CINDY HIROKAWA MINE--OUR CHAPTER’S DARUMA AWARD HONOREE

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is honored to present Cindy H. Mine as our Daruma Award recipient.

Cindy graciously extends a caring and helping hand to our JACL members and greater community. She is a sincere, attentive listener, and a problem solver with a positive outlook on meeting challenges. She never expects or seeks recognition and was nearly moved to tears and humbly grateful to be our chapter’s “Unsung Hero.” Photo, courtesy of Phil Shima.

Cindy Hirokawa Mine is a vital member of our JACL community. She has been our secretary for a decade and continues to serve our chapter as recording secretary.

Cindy is a registered nurse and presents important health information to our JACL Senior Center members who meet every Thursday for exercise, special celebrations, and bingo. She provides medical equipment—wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc.—to families free of charge.

Cindy updates the health records and contact information of our Senior Center members and accompanies them on all JACL Senior Center sponsored day trips. This is a tremendous responsibility and greatly appreciated by our families and Senior Center leaders.

Throughout the year, our chapter plans and participates in events that include meals or light refreshments. We are very fortunate that, without hesitation, Cindy steps forward to coordinate and to oversee this part of the program.

Cindy’s community service outreach is extensive. At the Westview Presbyterian Church and Buddhist Temple, she helps families and church members with memorial service receptions. She supports Watsonville Taiko’s annual fund raising event. She assists, wherever needed, at our JACL booth at the Japanese Cultural Fair in Santa Cruz and at Watsonville’s Japanese cultural summer program for K-6th grade students, Kokoro no Gakko. Whenever there is a need for support and assistance, Cindy is among the first to offer a helping hand.

Cindy’s most valued gift to our community is her compassionate outreach of her professional services as a registered nurse to our families who are in need of guidance in the care of their loved ones.

Cindy is truly deserving of this special recognition for her tireless efforts in serving our community and our W-SC JACL.

Thank you, Cindy.

Sincerely,
Marcia Hashimoto, President W-SC JACL

JACL - NCWNP DISTRICT AWARDS BANQUET & CELEBRATION
Pleasanton DoubleTree, 7050 Johnson Dr, Pleasanton, CA 94588
Saturday, April 23, 2016

Onward!
Japanese American Citizens League
NCWNP District

It is with great anticipation that the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District (NCWNP) of the JACL sponsors our upcoming District Awards Banquet & Celebration to be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Pleasanton, CA.

NCWNP District will be honoring three special members—John Yamada, Fred Okimoto and Emily Teruya—for their longstanding dedication as district treasurers.

This is also an opportunity to honor those chapter members of the NCWNP District for their unwavering dedication to the mission of JACL with a Daruma Award. We invite all to join us in celebrating the district’s commitment to persevere no matter the challenge -- ONWARD!

Delphine Hirasuna, author of ‘The Art of Gaman,’ will be our keynote speaker.

Net proceeds from this event will be dedicated to the fundraising efforts for the scheduled exhibit of Japanese American incarceration artifacts to be displayed at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC in 2017. This exhibit is to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066. The JACL is a partner in this opportunity to once again tell the Japanese American incarceration story to the thousands of attendees who will visit the Smithsonian Institution.

Tickets are $75 per person. For information, contact Carol Kawase sonomacojacl@yahoo.com.

Registration forms may be obtained from our NCWNP http://www.jacl-ncwnp.org/_files/user/Registration.pdf.

WATSONVILLE’S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE

By Erik Chalhoub, Editor Register-Pajaronian

David Honda, a San Jose Police captain with more than 25 years of experience, was named Watsonville’s new police chief Tuesday, March 8th.
Honda, who will be sworn in to his new position in April, is replacing Chief Manny Solano, who retired in December.

Deputy Chief David McCartney served as chief on an interim basis, and he (above) welcomed David Honda. "It's been a tremendous experience for me, and everyone here has been so welcoming," Honda said. "I'm honored and extremely humbled by the selection."

He said his roots in Watsonville go "way back," when his father taught him how to fish during yearly family camping trips to Sunset Beach. During this time, Honda said his family would spend time in the city to visit Gizdich Ranch and Freedom Meat Lockers. Honda's oldest son graduated from Monte Vista Christian School, and his youngest son is currently a senior there.

"Watsonville is a beautiful city," he said. "I'm truly happy that I'm now part of this community."

A native of San Jose, Honda graduated from Valley Christian High School. He earned a degree in industrial technology from San Jose State University and a graduate degree in leadership from Saint Mary's College. Honda said the Watsonville Police Department has a reputation statewide for being hardworking, proactive and having a supportive community.

"To be effective as a police department you really have to lean on your biggest asset, and your biggest asset is your community," he said. "It will always be a priority to me to foster those relationships and generate new relationships with the community."

City Manager Charles Montoya said the nationwide search for a police chief netted about 14 applications. After narrowing down the field, Montoya interviewed the top two candidates, and mulled his decision over for a few weeks. Some members from the Watsonville Police Department applied, Montoya said, but none made it to the final process. "I wanted to make sure he was right for our community and right for me," he said.

Montoya (left) said he made the offer to Honda on Friday and was confirmed Monday evening (March 7th). After a background check and other paperwork, Honda will be sworn in as the new chief in a month.

Hiring a chief from outside the department hasn't happened for decades, according to Montoya, with previous chiefs Solano serving for six years, Terry Medina for 20 and Ray Belgard for six. By doing so, Montoya said Honda will bring a "different perspective and new life" into the department and will have to form new relationships within the department.

Solano said he "wholeheartedly" supported the decision, and said he heard a lot of positive things about Honda from the San Jose Police Department. "The city, the police department, it's my family, and as such I want to make sure it's in good hands," Solano said. "He's going to get a world-class police department with very qualified personnel to carry out the new ideas he's going to bring."

Montoya said while Solano left "some pretty large shoes to fill, the decision wasn't about filling the shoes. It was about bringing someone else in to take the department further than Manny did, and he took it pretty darn far."

[Editor’s note: Many of our Watsonville police officers are familiar with Honda’s state-wide innovative police and investigative work. Above, he is welcomed at the press conference.]

YWCA INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY HONOREES
By Gini Matute-Bianchi

Greetings and welcome to the YWCA of Watsonville. We thank you for joining us today in celebrating ten outstanding retired teachers in the Pajaro Valley United
School District who have given so much to our youth in this community.

Me llamo Maria Eugenia Matute-Bianchi, otherwise known as “Gini.” I am President of the Board of Directors of the “Y”.

Although last Saturday was the official date of International Women’s Day, in the United States, the entire month of March is Women’s History Month. And, therefore, it is very appropriate that we celebrate International Women’s Day here at the YWCA.

International Women’s Day is celebrated in many countries around the world. It is a day when women are recognized for their achievements without judging national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic or political differences. It is a day for looking back on past struggles and accomplishments, and more important, for looking ahead to the untapped potential and opportunities that await future generations of women.

Many of you might not be aware that the International Women’s Day first emerged from the activities of labor movements in the early 1900s in North America and Europe. The first International Women’s Day was observed in the US on February 28, 1909. This day was in honor of the 1908 garment workers’ strike in New York, where women protested against unsafe working conditions.

