

# Chiisai Shinbun Winter 2019-1Q

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, March) of 2019.

## 1. New Year Potluck Party (2/02)

We originally planned for 1/19, but we had a snow storm and therefore rescheduled it for 2/02. However, 2/02 was again a snowy day unfortunately. 18 people attended and enjoyed delicious food.

Particularly, we had three peoples' presentations. Larry Solt, a former president, and his wife Stephanie visited Italy for three weeks last year and showed us beautiful pictures and videos they took at Ravello, Amalfi, Naples, Florence and Rome. Mike Brown, a JASV board member, showed us a video of the New Year parade of Burlington this year. We were surprised to know that he is a professional editor. Chris Palermino, a JASV member and a key player of Burlington Taiko, had a three month world trip on the Japan-based Peace Boat. He visited many countries, starting from Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Thailand, Srilanka, across the Suez canal, Greece, Corsica, Denmark, Russia, Finland, Norway, etc. He enjoyed many events on the boat and made many friends. He brought many beautiful pictures to the party, but we didn't have enough time to see all of them carefully. We heard that he is planning to create a documentary we can see in the future. He enjoyed so much on the boat that he will be back again in the near future.



## 2. Presentation about Japanese Pottery History at UVM (2/14)

This is a part of our Community Outreach program. Toshi made a presentation about Japanese Pottery History to the UVM pottery studio students according to their request. 9 people attended. And I also had an opportunity to advertise our Matsuri '19.

Please, if you know anyone who would like to do community outreach such as going to a school or a library to make a presentation or workshop for the JASV, let Toshi know.



## 3. Adult Japanese Language Class Started (2/20)

Two language classes started from 2/20. We had 5 students for Level-1, but one is a return student, which means he attended Level-1 two times in the past and gave up the class. He requested his tuition be returned, but we concluded at the board meeting that we won't return it, but will allow him to come back in the future. And he returned. And we also had 4 students for Level-2. Consequently, we lost \$181 due to tuition shortage. But we saved 9 students. The teacher is Ms. Linda Sukop.



(Level-1)

## 4. Matsuri '19 (3/31)

**Thank you very much for the hard work of on-stage performances and booth participation during Matsuri and for its preparation. It was again a successful Matsuri. The JASV sincerely appreciate your help and presents given to us for the Matsuri!!!**

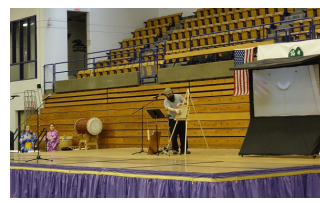
The number of audience was about the same as Matsuri '17. Suzuki-sensei in UVM sent us 50 student volunteers from the UVM. Without her, we couldn't run Matsuri. Since some of the on-stage performances at the last Matsuri couldn't participate this year, the JASV presented a several performances, Kamishibai, Tea Ceremony and Ikebana Lecture. For these Mike Brown created a great display with his own idea, which worked very well. Also, the UVM Brass Quintet worked hard for the presentation of Japanese music.

The JASV created and presented JASV commendations to a total of 12 groups or individuals on stage. The JASV received a Foreign Minister Commendation from the Japanese government last year.

We also received great support from our communities. Ben & Jerry's Co. set up a booth for us to serve free ice cream. We received many presents from the business people such as Midas, Heritage/Toyota, The Edge, Trader Joe's and Market 32.

This year, we made some changes. We brought business people's presents and door prizes to a silent auction with a goal of NO DEBT. And the goal was met. For the last two Matsuri, we received financial support from the Japan Foundation.

### On-Stage Performances





## 5. Monthly Events

### 5-1. Manga Club / The First Saturday of the Month

2 people attended in January, 4 people in February and 3 people in March. In February, a 14 year old girl who has unbelievably high skill in Manga drawing attended. Her name is Lucia. She is going to release her work through her own Website. It is wonderful for the JASV Manga club to have such a talented student. The teacher is Lydia Nguyen.



## 5-2. Kid's Club / The Second Saturday of the Month

Jan. 11: A total of 11 children and adults participated in the Kid's Club and made hibernated animal crafts. No one used the library.

Feb. 15: A total of 15 children and adults participated in the Kid's Club and made Valentine Day crafts with a heart design.

Mar. 9: Canceled.

The club is run by Masako Carter.



## 5-3. On Day Japanese Library / The Second Saturday of the Month

Jan. 11: No one used the library.

Feb. 15: 2 persons visited the library and one person from the Kid's Club used the library.

Mar. 9: Canceled.



**Best Regards**  
**JASV**