

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

“The Bridge 橋”

The Voice of Our Community

“Todo me duele”—
me dice el vecino—
“pero estoy bien.”

仕方ない
老いも病いも
耐えて在り

“I hurt all over”—
old man Pedro says to me—
“but I’m fine, thank you.”

Haiku by Bob Gómez
Watsonville Poet Laureate for 2022-2024
Translation by Hiromi Ushimaru

DONATIONS

Thank you to those who have generously donated since our last issue. We are so grateful for all who have donated. It is through your support that we can continue to advocate for justice and equality for all.

- Nobuko Akiyama for the Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship
- Sandra Allen for DOREF/education-scholarship
- Anonymous donors for DOREF/greatest need
- Corky and Kathy Bamford for the Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Fund –“To the Kitayama Family, We were so sorry to hear that your mother had passed away. Our entire family thought she was wonderful and through our children we got to know her. It was a pleasure and she had a wonderful smile. Corky and I are in the same place and would love to see you and your family.”
- Blackbaud Giving Fund (Takeda)
- Nobue Fujii for DOREF/newsletter
- Mas and Marcia Hashimoto in memory of Carli Stevens
- Mas and Marcia Hashimoto in memory of Keiko Kitayama for the Kee Kitayama Scholarship Fund

Please note new website address:

www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.com

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- Mas and Marcia Hashimoto for DOREF/greatest need
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- Mary Tokiwa for Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Fund
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- Mae Yoshida for DOREF/greatest need
- Ryoji George and Noriko Yoshidome in memory of Keiko Kitayama for the Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Fund

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

The 2022 Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships

By Marcia Hashimoto, Victor Kimura and Kenny Kusumoto

Applications are available on our website <https://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.com> and by contacting Marcia Hashimoto at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or (831) 722-6859 (please leave a message with your telephone number). **The filing deadline is Wednesday, June 15, 2022.**

Applicants will apply for scholarships by submitting generic application information that could apply to and satisfy all of the scholarship funds.

The W-SC 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 which scholarships.

All scholarship recipients and their parents must be W-SC JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or Westview Presbyterian Church members for a minimum of one year prior to receipt of scholarship.

Since the scholarship awards ceremony usually takes place at the JACL's annual community picnic, which has been cancelled for 2022 because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the scholarship awards will either be sent by mail or delivered personally.

An announcement for scholarship applications will be included in the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL newsletter, the Watsonville Buddhist Temple's Ichimi, and the Westview Presbyterian Church's Chimes. The final determination of scholarship awards will be made no later than July 10, 2022.

Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship: The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and Mrs. Keiko Kitayama in memory of her husband, Kee, who was our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter president in 1987. Mr. 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, and his scholarship fund was formerly awarded through Kokoro no Gakko ("School of the Heart"). The \$500 Frank Mito Scholarship may be awarded to a graduating high school senior, usually with Kokoro no Gakko participation, and may be additive to other JACL scholarships.

The Rekiso "Ray" and Hisako "Louise" Sako Scholarships: The Rekiso and Hisako Sako Scholarships were established in 2012 to help local students who are actively involved with the JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or Westview Presbyterian Church in pursuing their higher education goals. Mrs. Sako and the late Mr. Sako have been long time members of the JACL and Senior Center, and leaders among the Japanese American community. A four-year undergraduate scholarship may be awarded at a maximum of \$1,000 per year, and may be extended for a maximum of two additional years of graduate studies. This scholarship may be applied for at any time, from graduating from high school through completion of a masters degree (maximum of \$6,000 total).

Please send your completed forms to our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Scholarship Committee on or before **Wednesday, June 15, 2022.**

The address for applications should be mailed to:

**JACL Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA 95077-0163**

The scholarship awards will either be mailed or delivered personally.

Getting to know your Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Board Members

This will be a series of articles written by our Chapter Board members.

Rodney Ogawa

I was born in the Japanese Hospital in Los Angeles to a Nisei couple: my father was born and raised in Orange County; my mother in Venice Beach. They met in Poston, where both of their families were incarcerated, when my father was on leave from the US Army and visiting his family. I spent the first 4 years of life in Boyle Heights (a community in East LA). We (my parents, younger sister and I) moved to Pasadena when I was 4.

I graduated from UCLA with a BA in history, where I participated in the founding of the Asian American Studies Center. As a senior, I worked as Ron Takaki's TA in an "experimental course" on the history of racial/ethnic minorities in the US. I then received a master's degree in education and a teaching credential from Occidental College, where I continued to be active in the Asian American Studies movement. I taught secondary social studies in Pasadena, including a course I developed on Asian American history. I also developed multi-cultural curriculum for the district and for 3 years served as the Associate Director of a federally funded program to racially desegregate schools in the Pasadena Unified School District, which was under court order.

I returned to graduate school and completed a PhD in education at The Ohio State University (yes, the school includes "the" in its name because in the late 19th century, Ohio's state legislature passed a resolution adopting that name for its flagship post secondary school). That was followed by my being a postdoctoral fellow in Sociology at Stanford.

I took my first university faculty position at the University of Utah in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy. I returned to California as a professor of education at UC Riverside and later moved to UC Santa Cruz to become chair of the Education Department. At all three campuses, I worked with Asian American/Pacific Islander staff and faculty to develop and support programs aimed at serving AAPI students and including AA/PI courses and academic programs. Most of my research focused on questions of educational equity and justice in public schools. Nationally, I served as Vice President of the American Educational Research Association and in other roles through which I provided service to the educational research community. I retired from UCSC in 2015.

My wife, Chris, and I live in Aptos; we have 2 daughters and 3 grand daughters who live in northern Washington state. My sister and brother live in Sierra Madre, California.

I am a Professor Emeritus of Education at UC Santa Cruz. Before the pandemic began, I was working with several members of the board of the Watsonville/Santa Cruz JACL to plan and develop a digital archive of photographs, associated stories, and home movies contributed by families and organizations in Watsonville's Japanese American Community. The project, which is tentatively called "Furusato" (home village), is sponsored by the Watsonville/Santa Cruz JACL; it is intended to compile images and stories of the JA community before that community disappears.

