



Bringing you news about the Foundation's immigration-related activities

2015 Global Stage in Bolivia/in Seattle

For its second year, Global Stage was divided into Bolivia and Seattle courses, each with five young participants from Fukuoka Prefecture. The youths received a warm welcome from each Kenjinkai and learned much through various experiences, including home stay, study of the history of immigration, visiting local businesses and interacting with Kenjinkai members. Upon returning home, an event was held for the participants to present a report of the things they had learned, felt and experienced through the program. We would like to express our appreciation to everyone from the host Kenjinkai. We hope these youth will go on to become a bridge between Fukuoka Prefecture and the Overseas Kenjinkai, and join actively in future exchange projects.

<Bolivia Course>

Host Kenjinkai : Zai-Bolivia Fukuoka Kenjinkai

Schedule : Mon 17th - Thu 27th Aug, 2015 [7 nights, 11 days]

Main Places Visited : Association of Bolivian Japanese in San Juan, San Juan Joint Agricultural Co-op, San Juan Academy, Immigrant Museum, tour of a farm run by a Kenjinkai member, 60th Anniversary of San Juan Japanese Migration Commemorative Ceremony, Embassy of Japan in Bolivia, JICA Bolivia Office

<Seattle Course>

Host Kenjinkai : Seattle-Tacoma Fukuoka Kenjinkai, Vancouver Fukuoka Kenjinkai

Schedule : Wed 9th - Thu 17th Sep, 2015 [7 nights, 9 days]

Main Places Visited : Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle, Bellevue College, Japanese festival, visiting elderly in Seattle, North American Post, Google, Boeing Everett Factory, Bellevue Children's Academy, British Columbia University, Nikkei Place, businesses run by Kenjinkai members.



【Zai-Bolivia Kenjinkai】



【Seattle-Tacoma Kenjinkai】



【Vancouver Kenjinkai】

Attending commemorative ceremonies for Fukuoka Kenjinkai Argentina 50th Anniversary & Paraguay Fukuoka Immigration 60th Anniversary/Kenjinkai 55th Anniversary

In November, commemorative ceremonies were held for the "Fukuoka Kenjinkai Argentina 50th Anniversary" and the "Paraguay Fukuoka Immigration 60th Anniversary/Kenjinkai 55th Anniversary" on the 14th and 16th respectively. Attendees from Fukuoka Prefecture included Governor Ogawa, Prefectural Assembly Chairman Inoue and representatives from each assembly faction, and members of the Fukuokaken Kaigaiju Kazokukai. Both ceremonies were magnificent, with 150 of the Kenjinkai community attending in Argentina and another 100 gathering at the Japanese Association in Paraguay. The ceremonies included commendations of distinguished/senior members and presentations of commemorative gifts. We were glad to see former Descendants of Immigrants exchange students and Short Term Visit Program participants maintaining their connection with the prefecture even after returning home.



【Commemorative Ceremony in Argentina】



【Commemorative Ceremony in Paraguay】

Sending our congratulations to 78 senior members of Overseas Fukuoka Kenjinkai

Fukuoka Governor Ogawa sent letters and gifts of congratulations as recognition of the longevity of 78 members from 12 Kenjinkai, who are Fukuoka-born immigrants or their descendants. We pray for your ongoing health and happiness.

<Breakdown of 2015 Senior Member Commendations>

Sanju (Age 80): 34 members Beiju (Age 88): 22 members
 Chinju (Age 95): 12 members Hakuju (Age 99): 4 members
 Momoga (Age 100 or over): 6 members