

September 2017 Newsletter



The date of the next meeting is Monday,
September 18th, at Chapel on the Hill Church
12601 Park Blvd. Seminole FL 33776

St. Petersburg, Florida Chapter #65
www.ikebanastpetersburg.com

A Message from our Chapter President...

Dear Members of the St. Petersburg Chapter,

It is a great honor for me to accept the Presidency of Ikebana International St. Petersburg for 2017-2018. This is my second term. The last year was such a pleasure and success that I only expect the same again. We are lucky to have most of the Board from last year serving a second term as well, so a winning year is surely ahead.

We have almost 90 members, which makes us one of the largest chapters in Ikebana International and one of the largest chapters in Florida.

Our program chairman Barbara Goss has a powerful slate of programs for every month that will hold your interest, and our Treasurer Joe Myers keeps us in line financially.

Our chapter is very fortunate to have teachers from six schools of Ikebana so that members who want to study flower arranging have a wide choice of schools. Today, there are over 200 active schools of Ikebana in Japan.

Many of our members have taken lessons but many have not learned Ikebana at all. They simply enjoy observing the art form and learning about it and related Japanese arts.

Each year, we invite high ranking teachers from other chapters to teach us. This year, our special SubGrandmaster Ronell Douglass from the Ohara School is coming from Philadelphia.

Ikebana International does not provide Ikebana lessons. However, Those who want to take lessons should contact an Ikebana teacher directly. Our chapter can guide you straight to the phone number.

Wishing you continued friendship,



Jeanne Houlton
President
Ikebana International St Petersburg



Program

General meeting followed by a demonstration by Doris Axon,
Past President of the Suncoast Bonsai Society on the Care and Design of Bonsai
Bring your own lunch Classes by schools follow lunch.

Barbara Goss-Program Chair

Hospitality

Mary Levenson, Kathy LaDuke, Eileen Rossi, Veronica Serra – Arrangement by Ruth Philipon
Julie MacNary – Hospitality Chair

Ichiyō Class

"Ichiyō workshop. We are doing Flowing form. If you have not done it before, contact Jeanne for the worksheet and materials to buy or cut. Jeanne" houlton2@gmail.com

Banmi Shofu Class

September will be the last month that I'll be teaching classes before I head out to visit my dad and I won't be returning till January

September 18 class at Chapel on the Hill Our school meets for class right after lunch.
Items that will be brought to class, I will send out a week before so please check your emails

September 25 class from 10 to 2 at my home
September 30 class from 10 to 2 at my home
October 2 class from 10 to 2 at my home

Classes that are held at Chapel on the Hill are five dollars per person, at my home \$25 per person.

Please let me know as soon as possible if you're interested in any of these class dates.
Laurel Fooks laurelfooks@yahoo.com

Ohara Class

There will be an afternoon class. Please correspond with Susan Thorpe for details.
Susan Thorpe shthorpe@tampabay.rr.com

Sogetsu Class

This will be a lesson from our new book 5, Green Plant Material.
Bring a container you enjoy using.
Bring leaves and branches considering how they will look together.
You won't need flowers. This is an interesting style.
Barbara Goss roboflo@aol.com

Membership

MEET THE "DOLLY MAMA OF "DOLLYBANA"

Most of Chapter 65 already met Diane Milla last March when she appeared as our guest presenter of a beautiful program featuring her passion for and knowledge of Japanese dolls. Some of you might be inclined to rhyme her last name with "va-NILLA" and it really should rhyme with "torTILLA.

Well, guess what! She has joined our Chapter and is a student of Ichiyo. Like the rest of us she is charmed by all aspects of Japanese art and culture and Ikebana is a natural choice. She will commute from her home in Lakeland to our meetings and events and she is mastering the backroads and short cuts to make her trip easier.

Diane's interest in dolls "began in 1983 during an extended stay in Japan. She first learned to make the folded paper dolls called: Washi Ningyo." That interest expanded to include avid collecting of all manner of Japanese dolls and in depth study of their origin and history. This led to years of presenting programs, classes and workshops and writing numerous articles and becoming known by her ubiquitous title: "Dolly Mama of Dollybana"



There is so much more to learn about Diane/Dolly and no way to cover it here. We are lucky to have times ahead to get to know her better. Her involvements include contact with other Ikebana enthusiasts and that now includes all of us.

