SEPTEMBER 4-6, 1937 IN WATSONVILLE, THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING,

By Mas Hashimoto, Editor

We enjoy looking back at our beginning for it tells us how far we’ve come as a community. It also tells how much more work and dedication are required of us all.

The Watsonville JACL was founded in 1934 during the Great Depression by young Nisei, all of whom were in their twenties or early thirties. It was partly a social club where the young people could meet, socialize, and dance (oh, how they loved to dance to the music of the big bands!), but also it was an opportunity to discuss their future and that of their Issei parents with non-Nikkei members of the community who were supportive.

Little did they imagine that in just seven years (1941) a World War would forever change their lives. The fledging National JACL, with its few chapters, had no political influence. For that to happen, we had to wait until the post-WW II era when the record of the 100th/442nd/MIS and the stories of those incarcerated in “America’s concentration camps” became known and admired.

Since then, we have focused our energies as an educational, civil rights and cultural outreach organization. Our efforts were rewarded in 1952 when our Issei parents became eligible for American citizenship.

Then, on August 10th, 1988, redress (an official apology) and reparations ($20,000) were realized through the Civil Liberties Act. How grateful we were to all who played major roles in its passage.

Our most supportive JACLers today are now in their late 70s, 80s, and 90s. They are grandparents who quietly, with gaman, have shouldered the burdens of our wartime experiences for their children and future generations, kodomo no tame ni. They understand the importance of a functioning and dedicated JACL, both locally and nationally. We are grateful to these elderly and loyal supporters for they demonstrate each and every day the meaning of loyalty and American citizenship.

Three years after its founding the Watsonville JACL hosted the 2nd Biennial Convention in 1937 at several places around downtown Watsonville--the Resetar Hotel, Watsonville High School, I. O. O. F. Hall (destroyed in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake), Civic Auditorium (removed to expand the Watsonville Fire Department Station on Second Street), and Veterans Memorial Building (from which, on April 27, 1942, we were forcibly evicted from our homes and bused to the “Salinas Assembly Center”).

Among those assisting with the convention were the Chamber of Commerce of the Pajaro Valley, the American Legion, the Japanese Association, the Issei women of both the Buddhist Church and the Japanese Presbyterian Church (now Westview), and various advertisers.

Of the Federation of Northern California District Council, these JACL chapters attended:

- Alameda
- American Loyalty League
- Contra Costa
- Delta
- Eden Township
- Livingston
- Monterey Peninsula
- Oakland
- Parlier
- Placer County
- Reedley
- San Benito County
- Sacramento
- Salinas
- San Francisco
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara Valley
- Sonoma County
- Stockton
- Tulare County
- Washington Township
- Watsonville
- Yo Salano
- Y. S. B. C.

If you know who the American Loyalty League, Yo Salano and Y.S.B.C. chapters are, please let Mas Hashimoto know by calling (831) 722-6859 or email hashi79@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!

These Watsonville JACLers had the following assignments:

- Chairman: Dr. Harry Kita
- Secretary: James Sugioka
- Corresponding Secretary: Harry Yagi
- Asst Secretary: Martha Utsunomiya
- Finance Chairman: William Shirachi
- Assistants: Robert Manabe & Clifford Fujimoto
- Program Chairman: Thomas Matsuda
- Vice Chairs: Louis Waki & Tokio Matsushita
- Printing: Dorothy Marui
- Photography: Thomas Mori
Discussion Group: Frank Uyeda
Housing: Tom Mori
Publicity Chairman: Yoshiye Takata
Reception Chairman: Chester Murakami
Outing: Joseph Morimoto & James Asami
Registration: Frank Sakata & Helen Yuge
Convention Reports: Samuel Hada
Transportation: George Shirachi
Dance: George Yuge & Fred Matsuda
Pioneer Night: Henry Suezaki
Arrangements: Flora Ito

Tokio “Pat” Matsushita was our president in 1937 and 1938.

Their 1937 program highlights included:
1) A flag ceremony by the American Legion E. H. Lorenson Post 121. [Editor’s note: Dr. Frank H. Ito DDS of Chiba-ken, Japan (1887-1962), was an American citizen having fought in the US Army during WW I and a charter member of the American Legion post. He always attended the post’s luncheon meetings with a glass vial of shoyu in one pocket and another of tsukemono in the other pocket!]
2) Invocation was given by Rev. Allan W. Geddes of the All Saints Episcopal Church. [Ed. Rev. Geddes courageously wrote in support of us in 1942!]
3) A moment of silent tribute to the Japanese Issei Pioneers.
4) A roller skating party at the Civic Auditorium.
5) An outing at Seaciff Beach (see photo) that included fishing contests, swimming, baseball, volleyball, barnyard golf, horseshoe pitching, cards (probably bridge and not poker), and a golf tournament.
6) Interesting discussion topics included:
   Economic—
   Legal-Political—
   Fraternal Insurance, Voting, Immigration, and Endowment Fund.
   Social—
7) Sayonara Ball, Music by Slip Bohnett’s Orchestra.

Seniors will remember these stores and businesses that advertised in the program. Many were not in Nihonmachi. Bold print designates still operating today!

Standard Oil Co.; El Pajaro Gardens; Shell Oil Co.; Bank of America; Pajaro Valley National Bank (now Wells Fargo); J. C. Penny Co.; Mehl’s Funeral Home (Ambulance and Emergency Service); General Box Distributors; J. P. Freiermuth Co. (hardware, roofing); Matsuda Drugs; Buckhart’s (candy and ice cream), Boyer Fertilizer Service; Canton Market (Lew Kim); Yuen Tung Low (restaurant); Pep Creamery; John’s Shoe Store; Fox Theater; State Theatre; H. A. Hyde Co.; Barber shops—Charles’ (Iwami), Oda’s, Yagi’s, Nakata’s; Yagi Soft Drink Fountain; Ben Torigoe & Co. (guns, ammunition, fishing supplies, bicycles and repairing); Superb Market (Chinn Co.); M. L. Kalich & Co. (grower and shipper); Crowley & Traulsen Garage; Watsonville Press; Jolley’s Jewelers; Matsuda & Son (New York Life Insurance Co. rep); Pajaro Valley Fish Market (T. Yamashita, 188 Main Street, now 114 Union St.); Porter Drive Garage (Hamada Bros. Props.); Stepick’s Photographic Studio; Willy’s (Enomoto) Shoe Shop; Manseian Koto Buki (udon restaurant by Ikuta Hashimoto, my father); S. Martinielli & Co.; Fujiyama Co. of SF; W. W. Bendell’s Ford Motor (Louis Waki, mechanic); Aramaki Grocery; Portola Grocery (Herbert Y. and Portola Y. Takata); Mac. Kozni (shoe repair); Tokio Laundry (Ide family); M. Hashimoto, General Insurance; Wethey’s Electrical and Battery Service (cars); and General Petroleum Corp of California (Mobil Gas—Henry Suezaki, salesman).

