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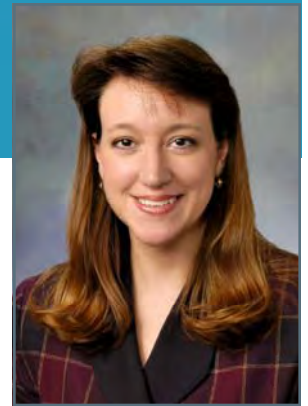
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President's Message

Kimberly's Adventures



Locally Going International

Altrusa's impact on the community is felt near and far. This special edition newsletter focuses on a unique opportunity for which Altrusa Richardson was given the honor of being a valuable contributor and participant.

The Japan-America Grassroots Summit was presented to me by Altrusan **Susan Frensley** back in February 2012 before I took office as President. I did not have any idea what this event was about but saw the potential... for something big. Then President Bonnie Perry and I attended an informational meeting in March 2012 at the home of Betty and Paul Peck, Richardson Coordinators for Summit – and we were hooked!

Over the next several months, Betty Peck, **Bonnie Perry**, **Barbara Berthold**, International Committee Co-Chair, and I conducted several meetings to plan and coordinate the events of the City of Richardson's part in this community-wide event. The Progressive Dinner was Barbara's brainchild – what could be more American than that... And we all agreed!

The enthusiasm from local community supporters, leaders, and businesses was heart-warming and a sign that we were part of something big. Before we knew it, August 30th was here and the Japanese visitors arrived in North Texas and months of planning all fell into place.

While the preparation for this event was extensive, I think you will agree that the results of our effort and the participation of all Richardson Altrusans who contributed in large and small ways resulted in showing the community what an impactful organization Altrusa can be – and is! Locally, Richardson citizens had an opportunity to see Altrusans in action, making a positive impact on the community and being gracious hosts – and friends – to our Japanese visitors, who returned to their homes with a greater appreciation of American culture, Texas hospitality, and Altrusa Friendship.

Near and far, Altrusa Richardson is making its mark on the community!



Altrusa Adventurers:
In 2005, Brenda Boston, Jean Stuart, Kimberly Kierce, and Cindy Murray experienced Puerto Rico.

Discover Altrusa!

Kimberly D. Kierce
2012-2013 President
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What's Inside?	
This special edition of Altrusa Tidings contains complete coverage of Altrusa of Richardson's participation in a new international relations service project, the Japan-America Grassroots Summit.	
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Discover Altrusa: Your Passport to Adventure

Committee Report

A NEW PROJECT FOR OUR CLUB: JAPAN-AMERICA GRASSROOTS SUMMIT

By Barbara Berthold, International Relations Committee Co-chair

During the 2012 Labor Day Weekend, North Texas hosted about 200 visitors from Japan, who participated in the **Japan-America Grassroots Summit**, an annual gathering of Japanese and American citizens, held alternately in Japan and the United States.

The Summit aims to strengthen the peaceful relationship between Japan and the U.S. by fostering friendships at the grassroots level.

The City of Richardson was among fourteen other cities chosen to host and entertain part of the group: 16 Japanese visitors ranging in age from 11 to 73, two of whom were Manjiro's direct descendants. (See story on next page.) A great honor for the City and all involved!

Altrusa International of Richardson happily joined the venture initiated by the Mayor's Office of International Business and led by Betty and Paul Peck, Richardson Host Coordinators, pursuing Altrusa's mission of making communities better through leadership, partnership, and service.

Our Altrusa Club contributed ideas for the City's steering committee, staffed the Richardson Welcome Ceremony, organized and hosted a Progressive Dinner for about 50 people—Japanese visitors, home-stay hosts, and City leadership. Additionally, one of our members, Jean Stuart, served as home-stay host.

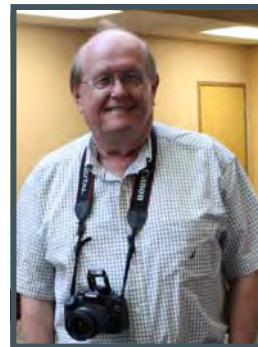
The photographs taken at City Hall and during the Progressive Dinner beautifully tell the story of a unique event, which not only provided the Japanese visitors with a taste of Southern hospitality, but also allowed Richardson residents a glance at the Japanese culture. Moreover, we learned to see our community through the visitors' eyes and to value the beauty of our culturally diverse community.



