“Searching For Democracy” California Reads

Thursday, May 3rd at 7 pm, an “Evening with Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston,” co-author with James D. Houston of *Farewell to Manzanar*, will be presented. It will be held in the Conference Room, 4th floor, new City Hall, 275 Main Street, Watsonville, CA 95076 (drive from the Rodriguez Street entrance and park your car at the very top; free parking). Don’t miss this very special opportunity to meet and talk with Jeanne!

**WHY SHOULD WE HONOR OUR ISSEI PIONEERS**

by Mas Hashimoto

Tamakichi Nakamura, Zentaro Ikeda, Kikuiro Hamabe, Gunshin Tagawa, Ayako Sekigahama, Hidemaro Sashihara, Matsujiro Kogetsu, Shizuyoko Yamaoda and thousands before them landed upon our shores in the 1890s. These names are of real people who lived, worked, and died here in Watsonville at the beginning of the 20th Century. They came from Okayama, Hiroshima, Kumamoto, Fukuoka, Wakayama, Kagoshima, and other prefectures of Japan.

The Issei journeyed to America, not sure of the reception they would receive. Yes, they were aware of the discrimination leveled against the Chinese in this country. Still they came—young, eager, hard-working, and so hopeful. All possessed a rudimentary education granted by the *Meiji Government*. If they could read and write in Japanese, they could think for themselves. They could grow and contribute.

Many of the young women came as “picture brides.” My mother was one of them, and she was grateful. The wives often worked along side their husbands in the fields, carrying their newborn on their backs.

Rowe strawberry field, along now what is Riverside Drive, CA Highway 129. Photo courtesy of PVHA.

They had to adapt and to adjust. Learning English was most difficult. When my mother spoke of “goru damu sakana fishi” we couldn’t help but break into laughter. It was her “god damn son of a bitch!”

Though hard work and many personal sacrifices, they inched their way to success for the first time. They banded together in little *Nihonmachis* where they found comfort, companionship, and community assistance. When they couldn’t get bank loans for their enterprises, they formed their own associations and borrowed from themselves! When someone died unexpectedly and the family didn’t have burial money, the community took up a collection—*koden*—to help the family. This tradition/custom continues to this day.

It was the Issei who taught their children, the Nisei, whether it be credited to *Bushido* code, Confucianism, Shintoism, or Buddhism, the meaning of *on* (honor, loyalty), *oyakoko* (love/respect for your family), *haji* (shame, never to bring shame to the family), *shikataganai* (somethings can’t be helped), *gaman* (to persevere), *wa* (harmony), *shinbo shite* (patience, strength and success will come out of adversity), filial piety (respect for parents and ancestors), *nakayok* (play/work nicely together), *enryo* (modesty), *giri* (duty, obligation, justice), *Chushingura* (story of sacrifice for honor by the 47 ronins), and others that inspired the Nisei soldiers during World War II.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto [www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org](http://www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org). Newsletter, then the month.
While the *Issei* looked to the future in America, they always kept close ties with their native country and its culture. Narrow-minded and hateful Americans continued to ridicule any and all things Japanese. They passed hateful laws against the *Issei* which, in fact, were signs that the *Issei* were actually succeeding.

The *Issei* managed to save, to possess a farm and/or home, and to send their children to college. That many of the college-educated *Nisei* ended back on the farm was not the fault of their *Issei* parents. A discriminatory work force—including labor unions which didn’t wish minorities in the workforce—hindered the educated *Nisei* from securing jobs in their major field. Some with scientific degrees used their knowledge and research techniques to assist their fathers on the farm.

That the *Issei* with their *Nisei* children were making some headway in the late 1920s was of concern to some Americans. But, the Great Depression that began in 1929, affected the *Issei* as well and was a financial setback. The Depression continued for years. The depth of the Depression was in 1935 when fewer babies, for economic reasons, were born than in the previous year or after. This editor was born in 1935.

By the end of 1941, our *Issei* parents were once again climbing their way to show some financial gains. They had purchased new tractors for the farm or accumulated a new inventory for their stores, and the future looked brighter indeed—that is, until December 7, 1941. The majority of the *Issei* questioned the logic or need of making war against the United States and the Allies. Surely, they were disappointed. Many were angry.

After the Pearl Harbor attack, the *Issei* in our community were stripped of their leadership role. It was now the duty of the *Nisei*, through its National JACL, to carry on and to look after not only the elderly *Issei* but the infant *Sansei*. There were plenty of both in every community.

At the December 1941 meeting of the Watsonville Buddhist Church Board of Directors, the *Issei* resigned to pass the leadership to the *Nisei*, all of whom were still in their early 20s. The *Issei* had confidence in the young adult *Nisei* that they would carry on and safeguard the church’s possessions and teachings. After all, weren’t they taught the values by the *Issei* generation? Harry Yagi, then a recent newly-wed (he was married on Nov. 30, 1941 to Chiyoko Yagi), agreed to serve as one of the leaders going into Poston.

Life for the elderly *Issei*, particularly for the fathers, changed dramatically in “camp.” They were no longer in position to make the decisions for their families or for the *Nikkei* community. Many were distaught, having lost everything they had ever worked for and valued.

After “camp,” most of the *Issei* were too old to start all over again. Many had their stored possessions stolen. It seemed Egyptian grave robbers had gone through the storage warehouses!

In order to survive, they worked at whatever job opportunities there were, and there were so few. Some worked in the sardine factories of Monterey. Even, Dr. Frank H. Ito, a dentist, worked in the sardine factory until he earned enough money to re-open his practice. During WW II there was no rationing of fish. You could eat all the fish you wanted without an Office of Price Administration’s permission. But, now even the sardines were gone, and so were those jobs.

Slowly, ever so slowly, the *Issei* reorganized their lives for the few remaining years left. Quietly, they passed on, leaving a legacy that has never been fully appreciated by the *Nisei* and *Sansei*.

As students, while researching various topics, we were taught “to give credit where credit is due.” The Nikkei nation has yet to honor our *Issei* immigrant pioneers.

We’ve been in this country for over 125 years. We owe so much to the *Issei* pioneers who endured great hardships. They were often cheated out of their wages but continued to work earnestly building a reputation of integrity.

