JASV Chiisai Shimbun Summer 2009

A quarterly newsletter of the Japan America Society of Vermont Japan-America Society of Vermont, 29 Ethan Allen Avenue, Suite 308, Colchester, VT. 05446.



ぶた蚊遣り

Buta kayari sits on the deck fearlessly repelling mosquitoes. The "buta" refers to the pig shaped ceramic vessel. "Kayari" is the burning of a mosquito-repellant insense coil. The appearance of buta kayari remind us that summer is here. This particular buta kayari is available from the Rakuten store.

The poet Issa uses "kayari" as a seasonal word in various haiku such as ...

結構にかやりの上の朝日哉

kekkô ni kayari no ue no asahi kana

how pretty over smudge pot smoke... morning sun

from http://tinyurl.com/nyo4lj

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting - Sunday, June 28

The JASV annual meeting will be held on Sunday, June 28th, from 12 noon until 4 PM at the Sand Bar State Park in Milton. This is a potluck event; please bring something to share. The JASV will provide soft drinks and pay the entrance fee - mention this at the gateway booth. Bring your favorite summer chair, umbrella, Frisbee, and beach gear. Pets are not permitted.

Directions: The Sand Bar State Park is located on Route 2 at the east-end of the Causeway between Milton and the Islands. From I-89, take exit #17 (Champlain Islands), and drive 4 miles north on U.S. 2)

Other Events

Mingei of Tottori 鳥取の民芸, Burlington Firehouse Gallery, July 1 to July 31, 2009. (Further details below. Check our website frequently for possible H1N1 related changes.)

Japanese Crafts Workshops, Yestermorrow School, Warren, July 12-19, 2009. (Further details below. Check our website frequently for possible H1N1 related changes.)

Vermont Reads When the Emperor was Devine. The Vermont Humanities Foundation's Vermont Reads program is a community reading project based on Julie Otsuka's When the Emperor Was Divine, the evacuation experience of a Japanese-American family during World War II. Otsuka's novel takes an unflinching and unsentimental look inside a stark shadow of America's past: the Japanese-American internment camps. The program sponsor events though out the state. For more information, visit

http://www.vermonthumanities.org/

News and Reports

Matsuri 2009 Report:

Most of us feel the attendance may be our best ever. We certainly had very successful vendors and demonstration tables. Everyone seemed very busy and at the same time very pleased.

The new Consul General in Boston, Masaru Tsuji, told me several times how pleased and impressed he was with Matsuri. We are honored to have Mr. Tsuji and his staff, from Boston, attend Matsuri.

Channel 5, WPTZ, the NBC affiliate based in Plattsburgh, Burlington, and White River Jct., conducted interviews with Mr. Tsuji and me and had several shots around Matsuri as did Fox-44 TV in Burlington.

Thank you to all who helped with the clean up and the trip back to the JASV office and storage room. We can all feel proud of the efforts by so many Board Members, JASV Members, our many Volunteers, Performers and most of all, Guests.

Vermont Tottori Relations

H1N1 restrictions permitting, the JASV, it's Sister Organization the Tottori International Exchange Foundation (TIEF) and several local partners are planning several interesting events focusing on craft echanges for this summer.

Larry Reibbecke, a JASV Board member and Dan Eckstein of YesterMorrow and Taniguchisan of Tottori Prefecture have been developing a traditional Japanese woodworking crafts course to be offered at the YesterMorrow School in Warren, Vermont, in July 2009. and

This year is the 400 anniversary of Sir. Champlain's explorations in this region. As part of this celebration, Burlington City Arts (BCA) will host a Tottori Folk-Art show entitled Burlington's Cultural Diversity-Traditional Japanese Folk-Art from Tottori. The show is being organized by Ooeh-san of Tottori Prefecture, JASV Board Member Rieko Kida, Champlain College trustee and BCA board member Michael Metz. The Tottori show, to be housed in the fourth floor gallery will be a part of the Quadricentennial events during July 1-31, 2009.

Consulate-General of Japan in Boston

English language website at http://www.boston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ or Japanese language website at http://www.boston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ja/ Telephone: 617-973-9772.

Language Classes, Fall 2009. Watch our website or mailing list. (To join our mailing list, send email to info@jasv.org)

Board Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month - 6:30 pm The JASV board meetings are in the JASV office at 29 Ethan Allen Avenue. Colchester. All are welcome.

Email: If you would like to receive updates on the JASV calendar by email, you can join our Yahoo mailing list at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jasv/ or by sending email to info@jasv.org. If you find computers and Yahoo difficult, you can subscribe very simply, by sending a request to info@jasv.org

JASV Web Site (www.jasv.org) invites contributions, announcements, suggestions, comments, etc. Visit us and send email to info@jasv.org.