



## North American Regional Conference - Asheville

### The Asheville Chapter hosted the 17th NAR Conference

The week of May 18th was particularly beautiful this year in Asheville, North Carolina, the site of the 17th North American Regional Conference. It was a spectacular event from beginning to end. The beautiful dogwoods and other native trees and materials were in full bloom. Many of the nearly 300 exhibitors and conference attendees from 6 countries and 52 chapters used local materials in their exhibition and demonstration designs. The conference was pleased to feature a two-hour inspirational demonstration by Akihiro Kasuya, headmaster of the Ichiyo School and his son and headmaster-designate, Naohiro Kasuya.

There was plenty to do as there were workshops by four different schools of Ikebana; Ikenobo, Ichiyo, Ohara and

Sogetsu. The local potters' market of containers that were specifically made for Ikebana arrangements was very popular.

The Business meeting, Breakfast Forum and Regional Liaison meetings were well attended and provided a healthy exchange of ideas and challenges for the chapters to address.

The Friendship Room was always a bustle of activity and the coffee and snacks were more than plentiful.

The opening dinner and Sayonara banquet were great opportunities to meet new friends and reconnect with others. The music and story telling at the Sayonara banquet were very entertaining and quite unique to the beautiful mountain setting of Asheville, North Carolina.

A big thank you to our host chapter, Asheville #74, and to the conference chair, Terri Ellis Todd and her co-chair, Patti Quinn Hill and their entire team.



Ribbon cutting ceremony at 17th NAR Asheville, North Carolina  
Photo provided by Consulate General of Japan located in Atlanta

Left to Right -  
Kazuo Sunaga, Consul General  
Terri Ellis Todd, Conference Chair  
Nobuko Usui, International President  
Donna Scott, Emcee

## Table of Contents

- PayPal and I.I. dues 2
- Ikebana Young and Old 3
- Websites and Iwaya Fund 4
- Summer Activities 5
- Coming this fall 6
- Program/Exhibit notes 7
- Other items 7

## Publication Schedule

This publication is distributed to all chapters with current email addresses as close as possible to the 1st of the months of January, April, July and October. The deadlines for input for publication are Dec. 15, Mar. 15, June 15 and Sept. 15. Please send any information you want included by the above deadlines. Future events emphasized.

We encourage you to send articles on your chapters activities, exhibits, programs and we love pictures. Send all information to [narikebana@gmail.com](mailto:narikebana@gmail.com)



**Understanding how to pay your dues to I.I. Headquarters**

There are three options for paying your dues to Japan:

A wire transfer of yen from your bank here to the bank the I.I. HQ uses in Japan

A payment using a Paypal account tied to a bank account

A payment using a credit card which is still tied to Paypal

All three options have some fees associated with them

The first option, wire transfer, works best for larger payments. There are multiple fees associated with this option but depending on the number of members a chapter has, this is a very good option. The fees are:

A 3,000 yen fee or about \$30 that the I.I. HQ bank charges for all wire transfers

A fee that your local bank will charge you for a wire transfer which can vary. Our bank in Naples charged us \$45 for the transfer.

If you are paying dues for less than 25 members, PayPal is less expensive than the wire transfer option. Any number over 25 members, the wire transfer is the more affordable option. See the chart at the bottom for details.

The second option is using a PayPal account. Both the PayPal option and the credit card option are tied to PayPal. Either the Paypal account is attached to a credit card or to a bank account. Either way, you are charged 5% and then some credit cards have a foreign transaction fee over and above the PayPal 5% fee. Our Naples Chapter opened our own Paypal account that is directly attached to the

chapters' bank account. Any payments we make to I.I. headquarters using the chapter PayPal account are paid directly from our local U.S. bank and we are charged a 5% fee. To open our PayPal account, we first established an email account for the chapter ([ikebananaples@gmail.com](mailto:ikebananaples@gmail.com)). Many of us have personal PayPal accounts (not chapter PayPal accounts) that are either tied to our credit card or our personal bank accounts. This is why it is important to establish an email account for the chapter. Several chapters already have their own email address such as [ikebanadallas@gmail.com](mailto:ikebanadallas@gmail.com).

