At times life’s challenges may seem overwhelming, but we’re determined—dedicated—to carry on.

For JACLers, our commitment is to our primary mission of securing civil rights, human dignity, and “liberty and justice for all” here in the United States.

There are unsavory politicians who have placed obstacles in the way Americans can exercise their rights. Once, it was a poll tax—pay to vote (now illegal via the passage of the 24th Amendment to the Constitution)—which kept the poor blacks and poor whites from voting. Today, it’s a voter ID photo. Pay (another kind of poll tax) to get a government photo ID. Citizens have altered their appearances with facelifts, plastic surgery, hair coloring, hair styles, facial hair (beards), hair transplants, glasses, tinted contact lens, dentures, etc. But, one’s legal signature remains essentially the same. A registered voter needs only to sign-in with a signature that is identical to the county/state voter registration affidavit. No photo voter ID is ever necessary! In the past ten years, there have been 400 cases of voter fraud recorded and during that same period, thousands have been denied their right to vote in each election! They’ve made the difference in the outcome!

“Those who deny freedom to others deserve it not for themselves,” Abraham Lincoln. The veterans who fought for our freedom would never deny it to any citizen.

We welcome you and your family to join our campaign as members of the W-SC JACL. You will be helping us to safeguard these precious rights. Please use the membership form included in this newsletter. Thank you, and to those who recently renewed their 2012-2013 memberships—arigato! PS: if you’ve moved, please let us know your new address so that you can continue to receive our newsletters and announcements.

SPECIAL MEDALS FOR JAPANESE OLYMPIANS

AP, Tokyo: During a send-off ceremony in Tokyo schoolchildren from the tsunami-hit areas in northern Japan presented a hand-carved amulet to each of the 518 member delegation. The good luck pieces were carved from driftwood debris.

The medals measure two inches in diameter and have the Japanese Olympic Committee emblem on them. Ribbons, attached to the medals, are signed with messages from the children.

One of the medal carvers, 14 year-old Mizuho Sato, stated many people supported her after the tsunami and now it’s her turn to cheer for the athletes. That brought tears to the eyes of javelin thrower Yukifumi Murakami, who vowed to return the favor with good results.

The March 11, 2011 disasters left about 19,000 dead or missing.

WHY MORE AND MORE AMERICANS ARE ABANDONING THEIR US CITIZENSHIPS by Eric Fry, Agora Financial’s Editorial Director, The Daily Reckoning, July 3

In November, millions of Americans will trudge to their local polling places to cast votes in the hope of improving their lives here in the USA. Between now and then, a few hundred Americans will vote with their feet in the hope of improving their lives outside the USA.

Last year, nearly 1,800 Americans surrendered their citizenship. In a nation of 300 million folks, 1,800 émigrés is hardly a rush for the exits. But the recent trend is, nevertheless, intriguing. The number of Americans per year who renounced their US Citizenship, 2006 to 2011:
As recently as 2008, only 200 people checked out of America for good. Back then, surrendering US citizenship would have seemed as unthinkable to most Americans:

- as declining a free vacation to Hawaii to pay for a vacation in Newark.
- giving away a brand new Aston Martin Zagato to buy a used Buick Le Sabre, or
- surrendering your membership at Augusta National in order to start playing Augusta Municipal, or
- trading away an original Van Gogh painting for an original Peter Max poster, or
- refusing a date with Mila Kunis in order to watch re-runs of her animated counterpart, Meg Griffin, in Family Guy, or
- abandoning a beachfront mansion to live in your car.

Giving up citizenship would have seemed as incomprehensible.

Bottom line: surrendering US citizenship was absolutely unthinkable, but not anymore. Now it is “thinkable,” albeit still relatively rare. The absolute numbers are still tiny, but the trend conveys a very large message: discontent is on the rise.

Increasingly, the used LeSabres and Augusta Municipals are winning the contest. And probably not because they are so alluring, but rather because the “Aston Martin” is starting to sputter like a used moped and “Augusta National’s” fairways are starting to sprout more weeds than its deep rough.

To be clear, your California editor remains an American citizen with a valid American passport with no weeds than its deep rough.

When Americans begin abandoning the “Land of the Free” to seek greater freedom elsewhere, it is time to sit up and pay attention; it is time to ask yourself, “Why? Why are they leaving? What’s wrong?”

Is it just a “tax thing,” or are other forces in play? Is it because folks don’t like:

- drones watching their every move while they mow their lawns or skinny dip in the pool with their spouses,
- enduring a political “ethic” that increasingly declares, “What’s yours is mine and, if not, it ought to be,”
- suffering financially for behaving responsibly, while Wall Street bankers reap rewards for behaving irresponsibly,
- cohabitating with an NSA that builds mega-spy centers in the Utah desert to eavesdrop on their phone calls with Granny or their steamy chat messages with a significant other,
- living in a land that increasingly seems to be saying to would-be democracies around the globe: “Do you need a Constitution? Why not take ours? We’re not using it.” [Thanks, Jay Leno].

Who knows the exact reason why 1,800 Americans chose to leave last year — nine times as many as left four years earlier? Certainly, each one of them had his/her reasons. But, like a corporate insider that sells his own stock, there’s one thing you know for certain about his motives: he is not selling because he believes the stock will go up. Maybe he doesn’t believe the stock will go down, but no one sells a stock they believe will go up.

Likewise, Americans who bail on their country may not think things are going to get any worse any time soon, but they clearly do not believe things are going to get better. So far, the pitter-patter of footsteps heading for the exits is barely a murmur but the murmur is getting louder.

[Editor’s note: During the depths of the 1930s Great Depression Americans were seeking Russian jobs, the Business Week reported on Oct. 7, 1931.]

The US Government became the biggest employer hiring thousands of construction workers; engineers; scientists; writers; musicians; youth/students; artists; and others; working on building schools; bridges; highways; airports; dams; railroads; water works; power stations; paths and trail ways for our national parks and beaches; playgrounds; and giving aid to farmers with subsidies, credit, and insurance; bringing electricity to rural areas of the country; regulating the banking system and stock exchanges; reduced annual flooding in some areas; provided recreational facilities; helped homeowners from foreclosure; cleared slums; provided low-cost housing; prohibited child labor; provided Social Security; added cosmetics to the Pure Food and Drug Act for safety; no false advertising; worked on national defense with ship building; provided for minimum wages, maximum hours, and safer working conditions, and much more. The US Government took people off relief rolls and put them onto payrolls! Americans were elated about the good works they were doing for their country. It wasn’t a handout, and the country prospered!

Americans can return to greatness this November 6th using the election process.]
USA, THE BEST COUNTRY MONEY CAN BUY!

It's been a roller coaster of a ride but on July 5 by a vote of 24-11, the California Senate passed Assembly Joint Resolution 22 calling on Congress to amend the Constitution to overturn the Supreme Court's disastrous decision in Citizens United v. FEC.

Thank you to the thousands of California People for the American Way (PFAW) supporters who took action to make this victory a reality and your efforts made a huge difference.

With the passage of AJR 22, the California State Legislature joins those of five other states and 30 California localities that have passed similar resolutions to help get the corrupting influence of unlimited corporate and special interest money out of elections.

Assemblymember Bob Wieckowski, who introduced AJR 22, said, “Today’s vote sends a clear message that California rejects this misguided ruling made by the conservative activists on the Supreme Court.”

We have a long way to go, but the vote marks a pivotal moment in our movement to amend the Constitution and end the Citizens United era of Super PACs. The endorsement of our efforts by the nation's largest state is a huge victory -- cause for celebration as well as reenergizing our ongoing efforts. Thank you.

Calvin Sloan, Field Organizer for PFAW

[Editor's note: PFAW was founded by television producer Norman Lear (All in the Family, Maude, The Jeffersons, etc.) in 1981 specifically in response to what it felt was the divisive rhetoric of such increasingly influential televangelists as Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell. Co-founders included Barbara Jordan, Andrew Heiskell, and other leaders from the political, religious, business, and entertainment communities.]

FRANK MITO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

On Friday night, July 7th, at the annual program performance of Kokoro no Gakko, Dr. Ron Mito, former Gakko principal, presented the 18th annual Frank Mito Memorial Scholarships. The scholarships are given to recent high school graduates--Allison Ota, Robert Shimizu and Jenny Matsushita--who have successfully completed the Gakko, have demonstrated high academic achievement and have significant community service.

Robert Shimizu is a graduate of Pacific Coast Charter School and will be attending Hartnell College this fall. He was also a volunteer at the Gakko and served as a teacher’s aide at Watsonville High School.

Jenny Matsushita is a graduate of Cupertino High School and will attend UC Davis in the fall. She has volunteered with the San Jose Taiko, Girl Scouts of Northern California and San Jose Jr.YBA.

Thank you to all the recipients for their dedicated participation in Kokoro no Gakko.

