

# Moshi Moshi

Edmonton Japanese Community Association

Vol. 26, No. 3, January - February 2001

*Happy New Year from the Staff of the Moshi Moshi!*

## Toward 2005: A Discussion with our Members on the Future of the Edmonton Japanese Community (We Need Your Help!)

The Edmonton Japanese Community Association's Board of Directors, in cooperation with the EJCA Wellness in Living Committee, is inviting all concerned members and their spouses of the Edmonton Japanese community to participate in a **free brunch & meeting/discussion** February 10, 2001.

What we discover from you will be critical in our planning for the next 5 years.

Since the official registration of our Association in 1975, we have developed very useful and valuable programs and facilities to maintain and strengthen our culture and community. We also know that since that time, situations and conditions have changed for us and those related to our community. i.e. Japanese school, cultural integration.

Before adding or changing new services or facilities specifically for our community, we need to know from you how we can make a difference in the lives and culture of our community.

**(Please See page 4 for the Format of the Meeting/Discussion)**

### EJCA BRUNCH MEETING TOWARD 2005

February 10, 2001  
Fantasyland Hotel  
10:00 - 11:30 am Brunch  
11:30 - 4:00 pm Meeting

If you plan to attend the Brunch Meeting, please phone Ken Tanaka at the Centre (466-8166) by **February 6, 2001**. EJCA will pay for the Brunch for those attending, but since we have to let the hotel know the number attending by February 7, no shows will be charged \$20.

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Ken Tanaka 466-8166

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"Moshi Moshi" is a publication of the Edmonton Japanese Community Association. Its objective is to disseminate information of interest to the Japanese community, including announcements of upcoming events.

We are grateful to the businesses who have placed advertisements which help to defray the cost of publishing.

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## Deadline for Submissions for the Next Issue (Vol. 26, No. 4) is March 10, 2001

### Submission Deadlines for other upcoming issues:

Volume 26, No. 5 - May 10, 2001

Volume 26, No. 6 - July 10, 2001

Volume 27, No. 1 - September 10, 2001

Volume 27, No. 2 - November 10, 2001

Volume 27, No. 3 - January 10, 2002



# President's Corner

Florence Ingham

On October 14th we welcomed the new elected members to our board. Election of officers were then held to fill the vacant positions. The members got down to business of planning the activities for the upcoming year. The board members stressed a keen desire to attract our younger members to serve on the board. Several ideas were discussed.

The November 14th meeting brought the return of our many different cultural groups who updated us with their activities. The evening was a lovely social evening. The following groups were represented:

John Priegert - Karate, 13 students

Hideji Ono - U of A Aikido Club -50 members  
The U of A Aikido Club was founded in 1976 and this is the first time that Mr. Ono has attended a board meeting.

Yuri Nakano - Japanese Christian Church - 25 members.

We are pleased to have both the Japanese Christian Church and the EJCA holding joint activities. They also mentioned they would like to hold Sunday services at the Centre and invite one and all to participate.

Martin Shukuda - Japanese Language School  
There have been many changes in the school such as moving from strictly Japanese-speaking environment to making available both English and Japanese. Some newer families to the community do not speak Japanese at home. The school has also applied for a Casino and have requested assistance from within the EJCA to help staff it when the time comes. A request was made to use our Cultural Centre for future Japanese classes, thereby moving the school from the current venue (Westbrook School) to the centre. It would be nice to see the Japanese Language School located on the premises.

Peter - JET Alumni is presently assisting those JET people going to Japan and those who have returned.

Kazuko Hirata - Calligraphy

The Calligraphy group practices their art once a month where their assignments are then sent to Japan to be marked. Their first exhibition was just recently held at the Muttart conservatory to huge round of success.

Atsumi Hashimoto - Chanoyou Group - 5 members, anyone interested please join.  
This group is responsible for preparing the tea ceremonies at the Devonion Gardens once a month.

Greg Shimizu - Kita no Taiko - 11 members  
It goes without saying that our long standing Kita no Taiko can always use members. Greg is the driving force behind the Asian Month Activities which will be held in May throughout the City of Edmonton. Help in terms of time, cultural presentation (Odori, etc.) would be generously accepted.

Ken and Diane McIntyre - Friendship Force International - promotes international exchange.

The EJCA Christmas Party was a great success. We all enjoyed the magician and the children had a wonderful time with games and other activities. A special thanks goes to our many volunteer chefs.

The EJCA New Years pot luck party saw a delightful array of delicious Japanese food. Thank you Mrs. Sanae Ohki for making the delicious Ozoni and Jim Hoyano for taking care of the wine and beer. It was refreshing to see so many young people at this function. Thank you Mrs. Keiko Frueh and the dancers and Maureen Miyagishima (koto) for providing us the entertainment. Thank you Rick Hirata for taking care of the PA system for the Christmas and the New Year parties.

Discussions were held at the board meeting of January 10, 2001 regarding the listing of our Centre phone number in the directory. While it is listed under Edmonton Japanese Community Association, this name is difficult to find for those new to the city. It was decided to also list the Centre number as Japanese Community Association (Edmonton) in addition to EJCA. We can look forward to the new listing in next year's telephone directory.

