

December 2012

GREETINGS FROM NEW YORK



As the Honorary Chairman of the Shimane Kenjin Kai (Prefectural Association) in New York, I am delighted that the Grassroots Summit of 2013 will be held in Shimane Prefecture. Although this area in Japan is not as widely known as some others, American visitors can look forward to being sincerely welcomed in a region known for its friendly people, beautiful sceneries and local cuisines. Shimane Prefecture is definitely the most interesting place in Japan. One of the main reasons, you may find the origin and legends of Japanese culture in there.

From the capital of Matsue to the smallest village, Japanese and American visitors, alike, will be charmed by the combination of the new and old, which lends itself to the "Shimane atmosphere".

Given that this will be the 23rd Grassroots Summit, participants can be assured that the Summit Executive Committee will leave no avenue unvisited to insure that the period from July 1- July 8 is one of quality, person to person exchange and treasured memories.

As a bonus, the Post Summit Optional Programs allow visitors to experience other parts of Japan before departing for home in continuation of the Whitfield-Manjiro tradition of friendship.

I would encourage those with any interest in Japan or Japan-USA relations to mark the calendar for the next July and plan to be part of this concentrated mixing of two great cultures.

With warm wishes I hope to see you in Shimane next year July, 2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several vertical strokes and a few horizontal ones, representing the name Tsutomu Karino.

Tsutomu Karino

The Honorary Chairman, Shimane Kenjin Kai in New York

Advisor, Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Inc.

Advisor to President, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York, Inc.

Advisor to President, The Nippon Club



Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York, Inc.



The Nippon Club