

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

“The Bridge 橋”

The Voice of Our Community

*After the rain has
stopped, a branch of droplets waits
for the light to change*

ameagari

eda no shizuku mo

bikari matsu

- Haiku by Bob Gomez
in dedication to Mas Hashimoto

Translation by Emi Sato

(Bob and Denise Gomez, Program Directors of
Kokoro no Gakko)

DONATIONS

We would like to thank those who have
generously donated since our last issue. It is
through your constant support that we continue
to be a vibrant part of our community.

- Jason Higashi for DOREF-newsletter "in honor
of Mas Hashimoto for his years of dedication in
storytelling in print and in person regarding
DOR and his experiences."
- Robert and Mary Oka for DOREF-newsletter
- Sam and Yae Sakamoto for DOREF-greatest
need
- Sachi and Phil Snyder for DOREF-greatest need
"in remembrance of Tadashi Tar Mino, Ayako
Barbara Mino, and Iwao Mino."
- Grant Ujifusa of NY for the DOREF newsletter
- Yoko Umeda for DOREF-greatest need
- Alan and Gayle Uyematsu for DOREF-greatest
need
- Watsonville Bonsai Club donation for use of
the JACL Hall

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Look for our website:

WatsonvilleSantaCruzJACL.org

WATSONVILLE - SANTA CRUZ JACL UPDATE

Upcoming JACL Calendar of Events and Deadlines

Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter Board Meetings: Monthly chapter board meetings are held on the fourth Thursday (except in November and December) at the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn Street, Watsonville, CA 95076 starting at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Sat., April 6	NCWNP District Gala Awards Recognition Luncheon Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, CA
May 15	W-SC JACL Scholarships
May 18	Friends & Family of Nisei Veterans Annual Memorial Service
June 8	Japanese Cultural Fair
June 22	JACL Community Picnic

Day of Remembrance 2019

From (written program) distributed at our Day of Remembrance:

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized Executive Order 9066, which unjustly instituted the incarceration of over 120,000 people of Japanese Ancestry. With their constitutional rights stripped because of their ethnic heritage, thousands of families living in the Western United States were relocated to concentration camps located in the most desolate regions of the country.

To honor those who endured this injustice, we observe this Day of Remembrance at the historic Salinas Rodeo Grounds, which served as a temporary assembly center for those Japanese Americans who were located from the Central Coast region of California. (I will save the last sentence of this, at the end of my article.)

On Sunday, February 24, we were gifted with a day of no rain, a good crowd from various communities and representatives from our 5 JACL chapters from the Central Coast region engaging.

The tone changed to intent listening to the speakers, pausing for a moment (from our busy and gifted lives) after watching their presentations and remembering what our relatives endured and noticing how it may be affecting US, even now.

For some, after hearing many stories, seeing various media or reading articles, one may think you have a good grasp on our relatives experiences.

Then there are times, a different angle or concept presents itself, like today, what did happen to the barracks after camp? Or how one another treated each other in camp?

We thank Kurt Kurasaki from San Benito County JACL chapter for presenting the program.



We thank Rev. Jason Barraca of Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church who gave the Invocation.

Sharon Yamato, filmmaker from Los Angeles, presented a film screening of "Moving Walls" which showed what happened to the barracks after camp in Heart Mountain,

Wyoming. People had to homestead the property. They were able to buy a piece of the land there and have 2 barracks for \$2. The land had no water or electricity. The film showed how many owners turned the barracks into their actual "home".



Diana Tsuchida (San Jose native) gave a presentation on "An Incurable Troublemaker" (Memories of the Japanese American Incarceration). It focused on her grandfather, Mr. Tamotsu Tsuchida, his experiences and challenges he faced in Tule Lake and Leupp, Arizona. Diana's project is the "Tessaku Project". It is Iron Wall, and this project is to honor the Tule Lake internees.



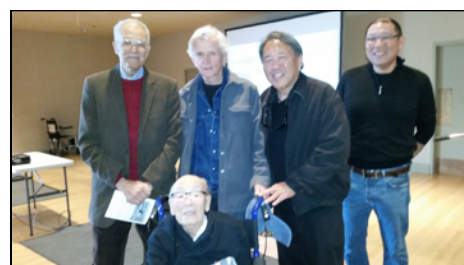
Gary, Joe and the cherry tree



Paul Ichiuji and family



Iwao and Paul in front, Joe and Gary standing



Main caretakers of the Japanese Memorial Garden - Norris, Paul, Joe, Gary, and Kurt (not in photo Iwao Yamashita and Victor Kimura).

We had a Special Touch to the day. Paul Ichiuji who coordinated the five chapters, Gilroy, Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, San Benito County and Watsonville-Santa Cruz in the maintenance of the Memorial Garden and took care of the book-keeping of the Memorial Garden fund for 20+ years, was honored with a double blossom cherry tree planted in the Memorial Garden. A plaque made by Valley Trophies honoring Paul will be placed nearby.

We are so grateful for the recognition bestowed upon him. Our thanks to Joe Bowes and Gary Mine assisted by Norris Woodford for making this Celebration of Appreciation to Paul possible.

Today on February 24, 2019, at the Salinas Rodeo grounds, we are all free to go where ever we want, make our own decisions, take pictures, interact with each other of different backgrounds, enjoyed a beautiful array of different foods and have privacy if we wanted it. Yet on February 19, 1942, people of Japanese Ancestry were unjustly incarcerated and temporarily housed here at the Salinas Rodeo grounds until they were relocated to a permanent American concentration camp.

