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5
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"Sketches of KIKU-NO-HANA (Chrysanthemum flower) from a copy of "Flower Book" printed in Japan in 1775

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PARK AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATION
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SERVICES DES ESPACES VERTS ET DE LA RECREATION
INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATION ÖFFENTLICHER VERWALTUNGEN FÜR GRÜNFLÄCHEN UND ERHOLUNG

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CHRYSANTHEMUMS

The drawing reproduced on the front cover is from a wood cut print from a book entitled 'Flowers Book' printed in Japan in 1775.

The following notes were contributed by M/s Chihiro Miromoto of the Parks and Recreation Foundation of Japan.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CHRYSANTHEMUM CULTIVATION IN JAPAN

In the early 6th century (Nara-Era) "KIKU", the Chrysanthemum, was introduced into Japan from China. However, by the late 8th century in the Heian era, cultivation was temporarily suspended. Its recovery was to some extent promoted by poems and tales; although its cultivation was strictly limited to the Imperial Court where it was cultivated by the Imperial families. During the late 13th to late 15th centuries (Kamakura and Muromachi Eras), some illustrations and images of Chrysanthemum were only found in some works in arts, crafts and paintings; but they were never popular with the general public. Early in the 17th century (Edo Era), the cultivation was rapidly popularized by people. They took over its cultivation and development and a wide range of species and varieties were cultivated, and increased technological know now was used to improve the form and colour of the flowers.

Some 80 species of the large, medium and small flowered Chrysanthema were listed in a book entitled "An Epitome for Flower Beds" published in 1681, whereas in 1695, 20 and 230 species for summer and autumn as well as for cold weather were recorded in a book entitled "Selected Flowers in Bed".

During the mid 18th century, Chrysanthemum became very popular mainly in Edo (Tokyo), Kyoto and Osaka, and most of the existing species and patterns remain today. Many flower displays and shows of chrysanthemums often took place throughout in Japan.

Between 1804-1818, a prototype of today's Kiku-ningyo, arts and crafts of the Chrysanthemum figure or doll, was created.

During the Meiji Era (started in 1868) as Japan awakened from the feudalistic ages, the popularity of Chrysanthemums declined especially due to repeated warfare. However, as the nationwide movement to organize the existing affinity groups was promoted, the hobby of horticulture became widely spread throughout the country. As of 1981, the All Japan's Chrysanthemum Lovers' Association had 153 affiliated organization member with 20 regional chapters, and the number of Chrysanthemum lovers reached some millions of people across Japan (inclusive of non-affiliated members and other individuals independent of the groups).

Chrysanthemums were originally imported from China as a flower of nobles and were long used in the patterns of costumes and furnitures among the aristocrats in medieval ages in Japan. It was officially designated as the Japanese Imperial Crest (coat of armor) by Cabinet decree in January 1868 and in 1871 the Crest was strictly prohibited for use by any person other than the Imperial household. However, most deplorably, both militarists and nationalists abused it to symbolize their identities and patriotism during pre-wars.

Today, the Chrysanthemum flower is said to be a symbol of Japanese nationality not only as eternal youth and longevity but also as a symbol of peacekeeping/loving.

Editor's Comments

I was very pleased to receive information on the visit to China made by Mr Roger Pollard, President-elect, IFPRA, and Laurence Cheung. More information from Dr Kanzo Hirano on the exciting IFPRA Asia Pacific Congress programmed for May 1993 in Mito City, Japan, and notes from Dr David Aldous, a member of IFPRA, as well notes on the chrysanthemum were supplied by M/s Chihiro Morimoto, Japan.

Please send me information from other countries as well for inclusion in the next Newsletter, due out by the end of June.

Once again I have to apologise for delays in sending out this Circular, but the RAIPR Annual National Conference, held in October last year (of which I was Chairman and Editor of Proceedings) took its toll of me!

1991 RAIPR Annual National Conference, Melbourne 1991 **'Parks Recreation and Tourism - Who Dares Wins?'**

It is with some pleasure that I inform readers of the success professionally, personally and financially of the National Conference.

Some 700 people were involved in the Conference, 140 sessions, 130 speakers, 117 papers, 8 abstracts, 6 concurrent streams and the proceedings were ready for delegates to receive on the last day of the Conference.

