

Hiragana News

ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society Chairperson: Miwako Kato

http://ais2.web.officelive.com/default.aspx

April Schedule (10:00-12:00)

Date	Subject	Place
April 6 (Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu 1F Shōkaishitsu
	Board Meeting of new and former members	
April 13 (Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Shōkaishitsu
April 20 (Fri.)	Annual General Meeting	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
April 27 (Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Shōkaishitsu

There's an Annual General Meeting.
Please attend!!



On Feb. 24 in *Yumeparesu*, 11 AIS members (6 foreign members and 5 Japanese members) attended a workshop "Thinking About Internationalization" sponsored by the Asaka City Community Development Support Division. After listening to lecturer by Mr. Kazuhiko Takagi we thought about "How we feel when we don't understand language" through games and activities.

How do we communicate with each other? What do we need to consider when we become a speaker or a listener? With study and playing the Gesture Relay game, we could discover and learn better ways to express written phrases such as "After all it's right" and "It's very different from what I have thought."



Tea Break (T. T.)

Every Year I get a calendar from a temple. On the calendar very useful sentences are written with beautiful pictures. The sentences impress me and cause to reflect upon them.

This month's sentence is "People are sleeping with their eyes open." I'm one of them! It's surely reminds me of myself. Sometimes I think I see but actually not. One year has passed since nightmarish great earthquake occurred. From now on I want to see by my mind eyes and continue praying for people who faced the earthquake to return to their hometown as soon as possible.



March 30

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Printed and Posted by: Ota group,

Publicity Group Leader: Y. Itoh,

Receptionist Group Leader: H. Miura

Minutes of Board Meeting

Mar. 9th (10 Board Members and 2 Observers)

*Schedule and report from each group:

Information

*Japanese group section meeting: April 13 (Fri.) 9:00 to 9:50

*We will collect the membership fee for the next 6 months



Notice! Residency management system will change!

On Monday, July 9, 2012, a new residency management system will start. The current alien registration certificate will be replaced by a resident card. Furthermore, your period of stay might be extended to a maximum of 5 years depending on your resident status. Also, the re-entry permit system will be changed, and you will not have to apply for a re-entry permit if you re-enter Japan within 1 year of the date of your departure. For a fixed period of time after July 9, 2012, your alien registration certificate will be considered equivalent to a resident card, and you will be allowed to continue to use it. Be careful to check because this period depends on your resident status and your age.

If you have any concerns or trouble with the new system, please contact Ms. Regine Maeda.

How shall we overcome language problems?

AIS event for international understanding on Feb. 2 Report: Part 1

In the beginning, two Japanese members talked about their "foreign language experiences". "A" said, "After memorizing important sentence patterns, I tried to remember as many words as possible." "B" said, "I didn't like to study and I moved to Germany with my family without any knowledge of German. I learned German in my daily life there."

Later, we talked about two major topics in groups 8, with both Japanese and foreign members mixed together. We tried to speak slowly and clearly about various things, sometimes with help of translation. It was a very valuable experience for our international exchange activity. Here are the excerpts from the day's talk.



"How did you learn Japanese?"

-In a language school for a year and a half before coming to Japan/I took Japanese class in high school/I asked my friend to read and record a Japanese text book on tape after coming to Japan./A friend in my country advised me to watch Japanese TV programs and listen to Japanese music./In a doctor's office, I tried to communicate with gestures and by writing (ex. 熱 39°C) Especially, I had problems filling out the medical examination form as I didn't understand the contents at all/ I talked by just "laying out" the words I knew./A little at university in Japan. After marrying a Japanese, I learned to speak in Japanese through child rearing. I gained reading skills by reading magazines at a coffee shop with a dictionary in hand, while my child was at kindergarten./ My family and friends taught me./I had no knowledge of Japanese before coming to Japan. So I learned to speak through my job in Japan./A little before coming to Japan. Besides AIS, I'm still learning in a Japanese class at a location where I first lived in Japan./ By going to study support groups such as AIS/ In a volunteer group at a library./Through Japanese animations, TV programs and music/ I tried to speak with Japanese people on weekends./I majored in Japanese at college./ For two years in a language school. After that, I studied marketing in Japanese for six years at university and graduate school in Japan.