I'm honored to begin my service as a member of the board. Rod



Jeanette Otsuji Hager

Most of what I have learned and the experience that I have gained has been through the guidance of mentors. Knowledge can be acquired through various means, but it is how one deeply learns through practice and by the guidance of one's teacher, their attitude and from their example, that one digests the knowledge, grows and evolves.

I worked for 11 years for a non-profit food bank taking on various roles transitioning from Development Coordinator through Finance Director. For over half this time, I worked with the CFO, Victor Kimura (our Chapter's Treasurer), who had previously worked over 40 years for the University of California Santa Cruz as budget director among financial roles. I learned and worked at all aspects of accounting and finance developing the awareness of how critical the finances of a non-profit are to an organization achieving its goals. More importantly, how the organization communicates its financial position and how the donors' gifts and grant funds, especially restricted funds, are spent in furthering its mission. The financial picture is the foundation upon which the non-profit builds the future of the organization and those individuals who it serves. Another lesson that I learned from working at the food bank was the importance of volunteers in the organization. The greatest impact in making changes in individuals' lives, was training volunteers to teach others in the community the importance of eating healthy, physical exercise and making those lifestyle changes that improve not only their own health, but the health of their family and community. It is through documenting the accomplishments of these trainings that additional grant funds were received to further the mission of educating and involving the community so that no one is lacking in healthy, nutritious food and learns to make lifestyle changes to become healthier.

I have been a Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter board member since 2002. Although our Chapter is in a small community, its significant impact on the national organization is primarily due to its leaders who emphasize the importance of teaching others, not only within the immediate community, but nationally as well. I have learned much about how individuals can make an invaluable impact by teaching what they have learned through their life experiences.

Mentors provide an easier path for others to learn how to live and build a better world, not only through their teachings, but more importantly, by their example of giving of themselves to help make others' path through life easier. What I have learned through working with in this community, through volunteering and in my life experiences will enable me to serve this organization and continue its mission to advocate for justice for every individual. I will also continue to learn from the dedicated, talented members of this Board as well as all members of the JACL and our Community. In gratitude.



Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis: The Japanese-American Experience

JACL and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are inviting seventy-two educators to explore the historical significance and enduring legacy of the World War II Japanese American incarceration experience and the reparations movement. While past participants are primarily social studies and humanities teachers at the K-12 levels, all are invited to apply.

This NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture workshop will be offered twice: June 19-24 and July 10-15, 2022. Participants will be staying in the historic Little Tokyo neighborhood in Los Angeles with the majority of programming being at our host institution, the Japanese American National Museum (JANM), with day trips to Santa Anita Park (a WWII temporary "assembly center") and Manzanar National Historic Site (one of the ten permanent WWII "internment" camps). This will be one of the last times we are able to host a workshop with living camp survivors as the WWII generation passes the torch to future ones. For more information, see JACL.org.

Salinas Memorial Garden: Paul Ichiuji Plaque Installation - March 9, 2022

By Jean Yamashita (photos, too)

Joe Bowes went to the Salinas Memorial Garden yesterday to install the Paul Ichiuji plaque that he masterfully framed in a beautifully crafted box. Joe Bowes mentioned this to us, and Dad (Iwao Yamashita) jumped at the chance to get outside. Joe had been at the garden for quite a while cleaning up when my dad and I arrived. Dad immediately began trimming the bonsai in the middle of the garden. Afterwards, we had lunch at Aloha Hawaiian BBQ.



MR. PAUL T. ICHIUJI
January 1, 1925-December 2, 2020

**We of the San Benito County, Salinas Valley,
Monterey Peninsula, Gilroy, Watsonville-
Santa Cruz Chapters of the J.A.C.L.
thank you for your many years of service.**

**You did a great job in maintaining the
Memorial Garden.**

**We thank you for your honorable service in the
U.S. Army with the Military Intelligence Service
during World War Two.**

Thank you from everyone.



Above: Joe Bowes with the
plaque dedication to Paul Ichiuji.

Left: Joe Bowes and
Iwao Yamashita.

Right: Iwao Yamashita,
a Bonsai Master at work.



"Life, Liberty, and Estate ... er, Pursuit of Happiness" *By Mas Hashimoto*

This **Natural Life Philosophy** by John Locke, an English philosopher (1632-1704), is a relatively new concept in history. Locke conceptualized that everyone was entitled to "Life, Liberty, Estate (property)" as natural and inalienable rights:

- Life: everyone is entitled to live.
- Liberty: everyone is entitled to do anything they want to so long as it doesn't conflict with the first right.
- Estate (property): everyone is entitled to own all they create or gain through gift or trade so long as it doesn't conflict with the first two rights.

Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, inserted it:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Jefferson substituted Estate/Property with Pursuit of Happiness for Property was too materialistic. One's happiness may be obtaining property, perhaps more slaves.

Interestingly, Jefferson ended the document with another series -- "we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." What last thought was to be the most important? Honor. In a series, the least important is placed in the middle -- Liberty/Fortune -- and with the most important at the very end - Property/Honor.

Centuries before the concept that government was a contract between the governed and those governing, there was the "Divine Right of Kings," which postulates that a monarch receives his power directly from God and that he cannot be questioned. The monarch has absolute authority over people's lives and is only accountable to God. A close, mutually beneficial understanding and relationship has existed between the monarchy and the Church. It is not known exactly where or when this came into practice.

One historic reference: "Then Jesus said to them, 'Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.' And they were utterly amazed at him."

Fast forward to June 15, 1215 at Runnymede when King John of England was forced to sign the Magna Carta ("Great Charter") by which he was to share authority with the property-owning barons and with the promise of protecting the Church.

The Magna Carta was arguably the most significant early influence on the extensive historical process that led to the rule of constitutional law today in the English-speaking world. The power shifted slightly to the barons who were the land owners and who governed over their peasant farmers and artisans.

