

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter Lebruary 2015

OUR 1942 WARTIME INCARCERATION WAS ...

Unconstitutional, **right?** Executive Order 9066 of February 19, 1942 and Public Law 503 of March 21, 1942 were declared illegal, **right?**

Searching our homes on December 8th for contraband and arresting our Issei elders, leaders of the Nikkei (of Japanese ancestry) community, without search warrants or the benefit of writs of habeas corpus, and the incarceration of over 120,000 innocent persons of Japanese ancestry without charges, attorneys, trial, and due process of law were illegal, right? And, since the US Government recognized a wrong and offered an apology and presented \$20,000 as redress of grievances on August 10, 1988 proves that our incarceration was illegal, right?

WRONG! WRONG! WRONG!

Many, including writers and scholars, continue to state that this incarceration of citizens of the United States in 1942 was unconstitutional as fact. In their judgment, it was contrary to the US Constitution. It was unjust, immoral and contrary to the "American spirit of liberty," but, today, our wartime incarceration remains legal.

The United States Supreme Court opinioned that our imprisonment was a "military necessity" (albeit with unsubstantiated evidence, fear, and racism) and, therefore, was constitutional. The US Constitution is what five persons, mostly men, say it is at any given time. Has the Court reversed itself? Yes, many times, which gives us some measure of hope.

For us who were imprisoned in 1942, the US Constitution simply ceased to exist.

Nevertheless, the vast majority of us expressed our loyalty to this country and remained steadfast. The most faithful--many young men--were to sacrifice their limbs and lives in combat overseas.

Have you ever read Executive Order 9066 or Public Law 503? Well, here they are. Conspicuously absent are the words "Japanese," "Germans," and "Italians." To whom, then, were they referring? The language was so vague. How, then, did we end up in prison for three and a half years?

Executive Order 9066, Authorizing the Secretary of War to Prescribe Military Areas

Whereas the successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national-defense material, national-defense premises, and national-defense utilities as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533, as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1220, and the Act of August 21, 1941, 55 Stat. 655 (U.S.C., Title 50, Sec. 104);

Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, whenever he or any designated Commander deems such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he or the appropriate Military Commander may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military Commander may impose in his discretion. The Secretary of War is hereby authorized to provide for residents of any such area who are excluded there from, such transportation, food, shelter, and other accommodations as may be necessary, in the judgment of the Secretary of War or the said Military Commander, and until other arrangements are made, to accomplish the purpose of this order. The designation of military areas in any region or locality shall supersede designations of prohibited and restricted areas by the Attorney General under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, and shall supersede the responsibility and authority of the Attorney General under the said Proclamations in respect of such prohibited and restricted areas.

I hereby further authorize and direct the Secretary of War and the said Military Commanders to take such other steps as he or the appropriate Military Commander may deem advisable to enforce compliance with the restrictions applicable to each Military area hereinabove authorized to be designated, including the use of Federal troops and other Federal Agencies, with authority to accept assistance of state and local agencies.

I hereby further authorize and direct all Executive Departments, independent establishments and other Federal Agencies, to assist the Secretary of War or the said Military Commanders in carrying out this Executive Order, including the furnishing of medical aid, hospitalization, food, clothing, transportation, use of land, shelter, and other supplies, equipment, utilities, facilities, and services.

This order shall not be construed as modifying or limiting in any way the authority heretofore granted under Executive Order No. 8972, dated December 12, 1941, nor shall it be construed as limiting or modifying the duty and responsibility of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with respect to the investigation of alleged acts of sabotage or the duty and responsibility of the Attorney General and the Department of Justice under the Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941, prescribing regulations for the conduct and control of alien enemies, except as such duty and responsibility is superseded by the designation of military areas hereunder.

> Franklin D. Roosevelt The White House, February 19, 1942.

PUBLIC LAW 503, AN ACT

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever shall enter, remain in, leave, or commit any act in any military area or military zone prescribed, under the authority of an Executive order of the President, by the Secretary of War, or by any military commander designed by the Secretary of War, contrary to the restrictions applicable to any such area or zone or contrary to the order of the Secretary of War or any such military commander, shall, if it appears that he knew or should have known of the existence and extent of the restrictions or order and that his act was in violation thereof, be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not to exceed \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each offense.

Approved, March 21, 1942.

Legislation allowed federal courts to enforce the provisions of Executive Order 9066. Taking just twelve days to pass both houses of the Congress and signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt after its introduction on March 9, 1942, Public Law 503 (above) specified the criminal penalties for violating military restrictions on civilians authorized by EO 9066.

Shortly after the president issued EO 9066 on February 19, 1942, attention in Washington turned towards legislation that would authorize enforcement of its provisions. Because Attorney General Francis Biddle did not feel such legislation was necessary, it was left to the War Department to draft it, a task taken up by Karl Bendetsen. By February 22, Bendetsen had sent a draft to his boss, Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy that proposed making violations a felony with penalties of up to a \$5,000 fine and five years of imprisonment. Thinking Bendetsen's penalties too harsh, McCloy made violations a misdemeanor and limited the maximum prison term to one year. After the Western Defense Command issued Public Proclamation 1 on March 2, designating Military Areas 1 and 2, Secretary of War Henry Stimson sent the draft a week later to Senator Robert B. Reynolds (D-NC), the chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee and to House Speaker Sam Rayburn (D-TX), along with a cover letter explaining that the proposed legislation was "to provide for enforcement in the Federal/criminal courts of orders issued under the authority of Executive Order... No. 9066."

Congress moved with unusual speed. The legislation was introduced in the Senate on March 9 and in the House on March 10. The Senate Committee on Military Affairs considered the legislation on March 13 in a one hour session in which **Colonel B. M. Bryan**, chief of the

Alien Division, Office of the Provost Marshal General, was the only one to testify. On March 17, the House Committee on Military Affairs considered it for a mere halfhour, again with Bryan providing an explanation. Both committees approved the measure unanimously. On March 19 the full Senate and full House considered the bill. The only hint of dissent in either body was the observation by Ohio Republican Senator Robert A. Taft, who stated, "I think this is probably the 'sloppiest' criminal law I have ever read or seen anywhere." He added, "I have no doubt that in peacetime no man could ever be convicted under it, because the court would find that it was so indefinite and so uncertain that it could not be enforced under the Constitution." Both bodies passed the measure by voice vote. It was on the president's desk by March 20 and signed into law on March 21, 1942.

By Brian Niiya of Densho

U. S. Executive Order 9066 was a presidential order signed by Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942 authorizing the Army to designate military areas from which any persons may be excluded. The words Japanese or Japanese Americans never appeared but the order was directed mainly against us. This order effectively sent over 120,000 Japanese-Americans to incarceration camps during WW II. It banned Japanese and American citizens of Japanese ancestry from a 50-60 mile area along the entire West Coast of the United States and extending into southern Arizona.

This mass removal of persons of Japanese ancestry was ordered by the president, supported by the Justice Department, implemented by the military, and sanctioned by the Supreme Court. It was based on the pretext of "military necessity," a justification that later proved groundless and unsupported by any evidence but, nevertheless remains the supreme law of the land.

General John L. DeWitt, the commanding officer of the U.S. Army's Western Defense Command issued a report at the time that stated there were indications that the [Japanese] are organized and ready for concerted action. The very fact that no sabotage or espionage has taken place to date is disturbing and confirming indication that such action will take place. Following this determination, General DeWitt requested the power to remove all enemy aliens from the West Coast, which was granted by the president through Executive Order 9066.

Executive Order 9066 was rescinded by President Gerald Ford on February 19, 1976. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter created a Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) to conduct a study of E.O. 9066. After two years, the CWRIC issued its findings in Personal Justice Denied, which determined that the decision to incarcerate was based on race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership. It recommended an official government apology, as well as redress payments of \$20,000 to each survivor and a public educational fund to ensure that it not happen again. Based on the recommendations of the CWRIC, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 was signed into law by President Ronald Reagan on August 10, 1988.

Our **National JACL-LEC**, the primary agent, fought successfully via a "redress of grievances" to right an injustice inflicted on 120,000 innocent persons.

2015 "DAY OF REMEMBRANCE" OBSERVANCE, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22nd, BY THE FIVE MONTEREY BAY JACL CHAPTERS

Salinas Valley JACL, this year's host chapter, will present the highly acclaimed film, "The Untold Story: Internment of Japanese Americans in Hawai'i," produced by the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i. This is the first full-length (60 minutes) documentary about the little known story of the 1,800 men and women who were incarcerated in 13 confinement sites throughout Hawai'i.

