



Aviation and Space Youth Activities in Japan – 2003

FAI CIEA Meeting, Ankara

April 29-May 1, 2004

The following are some examples of major educational activities in which the JAA was directly involved in 2003.

1. To commemorate the 90th anniversary of JAA's establishment, we held an exhibition at the Aviation Building in December titled "100 years of Aviation Culture". A total of 260 historically significant materials and documents were displayed including the propellers of the first airplane to fly in Japan in 1910.
2. We received 360 entries for the 2003 FAI Young Artist Contest.
It was a great surprise and pleasure for us that two Japanese entries were awarded the first prize and the third prize, respectively, in the 2003 Young Artist Contest. We provided the award winners with an educational trip visiting major U.S. airports or the training facilities of major Japanese airlines at Haneda Airport. Other contest entries were displayed at the Sky Leisure Japan event site held at Noto, Ishikawa Prefecture.
3. "Sky Sports Classes" under the name of "Sky Kids Program" for elementary school children were held twice this year in Chiba Prefecture. A total of 200 students learned the theory of flying and enjoyed hands-on experience with hot air ballooning, paragliding, aeromodelling and paper planes.
4. In the ever-popular "Birdman Rally" (contest for human-powered aircraft), 26 teams participated in the glider, 18 in the human-powered aircraft, and 5 in the human powered helicopter categories, including university and high school student teams, selected through examination of their designs from among 100 entries.
5. Sky Leisure Japan (SLJ), the JAA's largest annual sky sports event, was held in Noto (Ishikawa Prefecture) this year and attracted 72,000 spectators including 1,600 children who attended handicrafts classes or enjoyed hands-on experience in various air sports.
6. On and around September 20 (the date designated "Sky Day" in Japan), 90 airports, ATC offices, airline facilities and others were opened to the public. A total of 450,000 people enjoyed visiting facilities and experiencing flights.
7. In the Aeromodelling Handicraft classes held at Matsuyama (Ehime Prefecture) sponsored by the JAA, 130 school children participated. One hundred university students and others attended the annual Sky Sports Symposium sponsored by the JAA, attended to discuss academic research and technical issues in the field.

Submitted by Sachie Sakasai, CIEA delegate of Japan