And, what about the human and civil rights of the people? What about them?

A milestone in the development of human rights was the Petition of Right, produced in 1628 by the English Parliament and sent to Stuart King Charles I as a statement of civil liberties. Refusal by Parliament to finance the king's unpopular foreign policy had caused his government to exact forced loans and to quarter troops in subjects' houses as an economy measure. Arbitrary arrest and imprisonment for opposing these policies had produced in Parliament a violent hostility to the unpopular Charles I who was executed for treason in 1649.

The Petition of Right, initiated by Sir Edward Coke, was based upon earlier statutes and charters and asserted four principles:

- (1) No taxes may be levied without consent of Parliament,
- (2) No subject may be imprisoned without cause shown (reaffirmation of the right of habeas corpus),
- (3) No soldiers may be quartered upon the citizenry, and
- (4) Martial law may not be used in time of peace.

One early basic belief was that all wealth came from the land—property. Another was that wealth came from labor. In today's modern e-world, there may be other beliefs practiced.

When the Europeans landed in North America, they told the indigenous people (native Americans), "Get off my land. I have the deed to this land. It was given to me by the king."

The native American asked, "What's a deed? No one owns the land. The land belongs to everyone in the community."

Property represented wealth and well-being. It, along with life and liberty, was written into the 1789 US Constitution in two places.

Those delegates who presented the new Constitution were of the elite, upper class. They were the "barons" of this country, determined to protect their property.

Only free, white men with property could vote for the members of elite class (electors) from which the President would be selected. Thus, an undemocratic method of selecting the President was established—the Electoral College.

In 1870, citizens could not be denied the right to vote on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude (just because one was formerly a slave) via the 15th Amendment to the US Constitution. If one three letter word -- sex -- had been included, women, too, would have had the right to vote then. Women had to wait another 50 years, to 1920, before they were allowed to vote via the 19th Amendment. In 1924, the native Americans were allowed to vote, and in 1971 via the 26th Amendment, those 18-year-old and older, could now vote.

Today, in 2022, via the new “Jim Crow” laws of at least 19 states, restrictions have been placed against minorities and others from participating in the most vital responsibility of the American citizen—the right to vote:

Looking back, what if John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were invited to the Constitutional Convention to present their thoughts and beliefs? Why were they absent? John Adams, representing the United States, was in England, and Thomas Jefferson was our ambassador to France.

In France, a new motto prevailed at the time of the French Revolution -- *Liberté, égalité, fraternité* — one of liberty, equality, brotherhood.

What if a brotherhood of humanity prevailed in the Constitution instead of property? Would the United States of America have remained a racist nation?

Liberty represents freedom, a word with several meanings. It can stand for being able to make one’s own decisions freely and having the opportunity to express one’s own beliefs without fear. To be physically and/or legally free is different for it involves being free from confinement servitude or forced labor.

Equality can stand for being equal under the law and so to maintain a sameness of rules, status, rights, respect, opportunities and privileges, that must be applied to all.

Fraternity is a word associated with the idea of community, which is a body of people that share a common interest or purpose. It is also associated with brother/sisterhood and having/working/fitting/producing something together as a group. Also, a fraternity can be recognized as a group viewed as a forming a distinct segment of togetherness.

While in the US Constitution “Life, liberty, and property” are protected in two places, ours were not protected.

Eighty years ago on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066 denied our rights to life, liberty and property. We were imprisoned without charges or trial. My older brother Noriyuki (age 14) was killed in the Salinas Assembly Center. True, it was a baseball accident. Others lost their lives while in camp to disease, suicide, shot by guards, and other causes. We lost our liberty for over three years, imprisoned in 69 different facilities, ten of which were major concentration camps. We lost not only our hard-earned property but our “pursuit of happiness” was denied.

Someone once counted over 140 violations of our rights when we were evicted from our homes (forcibly removed) and incarcerated.

An early attempt at reparations proved grossly inadequate. The Japanese American Evacuation Claims Act of July 2, 1948, provided meager compensation to Japanese Americans during World War II for losses of real and personal property. A claim of \$1,000 would net only \$100. Approximately 26,550 claims totaling \$142,000 were paid.

An investigation by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians in 1983 concluded that the causes were “racism, war hysteria, and the failure of political leadership.” In this series, which is the least important?

Led by the chair Grant Ujifusa and Grayce Uyehara of JACL’s lobbying arm, the Legislative Education Committee (JACL/LEC), Senators Daniel Inouye and Sparky Matsunaga, Congressmen Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui, and with the help of NCRR and so many supporting individuals, the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988 restored some dignity with redress (apology) and reparations (\$20,000) to those incarcerated.

However, there remains the issue of the Japanese Latin Americans (JLA) who were kidnapped and brought here to the United States (Crystal City, Texas) by the US Government in exchange for American diplomats and prisoners of war held by the Japanese. The US Government could not exchange a Nisei for another American citizen. Some JLA refused to accept their reparations of \$5,000. Check their website if you wish to help or learn more about their campaign for justice: CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE (jlacampaignforjustice.org). They, too, were denied the protection to “life, liberty and property.”

Postscript: a warning: Emerging is another threat of racism, war hysteria (fake news on cable news and social media), and failure of political leadership nation-wide with the passage of “Jim Crow” laws in many states and not limited just to the South.

This November 2022’s mid-term election will determine the future of these United States.

Please vote, and make sure everyone in the family and friends votes too. Thank you!

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto

Paul Revere Williams *By Cindy Hirokawa Mine*

Paul Revere Williams was born in Tennessee, an only child, orphaned at 4 years old, then adopted.

Fast forward:

When he showed interest in being an Architect, he was told and discouraged not to go in that direction because, "your people won't be able to buy what you design." He ran into walls of discouragement, obstacles and discrimination. He could not stay in the hotels that he designed. He could not buy in the neighborhood of the homes that he designed. He was not even welcomed to the surrounding restaurants because of his race.

Yet, he beat the odds...