(Last sentence from the program:) On this day, we not only recollect the transgressions of the past, but also recognize the continuing need to protect the civil liberties for all Americans. - Cindy

Photos by Mas, Jean, and Gary

The JACL NCWNP District Gala 2019 Fundraiser

Honoring Our Unsung Heroes *By Marcia Hashimoto*

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter is proud to present Jeanette Otsuji Hager as our NCWNP District Daruma Award "Unsung Hero" honoree. She epitomizes the characteristics of individuals deserving of this award. For nearly two decades, Jeanette has been a dedicated advocate of JACL's mission.

Jeanette's active membership in the JACL began in 2001 when she participated in our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter's reenactment, "Liberty Lost ... Lessons in Loyalty," as a member of the planning committee and as a volunteer "actress" presenting the stories of the Japanese and Japanese Americans affected by Executive Order 9066.

Jeanette's service to our chapter is incomparable. Without hesitation, she is the first person to take on responsibilities and always steps forward and never aside. She has been our President, Secretary, official delegate, and is indispensable as our membership co-chairperson. Our current membership is the fourth largest in the entire National JACL of 100 chapters. She is currently assisting our newsletter editor, Cindy Hirokawa Mine, in designing and formatting the publication, "The Bridge". Jeanette worked at West Marine for nine years until she transferred to Second Harvest Food Bank in 2006. Her positions there included executive assistant, donor database coordinator and finance director.

She is modest and quietly determined as a problem solver. Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is extremely grateful to Jeanette for her untiring efforts and sincere commitment to our organization and community.

We cordially invite you to join us at the NCWNP District Daruma Awards luncheon banquet and celebration which will be held on Saturday April 6, 2019 at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, CA.

Please call Marcia Hashimoto at (831) 722-6859 or email hashi79@sbcglobal.net for reservations by March 24 or for further information.

National JACL Scholarship and Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter Scholarships

By Brooke Kondo Rains

Attention National JACL Scholarship Applicants-

The Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative Arts, Performing Arts and StudentAid applications must be postmarked no later than **April 1, 2019** and are to be mailed directly by the applicant to:

National JACL Scholarship Committee
c/o JACL Midwest District Council
10604 Killarney Drive
Union, Kentucky 41091

To All Applicants: All applications must be on the 2019 application form that is posted on the JACL website (www.jacl.org). Note: the required Personal Statement essay question changes each year, so students must use the 2019 application for consideration by the National Scholarship Committees.

All applications must be complete at the time of submission and meet the stated deadlines in order to be considered. Applications and required materials must be submitted in one packet; materials may NOT be submitted separately. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered by the committees.

Students are allowed to apply to ONE CATEGORY ONLY: Freshman, Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative Arts or Performing Arts. The exception to this rule is that any applicant may also apply for the Student Aid Scholarship in addition to another category. However, a successful applicant will only receive the higher of the two awards applied for.

Applicants are judged on the basis of their JACL involvement, scholastic achievement, extra-curricular activities, community involvement, personal statement and letter of recommendation.

Requirements:

- JACL Membership (Individual or Youth/Student)
- Personal Statement
- A Letter of Recommendation
- Official transcripts (only one copy required from each school)
- The original, plus 2 copies, of the application and all required materials (except for required transcripts)

In August 2019, the scholarship recipients will have been determined and electronic notification will be made to those selected. The JACL chapters to which the awardees belong will be notified as well. In the Fall of 2019, the JACL national newspaper, the Pacific Citizen, will publish its annual Scholarship Edition highlighting all of the award recipients.

One must be enrolled in school in the Fall of 2019 in order to receive a scholarship. Past recipients are limited to a total of two National JACL Scholarships.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact JACL Regional Director Patty Wada at pwada@jacl.org, (415) 921-5225, extension 39, or National Vice President Matthew Farrells at mfarrells@jacl.org.

JACL Watsonville-Santa Cruz Local Scholarships

Applications available for download: Scholarship application

Deadline - Wednesday, May 15, 2019

- 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, such as Kokoro no Gakko; level of volunteerism; and length of membership in the JACL, the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or the Westview Presbyterian Church, which applicants receive a particular scholarship.
- 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 family must be present at the awards ceremony, which will take place at the JACL's annual community picnic at Aptos Village Park on Saturday, June 22, 2019.

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships

Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship: The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship fund was established by the W-SC JACL and Mrs. Keiko Kitayama in memory of her husband, Kee, who was our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter president in 1987. Kitayama worked tirelessly for redress and reparations with the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988. The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship fund provides much needed financial and moral support for our young scholars. It upholds Mr. Kee Kitayama's legacy, encouraging our youth in their pursuit of higher education. The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship may be awarded to graduating high school seniors to be used towards their college education.

Frank Mito Scholarship: The Frank Mito Scholarship Fund was established by his family to provide financial support for local students pursuing higher education goals. Frank Mito was an active supporter of the

Watsonville Japanese American community. The scholarship was formerly awarded through the Kokoro no Gakko. The \$500 Frank Mito Scholarship may be awarded to a graduating high school senior with Kokoro no Gakko participation preferred and may be additive to other JACL scholarships.

The Rekiso "Ray" and Hisako "Louise" Sako Scholarships: The Rekiso and Hisako Sako Scholarship was established in 2012 to help local students who are actively involved with the JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or Westview Presbyterian Church pursue their higher education goals. Mrs. Sako and the late Mr. Sako have been long time members of the JACL, Senior Center, and leaders among the Japanese American Community.

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 scholarship for a year.

Send your completed forms for the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter Scholarships by May 15, 2019.

JACL Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA 95077

2019 California Mother of the Year Award

By Marcia Hashimoto

Congratulations to Susan Tatsui D'Arcy for this prestigious award! Susan is the mother of two accomplished daughters, Nicole (a physician) and Jaclyn (in marketing). The Tatsui-D'Arcy family has been members of our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter since 2001. Susan served as our Press Secretary for our reenactment, "Liberty Lost ... Lessons in Loyalty," and both Nicole and Jacklyn participated as our young, student performers.

