THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL  
Newsletter April 2017

DARUMA AWARD HONOREE ...

INTRODUCING ... VICTOR KIMURA

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL appreciates the opportunity to honor Victor Kimura as our Daruma Award “Unsung Hero” at the NCWNP District Awards Luncheon and Celebration on April 22, 2017 at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, CA. Photo by Phil Shima.

For over 15 years, Victor has volunteered his financial expertise as our chapter treasurer. Every month he presents a detailed financial report to our board, maintains financial records of all our projects, acknowledges donations, calculates an annual projected budget for the coming year, and organizes all the necessary documentation for our tax filing. We are fortunate to have a W-SC JACL hall but with property ownership comes great responsibilities, and Victor oversees the payment of all utilities, insurances, maintenance, and tax bills.

In 2015, after nearly 40 years of service, Paul Ichiuji of the Salinas Valley JACL retired as chairperson of the Gilroy, Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, San Benito County, and Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapters’ Day of Remembrance Memorial Garden Fund. Paul held us together for years, and we were concerned about his retirement. Without hesitation Victor stepped up to carry on with the gratitude of the five Monterey Bay area chapters. If he had not volunteered his service, the chapters may not have been able to maintain this historically important program and garden. Along with fellow chapter members, Victor takes time to clean the memorial garden in Salinas as well as the grounds around our JACL hall.

This past year, our National JACL was in financial crisis. To help our National organization, Victor wrote a comprehensive resolution proposing the establishment of a fiscal finance oversight committee to study National's problems and to make recommendations to remedy the problems and to insure it doesn’t happen again. The resolution was adopted by our NCWNP District Council and presented to the National Council at the 2016 National Convention. Our National President, Gary Mayeda, recognizes the need for such a committee.

Victor is a person of integrity who cares about the people of his community and the organizations that serve its community members. He has been Budget Director for the University of California Santa Cruz and Chief Financial and Administrative Officer for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Victor and his wife, Karen Garcia-Graham Kimura, are Life Members of the National JACL. Their commitment to JACL’s civil rights, education, and cultural outreach are without reservation. By example, they have instilled the importance of being a JACLer in their son and daughter, Carter and Nicole, who are our most active youth members.

Victor is an irreplaceable valued member of our W-SC JACL Board of Directors. He dedicates innumerable hours to the financial concerns of our chapter, the fifth largest in the nation. He takes on these responsibilities conscientiously and protects our chapter from overextending its financial limits. Victor’s leadership and assistance to our chapter, district, and National JACL is never given with the expectation of recognition.

The W-SC JACL is honored to present Victor Kimura as our Daruma Award’s “Unsung Hero.”

[Editor’s note: Daruma dolls are seen as a symbol of perseverance and good luck, making them a popular gift of encouragement. When a person decides on a goal or wish, one eye is painted in. When that goal or wish is achieved, the second eye is filled in.]

“FROM INTERNMENT TO THE MUSLIM BAN”

"From Internment to the Muslim Ban" was organized by Laurel Mayeda, a UCSC graduate student and former W-SC JACL youth board member. She coordinated this March 7th UCSC event. It was co-sponsored with the Asian American/Pacific Islander Resource Center.

From left to right are Victor Kimura, Joyce Xi (speaker), Jehan Hakim (speaker), and Kimiko Marr. Joyce and Jehan, from the Asian Law Caucus, spoke on the historical marginalization of racialized, targeted, and incarcerated immigrant communities, and how we can work in coalition against continuing divisive rhetoric. Thank you, Lauren, for calling attention to this important issue.

For our newsletter in full living color, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org, Newsletters, then the month.
CONGRATULATIONS TO GAIL MICHAELIS-OW

On Tues. March 21, the Santa Cruz County Supervisors announced recipients of the “2017 Trailblazers Award.” Among the honored was W-SC JACLer Gail Michaelis-Ow, a nurse practitioner instrumental in creating Planned Parenthood Santa Cruz in 1976! Her all important work continues. Photo by Jondi Gumz of the Santa Cruz Sentinel.

CONGRATULATIONS, HISAKO “LOUISE” SAKO

On Thurs., March 9, 2017, Louise Sako celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends. The cake was beautifully decorated with strawberries.

With her late husband Rekiso “Ray” Sako, Louise raised strawberries in the Pajaro Valley.

Originally from Washington State, she graduated from Auburn High School. Her classmate was none other than Gordon Hirabayashi. Photo by Gary Mine.

ATTENTION, JACL YOUTH MEMBERS!

The National JACL offers college undergraduates and graduates scholarships to those specializing in law or the creative/performing arts. Application deadline for these National JACL scholarships is Saturday, April 1, 2017.

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

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 are now available to download: www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/scholarships.

Note: submission deadline is Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

• Applicants will apply for scholarships by submitting generic application information that could apply to and satisfy all of the three 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 24, 2017, 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 Chimes, and the Westview Presbyterian Church’s Ichimi no later than the April issues. That announcement will include 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.

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.

• 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. A graduate who has completed the first year of study may be eligible for a $1,000 scholarship for a year.

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Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship
• The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship 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. 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 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 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.

Please send your completed forms to Dr. Brooke Rains, our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Scholarship Chairperson, on or before Wednesday, May 17, 2017. 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 24, 2017 during the JACL Annual Community Picnic at Aptos Village Park. Thank you.

NATIONAL JACL YOUTH/STUDENT COUNCIL
The National Youth/Student Council is pleased to announce the 2017 Youth Delegate Campaign. This program is open to JACL youth members from chapters in good standing and is designed to increase youth participation and representation at the 2017 JACL National Convention, June 6-8, 2017 in Washington, DC.

We strongly encourage your chapter to distribute this application to any youth who may be interested in attending convention this year. More information (including program benefits and requirements) is included on the application which is due on 11:59 PDT 16 April 2017. (https://goo.gl/forms/Sd_2eGKuG4frb4oLJ2)

Chapters will be required to endorse applicants before their final selection (as they will represent their home chapter as a youth delegate) and provide monetary support to cover hotel accommodations.

If a youth delegate is selected for your chapter, we would be happy to work with you to pair the youth delegate with an NY/SC member, or another youth delegate to reduce hotel costs to around $250 (3 nights at $169/night, split).

Sincerely,
The National Youth/Student Council

[Editor: Interested W-SC National JACL Youth members: please contact the Hashimotos, hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

OUR YOUTHS ARE OUR FUTURE …
By Lori Matoba, JCCNC
The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCNC) is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program (Kase Program). The Kase Program will offer students the opportunity to support their education financially and the work of a non-profit community organization, while increasing their understanding of contemporary issues affecting San Francisco’s Japantown community and providing valuable hands-on work and professional training.