You have all heard of the United Nations (UN). But did you know that when the UN was founded in 1945, one of its founding principles was to affirm the equality of women and men?

Since then, the UN has been in the forefront in helping create a historic legacy of internationally agreed strategies, programs and goals to advance the status of women. The empowerment of women continues to be a central feature of the UN’s efforts to address social, economic and political challenges across the globe.

I would like to borrow a phrase: THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY.

Today, we are honoring retired teachers in the Pajaro Valley United School District for their years of outstanding service that indeed affirms our commitment to think globally and act locally.

One of the best examples I can give of this commitment is the comment made by one of our honored teachers today, Marcia Hashimoto. She wrote that in her 34 years of teaching her kindergartners and first graders reenacted the story of Rosa Parks, and as she said, “I believe they understood Rosa Parks’ brave stance for human and civil rights and the peaceful way she and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. changed our laws of discrimination.”

Watsonville City Mayor Felipe Hernandez congratulated Marcia, and Executive Director Leticia Mendoza of the “Y” presented the honorees with an orange scarf, a “Y” signature gift.

I want to stress that International Women’s Day has a long and energetic history. What we celebrate today has precedents going back more than 100 years. Each year, the day is organized around a particular theme: Women and Human Rights; Women Uniting for Peace; Afghan Women Today: Realities and Opportunities; Investing in Women and Girls; and Equality for Women is Progress for All – just to name a few themes celebrating International Women’s Day in recent years.

This year’s theme is Pledge for Parity, which has special significance for us in moving forward with our mission. We are DEDICATED TO ELIMINATING RACISM, EMPOWERING WOMEN, AND PROMOTING PEACE, JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND DIGNITY FOR ALL.

Each of our honored teachers today was selected because their careers mirror our mission in so many creative and enthusiastic ways.

So how do we want to celebrate International Women’s Day this year? We say by Pledging for Parity everyone—men and women, young and old—can pledge to take concrete steps to help achieve gender parity more quickly—whether to help women and girls achieve their ambitions, call for gender-balanced leadership, respect and value difference, develop more inclusive and flexible cultures or root out workplace bias. Each of us can be a leader within our own spheres of influence and commit to taking pragmatic action to accelerate gender parity, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

We are honoring 10 retired teachers today. I ask each of you to take inspiration from their outstanding service to our youth and make that pledge for parity. Given their many years of outstanding service, I ask all of us to redefine success beyond money and power to include our well-being, wisdom and capacity to wonder and give. Follow in their footsteps. Be an inspiration to others.

So again, welcome to the “Y” and to our time together this weekend.

[Editor’s note: With the classroom chairs set like the seats of a bus (and one chair up front for the driver), Marcia explained the historical importance of Rosa Parks. Students volunteered and took turns playing the role of Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the bus driver, a police officer, and passengers.]
Seated are honorees: Noni Mendoza Reis, Lucia Villareal, Silvia Mendez, Lifetime Achievement Award to Rhea DeHart, and Diane Severin; standing: Maryjo Dellamaggiore, Grace Patino, YWCA President Gini Matute-Bianchi, Mayor Felipe Hernandez, Marcia Hashimoto, Jolly Bilstad, and keynote speaker Rebecca Garcia. Absent is Linda Espejo.

JEAN POGUE, RETIRED WHS MATH TEACHER

In the spring of 1948, Jean Pogue, Paul Pfeiffer and Sig Lien (who later became the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Education) as leaders of the teachers’ union were not rehired by the trustees of the Watsonville Joint Union High School District for daring to submit a uniform salary schedule for all teachers based upon degrees and years of service. Each teacher, at the time, negotiated for his or her salary. Women, who were unmarried, were paid less.

The students, in support of the teachers, went on “strike” by refusing to attend the afternoon classes. That night, the trustees “rehired” the three.

After 68 years, “equal pay for equal work” is still not the norm in this country.

Jean Pogue, 97, sends her love to you. SnoCatz, colleagues, former students, and friends can reach her at:

Jean Pogue
Oakmont of Roseville, Room 107,
1101 Secret Ravine Parkway,
Roseville, CA 95661.
She’d love to hear from you.

DIANE PORTER COOLEY, Santa Cruz Women

Congratulations to Diane Porter Cooley who was featured in the Spring issue of Santa Cruz Women magazine as one who continues to contribute to the welfare of our Santa Cruz County and Monterey Bay area communities.

Diane, a member of our W-SC JACL (shown with Marcia Hashimoto), is holding a photo taken in 1928 when, as an infant, she was dressed in a kimono and passed as a Nisei child to the Uchida family in Japan.

The article by Traci Hukill, “Girl from The Country: The natural beauty of Pajaro Valley shapes Diane Porter Cooley’s philanthropy,” quotes Diane: “Socially, ethically, aspirationally, economically—everything had changed. The only thing that had stayed the same was the beautiful hills.” Diane and husband Don Cooley live at the foot of the hills they love.

The Porter family left their farm to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation, and cousins donated property to UCSC (Porter College) and Nisene Marks State Park. Diane wishes to preserve agricultural lands for future generations and has donated hundreds of acres to the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County.

Lane Borg (son of Jane Borg), Dr. Janet Nagamine, Diane Porter Cooley and the late Ichiro “Sam” Sugidono (442nd RCT), are shown here at the induction of WHS Foundation’s “Hall of Fame” ceremony in 2010. All have connections as members of our W-SC JACL.
ATTENTION, JACL YOUTH MEMBERS!
JACL National Scholarship Applications are available now!  The National JACL offers college undergraduates and graduates scholarships and to those specializing in law or the creative/performing arts. This deadline for these National JACL scholarships is April 1, 2016.

There is also a scholarship for those in need of financial aid in this time of rising tuition costs.

The newest scholarship, Meiji Gakuin University-JACL Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior to attend college in Japan to study for a National JACL scholarships is April 1, 2016.  There is also a scholarship for those in need of financial aid in this time of rising tuition costs.

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

Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships:
Applications available for download: www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/scholarships.

Note: the deadline is Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

• 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 which scholarships.
• All scholarship recipients and their parents must be JACL, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, and/or Westview Presbyterian Church members for a minimum of one year prior to receipt of scholarship.
• Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the scholarship recipient and/or his/her family must be present at the awards ceremony, which will take place at the JACL’s annual community picnic on Sat., June 25, 2016, at Aptos Village Park, Aptos, CA, 95003.

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 no later than the April issues. That announcement will include requirements, documentation, and information needed to apply—along with the submittal deadline. The final determination of scholarship recipients should be made no later than the 31st of May.

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships

Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship
The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship fund was established by the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and Mrs. Keiko Kitayama in memory of her husband, Kee, who was our 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 future Santa Cruz County 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 Frank Mito Scholarship Fund 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.

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 W-SC 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.

Photo: Melissa Tao (left) and Amanda Akiyama (right) received our undergraduate continuing scholarships of $1,000 each from Dr. Brooke Rains (center) at last year’s annual JACL community picnic.

