

Torrance Sister City Newsletter



Torrance, California



Torrance Sister City Association



Kashiwa, Japan

<http://torrancesistercity.org/>

Newsletter Editor: Mona Wong

June 2013

Newsletter Mailing: Steven Ihde

President's Message

By Werner Willoughby

This issue is focused on August Activities in anticipation of our visiting Kashiwa students.

Included in this issue are (1) order and participation form, (2) emergency consent form and (3) general calendar. Please note that the order/participation and emergency forms should be mailed to the West Annex by Fri. July 5th. Some of the activities are limited to just the Kashiwa or Kashiwa and Torrance students or a limited number of participants due to location and/or capacity of our host's facilities or transportation. For example, the Dodger game sold out last year as we maxed out at 38 passengers for a Torrance city bus, and the Hollywood Bowl trip sold 45-50 tickets, as TSCA took up one complete bus leaving Wilson Park's park-and-ride facilities, and the Torrance Bakery and Oriental Motor has room for only the Kashiwa students.

Please consider hosting a Kashiwa student during August. This is a great opportunity to gain a friend from Japan, extend your hospitality, and showcase what a typical American/Torrance family is all about. Michelle Heredia will be coordinating the host families this year. Please see the application in this issue. Michelle has hosted many times and is very knowledgeable about the August Activities having been a member of that committee for three years. Thank you Michelle for chairing the committee and coordinating this very important facet of our exchange program. Please return your completed application as soon as possible, thank you.

At the last Association meeting on May 13th the Board voted to present a donation to the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute as a thank you for the use of four of their booths at Bunka-Sai to satisfy the new L. A. County Health Department regulations. They also supported us by running an ad to publicize Bunka-Sai in their April newsletter, so we are returning the favor for their carnival this month.

TSCA would like to congratulate the graduates of 2013 and their families. We wish you the very best in your future endeavors.



Award For Toni Sargent

by Hazel Taniguchi

On May 14, 2013, Toni Sargent was one of three Torrance residents who received the "Older American" award from the Commission on Aging and the City Council.

Toni and her husband Dave have been longtime members of TSCA. They help at Bunka-Sai each year — Toni in the gift booth and Dave at the tickets/big raffle booth. They have also gone on two anniversary trips to Kashiwa: the 20th and the 40th.

Toni has been a very active volunteer in Torrance for many years with organizations such as:

- * PTA
- * YMCA
- * The South Bay Volunteer Center
- * The Salvation Army Torrance Corps
- * The Torrance Historical Society
- * Torrance Memorial Medical Center
- * The Riviera Garden Club
- * American Cancer Society
- * American Heart Association
- * Torrance Farmers Market
- * The Suicide Prevention Center, leading bereavement groups and providing education on suicide prevention.
- * The City of Torrance Library Commission, currently the chairperson

Toni has been recognized with many awards for her volunteer work, and she continues to serve where needed.

Toni enjoys traveling, reading, theater, playing bridge, and walking on the beach when time allows.

Congratulations,
Toni Sargent!



From L to R Councilwoman Susan Rhilinger, Councilman Tom Brewer, Mayor Frank Scotto, Toni Sargent, Councilman Gene Barnett, and Councilman Bill Sutherland

TSCA Couples Celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversaries



Gail, Ray, Courys, Gina, July 2002 Toledo, Ohio -SCI Conf.

Two members of the TSCA Historical Committee celebrate their 60 years together this summer: George and Amy Coury on June 6, and Ray and Gail Roulette on July 18.

Amy's family joined TSCA in 1976 and that year hosted an exchange student from Kashiwa. By 1980 Amy was fully active and was selected to be the adult leader of the Torrance Student Exchange group. The Coury family

hosted adult leaders several times in the 1980s.

In addition to serving as TSCA Vice President, Amy was one of the original members of the Historical Committee and has been chairman since its inception in 1996.