By the way, for those of you who attended the Summer Luncheon provided by Jeanne and Barbara and found a tiny Kokeshi doll by your plate, that was a gift from our own new member and friend, Diane Milla. Thanks, Diane and Welcome!

WELCOME TOSHIE HALL

Twenty years ago Toshie was living in Hong Kong and discovered "a woman from Osaka" who taught Ohara classes. She was intrigued and took her first class in 1997 and is now a member of the Hong Kong chapter and holds a 2nd level Master's Degree from the Ohara School of Osaka. Most recently she has attended training courses in Osaka to become an instructor.

Even more recently than that Toshie and her husband, Edward, have relocated from Tokyo to Florida and are now settling into their new home in Palm Harbor. They had spent several months searching the area for a perfect spot and just about that time: ENTER: well-timed publicity from Chapter 65 in the newspaper about the upcoming WAFU demonstration and classes. Edward spotted it; Toshie jumped on it and contacted the web site about how to get info and tickets to our January highlight. They made plans to attend that event and later, the exhibition, and other chapter gatherings. The house in Palm Harbor was chosen for many reasons including the proximity to Chapter 65 meetings.



Now she is a member of our chapter and we are about to see our new friend and artist express her talent for and love of Ikebana in the October program. The presentation will feature Toshie and Jean Nelson, who arrived to our group a year ago and brought the Senka school with her. October promises to bring us new ideas, new talent and our own new members.

By the way, Toshie is the one who provided the rambutan fruit dessert complete with instructions as to how to peel it and eat it at our Summer luncheon.

Always something new and aren't we lucky. Welcome, Toshie, and welcome again, Jean Nelson.

With deep regrets, I inform you of the passing of one of our most serious students of ikebana. Nena Shepherd passed away on August 29 at the age of 93. With magnifiers she read every word of our newsletters and every word of her ikebana magazines. This year she came to our exhibition, Art in Bloom and the Ichiyo Florida chapter's demonstration 3 weeks ago.

Her interest in ikebana began when she saw an arrangement in a lobby, and as an art major thought she could learn to do that. She went to a Sogetsu class in Geneva, Switzerland and was very very surprised that it took more than a few lessons to learn this art form. This began a lifetime of studying ikebana.

May we all be as enthusiastic about ikebana.
My deepest regrets on Nena's passing.
She will be missed.

-Jeanne Houlton

CALLING ALL NAME TAGS!!!!

We are short quite a few of our II name tags with the little kimonos on them. Please check your glove compartments, your last purses, your Ikebana carts, etc. and bring them back when you attend your first upcoming meeting. Don't feel a bit embarrassed about returning them; once I found three of mine in three different places.

Margaret Salmon - Membership Chair

Ginza

Ikebana Equipment for Sale



Ginza is the name of a famous shopping district in Toyko. Used here, however, it refers to our "small shop" available to members to supply some of their Ikebana tools and materials. Our Ginza is open at most meetings before the meeting starts and during lunch. We also have a Ginza at the annual Exhibition.

We carry hasami (scissors) and kensans (pin holders / frogs). We sometimes have nearly new or used containers contributed by members. We can order specific new containers for members from a supplier in California. At our November meeting, any member can have a table of Ikebana goods for sale and donate 25% of their sales to the Ginza.

Make arrangements through Bet Groshong at bgroshong79@gmail.com

The art of Ikebana is a legacy handed down from sensei (teacher) to student, generation to generation. So, too, are the containers in which we work and learn this unique skill. When you are ready to pass on one or more of your containers through our Ginza, please consider writing down what you know about the piece: Where you acquired it, any special memories attached to it, how long you had it, etc. This basic information written on a piece of paper serves as the provenance for our cherished containers and is an extra gift to their new owners. They will add to it and continue to preserve the details of its journey for new Ikebana students who come after us!

Save the Date Garden Tour of Ikebana Cutting Gardens Saturday, November 4th
Our members are hosting this fundraiser - one you won't want to miss!

Tokyo II Proxy

For anyone who does not have scanner capabilities on your printer, if you'll snail mail your filled out proxy to me before the 15th, I will scan & email it to Tokyo.

Sue Taylor

1215 Bayshore Blvd.

Indian Rocks Beach FL 33785

Newsletter

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