A most enjoyable and rewarding day was spent in Ballarat (about 115 kms from Melbourne) when the delegates travelled by vintage steam train and visited some of the park and recreation highlights of a thriving provincial city in the morning, and in the afternoon/evening a visit to Sovereign Hill, a reconstruction of a thriving mine village, mines and panning for gold of over a century ago. Perhaps it is Australia's premier reconstructed village.

We were delighted to welcome a number of overseas delegates to our Conference including Laurence Cheung from Hong Kong, and Miss Ho Peng and Mr Chia Seng Jiang from Singapore. Ritch Stevenson from Maryland USA and Gary Simpson from New Zealand also took part in the Conference.

Our three overseas keynote speakers were Franz Meury from Berne Switzerland; Professor Ken Polakowski from Michigan USA; Chris Jarvi from California USA.

Even though there were only a few of them, they all made a very significant contribution to its success.

Laurence Cheung, the delegate from Hong Kong said how much he enjoyed the Conference, the program being very rich, diverse and professionally rewarding. He considered the trips to the Cities of Box Hill, Nunawading and Ballarat were also well organised and very rewarding.

Trevor Arthur

IFPRA World Congress, Hong Kong, 18-24 October 1992
'Parks and Recreation - The Enhancement of Urban Life'

An exciting and interesting program has been prepared for delegates and accompanying persons to enjoy and be rewarded professionally. You will have a chance to review the challenges to be faced in providing a balanced socially responsive park and recreation service to a community undergoing rapid change.

Following the Congress, a tour into South China and Macau has been designed to enable you to examine some of the many parks and gardens, and enjoy other scenic areas.

Detailed information and the registration form on the Congress will be mailed to all members about the middle of April. If you do not obtain yours, please write direct to Mr Roger Pollard, Conference Chairman, 1992 Conference Headquarters, Block S4 Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Kowloon Hong Kong. Roger will only be too happy to send you information as soon as he receives your request.

1993 IFPRA Asia Pacific Regional Congress, Mito City Capital of Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan - May

'An Opportunity of a Lifetime to Visit Japan Under Ideal Conditions' (Notes provided by Dr Kanzo Hirano)

Introduction

At the Adelaide IFPRA Asia Pacific Commission meeting in 1991, it was agreed to hold the 1993 Congress at Mito City, Japan. Since that time the Parks and Open Space Association of Japan (POSAJ), the Parks and Recreation Foundation (PRF) and IFPRA have worked to prepare for the Congress and will form a Congress Working Committee on 13 April next to finalise the program and other arrangements.

Joint Congress

The Congress will be held jointly with the 35th Annual Congress of POSAJ and will commemorate the 120th anniversary of Japan's urban park system. Each year the POSAJ Congress is attended by park managers and other officials from all Prefectures of Japan. The Congress is held at different prefectures each year. It is being strongly supported by many companies and organisations in the parks and recreation field in Japan. They are looking forward to linking up with IFPRA Asia Pacific Congress which will provide extra variety and stimulus for delegates.

National Urban Greenery Fair

The Congress is being held at the same time as the National Urban Greening Fair in Mito City (27 March - 30 May) at Kairaku-en and Senbe Park. The Fair promotes urban greenification.

Historical Gardens

One of Japan's greatest gardens Kairaku-en of 22ha is located in Mito City, and was the first public garden established in Japan 150 years ago. It is famous for over 3000 cherry trees, flowering from February through to March.

Lake Senba extends in front of Kairaku-en, is an historical lake-front Park which is currently being expanded and is the main exhibition site for the Urban Greenery Fair. Both these sites will be visited during the Congress.

Ibaraki Prefecture Attractions

Ibaraki Prefecture has many natural attractions, including the lovely slopes of Mt Tsukaba, Lake Kasumigaura and Ibaraki's beautiful coast. The cliffs of Mt Tsukaba contain historical ruins and there are granite quarries and renowned potteries.

Tsukuba Science City lying between Mt Tsukaba and Lake Kasumigaura is a centre dedicated to science and technology, where many national research centres and educational institutions are located. Private firms which manufacture products have followed in order to take advantage of the proximity of the research centres.