It will be very easy for you to establish a chapter PayPal account and tie it to your chapter bank account. It requires telling PayPal information about your chapter bank account, they will also need to verify your bank account which involves PayPal making some minor deposits into your account and having the treasurer verify those amounts that PayPal provides in a link to the email attached to the account. Later, PayPal withdraws those minor deposits. PayPal sends a confirming email to the email account tied to the account when payments are made. It would be wise to forward this confirming email to I.I. headquarters so that they know which chapter has paid.

It is also possible to have your payments made by another chapter member through his/her own personal PayPal account and then have your chapter reimburse the member. Again, you would want to forward the

confirmation email from PayPal to I. I. HQ so that they know the payment was in behalf of your chapter. When it comes to them from an unknown email account, they have no way of tracing the payment back to your chapter - another reason for having your own PayPal account and an email address that is unique to your chapter.

The final option is to pay through PayPal using a credit card. This is likely the most expensive option as most credit cards have a foreign transaction fee attached to them that is in the 1%-3% area. Some, like the American Express Platinum card, do not have a foreign transaction fee. Since it is unlikely that chapters have their own credit cards, using this option requires finding a chapter member who has a credit card, hopefully one that does not charge foreign transaction fees, and that the credit card is also attached to a PayPal account. You would have this member pay the amount owed using their Paypal account, forward the confirming email to I.I. headquarters and then reimburse the member for the charges.

All in all, it is quite easy to set up a PayPal account and it is the best option for paying dues for those few members dues who join mid year. It is not hard to establish and will take less than a week to do (PayPal needs a couple days to verify your bank account). It is painless and after it is established, payment of things takes less than five minutes or less time that it takes to write and mail a check to Japan!

PayPal				Wire Transfer		
# Members	U.S. \$	5% Fee	Total	U.S. \$	Fee	Total
5	\$300	\$15	\$315	\$300	\$75	\$375
10	\$600	\$60	\$660	\$600	\$75	\$675
20	\$1200	\$75	\$1275	\$1200	\$75	\$1275
25	\$1500	\$90	\$1590	\$1500	\$75	\$1575
30	\$1800	\$120	\$1920	\$1800	\$75	\$1875
50	\$3000	\$180	\$3180	\$3000	\$75	\$3075

**Assumptions:**

\$6000 yen = \$60 U.S. dollars

Wire Transfer fee is 3,000 yen charged by I.I. Headquarters bank or \$30 U.S plus...

Wire transfer fee charged by U.S. bank estimated at \$45 but could be higher.

Total estimated fee is \$75 for wire

transfer (\$30 charged by I.I. bank and \$45 charge from the U.S. bank).

## Starting Ikebana Young

Led by President Thanh Nguyen and her team of helpers, the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter now has a flourishing new program to teach ikebana to schoolchildren. It is called the Ikebana For Youth program (IFY). Cultivating the study and love of ikebana among young people has long been recognized as an urgent and continuing need to insure the future vitality of ikebana as a thriving art form. Rising to the challenge, this spring Ms. Nguyen contacted people in the school system in her community and was able to arrange teaching sessions in two schools before the summer recess.

Thanh taught 24 seventh graders in the first class, followed by 14 eighth graders in a second class. The students were 13 and 14 years old. They listened attentively as she explained the art of ikebana and taught them how to measure, cut and secure flowers in containers. The children

were enthusiastic and enjoyed the workshop.

Thanh reports "it was one of the most rewarding experiences in teaching ikebana I have ever had."



## Still going strong at 98!

On June 5, 2014, Ikebana Chapter #33 in Dayton, Ohio held a special birthday party for ikebana charter member, Dorothy Rankin, who was celebrating her 98th birthday. Dorothy had her initial instruction in ikebana techniques in 1954 when she was a teacher for the United States Air Force Dependent Schools in Tokyo, and joined Ikebana International when the organization was initiated in 1956. She has continued her interest in ikebana during her teaching assignments in the years following, including terms at Kaiserslautern AFB, Germany and in Paris. She retired in Dayton, Ohio and creates arrangements at the chapter's monthly meetings at Cox Arboretum that is part of Dayton, Ohio's Five Rivers MetroParks.