Susan Tatsui D'Arcy is an author, educator, and entrepreneur. "Being a mom is one of the most challenging and wonderful things I've done," she stated. Realizing the limitations of public and private schools, Susan researched, developed, and created curriculum for her children and other students to flourish academically as well as in the performing arts. Susan is the most sought after college advisor in Northern California, helping students get into their dream colleges. She also helps students turn their visions of impacting their community into a reality.

We are thrilled that Susan is being recognized for her many achievements.

FRIENDS & FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

By Brian Shiroyama

FFNV Celebrates the Rescue of the Lost Battalion

The threat of rainstorm did not deter faithful members from attending our kick-off membership meeting in Morgan Hill on February 9, 2019.



Consul General Tomochika

Consul General Uyama from the San Francisco Consulate extended his greetings and delivered an inspiring speech. He remarked: "The values the Nisei veterans fought so hard to defend, often making the ultimate sacrifice, are truly universal ones which are shared by all of humankind." He then stated that it was his deep honor and privilege to present Lawson Sakai the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, from His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in recognition of his contributions to improve the status of Japanese Americans in the US. In addition, he credited Lawson for his outstanding effort to preserve Japanese American veterans history. In conclusion, Consul General Uyama

noted upcoming Day of Remembrance events in various communities and offered his gratitude to Nisei veterans for making our Asian ancestry respectable and honorable.

The program focused on the epic battle fought...and won...by the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (442nd RCT), a segregated unit mostly composed of Japanese American soldiers, many of whom volunteering from internment camps. In late October 1944 in France, a battalion of the "Texas Regiment" became trapped by German forces. It became known as the Lost Battalion. Units from the Regiment attempted to rescue but retreated against formidable and determined German forces. Faced with the certain loss of 275 men, the 442nd RCT was ordered into action. After five days of intense combat and taking heavy casualties, the 442nd RCT rescued the remaining 211 soldiers of the Lost Battalion. This year marks the 75th anniversary of this historic battle.



MC Brian Shiroyama, Lt Col. US Air Force (retired) Vietnam veteran



The panel - MC Tom Graves, Mike McKague, Lawson Sakai, and Franz Steidl.

Franz Steidl, author of "Lost Battalions," eloquently spoke of the military environment from both sides surrounding the Lost Battalion. Lawson Sakai, a 442nd RCT veteran, passionately spoke of the battle he faced - the hardship, bravery and victory. Mike McKague, the son of a Lost Battalion veteran, presented an interesting story of his dad's changed views of Japanese Americans after coming home. Al Tortolano, a Lost Battalion veteran, was unable to attend due to his advanced age and illness. However, as he has done in the past, he would have thanked the 442nd RCT for giving him life he thought he would have lost in October 1944. Tom Graves, author of "Twice Heroes," skillfully moderated the program while offering his admiration for the 442nd RCT for the rescue.

We wished Lawson Sakai well who will attend the 75th anniversary ceremony and celebration in Bruyeres in July this year, the town the 442nd RCT liberated just before rescuing the Lost Battalion.



Lawson Sakai and Consul General Tomochika

FFNV Memorial Service

The Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV) will host its annual memorial service on May 18 (Armed Forces Day) at Roberts Park, Oakland

Hills, CA. The program will start at 12:00 noon. A potluck picnic will follow. Entry into the parking area will be free by informing the gate associate that you are attending the memorial service. Dress warmly and wear comfortable shoes. The service site can be found by following the sound of patriotic music permeating through majestic redwood trees. If you need more information, please contact Brian Shiroyama at bshiroyama@gmail.com or (408) 896-1021 (texting preferred).

KAWAKAMI SISTER CITY NEWS

By Robb Mayeda



Thank you for your support at our sister city fundraisers. We have 18 students who will travel to Tokyo and Kawakami-mura on May 7. The students attend the following schools: E.A. Hall, Lakeview, Rolling Hills, Cesar E. Chavez, Pajaro, Linscott, Alianza and Kokoro no Gakko. We have two more fundraisers, a Flapjack Breakfast at Applebee's on **Sunday, March 24**, from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Please arrive no later than 9:45. In April, we will have a car wash at Ramsey Park, **Sunday, April 28**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thank you again.

KOKORO NO GAKKO

By Zoey To and Irene Potter, Registration Committee

It's that time of the year again!!! Please join us for the annual summer session of Kokoro no Gakko. Registration is currently open. Kindergarteners (who have completed kindergarten by June 2019) through 6th graders may enroll. The session is between June 24 through July 3, 2019, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. The cost is \$275.00 per child with an early bird special of \$250.00 if payment is made by March 15, 2019. Please visit our website for more information on how to register: <http://www.kokoronogakko.org>. If you have any questions, please do hesitate to contact Registration at kokoronogakkowatsonville@gmail.com. Thank you.

MEDICAL THOUGHT - Always check with your medical professional...

By Brooke Kondo Rains, DDS

Oral health is an important piece of overall health. Studies have linked bacteria that cause periodontal (gum) disease can put patients at higher risk for conditions such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer disease, adverse pregnancy outcomes, and some cancers.

Tips to help maintain your oral health:

- Brush your teeth with a fluoride toothpaste at least 2 times per day.
- Floss daily
- Eat a healthy, well balanced diet, limit snacking
- Professional dental cleanings and examinations
- Replace your toothbrush every 3-4 months or sooner if the bristles are frayed
- Avoid tobacco use

ONWARD!

