

MURORAN

TIMES



August 1, 2010 No.249

Muroran City Office 1-2 Saiwai-cho, Muroran,
Hokkaido 051-8511 JAPAN <0143-22-1111>

News and Topics

Visitation to a Sister City, Knoxville, USA

Muroran has been a sister city of Knoxville, Tennessee in USA, since January 1991. Next January will mark the 20th anniversary of the exchange, so 17 people from Muroran visited Knoxville, USA to celebrate the 20th anniversary and to deepen ties. Among the members who went were Muroran Mayor Shingu Masashi and his wife, the chairman of city council Wagatsuma Shizuo and members of the Civic Exchange Group in Muroran. They were greeted cheerfully when they arrived at the airport. Their activities included an invitation to watch fireworks celebrating Independence Day, and a visit to Knoxville Mayor Mr. Bill Haslam, where they received certificates as honorary citizens. They returned to Muroran with warm impressions of Knoxville hospitality.

Muroran and Knoxville have various forms of exchange. Every year several junior high school students from Muroran are dispatched to Knoxville for home-stay. Students or professors from Tennessee University come to Muroran to perform in Muroran Jazz Cruise. The jazz band of Tsurugasaki Junior High School in Muroran goes there to receive training. Such meaningful exchanges are expected to continue.

アメリカ・ノックスビル市と室蘭市が姉妹都市にな
って20年を迎えることから、市長や市民など
17人がノックスビルを訪問し、交流を深めました。

Photo Exhibition of Old Muroran

A mobile exhibition of photos titled “Good Old Muroran,” sponsored by Muroran City Office started on July 20th. Moving around seven places within the city, the exhibition will be held until September 5th. About 50 photos such as “Morishita Bridge in Nakajima, Muroran in 1953”, “The children playing around company housing in winter 1961”, and “Paying a visit to a Hachi-man Shrine on New Year’s Day in 1963” can be seen. The most of them are of Muroran around 1960.

This year Muroran City Office started to digitize photo material, which were collected in the municipal archives. The office is recruiting old pictures citizens to make up for the lack of photos. The city office will take donations of photos at any time. You can bring them in person, or send them by mail or e-mail to the city office. For further information, contact the general affairs department of Muroran City Office (tel:0143-25-2215).

Incidentally, the venues of the exhibition are as follows : *Mitara Muroran* (Memorial Hall of *Hakucho*-Bridge) from August 2nd~8th, *Pulatto-Tetsuichi* (next to Citizen’s Hall, *Wanishi*) from August 9th~15th, Former Muroran Station from August 16th~22nd, Muroran Prince Hotel from August 23rd~29th, and Muroran Municipal Hospital from August 30th~September 5th.

50年くらい前の室蘭の町の様子などを写した写真展が7月20日から9月5日まで、開催されています。



New BOLTA

A new version of BOLTA, the male figure made from bolts and nuts has recently been created. The new BOLTA is patterned after NATTY (the

female version of BOLTA) swinging a golf club and BOLTA watching her. It is titled, "Good shot! BOLTA and NATTY".

The manufacturer, Tetsunomachi Projects (representative Takayuki Kawahara) has put it on sale for 2,300 yen, including tax.

This version is the 108th design, and uses the pose of golfing for the first time in the series. For more information, call 0143-47-8233.

ボルトとナットで作られた人形の新作は、ゴルフを楽しむポーズで、シリーズの108作目となります。

Information and Invitations

General Opening of Cape-Chikyu Lighthouse

It is possible to go inside the lighthouse.

[Date] August 8(Sun)10:00a.m. ~ 3:00p.m.

[Admission Fee] free

[More Information] Sightseeing Section at Muroan City Office (Tel: 0143-25-3320)

Muroan Aquarium Summer Festival

[Date] August 14(Sat) – 16(Mon)

9:30a.m.~5:00p.m.