Up to five (5) participants will be selected to receive a $5,000 educational scholarship for their successful completion of the Kase Program. Coordinated by the JCCNC, the goal of the program is to support the development of the next generation of community leaders.

Please visit our website (https://www.jccnc.org) or contact us (415) 697-5141; info@jccnc.org for more information below and attached. (cid:image007.jpg@01D294F7.7230F610)

KASE
Nikkei Community Scholarship Program
Funded by the Kase Family
Coordinated by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California

During the eleven-week Kase Program (June 5-August 19), participants will gain skills in project management, public speaking, event planning, budgeting, computer applications, PR/marketing, and other skills and personal development activities that will enhance their resumes. Interns will work closely with the JCCNC staff on unique individual/group projects designed to empower them with new tools, confidence and experiences to support their future career goals.

During the eleven-week Kase Program, participants will also participate in the eight-week Nikkei Community Internship Program. One day each week participants will meet and work with other Nikkei students to learn about community service, volunteerism, and cultural and community preservation. They will also visit Japanese American organizations and community leaders in order to expand their personal knowledge of services, resources, opportunities, and issues we are currently facing.
Students will be selected based on their application, letter of recommendation and interview.

Important information about the Kase Nikkei Youth Scholarship Program:

1. The 2017 Kase Program is an eleven-week commitment that will provide valuable leadership development, non-profit work experience, and community organizing experience, as well as skills related to the individual’s career interest. Participants must be available full-time (and some weekends) for the Program from June 5-August 19, 2017.
2. To be eligible for the 2017 Program, the applicant must be continuing college during the fall of 2017 or recently graduated from college and be 18 years old at the start of the program (birth date on or before June 5, 1999).
3. Applications are DUE by Friday, April 21, 2017. The Kase Program application process is a two-step process. After the initial applications have been submitted, qualified applicants will be invited to a personal interview and participants will be selected by May 12.

Please submit application and letter of recommendation by April 21, 2017 to: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) Attn: Kase Scholarship, 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Applications can be faxed to (415) 567-4222 to meet the April 21 deadline, but the original application and letter of recommendation need to be submitted by April 26 to be considered for the program.

For more information or an application, visit www.jcccnc.org (to download) or contact Lori Matoba Deputy Director Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) at (415) 567-5505 or email lmatoba@jcccnc.org or mailto:lmatoba@jcccnc.org.

“We need to cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens our communities and this nation.”

HALL DISTRICT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL’S JAPANESE CLUB

By Aimee Mizuno, W-SC JACL Board Member

Several elementary schools in Watsonville including, Ohlone Elementary, Minto White Elementary and Hall District Elementary, have launched a program to celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity in our community. As a part of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, the county-wide Language Ambassadors Program invites students of various backgrounds to explore their heritage, languages or a language new to them.

As a part of this effort, about a dozen students from Hall District Elementary (where I teach), who are interested in the Japanese language and culture, have been gathering once a week to create an after-school Japanese Club.

My parents (Kitty and Takashi) and I are so excited to be working with this group of enthusiastic, smart and creative children! We have been focusing on Japanese holidays and seasonal activities through art, music and play and learning numbers, colors, greetings, body parts and other vocabulary along the way. So far this year, we have been learning about Japanese New Year (oshogatsu) and setsubun (an early spring holiday to rid bad luck and invite the good). For setsubun, the children donned their hand-made ogre masks and visited teachers and office staff who threw soy beans at them to rid the school of bad luck!

Japanese Club students celebrate the “Year of the Rooster” with their own hand-drawn roosters!

[Editor’s note: Thank you Aimee and W-SC JACLers Kitty and Takashi Mizuno for promoting cultural appreciation to the students of Hall District Elementary School.]

“Day of Remembrance” at De Anza College

By Kimiko Marr, W-SC JACL Board Member

I am a 4th generation Japanese American. I feel very privileged to be able to talk to you today as we commemorate the Day of Remembrance. As you know, we recognize February 19th, 1942 as the day that President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which enabled the incarceration of Japanese immigrants and Japanese Americans from the West Coast of the United States and Hawaii during WWII.

That was 75 years ago, this Sunday. Seventy-five years sounds like a long time -- so long that we start to feel an emotional distance from the events of that time (especially since most of us in this room weren’t even born yet). I want to share some pictures with you.

This is my grandmother, mother, aunt and uncle in the Tanforan Assembly Center in San Bruno, CA probably only a couple months after the executive order was signed. My grandmother was 24 years old, married, had 3 children under the age of 4 AND she was born in the United States (in Alameda, CA to be exact).

Even though the incarceration feels almost like ancient history, I can show you pictures of people I grew up with, who are important to me AND who had this terrible injustice inflicted upon them. I always knew that my family was incarcerated during the war. They never tried to hide this from the younger generations. I think this knowledge was what planted the seed in my mind early on that civil rights are not to be taken for granted.
Being around people who occupy a meaningful to you (whether it's organizing a march, as
we don't stop to think about how similar our struggles have been. I would like to read a quote from a speech that was
given in the House of Representatives by a congressman who was arguing for the exclusion of a group of people from the United States:

"Viewed from our standpoint, they have no social standard; they have no morals; their women occupy a very inferior position; many of them are held merely as chattels and for immoral purposes and just as long as they are profitable to their masters."

That speech was given in 1906 about why the Japanese people should not be allowed to immigrate to the United States using the argument that they could not assimilate to our culture.

Denis Kearney was a California labor leader around the time that the Japanese first started immigrating to the United States. While speaking to a crowd in San Francisco, he said this:

"the foreign Shylocks [who] are rushing another breed of Asiatic slaves to fill up the gap made vacant by the Chinese who are shut out by our laws ... Japs ... are being brought here now in countless numbers to demoralize and discourage our domestic labor market and to be educated ... at our expense ...."

We spend so much time focusing on our differences, that we don't stop to think about how similar our struggles have been. I would like to read a quote from a speech that was given in the House of Representatives by a congressman who was arguing for the exclusion of a group of people from the United States:

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Left, is a photo of my Uncle Ron after the family was moved from Tanforan to Topaz, Utah. I think he was about 5 years old at the time. Apparently, he really wanted an American soldiers uniform so my grandmother either made or sent away for this outfit for him. I heard that he used to go from barrack to barrack singing "Remember Pearl Harbor" until people gave him candy to go away.

As I got older, I started to get more involved in the JA community. I joined my local Japanese American Citizens League and became a board member. Being around people who are passionate about civil rights and human rights, emboldened me to not only become more vocal about my beliefs, but to also educate others on parts of our American History that are often neglected or forgotten.