The Hashimoto family story including the Incarceration*By Mas Hashimoto*

The family.

My father, **Ikuta Hashimoto** (Fukuoka-ken, 1877-1938), died days before my third birthday. My mother, **Nami Hashimoto** (Fukuoka-ken, 1893-1972), at age 45 was left to raise seven sons. She had been married for 24 years and a widow for 34 years. Our Watsonville *Nihonmachi* restaurant – an *udon* (noodles) shop – closed for my father was the cook. We then became farm workers.

Earlier, my father had signed on for six years (1899-1905) working as a cook on a sugar plantation in Hawaii. Field hands worked 10 hours a day while cooks worked 12 hours. The work was so demanding his wife divorced him to return to Japan. Brokenhearted, my father left Honolulu on the *SS Alameda* on April 18, 1906 for San Francisco. He heard that wages were better on the mainland. That was the day of the San Francisco earthquake. I don't know where he landed or what he did for the next few years.

Meanwhile, my mother had an unhappy marriage and was divorced. She willingly became a "picture bride" and happily "married" my father in 1914. As marriage licenses were too expensive, they simply took up living together as common law man and wife.

My father, believing the white nationalist propaganda of all "Japs" on the mainland would be rounded up and sent "back" to Japan, sent **Hiroshi** and **Wataru**, then ages 7 and 5, to Japan in 1922. Hiroshi, who protested, was given to grandparents to be raised. Wataru was given to an uncle who had no children—not an uncommon practice then.

When the grandparents died unexpectedly, Hiroshi resourcefully lived on his own. Then, in 1937, at age 23, he was to be drafted into the Japanese Imperial Army. He borrowed money from relatives and friends to return to the USA. He's a draft dodger but of the Japanese army! He had disapproved of Japan's aggressive imperialistic moves into Korea, Formosa, Manchuko, and China.

Which Prime Minister of Japan had lived in Watsonville, CA?

A young Meiji University graduate spent his post-graduate studies at the University of Southern California. During the summer break, he stayed at the Hayashi boarding house, 27 First St. (for migrant Issei men). He was so poor, my father "adopted" him as an extra son, and he ate with us as a member of the family. He returned to Japan in 1937, and with the help of **Kan Abe**, the grandfather of the current Prime Minister, **Shinzo Abe**, he was elected to the Diet (parliament) against **Hideko Tojo's** militarist party. As a pro-America advocate, he was under house arrest during WW II. After the war, the Japanese Government realized they needed him. He was to serve in 10 Cabinet positions before becoming Prime Minister in 1974-76 under the banner of "Mr. Clean." He fought against corruption in his own party and of the government. My mother visited him when he was Minister of Foreign Affairs. They laughed about the old times. He had learned to social dance, pick strawberries, and of the hardships of the Issei generation and the dreams of the Nisei young people. Answer: **Takeo Miki**.

The family history continues.

Our only family photo was taken in 1937 upon Hiroshi's return from Japan. Back row left to right: #1 **Hiroshi**; missing is #2 **Wataru**; #3 **Tsuyoshi**; #4 **Tadashi**. Front: my father **Ikuta**; #6 **Mitsuru**; #5 **Noriyuki**; my mother **Nami**; and me #7 **Masaru**.

Tsuyoshi and Tadashi were Watsonville High School students, class of 1938 and 1940.



My father died of a heart attack soon after the family photo was taken.

Funeral: We lived next to the Buddhist Temple.

My first Japan trip in 1938.

After my father's passing, my mother decided to take half of my father's ashes for burial in my father's *furusato* (home village). Mitsuru and I were to accompany her. Mitsuru was 6 years old, and I was only 3. Of course, I don't remember the trip. I'm told I met #2 Wataru for only one day while he was stationed in Korea with the Japanese army. He refused to acknowledge we were brothers. He was to die fighting for the Japanese during WW II. This we learned after WW II had ended.

My mother told us that we were treated badly by Japanese custom officials, police, military personnel and others for Mitsuru and I had American passports and did not behave like Japanese children. She refused to register us in our *furusato*! Mitsuru and I could never claim dual citizenships.

What she witnessed was a nationalist, imperialist, fascist Japan that planned to rule all of Asia. My mother disapproved of this Japan. Japan was not that beautiful pink cherry blossom country with kimono clad young ladies one saw in colorful postcards.

Evicted from our homes and incarcerated.

When the family was incarcerated, April 27, 1942, to the Salinas (CA) Assembly Center, the family cooperated with the authorities with the Japanese philosophy of "shikataga nai" (somethings just can't be helped) and "gaman" (to endure, to persevere against all odds).

This philosophy was demonstrated when #5 Noriyuki, my favorite brother for he looked after me (age 6), was accidentally killed while playing baseball in the Salinas camp. He was only 14, a freshman at Watsonville High School. We had his funeral (one of two in Salinas). My mother took his passing hard but concluded it was no one's fault and certainly not the US Government's. In July, the family moved onto our next prison, Poston, AZ, leaving his ashes at a Salinas mortuary. Immediately upon our return after the war, our family traveled to Salinas to bring back Noriyuki's ashes for burial in Watsonville.

In Poston II, our family, without a father, Hiroshi and my mother led the discussion. I was not excluded. I listened, learned, remembered, and am grateful.

The "Pro Japan" advocates.

There were discords between rival groups. The Manzanar, CA riots and the brutal beating of JACLeR **Fred Tayama** took place on December 5, 1942. In Poston, AZ, National JACL President **Saburo Kido** was beaten not once but twice. Both Tayama and Kido families were relocated to other camps for their protection. These riots presented major problems for the camp administrators and incarcerated alike.