A project is being undertaken in the northern coastal area (Hibachi Naka) with the development of an international waterfront park city. It includes a new port for the North Kanto area, a high tech industrial zone and the Hitachi Seaside National Government Park (opened in 1991).

As there will be plenty to see and do, make your visit to Japan at this time. The Congress organisers will be looking forward to welcoming you and ensuring that you will have a most enjoyable and professionally rewarding time.

If you are interested, please contact Dr Kanzo Hirano, Executive Director IFPRA Japan, 1-21 Toranomom 4 Chome, Minato-Ku, Tokyo Japan.

1996 and 1999 IFPRA Asia Pacific Congresses **Call for Submissions to Hold Congresses**

As mentioned, the 1993 Congress is to be held in Japan, and as Acting Secretary of IFPRA Asia Pacific Region, I call for nominations to hold the 1996 and 1999 IFPRA Asia Pacific Congresses.

Provided the World Commission agrees to the continuance of the Region at its meeting in Hong Kong, the IFPRA Asia Pacific Commission will either make a decision at its Hong Kong meeting or may defer it to the next meeting to be held in Japan in May 1993. However, if any country that has IFPRA members as individuals, or as a parks and recreation organisation, and has the support of a major city and also has support from industry, wishes to stage a Congress, please write to Trevor Arthur for further information. It would be preferable for applications to conduct the Congresses were in my hands by 30 September 1992 even if only in a preliminary form.

Burnley Gardens - 100 Years of Horticultural Education

The Victorian College of Agriculture and Horticulture - Burnley Campus, formally known as the Burnley Historical College, and Australia's leading tertiary institution in environmental horticulture, is celebrating its centenary. The College is situated in Melbourne and initially commenced as a seed and fruit tree quarantine centre and was once the site for the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria. The College is the oldest in Australia and has been providing horticultural education for the parks industry over this time. Currently it offers a Masters and Graduate Diploma program, Degree and Associate Diploma in Horticulture and Advanced Certificate programs in arboriculture

and horticulture. The College would be interested in hearing from members who may be visiting Australia and would like to be involved with the teaching, research and advisory programs offered. Correspondence may be directed to Dr David E. Aldous, VCAH-Burnley, Swan Street, Richmond, Victoria 3121, Australia.

Seeking Information on Methods of Evaluating Cost Benefits of Environmental Resources and Park Maintenance Time Standards

David Aldous, a member of IFPRA, is currently seeking information in two areas - techniques to assess the value of the benefits and costs of environmental resources, and secondly, park maintenance time standards. He would appreciate corresponding with members who may have access to such information or who could assist with further contacts. Dr David E. Aldous, VCAH-Burnley, Swan Street, Richmond, 3121, Victoria, Australia.

Parks and Recreation Foundation - Japan
(Notes from Dr Kanzo Hirano)

The Japan Parks and Recreation Foundation was established in 1974 with the approval of the Ministry of Construction at the time of the opening of Musashi Hillside National Government Park and Asuka Historical National Government Park.

The Foundation's articles have six goals, among them:

- . Study and research on the management of parks and green spaces;
- . Development of technology on the management of parks and green spaces;
- . Promoting knowledge of and public use of parks and green spaces;
- . Management of national government parks;
- . Lectures and studies on parks and green areas.

The Foundation funds sources include government subsidies, grants from public service corporations and local governments where the national government parks are situated, public transportation agencies and financial institutions as well as revenue from its operations.

The Foundation functions through three departments: public utilities, entrusted businesses and profit-making businesses.

The public utilities department pursues technological development, research and studies on the management of parks and the dissemination of knowledge to promote their use. These include 60 technical projects and numerous seasonal and topical publications for professionals and the public.

Three types of training are offered by the Foundation with the support of the Ministry of Construction: urban greening technology, practical park design, and park management. Over 200 people attend the seminars.

The training centre is available to other national, public and private organisations, and in 1991, it was used by 35 groups comprising over 1,700 people.

The entrusted business department is responsible for the management of seven of the 14 national government parks, of which nine are now open to the public. It also manages recreation and revenue facilities set up by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation.

