



JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT

PO Box 252, Plainville, CT 06062-0252 USA
E-Mail info@JapanSocietyCT.org

FAX/Phone (860) 371-3108
Web: <http://www.JapanSocietyCT.org>



Summer Newsletter 2004

Honorary Consul General of Japan in Connecticut to step down.

We have received news from Consulate General of Japan in Boston that Mr. Louis J. Auletta Sr. has stepped down from his post as of June 30, 2004. Consulate's office is reviewing qualifying individual for new Honorary Consulate General of Japan in Connecticut. As soon as we receive information, we will let you know.

We will miss Lou Arleta's activities. Lou is going relaxing his life at shoreline. We hope Lou and his family to be healthy. We wish Lou the enjoyable retirement.

Nihongo Night is back!

Nihongo Night is a social gathering aim to enhance or practice your Japanese speaking skills. It is a perfect place to keep up with your Japanese speaking skills. It is good place for networking as well. As long as you are willing to try to speak Japanese, you are qualified to attend. You only need to pay your meal plus tips. You do not have to be the Society members. But we request you to join us.

Date: Tuesday, July 20, 2004

Time: 6:30 PM - ?

Place: Sapporo Japanese Restaurant
1295 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Tel: 860-721-8477

Directions will be posted on our Website.

For any questions, please contact

Ms. Masako McDonald

(H) 860-747-4281 (W) 860-828-0333 Ext 135

or send Email to info@JapanSocietyCT.org

Short Walk at Gillette Castle State Park and Visit Osaki's Grave

The park is open from 8 am to sunset but the Castle is open from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Memorial Day Weekend through Columbus Day. Their staff are available to assist with questions about the Castle interior and its history. Food Concessions, Picnic Shelter, and Visitor Center are open.

Date: Saturday, August 7

Time: 11:00 AM

Where: Upper parking lot (far right section facing the exit)

Lunch: Bring your own lunch and beverage unless
You are planning to buy at the food concessions.

Raining: If it is not heavy, I will be at the Picnic Shelter.
If it is raining heavy, then we will try on Sunday.

Contact: Taka Yoneda

Mail: Yoneda@JapanSocietyCT.org

Home 860-747-6579

Cell 860-205-8637 (Best method to reach me)

After the lunch we will take a short walk. During the walk we will walk to the Gillette's boathouse where Osaki used to live. Then we will visit his Grave. You will surprise what you will find at the cemetery. You will see people's effort.

If you cannot walk, don't worry. We will have lunch at the picnic shelter (behind of the food concessions) anyway. You can drive to the boathouse and cemetery.

Please take a look at Gillette Castle and Osaki's story at our website (it will be published before the picnic.)

Black Ship Festival

July 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th - Newport, RI

Interested parties should contact

Ms. Masako McDonald

(H) 860-747-4281 (W) 860-828-0333 Ext 135

The Black Ships Festival commemorates the historic achievements of Commodore Matthew C. Perry, USN, of Newport, Rhode Island. The "Black Ships," or "Kurofune," refers to the Japanese term for foreign ships which, with one exception, were excluded from Japan for two hundred years until 1854. Commodore Perry negotiated the Treaty of Kanagawa in 1854, the first treaty between the United States and Japan, thus ending two centuries of Japanese isolationism. This year the Black Ships Festival celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the signing of the treaty, which brought the two countries together as trading partners.

The Black Ships Festivals in Newport and in its Japanese Sister City, Shimoda, commemorate this historic event with a celebration of friendship.

The Festival is presented by The Japan-America Society Black Ships Festival of Rhode Island, Inc., a non-profit, non-partisan organization. For further information, contact The Japan-America Society of Rhode Island, 28 Pelham Street, Newport, RI 02840, call (401) 846-2720 or visit at <http://BlackShipsFestival.com>.



Taiko Performance

Saturday, October 2, 2004 4:00-6:00pm

Central Connecticut State University

Cosponsor by CCSU and JASC.

Detailed information will be announced by the beginning of September. If you or your company can sponsor this event, please let us know.

Contact: Taka Yoneda

Email: Yoneda@JapanSocietyCT.org

Home 860-747-6579

Cell 860-205-8637 (Best method to reach me)

Fall Bus Trip

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Detailed information will be announced by the middle of October. It is open to public but 2004 membership dues paid member will take the priority.

Help Wanted

We are accepting to place help wanted or other advertisement on our Newsletter and website. Please send Email to info@JapanSocietyCT.org for detailed information and fees.

