

親善園だより

Friendship Garden News "Shinzen En Dayori"

VOL. 21 NO. 3 FALL 2011

Newsletter Contents

Upcoming Events - Page 1
New Phone Number - Page 1
Bequest - Page 1
President's Message - Page 2
New Members - Page 2
Thanks - Page 2
Art Dyson Profile - Page 3
Spend-Invest - Page 3
Lucky Siphongsay Profile - Page 4
Tom Skelton Profile - Page 4
Wish List - Page 4
3rd Saturday Work Days - Page 5
Toro Nagashi - Page 5
Endowment Fund - Page 5
Special Plant Series - Page 6
Annual Dinner - Page 6
Schedule of Events - Page 7
Items of interest - Page 8

SHINZEN GARDEN COMING EVENTS

Artist in the Garden Day
Friday, Oct 28, 2011
9 am - 3 pm
In the Garden

Fall Pruning Day
Saturday, Nov 5
10 am - 3 pm
In the Garden

**Fall Cultural Faire &
Bonsai Show**
Sat-Sun, Nov 12-13
10 am - 5 pm
In the Garden

UPCOMING EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS !!

Artist in the Garden Day - A free day for artists and photographers to come to the Garden. Join us Friday, October 28th from 9 am until 3 pm.

Fall Pruning Day - Join us for a day of pruning on Saturday, Nov 5th.

Fall Festival and Bonsai Show - Our Fall Festival and Bonsai Show will occur on Saturday and Sunday Nov 12-13th. There will be artists, a tea ceremony, martial arts and much more. Go to our web site for the latest updates.

www.shinzenjapanesegarden.org



Children from the Central Valley Japanese School entertained attendees of the Annual Dinner with their music.

NEW PHONE NUMBER

The new phone number for the Shinzen Japanese Garden is

(559) 840-1264

When you call it, you will reach our new Executive Secretary, Tom Skelton.

GARDEN RECEIVES BEQUEST

Long time member of the Garden, Rosemary Lawrence, who passed away this summer, has left the Garden a wonderful bequest of approximately \$27,000. She loved the Garden and was recognized at our Annual Dinner in September of 2010 for her on-going gifts and support. We will miss her.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -

Richard Kassabian

Are you as surprised to see my name at the top of this message as I am? Yes, your Board of Directors held the election of officers at the last Board meeting and I was honored to be nominated and elected to the position of President. Serving with me are Rudy Castillo as Vice President and Linda Priaulx as Treasurer. I am looking forward to serving in this new capacity and working with Rudy and Linda as well as the entire Board. I want to also give a special thank you to Judy Shehadey for her dedication to the Garden and her determination to get things done during her tenure as your President.

In addition to the changes on the Board, we have contracted with Tom Skelton to become our Executive Secretary. I would like to thank Mary Dryden for her service as Executive Secretary the past two years. As Treasurer Mary and I developed a close working relationship especially when we exchanged checks making sure we had the proper debits and credits. With her never ending computer skills, Mary brought our News Letter to a new plateau and completely redesigned our web site. Her efforts in getting the job done correctly, on time, and down to the last detail, are greatly appreciated. We are looking forward to working with Tom as we enter a new chapter for the Board and the Garden.

Speaking of the new chapter, after several years of negotiations, the Shinzen Garden Society and the City of Fresno have entered into an agreement through a Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU went before and was approved by the City Council on September 15. During these current economic conditions both parties now have a better understanding of their shared responsibilities to maintain and promote the Garden.

A major change is the scheduling of weddings and professional photography that will now be our responsibility.

We will share in the revenue generated by these activities as well as a guarantee of the gate proceeds during our spring and fall events in the Garden. I would like to thank Paul Melikian, Administrative and Finance Manager with the City of Fresno, for his understanding of our concerns, and Attorney Hal Bolen with Bolen Fransen for his legal representation during the negotiations. I also thank Board members Dale Ikeda, Judy Shehadey, Paul Saito, Roy Spina and Rudy Castillo for their perseverance in getting this important agreement approved.

Now that the season is changing with the promise of cooler weather I would like to extend an invitation for all to join the happy group of gardeners for our next Third Saturday Volunteer morning in the garden. These once a month mornings are a small but important part in our guarantee that the garden will continue as a treasure for all to enjoy.



Photo by Art Munger

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

INDIVIDUAL

Susan Finch
Joanne Garabedian
Ernie Mashler &
Valerie Holmes
Ms. Nevin Hindeyeh
Anne Vanderslice

DONOR

Frank & Gayane Korkmazian
Elizabeth Mitchell

LIFETIME

Gerald Hinkley
Linda Priaulx

GOODBYE TO FRIENDS:

Rosemary Lawrence

DOMO ARIGATO GOZAIMASHITA

THANKS !

