

Nichibei Express

A Bi-Monthly Publication of the Heart of America Japan-America Society

February 23rd Program: *Japanese New Year Traditions / Oshogatsu – Audience Participation Invited!*

Come enjoy a chance to learn about New Year's traditions in Japan from Sachie Stroder, Miyako Fraley, Olivia Woods, Natsuko Nishimune and Patty Woods – and to share your own stories and traditions! We'll show JAS members'

favorite decorations, taste some yummy New Year's recipes, listen to some great music, and invite the audience to participate. If you can, please bring your New Year's decorations from home or photos to share.

March 23rd Program:

"Whisked Away: Personal and Historical Perspectives on Chanoyu, the Way of Tea" – Mindy Varner

Melinda Varner, a doctoral student in Japanese history at the University of Kansas, will discuss her personal and professional involvement in the study of chanoyu, the Japanese way of tea. She will offer personal insights on the tradition drawn from fifteen years of study in the Urasenke school and place these in historical perspective based upon her current research in early modern tea texts. She will also showcase some teabowls and other artifacts from

her personal collection and field questions from attending members about the place of chanoyu within Japan's larger tradition of performing arts and aesthetic values.

Both programs will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Loose Park Garden Center, 51st and Wornall, Kansas City, Missouri (just south of the Country Club Plaza).

Time to Renew Your Membership!

If you haven't already, please be sure to renew your dues by March 1st to be included in this year's member directory!

If you have any questions about joining or renewal, contact Darlene Jones at (913) 498-0384 or jdarlene479@sbcglobal.net.

Welcome Andrew Okawa Smick!

Congratulations to our good friends and former Kansas City JAS members Juri and Mike Smick! Juri and Mike are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Andrew Okawa Smick. Andrew was born January 19, 2010 at 12:07 p.m. He weighed in at 7 lbs. and 9 oz. and 21" long.

Mike, the JAS site webmaster, and Juri now live in the St. Louis area. (We hope they can come visit so we can say "konnichiwa" to Andrew!)

Heart of America JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY

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LABEL HERE

Events February 2010 - March 2010

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“The mission of the Heart of America Japan-America Society is to further understanding between the peoples of Japan and the Greater Kansas City area by promoting social, cultural and educational exchanges.”

WEBSITES

kcjas.org
kcjapanfestival.org
japancouncil.org

NakaKon

February 19th-21st
Hyatt Regency Crown Center

February General Meeting

“Japanese New Year Traditions”
JAS Members
February 23rd, 7:00 p.m.
Loose Park Garden Center

Japanese Language Contest

March 6th, 10:00a.m.-4:30p.m.
Praire Trail Junior High
21600 W. 107th, Olathe

*4-H International Festival

March 19th, 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m.
Hilton Hotel, KCMO, Exit 112

March General Meeting

Tea Ceremony
Mindy Varner, KU
March 23rd, 7:00 p.m.
Loose Park Garden Center

Diplomatic Ball

March 6th, 6:00p.m.
Downtown Marriott

*Japanese name writer and helper needed.
Contact Pat Knott at 816.741.0205