- Paul Williams was Black
- The 1st Black Architect west of the Mississippi
- And he became an Architect to the Stars.

This article is written to share in Black History month, February 1 to March 1, 2022.

1920-1970, he built over 2,000 buildings and 3,000 structures which included banks, homes (estates & mansions) and churches in Las Vegas, South America, New York, Washington D.C., etc. Homes for millionaires, horse breeders and actors (Frank Sinatra, Lucille/Desi Arnaz, Cary Grant, Lon Chaney, Tyrone Power, Barbara Stanwyk).



Paul Revere Williams circa 1948.

(Security Pacific National Bank Collection/Los Angeles Public Library Collection)

Designed well known places:

- Beverly Hills Hotel in Los Angeles (written in his own handwriting on the building). Today, there is a suite named after him.
- MCA Building (Music Corporation of America)
- YMCA
- Los Angeles Superior Court
- Member of the team who designed the L.A. airport
- Chasens
- First Church of Christ, Scientist
- La Concha Motel

Oddly enough, not being served in restaurants because of his race, he later dined at the White House. He did not socialize with any of his clients except Danny Thomas. When Danny Thomas had the idea of St. Jude in Tennessee, he asked Mr. Williams to design it, which he did, for free. When Mr. Williams died, he was eulogized by Danny Thomas at the AME church.

At one point in his life, even though he could afford a nice home in a nice area, he had to live in a small house in an undesirable neighborhood.

Besides going to school for Architecture, he also got a degree in Architectural Engineering at USC. Paul Williams designs had a unique style which included Tudor, Colonial and Spanish. He also learned to draw upside down due to White clients who did not want to sit by him during illustrations of their wants and needs. Some clients who came to his office looking for an Architect, left when they found out that he was Black.

Even after Frank Sinatra gave him his National exposure to the world, Mr. Williams never forgot his roots. When Black people could not get loans, he opened up Broadway Federal Bank. He designed affordable housing for black Veterans and then Golden State Mutual which depicts Black history. He also designed the First American Methodist Episcopal Church. He broke barriers and was a champion and voice for minorities.

In 1923, he opened his own firm. During the Depression, he employed Blacks and Whites. During WWII, he received Government projects (Naval Air Station).

An example of one of his homes that he designed in 1942, sold for \$19.8 million 4 decades later. His daughter said that after he became famous and successful he could have had an attitude like, I showed them. Instead, his attitude was, I showed myself.

Medical Thought: Moyamoya Disease *By Cindy Hirokawa Mine*

Moyamoya: "Hazy puff of smoke or cloud" in Japanese.

What is it?

- A rare blood vessel disorder. Affects 1 in a million; 5 in 1 million in Japan.
- The carotid artery becomes blocked or narrowed in the skull which reduces blood flow to the brain.
- It happens when one or both carotid arteries narrow or close.

Discovered when?

Identified by Mr. Takeuchi, Mr. Shimizu and Mr. Moriyama in the late 1950's to early 1960's in Japan. They deserve credit as the researchers who reported the features of Moyamoya Disease for the first time.

Usually happens when?

- Can be diagnosed in children 5-10 years old or in adults 30-50 years old.
- It is 2 times more common in females than males.
- Can happen in people who have had radiation to the head or neck, x-ray to the skull, heart surgery or chemo treatment.
- People of Asian ethnicity have a higher risk. In Japan, the overall incidence is higher.

Cause?

Unknown, could be genetic or due to injuries.

Early signs?

- Mini-strokes or strokes
- Problems with the senses: seeing, hearing, smelling, touch or taste
- Weakness or paralysis on one side of the body
- Difficulty in thinking or remembering
- Speech problems
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Seizures
- Involuntary movements
- High-blood pressure

How do you know you have it? Through testing.

Treatment:

- There is no treatment to reverse it. It is a progressive disease.
- Medication or surgery is used. Without treatment, it can be fatal.

Some of the medical centers that treat Moyamoya:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| - UCLA | - Northwestern |
| - Stanford | - Washington University School of Medicine |
| - Baylor | - Columbia University Irving Med Center |
| - St. Luke's Med Center | |
| - Duke | |

Thank-you to a member, who is part of our JACL family, who made me aware of this condition.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2022

By Carol Kaneko and Jean Yamashita

Note: Please visit the Senior Center website, kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com, to view the complete monthly Senior Center News with more content and color photos.

The Senior Center remains closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, but we are continuing our delivery of monthly treats to our seniors in/near the Watsonville area.

Due to COVID-19 Omicron exposures and concerns, the January New Year's delivery was unfortunately delayed to February 10th. With the postponement, the February treats were combined with the January treats that resulted in quite an assortment of surprises for the Seniors on delivery day!

The W-SC JACL Senior Center arranged a special New Year's *obento* for the Seniors prepared by Miyuki Japanese Restaurant consisting of *saba shiroyaki*, *nishime*, salad, rice, and *miso* soup. The Senior Center also provided a Japanese *Monaka* sweet for dessert. Chris Ishikawa (owner of Miyuki's) was so understanding and accommodating when the January delivery was delayed twice. When the February 10th delivery day finally arrived, Chris and his staff worked extremely hard to get all the *obentos* ready on time. Many thanks to Chris and the awesome Miyuki crew for doing such a fantastic job!

Thanks to our generous donors for providing the New Year's and Valentine's Day treats that filled our goodie bags: **Eileen Byers, Nobue Fujii, Sharon Bobo, Reba Condon, Haru Ishibashi (96th Birthday), and Jean Yamashita**. A special thank you to **Tom AmRhein** for donating the reusable red tote bags that **Susan** had thoughtfully purchased in October for the Senior Center.

Our January and February birthday honorees were: **Nancy Shikuma, Karen Sugidono, Hatsuko Tsuji, Jean Akiyama, Eiko Ceremony (97), Jeanette Crosetti, Haru Ishibashi (96), Carol Kaneko, Hisako Kodama, Gary Mine, Sam Sakamoto (97), Chiyeiko Shikuma (97), and Eiko Stewart**. Those living locally each received a mini bundt cake from the Senior Center. Happy Birthday!