We need to honor the legacy of the *Issei* pioneers. One suggestion? Ask the US Postal Service to assist by issuing commemorative stamps acknowledging the *Issei*, those incarcerated during WW II, the MIS, 100th RCT, and the *Sansei-Yonsei-Gosei* generations.
TEACHING ABOUT OUR JAPANESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE CONTINUES ... by Mas Hashimoto

In April, I had the privilege and honor of speaking to the most diverse groups ever—from elementary students to university professors—and giving presentations as short as three minutes and as long as 90 minutes.

On April 20th, at the investiture of Federal Judge Evan J. Wallach (above) to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, I was honored to present this invocation. (This court, in Washington, D. C., is located close to the White House.)

Mr. Chief Judge Rader, members of this honorable court, ladies and gentlemen.

I am honored to participate in this ceremony that confirms my dear friend, Evan J. Wallach, to this court.

Evan’s wife, Katherine Tobin, is one of the most gifted students I had the privilege of teaching.

My name is Mas Hashimoto. I was born and raised in Watsonville, CA. Watsonville is located south of Norman Mineta's San Jose and north of Leon Panetta's Monterey.

Norm is 3 years older than me, and Leon is 3 years younger.

I have been a farm worker, a soldier in the US Army, and a teacher of United States History.

But before that, I was a Prisoner of War for three and one-half years during WW II, held by my own country without charges, attorney, or trial. I was 6 years old in 1942. Here is my federal prison number—12524 D. I was incarcerated, along with 120,000 others, without due process of law. Gordon Hirabayashi, who passed away this past January, stated, “Ancestry is not a crime!” Our fellow countrymen didn’t trust us. It was not the Constitution that failed us. It was the failure of political and judicial leadership.

Judge Wallach knows of our suffering and pain, of our humiliation and shame, and of our loyalty and devotion to the Constitution.

“We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union”—first had to establish justice—to create a set of courts and a Bill of Rights—-for without justice there can be no tranquility, providing, promoting, or securing the blessings of liberty and of human dignity. For without justice there can be no peace.

The federal courts are the first and last bastion of our form of democracy.

As a representative of the ordinary citizen of this great nation, I, along with my wife, Marcia, am grateful to our President and the US Senate for confirming the nomination of Evan J. Wallach to this honorable court.

Blessed are we for we can trust in Judge Wallach’s integrity, character, and strength of judgment. He will continue to be our guardian for all that is sacred, fair and just. Thank you.

On April 26th, at the invitation of Librarian Watonka Addison of the Watsonville Public Library, I explained in the Story Time Room to the elementary students and their parents the difficulty of learning in “camp” without books, desks, paper, crayons, pencils, or professionally trained teachers.

Adults made little benches out of scrap wood for us. This kindergarten classroom was held in the block's laundry room.

How fortunate today’s students are! I reminded them that teachers are among the best friends they will ever have.

Our Nikkei community is grateful to the teachers who kept in touch with us (Dear Miss Breed), who wrote letters of recommendations to our college-bound students, and who welcomed us back in September of 1945.

In the morning of April 26th, teacher Mike Aubuchon of Monte Vista Christian High School invited me to speak to his World History students.

On April 30th, I spoke to the 250 students of Professors Alice Yang and Alan Christy’s “Memories of World War II” at the University of California in Santa Cruz.

For Friday, May 4th, Shigeko Sekine, president of the Foreign Language Association of Monterey County (FLAMCO), a member of the Monterey Bay World Language Project (MBWLP) and a faculty member at California State University, Monterey Bay, extended an invitation to speak to the language arts professors.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM TO GORDON HIRABAYASHI

Washington, D.C. - The White House announced today that President Obama will honor Gordon Hirabayashi with the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously.

The Nation’s highest civilian honor is presented to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other
significant public or private endeavors. The awards will be presented at the White House in late spring.

President Obama said, “These extraordinary honorees come from different backgrounds and different walks of life, but each of them has made a lasting contribution to the life of our Nation. They’ve challenged us, they’ve inspired us, and they’ve made the world a better place. I look forward to recognizing them with this award.”

The following thirteen individuals will be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom: Madeleine Albright, John Doar, Bob Dylan, William Foege, John Glenn, Gordon Hirabayashi, Dolores Huerta, Jan Karski, Juliette Gordon Low, Toni Morrison, Shimon Peres, John Paul Stevens, and Pat Summitt.


Gordon Hirabayashi openly defied the forced evacuation, relocation, and internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. As an undergraduate at the University of Washington, he refused the order to report for evacuation to an internment camp. He instead turned himself in to the FBI to assert his belief that these practices were racially discriminatory. Consequently, he was convicted by a U.S. Federal District Court in Seattle of defying the exclusion order and violating curfew. Hirabayashi appealed his conviction all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled against him in 1943. Following World War II and his time in prison, Hirabayashi obtained his doctoral degree in sociology and became a professor. In 1987, his conviction was overturned by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Hirabayashi died on January 2, 2012.

JACL National Executive Director Floyd Mori stated: “The JACL is especially pleased with this high honor which will be presented posthumously to Gordon Hirabayashi. He had the courage and fortitude to stand up for civil rights during a difficult period when racism against Japanese Americans was rampant. We commend Gordon for his valiant effort and thank President Obama for this honor to Gordon which is an opportunity to tell the story of innocent Americans of Japanese descent during World War II when the Constitution did not protect them and preserve their rights.”

TENTH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF “LIBERTY LOST … LESSONS IN LOYALTY” by Mas and Marcia Hashimoto

On Saturday, April 27, 2002, Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL produced the first and only reenactment of our wartime “eviction” and “incarceration” during WW II in the nation. We wanted our nation to know of the hardships the “internees” faced and overcame.

In our logo (the artistry of Andy Fukutome), we have barbed wire running through the American flag for we were prisoners of war, held in captivity by the authority of our own government, the United States of America.

Our reenactment goals were threefold: (1) to tell the stories of the families who were forced to move from their homes to isolated, desolate places and to live in guarded confinement; (2) to honor our local Nisei war heroes of the 100th/442nd/MIS—Shig Kizuka, Harry Madokoro, Henry Arao, Mitchie Miyamoto, Henry Izumizaki, and Thomas Sakamoto; and (3) to thank those Chinese and Caucasian American friends who stood by us when it was not popular to do so. They were loyal to us as we were loyal to the Constitution of the United States.

