

Liberty
Lost...



Lessons in
Loyalty

THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter June 2015

THE 29TH JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR (JCF)

By Paul Kaneko, Chair

Please come to this year's Japanese Cultural Fair on **Sat., June 6th** at Mission Plaza Park in Santa Cruz from 11 am to 6 pm. It will feature our very own **Watsonville Taiko** for the welcoming and the famous **San Francisco Taiko** for the closing performances.

This popular **free** event features many performances and activities—*koto*, *shakuhachi*, *Aikido*, *karate*, *Kyudo* (Japanese archery), *Zen* meditation, *ikebana*, *bonsai*, *ochanoyu*, *kimono* workshop—something for everyone and for the benefit of the entire community. Our goal is to present the finest traditions of Japan for their practices must be continued by future generations.

We are grateful to the **Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL** for co-sponsoring the JCF. The chapter will be offering for sale green tea, bentos, fresh strawberries, assortment of ceramics, and much more. It will also have a display of our unjust wartime incarceration. Please support our chapter, or just come to say, "Konichiwa," or "Hi."



This JCF 2015 poster design of the "Year of the Ram" is beautifully illustrated by **Wendy King**, a renowned local ceramic artist.

The JCF is in need of donations to continue. If you are able, please send your tax deductible donations to JCF, P.O. Box 3458, Santa Cruz, CA 95063. They are very much appreciated.

Visit the Japanese Cultural Fair website for more information: www.jcfsantacruz.org. Thank you!

JACL COMMUNITY PICNIC, SAT. JUNE 27th

You and your family (clan) are invited to our annual community picnic. You don't have to be a JACL member to attend our picnic. Everyone is most welcome. Please help keep this century-old tradition alive! We wish everyone to enjoy this fun-filled day. This is not a JACL fund-raising event. If we break even financially, then we are more than happy. There is no admission charge or parking charges!

This picnic will be held at the beautiful **Aptos Village Park**, 100 Aptos Creek Road, Aptos, CA 95003 from 11 am to 4:30 pm, **Sat., June 27th**. Please bring the grandchildren, and **please carpool as parking is limited.**



Let's give our mothers a break. We'll do all the cooking/barbecuing. The chicken BBQ lunch (salad, French bread, chili beans, rice, hot dogs, fruit (STRAWBERRIES, OF COURSE!), and non-alcoholic drinks) is only \$8 for adults and teens; for Seniors 70 and over and children 6 to 12 years of age--\$5; and for children 5 and under--free. Plus, you will enjoy an ice cream social!

Enjoy great entertainment provided by our wonderful and talented **Watsonville Taiko**.

We will be recognizing our young scholars by announcing the recipients of this year's scholarships—**Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship, Ray and Louise Sako Scholarships, Frank Mito Memorial Scholarship, and Dr. Francis B. Choy Memorial Scholarship.**



Children and adults (grandparents, too) will have great fun with the variety of races—sack race, *hashi* (chopstick) contest, *koko* race, *geta* race, powdered donut race, and others—and, there's even a water balloon toss contest!



For the Senior citizens and anyone else, there's free "BINGO!" with a variety of prizes.

We even have the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Championship **Jan Ken Pon** (rock, paper, scissors) contest!

Finally, we have a raffle with many outstanding prizes generously donated by members of our community. You may win the grand prize--a large, flat screen color TV.

Donations, which are tax deductible, for our raffle are greatly appreciated. Call Marcia Hashimoto at (831) 722-6859 who will pick up your donation, or you may give it to her at the picnic.

Please bring all the members of your family for a fun-filled day at the park. Lets continue this important historic *Nikkei* (of Japanese ancestry) tradition! Onward!

Please see our flyer in this newsletter.

A GREAT AMERICAN NISEI WAR HERO, HARRY K. FUKUHARA, PASSED AWAY

FUKUHARA, HARRY K., 95, passed away on April 8, 2015, at the Hi'Olani Care Center at Kahala Nui, Honolulu, Hawai'i. He was the beloved husband of the late **Teruko "Terry" Fukuhara** and is survived by his children **Shary (Jim) Fukuhara - Hashimoto, Mark (Mona) Fukuhara, Brian P. Fukuhara, and Pam (Wray) Tsuzaki**, and eight grandchildren.



Terry and Harry Fukuhara were honored by the NJAHS of San Francisco at the Nikko Hotel in 2007.

Harry was born in Seattle, Wash. on January 1, 1920 and served 48 years in active military and civil service for the U.S. Army. Harry supported many social chapters of the Nisei Community including the **Japanese American Citizens League, MIS NorCal and National Japanese American History Society of San Francisco**. He was recognized for his career contributions with the induction into the **U.S. Army Military Intelligence Hall of Fame in 1988** and was given the honor of **Distinguished Member of the Military Intelligence Corp in 1993**. In 1990, Harry received the **3rd Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon** from the **Emperor of Japan** and the **President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service** from **President George H. W. Bush**.

Harry's parents had immigrated to the United States from Japan. After his father's death in 1933, his mother, with no visible family income, returned to her home in Hiroshima with her children. Harry was 12 years of age.

Harry attended school in the Hiroshima area. Lacking the necessary Japanese language skills, he was enrolled in elementary classes. Within five years, he graduated from the Sanyo Commercial School in 1938!

Longing for his beloved United States, Harry returned alone in 1938 to the Los Angeles area. While working as a gardener and as a houseboy, he attended Glendale Junior College (CA), receiving an Associate of Arts degree in 1941.

While incarcerated in "camp", Fukuhara volunteered for duty in November 1942 with the U.S. Army and received training at the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage, Minnesota.

Immediately after this training, he was assigned to the Allied Translator and Interpreter Service (ATIS) in the Pacific theater of operations. Between May 1943 and to the end of World War II in August 1945, he served as an interpreter, translator and interrogator while working to support the Allied intelligence teams made up of Australians, Dutch and American military personnel. Fukuhara served as a language team chief throughout much of this period, and his team was recognized for significant contributions to the Allied intelligence effort in the Southwest Pacific region.



Much of his team's success in the interrogation of POWs can be attributed to Fukuhara's determined efforts to convince American commanders the value of capturing Japanese soldiers for intelligence purposes. [Photo: Fukuhara (right), without a helmet, is interrogating captured Japanese soldiers who provided valuable military information.]

Although Japanese soldiers were fierce warriors, willing to fight to the end, they were not as well prepared to resist Harry's skillful interrogation. As a result of his accomplishments in the field, Fukuhara was awarded the **Bronze Star medal with two oak leaf clusters** and was promoted up through the ranks to Master Sergeant. On August 1945, M/Sgt Fukuhara received a battlefield commission as a Second Lieutenant.

His service record included: MISLS Sec 3 (graduated Camp Savage, Dec. 1942); Allied Translators and Interpreters Service (ATIS), Brisbane, Australia; Assigned to 6th Army and Special Task Forces; 112th Cavalry Regt; 158th Infantry Regt; 1st Marine Div.; 41st Infantry Div; 32nd Infantry Div; from 09/44 assigned to 8th Army and attached to 33rd Infantry Div; 441st CIC Det; 115th CIC Det; 442nd CIC Det; 500th MI Gp; 109th CIC Det; and Yaeyama Central Affairs Team, USCAR.

From September 1945 to February 1946, Lt Fukuhara participated in the disarmament and deactivation of the Japanese armed forces as a member of the US Occupation forces.

He was given permission, a jeep, and a driver to visit the city of Hiroshima for the purpose of locating members of his family. He found his family home and knocked on the door. There was no response. Finally, he called out "okasan" (mother). His mother hesitated in opening the door. She was shocked, surprised, then happy to see her son. Harry found one of his brothers dying of radiation. Another had survived the atomic blast.

