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Volume 34 No. 1 March 2012

NEWSLETTER

Canadian Japanese Cultural Centre

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(905) 383-5755 hcjcc@bellnet.ca

President's Report:

Happy New Year

As your President I had the honour of attending the inauguration of the new Consul-General of Japan for Canada Eiji Yamamoto. I met with the Ambassador of Japan Kaoru Ishikawa to discuss matters at our Hamilton CJCC. The Ambassador along with the Consul-General of Japan has agreed to assist with our Open House for 2012. They are subsidizing the Photo Exhibit of the Japan disaster. The 79 images depict the before, during and after effects of the Tsunami disaster— that struck Japan March 11, 2011. While attending the birthday celebration of Emperor Akihito at the Toronto JCCC, I had the opportunity to meet and to speak to several people on how they may assist our CJCC.

Japan Tohoku Photo Image Exhibit March 16-29, 2012 at the CJCC Hamilton. The Board has made arrangements with the Consul-General of Japan to host the Japan photo exhibit on loan from Japan. We would like to thank the various groups and organizations who held fund raising events for Japan.

Having met with the NAJC President, we made arrangements to host an Antique Appraisal event in Hamilton on Saturday, June 16, 2012. The NAJC is subsidizing and covering the cost of the professional appraisal. Don't miss this event. (This event replaces Yard Sale for this year.)

The Board has been working very hard in communicating and encouraging additional new programs for the Centre. We are optimistic with the return of a Kendo and Iaido programs. We will have a qualified Kendo Sensei and Iaido Sensei lead the program.

A Trillium grant is being submitted to repair and update the Sports room by building a sub floor, wooden floor and adding mirrors across the length

CJCC Town Hall Meeting:

Sunday, March 11 @ 2:00- 3:00 p.m.

of one wall. This proposed grant will also request updating handicap access for the front entrance and washrooms. The grant request will also include the repair of the drive way and parking lot. A generous offer by Wolfgang Bonham (Peace Love and Landscaping) to create a Japanese garden in the front entrance area at no charge. We are in the process of applying for additional funds to purchase the plants and landscape material necessary to take advantage of Wolfgang's generous offer. The Board is continuing to address reduction of our taxes and changing our status to property tax exemption similar to other Centres in Hamilton.

Thanks Unha Hill for advising us on this grant from the Hamilton Potters Guild to which we were able to purchase a new Shimpo pottery wheel, for the pottery program.

2011 Special Events Thank you

I wish to personally extend my thanks to all committee members, Chairs, volunteers who participated, supported, baked, created and donated their time for these events.

(Continued on page 3)

In Memoriam

Our sympathies to families and friends of:

Akiyoshi Kitagawa
James Honda
Shigeru (Scotty) Harada
Shigeru Machida
Thomas Matsushita
Hajime (Swanee) Inouye
Kazuo Daniel Kadonaga

Events Calendar

Sukiyaki Dinner
Saturday, March 31st at 6 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting
Sunday, March 11, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tohoku Region: Rebuilding for a Better Tomorrow
Friday, March 16 to March 29

Keiro Kai
Sunday April 22nd, 2pm.

Antique Appraisal
Saturday, June 16

Golf Tournament
Saturday, June 23
Registration forms to follow

Photo Exhibit: Tohoku Region: Rebuilding for a Better Tomorrow.

Friday March 16 until March 29, 2012 at the Hamilton CJCC.

Friday March 16, 2:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The Display will be open weekdays 10:00 a.m – 8:00 p.m., weekends 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

This display is being presented just past the 1st anniversary of the earthquake and Tsunami of March 11, 2011.

Consul-General Mr. Yamamoto will be visiting the Hamilton CJCC to open the display.

The photos display the awesome destructive power of the tsunami and its after affects. It shows how the Japanese people have come back, with hope and friendships with other nations recovering from the disaster. All are welcome to attend

Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, March 11 @ 2:00- 3:00 p.m.

