

Bulletin

A publication of the Cleveland Japanese American Citizens League
As a service to the Japanese American Community and interested individuals and organizations

June/July 2007

Editorial

By Hazel Asamoto

The 2007 JACL Reunion Event was an enjoyable way to begin the summer. It was a chance to meet new acquaintances as well as renew old friendships. Good food and entertainment made this an awesome time to reunite together with family and friends whether young or old. (See articles). For those who were unable to attend because of other commitments, hopefully we will be able to schedule a similar fun time again.

Help to support the coming activities. (See Flyers) Your suggestions and opinions are very important to us. Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Write to: Cleveland JACL Bulletin, c/o Hazel Asamoto, Editor,

3097 Ashwood Rd., Cleveland, Oh 44120 or email address: clevejaclbulletin@sbcglobal.net.

President's Message

By Rick Ishiyama

Thanks to all who attended our 2007 "Reunion". It was so nice to have over 65 people attending this event to celebrate our community past, present and future. We did not originally plan to hold this event on Memorial Day weekend but it seemed very appropriate after we were done.

Since this was a reunion we took some time to reminisce on how vibrant our community has been over the past 60 years, evident by the many social, cultural, educational as well as activist groups that have been part of our lives. All members of these groups at some point in time were asked to stand up to be recognized together. The one group I left out (who are so very important to JACL) was those who were JACL members and boosters. If I had done that the entire room would have been standing! Also it was good to see past Chapter Presidents; Toshi Kadowaki, Masy Tashima, Irland Tashima, Bill Sadataki Jr., Diane Asamoto Grant, Karen Sodini, and Yoshiko Ikuta there to share in this day.

In addition to recognizing our past we took some time to remember our heroes, those members of the community who are veterans as well. Roy Ebihara recognized in particular veterans from the 442nd Regiment who recently have passed on, as well as those who are still with us. If you are looking for role models or heroes include our veterans in your thoughts.

Highlighting the program was special recognition awards for John Ochi and Bill Sadataki Jr. for their commitment and dedication to the Japanese American Foundation whose work ranges from providing Scholarships to our youth to the annual Community

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Donors - Total \$120.00

Kenichi & Shirley Kondo

Ken & Naty Arie

Ralph & Marie Maki

Tee & Terry Takahata

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The Bulletin is supported by donations. There is no subscription rate. Articles in the Bulletin are solely the responsibility of the authors. Neither JACL nor the Bulletin is responsible for articles that are submitted by the writers. Comments, suggestions and donations are always welcome. Send comments and contributions to:

**JACL Bulletin c/o Hazel Asamoto, Editor
3097 Ashwood Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44120**

(Contributions are tax deductible)

Or email:

www.clevejaclbulletin@sbcglobal.net

Vital Statistics

Condolences

Kyoko N. Smith (nee Niwa), 75 of Elyria, passed away Friday, April 6, 2007. An Elyria resident since 1954, coming from Japan. Survivors include two sisters and one brother living in Japan. Proceeded in death by her husband Calvin Smith in 1984.

Kuneo Jack Sakai, passed away April 10, 2007, beloved husband of the late Mary (nee Urabe); father of Larry (Nancy), Gayle and John; grandfather of five, brother of Mitsi Yokoyama (Tom), Hideo (Yo), Hiroshi (Mary) (both deceased), Kyoto (deceased) (Miharu), Noburo (deceased) and Shigeo (deceased). Uncle of many. Memorial Service will be announced in May. Memorial contribution is suggested to the Cleveland Buddhist Temple, 1573 E. 214th St. Euclid, Ohio 44123.