Today, there are 33 Northern California chapters, including Japan and Reno. The 10 Central California chapters have established their own district.

A Question of ‘Allegiance,’ Debate over JACL’s role during WWII continues.

By J.K. YAMAMOTO, Rafu Staff Writer

[Editor’s note: We are grateful to J. K. Yamamoto for his permission to reprint this article in our newsletter.]

“Allegiance,” a new musical about the Japanese American internment, is set to have its world premiere on Sept 19, at The Old Globe in San Diego.

The show, which is making its way to Broadway, is attracting a lot of attention because of the talent involved, including George Takei (“Star Trek,” “Heroes”), Lea Salonga (“Miss Saigon,” “Les Miserables”) and Telly Leung (“Wicked,” “Glee”). Buzz has been generated by workshop productions and videos posted online.

The play looks at issues of loyalty and disloyalty confronted by Japanese Americans during World War II and the resulting turmoil in the camps. Although there is general agreement about the need for a show like “Allegiance” to educate the public, some in the community have raised objections to the way the JACL and the veterans are portrayed.

The story begins with war hero Sam Kimura (played by Takei) being interviewed about his experiences. His family was forced to leave their farm in Salinas and incarcerated at Heart Mountain in Wyoming.

In camp, young Sammy (Leung) befriends JACL National Secretary Mike Masaoka (Pedro Montalban) and falls in love with a Quaker nurse, Hannah Campbell (Allie Trimm). Sammy supports JACL’s call for Japanese Americans to demonstrate their loyalty, to the chagrin of his Issei father, Tatsuo (Paul Nakauchi).

Sammy is angered when his sister Kei (Salonga) falls in love with Frankie Suzuki (Michael K. Lee), who urges internees to protest the violation of their constitutional rights. In response to the divisive loyalty questionnaire, Tatsuo refuses to pledge his allegiance to America and is sent to Tule Lake. Sammy, against the wishes of his sister and girlfriend, volunteers for the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.
Sammy becomes a poster boy for the 442nd and participates in the bloody rescue of the Lost Battalion, while Kei and Frankie lead the draft resisters, with Hannah’s support, and are arrested. The rift in the Kimura family lasts for decades.

Songs include “The Mountain’s Heart,” “Better Americans in a Greater America” (JACL’s motto), “I Haven’t Got a Prayer,” “Second Chances,” “Gaman,” and “My Time Now.”

Masaoka (1915-1991), whose autobiography is entitled “They Call Me Moses Masaoka,” remains a source of controversy in the community to this day. He figures prominently in Frank Abe’s documentary about the draft resisters, “Conscience and the Constitution” (a speech by Masaoka is one of the extras on the DVD), and is condemned in Frank Chin’s book “Born in the USA.”

The large majority of Issei and Nisei believed that any resistance would be futile and not in the best interest of their children.

“A number of us attended one or both showings of the ‘Allegiance’ DVD in Sacramento. We were impressed and moved by most aspects of the play. The casting and score were superb. ‘Allegiance’ has the potential to be the most far-reaching medium to ever tell the story of the sufferings and the noble actions of Japanese Americans resulting from their incarceration during World War II.

“Overcoming adversity and the ultimate triumph of Japanese Americans by their courage and integrity is among the greatest of American stories. Our desire is that ‘Allegiance’ will be a highly acclaimed, financial and artistic success while honoring the perseverance, integrity, and nobility of ALL Japanese Americans.

“A few of us who volunteer to teach the Japanese American story (including annual docent work at the California State Museum) have met to discuss ‘Allegiance.’ We wish to express the following concerns:

“Concern 1: The negative portrayal of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and Mike Masaoka only tells one aspect of his leadership and their contributions. The large majority of Issei and Nisei believed that any resistance would be futile and not in the best interest of their children.

“Concern 2: The 442nd … is the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. Army. It is acknowledged that their military record in World War II contributed to the betterment of all Americans of Japanese ancestry. The records of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service are often recognized as an integral force in the signing of the redress legislation. The characterizations and dialogue in ‘Allegiance’ are insulting to the sacrifices made by the veterans.

“Concern 3: The vast majority of Issei and Nisei took a patriotic stand of loyalty to the United States while a minority group of resisters protested the violation of their constitutional rights. Both took honorable stands. The opportunity is there for ‘Allegiance’ to provide a lasting legacy and tribute to honor both these factions. That is not the case in the preview workshop version shown in Sacramento.

“We offer our concerns with hopes that they will contribute to an even better ‘Allegiance.’ The version that we saw resurrects the old wounds by only telling one side of the story.

“We are aware that some changes have been made to ‘Allegiance’ since the Sacramento showings and attempts have been made to learn about the specific changes. However, we have yet to receive any definitive information regarding changes that address the concerns that we are raising.”

The letter includes details about the accomplishments of the JACL and the Nisei soldiers, such as the fact that of the five Masaoka brothers who served in the 442nd, one was killed and one was severely wounded. It also lists Masaoka’s postwar efforts to gain U.S. citizenship for the Issei and redress for interned Japanese Americans.

It also notes, “Masaoka, in his speech to the National JACL in 1982, rebutted to critics that the JACL was the lone organized voice for Japanese Americans in the early pre-evacuation years and throughout World War II. He admits that not all JACL decisions were correct, but that all decisions were honestly and sincerely made with the belief that they were for the good of the great majority of those of Japanese ancestry … He made remarks about critics who were not there in those tragic days.”

Masaoka as Villain?

Kobayashi told The Rafu Shimpo, “The (‘Allegiance’) website … describes the 442nd as an Army unit which was formed at the request of Mike Masaoka … while both he and Sam were at Heart Mountain. It also talks about Mike Masaoka having recruited Sam to be the spokesperson for the loyalists against the resisters and recruited him to join the 442nd.

“Of course, all of this is fiction as Masaoka was never in Heart Mountain and he had nothing to do with the resisters, either for or against, and the 442nd was formed in early 1943 by the War Department and Masaoka had nothing to do with its formation as the 442nd followed the Hawaiian 100th Battalion …

“Sam’s Caucasian, pacifist girlfriend at Heart Mountain aids the resisters … When Sam returns from the war, Mike Masaoka tells Sam that his girlfriend had betrayed the United States. Apparently this leads to Sam forever hating his girlfriend and also his family … Again, Masaoka had nothing to do with telling anyone to despise his girlfriend – the point is to get the audience to hate Masaoka further.

“The website does not describe how the story ends, but originally Sam apologized to his father for having joined the 442d and not having listened to him … The ‘Allegiance’ website’s description is very vague and until it tells the whole story, I cannot believe that Mike Masaoka will be portrayed as anything but a villain.”
Ouchida added, “We had no issue with the story of the resisters and the ‘no-no boys’ being told as many of them undoubtedly took an honorable stand protesting the violation of their constitutional rights. However, we felt that the play should also portray in an honorable way the noble actions of those Nikkei who were patriotic and loyal to the United States, in particular the thousands who served with such great distinction in World War II.

