

*Liberty
Lost...*



*Lessons in
Loyalty*

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter April 2015

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS and CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS (and parents)!!

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL announces its Local Scholarships

Application forms are now available for high school seniors and graduate students who are members and their parents are members of our W-SC JACL and/or the Watsonville Buddhist Temple or the Westview Presbyterian Church. Students can download our scholarship application forms at <http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/scholarships/>, and click onto **JACL Local Scholarship Application**. Or, pick up a form at the Temple or at Westview Church. The deadline is Tuesday, May 12th, 2015.

- Applicants will apply for scholarships by submitting generic application information that could apply to and satisfy all of the four scholarship funds.
- The JACL's Scholarship Committee will determine, based on factors such as meritorious performance; grades; participation in certain social activities and organizations; level of volunteerism; and length of membership in the JACL, the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or the Westview Presbyterian Church, which applicants receive which scholarships.
- All scholarship recipients and their parents must be JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple and/or Westview Presbyterian Church members for a minimum of one year prior to receipt of scholarship.
- Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the scholarship recipient and/or his/her parents must be present at the awarding ceremony, which will take place at the JACL's annual community picnic, usually in the latter part of June of each year, and typically held at the Aptos Village Park in Aptos.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains at brookekondo@gmail.com.

The 2015 local scholarships are:

(1) Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship:

The then Watsonville JACL established this scholarship in memory of our 1987 President, **Kee Kitayama**, a respected leader who worked tirelessly for Redress and Reparations. In 1997, **Mrs. Keiko Kitayama's** generous donation in memory of her late husband, established this memorial scholarship as a Trust Fund which provides needed financial support for our young scholars. Mr. Kee Kitayama's legacy of encouraging our youth in their pursuit of higher education lives on in this scholarship.

(2) Rekiso "Ray" and Hisako "Louise" Sako Scholarships:

The Sako scholarships were established in 2012 by **Louise** and the late **Ray Sako** to carry on their belief that education is the cornerstone to the future success of each new generation. These scholarships help local students who are actively involved with our JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, or the Westview Presbyterian Church.

A four-year undergraduate scholarship may be awarded at \$1,000 per year. This scholarship shall not be limited to first-year undergraduates. For example, an undergraduate who has completed the first year of study may be eligible for a \$1,000 per year scholarship for up to three years.

A two-year graduate scholarship will be awarded at \$1,000 per year. This scholarship is not limited to a first-year graduate. For example, a graduate who has completed the first year of study may be eligible for a \$1,000 for a year.

(3) Frank Mito Memorial Scholarship:

This scholarship was established in 1994 in memory of **Frank Mito** by his son, **Dr. Ron Mito**, and

assisted by family friends—**Mark and Patt Takeuchi**, one of the founders of *Kokoro no Gakko*. This scholarship mirrors Frank Mito's commitment to hard work, promoting education, and supporting youth who show exemplary community service. The W-SC JACL is honored to administer this scholarship. This scholarship carries the same criteria of other JACL scholarships, with *Kokoro no Gakko* participation preferred. This scholarship may be an additive to other scholarships awarded by the JACL.

(4) Dr. Francis B. Choy Memorial Scholarship:

This scholarship was established by **Dr. Conrad Hamako** with the help of Dr. Choy's wife, **Sharon. Francis Choy** was the son of **Dr. Bong Choy**, who taught in the Berkeley Unified School District after emigrating from Korea. Francis Choy graduated from UC Berkeley and UCLA Medical School where he befriended Conrad Hamako and met and married Sharon, then a nursing student.

Dr. Choy was a well-respected dermatologist whose partner was **Dr. David South**. This may be the final year this scholarship is awarded.

Our National JACL Scholarships

The National JACL's deadline for graduate and undergraduate applications is **Wednesday, April 1, 2015!**

Applications are now available, click onto: jacl.org/jacl-national-scholarship-program/.

The JACL National 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. What a wonderful opportunity for someone in our National JACL!

YOUNG HISTORIAN AWARD

*The Young Historian Award is made possible by a donor fund at the **Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County** and is administered by the **Pajaro Valley Historical Association**. This award was initiated in respectful memory of **Betty Lewis, Watsonville Historian, Alzora Snyder, Margaret Hayes, Hubert Wyckoff, Bernice Porter** and many others who have illuminated our heritage as the foundation of the future for the Pajaro Valley.*

YOUNG HISTORIAN AWARD

AGES 16 - 25

★ ★ ★

A prize of \$500 to the winning project
(research paper, video, volunteer work, performance, art piece, etc.)

enhancing the history of the Pajaro Valley

Application deadline: May 28, 2015
For information, please visit our website at:
www.pajarovalleyhistory.org
or call 831-722-0305

Sponsored by the Pajaro Valley Historical Association
The Young Historian Award is made possible by a donor fund
at the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County.



Application deadline is **Thursday, May 28, 2015.**

Award Description

The Young Historian Award will be offered annually to an individual or group who has made a significant contribution to the study, conservation, preservation, or enhancement of the history of the Pajaro Valley. The award will be a single award of **\$500**.

Eligible Activities/Projects

The scope of appropriate activities/projects may include regions adjacent to the Pajaro Valley as long as it is demonstrated how they impact the Pajaro Valley, and may be broadly interpreted to include a variety of efforts, including but not limited to the following: research papers, including those that have been prepared as a class assignment from a high school or college/university; publications or media; volunteer work for an organization (organization must provide documentation of volunteer hours); being a docent; restoration of objects or sites public performance or re-enactments; art or exhibits depicting local history; oral histories; genealogical studies; digital documentaries.

Eligible projects must have taken place or been completed within the last 12 months prior to the application deadline. In the case of volunteer activities, some portion of the service must have occurred in the last 12 months prior to the application deadline.

Applicant Criteria

The recipient of the award shall be an individual or group who meet the age criteria and, in the case of a group project, have a majority of members between the ages of 16 and 25 when engaged in the activity/project; did not receive any compensation for the activity or project other than for materials, travel expenses or other out-of-pocket costs related to the activity or project; have not received the **Young Historian Award** in a previous year. However, previous applicants for the **Young Historian Award** are encouraged to re-apply.

Application/Selection Process

Applications must be self-initiated. Applicants must complete and submit an application to the PVHA prior to the deadline. Applications are now available at the PVHA, 322 E. Beach St., Watsonville, and at our website: www.pajarovalleyhistory.org.

In addition, the applicant must provide a letter of recommendation from a person or organization that is familiar with the applicant's project or activity.

Selection of the award recipient will be determined by a panel composed of at least three individuals recognized for their knowledge of the history of the Pajaro Valley. The panel will be convened by the PVHA. Panelists may NOT include individuals who have family members among the applicants. Panelists may include individuals who may have written letters of recommendation for the applicants, but must excuse themselves from voting in the selections.

The panel will review all applications and in selecting the winner the panel will place priority on the following considerations:


1. How closely the project/activity relates to the Pajaro Valley.
2. The commitment/perseverance of the applicant to the project/activity.
3. The quality of the project/activity – especially as it relates to the age of the applicant.
4. Additional consideration will be given to projects and activities that show creativity, initiative, collaboration, and/or innovation.