Stanley T. Kanno, 85 of South Euclid, passed away Saturday, April 21, 2007. He was a WW II Veteran serving with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, received the Purple Heart. Survived by wife, Mae (nee Iwasaki), children, Kathleen T. Federico, Stanley S. (Gloria), Dr. Ivan T., Kenneth K., and Trudy T. (David) Christopher: six grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

Kiyoko Fujimura, (nee Sakoi), age 83, loving wife of Shigeru, dearest mother of Lynn(David) Sosalla, Elaine(Anthony) Fujimura and Sandy (Bobby) Ferreri; grandmother of 3 ; sister of Shizuko (Seiji) Hata, Sue (Hiroshi) Matsushita (both deceased) Fhi (Sho) Wakagawa, To (Tad) Kuga and Mas (Sachi) Sakoi, Memorial Service at Cleveland Buddhist Temple, Contribution to Hospice of Western Reserve, 300 E. 185th St. Cleveland, Oh 44119 in her name would be appreciated

Hideo Nakanishi, 76 passed away May 29th, 2007 survived by sons Eric (Alison) and Everett; five grandchildren, brother of George, Yuki, Matsuo, Shigeo and Sue, uncle of numerous close nephews and nieces. Preceded in death by ex-wife Gwen, and siblings Yoshi, Kimi and Kamiyo. A memorial service Saturday, June 9, 2007 at the Cleveland Buddhist Church.

Vital Statistics continued on pg. 3

Congratulations

Nathaniel Carl Eizen arrived on March 28, 2007. His parents are Margaret and Joshua Eizen of Vienna, VA. Margaret is the daughter of Ken and Naty Arie. Nathaniel weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 21 ½ inches long.

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CURRENT EVENTS:

- EVENT: OBON FESTIVAL (SEE FLYER)
- DATE: SATURDAY, JULY 14TH, 2007
- PLACE: CLEVELAND BUDDHIST TEMPLE
- TIME: 7:30 PM
- INFO: FOOD SALE @ 5:00 PM, SHO-JO-JI DANCERS, TAIKO DRUMMING, CALL 216-692-1509

- EVENT: JACL/CJAF SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON (SEE FLYER)
- DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2007
- PLACE: SHINANO RESTAURANT
- TIME: 1:00 PM
- INFO: RESERVATION DEADLINE: JULY 25TH
DONATION: \$18 PER PERSON, \$15 PER STUDENT/NON GRADUATE
- CALL: 216-921-2976 OR 440-775-4435

- EVENT: CJAF COMMUNITY PICNIC (SEE FLYER)
- DATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 2007
- PLACE: BRUSHWOOD SHELTER, FURNACE RUN, SUMMIT COUNTY METRO PARK
- TIME: 10:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
- INFO: DONATION ON SITE TO SCHOLARSHIP OR COMMUNITY SERVICES. OR SEND TO: JOHN OCHI, 868 LANDER RD., HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, OH 44143. SPECIAL ATTRACTION: TAIKO DRUMMING

Picnic. John and Bill have also been life long members of JACL working both on committees like the Speakers Bureau, Holiday Fair and Scholarship, to serving on the Board. Also recognized were Nanci Taketa and Beverly Kerecman who are the heart and soul of the Sho-Jo-Ji Dance group having taken on the lead from when they were dancers to now tutoring and leading another generation of young people in sharing our culture with our community and beyond. Ed Ezaki was recognized for his tireless support and personal sacrifice for JACL through his work as a board member, activist, committee member, and leader of the Speaker's Bureau. The work of the Speaker's Bureau and its impact on educating the public and the leaders of tomorrow can not be quantified. It is through efforts like this that will prevent injustices of the past from being repeated in the future.

Finally, as we have been blessed before, we had the privilege of being entertained by our Icho Daiko and Mame Daiko Taiko drum group. It was a wonderful performance which left the room with smiling faces and full of applause. We started with recognizing our past, then our current and rounded it all off with our future. What a very nice start to the Memorial Day weekend.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Roy Ebihara, Membership Chr.