When I started researching the history of Japanese Americans, I learned about things that I was never taught in school, like the Mexican Repatriation. Then, I started seeing a pattern: slavery of Africans, taking Native American lands, Mexican Repatriation, Japanese American incarceration, Muslim registry. I realized that in order to break the pattern, two things needed to happen: we, as a nation, need to educate and enlighten ourselves about our own history, and we need to come together as allies for groups that we may not belong to personally. It's not civil rights for some. It's civil rights for all.

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Frank Kaoru Inami, of Livermore, CA passed away on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at the age of 95.

Frank was born on April 25th, 1921 in Madera, CA to Shizuichi George Inami and Kohina Okitsu. After graduating from Madera High School, Frank went off to UC Berkeley to get a degree in Electrical Engineering. He was unable to complete his degree at Berkeley after the break out of WWII caused his family to be removed from the West Coast. The Inamis were incarcerated in Jerome, AR.

In 1944, while still in Jerome, Frank volunteered for the Army. He was assigned to the Military Intelligence Service because of his proficiency in Japanese. Frank was stationed at Fort Snelling, MN where he eventually became an instructor. After the war, he served in the US Army Signal Corps and then in the 8th US Army during the Korean War. He retired from the Army in 1974 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

After he returned from Korea in 1952, he married Setsuko Matsubara, and the following year his daughter, Cynthia Sachiko, was born. Frank worked for Lawrence Livermore Labs until he retired.

Frank enjoyed traveling, visiting libraries, going to garage sales, tinkering with electronics and was an avid ham radio enthusiast. He will be remembered for his cheerful demeanor, rosy cheeks and his love of telling stories.

IN REMEMBRANCE ...
Frank is survived by his daughter, Cindy Inami of Pleasanton, CA; his brothers Joe Inami and Thomas Inami of Madera, CA; his sister May Takata of Parlier, CA and his many nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his wife, Setsuko Matsubara and his sisters Lillian Takayama, Mabel Watanabe and Lucille Markovich.

Mr. Yoshino was originally hired as the Midwest Director in 1978, the year JACL officially launched its Redress Campaign. He assisted in organizing outreach to members of Congress in the Midwest for legislation to establish the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, as well as for the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. He then worked with the Office of Redress Administration to assist in contacting individuals who were eligible to receive redress payments.

Following the Redress Campaign, Mr. Yoshino helped to focus JACL on the issue of anti-Asian sentiment and hate crimes. His many contributions to this area include testifying in the U.S. Senate on the Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1988; producing hate crime material, including a semi-annual newsletter on hate crimes and hate incidents; and presenting hate crime workshops at college conferences.

Mr. Yoshino has also been instrumental in continuing JACL’s work in education. He has organized teacher training workshops through grants from the National Park Service and the National Endowment for the Humanities, revised and updated the JACL Curriculum Guide for teachers and researchers, and produced educational materials on Japanese American incarceration and Asian Pacific Islander history. He also established the JACL Collegiate Washington, DC Leadership Program and has provided fellowship opportunities to college graduates.

Mr. Yoshino’s institutional knowledge and leadership have had a profound effect on the many staff and members he has worked with over the years, particularly those in the Midwest Region. We are deeply appreciative of his many years of service as Midwest Director in addition to the times he has stepped up to lead the organization when needed, including as Executive Director from 1988-92, and twice as Interim Executive Director, most recently since last summer.

The JACL National Board will work closely with staff, membership, and community partners as we continue our search for a new Executive Director and will continue to keep all informed on the next steps for our organization. We are grateful for Bill’s commitment to the JACL and his passion for the community and wish him well in his future endeavors.

Sincerely,
JACL National Board

WESTVIEW “CHIMES” by Leslie Nagata-Garcia
God is Faithful!

Last month I shared WPC’s vision for 2017, and I am pleased to say that God has already been faithful! Our leadership team was praying that God would open doors so we could have our Bible Study at Paloma Del Mar Senior Living. We were hoping the manager would let us use the community room and allow us to put a flyer in the hallway, but they seemed tentative at first. Well after a second meeting with them something changed. They ended up posting several flyers and putting a flyer at every resident’s door! We arrive for our first study to tables all set up, coffee, tea, and water bottles provided! We were hoping at least 2 or 3 people would show up, but 9 showed up in addition to 6 from our
church! The Holy Spirit was very present and we had a good study together. Several expressed interest in attending our church. At our second study, we feared many would forget, but we had 15-16 people again with a new member from Paloma del Mar also! We were delighted and again we could feel God's Spirit bonding us together and inspiring us. God is good! God is faithful! Several of them mentioned that they had been praying for something like this in their residence. I want to give a special "Thank You" to Carmine Wilson who helped arrange and host our Bible study and also a thank you to our Westview participants who are "being church" to the Paloma residents: Joanne Hayashi, Mary Lou Hoffman, Sheri Katsuyama, Diane Mio, Jane Yoshida and Edna Nagata. Please be in prayer that we can care well for this new Christian community, that we will bond with them, and that any that need a church would feel welcomed to come to Westview.

The other part of our Westview vision was starting our tutoring club again. Well, God has been faithful there too! We have an amazing team of tutors and three children we are tutoring—mostly in reading. The Children are adorable and want to learn. One of them was not reading and was slated to be held back in second grade, but we are hopeful that we might be able to help him move on to third grade! As some of us tutors learn phonics better we may take on a few more students. We are definitely changing the lives of the three we have!

Now, the last part of our vision is yet to be fulfilled—that some of the new members at our Paloma del Mar Bible study might want to be involved in some of the ways Westview serves the community through the Tutoring Club, Salvation Army, or other ways. Let us pray for God's faithfulness.

Please continue to pray for ways you personally can reach out to those you know and invite them into our Westview Family!

It is a joy and pleasure to be your pastor and to be part of the Westview Family!

God bless you and delightfully surprise you with His faithfulness in your life!

Pastor Dan

This was WPC's theme verse for 2017, how appropriate!

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland. - Isaiah 43: 1b, 19

Maundy Thursday - April 13th: Potluck and Service of the Last Supper, 6:30 pm, at the home of George and Eiko Stewart, 562 Iris Drive, Watsonville, CA. We will also be giving thanks to daughter Emiko’s recovery.

Good Friday Service – April 14th: A service honoring the death of our Savior with other local churches, 12 noon, United Methodist Church, 229 Stanford Street, Watsonville.

Easter Service and Egg Hunt – April 16th: Come celebrate once again that Christ is Risen, and that there is forgiveness in Christ and life everlasting, 10 am, Westview. Please donate candy for the Easter Egg Hunt if you can!!