On Saturday, April 28th, 2012, a small group of us gathered to remember and to reflect on the past ten years. Mas Hashimoto welcomed and thanked everyone for their continuing support.

Henry Izumizaki was named for his 100th/442nd RCT uncle, Henry Izumizaki, who was killed during the Battle for the Lost (Texas) Battalion. He spoke about the Izumizaki family.
Brig. Gen. Harold “Hal” Hyde (US Army, ret.) spoke of his friend, Mitchie Miyamoto, a 1939 graduate of Watsonville High School and the designer of the famous 100th/442nd RCT patch, and of the assistance of Watsonville’s Ford’s Department Store to those incarcerated. Ford’s opened charge accounts when the banks froze the accounts of the Nikkei depositors.

US-born Iwao Yamashita was stranded in Japan when the war broke out in December of 1941. Listening intently were Fred Oda, Sunao and June Honda, Betty Oda, Chiyoko Yagi, Nancy Iwami, Kitako Izumizaki, and in the back Marcia Hashimoto, Keiko and Rev. Shousei Hanayama.

Several of our important participants have passed on. Among them are Shig Kizuka, Henry Arao, Matt Matsushita, Joanne Resetar, Charlie Iwami, and George Cowles, and we miss them dearly.

Jane Borg wrote to us from Seaside, Oregon. “For the Liberty Lost ... Lessons in Loyalty Committee: Please find enclosed a donation for the 10th anniversary of an event, unprecedented in the history of Watsonville, and yet of significance for each one of the many ethnic groups who are the history of the Pajaro Valley. I am grateful to have been a small part of this memorable event. As this year’s anniversary takes place, I especially honor Tea Asami Hashimoto, Nancy Iwami and Kitako Izumizaki, and remember Joanne Resetar and Walter Hashimoto. Thank you, Jane Borg.”

Johnny Hideki Yamashita 72, of Salinas passed away from complications of ALS, “Lou Gehrig’s disease,” on March 27, 2012. He was born in San Jose, California on January 20, 1940 the oldest of four children, to Kiyomi and Hideo Yamashita.

He attended schools in the San Jose and Palo Alto areas. In 1959, he joined the Air Force and was stationed
in Alaska. Upon his return to civilian life, Johnny moved to Watsonville to help his parents with their carnation nursery and formed HK&J Yamashita, Inc. He met and married his wife, Helen and had three children, Annette, Craig and Derek. In 1993, he began working for Natividad Transplant Nursery, and they moved to Salinas in 1997.

Johnny was affiliated with the Palo Alto Chrysanthemum Association, was an active member of the Buddhist Temples of Salinas and Watsonville and volunteered with the I-HELP Program. For many years Johnny was involved with his children’s activities, coaching his daughter and sons’ basketball teams and assisting with Little League Baseball.

He is survived by wife Helen of 47 years; daughter Annette of Campbell; sons Derek of Salinas, Craig (Nickie) of San Jose; mother Kiyomi Yamashita of Union City; three sisters Noriko (Oscar) Sakamoto of Fremont, Hiroko (David) Yoshida of Menlo Park and Karen (Stanley) Mason of San Jose; uncle Iwao Yamashita of Watsonville; aunt Etsuko Yano of Palo Alto; uncle Sadame Yano of Roseville and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He is preceded in death by his father Hideo.

A special thanks to Drs. Warren Nishimoto, Wayne Shen and Catherine Loman-Hoerth for their extraordinary help and support; Joe Crawford, John Maddock, Veteran Affairs; Victorian Home Care of Monterey (Mary Jane, Sumaria, Veronica, Ana, Angie, Matthew, Sonya), Central Coast Senior Services (Carmen, Monique), VNA/Hospice of Salinas/Monterey and Windsor Garden Rehabilitation Center.

A memorial service was held at the Buddhist Temple of Salinas, 14 California Street, Salinas, CA 93901 on Saturday, March 31, 2012.

YUKIO JOE SHINGAI (1918-2012)

Mr. Shingai was born February 23, 1918 in Gilroy, CA. Growing up in Castroville, CA, Joe was one of five children, born to Tomizo and Seko Shingai. During WW II, he served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) as a Technical Sergeant. Following the war, he relocated with his family to San Juan Bautista. He married Tsunaye Jean in June of 1948.

Proud to be a farmer he took great pride in his vegetables. At age 88, he stopped working in the fields but continued to take produce to the market with his son Bob until his death at age 94 on April 15th.

He was most proud of his family and six grandchildren. He was a member of the Watsonville
Buddhist Temple, San Benito Howakai, San Benito County JACL, Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, and the San Juan VFW Post.

Memorial services were held on April 20th in Hollister.

We send our condolences to the Yamashita and Shingai families, relatives, and friends.

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

Also receiving the Congressional Gold Medal at the San Jose Betsuin ceremony were MIS Sam Shingai, shown here with Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, and 100th/442nd RCT veteran Jiro Sugidono, shown here with Congressman Mike Honda.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

The Annual Nisei Veterans Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 19th, 2012 at Roberts Park (above Oakland) in the East Bay Regional Park District. Veterans of all wars and their families are invited. The Memorial Service starts at 12 noon, and it will be followed by a potluck lunch in the Bay Vista Picnic Area.

For more information and directions, please contact: Lawson Sakai, lawson.sakai@gmail.com, or call at (408) 782-2054.

DONATIONS, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM …

City of Monterey, Library for Mas’ presentation
Gary Kono

In memory of John Tsukiji from …
Howard and Aileen Tsukiji
Ichiro “Sam” Sugidono
West Lake Fresh
Chiyeko Shikuma

In memory of Goro Ishizaki of Sacramento from …
Chiyeko Shikuma

Watsonville Taiko for use of hall

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB’S 39th ANNUAL EXHIBIT by Don White

Watsonville Bonsai Club will present its annual bonsai exhibit, May 6th, 2012, from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm, at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St.