Cleveland JACL is proud and pleased to have as its new members the following individuals: Ann Yurie Benco, (Strongsville), Kay Varga Kate, (Brunswick), Joan Ishibashi, (Lakewood), Linda Takahata Keller, (Cuyahoga Falls), Harold and Kuniko Kuhn, (Erie, Pa.), Felipe Matsunaga (Olmsted Falls), Marley McDonough, (Oberlin), Carol Omori Middaugh, (Millbury), Tomo Sonoda, (Cleveland) and Melvin and Karen Kuramoto, (Lakewood). Carol Middaugh has applied for a Thousand Club membership.

We very much value your membership, and appreciate your commitment to be part of our JA community organization

CARP News

By Eva Hashiguchi

CARP members attending the April meeting at Lakefront Community Center enjoyed 'double treats'. Louise Matsuoka from Las Vegas donated beautiful cyclamen plants and awarded them to the 'oldest' person sitting at each table. Sugako Omura's 'chirashi sushi' was so delicious, not one rice kernel was left! And Sugako and Linda Omura donated a huge sheet cake to celebrate their husbands, Matt and Mits' birthdays. Mary Inouye Reese made her fancy Jello mold and it was enjoyed by all.

Thank you for your generous donations and your kind thoughts in making each senior citizen enjoy being a CARP Member. Also, this is a reminder that \$12 membership dues will be collected by treasurer, John Ochi at the June picnic at Strawberry Lane. Please make checks payable to: CARP

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Attention All Graduates!!

If you are a Japanese American high school or college graduate this year and are from the Greater Cleveland area, the Cleveland JACL and the Cleveland Japanese American Foundation would like to honor you. A luncheon program will be held to honor you and the scholarship recipients on July 29, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. Graduates and honorees will be guests of the JACL and CJAF. Deadline for reservation is July 25. Call Aiko Ebihara (440) 775-4435.

Shinano Restaurant
5222 Wilson Mills Blvd.
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

Please let us know who you are and we'll be in touch with you.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Scholarship Committee

Name _____
High School/College _____
Parents _____
Address _____
Phone Number _____

Please mail to: Aiko Ebihara
13791 Hale Road
Oberlin, OH 44074
(440) 775-4435

2007 – JACL & CIAF GRADUATION CELEBRATION
&
SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON



Sunday, July 29, 2007
Door Open at 12:30 p.m.

1:00 PM Luncheon

SHINANO RESTAURANT
5222 WILSON MILLS ROAD
RICHMOND HTS, OH 44143

Reservation Deadline:
July 25, 2007

Luncheon: \$18.00 per person
\$15.00 per Student/Non Graduates

Recognition to All 2007 High School Graduates
And College/University Graduates

To make Reservations Call:
Keith Asamoto 216-921-2976 or kasamoto_jacl@yahoo.com
Aiko Ebihara 440-775-4435 or raebihara@aol.com

The 2007 JACL Reunion Venture

By Jerry Omori

The Cleveland JACL REUNION was a very successful venture, with 63 people in attendance. It was held on Saturday, May 26, 2007 at the North Olmsted Party Center.

President Rick Ishiyama welcomed everyone with a brief history and purpose of the Cleveland JACL, a reminder that our continued existence is as a viable civil rights and ethnic organization. This event recognized and showed our appreciation for the many community organizations that make up the Japanese American community in Cleveland.

Special recognition plaques for long and outstanding services were presented to:

- John Ochi, Bill Sadataki, CJAF, SCHOLARSHIP, community picnic, and volunteers to JACL activities.
- Ed Ezaki for his dedicated service to the Speaker's Bureau was unable to attend due to ill health.
- Beverly Kerecman and Nanci Taketa **for** their dedicated teaching and assistance to the Sho-Jo-Ji dancers.

Past Presidents in attendance were, Toshi Kadowaki, Masy Tashima, Irland Tashima, Bill Sadataki, Diane Asamoto Grant, Yoshiko Ikuta, and Karen Sodini. Old photos from past JACL and other adjunct organizations were on display, courtesy of Aiko Ebihara and Hazel Asamoto, and these brought back many fond memories. Community member, Mary Nakaji also brought photos of group pictures and records of bowling info dating back to the 1940's.