The Shinzen Garden Society expresses sincere thanks and appreciation to the following people for their gifts to the Garden:

Patricia Berg
Tawnya Combe
David & Marjorie Fishel
William & Gloria Hallier
Gerald Hinkley
JACL
Sat & Sachiye Kuwamoto
Linda Priaulx
Sierra Heights Baptist Church
Kathy & Wayne Stogbauer
(in memory of
Masako O. Nakayama)
The Tamura Family (in memory of
Irene Tamura)

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Becky Adams
Deanna Bristow, artist
Steve DaSilva
Chieko Delgado
Mike Genito
Valerie Holmes & Ernie Mashler
Pat Hunter, artist
Kiku Floral – Larry Yamada
Darlene Kim
Frank & Gayane Korkmazian
David & Karen Multinivuch
Art & Arletta Munger
Nee-Hai Bonsai Nursery
Ron Nishinaka
Sally Oh
Maria Ortiz
Linda Priaulx
Rob & Agnes Rhodes
Sakanaya Japanese Restaurant
Anita Shaw
Judy Shehadey
Roy & Julie Spina
Loye Stone, artist
Anne Vanderslice
Caroline Vasquez

NEW DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD

We are please to announce that we have just elected two outstanding new individuals to our Board of Directors, Arthur Dyson and Sokdy Lucky Siphongsay. Art was elected at the Annual Dinner and Lucky was recently appointed to fill Sat Kuwamoto's position. Below is a biography of Art Dyson. On the following page is the bio of Lucky Siphongsay. We have re-elected the following incumbent Board members: Richard Kassabian, Richard Marquez, Paul Saito, Judy Shehadey and Ikuko Watnick. WELCOME and THANK YOU for your past and future service to the Garden.



ARTHUR DYSON

Architect AIA, IAA, ARA, FARA, NCARB, CID

Arthur Dyson studied psychology at the University of Wisconsin, philosophy at the University of Oklahoma, and urban & regional planning at California State University, Fresno. He received a Master of Architecture degree at the San Francisco Institute of Architecture and served his architectural apprenticeships with Frank Lloyd Wright, Bruce Goff and William Gray Purcell.

Dyson taught advanced architectural design at the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and at the San Francisco Institute of Architecture. In 1997 he was awarded the Bruce Goff Chair of Creative Architecture by the University of Oklahoma. In 2003 Dyson received an Honorary Doctorate Degree of Architecture from the Academic Council of the International Academy of Architecture in Sofia, Bulgaria. He was twice elected President of the American Institute of Architects San Joaquin chapter. In September 1999 Dyson was appointed Dean of the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture at its two campuses at Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin, and Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona. After receiving a 6-year accreditation from NAACB in 2002, Dyson returned to his practice in Fresno and now serves as Dean Emeritus of this world-renown institution.

Arthur Dyson has been featured in more than 400 publications and in over two-dozen books, including *The Architecture of Arthur Dyson* by Mark Hammons and *Arthur Dyson: L'Architettura meditativa* by Giuliano Chelazzi. He has won over 150 major design awards including the MEDALLION OF HONOR for lifetime achievement from the New York Council of the Society of American Registered Architects, the 1999 FIRM OF THE MILLENNIUM AWARD from the American Institute of Architects, San Joaquin, and the HORIZON AWARD for his lifetime contribution to contemporary American architecture, and the 1998 CALIFORNIA OUTSTANDING FIRM AWARD from the California Council of the Society of American Registered Architects. In 1993 he was awarded the GOLD MEDAL from the Society of American Registered Architects, the highest honor the society bestows upon a living architect.

In an editorial for the prestigious Italian architectural magazine *L'architettura*, Bruno Zevi, president of the International Committee on Architectural Critics wrote, "I consider Arthur Dyson one of the most significant architects of our time."



Now that you've retired, you have some spare time. So the question is "how do you spend that time?" Too many retired people

spend their spare time walking around the Mall, watching television or just thinking about doing something worthwhile.

Have you thought about investing some of that spare time? It makes more sense than wasting it. But how do you get a good return on your investment? The Shinzen Garden in Wood-

ward Park is a terrific place to invest some spare time. You can help in a variety of ways like pruning, weeding, sweeping, light maintenance, helping at festivals or becoming a Docent. But will that investment of your spare time pay off?

You will be happy to know that the answer to that question is a resounding YES.

The dividends on your investment of your valuable time will be blooming in the spring! That's what you really want... a solid return on your smart investment of spare time.