Amy and the Roulettes have represented TSCA at local SoCal Sister City conferences, and the Courys have been delegates to nine Sister City International conferences in host cities, including Washington D.C., and Toledo OH – the latter with the Roulettes and student representative Gina Landon. In Toledo Amy received the prestigious SCI Volunteer of the Year award.

Ray and Gail have been members of TSCA since the 1980s. Ray served TSCA first as Treasurer, then President in 2001, 2002, and 2006. Gail served as TSCA Vice President and Acting President in 2009 and 2010. She joined the Historical Committee in 2001 and has the responsibility of keeping the student exchange binder each year.

Ray was Student Selection Committee chair several years, while Gail was in charge of the main raffle donations at Bunka-Sai for seven years. They have been a host family for students and adult leaders numerous times.

Amy still likes to put on her happi coat and volunteer in the gift booth at Bunka-Sai, and you will find Gail at the entrance table welcoming people to the event and selling raffle tickets.

The couples have been members of Anniversary delegations to Kashiwa: George in 1987 (15th); Amy in 1997 (25th); Gail and Ray in 2002 (30th).

The Courys and Roulettes have lived in Torrance over 40 years and cherish the many wonderful people they have met through TSCA. Their respective families will join them in celebrating their 60th wedding anniversaries - milestone events.



Gail & Ray Roulettes



Amy & George Coury

TSCA Graduates High School Graduates

2013 Exchange Students

- * Emiko Kranz (West High) — UCLA
- * Ken Shrivastava (Torrance High) — UCLA
- * Matthew Tiansay (Torrance High) — El Camino
- * Vanessa Barragan (West High) — Mount St. Mary's College

2012 Exchange Students

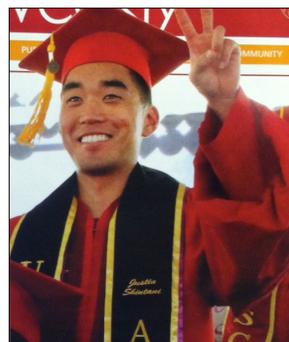
- * Rachel Todd (West High) — UCLA
- * Kristen Inouye (West High) — San Francisco State University.

2011 Exchange Student

- * Wyatt Comon — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York

College Graduates

- * Shoji Ueki, MBA, University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School. He will be working in Palo Alto for a start-up mobile app company. Son of Sumi and Masaki Ueki, 2000 Exchange Student
- * Justin Shintani, Doctor of Pharmacy, USC; Huntington Hospital post graduate resident, Son of Patsy and Ron Shintani
- * Kevin Willoughby, UCLA, BA in Ethnomusicology and Japanese (double major) Graduate Studies plans to work and study in Japan. Son of Werner and Aileen Willoughby, 2007 Exchange Student
- * Kelley Yonezaki, USC, BA in Business Economic. 2010 Exchange student. Daughter of Michael and Linda Yonezaki
- * Blaine Yamauchi, B.A. University of California, Riverside. Major: History / Administrative Studies Post graduate plans: sit for the LSAT. 2008 Exchange student. Son of Bryce and Cheryl Yamauchi



Justin Shintani graduated USC
2013



Kelley Yonezaki graduated
USC 2013

Americanism: The Right to be Free

By Matthew Medlock
Foreign Language Lecturer in Kashiwa



Being taken out of your environment is a thing that most people do not know how to begin to deal with. Being an expatriate, I have definitely had some difficulties living abroad and I've had to learn quickly on how to adjust myself. Everyday, I am immersed in Japanese culture and sometimes I forget

what it means to be "American." While growing up, I never really understood the concept of citizenship and the importance of caring where I come from. Especially in school, we would have to say the *Pledge of Allegiance* and listen to the *Star-Spangled Banner*, but I never believed in the feeling of allegiance when I would perform them. I always felt that it was a mundane task that in order to be an American in an American society, one would have to do these things. I remember my father saying to me when I was younger: "You should proud to be an American. This is the greatest country in the world." I did not understand what he meant. What makes this country so great? Why should I be proud? These are questions that I constantly asked myself.