“We have heard that Nikkei in other communities have also raised similar concerns. Perhaps their concerns as well as our letter have had some influence as there are some indications that changes have been made regarding the characters, names and the script ... We are hopeful that ‘Allegiance’ will be an artistic and financial success. Our letter was written in the spirit that ‘Allegiance’ will also be successful in telling the story of ALL Japanese Americans who suffered from the hardships of internment and yet responded in different but noble ways.”

Producers’ Response

The creative team sent the following response to The Rafu Shimpo:

“‘Allegiance’ is a musical under development, and as such has gone through various transformations, including its current incarnation that will open at The Old Globe in San Diego before its planned Broadway run.

“At its core, ‘Allegiance’ is about the experience of one American family — the Kimuras — who are torn from each other by not only the events of the internment, but the strife within the community between those who supported the JACL and Masaoka’s policies and those who resisted them. Given this backdrop, inevitably there will be criticisms on both sides.

“The writing team is working closely with a Japanese American historical consultant at The Old Globe to ensure that the story ‘Allegiance’ tells is based on true events; at the same time, the writers have dramatized historical events within the framework of this fictional family in order to tell the story in an interesting and provocative way.

“The writers have been careful not to make specific changes based on specific requests but rather on their consistent goal of telling this important story, and all sides of it, in musical form before the widest audience possible so that this dark chapter of American history is not forgotten and never repeated.

“We encourage you to peruse the official website of ‘Allegiance’ with the most up-to-date information regarding the plot and production timeline as well as an up-to-date set of resources on the matter of the Japanese American internment, which include links and information regarding the JACL, Mike Masaoka, as well as those related to the Heart Mountain resisters, the Lim Report and other historical and factual information from which the otherwise fictional storyline of ‘Allegiance’ was inspired.”

[Editor’s note: The story in Allegiance, the producers admit, is fiction. The historical inaccuracies presented are a disservice to all who were incarcerated by the US Government during World War II. Allegiance, in good conscience, cannot be recommended.

We do support James and Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston’s “Manzanar” be put to music for Broadway.]
CALLING ALL VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

We of the W-SC JACL are in need of your help in locating the gravesites of our fallen heroes, particularly of those at the Pajaro Valley Memorial Park site.

We know of the grave sites of Dr. Frank H. Ito (World War I), Henry Izumizaki and Shigeru T. Kizuka (WW II), but not of the others in WW II, the Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, and other conflicts.

Please help us.

Using the enclosed map of the PV Memorial Park, please locate for us the gravesites of those Nikkei soldiers who fought in America’s military battles.

Any additional information you can give us, including burial at sites other than the PV Memorial Park, will be gratefully accepted. Please mail the information to Mas Hashimoto, 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076 before November 1st.

The W-SC JACL plans to have a brief ceremony at 1 pm (weather permitting) on Sat. Nov. 10th at the PV Memorial Park.

Following at 2 pm, we will host a program honoring our veterans with Burt Takeuchi’s film, “Valor with Honor,” keynote speaker 100th/442nd veteran Lawson Sakai, displaying the works of photojournalist Tom Graves, and presenting the opening of our military exhibit.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

By Brian Shiroyama

In the morning of August 11, members of Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans (FFNV), supporters and guests arriving at the USS Hornet WW II Aircraft Carrier Museum at Pier 3, Alameda, were greeted by patriotic music played by Band of the West composed of youthful members of US Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

Robert Noguchi, Development Director, National Japanese American Historical Society (photo, center), gave an update on the construction of the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Historic Learning Center at Presidio of San Francisco. He is presented with an appreciation gift by President Lawson Sakai (right) while Brian Shiroyama looks on approvingly.

Nisei veterans who proudly received the Congressional Gold Medal were honored at the beginning of this annual meeting of FFNV. Veterans of all other wars were also recognized.

Carol Jensen (above left) a distinguished historian of Camp Tracy, 50 miles east of Oakland, was the featured speaker. Camp Tracy was a top-secret World War II interrogation center for prisoners taken during various battles in the Pacific. Here are the names of the twenty-three MIS soldiers who served there.

23 MIS SOLDIERS ASSIGNED TO CAMP TRACY

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THE RIGHT TO VOTE IS FUNDAMENTAL

On August 15, 2012, a Pennsylvania state judge refused the American Civil Liberties Union’s (ACLU), our sister organization, request to block that state’s onerous new voter ID law from taking effect. This decision heightens the risk that elderly and minority voters will see their voting rights thrown into jeopardy in November’s critical elections.

Why should our W-SC JACL be concerned? In Pennsylvania, there may be an elderly Nisei—perhaps, a WW II veteran of the 100th/442nd/MIS—who doesn’t have the required voter ID because he/she doesn’t drive anymore or whose passport has expired.

Legislators who pushed this controversial law through claimed it was to prevent voter fraud. But, in the courtroom, the state admitted it had no evidence of in-person voter fraud taking place and did not expect in-person fraud to take place if the law wasn’t enacted. Yet, despite these facts, the judge refused to enjoin the law from being enacted.

The ACLU won’t stop fighting to protect the right to vote. We will file an appeal to the state’s Supreme Court. And, we must also immediately step up on-the-ground efforts to educate and inform voters about their rights.

The ACLU is pursuing vital litigation challenging discriminatory and unnecessary voter suppression laws across the country. Now, with Election Day around the corner, we are in a race against time — with an enormous amount of work still to be done. Even in states where we have stopped block-the-vote laws, an atmosphere of distrust and confusion remains.

[Editor’s note: We are grateful to organizations such as the ACLU and the Southern Poverty Law Center for their dedication, commitment, services, and the willingness to pursue lawsuits. The National JACL doesn’t have the funds to join this and other lawsuits. We do extend our moral support.

On legal documents—wills, affidavits, loans, mortgages, contracts, and other similar documents—no photo ID is required. The most recent voter ID requirement is a travesty that prohibits the fundamental right of free speech—the right to vote! “Jim Crow” laws are no longer reserved for Southern states.

AN ISSEI’S RICE BAG COLLECTION

By Louise Sako, special to our W-SC JACL

At the recent Father’s Day program at our JACL Senior Center, Fred Oda’s talked about his father’s, Tokuzo Oda (1884-1967), interesting journey in Watsonville’s Nihonmachi (Japantown) history. Many Nisei commented his talk made them realize they were part of our Japanese and Japanese American history, too.

Later, Fred brought me two plastic bags filled with old cloth rice sacks which his mother, Toku Oda (1897-1997)
had collected after the family’s return to Watsonville from Poston Camp in 1945.