The free serenity you will enjoy at the Shinzen Japanese Garden in Woodward Park is priceless.

Tom Skelton

BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: LUCKY SIPHONGSAY



My name is Sokdy Lucky Siphongsay and it's an honor to be nominated by Ron Nishinaka to be a candidate for your Shinzen Garden Board of Directors. After being honorably discharged from the US Navy, I have obtained many skills to become a great leader. I lived in Japan for 4 years while in the military and am fortunate to have witnessed such a beautiful country. I have seen historical temples, beautiful shrines, amazing landscapes, and a diverse culture.

After my departure from the military, I began volunteering at the local VA hospital and also sought a part-time position with Tree Fresno. Here I gained valuable experience in organizing events, supervising volunteers, writing proposals, and helping Tree Fresno reach its mission statement by planting more trees and trails for the community.

I am currently employed as both a Mental Health Specialist/AOD at Turning Point of Central California and also as a Drug and Alcohol Counselor at Assessment, Training, and Research (ATR). Here I work with adolescents who are mentally disabled and are addicted to drugs and alcohol. As a Mental Health Specialist I have to educate my clients how to reduce and monitor their primary diagnosis. I plan on continuing my education in counseling and will hopefully obtain a Master Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy.

I believe that I am a leader who can provide great ideas and suggestions to better the Shinzen Garden. I am motivated to make the Shinzen Garden a better place for the community where people can have a long lasting memory about their visit. If I am selected on the Board of Directors (*Editor: Lucky has been appointed to the Board to fill Sat Kuwamoto's unfinished term*), I will be a positive team player that would fit right into your organization. Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with you all in helping the Shinzen Garden be a special part of our community.

WELCOME TO THE NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, TOM SKELTON

Tom was born in Belgium in 1946 but grew up in Chicago. After high school he joined the Navy (1965 to 1969) and served in Vietnam as part of the amphibious assault group near Da Nang. He attended Long Beach City College where he received an AA in Commercial Art and graduated from CSU Fullerton with a BA degree in Graphic Design / Communication. He married the love of his life, Sylvia, in July of 1966.

They moved to Fresno in 1974 when he was hired at Duncan Ceramics as a Printing Services Supervisor. He worked for them for 10 years, eventually becoming Art Director, with a staff of about 20 people. Duncan is one of the world's largest manufacturers of arts and crafts products for the hobbyist.

He wanted more, so spent the next 25 years self-employed as Tom Skelton Design/Creative Services. He published 3 Trade Magazines, finally selling the last one and retiring three years ago.

He and Sylvia have 2 children, Renee and Todd, and 4 grandchildren, Healey, Elio, Robin and Reed. Tom's other interests include Sylvia, ballroom dancing, watches, cameras and photography.

WELCOME, Tom. We look forward to exciting new newsletters and web site updates.



WISH LIST

This is where we list our hopes and wishes. If you have any of these items or skills and wish to donate or volunteer, please call our secretary at 840-1264. Thanks!

- 1 hula hoe
- 2-3 hand pruning shears
- 3 hand grass shears
- 2 hedge shears
- 2 lopper long handle shears
- A 50' 5/8" hose, with a lifetime guarantee
- An Impulse sprinkler
- Labor to rehab the waterfall in the Taira Ume Grove
- Big Wish: a 10x12 shed to store tools



Photo by Tom Skelton

3rd SATURDAY WORK DAYS

UPDATE: Each 3rd Saturday the Shinzen Landscape Committee has been busy working in our Shinzen Garden. Last workday, September 17th, we had about 13 dedicated volunteers but could use more. **We need your help!**

We welcome anyone, experienced or not, young or older, tools or not, to consider showing up on the 3rd Saturday. We will have the side gate off the parking lot open at 9am but you can come any time in the morning. We usually work until lunch time. Come join us for a fun and educational experience. Even if you can't work or do not want to work, we could/would appreciate your comments or just interest in observing. Please bring your own gardening tools and water to drink.



Richard Kassabian and Art Munger hard at work.

Also, we still need tools. If you or neighbors or relatives have any unused tools just gathering dust, maybe we could put them to better use. We need hand-shears, hedge shears, loppers (long handled pruning shears), pruning saws, and/or any other gardening tools that we might use to try to maintain Fresno's greatest...Shinzen Garden.

October Work Day - Oct 15

November Work Day - Nov 19

December Work Day - Dec 17

Note: Time is 9am-noon or any part of that time!

