

# ゴキブル月刊

## GO BLUE

JSA's *Go Blue* Newsletter

March 2022 Edition



Left: **Praveen Soundararajan, Rei Kubota, and Faiqa Alam** enjoying the good vibrations.

Right (above): **Rex Fung** posing for the camera



Right (below): **Nami Kaneko, Mateo Amprimo, and Masashi Endo** trying to convince **Shun Nagasaki** to come back

## JSA BONFIRE

By *Seiji Hoshino*

March was another great month; we got a little taste of the beautiful Michigan summer weather that is coming! While the weather wasn't great for our bonfire, it was our first non-collab JSA event in over two months, and it was a success. From the pizza on the sticks, s'mores, and good conversation, it was a beautiful event with some immaculate vibrations.

"It was a pretty fun event, from roasting pizza over the fire to getting to meet everyone in a more chill setting," says **Arnav Shah**. "Definitely hope to be a part of it again." We hope everyone else had a similar experience, and a bonfire will 100% be happening again.

The bonfire was JSA at its finest, a bunch of wonderful people coming together and enjoying each other's company. I will definitely be missing moments like these </3.

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Above: The money manager, **Carter Gwon**, and business woman, **Emma Saito**, collecting the cheddar.

## JSA IM SOCCER + VOLLEYBALL

By Seiji Hoshino

Not an event, but this semester we had JSA intramural soccer and volleyball teams competing for the ultimate prize, a t-shirt! Both teams made it to the playoffs (ignore the fact that every team makes the playoffs), and made a deep run in the bracket.

IM soccer made it to the championship after a tough semi-finals match, and won with a beautiful last minute goal from **Carter Gwon**. It was a great season, and could be a sign of Japan's national team's success in the upcoming World Cup.

IM volleyball made it all the way to the semi-finals, and unfortunately lost a very close match. While the result wasn't what we hoped for, the team had a lot of fun, and it was a joy to watch everyone play! Next year, championship.

## MARKET SASE

By Seiji Hoshino

This semester has been the defined by collaborations, and March was not any different. SASE, Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers, hosted Market SASE, where people got to try a variety of Asian food and see some very cool science demonstrations. They even gave out a hammock and a mini projector :O

We decided to sell our classic onigiris, and they were a hit (of course). "It was fun getting to know people from other orgs," says **Emma Saito**. "I'm glad people seemed to enjoy the onigiris!" All of these collab events have been a great chance for everyone to meet other orgs and we're excited to continue having them. Thank you to SASE for inviting us!



Left: IM Soccer Team  
Below: IM Volleyball team and loyal fans



## KAZOKU UPDATE

March was a busy month! With spring break at the beginning, JCF preparations, and exam season filling up many schedules, many kazokus were sadly unable to meet this March.

Stay tuned for our last newsletter edition in April with kazoku pictures that will close off a wonderful year of the kazoku program!



We hope you guys had a blast at JCF! Yamibuy, one of the sponsors of the event provided us with great snacks that we were able to give out to you all for free! If you would like to taste those delicious foods again, use the code in the ad they made just for JSA! Enjoy!

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## HUMANS OF JSA

By Tiger Hashikura

Hello beautiful newsletter readers! This month we decided to highlight some seniors who have been with us for a long while and have become very familiar faces in our community. Hopefully you'll be able to connect with both of them in the coming month before the semester comes to a close!



### Praveen Soundararajan

**Tiger:** What's up Praveen! Can you tell the people a bit about yourself?

**Praveen:** Yeah sure. I'm a senior studying Material Science and Engineering, I'm from Shelby Township, Michigan which is one of those other cities in Detroit.

**Tiger:** You know it's funny, I thought you were a senior when I first met you during my freshman year haha.

**Praveen:** People never know what grade I'm in... this year I've been told I look like a junior. But wow that was a long time ago, one of the first times we ever met probably.

**Tiger:** Yeah, you joined JSA at the same time as me so we've known each other a while huh. So what kept you coming back to JSA?

**Praveen:** In general I'm interested in other cultures and like experiencing them. More perspectives give us better understanding of the world and people, so I wanted to join JSA. Over time I've enjoyed it more the longer that I

stayed, probably because I've gotten to know people and get closer with them. I really cherish the connections I made with certain people, but not everyone of course.

**Tiger:** ...not everyone? Are you implying you dislike some people cuz if you are I totally understa-

**Praveen:** No no no, I meant that as in I don't dislike certain people, I'm just not close with everyone.

**Tiger:** Ok then, sure dude... let's move on. What else are you doing on campus? I know you're a busy man.

**Praveen:** Right now the only one I'm active in is the Table Tennis Club. Over college though I've also been involved with Tau Beta Pi and the Scandinavian Club. The other clubs sort of made me feel detached during the virtual year, so I'm not participating in them anymore.

**Tiger:** That makes sense, what's kept you with the Table Tennis Club then? Are you an officer?

**Praveen:** It's one of my favorite sports, and I'm actually the president of the club. I run practices, coordinate other officers' responsibilities, etc. I'm really proud of the work we've done, and it's the first time in 5 years that we're going to nationals and that we've been profitable.