Louise Sako’s 100th Birthday
Congratulations to Louise Sako as she celebrates her Centennial Birthday with family, friends and members of Westview!!

Louise turned 100 on March 9th.
Westview wishes Louise more years of happiness ahead of her!

Photo by Gary Mine.

Wednesday Study Series: In February
Westview began a new series based on John Ortberg’s book, The Life You’ve Always Wanted. We will study how to grow the spiritual practices in our lives in this modern world that will be the center and front from which we live and thrive! Wednesday Study Series are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 pm at the Paloma Del Mar Community Center, 2030 Pajaro Lane, Freedom. For the month of April, we will meet on April 12th and April 26th.
Help your youth/children grow a strong foundation in Christ!
Youth/Family Upcoming Event

Gym Nites are usually the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from 5:30 – 7:30 pm., at Westview.
Activities/events for the Youth/Family for the months of April and May 2017 include the following dates:

- April 7th: Gym Nite & Salvation Army Meal, Westview, 4:00 – 7:30 pm
- April 21st: Gym Nite, Westview, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- May 5th: Gym Nite, Westview, 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- May 19th: Gym Nite, 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Photo above: from the Salvation Meal on March 3rd: The Youth and Marlon serving.
Left: Elijah is washing the dishes.

**Our Youth Leader, Allen Saeteurn will be leaving us. He is heading off to San Jose State University. We will miss him! He has been such a blessing to our youth and our church!!

Sunday Message Series: “Ancient Wisdom for Life - discovering the signposts set by God in the Hebrew Scriptures”

The last Salvation Army Dinner meal preparation until December will take place on April 7th. Please Contact the Deacons or Pastor Dan if you would like to volunteer.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

Watsonville Buddhist Temple will celebrate the birth of Siddhartha, the historic Shakyamuni Buddha, with Hanamatsuri (Flower Festival) on Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 11 am to 2 pm.

There will be a temple tour at 11 am. From 11:30 am to 12:15 pm, Rev. Jay Shinseki, Supervising Minister of Watsonville Buddhist Temple, will explain Buddhist Liturgy.

The festival includes food sales of mixed sushi, chirashi, yakisoba, cabbage salad, baked goods and soft drinks.

There will be displays of bonsai, Ikebana ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement), and Kimekomi dolls. There will also be a judo demonstration, a shamisen performance and a performance by Watsonville Taiko.

The event is free and open to the public.

Watsonville Buddhist Temple is located at 423 Bridge Street. Information: 724-7860.

Itadakimasu

I recently had a conversation with a good friend and the idea of itadakimasu. I mentioned that everything that we consume has been a part of our existence. Because of that we say, itadakimasu. We thank everyone for their hard work, and we thank the food for giving its life. In some traditions, there is the belief that everything on earth was placed here for our benefit. This is especially true when it comes to the things we eat.

Buddhism teaches us that all things in life, animal, vegetable and inanimate objects have their own existence. They have their own reason for their existence and are not here for our convenience or for our benefit. They are not here for us to do as we please.

All existence is the result of a great number of causes and conditions. No two things share the exact same causes and conditions, and, therefore, everything is unique and has its own value.

We resumed tutoring in February. Many of our students have much need for help in math and reading! Our Tutors are awesome!—Mary Lou Hoffman, Diane Mio, Susan Manabe, Pastor Dan, and Joanne Hayashi! If you want to join us Thursdays 3:30-5:00 pm let us know!

It has been a delight to reach out with love and care for our neighbors.
A great religious philosopher Hideo Kishimoto wrote in his diary about how he did not want to be just another human life that passes through this world “like the sands of the Ganges”. He wanted to convey the unique value of each life of each existence. He described a beautiful scene in the mountains. As the viewer approached a lush green valley surrounded by tall mountains covered with snow. At the foot of the mountains are tall trees and the beautiful blue sky above has scattered white billowing clouds. Normally our reaction to such a scene might be “Wow, how beautiful!” But for Kishimoto his reaction was “Sabishi na”. How lonely. And then he wrote, “Within all this great splendor one single blade of grass is struggling to survive. This great splendor is due to that single blade of grass”.

Kishimoto said, “How lonely” not because that one blade of grass was alone, but since the existence of that scene could only be possible because of the unique existence of one single blade of grass, he said, “Sabishi na”. Kishimoto’s statement is a tribute to the true value of each unique existence. That this moment would not be possible without my existence is a deep realization of our existence of one single blade of grass. “Each life of each existence. He described a beautiful scene in the mountains. As the viewer approached a lush valley surrounded by tall mountains covered with snow. At the foot of the mountains are tall trees and the beautiful blue sky above has scattered white billowing clouds. Normally our reaction to such a scene might be “Wow, how beautiful!” But for Kishimoto his reaction was “Sabishi na”. How lonely. And then he wrote, “Within all this great splendor one single blade of grass is struggling to survive. This great splendor is due to that single blade of grass.”

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Watsonville Buddhist Temple April Calendar