Best wishes and much success to Allison, Robert and Jenny as they transition into college and their future careers.

Ronald Mito, DDS, FDS RCSEd, UCLA
Associate Dean, Academic Programs and Personnel

CONGRATULATIONS! MINAMI TAMAKI PARTNERS NAMED “SUPER LAWYERS” FOR THE 9th STRAIGHT YEAR!

JULY 6, 2012 -- Minami Tamaki LLP is proud to announce that all its Partners and Senior Counsel have been selected as Northern California Super Lawyers for 2012. This is the ninth straight year that the Partners received this distinction.

The firm is one of the very few, and possibly the only one, in which every Partner and Senior Counsel received this distinction. Only five percent of the lawyers in the California are named by Super Lawyers.

Partners Dale Minami (Personal Injury Plaintiff), Donald K. Tamaki (Business/Corporate), Minette A. Kwok (Immigration), Jack W. Lee (Antitrust Litigation) Brad Yamauchi (Consumer Law), and Senior Counsel B. Mark Fong (Personal Injury Plaintiff) were selected based on voting conducted by ballots sent to more than 56,000 lawyers in the region, an extensive process involving peer nomination and a blue ribbon panel comprised of lawyers from appropriate practice areas who scrutinized the list of nominees.

Partner Dale Minami was named, for seventh year, to the Top 100 Super Lawyers list.

Ms. Kwok and Ms. Yang were named to the 2012 Top Women Attorneys in Northern California list.

Senior Associate Seth I. Rosenberg (Personal Injury Plaintiff) and Associate Eunice Yang (Personal Injury Plaintiff) were named to the Northern California Rising Stars list, a distinction for the best attorneys 40 and under. 
Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV) will hold its annual meeting aboard the USS Hornet Museum, 707 W. Hornet Ave., Alameda, CA 94501 (510) 521-8448 on Saturday, August 11 where the outstanding Nisei Veterans’ Exhibit is located. FFNV’s website (www.FFNV.org) will take you on a tour of this outstanding exhibit.

The main program will feature a presentation of Camp Tracy, the top-secret World War II prisoner interrogation center located at Byron Hot Springs Resort, 50 miles east of Oakland, CA. Many high-ranking Japanese prisoners were brought to Camp Tracy.

The meeting will begin with a social at 11:00 AM followed by lunch (Japanese bento). The main program will start at about 12:30 PM. The remainder of the afternoon will be reserved for viewing of the Nisei Veteran’s Exhibit and visiting the entire Hornet itself. Invitation is open to non-FFNV members.

Cost: $20 with pre-registration: It includes admission, registration, insurance and bento. If pre-registration is not desired or missed, the cost will be $10 for registration and insurance payable to FFNV – no bento and must pay for admission to the Hornet which is $16 for adults, Seniors 65+ $13, students $7, under 5 free with paying adult. Deadline: August 1, 2012.

To pre-register, please call Jean Hirasaki at (408) 842-6973 as soon as possible, and checks, payable to FFNV, should be mailed to Jean Hirasaki, 7210 Princeton Place, Gilroy, CA 95020. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity for the children.

One of the naval jet fighters that flew off the Hornet.
Reservations are being taken for the Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans 70th Anniversary Tour of Italy.

The trip will take place from May 20 to June 2, 2013 and will include many of the areas where the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team fought through Italy during World War II.

Participants will visit American cemeteries in Florence and Nettuno for a wreath-laying ceremony as well as the Sadao Munemori Monument in Pietrasanta and two memorials to the 442nd in Tendola.

Those who are interested can contact Debra Stern at Peak Travel, who is organizing the trip logistics. She can be reached at 1-800-999-2608.

ATTENTION ALL VETERANS WHO SERVED IN THE LIBERATION OF FRANCE DURING WWII

Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur

The Government of France wishes to honor all Americans who served in the liberation of France during World War II with the French Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honor (Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur) which was approved by the President of the French Republic on the 60th Anniversary of D-Day. This award was first established by Napoleon in 1802.

Any American soldier who served in France during WW II must be alive at the time of application in order to qualify for this award.

The processing time is between 6 months and over a year, due to the large number of applications submitted by U.S. veterans. The French Embassy in Washington, DC, the French Consulate General which has jurisdiction over your place of residence in the United States, and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris are involved in the approval process.

If you, a WW II veteran who served in the liberation of France, are interested in applying for this French medal, France's most prestigious distinction, please contact the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), Terry Shima at ttshima@comcast.net; 301-987-6746; or 415 Russell Ave; #1005; Gaithersburg, MD 20877. He will send you a form to complete and other information. Do not delay! You will need to attach a copy of your honorable discharge certificate and your separation paper (DD 214) to the form. JAVA is pleased to assist you in obtaining this award.

The award ceremony will be arranged by the French Consulate General in our area.

HONORING OUR NISEI VETERANS

On Sat., Nov. 10th, 2012, W-SC JACL will honor all Nisei veterans with a pre-Veteran’s Day Appreciation Program. It’ll begin at the PV Memorial Park (weather permitting) with a re-dedication service of the 1963 Nisei VFW plaque at 1 pm. Then, we will return to the W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall for the viewing of Burt Takeuchi’s Valor with Honor film of the 100th/442nd RCT. The keynote address will be presented by 442nd RCT veteran, Lawson Sakai. There will be no admission charge, and light refreshments will be served.

Your mission: the children and grandchildren of the veterans must also “muster for roll call (attend)”. 

MITCHIE MIYAMOTO, 442ND RCT

By Steve Bankhead, Watsonville Register-Pajaronian

A World War II photo of Mitch Miyamoto, whose cartoon runs in “This week in Pajaro Valley’s past,” appeared on July 10. Miyamoto served with the all-Japanese American U.S. Army Regimental Combat Team, whose motto was “Go For Broke.” Though the families of many members were incarcerated, the unit’s heroism in Europe made it the most highly decorated regiment in U.S. military history, including 22 Medal of Honor recipients. Miyamoto later designed window displays for Ford’s Department Store in the 1950s and 60s, and contributed local political cartoons to the Register-Pajaronian in the ’60s and ’70s. Following his death, Miyamoto was honored for his services at a 442nd Veterans Association dinner in 1994 with a plaque presented to his widow, Martha.

[Editor’s note: The original Army patch for the 100th/442nd showed a yellow arm holding a bloody dagger (above, left), and the guys hated it! It was racist and ugly! Miyamoto used his artistic talents to design the famed 442nd “liberty torch” shoulder patch (above, right), showing a silver arm and hand holding the torch of Liberty against a field of blue, surrounded by a border of silver and red. The guys would fight for this, and Senator Dan Inouye, a 100th/442nd veteran, remarked to me that the shape of the patch resembled that of a coffin, and a lot of guys died wearing it.

We—Sansei, Yonsei, and Gosei—who are enjoying the many benefits and privileges of this country are forever indebted to all the men of the 100th/442nd/MIS who stood tall when it counted! Without hesitation, they answered the call. We owe it to their bravery and sacrifices. Their allegiance will never be questioned or doubted.]
In September of 2010, we wrote the following article:

**Sing Out, Louise! Productions LLC & The San Francisco New Theatre Workshop**

**present**

**Lea Salonga and George Takei**

**ALLEGIANCE**

**A NEW AMERICAN MUSICAL**

Music & Lyrics by Jay Kuo

Book by Jay Kuo & Lorenzo Thione

**Allegiance**, a new musical about love, loss and heroism during the Japanese American internment, coming to NYC, perhaps in February of 2012, the 70th anniversary of E. O. 9066.

The W-SC JACL received an invitation to review a video presentation of “Allegiance” on July 25, 2010, in San Jose.

The promoters have enlisted some of the finest Asian American singers and actors in the nation today.

The story, written by Jay Kuo, a Chinese American, and Lorenzo Thione, from Italy, received encouragement and assistance from actor George Takei, who, as a young child (5 to 8 years), lived through the incarceration.

“Allegiance” follows the Omura family of Salinas, CA to Heart Mountain, WY (and not to Poston, AZ) during World War II and of their return to Salinas.

At the “heart” of the story’s central theme are the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and the draft resisters. Mike Masaoka, a wartime National JACL leader, is characterized critically and unfairly, and National JACL’s wartime strategy is belittled. The portrayal of the Nisei soldiers (esp. the 100th/442nd) falls short in honoring their commitment and heroism.

We have been promised by the producer that a greater effort to explain the constitutional issues will be made, but the characterization of Masaoka, the JACL, and the Nisei soldiers will remain unchanged.

This story would leave the American public more confused about what happened to 120,000 innocent persons of Japanese ancestry during WW II. It is not an inclusive story-telling but a one-sided portrayal of a single Nikkei family.