The application is due May 28, 2015, and the winner, who will be notified in June of 2015, will be invited to the PVHA Vintage Barbecue event on June 27,

Applicants will be notified of the panel results in June. The winner of the award will be honored at the Pajaro Valley Historical Association's annual event On June 27, 2015.

Questions? Contact the Pajaro Valley Historical Association at info@pajarovalleyhistory.org; phone (831)722-0305, or log onto the website for more information.

"Go For Broke National Education Center"
Presents Essay and Video Contest \$6,000 in cash prizes! Deadline is Tues., June 30, 2015.



2015 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE STUDENT ESSAY AND VIDEO CONTEST


\$6,000 in cash prizes! Thirty winners will receive two complimentary tickets to attend our 14th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner this fall at The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in Los Angeles, California! Enjoy an opportunity to meet Japanese American World War II veterans and their families!

TO ENTER: Submit a 250-500 word ESSAY or 3-5 minute VIDEO on one of three topics:
(1) Study the Japanese American WWII soldier experience and explain its relevance to our lives today.
(2) Research one Japanese American WWII soldier, and highlight elements of the experience that are most meaningful to YOU.
(3) Analyze what the Japanese American WWII experience can teach us about the Constitution, rights and responsibilities.

DEADLINE: Tuesday, June 30, 2015

- Identify your school/university and grade/level (2014-2015 school year), and include your phone number.
- Email ESSAYS to chris@goforbroke.org.
- Post VIDEOS to YouTube, and then email link to chris@goforbroke.org.

Winners will be notified by email by Friday, July 31, 2015!



This program is not affiliated with nor is endorsed by any school or school district.
Go For Broke National Education Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

Visit www.goforbroke.org for more information.

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Applicants are required to write a 250-500 word essay or submit a 3-5 minute video on a Nisei soldier of WW II or analyze what the Japanese American WW II experience can teach all.

Students: If you need assistance, contact **Mas Hashimoto** right away at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or at (831) 722-6859.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

By Brian Shiroyama

Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV) held its annual membership meeting at Morgan Hill Buddhist Community Center on February 14, 2015. About 70 members, guests and friends from Sacramento, Turlock, Fresno and Bay Area as well as South County enjoyed the traditional potluck and always warm camaraderie.

Lawson Sakai, Mas Tsuda and Mas Kadota (all 442 veterans) were recognized for being awarded of the most prestigious ***French Legion of Honor*** from the French Consul General of San Francisco on February 3. [Editor's note: see our March 2015 W-SC JACL newsletter for coverage of the event.]



The speaker of fascinating background captivated the audience. **Lt Commander Goehner**, shown here with 442nd RCT veteran **Lawson Sakai**, served as "frogman" of the elite Navy's Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) during World War II. (Photo by **Ellen Sawamura**.) The UDT was the original Navy SEAL. Lt Commander Goehner led many "suicide" missions against German Navy. In Hollywood's Oscar-nominated movie "THE FROGMEN," **Richard Widmark**, the lead actor, portrayed Lt Commander Goehner. His account of

danger-packed mission against a German submarine base in Baltic Sea was exciting and his story of encountering a German soldier at Normandy was heartwarming.

A short video presentation of the Nisei Veterans' Exhibit aboard the *USS Hornet Museum* in Alameda concluded the meeting.

FFNV will next gather on **May 16** in Oakland Hills for the annual memorial service and picnic. [Editor's note: please bring a warm jacket, just in case. Last year, with bright sunshine, an unexpected cold wind blew in from the west.]

If you wish more information about FFNV, please contact **Brian Shiroyama** at bshiroyama@gmail.com or call at (408) 896-1021.

[Editor's note: My science professor at Monterey Peninsula College (1953-1955) was **Dr. Eugene Haderlie**, one of the finest instructors I ever had. He survived WW II as a frogman in the English Channel when his team of 40 did not. He spoke of magnetic mines dropped by German bombers at night into the channel and harbors of Great Britain. Some mines were booby trapped so that if one tried to disarm it, the mine was triggered to explode.

Later, Dr. Haderlie taught at the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey. He was a wonderful marine biologist. My minor in college was life science with emphasis on marine biology.]

Congressional Gold Medal Dinner

June 12, 2015 at The Fairmont Hotel, San Jose



6 pm Cocktail Reception

7 pm Dinner

Attire: Cocktail

Proceeds will benefit the Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition that is in development for the Smithsonian in

2016. A special update on the progress of the exhibition will be presented by the National Veterans Network.

Dear friend,

You are cordially invited to the Congressional Gold Medal Dinner on Friday, June 12, 2015 that will directly support the Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition to be unveiled at the Smithsonian in 2016. The dinner program will include a special thank you to **Secretary Eric K. Shinseki** for his service to his

country and steadfast support to the Nisei veterans. All veterans will be recognized during the dinner.

The national dinner will take place at the Fairmont Hotel on Friday, June 12, 2015 in San Jose, California. We encourage early reservations.

A special room block rate of \$129.00 per night plus taxes has been secured at the Fairmont Hotel and will be available on a first come first serve basis until May 12, 2015. Please see below for additional details.

Sincerely,

Christine Sato-Yamazaki

National Veterans Network (NVN)

How to purchase tickets or tables:

Online reservation on EventNow:

<https://nationalveteransnetwork.givezooks.com/events/congressional-gold-medal-dinner-san-jose-ca>

Reservation by mail: download the reservation form, mail the completed form and check payable to the "National Veterans Network/Tides Center" to P.O. Box 1221, Torrance, CA 90505. Reservations will be confirmed via email.

If you cannot attend the event and would like to donate or sponsor a veteran to attend, please send a check payable to "National Veterans Network/Tides Center" and mail it to: P.O. Box 1221, Torrance, CA 90505 or donate online. All donations received by **May 1, 2015** will be listed in the program. Tributes welcomed.

Room rates at Fairmont Hotel: \$129.00 / night + applicable taxes & fees for Double Queen (single & double occupancy). Reservation line: 1-800-346-5550 and reference "Congressional Gold Medal Dinner." Deadline: May 12, 2015 on first come first serve basis.

Tax deduction: NVN's fiscal sponsor is the **Tides Center**, a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 94-3213100. The value is \$100 per person attending and the balance of your contribution is tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

For more information: Please email **Reiko Iwanaga** at riwanaga@ecopiafarms.com.

SPEAKING ABOUT OUR UNJUST WARTIME INCARCERATION CONTINUES ...

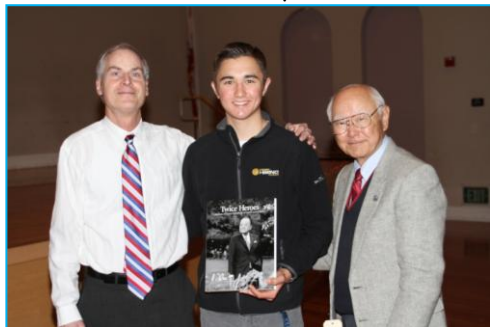
Thanks to the invitations of social studies teachers, **Mas Hashimoto** spoke to high school juniors who are studying World War II. March's speaking engagements were at:

Ann Sobrato High School in Morgan Hill by teacher **Andrea Kusanovich** (9th year-350 students annually).

Harbor High School by **Teresa Gaimes** (3rd year-90 students annually).

