

Elberton, Georgia/Mure-cho, Japan
Sister City Exchange Program

Alumni Booklet
1994-2003



1994



Mure-cho Group:
Ryohei Ikeda
Kosuke Arioka
Ryohei Yanagihara
Atsuko Kondo
Yuki Kunihisa
Naoko Nakamura
Tomoko Nakajima
Takashi Kinoshita.



Elberton Group:
Jill Bessinger
Sara Jaudon
Josh Maxwell
Jackie Seymour
Michael Stovall
Hannah Gulley
Danny Bessinger



1995



Mure-cho Group: Miko Nishimura, Koji Yamada, Mayu Bando, Kenta Matsuoka, Yoriko Maeda, Ikuyo Wada, Hiromi Otani, Hironori Okamata. Yumiko Kotake and Sachiyo Murakawa .



Elberton Group:
Laura McAvoy
Heather Edwards
Candace Porter
Sara McGhie
Katie Eckler,
Cathy Robinson
Jason Cunningham
Jared Mills
Elizabeth Hardy
Nicole Summerour
Lamar Scott
Richie Eckler



1995

Mure Stone Culture Park Dedication



The Mure Stone Culture Park in Mure-cho opened with great fanfare on March 19, 1995.

Tom Evans, Sr., Danny Bessinger and Tom Robinson were delighted to take part in the dedication ceremony.

The museum focuses on the history of stone in Mure and its culture.

The park sits above the town, and there are more than a dozen stone sculptures on its grounds.



1996



Elberton Group:
Jan Gaines
Jennifer Kohl
Catherine Dennis
Nathan Wright
Valarie Bennett
Lindsey Paine
Judy Turner

Mure-cho Group:
Yusuke Shizuka
Hoshimi Baba
Ichiro Nakayama
Taiga Murai
Kaoru Onishi
Yuko Ikehira
Ryuichiro Hirata
Akihito Fushimi
Amemi Okawa
Kousei Yamaji



1997



Elberton Group:
Kerri Bessinger
Kip Lovinggood
George Bond
Russell Jarvis
Julie Robinson
Laura Yetzena
Mrs. P Jo Phelps

Mure-cho Group: Seiya
Kajimoto, Machiko Kawada,
Saori Matsushita, Kazumasa
Ota, Sayuri Fujita, Mariko
Nakatsukasa, Yuriko Ota,
Tateki Saeki, Ms. Kimi Onoue,
& Mr. Toshihiro Akiyama.

