

# Our Forty-first Year

*Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association*



## A map of the United States showing the distribution of various Native American tribes. The map is color-coded by major regions: Northwest (purple), Pacific Northwest (light blue), Great Plains (yellow), Southwest (green), Southeast (pink), and Northeast (blue). Specific tribes labeled include Chinook, Salish, Yakima, Nez Perce, Crow, Sioux, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Pawnee, Comanche, Navajo, Pueblo, Apache, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, Shawnee, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont. A large watermark "OpenStax" is visible across the center of the map.



## Friends of the Bell of Two Friends

### Diamond Friends

Bill Deef  
Michael Rainville  
Karl Reinhard

### Platinum Friends

Jack Sattel and Karen Sontag Sattel  
Mary Witkus & Werner Kohler

### Gold Friends

Jessica Manivasager

### Silver Friends

Richard & Marie-Rose Lundgren  
Dan Rolf

### Bronze Friends

Carol Austermann  
Sharon Balke  
Carter Clapsadle & Julia Baugnet  
Richard Kathrine Fournier  
Mirja Hanson  
Cynthia & Brian Haskell  
Jim & Reiko Hoffman  
Brenda Langton & Tim Kane  
Helene Monsour  
Doug & Addona Rivord  
James & Norma Solstad  
Claire & Paul Spilseth  
Richard & Carol Stahl  
Vernon Wettarnach

## Why leave Great Britain

Some came to avoid religious persecution. Others came to get rich from farming. The need for manual labor was filled with slaves from Africa.



## 1765-1776 Things Changed

Starting in 1765 the British imposed many Taxes. The most famous tax was the Tea Tax. There was a LOT of protest! The most famous protest was the Boston Tea Party. Colonists went to the ship carrying the tea. They threw all the tea into the water to protest paying tax on it.



No Taxation without Representation! But the TAXES Continued!  
So....  
... Declare Independence from the British!

## The Declaration of Independence

On June 11, 1776 the Committee of Five was appointed to draft a Declaration of Independence.

Its purpose was to announce and explain why the colonies wanted to separate from Great Britain.

On July 2, 1776 the motion to declare independence from Great Britain was approved by the members of the Second Continental Congress.

After several revisions, the Declaration of Independence was signed and distributed on July 4, 1776.



## Confederation of States

1777-1781 Articles of Confederation outlined a new government of cooperation between the 13 states.

Congress had almost no power; there was no president.

1781 Battle of Yorktown was the last major land battle in the Revolutionary War.

## The Treaty of Paris

Established American independence among nations

Assigned areas across all of North America to various countries

This land was not empty. Many different tribes of native peoples lived there

## 1776 -1789 there were many problems to be solved

Money policies & trade  
National defense  
Foreign affairs  
Addressing land claims

## The United States Constitution

1787 meeting to replace Articles of Confederation

A Constitution was created to establish a stronger national government

1787 – 1790 the 13 states debated and gradually signed on

1789 George Washington becomes 1<sup>st</sup> president

1791 Bill of Rights ratified by the States to protect personal liberties



## A history of Fourth of July Celebrations

On July 8, 1776 the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at State House Square (now called Independence Square).

Bells were rung to summon citizens to Independence Square to hear the Declaration of Independence read out loud to the citizens. The Liberty Bell was among the bells rung that day. After the reading concluded, there was ringing of bells in all government buildings, bonfires were burning, and bands played music.



One year later, on July 4, 1777, Philadelphia marked Independence Day by adjourning Congress and celebrating with bonfires, bell ringing, and fireworks. All the ships in the harbor fired their cannons in celebration.

Boston was the first city to designate July 4 as an official holiday in 1783.

In 1870 the U.S. Congress made July 4th a federal holiday.

In 1941 Congress made July 4th a paid holiday for all federal employees.