We are so grateful to our volunteers for all their help with packing and delivering our January/February monthly treats: **Sharon Bobo, Reba Condon, Paul and Carol Kaneko, Gail and Bill Wurtenberg, Jean Yamashita, and Eiko Stewart**. We are very appreciative of your help and support!

The W-SC JACL Senior Center acknowledges the following monetary donations:

Birthday donations gratefully received in January and February from: **Hatsuko Tsuji, Bette Garcia, Eiko Stewart, Nancy Shikuma, Chiyeiko Shikuma, Hisako Kodama, Carol Kaneko, Karen Sugidono, Sam Sakamoto and Jean Akiyama**.

Senior Center 50th Anniversary donation gratefully received in January from **Nancy Kuratomi** and **51st Anniversary** donations received in January and February from **Bette Garcia and Karen Sugidono**.

Special donations gratefully received from **Toshi Yamashita, Anonymous, Akira and Hideko Nagamine, Diane Mio, and Alice and Ken Tanimoto** in memory of **Susan AmRhein**; from **Alice and Ken Tanimoto** in memory of **Terry Hirahara**; and from the **Nakase Family Foundation**.

The W-SC JACL Senior Center is most appreciative of the many kind and generous donations we have received. Your generosity will enable us to continue our monthly outreach to our sheltered-in-place seniors. *Arigatō!*

For those who wish to donate during this time when the Senior Center is closed, please make out your checks to: "**W-SC JACL Senior Center**" and send them to **Carol Kaneko** at 1835 Silvana Ln, Santa Cruz, CA 95062. Thank you for your generous support of our Senior Center.

Special Note: *Birthday and senior center anniversary donations are optional until the Senior Center can reopen again. Voluntary donations, however, are much appreciated.*

Again, please visit the Senior Center website, kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com, to view the complete January/February Senior Center News with photos in living color, as written and posted by Jean Yamashita. Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our Senior Center and its members.



Wow, look who's 105 years old!

Louise Sako's Birthday!

Louise Sako with Gary Mine.
Photo by Cindy Hirokawa Mine

FRIENDS & FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS *By Brian Shiroiyama*

Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV): Planning for the memorial service on May 21 in Oakland Hills continues with guidance from the East Bay Regional Park that COVID restrictions may be lifted by then. Please check on the latest status at www.ffnv.org or by calling Brian at 408-896-1021.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB *By Charlie Thompson*

The Watsonville Bonsai Club upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

March 12, Saturday, Meeting at JACL Kizuka Hall, 1:30 PM

March 28, Monday, Meeting at JACL Kizuka Hall at 6:30 PM (note the evening time)

March 27, Saturday, Mike Nelson Demo at Alladin Nursery, 1:00 PM

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO *By Bonnie Chihara*

We continue to hold classes at Kizuka Hall, observing COVID safety protocols to keep all students safe and healthy.

We've added Taiko For Health and Beginning Taiko on Friday mornings beginning at 10:00 a.m. Contact our business manager Kay Miyamoto at 831 475 1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org for class info.

Please check our website for updates at **watsonvilletaiko.org**

Our upcoming schedule-

Friday, March 18th

Sunday, April 24

Saturday, April 30th

Saturday, July 30th

CSUMB World Theater, 6:00-6:45 .m.

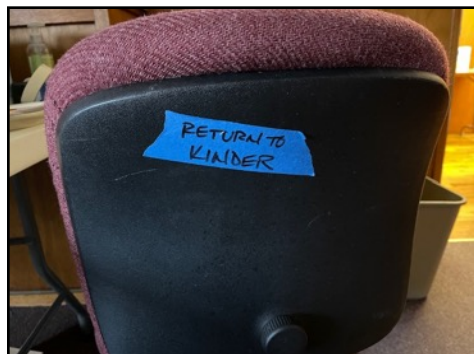
Big Sur International Marathon, 6:45-11:00 a.m.

Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park, Cupertino, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

La Selva Beach Library, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Return to Kindness *By Rev. Hosei Shinseki*



At the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, we have a large room in the back of the Hondo that was once used as a classroom for the temple's kindergarten students. Not long ago someone marked the back of one of the classroom chairs with blue tape and reminded others that this chair belonged in the kindergarten class room. As you can see the note says, "Return to Kinder". Unintentionally the person abbreviated the word kindergarten to "kinder".

When I saw this, I took a picture thinking someday I would either talk about this or write about it. When I saw the note, it immediately made me think that this is a very important task for all of us. And I hope that it is not just the Readers and the members, but the whole world will return to what has often been called a kinder and gentler world.

This is a lot to ask. But what does it take for each of us to be kinder? I believe that we must, first of all, understand the basic truths that the Buddha taught. First, all things are impermanent; nothing is lasting. We live our lives and expect things to continue on day to day. We expect our loved ones to return home, and we expect to wake up in the morning. But as we all know, death can tap us on the shoulder at any moment. My good friend in Japan always said, "Life is too short to be a jerk". He choose a different word, but you get the point. If we embrace this thought, we would be kinder to those around us.

Secondly, the Buddha taught that all things are interdependent and interrelated. All of us are connected to each other. The joys and sorrows that we experience are shared with all beings. Our thoughts, words and actions affect others today, tomorrow and forever. Our acts of cruelty or mean-ness have profound effects on others. In the same way, our acts of kindness and compassion can have positive effects on others.

In a world filled with pain and suffering, acts of kindness are very sorely needed today. The Buddha said that we can experience happiness through acts of kindness. Let us all make an effort to "return to kinder".

Gassho,
Rev. Hosei Shinseki

Giving Thanks *By Rev. Hosei Shinseki*

OHIGAN

Ohigan Services are held during the Spring and Fall equinoxes, when the days and nights are of equal length, and it is neither too hot nor too cold. The following is a traditional poem about Ohigan, which, as you know, means "the Other Shore (of enlightenment)":

*The day of Ohigan
What a fine time
To plant seeds
Of enlightenment...*

For all Buddhists, the most pleasant times during the spring and fall are when services are held to "move to the Other Shore" (to-higan). It is a time when we are encouraged to strive even more energetically along the Buddhist path and strive to become enlightened.