Continued on Page 4...

Florence Ingham...Continued from Page 3

The History Book Committee reported that the project may be not just a book but more multimedia related. The funding from the Centennial Celebration Legacy fund is promising.

The Seniors Wellness/Housing Committee reported that they are looking into funding/grants, feasibility study, etc. The board has agreed that a consultant be hired to act as the advisor. The whole concept should be a wider thing than just seniors housing. There should be cultural enhancement support programs, integration with other groups and activities in which they can participate. THE EJCA BOARD INVITES ALL MEMBERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THIS PROJECT TO A RETREAT/BRAINSTORMING COMPLIMENTARY BRUNCH BUFFET SESSION ON FEBRUARY 10th AT 10:00 AM AT THE FANTASYLAND HOTEL. PLEASE PHONE KEN TANAKA AT 466-8166 IF YOU ARE DEFINITELY ATTENDING THIS SESSION BY FEBRUARY 6th (please see the ad on the front page).

Hideji Ono has planned a one-day Ski Trip to Jasper on March 17th. Please phone Ken if you would like to participate.

A DONBURI FOOD WORKSHOP has been planned for March 24th. Look for details in the next Moshi Moshi. This workshop is limited attendance and it will be accepted on a first come basis. It would be advisable to have a Donburi bowl or purchase one.

It is fast approaching that annual time again when Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (previously know as Revenue Canada) requires volunteers to help prepare personal tax returns for seniors and others seeking assistance. Phone Ken Tanaka at the centre to let him know if you can help.

We were pleased that Mr. Tom Sando has his book "Wild Daisies in the Sand" published. The proceeds from the sale of the book will be put in a fund to assist others wishing to publish a book on their Japanese Canadian experiences. Sando-san's book is the English version of the Japanese one published in 1996. The book deals with the poignant story of his life during the WW II when he was imprisoned in the Angler prison; it is derived from the diary he kept while in Angler. It is available at the Centre at a cost of \$15.00. Please call Ken if you wish to purchase this wonderful

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## Toward 2005: A Discussion with our Members

The following is what we hope to accomplish at the February 10 Brunch meeting at the Fantasyland Hotel.

With the assistance of a professional leader, we have planned the meeting to discover, from you the community, information related to the following:

- How has the Association changed since we were formed?
- What has the Association contributed to the Japanese community?
- What new opportunities should the Association

consider to build and strengthen the community?

- Does the present Centre meet the present needs of the Association?
- What additional facilities should the Association consider to meet the future needs of the community?

The Association and the Wellness in Living Committee will use the information you provide in planning both short and long-term opportunities to enhance the lives and culture of the Edmonton Japanese Community Association.

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## Donations

EJCA gratefully acknowledges donations from the following:

Kiyoshi Shimizu, Victoria, BC  
Aiko Murakami  
Mr. & Mrs. K. Haraguchi, Tokyo, Japan



## NAJC President's Reports



Keiko Miki

**Season's Greetings!** On behalf of Council and the Executive Committee of the National Association of Japanese Canadians, I want to extend to you my warmest wishes for a joyful Christmas, a prosperous Happy New year and thank you for your continued support over the past year.

At the NAJC Annual General Meeting on September 23, I reported that we want the NAJC empowered and prepared both financially and structurally to meet future challenges in meeting the needs of the community. We want to ensure that the NAJC will provide leadership at the national level. The restructuring that is taking place allows the NAJC to be more inclusive of the diversity that exists within the Japanese Canadian community and more effectively carry out the programs of the organization.

We are living in a very exciting period in our history, a critical time of revitalization and transition across the country. The NAJC will continue to represent the best interests of Japanese Canadians at the national level through involvement with our community, government and other organizations. It has been a busy year as I have represented NAJC at the following events:

- A public community meeting in Lethbridge where a new Nikkei Cultural Group was formed
- Keirokai parties in Thunder Bay and Ottawa
- Canadian Ethnocultural Council biennial meeting
- Harmony International (Japanese Women's ) Group in Toronto
- Japanese Canadian Redress Foundation meeting in Vancouver
- Pioneer 2000 Conference on immigration in Winnipeg
- Forum and dinner hosted by the Canadian Race Relations Foundation in Winnipeg
- Regional consultation meetings in Winnipeg and Montreal in preparation for the UN World Conference Against Racism in South Africa in 2001 and Advisory Committee meeting in Ottawa

The NAJC in partnership with the Canadian

Ethnocultural Council has completed, after two years of preparation, a successful major project called *era21 end racism! Activism for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*. We owe a debt of gratitude to Randy Enomoto and Audrey Kobayashi and the volunteers for their commitment to the project; for planning and coordinating the conference that took place on November 17-19, 2000 in Vancouver. The follow-up information from the workshops will be posted on the web site [www.era21.net](http://www.era21.net).