Soon, the infamous "loyalty questionnaire," administered to all 17 years of age and older, brought on confusion and distrust. Loyalty oaths are never worth the paper they are written on. Most objectionable were questions #27 and #28;

Question #27: "Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty wherever ordered?" My Issei mother answered "Yes." She reasoned that at age 50 and a tiny woman, she wasn't going to be called upon to take up arms.

Question #28: "Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?" There were two questions but only one answer qualified. Again, my mother answered, "Yes," knowing she would be stateless but only if Japan ever learned of her answer. She concluded Japan will never know.

As a "Yes, Yes" family, we believed, along with 90% of the families, that the National JACL was (1) protecting the elderly Issei, children, and young mothers with infants; (2) keeping our families together; (3) an advocate for winning the war against the Axis Powers (Germany, Italy and Japan); and (4) advancing our post-war acceptance after WW II.

Now, the "pro-Japan" group wanted Japan to win the war! They marched and shouted, *Nihon wa katsu!* and *Nihon wa makenai*, Japan cannot lose! When Hiroshi, a *Kibei*, and my mother refused to join them, they threatened our entire family. My mother's response to them was, "A ho! (fools)."

This "pro-Japan group" is rarely if ever mentioned in text. The "No Nos" and "resisters" are often mentioned glowingly. **"Inu" (dog) Informer/spy and "Sunny."**

We were called *inu*, Japanese word for dog by the "pro-Japan" and some "No Nos--resisters." Dogs in Japan are revered and loved for their devotion and loyalty. There's a famous story of *Hachiko*, waiting at the train station each day for his master. The "pro Japan" and "No Nos--resisters" twisted a dog's true characteristics by implying *inus* were informers and spies for the US Government.

My dog, "Sunny," was sent to me in Poston by our family lawyer and friend, **Stacy Irwin**. "Sunny" resented this characterization of *inu*. I brought her home with me from "camp," and she was my best friend while growing up. She waited for me to come home from school and from summer field work.

When the "pro-Japan," and "No Nos--resisters" were relocated to the Tule Lake camp, we were tremendously relieved and happy for now there was peace. As a group, we held scrap metal drives, bought War Bonds, marched in Fourth of July parades, raised our own fruits and vegetables, joined the US military—all for winning the war.

US military service.

Hiroshi would have made a great Military Intelligence Service (MIS) volunteer, but soon after Hiroshi married **Oichi Kikuchi** of Sanger, CA, he contacted tuberculosis (TB), one of 152 in Poston alone. Tsuyoshi and Tadashi waited to be drafted and then volunteered to serve with the MIS.

Only Tadashi experienced combat when he was “tdy” (temporary duty) to a US Marine unit on a South Pacific island that had no linguist who could interrogate captured Japanese soldiers. He stayed in Japan during the Occupation and Restoration of Japan. His last assignment was that of the billeting officer at Tachikawa Air Force Base during the Korean and Vietnam wars. Tsuyoshi found acceptance in St Paul, married **Haruko Okamoto** and raised three – **Linda Hashimoto van Dooijeweert (Willy)**, **Bobbi Ann Sellstedt (Bob)** with daughter **Miyuki**, and **Bruce Hashimoto**.

Mitsuru volunteered at the start of the Korean War (1950-1954) and served as a naval corpsman at Sasebo and Yokosuka Naval Hospitals. I served during the “Cold War” against the Russians (1958-1960) with the Sixth US Army Chemical Section, Presidio of San Francisco. After serving, **Marcia Hoshiyama** and I were married in San Mateo. We were both public school teachers, now retired.

The True Resisters.

Among the real heroes (the true “resisters”?) are **Fred Korematsu**, **Gordon Hirabayashi**, **Minoru Yasui**, and **Mitsue Endo** who brought charges against the US Government. Their individual cases are well-known and documented. Perhaps one day soon *Congressional Gold Medals* will be presented in memory and honor to all of them.

The National Japanese American Citizens League.

During our early incarceration, JACL National Secretary **Mike Masaoka** promoted the formation of a Nisei combat unit--the 442nd Regimental Combat Team--and was considered its first volunteer. While a soldier in basic training, he envisioned, after the war was won, the formation of a Nisei veterans’ organization – now, the *Go For Broke Educational Center* in Los Angeles--and a memorial to honor those incarcerated and those who served in the military—now, the *National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism* in Washington, D. C. His dreams came true, and we and the nation are the beneficiaries.

After the war, the JACL continued its primary mission of civil rights legislation and worked successfully for the following changes (a partial list): US citizenship for our Issei, repeal of alien land and other restrictive laws, laws providing interracial marriages, desegregation, LGBTQ support, and *Day of Remembrance* legislation and observances. The *Legislative Education Committee*, the lobbying arm of the JACL led by **Grant Ujifusa**, was instrumental in the passage of the **Civil Liberties Act of 1988**. The US Government apologized and provided reparations for our wartime incarceration. The JACL recognized the stand taken by the Heart Mountain military draft resisters during World War II.

Before WW II, the Issei had their local *kenjinkai* associations (Hiroshima, Okayama, Kumamoto, *et al*). At the time, there was only one national Japanese American organization—the JACL. In 1942, the press, radio commentators, Hollywood movies, labor unions, growers’ associations, political organizations and politicians, and “patriotic” organizations clamored for our incarceration. Nationally, only the American friends, known as “Quakers,” supported us.

The future.

Today, our JACL works in concert with Organization of Chinese Americans, Southern Poverty Law Center, American Civil Liberties Union, Anti-Defamation League, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, People for the American Way, Common Cause, National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco, Fred Korematsu Institute, Campaign for Justice, the Japanese Government, Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans, National Veterans Network, Japanese American National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, CAIR-CA (Muslims), and many others. What a difference from 1942-1945!