The Ohigan Service is unique to Japan, probably because the four seasons are so distinct in that country, making the Spring and Fall equinoxes the most pleasant times of the year. That's probably why the Ohigan Services have such deep roots in the Japanese spiritual consciousness.

I must point out, however, that the significance of Ohigan Services in our Jodo-Shinshu teaching is slightly different from that in other Buddhist denominations.

The Third Spiritual Leader of our Hongwanji organization, Master Kakunyo, wrote the following in Gaijasho (Correcting Mistaken Views):

*Who said that the equinox periods during the Spring and Fall are times for us?
To perform the "practice of the Nembutsu"?*

What these words point to is that after the Venerable Master Shinran passed on to the Pure Land, members of the Jodo-Shinshu community decided to conduct Ohigan Service in his memory during the equinox periods. Unfortunately, some of his followers began to mistakenly assert that this was a time when they should recite the Nembutsu as a religious practice in

order to enhance their chances of being born in the Pure Land. It was in order to correct such a mistaken idea that Master Kakunyo continued:

The moment we receive shinjin and rejoice (that our birth in the Pure Land is Determined) is the moment we leave the ocean of birth and death and move towards the Other Shore of Nirvana.

He wrote these words in order to make clear that the correct cause for being born in the Pure Land was not through personal effort, but rather, from receiving "shinjin based on 'Buddha-centered power'" (tariki). The Primal Vow of "Buddha-centered power" is always directed towards us, wherever we are, and whatever kind of person we may be. Receiving that Primal Vow is what shinjin is. And with the single thought of joyous shinjin, we are cultivated in moving towards the Other Shore of Ohigan in our daily life, regardless of what we do. In technical Jodo-Shinshu terminology, this is referred to as heizei-gojo, moving along the path to enlightenment in our daily life.

That's why, during the Ohigan period, there is no need for us to specifically engage in conduct that we think we will enhance our chances of being born in the Pure Land. Not only that, for those of us who are absolutely unable to conduct ourselves so we will be worthy of being born in the Pure Land, trying to do so, "... is turning against what the founder (the Venerable Master Shinran) taught. How can you say you are followers (of the Jodo-Shinshu teaching) with such an attitude?" Master Kakunyo concluded.

Master Kakunyo emphasized that the teaching of Master Honen and the Venerable Master Shinran lay in receiving the Name of Amida Buddha ("Namo Amida Butsu"), which is as already mentioned, what receiving shinjin based on "Buddha-centered power" is. Further, Master Kakunyo wrote:

All that is required for birth in the Pure Land is receiving shinjin.

Don't even consider another cause. The "ignorant filled with base passions" (bombyu) such as we are, should not even attempt such an important matter. As birth in the Pure Land, we should leave it entirely in the hands of Amida Buddha.

"... Important matter as birth in the Pure Land," refers to the fact that it is something completely beyond the capabilities of "ignorant beings filled with base passions" such as ourselves. That's why we are urged to give up "self-centered effort" (jiriki) in attempting to be born in the Pure Land, and leave it all up to "Buddha-centered power."

The Venerable Master Shinran expressed this feeling in the following poem:

*The ocean of birth-and-death, of painful Existence,
Has no bound;
Only by the ship of Amida's universal Vow
Can we, who have long been drowning
Unfailing be brought across it.*

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. Hosei Shinseki

Temple COVID Update

The Temple continues to live stream or pre-record Sunday services, following COVID parameters. The Board will continue to review the possibility of reopening the temple on a monthly basis. We will keep you apprised of any changes. Your patience & understanding is greatly appreciated during these challenging times.

Message from Temple President, Tad Kato

Happy New Year's 2022!!! Well, as happy as we can be with ALL that's been going on in the world around us. This is a great time of year to let all of you know just how much we appreciate you and your continued loyalty and support. It has been wonderful to have such valuable members. Walking through the maze of events and circumstances has been difficult this past year and a half, but it was made easier due to members, like you, who are understanding and patient. We have all had to deal with various issues and had to learn a new level of patience and often creativity. As the year came to a close, we can't help but reflect on the hard things, but we especially want to reflect on the good things.

While 2021 was a bit more difficult, our Temple has maintained and in some cases, thrived. Our hats are off to you! A heartfelt "Thank You" for all of you for stepping up and working with us. Past and present Board Members - a huge "Arigato". Your willingness to be flexible and adapt to the times, coupled with our foresight in aligning with multiple fundraising efforts, allowed us all to keep moving forward. This time around reminds us all to be truly thankful for all that is good and focus on what we can do to make things better, rather than complain on what made us unhappy. As we have attempted to be flexible and adapt to the changing times, we think that overall, we have done pretty well, and want to

continually try to improve. We encourage any feedback you have for us so that we may make your experience better and better. We look forward to a fabulous 2022 and to serving our Temple for years to come.

Again, thank you for your continued loyalty and support!

Tad Kato, President

Congratulations

The Temple is pleased to recognize and present the following individuals with the 2021 Temple Recognition Awards. The Yamashita Family has given their time and support to the betterment of the Temple over the past seven decades and have been fortunate to have such dedicated and committed individuals. The local community truly misses the Yamashita Market.

Goro, Shizu, and Sumi Yamashita



On behalf of the Sangha of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, we wish to extend our deepest condolences to the Suyeko "Sue" Eto family.

Namo-Amida Butsu

Welcome New Members:

Lesly & David Dietrich

Carol Steele

2023 World BWA Conference & 850th Anniversary of the Birth of Shinran Shonin May 6-20, 2023

Tentative Schedule

Tokyo - 2 Days

Kyoto - 4 Days—Including Anniversary Celebration

Kagoshima - 3 Days

Kumamoto - 1 day

Fukuoka - 2 Days

Hiroshima - 2 Days

Detailed schedule will be shared shortly. Please contact Rev. Shinseki (email: jshinseki@gmail.com or buddhist@wbtemple.org) if you are interested in joining the tour. You may also leave a message at the Temple Office (831-724-7860) if that is more convenient for you.

