

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



## 通 信

*The Tsūshin is a membership publication of the Japan America Society of Minnesota*

April 2016 VOL. 25, No. 4

### 311 Kizuna Event Informs and Builds Hope for Tohoku Recovery



*From Left to Right: Mr. Shirakura from Consulate General of Japan in Chicago, Mr. Stahl Honorary Consul of Japan, Mr. Takasago of the Miyagi Prefectural Government, Mr. Ohyama of IRIS U.S.A. Inc., Mr. Olvera of Atkins Nuclear Solutions, U.S., Mr. Mondale, Board Member of JASM, Mr. Soné of JETRO-Chicago*

On Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> JASM presented an event in cooperation with JETRO (Japan External Trade Organization) Chicago, and the Consulate of Chicago to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. People. The event was held at Macalester College and included a buffet lunch.

The theme of the event was entitled “Creating a New Tohoku: Firsthand Observations on its Recovery and an Update on the Economy on the 5th Anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami”. Presentations were given by speakers some from Sendai and the Miyagi Prefectural government telling of the catastrophic destruction of the earthquake and the work of many volunteers who have helped in the reconstruction of the areas affected in Tohoku.

Ichiro Sone, Chief Executive Director of JETRO Chicago spoke about the reconstruction efforts that have been made in the Tohoku region. Mr. Sone mentioned that while some people in the hardest hit areas are still in temporary housing there has been considerable progress. 70% of the 470,000 people evacuated have been able to return to their communities. JETRO, through its offices both in Japan and in the U.S., is promoting Tohoku as an excellent place for U.S. business activity by encouraging U.S. industries to consider the Tohoku area as a region worthy of investment and innovation.

Akihiro Ohyama, President and CEO of IRIS U.S.A. Inc., told the story of his company headquarters in Sendai where the employees voluntarily returned to work, some of them walking long distances because of the disruption of train and bus services. The workers were prepared to work, but the company suspended normal operations, and instead, the employees began serving as volunteers to provide assistance to the community in response to the earthquake and tsunami. The IRIS Co. Ltd. in Sendai has grown in business and manufactures many innovative consumer products, including a rice mix that is easily transported and retains its delicious taste even after long term storage.

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### J-Quiz Winners Ready to Face National Japan Bowl!

High school students from all over the United States—including three excellent teams representing Minnesota (Eastview High School, Edina High School, Southwest High School)—will meet in Washington, D.C. for the 2016 National Japan Bowl on April 14th and 15th. The winners of 2016 J-Quiz include: Yingyi Zhou, Kayla Cha, Amelia Li (Level 2, Eastview High School); Monica Evelyn Pinkerman, Leif Rolfson, Catherine Ying Young (Level 3, Edina High School); Isabella Broome Gold, Taylor Anne Nelson, Devon Clark Olson (Level 4, Southwest High School). The teachers will also go with the teams who were given the opportunity to participate in the National Japan Bowl. In addition to the competition, the students will explore the magnificent capital of the nation.

The National Japan Bowl is an academic competition that challenges high school students’ proficiency in Japanese language as well as knowledge of Japan. In addition to the Japan Bowl itself, competitors are also invited to participate a variety of cultural activities. On April 16th, the students will visit the Sakura Matsuri that will take place on the streets of Washington D.C.. These events not only serve to familiarize students with Japanese culture and language, but also strengthen the long-standing connection between U.S. and Japan through our next generation.

Last year, students reported that “it was great to see so many people that were interested in Japan” and students felt energized to advance in their Japanese studies. This year’s students wrote the following comments:

I feel moderately prepared but, I feel really nervous and not ready. The reasoning for this is because I have heard that there were really good states such as California and where most states have Japanese people. I think my team and I will do at least better than one state we hope. I plan on preparing for this competition everyday and hoping for the best. Even if we don’t win, I like the experience of being in a state competition.