Recently, I watched the movie *Lincoln* with Kevin, and I did not really know what to expect or what the movie exactly involved about Lincoln's life. The only thing that I heard about it was that Daniel Day-Lewis was playing Lincoln and that he is an incredible actor. Before the movie began, the Director, Steven Spielberg came onto the screen and gave a synopsis about the Civil War and the time surrounding it for the Japanese audience. As soon as the movie began a strange feeling came over me. Being immersed in the Japanese culture everyday, I had forgotten about the nature of the American people. Being bold, daring, strong-willed were just the first characteristics that came to mind. As the movie progressed, I found myself being completely inspired by president Lincoln and the way in which he dealt his political battles and war-front atrocities. His perseverance and cunning ability won the war and passed the 13th amendment to abolish slavery and indentured servitude. In the movie, As the voting procession for the 13th amendment commenced, my heart started racing, even though I already knew the outcome, and when the verdict was announced I became completely elated and very proud. As I was walking out of the theater, memories of my father and of his words flooded my mind along with images from the movie. I started to think about what my father said and what President Lincoln did for our country. I began to understand what my father meant of being 'proud'.

As an American living abroad, you notice the way that people treat you according to your nationality. When I tell people I'm American, and depending on whom I talk to, I get mixed reactions. Most people love Americans, some people think we are stupid; I have received many different kinds of responses. These experiences I have solidified my allegiance and it is within these experiences that I have realized the importance of my roots and that I

should be proud of where I come from.

My whole life I have always wondered what makes being an American so special. In school, I saw everyone around me and assumed that being American is just being normal; doing everything in your daily life- that is what makes you an American. But since moving to Japan and seeing *Lincoln*, I have found that it is much more than that - it is a culture, it is a people, it is a way of life. Being an American is not just being a national, but being apart of an idea that our fore fathers strived to create. They strived for liberty and individualism, which President Lincoln fought for with all his being. And their beliefs and ways of thought have survived these past 230 years. My father is a testimony to survival of this notion.

I love Japan and everything that it has given me, but my roots will always be American and nothing will change that.

Membership News

Membership Chairman:
Ron Kimmel



New and renewed memberships for 2013:

Allred, Nikki (B)

Laidowner, Gail (I)

Nowatka, Paul and Helen (F)

Please use the 2013 membership application on the back of the newsletter. This form reflects the dues increase enacted in 2012.

If you have any questions, call Ron Kimmel at (310) 530-2382.

June Calendar

June	10	Association Meeting 7:00 p.m. West Annex Commission Room
	14	City Hall Closed
	28	City Hall Closed



August Activities 2013

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5 Kashiwa students arrive First Host Family Begins Welcome Reception	6 Meet mayor Farm. Mkt. Fire Dept. Police Dept. Japanese Garden City Council Ice Cream Social	7 Oriental Motor Kashiwa only Torr. Bakery Kashiwa only Sq. Dance/ Chili Cookoff Toyota USA Auto Museum	8 The Getty Museum UCLA	9 King's Hawaiian Beach Party Dodgers vs Rays Fireworks	10 First Host Family Weekend Nisei Week starts
11 First Host Family Weekend	12 Farmer Brothers Cooking Sports Day	13 S.D.	14 S.D. Switch families	15 S.D. Second host family begins	16 .ITS Costco Torrance Tour Hollywood Bowl Tchaikovsky 1812 Fireworks	17 Second Host Family Weekend
18 Second Host Family Weekend Nisei Week ends	19 Universal Studios	20 Little Tokyo Go For Broke Rafu Shimpo Japanese American National Museum	21 Breakfast Shopping Sayonara Banquet Toyota USA Auto Museum	22 Kashiwa Students Leave	23	24

