

ITAZUKE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2016

Editor: Teresa Green, 405 Hill St, Capitola CA 95010-3604

Phone 831-475-8796; email teresajgreen@me.com

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail, please provide our Secretary, Joe Boling (joeboling@aol.com), with your current email address and save us the printing and mailing costs. THANKS!

NEW IAA OFFICERS 2016-2018

At the reunion in Colorado Springs, CO in August, we voted in a new IAA President, Robert Clark '66, and a new Vice President, Jim Dwyer '65. All other officers remain the same.

Bob Clark



Jim Dwyer



Here is a message from our new President:

“Those of us from the Class of 1966 are beginning our next decade of our Itazuke experience. It is hard to believe it has been 50 years. Some of us are not even that old. Between now and the 2018 Orlando reunion, we will be working to improve several areas of the Itazuke Alumni Association.

I am requesting that every member of the IAA do one basic thing that will help keep the group going for many years to come. All I ask is that you have an email address and that you keep Joe Boling up to date with your contact information. I guess that is two things. Every Newsletter mailing costs over \$400 that does not include the ones that are returned and have to be re-mailed. In an effort to include every member of the IAA, I want to have Newsletters, elections and surveys done electronically. There is a reason email has caught on. It is easier, less expensive, and much faster. If you are worried about security, you just do not open email from people you do not know. The nice thing nowadays is that you do not need a computer. You can do nearly everything from your cellular telephone. It is also a great way to bond with your grandchildren.

Itazuke Alumni Association Newsletter June 2016

I sent out a survey in December 2015, which came back with some interesting results. This was done mainly to gather information for the Reunion Committee and to give everyone a chance to use the balloting system before we have a real election. Only 26 percent responded and there were a dozen or so who blocked the program. If you are one of those who blocked the program, Ballot Bin will not allow me to send you a ballot. I hope to have a solution for unblocking those but for now, in order to unblock, you will have to contact Ballot Bin. Email or call me if I can help. Whenever there is an active ballot or survey, I will be available by phone and email to assist.

The Reunion Committee is already working on the 2018 reunion/business meeting that will be on 4-8 October in Orlando, Florida. That will be the Columbus Day weekend, Thursday through Sunday. Monday will be a holiday. It is looking like this could be one of the biggest reunions we have had. Plan now. You do not want to miss it.

Jim Dwyer is working on a Caribbean cruise reunion for sometime around September 2017. The idea has been out there for a while to have some kind of reunion during the off year, between our regular, even years reunion/business meetings. More information should be available online or in the next Newsletter.

Check out our sites on Facebook. I know of no security problems with either of these sites and they have been up and running for several years. The "Itazuke Dependents School" is more for social content and following the escapades of your old classmates. The group site administrator is

Dana Allin Minnis. She does a great job keeping out anyone who is not affiliated with the School. I administer the "Itazuke Alumni Association Information and Discussion" group site. If you are not on Facebook and have issues about privacy, just go to settings and change your privacy settings for more privacy. For instance, you can select "Only Me" regarding who can see your posts, photos, etc. But you can still see what our group members are sharing. If you are already on Facebook, you might want to check your settings. I limit my postings to "Friends" most of the time. Join and follow the adventures of the Itazuke tribe. We are special, ya know. **bobclark@gmail.com**
Bob Clark 903-814-9423"



Like Us on Facebook

Did you know that Itazuke Alumni Association has a Facebook page? You can find it by searching for Itazuke Dependents School on FB. Here is a link to the page: **<https://www.facebook.com/groups/47789233578/>**. It is a closed group and you will have to request to join. **Dana Allin Minnis ('65)** manages the group account. We have 440 members in the group! It is a great way to catch up with people you know from 'Zuke.

PAYING YOUR DUES

Our alumni association does not require much, but it does rely on members paying dues to function. Dues are voluntary and help cover the cost of this newsletter and provide advance funds for reunion costs. **If you have not paid your dues recently, they are \$25/year or \$50 for 3 years. Pay dues to our Treasurer, Jeanne Maxey Brown, PO Box 1412, Tomball, TX 77377**

Itazuke Alumni Association Newsletter June 2016

Itazuke Alumni Association biennial meeting

6 August 2016

The meeting was called to order by president Rodney Miyatake '62 at 1005. Also present were secretary Joseph Boling '60, treasurer Jeanne Maxey Brown '61, editor/publisher Teresa Shea Green '69, and about 40 members and guests. Vice President/Director James McGahee '63 sent his regrets that he could not attend this year's reunion.

