



**Illinois Prairie Chapter
Ikenobo Ikebana Society of America
July 2013**

The Arranger

2303 Seaton Court, Champaign, Illinois 61821-6623

July 2013, issue

Enjoying Ikenobo Ikebana 2013 Visiting Professor Workshops



Special Visiting Professor Mayumi Chino arranges freestyle at the South Five Chapter workshops in Nashville (above)
Arranging shimputai shoka (below right)
Finished arrangements (above right, middle right, below)



on the cover: first time lotus blooms in my garden



Student work from the Nashville workshop



In June a few Illinois Prairie members were able to travel to Nashville to enjoy workshops from the Spring Special Visiting Professor Mayumi Chino. It is always a delight and educational to receive lessons from the visiting professors. Illinois Prairie Chapter will be hosting workshops September 7th and 8th with this years second visiting professor, Toshiko Kobiki (left). Reservation forms for these special workshops are included in this newsletter.

Here is some information from headquarters about Professor Kobiki; “ Professor Kobiki began her study of Ikenobo ikebana in 1971, and in 1993, she graduated from the Advanced Course at the Ikenobo Central Training Institute, Ikenobo Headquarters, Kyoto. She has since completed the Special Advanced Courses in Rikka and Free Style at the Ikenobo Central Training Institute. Professor Kobiki has participated in many Ikenobo events outside of Japan, including in Taipei, Taiwan, and recently in Seattle and Boston in the United States.”

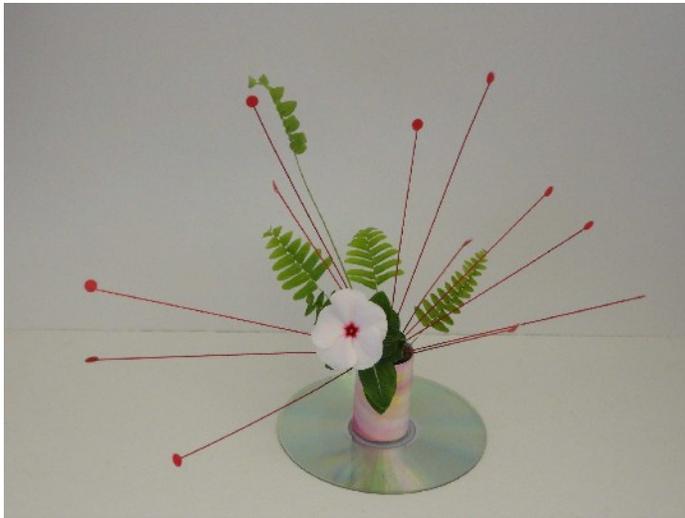


Prairie spring workshops in 2013 have been abundant. Members could participate in extravaganzas of freestyle and shoka. At Japan House Kimiko Gunji presented a series of freestyle workshops including, modifying leaves, miniature, relief, mobile, and centerpiece freestyle. Jeanne Holy presented a shoka series at her home, isshuike, nishuike, sanshuike, futakabu-ike, and shimputai. The

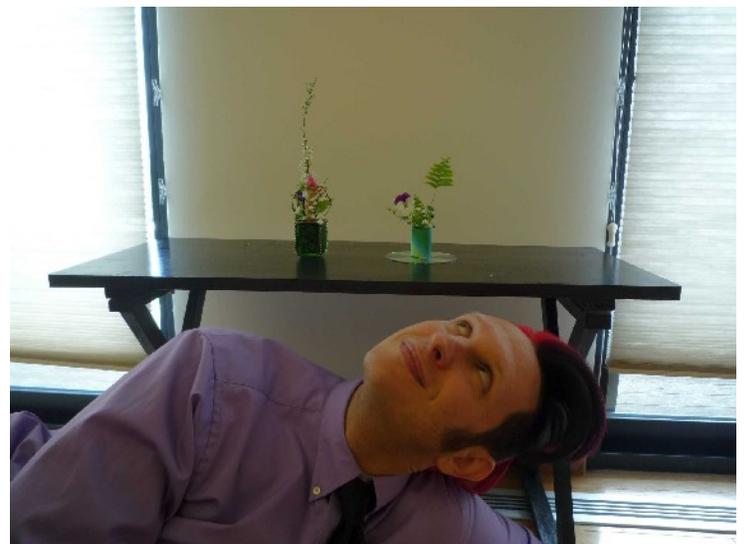
following pages are photos from those workshops. If you would like to see all the photos go to: <http://www.prairieikebana.org/workshops.html>