Thanks! From Shinzen Landscape Committee

TORO NAGASHI - AUG 13, 2011

On August 13th, lakeside in Woodward Park, the Shinzen Board of Directors presented the 26th Annual Toro Nagashi (Floating Lantern) ceremony. After opening ceremonies and a traditional Buddhist blessing by the Rev. Masaru Okazaki from the Konko Church, nearly two hundred floating candle lanterns were launched by the families in memory of their loved ones. As they drifted away in the twilight, we were treated to an exquisite full moon rising over the lake. Breathtaking, inspiring, a special moment for all.



Photos by Paul Saito, above with Rev. Okazaki & Ruth Nakano



SHINZEN GARDEN ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Darlene Kim is the newest Director of "The Fund," as it is referred to in our records. We welcome and thank her for becoming the Secretary of this committee.

Paul Saito will be Chair and Dale Ikeda will serve as Vice Chair. Richard Kassabian and Judy Shehadey will continue on the Board. Linda Lucido will be retiring from Chair and Secretary of "The Fund" Board.

"The Fund" was established on September 13, 2007. Its primary goal is the long-term support, preservation, awareness and development of the garden. It may receive gifts, bequests, and donations from the public, other foundations, private industry and a variety of fundraising activities.

Our original board consisted of Betty McNair, Rudy Castillo, Paul Saito, Dale Ikeda, and Linda Lucido. We began meeting in 2006, and Ken Franssen, Attorney at Law, donated his time to establish "The Fund." Then we interviewed investment companies. It was agreed to invest "The Fund" with The Fresno Regional Foundation. We began with \$14,000.00 and it continues to grow slowly. The FRF has existed for 45 years for the benefit of the community.

Thank you to all who have served and will continue to serve. Thank you to all who have contributed to "The Fund" and are considering donating in the future to keep our beautiful and unique garden for future generations to enjoy.

Linda Lucido

SACRED LOTUS – SPECIAL PLANT SERIES

Located in the shallow waters of the lake as you near the Ronquillo vista is a planting of *Nelumbo nucifera* Sacred Lotus. Aquatic perennial plants with large showy white to pink flowers, they are also commonly known as Indian Lotus, Bean of India and Sacred Water Lily.

Lotus is native to Tropical Asia and Queensland Australia and commonly cultivated in water gardens. The flowers, seeds, young leaves, and rhizomes are all edible. The flower petals are used for garnish while the large leaves are used as a wrap for food. Various parts are also used in traditional Asian herbal medicine. Lotus is also the national flower of Egypt, India, and Vietnam.

The planting has its roots firmly in the mud and has grown in the shallow and murky waters at the edge of the lake since being planted several years ago by board member Art Munger.



Photos in this article are taken by Richard Kassabian.



The beautiful and fragrant Lotus flowers enjoy warm sunlight, opening in the morning with petal fall in the afternoon. The floating leaves and flowers have long stems which contain air spaces to maintain buoyancy. The distinctive dried seed heads, which resemble the spouts of watering cans, are sold for decorative purposes and for dried flower arranging.

It is anticipated that this small but impressive planting will continue to grow in the shallow water of the lake and produce an abundance of blooms in the summers to come.

Richard Kassabian

ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday, September 10, was an evening to remember! We had over 180 people attending our Annual Dinner Meeting. There was a fun silent auction that raised over \$1000 for the Garden, and we were treated to the full moon rising over the Garden. There was an official and delightful Master of Ceremonies, Jason McClain, entertainment by the Central Valley Japanese School and a performance from two exceptional young singers (shown in photo) from the California Opera Association, Kirsten Olsen and Constantine Pappas, accompanied on piano by Arne Kela. Don't miss this event next year!



Photos by Dorothy Stuart (kimono girl and singers) and by Paul Saito (evening photo)

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors and Advisory Board meet the third Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Tree Fresno Office on 1368 W. Herndon, #103, Fresno, at 6:00 p.m. Members are invited to attend all meetings.

Board of Directors

Richard Kassabian <i>President</i>	Roberta Barton Rudy Castillo Steve DaSilva Art Dyson	Joshua Mitchell Art Munger Ron Nishinaka Paul Saito
Linda Priaux <i>Treasurer</i>	Dale Ikeda Darlene Kim	Lucky Siphongsay Roy Spina
Becky Adams	Richard Marquez	Ikuko Watnick

Advisory Board

Angel Abajian Steve Abe Bob Belcher Fred Biglione, Jr. Bob Bly Jackie Duncan Robin Greiner, Jr.	Bobbi Hanada Guy Johnston Satoshi Kuwamoto Hilary Kimber Linda Lucido Betty McNair Dan Ronquillo	Jackie Ryle Tom Skelton Julie Spina Jenny Swenning Ken Takeuchi O. James Woodward III
---	--	--

Garden Hours

The Garden is open on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 10 a.m. to dusk. In addition, from May 1st through September 30th, it is open daily Monday through Friday from 5 p.m. to dusk.

