



Messages from our Officers

In order for the Itazuke Alumni Association to exist it requires people devoting their time to make things happen. While we always encourage people to run for office, this year it might be even more crucial to do so. As of today it appears that a few of the current IAA Board members might be resigning at the end of their terms.

IAA is an official corporation with bylaws and structure. Jan Bloomer can provide you with a summation of the duties for Board members if you are interested in a position. It is my recommendation that all parties interested in how this works join us in a Board meeting or directly communicate with any of our Board officers. I would hate to see reunions & newsletters become things of the past.

Please feel free to contact me via email with any questions..
Respectfully,

Dave Gibson
IAA President
just2toonice@aol.com

YOUNG BLOOD

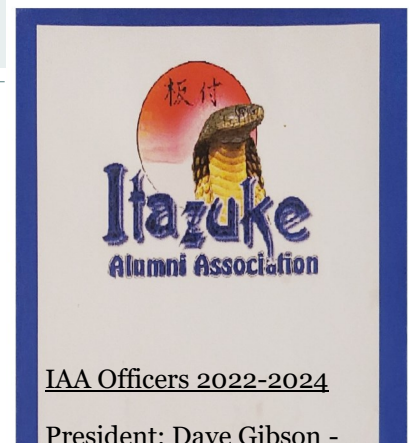
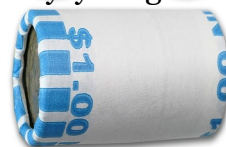
No not the song by The Coasters (1957), or the Beatles (1963), or 5 Seconds of Summer

(2018 – really? Like who knows them?). And not even the band Youngbloods.

Yes ... Young Blood, like younger IAA members stepping up to take positions for IAA.

Every two years we hold elections of the Board and this is the year. Current Board members (Dave Gibson, Janice Bloomer, Mary Anderson Baker, and Teresa Green) have been at the helm for many years now. We feel it is beneficial to have new people contribute and bring fresh ideas to the organization. And we aren't getting any younger! We would like to see classmates of the 70's take charge.

Continue Page 5



IAA Officers 2022-2024

President: Dave Gibson -

Vice President: Jan Bloomer –
jbuzzy45@gmail.com

Secretary: Mary Baker -
chapperb1@gmail.com

Treasurer: Teresa Green
– teresajgreen@me.com

Newsletter Committee

Jan Arbuckle Bloomer

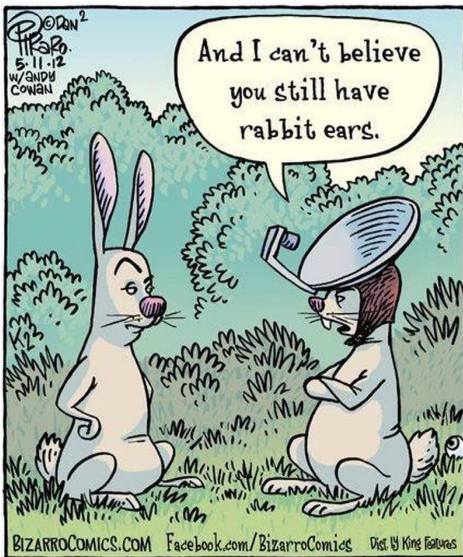
Pam Shupe Lyden

Mary Anderson Baker

PhotoScan by Google Photos

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Reunion
- Reports
- Remembrances
- Members Highlighted



Golf is a lot like doing your taxes

You go for the green and end up in the hole

Remembrances:

NONE REPORTED HAVE PASSED AWAY IN THE LAST 3 MONTHS>

Patrick Murphy

By Pam Slupe Lyden

Patrick was born in Fukuoka at the US Army Hospital. He has a younger, brother, Alvarez, and an older brother, Vibert Jr., who passed away several years ago. Many people remember Viber for his musical abilities in various bands at Itazuke. Patrick is married with two sons; 19 and 30 years old. So far there are no grandchildren. His mother, Masako is still alive and well! She is celebrating her 95th birthday in March. His late father is a WWII Navy Vet and worked as a US Army Civilian initially in Japan and then in Korea.

In early years, the family lived in Kasugabarū (K-Bar) by the railroad tracks. They moved to Zasshonokuma (2 train stops from Fukuoka) when Patrick started kindergarten at the Itazuke AFB Annex. When he started elementary school, they moved to Shirakibaru (S-Bar) for a shorter commute. S-Bar holds a lot of fond memories since there are so many first time experiences related to base activities.