For us, it was difficult to enthusiastically applaud the first song, “A Jap’s A Jap!” or the last song, “Better Americans in a Greater America,” from Mike Masaoka’s *The Japanese American Creed*, for its demeaning presentation. Two songs beautifully sung were “Gaman,” by Lea Salonga (Tony winner for *Miss Saigon*) and “I don’t have a prayer,” by a young girl, Allie Trimm of Escondido, CA.

We would prefer The Grateful Crane Ensemble’s *Camp Dance: The Music and Memories* to be the first Broadway musical about our incarceration. Americans would learn more about our incarceration and how and why we survived—*gaman*’d. *Camp Dance*, with its songs and story, would better explain our “Allegiance” to this country than this new musical production.

[Editor’s note: *Allegiance* is to premiere at the Old Globe Theater in San Diego on September 19, 2012. Only slight changes have been made to the original production, thus leaving us with some grave misgivings.

Fans of Lea Salonga will love her performance for her singing of *Gaman* alone is worth the price of admission.

They, however, will be confused for the blame and responsibility of our wartime incarceration are directed toward the National JACL and, more specifically, at the late Mike Masaoka than the US Government with its Executive Order 9066 and of using armed military guards and escorts to enforce the order.

The audience will not exit singing, laughing, or dancing as with other Broadway musicals they have come to love and enjoy. Instead, they will be wondering, “What was that all about?”

The producers’ goal is to present *Allegiance* to the New York audiences and critics sometime during the 2012-2013 Broadway season.]

**HONORING THE MEN OF THE 100TH/442ND/MIS**

By Joe Myers, July 10, 2012

To the Editor of the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian:

Recently, I had the good fortune to meet an individual with whom I became acquainted and whose voice was not more than a whisper and difficult to understand. He is currently in a medical facility here in Watsonville. I was fortunate also, to meet his wife, name of “Kay” who mentioned his name to be Yutaka Nagasaki (of
Monterey) but uses first name of “Bruce.” Kay mentioned that he was with the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II. His records show that he fought in Italy, France and Germany and was awarded European African Middle Eastern Ribbon with 3 Bronze Battle Stars, Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Distinguished Badge with one Oak Leaf Cluster (second Award), and Combat Infantryman’s Badge. He was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal of which included an accompanying certificate for his courageous service. For this award he was recognized in a public speech in Washington, D.C by the Honorable Congressman Sam Farr on February 29, 2012. Of the 35 men awarded this Gold Medal, 22 are now deceased. And not to forget – this unit won 7 Presidential Unit Citations; no other unit of its size and length has won that many.

For a little bit of history of the 100th/442nd RCT in April, 1945, the 5th U.S. Army asked them to create a diversionary attack to break the German Gothic Line (in northern Italy). The US Army had three infantry divisions lined up to breach this barrier which protected the Po Valley and the entrance to Austria. These three divisions could not do it – they were stalemated for six months. The 5th Army then asked the 100th/442nd, the “Go For Broke” Regiment to break the stalemate. The Nisei climbed up the mountain which they called Folgorita and which the Germans had heavily fortified. It was a 3000-foot vertical precipice. At dawn they attacked “Go For Broke.” They took the mountain and broke the Gothic Line. According to records; it did not take 6 months, 6 weeks or 24 hours - it took them only 34 minutes.

Then, there is the story of the men that served in the Military Intelligence Service. More than 6000 Nisei served throughout the Pacific in a super secret branch of the Military. They provided the eyes and ears of intelligence and language skills that helped break the stalemate in the Pacific. They broke classified codes, interrogated prisoners provided valuable propaganda and translated countless documents to assist in the culmination of war in the Pacific. General Willoughby, MacArthur’s Chief of Intelligence, declared that the Nisei shortened the war and saved countless lives. It was later said that “never had so many owe so much for so few.”

Veterans of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team were volunteers from the United States and the 100th Infantry Battalion was made up of volunteers from Hawaii. They were teamed up to make one fighting unit. These units were composed of Nisei/Japanese who became veterans of World War II, a number of whom hailed from Watsonville.

The 100th/442nd RCT were self-sufficient fighting forces with uncommon distinction and valor in Italy, France and Germany. During combat in the two latter countries, the 100th/442nd RCT were involved in heavy fighting to overtake points of military interest lasting until war’s end. Due to their outstanding bravery of heavy combat duty, they became the most decorated unit in U.S. military history for its size and length of service. Honor and distinction also must be accorded its component the 100th Infantry Battalion earning the nickname “The Purple Heart Battalion” because of their high casualty rate. It is fitting to mention at this time that there were 21 who were awarded the Medal of Honor – the highest award given those who are deserving by the United States Congress.

Additional decorations included 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 1 Distinguished Medal, 560 Silver Stars, 28 Oak Leaf Clusters (second awards), 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldiers Medals, 4000 Bronze Stars with 1200 Oak Leaf Clusters (second awards), and 9486 Purple Hearts. Also awarded were 7 Presidential Unit Citations. Thence, report showed many soldiers departed hospitals unauthorized to join comrades in combat areas for which some form of commendation should have been considered.

Their motto: “GO FOR BROKE! FOUR-FOUR-TWO! GO FOR BROKE! FOUR-FOUR-TWO!” And vic-try will be ours!

Joe Myers is a US Army veteran who earned a Purple Heart while serving in the Pacific Theater during WW II. Thank you, Joe, for this wonderful tribute to the men of the 100th/442nd/MIS.

OUR WARTIME INCARCERATION STORY

Allen Bodenlos (above), a 92 year-old US Army bugler and a Pearl Harbor survivor from San Diego and 76 year-old Mas Hashimoto, a survivor of WW II Japanese-American incarceration from Watsonville, CA, shared their stories with 25 students of Mission Hills High and San Marcos High (Los Angeles area) on Thursday, July 19 via skype.

Mr. Bodenlos survived the fighting in the Pacific war and returned home after being wounded in the Battle of Okinawa. He is thankful not to have been involved in an invasion of Japan. The loss of lives on both sides would have been tremendous. Mr. Bodenlos also paid tribute to the men of the 100th/442nd/MIS in his presentation.

This is the first time Mas spoke to students (and they asked questions about our “camp” experience) who were 500 miles away in southern California.

The students learned of tolerance and interviewed both gentlemen for future video projects. The skype (using computers and their cameras) program was set up by Karl Flores, a Watsonville High School grad (Class of 1971), instructor of the Mission Hills High Digital Stories Summer Program, and Carol Heitzig, Library Director, of the Watsonville Public Library. We are grateful to both Karl Flores and Carol Heitzig for their interest, concern, and support in telling our Nikkei story.
As an organization that has combated racism for over 80 years, the JACL believes it is important to label racism when we see it. Our tools for combating racism are education and the reliance on good people to stand up and reject it. None of us can afford to be bystanders when haters seek to spread fear and oppression. As we enter the final months of political campaigns throughout the nation where the partisan divides are deep and where certain issues are ripe for racist demagoguery, it is important to be vigilant in responding whenever and wherever these acts occur. It is incumbent on all of us to do so.

“A MAN AND HIS SHIP, The story of a great American builder” by Steven Ujifusa [Editor’s note: we wrote of Steven Ujifusa’s first book in our January 2012 issue. Those who love to travel via cruise ships today will enjoy the history of this ocean liner. We are happy to report it is on the NY Time’s best seller list and can be purchased by contacting your local bookstore.]

William Francis Gibbs’ quest to build the finest, fastest, most beautiful ocean liner of his time, the S.S. United States, was a topic of national fascination. When completed in 1952, the ship was hailed as a technological masterpiece when “made in America” meant the best.

Gibbs was an American original, on par with John Roebling of the Brooklyn Bridge and Frank Lloyd Wright of Fallingwater. Forced to drop out of Harvard following his family’s sudden financial ruin, he overcame debilitating shyness and lack of formal training to become the visionary creator of some of the finest ships in history. He spent forty years dreaming of the ship that became the S.S. United States.

Gibbs was driven, relentless, and committed to excellence. He loved his ship, the idea of it, and the realization of it, and he devoted himself to making it the epitome of luxury travel during the triumphant post–World War II era. Biographer Steven Ujifusa brilliantly describes the way Gibbs worked and how his vision transformed an industry. A Man and His Ship is a tale of ingenuity and enterprise, a truly remarkable journey on land and sea.