- Kayla Cha

(Continued on Page 2)



*The winning teams of 2016 J-Quiz meeting at JASM office*

## J-Quiz Winners Ready to Face National Japan Bowl! (Continued From Page 1)

Concerning the National Japan Bowl, I feel very calm despite the huge challenge that is facing us. I know my team well and even though we each have our weak points, our team work has led us to this moment and that won't let us down. The



*Winner of the J-Quiz last year coaching this year's winners from Eastview High School before National Japan Bowl*

three of us are studying and preparing as best as we can since this is our first time to Japan Bowl. I don't know the exact study plans of my team mates, but I am focusing on my speaking skills as well as knowing as much information on the topics of this year. Thankfully we have great friends and teachers to help us practice for individual segments of the competition and increase our chances of winning. Even through all of this I'm calm because I know that we are all together in this. If anything I'm excited to show off my skills and the support I have from my friends and teachers.

- Monica Pinkerman

I am excited about the National Japan Bowl because it will be very fun to travel together with my teammates and compete at the national level. At the same time though, I am also very nervous because to prepare for this we have received a lot of help and support from many people and I am very thankful because without them we would not be as nearly as successful as we are. This also puts a lot of pressure on us to do well so that all our combined efforts will not go to waste. We are all studying hard in order to be prepared for the National Japan Bowl. I wish everyone the best of luck ! Thank you.

- Amelia Li

For most high school students from Minnesota, winning a trip to the capital is an unforgettable experience for life. Let's wish them the best luck in the National Japan Bowl!

## Harukaze "Sign of Spring"

The Japan America Society of Minnesota hopes to serve as a bridge between the peoples of the United States and Japan through a high quality annual performing arts event that promotes Japan related arts and local talent. The event will give the community the unique opportunity to experience the arts in a personal way. This year, we will welcome both Japanese and American musicians to perform European music as well as Japanese children's songs (nurse rhymes). Please save the date for this wonderful concert.



### Date:

Sunday, June 12<sup>st</sup>

### Schedule:

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

### Location:

Hamline University  
Sundin Music Hall  
1531 Hewitt Ave, St. Paul

### Fee:

\$10 for JASM members

\$15 for general admission

\$5 for 18 and under

Tickets will be available online

## Nichibei Lecture Series: Rochus K. Voeller, MD



The purpose of the JASM Nichibei Lecture Series by the Professional Club is to provide the Japanophile community with unique opportunities to hear local professional people and artists share their expertise, experience and knowledge, and build a network of friendship that contributes to our enjoyment of life in Minnesota.

ミネソタ日米協会のプロフェッショナル・クラブによる日米レクチャー・シリーズでは、

様々な分野の専門家や芸術家から、ここでの暮らしに役に立つ興味ある話や経験を聴く機会を提供すると同時に、親日家の皆さんが集まり、友人、知人の輪を広げ、生活をより楽しくすることを目的としています。

For this Nichibei Lecture Series, JASM welcomes Dr. Rochus K. Voeller, MD who will talk about "open heart surgery and prevention of heart disease".

**Thursday, May 19 at 7:00pm.**

**Location will be advised**

Rochus K. Voeller, MD:

After receiving his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School, Dr. Voeller completed his general surgery residency and a cardiothoracic surgery fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine, Barnes-Jewish Hospital. Since 2012, he has been on staff at Regions Hospital, St. Paul, MN as a Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeon.

Dr. Voeller serves as the Director of Cardiothoracic Surgery, Fairview Southdale Hospital and Associate Program and FVSH Site Director, Thoracic Surgery Fellowship Training Program. In this role, he conducts clinical effectiveness studies to enhance the safety, quality and patient experience of patients undergoing cardiothoracic surgery, while working on control cost of care by minimizing unneeded variation and improving efficiency and effectiveness. (taken from University of Minnesota Department of Surgery)

JASM is pleased to welcome Dr. Voeller as the speaker for the Nichibei lecture series in May!

## Membership News

Thanks to the following  
Renewing JASM Members:

Setsuko Rittmiller, Richard T Kushino

Thanks to the following  
New JASM Members:

Peter Hill, Zach Luther, Hideaki Watanabe, Sheryl Hogg, Carin Manbeck, Heather Stewart

Thanks to the following  
Renewing JASM Corporate Members:

Daikin Applied

Thanks to the following  
New Corporate Members:

JK's Table

## 311 Kizuna Event Informs and Builds Hope for Tohoku Recovery (Continued from Page 1)



Mr. Akihiro Ohyama of IRIS U.S.A.