Fukuhara served as a liaison officer between the US military government and local Japanese government officials. After one year break in service, Lt Fukuhara returned to active duty in February 1947. He attended the Counterintelligence Corps (CIC) Basic Course at Ft. Holabird, Maryland in 1947 prior to his assignment to the 441st Counterintelligence Corps Detachment in Japan in September of that year. From 1949 to 1966, Fukuhara served in a number of counterintelligence positions with the US Army in Japan and the United States and conducted bilateral liaison with Japan for the United

States. He was extremely successful in several different types of sensitive operations, providing critical intelligence in support of US troops during the early Cold War period, the Korean War and the US buildup in Vietnam.

Fukuhara was a key figure in the Japan-based collection operations which the US Army mounted between 1967 and 1970 in support of US Forces fighting in Indochina (Vietnam). He was responsible for collecting information which aided the army's senior leaders and national policymakers in assessing the war-making potential and military objectives of the North Vietnamese Army and their Viet Cong allies. In 1969, he was promoted to the rank of colonel.

In 1970, Col. Fukuhara was appointed military governor of the Yaeyama Island Group of the Ryukyu chain. Serving until his retirement from active duty in 1971, Col Fukuhara was instrumental in the rebuilding of the island's infrastructure and materially improving the quality of life and morale of his constituents. His efforts directly contributed to better US-Japanese relations during the crucial period when US administered territory in the Ryukyu's was returned to Japanese control.

The capstone of Fukuhara's five long and distinguished career, his 18 year assignment as chief of 500th Military Intelligence Brigade's Foreign Liaison Detachment, began in July 1972 when he returned once more to Japan as a Department of the Army civilian. The remarkable record of his detachment in carrying out both routine and extraordinary requirements over many years is widely known and admired throughout the United States intelligence community. Furthermore, Fukuhara's unique personal abilities in the conduct of high level liaison work and his unparalleled network of contacts have often made him the "source of information when there was no other." Besides supporting the mission of the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade and its predecessors, his skills and contacts have been called upon by countless officials and decision-makers at the theater and national levels. He has also been a key figure in the negotiation of several bilateral agreements. Fukuhara's record reflect an unbroken string of accomplishments by an outstanding intelligence professional who has served the United States Army in this theater since 1943.

He was to serve with distinction in these overseas locations: Luzon, Philippine Islands; Cape Merkus, Arawe, New Britain Island; Aitape, New Guinea; Dutch New Guinea; Morotai; Baguio, PI; Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto, (Kansai area), Japan; Ishigaki-Jima, Okinawa, Japan; Kanazawa, Toyama, Gifu, and Tokyo, Japan.

Fukuhara's five military decorations include the **Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters**, the **Legion of Merit**, the **Meritorious Service Medal**, the **Army Commendation Medal** and the **Combat Infantryman's badge**. Further evidence of Fukuhara's five widely recognized contributions to the national intelligence effort are:

The National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, presented in 1987 by the Director of Central Intelligence Agency. The Department of Army decoration for *Exceptional Civilian Service*, presented in 1987 by the Secretary of the Army; and

"The President's Award for Distinguished Federal Civilian Service," which was personally signed by President Bush on Sept 14, 1990.

In addition, on September 13, 1990, the Emperor of Japan authorized the award of the "Order of the Rising Sun" 3rd Class to Mr. Fukuhara, which was signed by the Prime Minister and presented by the Chief of Staff, Japan Ground Defense Forces. Mr. Fukuhara received 15 Certificates of Appreciation Commendation and Outstanding performance awards from US military offices and 20 Certificates of Commendations Appreciation from various Japanese civilian and military government offices.



Col. Harry Fukuhara was inducted into the Military Intelligence Hall of Fame in 1988. In 2011, he was a recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal.

He served his country and Japan with distinction and with honor.

We of the W-SC JACL are grateful and honored to have known him as a friend, supporter, and patriot.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 9, 2015, at the Willow Glen Funeral Chapel in San Jose, CA,



A full military funeral with *Honor Guard* was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at the **Golden Gate National Cemetery** located at 1300 Sneath Lane, San Bruno, CA, 94006. Cemetery photos, courtesy of **Tom Graves**.

Photos and ashes of Harry and Terry with his US flag.



Rev. Keith Inouye officiated at the military funeral, Golden Gate National Cemetery with the *Honor Guard*.

ICHIRO "SAM" SUGIDONO



Ichiro "Sam" Sugidono died May 12, 2015, at his home in Watsonville surrounded by his family. He was 92. A native of Watsonville, he attended local schools and would have graduated with his Watsonville High School Class of 1942 but he, along with his family and Japanese and Japanese Americans in the Monterey Bay area, was incarcerated in the Salinas Assembly Center for World War II had broken out.

From Salinas the family was shipped to Poston, Arizona, where they were housed in Camp II, Block 220, Barrack 12, Room B. From Poston Camp II, Ichiro volunteered for the Army and served with distinction as a Master Sergeant with the **442nd Regiment Combat Team** in Europe. He received a **Purple Heart**, **Bronze Star**, and later, the **Congressional Gold Medal**.

When Ichiro returned from the war, he attended Heald's Business College. He returned to Watsonville to his father's automotive business that had been run by **Min Hamada** after the war. Following his father's retirement, Ichiro became partners with Min, and the business became H & S Automotive on First Street. Ichiro retired at age 65, turning over his business to his two sons, **Michael** and **Randy**.

On June 12th, 1992, on the exact 50th anniversary, Watsonville High School Class of 1992, at the suggestion of the W-SC JACL, invited Ichiro and all the Nisei graduates of the Class of 1942 to return to receive their diplomas with a cap and gown ceremony. They were the first Nisei graduates in the nation to receive this recognition.

In his retirement he enjoyed traveling, golf, and mostly going to the casinos. He was an avid S.F. Giants and 49ers fan.

Ichiro was a member of Westview Presbyterian Church, the W-SC JACL Senior Center, and Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL's 442nd RCT representative. Below, he accepted the American flag with **Sam Sakamoto** assisting during a Veterans' Day ceremony. We will truly miss him.



In May of 2010, Ichiro was inducted into the Watsonville High School Foundation's "Hall of Fame."



Ichiro, with members of his family, celebrating at the WHS Foundation's "Hall of Fame" event.



On Veterans' Day, Nov. 11, 2014, Ichiro was honored as the "Veteran of the Year" by the American Legion.

Ichiro leaves two sisters, **Grace Fujita** of Freedom, and **Alice Okine** of San Mateo; a sister-in-law, **Jane Sugidono** of Watsonville; three sons, **Fred (Paula)** of Cave Creek, AZ, **Randy (Renee)** of Watsonville, and **Mike (Melinda)** of Santa Cruz; two daughters, **Karen (John Ochoa)** Sugidono of Aptos and **Rita (Rick Stone)** Tuzon of Los Angeles; ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, **Fumi**, and long-time companion, **Ardell Tuzon**; one sister, **June** and brother, **Jiro**.

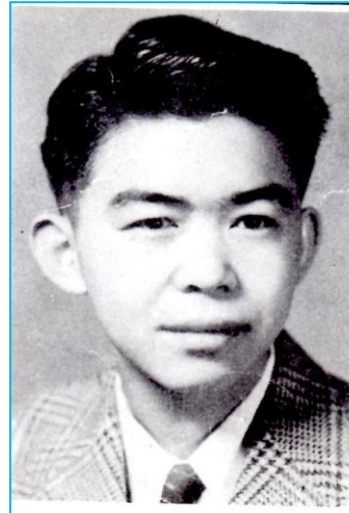
A Memorial Service was held Saturday, May 23, 2015, at Westview Presbyterian Church. Burial was private with military honors. Donations are preferred to Westview Presbyterian Church, 118 First St, Watsonville, CA 95076.