I have just read a book called *Japanese Canadian Redress: The Toronto Story*, that is, "an attempt to recognize the personal sacrifices made by many 'unsung heroes' of the Redress movement in Toronto". This documentation contains personal accounts and brings to light the internal community conflicts that divided the Toronto community during the redress movement. It also illustrates how a small group of dedicated community volunteers with strong principles and commitment were successful in providing the support from Toronto to the NAJC that led to a just and honourable settlement. This is an inspiration to all volunteers who work unselfishly for their communities. Each one of us represents one small piece of a puzzle which, when put together, creates the bigger image of a completed picture.

In the coming year, the NAJC plans to provide opportunities and support for dialogue among diverse groups within the Japanese Canadian community. One of the first projects to take place in 2001 is a *Human Rights Forum* January 13-14 in Vancouver. The objectives of the forum are to sensitize and motivate participants towards human rights and to activate the National Committee. Another event which is fast approaching is *PANA or Pan American Nikkei Association's 11<sup>th</sup> COPANI conference* in New York City July 25-28<sup>th</sup>, 2001. This is an wonderful opportunity to meet other Nikkei from the Americas. Check out the web site [www.pnausaeast.org](http://www.pnausaeast.org). If you are interested in the Human Rights Forum or the PANA conference, call the NAJC office at (204) 943-2910.

### **UN World Conference Against Racism**

As a member of the Advisory Committee to the Secretariat for the World Conference Against

Continued on Page 9...

## EJCA Seniors Club Activities

A trip to San Francisco is slated to depart on April 20th, 2001, a day before the Cherry Blossom Festival begins. The cost will be approximately \$1,000.00 for the 5-night, 6-day trip. Seniors who have attended the regular seniors meetings will be eligible for travel subsidy. This package is available to all EJCA and friends/family, but travel subsidy is only eligible to our Seniors who meet the required guidelines. There are already fourteen people registered to go on this trip. If you are not already registered, please call Tammy Tsujikawa. Non refundable deposit of \$150.00 is required by February 10th.

The EJCA Board has invited ALL SENIORS to come to a complimentary brunch buffet on February 10th at 10 am at the Fantasyland Hotel to a brainstorming session to discuss

Wellness/Seniors housing. Please phone Ken 466-8166 if you are interested in attending this session.

At the Seniors' meeting of January 13, 2001, we finally agreed on the logo design and, in turn, a pin for the Seniors to wear with pride or distribute. The Seniors will now make a formal presentation to the Board. If the design meets with approval, you never know, we just might see the same logo (or a variation of it) for the EJCA. If you want to be part of the decision-making process, the presentation will be February 14, 2001.

The seniors April meeting will be on the 7th instead of the 14th.

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## San Francisco in April 2001

All EJCA members and their friends and family are invited to register for this fabulous trip to San Francisco during the Cherry Blossom Festival. See the sights of San Francisco such as Fisherman's Wharf, Chinatown, Coit Tower, the Crookedest Street in the World, Golden Gate Park, etc.

**Dates: Departs Saturday April 20, 2201and returns Wednesday April 25**

**Cost: \$1,000/person (includes airfare and 5 nights accomodation, double sharing)**

To register for this trip, please call Tammy Tsujikawa (466-1545) as soon as possible; **a non-refundable deposit of \$150 is required by February 10th, 2001.**



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## Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 28, 2001	10th Annual Karaoke Concert, at the Centre beginning at 2:00 pm
February 10, 2001	EJCA Brainstorming Brunch, at the Fantasyland Hotel beginning at 10 am
February 14, 2001	EJCA Board Meeting, at the Centre, beginning at 7:30 pm
March 14, 2001	EJCA Board Meeting, at the Centre, beginning at 7:30 pm
March 17, 2001	Ski Trip to Jasper, bus leaves Centre at 5:45 am
March 24, 2001	Food Workshop at the Centre
April 11, 2001	EJCA Board Meeting, at the Centre, beginning at 7:30 pm
April 20, 2001	Departure for San Francisco

# Ski Jasper

## EJCA One-day ski trip to Jasper

Date: March 17, 2001, Saturday  
 Departure: Bus will leave at 5:45 a.m.  
 Location: EJCA Cultural Centre Parking  
 Return: Bus will return around 10:00 p.m.

### Prices

	Skier	Non-Skier
Adult	\$75.00	\$38.50
Age 13-17	\$68.50	\$38.50
Age 6-12	\$49.25	\$34.25
Age Under 5	\$31.00	\$31.00

The above price includes motorcoach transportation, a Park Permit, a lift ticket for skiers, and GST. The first 55 paid registered people will be accepted. Please complete the attached Registration Form and return to Ken Tanaka at the Centre (mailing address: 6750 – 88 Street, Edmonton, AB T6E 5H6) with a check payable to the EJCA no later than February 15, 2001. For more information contact Hideji Ono at phone: 458-7269, or e-mail: sono@v-wave.com.

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## Ski Jasper Registration

EJCA ski trip on March 17, 2001

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME	AGE	SKIER	FEE	Special Requirements
		Y/N		
		Y/N		
		Y/N		
		Y/N		
		Y/N		

No refund after February 15, 2001.

