

## Together at Dinner

PEN Japanese and a Kentuckian gathered at San Juan Capistrano's Cedar Creek Inn on May 20, 2008. In the group picture, from left to right around the table, are Shinji & Yoshiko Hino, Norio Matsumura, Tohru & Kazuko Kanbe (seated), Yoshi & Jackson Sellers (she standing, he seated), Fusako & Masa Usami and Ken & Harue Asano. Norio, the guest of honor, gets a picture all by himself, at right here. A resident of Tokyo, he was in Orange County for a week and was having dinner with his Orange County friends. For years Norio was a top executive in Nissan Motors, then switched recently to KKR, a prominent private equity firm. KKR executives were meeting and playing golf at the La Costa Resort & Spa down the coast. Most of the chatter at dinner was in Japanese, as is to be expected when all but one of the diners are Japanese. I'm accustomed to it. Anyway, I somewhat understand the gist of what's being said, and sometimes we would shift into English, since everybody was fluent in English as well.



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