Tour will be limited to 30 people

Tentative Schedule of March & April 2022 Events

[Schedule of events will be re-evaluated based on the current status of COVID-19]

Sun., Mar. 20 & 27, 2022 - Sunday Service @ 10am (Live Stream)

Sun., Apr. 3, 2022 - Sunday/Shotsuki Hoyo/
Hanamatsuri Service @ 10am (Live Stream)

Tues., Apr. 5, 2022 - Temple Board (Zoom) Meeting @ 7pm

APRIL HANAMATSURI FUNDRAISER
Limited Food Items Available
PICK-UP ONLY More Details to Come

Sun., Apr. 10, 17, & 24, 2022 - Sunday Service @ 10am
(Live Stream)

TRI-TEMPLE GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 20, 2022

THE CLUB AT CRAZY HORSE RANCH
GOLF COURSE, SALINAS

SPONSORED BY MONTEREY PENINSULA BUDDHIST TEMPLE, SALINAS BUDDHIST
TEMPLE & WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE



All skill levels are welcome to sign up and join us for a fun day of golf at the beautiful Crazy Horse Ranch Golf Club in Salinas.

We are looking for sponsors from the three temples, please contact your local temple to be a sponsor. More information will be in our next newsletter. For more information you can email us at centcoasttritemple@gmail.com.

Watsonville Buddhist Temple

Temple Office Telephone (831) 724-7860

Temple Office is temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By Appointment only.

Email: buddhist@wbtemple.org **Website:** www.wbtemple.org

Twitter: [Twitter@WatsonvilleBT](https://twitter.com/WatsonvilleBT)

WESTVIEW PRESBYTERIAN CHIMES

Living for others During Lent 3 Life-giving Practices



So, what are you doing for lent this year? –Giving up chocolate or sweets or caffeine? Lent began with Ash Wednesday on March 2. Lent is a time of preparation for Easter and often involves an emphasis on repentance and realizing again our need for a Savior. It is also a time to change our un-life-giving ways of only looking out for ourselves, and instead finding again the joy of seeking the best for others. During Lent we take up practices that help us to become aware of and responsive to the needs of others. The three traditional practices of Lent are **prayer**, **fasting**, and **almsgiving**. A commitment to these practices during Lent leads to an awareness of God and conversion of the heart. Here are some suggestions on how to incorporate the traditional Lenten practices into your daily life.

Prayer

Prayer can draw us into the compassionate heart of God and help us to become more responsive to those who suffer. Find ways to pray often during Lent, focusing on the needs of those who are the victims of injustice. Here are a couple of suggestions.

1. Gather with your family/friend/grandchild to look through newspapers and news magazines or browse the Internet to identify injustices occurring throughout the world. Select one injustice, learn about the causes of the injustice, and pray for those who are affected by it. Keep track of developing news about the situation and pray together regularly or before dinner, bedtime, and at church as well. Here is a possible prayer:

God our Father, we know that you hear the cries of all those who suffer. Hear us as we pray for those who suffer unjustly so that their plight might be relieved. We pray also for their oppressors that they will have a change of heart and see the error of their ways. May they use their power for the good of all. We pray for

ourselves that we might have the compassion and the courage to do whatever we can to alleviate the suffering and to address the causes of that suffering. We ask you this through Christ, our brother. Amen.

Fasting

Fasting can help us recognize our bad habits and overcome them. It can help us live with an awareness of our dependence on God's love. Here are two ways you can incorporate fasting into your life during Lent.

1. Choose at least one meal each week of Lent at which you will eat less food than normal (or none at all). Perhaps you can have a simple dinner of soup and bread. At that meal be especially aware that many people will go without a meal this day. Fasting is a means of expressing solidarity with those who are suffering around the world. Later that day when you feel hungry, use that sensation as a reminder to pray for those who have little food.
2. Fast from spreading gossip about others. We are often tempted by our own righteousness to want to say hurtful things about others to make us feel better about ourselves. Gossip dehumanizes people and renders us more likely to treat others without respect. When you feel the desire to speak negatively about others, pray instead for those you may have hurt with gossip. Pray for a more generous heart.

Almsgiving (helping the less fortunate)

We can become more like Jesus during Lent by being generous. With your family/friend/grandchild select a charitable organization and collect donation money. You may want to select an organization that addresses the injustices you identified earlier as part of the "Prayer" aspect of Lent. Here are some suggestions for collecting money.

1. Put a jar or container on the kitchen table. Contribute a set amount of money, determined by your family/friend, each day of Lent.
2. Give up buying junk food and contribute that money to the jar.
3. If you have young children/grandchildren who cannot contribute money, let them contribute by decorating the jar or container.
4. Hold a yard sale and contribute the proceeds to the collection.
5. Invite friends to join you in contributing to the charity.

Based on an article from <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/holidays-and-special-occasions/lent-and-easter/living-for-others-during-lent/>

God bless you and fill you as you draw near to the compassionate heart of God this Lent.

You are a wonderful Westview Family!

-Pastor Dan

Update on In-Person Worship

It will be a wonderful celebration when we finally are able to be together again and have in-person worship! Thank you for your patience born out of love for the most vulnerable among us. We are still waiting to open in-person worship for 2 reasons. One, for all our members to be vaccinated and two, waiting to see how the threat of the different COVID variants unfolds while society opens up again. **Session will meet in late March to discuss possible in-person worship.** In the meantime, we are having good attendance at our Zoom worship services. When we do start in-person services we will continue to have online worship available as well via Zoom or some other format. See you soon, we hope!

**** If you are in need of any assistance during this time please do not hesitate to call Westview at (831) 724-6222 and leave a message. Someone will call you back as soon as possible. ****

Live Worship Services every Sunday at 10 am via Zoom until it is safe to gather again.

