



SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 12, Issue 2

Celebrating 50 Years of a Vibrant Sister City Relationship

December 2008

Join us for the SKSCA Annual Holiday Gathering Sunday, December 21, 2008

We hope you will celebrate with us as we reflect over the past year and get ready to ring in 2009 at our annual potluck holiday party on **Sunday, December 21, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

We'll have the usual array of wonderful food, drinks and good company, and will have an opportunity to view of video of our teacher exchange program being honored at the Japan-America Society earlier this year with a Thomas Foley Award.

Please RSVP with how many people, and what potluck item you can bring (main dish, side dish, salad, dessert or beverage) to karinzaugg@yahoo.com or 206-465-8387.

We look forward to a fun, festive evening as we relax and celebrate together. See you there!

Date/Time: Sunday, Dec. 21, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Pt Edwards Club House, the lovely condo community room of members Frank and Mary Montgomery in Edmonds.

See Page 2 for directions to the Pt Edwards Club House



Jazz Happenings

On March 24, 2008, the Seattle Kobe Sister City Association (SKSCA) held its fourth annual Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition. The judges selected **Ms. Karen Shivers** and **Ms. Siobhan Bruggers** to represent Seattle at the 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Queen Contest on May 10-11, 2008 in Kobe, Japan.

Karen Shivers is a professional vocalist who has performed throughout the Puget Sound region. She is a self-taught jazz vocalist who has several CD recording available. You may have seen her perform at the Triple Door, Glass Museum, Pampas Room at El Gaucho's, or at Egan's Jam House in Ballard.

The 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Vocal Queen Concert at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley on September 15, 2008 featured **Chie Kobashi** (right). We had an appreciative crowd of over 200 people enjoy Chie's renditions of some old American classics and Japanese songs. The audience joined in and sang along with one of her tunes, and took home some small presents that Chie had brought from Kobe. Another wonderful evening of jazz cultural exchange.



DIMITRIOU'S
jazz alley
RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB
2033 6th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121-2526
Tel: (206) 441-9729
Fax: (206) 443-8247
www.jazzalley.com

(Continued on page 2)

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



Happy Winter!

I'm pleased to report that our Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association has received two awards this year for our hard work with our 50th anniversary celebrations last year. In April, we accepted the "Best Overall Program Award" from the City of Seattle for our program at the sister cities reception, and in July, Board member Tom Horsley and Sister City Coordinator Tsering Yuthok and I accepted a special "Judges Award" at the Sister Cities International Conference in Kansas City. Recognition for all of our hard work – Congratulations!

As always, we could not continue our exchanges and programs without your support. We thank you in advance for renewing and donating to SKSCA!

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.

I hope to see you at our annual holiday gathering on December 21st. If I don't see you, have a wonderful holiday season and blessed beginning of 2009.

Warmly,

Karin Zaugg Black



Tsering Yuthok, City of Seattle, and SKSCA board members **Tom Horsley** and **Karin Zaugg Black** accept the special judges award from Sister Cities International for our 50th anniversary program

(Continued from page 1)

A big thank you to all who helped make these events possible, especially coordinator **Mari Maruyama Carpenter** and a special *arigato* to sponsors **Dimitriou's Jazz Alley**, **Sankei Travel**, and supporter **Kobe Trade Information Office**. In Kobe, we thank the **City of Kobe**, **Shinkaichi Music Street**, **Art Farmer Company**, **Dentsu**, and especially **Yoshio and Yumi Imai**, organizers in Kobe!

Directions to Annual Holiday Gathering

Pt Edwards Club House
85 Pine St
Edmonds, WA 98020
Montgomery Home: 425-775-5337
Montgomery Cell 206-353-3132

From I-5 heading north

Take I-5 exit 177 (SR104 Edmonds/Lake Forest Park) and follow sign for SR104 West--Edmonds/ferry. Stay on SR104 for 4.1 miles to Pine St. (*Pine St is the cross street about 1 mile beyond the intersection of 100th W.*)

After crossing 100th W continue to follow the signs for SR104--ferry. Stay in right lane--do **NOT** follow the sign for downtown Edmonds. As you exit the underpass, look for the road sign that shows "Pine St" as the cross street. Turn left (west) on to Pine St and go up the hill to the Pt Edwards Club House--85 Pine St--first bldg on the right.