Altrusans' early involvement was cultural awareness training.



Three Altrusans attended the opening ceremony in Fort Worth.



Altrusers Bob Boston, John Hamulak were our photographers.



AN HISTORIC JOURNEY

(Source: www.northtexasgrassrootssummit.org/history; 2012-09-28)

"In 1841, an American whaling boat rescued five shipwrecked Japanese fishermen who were marooned on a remote Pacific island. Among the five was a fourteen-year-old boy named Manjiro. Manjiro's intelligent good nature soon earned him great respect among the American crew. He was given the name John, and taken back to Fairhaven, Massachusetts to receive an American education. Under the care of the ship's Captain William H. Whitfield, Manjiro studied not only English, science and navigation, but also about American culture and values, such as freedom, democracy and hospitality.

At that time Japan was under the rule of the Tokugawa Shogunate, whose policy of isolationism meant that leaving the country was an offense punishable by death. After 10 years in America, however, Manjiro was determined to return home, to pass on the knowledge and goodwill he had received from Whitfield and the community of Fairhaven. Not long after Manjiro returned to Japan, Commodore Matthew Perry arrived calling for an end to isolationism, an event which led to the birth of modern Japan. John Manjiro played a crucial role in these events, introducing and explaining American culture, values, technology, etc., to the Japanese.

The friendship between John Manjiro and Captain Whitfield has resulted in nearly 170 years of friendship, reunions, and visits between their descendants. Members of the Whitfield and Nakahama families attend every Grassroots Summit, serving as a reminder of the enormous potential of grassroots exchange."

What is the Grassroots Summit?
 The Japan-America Grassroots Summit is an annual gathering of Japanese and American citizens – held alternately in Japan and the U.S. – which aims to strengthen the peaceful relationships between the two countries by fostering friendships at the grassroots level.

Historical Background
 The Summit honors the unique friendship between John Manjiro Nakahama and Captain William H. Whitfield, a relationship begun in 1841 and carried on by their families for 170 years. Young Manjiro, a fisherman shipwrecked at age 14, was rescued and befriended by Captain Whitfield, a whaler from Massachusetts. Educated in America, Manjiro eventually returned to Japan and became a key figure in early U.S.-Japan relations. To this day, both the Nakahama and Whitfield families participate in every Grassroots Summit!

2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit in North Texas

Sponsors

Special Assistance

- Consulate-General of Japan in Houston
- The Trammell & Margaret Crow Collection of Asian Art
- Dallas GiveCamp
- Suzuki Graphic Design Studio

Cooperating Organizations

- Dallas Japanese Association
- Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce
- Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Fort Worth Japanese Society
- Fort Worth Sister Cities International
- Friendship Force of Fort Worth
- Grapevine Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce
- National Association of Japan-America Societies
- Southlake Sister Cities
- State of Texas Japan Office
- University of Texas at Dallas Asia Center
- World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth

Host City Coordinators

Elaine Browning / 972-267-4911
 elaine@jasdfw.org

Tim Jones / 940-736-1792
 tcjproed@msn.com

Information

www.NorthTexasGrassrootsSummit.org
 Amy Chae / 214-342-2022
 amy@jasdfw.org

Brochure By
 Suzuki Graphic Design Studio

2012 Japan-America GRASSROOTS SUMMIT in North Texas

August 28 - September 3

Organized by

JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF DALLAS/FORT WORTH

John Manjiro Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange and CIE-US

In cooperation with

Consulate-General of Japan in Houston
 Host Cities and Community Organizations

www.NorthTexasGrassrootsSummit.org

JAPAN-AMERICA GRASSROOTS SUMMIT SCHEDULES

North Texas Itinerary (source: www.northtexasgrassrootssummit.org/itinerary; 2012-09-28)

