Help Wanted:
JETAA Regional Representatives

Currently, the JETAA has 26 active Regional Alumni Associations (RAAs), one inactive RAA and five new RAAs. We need six people to activate the inactive and new RAAs.

The new RAAs are: Canberra, Australia (AU-5); Paris, France (FR-1); Bonn, Germany (GR-1); New Orleans, USA (US-5); and, Kansas City, USA (US-8). There are two ways to begin an RAA in these areas. If you are a non-renewer, please note on the enclosed Information Form that you wish to join one of these RAAs. Current JETAA members should inform their Regional Representative of their intention to change to the new RAA.

If you are a non-renewer and you are interested in becoming the Regional Representative of one of these RAAs, please check the box on the Information Form. Current JETAA members, please contact the JETAA Liaison at CLAIR by 15 August 1991. The JETAA Liaison will draw up a list of those interested in the position and select one to serve as the contact person until the first meeting is arranged. At that meeting, a vote can be taken for officers for the new RAA, including the new Regional Representative.

As for the inactive RAA, CLAIR has received no information from Atlanta, USA (US-4) for quite some time. Thus, there was no one to send out the JETAA Newsletters or the 1990-1991 JETAA Directory. If non-renewing JET participants are interested in reactivating this region, please check the appropriate box on the Information Form. From that point, the procedure will be the same as outlined above.

Bear in mind that most RAAs have several officers and often are most effective in a committee format. You will probably find that there is plenty of work to share.

Localized JETAA Plan Under Consideration

As an extension of the current JETAA, a localized endeavor is being proposed with the notion that JET alumni may like to hear directly from the prefecture or designated city in which they once lived and worked. This maintains contact internationally at the grass-roots level and continues to expand the bonds of friendship. This plan will run concurrently with the JETAA, and by completing the JET Alumni Association Information Form you will also be involved in it.

The proposal has been submitted to the International Exchange Divisions (kokusaikyouryoku) in every prefecture and designated city, and should they choose to participate, each will produce a newsletter annually or semi-annually and send it directly to the JET alumni. This will provide you with an opportunity to hear about what your successors are doing, and, if you like, to let them know what you are doing back in the "real world." Opportunities for further exchange may develop: sister-city related exchanges, homestays, or simply the exchange of local news of mutual interest.
With this, the second issue of the JETAA Newsletter, I, on behalf of CLAIR, would like to extend warm greetings to the JETAA membership and sincere wishes for a safe journey and a successful future to the non-renewing JET participants. We hope that you will find your participation on the JET Program(me) an asset to your career and a commonly-shared experience upon which to build.

The JETAA was created to benefit the alumni in the regions in which they now live. By developing an active membership in their local community, alumni are able to create a network of people with "Japan-experience" that can lead to employment and educational opportunities and to participation in activities through Japan-related organizations (including the Embassies and Consulates of Japan). As you will notice in the Regional Reports section, many of the Regional Alumni Associations (RAAs) have been actively pursuing these activities, as well as assisting in the promotion of the JET Program(me) and the selection and pre-departure preparation of new participants. At the very least, the membership can together continue to share their mutual interest locally and maintain contact internationally.

The JETAA, with nearly 1300 alumni, is made up of a group of 26 (soon to grow to 32) independent and self-sustaining Regional Alumni Associations. A Regional Representative (RR) is elected by the membership annually. Activities, regional newsletters and mailings are financed through membership dues. The level of activity of the RAA and the level of involvement in the local community depends solely on the initiative of the membership.

CLAIR maintains a centralized data base of all JETAA members. From this data base, CLAIR produces the JETAA Directory annually and mailing labels for the JETAA Newsletter quarterly. Copies of these publications are sent to the RR to distribute to the active membership. One’s membership is considered active based on the criteria of the RAA. In the near future, the JETAA data base will also be used for the proposed extension of the JETAA conducted by International Exchange Divisions.