Salinas High School by **Philip Moore** (3rd year—450 students annually).

Cabrillo College **Dr. Rosa Hernandez** (4th year-10-25 students annually).



Mas presented **Tom Graves'** book, *Twice Heroes*, the stories of our Nisei soldiers of WW II and the Korean War, to Salinas High School teacher **Philip Moore** and student **Burke Kennedy**.



International Women's Day (IWD) has been observed for over 100 years--since the early 1900's, a time of great expansion and turbulence in an industrialized world that saw booming population growth and the rise of radical ideologies.

1908 Great unrest and critical debate was occurring amongst women. Women's oppression and inequality was spurring women to become more vocal and active in campaigning for change. Then in 1908, 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights.

1909 In accordance with a declaration by the *Socialist Party of America*, the first **National Woman's Day (NWD)** was observed across the United States on 28 February. Women continued to celebrate NWD on the last Sunday of February until 1913.

1910 In 1910 a second International Conference of Working Women was held in Copenhagen. A woman named a **Clara Zetkin** (Leader of the 'Women's Office' for the Social Democratic Party in Germany) tabled the idea of an International Women's Day. She proposed that every year in every country there should be a celebration on the same day - a *Women's Day* - to press for their demands. The conference of over 100 women from 17 countries, representing unions, socialist parties, working women's clubs, and including the first three women

elected to the Finnish parliament, greeted Zetkin's suggestion with unanimous approval and thus International Women's Day was the result.

1911 Following the decision agreed at Copenhagen in 1911, **International Women's Day (IWD)** was honored the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on 19 March. More than one million women and men attended IWD rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained, to hold public office and end discrimination. However, less than a week later, on 25 March, the tragic 'Triangle Fire' in New York City took the lives of more than 140 working women, most of them Italian and Jewish immigrants. This disastrous event drew significant attention to working conditions and labor legislation in the United States that became a focus of subsequent International Women's Day events. 1911 also saw women's 'Bread and Roses' campaign.

1913-1914 On the eve of World War I campaigning for peace, Russian women observed their first International Women's Day on the last Sunday in February 1913. In 1913 following discussions, **International Women's Day was transferred to 8 March and this day has remained the global date for International Women's Day ever since**. In 1914 further women across Europe held rallies to campaign against the war and to express women's solidarity.

1917 On the last Sunday of February, Russian women began a strike for "bread and peace" in response to the death over 2 million Russian soldiers in war. Opposed by political leaders the women continued to strike until four days later the Czar was forced to abdicate and the provisional Government granted women the right to vote. The date the women's strike commenced was Sunday, February 23 on the Julian calendar then in use in Russia. This day on the **Gregorian calendar** in use elsewhere was **March 8**.

1918-1999 Since its birth in the socialist movement, International Women's Day has grown to become a global day of recognition and celebration across developed and developing countries alike. For decades, IWD has grown from strength to strength annually. For many years the **United Nations** has held an annual IWD conference to coordinate international efforts for women's rights and participation in social, political and economic processes. 1975 was designated as '*International Women's Year*' by the United Nations. Women's organizations and governments around the world have also observed IWD annually on March 8 by holding large-scale events that honor women's advancement and while diligently reminding of the continued vigilance and action required to ensure that women's equality is gained and maintained in all aspects of life.

2000 and beyond IWD is now an official holiday in Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China (for women only), Cuba, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Madagascar (for women only), Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Nepal (for women only), Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia. The tradition sees men honoring their mothers, wives, girlfriends, colleagues, etc with flowers and small

gifts. In some countries IWD has the equivalent status of Mother's Day where children give small presents to their mothers and grandmothers.

The new millennium has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation. Many from a younger generation feel that 'all the battles have been won for women' while many feminists from the 1970's know only too well the longevity and ingrained complexity of patriarchy. With more women in the boardroom, greater equality in legislative rights, and an increased critical mass of women's visibility as impressive role models in every aspect of life, one could think that women have gained true equality. The unfortunate fact is that women are still not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in equal numbers in business or politics, and globally women's education, health and the violence against them is worse than that of men.

However, great improvements have been made. We do have female astronauts and prime ministers, school girls are welcomed into university, women can work and have a family, women have real choices. And so the tone and nature of IWD has, for the past few years, moved from being a reminder about the negatives to a celebration of the positives.

Annually, on March 8, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate achievements. A global web of rich and diverse local activity connects women from all around the world ranging from political rallies, business conferences, and government activities and networking events to local women's craft markets, theatric performances, fashion parades and more.

Many global corporations have also started to more actively support IWD by running their own internal events and through supporting external ones. For example, on March 8, search engine and media giant *Google*, some years ago changed its logo on its global search pages. Year upon year, IWD is certainly increasing in status. The United States even designates the whole month of March as 'Women's History Month'.

So make a difference, think globally and act locally!! Make everyday International Women's Day. Do your part to ensure that the future for girls is bright, equal, safe and rewarding.



YWCA President **Maria "Gini" Matute-Bianchi** welcomed all to celebrate International Women's Day.



Guest speaker was KSBW-TV's **Brittany Nielson**, a Watsonville native, who spoke on the importance of celebrating International Women's Day.



Front: **Mayor Nancy Bilicich**, **Sadie Museitef** (Islamic Center of Watsonville), **Brittany Nielson** of KSBW-TV, **Esther Pascua Tabancay** (Filipino Community), **Diane Porter Cooley** (PV Historical Association), **Kris Beall** (Wetlands Watch), middle: **Patricia Solano** (Croatian Community), **Diane Avelar** (Portuguese Community), **Amy Katztenstein-Harrington**, (Temple Beth El), back: **Aimee Mizuno** (W-SC JACL), **Jeanette O. Hager** (W-SC JACL), **Stella Moreno** (Diversity Center), **Georganne Cowles Eiskamp** (Ag History Project, hat).

Biographical Information on 2015 Nominees for the YWCA's International Women's Day Celebration
March 7, 2015

Diane Porter Cooley could have been nominated by any number of organizations in the Santa Cruz County. Her contributions to our community are legendary, generous and diverse. As the nominee from the *Pajaro Valley Historical Association* she has provided continuing support for many years. Recently, she set up the *Young Historians Award* through PVHA, so that the youth of our community will be encouraged to take an interest in the history of their community. She has been instrumental in setting up a collaboration between PVHA, the Castro Adobe and Agricultural History Project that will benefit

the entire community, she worked with PVHA to support the Pajaro Park Development and has been a great supporter of the building of our new archive.

Dianne Avelar is the nominee from the *Portuguese Fatima Festival*. She is a leader in the community for continuing the Portuguese cultural dances and music and sharing it with the children in the dance group and the dance group performing at various Portuguese cultural festivities. She accompanies the dance group to various nearby communities for the Portuguese Holy Spirit Festas. Dianne Avelar helps make the costumes, teaches the dances and accompanies the group to perform in Salinas and Hollister for the Portuguese Holy Spirit Festas.

