

# Chiisai Shinbun 2025-4Q

This is a quarterly newsletter of the **Japan-America Society of Vermont** describing what we have accomplished during **the 4th quarter of the year of 2025** (October, November and December) and a forecast of our activities in the near future.

## 1. Downsizing of Our Storage

Since our storage was moved from Saint Michael's College(SMC) to a Self Storage, we are spending \$155 per month for the rented storage unit every month, i.e., \$1,860 per year. This is a big burden for us and we decide to downsize our belongings so that we can move a smaller unit of \$65 per month, therefore \$780 per year, which is more affordable for us.

### 1-1. Library Books

When we had an office and a storage in SMC, we created a library from the donated books through many years. Many of the books are written in Japanese. But quite a lot of the books are about Japanese language text books, Japanese culture books written in English, Children's books written in Japanese which are perfect for the American people who want to learn Japanese language.



(JASV Library made at JASV rooms at SMC)

We created such a library in our SMC office with a dream to help the

people who want to learn Japanese culture and language plus Japanese people who miss Japanese books. We therefore looked for somewhere which keeps our dream with our library's book donation. We approached University of Vermont, Saint Micheal's College, Middlebery College, South Burlington Library, Burlington Library and Consulate General of Japan in Boston. None of them aren't interested in taking our books for the reason of no space. So, we decided to give those books to anyone who would like to have.

So, in October, we used three Saturdays to find homes for the library books in front of our storage unit-1210. We appreciate the board members, Kelly Underwood, Elaine McCrate and Robert Robbins for their help!!!



(We are very happy to find a home for these books.)

Since November was getting rainy and cold, we stopped this event,

we would like to do this one more day when the weather is getting warmer in spring. About 25 percent of total books have found their new home.

The rest of the books after three Saturday events were brought to an used goods store named "Goodwill" near by. They will find new owners at the store for us. Yes, we wish the books new homes!!!

## 1-2. Book Shelves

Since most of the books are gone, we don't need book shelves. In spring we will do "give away event" and the rest will be brought to "Goodwill". The store indicated that they are happy to receive them.

## 1-3 Torii

Another category which takes a big space of our storage is Torii. This is a very precious feature for our Matsuri. We approached Taiko Club, Bonsai Society, Zen Society and "Consulate General of Japan in Boston. Unfortunately none of them couldn't take because of no space to store it. Therefore we scraped it. Unfortunate!!!



## 2. In Kind Donation

On Dec 19, we received an In Kind donation from Don Ballas, who suggested us to do a Silent Auction at the next New Year Potluck Party

gathering. He is an IBM retiree and he had once an assignment at the Headquarter in Tokyo. In fact he presented his experiences in Tokyo at the New Year Potluck Party this year.

[http://www.jasv.org/newsletter/Chiisai\\_Shinbun.2025.1Q.pdf](http://www.jasv.org/newsletter/Chiisai_Shinbun.2025.1Q.pdf)

Thank you very much, Don!!! Following are pictures of his donation!



See you at the next New Year Potluck Party (Jan 24, 2026).!!!

### **3. Japanese Language Class we support**

The teacher Ms. Linda Sukop let us know that there were 5 students in this fall semester. We invited those students to our New Year Potluck Party.

**JASV wishes you a Happy New Year!!!**