In the United States individuals and communities, spend about \$1 billion on fireworks each year for Fourth of July celebrations. Picnics, parades on land, and in Minnesota, boat parades on water, music, fireworks, and cooking out mark July 4th celebration activities.



## Independence Celebrations Today

### Fireworks

The most popular way to celebrate are fireworks. Some of the larger firework shows also have music.

### Picnics

Family and friends gather for outdoor grilling and picnics.

### Other miscellaneous events

Parades

Historical reenactment

Fun runs or mini marathons

## A Unique Minnesota Tradition

By Marge Sehnert

There is one organization in the United States that celebrates the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in a special way. That organization is the Waseca County Horse Thief Detectives.



On May 11, 1858 the territory of Minnesota became a state. Waseca County became home to many of these farming families. Then the Civil War broke out in 1863.

Some farmers left their wives and family to fight in the war.

During this same time period, stealing horses was becoming almost a pandemic throughout the middle western states. Because the horses were used for working the fields and for transportation, the horse was the most valuable item for a family.

So, when horses were being stolen regularly in Waseca County, 15 farmers got together on February 16, 1864 and formed the Waseca County Horse Thief Detectives.

They drew up their own constitution which included president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Membership was \$3.



The purpose of the organization was to form posses, or "riders" in groups of 15. When anything of more than a value of \$25 was stolen from a member, the riders were to get together and hunt down the thief.

Word spread throughout the counties in Minnesota and Iowa that thieves in Waseca County would be hanged if caught. That kept the thieves away.

In the beginning, the organization held secret quarterly meetings. By the 1880's, there wasn't a need for quarterly meetings so yearly meetings began. The date of the yearly meetings was moved to The 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Those yearly meetings still exist, but are mainly a social gathering for families to enjoy food and games.

The food is a pot luck dinner which begins sharply at noon after the Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

Families bring their most popular home cooked food and the organization supplies fried chicken.

After everyone has eaten, the official meeting begins. The main topic is the election of officers. Most often the person remains an elected officer in the same position until he/she is too old or has moved away from the community.

The organization has over 900 members from all over the world.

Anyone can pay the \$3 to become a lifetime member. With the membership, you receive a membership card and a decal to put on the back window of your car,

Because the members are scattered throughout the United States and the world, today the gathering itself is usually only around 75 members.

For some it is a family tradition to attend the "Horse Thief's" picnic, as there are now even 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> generations who are members.

## Greetings from IFAI - Minneapolis Artist Artwork at the Ibaraki Central

The works by Minneapolis-based artists Harriet Bart and Leila Denecke, which are installed in the Ibaraki Central Library since April 1992, have been beautifully repaired! We remade the nameplate of the deteriorated work. Approximately 30 years have passed since the work was installed, but it looks the same as it was at that time and is familiar to many citizens as a symbol of the Central Library.

As written in the article at the time of its installation, "Snow Country" by Yasunari Kawabata, an honorary citizen of Ibaraki City and a Nobel Prize in Literature writer, is woven into the "Helicon Volumes". The two central pillars of "Stella Mississippi" represent the ideals, friendships and peace of Minneapolis and Ibaraki. These two works are eternal treasures of Ibaraki City.

Please take a look at these works when you come to Ibaraki City! Also, please experience our unchanging bonds and friendships and convey the charm of Ibaraki City to many people such as family and friends!

The people of Ibaraki City are very pleased that these works have regained their brilliance, and we are very much looking forward to seeing everyone in Minneapolis in the near future!