There was also a DVD presentation of the 442nd Nisei Infantry Division, recognizing the Cleveland veterans. The performance of the Icho Daiko/Mame Daiko Taiko Group ended the afternoon with audience participation in the drumming segment.

In spite of the Holiday weekend plus other conflicting personal schedules, this event was well attended. Our next big event is the JACL/CJAF sponsored Scholarship Luncheon on Sunday, July 29th 2007.

Reunion 2007 – Remembering

The JA community gathering at the Reunion 2007 at the North Olmsted Party Center turned out to be a very enjoyable time for those who were able to attend. It was a time to honor those individuals who had unselfishly given their time for the benefit of the community. It was a time to remember the veterans of our community who honored our country with their sacrifices and service. It was also a time to reminisce, to remember the fun times, the camaraderie through organizational and club activities. Our caring for each other, our pride in ethnicity sustained us with many pleasant memories of yesteryear.

We were honored by the presence of Toshi Kadowaki and her family who traveled all the way from Toledo. Chie Kondo, who's husband was once a regional director for the JACL and served with Hank Tanaka, came with her family to honor JACL. Masy Tashima, in spite of health setbacks, came to share fond memories. So many others were able to share with everyone the history of club activities. The food was very good with sushi included, and the young folks of Mame Daiko provided everyone a stirring taiko performance.

Rick Ishiyama, Jerry Omori, and Roy Ebihara thanked the following individuals for their long time commitment for community services: John Ochi, Bill Sadataki, Ed Ezaki, Bev Kerecman and Nanci Taketa. They were presented with plaques of appreciation.

Many thanks also go to those who made this event possible and successful, and thanks to those who came to celebrate this reunion.

Letter to the Editor:

Hi Hazel, I thought you might like information on this. The National Archive microfilms are at the Fairview Park Library. All camp accountability records are there. I had donated the ten rolls to them. Thanks,

Carolyn Yamahiro Vigneulle

Photos from JAACL Reunion



Receiving a plaque is Bill Sadataki (right) from Jerry Omori (left)



Pictured from left to right, Lily Sadataki, Lauren Sadataki, Bill Sadataki, Toshi Kadowaki, Kathy Tashima



Receiving a plaque is John Ochi (right), from Jerry Omori (left)



Pictured from left to right, Chie Kondo (mother/grandmother), Jean Weigl (daughter), Hahn Weigl (granddaughter)



Seated from left to right are, Tak Kunimoto, Kathy Tashima, Toshi Kadowaki. Standing from left to right are Irland Tashima, Aiko Ebihara, John Ochi, and Betty Ochi

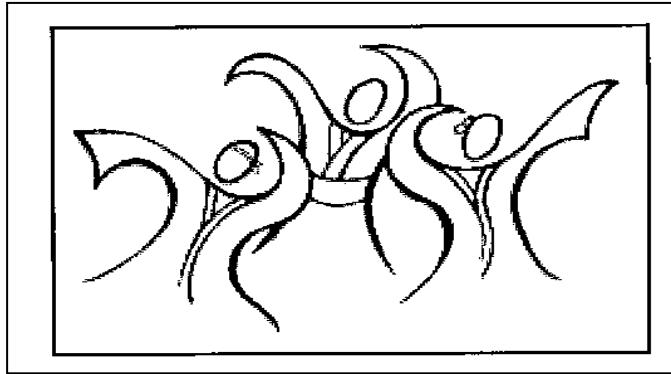


Seated from left to right, Masie Yamauchi, Teruko Ikuta, Mitsuko Ikuta, Shig Igarashi (standing)

Obon Festival

At

The Cleveland Buddhist Temple



We are pleased to announce that once again the Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese folk dance group will lead the traditional Obon Odori dance on the front lawn of the Temple on Saturday evening July 14th, 2007 at 7:30pm and there will also be a performance of Taiko Drumming by the JACL's Icho Daiko / Mame Daiko at that time.