Reviews:

“A Man and His Ship,” a hugely entertaining recreation of the age of the ocean liner, will leave older readers nostalgic, younger readers envious, and all of them engrossed in the drama of William Francis Gibbs as he fights to build the greatest ship of them all, the S.S. United States. The Cunard Line once boasted that ‘getting there is half the fun.’ Now Steven Ujifusa has given us the other half.” —A. J. Langguth, author of Driven West
"A delightful account of the era of grand ocean liners and the brilliant, single-minded designer who yearned to build the greatest ocean liner of all."—*Kirkus*

"The sea inspires obsessions in determined men, from Captain Ahab to Admiral Rickover. Steven Ujifusa introduces us to another – the naval architect William Francis Gibbs. His ingenious design of mass-producible Liberty ships helped win World War II, but Gibbs’ obsession was to build the world’s fastest, safest and most elegant Atlantic liner. He ultimately succeeded, but in a decade his masterpiece was obsolete and unprofitable. Ujifusa narrates this tragedy well, in all its technical, political and human dimensions."—Admiral Dennis C. Blair, U.S. Navy (Ret.), Former Director of National Intelligence

"In his debut, Ujifusa harks back to a time when men were men, and transatlantic ships were serious business.... Written with passion and thoroughness, this is a love letter to a bygone time and the ships that once ruled the seas."—*Publishers Weekly* starred review

"Ujifusa describes the construction of the ship in engrossing detail and provides informative digressions on the golden age of ocean travel, when liners carried millionaires, celebrities, and desperate refugees."

Son of Grant Ujifusa of our redress and reparations fame and our W-SC JACLer, Steven Ujifusa serves on the Advisory Council of the S.S. United States Conservancy. He received his master’s degree in historic preservation and real estate from the University of Pennsylvania and his B.A. in history from Harvard University.

**WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS by Randy and Tracy Mano**

On June 25, 2012 church member Koso Takemoto passed away. Please keep his wife Emily and the Takemoto family in your prayers. No service was held as per wishes of the family.

Koso Takemoto is second from the left in this celebration of the 70th Anniversary of the MIS/DLI. He was an important instructor/teacher of the Japanese language to our US military personnel during WW II.

July 13-14 *Summer Youth* church sleep over was attended by 24 youths. Patrick Castro (Westview Youth Leader) and Pastor Dan Hoffman kept everyone entertained with games and also held a bible study. Rumor had it that the kids made a 10 ft. long ice cream sundae. The only evidence was an empty 10 ft. long trough. Saturday morning pastor Dan cooked breakfast for all the hungry people. Scheduled upcoming gym nights are Aug. 3rd and Sept. 21st. All Youth are welcome.

Also, family events scheduled are August 18th River Walk and September 8th Beach BBQ at Seacliff Beach. For more information, please contact Pastor Dan Hoffman at (831) 724-6679.

Eiko Stewart, Jane Yoshida, and Evelyn Veil volunteered to help with the Rummage Sale. Photos by Randy Mano.

Team Westview made their debut during Sunday worship service July 15th. Members include: Pastor Dan, Evelyn Veal, Kenny Matsui and Lynne Nagata. We are currently looking to expand the band. The Praise Band plans to play once a month. All those interested in joining please contact Pastor Dan Hoffman.

Through the help of the many people who donated their time and donations, the rummage sale, and the car wash, Team Westview raised over $4000.00 dollars for the American Cancer Society *Relay for Life*. Thank you to Ryan McCarty for making the shirts for our team, Shirley Nishimoto for donating the shirts, Jane Yoshida for making chicken lunches to sell on Saturday, and Westview Church for donating $500.00 for tent rental and the many items we needed to help with the *Relay for Life*.

On Saturday July 21, 2012, *Relay for Life* held their walk at Watsonville High School’s Geiser Field. Team members walked from 10 am Saturday to 10 am Sunday in one-hour shifts. Team Westview’s message was, “Love, Walk, and Relay because cancer does not take a vacation.” Our tent was decorated in Hawaii style that included a 7 foot *tiki* man, lighted palm trees and many other beautiful decorations. We sold *sushi*, chicken plates, water, and many rummage sale items.

We are grateful to Team Westview *Relay for Life*’s walkers: Shirley Nishimoto, Lynne and Yukio Nagata, Candy McCarty, Leslie Garcia, Dami Garcia, Dick and Shirley Wong, Art and Joanne Hayashi, George and Eiko Stewart, Les and Michelle Aoki, Marlon, Evelyn (Team Captain) Isaac and Elijah Veal, Diane Mio, Suzanne Eguchi, David Kadotani, Pastor Dan and Rosie Hoffman, Kathy Fujita, Cora Sandoval, Randy and Tracy Mano.
Diane Mio with daughter, Suzanne Mio Eguchi, helped to set up our Hawaiian theme booth with its tiki man.

Les and Michelle Aoki, proudly displaying her Team Westview shirt, are getting ready for their turn walking.


Lynne with father, Yukio Nagata, are doing time on the track.

On August 4, 2012, a Memorial Service for Niki Shikuma will be held at Westview Church at 2 pm.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

Our Sangha mourns the loss of Rev. Junjo Tsumura. He passed away on Sunday, July 22, 2012 in San Jose at the age of 87. He was our resident minister from 1956 to 1972 and was beloved by so many here.


Rev. Junjo Tsumura was born near Osaka, Japan on September 15, 1924. He first came to the US in 1925 with his missionary parents. He returned to Japan in 1934 and on September 30, 1944 finished his schooling at Ryukoku University in Kyoto. The end of WW II on August 14, 1945 saved his life as he was training as a Kamikaze pilot.

He returned to the US in 1952 serving as assistant minister at the Sacramento Buddhist Church. He married Teruko “Terrie” Miura on June 25, 1955. Their first child, Jayne, was born in Sacramento.

In 1956, the young family moved to Watsonville as Rev. Tsumura was appointed minister of the Watsonville Buddhist Church. It was his longest tenure of 16 years and here he formed everlasting relationships. Ken, his son was born in Watsonville. In 1972, he was called away to serve as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America.

From 1975-82, he served at San Mateo Buddhist Temple. Then, he was chosen to serve as Rinban (head minister) at the San Jose Betsuin. It was one of his life’s goals, since his father, the late Rev. Tokujo Tsumura, had served there in the 1930’s.

Following San Jose, he was appointed to the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple and finally became Bishop (Socho) of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii in 1987 and served until his retirement in 1990. He returned to San Jose where he volunteered his services as a substitute minister and guest speaker.

His congregants remember Rev. Tsumura for his warm down-to-earth sermons, his compassionate nature, and his consistently humble demeanor. Until the end, he was an avid San Francisco Giants fan and was elated to see them win the World Series in 2010.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Teruko; his daughter Jayne (Kenneth Tan); his son Ken; his grandchildren Kyle & Kelly; and his brother Ed.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, August 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 N Fifth St., under the auspices of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, the Buddhist Churches of America, and the San Jose Betsuin.
A favorite song of Rev. Tsumura was based upon a poem by Mary Elizabeth Frye who, in 1932, wrote:

Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there; I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sun on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning’s hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the soft star-shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there; I did not die.

Man Arai, a Japanese songwriter and composer, translated these lyrics into Japanese. The song became a hit in Japan. The lyrics are translated back into English:

I Am A Thousand Winds :
Don't stand at my grave and weep
I am not there, I do not sleep
I am the sunlight on the ripened grain
I am the gentle autumn rain
I am a thousand winds
I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glint on snow
I am a thousand winds that blow

Don't stand at my grave and cry
I am not there, I did not die
I am the swift rush of birds in flight
Soft stars that shine at night
I am a thousand winds
I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glint on snow
I am a thousand winds that blow
I am the diamond glint on snow
I am a thousand winds that blow

The Temple thanks all for making our obon festival of July 22 so much fun. Hundreds gathered to enjoy the food, entertainment, and odori. It was truly a festive event! We enjoyed and wish to thank Todd Guild of the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian for his reporting and coverage. (Todd enjoyed his visit to Kawakami, Japan, our sister city, with the middle school students of our Kawakami Sister City program.)

The best and biggest "Rummage Sale" in town will take place on Friday, August 10 from 8 am to 3 pm and again on Saturday, August 11 from 8 am to 1 pm.

Donated items can be dropped off starting from 9:30 am to 3 pm Monday thru Friday and Sunday, August 5, 2012 from 9:30 am to 1 pm at 423 Bridge St., Watsonville, CA 95076. Other arrangements can be made by leaving a message at the Temple with Jackie, (831) 724-7860.

Items not welcome (don't even think about 'em):
Mattresses, TV, computers, e-waste, large appliances (washers, dryers, refrigerators), and anything broken, torn or dirty. We are not a substitute for the landfill or the dumpster.

The Temple Sangha wishes to thank all who helped, participated and patronized our 4th of July fireworks booth. Again, it was a sparkling fund-raising event.

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10am Sunday August 5, 2012

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

Chou Akiyama
Ken Arimura
Sadako Arita
Kenzo Etow
Ikuta Hashimoto
Kisae Hatsushi
Kazushige Jofuku
Eiji Kajihara
Evelyn Misao Koda
Hama Kowaki
Yoshiharu Kusumoto
Isaku Matsumoto
Joe Kazumi Morimoto
Tooru Muronaka
Sen Nakase
Junko Nakashima
George Nishita
Haruo Okamoto
Teruzo Ota
Juzo Sakamoto
Iwataro Sasano
Noboru Sukekane
Minoru Tanaka
Misu Tsuji
Gozaemon Wada
Hiromi Henry Yamamoto

The members of the 1966 ABA Board with Rev. Tsumura.