### 新設の市立中央図書館にミ市芸術家の設置

4月1日にオープンした市立中央図書館にミネアポリス市在住の彫刻家ハリエット・バートさんと陶芸家アンドレア・シ・デネッキさんの作品が設置されています。

正面入口前に設置されたバートさんの作品「ヘリコン・ボリューム」は、ブロンズで作った書棚をらせん状に積み上げたもので、最上段には、本市の名誉市民川端康成氏の「雪国」を配し、その他著名な日本の作家の作品名が織り込まれています。



正面入口前に設置された「ヘリコン・ボリューム」



バートさん

私にとって図書館は魔法の部屋で、閉じた本は見知らぬ知識の豊庫。幾何学的な広がり、詩的な客体、社会と個人が積み上げてきた表象を示しています。

一方、南側中庭に設置されたデネッキさんの「ミシシッピーの記念碑」は、日本留学中に学んだ益子焼の作品です。栃木県・益子町で制作に取り組み、信楽の土にミシシッピーの川の砂を塗り付け焼いたものです。

### 彫刻・陶芸家2人展

2人の作家の来賓を記念し、4月1日～12日に開催された「彫刻・陶芸家2人展—ミネアポリスからのメッセージ」

では、青銅や紙を材料とし、すべて書物をテーマとしたバートさんの作品8点と、この2人展のためにデネッキさんが焼いた益子焼の作品5点が展示されました。



南側に設置された「ミシシッピーの記念碑」



デネッキさん

焼き加減がむつかしかった。中央の2本の柱は炭木・ミネアポリス両市の理想や友情、平和などを表わし、それが融合している状態を表現しています。



Above is an article at the time when the works were installed.

SISTER CITIES NEWS, edited by International Friendship Association of Ibaraki, vol.18, 1992, pp.5



Leila Denecke's sculpture "Stele Mississippi" on the left, Harriet Bart's sculpture "Helicon Volumes" on the right.



## Blue Jeans

### Costume or Couture or Working Class

-by Carol Austermann

Each day millions of people put on their blue jeans and start the day. They come from different social and economic backgrounds. Each person will tell you their jeans are comfortable and fit them impeccably. Who created this perfect garment, which keeps factory workers and movie stars dressed every day?

When I was young, children would say; "I'm wearing my Levi's." Why call the pants you wear Levi's? Levi Strauss and his brothers emigrated from Germany to America. They established a dry goods store in New York City. Dry good stores sold fabrics. Fabric to make your own clothing. These fabrics included tent making materials and denim.

In 1853 Levi left New York and his brothers to establish a store in San Francisco. The gold rush was on. Miners and farmers needed work clothes. A very irate farmer's wife came to Levi complaining that her husband's pants always came apart. What could he do to help her? One of Levi's customers, Jacob Davis, suggested placing rivets around the pockets and zipper. Levi and Jacob created a rivet of copper and patented it in 1873. The heaviest cloth, denim, dyed in indigo was used. This clothing was called overalls until 1960 when the term blue jeans became the accepted description.

To some pairs of blue jeans, a small leather patch was attached. On the patch is a drawing of two horses trying to destroy a pair of pants. This became the trademark of pants that never fell apart.

Women began to fancy these pants as vacation wear. Ranches in the western states became destinations for people who wanted to relive the pioneer life; Dude Ranches. The Strauss Family began production of women's jeans in 1930 and in 1956 a movie star, Farrah Fawcett, made a TV commercial promoting the jeans. The #701's were made to fit a women's body with wider hips and skinny legs. By 1990 jeans were featured in Vogue magazine.

Levi Strass Company has been involved in the creation of Codes of Conduct for workers and management. It has become the parent company for brands such as Dockers. It is also engaged in philanthropic endeavors.

So, the next time you pull on your jeans say a "Thank you" to Levi Strauss.



Although the dining room is still closed, Zenbox is still offering takeout delivery or Patio dining every Tuesday through Saturday from 4:30 – 9 p.m.

You can find their online menu at:

[Zenbox.com](https://zenbox.com)



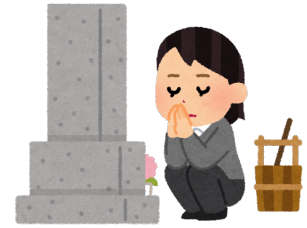
# A Japanese Event in August

by IIN Working Group on Cultures

## What is *O-bon*?

*O-bon* is an event to worship spirits of ancestors. It was formed by fusing the Japanese ancient ancestral spirits faith and Buddhism. It is said that ancestral spirits come back to the families in *O-bon* period, from August 13 to 16 in most of areas in Japan.