**PARTICIPATION AND ORDER FORM
TSCA AUGUST ACTIVITIES 2013**

GENERAL

DIRECTIONS:

- 1) Include the family name, phone number, and e-mail address
- 2) For EACH activity under "NAME OF PARTICIPANT(S)" include the FIRST NAME(S) of each participant(s) and expenses for the individual(s), for that event. If the person is a guest of the family add a "G" behind their first name.
- 3) Meals (ie. Lunch/Dinner) for the 2013 Torrance students and participants are a separate cost not included in the cost per ticket.
- 4) If meals and admission were not prepaid, please bring CASH ONLY, no credit/debit cards.
- 5) To participate, you must also complete the EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM for each family or each individual.

FAMILY NAME: _____ ph # _____ e-mail _____

Date	Event	Name of Participant(s)	Meal Type	Cost		# Attending		Total Cost		
				Admission \$ / person	Meal \$ / person	Adult	Child	Admission \$ Subtotal	Meal \$ Subtotal	Total Amount Due
Mon 8/5	Welcome Reception		Potluck	-	-			-	-	N/A
Tue 8/6	Torrance Tour, Farmers Market, Fire & Police Department	Kashiwa & Torrance delegates only	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Wed 8/7	Oriental Motors & Torrance Bakery Tour	Kashiwa delegates only	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Chili Cook-Off and Square Dance		Chili Potluck	-	-			-	-	N/A
Thu 8/8	Getty Museum & UCLA Tour Limited to 38 Participants		Lunch	-	\$12			-	\$	\$
Fri 8/9	Kings Hawaiian & Beach Party	Kashiwa & Torrance delegates only	Lunch	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Dodger Baseball (includes bus) Limited to 38 Participants		On your own	\$15	-			\$	-	\$
Mon 8/12	Farmer Brothers Coffee Tour, Student Cooking & Sports Day	Kashiwa & Torrance delegates only	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A

Date	Event	Name of Participant(s)	Meal Type	Cost		# Attending		Total Cost		
				Admission \$ / person	Meal \$ / person	Adult	Child	Admission \$ Subtotal	Meal \$ Subtotal	Total Amount Due
Fri 8/16	ITS, Costco & Torrance Tour	Kashiwa & Torrance delegates only	N/A	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Hollywood Bowl (Includes Park N' Ride Bus Fee)		On your own	\$32	-	-	-	\$	\$	\$
Mon 8/19	Universal Studios Limited to 38 Participants		On your own	\$75	-	-	-	-	\$	\$
Tue 8/20	Little Tokyo Tour & Japanese American National Museum Limited to 25 participants		Lunch	Adult \$6 Student \$4	\$15	-	-	-	\$	\$
Wed 8/21	Torrance Shopping Day	Kashiwa & Torrance delegates only	Lunch	-	\$10	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Sayonara Banquet		Dinner	-	Adult \$25 Child < 9 \$10	-	-	-	\$	\$
			Host Parents	Host Parents	-	No Charge for Host Parents	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ENCLOSED:				-	-	-	-	\$	\$	\$

NOTE: THIS FORM, EMERGENCY FORM AND CHECK (payable to TSCA) must be POSTMARKED BY July, 5 2013

MAIL TO: Torrance Sister City Association
 ATTN: AUGUST ACTIVITIES
 c/o Community Services Department
 3031 Torrance Blvd
 Torrance, CA 90503

IMPORTANT: If you have questions, please contact Werner Willoughby at W.P.Willoughby@gmail.com

ALL SALES ARE FINAL – NO REFUNDS * SCHEDULE AND PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**AUGUST ACTIVITIES EMERGENCY CONTACT AND CONSENT FORM
2013**

Please note: If you, a family member or guest is/are a participant in any of the activities during August this form must be completed and accompany the **Participation and Order Form** when it is mailed back to TSCA.

