

Hiragana News

ひらがなニュース



Asaka-area International Society

http://ais1989.hp-ez.com

Chairperson: Akiko Suzuki

February

10:00 – 12:00



Schedule

Date	Subject	Place
Feb.07(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table (Board Meeting 13:00-)	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu 16:00 2F Bikōshitsu)
Feb.14(Fri.)	Japanese Cooking Demonstration (Open School)	Community Center 2F Jisshūshitsu
Feb.21(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
Feb.28(Fri.)	Japanese/Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Shūkaishitsu

My Favorite Things

Keiko Yamagishi (Japan)

Flower Arrangement---

I like to use branches such as Squarrosa, Magnolia Kobus and Cherry trees.

Pets---I keep a dog, three cats and thirty Japanese killifish. They are very adorable.

Field---I've rent a space from the city. At present, I'm cultivating tomatoes using PET bottles. I'm taking good care of them just like I do to my pets!

AIS---Enjoyable

I'd like to keep adding my favorite things!



Tea Break A Lucky Accident (M.K.)

I fell off my bicycle on a steep downhill and was badly injured about six years ago. I haven't ridden a bicycle since then. Instead I go almost everywhere on foot.

Curiously enough I became aware of many things that I had not noticed when I used to ride on my bicycle at full speed. A lot of pretty flowers in other peoples' gardens on the way attracted my eye.

For example, wisteria flowers bloom not only at the beginning of May but several times a year. Beautiful wisteria was in full bloom at the end of July last year.

I also saw a lovely light blue hydrangea in unseasonal October. Hydrangea flowers usually turn a pretty reddish color in autumn without falling. We could enjoy the beauty of hydrangea in autumn color even in December last year due to hot summer.

This is really "a lucky accident"!

Minutes of Board Meeting

Jan.17 8 Board Members and 1 Observer

*Report from each group

*AIS's 25th anniversary events

*Questionnaire for next term's role

*Schedule toward the next annual general meeting

Information

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

Date: Feb.21 (Fri.) 9:00 – 9:50



Japanese OMOTENASHI*

Cooking Demonstration

(*Japanese word for entertaining guests)

Date & Time: Feb.14 (Fri.) 10:00 – 13:00

Demonstrator:

Ms. Yoshiko Mizuno (Nutrition Manager)

Things to bring:

A head scarf, an apron and a dish cloth

Fee: ¥300

Apply to Yamaki by Feb.08

(Max: 20 persons)



Welcome to AIS!

New Members:

Ms. Keiko Satoh (Japan)

Mr. Reda Daniel Nigatu (Ethiopia)

Ms. Yuko Maeda (Japan)



A Visit to the Seven Gods of Good Luck, Part II

Noriko Yoshida (Japan)

A new year has come, and I carried out my annual visit to the Seven Gods of Good Luck. I started this event seven years ago and I've visited different shrines every year. This year it was Shinjuku Yamanote Area Tour of the Seven Gods of Good Luck. I started from Bishamonten in Kagurazaka. I walked on and on with the aid of a map until I finished at Hotei in Shinjuku.

The manner of prayer differs a little depending on the shrine, but at most of the shrines, one bows deeply twice at first, and clap hands twice. You may want to make a wish then, but before that, you have to thank the gods for your good health. And at last, you bow deeply again. Now my spirit has been renewed and I can start the new year officially.

Shrines in Japan are in places filled with greenery even in city areas, and it feels very good to be there. I checked my pedometer, and it was showing 13475 steps!! It's good exercise, too, meaning, two birds with one stone! Please visit one of your nearby shrines.

I hear someone asking me why I haven't lost my weight in spite of walking that much...!?

Leave me alone.