Tuesday, Aug 28	Daytime Evening Overnight	Arrival at DFW International Airport Japan-America Friendship Night at the Rangers Ballpark Hilton Fort Worth
Wednesday, Aug 29	Morning Afternoon Evening Overnight	Optional tours: 1. Rangers Ballpark, American Airlines C.R. Smith Museum 2. Pioneer Plaza, Sixth Floor Museum, Dealey Plaza in Dallas 3. Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Kimbell Art Museum, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth 4. National Cowgirl Museum, Fort Worth Museum of Science and History 5. U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Cabela's in Fort Worth Experience the Fort Worth Stockyards and cattle drive Opening Ceremony, BBQ, and line dancing at Billy Bob's Texas Hilton Fort Worth
Thursday, Aug 30	Morning Afternoon Overnight	Walking tour of Fort Worth heritage sites and Sundance Square Departure for host cities First night of homestay
Friday, Aug 31	Daytime Overnight	Local sessions in host cities Second night of homestay
Saturday, Sep 1	Daytime Overnight	Local sessions in host cities Third night of homestay
Sunday, Sep 2	Afternoon Overnight	Visitors and hosts join the Closing Ceremony in Dallas Arts District tours Dallas Marriott City Center
Monday, Sep 3	Morning	Depart for Japan or Post-Summit Tours

Progressive Dinner Itinerary

4:30 p.m.	Meet at Library, receive program, directions
5:15–6:15	Appetizers (home of Carl Youngberg & David McNair)
6:30–7:15	Soups (home of Mary Beth & Carl McLemore)
7:30–9:00	Main course Visitors to Texas Restaurant; Volunteers, dinner hosts, artists, musicians to Mary Boyter's home
9:15–10:00	Desserts (home of Betty & Paul Peck)

Events planned by Richardson for Richardson's Japanese visitors include:

Thursday, August 30

2:30 p.m., Richardson Civic Center - "Welcome to Richardson" by the Mayor, with keys to the city, a performance by JJ Pearce High School Mustang Stampede and a special appearance by Congressman Sam Johnson.

UT Dallas, Asia Center-sponsored tour of NSERL (Natural Science and Engineering Research Lab) and presentation by ATEC (Art and Technology Center).

Friday, August 31

Fujitsu Network Communications, a factory tour and luncheon with special presentation by RISD Westwood Junior High School Japanese language class and their teacher Satako Neese.

Saturday, September 1

Four different locations in Richardson, a Progressive Dinner and Art Showcase supported by Altrusa International Richardson, TEXAS Restaurant, Richardson Symphony Orchestra, Richardson Community Band, The Rich-Tones Chorus, Richardson Civic Arts Society, and WOW.

Sponsors

UT DALLAS | ASIA Center Richardson, Texas ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

TEXAS RESTAURANT FUJITSU

RC ARTS

RICHARDSON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Rich-Tones RICHARDSON COMMUNITY BAND

ALTRUSA International | Leading to a better Community Richardson, TX Village Aiker Publishing Company

graphic design by J.D. Curtiss art by Jacki

VISITORS FROM JAPAN EXPERIENCE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY, ALTRUSA STYLE

Altrusans began planning for our participation in the Japan-America Grassroots (JAG) Summit many months before the event. Betty Peck visited with us at a club meeting last Spring, and the project took off from there.

We decided to organize a Progressive Dinner featuring regional cuisine. We chose the recipes, decided who would prepare them, how they would be served, arranged for artists and musical entertainment at each venue, what our “uniforms” at the event would be...it was a big job! And it was ultimately very satisfying, and something we could be proud of! (Recipes for two of the most popular dishes are included in this newsletter.)



A Taste of the South Progressive Dinner Menu

Appetizers

Deviled eggs
Spinach-artichoke dip
Tortilla rolls
Pimento-cheese sandwiches
Shrimp dip

Cold Soups

Cucumber soup
Strawberry soup
Gazpacho

Main Course

Steak and sides

Dessert

Banana Pudding
Lime tarts
Chocolate sheet cake
Carrot cake
Lemon pound cake

BANANA PUDDING RECIPE

By Sue McElveen

To make the Banana Pudding, I started with the famous “Not Yo’ Mama’s Banana Pudding” recipe by Paula Deen, and made a few changes.