**Tiger:** Damn big man makin' big moves! Super happy to hear that my guy. I can understand the feeling of bringing a group of people to success, and the fulfilment that could bring :) Before we wrap up here I wanna know: if you could tell just one thing to all of JSA, what would it be?

**Praveen:** Hitting me with the deep questions... I'd say go out and try lots of things. You're all young, and I think experience and immersion is the best teacher. That applies for almost every part of life, and experience helps with how we go about making decisions in the future. This also applies to languages, and I have my own philosophy about this so if you want to hear that, come ask me!

# HUMANS OF JSA

By Tiger Hashikura

## Helen Nguyen

**Tiger:** Hey Helen! Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

**Helen:** Yeah! I'm Helen, I'm a senior in nursing, and I'm from Macomb, Michigan. I joined JSA the second semester of my freshman year, and right now I'm the email lady (internal communications chair).

**Tiger:** Wow, a board member for Humans Õ what a special occasion. Why did you decide to join JSA?

**Helen:** During my freshman year I was at DVN (VSA event) and I met Sandra, the JSA president at the time. She pulled me over to help out for JCF, and she told me to do Soran Bushi. The people I met were fun and easy to talk to, so I decided to join!

**Tiger:** Crazy that you lead Soran Bushi this year, it's really come full circle! JSA must have been super different back then... how's today's JSA holding up? ☺

**Helen:** Back then they were a much smaller group of people but we've grown so much and the amount of active members this year has been so high! It's been amazing to see the growth over the years. I think we've been doing a great job this year too, we've done well with events like Asia's Got Spice! It was great to see how many other orgs showed up, the food they brought was good, and it was really funny to witness people's spice tolerances haha!

**Tiger:** That's all true :) I think we can definitely be proud of the work we did this year. So I've always heard from nursing students that they have a busy schedule, can you explain that to me?

**Helen:** Yeah so when it comes to classes it's pretty normal but they're typically a bit longer, around 3-4 hours is normal for us. When it comes to clinicals it's totally different though. We pretty much have working adult schedules. We're expected to show up on time at the hospital at 6 AM, and we have 8 to 12 hour shifts 2-3 times a week. There are also high expectations since we're taking care of other people's lives when we're on shift.

**Tiger:** What...the...f#\$%. First of all, a 3 hour class being NORMAL? And that schedule with clinicals sounds so messed up, I can't fathom how you guys do that on top of school. Do you have any time outside of all of that to do things for fun??

**Helen:** Yeah, it gets a bit tough at times haha! When I have time I like to crochet, do arts and crafts, play guitar, and go to the gym! I've actually been getting back into boxing lately.

**Tiger:** Boxing! That's so cool! How did you get into that?

**Helen:** So I actually learned an Israeli fighting style called Krav Maga a few years ago, and boxing was a part of that. Krav Maga is actually super awesome and it made me feel confident in going places alone and we practiced cool stuff like knife skills and jiu-jitsu!

**Tiger:** Wow, that sounds like such a practical martial art, super cool that you learned that. There's one last thing I need from you - what's one thing you want to tell the rest of JSA?

**Helen:** Y'all should enjoy college life while you can! These are 4 years where you can be an irresponsible adult, so go out and do stuff you normally won't be able to do later! Also, don't be too hard on yourself and focus on you.



## BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

By Nami Kaneko

We're bringing back board recommendations this month! This time we asked our boardies...

### "What is your favorite spring activity?"

Jackson: Golf 🏌️

Abby: Reading outside in the warm weather!!

Sabrina: Studying outside

Emma: Taking a walk in the arb with friends

Yuna: Picnic and frisbee

Carter: Playing soccer outside

Tiger: Going to a lake (particularly Barton pond)

Seiji: Walks in the park

Anna: Cycling through Gallup park!

Nami: Going to the farmer's market!

Trevor: Going on hikes

Helen: Going to the playground/park and bonfires



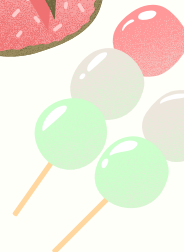
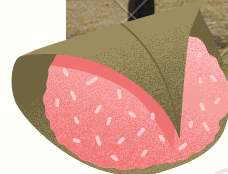
Hopefully these suggestion will inspire you for some Spring fun coming up! (as long as the weather gets better 🤞)

## JAPANESE CULTURE SECTION!

By Nami Kaneko

The US celebrates St. Patrick's Day in the month of March, but Japan celebrates the Sakura season! Sakura means cherry blossom in Japanese. The season lasts from late March up until late April and occasionally stretches to early May! It's a beautiful season with hanami (花見) or flower watching. During this warmer season, people will go out with their friends and families to have picnics in areas where these pink flower bloom. Park-goers can enjoy sakura-flavored snacks like traditional sakura mochi, sakura-flavored pocky, kit-kats, and more!

Fun fact! You can identify sakura flowers by the little notches on the ends of the flowers. If they aren't there, you're probably looking at a plum blossom!



Thanks for reading the newsletter this month! See you all in our April edition <3