



November 23, 2016

NALC Holland *Newsletter vol.2*

Report: the successful opening ceremony of NALC Holland

The opening ceremony of NALC Holland was held on the 24th of September 2016. More than 50 people attended this ceremony which was held in Amstelveen. Hereby the summary of this event.



Part 1

① **Speech by Mr. Ton Millenaar; the Chairman of Nalc Holland, Chairperson of Wel nu**

As the Representative of NALC Holland it is my great honour to welcome you to this Opening Ceremony.

From the first moment I was informed about the possibilities of Time-banking, I became interested because it gives the opportunity to people to support each other in an equal way. Even vulnerable people are able to help other people in an interdependent way. This is what is called: Reciprocity; which gives everybody Dignity. Once we spoke with the members of the Nippon Active Life Club in Japan who apply Time-banking (called in Japanese: Fureai Kippu), I became more and more enthusiastic because I could see that this works in practise. Especially the support can be organized on a small scale and local base and the "earned time" can be used for relatives who are living far away.

I spoke about this with Japanese people who are living in Holland. At that time, some people said "I would like to contribute to the Dutch society as I live here." "I am happy to do volunteer works, but I do not know how" We discussed the possibilities to do some volunteer work in the local community in Holland. Then we asked the key-people of NALC Japan if it is allowed to use the "earned time" in Japan. Step-by-step we could make an agreement which has been finally signed in an official contract.

Together we found the real meaning of the Quote: **"Think globally and act locally."**

② **Video Message from Mr. K. Takahata; the chairman of NALC Japan**

Thanks to the many works done by the enthusiastic preparation committee members, Nalc Holland is officially started. On behalf of the all members of Nalc Japan I would like to congratulate to you all. NALC Holland is just started. From now on the communication between Japan and Holland will be very important. Doing volunteer works for the people who needs help -the elder people and people with disabilities- makes you active. You actively contribute to the society. Furthermore, what NALC famous for is the "Time Banking." You do the volunteer work for example for one hour. You receive then one point, in place of money. The point that you saved are to be used when you need help in the future, or, you can send that point to your family. I hope that NALC Holland will continue its contribution to the society using this unique "Time banking" system.

③ Speech by Ms. Maaike Veenigen; the city counsellor Amstelveen

There are many Japanese living in Amstelveen and the local government of Amstelveen is trying to offer these people safe and good living circumstances. This new volunteer group: NALC Holland provides nice way of living in between the Japanese and the Dutch society. I would like to congratulate the opening of NALC Holland and I wish you all a big succes.

④ Message from Mr. Shigenobu Yada; the Consulaat Generaal, the Japanese Embassy

Congratulations with the opening of NALC Holland. NALC Holland has a unique volunteer system: You do volunteer works in the Dutch society and you are able to send that working hours to Japan. I found this quite interesting. At the same time, NALC Holland is just born and she needs to make progress step by step. I hope that NALC Holland will continue its activities showing the beauty of connecting people.

⑤ Introduction of the care organisations where NALC Holland members are working

Amsta, Ons tweede thuis, Zonnehuisgroep Amstelland, VU Hortus, Zorgboerderij Zebra-Zorg

⑥ Speech by Mr. M. Sano; vice chairman, Japanese Chamber of Commerce

Congratulations with the starting of NALC Holland. I am also a member of this group and looking forward doing volunteer work. I hope that NALC Holland will overcome the difficulties and will grow as an organisation.

⑦ Introduction of the care organisations where NALC Holland members are working

Amsta, Ons tweede thuis, Zonnehuisgroep Amstelland, VU Hortus, Zorgboerderij Zebra-Zorg

⑧ Introduction of Nalc Holland Committee members

Chairman: T. Millenaar

Vice Chairman: J. Hoekman

Contact with Nalc Japan: M. Iwasaki-Millenaar

Administration: E. Kannan

Communication: M. Higashi

Organisation: K. Iwasaki

Treasure: K. Matsubara

⑨ Small Concert by Ms. N. Takahashi, Ms. H. Takashiba, Ms. H. Goto

[Sakura / Furusato / Ave Maria / Oh, mio Babbino / Tulipen uit Amsterdam]

⑩ Coffee break



Part 2

⑪ Opening the 2nd part by J. Hoekman

⑫ Message from Dr. M. Hayashi; the leader of Study group of Time-Banking, King's College, London.

Congratulations with the opening of NALC Holland. As the researcher of time banking, I am often interviewed by Media. I am sure that they will pay a lot of attention to the action of NALC Japan as NALC Holland system very unique.

⑬ Explanation of the Nalc Holland system by Joost Hoekman.

He explained how he did the matching of the Janapanese volunteers and the Dutch care organisations.

Stories of the volunteers:

Ms. Takenobu: I cook at the old people's house. Besides the daily fixed menu, I enjoy "My menu day" once a month. On this day I make the menu and cook. The people enjoy that very much. As I could not take care of my parents in Japan, I am happy to take care of these old people here.

