



IKEBANA

INTERNATIONAL

San Diego Chapter #119
www.ikebanasandiego.org

June 1, 2025



After they've fallen,
their image remains in the mind--
those peonies

Yosa Buson (1716-1783)

*chirite nochi
omokage ni tatsu
botan kana*

Board Meeting – June 18 at 10AM via Zoom. Please submit your Annual Report [Annual Report Template 2024-2025](#) [Standing Rules Adopted 06.18.2024](#)

Annual Luncheon – June 25 at San Diego Yacht Club – Reserve Your Spot Now!



June 25 Luncheon 11AM – Be sure to make your reservation now. We will enjoy a delightful lunch and views at the San Diego Yacht Club. Price is \$55. Our theme is “We are One.”

This year we will have a special treat. Our table centerpieces are gorgeous ceramic containers made by Rose, Ginger, and Carole that will be gifted to six lucky people.

Please make your reservation and see the attached flyer.”

Hope to see you there,
Chris Jones



57th Annual Luncheon
Wednesday, June 25th at 11 a.m.
By Invitation Only

“We are One”
Our ikebana focus on heaven, earth, and man links us to spirit, nature and each other.

Guests welcome and complimentary parking
Details in the Newsletter and Website




Report on May 28 General Meeting – Sachiko Kohatsu (Ikenobo) created stunning arrangements with materials from Mrs. Oehler’s back yard. Following that we enjoyed delightful Koto music by Yuki Easter and Kumiko Esparza.

“Dear Friends,

Please join all your I.I. friends and non-member guests at our Annual I.I. Luncheon to be held at the San Diego Yacht Club (SDYC) on Wednesday, June 25th. We will meet in the Spinnaker Room located at 1011 Anchorage Lane, Point Loma, at 11 AM.

Our menu this year is your choice of a SDYC Cobb Salad, Southwestern Power Bowl or a Shrimp Louie. The price is \$55 per person and includes bread and butter, iced tea, dessert, tax and tip. Plus, complimentary parking. Please register before June 9th.





Japanese Friendship Garden & Museum

Tokonoma photos from April: Please contact Debbie Warriner at dswarriner.sd@gmail.com for information.

<https://www.niwa.org/>

<https://www.ikebanasandiego.org/gallery#tokonoma-arrangers>

The following members are scheduled to make arrangements for the Japanese Friendship Garden & Museum's Exhibition House Tokonoma space:

June 5-7 Ginger Truschke

June 12-15 Chris Jones

June 19-22 Deborah Warriner

June 26-29 Judy Clifton

A reminder email and instructions will be sent the week before your scheduled installation. If you have any questions or need to reschedule, please contact Deborah Warriner (619-665-3563) as soon as possible. Thank you for your participation!



Sachiko Kohatsu



Report on April 23 Ikebana Day 2025

Ikebana Day was established by **Japan Ikebana Art Association** in 2020. It was based on the ancient Japanese concept that **June 6** at the age 6, in the sixth month, and on the 6th day is a good day to start any traditional art lessons. We celebrated this special day at our April meeting.

See the Video:

[Ikebana Day 2025](#)



Jeff Fine



Sue Elsayeh



Vina Saycocie



Sharon Bristow



Visit our Website and Social Pages –
<https://www.ikebanasandiego.org/> - Remember to check the Members Only section for updates.
Contact JLVONH@gmail.com for password



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Ikebana-International-San-Diego-Chapter-119-312812938756549/>



Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/sandiegoikebana/>



YouTube <https://youtube.com/@ikebanainternationalsandiego>



From the Editor – If you have announcements or suggestions for the next newsletter, please email me at gingert@san.rr.com



In Memoriam – June Mason



In Memoriam



June Mason

1923 - 2025

June Mason began learning ikebana with a Sogetsu teacher while living in Japan (her husband was stationed there with the U.S. military). She continued her studies with Sensei Sumiko Lahey after relocating to San Diego.