Admission: \$3 for Adults, 15 to 65 years;
\$.50 for Seniors and children 4 to 14 years;
Children under 4 years, no charge. Garden Members enter free of charge with Membership Card.

The City of Fresno charges \$5 per car entrance fee to Woodward Park. Seniors are exempt from this fee. Special Garden tours can be arranged weekdays. Permits must be obtained for Weddings and Photo Shoots. For tours or events, call the City Parks Department at 621-2900.



A publication of the Shinzen Friendship Garden

EDITOR
Mary Dryden
COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Richard Kassabian
Tom Skelton

Phone: (559) 440-0825
P.O. Box 16178
Fresno, California 93755-6178
Web site: www.shinzenjapanesegarden.org
Email Address: shinzensgarden@yahoo.com

Calligraphy courtesy of Reverend Keizo Norimoto

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2011

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Here are the dates for all remaining 2011 events in the Garden.

Fall Artist in the Garden DayOctober 28
9 am - 3 pm

Fall Pruning DayNovember 5
10 am - 3 pm

Shinzen Fall Cultural FaireNovember 12-13
10 am - 5 pm

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2012

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Here are the dates for all of our 2012 events in the Garden.

Spring Artist in the Garden DayMarch 18
9am-3 pm

Spring Blossom Festival & Fresno Bonsai Society Spring ShowApril 14-15
10 am - 5 pm..

Shinzen RunApril 28
5:45 am in Parking Area

Spring Pruning DayMay 12
10am - 3 pm

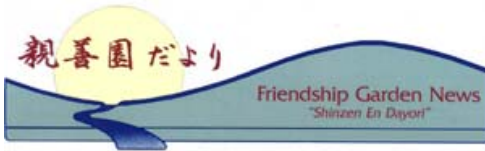
Toro Nagashi CeremonyAugust 11
7 pm in Lake Area next to Garden

Annual Membership DinnerSeptember 29
4:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Moonlight in the Garden (Full Moon)

Fall Artist in the Garden DayOctober 26
9 am - 3 pm

Fall Pruning DayNovember 3
10 am - 3 pm

Shinzen Fall Cultural FaireNovember 10
10 am - 5 pm



Shinzen Friendship Garden
 P.O. Box 16178
 Fresno, California
 93755-6178

Return Service Requested

Non-profit Org.
 US POSTAGE
PAID
 Permit No. 940
 Fresno, CA

ITEMS OF INTEREST

■ Volunteer Docents are needed to give tours and assist with events at the Garden. We provide training and a Reference Manual. Docents must be members of the Shinzen Garden, over 18 years of age and available on weekdays. Docents can be male or female. If you are interested, please call Julie at 297-1041, Becky at 266-4424 or Bobby at 434-7313.

■ For an updated report on the Japan Earthquake, see the non-profit group founded by John Lofgren, former Garden Member, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SETRG.

Be sure to see his photos, including a description of John's Project Tohoku Bridge, whose goal is to collect supplies in the US and get them shipped to Japan. They still could use our help.

■ Thanks to Hillary Kimber, Parks Supervisor II and Shinzen Advisory Board member, for organizing one of the Mayor's Go Green and Clean days at Shinzen Garden on July 2nd this year. Hillary with four of the Sisters of Lambda Theta Alpha, Epsilon Xi Chapter raked pine needles, pruned back the wisteria vines, removed dead bamboo and seedling trees and weeded extensively. Thanks so much to these women for their enthusiasm and help in the Garden.

Yes, I want to join the Shinzen Friendship Garden !

Name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell/Work phone _____
 Email Address _____

Membership Categories and Annual Dues (Please check appropriate category)

- Student (18 yrs.) \$10
- Individual \$25
- Family \$35
- Sustaining \$50
- Donor \$100
- Business or Professional \$100 or more
- Sponsor \$250
- Benefactor \$500

As a member, I am interested in volunteering in the following area(s):

- Garden/Landscape: Assist in landscape maintenance and planting
- Event Support: Temporary volunteer for seasonal/special event: plan, make phone calls, set up and take down tables and chairs
- Office Support: Assist with mailing, make phone calls
- Volunteer Coordinator: Schedule volunteers for events, tours, meetings, special events.
- Docent: Lead tours through the Garden, provide info and answer questions (Training provided)
- Other? _____

Please enclose a check made payable to the Shinzen Friendship Garden. Contributions are tax deductible within the limits allowed by law.