The event will begin at the Japanese Memorial Garden and California State Historical Marker (weather permitting), Sherwood Community Center, 940 North Main Street, Salinas, CA (site of the Salinas Assembly Center, April-July, 1942, Salinas Rodeo Grounds) at 1:30 pm. The program then moves indoors to the Santa Lucia Room.

The public is most welcome to attend this event. There is no admission charge, and light refreshments will be served.

For information, call **Shari Higashi** at (831) 753-5982.





Within 48 hours of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii authorities arrested several hundred local Japanese in Oahu, Maui, Hawaii and Kauai. They were Buddhist priests, Japanese language school officials, newspaper editors, business and community leaders.

Within a few months over 1,800 men and women of Japanese ancestry (of 158,000 in Hawai'i) were arrested, detained and incarcerated in Hawaii and later sent to the Department of Justice and War Relocation Authority (WRA) camps on the continental U.S.

There was no evidence of espionage or sabotage, and no charges were ever filed against them.

While the story of the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans in California, Oregon and Washington is better known, very little has been documented about the Hawaii confinement sites and its internees until now.

Please join us on February 22nd in Salinas.

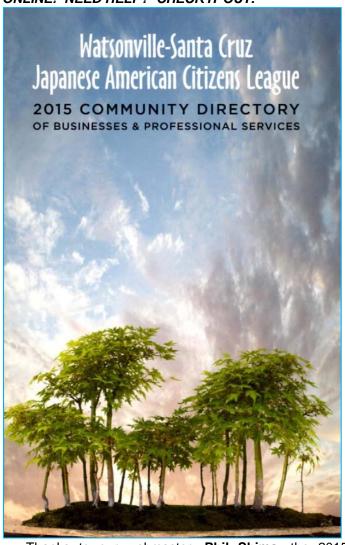
W-SC JACL'S "2015 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND"

We are grateful to the many donors who, throughout the year, support our efforts in promoting and defending civil and human rights, education and scholarships, this newsletter and our greatest need.

Your assistance enables us to maintain JACL Kizuka Hall and to carry out special programs and events. Thank you for considering us worthy of your charitable gift.

Enclosed in this newsletter is an announcement/flyer asking for your support so that we may carry on. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

OUR W-SC JACL "2015 COMMUNITY DIRECTORY OF BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES" IS ONLINE! NEED HELP? CHECK IT OUT.



Thanks to our webmaster, **Phil Shima**, the 2015 Directory is online and ready for viewing at: http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/supporters/.

Our appreciation goes to David Kadotani, Phil Shima, Victor Kimura, Mas and Marcia Hashimoto for their hard work as committee members.

Most important of all, we thank all the ad donors for their support and important service to our community.

Please patronize our contributors if you are able. If you did not receive a copy and wish one, please let us know at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or call 831-722-6859.

GARDENING AROUND THE W-SC JACL HALL

Thank you, **Jeanette O. Hager, Cindy Hirokawa Mine and Gary Mine** for removing the weeds and pruning the bushes on January 3rd, 2015.

Thank you, **Iwao Yamashita, Gary Mine** and **Joe Bowes** for cleaning the Japanese Memorial Garden in Salinas in preparation for the Day of Remembrance observance at the site of the Salinas Assembly Center.

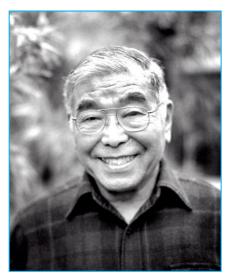
Thanks to those board members--who take out the garbage cans to the street for pickup every Wednesday.

Flowers placed on the Nisei Veterans' Memorial at the PV Memorial Park in December by Toshiko Yamashita, Cindy and Gary Mine and Mas and Marcia Hashimoto were appreciated.

NEVADA COUNTY NISEI WW II VET TO RECEIVE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL by Keri Brenner of The Union (newspaper) Grass Valley, CA, December 29, 2014

When Nevada County staff member **Grant Eisen** saw the "Go for Broke" license plate frame on a car parked at the county's Rood Center 19 years ago, he had to leave a note on the windshield.

A history buff, Eisen knew that "Go for Broke" was the motto of the original 442nd U.S. Army regiment of Japanese-American soldiers who fought in World War II. The 442nd unit is credited with helping to liberate parts of France, where Eisen's ancestors came from.



When Eisen met the owners of the car, Masuo "Mas" Tsuda and his wife Ann of Alta Sierra, a friendship began that continues to this day.

"They are wonderful people," Eisen said of the Tsudas. "They've experienced a lot, and they still have a lot of integrity."

Photo by **Tom Graves**.

Earlier this month, Mas Tsuda, now 90, was notified that he will receive the coveted *French Legion of Honor* medal at a special ceremony Feb. 3 in San Francisco.

Eisen said he will be "honored" to drive the Tsudas to the ceremony, to be held at the home of **French Consul General Pauline Carmona.**

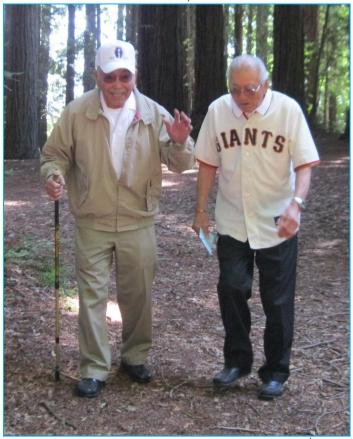
"It's so great that they're being acknowledged," Eisen said of Tsuda and several other living World War II veterans who will receive the medal. "The French government hasn't forgotten them, and is making an effort to acknowledge their contributions and sacrifices."

The French Legion of Honor medal is not the first recognition for Tsuda, a retired landscaper who moved with Ann to Alta Sierra from San Mateo in 1988. On Nov. 2, 2011, the U.S. Congress awarded him and other members of the 442nd the Congressional Gold Medal.

Earlier awards include the *Purple Heart* (May 1945), the *World War II Victory Medal* (April 1945), the *Bronze Star* (1945) and almost a half-dozen others in 1945 and 1944.

"He didn't think he would live that long," quipped Ann Tsuda, 85, of her husband's latest recognition. "It's only awarded to veterans who are living at the time of the award."

Mas Tsuda and the 442nd regiment are credited with fighting back the Germans and liberating the town of Bruyères, in the Vosges Mountains area of Alsace Lorraine in northeastern France, in October 1944.



Mas Tsuda (If) is shown here with his 442nd RCT veteran buddy, **Lawson Sakai** who will also receive the *French Legion of Honor award* at the residence of the French Consul General in San Francisco on February 3rd.

Then, in November 1944, the regiment went on to perform a daring rescue of the "Lost Texas Battalion" of the Texas-based 141st regiment, who became trapped behind German lines in the Vosges Mountains about two miles east of Biffontaine.

"We lost 800, and rescued 200," said Tsuda of the bloody battle, which he escaped even after being hit with a mortar round.

"My body was full of BBs," he said. "I was lucky."

The 442nd regiment was composed almost entirely — except for the officers — of *Nisei*, or second-generation Japanese-Americans. They have since been named honorary Texans, according to Eisen.

"They thought we were not good enough to wear their shoulder patch," said Tsuda of the attitude of anti-Japanese bigotry earlier in the war. "But then we rescued them."

Tsuda's and the 442nd's contributions are made even more poignant when one realizes that they fought so

valiantly for the U.S. even after being sent to internment camps by the U.S. government earlier in the war.

In the wake of anti-Japanese sentiment following the Pearl Harbor bombing on Dec. 7, 1941, **President Franklin Delano Roosevelt** signed **Executive Order 9066** on Feb. 19, 1942 setting up 10 internment camps in western U.S. for Japanese-Americans.

Tsuda, who tried to enlist at age 16 after Pearl Harbor, was deemed ineligible due to his Asian heritage. Instead, he was later sent to a camp in Poston, Ariz. Ann Tsuda, who met Mas after the war when both had moved to the Bay Area, was sent to an internment camp in Utah when she was 13.

"He had shrapnel coming to the surface of his body for the longest time," Ann Tsuda said of her husband.

Eisen said he learned that Tsuda had probably saved his grandfather, **Julius Mandell**, in 2007 when Eisen read a book, "U.S. Samurais in Bruyères," by **Pierre Moulin**. Mandell had lived in the Bruyères area, Eisen said.

"I didn't connect the dots until I read that book and I looked at the map," Eisen said. "For me, it was such an honor to be able to say thank you (to Tsuda) on behalf of my family."

Tsuda was also featured along with other 442nd veterans in a 2013 book, "Twice Heroes: America's Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea," by **Tom Graves** of San Francisco.