She joined the San Diego Chapter of Ikebana International in 1971 and participated in many local exhibitions including our Chapter's Spring Show, Holiday Showcases, and the North American Regional Conference held in San Diego in 1988. June was a talented ikebana practitioner who also participated in Art Alive.

June served as the Chapter Liaison to the Japanese Friendship Garden in 2002-2003 when our members created Tokonoma arrangements every other week. She also held origami classes as part of the Chapter's Related Arts program.

June was an active member until she relocated to an assisted living residence and transportation to meetings became too difficult, but she continued her membership in our Chapter until her death this Spring of 2025 at age 102.

Ishiba's cabinet approval rating dropped to an all-time low of 27.4%, as voters grow increasingly discontent with the administration's failure to address soaring rice prices and rejection of consumption tax cuts in response to rising inflation, according to a Kyodo News poll.

While Japan's agriculture ministry has been trying to curb soaring prices by releasing government stockpiles, the move has yielded little effect in reining in prices.



Rice prices in around 1,000 supermarkets nationwide reportedly climbed to all-times high in the week ending May 11. Prices for a 5-kilogram bag of rice rose 54 yen week-on-week to 4,268 yen (\$29.63)

“Following Japan's rice shortage and subsequent high prices in summer 2024, prices have continued to soar, despite the arrival of the new domestic crop and record imports,” the U.S. Department of Agriculture said in a March report.

The spike in rice prices reflects the lingering effects of poor harvests last year, with domestic rice consumption being overwhelmingly supported by local production rather than imports, said HSBC's chief Asia economist Frederic Neumann.

Straining the supply side issue is the fact that rice in Japan is produced mostly by elderly people running small farms, so they're not very efficient, said Sayuri Shirai, a professor of economics under Keio University's faculty of policy management, who added that the number of farmers are also dropping with the ageing population.

“Japanese like Japanese rice. They don't really like foreign rice,” she said. Japan's rice economy remains fairly isolated from the world market, with stiff duties on imported rice aimed at protecting its rice farmers.

To make matters worse, demand for Japanese rice has skyrocketed on the back of high tourist footfall, the professor noted.

The sharp increase in rice prices is also partly attributable to panic-driven hoarding by both households and businesses, said Takuji Okubo, chief economist at Japan Macro Advisors. While some retailers announced plans to import rice, unfamiliarity with imported rice among both consumers and businesses makes it unlikely that such imports will meaningfully alleviate the supply-demand imbalance, he told CNBC.

Japan's inflation rose 3.6% year on year in March. Although the figure was lower than the 3.7% seen in February, it still marked three straight years that the headline inflation figure has remained above the Bank of Japan's 2% target.

“That is very high compared to the U.S. or Europe,” said Shirai, who added that Japan's inflation picture has more to do with cost pressures that are mostly derived from food prices. “That is why a lot of consumers are very angry,” Shirai said. Additionally, the cheap yen also makes food imports expensive, she noted.

Japan imports about 60% of its food supply, according to food sourcing and data hub Tridge. The country also has a food self-sufficiency rate of 38%, compared with the government's target of 45% by fiscal 2030.



Japan's farm minister said he has never had to buy rice. That cost him his job.

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/05/21/japan-minister-resigns-after-backlash-on-rice-remarks.html>

Japan's farm minister Taku Eto stepped down recently, domestic media reported, following public outrage over his comments on getting free rice.

Eto said that he has never had to buy rice as he received ample amounts of the grain as gifts from supporters — a comment that struck a nerve with locals struggling with rocketing prices of the beloved staple.

Japan has been grappling with soaring rice prices for months as inclement weather and the country's long-held policy to protect local farmers' interests crimps supplies.

Taku's resignation comes at a time when Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba's government has been grappling with low approval ratings ahead of a pivotal Upper House election this summer and ongoing tariff negotiations with the U.S. NHK World reported that former Environment Minister Koizumi Shinjiro will succeed Eto.