2 Sun 2 pm Shotsuki Hoyo Service
1-4 pm Kimekome

4 Tue 7:30pm Temple Board Meeting

5 Wed 7 pm 1st Buddhist Study Class

6 Thu 10 am ABA Meeting

7 Fri Secretary out of office

8 Sat 7 pm Public Lecture with Rev. Kuwahara in Monterey, 5 pm Dinner

9 Sun 10 am Tri Temple Hanamatsuri Service w/Rev. Kuwahara in Monterey. Luncheon to follow

12 Wed 7 pm 2nd Buddhist Study Class

13 Thu 6:30 pm Ministerial Meeting

14 Fri 5 pm Hanamatsuri Set up

16 Sun 2 pm Sunday Service

19 Wed 7 pm 3rd Buddhist Study Class

23 Sun 11 am-2 pm Watsonville Hanamatsuri Bazaar

No Sunday Service

26 Wed 7 pm 4th Buddhist Study Class

27 Thu 7 pm Coast District Meeting in Salinas

30 Sun 2 pm Sunday Service

April Memorial List

Boone, Aaron Daitoku, Bob
Eto, Niichii Fujii, Seiko
Fujimura, Tamotsu Fujita, George Sakae
Fujita, Kazuo Hirahara, Nancy Miyeko
Hashimoto, Walter Higaki, Kazuko
Higaki, Haruso Hirano, Hisa
Hiwatashi, Teruko Hoshiyama, George
Ikeda, Henry Inokuchi, Itsuyo
Kaita, Brad Roy Kajihara, Setsuko
Kamimura, Sanemi Kamitani, Haruko
Kimoto, Takanoshin Kikuchi, Kazuo
Kobara, 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
Okamoto, Frank Mitsuo Nita, Eki
Ono, Miyoko Sakai, Yutaka
Sakakihara, Hisae Sera, Kina
Shimonishi, Tony Shirachi, Mickie
Shingai, Yukio Shingai, Tsunaye
Sugimoto, Frances Shirachi, Mickie
Sukakihara, Hisae Sugimoto, Frances
Sakai, Yutaka Sukekane, Masaru
Suruki, Kozo Takata, Chikako
Takei, Yasu Tao, Akira Bill
Tao, Hisae Toriumi, Junko
Tsuda, Kakichi Tsuda, Frances
Tsuda, Tomio Tsudama, Sonny
Tsujii, Yoshihisa Tsujii, Yukiko
Ura, Naoko Ura, Sawano
Uyeda, Noriko Nobuko Uyematsu, Mary
Uyematsu, Roy Waki, Louis
Yamaguchi, Mitomu Yamanishi, Asayo
Yamaoka, Yoneichi Yonekura, Rinzo
Yoshida, Edward Yoshida, Hatsue

Yoshida, Edward

The Kitchen Renovation Project is near completion, in time for our Hanamatsuri celebration. We are truly grateful to all who donated so generously to this project. The beautiful, renovated kitchen will serve our Sangha for many years to come. Arigato! and Itadakimasu.

Boy Scout Alex Tao attended the board meeting so he could make a presentation of his Eagle Scout project, replacing the fallen fence behind the garage from corner to corner. He will be 18 years in August so it must be completed by then.
The 110th Planning Committee met to work on the event program. Mark your calendars for 10 am Saturday, November 4, 2017.

Movie Night—Friday, February 24th—29 people came to enjoy the movie, Academy Award winner, “Departures,” and popcorn. The conference room was comfy and cozy.

The Other “Three Treasures” Wine, Cheese, Sangha—was a casual, social affair enjoyed by all who attended on Saturday March 18th.

For the Hanamatsuri Bazaar, we would like to prepare a new food item, yaki soba, and eliminate chicken teriyaki. The Boy Scouts will also be selling a food item this year. Due to San Jose having their Nikkei Matsuri Festival on the same weekend, we will not have any vendors this year.

Please keep these dates in mind:
1) Friday, April 14th at 5 pm to help set up the hall;
2) Saturday, April 22nd to help with sushi preparations and rice washing
3) Sunday, April 23rd to help with sushi rice cooking and sushi making, and anything else needed during that morning and day. Thank you very much.

YBA will sell baked goods and drinks at our Hanamatsuri Bazaar on April 23rd. For our Hanamatsuri Bazaar, we will decorate the Hanamido on Saturday, April 22nd. We are asking Dharma School and YBA families to help. YBA is available to help with cleaning Apartment #9.

BWA report: please make your reservations for our Pleasure Trip to Table Mountain on Wed., May 24—$30.00 to temple members, $40.00 non-members. Call temple office to reserve a seat on the bus, Jackie at 724-7860.

For the W-SC JACL Senior Center’s Hanamatsuri celebration on Thursday, April 20, we will provide a cake and make a donation. Attending will be K. Akiyama, N. Akiyama, R. Yoshida, and R. Suruki.

Mark your calendar for these WBT 2017 events:

Wednesdays, April 5 thru May 10 Buddhist Study Classes
Sun., April 9 Tri-Temple Hanamatsuri service and luncheon in Monterey

Sun., April 23 Hanamatsuri

Sat., May 6 Temple’s Udon Feed

Sun., May 21 Tri-Temple Gotan-E Service

July 1-4 Fireworks sale

Sun., July 16 Obon Festival

Aug 4-5 (Fri.-Sat) Temple’s Rummage Sale

Sat. Sept 23 Chicken Teriyaki Take-out Dinner

Sat., Nov 4 110th Temple Anniversary

Sun., Dec 10 Mochi tsuki at the Temple

Watsonville Bonsai Club: A 49 Year History—1968-2017

By Don White

On a Thursday evening, on November 21, 1968, a group of men met in the kitchen of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, to discuss how to begin a bonsai club. In attendance were Yoshio Matano, Iwao Yamashita, Roy Saiki, Masao Akiyoshi, Satoshi Hirahara, Kiichiro Hane, Yakuichi Niiyama, Keitaro Tao, Tom Tao, Charlie Iwami, Joe Morimoto, and Frank Wakayama. Mr. Toshio Saburomaru, a most renowned bonsai teacher, from East Palo Alto, was also in attendance as an advisory to the proceedings.

The first piece of business was to elect a meeting manager, and Tom Tao (left) was elected to that capacity.

After a lengthy discussion, the name Watsonville Bonsai Club, was selected for the group. Another long discussion was held as to the dues a member should have to pay each year. It was finally decided that $3 per year will be the dues on a trial basis. If more funds were needed, the membership would be assessed more. A vote was taken on the dues procedure, and it passed unanimously.

A third motion was made, by whom it has been forgotten, and seconded by Iwao Yamashita, to elect a Club President. And that honor went to Tom Tao whose title was changed from manager to President, the first of the Watsonville Bonsai Club. The first Treasurer, and appointed by President Tom Tao, was Iwao Yamashita. No vice President or secretary was apparently needed.

A place for meetings and workshops had to be found because the facility at the Buddhist Temple could not accommodate scheduled workshops on a regular basis. So, President Tom Tao offered the upstairs room above his garage on East Third Street (now East Beach Street) for this purpose. These meetings were actually workshops with lessons held twice a month attempting to teach members the true meaning and culture of creating bonsai. And, some business, as it came up, was conducted, as well. Mr. Toshio Saburomaru made the trip down from East Palo Alto, for one workshop per month to supervise the education of these bonsai enthusiasts.

The year 1973 was a big year for the Watsonville Bonsai Club, as it held its first annual exhibit of bonsai on the first Sunday of May at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Some 30 trees were on display, a demonstration by Mr. Toshio Saburomaru was held, and a raffle of the demonstration tree and other bonsai related items was held.

The bonsai exhibit was such a great success that the exhibit has been held at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple every year on the First Sunday of May, until the 2014 exhibit. Then the exhibit was changed to the last Sunday in the month of April. This move was made to get away from conflicting with Cinco de Mayo Day and other events scheduled in Watsonville for the first Sunday in May.

In 1984 Tom Tao passed away at the age of 62. And, soon thereafter the club had to find another place for its workshop meetings. Then in late 1984, the Tokushige Kizuka JACL Hall at 150 Blackburn Street became available and the club has presided at this nice spacious facility ever since.