"They're just sweet, humble, salt-of-the-earth people," Eisen said of the Tsudas. "It's cool that we have these people right in our community."

City of Alhambra's "Go For Broke" Float in the 2015 Rose Parade. Photo courtesy of Leo Jarzomb of Pasadena Star-News.



Pasadena, CA - Japanese American World War II veterans were honored in the 2015 Rose Parade with a float sponsored by the City of Alhambra. Titled "Go For Broke" after the unit motto of the highly decorated all Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the parade float was designed as a flower covered replica of the Go For Broke monument located nearby in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. With assistance from the Go For Broke National Education center, five veterans and two alternates were selected to ride the float alongside Alhambra Mayor Gary Yamauchi and his wife, Linda: Roy Fujiwara, Susumu "Sus" Ito, Yoshio "Yosh" Nakamura, Masao "Mas" Takahashi, and Tokuji "Toke" Yoshihashi, with Yo Oshiki and Min Shinmoto selected as alternates.

The Rose Parade is an annual New Year's Day parade in Pasadena, CA and is watched by thousands of spectators along the parade route and by millions of national and international viewers on television and online.

A 2015 Rose Parade Story by Sarah Favot

Joan Williams, 82, of Pasadena, holding a portrait of herself wearing a crown from when she was selected as "Miss Crown City" by her colleagues in City Hall in 1958 and was supposed to ride on the city-sponsored Rose Parade float. When city officials found out she was an African American, they took that honor away saying, the

city couldn't afford a float that year.

Now nearly 60 years later, Williams rode at the head of the 2015 Rose Parade on New Year's Day on the opening banner float. Walt

Mancini/Staff Photographer

Williams, then

27, was named "Miss Crown City" in 1957, an honor bestowed upon one City Hall employee who would ride on a city-sponsored float during the Rose Parade on Jan. 1, 1958. She was thrilled. The honor was like the Rose Queen title — Miss Crown City would attend numerous events leading up to the parade, representing the city.

"I was young and it was exciting," Williams said. A couple of months later, however, she experienced a grave disappointment.

"For when word spread that light-complexioned Mrs. Williams was a Negro, fellow employees in the municipal office where she works as an accountant-clerk suddenly stopped speaking to her," it reported in January 1959. "And Mrs. Williams did not ride on a float, because the City of Pasadena neglected to include one in its own parade. Too many others were already entered, explained an official," the article continued.

Williams said she never bought that reasoning. If the city didn't have enough money, it wouldn't have named a Miss Crown City months before the parade, she said. The city had even paid for a portrait of Williams in a gown, corsage and tiara.

Williams attended a city employees picnic at Brookside Park where a photographer from Jet Magaine wanted to take her picture with the mayor at the time. The mayor refused, she said.

"It was one of the first times, as an adult, I began to grow up and realize what racism is," she said.

"Somehow I wasn't the person they wanted on that float anymore just because of my heritage," Williams said. "You can imagine the slap in the face that is."

Civil rights era

In 1957, Pasadena's hometown hero **Jackie Robinson** had retired from Major League Baseball the year before and **Martin Luther King Jr**. came here to speak at Caltech.



King basically gave his "I Have a Dream" speech to about 200 faculty, students and others who were in attendance at the keynote speech at the Athenaeum, according to a Caltech press release from the 40th anniversary of King's visit.

Race relations were still percolating in 1957 in the City of Roses. The Civil Rights Act would not be enacted until 1964. Pasadena's public schools did not desegregate under court order until 1970.

No apology

Fifty-six years have passed and Williams will be riding in the Rose Parade, but the city is still struggling with race relations in the wake of the police shooting of unarmed black teenager <u>Kendrec McDade</u>.

And officials are not apologizing for what happened to Williams.

Pasadena Mayor **Bill Bogaard** said the city hasn't offered her a formal apology, but he contacted Williams and invited her to lunch after he heard her story.

"We didn't dwell on what happened in the past," he said. They talked about their families.

"She's a very nice person, I'm delighted to have come to know her and now consider her a friend," Bogaard said. Bogaard was then contacted by the Tournament of Roses to arrange a meeting with Williams.

Tournament of Roses Executive Director **Bill Flinn** said he was asked if there was a float that Williams could ride on. There was a spot on the banner float, where Williams will ride. The float carries the parade's theme "Inspiring Stories," and appears at the beginning of the parade.

"We're pleased to have Mrs. Williams riding in the Rose Parade," Flinn said.

For Williams, it took convincing from her children for her to agree to participate.

"It doesn't mean the same for me in 2015 as it would have in 1958," she said.

Williams said she had mixed emotions and that she "let this injustice go a long time ago."

"I want to honor the community and especially the African-American community who were so vocal about feeling the city needed to make an apology," she said. "It wasn't a big deal in my life for me to harbor that for the rest of my life."

She said it was an especially poignant moment amid all of the protests around the country and the slogan "black lives matter." She said she believed it was a sign that the city wants to move forward.

"When I think on that and when I think about the disrespect shown to me as a young woman by electing me to an honor and to not fulfill it and now allowing me to fulfill it, and how disrespectful that was to me for my feelings, I'm not bitter, I just have a lot of various feelings about it." Williams said her three children grew up knowing the story and her four grandchildren asked her about it. They saw the portrait hanging on the wall of their grandma wearing a tiara.

"Now I'm expecting a great-grandchild and now with that great-grandchild when he sits on my lap and I tell the story, it will have a happier ending," Williams said.

THE US POSTAL SERVICE, 1775-2015

The Second Continental Congress appointed **Ben Franklin** as our first Postmaster General on July 26, 1775 in anticipation of the Revolutionary War. It recognized the importance of creating lines of communications from New England to Georgia and back if we were to win this war.

Dr. Franklin, as he was respectfully addressed, established postal routes and postal roads with a system of mileage. For determining exact mileage, he invented the odometer (your car's odometer tells how many miles it has traveled. Yes, Ben Franklin is in your car with you!).

Historically, the US Postal Service has served the people and businesses of this country faithfully.

During WW II, first class postage was 3 cents. It was increased to 4 cents in 1958 and to 5 cents in 1963. Presently, the rate is 49 cents.

We are grateful to the bulk mail policy which permits us to mail over 300 copies of our newsletter each month at a much reduced rate.

If you've seen both UPS and FedEx trucks at your local post offices (back entrances), you may be wondering why. Both the UPS and FedEx depend on our US Postal Service for delivering the articles/packages ordered via the Internet, particularly to those who live in inaccessible rural areas or on "unprofitable" routes. Privatization of the USPS would eliminate unprofitable routes. When a new housing development is completed, the USPS adds the all the new addresses to its system.

Our day is never complete until the mail arrives. We wait for it with high expectations, and we are grateful to the USPS.

MARYLAND SCHOOL DISTIRICT SECULARIZES THE SCHOOL CALENDER by Americans United for Separation of Church and State (AU)

The Montgomery County, MD, school board has removed the names of religious holidays from its official calendar, sparking protests from both religious minorities and the Religious Right.

Classes will continue not to meet on Christmas and Yom Kippur, but the holidays will now be known as winter and spring breaks.

Critics note the move came after Muslims in the district requested that major Islamic holidays be added to the calendar. Officials replied that they can't close for every religious holiday and noted that opening on major Christian and Jewish holidays would spur high rates of absenteeism.

[Editor's note: Over 25 years ago, as chair of the calendar committee for the Pajaro Valley Federation of Teachers (PVFT), the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD), in keeping with the principle of "Separation of Church and State," established the "Winter" and "Spring" Breaks (although someone writing the district's calendar for the website erroneously added a "Christmas" to the "Winter" break). I tried, unsuccessfully, to have the "Spring Break" in line with the ending of the 3rd quarter, as it is done in several states (Washington and Oregon), and not with Good Friday, which may be in either March or in April. Perhaps someone on the PVUSD and PVFT calendar committee can separate the calendar from the religious Good Friday.]

MISSOURI MEMORIAL REMOVES CHRISTIAN SYMBOL *Americans United* Bulletin. January 2015

Responding to concerns from Americans United, officials in Boone County, Mo., have covered up a Christian symbol on a public war memorial.

The action sparked complaints from some people in the area, but AU said it was the right thing to do.

The memorial in the city of Columbia listed the names of two local men who died during the first Persian Gulf War. It also included an ichthus, a symbol sometimes called a "Christian fish."