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Top Row: relief freestyle L-R: Barbara Warters, Jane Mangrum, Jeanne Holy
 Right: modified leaves jiyuka by Anna Hulting
 Above: Kimiko Gunji – mini freestyle
 Below Right: Marc-Anthony Macon helps shows how big, small? “mini” is
 Below: centerpiece freestyle by Andrea Bohn





Virgie Young



Kimiko Gunji



Aurora Villacorta



Maki Ostrander

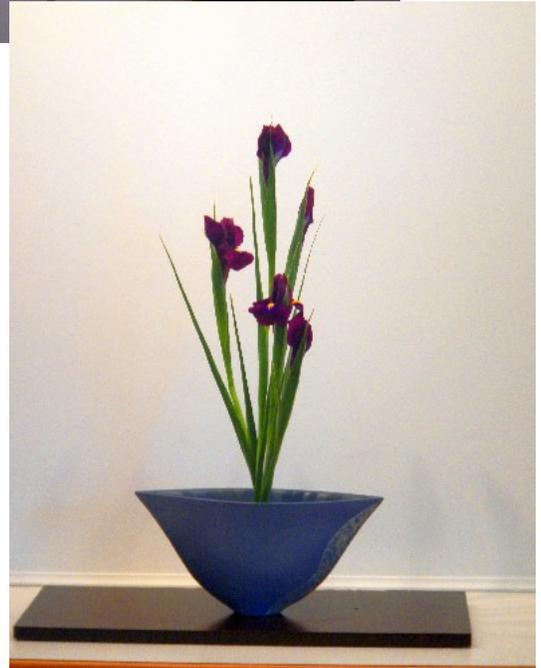


above: isshuike of iris by Yolanda Marinas-Kaliia'a
middle right: Scott Anderson Jr. (*shoka man*)
lower right: Kate Dobrovolney's isshuike



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you will find all of the workshop photos at:
<http://www.prairieikebana.org/workshops.html>
to view the notes from the shoka series go to:
<http://www.prairieikebana.org/workshops.html>



N I S H U I K E



N I J U I K E



S A N S H U I K E



Top: nishuike by Helen Zhang, nijuike by Jeanne Holy
center: sanshuike by Charissa Lansing, shoka group
Below: gyodo-ike by Nancy Bank Allen sui-riku-ike by Jeanne Holy



G Y O D O I K E



S U I R I K U I K E

F U T A K A B U I K E

SHOKA SHIMPUTAI



Kathleen Zanotti used giant allium from her garden for shu.

Shoka Shimputai by Nancy Bank Allen shows what a difference one material makes.

Congratulations to the many members who studied hard and received the diplomas listed below.

Shoden: Patricia Lloyd, Elizabeth Stern (right)

Kaiden: Patty Nisbet, Joan Volkmann, Kathleen Zanotti

Kasho: Al Marx

Junkakyo: Anna Hulting, Maki Ostrander

Junkako: Jane Mangrum, Aurora Villacorta

Kakyo: Bonnie Allan, Ann Chan

Sokakan: Jeanne Holy, Betty Lankford, Maribeth Price



Many of you know that my mother passed away recently. I am very appreciative for all the thoughts, prayers, and love that I have received from you, my Ikebana family. With your gift certificate I have planted a Japanese maple next to where we had to cut down a huge silver maple earlier this year. I really can't express how important all of you are in my life. I am truly grateful to my Mother for passing on to me her passionate relationship with nature. The following story is a tribute to her.