• 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 to Dr. Brooke Rains, our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Scholarship Chairperson, on or before Tuesday, May 17, 2016. They should be mailed to:

Dr. Brooke Rains, Chairperson
JACL Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA. 95077

The presentation of the scholarships will take place on Saturday, June 25, 2016 during the JACL Annual Community Picnic at Aptos Village Park. Thank you.
SANTA CRUZ BONSAI CLUB
Our 28th Annual Bonsai Show is coming soon, **Saturday April 2nd and Sunday April 3rd**, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Museum of Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz.

Over 100 member trees will be on display. Demonstrations each day at 2 p.m. Saturday’s demonstrator is **Mike Pistello** and Sunday’s is world renowned Sensei Katsumi Kinoshita. Several Japanese cultural events are planned for both days, and complementary tea and cookies are available. Pre-bonsai as well as member bonsai trees and other bonsai related items will be for sale during this two day weekend.

**Carolyn Fitz**, a SCBC member and Sumi-e brush painting artist, will present an “Exclusive behind the scene: Japanese Bonsai Ink Painting” on both days at 1:00 p.m. These unique Ink Paintings will be available for purchase after the demonstration.

Come and join in this fun filled weekend and you’ll walk away with a door prize and maybe one of the many raffle prizes being offered by club members including the two demonstration bonsai trees created by our demonstrators.

Admission price is $5.00 for the bonsai show as well as the museum.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB will hold its 43rd annual exhibition and demonstration **Sunday, April 24, 2016** at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville, CA 95076. This is a week earlier than normal, trying not to be in conflict with Cinco de Mayo and the Concert at the Mello Center.

Doors will be open from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Over 50 trees, tiny, small, medium and large, from ages young to very old, will be on display. There will be a 500 plus year-old live California juniper, and its baby, a 450 year-old California juniper (shown here). These plants have been dug up from the Mojave Desert, with permits, and trained as bonsai for over the past 12 years.

A raffle of many bonsai items will follow the demonstration. Plant sales will also be available, offering pre-bonsai material, and bonsai already completed or at least started. There is plenty of free parking, and tea & cookies will be served.

Even though this is a free event to the public, a donation is much appreciated. Hope to see you there.

Bring the family to this free exhibit and enjoy a demonstration at 1:30 pm on how to create a bonsai by renowned Bonsai Master Katsumi Kinoshita.

KAWAKAMI-SISTER CITY UPDATE
By Robb Mayeda

The Kawakami-Watsonville Sister City Association thanks our community friends for their support at our fundraiser at Applebee’s last February.

Since Ramsey Park lot is undergoing restoration, we cannot have a car wash this spring. So, we are having another fundraiser at Applebee’s.

Our Flapjack Breakfast is scheduled for **Sunday, April 17**. We will start serving at 8:00 A.M. Please plan to arrive by 9:50 A.M. since the restaurant stops cooking promptly at 10:00 A.M. We will be refining our procedures to better serve you. The families of our student travelers will be serving you the coffee, juice or water at your table. Tickets are available from the students at their middle schools. Walk-in customers benefit the KWSCA general fund that supports our Pajaro Valley United School District chaperones and for hosting our visitors when they come from Kawakami-mura in September.

Our students are scheduled to leave for Kawakami, Japan on May 10, 2016.

Thank you for your support.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO
By Bonnie Chihara

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for our 25th Anniversary show scheduled for **April 16th and 17th** at Cabrillo College Crocker Theater. **Eventide Over Momoyama** is a multigenerational celebration of life's journey. For information and tickets log onto: [http://cabrillovapa.com/event/Watsonville-taiko-25th-anniversary-concert](http://cabrillovapa.com/event/Watsonville-taiko-25th-anniversary-concert).

This show will feature adult and youth drummers from Watsonville Taiko as well as students from Cedar Grove Elementary School in San Jose and members of Niseishin Daiko from Morgan Hill. Members from our sister group Shinsho Mugen Daiko from Monterey will join us as usual.
Pictured are students 2 1/2-3 years old participating in workshops led by Sensei Ikuyo Conant at the Discovery Learning Center in Santa Cruz. For more information on our upcoming performances or classes please contact us at (831) 435-4594. Or, email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

Our upcoming schedule:
March 23rd  Stevenson School, Pacific Grove
March 31st  Tandy Beale, Live Oak School Santa Cruz
April 3rd  Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai Festival, Abbott Square Santa Cruz
April 6th  Tandy Beale, Mello Center Watsonville
April 10th  Watsonville Buddhist Temple’s Hanamatsuri
April 16-17  Watsonville Taiko’s Anniversary Show, Crocker Theater Cabrillo College
April 23rd  Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park Cupertino
April 24th  Big Sur Marathon, Big Sur
May 7th  Human Race, Natural Bridges
June 4th  Japanese Cultural Fair, Mission Plaza Park Santa Cruz
June 18th  Land of Medicine Buddha Festival, Land of Medicine Buddha Soquel
June 25th  JACL Picnic, Aptos Village Park
July 2nd  Summer Concert Series, New Brighton Beach State Park

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Year

This month of March began with the family of Miye Yamashita treating each Senior to a package of delicious pastry and manju in honor of Miye’s 98th birthday. Thank you to Goro, Sumi and Shizu Yamashita!

Carol Kaneko and Ruby Kawamoto started taking signups for the March 29th trip to Table Mountain Casino. Be sure to talk to Ruby or Carol if you are interested in going. Lots of fun and I hear there are some big winners at the casinos!

Watsonville Taiko is having their 25th anniversary show on April 16th and 17th. They have four tickets for the Sunday performance just for the seniors. It is to be held at Cabrillo College in Crocker Auditorium. If you are interested please talk to Paul Kaneko by April 1. First come, first served.

It was a great thrill to see Nancy Iwami on March 17 for a visit (shown with Toshi Yamashita).

Everybody was very happy to see her. She’ll be 102 in May.

There were 8 tickets available for the performance of Frankenstein at the Mello Center for March 20th, thanks to the generosity of the Santa Cruz Symphony.

Marcia Hashimoto announced the new police chief, David Honda, will be invited to the Senior Center for a visit in the future. He will be installed as Watsonville’s Chief of Police in April.

Bingo is always enjoyed by all. Some of the big winners at Bingo are: June Honda, Helen Nakano, Mitsue Tao, and Carol Kaneko. Everybody has so much fun – even if you don’t win. Bingo callers are generally Iwao Yamashita and Helen Nakano, and also taking turns are Kitty Mizuno, Jean Yamashita, and Leigh Sakaguchi. Checking our Bingo cards are Kimiko Marr, Leigh Sakaguchi, Paul Kaneko, Sunao Honda, Jean Yamashita, Phil Shima and many more.

March birthdays: Kimiyo Fujii 90, Hideko Nagamine 95, Ruby Nakamura 91, Chie Sakaue, and Miyeko Yamashita 98. We wish a happy birthday to those not present: Yae Sakamoto 90, Louise Sako 99, and Betty Yagi 92. There are 28 Seniors who are 90 and over.
Helen Nakano created beautiful decorations in honor of St. Patrick’s Day and Susan AmRhein brought mint ice cream to go with the birthday cake.

For Easter, the hall was decorated with paper bunnies filled with candy and colorful ceramic vases filled with flowers. Again, thanks to Helen and Susan.

It was good to see Chiyoko Yagi back with her daughter, Sharon Lowenstein.