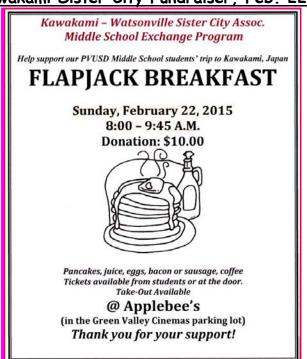
Although both men were Christian, the memorial also recognizes others who fought in that war. In light of that, *Americans United* said it was inappropriate to include a sectarian symbol on the memorial.

Local officials covered up the ichthus with a plaque listing the date of the memorial's dedication.

County Commissioner **Janet Thompson** defended the move, telling the *Columbia Daily Tribune* that covering the religious symbol would avoid a lawsuit and "continue to honor those soldiers."

[Editor's note: The tree used in Watsonville's City Plaza cannot be called a Christmas tree (it can be called, "Holiday Lights") for that would be a violation not only of the First Amendment but on condition of Sebastian Rodriguez who donated the land for the plaza (park). No religious or political campaigning is to take place at the park. We are grateful that all in the community, including the city officials and the press, recognize the need to come together.]

Kawakami Sister City Fundraiser, Feb. 22nd



The Kawakami-Watsonville Sister City Association will host a fundraiser at Applebee's. The event will take place on Sunday morning, February 22, 8:00 - 9:45 A.M.

Advanced tickets are available from our 15 students scheduled to travel to Japan in May, 2015.

Walk-in customers will benefit the association's general fund that is used to assist the chaperones and host the visitors from Kawakami. The breakfast tickets are \$10, and the breakfast includes flapjacks, juice, eags, bacon, and coffee.

Thank you for your support in the past, and we hope to see you on the 22nd.

WHAT'S YOUR BEST MEAL EVER EATEN?

What is the best meal you've ever eaten? Was it filet mignon and lobster? That's a favorite of many. Was it barbecue ribs when the meat comes right off the bones? Yummy. Prime ribs? Delicious! Or, is it udon? Tempura? Sukiyaki? Those are great too.

Mine? It is and has always been a breakfast cereal—nothing fancy—with trail mix of dried fruits and nuts, fresh fruits in season (local strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, apples, and bananas, grapes, et al) and 2% reduced fat milk.

I prepare it at least five of seven mornings each week.

Why would this simple breakfast be the best meal each and every time?

First, I love it. It is simple to prepare, and I can do it all by myself.

Most important? This breakfast means I woke above ground—I'm still alive for another day! Every day I awake above ground is a great day.

Therefore, breakfast becomes important. It is important to do something meaningful and worthwhile for that day and for the few remaining mornings I have on this earth.



Registration is now open for the 2015 summer session!

Kokoro No Gakko ("school with a heart") is a twoweek summer school that teaches children all about Japanese culture, festivals, and traditions. Don't miss out on this amazing experience.

It is available to children who have **completed** kindergarten through the 6th grade by June 2015. Limited spaces are available. Sign up <u>today!</u>

Gakko dates are: Monday, June 22, 2014 through Thursday, July 2, 2014 (9 days). School is ending on a Thursday due to the 4th of July Holiday weekend.

Location: Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville, CA 95076. Time: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday.

To register, please visit our website: www.kokoronogakko.org, or contact Lynsey Niizawa at lynseysn@gmail.com for information on how to enroll.



Debbe Hoshiyama Chan, assisted by **Marcia Hashimoto**, teaches the kindergarten class.

W-SC JACL COMMUNITY PICNIC, SAT. JUNE 27

Gakko students, siblings, parents and grandparents are welcome to participate in the Community Picnic (a tradition over 100 years old), hosted by the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL at the Aptos Village Park on **Sat. June 27.** There's fun and food for everyone. Save the date.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO By Bonnie Chihara

On March 28th some members of Watsonville Taiko will be performing a piece in Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre's "In Concert" performance at Cabrillo College Crocker Theater. They have choreographed an exciting piece called Cadence 1 to our taiko music called Nami written by Sensei Ikuyo Conant.



Our schedule is already filling up as we gear up for our busy 2015 season. **Among** favorites that we are looking forward to are the Hanamatsuri Watsonville **Buddhist** Temple. Japanese Cultural Fair, JACL Community Picnic, Human Race and Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival.

Please contact us for performance information

or schedules or class information by calling our business manager **Taeko D'Andrea** at (831) 435-4594 or by emailing her at info@watsonvilletaiko.org, or go to our website www.watsonvilletaiko.org. You can also "like" us on *Facebook* to see our latest updates there.

Our upcoming schedule includes the following:

March 7th Watsonville Film Festival, Mello Čenter,

Watsonville High School, Watsonville

March 28th Santa Cruz Ballet Theatre "In Concert," Crocker Theater, Cabrillo College, Aptos

Hanamatsuri, Watsonville Buddhist

Temple

April 12th

April 25th Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival,

Memorial Park Cupertino

April 25th Big Sur Marathon, Big Sur

May 9th Human Race, West Cliff Drive,

Santa Cruz

June 6th Japanese Cultural Fair, Mission Plaza,

Santa Cruz

June 27th W-SC JACL Community Picnic, Aptos

Village Park, Aptos, CA 95003

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

February will be busy with the Temple sponsored fund-raiser, the annual "All You Can Eat Udon Feed" on Saturday, February 7 from 4 to 7 pm. The YBA will be selling delicious baked goodies. If you read the article on "Life Expectancy of Japan" in this newsletter and wish to live a long time, it is important to eat moderately.

The closing of a year and the beginning of a New Year are busy times for the Sangha. In December, the Sangha and friends gathered for the annual *mochi tsuki* making. Photos were included in last month's issue.

Saying "goodbye" to 2014 took place on December 31st with a service, ringing of the Temple bell, and enjoying a bowl of *soba* (buckwheat) noodles.



Young **Shoren Hanayama** (left) teaches a visiting couple and a friend how to do *Oshoko*.



BCA President-elect **Ken Tanimoto** rings in the New Year with **Rev. Shousei Hanayama** assisting.



A visiting family of five—**Jeff and Yukiko Northon** family-- enjoyed ringing the bell.



A guest volunteered to help add condiments (in this case, green onions) to the *soba*. That was wonderful!



Paul Tao family and friends enjoyed the *soba*. So did **Judy Kaita Tokubo** and **Iwao Yamashita** (below).



We returned on the first day of 2015 to celebrate with a service and to wish everyone a most Happy New Year!

On Sunday, January 11th, we gathered for Japanese and English services, paid our respects to dear family members and friends who passed away in the month of January, and installed our new officers for 2015.



A happy past President, Kiyo Kawasaki, is smiling.



2015 BWA officers are: Fumie Yonemoto, Auditor; Keiko Hanayama, Adviser; Ryoko Suruki, Treasurer; Aiko Nitao, Vice-President; Kumiko Nakatani, Treasurer; Itsuko Okamoto, Auditor; Hisako Kodama, Treasurer; Kiiko Akiyama, Vice-President.



ABA officers: front: Kenny Kusumoto Religious Chair, Kiyo Arao Co-Corres. Secty.; Tee Yamamoto Co-VP; Judy Hane Secty.; Jean Akiyama Co-Corres. Secty.; Janice Tao Social Chair; Jackie Yamashita Treasurer; back: Sadao Matsunami Co-VP; Noboru Nakatani Historian; Perry Yoshida Auditor; Iwao Yamashita Membership Chair; & Rev. Shousei Hanayama Advisor.



2015 Board Officers include **Kenny Kusumoto**, **Kim Yoshida** and **Kiyo Kawasaki**.



Let's eat! There were two rows filled with pot luck dishes, and there was a dessert table, too!



Keiko Hanayama served a special *miso* soup that had everything in it! This potluck luncheon was followed by a program which honored our special volunteers throughout the year.

Our elders and the youths, too, enjoyed the 2015 New Year's Party.





Nancy Iwami
was honored
for her special
volunteering.
At age 100+
she still helps
out with the
Temple's
fundraising and
work events!
Also honored
but absent was
Yoshino
Matano, 99.



Other wonderful volunteers cited by Kiyo Kawasaki (right) were Norman and Susan Uyeda, Yoko Umeda, Itaru Nitao, Iwao Yamashita. Absent was Akio Idemoto.

Then, it was time to play "bingo" to win exciting prizes. **Kiyo Kawasaki**, who called the bingo numbers, was ably assisted by **Elren Hanayama**, **Perry Yoshida**, and **Shoren Hanayama**.