Amy Katzenstein-Harrington is the nominee from *Temple Beth El*. As a 1979 graduate of UCSC she has a long and lasting legacy of working with the Latino youth as a teacher at Salsipuedes, and Alianza Elementary Schools and at one time in the migrant daycare center at the Buena Vista Migrant Camp. After retiring in 2006 Amy got involved with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) and helped fundraise \$1.5 million dollars to support the CASA home in Watsonville. Amy now works part-time as an investigator and advocate for children who are in child protective services, meeting with families and children to try and meet the needs of our most vulnerable children. Amy is also involved in bringing a program to Watsonville called Girls, INC. The goal of this program is to increase girls' self-respect, empower them to make healthy choices, and inspire them to pursue a college education.

Esther Pascua Tabancay is the nominee from the *Filipino American National Historical Society*, Aptos chapter. Mrs. Tabancay owned and operated a family-run dry cleaning business, Ideal Cleaners, dating back to the 1930's, located on the 100 block of Main Street in downtown Watsonville. She ran the business for over 50 years, co-owned by her husband and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ragsac. Ideal Cleaners is historically significant because it represents an era of Filipino economic development which ceased with the emergence of the redevelopment and realignment of south Main St. in the 1960s. Mrs. Tabancay served as the first secretary of the Filipino Women's Club, a member of the Board of Trustees and Scholarship Committee of the Filipino Community of Watsonville, and tutored Filipino students in English and math at Watsonville High.

Jeanette Otsuji Hager is one of the nominees from the *Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)*. The National JACL is the largest and oldest Asian American civil rights organization in the nation founded in 1929. The Watsonville JACL chapter was founded in 1934. As president, vice-president, official delegate of the local JACL chapter, she has also had responsibilities for the national JACL. She has been an articulate spokesperson in compassionately advocating for equal rights for LGBT brothers and sisters. She is truly dedicated to upholding the civil and human rights for all; educating the greater community of the historic challenges and achievements of the Japanese Americans during and after World War II; and promoting cultural appreciation of

our richly diverse community. Her depth of giving is immeasurable and admirable.

Zahieh Museitef is the nominee from the *Islamic Center of Watsonville*. She is a married woman with three adult children and four grandchildren. She has been a resident of Watsonville for over 25 years. She teaches girls on Saturday and Sunday in the Islamic Center how to read and write in Arabic, along with teaching them about their religion. She emphasizes teaching them to be independent and respectful. She is a great example and asset to the Islamic community in Watsonville.

Georgeann Cowles Eiskamp is the nominee from the *Agricultural History Project Center*. Georgeann co-chaired two highly successful *Harvest Dinners*, the organizations major fund raising source. She served 5 years as a director and was instrumental in helping create a capital campaign that raised funds for a new tractor barn on the AHP site. She was always willing to lend a hand with whatever activity was at hand. Georgeann's support of her community and its people is a shining example to all that know her.

Kris Beall is the nominee from the *Wetlands Watch* organization in Watsonville. She was the first Executive Director and later served terms as Vice President, President and Treasurer. Several others have done likewise but no one has come anywhere close to putting in the hours that Kris has as a volunteer – planning receptions, grant writing, docenting, licking envelopes for appeal letters, leading tours, editing our policy handbook, initiating joint projects with other nonprofits and government agencies, interviewing potential hires, writing newsletter articles, etc., etc. and even annually dressing up in her feathery “Big Bird” costume to pose on a flatbed truck in Watsonville's *Fourth of July* parade! The Watsonville Wetlands Watch serves the Pajaro Valley in many ways to improve the quality of life of its residents. We protect and restore the local wetlands and raise the community's appreciation of their richness in support of wildlife and recreation. Most important, we focus on teaching K-12 children - over 2,000/year - throughout the PVUSD, using hands-on methods in our outdoor wetlands laboratory. Kris has been at the forefront in establishing the Wetlands Watch as an important, viable, sustaining agency in contributing to the quality of life in the Pajaro Valley.

Patricia Gospodnetich Solano is the nominee from the *Slavic-American Cultural Organization*. She was born and raised in Watsonville and is the granddaughter of immigrant Croatians. She was the founding member of what is now known as the Slavic-American Cultural Organization (SACO). She also still holds the #1 membership card of which she is very proud. The organization started when a group of community members, who were students in a Slavic language class got the idea of starting a cultural organization that would help to promote the Slavic cultures in our community. Patricia wrote the Bylaws that helped govern the organization and led the groups' officers in establishing monthly meetings, annual fundraising events and was also the original editor and publisher of the organization's newsletter, *The Kalifornski*. She remains a

very proud, active and enthusiastic participant in activities that promote the Slavic-American culture in the Pajaro Valley.

Aimee Mizuno is also a nominee from our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL. Her leadership qualities shine as she helps organize people to rally and to march for immigration reform and for the protection against violence. Aimee cares deeply for children and her compassion is evident in the tremendous amount of time and effort she devotes to their well being. She is the current second vice president, youth advisor, and a member of our youth scholarship committee. Aimee willingly and enthusiastically offers her assistance to our organization, and her community outreach is commendable. She is truly dedicated to upholding the civil and human rights for all; educating the greater community of the historic challenges and achievements of the Japanese Americans during and after World War II; and promoting cultural appreciation of our richly diverse community.

Stella Moreno is the nominee from the *Diversity Center in Santa Cruz County*. Born and raised in Fresno, California, Stella Moreno has spent her life in public education both as a principal and administrator in the public schools of Santa Cruz, Watsonville and Salinas. She has served on committees and boards of county agencies and nonprofits that provide assistance to Latino families, gay youth, low-income children and juvenile offenders. Now retired, Stella continues her dedication to the Latino and LGBT community by serving on the board of directors of the Diversity Center/Santa Cruz County and on the Santa Cruz Community Foundation Diversity Partnership Advisory Committee.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB by Don White

The *Watsonville Bonsai Club* will present its 42nd Annual *Bonsai Exhibit* on **Sunday, May 3, 2015**, from 10 am to 4 pm at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St., Watsonville, CA 95076.



There will be over 50 *bonsai* trees of all types, all ages and all styles on display. Come view a 510?? Year-old potted California juniper. This is an exhibit for everyone--children as well as adults--and a wonderful learning experience for all. There will be docents available to discuss the nature of *bonsai*.

And, once again, the WBC is happy to announce that **Mr. Katsumi Kinoshita**, Club *Sensei* from Monterey,

is back (photo, left) from his accident of last year, and will demonstrate "Creating a Bonsai Out of Raw Material."



A raffle will follow the demonstration of not only the demo tree, but of other *bonsai* material as well.



Also, a plant vendor will be available selling all nature of plants to help sate your plant appetite!!

Entrance is free, but a \$3.00 donation is very much appreciated. Tea & cookies will be served.

Photo: Don White explains how to care for the different *bonsai*.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO by Bonnie Chihara

Our youth and children's groups are practicing every Friday in anticipation of performing at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple's *Hanamatsuri* Flower Festival on Sunday, April 12.

We have three new children that have just begun taking class and this will be their first performance.

From this date forward, we will be busy with performances every weekend and some week nights until the middle of May.