We welcome Jackie Yamashita as a new member and hope she will be able to join us regularly for bingo.

Paul alerted the Seniors of another scam: a phone call claiming to be from PG&E stating that your bill is past due and your service will be disconnected if not paid immediately via a prepaid cash card. This is a scam! PG&E will not call and demand immediate payment. Contact PG&E at 1 800 743-5000 if you have concerns.

Guests welcomed this month to the Senior Center were Frank Inami, guest of Kimiko Marr; Marlene Inoue, friend of Kitty Mizuno, and Nancy Jean and Marvin Mattson, daughter and son-in-law of Nancy Iwami.

Our Bingo prizes are always appreciated.

Donations this month were:

- Brandon/Mia Potter: 1 box Girl Scout cookies, 1 bag Aloha School Kine cookies
- Nobue Fuji: bags of lemons
- Eiko Stewart: 6 plates musubi and kimpira, 5 plates pork-kobu maki
- Terry Hirahara: 2 bags veggie sticks, 3 boxes Kleenex, 4 Comets
- Rubie Kawamoto: 15 boxes Kleenex
- Ann Yamashita: 7 bags of Oro Blanco and lemons
- Miye Yamashita: 3 large bags senbei
- Hide Nagamine: 6 daikon
- June/Sunao Honda: 3 bags banana bread, 6 plates inari sushi, 9 cones candy, 9 cupcakes
- Yoshiko Nishihara: 15 bottles Dawn soap
- Eiko Nishihara: 10 bottles hand soap
- Kazuko Sakai: 4 boxes Kleenex, small lunch bags and large lunch bags
- Yaeko Cross: 1 large bag Cheetos, 2 medium bags Cheetos, 1 bag Beer Nuts
- Pat Marr: 12 boxes Kleenex, 12 bags shortbread cookies and peanut butter cookies
- Kumiko Nakatani: 30 rolls toilet tissue
- Chie Sakaue: 2 bags lemons, 16 bunches flowers, flowers for everyone in honor of her birthday
- Hisako Kodama: 3 bunches flowers, 4 boxes Kleenex
- Tea Hashimoto: 30 toilet tissues
- Chiyoko Shikuma: 30 toilet tissues
- Edna/Yukio Nagata: 8 boxes Kleenex, 2 bags cookies
- Yamashita family: Surprise for Miyeko Yamashita’s 98th birthday, Manju and pastry for everyone
- Alan/Betty Yagi: 28 crabs
- Hisako Uemura: Japanese assorted gift box, 12 rolls toilet tissue
- Iwao/Jean Yamashita: 6 boxes brownies, 5 pkgs. lemon-zucchini bars, 5 pkgs. brownies, 2 boxes Kleenex
- Eileen Byers: 10 bottles Dawn soap, 8 rolls paper towels
- Jo Ann Yvar: 6 disinfecting wipes
- Haru Ishibashi: 5 shopping bags
- Haruko Yoshi: 6 rolls toilet tissue, 2 boxes Kleenex
- Sharon Lowenstein: 3 boxes cookies, 2 Snacking Chocolate, Ziploc Freezer bags, box of chocolates, 2 bags clips, permanent marker pen, 2 pkgs paper plates
- Chiyoko Yagi: 1 large jar unsalted mixed nuts
- Jean Akiyama: 12 rolls toilet tissue
- Susan AmRhein: Mint chip ice cream for birthdays
- Hideko/Akira Nagamine: Birthday cake for everyone
- Toshi Yamashita: 6 big rolls paper towels
- Nancy Iwami: 2 dozen Marshmallow Eggs, 12 chocolate candies
- Mary Perez: 2 peanut butter and 2 cheddar cheese crackers, 2 boxes granola bars
- Mitsuyo Tao: 30 rolls bathroom tissue
- Mitzi Katsuyama: 5 bags cookies
- Kitty Mizuno: 6 bottles apple cider, 4 Kleenex
- Anonymous: 1 can Spam, 1 can tuna
- Takeshi & Miye Yamashita: 36 bags salmon and cod
- Monetary donations were gratefully received this month from Miye Yamashita, Hide Nagamine, Kimiyo Fujii, Yae Sakamoto, Ruby Nakamura, and Chie Sakaue.

Our Seniors dressed for St. Patrick’s Day on March 17th.
Schedule for April:
Thurs April 7  Hanamatsuri, obento from Sushi Gardens at 4 pm
Thurs Apr 14  Regular Bingo
Thurs Apr 21  April Birthday Party
Thurs Apr 28  Regular Bingo

Toban group for March: Nobue Fujii, Eiko Stewart and Nobuko Akiyama. As usual, there are always extra people in the kitchen helping out. The younger generation such as Jean Yamashita always pitches in. Thank you to all.

BSA TROOP 558’S FIRST PANCAKE FEED
By Scoutmaster Chris Garcia

On Sunday March 20th, Boy Scout Troop 558 and their families put on a pancake breakfast at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. This was the first year that the scouts were asked to put on the breakfast. The menu included all you can eat pancakes, sausages, fruit, coffee, and orange juice. Tickets were $9 for adults and $5 for children.

Scouts Hunter Blinkenberg and Adrian Guzman are selling pancake and raffle tickets with the help of Scoutmaster Chris Garcia.

There was also a raffle of items including backpacks of school supplies, camp chairs, and coffee and tea gift baskets. Proceeds from the breakfast and raffle will be going towards Troop 558’s annual summer camp trip July 3-9th at Camp Pico Blanco.

The Troop also reached out the dance troop from Pacific Arts Complex of Santa Cruz to perform on stage during the breakfast. Donations were obtained from various sources including Orchard Supply, Peets Coffee, McDonald’s, Montecito Manor, and Coast Produce.

The boys were tired after having conducted an Eagle Scout ceremony and campout the previous day but got up early to join their parents and worked hard.

Troop 558 has been chartered out of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple for 86 years and is a member of the Loma Prieta District of the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council of the Boys Scouts of America. We currently have 8 scouts and are always looking for more young men aged 11-17 to join us. In the past 8 years, Troop 558 has produced 11 Eagle Scouts!

We’re grateful to all—parents and family, Temple members and friends—who supported our very first “all you can eat pancake feed.” We appreciate “Be Prepared!” for all went well. We hope you had a great time. Thank you!

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

On Sunday, March 6th Ken Tanimoto was sworn in as BCA President at the BCA National Council Meeting. Congratulations Ken!!

It’s that time of year for our Annual Hanamatsuri Festival! This year’s Festival will be on Sunday, April 10 from 11 am - 2 pm with great displays, demonstrations, entertainment, food, and great company!

THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH because without your participation we wouldn't have such a successful important Hanamatsuri Festival for our Temple members and Community to celebrate and enjoy.

Sincerely, Hanamatsuri Committee

Rev. Yuki Sugahara spoke of a grandchild’s advice of a coming tsunami which saved the lives of her parents and grandparents on March 11, 2011. When you hear good advice from anyone it is wise to take it. The Dharma is about good advice.

It was Rev. Sugahara’s first visit to Watsonville, and he was pleasantly surprised to see that there was no fence guarding the Temple and grounds.