As you will see, the JETAA Newsletter consists largely of information sent to CLAIR. Material is usually culled from regional newsletters, but direct submissions of short articles, poetry, and photographs are also enthusiastically welcomed. This issue premieres what are intended to be continuing columns: "Getting a Real Job," which will offer helpful hints for those job-seeking alumni; and "Back to School," which will list interesting graduate programs and scholarship opportunities. Please send contributions for these columns to your RR or directly to CLAIR. Your ideas, contributions, and criticisms for improving the JETAA are most welcome.

Lastly, I would like also to extend my sincere appreciation to those whose material appears in this newsletter. I hope that you will enjoy this issue. I look forward to hearing from you and wish you the best of success.

Scott Olinger
Program Coordinator/JETAA Liaison

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IN MEMORIAM

Ms. Kristen Greenway (US, Kentucky)
Ms. Lisa Isobe (US, Hawaii)
Mr. Drew Roser (US, Minnesota)

CLAIR wishes to express its sincere condolences to the friends and family of these JET Program(me) participants who passed away during the past year.

The JET Alumni Association Newsletter is published four times a year by the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR) for the JET Alumni Association membership.

Inquiries should be directed to:

CLAIR
Attn: JETAA Liaison
Nissay Kojimachi Bldg., 4F
Kudan Minami 3-3-6
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan 〒102

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The figure following the Regional Alumni Association name is the total number of JET alumni for the region.
GETTING A REAL JOB
Helpful Hints for Job-seeking JET Alumni

[The following was submitted by Ms. Beth Ono, (US-1), and it seemed like a good idea for a continuing column for the JETAA Newsletter. Please send your helpful hints to your RR for local circulation. Your RR will forward them to CLAIR to be included in this newsletter.]

So you're back in the good ol' USA. Or is it so good? Recession, crime, and yes, other Americans. We can't help you with the latter two problems, but perhaps the following will help you with the first. Employed JETs offer their ideas on how to find employment in the Washington, D.C. area:

"Sent resume to 20 Japanese companies in Virginia before leaving Japan. Canon was the only company to request an interview, but recruited me heavily after that. Hold out/negotiate for better pay and benefits. The number of people with Japan experience in this area is still very limited."

"The old resume barrage. Intellectual property law firms and patent/trademark firms remain an overlooked source of employment for people with foreign language skills."

"Graduate school programs."

"Newspaper want ads -- believe it or not!!"

"Lots of hard work -- calls, letters, etc."

"Random contacts."

"Career Services Center listing of full-time positions. If you're not in school, maybe ask a friend who is attending an area university to check the listings for you."

"Japan-America Society of Washington (JASW, 606 18 St., N.W., Washington, D.C., 20006) resume circulation service."

[Bruce Jaffe (US-13) mentions in his report the Disco Career Forum, and I found an entry in the CN-5 regional newsletter about this group. Presumably, this annual event will occur later this year, so here is some information might be able to use.]

"The Fourth Annual Career Forum by Nihon Keizai Shimbun and Disco International held in Boston on October 12, 13, and 14, 1990 and in San Francisco February 15, 16, and 17, 1991. These forums provide and opportunity for Japanese-speaking university students to meet interested Japanese and American companies for employment in Japan. Last year, at the Boston forum over 100 companies participated with over 40 at the smaller San Francisco job fair. Companies in attendance included such names as Nippon Steel, Toshiba, Sony, Nissan Motors, Bank of Tokyo and Microsoft.

"Interested applicants must be recent university graduates or soon to graduate (in the Spring/Summer '91) and must pass a Japanese test conducted over the phone. (Fairly easy although be prepared to answer a few questions about Japanese business such as the difference it and Western business, trade barriers, etc.) For the 1989 forum, successful applicants were given up to US$350 to help cover the costs of airfare..."

"For more information, write to: The Career Forum, Disco International, Inc., Suite 312, The Statler Building, 20 Park Plaza, Boston, MA, 02116. Tel.: (617) 695-1380. A toll free number (1-800-999-0179) is provided, but it may be for American callers only."

BACK TO SCHOOL
Graduate School Opportunities after the JET Program (me)

THE MONTEREY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ANNOUNCES
JET ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS

The Monterey Institute is pleased to announce a half-tuition, two-year scholarship for former participants of the JET Program (me), including Mombusho English Fellows (MEF) and British English Teachers (BET).