The main food staple in all the Issei and Nisei families has always been rice. In earlier times, Arkansas, Texas, and California grown rice were marketed in 100, 80, 50, and 25 pound cloth sacks under labels like Arkansas Blue Rose, Tsuru-Mai, Kokuho, etc.

Louise Sako and Marcia Hashimoto each hold an empty 50 pound cloth rice sack.

Before World War II Helen Miyasaki Nakano recalls the use of these cloth sacks by her mother and grandmother. The decals (ink) on the sacks were removed, bleached, and hemmed with crocheted edges and many were embroidered with ironed-on transfers of colorful flowers and kitchen utensils and used as dish towels. Aprons and some wearing apparel were made by others. Those were the days when times were hard and most families endured the Depression years with frugal existence. We were all thrifty recyclers then!

Times have changed and so has the rice industry. Some years ago, the rice producers have been marketing many new varieties in plastic bags. Our local Yamashita Market carries some ten different varieties in many sized bags. Now, we have brands like Nishiki, Kokuho, Botan, Tamaki, Cal Rose, etc. Brown rice varieties are also available.

After shaking out the bags, they were dry-ironed with the decal intact. Many bags were given out to various people who wanted them for different reasons. One party wants to frame the logo and keep it as a memorabilia for the Issei and Nisei of the 20th Century. Various sizes of the bags were given to the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL.

A few 50 pound Kokuho bags are still available for those who want them. Please call Mas or Marcia Hashimoto at 831-722-6859 or email them at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

Toku Oda was a member of the Issei Center for many years. Current members of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center are Fred and Betty Oda (Nisei) and Helen Nakano (Sansei).

[Editor’s note: In the early hardships days—unimaginable to today’s Yonsei and Gosei—and even before the Depression of the 1930s, Issei women and Nisei girls all learned to sew out of financial necessity.

We rarely wore store-bought clothes, and those younger siblings wore “hand me downs,” some with patches on them. Sewing machines were highly prized and were in constant use. Women packed all kinds of needles and threads into their suitcases when ordered into “camp.”]

12th Annual Midori Kai Arts & Crafts Boutique
By Pam Yoshida

The mission of these young women professional members are:

- To actively participate in and to generously give back to the local Asian communities
- To network and support one another in the business community
- To encourage, coach and mentor youth
- To celebrate our Asian heritage and culture

The annual Midori Kai Boutique is our primary—and often singular—fundraiser. As a non-profit corporation, Midori Kai donates a portion of the boutique proceeds to selected non-profit organizations for a two-year period.

Join us on Saturday, September 8th for a day of fun and the opportunity to celebrate and support the community.

This year’s boutique will feature over 80 artists and crafters showcasing unique and one of a kind Asian jewelry, clothing, vintage kimonos, pottery, and food items from throughout the Western United States and Hawaii.
Many of the items are handmade and are unavailable in retail stores. Food items (including strawberries from Watsonville!) will also be available at the boutique.

100% of the boutique’s funds are directed towards giving back to the community. Non-profit organizations which reflect Midori Kai’s mission statement for 2012-2013 are:

- Asian Americans for Community Involvement
- Japanese American Museum of San Jose
- National Japanese American Historical Society
- Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center, and
- Yu-Ai Kai Senior Services of San Jose.

A highlight of the boutique is the introduction and the presentation of the grants to these organizations. Support for the boutique assures that the funds are available for organizations each year.

Entertainment will be provided in the morning and afternoon to enhance an enjoyable full day of shopping and socializing. In the morning at 10:30 am, attendees will be entertained by hula students under the direction of Auntie Sandy Kanela No'eau Schiffbauer. Auntie Sandy has been teaching hula for more than 18 years and holds the distinction of being the first to receive the Hula Rite of Ho'oma'ema'e in California. She trained to become a master Kumu under the tutelage of the late Auntie Loke Thomas of Hayward. Hula Halau O Kanela No'eau was established in 1987 and has a membership of 90 students.

At 2 pm, the afternoon boutique attendees will be treated with a performance by ukulele musician, Jason Arimoto. Jason is the lead instructor with Ukulele Creations, an ukulele school based in Southern California which teaches a music program developed with Grammy winner, Daniel Ho. Originally from Hawaii, Los Angeles based Jason Arimoto is known for his style of blending his island roots with reggae and blues. Combined with his soulful vocals, he creates an unique bluesy ukulele tone. Jason has performed across the United States, including the Bean Blossom Blues festival in Indiana and the Viper Room in Hollywood as well as internationally at the Cairns Ukulele Festival in Australia.

The Boutique will be from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple Gymnasium at 575 North Shoreline Blvd, in Mountain View. For more information, contact the boutique chairpersons, Phyllis Osaki at (925) 596-1770 or Marsha Baird at (510) 579-1518.

Midori Kai Directors are: Connie Decena, Carol Eejima, Roberta Hayashi, Julie Hubbard, Aggie Idemoto, Joyce Iwasaki, JoAnn Kato, Linda Kato, Janice Reiko Kawano, Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto (President), Janice Miyatake, Maureen Mukai, Chris Noma, Irene Okimoto, June Sakamoto, Cynthia Sasaki, Ruth Shikada, Machiko Shiozaki, Sally Takemoto, Vicki Wynne and Pam Yoshida.

Boutique updates will be posted on the Midori Kai website. www.midorikai.com. And, please do not call the Mt. View Buddhist Temple.

CINA SAN JUAN FILM FESTIVAL—FIRST EVER

We are delighted to announce the first ever film festival—Cine San Juan, A Celebration of Truly Independent Films—to be held at the El Teatro Campesino, 705 Fourth Street, San Juan Bautista, CA starting on Friday, September 14 at 8 pm.

Lola’s Love Shack, a comedy about three high school boys from the barrio looking for love in all the wrong places. It is directed by Patrick Perez, written by Esteban Zul, and produced by Juan Candelaria. It will be preceded by American Mustache, a hilarious deconstruction of perhaps the most famous Chicano gang movie of all time, written and directed by Esteban Zul and featuring Seth Millwood and Joe Nunez.

On Saturday, September 15, at 5 pm, Daylight Savings (filmed in San Juan Bautista) will be presented. After a harsh breakup, indie musician Goh Nakamura hits the road to pursue a promising rebound. It is directed by Dave Boyle, stars Goh Nakamura, and produced by Duane Anderson, Michael Lerman, and Kurt Kurasaki.

At 8 pm, The Crumbels will be featured—a slice-of-life tragicomedy about the world’s greatest band that no one has ever heard of. Directed by Akira Boch, starring Katie Hipol, Seth Millwood, and Adrian Torres. It is co-produced by Francisco Hernandez.

Tickets are $10 for each film, but a Festival Pass is $20. For tickets and more information, contact Kurt Kurasaki at sbcjacl@gmail.com.