Please check out our performance schedule below or on our website www.watsonvilletaiko.org. You can also like us on Facebook. Contact our business manager

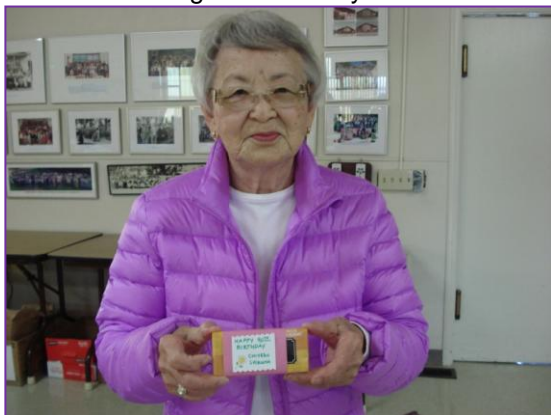
Taeko D'Andrea at (831) 435 4594 or email her at info@watsonvilletaiko.org with performance requests or class info and registration. We have classes for all ages and everyone is welcome.

Our upcoming schedule:

April 12th *Hanamatsuri* Flower Festival, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
 April 15th Global Citizens International Night, Westlake Elementary School
 April 19th *Harumatsuri*, Morgan Hill
 April 25th *Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival*, Memorial Park
 April 26th *Big Sur Marathon*, Big Sur
 May 9th *Human Race*, Natural Bridges
 May 13th *Dance America Festival*, Sacramento
 June 6th *Japanese Cultural Fair*, Mission Park Santa Cruz
 June 27th *JACL Picnic*, Aptos Village Park
 July 4th *Summer Concert Series*, New Brighton Beach
 July 19th *Obon Festival*, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
 July 26th *Wharf to Wharf*, Capitola

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Vear

SAFETY TIP: Keep your car keys on your nightstand when you go to bed at night. IF you think you hear an intruder or someone outside in your garden, just hit the alarm button on your key fob. If nothing else, it could startle someone enough to run away.



Happy Birthday candy was given to everybody from **Chiyeiko Shikuma** in honor of her 90th birthday.



On March 5th, **Chie Sakaue's** daughter-in-law, **Kiyoko Sakaue**, gave everyone flowers and a package of *manju* in honor of Mrs. Sakaue's 85th birthday.



And a package of Japanese pastries was given to all in honor of **Miye Yamashita's** 97th Birthday.

On March 12th the hall was decorated beautifully in honor of St. Patrick's Day by **Helen Nakano** and **Susan AmRhein**. Susan also baked Irish shortbread cookies and served with chocolate chip mint ice cream. It was delicious. Thank you, Helen and Susan.



Sunao Honda and **Susan AmRhein** were dressed for St. Patrick's Day. All photos by **Carol Kaneko**.

If you haven't already made your reservation for the April 28 trip to the Japanese American Museum in San Jose, please do so at your earliest convenience. We will be visiting with **Tom Graves** to see his exhibit, "Twice Heroes." There will be enough time to have lunch in Japan town and the possibility of stop at Mitsuwa or Marukai on the way home.

Donations have been gratefully received from:

Yaeko Cross	6 boxes cocoa mix,
	12 jumbo rolls toilet tissue
Yoshiko Nishihara	4 bunches flowers,
	15 <i>Dawn</i> dish soap
Hide Nagamine	14 <i>Napa</i> cabbages, 3 bags <i>daikon</i> , 24 bags cucumbers
Jean Akiyama	4 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 6 bottles <i>Dawn</i> dish soap
Haruko Yoshii	6 rolls toilet tissue
June & Sunao Honda	4 packages rice seasoning, 6 plates <i>ume sushi</i> & <i>takana</i>

Jim & Rubie Kawamoto	6 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 6 bags <i>chagashi</i>
Eileen Byers	6 bottles <i>Dawn</i> dish soap, 8 <i>Bounty</i> paper towels
Kazuko Sakai	2 bags <i>Cheetos</i> , 100 lunch bags, 3 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 3 bottles dish soap
Terry Hirahara	16 rolls toilet tissue, 1 lb. snack mix, 4 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> 4 boxes cookies
Kimiko Marr	1 doz. homemade strawberry jam
Eiko Nishihara	5 bottles soap, 10 bars soap, 5 cans chicken noodle soup, 6 bouquets of flowers
Fred Oda	
Chiyoko Yagi	
Chie Sakaue	85 th birthday – <i>manju</i> and flowers for everybody, 8 bags loquat, 9 bags lemons, 9 bunches flowers
Hisako Kodama	16 rolls toilet tissue, 5 <i>Dawn</i> dish soap
Eiko & George Stewart	2 Banana bread, 4 carrot cakes, 10 butter <i>mochi</i> plates
Miyeko Yamashita	97 th birthday – pastries for everybody, 2 pkgs. noodles, <i>Hapi</i> snacks
April Goral	4 plates chocolate Brownie loaf cake
Eiko Ceremony	3 boxes <i>Ritz</i> crackers
Michiko Hamada	5 pkgs. <i>Ramen</i> noodles
Kumiko Nakatani	12 Jumbo rolls <i>Bounty</i> towels
Yuki & Edna Nagata	3 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 2 bags cookies
Susan AmRhein	Irish shortbread cookies
Helen Nakano	Mint chocolate chip ice cream, St. Patrick's table decorations
Haruyo Ishibashi	8 bottles <i>Dawn</i> dish soap
Jo Ann Vear	8 <i>Bounty</i> paper towels, 4 bottles <i>Kikkoman</i> soy sauce
Fumiye Hane	Flower vase
Mitzi Katsuyama	5 plates lemon cake
Inako Johnson & Bobbi Jo Palmer	<i>Out and About Magazine</i>

Paul gave information about an **IRS scam** – This advice was given by a Treasury Deputy Inspector General - Real IRS agents usually contact people first by mail and they never demand payment by debit card, credit card or wire transfer. If someone calls unexpectedly claiming to be from the IRS with aggressive threats if you do not pay immediately, it is a scam artist calling. The IRS does not initiate contact with taxpayers by telephone. If you do owe money to the IRS, chances are you have already received some form of a notice or correspondence from the IRS in your mailbox. **BEWARE of SCAMS.**

March 2015 monetary donations gratefully received:
Mary Tada, Izumizaki family, Olivia Diane Hale, Chie Sakaue, Sam Sakamoto, Susan AmRhein, Judy Tokubo, Yaeko Cross, Jean Akiyama, Gary and Cindy Mine, Helen Yamashita, Shirley Nishimoto, Eileen Byers, Miyeko Yamashita, Kimiyo Fujii, Hide Nagamine, Susan AmRhein, and Janice Tao.

Senior members were saddened to hear of the passing of **Roland Johnson** on February 23, 2015. There was a celebration of life held on March 8, 2015 at the VFW Hall in Gilroy with many Senior Center members in attendance.

On March 19, Senior birthday celebrations took place for: **Kimiyo Fujii, April Goral, Hideko Nagamine, 94, Ruby Nakamura, 90, Chie Sakaue, and Miyeko Yamashita, 97.** Absent were **Yae Sakamoto, Louise Sako, 98 and Betty Yagi, 91.** The birthday cake was generously donated by **Chie Sakaue.** Happy Birthday to all our March celebrants! It was good to see **Ruby Nakamura** back to celebrate her 90th birthday after being absent for a short time.

Sam Sakamoto is in a convalescent hospital and is currently taking no visitors. We wish him a speedy recovery.

A trip to Table Mountain is being planned for March 31st. Contact **Carol Kaneko** as soon as possible for a reservation.

