

President's Message Werner Willoughby



Over the last two months many individuals and groups in Torrance and Kashiwa have worked together, establishing friendships, and absorbing each other's culture. On behalf of TSCA, many thanks to liaison **Akiko Nobusawa** and Torrance Committee (in Kashiwa) Chairperson **Hisataka**

Takikawa for their assistance in supporting these goals. A debt of gratitude to the many members of the Torrance Committee and people of Kashiwa, especially their host families that gave the Torrance students and their adult leader such a memorable experience.

Thanks to **Steven Ihde**, the TSCA August Activities Committee chair, and his committee of **Cindy Scotto, Sindy Kang, Kathi Matsubara, Lori Chong Eurich, Jen Hirashiki, Donna Dunlap, Butch Ihde** and myself, who helped plan this year's activities.

Many thanks to the wonderful translators who were available at so many activities: **Keiko Clark, Reiko Higa, Yuki Tsujii, Jen Hirashiki, Yoko Mendleson, Akiko** and **Yuko Wilson**. We appreciate the generous donation of your time and expertise in facilitating communication.

Arigato gozaimasu to the activity leaders and TSCA members who helped make contacts and arrangements with various venues, leading the tours and/or providing the support materials for the many successful

experiences: **Steven Ihde, Butch Ihde, Donna Dunlap, Cindy Scotto, Jen Hirashiki, Sindy Kang, Amie Komae, Cheryl and Alyssa Yamauchi, Stephanie Ewing Warner and Steve Warner, Lori Chong Eurich, Nikola Stojcic, Chelsea Keys, Debbie Simpson Hayes, Janet Payne, myself, and Linda Canada** (Past President of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego and West High graduate). Many thanks to **Steven and Cara Ihde** for leading the trip to San Diego.

Thanks also to the City of Torrance Transit Department, Supervisor **Rhonda**, and the many excellent drivers for transporting us throughout Torrance and the greater Los Angeles area. Behind the scenes the Torrance City personnel - **Eve Rappoport, Debbie Collins, Michael Field** and **Zulma Gent** for expediting our needs with Central Services, the Mayor's Office and our City Council Members.

Kudos to **Summer Nagano Gray** and **Lori Chong Eurich** for their time, planning and commitment to so many details, from the program, seating, finances, and arrangements with the caterer for the last event of the summer, our Sayonara Banquet. Assisting Summer and Lori were; **Donna Dunlap, Butch Ihde, Hazel Taniguchi, Sherwin and Marilyn Rubin, Cheryl and Alyssa Yamauchi, Reiko Higa, Keiko Clark, Toni Sargent, Wendy Ito, Rae Ann Carr, Regan Galinato, and Amie Komae**. What a showcase for emotions, goodwill and love for the summer and year. *(Continued)*

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President's Message

(Continued)

SEPTEMBER 9

TSCA Association Meeting (7-9 pm)
City Hall West Annex Commission Room

SEPTEMBER

Ballots mailed for Board of Directors election

OCTOBER 14

TSCA Association Meeting (7-9 pm)
City Hall West Annex Commission Room

OCTOBER

Ballots tallied for Board of Directors election

NOVEMBER 12

TSCA Association Meeting (7-9 pm)
City Hall West Annex Commission Room

DECEMBER

No Association Meeting

DECEMBER 9

2020 Budget Planning Meeting (7 pm)
City Hall West Annex Commission Room

Torrance Sister City Association

PRESIDENT

Werner Willoughby

VICE PRESIDENT

Jen Hirashiki

SECRETARY

Gail Roulette

TREASURER

Ron Reeve

Newsletter Editor

Rae Ann Carr

Newsletter Distribution

Donna Dunlap

Comments or submissions?

Please send an email to
tscanewsletter@gmail.com

Thank you to the host families in Torrance and Kashiwa. TSCA is very grateful to you for opening your homes, providing meals, making that special effort to expose the guests to many venues and experiences that supplemented and enhanced our activities, and most importantly, your personal interactions and conversations with your guests.

Also, very important was the organization and selection of the host families which contributes greatly to the successful interaction the guests experience. This process involved compiling the data about each guest and each host family and then pairing them by taking into account the guests' interests, gender, possible health concerns, pets, occupations and ages of the family members. Many thanks to **Cheryl Yamauchi** for assuming the challenge of coordinating the home stays. Thank you very much Cheryl!!

Thank you to treasurer **Ron Reeve** for keeping track of our finances, writing and cashing checks, providing monies to the activity leaders, and making reimbursements. I appreciate your support, Ron!

As expressed by the emails from the Kashiwa and Torrance parents, committee members and friends of TSCA, the daily posting of photos of the activities were enjoyed by all, usually on the same day... thanks for the quick turnaround **Steven**. On behalf of all, thank you to the many photographers for the most extensive activity coverage ever.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the groups, venues, and the individuals, including those that I inadvertently did not mention, for their time, effort and support to make this year's August activities a success! ☘

Membership News

Alyssa Yamauchi, Membership Chairperson

Pay your membership dues electronically with Paypal (<http://www.torrancesistercity.org/join.html>). See the 2019 Membership Application for check writing and mailing instructions.