*I sincerely thank you all,
Jeanne Holy*

I just want to be with the flowers

Ever since I was a little girl I just wanted to be with the flowers. My mom always liked to plant flowers in the yard. There were marigolds and zinnia, roses, daffodils, lily of the valley, and exotic things called poppies. Like any child I didn't know what their names were but knew I loved them.

When I moved into my first house as a new mother, I planted seeds – marigolds – in a little rectangular area just outside the front door. But the result was somewhat disappointing with a few scraggly sprouts and maybe one or two orange bed-headed flowers. I asked my mom what happened and she said; “Well... maybe if you take some of that gravel out and add dirt, and try watering them once in while...they might do better.”

At my next house, with baby number two, I ordered two hundred tulip bulbs. I dug up a sixty foot long trench along side the busy thoroughfare we lived on. The following spring was a glorious riot of alternating yellow, red, and orange. That house was an old three story farm house. From the kitchen I would go out the back door to a wide concrete



walkway that led to the separate garage. The walkway was covered by a trellis and in turn the trellis was covered by some kind of leaves and branches. Like the house the trellis was old but not rickety. That trellis had legs, tree trunk legs. Over the

years the tree legs had hugged the supporting wood posts, grown around them and were now pulling the posts out of the ground by their twisting forces. In spring came waterfalls of purple flowers cascading down for the bees who loved them. I loved them too,



and asked my mother what are these things. “Oh that's wisteria.” She breathed in... “Wisteria smells so sweet.”

At my present home, even though my three sons are men and on their own for years, the nest is not empty. I have marigolds, and tulips and wisteria, and new additions

every year. I told my man kids, they owe me nine months of labor, each.

My youngest has made the most progress in reimbursing me. Three weekends straight he dug through dirt, and clay and gravel. He trenched out and cordoned off twenty-five feet of prime real estate just outside my front door, for a bamboo garden. His next older brother built me a cutting garden. It went in where decades past, vegetables grew. He took out all the weeds, added a weed barrier, and mulched around the red twig dogwood, French and black pussy willow, prunus and smoke bush, spirea, azalea, and other inspiring ikebana material. He built a new border around the garden, wood timbers alternating with concrete crescent designs, resembling Japanese crests, and four dragonfly corners. Anytime he happens by the cutting garden, he stops to pull out any renegade weed that sneaked past his barrier. My oldest built me a fountain, small pond actually, in the planter outside my kitchen doors in full view of morning coffee drinking.

Last summer I planted a lotus root in that fountain. It looked good for a while but then appeared it would not survive, so I got another one. The second lotus did much better, and like a friend rooting you on when your down, the first lotus came back. By the end of summer both were prolifically generating aerial leaves, but no flowers. I wasn't worried about it. I had become more experienced and patient in gardening and knew from research this was the norm. I also knew that I had to protect them from freezing.

So late last fall I covered the fountain with two layers of bamboo poles and placed a round glass table top from an old patio table on top of that. Then came bags of packing peanuts for insulation, all covered with plastic sheets, all held down by bricks. There was an early frost that made me nervous, so I added a bird bath heater for redundancy. I was rewarded this spring with both roots sending out coin leaves and then aerial leaves and I am hoping they will flower this season.

A couple of weeks ago I went to Nashville for the South Five Ikenobo Chapter Special Visiting

Professor workshops. I go every June. This year will be the last time for Nashville. My good friend and South Five president, Betty, is moving to Illinois.



Instead of six car hours of separation, we are talking five minutes. I am so happy and excited that this is happening, but the fun times we have had over the years in Nashville makes it bittersweet. Just a few years ago my mom rode down and back with me to Betty's house. She wanted to visit a friend of hers who lived in Tennessee. It wasn't the first time we had been on a road trip together. When Nobu Kurashige, the first lady visiting professor came to America to teach, I traveled to as many places as I could taking lessons from her. My husband accused me of stalking Kurashige sensei and sensei herself named me her *borrowed student*. As I studied the schedule in the teachers book, I saw there were three workshops in Florida; Suncoast Chapter, Naples, and the South Florida Chapter, and lucky me, my mother lived in Florida at the time. I flew down to Tampa where my mom picked me up at the airport. We traveled from one Ikenobo event to another, enjoying Ikenobo exhibitions, demonstrations, workshops, and time together. We were even invited to dinner at Mrs. Lefcourte's along with Kurashige sensei and another mother and