The Monterey Institute offers the following language-based professional graduate programs: International Management (MBA), International Policy Studies (MA), International Public Administration (MPA), Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (MA/TESOL), Teaching Foreign Language (MA/TFL), Translation (MA), and Conference Interpretation (MA).

Questions regarding the applications for admission or for scholarships should be directed to the Admissions Office, Monterey Institute of International Studies, 425 Van Buren Street, Monterey, CA 93940 ( Toll: 408-647-4123).

Not Quite Finished Adjusting Back

Nancy Kikuchi, Kanagawa-ken, 1984-1988

Well, it's been nine months since I've been back in the States. Have I completely recovered? I'd like to say "yes," but I can't because...

* I will answer "moshi moshi" when the phone rouses me out of my sleep.
* I'm still surprised to hear the TV speak English when I turn it on.

(continued on page 5)
*I reply "honto?!?!" when anyone tells me something incredible.
*I start craving tea and sweets at 3 pm (reminiscent of my office tea breaks: osanji).
*I still expect someone to scream "irasshaimase" when I enter a restaurant.
*I expect to be able to use a telephone card when I step into a phone booth.
*I want to wipe my hand with an oshibori before ordering my food.
*I expect all of my purchases to be neatly wrapped by a salesgirl in the department store.
*I exclaim "natsukashii!" when I see something that is... well... natsukashii. For example, bear claws (pastry).
*I feel uncomfortable walking on carpet with my shoes on.
*I want to order "meeto sohsu" (meat sauce) spaghetti.
*I answer "23" when asked my shoe size by the salesclerk.
*Every time I step into an elevator, I always wonder where the woman with the nasal voice is.
*There's no grocery store in the basement of department stores.

Gee, I could go on and on, but I'd better stop here before I get carried away. Let me end this piece with a story:

I saw a guy walking down the street wearing a cap with "MI" on it. So I asked him, "Are you a Hanshin Tigers fan?" He looked at me like I just got off a spacecraft. "Your cap," I continued, "Are you a Hanshin Tigers fan?" "No!" he growls. "I got it at a Talking Heads concert! What's it to ya?"

To answer the question way back in the first paragraph about whether or not I've recovered...the answer is...no!

---

"Quiet Desperation"

My six month commuter pass will expire
This single slip of paper purchased late last year
Now worn by reflex motion
Of hand to pocket as I took my place
Numbly among the monotonous lines of working people
Waiting to pass the gauntlet of ticket takers
Day after day, morning and evening.
Little did I know that to buy passage in six month increments
I paid out a half a year of my life.
Expired and useless.


---

US-2 New York
[Submitted by Ms. Suzette Brown]

"Activated just 5 months ago, the NY chapter of the JETAA has met twice since January. A party at a local Japanese owned Karaoke bar was held at the conclusion of the last meeting. Although it lacked the ambiance, which smoking, inebriated, overly-friendly Japanese salarymen brought to the real thing, a true-to-life Japanese hostess and the restaurant provided festive 'Karaoke,' opened those nostalgic floodgates and had the entire crowd crooning 'Hey Jude' in no time.

"More parties are on the way, mostly seasonal and in conjunction with Japanese holidays. Upcoming events include a barbeque for bon-odori, a baseball game in early Fall, a costumed affair with a Japanese theme slated for Halloween, bonenkai and shinenkai in December and January, and o-hanami in April, 1992. I have in the past invited Consulate staff to strengthen the relationship between us.

"But it's not all play and no work... I'm doing my 'gambatte imasu' to publish a newsletter monthly. With the capable and efficient Laurie Ruf as editor, I'm sure something will go out. Furthermore, I was able to convince the proprietors of 2 Japanese-language schools to waive the registration fee for JETAA. Dues were set at $20 per year and pro-rated at $1.75 per month. There are now 15 active members.

"I've received positive support from the Consulate. The JET coordinators at the NY Consulate, Jacalyn Calayag and Yoichi Mikami have expressed interest in helping market the Association by incurring part of the cost of a large ad in the directory of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of N.Y., Inc.