San Benito County JACL, the only JACL chapter that met continuously during WW II in “camp” while others suspended operations, invited JACLers from around the Monterey Bay and Santa Clara Valley for a get-together.

Kurt Kurasaki, Tony Bock and Joe Bowes (above photo) are old hands at BBQing delicious tri-tip, chicken, and vegetables.
After the feast, Kazuko Kurasaki, Larry Oda, Christine and Joe Bowes, and Tony Bock (above) discussed everything except maybe politics.

All had a great time, enjoying each other’s company and contribution to our JACL efforts. We thank the San Benito County JACL for their kind and thoughtful invitation and outstanding lunch.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Kitako Izumizaki

For the first time the Matsuo twin girls, Aubrie and Alex, were brought over for a brief visit by proud grandparents, Sunao and June Honda. Seniors were delighted to see the cute babies and took turns holding the tiny bundles of joy.

It was announced that Jiro Sugidono was in the hospital. We wish him speedy recovery.

The Senior Center purchased 80 upholstered new folding chairs and another 20 plastic larger chairs for the comfort of members. The old wooden chairs are nearly 100 years old. Any member who wishes to own one may make arrangements with the Center.

Paul Kaneko announced that 24 seniors and friends are signed up for the Solvang/Chumash Casino trip on August 29.

On September 14, we will attend a matinee performance of the well-known Santa Cruz Follies at the Civic Auditorium in Santa Cruz. Carpooling is planned. Sign up if interested.

There will be a card making workshop by Bonnie Chihara on Sunday, August 26 at Kizuka Hall. Also the annual Midori Kai Boutique will be held on September 8 at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

Seniors welcomed back Satoko Yamamoto, who returned after visiting her sister in Japan for 6 months, and Kazuko Sakai who attended after an absence of over a year. We are happy to see Kazuko looking well. To top it off, Kazuko treated the group with her very own birthday party, bringing the cake, ice cream cups, napkins and cutlery! Many thanks and we hope you have many more birthdays.

August birthday celebrants were Paul Kaneko, Yukio Nagata, Betty Oda, Kazuko Sakai, June Honda, Akira Kodama 91, who received a package of manju, and Jo Ann Vear. Absent were Gail Wurtenberg, Mark Takeuchi and Gladys Fukumoto.

A letter from Gladys expressing her appreciation for inviting her to the August birthday party was read. Birthday table flowers were a mixture of various blooms brought by Chie Sakaue. Arrangements were the work of Jean Akiyama, Hisako Kodama, Mitsuyo Tao, and Nancy Kuratomi. Edna Nagata donated the birthday cake and ice cream in honor of Yukio’s birthday.
We thank *tobans* Sachi Snyder, Eiko Stewart, Haru Ishibashi, Yaeko Cross, Mitsuko Ruble, and Gail Wurtenberg for a job well done.

Monetary donations gratefully received: June Honda, Paul Kaneko, Akira Kodama, Yukio Nagata, Betty Oda, Kazuko Sakai, Jo Ann Vear, Gail Wurtenberg, Gladys Fukumoto, and Leigh and Noemi Sakaguchi.

Other donations gratefully received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yaeko Cross</td>
<td>8 bags cookies, 4 bags <em>Cheese Puffs</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Nakashima</td>
<td>assorted misc prizes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiyoko Yagi</td>
<td>8 pkgs <em>udon</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Hirahara</td>
<td>1 lge bag <em>Cheez-Its</em>, 5 cans mandarin oranges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobue Fujii</td>
<td>3 bags bean/squash, 3 rolls <em>Bounty</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Iwami</td>
<td>bag of lemons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hide/Akira Nagamine</td>
<td>8 rolls <em>Bounty</em>, 2 lint roller brushes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko Stewart</td>
<td>12 rolls tissues, 3 plates <em>mochi</em>, 6 slices banana cake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Akiyama</td>
<td>3 lge <em>Kleenex</em>, 6 bottles <em>Dawn</em>, 9 pkgs seasoned <em>nori</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinji/Motoko House</td>
<td>4 lge <em>Kleenex</em>, 6 plates <em>manju</em>, 12 double roll tissues, 7 pkgs <em>Nestle</em> cocoa mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masako Miura</td>
<td>1 bottle <em>Citracal</em>, tea and candy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chie Sakaue</td>
<td>14 bunches flowers, flowers for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jo Ann Vear</td>
<td>2 lge bags of candy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisako/Akira Kodama</td>
<td>5 bags green beans, doz jars cucumber pickles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haneta Nursery</td>
<td>lots of flowers for all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan AmRhein</td>
<td>6 boxes <em>Puff</em> tissues, 2 pack individual tissues, 20 pkgs animal crackers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitako Izumizaki</td>
<td>4 bottles <em>Dawn</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubie Kawamoto</td>
<td>2 bags <em>chagashi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimi Fujii</td>
<td>160 green tea bags</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kumiko Nakatani</td>
<td>6 rolls paper towels, 3 boxes facial tissue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ichiro Sam Sugidono</td>
<td>doz sq <em>Kleenex</em>, 8 cantaloupes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miye Yamashita</td>
<td>5 cans soup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satoko Yamamoto</td>
<td>5 bags Japanese snacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Patiño</td>
<td>yellow iris bulbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunao/June Honda</td>
<td>6 pkgs <em>Spam sushi</em>, 6 plates blueberry <em>mochi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haruko Yoshii</td>
<td>6 rolls paper towels, 1 bag <em>chagashi</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcia Hashimoto</td>
<td>6 boxes sq <em>Kleenex</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Honda</td>
<td>8 crates of strawberries for June’s birthday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tee Yamamoto</td>
<td>doz bags of French plums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam/Yae Sakamoto</td>
<td>29 bunches flowers, 19 pkgs <em>sunflowers</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eiko/Yamato Nishihara</td>
<td>doz apricot-straw-blueberry jam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inako/Roland Johnson</td>
<td>3 doz eggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan/Betty Yagi</td>
<td>lots and lots of abacore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazuko Sakai</td>
<td>cake and ice cream, napkins, spoons/torks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hisako Uemura</td>
<td>doz tissues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judy Hane</td>
<td>30 rolls tissues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred/Betty Oda</td>
<td>2 pkgs <em>arare</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks loads for all the goodies. Keep coming so as not to miss out on anything new. See you next month.

**IMPORTANT SCAM STOPPER SEMINAR**

by Paul Kaneko

On August 17th, a Senior SCAM Stopper Seminar was held at the Watsonville Senior Center on Fifth Street in Watsonville. The session was presented by the California State License Board in cooperation with Assembly members Luis Alejo and Bill Monning. Included was an excellent panel discussion by Ms. Marta Erismann of the California Health Advocates, Officer Bailey of the Watsonville Police Department, Ms. Robin Gysin of the County of Santa Cruz District Attorney’s Office, Mr. Peter Meza of the State Department of Insurance, and Ms. Jane Kreidler of the Contractors State License Board.