Rev. Sugahara played a 6-string steel guitar and beautifully performed the song, “Ichigo Ichie” (“this is a one-time only occasion in life”) to the enjoyment of all.
Keiko Hanayama; Yoko Umeda; Shoren, Elren and Rev. Shousei Hanayama; Ken Tanimoto; Gail and Bill Wurtenberg; Rev. Yuki Sugahara of Florin Buddhist Temple with wife Namiko Sugahara and daughter Aoi Sugahara.

Calendar for April 2016:

3   Sun  9:30 am  Japanese Service
    10 am
    Shotsuki Hoyo & Hanamatsuri
    Service with Rev. Dennis
    Fujiyama of Idaho

5 Tue  7:30 pm  Temple Board Meeting
6 Wed  1 pm   BWA Meeting
7 Thu  10 am   ABA Meeting
8 Fri  2 pm   San Juan Howakai
Secretary is off on the Friday after a Board meeting

10 Sun 10 am  Hanamatsuri Service II
           11 am–2 pm  Hanamatsuri Bazaar
           17 Sun 10 am  Sunday Service & Dharma School
           20 Wed 7 pm  C D Meeting in Monterey
           24 Sun 10 am  Sunday Service
29 Tue  Secretary will be out of the office

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10 am Sunday April 3, 2016

Shotsuki refers to a gathering to express gratitude for being able to find the meaning of life through the Nembutsu. Let us gather to remember and express our gratitude. The families of the following deceased are invited to attend the April service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

April Memorial List

Daitoku, Bob  Eto, Niichi
Fujii, Seiko  Fujimura, Tamotsu
Fujita, George Sakae  Fujita, Kazuo
Hirahara, Nancy Miyoko  Hashimoto, Walter
Higaki, Kazuko  Higaki, Haruso
Hirano, Hisa  Hiwatsushi, Teruko
Hoshiyama, George  Ikeda, Henry
Inokuchi, Itsuyo  Kaita, Brad Roy
Kajihara, Setsuko  Kamimura, Sanemi
Kamitani, Haruko  Kimoto, Takanoshin
Kikuchi, Kazuo  Kihara, Helen
Kokka, Henry  Kurasaki, John
Kurimoto, John Masao  Maemura, Gunzo
Matano, Toro  Matsui, Nihei
Matsumoto, Alice  Matsumoto, Shio
Mine, Seki  Misumi, Mitsuo
Miyama, Richard  Nishihara, Dennis
Okamoto, Takeru  Nitoa, Eki
Ono, Miyoko  Sakai, Yutaka
Sakakihara, Hisae  Sera, Kina
Shimonishi, Tony  Shingai, Tsunaye
Shingai, Yukio  Shirachi, Mickie
Sugimoto, Frances  Sukeyama, Masaru
Suruki, Kozo  Takata, Chikako
Takei, Yasu  Tao, Akira Bill
Tao, Hisae  Toriumi, Junko
Tsuda, Kakichi  Tsuda, Frances
Tsuda, Tomio  Tsudama, Sonny
Tsujii, Yoshihisa  Tsuji, Yukiko
Ura, Naoko  Ura, Sawano
Uyeda, Nora Nobuko  Uyematsu, Mary
Uyematsu, Roy  Waki, Louis
Yamaguchi, Hidemasa  Yamanishi, Asayo
Yamaoka, Yoneichi  Yonekura, Rinzo
Yoshida, Edward  Yoshida, Kazuye

Yoshida, Hatsue

BWA will donate $100 to the Dharma School Vickie Usuki Memorial Scholarship.

W-SC JACL Senior Center’s Hanamatsuri celebration will be on Thursday, April 7th. BWA will donate a full sheet cake and $100. The BWA representatives who will be attending are Ryoko Suruki, Aiko Nitao, Kiiko Akiyama, Riko Yoshida and Itsuko Okamoto.

Hanamatsuri Service & Bazaar is on Sunday, April 10th. On Friday, April 8th at 8:30 am – sushi preparation begins. On Saturday, April 9th at 8 am – complete the preparation, and on Sunday, April 10th at 4 am – rice cooking! All others meet at 5 am.

BWA Cooking Class: BWA has agreed to teach a cooking class. What would you like to learn about Japanese cuisine? A date or dates, perhaps in fall or winter, will be announced soon.

Anyone in need of medical supplies (for free) – walkers, canes, shower chairs, commodes, chux, incontinence pads, etc. Please call Cindy Mine @ 831-818-1511.

Racially insensitive taunts and body-shaming comments mar a heated rivalry game in Sacramento.
A screen grab from Glen Kumamoto’s video of the Feb. 25 CIF playoff game between McClatchy High (dark uniforms) and host Oak Ridge shows a scrum for the ball as well as a McClatchy player being momentarily prevented by an Oak Ridge student from re-entering the court (circled at far right.) The game was marred by racially-charged taunts and insensitive remarks about body and appearance, directed at McClatchy players and cheerleaders from the Oak Ridge student cheering section.

**Rafu Shimpo Staff Report** [Editor’s note: thank you Rafu Shimpo for this report.]

SACRAMENTO – An incident at a high school basketball playoff game in Sacramento continues to reverberate in the community, long after the final buzzer.

The Feb. 25 contest between the girls of McClatchy High School and host Oak Ridge High in El Dorado Hills had plenty of drama before tip-off. McClatchy, coached by former Chapman University star and McClatchy graduate Jessica Kunisaki, knocked Oak Ridge out of last year’s playoffs en route to capturing the school’s first-ever state championship.

The desire for revenge apparently got out of hand, as several parents reported racial slurs and other inappropriate taunts coming from the Oak Ridge student cheering section and directed at McClatchy players.

Glen Kumamoto, whose daughter, Cori, is a member of the McClatchy Lady Lions, said he heard several derogatory comments hurled at the team. At least six players on McClatchy’s roster are of Asian descent.

Kumamoto contacted the school about the taunts, including chants of “soy sauce” and “go back to Fiji,” and said he witnessed gestures imitating “small eyes.”

Jessica Kunisaki, seen above in her playing days at Chapman University, is a McClatchy alum who coached the Lady Lions to the 2015 State Championship. (JUN NAGATA/Rafu Shimpo)

In the days following the game – won 40-33 by Oak Ridge – Kumamoto said he brought the matter to the attention of Oak Ridge school officials, but received no response.

He then took the issue to social media and news outlets, including The Rafu Shimpo.

In a March 8 Facebook post, Kumamoto wrote: “Keep in mind that half of our team is of Asian descent. They would yell ‘soy sauce,’ ‘little eyes,’ ‘you’re ugly’ just to name a few. They even made direct ‘cheers’ to specific players on our team and called them out by name.

“If these racial taunts were made against African Americans, there would be outrage. But because they were made against Asians, nobody on the Oak Ridge staff seemed to think there was a problem. I am still furious, even a few weeks later, and I would love to escalate this to various news stations around the area but I’m not sure how to even start. Letters have been sent to the school administration to no avail.”

One day later, Kumamoto spoke with the local CBS television affiliate in Sacramento, and the story garnered wide attention.

“We’ve never been subjected to such a disgraceful, disgraceful language,” Kumamoto told CBS13 News, mentioning his family’s history of service.

