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日本 Japan NOW



Vol. 5, No. 5 (April 29, 2010)

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Greetings from the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle!

Five Members of The Ventures and Mrs. Kazuko Umezu Stout Decorated by the Japanese Government



From left, Gerry McGee, Bob Spalding, Leon Taylor, Don Wilson and Nokie Edwards

Five members of "The Ventures," and Mrs. Kazuko Umezu Stout have been decorated with a medal by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan on this day of April 29th, 2010 (Japan time). They are the 2010 Spring Conferment of Decoration recipients, who have strong local ties to the Seattle/Washington State:

1. Five decorated members of The Ventures
Don Wilson; Rhythm Guitar - (co-founder in 1958), Address: Sammamish, Washington, U.S.A
Nokie Edwards; Lead Guitar - (joined in 1959), Address: Scottsdale, Arizona, U.S.A
Gerry McGee; Lead Guitar - (joined in 1968), Address: Granada Hills, California, U.S.A
Bob Spalding; Lead Guitar and Bass Guitar - (joined in 1981), Address: Spicewood, Texas, U.S.A
Leon Taylor; Drums - (joined in 1996 after the passing of his father, Mel Taylor), Address: South Jordan, Utah, U.S.A

Japanese Government

- Consul General Award

presented to three volunteers at
the 35th Seattle Cherry Blossom
& Japanese Cultural Festival

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- **Learning Innovative
Measures from the Regions**

- b>4th International Manga
Award

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Type of Decoration: The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with
Rosette

2. Mrs. Kazuko Umezu Stout

Address: Yelm, Washington, U.S.A

Major affiliation: Former President of the Nikkei International Marriage
Society

Type of Decoration: The Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Rays

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Consul General Award presented to three volunteers at the 35th Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival



*From left, Marianne Paulhamous, Midori Kono
Thiel, Chris Kirschner, and Consul General
Kiyokazu Ota*

Three volunteers were honored at the opening ceremony of the 35th
annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival on April
16, 2010, held at the Seattle Center. The three received the certificates
and gifts from Consul General Kiyokazu Ota.

The three recipients have a long history of helping the Festival,
volunteering their time and energy in setting up and managing the
annual spring event, which is open to the public for free of charge.

First Day of the Prime Minister's Visit to the United States



President Barack Obama welcomes Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama to the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, D.C. (Cabinet Public Relations Office)

-Hatoyama Cabinet

April 13, 2010

On April 12 (local time), Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama held separate talks with Mr. Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; Mr. Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil; Mr. Hu Jintao, President of the People's Republic of China; and Mr. Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, in Washington, D.C., which he was visiting to attend the Nuclear Security Summit. Later, Prime Minister Hatoyama received a welcome from Mr. Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, and attended a commemorative photograph session.

To learn more:

[Read Japan's National Statement at the Washington Nuclear Security Summit.](#) (April 12, 2010)

[Read Foreign Minister Okada's Statement on the U.S. Nuclear Posture Review \(NPR\).](#) (April 7, 2010)

b>Second Day of the Prime Minister's Visit to the United States



Nuclear Security Summit participants (Cabinet Public Relations Office)

-Hatoyama Cabinet

April 14, 2010

On April 13 (local time), Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, who was visiting Washington, D.C., the United States, attended the plenary session of the Nuclear Security Summit.

To learn more:

[Read the Communique of the Washington Nuclear Security Summit](#) (April 13, 2010)

[Read the Work Plan of the Washington Nuclear Security Summit](#) (April 13, 2010)

Nuclear Security Summit Agrees on Measures to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

-Japan Brief / FPCJ No.1006

April 19, 2010

The Nuclear Security Summit, which was held in Washington on the initiative of US President Barack Obama, ended on April 13 with the approval of a joint communique declaring that "Nuclear terrorism is one of the most challenging threats to international security" and vowing the establishment within the next four years of a system to secure nuclear material. The summit, which was attended by 47 states and 3 international organizations, for the first time affirmed international cooperation for the prevention of nuclear terrorism. Japan's major newspapers reported the discussions and outcome of the summit in detail.

Multilevel International Cooperation to Prevent Nuclear Terrorism

President Obama, who advocated a "world without nuclear weapons" in a landmark speech in Prague in April 2009, released the Nuclear Posture Review report outlining new guidelines for US nuclear strategy on April 6 and two days later signed a new US-Russia...

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Learning Innovative Measures from the Regions



Lake Biwa, Shiga, Japan (© JNTO)

-Hatoyama Cabinet E-mail Magazine No. 26

April 9, 2010

Water is the source of all life. One sixth of Shiga Prefecture, which I visited last weekend, is taken up by Japan's largest lake, Lake Biwa. Lake Biwa supports the lives of 14 million people living in the Kinki region.

Japan faced pollution problems during the 1960s and the 1970s, which the government...

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b>4th International Manga Award



The trophies for the Foreign Minister's Award (left) and Encouragement Award (right) of the International MANGA Awards take the shape of speech bubbles.

Entries are currently being accepted for the 4th International Manga Awards. The awards were established to recognize artists who are contributing to the growing popularity of manga and Japanese pop culture around the world. **Entries must be received by May 31st.** To learn more, [visit the website](#) or download the [contest guidelines](#) and [application forms](#) directly.

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