Topics of discussion

1. Disclosure of the Trillium Grant and its disbursement.
Tad Suzuki will explain the Trillium grant the CJCC received and how the funds were disbursed.
2. Welcoming the Hamilton Buddhist Temple to the Hamilton CJCC
Chris Hourmouzis will give a presentation on sharing our facilities with the Temple and how it will benefit both groups.

CJCC Driveway Drive

We have a new Fundraising drive; our rear parking lot is in need of repair.

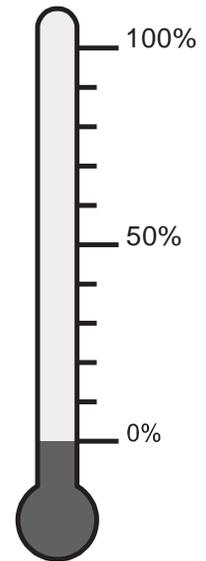
Our driveway and parking lot are in need of repair and resurfacing. This is due to natural wear and tear. Asphalt does wear out with time and unfortunately we are due to repair it. We wish to be proactive with the repairs before there are any hazards that may lead to an injury.

This type of work is expensive; of the quotes received our \$69,999.99 goal will just cover these costs. We plan to apply for a Trillium grant for the repairs but due to provincial economic pressures and a weak economy there is no guarantee we will receive the Grant.

We are asking for your generous support for the Centre, we have a fund-raising “Thermometer” at the front door to show our progress. We currently sit at \$1000. Personal and Corporate

donations will be gladly accepted. Please make cheques payable to CJCC Fundraising.

CJCC Driveway Drive



GOAL: \$69,99

Our very own “Antiques Roadshow”

Thanks to the support of the NAJC we are planning to host an Antiques appraisal event. Saturday, June 16, 2012, time to be announced soon.

We will have a professional antiques appraiser in to assess your pieces. You will be able to have up to two pieces appraised.

Kitchen Clean-up Crew

Thanks to the “Pixies” who took time at the last monthly Dinner to give our kitchen a thorough once-over!

Fund Raising Report

The Fund Raising Committee would like to wish all a Happy New Year. To those who donated to our appeal, thank you for your generosity. As of January 18, 2012 our fund raising coffers sit at \$8505.00.

The February Sukiyaki dinner was a sell out and our next Sukiyaki dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 31 at 6:00. Please contact the Centre to reserve your tickets for the future. It would be great if you could form your own table of 6. We thank you all for your continued support. We wish to thank Nancy Fukumoto and the team of volunteers who work tirelessly to make these dinners a success. We could not hold these dinners without their help.

We are planning our yearly fundraising luncheon at this time. We welcome any suggestions and to a new location as Chan's Buffet has closed. We will post more information on the web site as we firm up a date and location.

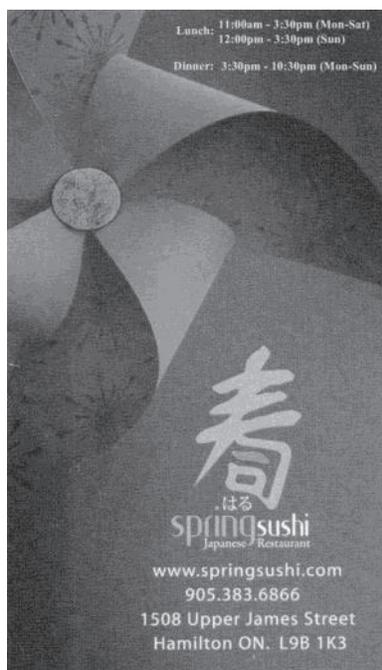
We are always looking for more volunteers to help with our fundraising efforts, please let us know if you would like to help.

We wish to Thank you all again for your continued support.

Fund Raising Committee

Your Newsletter
is a production of
the CJCC
Communications
Committee

Submissions can
be sent to
h.cjcc@bellnet.ca



(Continued from page 1)

A special thanks to the Bingo volunteers for their continued reliability for covering the Bingo sessions.

