada.

The club's nearly 3000 members can be found aboard all manner of craft in the waters of Pacific Northwest and around the world.

New Membership/Membership Renewal/Volunteer Form December 2007

SKSCA c/o Stacey Jehlik, 3115 NE 65th St, Seattle, WA 98115

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