

Phil's Visit

By JACKSON SELLERS

On January 6, 2009, five members of *Yu-Yu-Jiteki of America* gathered in Lake Forest, California. The occasion was Phil Jordan's return to the United States after a summer in France. In the photo at right, Phil holds a glass of Yoshi's homemade plum wine. Standing, from left, are Masa Usami, Jackson Sellers, Bart Everett and Ken Asano. Ken, Bart and Jackson chow down below at Avila's, a popular Mexican restaurant near Jackson's home. Phil drove to Southern California from Henderson, Nevada, only a half dozen miles from the Las Vegas Strip. He will establish residency there for tax purposes. Unlike California, where he would prefer to be, Nevada does not tax income. The



Photo by Yoshi Sellers



Photo by Masa Usami



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conversation ranged from the trivial to the apocalyptic. Although three of the five – Phil, Bart and Jackson – were basically newspapermen, the *Los Angeles Times* wasn't mentioned once. Discussed movies were India's "Slumdog Millionaire" and Clint Eastwood's "Gran Torino," both highly recommended by Phil and Bart. In Jackson's library, Masa captured images during a discussion of global warming. Phil contended that 150 top world scientists can't be wrong. Bart and Jackson were mildly skeptical. Even if it's true, Bart said, it's too late to do anything about it. Jackson agreed. In the eons that the world has existed, he said, climates have changed drastically many times, killing life of all sorts, and human beings can't be blamed for *that*.



Photo by Masa Usami