Japanese speaking customer service bookkeeper position

A five million dollar small export/import trading company in the area of laser printer cartridge components seeks personnel with detail oriented organization skill. Foreign language preferably Japanese speaking ability is a major plus. Communication with Japanese vendor required.

This position will report initially to the president of the company, soon then to the sales director.

May require some chores including sample picking and packaging, and shipments, and the follow up of each status for sales personnel.

Contact: Hiro Hara

International Component Advantage, Inc.

102-R Filley Street, Unit H

Bloomfield Connecticut 06002-1853

USA

Tel: 860-242-5500

Fax: 860 286-9994

Cell: 860-794-1611

web: www.chargeroller.com

Executive Committee Meeting

It is open to everyone. Please help us to make the society better and attractive one.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 19th at 6:30 p.m. at Sapporo Restaurant in Wethersfield

Please contact any one,

Atsuko Balon - Annbalon@cox.net

860-644-1855

Amy Barnes - amy_c_barnes@hotmail.com

Masako McDonald - 860-747-4281

Regina Salvio - salvior@glastonburyus.org

860-223-5556

Robert Schulman - robertosensei@yahoo.com

860-243-0738

Taka Yoneda - Yoneda@JapanSocietyCT.org

860-747-6579

Manjiro Nakahama (John Manjiro)

**New Exhibitions: PACIFIC ENCOUNTERS:
Yankee Whalers, Manjiro, and the Opening of Japan**
<http://www.whalingmuseum.org/about/pacific.html>

Beginning Friday, April 16, 2004, the New Bedford Whaling Museum will present Pacific Encounters: Yankee Whalers, Manjiro, and the Opening of Japan, an exhibition examining the influential legacy of the whaling industry on the opening of diplomatic relations and cultural exchange between Japan and Western nations. The exhibition, which includes more than 50 artifacts, uses the life of John Manjiro—the first Japanese person to live and work in the United States—as a focal point to present the intriguing narrative of contact between whalers and the Japanese at a time when such outside influence was forbidden in Japan. Manjiro, rescued at sea by a New Bedford whaling ship, spent 10 years studying and working in the New Bedford region and on two American whaling voyages, and ultimately played a role in the signing of the 1854 treaty that opened Japan.

Manjiro Festival

Held biennially in October - Millicent Library
Sister City Committee, 45 Center St., Fairhaven, MA 02719
508-992-5342

This festival celebrates the legacy of John Manjiro (a.k.a. Manjiro Nakahama), a young Japanese boy rescued by Whaling Captain William Whitfield (c. 1842) from an island in the Pacific. Capt. Whitfield brought the boy to Fairhaven and raised him as his own son until his return to Japan. Later in life, John Manjiro was instrumental in opening up Japanese society to western trade.

The relationship led to the establishment of a sister-city arrangement that New Bedford and Fairhaven have with Tosashimizu, Japan. The festival features a Japanese tea ceremony, origami, sushi, and other displays of Japanese culture.

Kabuki at the Warner Theater

In celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the signing of the US-Japan Treaty of Peace and Amity, one of Japan's most important traditional performing arts is coming to American audiences.

The world renowned kabuki actor Nakamura Kankuro and members of his troupe will be performing one night only at the Warner Theatre. The performance will feature two pieces, "Bo-shibari" and "Renjishi." Both are dances adapted from the original kyogen version and offer stories steeped in Japanese tradition, told with the magnificent costumes, scenery and drama that are unique to kabuki.

For more information, visit www.embjapan.org/kabuki.htm or contact the Japan-America Society at (202) 833-2210.

Wednesday, July 28 @ 7:00 PM

11th Annual "Bon-Odori"

Japanese Folk Dance Festival with Taiko Drumming Performances sponsored by The Japan Society of Fairfield County, Inc. (Please check JASC website for the info)

Sunday July 17, 2004 2 - 4 pm
at Ridgefield's "Spirit Festival" from 11 am - 4 pm
Ballard Park, Mail Street (Rout 35), Ridgefield

Thrilling performance by Hiro Kurashima's Taiko Masala Drummers. Participatory Japanese Folk Dancing led by Mieko Minatani Mataro Dolls on display at Japan Society booth.

For information call 203-431-0697 or 203-226-6454
Event canceled in case of rain

PS:

Thanks very much for the announcement! I will be delighted to see and greet any members of the Japan Society of Connecticut who may come down for our Obon in Ridgefield. Please just let them say hello.