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Happy New Year!

### Sayuri Matsuba

On the morning of January 1, as soon as I woke up, my husband immediately said "Happy New Year!", and asked me how he would say that in Japanese.

My husband is a Nikkei Sansei. He understands some Japanese but his vocabulary is very limited. He would just gather simple words and put as many verbs as he knows. He does not know proper, formal greetings and not many colloquial expressions.

I said the equivalent of "Happy New Year" is "Shin-nen Omedeto gozaimasu or Akemashite Omedeto gozaimasu". He began practicing it, repeatedly.

Then, a little later, he said to me, "I will say to mother 'shin-nen Omedeto gozaimasu' when she wakes up". "Oh, mother would be very happy to hear that!" I said. He kept practicing happily.

My mother will be 93 years old this coming May. In August of 1995, she was brought to Edmonton by me. Indeed, "brought here" fits very well with the situation. My mother had never imagined that she would live with me in this cold Edmonton, even in her dreams. As for me, I have never had thought of bringing her here to Canada either.

But after I had witnessed my mother's situation in Japan, I could not come back to Edmonton, leaving my mother in that hospital.

In March of 1995, my mother suffered her third stroke and was lying in a hospital bed. My brother called from Japan, saying "this might be the last chance you can see her, so come back as soon as you can". I left for Japan on the first of July after my school went into summer vacation.

However, when I got to my mother she was quite lively. I was told, for two weeks after the stroke, she could not move her hands and legs, and she could not talk. But when I got there, that was about four months after her stroke, and she had recovered to the level where she was able to take her meals sitting on the bed. Although rather weak voiced, she was able to talk with a raspy voice. Mentally she was sound. But she said she had never used her legs for these four months.

"I asked for help to get up and walk, but not even once I got a help", she said with tears in her eyes. "I won't be able to walk if I were left like this". Her voice was quivering.

As I commuted to the hospital everyday, I began to see the situation better. In the hospital room where my mother was, there were six old women who were considered by their doctors that they only needed rehabilitation.

When I looked around, in front of my mother's bed, there was a 90 year old woman who was fed liquid food from a tube which went through her nose. I was told she hardly has any consciousness left and was only waiting to die day after day. Right next to my mother's bed, there was a woman whose hands were tied to the bed, and she was continuously shouting something. She was mentally gone and she was so unpredictable and no one knew what she might do if her hands were freed. There was a woman who was completely deaf, and other one was constantly complaining.

"No doctors and nurses come to this room at all. Some patients hire helpers to take care of them", mother said intermittently. I found out that they were paying each helper about \$100 a day, and my mother had been staying here for over two months.

"A helper will not stay during the night. They say they are tired.... There is nothing more miserable than waiting for the morning with a wet diaper on.", she murmured. I have read somewhere that as the number of diapers increase, the person is near death, and it is indeed true.

And all these patients in here had no place to go. No old age homes will take old people who cannot stand or walk due to some illness, and there are few families who would take a sick old parent with disabled hands and legs to their home. My mother's case was exactly that. Facilities which might take my mother in were all full. My mother was begging me to take her home, repeatedly. I made my mind up to ask my brother and his wife. "Mother wants to go home.....". My brother's wife shouted hysterically, "What do you think I am! Even if I was called a ogre, I cannot live with mother!!!".

Continued on Page 9...



## Keiki Miki...Continued from Page 5

Racism, I have been involved in a couple of the regional consultation meetings that have been held across the country during September and October. I was able to attend the meeting in Winnipeg September 11-12 and in Montreal October 20-21. As well meetings have been held in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, and Halifax. The Iqaluit meeting was canceled. These consultations provide an opportunity for non-government organizations and individuals who are in the field of anti-racism to provide input on the document that will become Canada's position at the UN conference in South Africa in August, 2001.

As well, the results of the consultations will be the basis of future domestic policies by the Canadian Government. The Advisory Committee will recommend priority key issues that will reflect the

results of the consultation. Some of the issue identified are; anti racism education, hate propaganda/media, past wrongs /history /redress, globalization /human rights, immigration /refugee, justice /systemic bias, remedies /victims rights /support services, and lack of compliance of Canada with UN agencies /legal obligation. A process will be established to determine the representatives of the Canadian delegation and for funding for the Canadian NGOs at the Hemispheric conference in Chile in December and in South Africa. A National Consultation meeting will be held in February or March. Aboriginal and youth issues have been given high priority and so a parallel process for these areas have been set up.

## Sayuri Matsuba...Continued from Page 8

I stood there without a word for a while because of her violent reaction.

Five years have passed. My mother had endured. She is still enduring now. The right side of her body is paralyzed and on top of that, she has pain from the sciatic nerve. Pain attacks her everyday with a different force. "Oh it hurts, it hurts", she cried. There are many pain killers but they do not work for severe pain. "It is hard to be alive", she says. Her doctor no longer looks after her. "Pain might be reduced if she has a surgery, but at 92....".