Ingredients:

- 2 bags Pepperidge Farm Chessman Cookies
- 6 to 8 bananas
- 2 cups milk (I used 1% fat milk)
- 1 (5 oz.) box instant French vanilla pudding
- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese, softened (the 30% less fat kind)
- 1 (14 oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 (12 oz.) container frozen whipped topping, thawed, or equal amount sweetened whipped cream

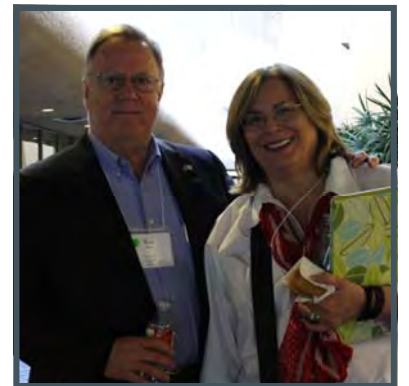
Line the bottom of a 9 x 13 x 2 inch dish with 1 bag of cookies and layer sliced bananas on top. In a bowl, combine the milk and pudding mix blending well using a hand-held electric mixer. Using another bowl combine the cream cheese and condensed milk together and mix until smooth. Fold the whipped topping into the cream cheese mixture. Add the cream cheese mixture to the pudding mixture and stir until

well blended. Pour the mixture over the cookies and bananas and cover with the remaining cookies. Refrigerate until completely chilled. Right before serving cover the top with whipped topping and serve cold.

Instead of the Chessman cookies, I just used regular Vanilla Wafers. I used a trifle bowl so I could layer. Using this method I put a layer of wafers in the bottom of the trifle dish, followed by a layer of sliced bananas, covered that with about a 1/2 of the pudding, cream cheese and condensed milk mixture. I placed some wafers on their side around the outside of the bowl, then placed another layer of wafers flat, then another layer of sliced bananas, followed by the rest of the mixture. Last, I placed another layer of wafers on the very top, covered the dish with Saran Wrap and let it chill until the next night. I covered the top with Cool Whip before serving.

I used this method since we wanted to serve “traditional” southern dishes. I suspect the recipe would be even better with the Chessman cookies. Hope you all enjoy and let me know when you serve it what you think!

ALTRUSANS GREETED VISITORS AT RICHARDSON CIVIC CENTER RECEPTION



APPETIZERS IN THE GARDEN OF CARL YOUNGBERG & DAVID MCNAIR

APPETIZERS

- Deviled Eggs
- Spinach Artichoke Dip
- Tortilla Rolls
- Pimento Cheese
- Sandwiches
- Shrimp Dip



SOUP COURSE AT THE HOME OF MARY BETH AND CARL MCLEMORE

COLD SOUPS

- Cucumber Soup
- Strawberry Soup
- Gazpacho



Strawberry Soup

Bonnie Perry's recipe, prepared by Janice Swallow

- 1 and 1/2 cup strawberry preserves
 - 1 and 1/4 cups sour cream
 - 3/4 cups half and half or yogurt
 - 1 pint fresh strawberries halved (semi-pureed and mixed in, or diced, sliced, etc.)
- In large bowl whisk preserves with sour cream. Stir in half and half. Cover and refrigerate. Just before serving, fold in strawberries.



THE MAIN COURSE AT TEXAS RESTAURANT

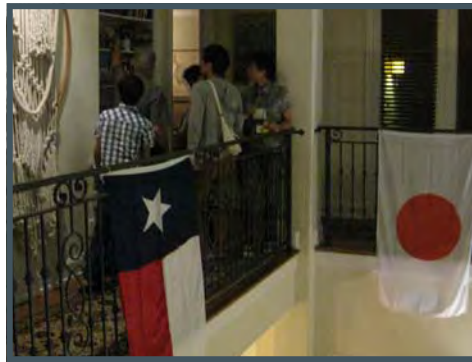


Texas restaurant at The Shire in Richardson hosted the guests from Japan, the home-stay families, and City dignitaries for the main course. Meanwhile, the volunteers, dinner hosts, artists, and musicians met to take a break from their duties and enjoy their main course at Mary Boyter's home.



DESSERT AT THE HOME OF BETTY AND PAUL PECK

DESSERTS
Banana Pudding
Lime tarts
Chocolate sheet cake
Carrot cake
Lemon pound cake



A PERSONAL NOTE FROM AN EVENT CHAIR

By Barbara Berthold, International Relations Committee Co-chair

Just a week after the JAG Summit at our 2012 Altrusa Orientation/ Reorientation meeting hosted by Nancy Rohm, one of my Altrusa sponsors, her husband, Tom, whom I am proud to call friend, jokingly asked if I was speaking Japanese now.

