



February 2017

NEWS FROM THE DIRETOR

Rain and more rain. I never thought I would be complaining about the rain, but it would be nice to have sunshine for a couple of days so that we can dry out a little.

Iemoto Akane Teshigahara's New Book: I will be placing the order for Miss Akane's new book commemorating Sogetsu's 90th anniversary in less than two weeks. I have heard from a number of you already. If you are interested in obtaining a copy, please let me know as soon as possible. The total cost is \$55.00. Make the check out to me. I will then make a single payment to Headquarters using my account.

90th Anniversary Celebration in Tokyo and I.I. World Convention: A number of our Branch members will be attending the 90th anniversary celebrations at the Sogetsu Kaikan, April 5th through the 9th. Following three days of workshops, including a Book#5 training session, Iemoto Akane Teshigahara will present an Ikebana Performance on April 9th. After the events in Tokyo, we travel to Okinawa for the Ikebana International 11th World Convention April 12th through the 15th. Miss Akane will be demonstrating as will the heads of all the major schools. As with the Sogetsu 90th celebrations, people from all over the world will be attending these events. I will report on both of these events in the May newsletter.

Promotions: Elan *Soshun* Rosenquist has been promoted to Second Grade, Sanyo. Congratulations Elan.

Future Programs:

March 25, 2017 – The March program is our Annual General meeting. We will review the past year's activities and preview plans for the coming year. A demonstration taken from lessons in the new Text Book #5 will follow. Five of the teachers from our Branch will each take a lesson from the new Text Book #5 and demonstrate. Joan *Yusui* Suzuki will arrange lesson 5-4, "Green Plant Materials"; Yoshiko *Hogetsu* Williams will present lesson 5-19, "Relief Works"; Yoshi *Hokei* Hollis will take lesson 5-8, "In a Suiban without Kenzan"; Jane *Suiei* Naito will demonstrate 5-13, "Glass Containers"; and Ron *Kodo* Brown will demonstrate 5-15, "Miniature Ikebana". This will prove to be a most enlightening program.

Textbook #5 Training Workshop - Mr. Tetsunori Kawana will lead the west coast regional training workshop for Textbook #5 on May 17th and 18th in San Jose. Please see the attached flyer. Let me know if you plan to attend and I can add

June program – Plans are in the works to have a Branch field trip/workshop in June. As soon as plans have been finalized, we will provide further information.

Mr. Kawana in Seattle – Mr. Tetsunori Kawana will be in the Seattle area the weekend of August 5th and 6th. More information will be forthcoming.

Upcoming Exhibitions, Demonstrations and Workshops by Branch

Members – This portion of the Newsletter is devoted to programs given by our Branch members for I.I. Chapters and other flower related organizations.

Men's Day: Elan *Soshun* Rosenquist and Ron *Kodo* Brown will demonstrate at the Men's Day program for the San Francisco Chapter of Ikebana International on Friday, February 17th. The noon program will be held at the San Francisco County Fair Building, corner of 9th and Lincoln Way in Golden Gate Park. James Crowther and Mits Hirano will exhibit.

I.I. Biennial Flower Show: Many of our members will be participating in the Ikebana International San Francisco Bay Area Chapter biennial flower show, March 18th and 19th. Show hours are from 10am to 4 pm daily. Demonstrations are at 12 noon and 2pm each day. Michiko *Seiei* Shimoda will represent Sogetsu on Saturday, March 18th at 2pm. This is the one of the largest Ikebana International flower shows in the country.

Bouquets to Art: Among the exhibitors will be Michiko *Seiei* Shimoda.

50th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival: Katsuko *Biko* Thielke and Sharon *Suimei* Doi will exhibit at the 50th annual San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival. The exhibition dates are April 8-9: hours are 11am to 5pm on Saturday and 11am to 4pm on Sunday. The exhibition is being held at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, 1840 Sutter St., San Francisco.

Ikebana International San Francisco Celebrates Sogetsu's 90th – Friday May 18th features a program celebrating the 90-th anniversary of the founding of the Sogetsu School. Joan *Yusui* Suzuki, Yoshiko *Hogetsu* Williams and Ron *Kodo* Brown will be joined by Soho Sakai in this demonstration. Thanh Nguyen will be the Chair of the Day. As there have been four Headmasters in Sogetsu's history, each demonstrator will create arrangements inspired by one of these Ikebana artists. This will be a fascinating program that explores the history of Sogetsu through our 90 years of artistic achievements.

If you are able, please attend one or all of these programs and support our Branch members.

We face many challenges and opportunities in the coming New Year. While we live in uncertain times, we can spread joy, beauty and hope through our Ikebana. Let us strive to create spaces and places where the spirit of Ikebana shines for all to see.

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