Watsonville native and supporter of the JACL, Mr. Alejo was also present to discuss legislation currently going through the process in Sacramento.

During the session, we received many valuable tips and informational materials on topics such as identity theft, investment and telemarketing scams, home repair fraud, elder abuse, etc. The seminar also included some of the ways and many resources that are available for protecting people from fraud. Although everyone can be a victim of such crimes, our senior citizens are many times looked upon as especially easy targets. If you experience, witness, or suspect a wrong-doing, one must immediately contact the local Adult Protective Services office in the county and/or the local police department.

Some of the other agencies that were in attendance at the session were: the Central Coast Center for Independent Living, Meals on Wheels, Grey Bears, Senior Network Services—Health Insurance Counseling, the Alliance on Aging, the California Telephone Access Program, the California Public Utilities Commission, MidPen (formerly Mid-Peninsula) Housing Corporation, and the California Department of Corporations.

The best advice to prevent being a victim of fraud is to be careful, vigilant, and aware of what can happen. Learn how to protect yourself and the warning signs of something that has gone awry. Your identity may have been compromised if your monthly credit card or bank statements suddenly stop arriving, you’re denied credit for no apparent reason, you start getting bills from companies that you don’t recognize or have not dealt with, or credit collection agencies try to collect on debts that don’t belong to you. Signs that you may be on a criminal’s hit list include: phone calls from people who solicit charity donations, offer fantastic prizes and no-risk investments, all with a fee that needs to be paid immediately; phone solicitors that require you to courier or wire money or give a credit card number to claim your prize; unsolicited phone calls from people who seem to know a lot about you and are interested in helping you win a big prize, or get rich from a no-risk investment; or mail solicitations promising big prizes, wonderful vacations, and no-risk investments where all you pay is taxes, bond fees, or delivery charges. If a person calls you whom you don’t recognize and/or claims to be related to you, and wants to be your friend or asks for monetary assistance, be suspicious and hang up. Under no circumstances should you wire money to

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somebody you don’t know, and never ever have anything to do with, especially sending money to anywhere in “Nigeria.” Be overly protective of your personal information such as: Social Security Number, Bank Account Numbers, Credit Card Numbers, Driver’s License number, and phone numbers. Don’t carry around your Social Security card, Social Security number, birth certificate, or passport—unless absolutely necessary.

WE HAVE LOST A DEAR FRIEND …

The lone flowering cherry tree (left) at Watsonville High School, donated by the Japanese Association in the late 1920s, didn’t make it through the summer. We had planned to take cuttings from it but our expert, Mr. Herman Fischer, died in February. We will replace the tree this coming spring.

Meanwhile, a Yoshino flowering cherry tree (right photo) in front of the Ida M. Fuller Library at Watsonville High School, donated by our Santa Cruz County Supervisor Greg Caput, is doing well. Next spring, it, along with the other cherry trees, will bloom in the tradition of the Washington, D. C. cherry blossom festival.

We are planning a dedication with a plaque of the flowering cherry tree donated by the Government of Japan to the City of Watsonville on Friday, September 7th. This event brings community members together and promotes peace—something we all long for.

Please remember to mark your calendars and join us for our Holiday Boutique and Raffle on Sunday, October 28th at Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn St., Watsonville, CA 95076 from 12-5 pm.

Our Upcoming Schedule:
- Sept 22: Walk to End Alzheimer’s, La Selva Beach
- Sept 23: Kidragious/Jacob’s Heart, Watsonville Plaza
- Sept 25: Grey Bears Picnic, Harvey West Park
- Oct 5: Branciforte School, Santa Cruz
- Oct 28: Holiday Boutique and Raffle, Kizuka Hall, Watsonville
- Nov 18: Big Sur Marathon, Asilomar
- Dec-?: Share Your Holiday, Watsonville

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

The Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds provides:
- Home for Emergency Services during floods, earthquakes and fires.
- A permanent home for 4-H and Future Farmers of America.
- Large horse show grounds hosting all disciplines.
- The Historic Rogers House available for private use/open to the public during Fair week.
- Ag History Project, hosts Kindergarten through 3rd grade during fall and spring for lessons on living in the "olden days."
- Home for Salsipuedes Little League.
- Home for Ocean Speedway

The next day, we played at Peace Day. This event is held yearly in La Selva Beach and recognizes the day the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This event brings community members together and promotes peace—something we all long for.

By Bonnie Chihara

On August 5th, we played at the Cabrillo Music Festival in Santa Cruz. Joining our regular performing group were members of our Grey Bears class, kids’ workshop and advanced group members from Shinso Mugen Daiko.

On Saturday, August 18th, we played at the Energy Fair at Watsonville Plaza. This event was organized by Karen Groppi. She is a Watsonville Taiko member and an engineering teacher for Cabrillo College. Students designed things such as a blender that was powered by a stationary bike and a solar powered amplifier.

By Sharon Hayashi

The Santa Cruz County Fair operates all year long and provides:
- Home for Emergency Services during floods, earthquakes and fires.
- A permanent home for 4-H and Future Farmers of America.
- Large horse show grounds hosting all disciplines.
- The Historic Rogers House available for private use/open to the public during Fair week.
- Ag History Project, hosts Kindergarten through 3rd grade during fall and spring for lessons on living in the "olden days."
- Home for Salsipuedes Little League.
- Home for Ocean Speedway
• Facilities available for *quinceañeras*, weddings, clubs, private and corporate events.
• A showcase for the work of our local artists, photographers, school children, crafts and cooks, painters, poets, florists, gardeners, historians, musicians, vendors, farmers, non-profits, and others.

This vital community asset wouldn't exist at all without philanthropy. We rely on charitable gifts from friends like you, sponsorships, and pledges to maintain our programs, create new ones, and promote family values.

I hope you will be able to support the Fairgrounds by becoming a *Friend of the Fair*, a sponsor, or with a pledge.

For a $25 contribution, you will receive a *Friend of the Fair* decal to display at your home or business. Become a $50 *Friend* and receive the decal, one ticket to the fair and a parking pass, and one entry into the drawing during fair week. (a lot of great prizes!) A $100 *Friend* receives the decal, two entries into drawing during fair week. (a lot of great prizes!)

A $100 *Friend* receives the decal, two entries into drawing during fair week, two tickets to the fair, a fair parking pass to be used any day of the fair, and an invitation to a special event in your honor. Please mail your check payable to Santa Cruz County Friends of Fair-2601 East Lake Avenue, Watsonville, CA 95076 no later than September 6th, 2012.

For sponsorship or pledge information, please contact the *Friends of Fair*. Thank you for your support and investment in our community!

Our 2012 Fair dates are September 11th through September 16th. See you at the Fair!