His favorite memories are related to his circle of friends who had a deep passion for sports and music. He learned how to play drums and was able to participate with a few bands. The ballfields, base gym, base pool and teen club were all popular venues for the kids on base. He attended Itazuke until the base closed down and then went to Brady. Camp Brady shut down in 1972, thus, he finally graduated in 1973 at Pusan American High School in Pusan, Korea.

The Patrick family moved to Taegu, Korea after Itazuke AFB and Hakata phased out. After graduation he spent two years at Hilo College on the Big Island of Hawaii. Before completing graduate studies he enlisted in the USAF as an active duty airman. He spent two years at McChord AFB in Lakewood, WA and a year at Andersen AFB in Guam. Eventually he went on to earn a master's degree at the School of Public Health and Community Medicine in Seattle, WA.

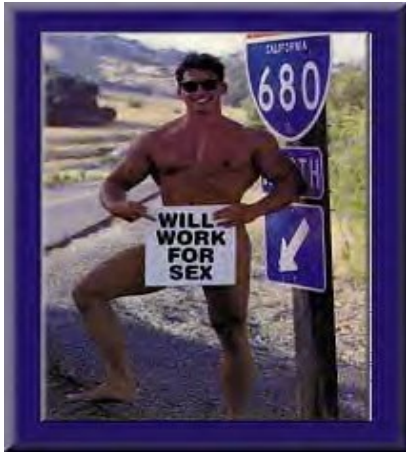
Patrick still enjoys playing drums. He says it keeps him active and young at heart. The bands at Itazuke, such as the Chevelles and Dynamics left lasting impressions on him. He continues to volunteer his time and provides free performances. Aside from music, his hobbies are dining at various eateries, reading, traveling and playing basketball. He is retired but still does contract work to fill his time.



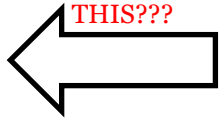
Patrick Murphy continued

IAA 2022 REUNION

Patrick and his wife, Ying, live in South



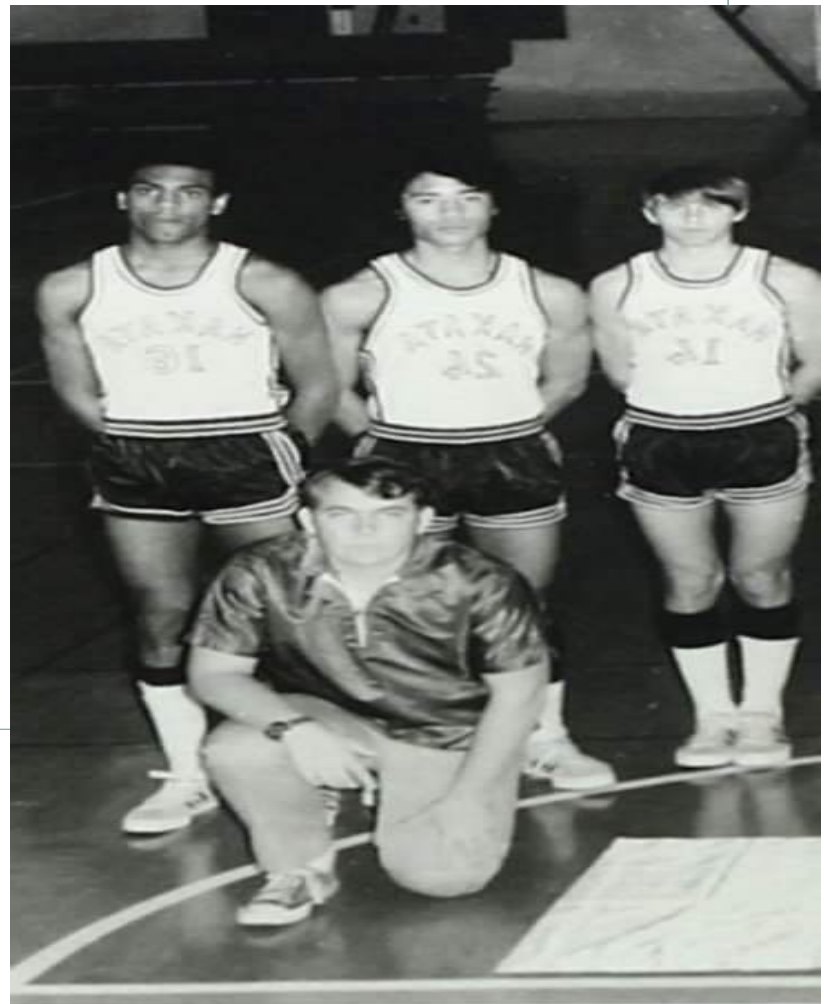
Found this in my goody box? Can you imagine who sent this to me, several years ago?? WHO IS THIS???