Reunion organizer Joe Condrill (for Overseas Brats, the principal host for this reunion) reported that there had been 79 Itazuke alumni and family registered for this reunion. President Miyatake recognized Judy Cauthen Izumi and Dana Allin Minnis as principal organizers for the Itazuke component of the Overseas Brats event.

President Miyatake announced that dues would be accepted by treasurer Brown from any who wish to pay at the reunion. Secretary Boling announced that Chaplain Barnett's book is again available for sale. The price has been reduced to \$15/copy and all copies carried over from the Nashville reunion have been donated to the IAA, with proceeds to go to the association. Anyone who had brought auction lots for the banquet should ensure that Louise Boling has them for preparation of bid slips. This year's auction will be silent only.

Boling had distributed copies of the agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the Nashville biennial meeting (2014) prior to the call to order. Moved/seconded (Tiny Dwyer/Louise Boling) to accept the 2014 minutes. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer Brown reported that we have about \$7600 in the bank. Ballpark figures for annual income and expense are: dues received so far in 2016, \$140; interest received 89c; Nevada corporate filing fees \$50; printing/mailing two newsletters \$1000. T-shirts for this reunion cost \$984.50, with sales yet to be reported [came to \$988]. Going back two years (2015-16), dues received were \$425 [dues

paid at this reunion added \$1100], \$113 paid for our internet domain name renewal (good for five years), other minor costs. [Auction income at this reunion was \$464, Overseas Brats refunded us \$220 that was largely spent in the hospitality room, and the bank balance in October is \$9676.]

Editor Teresa Green rendered this report. In October 2014 (the post-reunion newsletter) we mailed 650 newsletters plus postcards requesting that recipients report back their desires to continue receiving hard copies or willingness to switch to email delivery. The cost of that printing/mailing was \$900. Following return of the postcards, we moved from 375 to 515 receiving the newsletter by email. The next two newsletters cost \$522 and \$485. We continue to get a lot of newsletters returned by the post office; where a new address is provided, we then re-mail that edition to the new address. She made a call for news to put into the newsletter. Most news is now coming from Facebook.

Newsletter costs. Dave Gibson - can't we charge for snail mail copies? Green - we call for emails in each newsletter. Tiny Dwyer - tell them that this will be their last if there is no response. Gibson - lots want to help, but for us to make decisions only every two years is hard - things change all the time. There are many on Facebook with whom we have never had contact. We need a way to make decisions on social media instead of at a biennial meeting. Can we make a motion that people getting mailed copies will be charged \$10 for two years? Moved/seconded (Gibson/Mary Lynn Jordan Vickers) that we charge \$10/two years for mailing hard copies. Louise Boling - what is the purpose of the organization? - to keep contact with alumni. We have the money - why not use it? Liz Johnson Marshall - we should all be encouraging more people to be coming and to keep in contact. Melanie Dell Young - many just don't want to share why they can't come. Gibson - Mary Jo Hodge Shnell was a prolific searcher and networker. Young - how much effort should we exert? Gibson - hopefully a lot

more will become active now that there is a full time way to make contacts [Facebook]. Young again - how much more effort is made after a snail mail bounce? J Boling - none, if the post office does not provide a forwarding address. I do not have time to start calling siblings to find out where the lost member may be (and many siblings don't know where each other are at this stage in their lives). Unnoted - it is not an individual responsibility of an officer to find the lost members - let's publicize the list of lost folks and let their friends do the searching. Not noted - can we amend the motion to exclude dues-paying members from the snail-mail fee? Amendment accepted by proposers. The motion failed by a show of hands, sixteen in favor, nineteen opposed. Linda Pearl Ober - make an effort at the top of each newsletter to get readers to report their email addresses.