With my support, she wobbles and staggers everyday, trying to walk. She stands still to bear the pain, grinding her teeth.

Her day begins with pain and ends with pain. No

it does not seem to end. Sometimes she suffers throughout the night.

Mother likes to read. I admire her perseverance. She reads to 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. She says she wants to forget the pain. She does a lot of paper folding (origami). She fears the loss of mobility in her hands and fingers.

This New Year is her 6th one in Edmonton. "Mother, Shin-nen Omedeto Gozaimasu", my husband says to her. It is quite good Japanese. It showed how well he practices. It made me happy. "Shin-nen Omedeto gozaimasu", says my mother. She is full of smiles.

Another new year is just beginning. I tell myself, "I will endure this year".

### Wild Daisies in the Sand by Tom Sando

Now you can read the English version of Tom Sando's life in the Angler prison camp from 1942 to 1946. The book was published in Japanese in 1995 from the Japanese diary Tom kept during his days in Angler. The book tells what it was really like living at Angler, with its severe conditions and the will of all the internees to survive to the end of the war.

Copies of the book are available at the EJCA Centre for \$15.00. Proceeds of the book will be put into a fund to assist in the publication of other books on the Japanese Canadian experience.

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## Edmonton Japanese Christian Church



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 Phone: 440-1549  
 Email: [ejpc@telusplanet.net](mailto:ejpc@telusplanet.net)  
 webpage: [www.telusplanet.net/public/ejpc](http://www.telusplanet.net/public/ejpc)

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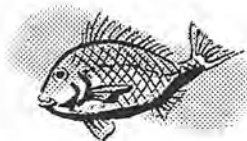
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## エドモントン日系協会 2005年へ向けて メンバーの皆様との討論会

2月10日 (土曜日)  
ファンタシーランド・ホテル  
10時AM-11:30AM ブランチ  
11:30AM-4:00AM ミーティング

ブランチは無料です。2月6日までにセンターのケン・タナカ (466-8166) まで登録してください。登録していて当日出席しない場合は\$20の罰金です。人数分の料理を注文するためキャンセルの場合は早めをお願いします。

## 未来へ向けて 知恵絞りのブランチ

EJCA役員会は「ウエルネス・イン・リビング」委員会と共に日系コミュニティ中で関心のある方たちを2月10日のブランチ及びミーティングへご招待いたします。

これからの5年間の計画を立てるために皆様からのインプットは非常に大切です。

1975年に現EJCAが設立されて以来、私たちは日系カルチャーとコミュニティを持続、発展させるための種々のプログラムや施設を育て成功してきました。その間にも私たち自身が変わり、コミュニティも変わってきました。例えば、以前は考えていなかった日本語学校のセンター使用の必要性や日本人教会のセンター利用可能性などがあります。また多くの文化グループの活動の活発化に伴いセンターが手狭になりつつあることなど。

私たちのコミュニティのために新しいサービスを加えたり、建物に手を加える前に、私たちコミュニティの生活や文化をどのようにして改善することができるかを皆様から教えてもらうことが必要です。

専門のファシリテーターの助けを得て、コミュニティの皆様から下記のような情報を得たく、ミーティングを計画しました。

- ・ EJCAが設立されてからどのように変わってきたか。
- ・ EJCAは日系コミュニティにどのような貢献をしてきたか。
- ・ コミュニティを推進強化するためにEJCAはどんなことを考えるべきか。
- ・ 現在のセンターは現在のEJCAのニーズを満たしているか。
- ・ コミュニティの将来のニーズを考えてセンターにどのような建て増しが必要か。

EJCAと「ウエルネス・イン・リビング」委員会は皆様からの情報を日系社会の生活と文化を増強するための短期および長期計画に役立てます。

## フローレン・スインガム EJCA会長の言葉

10月14日の役員会では新役員を歓迎し、各役職を割り当てました。新年度の行事を検討し、計画をねりました。若い世代に役員として参加してもらう必要性を痛感しました。いくつかのアイデアが検討されました。

11月14日の役員会では各文化グループの代表が集まり、各グループの最近の活動についての報告がありました。出席したグループは下記の通りです。

・ジョン・ブリガート：空手グループ 13名

・ヒデジ・オーノ：アルバータ大学合気道グループ 50名；大学の合気道グループは1976年に結成されていますが、今回が初めての出席です。

・ユリ・ナカノ：日本人教会 25名 EJCAが教会と日本語学校合同の行事を行うことに感謝している。

・マーチン・シュクダ：日本語学校；日本語だけの環境から英語／日本語両方を使うようになってきている。コミュニティーの新しい家庭では日本語を使っていない。学校はカジノに応募しているので、その時にはEJCA会員の協力をお願いしたい。将来現在のウエストブルック・スクールからセンターへ学校を移したい。センターに学校ができることはうれしいことです。