Family Name: _____

Address: _____ **Phone #:** _____

Please supply as much of the following information as applicable. If you have a guest, please copy this form and complete a separate form for them. If they are a minor include their parents as the primary and secondary sources and have one of the parents sign the release at the bottom.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Cell phone #</u>	<u>Work phone #</u>	<u>Relation in Family</u>
1) Primary Contact/ Participant	_____	_____	_____	_____
2) _____ Secondary Contact/Participant	_____	_____	_____	_____
3) _____ Participant	_____	_____	_____	_____
4) _____ Participant	_____	_____	_____	_____
5) _____ Participant	_____	_____	_____	_____

Specific health information you may wish to provide:

Person #

In the event any of the above individuals need IMMEDIATE medical attention, I give my permission to TSCA'S assigned activity leader(s) to obtain the necessary medical aid or assistance for IMMEDIATE care.

Signature of Primary Contact: _____ Date: _____

**Mail with Participation and Order Form to: Torrance Sister City Association
August Activities
c/o Community Services Department
3031 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503**

DUE: July 5, 2013

2013



GARDENA VALLEY

JCI

Carnival

Saturday

June 29

12 noon to 9:00pm

Sunday

June 30

12 noon to 7:30pm

Hourly

Raffle Drawings

Bingo

Sat. 5pm to 9pm

Sun. 4pm to 7:30pm

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute

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www.jci-gardena.org

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TORRANCE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

3031 Torrance Boulevard

Torrance, California 90503



Be a **HOST FAMILY** in August for a student from **Kashiwa**

Share our American culture with a student from Kashiwa for the experience of a lifetime!

August 5 - 12 or August 15 - 22

The students stay with two host families during their three week stay in Torrance.

All daytime activities are planned and hosted by the Torrance Sister City Association (TSCA). Host families are responsible for transporting their student to and from the West Annex at City Hall each morning and late afternoon. Some weeknight activities are planned and host families are welcome to join in on the fun! At all other times the host families will arrange their own activities and meals with their exchange student in accordance with the guidelines of TSCA. Each host family will have one weekend to plan their own activities.

Kashiwa students are able to communicate in English.

An Orientation meeting for all Host Families will be held in late June or early July.

If you have any questions, please call Host Family Chairman Michelle Heredia, (310) 480-6691.

HOST FAMILY INTEREST FORM

All first-time applicants will be screened by TSCA

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

e-Mail Address: _____

Emergency/Daytime telephone number: _____

We would prefer to host a boy _____ a girl _____ either _____

We would prefer to host a student during the first _____ the second _____ either _____ half of the student's stay in Torrance.

Number in Household: _____ Pets: _____

Name of Adults: _____ Occupation: _____

Occupation: _____

Children: _____ M/F Age: _____ M/F Age: _____

_____ M/F Age: _____ M/F Age: _____

Others: _____

Our family has participated in the following TSCA Activities:

_____ Bunka Sai _____ Student Exchange Program _____ Host Family Program _____ Other

Please mail this Interest Form to: The Torrance Sister City Association

3031 Torrance Blvd.

Torrance, CA 90503 (Attention: Host Family Program)



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Torrance, CA 90503

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TORRANCE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

2013 Membership Application

Except for the Life Membership, all dues are in effect from January 1st to December 31st.

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone () _____ e-mail address _____

Individual	\$20 per year
Family	\$40 per year
Supporting	\$75+ per year
Benefactor	\$125+ per year
Life member	\$2000+(one time donation)

My membership is: NEW RENEWAL I do not want to be listed in the TSCA directory

Directory Update: New address__ New telephone number__ New e-mail address__

I am interested in participating in TSCA activities. _____

Enclosed is a donation to TSCA (in addition to my annual dues) in the amount: \$_____ Total enclosed: \$_____

Make your check payable to TSCA and mail with this form to: The Torrance Sister City Association
c/o The Community Services Department
3031 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503

If you have any questions about your membership, please call Ron Kimmel at 310-530-2382.