There will also be a food sale before the dance beginning at 5:00pm.

Please come with your friends and have fun joining in the Obon festival and dance!

The Temple is located at the corner of Euclid Avenue and East 214th Street in Euclid, Ohio. Free parking is available.

Telephone: (216) 692 – 1509

Sho-Jo-Ji Dancers News

By Bev Kerecman

The Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese Dancers have continued with our mission, to perform and teach Japanese dances in Ohio. In February, we performed classical dances, taught folk dances, and demonstrated the wearing of the kimono to the Mentor Women's Club. In March, we performed at the Lakeland Community College Folk Festival and the International Folk Festival which was held at the Allen Theatre. In April we performed at the national board meeting of the Organization of Chinese Americans in the Li Wah Restaurant. The Asian Heritage celebration was on May 19th. We joined a number of other performing groups in an event that was planned by the Asian-Pacific American Federation (APAF).

On May 26th, we performed at the Asian Festival at Franklin Park in Columbus. Threatened by rain, the day was hot and muggy. We gave a Japanese folk dance workshop and then performed for the audience at the McDonald's Family Pavilion. We returned to our hotel to cool off in the swimming pool.

We welcome to our group, Chelsey Krieger brothers, Isamu and Kenji Krieger. Our dancers include, Katy Higaki, Charlotte Greene, Chelsey Krieger, Kathleen Kerecman, Sachi Krieger and Beverly Doyle. Not only do they dance gracefully but they have also choreographed and made decisions for our performances. Naomi Doyle, Karen Goda and Colette Higaki give much needed backstage support. The group is directed by Nanci Taketa and Bev Kerecman.

One of our members, Beverly Doyle, will graduate from high school and plans to attend Kent State University in the fall. She is a talented dancer that has graced the stage with her artful performances. Her leadership in the group will be missed. Beverly assisted in choreographing and teaching dances. We wish her well in her future endeavors and hope she will find time to perform with us on occasion.

You can view photos and descriptions of the dancers at two websites: www.asian_festival.org and www.bereaoktoberfest.com . Follow the links to the entertainment and Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese Dancers.

We greatly appreciate your support through monetary donations, via Cleveland JACL, and your presence at the events. It is so nice to see friendly faces in the audience. Please support the Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese Dancers in their mission to preserve the art of Japanese dance in Ohio.

Upcoming events:

- July 14 evening; Obon Festival at the Cleveland Buddhist Temple, Euclid, OH
- Sept. 1; The Oktoberfest in Berea, OH
- Nov. 3; The JACL Holiday Fair
- Nov. 3 at 6:00 PM; The Columbus International Folk Festival, Columbus, OH

We invite you to join the Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese dancers to help us in our mission. We invite former members to return. Our dance lessons are on Saturdays at 3:00 PM. Our performances are usually on weekends. Please contact Nanci Taketa nancireese@yahoo.com or Bev Kerecman shojijibevharu@earthlink.net .

Treasurer's Report

By Keith Asamoto

I have the joy of informing the JACL Community that the past few years have been very successful for the Chapter. The goals of the current Board and past Boards is starting to become reality. Individual contributions for the Holiday Fair have increased. Membership and long time friends of JACL have started raising funds to reestablish a scholarship fund. We have a partial contribution from Parker Hannifin Corporation of \$750.00 to develop a local JACL Youth program and to reestablish a youth group. The Cleveland JACL Chapter is now ready for the future that the board envisioned back in 1990.

In 2006, the Chapter Board transferred Legacy income of \$2485.00 into the General Fund. It continued in 2007 when the Board established and earmarked an additional \$3286.00. This is a total of \$6771.00 Legacy Fund Earnings earmarked by the Legacy Requirements outlined by the Investment Committee, Board, and a Legislation Committee in 1994.