In 1984, Masao Akiyoshi was elected the bonsai club’s second president, and also, became the club Sensei, as Mr. Saburomaru was getting to the age where the long drive from East Palo Alto and back was too much for him, particularly at night. Both workshops were held on Tuesday evenings. Masao Akiyoshi passed away in 1991.
One day in October of 1988, a prominent businessman, and a Board member of the Santa Cruz County Fair, asked Club Member Don White why wasn’t there a bonsai display at the fair held in September of each year. At this urging, Mr. White, Mr. Akiyoshi, and one other WBC member, met with the Fair Board and presented the idea of a bonsai display to be added to the Floral Display Building for the following year.

After some negotiations with the fair board, the WBC was given small space in a small corner of the Floral Display Building that could accommodate only about 15 trees. And, that was too crowded! However, after a couple of years, the bonsai exhibit created so much interest, and the little corner got so crowded, that the entrance to the floral exhibit became so difficult to enter, that people would pass it by.

So, a larger area was given to the WBC and in 1992, Godey Apon and Wes Hills, garnered a crew together and constructed a proper bonsai display that took up an area 50 Ft. in length by 25 Ft. wide, and about half of the wall space on one side of the Floral Building. Now, there is room for many more bonsai trees, and for people to come into the area, enjoy viewing the trees and the flowers and not feel so crowded.

After joining forces with the newly formed Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai, the bonsai exhibit expanded to a limit of 50 trees. And then, with the addition of the Watsonville Ikenobo Ikebana Club, with sensei Mitsuyo Tao leading the way, providing beautiful Japanese flower arrangements, the Bonsai/Ikebana Display became the most popular exhibit of the Fair.

From 1992-1996, Kazuo Kikuchi served as President and Sensei of the Watsonville Bonsai Club. He was assisted by Iwao Yamashita. In 1996, Mr. Kikuchi suffered a minor stroke and had to relinquish the Presidency and curtail his teaching duties as well. Mr. Iwao Yamashita became President and sensei in 1997 and served until 2013, when he gave up the office to Michael Alciati.

Over the many years of the club’s operation many members served as officers or in some club capacity; Louis Waki, Fred Okamoto, Colleen Terrell, Wanda Gerty, Francisco Hernandez, Masako Morimoto, Mary & Don Griffin, Mary Okamoto, Maggie Brubaker, Dr. Ed and Betty Richards, Mari and Don White, just to name a few.

In the year 1995, it was decided that a newsletter should be produced to keep the members up to date on club activities and provide a Plant Care section for those members new to bonsai. Mr. Don White volunteered for that duty, stating, “I’ll write it, but no revisions permitted!” He chose the name of the newsletter as, “The Rambler,” because that is what he does … rambles on when talking.

This year, the WBC became a registered Non-Profit Organization as determined by the California Corporate Compliance Center. This means that the club is an organized non-profit educational charitable organization, which has to maintain a board of directors, and minutes of each meeting/workshop.

The WBC is also a member of the Golden State Bonsai Federation, joining some 80 other bonsai clubs throughout California, Arizona and Mexico in promoting the Living Art of Bonsai, with a 5-day convention held at various locations throughout California each year in the first week of November.

The annual program of the Watsonville Bonsai Club includes, “A Begin The New Year Dinner”, a bonsai exhibit held in early May (Now late April), at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple Annex, participating in the Santa Cruz Japanese Cultural Fair in June, exhibiting bonsai trees at the Santa Cruz County Fair in September, an annual group outing to visit out of town bonsai clubs and nurseries, and holding workshops on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

In 2007, an arrangement was made between Watsonville Bonsai Club Vice President, Don White, and Mr. Gustavo Beyer, the new owner of Aladdin Nursery, to continue bonsai workshops conducted on the 4th Saturday of each month from April through October. Club members bring their own plants to work on, and Don assisted those who may drop by and become interested in beginning a bonsai.

A very prestigious addition to the Watsonville Bonsai Club came in April of 2008, when Mr. Katsumi Kinoshita became a club sensei. Mr. Kinoshita is sensei to various other bonsai clubs in California, such as Fresno, Salinas, and Monterey. Mr. Kinoshita gives bonsai demonstrations all over the state of California, and has been teaching bonsai for over 40 years. He has been awarded the Circle of Sensei Award by the Golden State Bonsai Federation, and the very prestigious Green and White award from the Horticultural Society of Japan, for his teaching and promotion of the art of bonsai outside of Japan. Kinoshita-san has elevated our bonsai trees to an exceptional level as can be attested to by the annual exhibit.

The year 2008 also saw a change in the WBC meeting schedule. To accommodate those members who had trouble driving at night the Board voted to change the first Monday evening meeting to a SECOND SATURDAY afternoon time, from 1:30 pm, or to when we get tired. The Saturday workshop has worked out much better as more members attend, and it is a better time for Kinoshita-san to make the long drive from Monterey.

Currently, the year 2016, Board of Directors, that governs over 33 very active members, consists of; President Michael Alciati, Vice President & Show Chairman Michael Anderson, Secretary Marilyn Howes, Treasurer/ and back again as the Newsletter Editor Don White.
Past President Iwao Yamashita, who at age 89, is the last active founding member, and past Secretary Maggie Brubaker.

The 2017 Board of Directors will be Michael Alciati President, Michael Anderson Vice President & show chairman, Marilyn Howes Secretary, and Charles Thompson Treasurer.

The year 2017 will start off with a new Treasurer as Don White is retiring after 40 years of practicing the art of bonsai for health reasons. Mr. Charles Thompson of Hollister, will take over the office.

The practice of bonsai has brought together an accumulation of ethnic groups from all over the world, promoting not only this ancient art, but also peace and harmony for mankind. And, it does not matter if the tree is 5 years old or 400 years old, the beauty of the tree is brought out by the meticulous care of the artist, and is to be enjoyed by all who view it.

Postscript: Well, WBCer’s it seems it is time to say “sayonara” to the world of bonsai, at least to the world of bonsai as Kathy & I once knew it. Health conditions have placed Kathy in a nursing home, and me in a wheel chair with hands that will not hold a pair of scissors any longer.

We are also in the process of selling our home, and moving to a facility up in the San Jose/Santa Clara area to be much closer to our son and our two granddaughters. Probably will “be gone” by March.

Now, I want to THANK ALL OF YOU who have allowed me to chop on your trees, attempting to teach you something about bonsai. I also want to THANK all of you who have purchased stuff from me over the years. I hope I have been of some service in promoting this wonderful Living Art Form of Bonsai. (Even if it is only to explain what a chop stick can be used for.) I may show up occasionally for a Saturday work shop to say hello.