We are grateful to the JACL for focusing on civil/human rights and social justice not just for the Nikkei nation (of Japanese ancestry) but for all—“aliens and non-aliens” alike. Thank you JACL members for your confidence in our civil rights, education, and cultural mission.

This year is the 90th anniversary of the founding of the JACL (1929-2019), and the celebration will take place in Salt Lake City, UT during its annual convention in late July.

Onward!

-Mas Hashimoto of Watsonville, CA

SENIOR CORNER - February Senior Center News

By Carol Kaneko and Jean Yamashita

Photos by Carol Kaneko, Kimiko Marr, and Jean Yamashita



On January 31st, Willie Yahiro surprised the Seniors by generously treating everyone to pizza from “Corralitos Pizza”. The Seniors really enjoyed the yummy surprise. Thank you, Willie Yahiro and “Corralitos Pizza”!





On February 7th, the Seniors enjoyed Zenzai, the traditional Japanese New Year's treat consisting of mochi in a sweet azuki bean soup. For the past few years, the "young" people have anxiously undertaken the Zenzai preparations, making the azuki bean soup and finicky mochi from scratch. Again this year, we were grateful and appreciative of the expert guidance and support of Hisako Kodama and Mitsuyo Tao. Many thanks to all the Zenzai helpers who made this unpredictable adventure a smooth one: Eileen Byers, June Honda, Kimiko Marr (washed the rice), Cindy Mine (reheated beans), Susan AmRhein and Jean Yamashita (made the azuki bean soup), and others (sorry if I missed you).



Through the pouring rain, gusty winds, lightening, thunder, and hail, brave Seniors battled their way to the Senior Center on February 14th. Inside, they were greeted by cheerful Valentine table decorations, lovely favors, and delicious Valentine cookies created by the talented Susan AmRhein.

The room was abuzz with activity as the Seniors were challenged to a Valentine game that required finding their teammates, putting together a puzzle, and figuring out the words depicted by the pictures.

February 14th: Happy Valentine's Day!



Winning team (Sharon Bobo, Eileen Byers, Toshi Yamashita, Angie Guzman, Hideko Nagamine) was awarded boxes of chocolates from the Senior Center.



Everyone also received Valentine treats from: Toshi Yamashita (Dum Dum lollipops), Jean Yamashita (Haribo gummies), and Teruko Hirahara (cards). Thank you, Seniors, for participating in our Valentine's event!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



February Birthdays were celebrated on February 21st. February honorees were Sam Sakamoto (94), Jean Akiyama, Jeanette Crosetti, Haruyo Ishibashi (93), Rubie Kawamoto (92), Hisako Kodama, Chiyeko Shikuma (94), and Eiko Stewart. Absent were Eiko Ceremony (94), Carol Kaneko, and Gary Mine. Manju was presented to the 90+ birthday honorees. Thank you to Teruko Hirahara for providing the festive table decorations.



Everyone was also delighted to receive candy bars from Chiyeko Shikuma in celebration of her 94th birthday! Thank you, Mrs. Shikuma!



On February 28th, a surprise 93rd birthday party was held for Haruyo Ishibashi organized by the Ishibashi Family. Haru was beaming as she posed for pictures with her daughters, Liz and Gayle. The Seniors were then treated to lovely strawberry cookies and huge slices of delicious cake and ice cream. Thank you so much to the Ishibashi Family for all the treats and for sharing this special event with the Seniors!



Liz Goodson,
Haru Ishibashi, Gayle Mellor

SENIOR TRIPS

The Seniors have booked a one-day bus trip to Table Mountain Casino for Wednesday, March 27, 2019. The cost is \$30 for active members of the Senior Center or the WBT and \$40 for others. There is still plenty of room on the bus so please join us!

The Seniors have also booked an Elkhorn Slough nature tour aboard a pontoon boat on Tuesday, April 23rd. The boat seats 26 passengers and is currently full. We do have a waiting list in case of cancellations. Cost will be \$30 which includes gratuity. Hoping to see many baby otters!

If you are interested in either of these trips, please contact Jean Yamashita (email: jeanyamashita@yahoo.com, cell: 408-813-6539).

Kimiko Marr is leading a pilgrimage to Rohwer/Jerome on April 11-13, 2019. The pilgrimage will take place in Little Rock, Arkansas with visits to the Japanese American Internment Museum in McGehee and the Rohwer and Jerome internment sites. If interested in this pilgrimage, please contact Kimiko Marr: kimiko.marr@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On February 14th, Kimiko Marr circulated a card for the Oklahoma WWII veteran (Recil Troxel) who is currently undergoing cancer treatments and wished for mail for his 93rd birthday. The veteran was thrilled after receiving about 70,000 cards and letters for his birthday.

Cindy Mine reminded the Seniors of the importance of keeping medical forms (filed at the Senior Center) up-to-date in case of emergency. Thank you for updating your medical forms!



The Seniors were very happy to see Jean Akiyama and Yae and Sam Sakamoto back at the Senior Center on Feb 21st! We missed you!



Many thanks to Leigh Sakaguchi and Hannah Hamalainen (Eileen Byers' granddaughter) who continue to bravely help the Seniors cross Blackburn Street!

Thank you to our February toban, Jean Akiyama, and special thank you to the volunteers who graciously filled in when we were shorthanded: Susan AmRhein, Eileen Byers, and June Honda. Paul Kaneko and Norris Woodford were in charge of opening up this month. Thanks to all our members who thoughtfully help out whenever needed!

Monetary donations for the month of February gratefully received from: Jean Akiyama, Jeanette Crosetti, Rubie Kawamoto, Hisako Kodama, Gary Mine, Sam and Yae Sakamoto, Chiyeko Shikuma, and Eiko Stewart. Special donations received from Iwao Yamashita and Anonymous donor. All donations are very much appreciated!