Over 50 trees of all sizes and ages will be on display, including a 500 year-old California juniper. Event is free but a small donation would be appreciated.

Demonstration by club sensei, Katsumi Kinoshita (assisted by club president, Iwao Yamashita), at 1:30 pm will be followed by a raffle of bonsai material, including the demonstration piece. Plant and pot sales of all types will be available. Tea and cookies will be served. There’s plenty of parking, so we would like to see you there!!

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAiko by Bonnie Chihara

On April 14th, Watsonville Taiko performed at the Pinnacles National Monument. Even though the weather was chilly with the threat of rain, we enjoyed playing to a small but enthusiastic crowd. Two of our newest members Kay Miyamoto and Nise Louie were brave enough to join us in playing Zuii. Afterwards some of us went on a short hike and saw some spectacular scenery.

After the Pinnacles performance we headed to Morgan Hill on April 15th to participate in the Haru Matsuri. Then, we performed at Gavilan College on Tuesday, April 17th and Mount Madonna School on Friday, April 20th. What a week!

Having fun at Gavilan College are (l-r) Sandy Allen, Naoko Yamamoto, Sensei Ikuyo Conant, Herlie Kataoka and Wilma Field. Photo by Nick Vassallo.

Coming in May is our Taiko Drumming for Kids. This workshop will be held at the Santa Cruz Grey Bears, 2710 Chanticleer Avenue in Santa Cruz.
Watsonville Taiko kids who enjoy performing at the Haru Matsuri (l-rt) are Kellie Kataoka, Inti Roque, Amelia Katz and Nathan Hopkinson. Photo by Tom Conant.

These classes are set for 4 Sundays--May 20th to June 10th—from 1-2 pm. Cost is $45 and is open to children ages 8-11. This class is taught by Naoko Yamamoto. Please contact her at (831) 689-9316 or by email at naokoy@earthlink.net.

We will have a second class for 4 Sundays beginning July 8th to July 29th—same time, location, and cost. This class is taught by Bonnie Chihara. Please contact her at (831) 662-1895 or by email at kyoko55@hotmail.com.

Our schedule is packed right now:

- April 28th: Cherry Blossom Festival, Cupertino
- April 29th: Big Sur Marathon
- May 4th: International Day, San Lorenzo Valley High School
- May 11th: Linscott Charter School
- May 19th: Rejuvenation Festival, Santa Cruz
- May 31th: Japanese Student Assoc. Matsuri, UCSC
- June 16th: Japanese Cultural Fair, Santa Cruz
- June 23rd: JACL Picnic, Aptos Village Park
- June 24th: Private Party, Soquel
- July 7th: Campfire Days, New Brighton State Beach
- July 22nd: Watsonville Buddhist Temple Obon Wharf to Wharf, Santa Cruz
- Nov. 18th: Big Sur Half Marathon.

Maundy Thursday, part of the over 20 people enjoying the potluck. All photos by Randy Mano.

Maundy Thursday Diane Mio, David Kadotani giving the elements for communion to Yukio Nagata, Eric Wong and Ashley Erbe.

The children are anxious to look for Easter eggs!

WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS by Randy and Tracy Mano

Maundy Thursday was officiated by Rev. Cheri Holland at Westview on April 5th. Maundy Thursday is observed during Holy Week on the Thursday before Easter. Also referred to as “Holy Thursday” or “Great Thursday” in some Christian denominations, Maundy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper when Jesus shared the Passover meal with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. People bought dishes to share as we broke bread together and afterwards we took communion.

Maundy Thursday Diane Mio, David Kadotani giving the elements for communion to Yukio Nagata, Eric Wong and Ashley Erbe.
Devon Wong, Jason and Elissa Barte are successful in finding many Easter eggs!

Little Jackson Fukutome (left) was the lucky winner of the giant bear. His older brother Max pets the big bear. Right: Patrick Castro was introduced as our new Youth Leader.

Patrick has worked with youth in the past and is from Scotts Valley. Please join him and all the youth every first and third Friday each month at Westview Church in the gym from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.

Easter Sunday this year turned out to be a beautiful day. So, this year we were able to take an outdoor group picture. Thanks to Stan Mano for taking the picture. Pastor Dan’s sermon was “Easter: An Invitation to The Feast of a Lifetime!”

On Sunday, April 15th, seven people joined the Westview family and became members. They are Gabriela Church, Marlon and Evelyn Veil, Tracy Mano, Leslie Hoffman, Wauhillau and Kevin Erbe. Each new member received a new NIV Study bible from Westview Church. We all enjoyed a “Welcome to Westview” cake during fellowship after the service.

Eight attended Woman of Westview (WOW) movie outing to Morgan Hill to watch October Baby on April 15th. It is based on a true story of a 19 year-old college student named Hannah. She goes on a road trip to find answers about her past after she found out she was adopted. Hannah ultimately discovers how powerful God’s forgiveness can be.

A few of us braved the elements of cold and rain and journeyed to Mt. Madonna Center to explore Hinduism at the outdoor temple. It has been a wonderful bible study series learning about other religions. Come and join us for our bible study. For more information please call Westview Church at (831) 724-6222.

HANAMATSURI AT THE TEMPLE

This year, Easter and Hanamatsuri fell on the same day this year—Sunday, April 8th. So, the Buddhist Temple adjusted its celebration to Sunday, April 15th so that all can enjoy both important religious holidays.

Elren Hanayama greeted everyone with flowers and a smile to the Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 15th.
During the service, Jean Akiyama pours sweet tea over the statue of Shakyamuni Buddha in the hanamido while Rev. Shousei Hanayama looks on.

Shakyamuni Buddha in Lumbini’s Garden (hanamido); Danny Souza and Hayley Sakae are scattering paper petals.

Matsuyo Tao’s beautiful ikebana arrangement.