daughter from the New York area. Mom drank Japanese beer, ate Japanese food and used chopsticks for the first time in her life. On my drive down to Nashville I was thinking about my road trips with mom. I remember stopping at an Illinois rest stop where mother pointed at some beautiful blooming shrubbery. "Isn't that pretty. I wonder what it is." Without hesitation I stated "That's cranberry viburnum." "Really?" She asked me with a credulous eyebrow and amused face, as if I was pulling her leg. "Yes really... and I knooooow because when Mary Jo and I used to go walking we always saw this stand of bushes which were super healthy and get really pretty berries in the fall... so we looked it up and found out that they were cranberry viburnum... and Mary Jo even planted a whole row in her yard" *so there!* I felt like I had to explain myself. My mom backed up a half a step, smiled and said "OK. If you say so."

Workshops in Nashville were great. I had cut cattails, and iris leaves and hosta, Japanese spirea, maple and smoke bush and what seemed like half the neighborhoods flora to bring with me. Betty's friend Mary had cut blue, pink, and purple hydrangea, trumpet vine, and wild flowers. Kesami-san from Chattanooga

brought roses and nandina, variegated euonymus and more. For the last time I cut striped eualia, magnolia, and aucuba from 1010 Grassland Lane. Even with all the cut material, we decided we should make one run to the wholesaler. I found the most beautiful agapanthus waiting for me there and used it for shu in my shimputai rikka the next day.



My Nashville Ikenobo Sisters and me

At the end of the first day of workshops I noticed I had a message on my cell phone. It was the nursing home. They wanted to let me know that mother had stopped eating and drinking. “Actively dying” is what they called it. I knew that. She had been working on it for quite a while now. But what I didn't know is what am I supposed to do now. Who is going to tell me.

One by one and together my Ikenobo sisters surrounded me. They told me their stories, gave me their strength, their shoulders, their love. In her best *Southern Way* Betty explained that she needed to get to Illinois so if it was all right could she ride back with me. We took off next day afternoon, me driving, but too soon I was exhausted and Betty took over. Six hours by car. Six hours to rest and be restless, think and feel, remember and wonder what will be and what won't be when I get home.

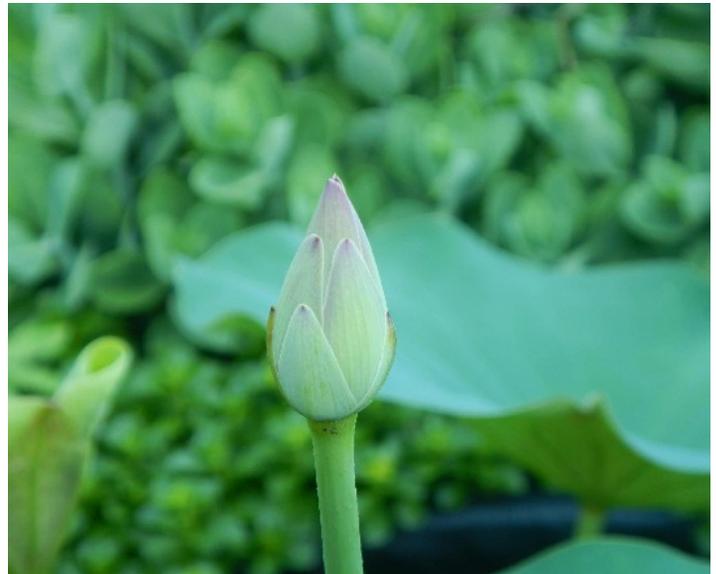
I finally did fall asleep and when I woke up the sun was setting. It was a Midwest sunset; just enough scattered clouds in the otherwise clear blue sky, making it clear to foreigners why people live in Illinois. Soon the sun was below the horizon and I felt as if we were riding along in a shallow bowl, its rim a soft glowing pink. Betty was concentrating on driving and there was some mellow something playing on the radio. All around me were fields of soybeans and corn in ordered rows.