"The ad promotes the skills and experience of JETs and helps publicize the existence of the Program. A portfolio of resumes is provided to interested parties contacting our Public Relations officer whose number is included in the ad.

"JET alumni interviewed applicants for the Program in February making us, in part, responsible for what we unleash on the Japanese population in August '91. A revenge of sorts! However, they have little to fear because I'm assured that the N.Y. group is one of the best that will be sent.

"I'm currently planning a predeparture ceremony/enkai sometime in early July. Also, a former AET volunteered to take those interested shopping at the local outlet of Yachan in Edgewater, N.J., to familiarize the participants with tofu, ika, taco, etc. Preparation for the new meaning "fresh fish" take on in Japan.

(continued on page 6)
"The NY chapter looks forward to welcoming our service men and women back from the battlefield of the Japanese classroom and office in August. Until then, gambatte!"

UK-1 London
[Submitted by Mr. Tony Stevens]

"Nationally, I concentrated on giving JETAA some kind of structure, building up the membership (there are currently 55 paid-up members), and trying to give it a higher profile with the Embassy, and with other organizations involved in Anglo-Japanese relations. Membership dues were set at £15 a year and a committee was elected consisting of the following positions: London Rep (also to act as National Co-ordinator), Bristol Rep, Liverpool Rep, Editor, Social Secretary, Secretary, Treasurer.

"As a committee we decided to merge JETAA with 'Anjinkai' which is a well established society for Japanophiles (including ex-BETS) with a newsletter and their own clubroom in London (now available for use by JETAA members). In addition it organizes a big Japanese festival every July in Battersea Park. £10 of the JETAA subscription goes to Anjinkai.

"Last November we held an Enkai for members (JETAA only) in the London region which was good fun and attended by about 20 people. The Anjinkai Christmas party went well by all accounts, although the Shinnenkai was cancelled.

"In terms of job-networking we've had only limited success: 2 people have found positions through JETAA as a result of companies approaching us directly.

"I've had a lot of contact with the Japanese Embassy regarding the 1991 JET Programme, mainly though because that's one of the projects I work on in my job anyway (I work for the Council on International Educational Exchange). However I have managed to get about 10 previous participants involved in promoting JET, giving talks at universities, even interviewing. All JETAA members will be invited to the 1991 pre-departure reception in July.

"One remaining area of interest is the 1991 Japan Festival in Britain (not related to the Anjinkai Natsu Matsuri), taking place throughout the UK in Autumn of this year. I am meeting the organizers next week to talk about ways for ex-JETS to become involved.

US-13 San Francisco/Northern California
[Submitted by Mr. Bruce Jaffe]

"Since we have just become active since the return of the 1990 JET alumni (JETA), we are looking forward to building a small and cohesive network from those JETs who will return to the Bay Area in 1991.

"We are anxiously awaiting the return of the 1991 JETA. So is the Consul-General of Japan. Sometime in September, he is planning to invite you to his residence in San Francisco. We are anticipating that you will join and introduce yourself to the other JETA who will be attending that reception. We hope to be able to help you with your readjustment to the U.S., with respect to both social and/or professional career guidance. If possible, we can help you establish the net-

U-4 Perth/Darwin
[Submitted by Ms. Wendy Fletcher]

"JET interviews were held on the 18th and 19th of February. JETAA attended to talk to the interviewees before they were interviewed, as was done last year.

"On the 21st of March, in conjunction with the Consulate we organized a session for those who were successful in their interviews. There was a brief congratulation from Mr. Fukai and an outline of the JETAA before a guest speaker, Francis Conlan, spoke about things to bear in mind about living abroad. After that there was a short question-and-answer session followed by a film, 'Growing Up Japanese Style'.

"The night seemed well-received by all concerned. The new JETs were given a questionnaire in order to find out in what areas they require information. These questions will be used to prepare material for an orientation meeting to be held at the Consulate on Saturday, 18th May.

"The following week on Sunday, 26th May, we are planning a more informal get-together at Margo Whittle's home, so that the new participants and their families will be able to meet with JETAA members and talk. Hopefully this social activity will help the participants to get to know each other and form some kind of bond which may prove helpful in Japan.

