

Date of Issue –Heisei 22(2010), Feb. 25th

Kokusai Mura Newsletter

Dewa Shonai International Exchange Foundation Vol. 52

From this Volume on, Kokusai Mura (Dewa Shonai International Forum) will make a digest written in Chinese and English. For more information, please call us!

○Introduction of Japanese Language Class at the Kokusai Mura · · · P.2

We, at the Kokusai Mura have held a Japanese language course for foreign citizens in this area for more than 16 years. Now there are about 80 foreign citizens and about 40 volunteer teachers studying together.

<Joining a Class>

Once you registered the Japanese Class, you can join any language lessons you want. There are many groups which are divided by ability levels. You may join any group depending on your Japanese fluency. The one year fee, including registration, is 1500 yen.

<Other Japanese Class Activities>

To experience Japanese culture and the customs of this area, and to interact with the local community, the Japanese Class includes some activities outside the classroom.

We take part in Hanami party, an Imoni-kai party and go grape picking among other events.

Japanese Class member is welcomed to join.



○New System of Residence Management · · · P.3

The law for partial amendment to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Special Act on Immigration Control, Inter Alia was passed and enacted at the regular Diet session of 2009, and promulgated on July 15, 2009.

It regulates the new system of residence management including the issuance of Residence Cards, revision of the training and technical internship programs and the integration of the residence statuses of “College Student” and “Pre-College Student”. This is an important issue to anyone without Japanese citizenship. Please review the new law carefully.

You can visit the Immigration Bureau of Japan’s website for details.

http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/english/newimmiact/newimmiact_english.html

○Charity Dance Party · · · P.4

On December 13th (Mon) 2009, the yearly Charity Dance Party was held with about 120 participates. The proceeds from this party, held in December every year, go to the Kokusai

Mura's Japanese language courses. At the event, people enjoyed dancing to a live performance by the Shonai Jazz Band.

○New Year Cerebration Party . . . P.4

On January 31st(Sun), the New Year Cerebration Party was held. This year, about 130 people joined and brought their own food and drinks. We enjoyed "Mochitsuki" (making Mochi), bingo, etc. Also a dance group from Fujisawa joined the party this year. They showed us the traditional "Daikoku Mai" dance, a unique dance with bamboo colander. Adrian, a high school English teacher in Sakata, also performed songs on his guitar and song for us with his heavenly voice.

【Why don't you join us?】 . . . P.7

○English Club . . . junior high, and high school students

Year fee : 2000 yen. Once a month the club meets with a native speaker of English on Saturday or Sunday.

○Sekaino Daidokoro Cooking Class . . . Year fee : 10,000 円

Meets 6 times a year to learn cuisines of the world. This includes Kousai Mura membership. With it, you can get discounts on other courses at the Kokusai Mura such as language classes.

○Yang Style Tai Chi . . . from April to Sep.: 16200 yen, Dec. to March :16200 yen

It is said Yang Style Tai Chi makes your body healthy. A teacher from Shanghai teaches you the real Tai Chi Chuan. Why don't you try!

○Colorado Study Tour

This year we organize this study tour for students and adults. During the summer vacation, we will do a home stay while studying English and American culture in Colorado. Please check the Tsuruoka newspaper for detail.

【Other information】 . . . P.8

○Amazon Museum Event

On March 6th (Sat), Kaori Niitsuma who has worked with a tree-planting project in Africa for a long time will lead a seminar at the Kokusai Mura. Admission is free. Please ask the front desk for details.

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