I breathed in... and smelled *home*, as the “Champaign County” marker sped past us. Twenty minutes out. I'm close. The moon appeared in front of us, high in the sky, a waxing crescent moon, surrounded by stars. Twilight. I breathed out ...and felt a twinge. I reached into my pocket and pulled out a Kleenex to wipe the wetness off my face. I wasn't crying.

After I dropped off Betty, I got the call. Twenty minutes ago, would you like to come by, I don't know.



In the morning I took my coffee on the back steps enjoying another beautiful day with lotus leaves. I grabbed the bottle of plant tablets and gently pushed one in near one of the roots, and then went around to the other side of the planter to find a place near the other root. The leaves were in the way and I didn't want to hurt them so I carefully pushed them aside, and there she was, my first lotus bud.



A note about workshops.

Earlier this year there were two series of workshops. A freestyle series at Japan House and a shoka series at Jeanne Holy's house. This worked out very well and we are going to continue to expand and offer choices for you to attend series workshops or individual workshops at Japan House or Holy House. Gunji



Enjoying Ikenobo Ikebana at Japan House

Sensei will teach the Japan House series, and Jeanne will offer two introductory classes to Ikenobo Ikebana, and an intermediate shoka series at her home. Additionally there will be Special Visiting Professor workshops by Toshiko Kobiki September 6 and 7, and a rikka workshop in November. The August workshops are focusing on freestyle and shoka and basic classes for review and beginners. By participating in those classes you will be prepared to attend the visiting professor workshops on freestyle and shoka. Please take advantage of your



Enjoying Ikenobo Ikebana at Holy House

AUGUST

August 10
Holy House
Beginning Freestyle
1:00 – 3:30

Aug 17
Japan House
Shofutai Shoka
9:30 - noon

August 31
Holy House
Beginning Shoka
1:00 – 3:30

SEPTEMBER

Special Visiting Professor
Toshiko Kobiki

September 7
Japan House
Shoka 9:00 - noon

September 7
Japan House
Freestyle 1:00 – 3:30 pm

September 8
Japan House
Shimputai Rikka 10:00 – 3:00 pm

SEPTEMBER

September 21
Holy House
Isshu-ike
1:00 – 3:30

OCTOBER

October 5
Holy House
Nishu-ike
1:00 – 3:30

October 12
Japan House
shimputai shoka
9:30 - noon

October 26
Holy House
Maze-ike
1:00 – 3:30

NOVEMBER

Nov 2
Japan House
Shofutai Rikka
9:00 – 2:00

November 9
Holy House
Shimputai Shoka
1:00 – 3:30

Nov 16
Japan House
Naturalistic Freestyle
9:30 - noon

DECEMBER

Dec 14
Japan House
creative freestyle
9:30 - noon

choices and help recruit new members for our chapter. In August guest fees will be waved to encourage new members. Bring a friend who has been wanting try ikebana. With the basic and beginning workshops it is the perfect month to begin down the path of *kado*. the flower way.

Questions?... please contact Jeanne at
jholly@prairieikebana.org
217-637-5221

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Illinois Prairie Chapter Fall 2013 Regular Workshops Reservation Form Shoka and Freestyle Workshops at Japan House

*Workshops will be held at **Japan House** on Saturday mornings. All floral materials will be provided. Attend the series or sign up for individual workshops. Recommended for all students. RSVP by August 14*

I will attend the Japan House workshop series () members \$60 \$ _____

I will attend the following individual Japan House workshops

Aug 17: 9:30-noon shofutai shoka review () members \$15 non-members \$15 \$ _____

Oct 12: 9:30-noon shimputai shoka () members \$15 non-members \$25 \$ _____

Nov 16: 9:30-noon naturalistic freestyle () members \$15 non-members \$25 \$ _____