KAWAKAMI-WATSONVILLE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION CAR WASH, SAT., MARCH 28TH


Please bring your cars, trucks, SUVs, sports car ... to be washed from 9 am to 1 pm, Ramsey Park, Main Street, Watsonville. Donation requested: \$10 per vehicle.

*Kawakami – Watsonville Sister City Assoc.
Middle School Exchange Program*

Help support our PVUSD Middle School students' trip to Kawakami, Japan

FLAPJACK BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 26, 2015
8:00 – 9:45 A.M.
Donation: \$10.00



Pancakes, juice, eggs, bacon or sausage, coffee
Tickets available from students or at the door.
Take-Out Available

@ Applebee's
(in the Green Valley Cinemas parking lot)
Thank you for your support!

Kawakami-Watsonville Sister City News by Robb Mayeda

We would like to thank the community for their support of our sister city program. Hopefully, many of you were able to drive a nice clean car (from our **Sat. March 28** car wash at Ramsey Park) to the Buddhist Temple YBA pancake breakfast the next day.

Jennifer and Kai Gavin have been helping us by seeking support from individuals and local companies. Their work and the donations are much appreciated.

Our April fundraiser is another flapjack breakfast at Applebee's, **Sunday, April 26** from 8:00 - 9:45 A.M. This will be the last time you will see our students before they leave for Japan on May 12.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

by Jackie Yamashita

Please support our YBA's traditional pancake feed on Sunday, March 29th from 8 am to 11 am in the hall.

The YBA members and their adult leaders put on a feast! Yes, it's an "All You Can Eat" Pancake Feed. Tickets are only \$9 and are available from YBA members, at the Temple door on March 29th, and/or from the Temple Secretary, **Jackie Yamashita**, who will be at the Temple office, 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville, CA from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Come with your friends and family to this important fund-raiser. The YBA members gratefully appreciate your patronage.

Temple calendar for April:

5	Sun	No	Sunday Service
		8 am	Temple yard clean-up
		1-4 pm	<i>Kimekome</i> doll making class
7	Tues	7:30 pm	Temple Board Meeting
8	Wed	1 pm	BWA meeting
		7 pm	Study Class
9	Thurs	1 pm	ABA meeting
10	Fri	2 pm	San Juan <i>Howakai</i>
11	Sat		Preparation for <i>Hanamatsuri</i>
12	Sun	9:30 am	Japanese language service
		10 am	Sunday, <i>Hanamatsuri</i> and <i>Shotsuki Hoyo</i> Services
			Guest speaker is Edith Vessle of Berkeley
		11 am – 2 pm	<i>Hanamatsuri Bazaar</i>
19	Sun	10 am	Sunday Service, <i>Dharma</i> School
22	Wed	7 pm	CD Meeting, Monterey
24-26			FDSTL meeting in Los Angeles
26	Sun	No	Sunday Service

Shotsuki Hoyo Service

10 am Sunday April 12, 2015

Shotsuki refers to a gathering to give thanks to express gratitude for being able to find the meaning of life through Nembutsu. We look forward to seeing you at the service.

April Memorial List

Daitoku, Bob	Eto, Niichi
Fujii, Seiko	Fujimura, Tamotsu
Fujita, George Sakae	Fujita, Kazuo
Hirahara, Nancy Miyeko	Hashimoto, Walter
Higaki, Kazuko	Higaki, Haruso
Hirano, Hisa	Hiwatashi, Teruko
Hoshiyama, George	Ikedo, Henry
Inokuchi, Itsuyo	Kaita, Brad Roy
Kajihara, Setsuko	Kamimura, Sanemi
Kamitani, Haruko	Kimoto, Takanoshin
Kikuchi, Kazuo	Kokka, Henry
Kurasaki, John	Kurimoto, John Masao
Maemura, Gunzo	Matano, Toro
Matsui, Nihei	Matsumoto, Alice
Matsumoto, Shio	Mine, Seki
Misumi, Mitsuo	Miyama, Richard
Nishihara, Dennis	Okamoto, Takeru
Nitao, Eki	Ono, Miyoko

Sakai, Yutaka
Sera, Kina
Shingai, Tsunaye
Shirachi, Mickie
Sukekane, Masaru
Takata, Chikako
Tao, Akira Bill
Toriumi, Junko
Tsuda, Frances
Tsudama, Sonny
Tsuji, Yukiko
Ura, Sawano
Uyematsu, Mary
Waki, Louis
Yamanishi, Asayo
Yonekura, Rinzo
Yoshida, Kazuye

Sakakihara, Hisae
Shimonishi, Tony
Shingai, Yukio
Sugimoto, Frances
Suruki, Kozo
Takei, Yasu
Tao, Hisae
Tsuda, Kakichi
Tsuda, Tomio
Tsuji, Yoshihisa
Ura, Naoko
Uyeda, Nora Nobuko
Uyematsu, Roy
Yamaguchi, Mitomu
Yamaoka, Yoneichi
Yoshida, Edward
Yoshida, Hatsue

Board Meeting Notes March 2015

Prior to the board meeting everyone was present to show appreciation for **Kiyo & Aileen Kawasaki's** years of tireless dedication to the Temple.



A lovely *bento* dinner was served in appreciation for outgoing **President Kiyo and Aileen Kawasaki** by **Barbara Shingai, Ryoko Kozuki, Kim Yoshida, Tracy Haneta, and Phyllis Nagamine**. It was followed with cake and ice cream. Note the happy faces!





Elected President by a unanimous vote was **Bill Wurtenberg**, who will be serving his sixth term as President. Congratulations, Bill Wurtenberg! And, thank you. He presided at the end of the meeting.

Historian: *Sensei* will get as many photos as possible and put them into the old office computer for viewing.

BCA Update: JSC will celebrate 10th anniversary in October 2016. The Anniversary will have speakers and breakout sessions that will focus on Jodo Shinshu. There are plans to conduct Jodo Shinshu workshops at other districts starting throughout next year.

Workshops were done at this year's National Council meeting. Further membership and leadership workshops will be planned for future National Council and National Board meetings.

Coast District Report: The next meeting is April 22, 2015 in Monterey. The 2016 CD President will come from the Watsonville Temple. **Perry Yoshida** will be the next President. This position requires a 3 year commitment.

Fundraising: **Perry & Kim Yoshida** attended a meeting with the Watsonville city officials, and our fireworks booth for 2015 has been approved.

Boy Scouts: A scout is working toward his Eagle Scout Badge and would like to build a new *udon* sale booth. The Temple will cover the costs.

The Temple Sangha will sell a limited number of chicken *teriyaki* at the *Hanamatsuri Bazaar*.

2 Bedroom Temple Apartment for Rent

Interested parties are asked to contact **Barbara Shingai**, c/o Apartment Committee at (831) 840-3301.

Availability pending possible renovations.

One must be a Temple Member.

New Temple office email address is
info@wbtemple.org.



New! Free, Study Classes on Beginning Buddhism: at 7 pm on Wednesdays April 8, May 13 & 27 and June 10th. Anyone who is interested in learning more about *Jodo Shinshu* & Buddhist traditions is most welcome.

BWA will make a \$100 donation to **Vickie Usuki Scholarship Fund** at the Pancake Feed.