PETE HIRONAKA LEAVES A LEGACY

HIRONAKA, Pete K. age 87, of Kettering, OH passed away on Wednesday, March 25, 2015. He was born in Sacramento, CA but the farming family moved to Salinas when he was six years old. He fondly remembers his teacher who recognized and encouraged his artistic talents.

In Poston II, the family of seven, lived in Block 229, Barrack 5, Room D—one room 20' x 25'.

Pete continued to sketch as did **Jack Matsuoka** of "Poston Camp II Block 211" fame. Jack was a year older.



PETE KAZUO HIRONAKA

Hails from Salinas, California
Art Club Vice Pres. 3; El Chap
Art Ed. 3; Editor 4; Nat'l Hon.
Soc. 3; Pres. 4; Quill & Scroll
3; El Bull Bus. Mgr. 4; Class
Vice Pres. 4; Lettermen's Club
Sect'y 4; "B" Basketball 3.

In his senior year (1944-45) of high school, Pete was the editor of Poston II's 1945 yearbook, **El Chaparral**, whose theme, "A More Perfect Union," was inspired by the Preamble for he still believed in the Constitution of the United States.

Years later, during the period for redress and reparations, the National Museum of American History, Smithsonian in Washington, DC featured our wartime incarceration with the theme, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans & the U. S. Constitution." It was to run for five years but was so popular it ran for over 16 years (Oct 1, 1987 to Jan. 11, 2004). There is need to make it a permanent exhibit.

Pete describes leaving Poston for Ohio, "... it was like Dorothy leaving Kansas in black and white and arriving in Oz in Technicolor." Pete graduated in 1951 from Miami University in Oxford, OH.



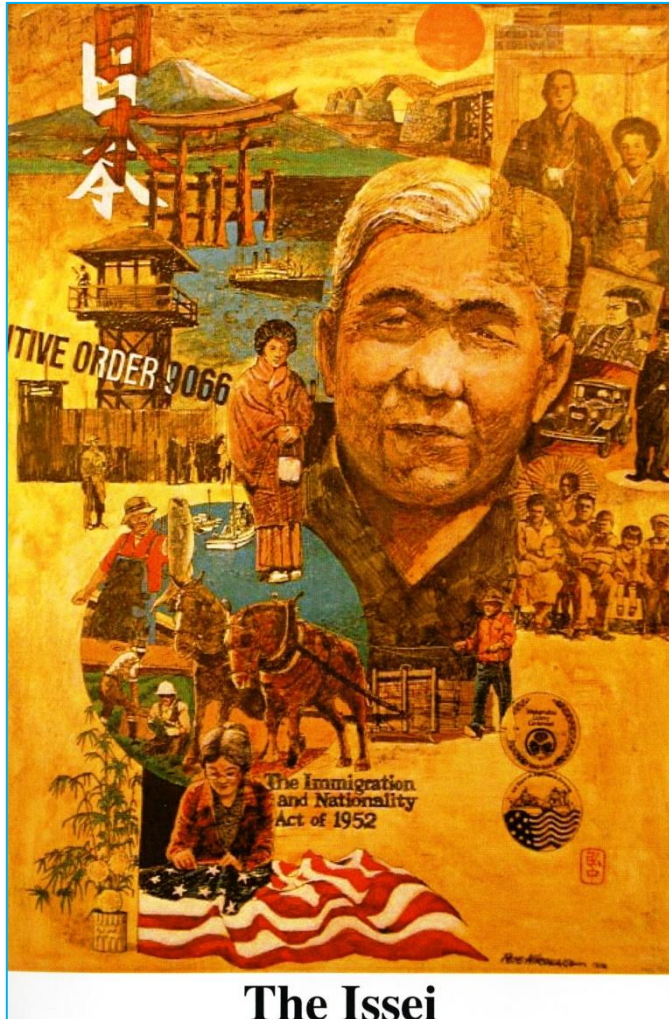
He worked as an artist for the Dayton *Daily News*, and a commercial artist for E.F. MacDonald and for many Dayton-area companies and advertising agencies.

Ron Katsuyama, National JACL Vice President for Public Affairs, stated:

"Pete Hironaka's cartoons have resonated with **Pacific Citizen** readers for more than 53 years. On May 24, 1957, Pete began a series of thoughtful messages and points of view. His initial publication was prompted by **Mike Masaoka's** Washington Newsletter column that raised concern about an apparent decline in public recognition of the supreme sacrifices of Nisei soldiers during WWII.

"Since then, other themes are identifiable: the value of kindness and compassion and a need for advocacy on behalf of the 'underdog' or 'outsider' due to cultural insensitivity or bigotry."

He was eternally grateful to his teachers and college professors who not only encouraged him but taught the importance of basic human core values, which became the central theme of his PC cartoons.



The Issei

It has been said, "Pete leaves a lasting legacy through his art, which conveys JACL's values of democratic processes and social justice. These penetrate deeply into our consciousness, reminding us of all that has been right with efforts on behalf of our organization."

His book, "Pete Hironaka's Report from Round-Eye Country: A Collection of Sketches, Both Verbal and Visual, by a Transplanted American," was published in 1981.

He was an active member of the Dayton JACL chapter and a supporter/friend of our W-SC JACL.

Pete enjoyed golfing, painting, cartooning, and children, especially his grandchildren.

Preceded in death by his spouse of 60 years, **Jean**, and four sisters and one brother, Pete is survived by son, **Stan (Laurie) Hironaka**, daughter, **Cathy Hironaka**, grandchildren, **Kate and Peter Hironaka**, and sisters, **Miyo Yamada, Shirley Sato, and Agnes Deguchi**.

Services were held in April in OH. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.routsong.com.

Pete Hironaka donated *The Issei* and *The Nisei* posters to our W-SC JACL, which hang together on the Wall of Honor in our Kizuka JACL Hall.



The Nisei

Saichi Kimoto

Saichi Kimoto passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, April 18, 2015. He was 86 years old.

Saichi was born on March 16, 1929 in San Juan Bautista, California, not long after, his family moved to Watsonville. After graduating from Watsonville High School, he joined the US Army during the Korean War.

When he returned to Watsonville, he went back to school to become an electrician, working at **Mid State Electric** for 55 years until he retired.



Saichi enjoyed sports of all kinds, baseball, basketball, bowling, softball, and golf being his favorites. He passed this passion on by coaching in the Watsonville community; at the Buddhist Temple and Ramsey Park Pony League baseball field. After retirement he spent many hours on his back yard putting green, teaching his grandchildren how to golf and love the game as he did.

Saichi leaves behind his wife, **Nina**; their daughters, **Cheri Castillo** and **Jennifer Sparkman**; son, **Jim Peckham**; six grandchildren and four great grandchildren; sisters, **Lois Ota** and **Ruth Ikeda**; as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends. Saichi will be missed by his family and friends whose lives were touched by his love, kindness and wonderful sense of humor.

A private memorial service has taken place.

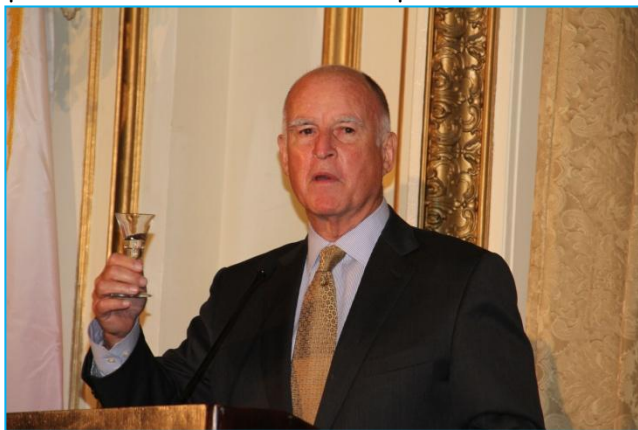
We send our deepest condolences to the Fukuhara, Hironaka, Sugidono, Kimoto, and House families, relatives, and friends.

PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE VISITS NORTHERN CALIFORNIA By Editor

On Thursday, April 30, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Silicon Valley and Stanford University before a dinner event at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco with over 300 guests.



California, which commands a unique place in the history of our two countries, has a vital role to play in Japan's "Toward an Alliance of Hope."



Governor **Jerry Brown** offered a toast to the warm friendship between California and Japan.



Akie Abe and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.



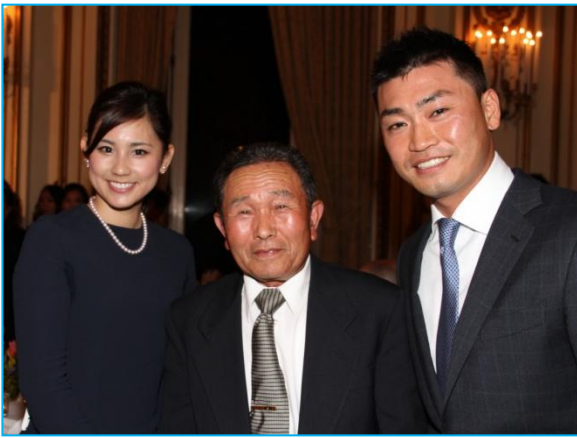
I had the opportunity to speak to the Prime Minister and expressed my gratitude to his grandfather, **Kan Abe**. In the 1930s, Kan Abe befriended **Takeo Miki** and assisted in Miki's successful election to the Japanese Parliament against a candidate of the militarists' party.

During the summer breaks from the University of Southern California, Takeo Miki, a young graduate student from Japan, stayed in Watsonville where he roomed at the **Hayashi** boarding house at 27th First Street and ate, as a family member, at our house. He witnessed the hardships experienced by our *Issei* parents, many of whom were farmers. Miki also commented that he learned and enjoyed how to do social ballroom dancing with the Young Buddhist Association members (remember, "Shall We Dance," a top Japanese movie?).

Takeo Miki (1907-1988) became the Prime Minister of Japan (1974-1976). He was known as "Mr. Clean" for trying to abolish corruption in the Japanese government and in his own political party.



A highlight was the presentation of SF Giant jerseys to Prime Minister **Shinzo Abe** and **Akie Abe** by **Nori and Sachi Aoki**.



SF Giant Nori Aoki and Sachi Aoki happily posed with **Itaru Nitao** of Watsonville, President of the *Dainihon-Nokai* Northern California chapter and Director of the International Farmers Aid Association.

I asked Nori Aoki if he knew of **John Sipin**, one of Japan's greatest baseball players. He said, "Yes, of course!" I told him that John Sipin is a former student of mine who presently lives in Aptos.

A FOND FAREWELL TO CONSUL GENERAL MASATO WATANABE

On May 7th, at the Nikko Hotel in San Francisco, we extended our appreciation and farewell to the Consul General and Mrs. Watanabe. The Consul General, who was here for less than the customary three years, will be reassigned by the Japanese Government. He enjoyed his visits to Watsonville. We will miss him and wish him well on his next assignment.



FROM OUT OF OUR PAST, A REMINDER OF WHO WE WERE AND ARE ... "WATSONVILLE CHAPTER, JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE ..."

Yoshiye Takata, Acting Secretary
Watsonville Register-Pajaronian, **January 13, 1942**
"\$25,000 BOND GOAL SET BY LOCAL JACL
JAPANESE AMERICANS IN DRIVE THIS WEEK;
PARENTS ASSISTING"

A goal of \$25,000 was set by the defense bonds committee of the local Japanese American Citizens League chapter as the campaign among members and Japanese families in this valley expected to get underway this week.

Albert Umino, chairman, and his precinct captains composed of **Jimmy Hirokawa**, **Taira Fujimoto**, **Bill Shirachi**, **Min Hamada**, **Louie Waki**, and **Dr. Frank Ito** will rally every possible aid to conduct the drive successfully and to do their part in the preservation and perpetuation of liberty and the democratic way of life.

An "all-out" defense of this country was keynoted in the discussions and recommendations made at the board of governors meeting Saturday evening. As evidence of their faith in the government of the United States and their position in the world crisis, voluntary subscriptions of larger denominational bonds were purchased by parents of the JACL members. These advance subscribers will head the list of the stamps and bond purchases to be made by the members and their parents.

The board of governors announced the appointment of **Yoshiye Takata** as part-time secretary to manage the temporary headquarters to be maintained in the office of Dr. Frank Ito (110 Union St.) with hours being 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. daily during the week.

"We also serve" badges are being sold by **Pearl Matsumoto** and **Kikuye Takata** which will supplement the emergency funds and the pins may also be obtained at the office of the local headquarters.

Under the chairmanship of **John Yamauchi**, the annual membership enrollment drive will begin and will include new members. Acting under instructions from the national headquarters the membership committee will request the presentation of birth certificates to renew and enroll the membership this year. The request concurs with the purposes of the JACL as expressed in the national slogan which reads: "For better Americans in Greater America."

[Editor's note: Yoshiye and Kikuye Takata are the aunts of **Helen Nakano**. After my father died in 1938, Dr. Frank H. Ito, a dentist, was my "guardian." An Issei, he served in the US Army during WW I. He

petitioned and received his US citizenship. He is a charter member of the Watsonville JACL and the local American Legion Post 121.]

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE DECLARES ITS POLICY, Jan. 16, 1942

To The Editor of the *Register Pajaronian* (newspaper)

In these critical days when the policies of many organizations representing various nationality groups may be viewed with suspicion and even with alarm by certain individuals who are not intimately acquainted with the aims, ideals, and leadership of such associations, it becomes necessary and proper, in the public interest, that such fraternal and educational orders as the Japanese American Citizens League do unequivocally and sincerely announce their policies and objectives:

Now, therefore, in order to clear up any misconceptions, misunderstandings, and misapprehensions concerning the functions and activities of this body, the national board of the Japanese American Citizens League issues the following statement and declaration of policy:

We, the members of the national board of the Japanese American Citizens League of the United States of America, believe that the policies which govern this organization and our activities as their official representatives are fourfold in nature and are best illustrated by an explanation of the alphabetical sequence of the letters "J-A-C-L."

"J" stands for Justice. We believe that all peoples, regardless of race, color, or creed, are entitled to enjoy those principles of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" which are presumed to be the birthright of every individual; to the fair and equal treatment of all, socially, legislatively, judicially, and economically to the rights, privileges, and obligations of citizenship. To this end, this organization is dedicated.

"A" stands for Americanism. We believe that in order to prove ourselves worthy of the Justice which we seek, we must prove ourselves to be, first of all, good Americans - in thought, in words, in deeds. We believe that we must acquaint ourselves with those traditions, ideals and institutions which made and kept this nation the foremost in the world. We believe that we must live for America - and, if need be, to die for America. To this end, this organization is consecrated.

"C" stands for Citizenship. We believe that we must be exemplary citizens in addition to being good Americans, for, as in the case of our parents, one may be a good American and yet be denied the privilege of

citizenship. We believe that we must accept and even seek out opportunities in which to serve our country and to assume the obligations and duties as well as the rights and privileges of citizenship. To this end, this organization is committed.

"L" stands for Leadership. We believe that the Japanese American Citizens League, as the only national organization established to serve the American citizens of Japanese ancestry, is in a position to actively lead the Japanese people residing in the United States. We believe that we have the inspired leadership and membership necessary to carry into living effect the principles of justice, Americanism, and Citizenship for which our league was founded. We offer cooperation and support to all groups and individuals sincerely and legitimately interested in these same aims, but we propose to retain our independent and separate status as the Japanese American Citizens League. To this end, this organization is pledged.