Watsonville Buddhist Temple Calendar for May 2012:

1 Tues 7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting
2 Wed 1 pm BWA Meeting
3 Thu 10 am ABA Meeting
5 Sat 10 am Sunday Service & Shotsuki Hoyo
8 Tues 5-9 pm Temple’s Cassidy Pizza Night
9 Wed 7 pm Study Class
11 Fri 2 pm San Juan Howakai
13 Sun 10 am Sunday & Mother’s Day Service with Rev. Kurt Rye of Fresno
20 Sun 10 am Sunday, Gotan E & Late Bishop Memorial Services, Luncheon
22 Tues 7 pm Teriyaki Meeting
23 Wed 7:15 pm Coast District Meeting in San Jose

27 Sun Memorial Day Cemetery Services
  9 am Pioneer Cemetery
  10 am PV Cemetery
  1 pm Santa Cruz Cemetery
  3 pm San Juan Bautista
  4 pm Hollister Cemetery

Shotsuki Hoyo, May Memorial Service
10 am Sunday, May 6, 2012

Shotsuki refers to a gathering to give thanks to express gratitude for being able to find the meaning of life through the Nembutsu. Let us gather to remember and express our gratitude. The families of the following deceased of May are invited to attend the service and to Oshoko (offer incense):
VICKIE USUKI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Vickie Usuki Memorial Scholarship is awarded annually by the Watsonville Dharma School in memory of Mrs. Vickie Usuki, a Dharma School teacher. The $500 scholarship is open to any graduating high school senior or college student who plans to enroll in a college or university in the fall. For qualification and application forms, please contact Lisa Sakae, Lily Hester, Judy Nagamine or the Temple office. Applications must be postmarked by the May 31st deadline.

YBA Update March 2012

On March 10th, eight of our members attended the Bay District Conference up in Palo Alto. It was a big hit. Everyone had a great time. The girls got all dressed up in their pretty dresses, and the boys went all out on the bonfire, and then go to the Monterey Buddhist Temple to sleepover--have everyone meet at the beach, have a bonfire, and then go to the Monterey Buddhist Temple to sleep.

On April 6th we had a Coast District activity at the Santa Cruz Boardwalk and to the bowling alley right next door. We had some fun in the sun.

Did any of you attend the Pancake Feed on March 25th? If you did then you'll know just how yummy the food was this year, but if you didn't get to make it, don't worry, we have it every year so you can come next year.

On that same day we had our CD meeting in Salinas. There, we talked about what groups were attending the volleyball tournament (May 26th and 27th); who would be able to join us at the Boardwalk; the Coast District Conference in March of next year; and the Coast District summer activity. The CD Conference theme will be Harry Potter and the Path to Enlightenment and will be held at the San Jose Buddhist Betsuin. For our YBA summer activity we are thinking of doing a beach bonfire-sleepover--have everyone meet at the beach, have a bonfire, and then go to the Monterey Buddhist Temple to sleep.

ABA April 2012

An Making: Thank you to those who came to help skin the soaked lima beans, cook and change the water three times, cuisine the beans to a fine consistency, squeeze out the water by wringing it in a cotton rice bag cloth, adding sugar and mixing it until it gets watery, cooking and stirring it 45 minutes to evaporate the water, cooling it and packing it for the freezer.

Shotsuki Hoyo: ABA chairs the service. Tobans are asked to make the coffee and have refreshments ready, following the service.

Temple’s “New” Old Original Cookbooks are for sale for $25. You can buy them for gifts or for yourself. Ask Jackie at the Temple office: 724-7860.

Rummage Sale: The Temple will take over the rummage sale in August. We will help. The dates are Friday, August 10th & Saturday, August 11th.

2012 Kokoro no Gakko Registration

There are a few openings in a few grade levels. Call Tracy Hashimoto at (831) 726-6422 or tracyhashimoto@yahoo.com, or at the Temple office 724-7860 right away. Gakko will be from June 25 - July 6.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Kitako Izumizaki

April began with Seniors enjoying an Easter theme with spring flowers on each table and everyone receiving a small paper rabbit box with a chocolate inside. The head table held a large Easter lily surrounded by a family of ceramic rabbits in front of their tiny houses lit within by electric lights. Thanks to Helen Nakano and Susan AmRhein for the decorations.

The following week found Seniors celebrating Hanamatsuri with members of the Buddhist Temple bringing a monetary gift and a whole sheet cake.
Shoren arrived later when school was over. Aileen Kawasaki, President of Buddhist Women’s Association (BWA), gave greetings, thanking the Seniors for the kind invitation. Mrs. Yoshino Matano and her students, Hisako Kodama, Jean Akiyama, Hide Nagamine, and Mitsuyo Tao arranged an enormous bouquet of bronze, yellow, and white mums and yellow lilies.

The BWA then sang Happy Birthday Oshakasama and handed out copies of the song so others could participate. Guests were Rev. and Mrs. Hanayama and children, Kiiko Akiyama, Aiko Nitao, and Aileen Kawasaki from the BWA.

Words of appreciation were given by Paul Kaneko who said we had a lot to be thankful for. He praised the unwavering support from the Temple and thanked the BWA for the gifts and the entertainment. Paul also thanked Westview Presbyterian Church for all their support and for making both Easter and Christmas a fun time for Seniors. The day ended with a bountiful Imura buffet.

Happy April birthday to Hisako Uemura! The above photos courtesy of Carol Kaneko.

Mitsuko Ruble brought her great-niece, Yoko Osako, who is from Japan, to visit our Seniors. This spring’s issue of Focus magazine had a photo of one of our members, Alice Tanimoto, who is an occupational therapist at Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz.

Cindy Mine came to take blood pressure twice this month. She also gave a talk about the dangers of taking certain drugs. People on Coumadin, for example, must be tested regularly. She also passed out everyone’s Medical History Information form and asked us to each update our form and return it to her. A Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) form was passed out, and Cindy explained how to use it.

Carol Kaneko passed out the activity calendar for May/June. On May 8, a bus load of Seniors will be off to visit the Japanese American Museum San Jose before having lunch at Tatami Sushi and Seafood Buffet in Cupertino. Westview will be having a driving class for Seniors from 1-3 pm on May 7. Interested Seniors are asked to sign up to attend Broadway San Jose’s production of Mary Poppins in San Jose on June 6. It will be an evening show so we will leave about 5 and return about 11 pm.

Thanks to all the tobans for a job well done: Sachi Snyder, June and Sunao Honda, Mitsuyo Tao, Edna Nagata, Shirley Nishimoto, and Susan AmRhein.

Upcoming events: See Seniors’ Corner, page 19.