From I-5 heading south

Take I-5 exit 179 (220th St SW) and turn right (west) on to 220th St. Go approximately 5 miles on 220th SW until it ends at 100th St W. Turn left (south) on to 100th SW and continue approximately 1 1/4 miles to Edmonds Way (SR104). Turn right (west) on to Edmonds Way and follow the signs for SR104--ferry. Stay in right lane--do **NOT** follow the sign for downtown Edmonds. As you exit the underpass, look for the road sign that shows "Pine St" as the cross street. Turn left (west) on to Pine St and go up the hill to the Pt Edwards Club House--85 Pine St--first bldg on the right.

Save the Date

- **January 16** - 7:30 p.m. - Celebrate Asia at Seattle Symphony
- **January 30** - 8:00 p.m. - Kodo, Japanese Taiko at Meany Hall
- **March 8** - SKSCA General Membership Potluck
- **March 23** - Jazz Audition Event



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 on Kobe related events.

Fourth Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Winners Sing in Kobe at the 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Vocal Queen Contest

My Time in Kobe
By Karen Shivers

Seattle or Kobe - guess which city calls itself "Jazz City"? Nope, it's not Seattle. Kobe, Japan has linked its identity with an original American art form - Jazz. I really enjoyed my stay in Kobe, and took advantage of some of the many opportunities to sit in and sing at a few of its Jazz night clubs. I was really delighted with the audience's reception after each of my performances. Wherever I sang, people bought my CDs. Of the three dozen CDs I took with me, I returned home with only two left! To me, that really says something about how much they enjoyed this Seattle Jazz vocalist's singing style. Feeling appreciated is always a good thing, and that is what I will always remember about my visit to Kobe.

I went club hopping and sang at the Basin Street Jazz Club, the Great Blue Jazz Club and at the famous Sone Jazz Club, which features excellent international style Jazz musicians. These top-notch musicians made singing with them very easy and a real pleasure. After this trip, I now have a

greater understanding of what makes music a universal language.

As winners of Seattle's 4th Annual Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition, **Siobhan Brugger** (high school winner) and myself (adult winner) were invited to perform as guests at the 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Vocal Queen Contest. The Kobe Jazz Queen Contest took two days to complete. There were a total of 16 contestants, each singing two

songs in front of a live audience; immediately afterwards they endured a critique of their performance, given by five judges. As the Seattle's Jazz vocalist winners, Siobhan and I were placed at the honorary position of singing at the end of the contest auditions. The Japanese musicians were wonderful; they felt my every need during our performance together. If I wanted to swing hard, they were there to meet me. If blues was what I wanted; they were on it, showing they were capable of presenting whatever mood I could ask of them. After my performance, I received an appreciative standing ovation from the audience, but it was when I turned around and saw the bassist applauding and the pianist standing and bowing to me - that's when I almost cried. Jazz is very near and dear to my heart, it was created by 'my' people, and to feel the love and appreciation for this art form, from people who live nearly half a world away from where Jazz originated, really touched my soul.

Would I ever go back to Kobe and sing? Oh Yeah!



SKSCA Jazz Contest winners Karen Shivers and Siobhan Brugger in Kobe

Staying Connected with Kobe



Kobe Festival Representative **Kozue Hirabuki** traveled to Seattle to represent Kobe in this summer's SEAFAIR festivities. Here she is enjoying Seattle with **Governor Christine Gregoire**.



Longtime Seattle-Kobe sister city relations supporter **Mr. Kiyoyuki Kanemitsu** and his wife **Midori** visited Seattle this summer and enjoyed seeing friends **Bill Stafford, Jan Drago, Paige Miller**, and others who have participated in exchanges between our two cities over the years. Here the Kanemitsus pose with **Aki and Alex Parle** and their daughter **Yukino, Karin Zaugg Black** and **Stacey Jehlik** at a summer bbq. They also toured the Seattle Art Museum with **Yukiko Shirahara** during their stay.



This year's Greater Seattle Nikkei Community Queen, **Ms. Erina Tami Aoyama** paid a courtesy call to **Kenji Uematsu**, Director of the Kobe Trade Information Office in the spring. She'll be going to Kobe next year to represent Seattle in the Kobe Festival parade.



Spring Events

Seattle-Kobe Public School Teacher and Student Exchange Program honored at Japan-America Society Annual Meeting

The **Seattle-Kobe Public School Teacher and Student Exchange Program** was honored with the Third Annual Thomas S. Foley Award at the Japan-America Society's 2008 Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 10, 2008.

