

シカゴ沖縄県人会ニューズレター  
Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai Newsletter  
July 2015

Message from the President / 会長挨拶

Dear Members,

I apologize that it has been so long that we last published a newsletter.

I would like to thank everyone that helped out at the New Year's Party. These events would not be possible without the continued support and dedication of our members. From the performers that practice all year, to Dennis Potamites and his set up crew, to the members that jump in and help when needed – thank you so much!

We have been working very hard planning our upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I would like to especially thank Yukie Saucedo for doing all of the leg work. Next year will be very exciting! **Save the date! We will have our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 28th, 2016** (Memorial Day Weekend) and the Uchinanchu Taikai that October. Because of the heavy schedule, we do not plan to celebrate a Keiro Kai in 2016.

This year has been one of great accomplishment and tragedy. This year saw the introduction of our very own pair of Shisa at the New Year's party. You can read about that amazing achievement in this newsletter. It is a story of great perseverance and community.

We also lost a beloved member. Tim Pacey, son of Masako Pacey, died very suddenly in May. Tim and I were karate students together. He was always very kind and patient and I envied how fast he could learn karate. I miss him every time we practice. My heart goes out to Masako-san and Sandy Pacey, and the rest of Tim's family and friends.

To all of you, I wish good health, and good luck!

Sincerely,  
Paula Y. Schmidling

**Volunteers needed!**

Can you fold origami? We need your help. We would like to start making decorations for our anniversary.

We need origami paper! We are looking for donations of **two sided red and gold** origami paper. We need 35 sheets of 9.5" and 330 sheets of the 6" size. If you happen to have some, or would like to buy the paper and donate it please let us know.

**Upcoming events**

**Japan Day**

**July 18-19**, Sat/Sun 12pm-5:00pm, Sat only 5-8pm  
**\*new location!\*** Arlington International Racecourse  
Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai performance: Sat 2pm  
Advance online tickets \$6, at the door \$8.00  
Visit: [japandaychicago.org](http://japandaychicago.org) for more information

**Annual Picnic**

**Saturday, August 22**

11am – 5pm

Robinson Woods (more info in this newsletter)

## Welcome new officers!

Thank you to Tim Pacey and Mieko Zukeran for their service!

President: Paula Schmidling	(847) 877-2987	president@chicagookinawakenjinkai.com
Vice President: Yujiro Uza	(972) 351-6405	uzadojo@yahoo.com
Vice President: Ikuko Nichols	(773) 545-4475	nichols_i2@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Yukie Saucedo	(708) 703-0800	yukiesensei@comcast.net
Treasurer: Ryuko Charapata	(847) 717-0745	ryukoh@sbcglobal.net
Sgt. At Arms: Dennis Potamites	(847) 677-4240	potoesan@aol.com
Public Relations: Tom Corrao	(262) 960-6332	tcorrao@wi.rr.com



Ikuko Nichols  
New Vice President  
新副会長

The severe cold of winter is gone and in my garden I can see the tips of my tulips. We have been waiting for spring to finally come. I hope that everyone is in good health and I wish you a belated happy new year.

As the new co-vice president, I feel a great responsibility to the members of the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai. I have been a member for forty years and for the last thirteen years. I have been the Goodwill Ambassador and have enjoyed my role. In my new role, I will be open to your opinions and take into consideration your thoughts and suggestions. I look forward to working with everyone and in celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year.