Yoshiyuki Takasago, Deputy Director-General of the Miyagi Prefectural Government also gave a presentation about the ongoing work of reconstruction and recovery in the region. He explained that much of the damaged infrastructure has been restored. Challenges continue including providing social services. 47,000 people in Miyagi Prefecture still live in temporary housing. Everyone was also encouraged to visit scenic Miyagi Prefecture.

A fascinating presentation on the nuclear reactor situation in Fukushima was given by John Olvera, Senior Consulting Engineer of the Atkins Company located in Hudson, Wisconsin. This company has been chosen by TEPCO (Tokyo Electric Power Company) to assist with the safety concerns for removal of nuclear waste and reduction of fire hazards at the heavily damaged Fukushima Daiichi plant. Atkins provides technical assistance to inspections and has processes in place in

case of fire outbreaks. Progress is being made in the recovery and Atkins is receiving support from its hosts in Fukushima.

This event was organized as a community-wide gathering to commemorate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the earthquake and tsunami that hit northern Japan. Dick Stahl, Honorary Consul of Japan in Minneapolis; JoAnn Blatchley, President of the Saint Paul – Nagasaki Sister City Committee (SPNSCC); and Sarah Walbert, International Trade Representative also participated and provided greetings. The JET Alumni Association was recognized at the event. Donations were also received from individuals to support *Sokoage*, a non-profit organization that is providing for children of families living in temporary housing to have place to study and play with the support of volunteers.

Liz Brailsford, JASM President closed the event with thanks to all who attended and participated. Bill Mondale, JASM board member, ably served as the emcee of the program. JASM thanks Macalester College for hosting the event.

This was a time to remember those who suffered in Japan as a result of the earthquake and tsunami, to reflect on the positive progress of reconstruction, and to have hope for the future as the result of the generous actions of many people in Japan and around the world. The event underscored the importance of the U.S. – Japan relationship for the future of Tohoku and northern Japan.

## Corporate Membership Spotlight: Economic Club of Minnesota

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is very happy to welcome the Economic Club of Minnesota as a new Non-Profit Corporate Member. The Economic Club of Minnesota (ECOM) provides a high-profile, non-partisan platform for national and international leaders in business, government and public policy to present their ideas on how Minnesota can better compete in the global economy and how America can most effectively provide world leadership on economic and strategic issues.

Modeled after similar august organizations such as the Economic Club of New York and the Detroit Economic Club, ECOM aspires to be the leading venue for major speeches on economics and public policy. Speakers at the Economic Club of Minnesota will bring unique perspectives and creative policy approaches that move the debate beyond the status quo. ECOM will provide a forum for linking the great thinkers and decision-makers of our state with the rest of the nation and the world as well as continue Minnesota's long history of national leadership and innovative policy solutions.

For more information on ECOM and their events, please visit their website at <http://www.ecomn.org>. JASM is pleased to welcome the Economic Club of Minnesota with this new relationship!



**ECONOMIC CLUB**  
MINNESOTA  
Engaging The World...Strengthening Minnesota

## Please thank our members with your support!

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US-China Business Connections  
Winona State Univ. Global Studies Dept.



## Diary from Japan - Maly Thao, 2015 Mondale Scholar



Towards the end of October, CSB/SJU exchange students were getting ready for their short weekend excursion to Nikko, Japan. For one night, we stayed at the Nikko Lake Side Hotel located at the top of the mountain. The only way to get there was a bus ride up the mountain in a constant zig zag motion. Before checking into the

hotel however, students were encouraged to explore all of what Nikko had to offer. There were many shrines, restaurants and tourist spots that were available for visitors. A few friends and I decided to pick up the specialized Nikko strawberry ice cream from a local family shop, visit the Toshogu Shrine and Kegon Waterfall and hiked up and down a mountain side located near the hotel. Inside the Toshogu shrine, I bought two 'Three Wise Monkey' charms—one for me, and one for my friend. Before going to Nikko, many friends and professors told us about the 'Three Wise Monkeys' and I was determined to buy a charm or two and to see monkeys! I was one of the lucky few to spot monkeys playing in the water next to a bridge while riding the bus down from the top of the mountain to the central station of Nikko. It truly was spectacular!

