

JASV

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Chiisai Shimbun Fall 2014

A quarterly newsletter of the Japan-America Society of Vermont
123 Ethan Allen Avenue, Suite 306, Colchester, VT. 05446.

Hot summer has gone, and a nice new season started. We call this season harvest season in Japan. And it is also festival (Matsuri) season. You can see Matsuri in most towns and cities in Japan.

Annual Tsukimi (Moon Viewing) Potluck Party, Sunday, October 5

We at JASV are going to have a Moon Viewing (Tsukimi) potluck party on Sunday, 10/5 at a private clubhouse near Dorset Park (Veterans Memorial Park) in South Burlington, from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We will start to eat around 6:00 pm. If it is a clear night, we can see a beautiful moon from there. Even it rains, we still can enjoy food and chatting with each other. This event will be held for JASV members, but non-member's participation will be welcomed. Following is a picture of the moon taken from the clubhouse on 9/8/2014 (full moon).



(Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)

It is a Japanese tradition to enjoy the beautiful moon. A folk tale tells us that a rabbit lives on the moon. Do you see it? Yes, I see it! It is making Dango (Mochi). I don't see it. Dango is a symbol of good harvest. People on earth like to eat Dango plus other food and drinks, while enjoying moon viewing.

Location is, Clubhouse: 0 Concord Green, So Burlington, VT 05403 (Please use google map)

JASV will Offer Two Lectures at CVU (Champlain Valley Union) High School in Henesburg

- “The History of Japanese Pottery,” 10/23, Thursday, 6:30pm—8:30pm
- “Ikebana History Lecture and Workshop,” 11/06, Thursday, 6:30pm---8:30pm

(This program is supported by the Japan Foundation, Center for Global Partnership, New York.)

Following are the articles in the newspaper “Access” issued by CVU, September 2014.

The History of Japanese Pottery

Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. 1 week October 23

Join Toshi from the Japan America Society of Vermont in this new Access offering focused on the long, 12,000-year tradition of exquisite pottery from Japan. Learn how this tradition differs from pottery here and how the Japanese potters have accomplished all that they have done. Topics covered will be kilns, Shigaraki, Tamba, Bizen and a half dozen more styles, and Japanese culture as it relates to the evolution of pottery. Registration required, although no fee.

Instructor: Toshi Saitoh Fee: \$Donation Only Limit: 18

Ikebana for Everyone

Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m. 1 week November 6

Japanese Flower Arrangement is well known in the US, and easy to do. Join Toshi for a full historical explanation of the history of Ikebana for the first one hour which will include Ikebana style demonstrations developed over the past 400 years. During the second hour, participants will actually participate in a workshop doing their own arrangements. Please bring a handful or two of your favorite flowers in order to create your 'masterpiece'.

No Fee: by donation only.

Instructor: Toshi Saitoh Fee: Donation only Limit: 18

Limitation of the number of attendees, 18, probably came from the size of the available presentation room. If any organization is interested in such lectures, please let JASV know. We are happy to offer them to you.

JASV's Participation in the Vermont International Festival on December 5, 6 and 7

As usual, we at JASV are going to participate in the Vermont International Festival, which will be held on December 5, 6 and 7 this year. We are going to present typical Japanese culture to the Vermont people, such as Origami, Japanese Calligraphy, and some games. Following is a picture taken at the festival last year. Please join us and help us with your talent!



Origami (Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)



Calligraphy (your name in Japanese) (Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)

One Day Library at the JASV Office (First Sunday every Month)

JASV is offering open library on the first Sunday of every month, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. All the books were donated, and over a thousand books are available for you to borrow. Although most books are written in Japanese, you will be able to find many interesting books.

For more details, please look at the JASV Otasuke Club directory. (http://jasv.org/otasuke_club/)



Library (Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)



(Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh.)

We need more bookshelves. We would appreciate it if you have surplus bookshelves and could donate them to us.

Participation in Independence Day Parade in Montpelier (Vermont Capital) on July 3rd

JASV and Japan Foundation/CGP celebrated American Independence Day and participated in the July 3rd parade in Montpelier. We prepared placards and ornaments to carry.

We all got together at Summer Street (line up location). We were ready for marching and waiting for the GO sign, but instead we received a cancellation notice. We couldn't believe the notice for a while since we didn't see any sign of rain. The notice was that we were expecting a rain storm with a severe thunder around 7:00 pm (towards the end of the parade.)



(Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)

Although the parade was canceled, it was a good experience for the JASV since this was our first participation. We had a chance to march and receive attention from the people along the road on the long walk back to the Montpelier High School parking lot.



(Picture was taken by Miki Bell)

Potluck Picnic at the Sand Bar & Annual JASV Meeting (6/22)

It was a beautiful day!!! Although it was a beautiful day, it was too chilly to swim. So, we didn't see many people on the beach.



(Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)

We all enjoyed the picnic eating the food every one brought. After the picnic, we had a meeting, and some officers were changed and approved. To see the details, please look at the JASV / Officers & Board Members directory. (<http://jasv.org/v2/contacts.php>)

Open JASV Office for Children (6/14)

Open Office for Children was successfully held on Saturday, 6/14. A total of 24 people, including adults who brought the children to the office, enjoyed the day. They made Tanabata ornaments taught by a board member, Masako Carter-

san.



(Picture was taken by Toshi Saitoh)

JASV and Japan Foundation, CGP, Supported Japanese Speech Contest held between Universities, Colleges and High Schools in Vermont (5/15, 16)

A Japanese Speech contest was held on-line, coordinated by Prof. Ikuko Yoshida of Bennington College. There were a total of 41 presentations from single or group participants in 4 levels, Superior, Advanced, Intermediate and Beginner.

Following are pictures of two first prize winners, to whom Toshi Saitoh, President of JASV, is delivering a prize.(a plaque and a piece of pottery) on 5/15 and 5/16.

Superior Level: Yining Dai, Middlebury College (Dai-san is from China. She studied abroad in Japan last year and is unbelievably talented.)



(Pictures are taken by Prof. Masa Takahashi)



(Picture was taken by Prof. Masa Takahashi.)

Intermediate Level: Hoa Nguyen and Thomas Melvin, Bennington College. Hoa-san is from Vietnam and Thomas-san is American. Both are currently in Japan studying at Kansai University for one year.



(Pictures were taken by Prof. Ikuko Yoshida.)



All the winners are very motivated to learn about Japanese language and culture. Toshi is convinced that they are the people who can establish good relations between countries in the future. This is a wonderful event for the JASV to support.