For the W-SC JACL Senior Center's *Hanamatsuri* on Thursday, April 9th, the BWA will provide a sheet cake and make a \$100 donation to the Senior Center. The following BWA Members are gratefully attending this event. They are: **Aiko Nitao, Kiiko Akiyama, Itsuko Okamoto** and **Riiko Yoshida**.

Celebrate the birth of
Shakyamuni Buddha
 Special Hanamatsuri
 Service from 10:00 AM

**Sunday,
 April 12th**
 11:00AM to 2:00PM
 423 Bridge Street,
 Watsonville

Food Sales
 begin at 11:00AM
 Sushi, Teriyaki Chicken,
 Cabbage Salad, Baked Goods

Vendors
 Exhibits
 Demonstrations
 And More...

Raffle
 For info call 724-7860 or
 email info@wbtemple.org



Watsonville Buddhist Temple

**Hanamatsuri
 Flower Festival**



For the *Hanamatsuri Bazaar*, BWA will be selling *sushi* from 11 am to 2 pm. Since we only have three hours to sell, we will be making less *sushi*.

ABA will sell *ohagi*, a sweet "an" over warm rice at the *Hanamatsuri Bazaar*.

YBA enjoyed a ski trip on March 7-8. Eight members and five adults attended this year's CD YBL conference on March 21st at the Fremont's Marriott Silicon Valley. Following, a CD YBA meeting was held. Thank you to our chaperones.

For the *Hanamatsuri*, YBA will sell drinks and baked goods.



YBA was in charge of the Sunday Service on March 15 with **Sarah Nagamine** as chairperson.



A YBA meeting was held after the services. Front row L-R **Christopher Inokuchi**, **Sarah Nagamine**, **Brian Yamaoka**. Second row; **Matthew Maemura**, **Kevin Yamaoka**, **Kaitlin Sakae**, **Kelley Maemura**. Kelley was home on a break from college. She's a freshman at the University of Hokkaido, Japan.

WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS by **Leslie Nagata-Garcia**
Maundy Thursday Potluck and Service: April 2nd, 6:30 pm, Westview



Good Friday Service: April 3rd, 12 noon, First Christian Church, 15 Madison Street, Watsonville (with several

local churches)

Easter Sunday Service and Easter Egg Hunt:
April 5th, 10 am, Westview



Westview will be preparing its last meal until December on **April 3rd** for the **Salvation Army**. If you are interested in volunteering, please meet at **Westview** at **2 p.m.** Contact

Pastor Dan or **Jane Yoshida** for more information.

Help your youth/children grow a strong foundation in Christ!

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:

- **April 3: 3:30 – 7 p.m. – Salvation Army Meal and Gym Fun!**
- **April 17: 5:30 – 8 p.m. – Gym Nite.**



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 month of April we will be meeting on **April 8th** and **April 22nd**.

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.

Sunday School - During Worship Service in our Youth Room Youth with **Laura Castillo**; Children with **Kathy Crudge**.

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: **April 1st, May 6th.**

IN REMEMBRANCE ...

Roland Kenneth Johnson

Roland Kenneth Johnson, only child and son of **Marie and Roy Johnson**, born in San Jose Hospital, Dec. 4, 1922, passed away on February 23, 2015. He attended grammar school in San Jose until 1932 when the family moved to Morgan Hill where they lived on a ranch in Paradise Valley. Roland attended Morgan Hill Elementary School and then Live Oak High School where he graduated in 1940. He attended San Jose State College 1940-1942 but left to join the US Army Air Corps with our entry into World War II. He served from 1942-45 in the European theater and then in the South Pacific. He maintained aircraft in England for attacks on continent.

He returned to San Jose State College for two years before joining the newly created US Air Force in 1950.

While stationed in Japan 1952-1953 and 1955-1958, he met and married **Inako Yokoo**. Three children, **Hope, Kenneth, and Faith** were born in Japan.

After Hope was born, Roland was prevented from bringing his family to the United States due to racial prejudice at the time. His father petitioned then Congressman **Charles Gubser** for assistance, and a bill was passed permitting Inako's and Hope's entry into the US provided certain conditions were met.

Roland and family returned to US where he was stationed in various locations around the US for 8 years: Pittsburg, 1958; Keesler AFB, Mississippi, 1959; Malmstrom AFB, Montana, 1960-1963; Glasgow AFB, Montana 1963-66. Two more daughters were born in this time: **Marie** in 1958 and **Barbara "Bobbi Jo"** in 1962.

When he was sent to Vietnam in 1966 he relocated his family to Morgan Hill, where he and his wife lived until 1999.

Roland retired from the Air Force in 1967 and worked for Westinghouse, Memorex, Systems Industries, and Superstill Technologies. He moved to Watsonville in 1999 and then to Gilroy in 2011, where he lived until his death. He leaves behind his wife of 62 years, his five children and seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.



He was a loyal member of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and its Senior Center. Photo by **Carol Kaneko** was taken on Roland's 88th birthday celebration at the Senior Center. He is shown here with **Inako**, daughter **Bobbi Jo** and son-in-law **Jim Palmer**.

A memorial service was held at Gilroy's Veterans Memorial Building on Sunday, March 8, 2015.

Masaru "Mas" Yamasaki



Masaru "Mas" Yamasaki, Sept. 22, 1929 - Feb. 20, 2015; a resident of Fremont, CA. Mas joined his wife in *Nirvana* on February 20th. He was born in Sacramento in 1929, number 5 of 7 boys.

He and his family were incarcerated in Tule Lake, CA during WWII when Japanese and Japanese Americans were forced from their homes due to Executive Order 9066 of February 19, 1942. The family relocated to Berkeley after the war.

"Mas," as he was known by family and friends, served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, where he served under the colonel in charge of the MASH units that was popularized in the movie and TV series. That colonel honored Mas with the Bronze Star, which became one of the most important recognitions of his life.

Married to **Helen Etsuko Tashiro** of Honokaa, HI in 1963, the couple settled down in Fremont, CA, where they reared their two children, **Lauren and Kyle**.

Mas enjoyed an early retirement and kept busy with speaking to students of the many schools in the Bay Area about Japanese American wartime experience. [Editor's note: We shared stories and experiences.]

Mas and Helen were both very active with the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church (SACBC), serving on the board as well as being a *Dharma School* teacher for more than 25 years.

Mas was the primary caregiver to his wife during her battle with Alzheimer's disease until her transition in 2010.

Mas, known for his jokes and puns, is survived by his children and their families, two of his brothers and their families and many more extended family members.

His memorial service was held at SACBC at 32975 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA 94587 on Saturday, February 28th.

We send our condolences to the Johnson and Yamasaki families, relatives, and friends.

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM ...

In memory of Kitako Izumizaki from ...

Lillian Etow
Virginia Marquette
Jane Sugidono
Mitsuyo Tao
Toshiko Yamashita

In memory of Mas Yamasaki from ...

Esther Ura
Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

In memory of Betty Oda and Fumiko Okamoto from ...

Jennifer Ura Gavin

In memory of Fred Kaneshige from ...

Esther Ura

Our Day of Remembrance Education Fund for ...

Greatest Need from ...

In memory of Kitako Izumizaki from ...

Nancy Iwami
June and Sunao Honda
Hisako Uemura

Newsletter from ...

Diane Porter Cooley
Asayo Akiyoshi
Esther Ura and Kai Gavin

To "Valley of the Heart" Fund from ...