Another year has begun and the Board is looking to continue to promote the Japanese culture into the community and to continue to move the Centre forward.

Respectfully yours,

Mitchell Kawasaki. President.

We are always looking for new programs to offer members. The following are now under serious consideration.

If you are interested in any of these programs please let us know via email hcjcc@bellnet.ca or phone (905) 383-5755. We will compile a list and notify you when the programs have a set time.

Zumba

We are looking at the return of Zumba to the CJCC. We have some new instructors interested in bringing the program back.

Iaido

(居合道, Iaidō) is a modern Japanese martial art associated with the smooth, controlled movements of drawing the sword from its scabbard. We have a Sensei very interested in bringing the program to the CJCC.

Kendo

(剣道, kendō), meaning "Way of The Sword", is a modern Japanese martial art of sword-fighting based on traditional Japanese swordsmanship. We have a Sensei very interested in bringing the program to the CJCC.

Belly Dancing

It is a fun class suitable for all age groups, including seniors! No experience is necessary.

If you know of a program or instructor that would be of interest to the Centre please let us know.

A message from one of your newest Board members

In the Spring of 2011, after an opening came up with the Centre's Board of Directors, I was asked by a number of people to become involved. I applied to the Board and was accepted. I thought I should write this column to let you know about my experience.

I have been a member of the CJCC for more than 10 years, and my wife's family has been very active with the CJCC since its beginning. Like you, I wish the Centre to succeed and prosper for future generations. Quite honestly, I joined the Board because I was concerned about the Centre. I knew that the Centre was in financial straits and seemed to have an uncertain future, and it wasn't clear to me what was being done to improve its situation.

Once I started participating at the Board meetings, I learned very quickly that the current Board has been generating a lot of great ideas and actively pursuing plans for the future of the CJCC. The Board executive is a very dedicated team, and support each other in their efforts. It has been a very busy year due to the Tsunami and subsequent fund raising.

We hope to have many more activities in the future. Everyone in the Board has taken on certain responsibilities that we have broken down into "portfolios", to focus on Director's talents and interests. You will note that the web site is now much more current and new items will be added as soon as possible.

The Centre takes a lot of effort to run, and lacks any corporate sponsorship. Even by charitable organization standards, it operates on a shoestring budget with limited revenues coming from donations, special fundraising, and core programs such as the martial arts. Our bookkeeping is transparent and has gone through 2 government audits in the past with no concerns.

The Centre has a number of large expenses that must be addressed. These items include upgrading physical accessibility (in order to be compliant with new government regulations), repaving the back parking lot, and upgrading the "sports room" into a more multifunctional space that can allow more programming (and hopefully generate more revenue!). We are in the process of applying for a Trillium Grant, as we don't have the money to do this ourselves.

The Centre exists due to the great work by our volunteers, who are small in number but are generous with their time and energy. We need to have more of these positive efforts, and wish to encourage those who are not already actively involved to consider donating their time and ideas. Of course, money is also appreciated :-).

One unfortunate thing that I have seen as a Board Director is that there have been some misunderstandings regarding some of the previous decisions involving the Centre. As we plan to be an open and transparent organization, a Town Hall has been scheduled for March 11. The Town Hall meeting will help address these concerns.

As I stated earlier, I joined expecting to find the Centre in disarray but the Board has a clear vision and is implementing as many things as it can to make the Centre prosper and grow. I am proud to be a member of the Board; we are all working hard to bring the community together and make the Centre the best it can be. I hope you can join as at the Town Hall, and/or support us in our other activities.

Chris Hourmouzis

Hamilton Buddhist Temple

Minister presided services March 11, April 1, May 13, June 10 (11:00 a.m.)