Dec 14: 9:30-noon creative freestyle () members \$15 non-members \$25 \$ _____

Introduction to Ikenobo Ikebana Classes at Holy House

*Classes are for beginners with little or no experience, or those who want to review. Basic philosophy, principles, handling floral materials, vases, and tools will be discussed. All floral materials will be provided and vases and tools will be available for use. The course will also prepare you for Visiting Professor workshops in September should you like to attend. All workshops will be held at the home of **Jeanne Holy, 2303 Seaton Ct., Champaign, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. RSVP by August 7, 2013***

Aug 10: 1-3:30 pm introduction to ikebana- freestyle () \$15 \$ _____

Aug 31: 1-3:30 pm introduction to ikebana- shoka () \$15 \$ _____

Shofutai Rikka Workshop at Japan House

All floral material will be provided. Recommended for members of Ikenobo Ikebana with 24 or more lessons.

Nov 2: 9:00 -2:00 pm members \$25 () \$ _____

Intermediate Shoka Series at Holy House

*This course is for members who have taken the spring shoka series or know basic shoka. The series will introduce some more advanced concepts. The workshops will be held at the home of **Jeanne Holy, 2303 Seaton Ct., Champaign, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.** Space is limited so preference will be given to those who sign up for the series. All floral materials will be provided and container, kenzan, and hasami will be available for use during class. RSVP by Sept. 14, 2013*

I will attend the intermediate shoka series () members \$60 \$ _____

I will attend the following individual workshops in the shoka series

Sep 21: :00-3:30 pm *isshuike* () members \$15 \$ _____

Oct 5: 1:00-3:30 pm *nishuike* () members \$15 \$ _____

Oct 26: 1:00-3:30 pm *maze-ike* () members \$15 \$ _____

Nov 9: 1:00-3:30 pm *shimputai* () members \$15 \$ _____

Name: _____ total enclosed \$ _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check the workshops you will attend, and enclose your check, payable to Illinois Prairie Chapter.
Mail to: Jeanne Holy, 2303 Seaton Ct., Champaign, IL 61821

**Fall 2013 Special Visiting Professor Workshops with Toshiko Kobiki
Reservation Form**

Saturday, September 7, 2013 - 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (lunch noon – 1:00)

Morning - Shoka Shofutai 9:00 am – noon (setup 9:00 – 9:30)

bring a shoka container, kenzan, hasami, and gravel if necessary – recommended for all levels

Afternoon – Freestyle 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm (clean up 3:30 – 4:00)

bring a freestyle container, hasami, and kenzan, wire, tape, if needed – recommended for all levels

Sunday, September 8, 2013 - Shimputai Rikka

9:30 am - 3:30 pm (setup 9:30 – 10:00, lunch noon-1:00, cleanup 3:30 – 4:00)

bring a rikka container, kenzan, wire cutter, wire and tape – this workshop is recommended for students with experience in rikka shofutai but if you would like to observe only you may do so for \$10 fee

Workshops will be held at Japan House and all floral materials will be provided. Parking is available in the south lot. Please return your reservation by September 1, 2012. Make checks payable to Illinois Prairie Chapter and mail to: Illinois Prairie Chapter, 2303 Seaton Ct., Champaign, IL 61821-6623

Check all the appropriate boxes below – please note there is a discount for attending multiple workshops.

I will attend all Saturday and Sunday workshops () \$100 \$ _____

I will attend both Saturday workshops () \$60 \$ _____

I will attend the Saturday morning Shoka Workshop () \$35 \$ _____

I will attend the Saturday afternoon Freestyle Workshop () \$35 \$ _____

I will attend the Sunday Shimputai Rikka Workshop () \$60 observe () \$10 \$ _____

Please order lunch for me for Saturday* () \$12 **for Sunday*** () \$12 \$ _____
(you may order a box lunch, bring your own, or go out)

total enclosed \$ _____

* If ordering lunch please choose choose a sandwich, salad, or ½ of each – Panera menu enclosed

Saturday Lunch Sandwich _____

Salad _____

Sunday Lunch Sandwich _____

Salad _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____