



Victoria is Getting Ready



Ass't Professor Nishi

Dear NAOTA Members,

The tenth NAOTA Conference is almost here. We will be meeting at the beautiful Inn at Laurel Point in Victoria, British Columbia. The instructor for the workshop sessions is Assistant Professor Akihiro Nishi. He is known by many of our attendees and will do an excellent job for us. As in the past, he will once again provide us with several challenges. We hope to have as assistants some of our Grand Masters. The workshop schedule is being fine-tuned as is the list for the flowers and branch materials to be used. Gail Newman will be conference photographer. All of that information will be mailed to the conference participants along with what monies they owe. All will hear about the conference in the newsletter that will come out in late September.

The conference is sold out, however there may be some last minute cancellations. Should this happen we have a waiting list by date received and will honor those requests as space opens up.

The recent devastating events in Japan are still very much on our minds. It is hard to comprehend the wide-reaching destruction to this beautiful country. We know, however, that the resilient Japanese people will not let these tragic events change them. Already they have scheduled the Ikebana International Conference for next year. I hope all will still be able to attend.

I look forward to the conference in Victoria and hope that spring has been as brilliant for you as ours here in North Carolina.

Best regards,

Judy Melton

President



The Inn at Laurel Point - Victoria, BC - Canada

Schedule of Activities Being Planned for the Conference

Monday, August 29

Opening Reception

Tuesday - Thursday
August 30 - September 1

Morning and Afternoon classes
for Groups A and B

Thursday following last class

General Business Meeting

Friday morning, September 2

Tour of Butchart Gardens

Friday evening, September 2

Demonstration by Assistant Professor Nishi
followed by cocktails and Sayonara Banquet



For Your Ikebana Arrangements, the Lovely Flowers of Spring



Daffodils may be narcissi or jonquils. All daffodils are narcissi but not all narcissi are daffodils. Daffodils signify a number of things: rebirth and new beginning - a true flower of spring. If you live in Wales and spot the first daffodil of spring the next 12 months will be filled with wealth; in China if you get a daffodil forced to bloom during the celebration of the New Year you bring good luck to your home. Here is a warning that comes from legend - when you give someone a bunch of daffodils, that is a symbol of good fortune; but if you give a single daffodil, that means misfortune. Consider following the Ohara School instructions for daffodils - you will have a lovely arrangement to enjoy, if only for the moment.

Tulips originally came from Persia and Turkey. The name comes from word that means turban, the Latinized version of dul(i)band which the Europeans mistakenly used as its name. The dulband was the turban into which were tucked tulips. The shape of the inverted turban also resembled a tulip. Tulips spread quickly and in 1637 there occurred what is called "tulip mania." For one year prices soared in Holland and then the market crashed. Today there are almost 4,000 varieties of tulips. The symbols for tulip may be fame and perfect love. Tulips also mean eternal life and are heralds of spring. Why not create an ikebana arrangement with these beautiful flowers. Use all that you were ever taught by Ohara School and be sure to include the beautiful leaves and spring branches you see blooming.



Lilac, according to Diana Wells, author of *100 Flowers and How They Got Their Names*, "comes from the Arabic *laylak* or Persian *nylak* meaning "blue... The botanical name, *Syringa*, is from the Greek *syrix* meaning 'pipe,' because the pithy stems can be hollowed out." The Turks used them to make pipes. Lilac was compared to a fox's tail and, when presented for the first time in Europe, the perfume was said to be musky and "molesting" the head in a strange way. Lilacs are from the olive family genus and are found in scrubland from southeastern Europe to eastern Asia. They are also related to the privet. From May 13-21 there will be over 1200 varieties growing at this year's Lilac Festival in Highland Park, NY. Your challenge is to create an ikebana arrangement with lilac.

Please remember to send news and pictures of your chapter activities, including daffodil, tulip, and lilac photos to Christine Norman, Newsletter Editor at cdfan@roadrunner.com and Judith Melton, NAOTA President, at jmlton@clemsun.edu.