Kenjun Yorita

The Temple thanks all for making our obon festival of July 22 so much fun. Hundreds gathered to enjoy the food, entertainment, and odori. It was truly a festive event! We enjoyed and wish to thank Todd Guild of the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian for his reporting and coverage. (Todd enjoyed his visit to Kawakami, Japan, our sister city, with the middle school students of our Kawakami Sister City program.)
Watsonville Buddhist Temple August Calendar:
7-9 Tue-Thu Ministerial Fuken
10 Fri 2 pm San Juan Howakai
8 am-3 pm Rummage Sale
11 Sat 8 am-1 pm Rummage Sale
6 pm Appreciation Dinner & Bingo
19 Sun 10 am Sunday Service
22 Wed 7 pm Ministerial Affairs Meeting
25 Sat 5 pm CDABA Steak & Bingo, Morgan Hill
28 Tue 7 pm Teriyaki Meeting

BWA: members are planning to get together for a lunch at the Bangkok West Restaurant on Aug. 15, 2012 at noon. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Kitako Izumizaki before August 10. Don’t miss out!

Congratulations to Scott Nagamine, recipient of this year’s scholarship. Phyllis Nagamine (left) accepted it on behalf of her son, Scott, from BWA President Kitako Izumizaki

ABA: Don’t forget the Appreciation Dinner on Sat., August 11. All Temple members who helped during the year are invited. Steven Tao and the Scouts, who rebuilt the BBQ pit, and Graniterock Company (the late Bruce Woolpert), who donated the materials, are invited.

YBA: We hosted the Denver YBAers, 18 kids and 3 chaperones on July 13th and 14th. We had fun with our booth at the obon. Many loved our curry dishes, and since it was a typical, cool Pajaro Valley evening, people came back for more! Thank you!

Our YBA has some new members coming in and we look forward to their participation. We will be losing two to college, but we know they’ll be back to help us with our activities during college breaks.

Dharma School: Steven Tao is the recipient of Dharma School’s Vickie Usuki Memorial Scholarship, presented by Lily Hasebe-Hester during obon.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Kitako Izumizaki
Don’t sit all alone in your room, come to our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center’s “cabaret” Well, it’s may not be a cabaret but it is fun!

If you enjoy playing free bingo, celebrating special birthdays and holiday occasions, and going on trips, and would like to regularly receive health information and have your blood pressure monitored, join us for our Thursday get-togethers. We’d love to have you, your spouse and/or friends join us. Please contact Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 for registration information.

Since our Senior Center operates under the auspices of both our local JACL chapter and the National JACL, we encourage all members of the Senior Center to become members of the most dynamic JACL chapter in the nation, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter.

In July, Seniors enjoyed more birthday cakes and ice cream than is usual. July birthday honoree, Dr. Masako Miura’s son, Hans Goto, brought over a special cake to celebrate her 98th birthday, and the grandchildren of Sunao Honda sent over a cake to celebrate his 77th birthday. For Sunao’s birthday, the head table held 3 large birthday balloons and as party favors, all received a package of anpan to take home.

Our YBA kids from left to right: Cecilia (trying to get her last name), Michael Handa, Melissa Tao, Steven Tao, Julian, Nakanishi-Rodriguez, Chris Inokuchi, Corey Inokuchi, Kevin Yamaoka, Danny Souza, Hayley Sakae, Kelly Maemura.

Elen Hanayama with her favorite Minnie Mouse fan and friends, Kiara and Makema Nitao.
Many thanks for the wonderful job done by Eiko Stewart, 1 bag candied ginger.

Toshiko Tsudama,Sadly, we lost another member from our group,

On June 28th, we were surprised by the family of Inako and Roland Johnson who feted the Seniors with a lovely and delicious cake in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary. Daughter Bobbi Jo Palmer brought the flowers and the souvenir chocolate candy for all. With all the cakes and ice cream recently, no wonder our health monitor comes so often to take our BP (blood pressure). Thanks to Cindy Mine, we are still okay.

Making her annual visit from London was Sandy Sams, daughter of Kitako Izumizaki. Also visiting were members from the Watsonville Residential Care Center with gifts of tissues and a box of seasoned seaweed.

Sadly, we lost another member from our group, Toshiko Tsudama. A moment of silence was held in her memory before the start of our first July meeting.

Many thanks for the wonderful job done by tobans for this month: Judy Hane, Motoko and Kinji House, Kumiko Nakatani, Eiko Stewart, Shirley Nishimoto, Susan AmRhein, Sachi Snyder, and Sunao Honda.

Monetary donations gratefully received were from: Michiko Hamada, Motoko House, Kumiko Nakatani, Sunao Honda, Ray Sako, Chiyoko Yagi, Nobue Fujii, Floy Sakata, and Sandy Sams.

The Family of Toshi Tsudama donated in memory of Toshi Tsudama, and in memory of Francis Hoshideyama donations were received from: Richard and Haruyo Ishibashi, Paul Mizokami and Nancy Yamada, Shirley Nishimoto, and Marcia Hashimoto, Ichiro Hoshiyama, Darryl Hoshiyama, and Debbie Chan.

Other donations gratefully received:

**Kinji/Motoko House**
8 boxes Kleenex, 3 rolls Viva Towels, 1 hand soap, 4 pkgs soba, lge bottle dish soap, doz tissues

**Jean Akiyama**
5 bottles Dawn

**Sayuri Horn**
1 bag ginger cookies, 1 bag candied ginger

**Eiko Stewart**
24 bottles water, 8 rolls paper towels

**Rubie Kawamoto**
2 pkgs almond cookies, 3 bags chagashi, doz sq Kleenex

**Haruyo Ishibashi**
2 bottles Dawn
doz tissues

**Hisako Uemura**
7 plates inari sushi, 5 boxes Kleenex

**Jane/Jiro Sugidono**
4 boxes Kleenex, 5 bottles Dawn, 2 dish soap, 1 hand soap, 4 pkgs plastic food containers

**Miye Yamashita**
Lge jar animal cookies, lge bag chips

**Betty/Fred Oda**
5 pkgs of seasoned seaweed, 8 giant rolls paper towels

**Toshi Yamashita**
1 pkg aji nori, 1 bottle shoyu, 5 pkgs banana cake

**Mitzi Katsuyama**
2 bags chagashi, 6 paper towels

**Haruko Yoshii**
2 crates strawberries

**Paul Tao**
2 bottles Dawn
doz tissues

**Shirley Nishimoto**
4 doz eggs

**Nancy Iwami**
doz tissues

**Nancy Iwami**
doz tissues

**Sunao/June Honda**
3 lge boxes Puffs, an pan, flowers and lots of strawberries, raspberries for all for Sunao’s birthday, 8 bags tangerines

**Eiko Ceremony**
2 bags sun chips, 5 cans tuna
doz tissues

**Kitako Izumizaki**
8 rolls Viva towels
doz tissues

**Mitsuko Ruble**
4 bags Cheese Puffs

**Chiyoko Yagi**
5 boxes trash bags

**Yoshino Matano**
9 rolls Charmin tissues

**Sam Sugidono**
3 boxes foil

**Terry Hirahara**
6 sq Kleenex, 3 Scrubbies

**Nobue Fujii**
5 lge box manju, 1 bag senbei, 2 cans green tea

**Edna/Yukio Nagata**
8 rolls paper towels, 2 bags chagashi, 4 boxes Kleenex
doz tissues

**Kumiko Nakatani**
6 cantaloupes

**Aiko Nitao**
9 bunches flowers

**Michiko Hamada**
5 bottles Dawn
doz tissues

**Sandy Sams**
8 cans Mandarin oranges,

**Yaeko Cross**
4 bunches flowers

**Alan/Betty Yagi**
41 packages fresh salmon!

**Iwao Yamashita**
1 pound bag Cheese Puffs

**Susan AmRhein**
6 bags yellow plums

**Kim Fuji**
3 boxes Ziplock sandwich bags,

**Eiko/Yamato Nishihara**
6 rolls tissues
doz jars strawberry jelly

**Phil Shima**
2 bottles Dawn

**Akira/Hide Nagamine**
12 bags cucumbers

**Hisako/Akira Kodama**
6 bags green beans,

**Inako/Roland Johnson’s family**
8 rolls paper towels

Again, many thanks for your continuous generosity. Keep well, and keep coming.

Upcoming activities at the Senior Center

**Thurs., Aug. 2, 9, 23, & 30**
Regular Bingo

**Thurs., Aug. 16**
August Birthday Party

**Thurs., Aug. 29**
Solvang/Chumash Casino
**SENIORS’ CORNER**

**WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JA CL SENIOR CENTER TOURS**

**One-Day Senior Trip**

**Solvang/Chumash Casino, Santa Ynez**

Visit to Solvang before going to Chumash Casino

**Wed., Aug. 29, 2012, 7:30 am to 8:00 pm**

$20 e-cash; $12.95 buffet with player’s card

**Cost:** Active Senior Members $40; others $45

Still taking reservations: Call Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto 464-6721

If you have suggestions for places where our Seniors would enjoy a one-day or multiple-day trip or you can help in the planning of such trips, please call Carol Kaneko at 476-7040. We are open to your suggestions. Thank you.

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**ARE YOU OR SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY IN NEED OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?** by Cindy Mine

Medical equipment is getting more expensive to buy. However, if you or someone you know, perhaps someone who is elderly or recently injured and who needs a walker, walker with a seat, cane, crutches, shower chair, commodes, incontinence pads, chux pads, wheel chairs (not shown) and/or other equipment/materials, please call me at 818-1511. We have them to use free of charge.

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**IN REMEMBRANCE ... TOSHIKO “TOSHI” TSUDAMA**

Toshiko “Toshi” Tsudama, a long-time Watsonville resident, passed away peacefully on Friday, June 29, 2012 at the age of 89.

Toshiko was born in Fowler, CA on January 2, 1923 to Hikoichi and Yaeko Tara. She was the second of five daughters: Yoshiye (Yo), Toshi, Chiyeko, Emiko (Emi), and Fujiko (Fudge). The growing family lived in Fowler and Selma in the Central Valley making their living working in the farming community. Toshi graduated from Selma High School in 1940 and began working.

In 1942 the family was interned at Gila River, Arizona where Toshi did “light office work” while her two younger sisters attended high school. Toshi left camp for Cleveland to join her older married sister. Toshi attended services at the local Buddhist Church and there she met her future husband, Masato (Mas) Tsudama. When WWII ended, Toshi’s family returned to Parlier in the Central Valley.

Mas and Toshi were married in Fresno on March 4, 1946 and joined the Tsudama family in Alamosa, Colorado. Their first child, Donna, was born in 1947. They moved to Fresno shortly thereafter, and Toshi worked in a fig factory for a short time. Their first son, Ted, was born in Fresno in May 1951.

In June 1951, the growing family moved to Watsonville to manage a zucchini farm. A second son, Sonny, was born in 1953 but did not survive. The family moved to a house on the outskirts of Watsonville to try their hand at farming strawberries. In 1956 the family moved to “town” where their third and fourth sons were born, Dick in January 1957 and Bill in December 1957.

Toshi and Mas opened their own business, Flowers by Toshi in 1976, and operated this shop together for eight years until Mas’ death in 1984. Toshi continued in the business with her son Dick until 1985 when the store was sold to Ryoko Haneta Kozuki. Toshi married Fred Nakagawa in 1989 and enjoyed traveling and spending time with family and friends. She continued working part-time at the shop into her 80’s. After Fred’s death in 2000, Toshi further reduced her hours at the shop and then fully retired when she was 85.

Toshi was preceded in death by her husbands Masato Tsudama and Fred Nakagawa, her son Sonny, her parents and step-father Saburo Oda, her sisters Chiyeko and Fudge (Sasaki), and in-laws Ben and Sue Tsudama, Jack Tsudama, and Betty Tsudama. Toshi is survived by her four children: Donna Yokomizo (Clifford), Ted (Shirley), Dick (Joan), and Bill (Kathy); sisters Yo Kaita (Kay) and Emi Kaita (Roy), in-laws Minky Tsudama (Hiro), Helen Tsudama, Gary Tsudama, Kiyo Inn (Harry), step-daughter Linda Wilson (Rick), 8 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and grand nieces and nephews.

Toshi was involved in many organizations affiliated with the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and enjoyed activities at the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese Americans Citizens League Senior Center. She enjoyed making jams, jellies, Japanese pickles and a variety of dessert items for family and friends and spent time reading, sewing and handicrafts, but especially loved watching Korean dramas. Toshi was beloved for her generous spirit and friendly though shy personality.

A memorial service was held on July 7 at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Donations in her memory may be made to the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville 95076.
YONEKO NIKI SHIKUMA

Yoneko Niki Shikuma died peacefully in Seattle on May 23, 2012 at the age of 97.

Niki married Kenji Shikuma in 1950 and lived in Oregon with Kenji and son, David. They rejoined the Shikuma clan in Watsonville in 1955, working on the family farm and becoming an active member of Westview Presbyterian Church for 43 years. She moved to Seattle’s Keiro nursing home in 1998 to be near her son Stan and her brother Bob. Niki is preceded in death by husband Kenji and son David. She is survived by daughter Shizue Shikuma, son Stanley (Tracy Lai) Shikuma, brother Bob (Carol) Okano, daughter-in-law Jean Shikuma, grandchildren Heidi, Jason, Kiyoshi, Misa and great-grandson TJ, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held for Yoneko Niki Shikuma on August 4, 2012 at 2 pm at Westview Presbyterian Church, 118 First Street, Watsonville, CA. Donations may be sent in her memory to the Seattle Keiro, 1601 East Yesler Way, Seattle, WA 98122, Westview Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 2505, Watsonville, CA 95077, or to the charity of your choice.

AMIKO “EMIKO” KUSUMOTO

Amiko “Emiko” Kusumoto passed away at the age of 93 on July 8, 2012 at Valley Convalescent Hospital, which had been her home, since February of 2007.

Emiko was born in Brawley, CA on February 23, 1919. Her family moved to Japan in 1924 but returned in 1941. Emiko returned to marry Kajizo Kusumoto.

In 1942, along with 120,000 Japanese Americans, they were incarcerated in Poston, AZ camp. Their first son, Roy, was born there. In 1944, they moved to Preston, ID, where Fred was born.

In 1948, they returned to Watsonville, where Lee was born. This also marked the beginning of years in strawberry farming, mostly associated with Driscoll, lasting until retirement in 1985.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kajizo Kusumoto (2005); sisters Chieko Yamada, Masumi Kusumoto, Tazuko Horiye, Miyuki Yamada, and Takuye Yamada. She is survived by sons Roy Kusumoto (Jo-An), Fred Kusumoto, and Lee Kusumoto; sister Sadako Yamada; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, July 14, 2012 at Watsonville Buddhist Temple.
[Editor’s note: David Lin is the first non-Nikkei elected to lead our organization. He brings a wealth of talent and experience to our organization.]

Two non-voting positions on the board were appointed by the national president. They are:

Floyd Shimomura  Legal Council
Carol Kawamoto  Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Chair

Current district governors include:

Marcia Chung  Central California District Council
Toshi Abe  Eastern District Council
Jeanette Misaka  Intermountain District Council
Chip Larouche  Pacific Northwest District Council
Kenneth Inouye  Pacific Southwest District Council
Stephanie Nitahara  Midwest District Council
David Unruhe  Northern California Western Nevada and Pacific District Council

43rd NATIONAL JACL CONVENTION
Bellevue, WA- The Japanese American Citizens League National Council met at the 43rd National Convention to establish the direction of the organization for 2013-14. A key action taken by the Council was the ratification of a Power of Words Handbook, a 14-page resource that includes recommended terminology for discussing and describing the Japanese American experience during World War II.

The following resolutions were also adopted by the National Council:

1. A resolution affirming JACL’s support for the pursuit of justice and equality for the Wards Cove cannery workers (H.R. 4275, Congressman Jim McDermott’s “Justice for Wards Cove Workers Act”). The resolution urges courts to restore access to remedies under the 1991 Civil Rights Act, and to return the burden of proof to the employer in discrimination cases.

2. A resolution to establish a JACL award in honor of Governor Ralph L. Carr to recognize individuals who have acted courageously to protect civil rights.

3. A resolution affirming JACL’s support of access to Medicaid coverage for Micronesians in Hawaii. The resolution requests the Honorable Neil Abercrombie, Governor of the State of Hawaii, and the Honorable David Louie, Attorney General of the State of Hawaii, to withdraw the appeal of Korab v. McManaman currently before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals of the United States.

4. A resolution affirming JACL’s support of restoration of federal health benefits for Micronesians living in the United States pursuant to the “Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2012” (S. 2474) introduced by United States Senators Daniel K. Akaka and Daniel K. Inouye.

5. A resolution affirming JACL’s support of the creation of a permanent memorial at Tanforan Assembly Center, using language consistent with Power of Words Handbook.

6. The National Council voted to amend the constitution and bylaws to change the title of “National Director” to “Executive Director.”

CONVENTION REFLECTIONS by Tosh Tanaka
Thank you, chapter members, for allowing me, with Jeanette Hager, to represent Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL at this year’s National Convention! My gratitude is two-fold: I am grateful to have the trust to vote my conscience in representation of our chapter and its individual ideas. I am also very grateful for the generosity of our chapter to cover the cost of travel, registration, and stay; without that assistance, I would not have been able to attend.

Some highlights as I recall them:
Being tired from leaving Santa Cruz at 4 a.m.
Seeing all of those chairpersons for the business session just amazed me.
Nominations Committee work was like helping put on the show.
Speaking about the Power of Words document from the floor was really thrilling.
Meeting so many folks from our district and across the country made it all that much more memorable.
Thank you again.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO
by Bonnie Chihara
On July 7th we played at New Brighton Beach for their annual Campfire Days program. It was cold and drizzling but the crowd of campers enjoyed the evening and eagerly joined in the audience participation led by Karen Groppi and Naoko Yamamoto.

Then, on July 22nd we, Dave Thayer, Karen Groppi, Joyce Smith, Eugene Bush, Sandy Allen, Aaron Ruddick, Taeko D’Andrea, Edward Hernandez and Kathy Brown, participated first in the Wharf to Wharf running/walking fund-raiser (Santa Cruz to Capitola’s wharves). Photo by Herlie Kataoka.
That evening, we played at Watsonville Buddhist Temple’s Obon Festival starting with our youth group:

Nathan Hopkins, Amir Roque, Inti Roque, with Cheyenne Avina and Becka Lindquist who played Jumping Tiger and Kodomo Bayashi. Photo by Tom Conant.
Also participating this year were Naoko Yamamoto, Taeko D’Andrea, Herlie Kataoka, Wilma Field, Bonnie Chihara and Hiroshi Musselman. We always enjoy participating in this community event and look forward to playing taiko, enjoying the good food and the dancing.

On Sunday, August 26th, Bonnie Chihara will be having another card-making workshop at the W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn St., Watsonville, CA 95076 from 1 pm to 4 pm. In this class we will be making cards using the Hanko Design technique called paper quilting. We will be using origami paper to create beautiful cards to keep or give away to your friends and family. If you’ve taken this class before, you may take it again since there are many designs from which to choose. Cost is $15 and includes all supplies. This is also a fundraiser for Watsonville Taiko. Call Bonnie Chihara at (831) 662-1895, or email her at kyoko55@hotmail.com.

Then, on Sunday, October 28th, Watsonville Taiko will be having a Holiday Boutique fundraiser at the W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall. We will be selling unique gifts just in time for your holiday shopping. More information will be forth coming.

Our other upcoming scheduled events include:
Aug 5 Cabrillo Music Festival, Santa Cruz
Aug 18 Energy Fair, Cabrillo College STEEP Watsonville
Aug 19 Peace Day, La Selva Beach
Aug 26 Aromas Day, Aromas
Sept 22 Walk to end Alzheimer's, La Selva Beach
Sept 23 Kidrageous/Jacobs Heart, Watsonville
Nov 18 Big Sur Half Marathon, Asilomar
Dec. KSBW Share Your Holiday

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!
Congratulations to Katsumi Kinoshita, bonsai master and sensei, and to Larry Oda, elder of the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple and former President of the National JACL. They will be presented with certificates of commendation by the Consul General of Japan, Hiroshi Inomata, for their contributions to better cultural relations and understanding between Japan and the United States.

A ceremony will be held on Wednesday, August 1, 2012 from 5 pm at the Temple.

18TH ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
It will be held in historic Downtown Watsonville on August 4th and 5th. Along with the traditional gourmet strawberry items and “contests,” over 30 food vendors will present an array of delicious international foods, and over 60 arts, crafts, and commercial booths will be displaying their wares. There’ll be a family carnival and music to suit all tastes including local, regional, and internationally acclaimed artists.

This year, again, there will be an exciting bicycle race snaking around local closed streets and is sure to bring excitement at every turn. The Central Coast Muscle Cars will return this year with vintage rides from automotive history.

For information including stage schedule, parking information, and event times visit our website: www.celebratesstrawberries.com.

[Editor’s note: Thank you, City of Watsonville, for improving our many streets with new paving! The bikiers will love ‘em.
It’s “our” Watsonville strawberry festival! We should all come out to support it for Watsonville strawberries are the world’s best!]

(1) ONLINE BEGINNING CHINESE LANGUAGE COURSE PLUS IN-PERSON TUTORIALS OFFERED BY YAMING SHEN

[Editor’s note: Cabrillo College instructor Yaming Shen was selected by Congressman Sam Farr to give this year’s keynote address to the new US citizens at the “Proud to be an American” program on July 3, 2012 at Cabrillo College.
Yaming grew up in Communist China where she was the “black daughter” of her father, a scholar during the time of the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. Granted residency, she was determined to earn her American citizenship. As one who encountered prejudice and “misunderstanding” even by those in today’s academia, Yaming elected to join our W-SC JACL.
To the new citizens, Yaming stressed the importance of voting and volunteering with educational and social justice organizations. She is today working to eliminate prejudice and “misunderstanding” by offering courses in Mandarin language courses and Chinese art. We are delighted to be able to help the Chinese and Asian Studies program.
Our W-SC JACL is in support of these classes and hope you can help provide monetary assistance.]

This online beginning level Chinese course parallels Yaming Shen’s regular Chinese-1 (CHIN-1) course at Cabrillo College. She will provide step-by-step arranged online instruction and office hours, online and face-to-face.
This online course is offered to:
(1) Provide an opportunity to those who cannot take Cabrillo College’s regular course for whatever reasons. You can arrange your own lesson schedule, take this course long-distance, or repeat the CHIN-1 even if the college does not let you retake CHIN-1, or you simply wish to be free from tests and grades but still wish to learn Chinese. Cabrillo’s 2012 fall CHIN-1 course is already full with a long waiting list.

(2) Help more students prepare for Spring CHIN-2 class. Yaming will personally manage this course to make it parallel to her regular CHIN-1 and certify your eligibility for CHIN-2, and

(3) Raise funds for the Spring Chinese classes. This class will help sustain the Chinese and Asian Studies program at Cabrillo College. The instructor will volunteer her time, and your payment will be a tax-deductible donation.

All class fees will go to a trust fund handled by the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. After reimbursing material expenses, the W-SC JACL will transfer all donations collected to the Cabrillo College Foundation to support the Chinese and Asian Studies program. The deadline for this fund-raising is early September, 2012.

This course is not a credit-earning course offered by Cabrillo College. However, if you need Cabrillo College credits for transfer, you may discuss the possibility of independent studies CHIN-80s and/or credit-by-exam during the first few weeks of the course. You may also consider taking credit-by-exam in a future semester after you are sure that you have mastered CHIN-1 materials.

Dates/Time: August 28 to Dec. 13, 2012; anytime online.

Office hours for face-to-face help: Thurs. 5:45 pm to 6:35 pm (location to be announced).

Online office hours and Group Tutorial Houses: TBA.

Cost: $295 including all material fees. We appreciate it if you can chip in more. (Note: if you take the regular CHIN-1 with its co-requisite CHIN-51L, which is mandatory, the tuition/fee is $262 for a CA resident, not including any material fee, which may cost an additional $100 or more. By taking this course online, you can enjoy a tax benefit and feel proud to be supporting a good cause.)

Registration deadline: August 15, 2012. Early registration is strongly encouraged.

Contact: ChinaViaBrush@gmail.com for registration form and more information. Current contact person is Robbin Finnerty.

Comments from students:

Daniel, who used the online materials: “The online lessons provide great visuals, and the on-the-go resources allow me to fit studying time into my busy schedule.”

Renee, who took private Business Chinese lessons with Yaming “What I very much appreciate about the lesson with you is your aptitude in assessing the student’s capabilities, goals, and charting a plan to take their capabilities and reach those goals.”

James, who took CHIN-1 says, “This teacher (Yaming) made Chinese learning fun and exciting.”

Recommendation: Do not pass the opportunity to join Yaming’s group tutorials.

(2) CHINESE ART APPRECIATION-1: BRUSH CALLIGRAPHY HISTORY

Chinese brush calligraphy is considered to be the highest art form in East Asian cultures. This course will take you on a historical journey exploring this amazing art form. We begin with newly discovered rock carvings that show Chinese characters from at least 4,000 years ago and continue with interesting archeological discoveries that exposed large quantities of bone-oracle inscriptions dated around 3,000 years ago. Follow the evolutionary path of calligraphy from one historical style to another up to the classic period about 1,000 years ago. Explore the styles and works of the famous calligraphers through the classic period. Learn how to analyze their styles, appreciate their pieces, and gain insights into their life stories. Continue the journey with a survey of accomplished calligraphers in later dynasties, important developments in calligraphy, and calligraphy in modern days.

This course will open a door for you to explore an incredibly unique art world, and can serve as a lead-in or follow-up to other classes or lectures Yaming teaches (namely, the hands-on Chinese Brush Calligraphy class through Cabrillo Extension and the Chinese Art Appreciation class lecture series). This course can also benefit those who seek more comprehensive understanding about Chinese language, culture, and art, or those who would like to be inspired by East Asian or other kinds of art and history.

A light dinner will be served while you enjoy each class. Please list any dietary restrictions on the registration form.

This class is part of a fund-raising effort to sustain the Chinese and Asian Studies program at Cabrillo College. The instructor Yaming will volunteer her time, and the class will be a tax-deductible donation. All class fees collected will go to a trust fund handled by the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League (W-SC JACL), a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. After reimbursing material expenses, the JACL will transfer all donations collected to the Cabrillo College Foundation to support the Chinese and Asian Studies program.

Dates/Time: Two Friday evenings August 24 and September 7 from 5 pm to 8 pm.

Location: To be announced upon registration (probably in the Cabrillo College area).

Cost: $80 including material fee. We appreciate it if you can chip in more.

Deadline registration; August 15, 2012. We appreciate early registrations.

Contact: ChinaViaBrush@gmail.com, current contact person is Robbin Finnerty.

For questions on this and the Chinese Language course, please direct them to Yaming Shen, Cabrillo College, 6500 Soquel Drive Apts, CA 95003.
**2012 PACIFIC RIM FILM FESTIVAL**

Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, an organizing committee member, has informed us the dates have been set for Friday, October 19 through October 24, 2012. The 23rd annual PRFF will be held at the Del Mar Theater, Rio Theatre, Regal Riverfront Twin Cinema in Santa Cruz and at Cabrillo College’s Watsonson Campus on Union Street. The films selected reflect the theme, “When Strangers Meet.” Great international films from the Pacific rim are carefully chosen for our Santa Cruz County residents and friends.

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is a major film sponsor, and at last year’s event, we featured the highly acclaimed film by Junichi Suzuki, “442 – Live with Honor; Die with Dignity;” the story of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, as an introduction to the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal in Washington, D.C. to the men of the 100th/442nd/MIS.

Become a 2012 Friend of the Film Festival by donating $35, or $60 for two. You will receive an invitation to attend the Sponsors Night Reception (great food by talented chefs) at The Museum of Art and History at the McPherson Center in Santa Cruz on Saturday, October 20th, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, followed by a screening of the Saturday night feature film at the historic Del Mar Theater at 8 pm; have reserved seating for the Sponsor Night Film; an acknowledgment in the Festival Program; and an exclusive mailing of the complete film schedule, film synopses and additional information.

Your tax-deductible checks made payable to the Pacific Rim Film Festival [(501) (c), (3)] should be sent to Pacific Rim Film Festival, c/o Amy Doherty, 227 Grant Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 by September 12th, 2012.

And, if you can volunteer to help, let Amy know. You’ll be contacted by Mitchell Toshitsune, Volunteer Coordinator.

The major sponsors—Ow Family Properties (George Ow, Jr.), Santa Cruz Weekly, UCSC, and Donald Richards—continue to make this cultural and educational event open to the general public and FREE OF CHARGE, with one exception of the closing night benefit, a fund-raising event.

**JEANNE WAKATSUKI HOUSTON’S ON TO FRESNO, THEN LOS ANGELES**

Our Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston has had a busy speaking schedule as part of the “Searching for Democracy and California Reads” program.

The Fresno County Public Library will present an outstanding series of programs and activities centering around Jeanne W. and James D. Houston’s famous and most important book, *Farewell to Manzanar*. It is part of the state-wide discussion on democracy and the wartime incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans during WW II. Check out their website for the complete program for children, young adults and seniors.

Jeanne will speak on Friday, August 24, sponsored by the Fresno City Library and the Fresno City College Speakers Forum. Then, she flies to Los Angeles to make another presentation to our Los Angeles friends.

California Reads is made possible with support from Cal Humanities in partnership with the CA Center for the Book and the CA State Library.

**MIDORI KAI ‘S 12th ANNUAL BOUTIQUE**

by Pam Yoshida

Midori Kai, Inc., a non-profit professional business women’s organization, will feature its Twelfth Annual Arts & Crafts Boutique on Saturday, September 8, 2012, from 9 am to 4 pm at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Gymnasium, 575 N. Shoreline Boulevard, in Mountain View, California.

This boutique features the works of Asian American artists and crafters from throughout the western United States and Hawaii. There will also be a food sale and a raffle.

Entertainment this year, includes performances by the Halau of Auntie Sandy Kanae No’eau Schiffbauer at 10:30 am and ukulele artist, Jason Arimoto at 2:00 pm.

All, 100%, of the proceeds from the boutique are awarded to nonprofit organizations. This year’s recipients are: Asian Americans for Community Involvement, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, National Japanese American Historical Society—Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center, and Yu Ai Kai (Japanese American Community Senior Services).

For more information, contact Phyllis Osaki at (925) 596-1770 or Marsha Baird at (510) 579-1518. Boutique updates will be posted on the Midori Kai website: www.midorikai.com.

**WILLIE’S NEW CLOTHES**

Attention All Wildcatz!

Enough funds have been raised for the new “Willie, the Wildcat” mascot uniform. Watsonville High School wishes to thank all the students, alumni and friends who supported our cause. This is a testament to the commitment to our school. Once again, thank you to those that have helped resurrect our mascot.

Go, ‘Catz!

Bob Ash, President WHS Boosters’ Club

**WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL**

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. Comments are always welcome. You may email us at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

Check out our full color newsletter at www.watsonvillesantacruzjac. And, thank you for reading our “stuff.”

Enjoy!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor.
(1) Bruce Yamamoto takes the place of his late father, George Yamamoto, with Jackie Yamashita selling udon tickets; (2) the 3 pm heating udon crew—Franz Steidl, Lloyd Tanimasa, Sean, Isamu Akiyama, Stuart Sakuma are all smiles; (3) Susan Uyematsu, Tracey Haneta, and Phyllis Nagamine sold chicken teriyaki; (4) our BWA ladies—Ryoko Suruki, Kumiko Nakatani, Aiko Nita, Hisako Kodama, Nancy Tamaki, Kiiko Akiyama made the tastiest sushi in the world! (5) our patrons enjoying the food before the dancing begins; (6) young Jason Kadotani Barte, grandson of David and Jeanni Kadotani, is ready for some serious dancing; (7) Rev. Shousei Hanayama leads the Sangha in gassho with Christine Bowes; (8) Nancy and Reed Kuratomi, Nita, Kiiko and Isamu Akiyama, Sadao Matsumani, Keiko Hanayama; (9) Shizuko Tao leads her grandson, Ethan Tao; (10) Christine Bowes kept beautiful beat throughout the obon; (11) obon odori sensei Akemi Ito taught everyone the dances (photo by Todd Guild of the Pajaronian); and (12) obon odori leaders sensei Akemi Ito with Hayley Sakae, Kaitlin Sakae, Sarah Nagamine, Melissa Tao, and sensei Lisa Honda.
William Miller buys a Gakko tote bag from Kia Blaustein; (2) Aimee Mizuno taught Shoren Hanayama the “head, shoulders” song. Holding the mike is Niki Miller and pointing to her atama is Gakko’s principal, Alison Niizawa; (3) Hundreds of parents, grandparents, supporters and friends enjoyed the program; (4) 6th graders in kimono were Sydney Ota, Kaitlin Sakae, Alia Niitake, Audrey Bennet, Ruby Brancher, Carter Kimura, Summer Hashimoto, Hannah Hamalainen, and Tabitha Hashimoto; (5) teacher Alicia Shinn displays the work of her students; (6) presenting certificates of appreciation were Niki Miller and Principal Niizawa to this year’s teachers were K-Debbe Hoshiyama Chan and Marcia Hashimoto, 1st grade Alicia Shinn, 2nd grade Melissa Eguchi, 3rd grade Michiko Matano, 4th grade Laurel Nakanishi, 5th grade Francisco Esparza, 6th grade Aimee Mizuno; (7) friends and parents admire the work of 5th/6th graders; (8) seated Eric Koji Nagamine, Jordan Hajime Chin, middle row Hanako Blaustein, Jaime Sakuma, standing Eriko Camille Kamimura, Tyler Sakae Kashiwagi, Gus Kenzo Bracher, missing is Sydney Midori Yamanishi.
Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter
National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

2012 Membership Form for the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

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 or a US citizen 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 and respected Asian American civil rights organization in the nation today.

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 2011 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 Hager at the address listed below.

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:

c/o Jeanette Hager, Membership Chair, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077

Thank you so much for your support.

Check out our websites: watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org or jacl.org.