Also, they are welcome to join us for an early dinner, "Dutch Treat," at Arigato's in Wilton, from 5 to 5:30 or so (roughly, when I guess we will get there) after the Obon celebration.

Best wishes,
Nina Streitfeld
Email NinaStreit@cs.com
203-226-6454

Kimono History

<http://www.japanesekimono.com/>

The kimono has had a long history in Japan and the kimono has changed over time to reflect the society and culture of that period.

During the Heian period 794-1185, the custom of elaborate layers of colored kimono robes became popular with Japanese women. Jun-hitoe, twelve unlined robes were frequently worn with the sleeve edges and collars showing the shades of each kimono. Persons of the royal court sometimes wore up to sixteen kimono layers. During the Kamakura period of 1185-1133 with the rising influence of the military class and warriors, people had no patience or need for elaborate kimono. Practicality prevailed and during this period the kosode meaning small sleeve was introduced into the kimono.

In 1615, military leader Tokugawa moved the capital of Japan from Kyoto, where the emperor resided to Edo, the present day Tokyo. Confucianism was adopted and hierarchy became the guiding principle where citizens were ranked based on their class. During the Edo period, people began to define their status by their kimono clothing. During this time the greatest artistic accomplishments were made with the kimono.

After 1853, the US Navy sailed to Tokyo and the beginning of Japan's commercial industry was opened to the Western world. Although Japanese people continued to wear the kimono for another hundred years, the beginning of the end of this practice was near.

During the Meiji period of 1868-1912, women began working outside their homes and required different clothing to accommodate their work. The Japanese people developed techniques to compete with the machine woven cloth available from the West. Cloth from other parts of the world were bought to make the kimono and the clothing. During the Taisho period of 1912-1926, Tokyo suffered a devastating earthquake which leveled most of the homes. Many of the old kimono were lost at this time.

During the Showa period 1926-1989, the Japanese government curtailed silk production by taxing it to support the military buildup. Kimono designs became less complex and material was conserved. After World War II, as Japan's economy gradually recovered, kimono became even more affordable and were produced in greater quantities. Europe and America fashion ideas affected the kimono designs and motifs, but their shape remained the same. Kimono and obi colors changed with the season and with the age and status of the wearer.

Techie's note

GOOGLE, the Internet search engine derives its name from the word "googol" meaning 10^{100} or 1 followed by 100 zeros has been causing quite a stir lately. Google can do more than just find a web site for you, Google can....

- Calculate – enter numbers with an operator and an equal sign and click "Google Search." For example, to multiply by numbers, enter **231*34=** in the search box and Google will display the product.
- Convert –convert units of one measure into another. For example, to convert square feet into acres, type **17,000sq ft in acres** into the search box and click "Google Search." Google will display **17000 (sq feet) = 0.390266299 acres.**
- Quote stock prices – enter the ticker symbol for a stock or mutual fund in the search box and Google will return a link for a quote on the stock price. For example, enter **KNM** into the search box, click "Google Search" and a link for the price will display as [Stock quotes for KNM](#)
- Flight Information – track the progress of a domestic flight. Enter the airline and the flight number into the search box. I.e. delta 2584, and Google will return a link to current flight information.
- Define words – learn the definition of a word quickly while you're online. Type **define:** then the word, Example: **define: solution:**then click the "Google Search". It will display [Definitions of solution on the Web](#)

Please assist me!

I have joined Prudential Connecticut Realty in this early summer. The Prudential Connecticut Realty is the #1 real estate company in Connecticut. My Real Estate License enables me to represent sellers and buyers of residential and commercial property in Connecticut. As a member of National Association of Realtors and a member of Prudential Connecticut Realty, I can find suitable Real Estate professionals in any state in the US and some in International location for you.

Please visit my website at <http://Tyoneda.PrudentialCT.com> today to see every home listed for sale in Connecticut plus a special posting of the very newest homes to come on the market in the Hot New Listing feature.


You can also access detailed community profiles, information on buying and selling real estate and register to receive e-mail updates on all new homes, price changes and Prudential Connecticut Realty Open House events for homes that meet your personal criteria!

If you know anyone who is thinking to sell or buying real estate, please let me know. Or if you are considering selling, or if would you like information on what your home is worth in today's market, give me a call.

Taka Yoneda

Prudential Connecticut Realty
Sales Executive - REALTOR®
Office 860-620-5907 Ext. 304
Direct 860-747-0408
Cell 860-205-8637
Email Tyoneda@PrudentialCT.com
Web <http://Tyoneda.PrudentialCT.com>

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