Summed up briefly, the Japanese American Citizens League is devoted to those tasks which are calculated to win for ourselves and our posterity the status outlined by our two national slogans: "For Better Americans in a Greater America" and "Security Through Unity."

Both articles are reproduced here with permission.

Snapp Shots: WWII Japanese-American vets to hold annual event, May 16th, 2015

By Martin Snapp, ColumnistTED

On July 25, 1944, Pfc. Harry Madokoro (of Watsonville) wrote this letter to his mother from the battlefield near Luciana, Italy:

"Not knowing how to pray, I have to depend on the family to do a lot of praying that all this strife ends soon so we may all go home and enjoy the simple things of life. Believe me, war is hell! It's not a pretty picture to see young kids who have not seen or begun to live life, all shot up or torn up by shrapnel, laying there, never to speak or laugh again.

"I only wish I could get those bigots, those hate mongers, those super-patriots, here to see them. Here at the front we're respected as fellow Americans fighting for the same cause. We're proud as hell to be in there pitching, doing our share of the work."

Those are the last words he ever wrote. A month later she received a telegram informing her that he had been killed in action. He was her only son.

Harry was killed when he volunteered for an unusually dangerous night patrol. He volunteered because many in his squad were young, inexperienced replacements.

When she got that telegram, Harry's mother was living behind barbed wire at the Poston Detention Camp II, Block 213-13-G, where she and Harry had been imprisoned ever since they had been rounded up, along

with 120,000 other Japanese Americans, after Pearl Harbor.

Despite this outrageous treatment, Harry -- and a lot of other boys -- volunteered to fight for the country that had done this to them. They joined the all-Japanese-American 442nd Regimental Combat Team; and they fought so well, they were awarded more medals, man for man, than any other military unit in U.S. history.

They were given the most dangerous jobs, including rescuing the Lost Battalion, 211 Texas National Guardsmen who were trapped behind German lines -- which they did, but at the cost of more than 800 casualties. They were fighting two wars: one against Nazi racism in Europe and another against American racism at home.

[Editor's note: Photo: **Mrs. Madokoro**, with Bible in hand, was presented the Distinguished Service Cross,



which she is wearing. She had given her only son to the United States of America, and she could not become one of its citizens. After the war, having no immediate family members in the US (her husband and daughter had died before the war), she returned to Japan and died quietly there. Harry, as the sole surviving son had been exempt from military service (remember the movie, "Saving Private Ryan"?), but he encouraged others to

volunteer too for the 442nd RCT. The term--"aliens ineligible for citizenship"--was repealed in 1952, thanks to the leadership of Mike Masaoka of the JACL.]

Every year on the third Saturday in May -- Armed Forces Day -- veterans of E Company, Second Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team gather in Oakland's Roberts Park for a brief but moving memorial service to honor their friends who, like Harry, made the ultimate sacrifice.

Over the years the ceremony has expanded to embrace the entire 442nd RCT, then all who died in World War II, and finally all casualties of all wars. This year's ceremony will take place on May 16 at noon, and the men of Easy Company invite you to join them.

In today's era, when rock guitarists are called heroes and football players are called warriors, here's your chance to meet the real thing.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

FFNV held an annual memorial service on Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2015 at the Roberts Park in the hills overlooking Oakland and the SF Bay.

Master of Ceremonies **Tom Graves** (author of *Twice Heroes*) greeted and thanked everyone for attending. The Boy Scouts presented the colors (flags) and the *Band of the West* beautifully played

the national anthem. After **Rev. Harry Bridge**, Oakland Buddhist Temple, gave the invocation, Graves presented a history of this event. **442nd vet Lawson Sakai** addressed the gathering of veterans and supporters, remembering fellow soldier, **Yukio Sumida**, who recently passed away. He described the cold in the forests of Bruyeres, France, not unlike the forest of Roberts Park, when the 442nd rescued the "Texas Lost Battalion" in Nov. of 1944.



Mas Kadota, E Company, 442nd RCT, offered incense in memory of those who passed away.



BSA **Gabriel Hoffman** enjoyed meeting **Lawson and Mineko Sakai**.



Joe Bowes cooked for us the only hot and, therefore, favorite dish—reindeer sausages—using his

propane cooker.



Oh, how the Sea Scouts of the band enjoyed *sushi*! The upcoming events of the FFNV are:

June 12—Congressional Gold Medal Dinner in San Jose's Fairmont Hotel

August 15—USS Hornet meeting

October 18-22—Las Vegas Reunion

For more information contact **Jean Hirasaki** at jthiraski@gmail.com or call (408) 842-6973.

WATSONVILLE CITY LIBRARY EXHIBIT

An exhibit celebrating **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**, is located at the Watsonville City Library's (275 Main Street, Watsonville, CA 95076) second floor. We hope you will take the opportunity to view the display cases near the Agricultural Center.



Monterey Bay Chapter President of the Filipino American Historical Society **Jess Tabasa** features the heroics of Filipino Americans during WW II.



Watsonville-Salinas Chapter President of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance **Dick Wong's** exhibit features the immigration and contributions of those of Chinese ancestry to our Pajaro Valley and Santa Cruz County.



Marcia Hashimoto, W-SC JACL President, presents an exhibit that honors Nisei WWII soldiers. Featured are **George Nakamura** who served in the **Military Intelligence Service (MIS)** and was killed in action (KIA) in the Philippines; **442nd RCT Henry Izumizaki** who was KIA during the *Rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion*; the **Congressional Gold Medal** presented to the 100th/442nd/MIS in 2011; **Tom Graves'** book "Twice Heroes"; and several DVDs including **Yukio Sumida's** "Beyond Barbed Wire."

We are grateful to the men and women who fought in the US military during WW II. Their service and sacrifice, are held in high regard.

We are thankful to the staff of the Watsonville City Library for their invitation to recognize our API community.

KAWAKAMI WATSONVILLE SISTER CITY NEWS

By Robb Mayeda

The 14 Watsonville middle school students (including *Kokoro no Gakko's* **Kai Gavin** and **Nicole Garcia-Kimura**) returned home on May 19. After attending the Kawakami Junior High School, the host families took the students to the famous Matsumoto Castle on Saturday.

On Sunday, the family journey to a nearby mountain retreat for hiking (for which Kawakami is famous) and a barbecue.

On Monday, it was onto Tokyo, where they stayed in Asakusa District. The next day, the group shopped and

then went to Narita Airport for the flight home which only took a little over ten hours on a new ANA Boeing 787 Dreamliner. All the parents picked up their tired children on time. Thank you, parents!

Please view the dozens of fun photos by going to Facebook and searching "Kawakami-mura 2015" and "Kawakami Watsonville Sister City Association."

Thank you everyone for your generous support at our various fundraisers. We look forward to welcoming the Kawakami Junior High School students this fall.



The photo shows our students and their host buddies.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI By Don White

The Watsonville Bonsai Club's 42nd Annual Bonsai Exhibit was held on Sunday May 3, 2015, at the Buddhist Temple Gymnasium. And, despite a family of one of our members, **Don Hilbert**, it was a nice success with an almost capacity crowd.

On the eve of the WBC set up, Don learned that his son had passed away and, therefore, could not participate in our show. Don is the club's major licensed vender of plants and bonsai material. Certainly, our prayers and thoughts go out to the Don Hilbert family.

I took charge of the plant sales, and with the assistance of show Chairman, **Michael Anderson**, put together a decent sale.



The demonstration of creating "A Plant-on-a Rock" by **Sensei Katsumi Kinoshita** was well received. It is always amazing to watch Kinoshita-san create a *bonsai*. With **Maggie Brubaker** assisting (above), a composition of two junipers and a dwarf iris plant were planted on a two-foot tall Feather Stone, creating a scene

of a lone stone protruding up from the sea/earth with a large tree on top, a small tree down the backside, and a planting at the bottom front.



Beautiful!! One of my students, **Jeanine Van Brunt**, won the bonsai creation, and we are happy for her.