Thank you for coming to the Senior Center! It's a wonderful opportunity to socialize with old friends, make new friends and, of course, play bingo and win many useful prizes. Stay healthy these winter months (wash, wash, wash your hands) and try to stay active - remember to do your balance exercises three times a day!

March/April schedule of activities is now available. Please see Carol Kaneko or Jean Yamashita if you did not receive your copy.

March-April Schedule:

Thurs Mar 7	Regular bingo	Thur Apr 4	Hanamatsuri - Imura Buffet
Thurs Mar 14	St. Patrick's Day	Thur Apr 11	April Birthday Party
Thurs Mar 21	March Birthday party	Thur Apr 18	Regular Bingo, Easter Cookie Buffet
Wed Mar 27	Table Mt. One-day trip	Tues Apr 23	Elkhorn Slough visit
Thurs Mar 28	Regular bingo	Thurs Apr 25	Regular Bingo

Please check out our Senior Center website to read the Senior Center News, see pictures of our seniors in living color, and see our calendar of events: kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com

Bonsai Show

April 28, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Watsonville Buddhist Temple
423 Bridge Street
Watsonville, CA

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB

SAVE THE DATE

**PBS BROADCAST PREMIERE
MAY 20, 2019 AT 9 PM**

Check your local listings

WWW.MINETALEGACYPROJECT.COM



WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO

By Bonnie Chihara

Our schedule is filling up! We have performances every weekend in April and almost every weekend in May. We're looking forward to performing at the Japanese Cultural Fair in June as usual and having our food booth there. Look for our expanded menu!

We now have classes at Pathways Dojo located at 2724 Soquel Avenue, Suite D/E. On Tuesday mornings from 9:15-10:15 we have our Taiko for Health classes. From 10:15-11:15 we have a beginners class for seniors. On Wednesday nights from 7:30-9pm we have a class for adult fast learners.

We have classes for all ages at our dojo at Kizuka Hall in Watsonville.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Fridays

4:30-5:10pm - Beginners Children 1

5:10-6:00pm - Beginners Children 2

6:00-7:00pm - Intermediate Youth

ADULT CLASSES

Fridays

7:00-8:00pm - Beginners Adults

8:00-10:00pm - Intro to Performance

Please contact Kay at 831 475 1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org if you are interested in taking any of our classes.

Our upcoming schedule-

March 16th	Head Start Family Event, Watsonville
April 6th	Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai event, MAH Santa Cruz
April, 14th	Morgan Hill Harumatsuri, Morgan Hill
April 21st	Watsonville Hanamatsuri, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
April 27th	Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park, Cupertino
April 28th	Big Sur Marathon, Big Sur
May 2nd	International Night at Westlake Elementary School, Santa Cruz
May 11th	Human Race, Santa Cruz
May 11th	Queer Youth Leadership Awards, San Lorenzo Valley High School
June 8th	Japanese Cultural Fair, Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz



WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE

HANAMATSURI Flower Festival

Monterey and Watsonville Buddhist Temple Together Celebrate

the birth of

SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA

Special Hanamatsuri Service with Special Guest Speaker Rev. Brian Nagata
(Luncheon to follow)

Sunday, April 14th at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1155 Noche Buena Street, Seaside, Ca.

For any questions, contact montereydec@gmail.com or Visit us at montereybt.org

In Remembrance

We are sad to report the passing of Mrs Teruko "Terry" Tsumura on February 28 in San Jose. She was 93 years of age. The private funeral service for Mrs. Tsumura will be announced in April. As a minister's wife to Rev. Junjo Tsumura, she said her happiest memories (1956-1972) were here at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and where daughter Jayne and son Ken were born and grew up.



March and April 2019 Schedule of Events:

Sunday, March 24: Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 31: Sunday Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sun, April 7th: Shotsuki Hoyo Family Memorial Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 14: Monterey & Watsonville Hanamatsuri Service and Luncheon in Monterey.

Guest speaker: Rev. Brian Nagata

Sunday, April 21: Hanamatsuri Service, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 21: Hanamatsuri Festival 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5: Shotsuki Hoyo Family Memorial Service, 10:00 a.m.

Office Telephone (831) 724-7860

Temple Office Hours: Wednesday mornings, 9 a.m.-noon

Other times by appointment only

Email: buddhist@wbtemple.org

WESTVIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHIMES



"The Word Became Flesh and Blood and Moved Into the Neighborhood."

They packed their meager belongings in coffins because they knew it would not be long 'till they would be buried! The good news of Jesus Christ first reached West Africa shores through daring mission pioneers known to pack their meager belongings into coffins because they knew they had roughly six months before they would fall to malaria, yellow fever or some equally fatal disease. As time went on and the Church gained a firmer foothold in the region, mission compounds began to dot the landscape providing places of refuge and safety from the abject poverty and animistic worldview all around. In this way later missionaries were able to retain much of their Western culture while witnessing to the new life that could be found in Christ. It was during this season, in 1876, that Mary Slessor set off from Scotland for the Calabar region of Nigeria.

No one would have guessed that the blue-eyed, red-headed young girl who grew up working twelve hours a day in the mills of Dundee, Scotland would be a ground-moving, unstoppable force of love and perseverance in West Africa. She did the unthinkable, she left the safety of the mission compound to live side by side with “her people”. In this way, through Mary, for four transformative decades, “The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood.”

