No. 287

Hiragana News
ひらがなニュース

Asaka-area International Society
http://ais1989.hp-ez.com
Chairperson: Hitomi Morita

October Schedule

10:00 ～ 12:00

Date	Subject	Place
Oct.02 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
Oct.09 (Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table Board Meeting (13:00～16:00)	Asaka Library 1F Shichōkakushitsu Community Center 1F Kaigishitsu
Oct.16 (Fri.)	International Understanding	Community Center 2F Gakushūshitsu
Oct. 23(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Community Center 1F Gallery
Oct. 30(Fri.)	Japanese/ Chatting Table	Asaka Library 1F Shichōkakushitsu

There's change of venue.

International Understanding (Open School)

Various words & Letters in the World

♪♪♪♪Let's study together various words and letters♪♪♪♪

Date & Time: Oct. 16 (Fri.) 10:00 to 12:00

Things to bring: writing utensil

※For more inquiries, please contact Yamagishi

Trip to Netherland and Belgium

Keiko Yamagishi (Japan)

From July 16th to July 21st, I went to Netherland and Belgium. Though it was a short stay, I could go and see 11 world heritage sites. I visited medieval cathedrals and enjoyed beautiful scenery.

Amsterdam (Netherland)

It is called "city of water". 167 canals flow in the city. Medieval buildings stand on both sides of the canals, and are still used as apartments and shops.

Kinderdijk (Netherland)

The land here is lower than the sea surface. The windmills are working to bail overflowing water to a river. 19 windmills built in around 1700 still remain the way they used to be. It is said that the fighting against water is the symbol.

Bruges (Belgium)

This beautiful city surrounded by woods and canals still keeps its medieval atmosphere. An old monastery stands there quietly.

Guild (Belgium)

"Guild" means the trade association of leather dealers, flour dealers and butchers in the medieval period. The unusual houses with gabled roofs stand around the open space of the city. Now they are used as café and chocolate shops.

Vermeer (Netherland)

I was able to look at the famous picture, "Girl with a pearl earring", painted by Vermeer. The blue paint which was made from stone called lapis lazuli is so beautiful. He is said to be "a painter of the light".

Hiragana News in English Sep.25, 2015
Editor: J. Yanagi A. Yamashita Proofreader: K.M. Nishimura
Printed and Posted by: A Group
Publicity Group Leader: J. Yanagi
Receptionist Group Leader: H. Miura

Minutes of Board Meeting

Sep. 11 (10 board members)

*Report from each group *About name list

*Summary of AIS 25th anniversary

Information

- We will collect the membership fee (¥1,800) for the next 6 months (from Oct. to next March), on Oct. 2(Fri.). Please bring exact amount.
- Please cooperate with national census. For more details, http://kokusei2015.stat.go.jp
- You will be notified of "My Number" in October. For more details, http://www.cas.go.jp/jp/seisaku/bangoseido/otherlanguages.html
- ①Japanese Study Group: Oct. 9 (Fri.) 9:00 to 9:50
  ②Japanese Study Group Poco A Poco: Oct. 23 (Fri.) 13:00 15:00

Welcome to AIS! (New Member)

Christine C. Vivero (Philippine)

AIS and I

Tomoko Tsuji (Brazil)

27 years have passed since AIS was established. I spent around 18 years as an AIS member. I am a second-generation Japanese-Brazilian so I joined the AIS to learn more Japanese in the beginning. After a while the number of Brazilian members increased. No one could understand Portuguese then. Little by little, I started to support them.

I don't know how helpful I can be, but I continue to help members from Latin countries. I was asked to do a favor for Brazilian children who entered Japanese elementary and Junior high school. I really appreciate that I can meet a lot of people here. I learned a lot from not only Japanese volunteers but people from different countries. I could have many precious experiences with them.

Last November I moved to Chiba prefecture. I had to leave Saitama after living there for a long time. I was a bit sad far from AIS. Now I sometimes participate as a fellow member. They always welcome me kindly and warmly. That is one of my best pleasures. Many foreign people who have different customs and languages live in Japan. I believe they will feel much more secure when they join AIS.

I hope AIS lasts forever. Here is a splendid place!!!

Planetarium Viewing

Junko Saito (Japan)

On Jan. 24 (Fri.) "Planetarium & Fun" event was held.39 adults and eleven children attended. First, there was a lecture of Tanabata; Once a year Kengyu and Orihime can meet on the Milky way. Next, "Let's go☆Big Adventure with Nana!" was shown. I felt as if I was traveling in space by seeing the scene where they were riding on spaceship which was projected onto wide screen.

☽☆☽☆☾☆☽☆☽☆☽☆☾☆☽☆☽☆☽☆☾