Monetary donations gratefully received from: Mari Okabayashi, Betty Yagi, Chie Sakaue, Family of John Tsukiji, BWA, Miye Yamashita, Shirley Nishimoto, and Hisako Uemura.

Other donations gratefully received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount/Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judy Hane</td>
<td>doz big rolls paper towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June/Sunao Honda</td>
<td>14 plates sushi, 6 pkgs cookies, doz Kleenex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul/ Carol Kaneko</td>
<td>doz Coumadin, 12 rolls paper towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miye Yamashita</td>
<td>4 pkgs Japanese cookies, doz paper towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louise/Ray Sako</td>
<td>1 large tea kettle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko Ceremony</td>
<td>6 rolls paper towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toshi Yamashita</td>
<td>1 case seasoned seaweed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michiko Hamada</td>
<td>lots of lemons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinji/Motoko House</td>
<td>doz double roll tissues, 5 bottles Kleenex, 7 bags Nestle mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chie Sakaue</td>
<td>5 bunches flowers, pkg manju, iris flowers for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Nishimoto</td>
<td>4 doz eggs, 3 can openers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko Ceremony</td>
<td>3 pkgs assorted wafer cookies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisako Uemura</td>
<td>6 rolls paper towels, 3 sq boxes Kleenex, doz tissues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitsuko Ruble</td>
<td>3 boxes Kleenex, 2 sq Kleenex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hide/Akira Nagamine</td>
<td>8 bottles Dawn, 9 bags cucumbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiyoko Yagi</td>
<td>8 lge paper towels, 3 bottles Dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobue Fujii</td>
<td>3 mega rolls paper towels, box of lemons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Akiyama</td>
<td>4 boxes Kleenex, 4 bottles Dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisako/Akira Kodama</td>
<td>6 jars tsukemono</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary/Cindy Mine</td>
<td>God Bless America CD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Nakano</td>
<td>carrot cake for all for Easter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaeko Cross</td>
<td>doz rolls Bounty paper towels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonnie Chihara</td>
<td>4 furoshiki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haruko Yoshii</td>
<td>3 lge boxes Kleenex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubie Kawamoto</td>
<td>2 pkgs cookies, doz boxes Kleenex, 2 pkgs almond cookies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yoshino Matano</td>
<td>5 small Jpn plates for raffle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan AmRhein</td>
<td>2 bottles hand soap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Okawachi</td>
<td>10 pkgs candy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitsuyo Tao</td>
<td>3 laundry bags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimi Fujii</td>
<td>8 rolls tissues, 3 bottles Dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances Hoshiyama</td>
<td>4 cartons of mixed fruit cups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitzi Katsuyama</td>
<td>5 pkgs banana bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edna/Yukio Nagata</td>
<td>4 boxes Kleenex, 2 bottles hand soap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca of WTG</td>
<td>2 raffle gifts for Mother’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko Stewart</td>
<td>doz Kleenex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iwao Yamashita</td>
<td>teriyaki chicken for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko/Yamato Nishihito</td>
<td>2 doz jars of strawberry jam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westview Presbyterian</td>
<td>Easter candy for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dylan, Aubrie &amp; Alex Matsuo</td>
<td>2 pound box of truffles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many, many thanks for your continued support. You
should be proud of yourselves for supporting your senior center so enthusiastically. Keep well and keep coming.

Returning soon to our JACL Kizuka Hall wall will be “The Suggestions of Life” by Yukichi Fukuzawa (1835-1901). He was a famous sensei/educator. He established Keio University.

The most honorable thing in the world is to have vocation to continue in all life.
The most miserable thing in the world is not to have any educational training and knowledge.
The saddest thing in the world is no job to do.
The ugliest thing in the world is to envy the other person’s life.
The most respectable thing in the world is to volunteer to help the others and never expect returns.
The most beautiful thing in the world is to love everything.
The most regrettable thing is to lie.

His portrait is on a 10,000 Yen Japanese bill.

[Editor's note: Thank you, Rev. Shousei Hanayama for this information and translation.]

CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE DONATION

April 16, 2012

Mayor Eduardo Montesino
275 Main Street, 4th Floor
Watsonville, CA 95076-5133

Dear Mayor Montesino:

The Japanese Government, through its Consul General of San Francisco, Hiroshi Inomata, wishes to donate a cherry tree as a gesture of friendship to the City of Watsonville. Japan appreciates and acknowledges the warm friendship of peoples that has existed here in Watsonville since 1885.

One hundred years ago, in 1912, the first cherry trees were donated by the City of Tokyo to our nation’s capitol, Washington, D. C. Each year, the Cherry Blossom Festival in Washington, D. C. brings millions of admirers to view the famous cherry blossoms along the Tidal Basin.

Some eighty years ago, the Japanese Association of Watsonville donated cherry trees to the City of Watsonville and to the school district. During World War II, those trees at Callahan Park were cut down. Only one tree remains, and it is located at Watsonville High School. It is barely alive, ravaged by termites, vandals, and improper pruning.

Will the City of Watsonville accept this donation? As a suggestion, the tree could be planted in our City Plaza with an appropriate ceremony in May.

I can be reached at (831) 722-6859, email at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076.

Sincerely,
Mas Hashimoto,
Board Member

Cc: Council member Daniel Dodge
[Editor’s note: arrangements are forthcoming for the date, time, and place. We will keep you informed.]

FIVE CHERRY TREES ON FREEDOM BLVD

An update: The five cherry trees donated and planted a year ago by SC Co. Supervisor Greg Caput are doing well. Their double pink blossoms are now emerging.

[Editor’s note: Thank you, Rev. Shousei Hanayama for this information and translation.]
POSTONITES: FUNDING NEEDED TO RELOCATE HISTORIC POSTON BARRACK

The Poston Community Alliance is in immediate need for additional funding to relocate a barrack in its original state from Parker, Arizona to Poston Camp I Site. The historic preservation team is struggling to find funds to stabilize the fragile barrack before our deadline of May 15. Although the Alliance has already received $31,000 from the National Park Service and $10,000 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, to meet the requirements of the Department of Interior, an additional $10,000 is required.