## Important links:

Ikebana Headquarters

[www.ikebanahq.org](http://www.ikebanahq.org)

NAR Region Chapters

[www.ikebanaasheville.org](http://www.ikebanaasheville.org)

[www.ikebanaboston.org](http://www.ikebanaboston.org)

[www.ikebana95.com](http://www.ikebana95.com) Col. Springs

[www.iicolumbus84.webs.com](http://www.iicolumbus84.webs.com)

[www.ikebanacolumbia.net](http://www.ikebanacolumbia.net)

[www.ikebanainternational.org](http://www.ikebanainternational.org) D.C

[www.ikebanadallas.org](http://www.ikebanadallas.org)

[www.ikebanadenver.com](http://www.ikebanadenver.com)

[www.ikebanadetroit.org](http://www.ikebanadetroit.org)

[www.ikebana-hawaii.org](http://www.ikebana-hawaii.org)

[www.ikebana-houston12.org](http://www.ikebana-houston12.org)

[www.ikebanalosangeles.org](http://www.ikebanalosangeles.org)

[www.ikebanamiami.org](http://www.ikebanamiami.org)

[www.ikebana-minneapolis-stpaul.com](http://www.ikebana-minneapolis-stpaul.com)

[www.ikebanamontereybay.org](http://www.ikebanamontereybay.org)

[www.ikebananaples.com](http://www.ikebananaples.com)

[www.ikebanany.org](http://www.ikebanany.org)

[www.ikebanaorlando.com](http://www.ikebanaorlando.com)

[www.ikebanaottawa.ca](http://www.ikebanaottawa.ca)

[www.ikebanaphiladelphia.org](http://www.ikebanaphiladelphia.org)

[www.iipittsburghchapter.org](http://www.iipittsburghchapter.org)

[www.portlandchapter47.com](http://www.portlandchapter47.com)

[www.ikebanarochester.org](http://www.ikebanarochester.org)

[www.ikebanasandiego.org](http://www.ikebanasandiego.org)

[www.ikebana.org](http://www.ikebana.org) San Francisco

[www.iisarasota.com](http://www.iisarasota.com)

[www.iiseattlechapter19.com](http://www.iiseattlechapter19.com)

[www.ikebanainternational-](http://www.ikebanainternational-)

[st.andrew.yolasite.com](http://st.andrew.yolasite.com)

[www.ikebanastpetersburgh.com](http://www.ikebanastpetersburgh.com)

[www.iisuncity.org](http://www.iisuncity.org)

[www.ikebana-toronto.com](http://www.ikebana-toronto.com)

[www.ikebanawilmington.com](http://www.ikebanawilmington.com)

### Ikebana schools

Ichiyo - <http://www.ichiyo-ikebana-school.com/e>

Ikenobo - <http://www.ikenobo.jp/english/>

Sogetsu [www.sogetsu.or.jp/e/](http://www.sogetsu.or.jp/e/)

Ohara - [www.ohararyu.or.jp/english/index\\_e.html](http://www.ohararyu.or.jp/english/index_e.html)

If you want to take Ikebana lessons in your area, ask your chapter president or regional liaison to share the list of teachers in North America with you or contact [narikebana@gmail.com](mailto:narikebana@gmail.com)



Ichiyo arrangement by Naohiro Kasuya, headmaster-designate. The iron containers were made by his grandfather, Meikof Kasuya and loaned to Asheville Chapter #74 by Ikebana Atlanta Chapter #265 for the NAR Exhibit.

### Ikebana Iwaya Fund

The Ikebana Iwaya Fund (IIF) is an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2006 by Sumako Iwaya Solenberger to provide support for Ikebana activities. Following the recent death of Mrs. Solenberger, the fund was renamed in her honor. The fund serves as a way for donors to make a tax deductible donation to an Ikebana International Chapter, a NAR conference, the II Headquarters, an Ikebana School or Study Group, or an independent Ikebana organization. Any contribution made through IIF is tax deductible, and a receipt is provided for your tax return. In addition, no matter where your contribution goes; the estate of Sumako Iwaya Solenberger will put a 2 to 1 match of your contribution into the permanent IIF endowment fund. Income from the endowment fund is used to support the Ikebana community.

A recent example of activities supported by the Ikebana Iwaya Fund was a demonstration/workshop in San Antonio, Texas. Midori Tanimune, assisted by Magdalena Tamura-Reid, both of Philadelphia Chapter #71, led a well received demonstration and workshop at the San Antonio Garden Center. Participating were II members from Albuquerque, NM, as well as Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio in Texas. The event included a dinner on San Antonio's famed Riverwalk.