Top Right—Patrick Murphy

Middle Left, Patrick, wife-Ying, younger son-Kevin and mother-Masako

Bottom Right -Glynn Black, Patrick Murphy, Rick Russell



29 Dec 2023

I never sent inputs to the newsletter. I really enjoy reading them and frequently see inputs from members in my age group, but they frequently do not mention the years they were there. Let me start this input with: My name is Steven B. Gibson. My family left Portland, OR in December 1960 driving down the coast to various cities enroute to San Francisco to fly out the first week of January 1961. I had just finished the first half of 5th grade. Our time in Itazuke was Jan 61 to Jun 63. My step-father was Sgt Forrest Robert "Bob" Waddell. He was assigned to 8th A & E. I would like to tell a story about Kosakusan.

One day, my brother (Stanley Gibson just over 1 year older) and I decided to climb Monkey Mountain. We lived on S Bar, so it was a straight shot to the farmland at the foot of the mountain. It took a while to walk there and wore us down climbing. We visited the little temple at the top, wandered through the caves and just marveled over the view. As the day started to turn to dusk, we returned home. Our address was 901 S Bar. We had a large rickety garage with an open front and dirt floor. Dad had put a basketball hoop up for us and we threw tops and played marbles in the dirt. When we arrived home that evening, there were 3 Japanese high schoolers in the garage. We did not know what to do. When they realized that we were rather startled at their presence and our parent were still not home, Kosaku, who spoke the clearest English came up to us and introduced himself and his two companions. He said that they were part of a westernization club at school and wanted to have a friendship with the American dependent school kids and would like to talk to our parents. When we agreed to the prospect, we decided to play marbles until our parents returned. Kosaku talked to mom and she agreed that we could participate in the cultural exchange. What a great deal that was. Shortly after our meeting, there was a club meeting at one of the schools in Fukuoka that was down near the end of the Densha tracks. We left the day before and road the Densha to Fukuoka and spent the day and night with Kosaku. He introduced us to his neighbors and took us to dinner. We had a ball. The shocker was the next morning. We got to the school and there must have been 10 thousand kids there. It was a total "wow" day. Over the time after meeting this small group, other kids came wanting to have us be part of their cultural exchange. Kosaku coordinated the time we spent with approximately 20 Japanese kids. The real trauma came when we had to leave. We took the train from Fukuoka to Tokyo and all our Japanese friends came to see us off. As we boarded our seats, all of our friends stood at our window waving. One was missing, Kosaku. He had moved down the landing to be away from the others because he did not want to be embarrassed for crying. That started my whole family sniveling like babies. We really missed our time with these new friends. Mom and Kosaku were pen pals for many years. Then, no more letters came, so mom stopped writing.

I wish everyone could have experience what we did for those 2 1/2 years. The cultural agreement stimulated a lot of things for my older brother and me. I took Japanese language lessons after school, so I could communicate with the non-English speaking members. I still get emotional when thinking about the day we left Japan. My shirt sleeve is wet from my tears as I write this submittal.

Q: Why do the pros tell you to keep your head down during [golf lessons](#)?

A: So you can't see them laughing.

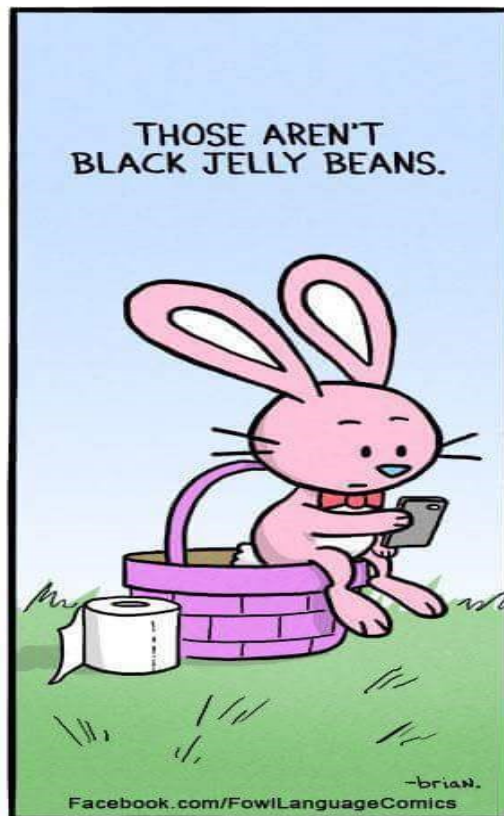
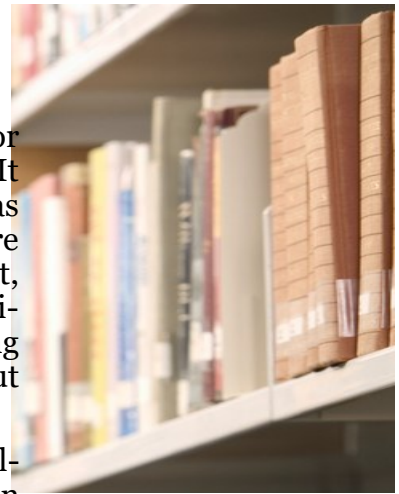
Continue Young Blood