[Entrance Fee] 300 yen over high school students (under junior high school age and over 70 years old: free)

[Information] Muroan Aquarium (Tel: 0143-27-1638)



Muroan Mikoshi Parade (portable shrines)

[Date] August 14(Sat) 6:30p.m. ~

[Place] Chuo-cho old arcade at Muroan

[Information] Mr.Funamoto (Tel: 0143-22-8211)

Muroan Hachiman jingu Shrine Festival

<Outdoor Markets>

[Date] August 14 (Sat) 12:00 noon ~, 15(Sun) 10:00a.m. ~

[Place] Chuo-cho

[Information] Mr.Funamoto (Tel: 0143-22-8211)



The 10th Muroan Jazz Cruise

[Date] August 21(Sat) Opening: 11:00a.m.

11:30a.m. ~8:30 p.m.

[Place] Central wharf warehouse

[Program]

Session.1 Tsurugasaki junior high school jazz band and others

Session.2 Professional live: Salena Jones & Her Swing Crew and others

[Tickets] 5,000 yen (4,500 yen in advance) for adults and 1,500 yen (1,000 yen in advance) for high school students and younger.



You can get tickets at Elm musical instruments, city-wide CD shops, and Lawson and others

[Information] Muroan Jazz Cruise

Executive Committee (Tel: 0143-44-9922)

Luxury Cruise Passenger Boat "ASUKA II"

onboard general public viewing

[Date] October 5(Tue) 1:30p.m. ~2:30p.m.

[Place]Muroan Port Central Wharf

[Limit] 100 people * by lottery if number of applicants exceeds 100

[Necessary ID card] The driver's license or health insurance card of the person boarding the ship (Keep it on that day).

[Conditions] Must be a citizen of Muroan, Noboribetsu, Date,

Toyoura, Sobetsu or Toya, who can use the stairs onboard

[Application] Please send a postcard with your name, address, sex, birthday, telephone number, type of ID card and the number on it by August 19.

* It is possible to apply for up to two people with one

postcard. Lottery winners will be notified by mail. People who did not win will not be notified. The winning right cannot be transferred to others. The ship reserves the right to cancel the excursion for any reason.

〒051-0022 Kaigan-cho 1-20-30, Muroan

室蘭市海岸町 1 - 20 - 30

港湾部総務課振興係

[Information] Ports Section of Muroan City Office (Tel: 0143-22-3191)



Noboribetsu Hot Spring Festival

[Date] August 28(Sat) 8:05 p.m.~

[Place] Noboribetsu Hot Spring Street
(Gokuraku Street)

[Event] Demon Disguise Dance Contest
(Acceptance: 5:10p.m.~7:00p.m.)

[Date] August 30(Sun) 9:35p.m.~

[Event] Fireworks

[Information] Noboribetsu Sightseeing
Association (Tel: 0143-84-3311)

Date Warrior Festival

[Date] August 7(Sat) 6:30 p.m.~

[Event] Date warrior float parade

[Course] JR Datemonbetsu Station →Date City
Office

[Date] August 8(Sun) 3:00 p.m.~

[Event] The cavaliers' parades

[Place] Date Historical Culture Center

[Information] Date Warrior Festival
Executive Committee (Tel: 0142-23-3331)

Japanese Lesson

“Nihongo de hanasou”

< Topic of the month >



Summer in Japan : 日本の夏 [nihon no
natsu]

Vocabulary

summer vacation : 夏休み [natsu-yasumi]

return to hometown to visit families : 帰省 [kisei]

festival : お祭り [o-matsuri]

portable shrine : お神輿 [o-mikoshi]

Bon Festival : お盆 [o-bon]

Bon dance : 盆踊り [bon-odori]

fireworks display : 花火大会 [hanabi-taikai]

night stall : 夜店 [yo-mise]

summer greeting postcard : 暑中見舞い*

[shochu-mimai]

Phrases

(1) 「夏休みの予定は決まりましたか？」

[natsu yasumi no yotei wa kimari mashita ka]

Have you made any plans for summer
vacation?