Further information can be obtained at [Ikebanalwaya.org](http://Ikebanalwaya.org) or email [Ikebanalwaya@gmail.com](mailto:Ikebanalwaya@gmail.com) for a donation form.

Exhibits  
Please send all  
submissions to  
[narikebana@gmail.com](mailto:narikebana@gmail.com)

## Events and Programs

Dallas #13 - Ft. Worth  
6/16-7/6  
East Meets West  
Irving Arts Center

Milwaukee  
7/31-8/2 - WI State Fair  
Grounds, West Allis WI

Rochester  
9/5 - Kuma Gama Clay  
Studio

Seattle  
9/6-7 - 17th Annual Aki  
Matsuri (Japanese Fall  
Festival). Exhibition  
and demonstrations  
both days.

Portland  
October 4-5, 2014,  
Ryusei Ha exhibition  
10-4 pm at the Japanese  
Garden

October 18-19, 2014, I.I.  
Chrysanthemum  
exhibition 10-4 pm.  
Arrangements with  
chrysanthemums by the  
five Portland area  
Ikebana Schools at the  
Japanese Garden

Detroit  
October 5, 2014 at  
Japan Festival, Novi, MI.

October 18, 2014 - at  
Bloomfield Township  
Library - 50th  
anniversary gala.

Columbus  
Oct. 18/19 - Franklin  
Park Conservatory

July

August

September

**14-17**  
Milwaukee  
Torii Gate Show  
Mitchell Park  
Conservatory

Ottawa  
Date TBA - Welcome  
Tea with demo by sub-  
Grand Master Mitsugi  
Kikuchi and auction of  
his arrangements.

**17**  
Panama  
Annual workshop to  
public school  
Display of Kodomo No  
Hi films and free  
Ikebana lesson to  
students as part of  
Children's Day  
celebration in Panama

**15**  
Columbus  
Ikenobo Workshop  
Chireko Rikawa and  
Virginia Duym  
Franklin Park  
Conservatory  
Reservations by Aug.  
5 at 614-261-1412 or  
740-815-7149

**15**  
Sacramento  
Yvonne Turner Floral  
demo  
The Joy of Flowers-  
Sogetsu  
Sacramento Garden &  
Art Center

**18**  
Columbus  
Ohara Workshop by  
Louise Bennett at  
Franklin Park  
Conservatory, Call  
614-866-5010 or  
740-587-4116 by July 8  
for reservations

**15**  
New York  
Ikenobo demonstration  
by Nobu Kurashige,  
Head Professor and  
Managing Director,  
Ikenobo of America -  
Nippon Club  
[www.ikebanany.org](http://www.ikebanany.org)  
See details on next  
page

### Conferences and Conventions

8th European Regional Conference  
August 20-24, 2014  
Potsdam, Germany  
<http://www.ikebana-international-2014.de>

13th Asian Regional Conference  
Nov. 12-15, 2015  
Taipei, Taiwan  
Email: [lansing.chen@gmail.com](mailto:lansing.chen@gmail.com)

**19**  
Columbus  
Ohara Workshop by  
Jackie Roederer  
Franklin Park  
Conservatory  
614-864-6012 or  
614-537-2082 by Sept. 9  
for reservations.



**Save the Date!**  
**Ikebana Demonstration**  
 by Ikenobo School Professor Nobu Kurashige  
 Head Professor and Managing Director  
 of Ikenobo Ikebana Society of America



Ikebana International New York Chapter  
 Tuesday, September 16, 2014  
 at the Nippon Club  
 Details to follow  
<http://www.ikebanany.org>

**PLEASE, HOLD THE DATE**



IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL  
 DALLAS CHAPTER 13 PRESENTS



October 31 – November 2, 2014

WITH  
 KIKI SHIBATA, RIJI, SOGETSU SCHOOL  
 Outdoor Sculptures, Exhibition, Workshops,  
 Grand Finale Demonstration on November 2, 2014

OUR SPONSORS:  
 IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL FORT WORTH CHAPTER 38  
 SOGETSU DALLAS BRANCH



for information: [ikebanadallas@gmail.com](mailto:ikebanadallas@gmail.com) or [ikebanadallas.org](http://ikebanadallas.org)