Business related to management can be classified into two groups: one is primarily the breeding and raising of animals and plants, maintenance and repair of buildings and other facilities. The other is guidance and information assistance to visitors, and promotion of park use and safety control.

Since 1984, the foundation, on behalf of the Ministry of Construction and other public organisations, has conducted some 61 (21 in 1990) research and other studies on the management of national government parks, other parks and green spaces.

The "profit-making business" department operates restaurants and shops in the national government parks and at facilities set up by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation.

Visit to China

Mr Pollard, President-elect IFPRA, and Mr Laurence Cheung, IFPRA member from Hong Kong, visited Beijing last November to meet with Chinese officials in the parks field.

Hospitality of the Chinese

Laurence in his note to me mentioned how much he enjoyed the visit as the weather was relatively mild and the kind hospitality of the Chinese officials was excellent. He was very busy with interpretation except at official functions when a professional interpreter was employed. They got on very well with their Chinese representatives and successfully relayed their messages and goals for IFPRA and the Hong Kong Congress.

Trees of Beijing

Roger Pollard agreed with Laurence's observations about the hospitality of the Chinese officials they met, and added that they had been impressed with the street trees - 80% of all streets in the older areas of the city had been planted up with trees, and tree planting was continuing at a frantic pace with over 200 different species being used.

The Mayor of Beijing had a target for 40% of the land area of Beijing to be green by the year 2000. Some 20,000 trees aged 200 years and over were given special care by the arborists.

Possibility of Parks Organisation in China

Roger believes that the formation of a parks organisation will only be a matter of time and he was most impressed with the standards attained by the park professionals he met. The Ministry of Construction defines central policy and monitors park development. Apart from regional conferences, the parks directors are expected to attend re-training courses every five years to be appraised of the latest policies and techniques in both the design and management of public parkland.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to IFPRA Asia Pacific (up to February 1992):

- . Randwick City Council Administration Centre,
30 Francis Street, Randwick N.S.W. Australia 2031 (Corporate)
- . Brian O'Reilly, 52 Magenta Street, Wavel Heights, Brisbane
4012 Queensland Australia
- . Tony Johnson, 17 Kay Crescent, Port Augusta S.A. 5700
Australia
- . Jaswinder Bilga, Landscape Officer, Municipal Corporation, 1
Rose Garden, Head Water Works, Amritsar, 143001 India
- . Department of Parks and Recreation, 490 Chatan Palasyo Agana
Heights, Guam
- . Mr Wy Cheung, Urban Services Department, Leisure Policy
Division, Queensway Government Offices, 42/F 66 Queensway HK
- . Mr H.C. Lee, District Leisure Manager, Regional Services
Department (Tsuan Wan) 3/4 Regional Council Yeung U.K. Road
Complex 45 Yeung-U.K. Rd, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong
- . Mrs W. Suen, Assistant Recreation and Sports Officer, Hong
Kong Government, 3rd Floor Regional Council Building, Yeung
UK Rd Complex, 45 Yeung UK Rd, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong
- . Ganei Yehoshua, C/- Mr Yehiel Parzelina, General Manager, PO
Box 24052 Tel Aviv 61240 Israel
- . Mr G.J. Armiger, 40 Weybridge Cres. Glen Innes, Auckland 1106
New Zealand
- . Mr W.E. Turner, Deputy Director, Community Services, Tauranga
District Council, Willow Street, Tauranga, New Zealand

Commission Members

- . Graham Bradbourne, Immediate Past President, retires during
the meeting at Hong Kong and we wish him a long and happy
retirement and thank him for his service to IFPRA.
- . I must apologise for the error in my statement in Circular No.
4 regarding the appointment of a new Commissioner for
Singapore. Unfortunately I was given the wrong information
and my apologies to Mr Wong who is still the current member
for Singapore and to Mr Choo.

Mr Wong has been Commissioner for a number of years and last
attended the IFPRA World meeting in Berlin. It is hoped that
both gentlemen will be able to attend the IFPRA World Congress
at Hong Kong in October.

- . Ralph Boggust, Commissioner for New Zealand has retired from
work and will be retiring as Commissioner at the end of the
Hong Kong Commission meetings. He is to be thanked for his
contribution to IFPRA and we wish him well for a long and
happy retirement.