OBON July 22 @ 2:00 p.m.
Guest speaker Makino Sensei from Hawaii

Lay services (no Minister, video Dharma talk) March 25, April 15, May 27, June 24

All are Welcome



Namo Amida Butsu

671 Tate Avenue, Hamilton

Hamilton Family Foot Care Clinic

Christopher S. Hourmouzis D.Ch
Chiroprapist/Foot Specialist

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Donations to Operations since the last Newsletter

In Memory Of Bill Glazar

Flo Longworth & Marilyn Hall

In The Name Of The Nogami Family for Letter

Translation:

Peter Savoy

General:

Katherine & Eiji Suzuki

Jeff & Alana Naganobu

Michelle Van Raay

Anonymous

Christmas Donation:

Yoshiye Yokoyama

Sue Fujino

Tak & Mary Nakamura

Jean Wichert

Toyoko Nanba

Gord & Hiro Nagatakiya

Mrs & Rev. Don Eustace – In recognition of Nancy

Griffins generous work

In Memory Of Bessie Ogino (Nee Umetsu)

Sam & Shirley Sonoda

In Memory Of Mrs. Marie Itakura:

Richard Omatsu

In Memory Of James Honda

Bob & Jane Ishibashi

Itoko Deshima

Minoru & Anita Shimoda

Edward & Amy Kawakami

Ken & Kay Horibe

In Memory Of Doris' Parents, Anna & Martin

Konik:

Doris & Macklem Sherman

Children's Christmas Party:

Raymond Wilson "Santa Claus"

Mary Oikawa

Jean Wichert

In Memory Of Akiyoshi Kitagawa:

Sam & Sherry Mototsune

In Memory Of Shigeru Harada:

Tsutomu Nakano

Nancy Ayako Yoshimochi

Lorna Koyanagi, Harry & Adele Koyanagi &

Family, Angela Lee & Family (Mission, BC)

Bob & Jane Ishibashi

In Memory Of Thomas Matsushita:

Yumiko Takeda

In Memory of Shigeru Machida:

Tak & Mary Nakamura

George & Pat Ikeda

Tsutomu Nakano

Gifts-in-kind

Michelle Van Raay

Sandra Cowan

In Memory Of Kaz Kadonaga:

Yosh & Aya Tonogai

Amy Glazar

Kathryn Baca

In Memory Of Swanee Inouye:

Bob & Jane Ishibashi

Kathryn Baca

Donations to the Fund Raising Account since the last newsletter

General

Jeff Naganobu

Richard Omatsu

Eiji & Kathy Suzuki

Koyu Kai 60+ Seniors

In Memory of Marie Itakura

Fiona McAlpine

Joyce & Donald Wall

Carol Katsura

In Memory of Swanee Inouye:

Koji & Ruth Honda

The Centre Needs a Secretary

Knowledge of Japanese and Japanese culture is an asset

3 days a week for 4 hours a day.

Applicant must be self motivated, and have excellent communication skills.

Computer skills are required.

Please apply with a resume to the CJCC or hcjcc@bellnet.ca

Keiro-Kai:

Sunday, April 22nd @ 2 pm

Jointly sponsored by: The Canadian Japanese Cultural Centre

And

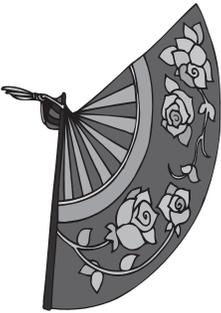
The Hamilton Chapter of the National Association of Japanese Canadians
Invites everyone to attend!

Complimentary tickets for those 70 years of age or over will be held at the door for persons who return the form below.

Adult: (under 70) \$25.00

Child: 12 & under: \$10.00

Regular Admission price includes bento.



For tickets and information, contact us at 905-383-5755 or at hjcc@bellnet.ca

Keiro-Kai, Form for Seniors
For Persons 70 years of age or over

Please complete this form and return it by Monday April 6, 2012 to:
The Canadian Japanese Cultural Centre,
45 Hempsstead Drive, Hamilton, ON L8W 2Y6
Please reserve complimentary ticket(s) for:

✂-----

Name _____ Year of Birth _____

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