Don White whiteslib@aol.com

[Editor’s note: We are grateful for the many years of dedicated service Don White has given our community. WBC’s 2017 exhibition will be held Sun. April 30 at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple.]

WATSONVILLE IKE NOBO IKEBANA TO CONTINUE

The Ikenobo Ikebana Society of America HQ, which is associated with the Ikenobo School of Ikebana Japan, closed its San Francisco Nihonmachi doors after 48 years of service.

The Watsonville chapter of Ikenobo Ikebana, we are happy to report, will continue to meet regularly. The next exhibit will be held in conjunction with the Hanamatsuri Festival on April 23rd, 2017 at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Please come to enjoy the artistry of our ikebana ikebana members.

**WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO**

By Bonnie Chihara

We’re getting ready for a busy schedule of taiko performances in the coming months. Plus, in May we will be participating in the Human Race once again raising money for Watsonville Taiko and the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County.

Pictured above are members of our advanced drummers practicing for the TEDx Palo Alto performance on April 2nd.

Have you ever thought about learning taiko? We have classes for all ages. Our beginning children’s class is scheduled at 4:30 pm on Fridays and are held at Kizuka Hall in Watsonville. Our beginning adult classes are scheduled for 7 pm also at Kizuka Hall.

For times and locations for our other classes please contact Kay at (831) 475-1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

Our upcoming schedule:

April 2nd TEDx Palo Alto, Oshman Family JCC, Palo Alto
April 8th Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai event, Museum of Art and History
April 23rd Watsonville Buddhist Temple’s Hanamatsuri,
April 29th Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park Cupertino
April 30th Big Sur International Marathon, Big Sur
May 13th Human Race Walkathon, Natural Bridges State Park
KOKORO NO GAKKO (School with a Heart)

It’s that time of the year again. Please join us for the annual summer session of KOKORO NO GAKKO. Registration is currently open. Kindergartners (who have completed kindergarten by June 2017) through 6th graders may enroll. The session is between June 26 through July 7th, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. There is no school on July 4th. The cost is $225 per child. Please visit our website for more information on how to register: https://kokoronogakkoweb.wordpress.com

“MIFUNE” IS COMING TO MONTEREY ….

Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple and Monterey Peninsula JACL invites you and your family to attend the local premiere of the documentary film, “MIFUNE: THE LAST SAMURAI” on Sat. April 22, 2017 3 pm at the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1155 Noche Buena St., Seaside, CA.

After the movie, Academy Award winner Steven Okazaki will talk about his film and answer questions from the audience.

Tickets are $25, general admission and are available at Eventbrite.com or by contacting Rev. Jay Shinseki at montereydec@gmail.com or by phone 650-868-9883. This is a fundraising event for both organizations.

“MIFUNE” explores the evolution of Japanese sword fighting (Chanbara) movies; Mifune’s World War II experience; his accidental entry into moviemaking; and fortuitous collaboration with Japan’s most famous filmmaker, Akira Kurosawa. The film is narrated by Keanu Reeves and includes interviews with Steven Spielberg and Martin Scorsese.

Okazaki is the recipient of numerous honors, including an Academy Award for “Days of Waiting,” four Academy Award nominations, a Primetime Emmy, and the City of Hiroshima’s “Honorary Citizen Award.” His films, produced for HBO, PBS and NHK, are explorations of the extraordinary lives of ordinary people caught up in dramatic historical events and troubling social issues.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Vear

Thank you to toban helper for March--Gail Wurtenberg. A special “thank you” to Eiko Stewart and Teruko Hirahara who stepped in to help with March toban since we were short-handed. Additional “thank you” to June Honda, Eileen Byers, Nobuko Akiyama, Susan AmRhein, Cindy Mine, Toshi Yamashita, and others (sorry if I missed you!) who continually lend a hand when needed – much appreciated!

Carol and Paul Kaneko are away for a while so a few of us are trying to fill their shoes. That’s not an easy job!

Thanks to Phil Shima, Toshi Yamashita, Susan AmRhein, Kimiko Marr, June Honda, Jean Yamashita, and many others who are helping out. Reba Condon was introduced, and she has been a wonderful helper with Senior Center activities. Welcome, Reba!

A lovely 99th birthday celebration was hosted for Miyeko Yamashita by her family. Family members present were Takeshi and Noel Yamashita, Ken and Gretchen Yamashita, and their children Piper, Pearl, and Hide Yamashita. Sumi, Shizu, and Goro Yamashita were unable to attend. They had to mind Yamashita Market.

Takeshi and Noel Yamashita also donated 35 pieces of black cod from Alaska. Susan AmRhein made yummy almond cookies for everyone in honor of Mrs. Yamashita’s 99th Birthday.

The Seniors were treated to a delicious buffet lunch from Hong Kong Garden, decorative hashi party favors, and sweet treats.

Kevin and Jee Kajihara kindly gave all the Seniors anpan from Jin’s Bakery of Santa Clara, CA.
Phil Shima announced the Santa Cruz Symphony is having a concert on March 26th at the Mello Center. There are free tickets available to Senior Center members.

Jean Yamashita presented the final plans for the Crocker Museum trip on April 4th. Cost is $45 per person which includes the van rental, gasoline, and museum admission. Unfortunately, storage space is extremely limited. Paul Kaneko has kindly agreed to be the van driver, and there is now a waiting list to go on this trip.

To celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, we were honored to have Nancy Iwami visit us, dressed in a spiffy green outfit. Guests visiting Nancy were: Marsha Wada, Christine Izumizaki (who so generously brought us boxes of Andes mints), and Marvin and Nancy Mattson.

Helen Nakano and Susan AmRhein decorated the hall with festive green decorations and gave candy treats to all. Susan AmRhein also made delicious green clover cookies and served mint ice cream to everyone. Seniors dressed in green took a group photo commemorating the event.

Kimiko Marr sadly informed us of the passing of her friend Frank Inami. Kimiko said she was grateful that she had the opportunity to videotape Frank while he was still alive. She encouraged the Seniors to videotape their stories so that their families would always have the history and memories to cherish.

March birthdays were celebrated on March 23rd. Those present were: Yae Sakamoto 91, Kimiyo Fujii 91, Hideko Nagamine 96, Ruby Nakamura 92, Miyeko Yamashita 99, and Chie Sakaue. Those unable to attend were: Louise Sako 100 and Betty Yagi 93. Our best wishes to all of you for a very happy birthday!