In the following weeks in November, all exchange students, our program director and his family (who visited Japan for a short period of time), put together a big Thanksgiving Dinner for all of our Bunkyo Gakuin Daigaku friends, professors, faculty, community members and more. In Japan, Thanksgiving is not typically celebrated. I consider myself very lucky to have had the chance to still celebrate Thanksgiving while studying abroad with a group of people who I considered my second family. Although the food in Japan doesn't exactly mirror what we have available in the United States, we were still able to put together a dinner that resembled any typical Thanksgiving dinner one would have back at home in the states. This dinner gave people from other parts of the world that do not celebrate Thanksgiving a chance to experience it themselves first hand.

As we reach the remaining few weeks of December before our program ended, tears of joy and sadness begin to fall and we all continue making memories before we have to say goodbye. After finishing up the last few papers, group presentations and home work assignments, CSB/SJU exchange students were proud and excited to say that they have finally completed their study abroad program in Tokyo, Japan. The graduation celebration started off with individual student speeches in Japanese, class skits in Japanese that was then followed by an extravagant luncheon for students, special guests and BGU affiliates. I can remember that day as if it was yesterday. In the following days, CSB/SJU exchange students began their post-travel experience as a group to Hiroshima and Kyoto. Some students took advantage of how close Osaka was from Kyoto and also visited Osaka during this time. Students have been anticipating how exciting, fun and relaxing it would be to finally travel again as a big group one last time before we part ways with the country we've come to know and love.

## 2016 Mondale Scholarship Applications

Attention to all students studying Japanese language and culture! Do you want to study abroad in Japan? **The Japan America Society of Minnesota (JASM) will be accepting applications for the 2016-2017 academic year Mondale Scholarship in June!**

JASM will award the Mondale Scholarship to Minnesota undergraduate students enrolled in Minnesota colleges and universities who want to broaden their knowledge of Japan through a combination of study and travel. JASM will offer up to \$4,500 in scholarships for the academic year. The selection committee has the discretion to award up to four \$1,000 scholarships or three \$1,500 scholarships. **Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than Monday, June 20th, 2016.**



### Applicants must:

1. Complete application form (available online)
2. Send official college/university transcript(s)
3. Earn a cumulative GPA 3.0 or higher
4. Send two letters of recommendation
5. Write an essay that addresses why you want to study and travel in Japan and your goals for this experience
6. Send a copy of the letter of acceptance from the intended program of study in Japan

The selection committee will review all applications and select finalists for interviews. These interviews will be held in the JASM office between June 20th and mid-July 2016.

**For more information and required application materials, please visit [www.mn-japan.org](http://www.mn-japan.org)**

## Japanese Speech Contest in Chicago

Each year since 1987, the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago sponsors a Japanese language speech contest to promote the study of Japanese in the Midwest. The contest is held in the auditorium of the Japan Information Center on the fourth Saturday in March. This year, four of

Japanese students from University of Minnesota are going to participate in this competition. The speech rehearsal was held at Folwell Hall in the afternoon of March 23<sup>rd</sup>. The students gave wonderful speeches and answered some questions from their teachers and classmates. The actual contest will be in Chicago on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a report from the group in the May issue of Tsushin. がんばってください!!



For more information, please go to the official website: <http://www.chicago.us.emb-japan.go.jp/JIC/spchcont.html>

## Corporate Round Table Review: Aki Ito Explains the Value of Localization in Marketing Your Product



Mr. Aki Ito

The first Corporate Roundtable event for JASM in 2016, was a riveting presentation by Aki Ito, the “Localization Guy” who made the case that localization is an important concept and process for those wanting to sell products in Japan, or anywhere else in the world. The meeting was held on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at the office of Gray, Plant, Mooty in downtown Minneapolis.

Raised in Japan, Aki Ito has spent more than 20 years in Minnesota working in the fields of translation, interpretation, sales and project management. He even spent a year serving as an interpreter for a Japanese baseball player on the Colorado Rockies.

Mr. Ito explained the field of localization by saying that it is really a response to the question of how a company prepares its content and product promotions to the world. He said there can be a number of responses to this question from a simple “Reactive” approach, where the translator has little or no training, to a fully “Transparent” approach where digital technology is fully integrated into the company as a “globalization gene” utilizing technology and project management.