"Closer to their departure we would like to hold another orientation day. Rather than focussing on the technical aspects of moving to Japan, like the first one, it will mainly focus on the more emotional aspects of how to adapt to a new environment and cope with the transition.

"For both orientations we have sought material from people both here and in Japan....[T]he Australian representative has been quite helpful in running the piece in the Oz Times...On top of the Orientations, I am hoping to compile a booklet, [For Your Information], which contains bits and pieces that may not be included in the CLAIR handbooks and that is specifically related to Australians."
working connections necessary to further your Japan experience-related career.

'Over the past few months, JETA have participated in numerous activities. Three JETA participated in the Disco Career Forum [please see the "Getting a Real Job" column on page 4 for related information] promoting the JET Program; ten JETA volunteered to help prepare and sell sushi, moki and yakitori at the annual Palo Alto, California Japanese Festival; ten JETA worked with the Consulate and participated in the interviewing process for 1991-1992 AETs and CIRs; others are now involved in the 1991-1992 pre-departure orientation planning; and some JETA have spoken at their alma mater and to their local communities.

'We plan to have quarterly get-togethers. At the present time, there are no dues whatsoever. We are now in the process of seeking out some funding/sponsorship for our group. In June, we will be meeting for a Sunday brunch in San Francisco and will work off those calories by rollerblading together through Golden Gate Park. Since it is not particularly easy or convenient for everyone to attend these get-togethers, we would like to begin publishing a local JETAA newsletter in order to keep the important information flowing in our area. Of course, we need your help! If you are finishing your contract this year, please contact us as soon as possible. {Yoroshiku onegaishimasu."

US-1 Washington, D.C.
[Submitted by Ms. Paige Cottingham.] This was excerpted from the March 1991 JETAA Journal published by this region.]

"Since August, 1989, I have served with pleasure as the regional representative of the Washington, D.C. JET Alumni Association (WDC JETAA). JETAA was established for the dual purpose of providing support to former participants of the JET Program in their personal and professional pursuits, and to support the JET Program itself.

'Now in its second year, the WDC JETAA has developed a list of approximately 45 former JET participants living in this area. As an organization, we have been actively involved in assisting the Consulate General of Japan in recruiting and selecting new JET participants; providing an orientation program for new participants; and advising former JET participants of employment opportunities. As an organization, we hope JETAA will expand these activities and explore new areas of interest. The possibilities are infinite and I hope you will want to be involved in our growth."

US-10 Denver
[Submitted by Ms. Eve Halterman]

"In January, we held an informal brainstorming (potluck) session to come up with questions for our 1991 JET Interview panelist to use during the interviewing/selection process.

'For three days in February, we participated in the interview process. Linda Morita was our JETAA representative on the panel. Six other members volunteered time at the information desk. The San Francisco Consulate sponsored a dinner for the interviews and for alumni.

"In April, Eve Halterman was a panelist for a Colorado College program on 'International Career Opportunities: Education, Non-profit, Government & Business.' She promoted the JET Program as an opportunity to gain experience aside from teaching -- culture, language, public speaking, office relations, etc. In addition, focus was on the overall increase in marketability for students, such as those who attended the session, who are interested in international business careers.

'The Assistant Director of the Career Center at Colorado College, expressed interest in having JETAA members promote the program next Fall at an on-campus information session.

'We have tentatively planned two orientation sessions for the new JETs -- one in May and one in June. In addition, we will hold a Farewell Reception in July."

AU-1 Sydney

On 27 April 1991, a dinner-meeting was held at Suntory Restaurant for the JETAA, sponsored by CLAIR officials and the Consulate-General of Japan. In attendance from CLAIR were Mr. Tadashi Tsuda, Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Mr. Katsutoshi Ohta, Secretary-General; from the Consulate-General were Mr. Katsuyoshi Hayashi, Consul and Director, and Masaru Ito, Consul; and, they were joined by seven JET alumni from the Sydney area.