Maria E. "Gini" Matute-Bianchi
Norris Woodford

We welcome our newest members!

Christine Izumizaki of San Jose
Cynthia Derouin of Henderson, NV
Kyra Katagi UCSC student

To those who have renewed your membership recently and to those who renewed before your due date (4/15, etc)--Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! We truly appreciate it.

Membership committee.

4th ANNUAL WATSONVILLE FILM FESTIVAL

"I'm writing to congratulate and thank the team of people who organized this year's Watsonville Film Festival. It was superb. We were offered an outstanding selection of films and the opportunity to hear many of the filmmakers in person. I think this festival is a real feather in the cap of our small community and something to make us proud of Watsonville. I somehow missed the opportunity of becoming a sponsor of this year's festival, but I won't miss it next year!"

Amy Newell

Dear Amy, we share your joy and enthusiasm for this year's fabulous festival. [Editor's note: Amy is a long-time W-SC JACLeR.]



Among the young filmmakers is **Marissa Kitazawa** (third from the left) who filmed our W-SC JACL Senior Center! Thank you, Marissa, for capturing the spirit of our Seniors.

JOIN US--WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

If you are not now a member of the National JACL, we'd love to have you join our W-SC JACL chapter. Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2015. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization, and our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895. A form is included in this newsletter. 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.

Current members, please look at the date after your name on the address label. **E. Txxxx 3/15** means your membership expired in March of 2015. Please renew.

If you have moved or are planning to move, please let us know your new address.

Our mailing address is:

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

Please do not mail to our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.

Our new phone number is (831) 536-5297.

Thank you for reading this April 2015 newsletter.

To read our newsletters in full color, check our online website: <http://watsonvillesantacruzjaci.org>. Comments are always welcome.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

Seniors' Corner

April 2015 ck

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TRIP

One-Day Senior Trip

Tuesday, April 28, 2015, 9 am to 4:30 pm

Japanese American Museum in San Jose, SJ Japantown,
and Mitsuwa or Marukai store

"Twice Heroes" exhibit by Tom Graves at JAMsj – Tom will be there

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

Non-Senior Center members are welcome to join us!

Reservations: Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto (831) 854-2028



March birthdays: **Hide Nagamine 94, Kimiyo Fujii, Ruby Nakamura 90, April Goral (back), Miye Yamashita 97, Chie Sakaue.** Absent: **Yae Sakamoto, Louise Sako 98, and Betty Yagi 91.**

In celebration of St Patrick's Day, **Helen Nakano** and daughter **Susan AmRhein** treated everyone to mint chocolate chip ice cream and Irish shortbread cookies, which we all enjoyed. Photos by **Carol Kaneko.**

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:

Thurs Apr 2, 16, 23, 30 Regular Bingo

Thurs Apr 9 Hanamatsuri – Obento 4 pm

Tues Apr 28 One-day trip to Japanese American Museum in San Jose

Note: April birthday party will be combined with the May 21st party.

Please check out our Senior Center website: <http://kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com> to keep up with our activities.

***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 of both our local W-SC JACL chapter and the National JACL, we encourage all members of the Senior Center to become members of the National JACL through our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter. To upgrade your \$20 Senior Center membership to National is \$60. A membership form has been included in this newsletter for your convenience.**

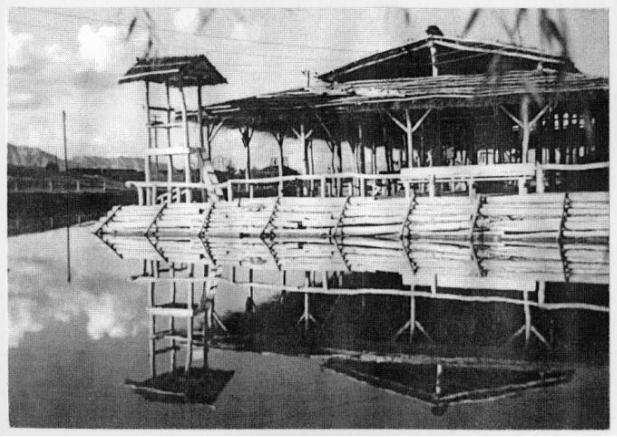
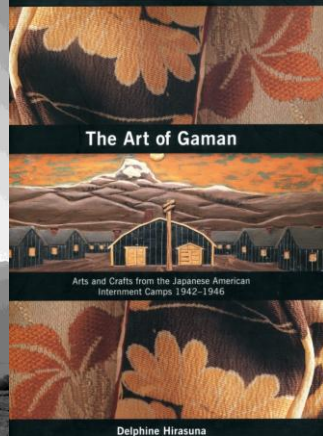
HELP WANTED! The Senior Center is always looking for able-bodied, caring, fun-loving volunteers (any and all ages welcome) to help out weekly (or once a month or so) with toban duties. We need your help on Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:15 pm to help our toban teams prepare tea, set out the tea and snacks, 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 to have some fun.

GUARDING AGAINST UNJUST INCARCERATION BY US GOVERNMENT

We, in 1942, were held without charges, attorney, trial, or due process of law by those who swore, with their oath of office, to uphold the Constitution of the United States! They didn't!

Now, one would think, after all these years, that America has learned the lesson of our unjust wartime incarceration, but it has not! **It must never happen again to anyone in this country!** We are, in short, the modern guardians of the Bill of Rights!

As JACLers, it is our duty to fight for and protect the civil and human rights of every American and legal resident. You can help. How? By continuing your membership in our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter and by taking an active role in our mission.



Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is truly grateful to its members and friends who have donated to this year's **2015 Day of Remembrance Education Fund (DOREF)**. Thank you. To those who haven't, please help with what you can. Each donation helps to preserve our Nikkei history and legacy.

This **DOREF** maintains a safe hall/*dojo* for our Seniors and cultural groups; honors our youths with the **Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship(s)**; and supports this monthly newsletter.

2015 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND (DOREF)

___ Yes, I/we wish to help. Enclosed is a tax-deductible contribution for:

___ Greatest Need ___ Education/Scholarship ___ Newsletter

Please make checks payable to Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, memo: DOREF, and mail to Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

Your name(s): _____

Address: _____

Our donation is: ___ *In Remembrance of* __, or ___ *In Honor of* ...

Name(s): _____

(An acknowledgment, unless you request otherwise, will be sent to:)

Name of person(s) to be notified and address(es): _____

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

Thank you!

W-SC JACL is a non-profit, educational, civil rights organization.

Tax deductible #ID 94-2659895

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 never 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	___ \$150 This includes two National dues with one subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , local dues and our monthly JACL newsletter, and all children under age 14 to be included.
Individual Member	___ \$80 This includes National dues with subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , the official paper of the National JACL, and local chapter dues and our monthly JACL newsletter.
Youth/Student	___ \$25 for each of ages 14 to 24, which includes a subscription to the <i>Pacific Citizen</i> , local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is <u>required</u> for scholarship consideration.

For **Thousand Club**, **Century Club**, and **Millennium Club** and **Life** membership categories, please contact our membership chair **Jeanette Otsuji Hager**.

Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Spouse's Name: _____
(Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Address: _____

Home phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

For family membership, please list names (and ages) of all children under the age of 14:

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

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.