JAPAN

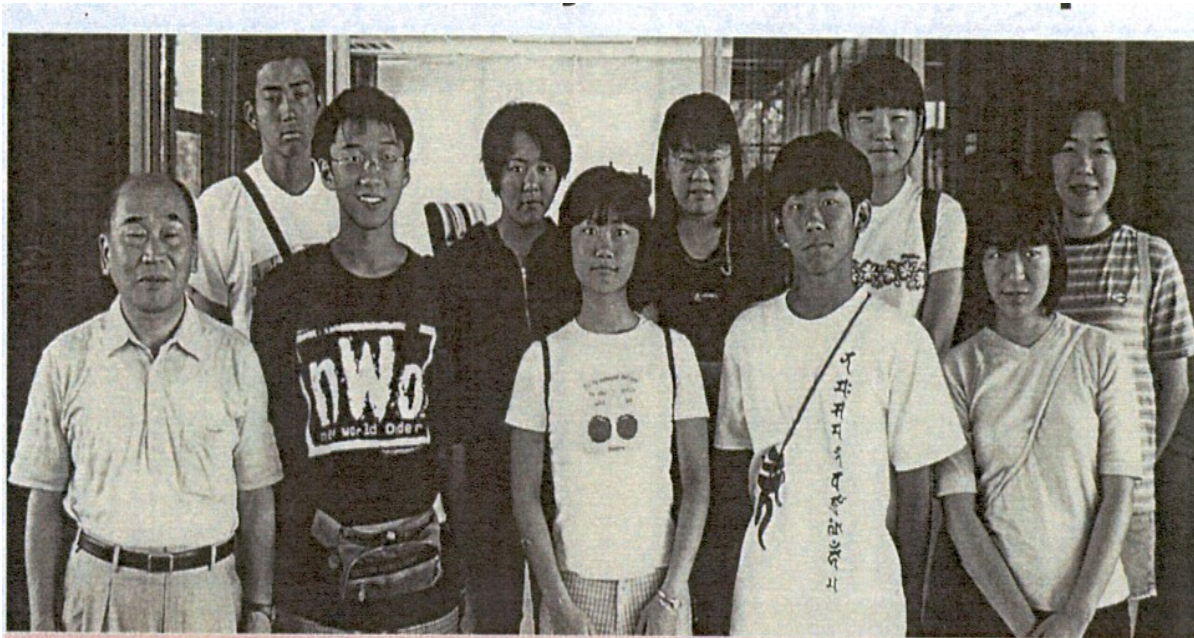


1998

Elberton Group: Stephanie Fulbright, Anna Piedilato, Jeana Phelps, Bret Norman, Jimmy Blackmon, Kyle Lovinggood, & Chaperone Penny (Norman) Langston.

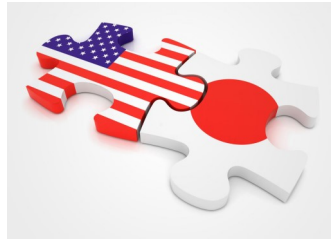


Mure-cho Group: Syuhei Arioka, Takeshi Ota, Yuka Konobu, Erina Hirata, Naoki Furuichi, H. Nakamura, Mei Fujitsuka, Yuko Matsura, Noiko Kagawa and Hisashi Inou.

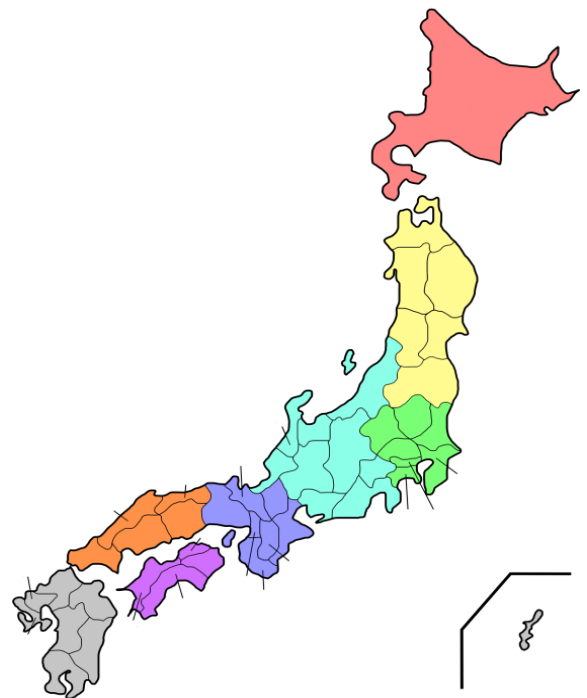


1998

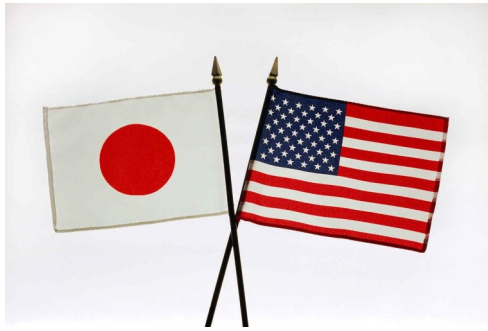
Employee Exchange Program



Mr. Jimmy Welborn & Hiroshi Sato were the first employees to participate in the Employee Exchange program with the City of Elberton and Mure-cho, Japan.



1998



Mure-cho, Japan hosted the 15th Anniversary of the Sister City Program.



Representatives from Elberton, GA—Rick Prince, D. Scott Wilson, Nancy Whitworth, Jackson McConnell, Lamar Scott, Bobby G. Hunt, Sue Cone, Judy Turner, Joel Seymour and Tom Evans, Sr.



