

# Chiisai Shinbun Winter 2019-2Q

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 2nd quarter (April, May and June) of 2019.

## 1. Children's Japanese Language Class (4/7)

Two children's Japanese Language Classes started on 4/7, every Sunday morning for seven weeks, as scheduled. 7 students signed up for the beginning class (level-1) and 4 students for the intermediate (level-2.) The teacher is Ms. Maki Farnha. And these two classes were arranged by Masako Carter.



Level-1



Level-2

## 2. Cherry Tree Donation to Veterans Memorial Park (5/26)

The JASV donated two cherry trees to Veterans Memorial Park in South Burlington again this year, dreaming of having a beautiful Hanami (cherry flower viewing) party every year in the future. This is the 4th consecutive year of our cherry tree donation.

Mike Brown completed planting the two cherry trees on 5/26 ( a picture below.)



### 3. Calligraphy Workshop at Mt. Abraham Middle School (6/10)

Per the school's request, Toshi Saitoh had a workshop of Calligraphy, 25 minute presentation and another 25 minute workshop twice on June 10th. Two classes, a total of 48 students had an experience writing their own names and enjoyed it in spite of the short time.



One of the teachers, Ms. Nan Guilmette, had teaching experiences in Japan for two years, teaching English in Okayama prefecture through the JET program.

I am very surprised to see One Thousand Cranes were hanging on the class room window. Also, they displayed Haiku outside class room. They are very interested in Japanese culture.





## 4. JASV Summer Potluck Party (6/15)

We had a summer potluck party on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at the usual club house in South Burlington. Although it was a sunny hot day, we enjoyed the food everyone brought and conversations. And then Mike Brown presented a nice Kamishibai, Momotaro (Peach Boy). Toshi Saitoh explained the manners for Tea Ceremony by using the photo at the Matsuri.

We expected more people, but we discovered that many people are away during the summer. We invited two talented girls who performed singing and playing Shamisen at Matsuri for us to listen them once again, but one of them was visiting Japan and the other having a graduation ceremony. Toshi also invited three students from Japan studying abroad at SMC who helped Matsuri, but all are having home leave to Japan.



## 5. Donation to JASV

### 5-1. Donation of Japanese Cultural Items (6/5)

Ms. Shirley Smith donated Japanese items once a few years ago. She and her husband lived in Osaka when her husband had an assignment at IBM Yasu in Japan for three years. Following are their donations this time. Thank you very much, Mr. and Ms. Smith!



## 5-2. Book Donation ( 6/12 )

We received book donation from Mr. Yoshiro Takahashi. His family is moving to Washington DC. The books are many kinds including two boxes full of Manga books which will please Managa readers we have.



## 6. JASV Office / Move Out Request from SMC

Vice President of Finance of Saint Michael's College sent a letter to all the tenants in Dupont Hall building where our office has been located for many years. We don't know what the exact due date of moving out will be at this moment, but the letter indicates that they are in the process of selling the building and it will be complete later in 2019. SMC suggested us to contact their broker, Yves Bradley. I chatted with one of our neighbor tenants. They found a place and in the process of moving at the end of August. Although, it is much more expensive than they wanted to pay.

Mike Brown kindly offered to take a lead finding a new place for us by working with the suggested broker. Please let Mike or me know if you have a suggestion for finding a good place for the JASV.



## 7. Monthly Events

### 7-1. Kid's Club

April 13: A total of 16 kids and parents enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt and making Easter Crafts.

May 11: Canceled.

Jun 8: Canceled.

### 7-2. One Day Library

April 13: 2 people came to use the library.

May 11: Canceled.

Jun 8: Canceled.

### 7-3. Manga Club

April 6: 3 people attended and enjoyed the class.



May 4: 3 people attended. The Japan Foundation invited us to the 13<sup>th</sup> Japan International Manga Award participation. Our youngest student Lucia Struzinski (middle school) may think of applying.

June 1: Canceled.

Thank You.

Japan-America Society of Vermont