Next reunion. Bob Clark - I had a discussion with several alumni about establishing a continuing committee to consider reunions. President Miyatake said go. We had nine member volunteers, now down to six because of work commitments and other factors. Babs Manning was going to try to get a proposal developed for the next reunion. The choice of Orlando or a cruise had Orlando in favor. The survey I developed and sent out to the email addresses was confusing and yielded mixed results. Having a reunion every year had about 1/4 support. We have two facebook sites, which is also confusing. Dana Minnis monitors the social page - Itazuke Dependents School. I (Clark) monitor the Itazuke business page. That is now being run as a private (not secret) group. It has only a limited number of subjects being discussed. Gibson - we have two sites to keep things organized so that we have a communication means between biennial events. It creates an avenue for communication. Jeanne Maxey Brown - having a committee is fine, but when we have a biennial meeting to make those decisions, why do we need a committee to do it? Phil Cummings - my dad's WWII group had used Armed Forces Reunions to plan and conduct reunions - they charge a small fee per

head to organize each reunion and do all the contracting, etc. Clark - the reunion committee was started because of dissatisfaction with being associated with Overseas Brats for this reunion. Vickers - I have been happy with this reunion. Brown - not all have been so pleased. Gibson - when we make a decision it's based on who's here at the biennial meeting. We wanted to get input from lots more by having the committee. Clark - the idea was for the committee to run the reunion by recruiting agents at the desired venue. John O'Brien - one thing not considered when we select a location has been expense of getting there. Clark - we had an example of online voting in the sample survey mentioned before. Online voting would give more people a voice. The committee came up with the Orlando-or-a-cruise proposal for the next event. Jim Easley - I thought idea of traveling a lot was good, but Las Vegas is the cheapest, with great rates. Gibson - some wanted to car pool - you can't plan that two years in advance. Social media gives us a chance to coordinate things like that. O'Brien - some opposition to Las Vegas was because of the gambling. How hard is it to not gamble? Clark - gambling distracts from the reunion activities. I'd like to have a reunion there with Sasebo. Marshall - outside tours and activities are not the point - I want to visit. Clark - Indian casinos are going wild - there are lots of places available. [Many comments about selecting sites that are cheap to get to.] Gibson - we tried to get some ideas for a reunion with the committee, but it did not work out as well as intended. Steve Priester - wants the committee to set up alternatives and bring them to the biennial meeting for decision-making. Tiny Dwyer - so today are we going to look to where we are going to go in 2018? A four-day cruise from New Orleans costs \$309/person, on Carnival (with an inside cabin). \$454 is the most expensive cabin. I would be happy to serve on a committee to make decisions about 2018. Vickers - where does it go? Tiny - Sept/Oct cruises are overnight to Cozumel. I have a source for many options. These prices pertain to fall cruises. Cindy Day

Hair - everyone would have to have a passport to do that. Janice Arbuckle Bloomer - and it's also hurricane season. Clark - this is how the committee thing works - the committee weighs alternatives and makes a list of potential choices. Gibson - let the cruises be in the off-years because of people who won't sail.

Moved/seconded (J Boling/Jim Easley) to have the 2018 reunion in Orlando with the committee responsible for organizing it.

Passed unanimously.

Election of officers. Michael Holden - moved to nominate the sitting board (no second). Moved/seconded (Dave Gibson/Bob Martin) to nominate Bob Clark for president. Moved/seconded (Matt Kohler/Joe Easley) to nominate Jim (Tiny) Dwyer for vice president/director. Moved/seconded (Bob Clark/Jim Dwyer) to nominate Dave Gibson for vice president/director. Moved/seconded (Jim Dwyer/Bob Clark) to nominate Joseph Boling for Secretary. Moved/seconded (Jim Dwyer/Linda Ober) to nominate Jeanne Brown for treasurer. With no further nominations made, the following were elected: president, Bob Clark; VP/director, Jim Dwyer; secretary, Joseph Boling; treasurer, Jeanne Brown. Teresa Green expressed willingness to continue to serve as editor/publisher (an appointed position), and continues in office. She asked for the other officers to please send her some pictures for the newsletter.

Awards for service to the Itazuke Alumni Association. Boling - as an organization we have no awards for service for members. I propose that an award be established in the name of Mary Jo Hodge Shnell. Vickers - how about a donation to her favorite charity? Clark - I would prefer something like the Mary Jo Hodge Shnell memorial wall, with photos of those honored for their service. It could be brought to each reunion for display. Linda Ober - how about reunion scholarships for those who can't afford to attend otherwise? Gibson - there are issues with that, especially regarding taxation if go-fund-me sources are used to raise the money. Easley (did not note whether Jim or

Joe) - Rick Winegarden and Nancy Ryan Keeling also should be recognized, for their work at organizing the first major Itazuke reunion, in Houston in 1987. No motions were made and no decisions reached.