A lot of people in schools and companies get holidays around the *O-bon* period and they go back home for their family reunions and for worship of the spirits of ancestors with the families.



## What do people do during *O-bon*?

### *Mukaebi* (welcoming fire) & *Okuribi* (farewell fire)



People used to welcome the spirits of ancestors by making fire in the evening of August 13. The welcoming fire is to show a sign for the spirits to come back without getting lost. People light fire again to send the spirits back in the evening of August 16.

The ceremonial fire is made as a proof of welcoming the spirits and sending them off.

### *Kyoto Gozan* (five mountains) *Okuribi*

*Kyoto Gozan Okuribi* held on August 16 is a nationally famous event representing summer in *Kyoto*. Some of letters and shapes are lit one after another on the five mountains to send off the spirits of the ancestors.

Fire-letters are 大、妙、法 and fire-shapes are a boat and a torii, gate. “大” means great in Japanese and also means universe in Sanskrit.



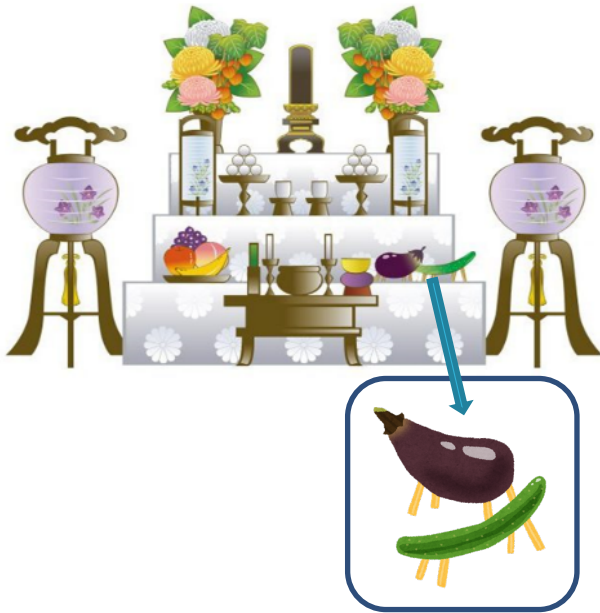
### *Bon-tourou* (lantern) in *Hiroshima*



In the west part of *Hiroshima* Pref., graveyards in *O-bon* season are colorful with lots of beautiful decorations called *Bon-tourou*. It is an offering to ancestors made of a five-foot bamboo stick with a funnel-shaped cup and colorful papers. It was lighted with fire in old days, but recently people don't put fire in it. The cup with colorful papers (red, blue, yellow, green, gold) is for distant ancestors and with white and gold one is for a person who passed away within a year.

There is a legend that a man running a paper shop made it to mourn his lost daughter in Edo period, about 200 years ago.

*Bon-tourou* has widely spread for long time and now it characterizes *O-bon* in this area.



## How do people display the alter of *O-bon*? <Buddhism>

People visit and clean their ancestors' graves before the *O-bon* period starts. They also set up a special shelf called "*Bon-dana*" at home in front of a Buddhist altar with *Bon* lanterns.

In some areas, people place a handmade cucumber horse and an eggplant ox on the shelf. They are regarded as a transportation for the spirits to travel between this world and afterlife. It is believed that this cucumber horse helps the spirits to come back to their homes quickly and the eggplant ox enables the spirits to go back the afterlife slowly with a lot of offerings.

## Why do they dance *Bon* Dance?

*Bon* dance is the festival folk dance held in the evenings during the *O-bon* period. The stages are set in precincts of shrines, temples, or parks.

Yukata-clad men and women dance in a circle until late at night. The original purpose of the dance is to welcome ancestors' spirits and console departed ones. Nowadays, it is more of a recreational event than a religious one.