Any Itazuke Alumni Association member can put their name in the hat for any of the Board positions, even if the current Board member is running. It is good to have a little competition going on. Already, Janice Bloomer has indicated that she will not be running for Vice President again, so we are definitely looking for someone to fill that spot. There is also a President, Secretary, and Treasurer role. You can check out the duties of these positions on the Itazuke.org business page. Anyone interested in running should contact any Board member so you can be put on the ballot going out in August.

In other areas, be a part of keeping member communication going by volunteering to be on the Newsletter Committee currently headed up by Jan Bloomer. Newsletters are published about every 3 months and are highlighting bios on some of our members and keeping us all tuned into upcoming events and reunions. Please consider joining in on this effort and let Jan know you are interested.

Finally, we are looking for a new webmaster. Our website is currently hosted on GoDaddy and built on the free WordPress platform. If you are talented in this area, and wish to contribute to improvements of the site, please contact Teresa Green (teresajgreen@me.com) for more information. We would love to hear from you.

Things don't happen in a vacuum. There are people working hard to keep this organization viable. Be one of them!



It is not over until it is over and that is not yet!!

Did you hear, this is election year and we have openings. All of them can be had for the most votes.

I am attaching from our By Laws what the officers must COMPLY with for IAA. Please consider throwing your hat (name) not the lot. If you are not sure then call one of the existing officers as listed on page 1 of this Newsletter and discuss it with them. The worst that can happen is you are elected to the board and will need coaching. We all need some occasionally.

Section 5 - President. The president shall be the principal executive officer of the corporation and shall supervise and control

all of the business and affairs of the corporation. He/She shall preside at all meetings or reunions of the members and of the board of

officers. He/She may sign, with the secretary or any other officer of the corporation authorized by the Board of Officers, any

instruments, or documents that the board has authorized to be executed.

Section 6 - Vice President/Director. In the absence of the president, or in the event that the other members of the board of

officers determine that the president is unable or refuses to act, the vice president/director shall perform the duties of the president, and

when so acting shall have all the powers of, and shall be subject to all the restrictions upon, the president. The vice president/director

shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the president or Board of Officers.

Section 7 - Secretary. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the members and of the Board of Officers; give

all notices in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws or as required by law; be custodian of the records of the corporation; and

The secretary shall keep a database of the name and mailing address of each member, as well as of non-members who have indicated a desire to be informed of the activities of the corporation. The secretary will send out the IAA newsletter to email recipients and shall provide mailing addresses to the editor/publisher as required for the corporation's informational hardcopy mailings. The secretary shall perform such additional duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the president or the Board of Officers.

Section 8 - Treasurer. The treasurer shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds of the corporation, and deposit such monies in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be approved by the board of officers; pay out funds as provided in Article 5, Section 6 and Article 7, Sections 1,2,3 below; make financial reports (such as tax returns) as required by law; and perform such other duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the president or the board of officers.



REUNION NEWS

For those of you coming to the next reunion, (and those still deciding), Columbus, Georgia is the home of the Army's Infantry and Armor School. The Infantry Museum is located just outside of Ft. Moore and presents the greatest collections of military artifacts in the world.

Columbus is located on the Chattahoochee River and offers over 20 miles of walking and biking trails. The town is has several good restaurants and shops within close proximity of each other in an area called Uptown. Which is the neighborhood where we are hosting the reunion.

I hope you will check out the link to the Columbus Tourism Bureau (https://visitcolumbusga.com/visit/things-to-do/chattahoochee_riverwalk)

I'm looking forward to hosting and seeing everyone there.

Melody Venable,
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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE