

**SGI-USA ACTIVITY CENTERS  
NEW BEGINNINGS IN GULF COAST AND WISCONSIN  
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Two new SGI-USA activity centers were recently opened in Mary Ester, Fla., near Pensacola, and in Milwaukee.

More than 250 members gathered Aug. 12 for two meetings celebrating the opening of the Gulf Coast Activity Center, which will serve as the center of activities for members in western Florida and southern Alabama. The members, some of whom traveled two hours for the opening, enjoyed performances, congratulatory words and a great feast.

“Many members here have dedicated themselves to our movement for several decades,” said SGI-USA Senior Vice General Director Frank Nakabayashi, on hand for the opening. “The opening of this activity center is the realization of their steadfast efforts for kosen-rufu. We also see their children becoming established members of society, showing actual proof of their victory.”

On Aug. 18, members from throughout Wisconsin celebrated their past, present and future, beginning with the opening of the SGI-USA Milwaukee Activity Center and culminating with a vibrant Family Music Festival full of youthful energy.

For many of the pioneer members who have been practicing in the area for years, the opening of the activity center was a dream come true. Located in a beautiful westside neighborhood, the center will provide a place for members to gather and encourage one another, as well as a central location from which the local SGI organization can unite and reach out to the residents of their area.

The new activity centers are part of a plan to open many such facilities across the country. Activity centers are intended for the use of local organizations that are not yet able to support a full community center, but whose members are still sincerely working to advance the SGI’s movement.

*—Tracy Quarino contributed  
to this article.*