



Flower Dream 2014 Exhibition

Headquarters Japan

From April 12 to 13, 2014, I.I. Headquarters participated in the Flower Dream Exhibition at Tokyo Big Sight. I.I. exhibited ikebana arrangements with 34 members belonging to 20 ikebana schools. In addition, Tokyo Founding Chapter and Kamakura Chapter members made creative installations and ikebana arrangements. This year, the children of 3 elementary schools (Nishi-

arima Elementary School, Nishimachi International School, and the International French School Lycee) participated in I.I.'s Next Generation Project, joining in the flower arrangements and workshop. This event was a big success and welcomed by I.I. members and the general public.



Flower Dream 2014 Exhibition logo



Arranged by 3 elementary schools' children

214 Zurich

Three Swiss Chapters Meeting

Zurich #214 Switzerland

Traditionally the three Swiss chapters—Basel, Geneva, and Zurich—meet once a year for one day. This time it was the Zurich Chapter's turn to organize this get-together. The Zurich members welcomed the Basel and Geneva members at the main railway station, and we all proceeded by public transport to the Restaurant Belvoirpark. Chapter President Angelika Kilp greeted the attendees, and a glass of Champagne was offered. During the excellent lunch, Beate Zieroth, vice-president of the Eighth European Regional Conference in Potsdam in August 2014, commented on the comprehensive program and invited us to participate.



Meeting of the 3 Swiss chapters

After a short walk through the park of the Museum Rietberg (Museum of Asian Art) we had a conducted tour in French and German through the Meiyintang Collection. Beside the 220 museum-owned pieces, another 630 objects on loan to the museum were on display. One hour to admire all the beautiful exhibits was much too brief, and one should return to see them more than once!

235 Johor Bahru

Furoshiki Demonstration

Johor Bahru #235 Malaysia

It was a beautiful afternoon in Chapter President Y.M Puteri Gusti Retno Astrini's residence on October 8, 2013. In the main entrance were displayed a beautiful flower arrangement made by President Puteri and 2 arrangements by Membership Chairperson Shirley Chia and Datin Lynda Loh expressing our Friendship through Flowers motto. Members and guests were warmly welcomed with door gifts of *furoshiki*, which were generously given by President Puteri. High tea with assorted local cuisine was served for members and guests.

The program started with a demonstration of various ways to use *furoshiki*. We are fortunate to have Miss Hiroi to present aspects of Japanese culture; she used *furoshiki* to make a tissue box cover, wine bottle holder, drinks holder, handbag, shopping bag, and lunch box bag. Very creative.

Miss Sally and Miss Phyllis from Sogetsu Singapore demonstrated a few flower arrangements using different types of local and imported flowers. These two professional demonstrators gave members and guests insight into Sogetsu floral arrangements.

Since this event was also a membership drive, guests were given the opportunity to experience and understand what ikebana is by joining our program. Three new members were recruited at this event.

Things like vases, shawls, and fragrant dry flowers prepared by Ways and Means Chairperson Miss Hawa fully sold and brought in RM501 to the chapter. Members and guests had a highly enjoyable afternoon. Indeed, it was a beautiful way to start the new year, 2013-2014.

93 Copenhagen

Chapter President Setsuko Bergholdt introduced Satsuki Noda, who came to share with us her passion for kimono. Yumi Suzuki translated into Danish Mrs. Noda's explanations. She began

by reviewing kimono history and then introduced us to the different types of kimono. Mrs. Noda had displayed several kimonos and explained the patterns and kimono construction, including the difference between kimono for a young girl and kimono for a married woman. Then Mrs. Noda demonstrated how to wear a kimono, using Solveig Rasmussen as a model, with the help of Mrs. Bergholdt and Ms. Suzuki. The three worked intensely to properly dress Mrs. Rasmussen in a beautiful light purple kimono with a stunning gold obi tied in a stylish form on the back. Thereafter, the members examined closely the various kimono and obi on display.

Kimono Demonstration

Copenhagen #93 Denmark



Mrs. Noda dressing Mrs. Rasmussen in a kimono



6 London

Christmas Arrangments London #6 UK

We were lucky to have 3 very experienced teachers of their respective schools come along to show us their interpretation of Christmas with 8 splendid arrangements to inspire us all. First, Irene Moore, a teacher of Sogetsu, started her session by reading us some of the school founder's philosophy, that beautiful flowers do not always make a beautiful arrangement. She then made 3 stunning interpretations for Christmas.

Hisako Bourlet from the Ohara School started by sharing that she has now been teaching in the UK for 40

years. She explained how her school has moved on with its current headmaster to new styles and then produced a Christmas version of "dancing flowers," followed by 2 more traditional arrangements.

Finally Tineke Robertson, Ichiyo School, showed how she interpreted Christmas as a time to combine the Western aspects of gifts, candles, and gold with the Eastern style of arrangement. Unfortunately she only had time to do 2 arrangements, which were full of festive cheer and inspiration.



Mrs. Irene Moore, Mrs. Hisako Bourlet, and Mrs. Tineke Robertson demonstrating at London Chapter

Floral Demonstration

New Delhi #77 India

On January 23, 2014, New Delhi Chapter celebrated the start of the New Year with a floral demonstration by Ms. Liza, who created stunning arrangements while exhibiting new techniques in manipulating floral material to compliment the freestyle containers. Her avant-garde arrangements used an assortment of materials like strips of wood pieces and jute fabric juxtaposed with garden material like onions, ginger rhizomes, and eggplant blended innovatively in subtle combinations with layered nuances. She made 12 arrangements using exotic flowers like pincushions, hydrangeas, and a range of carnations and the ever-fragrant tuberose. She was ably assisted by Ms. Kavita Poddar, President of the Pushp Bitan Friendship Society. The program was set in serene surroundings of a lush farmhouse. The members, 56 in all, were treated to a sumptuous lunch in this idyllic venue.



One of the arrangements at the exhibition

216 Melbourne

Manipulating Aspidistra Leaves and Veneer Baskets Melbourne #216 USA

Melbourne Chapter celebrated its 30th anniversary on December 11, 2013, with 2 workshops given by Jeanne Houlton, a master of the Ichiyo School with a teacher's certificate in the Sogetsu School as well. Mrs. Houlton is the president of the Ichiyo Florida Chapter. The morning workshop consisted of each member constructing 2 veneer balls using maple veneer strips and self-contained *kenzan*. Bittersweet and fall flowers were used. The afternoon session was aspidistra leaf manipulation. The leaves were then used in a design.

Avignon Fair

Castillon du Gard #225 France

225 Castillon du Gard

The organizers asked us to demonstrate at the huge Avignon Fair on May 28 and 29. Japan was guest of honor and had an enormous hall. The organizers gave us all the help we needed. They were very impressed by the ikebana demonstration. We did 2 afternoons, with some arrangements separate and some together. Liliane Donada was a perfect public relations officer. It was a joyful event.



Cristopher Capdeville and Georgine du Quesne

207 Belfast

Talk on Growing Plants

Belfast #207 U.K.

On March 10, 2014, John Shannon gave a talk on growing plant material especially suitable for use in flower arrangements. Members asked him many questions and got solutions for poor performing plants in their own gardens. We were also able to buy from a selection John had brought with him from his garden center. Many unusual plants were purchased to the delight of all.

221 Dubai

30th Anniversary

Dubai #221 U.A.E.

On November 26, 2013, Mrs. Nabiha Kefi, a Sogetsu teacher, arranged a large ikebana at the Grand Hyatt Hotel Dubai for a reception celebrating the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. Every year we are approached by the Japanese Consulate to join this special occasion with an ikebana arrangement. It is a great honor to join on this occasion for Dubai Chapter.

On December 10, 2013, Dubai Chapter celebrated its 30th anniversary with a luncheon at the Palace Hotel in downtown Dubai.

77 New Delhi



Japanese Cultural Festival

Valdivia #203 Chile

203

Valdivia

Valdivia Chapter was asked to present a small exhibition of ikebana at the Austral University on December 6, 2013, for the annual Japanese Culture Festival. Four chapter members presented 7 arrangements, using different materials. We were happy with the result receiving many good comments from hundreds of visitors.

Chapter members gathered for a friendship tea as a conclusion of our yearly activities (one big exhibition, 9 reunions with lectures or demonstrations, a few workshops and also some community contributions).

Kids-at-Risk

Monterey Bay #231 USA

231

Monterey Bay

One of Monterey Bay Chapter's signature community outreach projects is to organize an ikebana workshop for kids-at-risk in public schools after classes.

On February 14, 2014, 7 members taught a very simple arrangement by providing floral materials, containers, and small cards to be attached as St. Valentine's Day cards. We color-sprayed wine bottles ahead of time to be used as containers. The kids showed great interest and enthusiasm and brought back ikebana as a Valentine's Day gift to their parents. Some 70 children participated. This event was featured by a local newspaper on the front page the following day.

31

San Francisco

The New Year was welcomed in grand style at the January meeting of San Francisco Bay Area Chapter. We celebrated our chapter's 54th anniversary. Past chapter presidents exhibited arrangements and presided at the cake cutting. The natural beauty and grace of the Wafu School was demonstrated by Dorothy Seiko Chu and Susan Nansei Okada. Their program, entitled Welcoming the New Year, showcased the Wafukai philosophy, which emphasizes natural beauty. Working together on stage, they created New Year's-themed arrangements that reflected the individual beauty of the plant materials. The demonstration was well-received by the audience, which included the Vice-Consul General for Cultural Affairs, Mr. Hiroya Morikawa.

54th Anniversary

San Francisco #31 USA



Dorothy Seiko Chu and Susan Nansei Okada

265

Atlanta

Doll Festival

Atlanta #265 USA

Atlanta Chapter held a Doll Festival celebration on February 25, 2014. March 3 (the third day of the third month) is the Doll Festival, also known as Girls' Day, and the Peach Blossom Festival. This is the day on which wishes are expressed for the future happiness of girls. Many photographs of Girls' Day arrangements were prepared by Jennie Sterling, Riji of Sogetu School. Wakana Koyanagi gave a presentation about the traditions of Girl's Day, such as *hina* dolls, diamond-shaped sweets (*hishi-mochi*), and a history of the observance. After a better understanding of the tradition, attendees made arrangements using peach blossoms, tulips, daffodils, and so forth. Spring colors, such as pink and yellow, are gorgeous and cheerful. Some members used their own dolls to symbolize the traditional *hina* dolls and placed them next to their ikebana. The male member of Atlanta Chapter did ikebana with iris, which is the flower of Boys' Day on May 5.

227

Basel

New Year's Celebration

Basel #227 Switzerland

The New Year celebration is usually a treat for Basel Chapter, and it was a very special one this year. On January 16, 2014, Ms. Junod, a master and experienced teacher of the tea ceremony (Urasenke School) demonstrated this aspect of Japanese culture. She had formed a sort of small island with tatami mats, had nicely arranged a *chabana*, a charcoal stove with teapot, as well as her box containing all the utensils needed—creating a very peaceful atmosphere conducive to absolute concentration. Our experienced I.I. member, Ann Buch, was the guest. The two ladies were a perfect team. The silent demonstration, the perfect communication between host and guest, made the attendees forget that they were in an old, venerable room in the Basel Guild Hall. Ms. Junod afterwards answered many questions from her fascinated audience. Discussions about the demonstration and the tea ceremony went on in the hall over glasses of champagne and some fabulous tidbits.

Birt's Bistro Veggie & Flower Workshop



Community Services Projects

Sun Cities #167 USA

167

Sun Cities

Sun Cities Chapter's community service project in November 2013 was a demonstration and workshop for Benevilla and West Valley Arts Council as a joint effort for a program they have just started for patients with Alzheimer's/dementia and their caregivers. It was a very successful endeavor and was enjoyed by all. Six of our members helped with the program.