Calendar for February 2015

1	Sun	9:30 am	Japanese Service
		10 am	Sunday Service & Shotsuki Hoyo
3	Tue	7:30 pm	Board Meeting
4	Wed	1 pm	BWA Meeting
5	Thu	10 am	ABA Meeting
7	Sat	4-7 pm	Udon Feed, Temple
8	Sun	10 am	Nirvana Day Service
			& Dharma School
11-	Wed	7 pm	Ministerial Meeting
13	Fri	2 pm	San Juan <i>Howakai</i>
15	Sun	10 am	Family Service
22	Sun	10 am	Sunday Service
		1:30 – 4 pm	Day of Remembrance, Salinas
23-	28	BCA National	Minister and Council

Shotsuki Hoyo Service 10am Sunday February 1, 2015

The families of the following deceased are invited to attend the February service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

February Memorial List

Toshio Akiyoshi Louise Arao Tom Tsutomu Arita Carolyn Brace Takashi Chihara Tamae Eto Mieko Fujimura Tadao Fujita Henry Fukuba Minoru Hamada Tsutomu Hane Dick Hirano Misue Ishimaru Noboru Hirahara Denta Iizushita Makiyo Iwamasa Yoshito Tommy Kadotani Kimiye Jyoji Lynn Harumi Kajihara Mitsuo Michael Kamimoto Rosalie Kendall Lily Masae Kimoto Keiko Kodama Toshi Koike Katsuichi Kumada Tsune Kumada Dick (Masami) Manabe Shozo Manabe Frank Mito Hatsue Miyanohara Tei Morimune Seitaro Morita Tsuchi Muramoto Kohei Nagata George Joji Nakano Emiko Niiyama Sanjiro Nishihara Dale Nishihara Toshimi Nitta Jean Oda Hirosaburo Oita Fred Kunio Okamoto Clifford Sakae Kazuo Philip Sakakihara Tomizo Shingai Jintaro Sumida Kimiye Suruki Tsuyo Tahara Masaaki Tamasu Yayono Taniguchi Russ Hiroshi Tanouye Benji Tsuchiyama Toku Tsuda Vickie Kimiko Usuki Dean Wada Lindy Wada Toshiko Grace Wakayama Hatsusaburo Yagi Richard Yamamoto Jim Yamamoto Ayako Yamaoka Helen Hiroko Yamaoka Miyoko Yappert Haruko Yoshida Tomoichi Yoshida Takashi Yukitake

The Temple thanks the BWA for preparation and serving tea and sake at the New Year Potluck; the Sangha for the delicious food at the New Year Potluck; Kiyo Kawasaki and Perry Yoshida for conducting the bingo games who were ably assisted by Shoren and Elren (see photo); Flowers by Toshi for donating Onaijin flowers for the BWA Memorial Service; and ABA for the delicious lunch at the ABA Memorial Service.

<u>BWA</u> is preparing for the February 7th "All You Can Eat Udon Feed" from Friday, February 6 from 8 am & Saturday, February 7 from 8 am.

Dana day service will be observed on Wednesday February 4 at 1 pm.

<u>ABA</u>: Sadao Matsunami thanks all the people who helped with the ABA Memorial Service and luncheon on January 25th. Reverend Hoshu Matsubayashi was the guest speaker.

<u>YBA</u> provided lunch for December's *mochi tsuki* and decorated the hall for the New Year Potluck luncheon.

We'll be selling delicious baked goodies during the "Udon Feed" on Feb. 7^{th} .

For our Winter Activity, the YBA members will ski and snowboard the weekend of Feb 13-16 in the Sierra's.

On March 21st, YBA will be sending eight members and five adults to the upcoming CD Conference.

Then, on March 29th we will host the annual YBA Pancake Feed. We've set a new time of 8 am to 11 am.

Watsonville Buddhist Temple
"All You Can Eat" Udon Noodle Nite
Saturday, February 7,
from 4 pm to 7 pm
423 Bridge Street
831-724-7860
\$8.00 per person
Sold separately Chirashi - Pastries Soda
(take-out available on request)
Thank you for your support!

LIFE EXPECTANCY OF JAPAN

Lately, it's been said that Japan is the country with the longest life expectancy.

In reality, according to the 2014 World Health Organization's Statistics, Japanese people have an average lifespan of 84 years, which continues the record of longest life expectancy from last year. Men have an average of 80 years, 8th in the world, while women are number one at 87 years old.

Also, as of August 2014, the oldest man and woman in the world as recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records, sitting at 111 years and 116 respectively, are both Japanese.

What are the secrets to these long lives? While there have been many investigations into this question, a clear causal relationship has not been made evident. Here are five points that lead to good health and are thought to be some of the reasons for Japanese people's longevity.

[1] Diet

After all is said and done, one of the major reasons thought to be a cause of longevity is a proper diet. Here are two major points of Japanese meals: a) meals should have a proper nutritional balance and b) one should be moderate in portions.

a. Nutritionally balanced Japanese food



Japanese meals have one soup, three vegetables as a basis with rice as the core, and fish creating an excellent nutritional balance of low-fat and low calorie.

b. Eating moderately



The phrase "moderate eating" became popular in Japan in the Edo period. "Eating moderately" means eat until your stomach's 70% full, then stop. It is said to be good for health and longevity. If you decrease your daily calorie intake by 25%, the resting sirtuin proteins will be activated and they will hold back various aging causes. [2] Hygiene

It's said that Japan is one of the most hygienic societies in the world. Living hygienically protects us from infectious diseases and all sorts of germs. Here are 4 customs and examples of how Japanese people indulge in high levels of personal hygiene.

a. Bathing habits

It's said that Japanese people don't take just showers, but also frequently use *ofuro* (bathtubs). Taking baths in plenty of water every day has a positive effect on preventing illness through keeping oneself clean, but there are plenty of benefits outside of that. Here are three of those advantages.

Thermotherapeutic effects

It works to warm up your body. If you submerge yourself in a bathtub, you raise your body temperature and your capillaries stretch out and your circulation improves. Because of that, your metabolism rises, your fatigue disappears, and your muscle stiffness and soreness is softened.

Water pressure effects

This is the water pressure on your body. This pressure can help reduce your waist by 3-5 centimeters, and it's not just the way you look but it also influences your subcutaneous blood vessels. Because of this, it pushes back the blood concentrated in your limbs and invigorates your circulation while improving the flow of your blood and lymph fluid.

Buoyancy effects

Just like the way you float in pools or in the ocean, buoyancy comes into play in the bath as well. Your body weight becomes 1/10th of what it normally is. Thanks to that, your muscles and joints that usually support your body weight can rest, and the tension in your whole body comes apart.

It's thought that if you receive these effects daily, your body's health condition will improve, and even in an old age you will still be able to be energetic.

b. Toilets equipped with bidets

Japanese toilet seats equipped with bidets have recently been very popular overseas, and it can be said that it's one of the ways Japanese people have such a high level of hygiene.

c. No shoes in the house



Historically, Japanese people have not worn shoes inside the house. Thanks to this, since people will not be tracking mud or dirt into the house, it's an easy way to keep things hygienic.

d. Even public services have a high level of hygiene

Lately, Japanese public libraries have been introducing "book showers" in which books that were lent out and have been returned are disinfected and sterilized. This "book shower" uses UV rays to disinfect the book, and then blows wind at it to dislodge any trash that might be stuck inside of it so that the person who borrows it next can have it in the cleanest condition possible.





Public transportation also has high cleanliness standards. For example, on the *shinkansen*, the special brush they use has a wetness sensor and if a seat is damp it will ring an alarm!



Even if a seat is wet with tea or other liquid, you might not be able to tell just by looking at it, but this "Magic Broom" detects using sensors any dampness. If you use this brush to sweep the seats, it will also detect wetness. If a seat is wet, they can easily switch it out for a clean seat. This way, they can help everyone in Japan no matter where they are sustain cleanliness. It can be said that doing a modest amount of cleaning every day can help protect the elderly against illnesses brought on by unhygienic conditions.

[3] High levels of societal engagement

It's said that having a concrete and emotional connection to one's society even after one reaches an advanced age is one of the factors in a long life. Here are two points about Japanese people's high levels of societal engagement.

a. Employed people over 65 years old



Japanese elderly people are known around the world for having a high societal involvement.

There are 4,950,000 people over the age of 65 still employed in Japan. The percentage of people over 65 who are still employed is 19.4%.

If we look at people of the same age in various Western countries, in the USA its 14.5%, 7.9% in Canada, 6.3% in England, and 3.4% in Germany.

Japanese people get so easily caught up in their work they could be called "business warriors." There are many people who are perplexed with what to do with themselves after retirement. Rather than wasting time in the house, many people find it easier to continue working and being an asset to society.

b. Enjoyment of everyday lives



Many of Japan's elderly stay proactive in their community through activities like neighborhood associations. About 60% of elderly people in Japan

participate in community activities, and 80% of Japanese elderly feel that they have a purpose in life. It seems that one of the secrets to a long life is to continue being proactive in your community, enjoy your hobbies, and follow your purpose in life no matter how old you get.