Membership and Changes to Directory - continued from page 4

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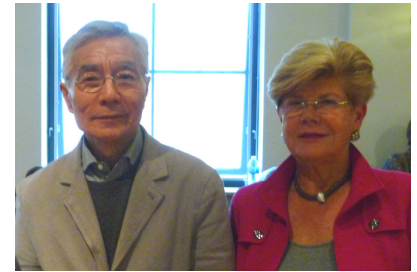
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*If you have any changes in your membership listing
please advise Saskia Eller, Membership Chair - saskia@rochester.rr.com*

News From Our Chapters

Delaware Valley

A Seiko Behr Memorial Exhibit was held April 7 - 8 at the Delaware Center for Horticulture in Wilmington, Delaware. This event was sponsored by the Delaware Valley Chapter. Philadelphia Chapter 71 of Ikebana International assisted with set-up and maintenance and the food for the opening reception. A total of 37 participants created arrangements. Twenty-two were from Ohara School with 10 being NAOTA members - **Kathy Andersen, Ronell Douglass, Rumiko Hayashi, Ronnie Iorio, Ingrid Lüders, Young Oh, Virginia Price, Celia Roberts, Mutsuo Tomita, and Young Yum.** Sogetsu, Ikenobo, and Koryu were also represented. Seventy attended the opening reception on Thursday night and on Friday the exhibit was open to the public.



Grand Masters Mutsuo Tomita and Ingrid Lüders at the Seiko Behr Memorial.

Photo by Ronnie Iorio

The Philadelphia International Flower Show held March 4-11 included NAOTA members **Ronell Douglass, Rumiko Hayashi, Young Oh, Don Orenbuch, and Young Yum.** Their arrangements were part of the II Exhibit.

Ottawa is the new name of the Ottawa-Carleton Ohara Chapter in Canada. The Carleton was dropped from the name as it is no longer considered relevant. An Operations Manual was added and a review is proceeding for job descriptions that will be voted on at a general membership meeting in May.

At the February 23 - 27 II show at the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa Chapter participated, representing Ohara with 15 arrangements of 40 in the show. Eight of the chapter members who exhibited are NAOTA members - **Elizabeth Armstrong, Marie-Eve Coupal, Grace Furuya, Terence Hodgins, Derek Kitchen, Kyoko Kosaki, Nancy MacLeod, and Helen Westington.** "This partnership has been in existence for over 25 years" reports chapter president Nancy MacLeod. She continued to say that "The annual exhibition has been held for over 40 years, but not always at the Museum. That came later." Sizes of the arrangements at the Museum ranged from table-top size to large ones on the floor.

Northern Ohio is pleased to report that the members of its chapter agreed to send a check to the Ohara School Fund that will be used for Ohara School members in northern Japan who have suffered from the recent earthquake and tsunami. This was sent to the HQ in Kobe where the fund is administered. HQ has sent a letter of appreciation to the chapter.

At its October 2010 workshop session something new for beginning students was tried. **Isa Ranganathan**, 2nd Degree Master of Ohara School and a NAOTA member, was the instructor. She opted to teach the students, some who have not yet attained instructors' level, how to create a free style arrangement using the principles of the Inclining Form. All were told to bring the container of their choice. Isa demonstrated several styles for the students to try. At left she is showing how to use a different container in the Inclining Form.

Isa taught the size of the arrangement, exaggerating dimensions, and how to make changes that meet these requirements and turn it into free-style. To encourage everyone to use their imagination, the materials Isa used were different than those the students received.

Below are pictures of an arrangement by Isa and one by a student.



Isa Ranganathan demonstrating the Inclining Form.



Free-style arrangement, based on Inclining Form, as created by a student who used roses, rosehips, and camellia leaves.



Free-style arrangement, based on Inclining Form, created by Isa using lilies, monstera, and serviceberry.

Photos by Gail Newman

Changes for Your Roster

Here are the additions and changes for your Membership Directory. Please add them to your 2010-2011 membership book.

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