Well... I had learned a couple of phrases. However, was my only desire to learn about another culture that had made JAG so special to me? Why did I enjoy being involved in it so much? What was I hoping the visitors would carry away from their stay in Richardson?

I wanted them to experience American culture the Richardson way, wanted to show off what Richardson is all about: diverse neighborhoods, each of them displaying its own beauty; beautiful homes and gardens; unparalleled hospitality; amazing, open-minded, and curious people willing to work together for a common cause.

Yes, Richardson embodies all of this, and its Altrusa Club is one of the driving forces behind this vibrant and welcoming community.

Arigato (Thank you), Tom, for your thought-provoking question.



Barbara Berthold, Betty Peck, Kimberly Kierce

JOINT VENTURE

The Japan-America Grassroots Summit in Richardson was a joint venture of these organizations:

- ◇ City of Richardson/Paul and Betty Peck
- ◇ Richardson Chamber of Commerce
- ◇ Richardson Mayor's Office of International Business /Mike Skelton
- ◇ Richardson Civic Arts Society
- ◇ WOW-Women of Watercolor
- ◇ Richardson Symphony Orchestra
- ◇ The Richtones Chorus
- ◇ Richardson Community Band
- ◇ Classical Chic
- ◇ Japan-America Society of Dallas/ Fort Worth
- ◇ John Manjiro Whitfield Commemorative Center
- ◇ Consulate-General of Japan in Houston
- ◇ Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson, TX

WHAT THEY LIKED ABOUT THE EVENT!

"Altrusa knows how to throw an amazing party! The hospitality, the food, and the fun was conducted in true Altrusa style! What an amazing club doing amazing work in the community!"

—Kimberly Kierce, Altrusan, President

"High energy synergy!"

—Betty Peck, Richardson's JAG coordinator

"I thought Richardson displayed a real family camaraderie in hosting JAG which is what makes Richardson so special!"

—Jane Tucker, Altrusan, Co-chair International Relations Committee

"Hello. I could back to my house safely yesterday night. Thank you so much for your kindness, ally you did to me. I was so happy being with you. I'd like to say thank you for all people I've met at ?Texas as well. Thank you again. I will send some photos on PC but I will do that later. See you at Skype soon."

—Kumiko Kawahara, Altrusan Jean Stuart's houseguest

"We really enjoyed being Richardson ambassadors. It was interesting as well as fun to welcome the Japanese visitors and their hosts to our home."

—Mary Beth & Carl McLemore, Altrusan, Dinner hosts

"It may have been only one event, but what a DIFFERENT one!"

—Carolyn Swanson, Altrusan, Newsletter editor

"What I loved about the JAG event was twofold. I got to meet great folks from Japan and got to know them and we also got to spend great time with some people right here in Richardson with whom we don't get enough quality chats. It was the perfect storm of an event."

—Carl Youngberg & David McNair, Dinner hosts

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, RICHARDSON NEWSLETTER TOLD THE STORY OF THE SUMMIT

Week In Review, Aug. 31, 2012
Posted Date: 8/31/2012

Week in Review



Community Welcomes Visitors for Japan-America Grassroots Summit

About a dozen Japanese visitors are staying at homes in Richardson during the 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit, which began Thursday when Mayor Bob Townsend welcomed the guests to City Hall.

The summit includes a tour at the University of Texas at Dallas and Fujitsu Network Communications and a progressive dinner for the visitors and their home stay hosts.

Richardson is one of 15 North Texas cities selected to host the visitors as part of the annual gathering of Japanese and American citizens. The summit, held alternately in Japan and the U.S., honors one of the first friendships between a Japanese person and an American...

Community neighborsgo.com

JAPAN-AMERICA GRASSROOTS



Japan-America Grassroots Summit Richardson committee members Mike Shelton (from left) Jackie Johnston, Betty Peck, Richardson coordinator and Michelle Campbell make plans for the welcoming ceremony.

Photo submitted by NANCY KIRSCHETTER

Transpacific summit plans stop in Richardson

SUBMITTED STORY

In August, Richardson locals learn more about Japanese culture while sharing American life with Japanese visitors to the city.

Richardson is one of 15 North Texas cities chosen to host visitors with the 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit, an annual gathering of Japanese and American citizens that aims to strengthen the peaceful relationships between the two countries...