“My father fought in the Second World War for this country while his family was interned in a camp, so things like this wouldn’t happen,” he said. “So his children and grandchildren wouldn’t have to be subjected to racial taunts.”

He added that body-shaming comments, such as “cankles,” were directed at several McClatchy players and cheerleaders.

Kunisaki said that her players were focused squarely on the game and were unaware of the taunts, though she later told CBS13, “In 2016, you don’t have racism, you would hope, but you hear it all the time and I think the more awareness, the better we can solve problems.”

Some Oak Ridge students have said the “Fiji” comment was misheard, and was in fact a chant referring to one of McClatchy’s star players, Gigi Garcia, who was injured and on the bench, unable to play.

In the same Facebook post, Kumamoto included a video that makes it difficult to discern the offensive comments, but clearly shows one Oak Ridge student coming out of the cheering section to interfere with a McClatchy player who had fallen out of bounds. The student waves a hand in front of the player’s face, possibly making contact with her.

Oak Ridge later reported that the student was immediately removed from the gymnasium and was disciplined.

Another parent also contacted the school following the game, objecting not only to the inappropriate comments, but also to posters at the school calling for a “Black Out” theme for the game by the student section, known as the “O Zone.”

“I cannot believe in 2016, not one single administrator, teacher, advisor or adult in the faculty at your school did not realize the impact those words have on the African American race,” wrote the parent, adding, “As I walked past the O Zone during half time, several boys in the crowd told the [McClatchy] cheerleaders they were ugly to their faces as they walked by.”

Oak Ridge athletic director Stephen White apologized for the incident, insisting, “This is in no way how Oak Ridge wishes to be represented.”

White added that the term “Black Out” was in no way meant to imply malice toward any race, and that “For our sporting events, our student section has participated in a pink out, yellow out, blue out, white, and camo out, which all refer to T-shirt color that students will wear as a unified student section for the respective game.”

On March 10, Oak Ridge interim principal Aaron Palm responded to the parent of the fallen McClatchy player, issuing a letter to the Oak Ridge community.

“Oak Ridge High School wants to emphasize that we do not support intolerance or racism on our campus. We do not and have not ever stood for this,” Palm’s letter began. He acknowledged some of the reported insults coming from the student section, saying that his school does not tolerate
Palm also wrote that the school had received a copy of Kumamoto's video, and was aware of the media attention it had garnered.

Though he said at the time that no individual students had been identified as sources of the taunts, the earlier parental letter of complaint identified more than a dozen students who(14,14),(993,990) acknowledged some of the behavior of the O Zone.

One student was quoted as saying, "McClatchy sounds like something I would name my dog."

In her letter to Palm, the parent also cited complaints about the O Zone from other schools and parents, adding, "I think it's time you dismantle the cheer section. Nothing good comes from hateful words, it's not a cheer section when it's at this level."

Members of the O Zone drafted an apology of their own, reading in part:

"On behalf of the Oak Ridge student section, the O Zone, we would like to make an apology for any inappropriate chants that were made during the Feb. 25 playoff game. Additionally, we would like to apologize for any derogatory comments that came from various students seated within the student section. These actions of a few are disappointing and not a true reflection of our student body.

"As Ozone student leaders, we care about having good sportsmanship and in showing support to all athletes in our schools. We will continue to work to better educate our peers in their participation and positive support while members of the student section."

The El Dorado Union High School District issued a statement that said it is working to address the situation.

"It is our expectation that respect be given to all during our athletic events and apologize that this was not the case on this particular evening. The actions of those who participated in this unacceptable behavior are not a true reflection of our student body," the statement read, in part.

Kumamoto said he has been contacted by other schools who were also victims of racial taunts while playing at Oak Ridge, and that a strict zero-tolerance of such offensive behavior is the appropriate response for the school to take.

"Asians are often overlooked or thought of being passive, so maybe they feel okay with [others] saying these things. Obviously the administration didn’t do anything to stop it. I hope it brings to light that racial slurs are not acceptable on any level and body-shaming young kids has no place in our schools and especially sporting events."

"National JACL has responded to the matter saying, "The terms used were not neutral expressions of exuberance. They were terms that were intended to intimidate and ostracize. Disappointment and sadness only begin to describe the behavior that we believe to be outrageous and unacceptable."

A letter was also sent to the Board of Trustees of the El Dorado Union High School District.

Oak Ridge High School officials have investigated the matter and issued an apology for the derogatory comments that came from the student section.

A Growing Threat to Our Communities (letter)

People in the Asian and Pacific Islander American (API) community take these racist and bullying slurs extremely seriously. These have been used in the past to justify attacks, discrimination, hate crimes, and violence against people because of their race, religion, national origin, gender, orientation, or immigrant status.

For those team members of Japanese American ancestry, this type of racism rationalized the imprisonment of their parents, grandparents, and great grandparents in America’s WWII concentration camps holding 120,000 innocent people. The same bigotry during this time justified thousands of hate crimes, assaults on Japanese American veterans, burning of homes, dynamiting of businesses, shooting of farms, denial of hospital services to pregnant women, exclusion from public services, and even murders.

We are also completely appalled that this racist mistreatment of WWII Japanese Americans is today being used by politicians to justify the detention of Middle East war refugees or to ban Muslims from our country due to their religion. This threat reinforces the need to speak out against continuing racism today.

For the McClatchy team members of Chinese, African American, and Latino ancestry, these hateful insults are also disgusting. Similar language has been used to justify the murders of Chinese American miners in 1861 El Dorado County, institutional racism against the Black community, and anti-immigrant xenophobia.

We are proud of the McClatchy team for staying focused, enduring, and speaking up against this mistreatment. Beyond their formidable athletic abilities, they display the sportsmanship and civility that are examples for us all.

Contrary to stereotypes of Asian Pacific Islander Americans, our community is neither quiet nor passive when it comes to racism. We have spoken out, rallied, picketed, boycotted, and demonstrated when needed. We as civil rights advocates will continue to do so in the future.

These racial and bully slurs reflect badly on all the students, staff, and administrators of the El Dorado Union High School District; the community; sports boosters; the 200 schools in the CIF-Sac Joaquin; and the sponsors.

We call on the District and school to take firm action to correct and make amends for this racist and bullying behavior. We look forward to a meaningful response.

In the meanwhile, we will continue sharing the API community's outrage across the country, through the media and social media, and in coordination with other civil and human rights organizations.

The recent letter from the Oak Ridge High Ozone cheering section apologizing for their actions and for other students in their section was a good first step. Many more steps need to be taken by the school and District to hold the perpetrators accountable.

Sincerely,

Andy Noguchi and Marielle Tsukamoto
Florin JACL Co-Presidents

TOWARD FORGING “A MORE PERFECT UNION: EXPLORING THE CREATION OF A COMPASSIONATE AND COURAGEOUS COMMUNITY IN THE FACE OF INCREASINGLY
The American historical landscape is littered with examples of peoples and religions being targeted by some communities different than their own target, including Mexicans and immigrants in general, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and the History Department of Cabrillo Community College felt that it would be timely and appropriate to start a community-wide conversation about how we might respond.

Recognizing the distressing historical similarities between the present-day scapegoating of Muslims, Mexicans and immigrants in general, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and the History Department of Cabrillo Community College felt that it would be timely and appropriate to start a community-wide conversation about how we might respond.