・ピーター JETアルミナイ（同窓会）：JETは日本へ行く人達、帰国した人達を援助している。

・カズコ・ヒラタ：書道グループ 月一度会合し、作品は日本へ送られて評価され、送り返される。最近、最初の展示会をムタート植物園で開き大成功をおさめた。

・アツミ・ハシモト：茶の湯グループ 5名；月一度デボニアン日本園で茶会を開催、もっと会員を増やしたい。

・グレッグ・シミズ：北の太鼓、11名；いつでも新しい会員を歓迎、グレッグはまた5月に催される当市の「アジアの月」の推進者、文化展示、おどりなどを歓迎。

・ケン、ダイアン・マッキンタイア：フレンドシップ・フォース・インターナショナル；国際交流推進

EJCAクリスマス・パーティーは大成功でした。皆さんが手品を楽しみ、子供たちはゲームや色々な手芸を楽しみました。大勢のボランティア・シェフには特別の感謝をいたします。

EJCA新年会は持ち寄りで美味しい日本食がテーブル一杯に並んで豪華でした。大木早苗さんはお雑煮を作り、ジム・ホヤノはワインとビールを用意してくれました。大勢の若い人達の参加が新鮮でした。モーリーン・ミヤギシマのお琴とケーコフルーさんと若葉会のみなさんが踊りを舞い参加者を楽しませてくれました。リック・ヒラタはクリスマス・パーティーと新年会両方のPAシステムを担当してくれました。

1月10日の役員会では当市の電話帳に日系人会の名前を今までのに加えてJapanese Community Association of Edmonton (see Edmonton Japanese Community Association)としても掲載することを決議しました。当市に新しい人達がこの会を探しやすくするためです。

北アルバータ日系史は全体的な歴史に関連して日系史を位置付けていく方針を決めています。センテニアル・プログラムからの助成金を得られるよう準備しています。

ウエルネス・イン・リビング委員会は助成金の出所を検討していましたが、まずコンサルタントを雇いました。シニアの住居よりもっとセンターを中心とした大

きな計画をたてる必要性が明らかになりました。文化活動を盛んにし、いろいろなグループがもっと一緒に活動できる環境を作りあげることなどを話し合いました。その一環として、役員会は2月10日、ファンタシー・ランドホテルで「リトリート／知恵絞り」の会合を持つことを決議しました。詳細はこの号の広告を見てください。

役員ヒデジ・オーノが3月17日の日帰りスキー旅行を計画しています。詳細はこの号の広告を見てください。

3月24日の「フード・ワークショップ」では「親子どんぶり」を作ります。参加したい人はケンタナカまで電話して下さい(466-8166)。参加者は「どんぶり」持参のこと。人数に限りがありますので早めに申し込んでください。

カナダ・カスタムス／レベニュー・エージェンシー（以前はレヴェニュー・カナダ）はシニアや助けが必要な人達のためにボランティアを探しています。もし助けることができる人はケンタナカまでお電話ください。



## EJCAシニア・クラブのサンフランシスコ旅行

EJCAシニア・クラブは4月下旬にサンフランシスコへの5泊6日の旅行をけいかくしています。この旅行にはシニア以外の人達も参加できますのでお誘いいたします。シニア・クラブのミーティングに定期的に参加している人達にはEJCAから助成金がでます。下記の費用は助成金が入っていない額です。

旅行の日時：4月20日から4月25日まで。サンフランシスコの有名な桜祭りの時期  
 行き先：サンフランシスコ  
 宿泊先：ミヤコ・イン（日本人街）  
 費用：約\$1,000（飛行機代と宿泊代込み）

参加を希望される方は2月10日までに\$150.00のデポジットを支払うこと。詳細はフローレンス・インガム またはユミコ・ホヤノまでご連絡ください。

## EJCAジャスパーへの日帰りスキー旅行

日時：3月17日（土曜日）

出発：センターから午前5時45分

帰還：午後10時ころ

費用：

	スキーをする人	スキーをしない人
大人	\$75.00	\$38.50
13歳17才	\$68.50	\$38.50
6歳12才	\$49.25	\$34.25
5才以下	\$31.00	\$31.00

上記費用はバス、公園入場料金、スキーをする人のリフト費と税金が入っています。人数に制限があり、費用を払った順に55名に限られます。英語部の申込用紙に記入の上、センターのケン・タナカまで2月15日までに申し込んでください。住所は6750-88 Street, Edmonton, AB, T6E 5H6；チェックの宛名はEdmonton Japanese Community Association。詳細はヒデジオノ(458-7269)へ連絡してください。

E-mail: sono@v-wave.com

## シニア・クラブからの報告

サンフランシスコへの旅行は4月20日に出発と決まりました。「桜祭」の一日前です。5泊6日の旅行で費用は約\$1,000です。シニア・クラブの会合に定期的に参加したい人達には助成金ができます。この旅行にはシニア・クラブ以外のEJCA会員その家族も参加できますが助成金はできません。今までに14名が参加を希望しています。参加者は2月10日までに\$150の手付け金を収める必要があります。タミー・ツジカワへ連絡してください(466-1545)。