The summit will take place in North Texas from Aug. 28 to Sept. 3. Opening in Fort Worth and closing in Dallas, the week-long gathering will explore Texas cowboy heritage as well as the region's cultural and sports achievements.

Over Labor Day weekend, participants will stay with local families in Richardson who will share American culture and friendship with them on a personal level.

Richardson's activities kick off with a welcoming ceremony hosted by Mayor Bob Townsend at 2:30 p.m. Aug. 30 at City Hall.

Open to the public, the festivities will feature Texas-style entertainment. This is when the Japanese visitors will first meet their home stay families.

Betty Peck, co-ordinator for the Richardson summit, said volunteers are needed to properly welcome and accommodate the guests. She needs help with translation and interpretation, administrative work, local events, transportation and communication.

Those interested may contact Betty Peck at 972-742-5712 or betty@bettypeck.com.

All ages of volunteers are welcome.

"Right now I have high school Japanese language students, a high school dance team, local musicians and artists, as well as members of civic service organizations helping plan activities and working on communication," says Peck.

The welcoming ceremony will be followed by a visit to the University of Texas at Dallas' Art and Technology department. Fujitsu Network Communications is offering a tour of its Richardson facility and a bento box luncheon for the Japanese guests and hosts on Friday. On Saturday, Altrusa has organized a progressive dinner so the guests can experience that American tradition. Each course/home will feature a musician or visual artist. Additionally, home stay hosts will share their lives by taking their visitors grocery shopping, to a park, to church or out to dinner, giving their Japanese guest a glimpse of everyday life in Richardson.

Held alternately in Japan and the U.S., the summit honors one of the first friendships between a Japanese person and an American, a unique bond begun in 1844 and continuing through their descendants to the present day.

The 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit is being presented by the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth and the John Marjono Whitefield Commemorative Center for International Exchange in cooperation with the Consulate-General of Japan in Houston, the host cities and community organizations.

Nancy Kirschetter contributes to neighborsgo on behalf of Japan-America Grassroots.

Community neighborsgo.com August 24, 2012 27R



Carl Youngberg (from left) Mayor Bob Townsend, Paul Peck event planner, Bessie Perry, David McRae, May Taylor and Carl McLean are a few who are participating in the summit next weekend.

Growing Grassroots here in Richardson

Support your local home and support a growing business some are finally coming to speed the weekend. When they come, you know you've got a good deal on your goods. We had a lot of people who came to the summit and you know it was a great success.



CARL YOUNGBERG, Contributor

Carl Youngberg of Richardson, with Bessie Perry, David McRae, May Taylor, and Carl McLean are a few who are participating in the summit next weekend.



Post your stories, news and more... on neighborsgo.com for volume to support in one of our 10 print editions.

News neighborsgo.com August 24, 2012 7R

CITY LEADER'S MESSAGE Community prepares for Japan-US summit



MARK SULONCHIK, Mayor

It's a true honor to welcome to our city from Japan, who will be participating in the 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit. The Japanese and American citizens who are participating in the summit next weekend.

The summit will take place in North Texas from Aug. 28 to Sept. 3. Opening in Fort Worth and closing in Dallas, the week-long gathering will explore Texas cowboy heritage as well as the region's cultural and sports achievements.

Over Labor Day weekend, participants will stay with local families in Richardson who will share American culture and friendship with them on a personal level.

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4R August 31, 2012 News neighborsgo.com

Japan-America Grassroots summit continues this weekend

The city of Richardson has been welcoming about a dozen Japanese guests as part of the 2012 Japan-America Grassroots Summit Aug. 30-Sept. 2. The visit has been a chance for North Texans to practice hospitality while promoting possible new opportunities between Japanese and Richardson businesses.

Mayor Bob Townsend welcomed the guests in Richardson at a reception at City Hall Thursday.

The summit will also include a tour at the University of Texas at Dallas and Fujitsu Network Communications and a progressive dinner for the visitors and their home stay hosts sponsored by Altrusa International of Richardson.

Richardson is one of 15 North Texas cities selected to host the visitors as part of the annual gathering of Japanese and

American citizens. The summit, held alternately in Japan and the U.S., honors one of the first friendships between a Japanese person and an American, a unique bond begun in 1844 that continues through their descendants to the present day.

In all, more than 150 visitors from Japan will tour North Texas during the summit.