In 1994, The Cleveland Chapter developed a strategic plan that would be subsidized by the income earned from the investment of the endowment fund along with the Scholarship / Graduate Recognition Program

The five priorities developed by this strategic plan:

1. To develop programs of interest to the members of the Japanese Community. Conduct a survey to identify various interests.
2. To establish a public relations program to improve our communications, both internally and externally.
3. To promote and increase the involvement of young people, ages 14-22, in community programs and activities by such means as organizing service, educational and social groups.
4. To develop a membership recruitment and retention program with the goal of increasing the current membership by at least 10%.
5. To develop a cultural awareness for children and young adults by incorporating this within existing programs and developing new programs.

To achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan, active volunteers will need to get together and develop a program plan and voice the needs of our community. Every program should be evaluated and developed so the goals and objectives are in line with our organization, with financing in place, and backed by our membership for final presentation.

This year, the Board has decided to sponsor a Cleveland Area JAYouth to attend the JACL National Youth Conference "Cultivating Leaders by Defining our Roots" on June 29 – July 1, 2007 in San Jose California. A request for an application can be made by email at Cleveland@jacl.org or by contacting Keith Asamoto at 216-990-5577 or additional information about the JACL youth program is available on the following websites, JACL Youth Website: <http://www.jaclyouth.org/> and Midwest District Council Youth Website: <http://www.geocities.com/mdcyouth/>

Currently, your Board is a small sample of our community and it gives you more power to develop our needed programs. You can contact the board with your comments and ideas, or for volunteer opportunities at Cleveland@jacl.org or by contacting one of your Board Members directly.

The 2007 Japanese-American Community Picnic

By John Ochi

The 2007 Picnic will be held on Sunday, August 26, 2007 at the Brushwood Shelter, Furnace Run, Summit Country Metro Park. Because the shelter is totally enclosed and air-conditioned, you can show up, rain or shine.

As most of you know, the picnic is the only fundraiser for the Cleveland Japanese American Foundation Scholarship awards. The 2006 CJAF award was presented to Kristin Siebold. She was an outstanding student at Willoughby South High School. She is now attending Baldwin-Wallace College. The JACL award was made to Adam Spannbauer who graduated from Firestone High School in Akron. His record was excellent. He is now a student at Ashland University.

The modest entry fee pays for expenses of the [picnic](#). [It](#) is the donations made by individuals and business that allows the Foundation to award scholarships.

If you would like to make a donation, either monetary or with goods for door prizes, please let me know. I can be reached at 868 Lander Road, Highland Heights, OH 44143, 440 442-6133 or hillcrestbone@att.net.

The attached flyer will give you directions to get to the picnic. Note the special attraction: The JACL Icho Daiko/Mame Daiko Taiko Drumming Group. The group always gives a great, outstanding performance.

Hope to see you at the Picnic.



This year the Board has decided to sponsor a Cleveland Area JA Youth to attend the JACL National Youth Conference "Cultivating Leaders by Defining our Roots" on June 29-July 1, 2007 in San Jose California. A request for an application can be made by email at Cleveland@jacl.org or by contacting Keith Asamoto at 216-990-5577 or additional information about the JACL youth program is available on the following websites, JACL Youth website: <http://www.jaclyouth.org/> and Midwest District Council Youth Website: <http://www.geocities.com/mdcyouth/>

Summer is calling...

Check out all our flyers in this issue for things to do. See pages 5, 8 and 13



The Value of Taiko Drumming-A Student Perspective

By Maya Walton

It was early on a Saturday morning. I had just rounded out my first month at Oberlin College and was finally starting to settle into a routine. I headed over to the library to finish some reading for my Biology class but as I walked down the street I could see (and hear!!) something out of the ordinary. It took me a second to realize what was going on but as I got closer it was absolutely clear. Taiko drumming!!! The sound, the movement, the energy, I knew I had to learn how to play these drums. This is where my taiko drumming story begins.