EJCA役員会はシニア・クラブの皆様を2月10日のファンタシーランド・ホテルでの10時からのランチ、引き続き「リトリート/知恵絞り」の会合へ招待しています。参加したい人は2月6日までにケン・タナカまでお電話ください。詳細はこの号の広告をご覧ください。

1月13日の会合でシニア・クラブの「ロゴ」をデザインしました。誇りをもってつけることができるピンを作ります。シニア・クラブはこれを役員会へ提出しますので、もし承認されたら、協会自体もこのロゴかそれに似たものを採用するかもしれません。この決定の段階に参加したい人は、提出は2月14日の役員会で行われます。

2月のミーティングは上記の催しものためにキャンセルします。3月10日の定例会はいつものように午前11時かの予定です。

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### お知らせ

グレーターバンクーバー移住者の会が発行した下記の二冊をセンターの図書館に入れますので必要の方はご覧ください。BC州で出版されているのでBC州に関する法律が主ですが当州にも該当する点が多くあります。貸出はしませんので必要なページをセンターでコピーされること。

「カナダの常識」：カナダの政治のしくみ、カナダの歴史、日本との関係、市民権の取り方などが簡単に記載されています。

「日本語による法律講習会抄録(1998年判)」：住宅の賃貸借、BC州の労働基準法、BC州の医療制度、自動車保険と交通事故(BC州の場合)、家庭の防犯、別居と離婚、改訂された移民法、税関と関税、小額請求裁判、確定申告、禁治産に関する法律、消費者保護、国民年金と老齢年金、刑事法

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### 「Wild Daisies in the Sand」

トム・サンドー・クワバラさんの日本語の本「囚われの身」の英訳が最近出版されました。第二次大戦中、オンタリオ州のアングラー・プリズン・キャンプに他の大勢の日本人/日系人と共に暮らしたとき書いた日記で、当時の様子がバンクーバーからアングラーまで詳しく書かれています。当時の記録として貴重な資料となる本です。一冊\$15.00、センターのケン・タナカにご連絡ください。



## 「新年おめでとう」

松葉紗百合

元旦の朝、まだ眠い目をこすりこすり起きてきた私に主人がいきなり、「ハッピーニューイヤー」と言った。そして日本語ではどう挨拶するのと聞いた。

私の主人は日系三世、日本語は解らないわけではないが言葉の領域はすごく限られている。なにしろ簡単な単語のより集めに知っている限りの動詞がつく。正式な挨拶を始め、慣用句などもほとんど解らない。

それで、わたしが「新年おめでとうございます」とか「明けましておめでとうございます」って言うのよ、と教えると何度も何度も練習している。

しばらくしてから主人が「ほくはお母さんが起きてきたら『新年おめでとうございます』と言います」と私に告げた。「そう、お母さん喜ぶわ」と私が言うと、うれしそうにまた何度も何度も練習していた。

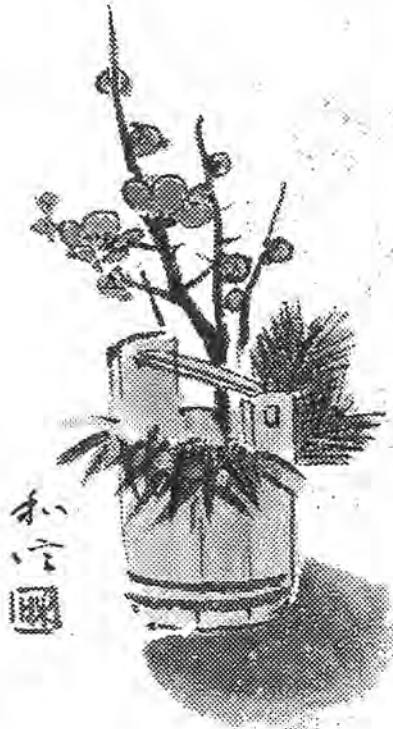
私の母は今年の5月で93歳になる。95年の8月に日本からエドモントンへ娘の私に連れてこられた。そう、連れて来られたと言う言葉がピッタリ当てはまる。母は夢にもこの寒いエドモントンで娘と一緒に暮らしたいなどと一度も思っただけであらう。私とて母をカナダに連れて来る気持ちはまるでなかったのだから……

でも日本での母の実情を見てしまった私は、自分の悪い癖もあるのだが、母を病院に残して一人でエドモントンへ帰ることがどうしても出来なくなってしまった。

95年の3月、母は3度目のストロークを起こして病院のベッドに伏せていた。「これが最後になるかもしれないから出来るだけ早く帰って来て欲しい」と日本の弟から電話連絡があり、私は学校が夏休みに入る

7月1日にあわてて日本へ帰った。

ところが母は意外と元気だった。ストロークをおこして二週間位は手足はほとんど動かず、話すことも出来なかったと言うが、私が会いに行った7月、つまりストロークをおこしてから4ヵ月目にはベッドで食事が出来るまでに回復していた。話すことも大きな声は出なかったが、かすれかすれでも何とか聞き取れる。頭もぼけずにしっかりしていた。だが足はこ