An outstanding exhibit was a Japanese maple forest planting created by **Gody Apon**, some 20 years ago from cuttings and planted on an six foot long slab. Gody passed away at the age of 91 two years ago, and the maple forest is now owned by **Michael Anderson**, and cared for very nicely. There were many beautiful trees on exhibit, small and large, young and old, and enjoyed by all who attended.



Exhibit highlights included two ancient California junipers. One well over 500 years of age, was exhibited by **Iwao Yamashita**, and another 400 plus year-old youngster, was exhibited by **Don White** (shown left). Photos courtesy of **Don White**.

One six year-old boy who won two small trees in the raffle, responded when I asked what he was going to do with them? He looked at me as if I was senseless and said, "Make bonsai!" I guess we reached somebody.

Before the demonstration a very nice luncheon was served to the members and their guests. Chaired by Club President **Michael Alciati**, and with the volunteers of **Jean & Shirley Yamashita, Atsuko Kinoshita, Mitsuyo Tao** and others, they worked hard to put this tasty event on. A big THANK YOU for such a nice luncheon!!

Well, a very nice event it was, and it would not have been possible without the dedicated members of the Watsonville Bonsai Club. Not only their dedication to their Living Art Forms of bonsai, but assisting in putting together this great exhibit. So, from me, a great big THANK YOU. Hope to see you all next year!!

"HIB" (Happy In Bonsai)!

KOKORO NO GAKKO, Japanese Cultural School, begins at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple with classes starting at 9 am on June 22 and ending on July 2, 2015 with "Open House" program in the evening.

IKENOBO IKEBANA EXHIBITION

By Terry Hirahara

Watsonville Area *Ikenobo* and the *Ikenobo Ikebana* Society of Northern California Chapter will be hosting its annual flower exhibition on **Sunday, June 14** at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge Street, from 10 am to 4 pm. Demonstration will be at 1 pm. All are welcome, and there is no admission charge.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO

By Bonnie Chihara



Our advanced performers--sitting, **Naoko Yamamoto** and **Sensei Ikuyo Conant**; back row **Eiko Kraynak**, **Hiroshi Musselman**, **Bonnie Chihara**, **Herlie Kataoka**, **Taeko D'Andrea**, and **Denise Hasegawa**--just returned from Sacramento where we performed with **Santa Cruz Ballet Theater** at the *Regional Dance America* competition. They received Honor Company recognition for their piece *Cadence And 1*, choreographed by **Eva Stone** of Seattle, Washington. We played *Sensei Ikuyo Conant's taiko* music, "Nami."

Our upcoming schedule includes:

June 6 th	Japanese Cultural Fair, Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz
June 27 th	Land of Medicine Buddha Festival, Soquel
June 27 th	JACL Picnic, Aptos Village Park
July 4 th	Summer Concert Series, New Brighton State Beach
July 18 th	Relay for Life, Watsonville High School
July 19 th	Obon Festival, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
July 26 th	"Wharf to Wharf Race"
July 26 th	Festival of Books, Harvey West Park
Aug. 9 th	Church Street Fair, Santa Cruz
Nov. 8 th	Big Sur Half Marathon, Asilomar
Nov. 15 th	Watsonville Taiko's annual Boutique and Raffle



Watsonville Taiko recently received an *odaiko* on loan from the San Benito County JACL. It was originally a gift from Hollister's sister city, **Takino**, Japan. Thank you, **Joe Bowes** for transporting the *odaiko* to our *dojo*! Pictured in front row: **Kathie Brown**, **Sensei Ikuyo Conant**, **Karen Groppi** and standing are **Barbara Winston** and **Taeko D'Andrea**.

We are currently seeking new board members. We meet bi-monthly in Aptos so if anyone is interested in joining our board, please contact our business manager **Taeko D'Andrea** at (831) 435-4594, or email her at info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

By Jackie Yamashita

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KODO UMEZU

On April 25, 2015, the country of Nepal was struck by a 7.8 earthquake, which was followed by another huge earthquake. The disaster has left in its wake a tragedy beyond our comprehension. The enormous loss of life, the damage to the country's infrastructure, and the effect on the livelihoods of the people of Nepal as well as many of its neighboring countries, is tremendous. Our hearts and thoughts go out to all those who are suffering as a result of this tragedy.

Rev. Sonam Wangdi Bhutia of the **Kathmandu Hongwanji** writes, "Please help Nepal and the Katmandu community in our time of suffering, The funds raised will be used to help all without regard to religion or ethnicity, since we are all part of the world community and feel strongly that we must help each other in times of need. Please be assured that all funds will be used for the restoration of the affected areas in Nepal and for only these purposes."

Members and friends can donate in several ways.

A BCA NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND has been established so that BCA members can help the victims. Send a check payable to the "Buddhist Churches of America Endowment Foundation" Please note **NEPAL EARTHQUAKE RELIEF** in the memo section of your check and mail it to:

**BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA
ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION
1710 OCTAVIA STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109**

You may prefer to give through your local BCA temple or church (checks made payable to your local temple or church should include Nepal Earthquake Relief in the memo section). Donations made to the local temples and churches will be forwarded to the BCA Headquarters.

You may wish to give through the BCA website: Visit <http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org> and use your credit card, debit card, or PayPal account to send a secure donation.

Please send in your donations by JUNE 1, 2015.

We thank you in advance for your support and *Dana*.

For status updates about Rev. Sonam Wangdhi Bhutia and the Kathmandu Hongwanji's relief efforts, visit www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org, BCA website, or BCA's facebook.com/buddhistchurchesofamerica, group.

If you have questions regarding this relief effort, please send inquiries to donate@bcahq.org.

In Gassho,

Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop, BCA

July is ***Obon Festival*** time around the Monterey Bay:

July 12th Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple

July 19th Watsonville Buddhist Temple

July 26th Salinas Buddhist Temple

Each Temple conducts its festival with fun, food, and enthusiasm. Lets honor our ancestors by dancing, especially the traditional *obon odori* and *tanko bushi*.

All are welcome to join our any of the eight (8) *obon odori* (dance) practices on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7 pm at the Temple hall starting Monday, June 22nd to July 15th.

The Temple Calendar for June:

2	Tues	7 pm	Dinner
		7:30 pm	Board Meeting
3	Wed	1 pm	BWA Meeting
4	Thu	10 am	ABA Meeting
7	Sun	9:30 am	Japanese Service
		10 am	Sunday Service, <i>Shotsuki Hoyo</i> Dharma School, Graduation Service
10	Wed	7 pm	Study Class
12	Fri	2 pm	San Juan <i>Howakai</i>
14	Sun	<u>No</u> Sunday Service	
21	Sun	<u>No</u> Sunday Service, (Father's Day)	
June 22nd to July 2nd 9 am - noon <i>Kokoro no Gakko</i>			
22	Mon	7 pm	<i>Obon Odori</i> Practice
24	Wed	7 pm	<i>Obon Odori</i> Practice
27	Sat	11 am - 4 pm JACL Community Picnic, Aptos Village Park	
28	Sun	10 am	Sunday Service
29	Mon	7 pm	<i>Obon Odori</i> Practice

Obon is "Homecoming," a reunion for past and present members. Come back to visit family members, relatives and friends. We'd love to see you. And, remember, we do all the cooking!