[4] High rates of health consciousness

Because of the high rates of health consciousness, exercise is tied into one's daily lifestyle.

a. Dry towel rubdown

Rubbing one's skin with a dry towel has been a health method in Japan since time immemorial.

Yuichiro Miura, the adventurer who at age 80 became the oldest person to climb Mt. Everest, woke up early during their hikes to give himself a dry rubdown in order to warm up his body.



At first glance, someone rubbing their half-naked body with a towel on a winter day may look eccentric, but science has verified that a dry rubdown has positive health effects. Try it, but please do it indoors!

b. Radio exercises



Radio exercises are calisthenics that are done along with music playing from a radio. Radio exercises have a long history in Japan, and the majority of Japanese children go to school every morning in the summer to do them. Also, since communities often have sports meets or gatherings, most Japanese people have done radio exercises before, and you can say that most people even today can do them.

It's said that 80% of senior citizens' homes or elderly welfare facilities offer radio exercises, and it can be said that this daily exercise is a big contributor to their health.

c. Reduction in salt intake

There is a high consciousness in Japan about reducing salt intake. Here are some dramatic rises in average life expectancy per prefecture. In 2013, the prefecture with the longest life span was Nagano (our **Kawakami** is in **Nagano**!) Men had an average life span of 80.88 years while women lived to 87.18 years. Both genders boasted top longevities.



In 1965, that same Nagano prefecture was number 9 nationwide for male life expectancy and 26 for women.

The reason Nagano prefecture was able to have such a dramatic rise to the top of the life expectancy statistics is due to a prefecture-wide reduction in salt consumption.

With the background of the low longevity rates, about 30 years ago Nagano prefecture created the "Salt Reduction Movement for Nagano Residents." They were number one in stroke deaths and salt intake. Salt intake can cause strokes and hypertension. The Salt Reduction Movement began and they created and distributed "salt panels" and "salt calendars" as part of their information campaign. They also created "salt miso."

While Japanese food over all is healthy, soy sauce, miso, and pickled vegetables all have a relatively high sodium level. So the movement to reduce salt intake is one of the secrets behind lengthening Japan's life expectancy.

Also, in Nagano prefecture, it wasn't just the salt reduction campaign, but at the same time they also urged their residents to eat more vegetables.

In Nagano prefecture, they created a "Let's Eat Vegetables" campaign in order to press residents to eat vegetables high in potassium which is helpful in excreting salt. In school lunches, they put seasonal vegetables and locally grown vegetables that were high in nutrition, and they continue to promote eating more vegetables.

This way, you can say the prefecture's fight for health and longevity has made it number one.

[5] High levels of health consciousness

a. Physicals and medical checkups are done at schools and workplaces.



Thanks to Japan's idea about universal healthcare, anyone can receive healthcare at an affordable cost. Not only that, but you can have a health examination for free in schools and at most companies.

According to the School Health and Safety Act, every year before June 30th, it is established that the school will perform a medical examination of the students.

Since the examinations are done practically as an obligation, even if there are people who find it too troublesome to go to a doctor, any diseases they might have can be caught in the early stages. There's no mistake that this system is one contribution to Japanese people's health.

b. Universal healthcare



This is a photo of a Japanese employee's health insurance card. Due to Japan's universal healthcare, everyone is responsible for one portion of the medical bill so that they can get treatment. Once you present this card at

the clinic, the patient pays 30% of the bill, and the other 70% is taken care of by the country.



Medical care is a societal infrastructure that contributes to the good health of Japanese people.

These were the reasons behind why Japanese people live such long lives.

There are various reasons, but the common point of each entry is that they are all done habitually. It's not something special that you do only once, but rather by every day reducing your salt intake and adding just five minutes of exercise a day or performing other health-promoting methods, health consciousness can rise.



Youth Take On Asian American Film Project by Aimee Mizuno



Nicole and Carter Kimura, Michaela Chin, Tosh Tanaka, Phil Shima and Aimee Mizuno participated.



A group of local youth and adult JACL members have launched a documentary film project with the aim of exploring issues of culture, identity and history in the Asian American community by interviewing members of the community.

The founding youth members are Ruby Baucher, Michaela Chin and siblings Carter and Nicole Garcia-Kimura. Michaela and Carter are students at Aptos High School, Nicole attends Aptos Middle School and Ruby attends Mount Madonna School.

Each of the youth members brings unique talents and skills to the project, including leadership and group organizing, knowledge of technology, and filmmaking.

Their enthusiasm for the topic and eagerness to discuss complex issues has made our meetings both lively and engaging. When asked why she chose to participate in this project, Michaela said that she hoped "to learn about Asian American heritage" and "to see how other Asians feel about being Asian here in America and what they experience because of their ethnicity." Nicole also feels that it will be an opportunity for her to learn "about how Japanese Americans are perceived in society, and how we feel about it." She also loves contributing her ideas to the group.

The adult participants and advisors for the project include Aimee Mizuno, Marcia Hashimoto, Phil Shima, Tosh Tanaka and Kimiko Marr. We greatly appreciate their passion for the subject matter, expertise (including knowledge and experience with video and documentary filmmaking) and willingness to participate!

At this point, the group is working on fine tuning the questions that will be used when interviewing community members as well as watching documentary films and oral histories, including the interviews on densho.org. Next month, we hope to begin interviewing community members!

For more information about the project, please contact Aimee Mizuno at amizuno19@yahoo.com or 831-588-0416. We are looking for more youth participants as well as individuals who would be willing to be interviewed.

Attention: JACL National Scholarships

*Applications are available now!

Deadline for Freshman application is **March 1, 2015. Deadline for other applications is **April 1, 2015.**

The National JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, and those specializing in law or the creative/performing arts. There is also a scholarship for those in need of financial aid in this time of rising tuition costs. The newest scholarship, Meiji Gakuin University-JACL Scholarship, will be awarded to a graduating high school senior to attend college in Japan to study for a bachelor's degree in International Studies.

Please visit http://www.jacl.org/edu/scholar.htm for details, scholarship eligibility requirements, and applications. For additional information regarding the JACL National Scholarship Program, please contact **Patty Wada** at (415) 345-1075 or **pwada@jacl.org**.

Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships

Applications and information are available for download at http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/scholarships/,

Local graduating seniors, college undergraduate and graduate students should check it out.

Our deadline is Tuesday, May 12, 2015.

OUR PROBLEMS WITH THE INTERNET ...

If you click onto watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org, you might see a statement following which isn't true.

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org

We would like to show you a description here but the site won't allow us. (Not true!)

Jap. Amer. Cit. Leag. - Watsonville/Santa Cruz Chapt.

watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/main.shtml

We would like to show you a description here but the site won't allow us. [Editor's note: we object to "Jap. Amer."!]

For now, ignore the headings and click onto it anyway. Our real site is http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Carol Kaneko

January 8 was the first day back for Seniors with lots of "Happy New Year" greetings heard around the hall.

Paul Kaneko invited everyone to a meeting on January 29 to discuss the calendar of events for 2015. The date of our *zenzai* treat has been changed to <u>Thursday</u>, <u>February 5</u> due to a conflict with the *Fujinkai* (BWA) ladies. Please change your calendars.

Cindy Mine gave a talk about staying healthy. She mentioned that the risk of dehydration is high in the winter months so drink lots of water and juice. To prevent respiratory problems, keep heater filters clean, wash your pillows, and keep nasal passages moist. Also, this year's flu shot is not protecting us against the type of flu going around, and many seniors are getting seriously ill. Please protect yourself by being careful what you touch, frequently washing your hands, and staying healthy.

The New Year's celebration/January birthday party was held on January 15, and we welcomed the *Year of the Sheep* with many "sheepish" decorations around the room. See the Seniors' Corner, page 19.



Each table had a small stuffed sheep and the head table held a large sheep collection (see Seniors' Corner), all the work of **Helen Nakano** and **Susan AmRhein**.

Chairman **Iwao Yamashita** opened the program with a moment of silence, followed by the singing of *God Bless America* and *shigin* by **Chie Sakaue.** Iwao then gave New Year's greeting to all, followed by our birthday party.