**Looking ahead to the fall:**

October - Panama

Exhibition of table settings and  
 Ikebana flowers - Marriott Hotel

October - Rochester Chapter

Oct. 4 - Exhibition and Teacher  
 demonstration at Barnes & Noble

October 4-5 - Sacramento

Fall Plant Fair - Garden & Art  
 Center

Oct. 17 - Boston

Sogetsu Master Instructor Yoko  
 Hosono from Tokyo HQ  
 Creative Japanese Floral Design  
 NewBridge on the Charles,  
 Dedham MA  
 Tomoko Tanaka 781-237-5739 or  
[tomokot@comcast.net](mailto:tomokot@comcast.net)

October - Miami Chapter

Oct. 26 - Exhibit - Perez  
 Architecture Center. Univ. of Miami  
 Oct. 26 - Anniversary Celebration;  
 Demonstration by Elaine Jo,  
 Ichiyo Executive Master; Perez  
 Center  
 Oct. 27 - Ichiyo Workshop -  
 Fairchild Gardens

Oct 31-Nov. 2 - Dallas

Kiku Matsuri festival  
 See details at lower left

November - Atlanta Chapter

In November, I.I. Atlanta Chapter  
 #265 will be partnering with the  
 Atlanta Opera by presenting an  
 exhibit to coincide with the opening  
 season production of Madame  
 Butterfly. Ikebana will be displayed  
 throughout the three tiers of the  
 theatre lobby. Chapter members  
 will be on hand before each  
 production and during the  
 intermission to answer questions  
 and promote an understanding of  
 the art of Ikebana.



Teachers Karen Napoli, Saskia Eller and Jerome Cushman, I.I. Rochester made arrangements from their respective schools of ikebana: Ichiyo, Ohara, Hijiri Ikenobo at the Ontario Public Library. In recognition of the library's centennial the teachers used flowers popular 100 years ago.

## Some interesting program and exhibit notes

### Baton Rouge

Our chapter featured a most unusual program in September 2013 entitled Benkis and Baths. Benkis are Japanese toilets.



Our two members who presented the program have lived in Japan in recent years. We

incorporated some of their Japanese items in our April exhibit and people found them very interesting.

### St. Louis

Member and teacher Yoshiko Mitchell, Ikenobo and Sogetsu schools, discussed how plant material is used (and not used) in Japan for ikebana at a St. Louis Chapter program in December. She talked about various flowers and plants selected for celebrations and particular seasons, and demonstrated two Ikenobo designs.

### Rochester

Rochester has developed a friendship through flowers with the Genesee Regional Orchid Society and the Bonsai Society of Upstate New York. For a few years now they have exhibited together at the Orchid Show and with the Bonsai Show. These collaborations have become popular with the public who enjoy seeing the

complementary art forms in the same venue. It invariably attracts new members for each organization.

*Editor's note - We learned in the Breakfast Forum that collaboration with other garden oriented groups as well as art galleries and museums helps to increase exhibit attendance and promote membership.*

### Melbourne FL

A day of workshops was presented by Jeanne Houlton to members and guests of Melbourne Chapter #216 in celebration of their 30 year anniversary.

In the morning session Jeanne led them in a workshop making balls of veneer and then making an arrangement within them.

In the afternoon session, Jeanne taught clever ways of trimming, taping and generally altering aspidistra leaves and incorporating them into an arrangement.



### Other items:

#### Lost and Found at North American Regional Conference

Missing a red cardigan sweater or a pair of red handled pruners? If so, contact Terri Ellis Todd at [ichiyofloralart.com](http://ichiyofloralart.com) and she will send them to you.

#### Future article ideas!

What do you want to see in your newsletter? Send your ideas to [narikebana@gmail.com](mailto:narikebana@gmail.com)

Some ideas are:

- How to set up your website inexpensively.
- Why are ikebana arrangements critiqued but not judged and garden club is judged but not critiqued?
- What's new in ikebana schools and what differentiates the schools from each other.
- Sensei's corner - tips and stories from teachers of Ikebana.
- Sources for ikebana equipment such as hasami and kenzans.

IF ANY OF THESE ARTICLE IDEAS APPEAL TO YOU, LET US KNOW OR BETTER YET; VOLUNTEER TO WRITE ONE!

#### In Memoriam:

Pittsburgh Chapter #25 -  
Teruko Shiono