Ikuko Nichols  
Co-Vice President

### ごあいさつ

厳しかった寒い冬が過ぎ去り、庭園には、チューリップの花の芽がみられ。待遠しかった暖かい春がやって参りました。

皆様には、ご健勝のことと存じます。遅ばせながら、新年のご挨拶を申し上げます。

私はこの度、皆様の推薦によって副会長の任命を受け大きな責任を感じております。約40年余シカゴ沖縄県人会の歴史に触れ、又13年間新ウチナー民間大使活動をやって参りました。この2つの経験を通して新役員と一体となり、多くの皆さんの意見に注意深く耳を傾けて、先人達が残して下さったこのシカゴ沖縄県人会を大事に思い、来年の50周年記念祝賀会を盛大に導く為に頑張りたいと思っておりますのでどうぞ宜しくお願い申し上げます。

副会長  
ニコルズ 郁子



Yujiro Uza  
New Vice President  
新副会長

拝啓

今回で、二度目の副会長に推薦されました宇座祐次郎です。前は、シカゴ沖縄県人会に入会し三年程で副会長に推薦され何にも分からず、皆さんに迷惑をおかけした事と思います。今年に入会し約8年目に入り、県人会員の方々や組織の方針を多少知ることが出来たと思っています。私の任務はシカゴ沖縄県人会をもっと有意義のある組織にしていく事だと考えています。その為には、皆様のご協力とご理解が必要だと思っていますので、今後よろしくお願い致します。

敬具

宇座祐次郎

Dear Members,

This is my second time to nominate for vice president at Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai. At first time, I didn't know much about the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, but now it has been already passed 7 years since my wife and I jointed. So, I know about Kenjinkai more than before. I try my best to maintain or make it better for The Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, to make it happen I need your support and understanding.

Best Regards,  
Yujiro Uza  
Co Vice President



Ryuko Charapata  
New Treasurer  
新会計士

皆様の推薦により、会計を務めることになりました。これから2年間、一生懸命頑張りますので、宜しくお願い致します。

隆子 チャラパタ

Dear Members,  
I will try hard to do my best as treasurer for the next two years.  
Thank you everyone.

Ryuko Charapata  
Treasurer

## Protectorate God Shi-Sa Arrives at Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai

- Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai received a pair of shi-sa, lion-like figures of saint dolls.

Ikuko Nichols, who is a Good Will Ambassador between Chicago and Okinawa and a member of the Kenjinkai, calls the shi-sa as “Spirit of Okinawa” and “Spirit of Love.”

A pair of shi-sa is the protectorate god of Okinawans and often seen at the gate or roof of a house in Okinawa.

- Nichols wanted a pair for the Kenjinkai 50th Anniversary coming in 2016, so she applied for a grant to the International Exchange Department of Okinawa Prefectural

Government. She thought that she would be able to buy a pair with the grant and introduce them at Japan Festival and Mitsuwa summer festival.



The shi-sa presented to the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai



Ikuko Nichols

- The grant was approved on April 2nd, but the notice was delivered to her on June 13, after Japan Festival. She took an immediate action to buy a pair from Okinawa, but the cost was too high. Finally, she found the right person to obtain a pair. Keiko Yonaha, who was a member of the Kenjinkai from 2011 and returned to Okinawa last May, offered that she could arrange for handmade shi-sa. Yonaha was an Okinawa dance teacher and choreographer who led her school team to win Education Minister’s award for the third year in a row. Nichols was delighted and paid \$2,400 from her own fund for shi-sa materials.

- It was not easy for Nichols to find a way to obtain shi-sa for Chicago, and it took her more than a month. The International Exchange Department required her to host an event by using the grant and submit a report within a month, but the time was too short. She asked the department officials to postpone the report submission, but the department canceled the grant saying that the rule was the rule.

- Beleaguered Nichols called Yonaha and explained everything. Yonaha kindly said that she would make a pair and there was no need to pay more. Later Nichols found that the cost was \$12,500.

- Yonaha completed a pair of shi-sa in three months and was going to host a charity concert to raise funds. At the same time she was going to hold a presentation ceremony of shi-sa to Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai on October 4.

- In Okinawa, there were many events in October, so the ticket sales weren’t good. Nichols wrote a letter to the relatives of the Kenjinkai members to



The face of shi-sa

come to the concert. She also wrote to the Village President of Yomitanson, where Yonaha was born. She wrote to the officials of the Department, too.