Birthday honorees were Terry Hirahara, Mitsuko Ruble, and Hatsuko Tsuji. Absent were Frances Goon 96 and Evy 91 and Carmel Kamigawachi 94. We were disappointed to find that Carmel and Evy were unable to

attend because Carmel fell and broke his hip and is currently in rehab. We wish him the best and hope he will be up and around soon. Carmel did send a video of the 35th Anniversary party from March, 2006, and it was fun to see ourselves and friends from nine years ago. After bingo, everyone enjoyed a delicious buffet from **Miyuki Restaurant**. Thanks to **Janet Sakaguchi** for donating a special *nishime* dish to us for our New Year's celebration.

Paul announced that Carol had prepared the 2014 treasurer's report and a separate list of monetary donations. The reports will be available to see and you may request your own copy if you like. Carol also passed out a current membership list.

Paul again alerted us to phone scams – the latest is a person claiming to be from the "California State Police" saying you did not report for jury duty and asking for your personal information. Don't give any personal information to anyone you don't know.

Paul and Carol visited **Evy** and **Carmel Kamigawachi** in Woodland, and reported that Carmel is making a good recovery from breaking his hip.

We were happy to see **Dr. Masako Miura** back after a short absence and also welcomed back **Sachi Snyder.** It was good to see **Hatsuko Tsuji** and **Mitsuko Ruble** back for their birthday celebration.

Several members attended the Santa Cruz Symphony concert at the Mello Center on January 25 thanks to complimentary tickets provided for our seniors by the Symphony.

Swingtime Catering continues to generously provide a weekly hot meal to several of our seniors.

Guests this month included **Kimiko Marr** and **Patricia Marr**, and we welcomed new members **April Goral** and **Kitty Mizuno**. We wish you many bingo wins!

Thanks to our January *toban* group: **Judy Hane**, **Rubie Kawamoto**, and **Jo Ann Vear** and helpers **April Goral**, **Eiko Stewart**, and **June Honda**.

Thanks to a generous donation from **Shirley Nishimoto**, we now have two new steel carts for the kitchen. The *toban* ladies report that they make things much easier.

Monetary donations gratefully received this month: Diane Mio, Frances Goon, Carmel and Evy Kamigawachi, Marr Family, Hatsuko Tsuji, Terry Hirahara, Ruby Nakamura, and Sachi and Phil Snyder.

Other donations gratefully received:

Rubie Kawamoto 3 bags chagashi, large box

Cheez-it crackers
Haru Ishibashi 6 Dawn dish soap

Sunao/June Honda 8 trays Spam musubi, 6 nori,

3 pkgs shaved Bonito

Miye Yamashita 8 pkgs noodles, 3 pkgs snacks

Eileen Byers 6 *Dawn* dish soap, 8 rolls paper towels

Hide/Akira Nagamine 15 bags cucumbers, 8 bags of *daikon*

Jean Akiyama
12 rolls tissue,
6 rolls paper towels
Yoshiko Nishihara
14 Dawn dish soap

Eiko Nishihara 1 doz assorted jams **Nobue Fujii** 6 plates lemon *Jell-O* cake,

3 pkg nori

Yaeko Cross 5 Kleenex, 5 boxes cocoa, 8

calendars, 3 bags pretzels, 15

shopping bags

Phil Shima 1 btl Aji Mirin Chie Sakaue 19 bags lemons 12 rolls tissue Eiko/Geo Stewart persimmons Tee Yamamoto Toshi Yamashita 7 shopping bags April Goral Sticky notes

2 bags chips, 2 boxes Kleenex Kazuko Sakai 6 jars homemade teriyaki sauce Pat Marr 12 rolls tissue, 3 bags Chex Mix **Terry Hirahara**

Mitsuyo Tao Liquor candy for all **Grace Fujita** 100 green tea bags Edna/Yukio Nagata 12 rolls tissue Donna Fujita **Oranges**

4 rolls paper towels Eiko Ceremony

Kitty Mizuno 6 rolls tissue Satoko Yamamoto 12 rolls tissue

Mitzi Katsuvama 5 plates of apple cake

Remember the January 29th planning meeting at 11 am. We will make plans for 2015. Stay healthy, keep hydrated, keep washing your hands, and keep coming to Seniors! Happy New Year!

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM ...

In memory of Betty Oda from ...

Fred Oda Chiyeko Shikuma

Esther Ura

Irv Masuda of Denver

Alan and Gayle Uyematsu

Aiko Yamamoto

In memory of Fumiko Okamoto from ...

Esther Ura

In memory of Chikuye Nakahara from ...

George and Joyce Kubota

In memory of Yoshiko Hiraga from ...

Esther Ura

Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

In honor of Helen Mito's 98th birthday from ...

Daniel and Karen Nitta Helen Mito (my birthday!)

Day of Remembrance Education Fund

In appreciation for the Newsletter from ...

Mary Collins of Marina

Lawson & Mineko Sakai of Morgan Hill

Mary Tada

In appreciation ... Greatest Need ... from

Anonymous

In appreciation from ...

Kazuko & Kurt Kurasaki of San Juan Bautista For use of the Hall from ... Watsonville Taiko

IN REMEMBRANCE ...

We send our condolences to the Hiraga, Yahiro and Izumizaki families, relatives, and friends.

YOSHIKO HIRAGA ...



Yoshiko Hiraga passed away on Sunday, Dec. 21, 2014. She was 89. Mrs. Hiraga was born on July 5, 1925 in Watsonville. She attended local schools growing up. "Yoshi" as known by most, worked as a retail sales person most of her carrier, 8 years at LADD and LASSIES, Santa Cruz, and 25 years at FORD's Department Store, in the Better Sportswear Dept.

She was a one-time member of the Shigin Japanese Singing Club at Watsonville Buddhist Temple.

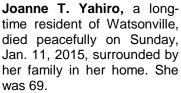
She is survived by her sons, Fred Hiraga and Art Hiraga; daughter-in-law Sharon Hughes Hiraga; sisterin-law Shizuko Kikuchi; two step-grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; two nephews, John Kikuchi and Dave Kikuchi.

KITAKO TSUDA IZUMIZAKI ...

It grieves us to announce the unexpected passing of Kitako Izumizaki, a beloved and highly respected, life-long member our Watsonville community, the Buddhist Temple, W-JACL and JACL Senior Center.

A memorial service will be held on Sat., Feb. 14th at 1 pm, Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Bridge Street, Watsonville.





JOANNE YAHIRO...

Mrs. Yahiro attended E.A. Elementary School, Watsonville High School and Cabrillo College. She enjoyed the attending Westview

Presbyterian Church of Watsonville and was an active member of their community. She will be remembered and loved for her dedication to her family and her generosity for others.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Willie Yahiro; children, Jeff Yahiro and Joy Uchida; sister, Jane Kawahara; two grandchildren; and many cousins, aunts and uncles.

A "Celebration of Joanne's Life" will be held on Saturday, Jan. 31 at 2 p.m. at the Westview Presbyterian Church, First Street in Watsonville.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Westview Presbyterian Church or the charity of your choice.



WESTVIEW PRESBYTERIANS NEWS

by Leslie Nagata-Garcia

We are Family!
Joanne Yahiro went to be
with Jesus on January 11,
2015. She had a huge
impact on everyone she met
and especially on Westview



Presbyterian Church. She always felt that our church was family and she did much to make it that way!

She was and is an amazing person:

-Love-She was always caring for others—asking how you were doing and then doing something to show she cared. She often made meals for those who were sick even while she had her own health issues! I heard one person say, "She always made you feel like a million bucks!"

-Hope- She was such a positive person even in her difficult fight with cancer and even to the end. Nothing could take that loving smile off her face.

-Faith-She loved God with all her heart, believing God was crazy about her and about all of us! Her mantra was, "God's in Control."

-Beauty-She was beautiful and she left beauty wherever she went: decorating the church for holidays, adding her artistic flair to everything she did, even her printing was as beautiful as art!

She especially lived the truth that we are family here at WPC. Willie said Joanne told him, "I have two families, our family and the church family!"

Joanne loved this church. She was instrumental in making this such a loving, caring place.

We are family! In honor of Joanne and the love she helped instill in this church family, let us continue to keep working hard to care well for each other as a family.

When I hear the following Scripture, I see it describing Joanne, as Jesus lived through her! And it describes our church family:

Romans 12:10-13 Love one another with brotherly [& sisterly!] affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

I celebrate the life of Joanne and am deeply grateful for all the gifts of love she bestowed upon us. It is a joy to be on this journey with you. I thank God for our church family. As we continue to be a loving family I look forward to seeing us welcome many more brothers and sisters into our home in this next year!

-Pastor Dan Hoffman

Westview's mailing address is 118 First Street, Watsonville, CA 95076. Please do not use the post office box number.

Our **Christmas Service** was held on December 21st with church members and friends participating in a wonderful Christmas play.