'Topics of discussion included the current activities of the alumni and their future career plans. Some of them are involved in Japan-related organizations. Also, ideas were discussed for upcoming activities for the JETAA in Sydney.
Consulate to Host Alumni Reception in San Francisco

To welcome back alumni returning from Japan, and to provide an opportunity to meet JETAA members already in the area, the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco will host a reception in September. As the date is not yet set, those individuals still in Japan should provide their US address and telephone number to Bruce Jaffe, the San Francisco JETAA Regional Representative, and/or Debbie Davidson at the SF Japanese Consulate. All alumni will then be sent detailed information later in the summer. Bruce Jaffe, 3366 Brittan Ave., #10, San Carlos, CA 94070, (415) 593-1896/Debbie Davidson, Consulate General of Japan, 50 Fremont St., Ste. 2200, San Francisco, CA 94105, (415) 777-3533.

JETAA Job Seminar in Los Angeles

The Job Seminar (hosted by the Consulate General of Japan and the JETTA Southern California Chapter) has been set for Saturday, September 21, 1991 at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. Representative from four employment agencies, which focus on Japan-related jobs, will be present to look over resumes, conduct initial interviews, and schedule appointments. The agencies are Cinema, Interplace/Transworld Recruit, Nippon Man Power, and Persona. Please start working on your resumes now. Upon your return, please contact Mr. Julian Ely, JET Office, Consulate General of Japan, 250 East First Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (213) 624-8305. He will be happy to send you an information packet. Looking forward to seeing you there. [Submitted by US-14]

Canadian Hostelling Association

The Canadian Hostelling Association (CHA) has a number of weekend activities which may be of interest. For those of you who enjoyed "mountaineering" in Japan, the CHA runs hikes every Sunday from April to November, two each Sunday in the spring and fall, as well as some weekend trips. Each hike is rated from 1 (well-defined trails) to 3 (rough trails). There is a CHA Cycling Club as well.

There are weekend trip fees of $4 for members and $6 for non-members. Membership, and more information, may be picked up at the Nicholas Street Jail.

Travel talks are regularly given by the CHA. Anyone with the gift of the gab and interesting slides/photos of exotic locales (we all qualify) should contact the CHA.

A CHA activity line [Ottawa] 230-1200 gives 24-hour information. [Submitted by Mr. Matthew Lacombe (CN-1)]

JET Coordinator Position Available

Contract position available at the Embassy of Japan in Canada for JET Coordinator. This position involves overseeing all details related to the promotion of and implementation of the JET Program in Canada in cooperation with the Consulates General. The contract runs from September 1991 to July 1992, hours of work are 9:00 to 17:00, five days a week. If you are interested in applying for this position, please send a curriculum vitae to: Mrs. Mariko Oka-Fukuroi, First Secretary, Information and Cultural Section, Embassy of Japan, 255 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 9E6, (613) 236-8541.

"Name that Newsletter!" Ballot

It's time to "Name that Newsletter." No longer will this forum of communication remain generically titled. Please select your favorite title from the nine choices listed below, and send it to your RR. Non-renewers: don't stuff that ballot box! You have your chance to vote on your Information Form. Votes will be tallied on 20 November 1991 with the winning title appearing on the cover of the December issue.

JET Log
JET Propelled
JET Streams
JET Streams of Consciousness
Natsukasii News
Sayonara Song
Tadaima Times
The JET SET

Teachers on Reserve Offers Temporary and Permanent Teaching Opportunities

Teachers on Reserve, a Los Angeles area organization, was created to help private schools and child-care programs meet their commitment to quality care and education. Temporary and permanent teaching positions are available in the following fields: Child Care Workers; Teacher Assistants; Preschool/Early Childhood Education Teachers; Elementary and Secondary Teachers; Adult Vocational Education Teachers. For more information, please contact Teachers on Reserve directly at (818) 710-0744. [Submitted by US-14]

Contacting AJET

A complete list of people to contact in AJET is available from your Regional Representative. To contact AJET directly, please write to: Mr. John Elsner, AJET Chairperson, 〒 940 Niigata-ken, Nagaoka-shi, Kawasaki 3-2423-5, Greenbell #203. Don't forget about the AJET Nationality Representatives!