Shotsuki Hoyo Service, 10 am Sunday June 7, 2015
June Memorial List

Akimoto, Jim Yoshio	Akiyoshi, Yaeko
Dooka, Akira	Fujii, Tokio
Hashimoto, Mits	Higaki, Osami
Hirahara, Mitoshi	Hoshiyama, Frances
Idemoto, Kazuko	Iyama, Tsunehichi
Izumizaki, George Yutaka	Kamimoto, Tsutae
Kanda, Momoyo	Kimoto, James
Kimoto, Isamu	Kimoto, Tomo
Kobara, Chisako	Kobara, Kaichi
Kobayashi, Isamu	Kokka, Shizue
Maemura, Jason Tadashi	Matsui, Midori
Matsumoto, Kenneth	Matsunami, Misao
Matsunami, Tsugumi	Mine, Bill Matao
Mine, Sachi	Mine, Tom
Misumi, Gijiro	Miura, Takaji
Murakami, Shozo	Muronaka, Tsuyuko Helen
Nagamine, Tousuke	Nakase, Pauline
Nishijima, Norma Taeko	Nishita, Hayakichi
Oda, Fumiko	Oka, Kanako
Sadamura, Manzo	Shirachi, Tsuya
Sukekane, Chiyeke	Takei, Kisaku
Tanimura, Noboru	Tao, Takeyo
Terasaki, Rosie	Toriumi, Jane Misako
Tsudama, Toshiko	Yamamoto, Barbara Sanae
Yamamoto, Hisa	Yamamoto, Ben Tsutomu
Yamamoto, Masatatsu Bob	Yamane, Sakuichi
Yamanishi, Akiji	Yamanishi, Jitaro
Yamanishi, Tadao	Yamashita, Minoru
Yorita, Misayo	Yorita, Toshiteru
Yoshimaru, Masato	Uyematsu, Rempei



Service at PV Memorial Park, Sun., May 24, 2015.

BWA: From the successful *Hanamatsuri Bazaar*, the BWA donated \$250 to the Temple.

On Wednesday, June 17, 2015, we will have our dinner at the Miyuki Japanese Restaurant at 5 pm. Members and spouses are invited to this dinner. Please sign up at our June 3rd BWA meeting.

BWA Scholarship deadline is June 30th. Students who are attending college now are eligible to apply for the scholarships. Our scholarship is \$1,000 each for two students. Please contact Jackie Yamashita for application forms and information.

Obon Bazaar, Sunday, July 19th from noon to 6 pm. Please join us, your help is very much appreciated.

BWA donated \$500 to the **Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund**.

ABA News: Thank you to the 52 who paid their ABA membership. If you haven't paid, please send \$5 to Iwao Yamashita or drop off at the Temple.

ABA donated \$500 to the **Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund**.

YBA Update:

Along with the *Dharma School* families, we decorated this year's *Hanamido* for the *Hanamatsuri* service. Thank you, **Ryoko-san**, for donating all the beautiful flowers. We also want to thank everyone who purchased our baked goods and drinks.

Congratulations to the seniors graduating this year:

Christopher Inokuchi

Kelsey Kusumoto

Sarah Nagamine

Julian Nakanishi-Rodriguez

Kevin Yamaoka

For *Obon*, we're planning on selling the same items: beef sticks, *teriyaki* burgers, curry, corn, and drinks. We want to try *Spam musubi* this year, which we will sell after the *sushi* sells out.

Boy Scouts: Angelo & Rocky are working on getting their Eagle Scout badges before they turn 18 years old in May. Rocky has finished a new *udon* booth and Angelo has completed the flag pole. The flagpole dedication will be determined at a later date to coincide with the Temple's calendar. May 30-31 the Scouts will go to Camp Pico Blanco.

4th of July Fireworks Booth: A signup sheet is available for the volunteers who will man the booth from July 1st to July 4th. The funds earned are earmarked to help our youth programs.

The 110 Year Celebration committee members are Reverend Hanayama, Tracy Haneta, JoAnn Kato, Ryoko Kozuki, Phyllis Nagamine, Barbara Shingai, Susan Uyematsu, Bill Wurtenberg, Kim and Perry Yoshida. The committee will meet every two months initially to develop a theme and plan logistics for the event. Reserve Sat., Nov. 4, 2017 for the anniversary event.

Apartments: We would like to thank the following who contributed to this beautiful remodel: **Pierce Kilkenny**, the contractor; **Jan Denney**, the tile lady; **Craig Rumney** who did the baseboard, and our Temple members **Ryoko Kozuki**, **Richard Uyematsu**, **Barbara Shingai**, **Phyllis Nagamine** and **Perry & Kim Yoshida**. A two-bedroom apartment is available for rent by a member. Contact **Barbara Shingai** at (831) 840-3301.

BCA Update: The Temple will donate \$1,000 to the **Nepal Earthquake Relief Fund** through the BCA. All our funds will be sent directly to the **Kathmandu Hongwanji** to assist **Rev. Sonam Wandhi Bhutia** and his members in their relief efforts. Individual donations are most welcome and needed. Please make (whatever amount) your check payable to the Watsonville Buddhist Temple with memo stating Nepal Earthquake Relief. It will be forwarded to the BCA and then to Nepal.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS By Jo Ann Vear

Paul and Carol Kaneko are vacationing in Turkey for two weeks, and we certainly miss them. All of us at Senior Center realize how much they do for us. Especially helping me being the new editor of this newsletter! *Bon Voyage* Paul and Carol!

The annual Mother's Day Celebration for the Seniors was held on May 7 at 1:30 p.m. There was a moment of silence for all the mothers who have passed away.

There was a presentation to all mothers 88 years of age who received a small silver bucket with a flowering plant in it. Those in attendance were: **Yaeko Cross 88**, **Kimiyo Fujii 89**, **Grace Fujita 91**, **Michi Hamada 93**, **Tea Hashimoto 94**, **Haruyo Ishibashi 89**, **Nancy Iwami 100**, **Mitzi Katsuyama 94**, **Rubie Kawamoto 88**, **Eiko Nishihara 88**, **Ruby Nakamura 90**, **Chiyeko Shikuma 90**, **Mitsue Tao 91**, **Miyeko Yamashita 97** and **Haruko Yoshii 98**. Some were unable to attend and they were missed by all: **Eiko Ceremony 90**, **Frances Goon 96**, **Evy Kamigawachi 91**, **Yoshino Matano 99**, **Masako Miura 100**, **Hide Nagamine 94**, **Yae Sakamoto 89**, **Floy Sakata 89**, **Louise Sako 98**, **Chiyoko Yagi 94**, **Betty Yagi 91**, **Satoko Yamamoto 89**.



Then all the mothers got up for a picture. There were only 7 men left to take pictures.

June Honda told us of her mother who was born in 1915 and will be turning 100 this year. She currently lives in San Jose and keeps her garden in immaculate condition. **June** is the youngest of three girls.

All the mothers received gifts from the Mother's Day raffle. Thank you to all who donated gifts for the raffle. After bingo all members went to *Hong Kong Garden* for a special Mother's Day dinner.



The performance by **Baisho Matsumoto** was extremely entertaining, and everybody enjoyed themselves. He played music on the *shamisen* and *shakuhachi* as well as told stories. He explained the history of the *shamisen* and explained the style of playing is different for *Kabuki* as opposed to *Geisha* entertaining.

In honor of **Nancy Iwami's 101st birthday**, a beautiful flower arrangement was presented by **Kimiko and Pat Marr**. The **Izumizakis--Christine,**



Henry and Sandy – and Marsha Wada provided delicious *sushi bento* for all the Seniors in Nancy's honor.

Tickets have been purchased for *Mary Poppins* at Cabrillo College for Sunday, July 26th. If you have made a reservation, please pay **Susan AmRhein** at your earliest convenience. We will be carpooling.

Paul reminded everyone of the Japanese Cultural Fair to be held in Santa Cruz on June 6 and also advised Seniors that there is the possibility of a casino trip in July.

June 18th is *Father's Day* and word is that **Susan AmRhein** will be preparing her usual wonderful feast for all those attending. Other members will help with desserts.

We are happy to welcome three new members: **Kimiko Marr, Pat Marr, and Reiko Yamamoto**.