(2) 「北海道の花火大会へ行く予定です。」

[hokkaido no hanabi taikai e iku yotei desu]

I am planning to go see a fireworks display in
Hokkaido.

(3) 「暑中お見舞い申し上げます。」*

[shochu omimai moushi agemasu]

I'd like to express my greetings in the hottest
season.



Explanation

Unlike the hot and humid summer in most
places in Japan, you can actually enjoy summer
more actively in Hokkaido. For those who are
not fortunate enough to have a long vacation,
there are still so many things to see and do in
your neighborhood. The vocabulary above
might give you a glance of summer in Japan.

In addition, beside New Year's cards, many
people enjoy corresponding with a
“Shochu-mimai”* a summer greeting post card
to ask after someone's health and express
gratitude. Phrase (3) is a common statement
used for those cards.

Japanese Cooking 224

Fried cabbage and deep-fried tofu (abura-age)

キャベツと油揚げのチャンプルー

- Ingredients (serve four) -

cabbage	1/2 (500g)
carrot	1/2 (50g)
deep-fried tofu(aburaage)	2 sheets
dried bonito flakes	10 g
soy sauce	1 tablespoon
salad oil	1 tablespoon
salt	1 pinch



Directions

- (1) Shred cabbage and carrot.
Cut deep-fried tofu into thin slices.
- (2) Heat oil in a pan and cook cabbage, carrot, and deep-fried tofu.
- (3) Add salt and soy sauce to season.
- (4) Serve in dish and garnish with dried bonito flakes.

Interview

Konnichiwa “Muroranese” [Vol.11]

Susannah Howard



(Part 2)

by Mike Nima

Susannah Howard comes from Talkeetna, Alaska. She has been living in Muroran since July 2009. She taught this past year at Kaisei Gakuen High School. She also gives private eikaiwa lessons. I spoke with her on a foggy Sunday afternoon. (Second of two parts)

What do you find challenging about Japanese and what do you enjoy about it as a language?

The hardest part is probably kanji. What I enjoy most are conversational slang, idioms, and figurative language.

What's different between communicating in English and in Japanese?

In my country, we state our opinions very clearly, and we say exactly what our opinion is. But in Japan, we have to be a lot more subtle. Sometimes, I have to think a lot before I speak.

How would you describe the foreigner community here and your place in it?

I think the foreigner community is a bunch of very different people. I think that if we were all in the same country, we probably wouldn't have been friends with each other, or gotten to know each other very well. But I really like being able to get to know people in this situation, people whom I normally wouldn't get

to know.

What would you say to residents of Muroran about interacting with foreigners?

When you see a foreigner, try to remember that she or he is a person really a lot like you—they're just from a different culture and speak a different language. Try to think about the things that you have in common.

What would you like to do before leaving Japan?

I'd like to become fluent in Japanese, and I would like to get better at tea ceremony and shodo. And I want to learn how to surf.

How do you think the experience of living in Japan will have affected you after you go back to the U.S.?

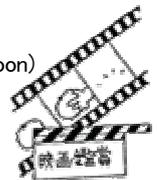
It's changed the way I deal with other people. When I go back to visit, I tend to listen more than talk. Sometimes I accidentally bow to people in restaurants in America! But I think I'll stop doing that once I get used to living in the US again.

About the interviewer: Mike Nima is an ALT for the Muroran Board of Education. He teaches English at Muroran Institute of Technology. He also gives private eikaiwa lessons.

Cinema Guide

Muroran Gekijo (Higashi-machi)

1. 借りぐらしのアリエッティ (Japanese cartoon)
2. ポケットモンスター (Japanese cartoon)
3. TOY STORY 3
4. 踊る大捜査線3



About the Muroran Times

The Muroran Times is designed to bring information about local events to the international community of Muroran. Staff: Mitani Yoichi, Ishizawa Yuko, Yamashita Mayumi, Tagashira Kazui, Nomura Ikuko, Nakamura Mari, Naito Naoko, English advisor: Jane Takizawa.