Aki went on to mention that in Japan technical assistance is quite important in the translation process and knowing the technical expertise of the translator is important in deciding who will do the translation.

Questions following the presentation indicated great interest in the topic by the attendees. One attendee said of the event that “it was a great opportunity to listen to the real opinions from the other participants who were actually working that field.”

JASM thanks Aki Ito for his very informative presentation. We also thank Gray, Plant, Mooty for hosting this event for the JASM business community.

## New JASM Intern: Junbo Tang

Hello, my name is Junbo Tang! I am from China and I am currently a junior studying economics at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. I am also learning Japanese in college every day, thanks to my great professors.



My greatest interest in life is to travel, especially to different countries in the world. In summer 2015, I studied in Spain and travelled around Europe, which has been my best memory in my college experience. Also, I have visited Japan once and the trip was indeed impressive. While I was there, I tried my best to speak Japanese with local people. Although my Japanese was not quite good at that time, people were still very nice and patient, which was something I indeed appreciated about Japanese culture.

One fun fact about me is that my Spanish is one year ahead of my Japanese and my Japanese is one year ahead of my French. My dream job is to work at the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund, where I can apply my knowledge of economics and international relations to work as well as interact with people of various cultural backgrounds.

はじめまして、私はジュンボ・タンと申します。私は中国の出身で、今ミネソタ大学で経済を勉強しています。いい先生のおかげで、日本語も毎日どんどん学んでいます。

私は旅行するのが一番好きです。2015年の夏休みにはスペインに留学しました。留学の時、ヨーロッパのいろいろな国に行きました。本当に素晴らしい夏休みだったと思います。それから、日本に行ったこともあります。日本にいった時、日本語をがんばって話してみました。私の日本語がちょっと下手でしたが、日本人はとても優しく、たくさん手伝ってくれました。日本がとても立派な国だと思います。

私は外国語が大好きなので、大学でスペイン語と日本語とフランス語を勉強しています。スペイン語のほうが日本語より得意で、日本語のほうがフランス語より得意です。私の夢は世界銀行や国際通貨基金に関する仕事です。そんな所で働ければ、経済と国際関係の知識を使えて、いろいろな人と交流できます。

よろしくお願いいたします！

## JASM Invites You for A Day of Fun at the Ball Game



Minnesota Twins will be playing against Miami Marlins on June 7th at Target Field. We would like to invite you to watch the game with us! Whether you are a Twins fan or you want to cheer for Ichiro Suzuki, it will be a great get together at the beautiful Target Field!!!

Tuesday, June 7th  
Target Field  
1 Twins Way  
Minneapolis, MN 55403  
Please meet us at the Gate 6, right by the light rail at 6:30pm You will receive your ticket there.  
Game starts at 7:10pm

Please purchase your tickets by **May 9th**  
**\$30 per ticket**

For the ticket purchase, please go to JASM website [www.mn-japan.org](http://www.mn-japan.org)  
or you can give us a call to purchase over the phone (612-629-9357)





## “Housing is Foundation for Success”

“Housing is Foundation for Success” と Minnesota Housing Finance Agency から派遣された大柄な黒人女性講師は、開口一番言っただけ。彼女は私の属する会社の週礼に招かれた一人だった。

「黄金律」と日本人に言いたい 83歳の過去には、12才で戸別セールス、18才で農家の労働者、ミネソタの床屋25年、今は不動産セールス37年、アパート経営日本人会。日本語を読む読者に言いたい、「高等教育=会社就職」が将来の経済安定が至上社会ですが、退職途端に滞り滞りにならないために退職積立貯金の他に投資が必要です。借家から出てまず自分の家を持つ事、(短期赴任で親会社から禁止されて居られる方もおられますが)アメリカ合衆国は市民の成功の為に種々の援助の手が差延べられていると、お気づきください。自家を持ちたい人には、講習会、補助金、特別低金利等、アパート/借り家から卒業して自家持ちになるのが第一歩。WWW.mnhousing.gov /