The American historical landscape is littered with examples of peoples and religions being targeted by some Americans who somehow feel threatened. Some of these groups have included but are not limited to African-Americans, Irish, Jews, Chinese, Japanese, Filipinos, Mexicans, et al.

More often than not, the wider American public watched silently as communities different than their own were targeted.

In the 1942 case of the Japanese community being vilified and eventually imprisoned for the acts of Imperial Japan, very few non-Japanese protested as they were taken away. The present-day scapegoating of Muslims and Mexicans is very familiar to the Japanese community, and they hope to head off a repeat of their own incarceration in 1942.

The evening will feature the movie “An American Mosque” that tells the 1994 story of a mosque being destroyed by an arson fire in Yuba City, CA and the way that the non-Muslim community rallied to support the rebuilding of the mosque. The film was shown nationally on PBS in 2014, and given the current national anti-Muslim climate, we believe the movie is a timely starting-point for a discussion about how we might approach our own community’s future. The film-maker, David Washburn, will be present to discuss the background of the film and his experiences showing it to communities all across the United States.

We have invited representatives of several regional Muslim organizations to join us in addressing ways that we might proceed to help to create a climate of compassion and trust.

We urge you to attend and add your presence and voice to this effort.

For more information, please contact Paul Kaneko of the W-SC JACL at 831-476-7040.

**WESTVIEW “CHIMES”**

*God Loves Surfing!*

Pastor Rick Warren speaks about how a surfer knows he cannot make the waves himself. He can only ride the ones that are there. To ride he must be patient and ride the waves as they come. In church growth God creates the waves of growth, not us. Our task and JOY is to recognize the waves God makes and ride with God! Likewise John 7:32-39 speaks of how the Holy Spirit flows into us from God like a river of living water, helping us get in touch with God and stay connected. The living water is dynamic, gives us energy and joy, and makes us feel safe and secure. The Spirit fills us and inspires us to let the living waters flow to others: family, church family, neighbors, caring for our youth and the elderly!

At our leadership retreat in January we gave thanks for God’s waves of 2015 and looked for guidance to see and catch the waves of 2016. Here are our Thanks and Hopes.

**Thanks for 2015 –**

*Youth leaders Hanna Kasik and Jordan Souza continuing to help!*

*New leaders Mary Lou Hoffman and Nancy Shott have stepped up to be Deacons*

*Solid Rock Church has been a blessing – contagious energy*

*Finances in the black*

*More diversity in the congregation; while also remembering our role in community as Asian church*

*Teen Challenge part of church family*

*New large banners on church building, New audio system with new computer, New heater for the chapel*

*More interaction during worship*

*Joanne Yahiro Mission Fund was created*

*Youth Mission Trip to House of Joy Navajo Church*

*Harvest Dinner - fellowship with friends, raising money for House of Joy Church and our Tutoring Club*

*Relay for Life – raising money to fight cancer*

*Fireworks sales to help fund mission trip*

*Child Evangelism Fellowship Group - 5 Day Kids Club and Christmas Party for local children reaching out to about 100 children*

*Christmas caroling at senior facilities*

*Salvation Army Meals*

*Christmas Party at the Hayashi’s*

*New people coming – Gary, Charlene, Nancy, Joao and more! (and now Rod!)*

**Goals/Riding Waves in 2016:**

*After-School Tutoring Club - making relationships and establishing trust with our neighbors, creating a real and personal connection*

*Teen Challenge - caring for those who feel connected with us; pray for them, let them know we care through phone calls, cards, maybe send our newsletter to them.*

*Adult Bible Study Class helps us to care for many different people*

*Salvation Army Meals - service and fellowship draws extra helpers outside our church family to participate*

*We hope to continue to give Extra care for our Youth and our Seniors – Joanne suggested that the youth might prepare and deliver a meal and a craft project to our seniors*

*Shinbokukai New Year’s Potluck Luncheon*

*Strong wave of hospitality extended to anyone who enters our church*

*Giving grace to one another so we don’t overextend ourselves*
*Relay for Life—we will be sharing fundraising responsibilities with another group

*Fireworks – Thank you, Marlon for organizing us!

*Mission Trips – a youth mission trip again this summer. This time to urban Hollywood and the Mexico border for service and education about immigration and urban issues.

*God has brought new people to our church. May we continue to be aware of their needs and love them well.

At our retreat we had an “aha moment:”

We have a larger influence and web of ministry than just our worship service. Even though we would like to see more people at worship, this is not the marker of our success as a church.

We care for and reach many people not just through our Sunday worship service, but through: our Wednesday Bible Study, the Salvation Army Prep and serving, the Tutoring Club, the Harvest Dinner, the Deacon Ministry, relationship with Solid Rock Church, sharing our facility with schools and non-profits, Child Evangelism Fellowship, cultural events like Shinbokukai New Year’s Potluck Luncheon, and more!

Please keep our church in prayer especially for how we can continue reach out and be a blessing to others! I am grateful for our leadership team! You are a wonderful church family and I can’t wait to see what waves God will give us to ride this year!

In LOVE and GRATITUDE,
Pastor Dan

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

Youth/Family Upcoming Events:

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

*April 1st – Salvation Army Meal/Gym Nite, 4 - 7 pm, Westview*
*April 15th – Gym Nite, 5:30 – 8 pm, Westview*

Open Your Eyes Through Education and Service

Youth Trip: Urban Hollywood and San Diego Border **July 18th – 23rd, 2016.**

Contact Pastor Dan or Hanna to sign-up

Space is limited.

**Salvation Army:** Westview will be serving its last Salvation Army meal until December on **April 1st.** Meet at Westview at 2 pm. For more information contact the Deacons or Pastor Dan.

Sunday Message Series: "Care for your soul – taking care of the only part of you that will last for eternity!" – based on John Ortberg’s book *Soul Keeping.*

Sunday School During Worship Service in our Youth Room with Youth Leader Hanna Kasik

Wednesday Study Series: What is the confusing Book of Revelation really about and how does it speak into our time? **Wednesday Study Series are usually held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Westview.** Come explore the *Book of Revelation* as we discuss Max Lucado’s study of Revelation. Please mark your

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On March 20th, 2016 we welcomed two new members into our Westview Church family: Nancy Shott and Gary Brooten. They both shared about how much they love the Westview Church family and how spiritually and supportively it has been very good for them to be part of Westview. They are wonderful people, as is Gary’s wife, Charlene! We are delighted they are members!

**UPDATE:** We now have **10 children** coming. Many have much need for help in math and reading and they are learning much! Our Tutors are awesome!—Mary Lou Hoffman, Diane Mio, Susan Manabe, Nancy Shott, Hanna Kasik, Pastor Dan and sometimes Joanne Hayashi! If you want to join us **Thursdays 3:30 – 5 pm** let us know! It has been a delight to reach out with love and care for our neighbors.
calendar for the following dates: April 13th and April 27th, May 11th, May 25th.

Joao is an agricultural science student studying here in Santa Cruz County for the year. He has been worshipping with us and attending our Wed Nite Bible Study. He is wonderful and has become part of our Westview family. He will be going back to Brazil in May. His last Sunday with us will be April 24. So give him a hug before he goes!