Please if you as a Postonite can spare $10, $20, or whatever, please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Marlene Shigekawa, Treasurer
Poston Community Alliance
956 Hawthorne Dr.
Lafayette, CA 94549

MOTHERS AND CHILDREN OF POSTON ARE SOUGHT FOR DOCUMENTARY FILM

The Poston Community Alliance is searching for former internees who were mothers during their time of incarceration at Poston and also their children to participate in a new documentary film. The Alliance has received funding from the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grants Program of the National Park Service to produce a short documentary film on “Poston's Mothers and Babies.”

This film will be looking at life in Poston through the perspective of women who gave birth and raised children in camp.

According to the directors of the film Joe Fox and James Nubile: “We believe this documentary will break new ground by shining a light on the heart and soul of the camp experience—the mothers.”

Please contact Marlene Shigekawa, producer, at marshige@comcast.net or at (510) 290-1944 if you know of anyone who may qualify.

JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR, JUNE 16, 2012
by Paul Kaneko

Once again, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter will be one of its major co-sponsors of the Japanese Cultural Fair (JCF) in Santa Cruz. Over the years, this very popular event has helped give the chapter and the JACL a public face in the overall community as not only an important organization defending the civil rights of all people and educating the community about the injustices to the Japanese American community during World War II but also one that supports cultural pursuits as well. The chapter’s vendor booth is well known for its information and the sale of hot tea, locally grown produce, and obentos provided by Timmy Hunt of the Pono Hawaiian Grill at the Reef.

The JCF is a non-profit organization that serves Santa Cruz and the entire Monterey Bay area. The mission of the JCF is “to improve mutual understanding among neighbors of the Pacific Rim and thus enrich community life through education, entertainment, and exposure to Japanese arts, crafts, cuisine and customs. . . .” The organization has no staff or overhead. The primary driving force behind it is its volunteer’s love and appreciation of the traditions of Japanese culture and a desire to share it with the larger community. Its primary source of financial support is through donations and grants. Anyone who is interested in getting involved with the Fair may join its many committees and/or Board of Directors. We can always use the help.

This year, the JCF will be doing something very special to mark our twenty-sixth year as an event. It will be videotaped in its entirety. This is in direct response by many people who have attended our Fair and who have also visited Japan on business or pleasure. They have remarked that much of what has been presented at the fair is becoming harder and harder to find in Japan itself. For this reason, the JCF has made arrangements to have the entire event (all three venues simultaneously) video-recorded for a historical documentation. Community Television will produce a 30-minute documentary after the event and videotape footage of each performance will be made available to each group for their own use—for their historical record or performance portfolio, publicity, fundraising, etc.

If you can, please join us at the Fair on June 16th. It is truly a family-oriented event and is free of charge. Free parking will again be available at the County Government Center on Ocean Street with a free shuttle to and from the Fair. For the fitness-conscious, a free bicycle valet will be provided at the park.

Of course, any financial contributions to the Fair will be very much appreciated as it is always needed to keep the JCF going. Your tax-deductible donations may be sent to: JCF, P.O. Box 3458, Santa Cruz, CA 95063. For more information, please visit our web site: www.jcfsantacruz.org or call 831-462-4589.

If you’d like to get involved with helping in the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL vendor booth, please contact me at ptkaneko44@gmail.com.

KAWAKAMI CAR WASH

On Sun, April 29th, the Kawakami Sister City students and parents held a car wash at Ramsey Park, Main Street.

They needed to raise travel money to Kawakami, a small farming village of 5,000 in the Nagano prefecture, three hours west of Tokyo. The students will leave on Wed., May 9th and return on Fri., May 18th. Lynne Siqueiros, Phyllis Nagamine and the committee members thank all who support our Sister City Middle School Student Exchange Program. We'll have a full report on their trip to Japan. You will recall that last year’s trip was postponed because of the concerns regarding earthquake/tsunami/radiation.
We witnessed great teamwork with the parents and students washing and wiping as the photos show.

W-SC JACL MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL

We believe that all of Japanese ancestry—aliens and “non-aliens”—who reside in Santa Cruz County, Pajaro Valley, and beyond should belong to our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL. “Non-aliens” was a term used by the US Government for American-born citizens on the eviction—“evacuation”—notices of 1942. We welcome your membership and that of your family, relatives and friends. A membership application form is included in this newsletter.

Our membership is not restricted to those of Japanese ancestry but is open to all who believe in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Youths are particularly welcome. Their annual dues are only $25.

Our W-SC JACL is an educational, civil rights nonprofit organization dedicated to the cause of “liberty and justice for all.” We have no paid staff. All our board members and supporters are volunteers dedicated to serving you, your family, and the community.

The W-SC JACL is needed more than ever to safeguard the rights of those who cannot defend or protect themselves. We are perhaps one of the most active chapters. Besides civil rights we are involved with Nisei veterans issues, Seniors (elderly Nisei and some Sansei), building and maintenance (a safe place for our elders to meet), history projects, education about our wartime incarceration, hate crimes, disaster relief, health issues, gays and lesbians concerns, promoting cultural activities, presenting youth scholarships, and legislative initiatives.

During the past decade there has been a fearful division taking place between extreme political groups on the direction that America should follow.

We welcome and thank the following new members: Alan Yagi, Paula Cathey and Max Kelley, Sandra Allen, Hiroshi Fukurai, Ryan Kuratomi, Sally Mitani, Donald Yamaguchi, Ron and Barbara Perez and family, and Watonka, David, Braelen, and Skyler Addison.

If you have moved, please let us know your new address! When the newsletter and other correspondence are returned, the post office charges us both ways. Write to W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077 or email hashi79@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

JACL ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC, SAT., JUNE 23rd by Mas Hashimoto

Traditions should continue if they remain relevant. We believe our Nikkei community has an event worthy of your support and participation. Our 90+ year-old members remember attending the community picnic when they were children and when it was held at Palm Beach (today’s Pajaro Dunes).

Do you have to be a member of the JACL to attend? NO! Everyone is most welcome. We wish everyone to enjoy a fun-filled day. This is not a JACL fund-raising event. If we break even, then we are truly happy.

This annual community picnic not only brings together families, clans, and friends, but it also connects us with our not-too-distant past. We are reminded of the struggles and hardships the Issei faced a century ago, and by attending and participating in an event they established, we, in fact, honor them.

Why attend this event? Tradition! Some things we must do because it defines who we are as Japanese and Japanese Americans.

Mukashi, mukashi—in the old days (100 years ago)—families, both Buddhists and Christians, gathered for one day (that’s all the time they could afford to relax). One must remember that there were many places—some were public businesses—where Japanese and Japanese Americans were not welcomed. Aw, but the picnic? This was our event, and everyone was welcomed. Of course, our hakujin friends were invited, and they still are! Celebrate! Celebrate what? Another successful year. Our Issei immigrants were so grateful to have survived another year. They never had it easy when faced with so many discriminatory laws and practices. Picnic time was a celebration of community support.

It’s fun! Where else could your children and/or grandchildren run in races where they take a bite out of a yellow, takuan koko, just like in the old days? Come!

YOUNG SCHOLARS SOUGHT FOR THE KEE KITAYAMA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

High school seniors are encouraged to apply for the $1,000 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarships. More than one scholarship may be awarded. High school seniors must be Youth/Student JACL members ($25) which may be submitted with their application. At least one parent or legal guardian must also be a member of the W-SC National JACL. The deadline is May 21st.

Check our information flyer on page 16.

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.

Mas Hashimoto, Editor
ATTENTION: ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
AND THEIR PARENTS

KEE KITAYAMA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2012!

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The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter is delighted to announce that the 2012 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship(s) will total $1,000 or more for graduating high school seniors.

An applicant must be a 2012 National JACL Youth member ($25) with at least one parent who is also a 2012 member of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter and the National JACL. For JACL membership forms, please contact our membership chairperson Jeanette Hager at jeanette.otsuji.hager@gmail.com or (831) 768-8689.

There are no application forms for our Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship. However, interested high school seniors must submit the following information:

1. Official high school transcript with grade point average and class standing;
2. A résumé of school, community, and civic activities and awards, including your involvement with JACL;
3. A statement regarding your future goals and objectives;
4. One letter of recommendation from a non-relative adult;
5. One wallet-size photo (yearbook or graduation style with a light background if possible);
6. An essay of 500 to 750 words on either topic: "The Significance of the 'Day of Remembrance' Observance Today," or "Remembering the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988 (Redress and Reparations Act)."

Research materials on either topic are available by contacting Mas Hashimoto, hashi79@sbcglobal.net, the public libraries, and/or checking the Internet. Parents, grandparents and other relatives who were interned in America's concentration camps and who received the apology and reparations, are excellent sources of primary research information.

Send your completed forms to Mrs. Carol Kaneko, our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Scholarship Chairperson, on or before Monday, May 21st, 2012. They should be mailed to:

Mrs. Carol Kaneko, Chairperson
JACL Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA. 95077

The presentation of the scholarship will take place on Saturday, June 23, 2012 during the JACL Annual Community Picnic, Aptos Village Park in Aptos. Thank you.
THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL 2012 ANNUAL

Community Picnic

Join us for a day of fun! Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2012

11:00 AM – 4:30 PM
APTOS VILLAGE PARK
100 APTOS CREEK RD.
GPS: N 36 58.644, W 121 54.154

Lunch
TEENS & ADULTS TO 69 YEARS $7
SENIORS 70 YEARS & UP $4
CHILDREN 6 TO 12 YEARS $4
CHILDREN 5 YEARS & UNDER FREE

11:00-Noon Races and Senior Bingo
Noon Lunch! BBQ chicken, hot dogs, chili beans, rice, salad, French bread and beverages
1:00-3:00 More Races and Senior Bingo
3:00-3:10 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship Presentation
3:10-4:30 Raffle with many great prizes!

Featured Entertainment
Watsonville Taiko

General public parking is at the upper lot area. Clearance is needed for fire trucks, so there is no parking along the driveway down to the park.

Lower parking area is reserved for our volunteers, Seniors, handicapped, and Watsonville Taiko.

For more information, contact the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League:
Email: wsc.jacl@gmail.com or visit us at http://www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org
26th Annual Japanese Cultural Fair

June 16, 2012  11am-6pm
Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz

Free: Admission, Shuttle, & Bike Parking

Artwork: Diana Moll  Design: Steven Barisof  www.jcfsantacruz.org
Seniors’ Corner

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TOURS

One-Day Senior Trip
Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2012
Japanese American Museum in San Jose Agricultural Exhibit – Yesterday’s Farmer: Planting an American Dream
Lunch at Tatami Sushi and Seafood Buffet in Cupertino, shopping at Marukai, Daiso, Imahara’s, etc.

Cost will include bus, lunch and museum admission: **Active Senior Members $45 and others $50**

Mary Poppins – Broadway San Jose Musical at the San Jose Center for Performing Arts
Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2012  7:30 pm
Cost will include transportation and show ticket: **Active Senior Members $100 and others $105**
Taking reservations until Sunday, May 6 only. Cost may change depending on number of signups.
Reservations: Call Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto (831) 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.

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:
- Thurs May 3, 24, 31  Regular Bingo
- Tues May 8  Japanese American Museum San Jose/Tatami Buffet one-day trip 8 – 3 pm
- Thurs May 10  Mother’s Day Celebration – dinner at Hong Kong Garden  4:15 pm
- Thurs May 17  May Birthday Party

*Please join our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center! If you enjoy playing 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 and your spouse and/or friends join us. “Active Senior Center Members,” who have paid their membership dues and who make annual birthday and Senior Center anniversary donations, are eligible for reduced fares on our trips. 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 be members of the National JACL through our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter.*

HELP WANTED! The Senior Center is always looking for able-bodied, caring, fun-loving volunteers (any and all ages welcome) to help out weekly (or once a month or so) with toban duties. We need your help on Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:15 pm to help our toban teams prepare tea, set out the tea and snacks, and clean up. You are invited to play bingo with us while you wait for clean up time – who knows what goodies you might take home! Let us know if you can help out on one or more Thursdays each month. Call Susan AmRhein at (831) 724-9454 to volunteer and have some fun.
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: wastonvillesantacruzj acl.org or jacl.org.