WWW.hocmn.org 等、アメリカは信用/Creditの国。最低640クレジットスコア職歴2年(又は関連の学歴)から始まります。車、家具、衣類、外食経費を節約して3%の貯金か(親の腰から)頭金が出ればよいのです。或外国から来た男性は時間給5ドル、夫婦は生まれたばかりの赤ん坊と安アパート住まいで居ましたが、彼光っていまやって暮らしている?衣類とベーショ菜は安い」庫のない最上。30年後此処で言う



のボロ車はした。どうしていきなり家具はサルン、麺類、野買えた家は車低額家だっ再会した時はマンション(大邸宅)に改造した家と28戸のアパートメントをWoodburyに持つお勤めを止めていた。「曲節は有りましたが銀行が\$2,000,000.貸してくれましたと満足そう。同年齢の人間が同じ国政下に生きて。\$2,800,000所得者と政府補助生活をしめた!」と思う考え方の違いを言いたい。殆どがDesire(欲望)の相違と決心だと思ふ。初心者が自家を買う時は補助金や低利の他に払った利子は所得税減税の対象になり、貸家(投資)の時は借りた人達が銀行払いを上回る家賃を払ってくれる、Equityが増える上にDepreciation(価値下落)などが加わり不動産投資を有利にする国政下に住んでいるのだ”How to Awake Financial Genius inside of You”が私の不動産に注目したきっかけであり、只今大統領選で衆目を集めているドナルド・トランプ氏は建築業者の倅で父親の手伝いをさせられていたが高校生パレードの一部でニューヨークの繁華街を仰ぎ見て「こういう建物を」と決心して18才で自分の会社を作った。コンラッド・ヒルトン、ボブ・ホープ。昔、有名な株式会社の副社長が私が売っていた貸家を買ってくれた時の理由は“Diversified Investment”(多様性)「働く、不動産、金が金(株式)」私の専門は不動産 日本語でも英語でもご相談を承ります。ご一報下さい。

**Yoko Breckenridge**

612-839-0008

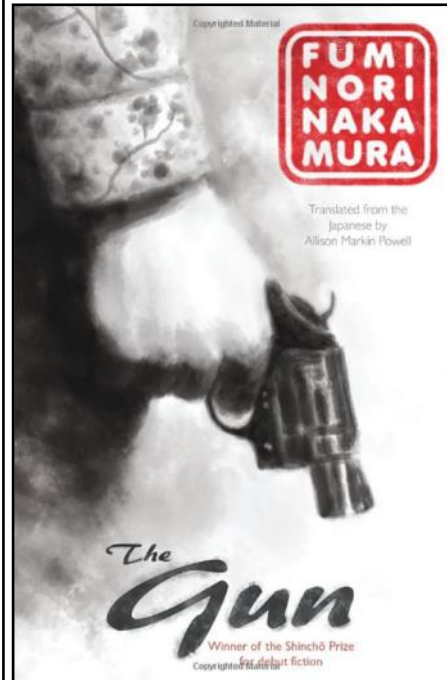
yoko@yoko4home.com



## Tom Haeg's Book Review: *The Gun*

*The Gun*; Fuminori Nakamura; Soho Press, 198 pages; Powell, Allison Markin, translator, 2015.

*The Gun*, a fictional noir-mystery, opens with the



protagonist-narrator, Nishikawa, a Tokyo university student, discovering a blood-stained corpse and then removing the titular weapon from the crime scene. While in his possession, he proceeds to fantasize it, embellish it, caress it. Nakamura cleverly uses this fetishism as a literary platform to reveal with Dostoyevskyesque, story-telling flair the tenuous,

morbid and disturbed psyche of Nishikawa.

Nakamura suffers no bias for a plot. If there is one, it is elementary: boy takes (uh, steals) gun, boy possesses gun, boy falls in love with gun, boy struggles whether to use gun. The emphasis here is on sociopathic self-analysis. Remember: his only succor is possession of the weapon because he is detached from humanity.

We are cued to believe that the gun possesses a hypnotic affect which will eventually serve as a catalyst to a fatalistic closure. Only when and how are left to be determined. Will it result in a repeat homicide? Suicide? Perhaps patricide? Clues are frequently dropped. For example, during the odyssey our protagonist ominously stumbles on the death bed of his estranged father.