If you would like to **watch/participate in the Zoom Live Worship Services as it happens at 10 am on Sunday please send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com** so that your **name/email address can be added/accepted to our Zoom live recordings** and you can **receive an automatic email** reminding you of our upcoming live services.

Some churches have opened up again for services, but the CDC has encouraged churches with a high number of seniors to continue with online services, so we will continue online until it is safe.

The best place to get up-to-date information will be the Westview website, www.westviewpc.org.

Wednesday Zoom Scripture Reflection & Mid-Week Check-In

Wednesdays at 4 pm. The link is emailed out weekly. Please **send Westview an email at westviewpc@gmail.com** if you would like to **automatically be sent a link/reminder on a weekly basis about our Wednesday Mid-Week Check-Ins.**



Rev. Hoffman Visits Westview Members at Valley Heights

On March 1, 2022, Rev. Hoffman visited Westview members Louise Sako, Dr. Masako Miura, Dorothy Lennon and Martha Powell at Valley Heights Senior Community in Watsonville. The photo on the left is Rev. Hoffman with Louise Sako.

Sew Fun Sewing Circle

Tuesdays, 9:30-12:30 in the **dining room** at **Westview**, led by Rachel Clark and Peg Pierce - quilting, clothing construction, fabric and color selection, tote bags, quilted postcards, and more! Join us!



Deacons Update



The Deacons will be making Easter baskets for the children of Iglesia de Cristo using art supplies and other fun things. If you **would like to make a donation to help make these Easter baskets please send it to Westview** for the **Westview Deacons**.

SonRise Kitchen Update

The SonRise Kitchen continues to serve breakfast 5 days/week at the River Park in Watsonville. We have begun partnering with Homeless Persons Helping Project (HHPH) who have social workers connecting those without homes to the services they need. As it has gotten colder and more rain, we would appreciate donations of jackets, sweatshirts and socks to keep them warm. Thank you to all our volunteers! Those that we serve greatly appreciate it!

We still need about \$21,500 to make the kitchen permitted by the county and we welcome your donations. Also, **call Westview at (831) 724-6222** (leave a message) **if you want to volunteer** as we shine Christ's light caring for those who need much encouragement. As a fundraiser we are selling the antique spindle back wooden chairs (pre 1926) in the attic on EBAY. If you know anyone who would like to buy some let Margo or Dan know.

An Invitation to a Vigil in Remembrance of those Lost in the 2021 Atlanta Shooting

By Shizue Shikuma, Kitty Mizuno, Takashi Mizuno

Dear Friends,

We invite you to join us on Saturday, March 19th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. on the sidewalk in front of Watsonville City Plaza, on Main Street in remembering those slain by a young man in the suburbs of Atlanta City, Georgia, on March 16, 2021.

One year has passed since this tragic incident occurred. It is Asian tradition to remember the spirits of those one year after they passed away in this world.

This is also a time to acknowledge that violence continues against Asians/Asian Americans/Oceanians (Pacific Islanders)/Desi Asians (South Asians) in cities and towns across the United States. This has been under-

covered in the corporate media. This kind of violence implants intergenerational trauma among our community members. The survivors of such trauma are not well enough acknowledged. They deserve justice.

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded land of Huineren Tribe (ancestral relatives of today's Amah Mutsun). We started to learn that intergenerational trauma has been common within Indigenous communities, Black/African American communities, Chicano/indigenous/Latino communities, Asian American communities, especially Japanese American communities who were put in concentration camps during WWII. This is a time for all of us and our allies to come together to acknowledge intergenerational trauma and seek for mutual support and solidarity, to create a more humane and just world by speaking and listening to our voices.

Another ongoing concern for Asian Americans is the Model Minority Myth, which allows mainstream society to ignore the safety needs and concerns of our communities, particularly for the elderly and for women. The Myth promotes the belief that all Asian Americans are affluent and are not in any kind of danger; it invokes the "proximity to whiteness" that gives some within our community a false sense of safety and acceptance. It has been used as a divisive tool between Asian Americans on the one hand, and indigenous people and other people of color on the other. This myth hurts Asian Americans, and also hurts others because it prevents us from forming allied communities of solidarity for truth and justice and compassion.

We hope you will join us on **Saturday, March 19th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. on the sidewalk in front of the Watsonville City Plaza, on Main Street.**

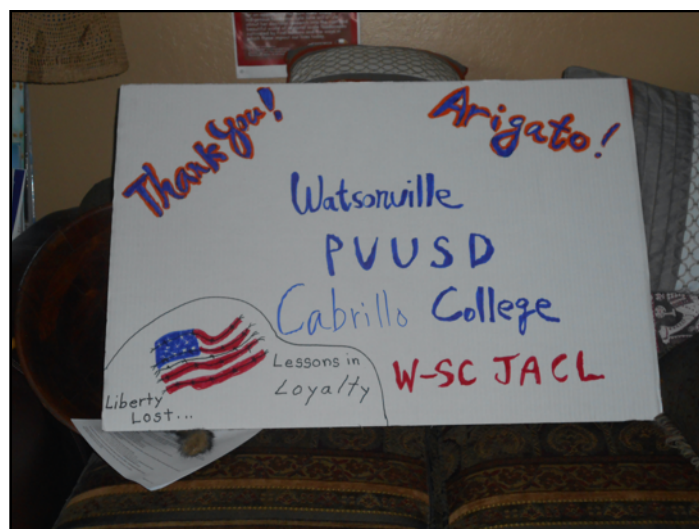
Please be mindful that we are still under the pandemic. Please wear masks if you can. Please also take social distance in a vigil on the sidewalk in front of the Plaza in Watsonville. Please bring your placards with you.

Respectfully, In community,
Shizue Shikuma Kitty Mizuno Takashi Mizuno



Left: Photo by
Lucien Kubo

Right: Photo
submitted by
Shizue Shikuma
Kitty Mizuno, &
Takashi Mizuno



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See you next in May 2022!