**Volunteer In-Home Caregiver Available:** One of our moms in our tutoring program is studying to be a Certified Nursing Assistant and wants to do in-home caregiving. She needs volunteer hours to continue her career. She is intelligent and kind. Please call Pastor Dan for details if you need some help and want to help get her hours (she can stay at home with a loved one while you shop or go out, help with cleaning your home and help with care of your loved one).

We had a wonderful Easter worship service celebrating the resurrection of Christ with an Easter Egg hunt to follow and reception. Even some of the children from our new Tutoring Club came!

Delighted to have filled their buckets with Easter Eggs are Jason and Alisa, grandchildren of David and Jeanni Kadotani.

**DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND**

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL sincerely appreciates your generous support of our many programs.

**Greatest Need from …**

- **Grant Ujifusa** of NY
- **Frances Schwamm** of Salinas
- **Bill and Ida Akimoto**

In memory of **Roy Kaita** from Aiko Yamamoto

In memory of **Marlene Terasaki** from Esther Ura

**Education/Scholarship**

- **Paul Ichiuji** of Salinas
  Our Day of Remembrance observance was truly a wonderful and knowledgeable event. I wish to thank you for the recognition at the ceremony … and I would like to congratulate and thank all the chapters and the leaders on carrying on the needed work of the JACL. Thank you again, and may we all have a successful JACL this year.

  Sincerely, **Paul Ichiuji**.

  PS Thank you Marcia for everything.

In honor of **Marcia Hashimoto** from Esther Ura

In honor of **Auntie Marcia Hashimoto** from Jennifer Ura

We are very grateful to all who renew their annual membership on or before their due date for your action saves us time and effort, but more important it tells us of your commitment to the cause of justice and equality.

We have no paid staff. All board members are dedicated volunteers who believe in serving our community.

**JOIN US—WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL**

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

Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2015-2016. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization, and our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895.

Membership dues are $80 for individual, $150 for couples, and $25 for youth 14-25.

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

Current members, please look at the date after your name on the address label. E. Txxxx 10/15 means your membership expired back in October of 2015. Please renew before your membership’s expiration month. Marcia Hashimoto, who sends renewal reminders, will be very grateful.

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

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

Thank you for reading this April 2016 newsletter. Comments are always welcome.


Onward!

**Mas Hashimoto**, Editor
LOOK WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH THE JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR  By Paul Kaneko

There are numerous events about to happen leading up to the thirtieth Japanese Cultural Fair on June 4th, 2016. Things will start to roll on April 18th with a fundraiser for the Fair at the International House of Pancakes (IHOP) on Avenue 41st in Capitola where 20% of your tab that day will be donated to the Cultural Fair. Just present this small coupon.

If you somehow miss this opportunity on April 18th, your next opportunity to dine at the IHOP in support the JCF will be May 23rd.

For all you connoisseurs of good, locally produced beer, on Monday, May 2nd, you can indulge yourself at the Discretion Brewery off Avenue 41st in Soquel (across from the Safeway/Best Buy/Home Depot center, in back of Homespace). The Brewery will donate 20% of its beer proceeds that day to the Cultural Fair.

On Saturday, May 7th, the JCF will have a bowling fundraiser at the Boardwalk Bowl in Santa Cruz from 9 AM to 11:30 AM. You don’t have to be a bowler or know how to bowl to enter. All skill levels are welcome. Form a team of 4-5 people with an the entry fee is $100 and get pledges if you like. For more information and entry forms go to: www.jcfsantacruz.org. Enter today and support the Japanese Cultural Fair. All fees and donations are tax deductible. This will be a lot of fun for the whole family, with all proceeds benefitting the Cultural Fair.

On Saturday, May 21st, Master Shamisen Player Baisho Matsumoto will perform at Kizuka Hall from 3 PM to 5 PM. He will be performing with local shamisen player, Mr. Kyle Abbott of Santa Cruz.

Matsumotosan is from Japan and in this area for the annual Hakone Gardens Festival in Los Gatos. At this special performance, Mr. Matsumoto will be performing not only the shamen, but also the shakuhachi, a traditional Japanese bamboo flute. Mr. Matsumoto has been playing the shamen and singing folk songs for over forty-five years. He has performed all over the world in order to introduce the world to his wonderful Japanese music. When he turned 70, he turned over a new leaf of his life and changed his name to Matsumoto Baisho. (His former name was “Hidekatsuryu Fujimoto.”) Matsumotosan’s mission in life is to continue performing traditional Japanese music all over the world. He says: “Your support and encouragement will be greatly appreciated.”

Mr. Abbott has been playing the Shamisen since he was fourteen years old and learned his basic techniques from Mr. Kevin Kmetz. He publish a book called Shamisen of Japan: a Comprehensive Manual designed to teach anyone how to build and play their own shamisen. In 2010, he traveled to Japan for the first time to compete in the National Hirosaki Tsugaru Shamisen Tournament. He surprisingly placed in that competition. In 2011, he founded the Bachido School, the world’s first international shamisen community. Membership is free and now boasts over 1,300 members worldwide. He and a team of his followers went back to the National Hirosaki Tsugaru Shamisen Tournament placing third in 2013 and first in 2014. In 2015, Mr. Abbott founded the world’s first international shamisen workshop series in Japan which attracted top shamisen instructors to share their skills and inspire shamisen players from around the world. The next “Shamicamp” is scheduled for San Jose in 2016.

Admission to the event will be available at the door with a $10 donation to the Japanese Cultural Fair. Doors will open at 2:45.

Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV)

The FFNV will hold its annual memorial service in Oakland Hills on Armed Forces Day, Sat., May 21, 2016. The service will start at 12:00 noon followed by a potluck picnic at the same site. The memorial service site is located in Roberts Park, off Skyline Blvd/Joaquin Miller Rd/Highway 13 in south Oakland.

This memorial service began in 1992 as a tribute to fallen members of E Company, 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Now it honors veterans of the Military Intelligence Service and veterans of all wars.

Warm clothing is highly recommended. Upon arrival at the gate of Roberts Park, announce that you’re attending the memorial service. Then the entrance/parking fee will be waived. Drive to the lower parking area and look for signs to the memorial service site.

Questions may be directed to Brian Shiroyama at bshiroyama@gmail.com or (408) 896-1021.
No Increase in the 2016 – 2017 Membership Dues

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

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

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

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

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

Family/Couples ___$150 This includes two National dues with one subscription to the Pacific Citizen, local dues and our monthly JACL newsletter, and all children under age 14 to be included.

Individual Member ___$80 This includes National dues with subscription to the Pacific Citizen, the official paper of the National JACL, and local chapter dues and our monthly JACL newsletter.

Youth/Student ___$25 for each of ages 14 to 24, which includes a subscription to the Pacific Citizen, local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is required for scholarship consideration.

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

Name: ________________________________ (Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Spouse’s Name: ________________________________ (Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Address: ________________________________

Home phone: (_____)______________ E-mail: ________________________________

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

Name: ________________________________ Age: ________________

Name: ________________________________ Age: ________________

Name: ________________________________ Age: ________________

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

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
c/o Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Membership Chair, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077
Thank you so much for your support.