- Nichols looked for donors, and Masako Pacey generously gave her \$1,000. Misako Honjo, who used to work at airlines, offered to go Okinawa with Nichols and took care of transportation for a pair of the huge shi-sa.

- Despite a typhoon, about 450 people came to the concert. All the people to whom Nichols wrote came. A person who could not attend had brought a ticket fee with a souvenir in advance to the concert hall. The Village President sent a big bouquet of flowers, and the officials came to the concert.

- The concert was successful, and the audience enjoyed folk songs, a children's play in the Okinawan dialect, flute and piano duo, and more.

- Although the concert was successful, they were still short by \$1,700. Nichols offered to Yonaha to pay that amount. At that moment, Nichols' former boss came to see her and brought her \$10,000. He was a doctor of a mental health hospital where graduate student Nichols had worked. The doctor obtained his doctoral degree in clinical psychology in the U.S. Nichols paid \$1,700 to Yonaha and returned the rest of the money to the doctor.

- The pair of shi-sa arrived at Chicago without a scratch. Yonaha promised to choreograph shi-sa-dance. Nichols said, "Everything was done by people's support, and blessed shi-sa flew the sky to Chicago. I'll never forget about the people who helped me when I was having a hard time. Now the pair of shi-sa is a symbol of Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, and I wish younger members will dance with shi-sa."

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\*Article from Chicago Shimpō website "chicagoshimpō.com" Pictured: Ikuko Nichols and Keiko Yonaha



### 唐獅子がシカゴ沖縄県人会に贈呈される多くの人々の支援で実現

・2年後(2016年)に50周年を迎えるシカゴ沖縄県人会に唐獅子・舞用一対が寄贈された。シカゴと沖縄県の民間大使を務めるニコルス郁子さんはこの唐獅子を「沖縄の魂」「愛の魂」と呼ぶ。・シーサーと呼ばれる唐獅子は守護神として、沖縄の家の玄関や屋根の上によく置かれている。シカゴ沖縄県人会の50周年を控え、唐獅子を同県人会のシンボルにしたいと考えたニコルスさんは、昨年12月に沖縄県国際交流課に助成金を申請した。助成金が降りれば、今年の日本祭りやミツワの盆踊り大会で唐獅子を披露したいと考えていた。・助成金は4月2日に承認され、日本祭り終了後の6月13日にニコルスさんの元に承認通知が届いた。喜んだニコルスさんは助成金で唐獅子を買おうとしたが、高額すぎて買えない事が分かった。

・そこで助け舟を出してくれたのがダンス指導者の与那覇慶子さんだった。2011年から今年5月の帰郷までシカゴ沖縄県人会に在籍した人で、沖縄県読谷高校在職中には「全日本高校・大学ダンス大会」の創作ダンスで文部大臣賞を3年連続で受賞させた人だった。

・与那覇さんは手作りで唐獅子を作ればよいと引き受けてくれ、ニコルスさんは当座の材料費として手持ちの24万円を支払った。

・一方、助成金には規則があり、1ヶ月以内に実施報告書を出さなければならなかった。しかし、唐獅子の購入先探しから与那覇さんが引き受けてくれるまで、1ヶ月では時間が足りなかった。

ニコルスさんは事情を説明し報告書期限を延期して欲しいと沖縄県国際交流課に頼んだが、規則は規則として助成金は却下となった。

・困ったニコルスさんは与那覇さんに経緯を話すと、与那覇さんは「24万円で良いから」と唐獅子作りを進めてくれた。後から分かったことだが、唐獅子1対の製作に125万円の費用がかかっていた。



赤瓦屋根の上のシーサー



シーサー設計作成者 屋良朝康氏

屋良氏は一度も作ったこともないシーサー作成を心良く引き受けて下さった。手探りで、シーサーのデザインをした。シーサーの材料も伝統的には木材で出来ているが、シカゴ沖縄県人会は女性の方が多い、木材では重過ぎて思うように踊れないのではと配慮し、軽いハップースチロール材を選んだ。デザインも材料も決まり、作成に掛かったが、失敗が許せない、間違えば一からやり直しである。