A marvelous array of desserts was provided by: **Eiko and Yoshiko Nishihara, Nobue Fujii, Jane Sugidono, Cindy Mine, Kumiko Nakatani, Hisako Kodama, Nobuko Akiyama, Rubie Kawamoto, Terry Hirahara, Jean Akiyama, Donna Fujita, Eiko Stewart and Eileen Byers**. Thank you, ladies.

Many thanks to all who donated for our bingo prizes:

Toshi Yamashita	2 large bags <i>Chagashi</i> , 20 pkgs. Roasted seaweed
Judy Hane	30 rolls toilet tissue
George/Eiko Stewart	8 plates butter mochi, 8 zucchini carrot breads
Mitsuyo Tao	30 jumbo bathroom tissue, 6 baskets strawberries
Rubie Kawamoto	12 boxes <i>Kleenex</i> , 3 pkg. <i>Arare</i>
Nobue Fujii	6 plates of pineapple zucchini bread, 6 bags lemons
Terry Hirahara	2 large bags <i>Kettlecorn</i> , 4 boxes <i>Puff Kleenex</i> , 4 cans <i>Comet</i>
June/Sunao Honda	2 dozen eggs, 8 plates <i>Spam</i> sushi, barbecued pork buns
Dylan, Alex & Aubrie	3 chocolate candy
Miye Yamashita	7 pkgs. <i>Nori Arare</i> . 3 pkgs. Roasted seaweed
Mary Perez	8 pkgs. Noodles, 2 boxes popcorn, 2 cans <i>Campbell</i> soup, 1 box cookies
Eiko Nishihara	1 dozen homemade strawberry jams
Yoshiko Nishihara	14 bottles <i>Dawn</i> dish soap
Kazue Sakai	2 hand sanitizers, 1 candle, 2 bag chips, 4 boxes <i>Kleenex</i>

Chie Sakaue

Kiyo Arai

Nancy Iwami

Yaeko Cross

April Goral

Helen Nakano

Hide/Akira Nagamine

Chiyoko Yagi

Michiko Hamada

Eileen Byers

Gail Wurtenberg

Kimiyo Fujii

Jean Akiyama

Kitty Mizuno

Hisako Kodama

Thank you very much.

Monetary donations were received from: **Gary and Cindy Mine, Chie Sakaue, Yae Sakamoto, Hisako Uemura, Nancy Iwami, Iwao Yamashita, Haruko Yoshii, Nobue Fujii, Eiko Ceremony, Mitzi Katsuyama, Hisako Kodama, and Jo Ann Vear**, and in memory of **Kenji House** from **Edna and Yukio Nagata** and from **Sunao and June Honda**.



April and May birthdays were celebrated together. April birthday is **Hisako Uemura**. May Birthdays are: **Nancy Iwami 101, Mitzi Katsuyama 95, Haruko Yoshii 98 and Iwao Yamashita 88** (back row). Absent were **Inako Johnson** and **Sachi Snyder**. Happy birthday to all of you. And a special thank you of cake and ice cream from **Haruko Yoshii**.

All Seniors offer their condolences to the families of our two senior center members – **Kinji House** and **Sam Ichiro Sugidono**. They will both be missed.

A special thank you to the *toban* group for May: **Nobue Fujii, Eiko Stewart and Nobuko Akiyama**.

Photos, courtesy of **Phil Shima**. Thank you.

NCWNPD COUNCIL MEETING, MAY 3rd



At our district council meeting in San Juan Bautista, it was announced that **April Goral** will be moving to North Carolina to be with her grandchild and family.

We are grateful to April for serving as W-SC JACL President in 2005 and as a board member of the NCWNPD. We wish her well, and we thank her for her many years of service to the JACL. Governor **David Unruhe** acknowledged **April Goral** for her dedicated service with a beautiful orchid plant.

"HONOR THY CHILDREN" AT HARTNELL

On Thursday, May 7th, Studio Theater (K-125) of Hartnell Community College in Salinas, CA was filled with attentive students, faculty, and staff. The psychology department presented, *Honor Thy Children* – an open conversation with **Al and Jane Nakatani** on discrimination, racism, and homophobia that plagued their sons' search for identity and self-acceptance. In a span of eight years, the Nakatanis lost all three sons. One was murdered, and the other two who were gay died of HIV/AIDS. Their story is not about tragedy but a journey of hope and purpose of life as they honor their children.

Their true story is described in "Honor Thy Children," written by **Molly Fumia**. A video can be viewed at <http://wimeo.com/33421616>.



The audience was engaged and asked thought provoking questions.

Special thanks go to Psychology Professor, **Dr. Yoshiko Matsushita-Arao** for helping arrange this talk each semester. Al and Jane reside in Maui and enjoy their visits to Hartnell. Photos kindly provided by Hartnell CC.

WESTVIEW'S "CHIMES" By Leslie Nagata-Garcia



Long-time beloved member **Ichiro (Sam) Sugidono** died May 12, 2015 at his home in Watsonville surrounded by his family. A memorial service and a reception were held Saturday, May 23, 2015 at Westview Presbyterian Church. A private burial with military honors was also held. Please read the article on pages 4-5 on this W-SC JACL newsletter.



Westview will once again participate in the **24 Hour Relay for Life** event that takes place on **July 18 - July 19** at the Watsonville High School.

Besides needing volunteer walkers, Westview will also be selling **Chicken Teriyaki take-out meals** on July 18th that can either be picked-up at Westview or the Watsonville High School. Relay for Life Chicken teriyaki tickets are currently being sold: **suggested donations are \$8.00**. All proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society.

Youth Mission Scholarship Fund: Also on **July 18th**, Westview will be selling chicken teriyaki take-out meals to benefit the Youth Mission Scholarship Fund. **Suggested donations are \$8.00** and tickets are currently being sold. These donations will help the **Westview Church Youth Group's trip to Navajo Nation Native American reservation in Arizona** for a service mission trip **July 25-31**. They will learn about Native American life on the reservation, grow spiritually, serve the children in the local church, and do a work project. They will also experience Monument Valley and the Grand Canyon. Please be praying for our youth, the leaders, and the people they will serve.

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

Youth/Family Upcoming Events

Gym Nites are usually the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from **5:30 - 8 p.m., at Westview**.

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- **June 5 - Beach Party at Manresa Beach, 4 - 7 pm.** Hot dogs provided. Wear your swimsuit, bring your boogie board and/or fun things to do. And, bring a snack to share!
- **June 19 - Gym Nite**
- **July 3rd - Gym Nite**
- **July 17th - Gym Nite**



Tutoring Club: Westview will be starting a tutoring club to local students after school at Westview one day a week **beginning in September**. Please be in prayer. Contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in helping in this loving outreach to our neighbors.

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.

Wednesday Study Series: We finished *The Hope Quotient* by Rev Dr. Ray Johnston in May and will start a new study in September.

In Honor of Joanne Yahiro



On May 13th at E.A. Hall Middle School a cherry tree was planted in honor of Joanne Yahiro. She inspired the many positive improvements Willie initiated as a PVUSD Trustee. She attended E.A. Hall as a child,

and her children also attended EA Hall.



Joanne chaired each of Willie's successful campaign for Board of Trustees of the PVUSD.



Relatives and friends gathered for the planting.

The beautiful *Kwanzan* (double blossom pink) flowering cherry tree symbolizes the staff's appreciation and admiration for Joanne.

DONATIONS, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM ...

In *memory* of Isamu Kawasaki from

Jennifer Ura Gavin

In *memory* of Helen Kobara from

Robb Mayeda

In *memory* of Ichiro Sam Sugidono from

Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

In *memory* of Kenji House from

Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

In *appreciation* of the W-SC JACL from

Grant Ujifusa of NY

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.

Please do not mail to our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street. Our mailing address is: W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

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

Thank you for reading our June 2015 newsletter.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

We shall remember to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can live the American Dream in peace and with justice.



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.