Janet Nagamine, Hideko Nagamine, and family brought scrumptious bento boxes with homemade cookies (cookies made by Hideko Nagamine’s granddaughter) for all the Seniors to enjoy in honor of Hideko Nagamine’s 96th birthday. All Senior Center photos by Jean Yamashita.

Franz Steidl and family provided the March birthday cake and ice cream in honor of Yae Sakamoto’s 91st birthday.

The beautiful flower arrangements were created by Jean Akiyama, Hisako Kodama, and Nancy Kuratomi. Lots of wonderful goodies were received throughout March!

Kimiko Marr announced she still needs baby pictures for the Mother’s Day activity she is preparing.

Monetary donations gratefully accepted this month: Gene and Marsha Wada, Hideko Nagamine, Kimiyo Fujii, Miyeko Yamashita, Franz Steidl/Family, Sam and Yae Sakamoto, and Bruce Fujii/Gilbert Fujii/Ethel (Fujii) Hiraga. Akio Idemoto, Helen Mito, Dan and Karen Nitta, and Nancy Iwami made donations in memory of Mrs. Fujiye Idemoto.

Thank you to everyone for the wonderful bingo donations:

Sunao/June Honda 5 plates dark chocolate cupcakes, 4 peanut butter mochi, 6 fresh apple cake, 3 plates of apple cake, 3 apple bread, 7 plates spicy California roll

Dylan, Aubrie and Alex Matsuo 1 box Thin Mint cookies, bag of arare

Jean Yamashita 8 bags banana oatmeal cookies, 5 slices mochi green tea pound cake, 3 banana bread, 4 pistachio muffins, 4 banana cranberry mini loaves

Toshi Yamashita 3 bags chocolate chip cookies, 8 boxes facial tissue, 3 bags candy, 3 boxes Cheez-It crackers, 12 mega roll toilet tissue

Jean Akiyama 12 rolls toilet tissue

Ted Wada 4 boxes Kleenex

Chie Sakaue brought bouquets of freesias for everyone in honor of her birthday.
Jeanette Crosetti 4 packages beef noodle soup, 4 packages white and brown rice, 1 pkg. green noodles
Rubie Kawamoto 200 tea bags, 18 boxes Kleenex
Edna Nagata 8 rolls toilet tissue, 6 rolls Bounty paper towels
Miyoko Yamashita 4 bags chagashi
Eiko Nishihara 1 dozen jars strawberry jam
Yoshiko Nishihara 18 bottles Dawn dish soap
Fumie Hane 100 dessert plates
Nobue Fujii 3 mega rolls paper towels, 5 Dawn dish soap, 1 box lemons
Hide/Akira Nagamine 6 bags homegrown apples, 8 jars homemade pickles, 100 dinner plates, 88 dessert plates
Susan AmRhein 3 chocolate chip banana bread, 50 almond cookies for Miye’s 99th birthday, green cherry cookies and mint ice cream for everyone
Bette Garcia 6 packages hot cocoa mix, 8 plates peanut butter cookies, Easter Egg candy, 2 boxes snacks, 1 package anti-bacterial hand gel
Grace Fujita 500 plastic forks
Eiko Stewart 10 Bags Tsubushi an mangu
Kevin/Jee Kajihara 56 anpan pastries
Takeshi/Noel Yamashita 35 pieces of black cod from Alaska
Reiko Yamamoto 8 Bounty paper towels
Eileen Byers 6 plates sugar cookies
Mitzi Katsuyama 1 package mandarin oranges, 2 dozen eggs
Kumiko Nakatani 12 rolls Bounty paper towels, 30 rolls Charmin’ bathroom tissue
Jo Ann Vear 4 pack Lysol wipes
Chiyoko Shikuma 30 rolls bathroom tissue
Tea Hashimoto 30 rolls bathroom tissue
Christine Izumizaki box of Andes Mints for everyone
Gail Wurtenberg 7 bags peanut butter cookies
Yaeko Cross 10 bags of split pea, 10 bags of white beans
Hisako Kodama 12 Bounty paper towels
Sam/Yae Sakamoto 100 tea bags
Chie Sakaue 66 bouquets of flowers for everyone
Kazuko Sakai 2 Reynolds wrap, 4 boxes Kleenex, 50 lunch bags

**DONATIONS, GRATUITY RECEIVED FROM...**

In memory of Fujiye Idemoto from ...  
Akio Idemoto and Family for their mother  
Helen Nitta of Cupertino  
Daniel and Karen Nitta of Cupertino  
Jennifer Ura Gavin  
Mas and Marcia Hashimoto  

In memory of Chiyoko Sukekane from ...  
Michiko Matano, daughter  
Jennifer Ura Gavin  

In memory of Harry Johnson from ...  
Jennifer Ura Gavin  

In memory of Yoshino Matano from ...  
Gayle and Elizabeth Ivanovich  

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**DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND**

*We are grateful for each donation for it permits us to carry out our mission. Thank you, members and friends.*

For the Japanese Memorial Garden repairs in Salinas  
Joe Bowes  
Greatest Need:  
Bill and Ida Akimoto  

<table>
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<th>W-SC JACL 2017 OFFICERS</th>
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| President | Marcia Hashimoto  
| 1st VP | Dr. Gini Matute-Bianchi  
| 2nd VP | Aimee Mizuno  
| Treasurer | Victor Kimura  
| Co-Secretaries | Cindy Hirokawa Mine, Kimiko Marr  
| Board of Directors | Joe Bowes, Jeanette O. Hager, Mas Hashimoto, Carol Kaneko, Gary Mine, Dr. Brooke Kondo-Rains, Philip Shima, and Jean Yamashita. Senior Center Rep. is Iwao Yamashita.  

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

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto [http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org](http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org), Newsletter, then the month.

This April 2017 issue congratulated our unsung heroes, directed our youth members toward scholarships and internships, welcomed Don White’s history of the Watsonville Bonsai Club, and captured Kimiko Marr’s family story of our wartime incarceration.

Welcome articles for our May 2017 issue which will feature local Nikkei history. The deadline for these articles will be April 24th. The deadline for our “regular” contributors will remain April 25th.

If you are not now a member of the National JACL, please consider joining our W-SC JACL chapter.

Encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2017. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization, and our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895.

Annual membership dues are $80 for individual, $150 for couples, and $25 for youth between the ages of 14 and 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 social justice and for civil rights for all.

Current members, please look at the date after your name on the address label. E. Txxxx 12/16 means your membership expired back in December 2016! 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 W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.  
*Our mailing address is: W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077*.
Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter
National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

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.

Check out our websites: [http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org](http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org) and [jacl.org](http://jacl.org).