全てがゼロからの出発で思考錯誤で大変苦勞して完成して下さった。

- ・与那覇さんは3ヶ月の短期で唐獅子を仕上げてください、10月4日に沖縄のうるま市民芸術劇場で唐獅子の贈呈式を兼ねたチャリティコンサートを開催してくれた。
- ・しかし、沖縄では10月にイベントが多く、チケットの売れ行きが心配された。シカゴにいるニコルスさんはシカゴ沖縄県人会の人々の親戚や知人に手紙を書き、コンサートに来てくれるように頼んだ。与那覇さんの出身地の読谷村の村長にも手紙を送り、協力を依頼した。国際交流課の人々にも出席依頼の手紙を書いた。また、シカゴでも協力者を求めて奔走した。すると、県人会関係のマサコさんが「自由に使ってください」と1,000ドルを寄付してくれた。また、航空会社に勤めていた本庄美佐子さんが沖縄のコンサートに同行してくれ、唐獅子を持ち帰る手はずを整えてくれた。
- ・コンサート当日は台風だった。しかし、ふたを開けてみると約450人がコンサートに訪れた。ニコルスさんが手紙を書いた人々はみんな来てくれた。どうしても来られない人は2,000円のチケット代にお土産を添えて会場に預けてあった。読谷村の村長からは立派な花が届けられ、会場を飾ってくれた。国際交流課の人々もみんな来てくれた。
- ・コンサートでは民謡やフルートとピアノのデュオ、沖縄の方言を護る子ども達の劇、エイサーの踊りなどが披露され、大成功となった
- ・チャリティ・コンサートは成功したが、それでもまだ唐獅子費用は17万円不足していた。ニコルスさんが不足分の支払いを申し出ている時に、ニコルスさんが大学院生時代に勤めた精神病院の先生が100万円を持って来てくれた。精神病院と言えばまだ隔離という時代に、渡米して臨床心理学で博士号を取得した先生だった。ニコルスさんはその100万円から17万円を支払い、残りは先生に返した。
- ・一対の唐獅子は何の損傷もなくシカゴに届いた。また、与那覇さんが唐獅子の踊りの振り付けも約束してくれた。
- ・ニコルスさんは「すべてのことが支援され、祝福されて唐獅子がシカゴに来ました。困っている時に助けてくれた人様の有り難味、協力と深い愛情が初めて分かりました。唐獅子の中に入って踊りたいという若い人もいます。唐獅子はシカゴ沖縄県人会のシンボルと言うだけでなく、若い世代のために使って行きたいと思います」と語った。

Obituaries:

Marie M. Takesu of Morton Grove, age 83, passed away on June 15, 2015

Timothy L. Pacey, age 55, passed away on May 21, 2015

Tim 様のご逝去の報に接し、心からお悔やみ申しあげます。  
55歳という若さを思うと悔しさばかりが募ってまいります。  
故人と共に過ごした日々(空手の練習、獅子舞の練習などなど)  
を思い出すと、胸が詰まります。特に7月にはミシガン州にある  
米国志道館本部道場恒例のセミナーに参加できると張り切って  
いた矢先でした。  
また、来年には黒帯を取得できる程の実力を持っていましたので、  
Timさんと一緒に道場の運営も検討に入れていた矢先でしたので  
本当に残念です。

ご生前のご厚情に深く感謝いたしますとともに、  
安らかなご永眠をお祈りいたします。

宇座祐次郎。

To the Pacey Family,

We are truly sorry for your loss. Your Karate friends and Okinawa Kenjinkai members will miss Tim, and he will never be forgotten. May his soul rest in peace.

Yujiro Uza.