The Teacher and Student Exchange Program between Seattle and Kobe enriched our community for over 40 years. From 1958 to 1998, official student and teacher exchanges between the sister cities of Seattle and Kobe, Japan, allowed over 60 teachers and hundreds of students to have life changing experiences and contribute to their sister city.

Experiences from these reciprocal exchanges have enhanced the lives of not only the hundreds who participated, but countless other students and people who interacted with these citizen diplomats in both Seattle and Kobe. Many long lasting friendships continue to this day, as well as some tangible legacies in both our communities. For example, the many Japanese language programs in K-12 schools throughout Seattle, the strong English program at Fukiai High School in Kobe, and the Seattle Japanese School (Hoshuko) in Bellevue.

In honor of those who participated in these life enhancing programs and carried out the mission of our Society, the Japan-America Society of the State of Washington



JASSW Awards Ceremony

proudly presented the Third Annual Thomas S. Foley Award to this amazing, courageous, and forward thinking group of individuals.

Seafair Ambassadors Exchange

Seafair Board Chair **Donna Mikov** and Seafair Staff member **Rhonda Watt** escorted six Seafair Ambassadors, all students from Puget Sound area high schools to Kobe, Japan, from November 27 to December 3, 2007. As part of the 50th Anniversary of the Seattle and Kobe Sister Cities relationship, the Ambassadors participated in the "Pacific Rim Sister Cities High School Conference" with Tianjin, China, Brisbane, Australia and Kobe Japan.

As part of the conference, the students had a chance to interact with students from different countries, and created and signed a Declaration of Cooperation to reduce their carbon footprint and to encourage their schools to do the same. They met with the Mayor of Kobe, and along with their host families, visited Osaka and Kyoto as well as Arima Hot Springs. The Seafair Ambassadors hosted a group of high schools students from Kobe during the first two weeks of September, 2008, and we look forward to hearing about their adventures here in Seattle in our next newsletter.



Seafair Ambassadors in Japan: Ori Roundtree, Mycal Ford, Todd Lane, Doris Zhao, Annelise Ogaard, and Elizabeth Pierini.

The Foley Award was designed to recognize: the person(s) or company(ies) who has continuously contributed their efforts and energy toward promoting better understanding of both cultural and economic issues between the people of Washington State and Japan. The award is named in honor of a great American and Washington State native, the honorable Thomas S. Foley, who became Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives and Ambassador to Japan (1997 - 2001) and has worked continuously to improve and foster the relationship between Japan and the United States.

The speakers in the program were: **Don Lorentz**, Master of Ceremonies; **Shizuo Takeuchi**, a driving force in the program and first Principal of the Seattle Japanese School (Hoshuko) in Bellevue (from Japan); **Linda Jay**, first exchange teacher in 1958; **Ron Schafer**, exchange teacher in 1969; and **Hisa Kimura Leatherman**, exchange teacher in 1972. Over twenty of the teachers who participated in the program attended this event. SKSCA has created a video of the evening and will be showing it at our holiday party on December 21, 2008. SKSCA would like to thank **Don Lorentz** for all of his efforts to help preserve the history of this important exchange program and **Rebecca Retzler** at the **Japan-America Society** for all her work tracking down our teachers!

Seattle Yacht Club – Suma Yacht Club Hold 11th Takarabune Regatta April 27 – May 3, 2008

The relationship between the Seattle Yacht Club and Suma Yacht Club in Kobe developed in the 1980 – 1981 time-frame. It was forged by Seattle Yacht Club Past Commodore **Phil Johnson** and Suma Yacht Club Past Commodore **Hiromasa Akita**.



Toshiya Nishihata, Commodore, Suma Yacht Club visit with **Seattle City Councilmember Bruce Harrell**, our Kobe liaison on the Council

The first exchange took place in 1982. The exchanges were held every two years through 1990. Thereafter, they have been held every three years. The 2008 event is the 11th in the series. The two clubs take turns hosting the event. The centerpiece of the relationship is the **Takarabune Regatta**, a sailing match race between the two clubs. The “Takarabune” is a mythical Japanese lucky treasure ship. The main trophy for the regatta features a



Members of Suma Yacht Club visit Seattle

rendering of this vessel in the form of a beautiful metal sculpture. A number of cultural and social activities are also conducted along with the racing.