*The Gun*, although the first of four novels by Nakamura (the others, *The Thief*, *Evil* and *the Mask and Last Winter*), is the last to be translated into English. It first appeared in a Japanese literary magazine in 2002, and the following year it was published in a hardcover, Japanese edition. It is a spell-binding thriller that will not disappoint.

-Tom Haeg [Tom welcomes your comments on this book, or others he has reviewed in the last four years, for the JASM Tsushin. You can reach him at tomhaeg@msn.com].

# Advertise in the Tsushin!

## Advertisement Rates

Style	Size	Cost/issue
1/4 page	5 x 3.5 in	\$50.00
1/2 page	5 x 7.5 in	\$90.00
Full page	10 x 7.5 in	\$150.00
Classified	80 character line	\$10/ line (min. 2 lines)

Ad production and design available in both Japanese and English for an additional charge. Deadline for completed ads and classifieds is the 20th of every month.

**Questions? Contact  
the JASM Office  
Tel: 612-627-9357  
jasm@us-japan.org**

## Japan America Society Calendar

### May

May 11th: Corporate Roundtable

May 19th: Nichibei Lecture Series

### June

June 7th: Group Outing: Twins vs. Marlins

\*If you would like to let JASM know about an upcoming event, e-mail us at  
[jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com)\*

## Japanese Speaking Club

The Japanese Speaking Club is an informal meeting place for those wishing to practice Japanese. We encourage those just beginning the language as well as native speakers to gather at the **Espresso Royale Café** in Downtown Minneapolis to meet new people, discuss experiences in Japan, or simply to speak Japanese. Come when you can, leave when you must.



**Date/Time:** Every Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** Espresso Royale Café  
1229 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55403

**For more information, visit [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) and search for the key words "Japanese speaking club"**

## 月例日本人会のお知らせ

毎月日本語図書館で日本人会の昼食会 (Monthly Nihonjin-kai) を行っています。電話などでお誘い合わせの上、お友達やお知り合いと一緒においで下さい。可能の方はどうぞ料理を1品ご持参願います。ミネソタ州在住の日本人達で良い事を考え、ご馳走と日本語で楽しい時間を持ちましょう。

日程：毎月第2月曜日正午より

場所：日本語図書館

(4231 Bloomington Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55407)

また、毎週土曜日午後2時から、日本語図書館のお手伝いしてくださる方の集まりがあります。是非ご参加ください。この図書館には、漫画や宗教誌約25000冊や約2500本のビデオDVDがあり、希望者にはセルフサービスで日本人会と同じく無料で貸出しています。お問い合わせは下記までどうぞ。

Yoko Breckenridge

Cell phone: (612) 839-0008 E-mail: [Yoko@yoko4home.com](mailto:Yoko@yoko4home.com)

Nihonjin-kai monthly meeting on 2nd Monday, at noon, at 4231 Bloomington Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55407

## Become a JASM Member online!

### *Support our mission and become a member!*

1. Go to [mn-japan.org](http://mn-japan.org)
2. Click on 'Membership' at the top
3. Select your membership type and read the benefits and instructions.

You can also become a member using your smart phone!

## Japan America Society of Minnesota

- ☐ Membership Application ☐ Change of Address
- ☐ Tax-deductible Donation

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2nd adult of a household membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to JASM)

### Individual Membership

Patron.....	\$1,000+
Sustaining.....	\$500+
Contributing.....	\$100+
Individual .....	\$30
Student/Senior .....	\$20
Household .....	\$50
(2 adults plus children under 18)	

Japan America Society of Minnesota  
43 Main Street SE Suite EH—131  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



# Japan America Society of Minnesota



Riverplace EH-131  
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Minneapolis, MN 55414-1031

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www.mn-japan.org

## 通信

Tsūshin  
April 2016

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a non-profit, non-political association engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and the United States closer together in mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation. Through programs and interchange, it endeavors to promote an appreciation of cultural, educational, economic, public, and other affairs of interest to both peoples. Membership in the society is open to individuals, corporations, and other organizations interested in furthering its programs.

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a member of the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

*(Please report any inaccuracies you find in this publication to [jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com))*

## 311 Kizuna Event Informs and Builds Hope for Tohoku Recovery

