



Culver City Sister City Committee



United States



Uruapan, Mexico



Kaizuka, Japan



Iksan City, So. Korea



Lethbridge, Canada

C.C. Sister City Committee Delegation to Visit Iksan, South Korea

The Culver City Sister City Committee has been invited to send a community delegation to our sister city, Iksan, South Korea to celebrate their Chrysanthemum Festival with a gorgeous exhibition of chrysanthemums and cultural performances. The trip will include visiting many historic sites in the area and travel and most food expenses while in Iksan will be covered by our hosts. The delegation will be in Iksan from October 24 - 30, 2014 and we will be adding an optional trip to Seoul and the DMZ either before or after.

Participants are responsible for their own travel expenses and we are waiting to hear if there will be an optional homestay experience in Iksan included, otherwise hotel expenses are also each participant's responsibility as well as the trip to Seoul.

If you would like more information and/or to be considered for participation in this delegation, please contact Barbara Honig, Iksan Chair, at ccsccbararahonig@gmail.com.

Marla's Message



Since we last visited.... The Culver City Sister City Committee Board of Directors has been busy on your and the organization's behalf.

We celebrated our 50th Anniversary with Uruapan, Mexico on February 24 by hosting a reception in the Dan Pataccia Room at City Hall. We

were entertained by CCUSD student's from Srta. Miller's class that sang and played a variety on musical instruments. Then we were delighted with the beauty and talent of Grupo Folklorico Tzintzuni, a professional dance troupe that happens to be local to Culver City. Refreshments for all. Afterwards we all attended the City Council Meeting and were acknowledged by our City Council and received a plaque from the Consul General in Los Angeles for México, Carlos M. Sada and a certificate from SCI as well.

The U.S. Mexico Sister City Association gave us a certificate recognizing our 50 years with Uruapan Annual Conference and our attendees were delighted by the surprise.



Shortly thereafter, and once our two runners, Kirsten Bell and Christopher King returned from running in the Senshu International Marathon, we received our two guests from Kaizuka, Japan, Hidekazu Matoba and Masako Okazaki. Our very charming guests brought out the most hospitable of residents as they stayed in Culver City homes, ate in our restaurants and shopped in Culver City.

So what's next you ask?

3rd Quarter 2014

Shortly after our annual election and installation in June, 8 students will be visiting Culver City from Iksan City, South Korea and 8 middle school students from Culver City will be visiting Japan.

Then there's the recent invitation for an adult delegation to go to Iksan City at the end of October. See the column on the left for details.

There's more! We have invited a delegation from Lethbridge, AB, Canada to come to Culver City in November so we can celebrate our 25th Anniversary together. Plan on offering your extra bedroom and host a visitor November 5-12, 2014.

Having the opportunity to interact with all four of our sister cities within just a few months time is exciting, exhilarating and really reminds us why we originally got involved with the Culver City Sister City Committee.



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SUMMER 2014

We are hosting 8 high school students from Iksan, South Korea July 20-30. Volunteer on the reception committee and help in planning a visit to last a lifetime of memories. Email Barbara Honig, chairman at ccsccbararahonig@gmail.com

We are sending a middle school delegation of 8 students and two chaperones to Kaizuka, Japan July 20-29.

How do you entertain a guest? We seem to find lots of good food, friends and local Culver City activities. Masako Okazaki (l) and Hidekazu Matoba (r) came to Culver City to run in the L.A. Marathon as part of our on-going



Runner Exchange between Kaizuka, Japan and Culver City.

MEMBER ALERT!

Gift a membership to a friend. Make an extra donation. Consider us if you want to set up a Scholarship for student travel. Consider us for *Planned Giving* decisions.

Surrounding this year's visitors from Kaizuka are alumni Senshu International Marathon runners that come out every year to greet their fellow runners. Many could not join us, but may have attending the previous evening's Welcome BBQ or might be at the Quarterly Dinner, but we're happy to see friends including (L-R) Dan Cohen, Daniel Dobbs, Veronica Reyes, Paul Jacobs, Christopher King, Gary Pealer, Matt Seeberger and Tim Petersen at the "Runners Breakfast" the day before the L.A. Marathon.

HEAD'S UP—STEP UP

The Culver City Sister City Committee is run by a volunteer elected Board of Directors for three year terms. **ANY member** that is interested in serving on the board is eligible to be considered for a board position. Along with this newsletter is a ballot to fill seats, an annual ballot and an opportunity to finally decide to step up. Notice the blank lines for write-ins. YOU are welcome to write yourself in or WRITE-IN someone else.

The Nominating Committee met in February but might not have known YOU were interested in exploring a board position. Self-nominations ARE WELCOME.

Get your feet wet now by attending a meeting and you may even discover you can't wait until our next election to get more involved on the board or on one of our committees or with one of our established countries. Go ahead and say YES, I'm ready to serve.

Our KIDS are GREAT

Two of our own Culver City High School students are speakers on the April 5 SoCal Sister Cities Conference's Youth Panel. Culver City KIDS, our Student Ambassadors, really seem to "get it" when it comes to the idea of global friendships, working towards making the world a better place to live and speaking up about ISSUES. YES, we can learn from our younger generation.



Nihon Buyo (Traditional Japanese Dancer) students performed at our Quarterly Membership Dinner Meeting. Advocates for Language Learning (A.L.L.) sponsors after-school enrichment programs and we were impressed.

(UR) Srta. Samantha Miller's students performed at our Golden Anniversary between Uruapan, Mexico and Culver City in February. Students played a variety of instruments and sang in several languages.

The Culver City Sister City Committee joined Goodsearch.com Culver City Sister City Committee to raise funds for our organization. Goodsearch donates money to us when you search the Internet, shop online or dine out at local restaurants! Use Goodsearch.com to search the Internet and they donate a penny per search to the Culver City Sister City Committee. Use Goodshop.com when you shop online and they donate a percentage of every purchase and offer over 100,000 coupons to help you save money too! Sign up for their Gooddining program and they'll donate a percentage of your restaurant bill when you eat at any one of thousands of participating restaurants. It's really easy; it's free and turns simple everyday actions into a way to make the world a better place. Please sign up today to help support the Culver City Sister City Committee. Go to www.goodsearch.com to get started.

Proposed/DRAFT

The mission of the Culver City Sister City Committee is to:

Cultivate, facilitate and maintain relationships with our sister cities: Kaizuka, Japan; Uruapan, Mexico; Iksan, South Korea; and Lethbridge, Canada.

Undertake community based programs that foster international and intercultural understanding with our sister cities.

Leverage our contacts to promote the interests of Culver City in tourism, education, the environment, humanitarian assistance, culture, art and economic development.

Vocalize our common values through inter-city governmental dialogue.

Encourage active and direct youth involvement at the elementary, middle and high school levels, including through annual student exchanges.

Reach out with cultural, educational and commercial programs and exchanges of people, ideas and materials, within and between Culver City and our sister cities.

Create grass roots level friendships with the citizens of our international counterparts, such as the annual exchange of marathon runners with Kaizuka, Japan.

Invest in our youth by showing them the beauty of a multicultural world and the benefits that can be achieved through international cooperation.

Teach people of all ages about the diverse communities that are our sister cities and show how we can help others, such as supporting orphanages in Mexico.

Yearn to make the world a better place.