For the regatta, each club fields several sailing teams who compete in multiple races over the course of two or three days. The winning club is awarded the Takarabune trophy to display proudly until the next match. Previous

regattas were contested in J-24 sailboats, each with a crew of 4-5. The 2008 regatta will be contested in Mini 12 sailboats, which carry only a single person. The Mini-12 is scale model of the 12 Meter sailboat that was used in the America’s Cup racing some years ago. The Mini 12 was chosen after the Suma members enjoyed trying out a few boats during their visit to Seattle in 2002. One of the Suma club members subsequently purchased two of these boats to use for practice.

The Seattle Yacht Club won the 10th Takarabune Regatta, which took place in Kobe in 2005. In the early years, the racing was taken very seriously. Over time, the camaraderie that developed between the participants from the two clubs became the more important aspect of the event.



The Takarabuna Regatta gets underway on Seattle’s Lake Union

The scope of the social and cultural activities that complement the regatta has also grown considerably since 1982. But be assured that each club still wants to win the trophy!

The 11th Takarabune Regatta was held April 28 – 30, 2008 on Lake Union, with the Center for Wooden Boats serving as the shoreside venue, and included various social and sightseeing activities in addition to the regatta. The Suma Yacht Club members also participated in the Seattle Yacht Club’s grand Opening Day of boating season celebration, held on the first Saturday in May.

SKSCA was pleased to support this exchange as the Yacht Club prepared to host their Kobe friends, and arranged for our jazz audition winner **Gail Pettis** to perform at one of their evening functions. Congratulations to **Mike Massa** and his entire yacht club crew of volunteers for a job well done! We’re pleased to announce that Seattle won the trophy this time!



The Takarabune trophy



S u m m e r

E v e n t s



Cultural Exchange through the Mountaineers Club

The long history of American-Japanese joint mountain expeditions between Kobe and the Mountaineers of Seattle was first established with a joint expedition to the Wrangell Alaskan mountain range in 1967. It was one of the last remaining unclimbed Alaskan mountains; and the challenge to tackle the 4,402 meter high, unnamed mountain



Ed Bolton and Kobe hikers enjoy their summer visit. Summer Outing 2008 members from Kobe were: **Kimio Fujimura, Kimiyo Fujimura, Tamie Kawabata, Fumiko Kochi, Mieko Maeno, Miwako Morita, Noburu Morikawa, Sizue Nakaoka, Ikichi Nakamura, Sachiko Nakamura** and **Akiko Tamura**.

was met by 15 Americans and 16 Japanese climbers. The expedition was dispatched as the commemoration of the 100 year anniversary of both the opening of Kobe's port and the Hyogo Prefecture for foreign residency, as well as the 10th year anniversary of the Seattle-Kobe Sister City relationship. Crossing the respective country borders of the members, their friendship and collaboration allowed them to admirably succeed in their aspirations and climb the untrodden peak safely. In honor of this successful friendly collaboration

between the sister cities, the mountain was named "Mt. Kobe".

Afterwards the joint expeditions ceased until there was a renewed collaboration to climb the highest peak of the Canadian Rockies, Mt. Robinson (3953 meters) in August 1987 as the 20th year anniversary of the Mt. Kobe climb, and the 30th year anniversary of the sister city relationship. Unfortunately, inclement weather prevented the climbers from reaching the summit.

This inspired the climbers to attempt to try the Washington Cascade mountain range as the 33rd year anniversary of the sister cities. Then in July 1996, as the 40th year anniversary of the Seattle-Kobe sister cities collaboration, the climbers returned to Washington to climb as well as join in for the 40th anniversary celebrations and continued to return for subsequent years. In June 1999, the climbers climbed the mountains of Oregon; in the June of 2004, they climbed the western Canadian mountains.

On July 11, 2008, Mayor Yada of Kobe sent a letter that was delivered by the Kobe members at their reunion welcome party, which celebrated their joint efforts and was the first time they had all seen each other in four years. This year, the eleven climbers tackled the mountains of Washington, Montana, and Idaho in a three car, 1,500 mile journey. On July 23, 2008 the climbers threw a farewell party that was attended by countless Mountaineers Seattle members. The spirit of the collaboration between the Mountaineers of Seattle and Kobe continues on strongly.

Washington-Hyogo Teachers' Exchange Program 2008

From June 23, 2008 to July 13, 2008 the second part of the HBCC's biannual Washington-Hyogo teachers exchange program was held in conjunction with the Freeman Foundation and the University of Washington East Asia Resource Center. A group of 14 teachers from all over the State of Washington (including four from Seattle) teaching at all grade levels and disciplines were taken on a three-week program to travel around Hyogo prefecture and Japan. The aim of the program was to learn about Japan, its history, culture, and customs, and then take what they learned and apply it in their classrooms back in Washington so that they could teach students more effectively about Japan and Asia.