Though she was a poor, working girl, plain in appearance and self-effacing, she had a spark that drew people immediately to her. One boy she used to teach at the mission in Scotland said, “she possessed something we could not grasp, something indefinable.” Colonization and slavery had left the coasts of West Africa ravished, and therefore it was not surprising that most often missionaries “found the natives to have been demoralized and degraded by a long period of lawlessness and rapine through which they had passed.” Many missionaries barely saw these people as human, categorizing them as appalling and savage. It was their duty, as the civilized “white man,” to bring education, care, and true religion to a world overrun by dark, devilish ways. Mary moved against this stereotyped savagery from the moment she arrived in Calabar. Though Mary would come across practices and situations she would deem wrong, her deep love and respect for the villagers combined with her incarnational approach would ultimately allow her to address those situations for she had earned their trust and she could then speak into their lives.

Mary was able to enter into the culture while at the same time boldly and fearlessly challenging prejudice, sexism, tribal segregation, disease, witchcraft, spiritual bondage, and horrific killing and burial practices. She pushed beyond the bounds of comfort and safety and was known to courageously journey deep into the bush in order to reach remote villages, at one point even stripping down to her petticoats and forging her way through mud, pouring rain and rivers, all while suffering from malaria. Nothing but death itself kept Mary from embodying the incarnational example of Jesus who moved into the neighborhood—not just physically but also by identifying with the customs, language, and human struggle of the people in the neighborhood.

Slessor’s great success in her missionary endeavor was a direct result of following the 2,000-year-old model of Jesus. She chose to leave behind the clean comfort of the mission compound and move into a village hut in order to be with the people. She ate their food and learned their language, she slept without mosquito net or comfort, adopted children, and made the villagers her family, and the village chief, her chief. She drank unfiltered water, walked with bare feet and a bare head, and was drenched in rain and stricken with fever and illness time and time again.

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” –John 1:14

The Incarnation...God became flesh and made his dwelling among us in Jesus Christ. God stepped into the messiness of being human (and paid dearly for it).

Consequently, now that we have been made children of God through Jesus Christ, God calls us to do the same. Go and make our dwelling among the people, the lost, the hurting, the broken and BE God’s love there. Step into the messiness.

We go because we are moved to compassion to care for the hurting. Compassion is bred from knowing people and their story.

We go because God’s saving love in Christ, cannot be inwardly contained in our buildings when we live with neighbors in need and a hurting world. The Good News is meant to transform and transcend. The Good News, like all good news is meant to be shared!

The reality is all of us are already out there in the community, we just need to see everyday life, every moment, as part of our “GO!” --Part of our mission. Let us risk and step further into our neighbors’ lives with understanding and love.

Christ who resides in us will be there too! And we will likely meet Christ there too!

Who is at the margins of your community, or is in need of God’s grace and love? Vital, alive congregations have an outward incarnational approach. In the spring, as part of our Vital Congregations initiative, we will get a chance to survey our neighborhood, introducing ourselves to our neighbors, asking what their needs are, and how our church can be of help. I would love to see our church even more out in the community, loving people and inviting them into our church family. We have a good thing here!

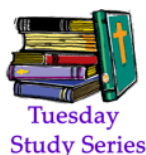
“The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood.” So let’s start packing!

God bless you,
Pastor Dan

Help Your Youth/Children Grow a Strong Foundation in Christ!! Westview Church Youth/Family Events: On **March 1st** and **April 5th**, come help prepare the **Salvation Army Dinner** and serve the needy!! Then we will do something fun afterward. Bring a friend!! **Meet at Westview, 4:30 pm**

Salvation Army Meal: Westview will be preparing and serving the **Salvation Army** meal on **March 1st** and **April 5th**. We continue every first Friday of each month through April. Volunteers are always welcome!! Call Marlon or Pastor Dan for details.

Photo at right: Members and Friends of Westview preparing the Salvation Army Meal.



Tuesday Study Series: What does God's voice sound like? How do you discern God's direction/leading in our life? Held on the **2nd** and **4th Tuesday** of each month, **4 pm** at **Paloma Del Mar, 2030 Pajaro Lane in Freedom**. We are **studying Hearing God** by **Dallas Willard**. It has been a delight to make new friends and "be church" at Paloma Del Mar!!

For the month of March, the Tuesday Study Series will be held on **March 12th** and **March 26th**. For the month of April, the Tuesday Study Series will be held on **April 9th** and **April 23rd**. Join us!!

SonRise Kitchen: "When we feed the hungry we are serving and encountering Christ!" (Matthew 25).

Margo Loehr will soon be leading us in a ministry that provides breakfast to those in need Monday through Friday. Once this ministry starts, we cook at the church 7-8am and serve 8:15-9am at River Park, 100 E. Front St., Watsonville (just a few blocks from the church). Clean up is from 9-9:30am. Wednesday is "food bank, chop, and freeze day!" which takes a few more hours—many hands make light work, so come help if you can! If you are interested in helping out regularly, or even just one morning a week, or on an occasional basis, or would like to donate to this worthy cause, please contact Pastor Dan or Margo. Checks can be written to Westview Presbyterian Church and write "SonRise Kitchen" in the memo.

Westview will keep you up to date on when this ministry begins!!

A list of needed donations can be found on Westview's website: www.westviewpc.org.

Westview needs a volunteer contractor who can help install a new hood over the stove, build a shed and install new sinks to help get this very meaningful and worthwhile project underway!!

Thank you to:

- **All the Contributors**
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- **Jeanette Hager:** Formatting
- **Cindy Hirokawa Mine:** Newsletter Coordinator and Contribution

Evolving Newsletter

This is an evolving newsletter. It is a reflection of the voices of our Community. Each voice is unique. This is a place for the contributors to share their own views and opinions. Please submit an article, email or mail us a note. We look forward to your comments and suggestions. Contact us at wsc.jacl@gmail.com or Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, PO Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.