Rev. Dan is giving final instructions to Jason Barte. Humorous angels were acted out by high school boys.



A Bible Club at our local school: Radcliff Elementary! Child Evangelism Fellowship has been doing Good News Bible Clubs on school campuses after school for decades. This is a way for us to love the children of the community and their families and to be a bridge between us and the community!

Six people have already signed up! We could use a couple more volunteers to form a team that leads a club 1 day/week for 1 1/2 hours. Please prayerfully consider how you can help us love and care for local children and their families! Contact Pastor Dan for details. Our training will be **February 28th**.

Youth/Family Upcoming Events: Youth Gym Nites are usually the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month. Mark your calendars for the following dates and times:

- February 6: 3:30 7 p.m. Salvation Army Meal and Gym Fun!
- February 20: 5:30 8 p.m. Game Nite. Bring your favorite non-digital game.



The newspaper snowball fight at our "Youth Gym Nite," Jan. 9, 2015.

Wednesday Study Series: We are reading and discussing *The Hope*

Quotient, a fantastic book about nurturing hope in your life by **Rev Dr. Ray Johnston!** You can order a book online at **Unleashinghope.com** or for \$15 at **Amazon.** Wednesday Study Series are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Westview. For the months of January and February we will be meeting on **February 11th, February 25th, March 11th** and **March 25th**.

Sunday Message Series: "How to play the game." Based on John Ortberg's book, When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box, we will learn vital lessons about how to play the MOST IMPORTANT GAME EVER...the game of life.

Westview is preparing meals for the **Salvation Army** every first Friday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering, please meet at **Westview** at **2 p.m.** For the months of February and March we will be preparing the meals on **February 6th** and **March 6th**.



Pastor Dan is leading a Hospice Grief Group for VNA and Hospice at Valley Heights the first Wednesday of each month from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Come receive

the healing support of others. Come learn that you are not alone in the fog of grief as you recover from the loss of a loved one. Grief Groups will be held on the following dates: **February 4th, March 4th.**

Also, on December 21st, **Westview** members and friends helped **Solid Rock Church** in giving away toys, food, and clothes to the needy families.





Members of both the Westview Presbyterian Church and the Solid Rock Church served dinner to those in need.

TRI-CHAPTER JACL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS ON JAN. 25TH, 2015

We thank our host, the Gilroy chapter, for the wonderful installation program and luncheon. We will feature it in our March 2015 newsletter.

JOIN US--WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

If you are <u>not</u> now a member of the National JACL, we'd love to have you join our W-SC JACL chapter.

A membership form has been included in this newsletter for your convenience. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization, and our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895.

Yes, you don't have to be a Japanese American to be a member. You don't even have to be a US citizen. You must be an advocate for justice and for civil rights for all.

To those who have <u>renewed</u> their membership for 2015 and beyond, thank you! Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2015.

To check your current membership status, look at the date after your name on the address label. For example:

E. Txxxx 12/14 means your membership expired after December of 2014. Please renew.

If you have moved or are planning to move, <u>please let</u> <u>us know your new address</u>. The newsletters are returned to us with first class postage due.

Our mailing address is:

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL P.O. Box 163 Watsonville, CA 95077-0163

Please do <u>not</u> mail to our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.

Thank you for reading this February 2015 newsletter.

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077, and your comments are always welcome. Please write or email us at https://hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

To read our full color newsletter online check our website: http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

One-Day Senior Trip Table Mountain Casino, Friant

Date: February 10, 2015 [Tuesday] 8:00 AM to 7:30 PM

\$5 e-cash

Cost: Active Senior Members \$30 and others \$40

Reservations: Carol Kaneko 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto 854-2028

Non-Senior Center members are welcome to join us! A few seats are still available.



The "Year of the Sheep (Ram)" with its many symbols. Find the black sheep.

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:

Thurs., Feb 5 Zenzai treat (Note change of date)

Tues.. Feb 10 Table Mountain One-day trip 8 am to 7:30 pm

Thurs., Feb 12, 26 Regular Bingo

Thurs., Feb 19 February birthday party

JACL Day of Remembrance observance, Salinas Assembly Center, 1:30 - 4:00 pm Sunday, Feb 22

Please check out our Senior Center website: http://kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com to keep up with our activities, see photos, and check our calendar.

*Please join our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center! If you enjoy playing bingo, celebrating special birthdays and holiday occasions, and going on trips, and would like to regularly receive health information and have your blood pressure monitored, join us for our Thursday get-togethers. We'd love to have you and your spouse and/or friends join us. "Active Senior Center Members," who have paid their membership dues and who make annual birthday and Senior Center anniversary donations, are eligible for reduced fares on our trips. Please contact Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 for registration information. Since our Senior Center operates under the auspices and protection of both the National JACL and our local JACL chapter, we encourage all members of the Senior Center to become members of the National JACL through our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter.

HELP WANTED! The Senior Center is always looking for able-bodied, caring, fun-loving volunteers (any and all ages welcome) to help out weekly (or once a month or so) with toban duties. We need your help on Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:15 pm to help our toban teams prepare tea, set out the tea and snacks, and clean up. You are invited to play bingo with us while you wait for clean up time - or you can help our bingo team check bingo cards! Let us know if you can help out on one or more Thursdays each month. Call Susan AmRhein at (831) 724-9454 to volunteer and have some fun.

2015 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND

If you donated in January 2015, thank you so much. You know the importance of our mission-protecting and promoting the civil and human rights of all Americans--is far from over. One would think, after all these years, that America has learned the lesson of our unjust wartime incarceration. Our nation is threatened again, this time by a provision of the National Defense Authorization Act that allows the indefinite detention of "aliens and non-aliens" (those terms used against us in 1942—"aliens" were the *Issei* and "non-aliens" were US citizens) without charges, attorney, or trial. We who were unjustly incarcerated in America's wartime concentration camps have acted and spoken. It is the duty of all JACLers to fight for the rights of every American and legal resident. Please help.

We are fortunate to work in association with wonderful organizations that are also dedicated to the cause of "equal justice and liberty for all." But, of all the Asian American organizations in the nation, the record and history of the **Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)** is best known, most highly respected, and appreciated, even by non-Nikkei (of Japanese ancestry).

Our **2015 Day of Remembrance Education Fund (DOREF)** also supports the **Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship(s)** which encourages our youths to pursue their chosen careers. We are fortunate to have so many talented young scholars--a tribute to their parents and grandparents.

Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is truly grateful to its members and friends who have donated to our chapter's **2015 Day of Remembrance Education Fund (DOREF).** We can't thank you enough for your generous contributions. We can succeed only with your continued financial support and encouragement. Please help with what you can. Each and every donation is appreciated.

Thank you!
W-SC JACL is a non-profit educational civil rights organization.
Tax deductible #ID 94-2659895

_I/We do not wish to be acknowledged in any publication of the organization.

Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

No Increase in the 2015 Membership Dues

Working toward our national goal of Better Americans in a Greater America is a worthy one. One does not have to be of Japanese ancestry to be a JACL member, but one must believe that safeguarding the rights of all Americans and legal residents is of utmost importance in this country.

Please join us today. We are the most proactive, oldest, and respected Asian American civil rights organization, and our programs include cultural appreciation and educational outreach.

Your membership is <u>never</u> taken lightly or for granted. We have worked diligently to earn your confidence and trust. Your active participation and membership can make a significant difference in what happens today in our community and in our nation.

Please help us fight racial prejudice, discrimination, racial profiling, bigotry, intolerance and indifference.

The 2014 National and local dues for our tax-deductible organization (ID #94-2659895) are as follows:

Family/Couples	Citize	\$150 This includes two National dues with one subscription to the Pacific Citizen, local dues and our monthly JACL newsletter, and all children under age 14 to be included\$80 This includes National dues with subscription to the Pacific Citizen, the official paper of the National JACL, and local chapter dues and our monthly JACL newsletter\$25 for each of ages 14 to 24, which includes a subscription to the Pacific Citizen, local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is required for scholarship consideration.						
Individual Member	\$ offici							
Youth/Student	\$ Citize							
For Thousand Club , Century Club , and Millennium Club and Life membership categories, please contact our membership chair Jeanette Otsuji Hager .								
Name:	ast Name)							
(L	ast Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)					
Spouse's Name: (L	ast Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)					
Address:								
Home phone: ()								
For family memb	ership, please list	names (and ages) of all childr	en under the age of 14:					
Name:		Age	o:					
Name:		Age	o:					
Name:		Age	o:					

Please send your check payable to Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and mail ASAP to: Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

c/o Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Membership Chair, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077

Thank you so much for your support.

Check out our websites: http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org and jacl.org. .