By the way, *Bon* dance is a good communication way. It is a chance to meet men and women of the countryside. The spirits may watch on what is happening on the descendants and they should cheer the young!





## 8月の日本の行事 [お盆]

お盆とは日本古来の祖先崇拜と仏教が融合したもので、8月13日から16日に行われることが多く、学校や職場も休暇になり、多くの人がふるさとに帰り、家族とともに過ごしたり、お墓参りをしたりします。

### 迎え火と送り火 五山送り火

8月13日の夕方に家の前で火をたいて祖先の霊を迎え、16日には送り火をたいて、霊をおくりまします。五山送り火は京都の夏を代表する行事です。大、妙、法の火文字と舟形、鳥居の形が京都の山に次々と浮かび上がり、先祖の霊をおくりまします。

### 広島の盆灯籠

広島県西部では、お盆のお墓に数多くの色鮮やかな盆灯籠が供えられます。盆灯籠とは、5フィートほどの竹の棒に漏斗状の杯と色とりどりの紙をつけたご先祖様へのお供え物です。昔は灯を点けていましたが、最近ではもう点けなくなりました。赤・青・黄・緑・金色の灯籠は遠い先祖に、白・金だけの灯籠は初盆の人に手向けられます。江戸時代に紙屋の商人が娘の供養に紙灯籠を作ったという言い伝えがあります。盆灯籠は広く長く受け継がれ、今ではこの地域の夏の風物詩となっています。

### 盆棚

仏壇の前に盆棚がおかれ、お供え物や提灯がかざられます。亡くなった人が早く来られるようにと胡瓜の馬を飾り、帰るときはゆっくりにとお土産も持って帰れるように茄子の牛を飾る地方もあります。

### 盆踊り

お盆の時期の夕方に、神社やお寺の境内や公園などにやぐらを組み、浴衣姿の老若男女が輪になって夜遅くまで踊ります。本来は先祖の霊を迎え入れたり、亡くなった人を慰めたりするために踊られたものですが、現在では宗教的なものというよりは、むしろ娯楽的なものになっています。

一方、地方では盆踊りが男女の出会いの場でもあり、ご先祖様は子孫がいい人に出会えるのを応援しているかも知れませんね。

## MINNIBARAKI – Past Issues

Looking for some information from a past issue of MINNIBARAKI?

All past and current issues of MINNIBARAKI can be found at the following link (copy and paste into your browser):

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16FIWH9sgFta1MN8wHlQ1eCFand3iAON8?usp=sharing>

*The MINNIBARAKI newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August and November) by the Minneapolis-Ibaraki Sister City Association.*

## MINNEAPOLIS IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

### Board of Directors

Karl Reinhard.....President  
Patrick Good ..... Vice President  
Dan Rolf ..... Secretary  
Sharon Balke ..... Media

Board Members  
Carol Austermann  
Brian Haskell  
Cynthia Haskell  
Werner Kohler  
Mary Witkus

### More Information

Website: [misca.us](http://misca.us)

Facebook: Search for MISCA

Email: [misca.info@gmail.com](mailto:misca.info@gmail.com)

Postal address:

MISCA  
c/o Meet Minneapolis  
801 Marquette Ave S. Suite 100  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

## MINNEAPOLIS- IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION



### Upcoming Board Meetings:

Monday, August 10, 2021

Monday, September 14, 2021

Board meetings are usually held  
at ZenBox Izakaya

602 South Washington Ave

Social time 5:30 – 6:15

Business meeting starts at 6:15

However, at this time meetings are  
being held virtually. If you would  
like to participate, please email Karl  
Reinhard at:

[misca.info@gmail.com](mailto:misca.info@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Events

We are hoping to resume  
our events later this year.

Holidazzle – December  
2021

Date and time to be  
determined

Please check out or  
Facebook page for virtual  
events