

Hiragana News

ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society

http://ais1989.hp-ez.com

Chairperson: Akiko Suzuki

July Schedule



10:00 – 12:00

Date	Subject	Place
July 05(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
July 12(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table (Board Meeting 13:00- 2F Kaigishitsu)	Community Center 1F Gallery
July 19(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
July 26(Fri.)	Planetarium & Bon Dance	Community Center Planetarium 2F Ongakushitsu

Planetarium and Bon Dance July 26(Fri.)

After taking a tour in a starry sky, let's do the Bon Dance.

You can try on a Yukata, too!

Gathering time and Place:

9:30 in the lobby of Community Center

★Attention!

Please be punctual. You cannot enter the planetarium after the start of the program.

Things to bring: A Yukata Set, if you have any.

Please apply to Ms. Watanabe by July 19, (Fri.)



Fee: Free

My AIS

Xuejiao Guan (China)

It's been about five years since I came to Japan from China. I am so pleased to have joined AIS, as people are kind and I have a very good time here. I'm learning a lot of Japanese. I look forward to coming every Friday.

In Japan, you have good environment and convenient transportation systems. I like Japan. Two years ago, I went to Disneyland with my friends. It was fun!

Last week, I went to see roses in Yono and was impressed by them. In cherry blossom season, I had a barbecue in a park in Narimasu. Living in Japan is very enjoyable and I love spring here.



May Event Report

Eiko Ihara (Japan)

On May 24th, AIS had an event called "Let's Talk about AIS".

In the beginning, we read together a newly issued leaflet on AIS titled "Welcome to AIS", and reaffirmed AIS's activities. Then there was an introduction of "Multicultural Key Persons". They are commissioned by Saitama Prefecture and handle any difficulties of foreign residents. There are four Key Persons in AIS*. After that, we practiced making a phone call when being absent from AIS or late for AIS. After practicing in groups, some members did demonstrations in front of other members. Lastly, we talked in groups about what kind of events we'd like to do in AIS in the future, and shared it with everyone. Various ideas came out. Each group had a lively conversation and it was a good opportunity to talk with people whom there was no chance to converse until then.

*Key Persons in AIS: Kato, Sakai, Suzuki and Maeda

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Receptionist Group Leader: H. Miura



New members are welcome any time! Please come and see how we're doing!

Minutes of Board Meeting Jun.14 (8 Board Members and 2 Observers)

Report from each group / Kaiyū System / July Event /

AIS's 25th Anniversary Events

Information

*Study Group: "Let's think about Japanese Language"

Date: July 12 (Fri.) 9:00-9:50

*Congratulations to Ms. Yang Chunlin on the birth of her little girl in May.

*On Jul. 07 (Sun.) at Asaka City Hall, AIS's volunteer dance team, AISayaw will perform Candle Dance at the Asaka City Art Festival around 13:00

*There is no AIS during August because of the summer break

*Come and Join for Distributing Water! Your Friend is Welcome, too

The annual Asaka City Festival, Sai-ka-sai, is going to be held on Aug.3rd and

4th from 12:00 to 18:00 this year. The events of the festival take place

throughout the city. The main venue of the festival is Kōen-Dori, which is in

front of the Community Center. There, AIS will distribute water to the

dancers and their supporters who parade the street in the sweltering heat.

We're recruiting about 20 volunteers for the job. We take turns on both days.

Please contact Miura of the Reception Group for details.

Welcome to AIS!

(New Members)

Mr. Huseein Lateif Mohameed Alfalahi (Iraq)

Mr. Bouchaour Abderrahman (Morocco)



A record of my short trip to Yokohama, Motomachi and Chinatown

Hideo Miura (Japan)

I went to Yokohama, Motomachi and Chinatown on May 4th, the middle of Golden Week. I went by Fukutoshin subway line, which recently began services to Yokohama. I took the train starting from Kawagoshi station. It turned out to be an express from Wako station bound for Motomachi-Chukagai station. The subway was already crowded. The terminal station, Motomachi-chukagai, was also jam packed with passengers, so we could not walk smoothly. When I went to the restroom, I saw many people lining up. Some of the middle-aged ladies came out of the restroom...which said "Men's toilet". She was coming out of the men's! Furthermore, she said "It is all right for us to enter together." The ladies started to use the Men's one after another. I was so surprised to see that.

Hikawamaru(Maritime exhibit inside) – Red brick warehouse – Event open space – Kishamichi(railway) promenade – Yokohama zeikan mae (Yokohama Customs) – China town



In Chinatown, there were long lines in front of all the restaurants. It probably took about an hour to get in and eat some delicious Chinese dishes. Fortunately, we found one on the back street so we could eat something immediately. That restaurant was also crowded but the Chinese staff seated us at a table. We ordered our food and beer. Then soon after, we were served water, cold beer and oolong tea. Although we did not order oolong tea, we thought that was a part of the service. I took a sip and found out that was not tea but highball. I told a staff about this. He took the glass without any words and put it on the seat behind us. He seemed to have made a mistake. Oh, I drank it a little. Is it ok?

Next, he served a dish called "ankake"; food dressed with a thick starchy sauce.

Outside was lukewarm, and inside was cold, so I finished that dish quickly.

The restaurant had a lot of tables, but only two staff were busy serving and attending to the customers. There were still many people waiting outside. I felt sorry for them, and soon left after finishing the meal. Next time I come to Yokohama, I would like to enjoy Shaoxing (Chinese alcohol) and Chinese cuisine relaxed and unhurried.