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

Individual (\$20/year)

Hayata, Nancy

GARAGE SALE APPRECIATION

The Annual TSCA Garage Sale was held on June 8, 2019. Many items were sold, many smiles were exchanged, and the proceeds of the sale benefitted the student exchange program. Special thanks to all who shopped, volunteered, and/or donated merchandise for sale, including: **Yuko Wilson, Mandy Staal, Edward Fu, David Contreras, Lori Eurich, Jen Hirashiki, Shirley Tanaka, Werner Willoughby, Karen Wheeler, and Anna Wheeler.** ☘

Torrance Delegates in Japan

For three weeks in July, TSCA's seven student delegates enjoyed their "trip of a lifetime" as part of the Kashiwa-Torrance Sister City student cultural exchange program. Along with their 2019 Adult Leader **Jessica Haugen**, the students — **Chiara Aiello**, **David Contreras**, **Edward Fu**, **Lily Newhart**, **Olivia Penland**, **Mandy Staal**, and **Yuko Wilson** — lived with two different Japanese host families and had a chance to meet and bond with the Kashiwa delegates. Torrance delegates were introduced to many new cultural experiences, and enjoyed a whirlwind of activities, such as performing the Japanese tea ceremony, making soba noodles, visiting schools and a fire station, learning karate and Japanese calligraphy, playing taiko and the koto, and taking trips to Hiroshima, Kyoto, and Tokyo. ☘



Meet the Families at Kashiwa City Hall



Torrance Delegates Meet Mayor Akiyama



Kashiwa Municipal High School



Judo at Kashiwa Municipal High School



Fuse-Benten Temple



Welcome Reception



Kashiwa-no-ha Open Innovation Lab



Student Activity Day



Nippon Sports Science University Kashiwa High School



Karate at Nippon Sports Science University H.S.



Soba Making



Kashiwa Lions Club



Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion) in Kyoto



Shodo (Japanese Calligraphy)



Taiko



Disney Sea



Disney Sea



Nikko Tour



Making Fake Food at Kappabashi



Nikko Tour

Scenes from Kashiwa

Kashiwa Nishi Fire Station



Kashiwa Nishi Fire Station



Koto Performance



Kashiwa Matsuri



Kashiwa Matsuri



Kashiwa Matsuri



Sayonara Banquet

Scenes from Kashiwa

Something to Look Forward To

Alison Abraham



This summer, I celebrated my second anniversary of moving to Japan! A somewhat bittersweet occasion - I'm enjoying every moment and can't wait to share them all with my family and friends back home but it's almost as if I'm now more painfully aware of the clock ticking down to the day I have to leave Ichikashi. One of the first things

my senpai Amie said to me when I first moved to Kashiwa was "the days are long but the years are short." Now more than ever, I get that. So, here are a handful of the things I want to treasure in the time I have left.

One of my highlights this summer has been discovering which restaurants have the best tacos this side of the Pacific. Friends in Tokyo have no shortage of recommendations, so I hope this will come in handy to anyone from SoCal who's feeling a little homesick.

In Ginza, there's the tried and true *Chronic Tacos*, which funny enough, says "reservations required" if you check the Google Maps listing. A little more authentic but with smaller serving sizes, I recommend the enchiladas at *Bokkokukaitentori* in Shibuya. Somewhat of a rarity in Japan, *Chiles* in Harajuku has free soft drink refills in addition to their three-taco combo. Naka-Meguro's *Junkadelic* has the big serving sizes I'm more acquainted with, but La Jolla, aptly named, takes the cake for authenticity. Honorable mention goes to *Las Dos Caras*, also in Harajuku, for letting you pick your own avocado and then making the guac right in front of you!



Taco Tuesdays



South Korea

The best part is that all these restaurants are only a couple minutes away from their respective stations. Being able to have this kind of food once in a while really helps stave off homesickness with a little bit of familiarity.

In addition to my Taco Tuesdays, I spent time in South Korea with my best friend, who'd flown in from LAX. I hadn't realized how much I missed spicy food! And just how much my spice tolerance has gone down since moving to Japan. Still as hot as Japan, I was at least able to escape some of the humidity for which Japanese summers are well-known.

Even through summer break, Ichikashi was still brimming with life - teachers preparing for the next term and students taking part in club activities. Every day, the brass band students filled the halls with their music and from the English department, you could sometimes hear the sounds of the tennis club's rackets making contact with their targets.

From reuniting with my best friend in Korea, to sharing a kanpai with hip hop group m.flo's Verbal and model Kiko Mizuhara, what is technically my last summer in Kashiwa winds down to the sound of the season's last cicadas. September has barely begun and the summer sunshine I'd grown accustomed to has already been traded for gray and cloudy skies. But, one of the best things about Japan is that there is something to look forward to for every season. ☘

Member Information

Except for the Lifetime Membership*
all dues are in effect from
January 1 to
December 31

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

- My membership is: New Renewal
- TSCA Directory Update:
- New Address New Telephone Number New Email Address
- I do not want to be listed in the TSCA Directory
- TSCA Activities:
- I am interested in participating in TSCA activities

Mail your check and this form to:

Torrance Sister City Association
c/o Community Services Department
3031 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$20
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting	\$75+
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$125+
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$200+
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership*	\$2,000+

Enclosed is a donation to
TSCA (in addition to \$ _____
annual dues)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make your **check** payable to **TSCA**

TSCA meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Civic Center West
Annex
Commission Room 7-9 pm
(No meetings in August or December)

Payments are also accepted via Paypal
<http://www.torrancesistercity.org/join.html>

*If you have
any questions
about your membership,
please email Alyssa Yamauchi at
tscamembership@gmail.com*

www.torrancesistercity.org



**Torrance Sister City
Association**

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