の4ヵ月間一度も動かしていないと言う。「何度も頼んだんだけど一度も歩かせてもらえなくて」と母は涙声で私に訴える。「このままでは歩けなくなってしまう」。母の声はふるえていた。

毎日病院へ通うにつれて、いろいろな事情が少しづつわかってきた。母の入れられている病院はリハビリだけを必要とす

患者と医者から見放された患者など老女6人の病室だった。

まわりを見渡すと母のベッドの前には鼻から流動食を入れてもらっている90歳のおばあさん、ほとんど意識がないと言う。一日一日死を待っている。母のとなりのベッドには手をベッドにくぐらされているおばあさん、なにやらしきりに叫んでいる。頭が少しおかしくて手を自由にすると何をし出すかわからないと言う。又、耳の聞こえないおばあさんやら、文句ばかり言っているおばあさんなど、患者はそれぞれまちまちだった。

「この病室には医者も看護婦もぜんぜん来ないんだよ。患者はヘルパーさんを雇って世話をしてもらっているの」と母はとぎれとぎれに語った。何とヘルパーさんに支払う一日の謝礼金は各人1万円だと言う（その当時のカナダ・ドルで\$100）。母はこの病室に2ヵ月以上も入っている。

「ヘルパーさんは夜は来てくれないの。疲れているからと言う理由なんだけど…

濡れたオムツをつけて朝の来るのをジッと待っているほどみじめな事はないよ」と母はほそほそと話す。オムツの回数が多ければ多いほど老人は死に近づいている。と何かの本で読んだ。本当だと思う。

ここに入っている患者のほとんどはここより行く場所がないと言う。

足腰のたたない病気のある老人はどこの老人ホームでも入れてくれないし、手足の不自由な厄介な老病人を引き取る家族はとでも少ない言う。母の場合もそうだった。母を入れてくれそうな施設はどこも満員だった。母は家に帰りがたがった。あまり何度も頼むので弟夫婦に話してみた。

「お母さんが家に帰りたと言っているんだけど……」  
弟の嫁がヒステリックに叫んだ。

「一体、私を何とされているんですか。鬼を言われようと私はお母さんと一緒に暮らせません。」

あまりの激しさに私は一瞬、ボカーンとしてしまい、次の言葉を失った。

あれから5年半の月日がたつ。母はよく頑張った。今でも頑張っている。

母は右半身不随な上、座骨神経痛の痛みがある。痛みはまちまちだが、毎日のように母を襲う。「痛い!、痛いよう」と涙をこぼす。痛み止めの薬はいろいろあるのだが、痛みがひどい時はほとんど効かない。

「生きるのが辛い」と母は訴える。ドクターも匙を投げた。「手術をすれば少しは良くなるかも……」。92歳の体ではとても無理だ。

母は毎日私に支えられ、ヨタヨタ、ヨロヨ

ロと歩き、立ち止まっては歯をくいしばって痛みをこられる。母の一日は痛みに始まり痛みで終わる。いや、終わることはあまりないらしい。夜中、痛みで苦しむこともあると言う。

母は良く本を読む。その根気の良さには頭が下がる。夜間2時3時まで読んでいる。痛みを少しでも忘れたいからと言う。折り紙もよくする。指や手を動かせなくなったら大変だからと言う。

生きると言う事、老いると言う事は何と大変なことか、母は毎日私に教えてくれる。

今年は母がエドモントンで迎える6回目のお正月である。

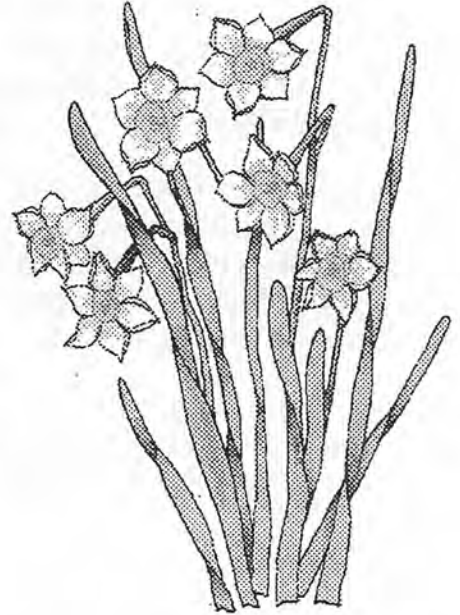
「おかあさん、新年おめでとうございます」と主人。なかなか上手な日本語だ。練習した甲斐あり。私は嬉しくなった。

「新年おめでとうございます」と母。

ニコニコしている。

又、新しい年が始まる。今年も何とか頑張ろう。私は自分の胸に言い聞かせた。

2001年元旦



## EJCA Membership Application/Renewal Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)

Please check as applicable:

- ( ) Family: \$30.00  
 ( ) Single: \$15.00  
 ( ) Out-of-Town Subscriber: \$15.00  
 ( ) Seniors (over 70): free

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form to:  
 EJCA  
 c/o Tak Nagata, Treasurer  
 #205, 10811 - 115 Street  
 Edmonton, Alberta  
 T5H 3L2