Digital copies of *Bamboo*. Tiny Dwyer - previously there were CDs of each year's *Bamboo* that were prepared by John O'Brien and Bill Burton, as well as discs of Kyushu and Itazuke scenes. I understand that they never recovered their costs for preparing those, and now the discs are no longer playable on current operating systems. O'Brien - what we can do now is make the books available on the webpage, as simple .jpgs without the codes that made each one a "playable" disc.

Moved/seconded (Michael Holden/Joe Easley) to pay up to \$600 to settle past debts to O'Brien and Burton upon presentation of an invoice to the treasurer. Passed.

General discussion.

Unnoted - since Chaplain Barnett's books are now IAA property, why not make them available for a donation rather than a fixed price? Agreed without a vote. Boling mentioned that there are also some tee-shirts from past years.

O'Brien - new music was introduced for the Itazuke alma mater in 1962 - does anyone have the music?

Liz Johnson Marshall - bought all the jewelry she brought for the auction in Japan/China/Russia - wanted the proceeds to go to scholarships, but recognizes that she can't designate that.

Nancy Pearl Yoshii has also created a lot of new earrings that anyone might like to have. She may have some available in the hospitality room.

Melanie Dell Young - a memorial wall is also a good idea (for those no longer with us).

The meeting adjourned at 1156.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Joseph Boling. If I have put your words into somebody else's mouth, or attributed somebody's statement to you incorrectly, please let me know so that corrections can be made.

Itazuke Alumni Association Newsletter June 2016

In all, the reunion seemed to be enjoyed by all who attended. The Hotel Elegante had nice accommodations and we had our own hospitality rooms and dining area so it hardly seemed like we were there as part of the BRATS organization. As we danced the night away, to the sounds of our band, there were some curious, jealous looks from other guests at the hotel.



During the day, we enjoyed looking at memorabilia from Itazuke. One popular item was a menu from the officer's club, with humorous descriptions. – a small chef salad made by a small chef! And asparagus from Santa Anita, CA – best tips around! Look at those prices!



Dana Allin Minnis remarked:

The women at the reunion had a blast buying earrings from our very own resident artist (well one of them). Some of us were able to control our buying habits and some lost control. Check out Nancy Yoshii's website nancyyoshii.com



Nancy makes these earrings out of paper that she has collected from everywhere she has lived. Some of it she kept from her time in Japan. She just could not get rid of it because it was so beautiful. And now she is using it to make these unique earrings!

T-SHIRTS FROM PRIOR REUNIONS

Thanks to those who have helped thin out the extra shirts. As of today, we have 25 tee shirts that were leftover from previous reunions. If you are interested in purchasing one, contact Bob Clark. Shipping is about \$5 per shirt.

2016 Colorado Springs	3 SM 1 LG 2 XXL
2008 Las Vegas	2 XL. 2 XXL
2006 Dover	10 XL 4 XXL 1 XXXL

REUNION SUBCOMMITTEE NEWS

It has been decided that 4 - 8 October (Thursday ~ Sunday) will be the dates for the next reunion in 2018 (in Orlando, FL). We will try to plan more activities for those dates such as two dinner nights and more entertainment formats.

Also, as we near the next reunion, volunteers will be solicited to help set things up, maintain the hospitality suite and to assist in disassembling things. We are currently looking near the airport and hopefully the location selected will provide a shuttle for those flying into the area versus driving.

For those not on the reunion committee and not on Facebook, they can always email me with concerns or suggestions at Just2toonice@aol.com

P.S. We are asking everybody to try to reach out and find prior classmates, friends etc.

If some would like to do that they may also email me and once we get a list of prior names I can send it to those that would like to help. I think some might be more apt to attend if contacted by prior classmates, but all help is appreciated.

Respectfully, Dave Gibson

**Itazuke Alumni Association
405 Hill St.
Capitola, CA 95010-3604**

Please do not forward

Itazuke Dependents School 1952-1971

Return Service Requested

**We're from Itazuke don't you forget
Our hearts can't forget!**

**Predecessors:
Hakata American School 1946
Fukuoka American School 1947-1952**

**Successor:
Hakata High School 1971**

**Closed physically in 1972:
"In our thoughts forever"**

**We've got the spirit and
we've got the pep.
We're from Itazuke
we won't forget**

IAA Officers for 2016 – 2018

President Robert Clark '66
Vice President Jim Dwyer '65
Secretary Joseph Boling '60
Treasurer Jeanne Maxey Brown '61
Editor/Publisher Teresa Shea Green '69