1999



Mure-cho group:
Ayumi Izumi
Kunihiro Oba
Umi Shirakawa
Taizo Yamahana
Sachiyo Ikeda
Seiko Konishi
Takuya Seagusa
Fumi Murakawa
Nobuku Furusawa
Ikumi Tanikawa

Elberton group:
Allen Dixon
Keith Higginbotham
Laura Mercer
Theuri Mwangi
Amber Wright
Lauren Moody
Bob and Pat Goss
(chaperones)



1999

Employee Exchange Program



Mure-cho, Japan—Mr. Yoshihiro Nakamura represented Mure Town in the 2nd Employee Exchange. His daughter Hiromi accompanied him on his visit to Elberton.

Elberton, GA—Mrs. Cindy Churney arrived in Mure, cho, Japan on October 4, 1999 for a 17 day learning experience.



2000



Mure-cho group:
Kozuna Akiyama
Yukumi Ikeda
Naoka Ohisi
Kayoko Ota
Keisuke Ota
Ayaka Kimura
Emi Kosaka
Yoshifumi Fujita
Kazuhiro Ideshita
Etsumi Suyama



Elberton Group:
Kathy Payne
Lance Dye
Franklin Whitworth
Lauren Dye
Molly Mercer
Nathan Wiles
Sandra Wilson



2000

Employee Exchange Program



Mr. Mark LeFevre represented the City of Elberton in the 3rd Employee Exchange with Mure-cho, Japan.



Mr. Teruhiko Fujii arrived from Mure-cho in February to represent Mure Town.



2001



Elberton Group:
Hannah Snider
Alan Turner
Keri Lovinggood
Jamie Colvard
Emily Moody
Jami Steele
Ann Lloyd



Mure-cho group: Yoka Ino, Junko Tokioka, Akiyo Murakawa, Akira Ochiai, Mari Ikeda, Saki Takahashi & Ikuyo Iida.



2001

Employee Exchange Program



Mr. Greg Johnson represented the City of Elberton for the 4th employee exchange with Mure-cho, Japan.



Mr. Noriaki Nakamura spent 17 days in Elberton learning about various services offered to the citizens.



2002

Mure-cho group: Iwasawa Yuko, Higashiyama Asami, Nakamura Yuki, Morikawa Mio, Shimamoto Saki, Yamada Hiroshi & Kawanishi Miho.

Elberton group: Pierce Hodges, Casie Wacaser, Crystal Rowland, Kyra Payton, & Twyla Lovinggood

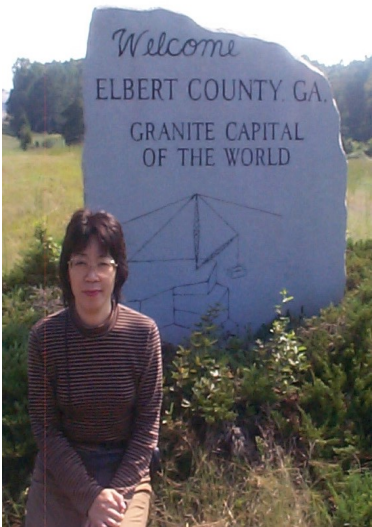


2002

Employee Exchange Program



Mr. Benjie Cain and Mrs. Kazuko Kodama were the 5th employees to participate in the employee exchange program with the City of Elberton and Murecho, Japan.



2003



Elberton group:
Tyler Herring, Dustin Ayers, Hannah Anderson, Nadine Wright & Dwain Wright.



Mure-cho Group: Konda Kaori, Nishikawa Chiaki, Higashi Kentarou, Kagawa Sintarou, Inoue Naoto, Hiormi Okioka, Kamei Syuhei, Yuko Tokioka & Hiormi Tokioka.



2003



20th Anniversary



This year, Elberton-Mure-cho Sister City Program celebrated its 20th Anniversary. Visitors from Mure-cho arrived in Elberton for a week to celebrate this momentous occasion.



During their visit the Mure representatives toured the High School, Athens Technical Institute, an Elementary School, Middle School, Tree Planting Ceremony, Granite Monument Dedication Ceremony, Granite Association Guide stones and Museum, Richard B. Russell, Historic Homes, and the Downtown Shopping area.