Yokkaichi Trio to Visit L.B. in 2016

In alternate years, one teacher and two high school students (16-17) from Long Beach are selected to visit Yokkaichi, Japan as goodwill ambassadors for a three-week cultural exchange. In alternate years, Long Beach hosts a trio from Yokkaichi.

2016 is our turn to host a trio from Yokkaichi, Japan and 6 families are being sought to serve as hosts this summer for two high school students and a teacher from Yokkaichi who will arrive on July 22.

Host families should have at least one child around the age of the visiting student and there should be a responsible adult during the guest’s stay.

Trio Arrive in Los Angeles: July 22, 2016
Trio Depart Los Angeles: August 9, 2016

Each member of the Yokkaichi trio will spend about 10 days with one family and the final 10 days with another family.

1st Group Host Family Stay 7/22—7/30/16
2nd Group Host Family Stay 7/31—8/9/16

If you are able to host or know a family who is interested in hosting one of the trio members, please contact:

Yoko Pusavat, Trio Committee Chair
yoko.pusavat@csulb.edu

Watch our website for more information!
http://longbeach-yokkaichi.org

2015 Environmental Summit Program

In 2007 former Yokkaichi Mayor Tetsuo Inoue established a program that sends a delegation of Long Beach students to participate in a solution-finding study and discussion regarding environmental problems with other students from Japan and China.

Four high school students and a chaperone from Long Beach are being sought to take part in this annual environmental summit to take place in Yokkaichi, Japan.

Environmental Summit Team Schedule
Depart LAX for Japan: July 31, 2016 (Rev.)
Return to LAX: August 8, 2016* (*This date may be extended)

Watch our website in February for application forms at http://longbeach-yokkaichi.org

If you have any questions, please contact:

Bonnie Sharp Stoeppelman, Committee Chair
Student Environmental Summit Program
Yokkaichi@SharpHOA.com / Bonnie@SharpHOA.com
310-514-1377

2015 Environmental Summit Delegates from Long Beach (in blue shirts), Japan and China.
2016 YEF Program

Are You Interested in Assistant Teaching in Yokkaichi, Japan?

One of the highlights of the Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association is the Yokkaichi English Fellows (YEF). This very successful program provides a job opportunity for Long Beach teachers or Cal State Long Beach graduates to serve for two years as assistant language teachers at the elementary and middle school levels in Yokkaichi, Japan.

This is an English immersion program for the students. Speaking Japanese is not required.

Selected teachers or new graduates will work at a paid position in the Yokkaichi School System. A total of seven YEFs are at the school system each year and are replaced on a rotating basis so that the 2nd-year YEFs may assist the new arrivals.

Applicants must have at least a Bachelor’s degree in any subject by May 2016 and must be a U.S. citizen. Applicants should enjoy working with students and be able to adjust to Japanese culture. The position will be for a two-year contract, with review after one year.

FOR INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
Jeanne Karatsu, YEF Program Chair
Phone: 562-498-2640

A Report from YEF David Hayter

2014 Yokkaichi English Fellow (YEF), David Hayter, recently sent a report from Yokkaichi describing his experiences. Below is a summary of his report:

“Some of my students had the opportunity to exchange letters with 5th graders from Tincher Preparatory School in Long Beach. The students in Yokkaichi enjoyed learning about the interests, hobbies and culture of their Long Beach counterparts. This was made possible by the efforts of the 2014 Yokkaichi Trio teacher, Megumi Kondo. I helped the students read the letters and write replies.

My second year in Yokkaichi has been great so far (see photo below of David with his students). I feel lucky to be able to share my culture and experiences with students and teachers, both in and out of the classroom.

In the new year I look forward to helping enrich the students’ learning through projects that combine English education along with social and international studies. I also hope to become more active in the community by seeking more volunteer and cultural exchange opportunities here in Yokkaichi. Here is to a prosperous new year!”

Doctors Program Kicks Off the New Year

Beginning in 2002, under the direction of the late Dr. John Kashiwabara, LBYSCA has taken part in an educational program in which the city of Yokkaichi selects practicing physicians to come to Long Beach and study Western medical techniques at Long Beach hospitals.

This year, we are currently expecting four doctors from Yokkaichi Municipal Hospital whose fields of practice are in orthopedics, neurology, cardiology and general surgery. They will be arriving on February 7.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Dr. James Wells, Doctors Program Chair, at 562-708-1976.
**2016 New Board President Named**

Frank Tabar, who joined LBYSCA in mid-2015, takes over the reins as the new LBYSCA Board President.

Frank is the current Senior Vice President and Strategic Risk and Operating Officer at Farmers and Merchants Trust Company in Long Beach. He joined F&M Trust Company in 2012 and has been in the trust business since 1983.

He earned his BS degree in business from San Diego, US International University, and his MBA in financial management from National University, Los Angeles. He has specialized training in trust and fiduciary risk and compliance and is a Certified Trust Auditor (CTA), a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and a Certified Securities Operation Professional (CSOP).

Frank has served on the boards of many charitable organizations such as Santa Barbara Rotary, YMCA, and Symphony.

He has been married to his wife, Mariko (LBYSCA Secretary), for over 35 years and they have two adult children. The Tabars reside in Long Beach and Santa Barbara.

If you have any questions regarding LBYSCA, please contact Frank at FrankTabar@yahoo.com.  

**LBYSCA Has a New Home**

After holding Board meetings at the Long Beach Port building for many years, the Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association now has a home of its own. The Long Beach Recreation Park Bandshell on 7th Street will be the place where monthly board meetings will be held every first Tuesday of each month.

The Bandshell has been a landmark of the park since 1929 and the interior was in need of renovations. Board members rolled up their sleeves and gave the upstairs room a good cleaning; applied several coats of paint; installed laminated flooring and new light fixtures.

Board treasurer, Victor Fukuhara, built two wooden 6-foot conference tables and the room is now ready for use.

Many thanks to LBYSCA Board member Jeanne Karatsu who procured a grant from the Miller Foundation which funded the renovations. Also, thanks to the following board members for volunteering their time and DIY talents: Will Cullen, Pat McMaster, Bonnie Stoepelman, Frank and Mariko Tabar, Mike and Aki Vaughn, Dr. James Wells; and very special thanks to Victor Fukuhara and Scott Warren.  

Website: http://longbeach-yokkaichi.org

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**2016 Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association**

**Board Members**

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<th>Janet Mullen</th>
<th>Mariko Tabar</th>
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<td>Bobby Rose</td>
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<td>Jim Krug</td>
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<td>Trisha Krug</td>
<td>Lee Schelin</td>
<td>James Wells, MD</td>
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<td>John McMaster</td>
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<td>Patricia McMaster</td>
<td>Miller Japanese Garden</td>
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**2016 LBYSCA Board Officers**

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