The majority of the trip was spent in Kobe, doing school visits in Nishinomiya and Himeji, as well as experiencing lectures and cultural activities in Tanba and Awaji. Through cooperation with the Hyogo International Association the group also visited the Hyogo prefectural offices and the Hyogo regional disaster reduction and human innovation center. The group then toured other sites includ-

ing the peace museum of Hiroshima, Mt. Koya in Wakayama, the Iga city board of Education and Ninja museum in Mie, Kyoto, and Tokyo.



Program participants visit a Japanese classroom

During their stay in Japan, the Washington group was able to meet up with the group from Hyogo that visited in March, enjoying a one night home stay to bring both sides of the program together. The group will meet again in September to discuss how the program has benefited them and how they will use what they have learned in the future.

For more information about this bi-annual teacher exchange, contact John Charlton at the Hyogo Business & Cultural Center at john@hyogobcc.org or 206-728-0610.

Dimitriou's Jazz Alley

Celebrating its 29th year, Dimitriou's Jazz Alley is the third-longest-running jazz restaurant & nightclub in the country, after Blues Alley in Washington D.C. and The Village Vanguard in New York. Jazz Alley has earned its reputation as the West Coast's premier jazz club by bringing the greatest names in jazz, blues, soul, funk, r&b, latin, and world music to Seattle for nearly three decades. Every



week the club hosts world-renowned artists such as Taj Mahal, Nancy Wilson, Pat Metheny, Dr. John, Eartha Kitt, and Tower of Power. Past giants have left their mark as

well, including Dizzy Gillespie, Oscar Peterson, Stan Getz, Betty Carter, Ray Brown, and Lionel Hampton.

Equally appealing to both the curious initiate and the die-hard aficionado, Jazz Alley offers an intimate & comfortable setting for dinner and a show. Our enticing menu of classic Northwest cuisine features fresh seafood and an extensive selection of wines and spirits. Located in the heart of downtown Seattle, the club is a short walk or cab ride from

all the city's major hotels. We also offer free parking across from our restaurant entrance, a hot commodity in any city these days!

Jazz Alley's unique and functional space is too versatile only to be used at night! By day, it's the perfect meeting place for conventions, private luncheons, parties and seminars. With stylish ambiance, extensive banquet menus, and flexible seating for up to 350, Jazz Alley is a beacon of sophistication in Seattle's live music scene.



For reservations and more information, please call us at (206) 441-9729 or visit Jazz Alley online at:

www.jazzalley.com

CORPORATE MEMBER PROFILE

Pyramid Communications

Pyramid Communications is a full-service strategic communications and public affairs firm that provides expertise to foundations, nonprofits and the public sector to create a more equitable, sustainable and thoughtful world.



With offices in Seattle and Portland and a staff of over 40 writers, filmmakers, graphic designers, web developers, special events managers, campaigners, researchers and strategists, Pyramid works with clients to advance policy, public awareness and environmental change around issues including health and health care, civil rights, education and the environment.

Pyramid offers a complete range of services, from strategic planning, opinion research and media relations to creative services such as branding, website and materials development.

Some recent highlights from Pyramid's Seattle office:

- **Pike Place Market Centennial Campaign and Concert**, Pyramid coordinated all aspects of the cultural icon's centennial campaign, and produced a 4-hour concert attended by over 10,000 people.
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ) Active Living Network, 1998-present**: Pyramid has led RWJ's Active Living Network for the last eight years, seeking to reverse the alarming trend of childhood obesity in the U.S.
- **Social Venture Partners (SVP) Rebranding**, after conducting a full communications assessment for the nonprofit, member-based philanthropy, Pyramid was retained to re-brand SVP to solidify its unique position.

Pyramid recently opened offices in Portland, Oregon where the firm is working with clients in education, health and health care and conservation.

Visit www.pyramidcommunications.com for more information.

New Membership/Membership Renewal/Volunteer Form December 2008

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Country _____ Postal Code _____
Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

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 and Major Gift Levels

Supporter: \$125-\$249 Patron: \$250-\$499 Benefactor: \$500-\$999 Founder: \$1,000-plus

_____ 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:

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



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