Ms. Saito: I support the people with disabilities at the care-center "ons tweede thuis"

We make hand-crafts, like candles, tabel decoration etc. and we sell them at the market twice per year. I also go caring their swimming. They look happy in the water as they can move easily. One lady did not speak to me at all as has difficulties facing a new environment. Finally, after 1,5 years, we talked. I do volunteer works not only for the people, but also, moreover, for myself.

Ms. Higashi: (1) Helping the people at the old people's house like offering them food, or walking around with them. When I do massage someone's shoulder, I feel like doing this to my mother in Japan. You learn many things at the volunteer's meeting. (2) I offer help an old (Dutch-Japanese) couple close to my house. "Even though we are good friends, it is not easy to ask you help. With NALC system, I can ask you easily as we can talk more businesslike" (3) Helping the children at the "care farm" They are happy telling me how to take care of the animals. I was impressed seeing these children caring a child with very heavy difficulties. "Can I act like these children?" I always ask that to myself.



⑭ **Speech by Ms. A. Brown Takenaka, NALC London**

Congratulations with the start of NALC Holland. It is different system from NALC London (where Japanese helps Japanese) NALC Holland has an interesting system. We keep contact and work together.

⑮ **Video message from Ms. A. Molkenboer**

Introduction of time banking using potluk system in New York.



Closing: Thank you for attending this event. Please contact the committee members when you have any interests, or questions. Application forms are available today.

Reception



NALC Holland joined Japan Festival !

Japan Festival was held at the center of Amstelveen on the 23rd of October. Around 20,000 people came to enjoy Japanese food, culture, hand-crafts etc. A big stage was made at the center and there were many performances like Japanese music, dance karate performance, etc. Thanks to the festival organiser, we; NALC Holland committee member got a space to show our activities to the public. We spoke to various Japanese people: people who already knows about our activities, people who did not know us as they just arrived to Holland, people with small children.... For instance, young family with children often have their (old) parents in Japan and they need baby-sitter for themselves here in Holland. In that case, the system of NALC Holland must be quite interesting for them.



Do you maybe know someone who might join us ?

Big Succes ! The 1st POTLUCK party

The 1st potluck party was held on the 6th of Nov. at my house in Amsterdam. 17 people including new faces -some were the people that we spoke at the Japan Festival- joined this open event. People who already has volunteer experience also came to speak. After the self introduction, we listened to the explanation of Welnu and NALC Holland by Joost. We got many questions and we had intensive and progressive discussion. After the discussion time was..... Potluck time! Everyone enjoyed nice food and the atmosphere was very good.

Please let me know in case you can offer your place to the next potluck party.

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Article in Nalc News Japan Newsletter
 (Nalc newspaper, vol 222, 10th of November, 2016)
 “Nalc Holland: the 4th Nalc overseas”



9月24日、ナルクオランダ設立総会が、ナルクオランダの4番目の海外拠点として行われ、4番目の設立総会を開催しました。設立総会には、41名のメンバーが参加し、総勢50名が参加して行われ、4番目の設立総会を開催しました。設立総会には、41名のメンバーが参加し、総勢50名が参加して行われ、4番目の設立総会を開催しました。設立総会には、41名のメンバーが参加し、総勢50名が参加して行われ、4番目の設立総会を開催しました。

代表のA.A.J. Millenaarからのメッセージ
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お祝金を贈呈されるMillenaar代表
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銚子拠点
 千葉科学大学の学生と交流
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On the 24th of September, the 4th NALC overseas, “NALC Holland” was established. 50 people (41 members) joined this event. From NALC Japan we sent video message from Mr. Takahata and we presented money gift to contribute to their start. The speeches/messages from Japanese embassy, city of Amstelveen, Japanese Chamber of Commerce, Time banking researcher, NALC UK followed.

The drinks and the snacks after the ceremony were prepared and served by the people from a Dutch welfare organisation. That fitted in the atmosphere well. Summary of the speech by A.A.J. Millenaar: “ The relationship between Japan and The Netherlands started around 400 years before. It was not only the exchange of culture or medical care, but also the welfare, care for the others. I was very interested in the NALC system which is using the time banking system. Every time that I was in Japan I visited NALC Japan and learned a lot. I spoke to some Japanese people living in Holland and with the Dutch welfare organisations. We integrated the two parties: the Dutch welfare organisations and the Japanese volunteers. I am very happy to announce of the start of NALC Holland and thank to the people who dedicated their energy and time. We are going to speak to younger generation for the continuation of this activities. “ Think globally and act locally”

NALC Holland:
 Chairman: A. A. J. Millenaar
 Chief Administration: E. Kannan
 Contact with Nalc Japan: M. Iwasaki
 41 members
 tel: +31(0)20-6425379

~~ From the treasurer~~

To cover the running cost of Nalc Holland, the annual fee is fixed. That is 22euro. We kindly ask you to pay this amount to the following account:

NL13 INGB 0007 4290 16

Thank you for your kind co-operation.