Our group had very humble beginnings. A mix of college students, Oberlin residents, and Oberlin College staff practiced on 4 real drums and 8 practice drums, made of tape and plastic laundry baskets. With the hard work and leadership of our director, Yukiko Ebara, we had gone from knowing absolutely nothing to playing 3 songs at our end of the year performance. There was also a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes that helped to push our group forward. Roy and Aiko Ebihara, the founders of the group, relentlessly fundraised, helped to build more barrel drums, and looked high and low for venues for the newly formed group to play. Mike Reynolds and Mari Reynolds of Oberlin allowed us to use their home as a base camp to build drums almost every weekend for 4 months. Diane, Nicole, and Natalie Asamoto-Grant drove 2 hours from Akron every weekend to participate in weekly taiko rehearsals. Without these Taiko pioneers our group would have never come as far as we have.

Over the next two years (after the formation of the group in the fall of 2003) members of our group and the supporting community pulled together and worked tirelessly to build 15 taiko drums, numerous stands, taiko bags, and costumes. Yukiko organized a performance by Portland Taiko at Oberlin College and taught a taiko class to Oberlin College students, Roy continued to fundraise, and Diane was put in charge of our performance schedule. Some of the members had gotten bit by the taiko bug so hard that they joined Taiko groups in their hometowns, bringing the knowledge and expertise of taiko grand masters across the country back to Icho Daiko in Oberlin, Ohio.

2005 was a very big year for Icho Daiko in many respects. In the fall of 2005, with the help of Nozomi Ikuta, the group moved from Oberlin to a more spacious rehearsal space in Cleveland to accommodate the growing number of

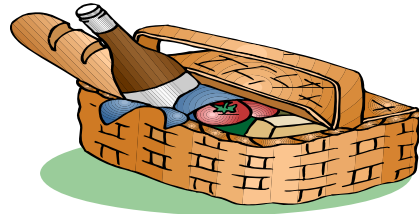
community members that had joined the group. 2005 was also the year of the National Taiko Conference in Los Angeles. A three-day event of taiko workshops with grand masters from the United States as well as Japan and performances by many up and coming taiko groups (including Icho Daiko!). Mame Daiko, a youth taiko group associated with Icho Daiko, was also formed in 2005. By this time, our group had really developed our own unique style, energy, and group philosophy. While incorporating traditional taiko standards like respect, discipline, and hard work, we have also made sure to be true to our group's philosophy of shared leadership, enthusiasm, and involvement in our local community. The values acquired through our taiko drumming group are values that I think will take all of our members very far in life.

Fast forward to May 2007. I have been playing taiko for almost 4 years now and have had the pleasure of watching our group blossom from almost nothing to the amazing performing group that we are now. This April, six members of Icho Daiko had the opportunity to travel to Holland, Michigan to play in four separate performances, the last of which was a one and a half hour gig at Hope Colleges Knickerbocker Theater. The Holland performers (Yukiko Ebara, Ikuko Kurasawa, Jenny Soong, Maryll Phillips, Minh Tam-Nguyen, and myself, Maya Walton) met twice a week for seven months to perfect twelve songs. We worked hard and it definitely showed at the Hope College performance. I never thought I would say it but it looks like my parents were right all of those years: hard work DOES pay off. In addition there were many people besides the performers whose help and dedication was integral to the success of the Michigan performances. Roy and Aiko Ebihara organized the 4 performances, and the non-performing members provided great support and feedback. The trip wouldn't have been possible without the effort put in by all of these people.