180

Bermuda

Tanabata Festival

Bermuda #180 Bermuda

On March 29, 2014, a bright and sunny Saturday morning, 8 ikebana friends gathered for a workshop demonstrated by Margaret Miller on the theme of Small Containers. All of us who attended had the most marvelous morning, utilizing and stretching our imaginations in making arrangements in our selected small containers. The diverse results were really beautiful, with most attendees gathering basic greenery and materials from their gardens and coming up with at least 3 or 4 arrangements. Afterwards, Margaret Miller individually critiqued everyone, complimenting on the virtues of each arrangement. All enjoyed themselves and agreed how good it is to meet and gather together to share our love of nature and ikebana, since all of us feel we have developed our friendship through flowers.



Mayor Masakatsu Yoshida of Yamato-Takada, Japan,
with Mayor Jenny Dowell of Lismore, Australia



From August 4 to 7, 2013, the visit of 40 people, including the mayor from Yamato-Takada city in Nara prefecture, was a very exciting three days. Chapter member Virginia Black created a beautiful large arrangement of Australian native flowers, which stood at the front of the stage where the official speeches took place. A number of our members attended and were able to mix with the visitors. Members created small arrangements for the dinner that was held to honor our visitors. Mrs. Urano from Yamato-Takada created an arrangement, and Mrs. Black's arrangement was transferred to the new venue. The next day there was much activity as our Japanese visitors set up many displays of work they had brought from Japan, and schoolchildren were invited to visit the displays and try to create similar objects. Mrs Urano demonstrates for the children and their parents. These events were attended by over 700 people. It was very exciting.

Exhibition in Lismore

Lismore #32 Australia

32^{Lismore}

International Student Workshop

Kyoto #175 Japan

175^{Kyoto}

The morning of December 5, 2013, started off with Datin Paulene's welcome speech followed by Kuala Lumpur Chapter's Japanese member choir singing Christmas carols with other members and friends. Karen Bull demonstrated 2 Christmas arrangements for the Christmas table and Kenneth, our musician, played Christmas songs along with nostalgic songs from the golden oldies. Each member brought a gift, which was then distributed to members and friends by our resident Santa Claus. The Bankers Club gave a wonderful Christmas turkey luncheon, including

the usual pudding and chocolate log with a variety of food for every palate. Chapter members danced the afternoon away until their feet became tired.



Members and guests being presented with their gifts from Santa Claus

19^{Seattle}

55th Anniversary

Seattle #19 USA

Seattle Chapter #19 was chartered March 16, 1959, and our 55th Anniversary was celebrated at the annual New Year's Luncheon on January 18, 2014. Mei Lan Huang served as chairperson and was assisted by Gitte Coleman and Karen Nagata, who also served as emcees. Yoshiki Uenishi, Consul, Consulate General of Japan, gave a New Year message and toast. Chapter President Rosemary Frerk introduced the past presidents and presented each with a certificate in recognition of past service and a long-stemmed rose. Guests were introduced, and lunch was served. The Cornerstone Singers provided entertainment. Eleven members, representing 8 different schools of ikebana, contributed to an exhibition of beautiful arrangements. Each arranger explained their ikebana. Ten members created centerpieces for the luncheon tables. A raffle was held, and 3 lucky people took home a beautiful hand-blown glass container.

147^{Tacoma-Olympia}

Haiku Challenge

Tacoma-Olympia #147 USA

Haiku Challenge was the theme of our chapter meeting on February 26, 2014. Members either found or wrote their own haiku to represent the spring season. They used this inspiration to create beautiful arrangements. The program gave participants the opportunity to read their haiku and explain what inspired them to use the materials they chose. This is the second year our chapter has had a Haiku Challenge, and members have been very enthusiastic about this program idea. Last year, members were each given a choice from six haiku, and it was interesting to see the various interpretations that were created.

ikebana
Gallery



Arrangement by Sara Gilstrap, Colorado Springs #95



Arrangement by Hiroko Fukuhara, San Diego #119



Arrangement by Diana Knott and Rebecca Teasdale, Portland #47



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