

Japan America Society of Vermont

Chiisai Shinbun Spring 2016-1Q

A quarterly newsletter of the Japan-America Society of Vermont

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This newsletter is to let you know about the JASV events accomplished during the 1st quarter (January, February and March) of 2016. Sorry for the delay in release.

1. 2016 is the year of the Monkey

The monkey is smart. As you can see in the following painting, they are smarter than human beings sometimes. It probably says that we should look at truth rather than appearances. We often forget this!



2. Shinnenkai (New Year Party) at Clubhouse in South Burlington 1/23

We had a great time at this annual Shinnenkai (New Year Potluck Party) at a clubhouse in South Burlington on Saturday, 1/23. We enjoyed the food everyone brought. Since the clubhouse has a kitchen, we enjoyed even hot soup and broiled Mochi!!!



3. Symposium, “Discover Japan,” at Saint Michael's College on 3/12

We at the JASV have been working very hard on a community outreach project for the last two years. But we also wanted to have a symposium about Japan and Japanese culture so that Vermonters could deepen their knowledge about Japan and enrich their lives. Luckily, we had a great opportunity. The Consulate General of Japan in Boston supported us in our efforts.

With the help of board members and others, it went very well. The details are in the following directory.

<http://jasv.org/v2/symposium/>

4. Japanese Language Classes (Spring Class)

Level-1 started 3/14 and Level-2 started 3/16. We were very lucky this semester. We received 9 students' registration for Level 1 and 6 student's registration for Level-2.



5. Monthly Events

5-1. One Day Library

As of 3/31, we gave up renting room 305 for the library and moved it to our storage room. An average of 7 people are enjoying one day library per month. Thank you, Miki-san and Masako-san who are running it.

5-2. JASV Kid's Day a Month

Over 10 children and their parents are enjoying making Japanese crafts every month. Thank you, Masako-san who is running it.

6. The 2nd Quarter Events

(4/9) One Day Consulate at JASV's Office

It was successfully accomplished. Miki-san helped opening and closing our office. The details will be reported in the next Chiisai Shinbun.

(4/30) Participation in the YMCA Kid's Day Event

The JASV offered Origami, Calligraphy (people's names on book marks), Fish Rubbing and Koinobori (Flying Carp) hand crafts. The details will be reported in the next Chiisai Shinbun.

(May) Cherry Tree Planting at the Dorset (Veteran's) Park in South Burlington

Two cherry trees have already been planted at the center of the Dorset (Veteran's) Park in South Burlington. We are planning to do Sakurami party if it's not too late. It will be decided at the 5/11 board meeting.



(5/9) Release of On-Line Membership Registration and Dues Payment System

Chiro-san completed the On-Line Membership registration system with individual random password. He mailed the registration procedures and passwords to all the JASV members. Thank you very much, Chiro-san! If you have any questions or problems, please let us know. (jasv.org)

(5/16 & 18) Toshi's Trip Report to Japan at the last Japanese Classes

Toshi visited Japan from Mar 24 to April 25. Japan has changed in many ways. Toshi will make a presentation in the last Japanese classes on 5/16 and 5/18 at Saint Michael's College, Saint Edmund's Room 120. Please join us.

The biggest and most surprising experience was the drinking of the water from the biggest lake in Japan, Biwa. I was invited to my friend, Dr. Kada's house. For 8 years she was the governor of Shiga Prefecture where I used to live before I moved to the US. She lives near the shore of Lake Biwa. She goes out to the beach and drinks the lake water. I did it too. The taste was no difference from the water I drink in Vermont, Poland Spring water. Unbelievable!



Toshi visited Yoshino, Amano Hashdate and many more beautiful places. Toshi will also mention Japanese transportation system and the earthquake that took place in Kumamoto Prefecture while he was visiting Japan

(June) Potluck Picnic at Sand Bar and Annual JASV Member Meeting

The date isn't decided yet. It is weather dependent. We will let you know as soon as we have chosen the date. Please join us and let's get to know each other while enjoying good food.