So what I'm trying to say is these past four years have been unforgettable and I want to thank everyone in Icho Daiko, Roy and Aiko Ebihara, and Mame Daiko for everything that they have contributed to the group. I also want to thank all of the parents, husbands, wives, children, and friends of taiko players that have continued to support us in our efforts. Although Ohio sometimes feels very foreign to me, Taiko and the people who are a part of the Icho Daiko community have always felt like home and I can't thank you guys enough for that. I'll miss all of you and I wish you the best of luck in all of your taiko adventures. Keep up the good work! And as we say in Japanese – GANBARE!!

2007 COMMUNITY PICNIC

SPONSORED BY THE CLEVELAND JAPANESE AMERICAN
FOUNDATION (CJAF)
SUNDAY AUGUST 26, 2007



10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.

AT

**BRUSHWOOD SHELTER, FURNACE RUN,
SUMMIT COUNTY METRO PARK**

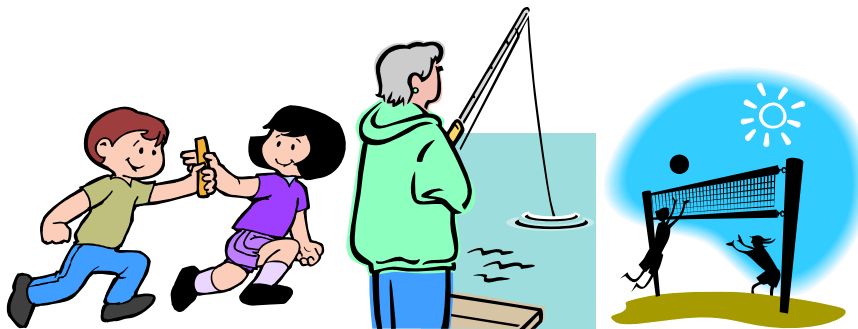
**COST: DONATION ON SITE TO CJAF SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMUNITY
SERVICE ACTIVITIES OR SEND TO:**

John Ochi, 868 Lander Road
Highland Heights, Ohio, 44143

Bring your family and friends and enjoy the outdoors for a Fun Day at a picnic

Special Attraction: JACL Icho Daiko / Mame Daiko Taiko Drumming Group

Activities: Undo-Dai (Games, Relays, Prizes for children of all ages, eating
(Obento), Hiking, Relaxing, Bring a pole for little fishing, Volleyball



Directions to Furnace Run:

Take I-77 South to the Miller Road Exit. Turn left (East) on Miller Road and continue until Brecksville Road. Turn right (South) on Brecksville Road. You will pass Snowville Road on the left and the Quality Inn on the right. As you pass under the Freeway over pass, immediately on the right is Townsend Road. Turn right (West). The Brushwood Shelter is about ¼ mile on the right.

Recipe of the Month

Pressed Chicken

1 whole chicken
3 pieces ginger
3 green onions
2 T sake
2 T. soy sauce
2 t. sugar
5 spice powder
flour/cornstarch

Gravy:

2 c. chicken broth
3 T. cornstarch
4 T. sake
4 T. soy sauce
1 t. MSG/salt
shredded lettuce
toasted almonds
green onions

Place whole chicken, ginger, onions in water and boil for at least 30 minutes. Remove bones and keep chicken pieces in tact, especially skin. Mix chicken with sake, soy sauce, sugar, 5 spice powder and flour/cornstarch and wrap in wax paper. Cool until firm in refrigerator (can be prepared a day ahead). Fry pieces in peanut oil. Cut into 1" pieces and place on a bed of shredded lettuce. Top with gravy, chopped green onions and almonds.

THE CLEVELAND JACL BULLETIN

**A bimonthly publication of the
Cleveland JACL as a service to
the Cleveland Japanese American
Community and interested
individuals and organizations**

**Send articles, comments and
suggestions to:**

THE CLEVELAND JACL BULLETIN

**3097 Ashwood Road
Cleveland, OH 44120
News Deadline for
August/September
Is
July 28, 2007**

**Cleveland Japanese American Citizens League
3097 Ashwood Rd.
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