Thank you to the following members for their generous donations:

Noboru Asato Family  
Suga (Taira) & Leonard Coppola  
Nozomi & Tom Corrao  
Shannon & Don Fox  
Misako & Shigeru Honjo  
Kazuko Hooten  
Mika Janz  
Diotoko & Laura Kiam  
Shizuko & Gary Kindred  
Kathleen Nichols  
Yuki & Sayoko Oshiro  
Yukie & Joel Saucedo  
Kumiko & Jason Walker  
Mieko Zukeran

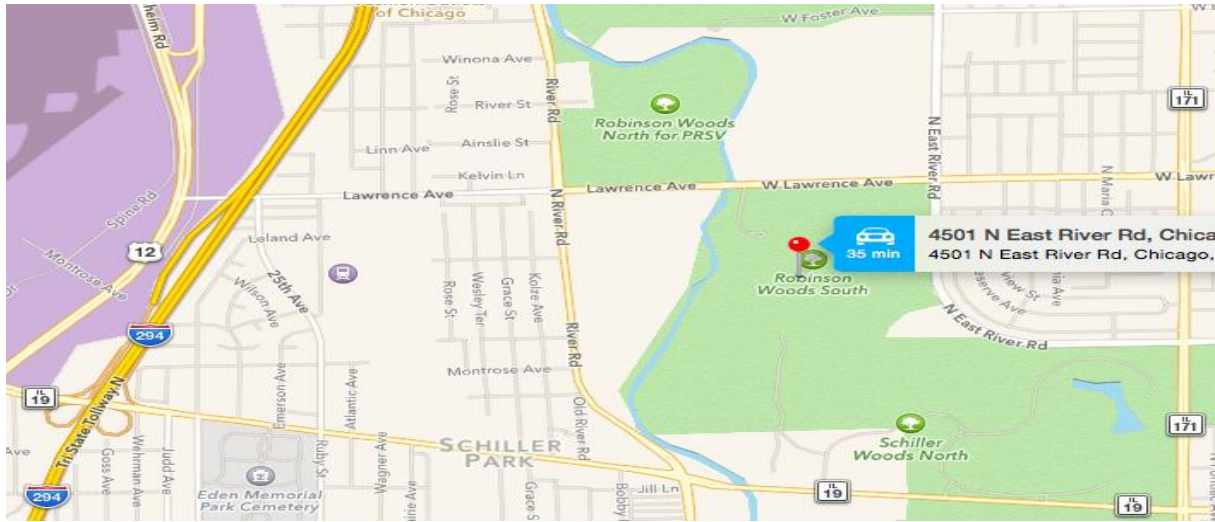
### Annual Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 22, 2015  
11am-5pm

Robinson Woods South  
4501 N East River Road, Chicago, IL  
(off Lawrence Ave between River Road and  
East River Road) please see the map

Potluck style – please bring a dish to share.

Members: free  
Guests: \$10.00 each



	Income (\$)	Expenses (\$)
<b>Balance from End of August 2014</b>	<b>18619.67</b>	
Membership and Donations	2089.31	
Donations	250	
2015 Picnic registration		126
Gift to Keiko Yonaha (Shisa)		100
Shisa Expenses: Shipping, storage, card		172.76
Flower for Charity Show for Shisa Charity Show		124.94
2014 Picnic Expenses: port a potty rental, drinks, etc.		828.3
2015 New Year Expenses: plate, drinks, goody bag, etc.		590.29
New Party Invitation & Postage		220.6
Midwest Budhist Temple -Rental		275
Raffle Prizes		400
Raffle & Drinks Sales	654	
Guest fees	170	
Nonprofit Organization Registration		13
Office supply		54.48
PO Box Rental		56
Website Regsity		79.66
Flower for Asato Family		120
Newsletter		248.87
miscellaneous		6.03
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3163.31</b>	<b>3415.93</b>
<b>End of March 2015</b>	<b>18367.05</b>	