**ONLINE CHINESE (MANDARIN) COURSES**

By Yaming Shen, Instructor

We are in need of more registrants, and thank you for publishing some updates in your September newsletter.

(1) We now offer four levels of *Online Chinese Courses*: CHIN-1, CHIN-2, CHIN-3, and CHIN-4. An individualized strategic planning will be provided after registration but before we purchase the right materials for the registrant. Register by August 30 to fully use the time, but we may accommodate late registrants.

(2) The *Chinese Calligraphy History* class has a new set of dates: Nov. 2 and Nov. 9 from 5 pm to 8 pm. The cost is still $80 if registration by Sept. 10, and $85 after September 10. We may open more dates.

For information on these courses, contact ChinaViaBrush@gmail.com.

(3) Cabrillo's *Social Justice Conference* is tentatively set for Sat., April 20, 2013. We hope for participation from the Japanese American community.

**WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE’S CHICKEN TERIYAKI TAKE-OUT DINNER**

This year, the 51st Annual Chicken Teriyaki Take-out Dinner will take place on **Saturday, September 22** from 9 am to 2 pm.

Tickets are available from Temple members and from Secretary *Jackie Yamashita* at 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville, CA from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Mondays through Fridays. They are $10 each.

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**WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS** by Jackie Yamashita

**Rummage Sale:** The Temple Sangha thanks everyone who donated, sorted, and arranged for display all the hundreds of items. Thank you to those who served as “sales persons” and cashiers. This annual event, which netted $5,000 for the Temple, is a “win-win” for all. The smart shoppers were in line long before the doors opened at 8 am for they knew there were plenty of great bargains. Don’t miss out on next year’s rummage sale.

** Shotsuki Hoyo Service**

10am Sunday September 9, 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 September are invited to attend the service and to *Oshoko* (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

** September Memorial Service**

| Utaro Akiyama            | Takanori Aroo         |
| Goichi Arita             | Yoshiteru Fujii       |
| Sakaye Fujimoto          | Frank Fujita          |
| Fumi Hamada              | Kiichiro Hane         |
| Rintaro Hatsushi         | Henry Akio Higaki     |
| Kazuna Higaki            | Bill Hirano           |
| Kenji Iedomoto           | Chisako Itamura       |
| Toshiharu Ito            | Kiyoiichi Iwamuro     |
| James Izumizaki          | Katsukiyo Kadotani    |
| Yasu Kimoto              | Masao Joe Koda        |
| Mitsuno Koda             | Keichi Kodama         |
| Alice Ayako Kondo        | Hiroshi Kurosaki      |
| Kajizo Kusumoto          | Unotsuke Kusumoto     |
| Larry Mametsuka          | Kajo Mano             |
| Miteru Mano              | Sayoko Mine           |
| Haruko Margaret Mio      | Don Kiyoshi Mitani    |
| Fushi Murakami           | Haruo Muronaka        |
| Asa Nagata               | Nakayo Nakamoto       |
| Shoso Nakamoto           | Ito Nishimoto         |
| Kinu Nishio              | Suteichi Nishita Tado |
| Okamoto Goichi Ota       | Zeniichi Ota          |
| Kihachi Saiki            | Seigo Sakai           |
| Maxine Shibata           | Shig Shiotani         |
| Kojiro Tanaka            | Masako Tanimasa       |
| Sentaro Tao              | Yuki Torigoe          |
| Ernest Ura               | Grace Wada            |
| Michiko Wada             | Kinue Wada            |
| Katsushi Wakamiya        | George Yuwao Yamamoto |

**Temple Calendar for September 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Temple Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1 pm</td>
<td>BWA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>ABA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Sunday/Shotsuki Hoyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
<td>Installation of YBA officers and Dharma School teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Sunday Service &amp; Higan E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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12
 Kawakami Sister City trip to Japan
By Lynne Siqueiros

We, Maddie Hiura, Linnea Blaustein, Steve Jarquin, Sydney Ota, Kayla Fields, Janissa Banuelos, Karla Soto, Steven Hernandez, Evelyn Gonzales, Karen Torres, Leana Silver, Isaac Romandia, Jackie Quintana, Salma Lomeli, Hannah Hanalainen, Lea Blaustein, Jim Toumey and Todd Guild of the Register-Pajaronian, arrived around 9 pm at Haneda airport. We took the subway to a hotel. The next morning, Friday, we took a bus to Kawakami and were welcomed by a formal ceremony in the gym of the new junior high school. Our students were a bit intimidated by the formality but quickly warmed up during the school tour and welcome dinner.

Everyone went home with their host families then met the next day for Fujikyu amusement park. This was fun because the host students came with us since it wasn’t a school day. On Sunday, we had the hot air balloon experience. The son of the father whose group did the balloon rides is coming this September.

On Monday, the students went to school with their Kawakami hosts.

Tuesday, we went to the elementary schools in the morning. We went to a 5th grade and practiced calligraphy. The previous photo shows Hannah Hanalainen and her table group displaying their work.

After lunch we went to a Buddhist temple. We did zazen for 20 minutes with the monk walking up and down behind us. If our attention wandered he whacked us with a stick. The first person he hit with the stick was our guide Shohei Kazama. It sounded loud. I was very careful to be mindful after that! The next person was one of our students, Steven Hernandez. Afterward they both said it didn’t hurt at all! I was very surprised by how much our students enjoyed it and how energizing it seemed to be.

Above, my photo collage made from my photos and students.

An interesting note: Todd was detained for 4 hours by the US Immigration/Homeland Security so they could check out all the images on his laptop. I know because I was giving him a ride home, and Jim and I had to wait. It’s a weird experience because they won’t give you any information. We had no idea what’s going on or how long we had to wait. Fortunately, I had these wonderful sesame chip snacks given to me by Chiyoko so we just
ordered a couple of beers to go with them. Not a bad way to wait if you have to!

The Kawakami group will be coming here in **September**. The tentative schedule is as follows:
- **Friday, 9/7:** Tour of City Hall, etc., Potluck Welcome Dinner at Watsonville Buddhist Temple, students go home with host families
- **Saturday, 9/8:** Seacliff Beach BBQ
- **Sunday, 9/9:** Free day with host family
- **Monday, 9/10:** High school in morning (this is different because all our students are in high school due to the tsunami delay), Monterey Bay Aquarium in afternoon
- **Tuesday, 9/11:** High school, SC County Fair, Farewell Dinner @ Casserly Grange Hall
- **Wednesday, 9/12:** Students leave in the morning from the WBT to LA.

**MY JAPAN TRIP** By Maddie Hiura

We are delighted to be able to share Maddie Hiura’s *Japan Trip* to Kawakami with our readers. See pages “16 and 17.” She is the daughter of Gary and Dolora Hiura and the granddaughter of Yuri and the late Paul Hiura.

**DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM …**

*Day of Remembrance Education Fund*

**Newsletter**

Betsy and Mits Tatsukawa of Salinas in memory of parents, Louis and Mae Waki

Eiko Mitoma of Rancho Palos Verdes in memory of husband, Ed Mitoma

Mary Okamoto of Alexandria, VA in memory of Frances Hoshiyama

**Cabrillo College Chinese Language Fund**

Faye Jahnigen

Cherie Lamoreaux

**WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS** by Randy and Tracy Mano

**Pajaro Rescue Mission/Teen Challenge**

Sunday August 26, 2012, we had the opportunity to hear Manny Uriarte from the **Pajaro Rescue Mission/Teen Challenge**, about the need for donations during our worship service. Manny also gave his testimony on the power of our Lord and Savior and how he was able to give him strength during his most difficult time and pull him through. During our worship service we raised over $1000 dollars and plan to donate much more in the upcoming months. **Salvation Army** closed down three of the shelters in the Watsonville area. Pajaro Rescue Mission/Teen Challenge has stepped forward to take them over. They are looking at the increase need of providing shelter and meals for the many homeless men, women, and children. This past weekend they celebrated their 50th **Anniversary** of serving the needy in this county. The main shelter in Pajaro, which gives shelter and job training to over 100 men, is in need of repair. The shelter for women and children is in another location.

Monetary gifts are always welcome, however; the following items are needed: new windows for chapel, 100 new chairs for chapel, fuel efficient cars or vans, new lawn mower, new or used commercial stove, blankets and warm coats for men, socks and under garments, and a hedger for yard work. Pajaro Mission’s budget for the upcoming year is over $200,000 dollars. They do not get any government help, and rely on donations, the work the men do, and sales from their retail store. You can also help by using the men for construction, landscaping, tree work, firewood, event staffing, and general labor. They have a retail store across from Kmrt at 1715 Freedom Blvd. Watsonville. For more information please contact Manny at (831) 724-9576.

**Upcoming Westview events:**

- **September 2**, we will have a guest speaker, Reverend Dan Moran.
- **September 8, Youth/Family Event-Beach BBQ** at Seacliff Beach, Aptos. All are welcome. For more information please contact Pastor Dan Hoffman at (831) 724-6222
- **September 9, Will be Communion Sunday**, and we have schedule a Church Clean Up after worship service so you can come in your clean-up attire or bring a change of clothes. We appreciate anyone who can help.
- **September 15, Calling all women! Beth Moore Simulcast**, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, at Crossroads Christian Church in Salinas. We will be carpooling from Westview Church. This event is free, but you must register by **September 10th**. A continental breakfast and a light lunch will be served. This is a great opportunity to grow your faith by learning from this great speaker and teacher. For more information please contact Tracy Mano at (916) 792-0780 or contact Crossroads Christian Church at (831) 444-9104 directly and RSVP. Or register online at [www.cccsalinas.org](http://www.cccsalinas.org).
- **September 21, Youth Gym Night** at Westview Church. Group Discussion at 5:30 pm; followed by activity at 6:00 pm. All youths are welcome to attend.
- **September 23**, Please join us for a special potluck celebration for the **Tsyuki and Cass Families** for their many years of donating the beautiful floral arrangements for our Sunday worship service and the closing (retirement) of River Nursery.
- **October 14, CROP Hunger Walk** at 2:00 pm. This will be our second year of participation for this worthy cause. More information will be in our next month’s highlights. Or you can contact Jane Yoshida who is coordinating this event at (831) 722-1265.

**WATSONVILLE FLY-IN AND AIR SHOW**

On Labor Day weekend—August 31st-September 2nd, Watsonville will host the 48th Annual Fly-In and Air Show “Salute to Our Heroes” with many antique and experimental airplanes, “warbirds,” and current US military aircrafts on display. The air show will be presented on Saturday from noon to 5 pm. This is a great event for all the members of the family—young and old.
Tickets are $15 for adults, children under 12 FREE, 13 and older $10, parking $5, and military and veterans FREE. For additional information check out this website: http://www.watsonvilleairshow.org/flyin/index.

I've learned ... That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.
I've learned ... That we should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.
I've learned ... That money doesn't buy class.
I've learned ... That it's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.
I've learned ... That under everyone's hard shell is someone who wants to be appreciated and loved.
I've learned ... That to ignore the facts does not change the facts.
I've learned ... That when you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.
I've learned ... That love, not time, heals all wounds.
I've learned ... That the easiest way for me to grow as a person is to surround myself with people smarter than I am.
I've learned ... That everyone you meet deserves to be greeted with a smile.
I've learned ... That no one is perfect until you fall in love with them.
I've learned ... That life is tough, but I'm tougher.
I've learned ... That opportunities are never lost; someone will take the ones you miss.
I've learned ... That when you harbor bitterness, happiness will dock elsewhere.
I've learned ... That I wish I could have told my Mom that I love her one more time before she passed away.
I've learned ... That one should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.
I've learned ... That a smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.
I've learned ... That when your newly born grandchild holds your little finger in his little fist, that you're hooked for life.
I've learned ... That everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it.

THE WISDOM ...

Supposedly, they've been written by Andy Rooney (1919-2011), who had the gift with thoughts. Regardless, they are worth reflecting on ...

I've learned ... That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.
I've learned ... That when you're in love, it shows.
I've learned ... That just one person saying to me, “You’ve made my day!” makes my day.
I've learned ... That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.
I've learned ... That being kind is more important than being right.
I've learned ... That you should never say no to a gift from a child.
I've learned ... That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in some other way.
I've learned ... That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.
I've learned ... That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.
I've learned ... That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Thank you for your membership in our W-SC JACL chapter and for your continuing support of our Japanese and Japanese American programs. We can't tell you how much we appreciate it.

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077, and comments are always welcome. Please email us at hashi79@sbcglobal.net or write to the P. O. Box address above.

Check out our full color newsletter at www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor.
MY JAPAN TRIP

The Nakajima's

Japanese Amusement Park

Koi fish flags

Green tea ice cream with Azuki bean paste

Inside a Japanese Temple

Japanese Robot

Japanese vending machine

Japanese hot air balloon ride

Famous Softball Mascot

Jr. High Uniform
On the first day in Tokyo, Japan we arrived and met our guide through Kawakami, Yohei. We took a subway to the Hotel. We were very exhausted and tired from the 11.5 hour airplane ride. The next day we had breakfast at the New Otani Inn. Then we took a two hour bus ride to Kawakami. We went to the Kawakami Jr. High School and toured the school. All of us went to the music room, we had an “Adele” moment when I played the piano and all the girls sang. We introduced ourselves to the host families, and Kayla, Karla and I did a song for all the host families. Kayla played the guitar, and Karla and I sang “Rolling In The Deep” by Adele. Then we met our host family the Nakajima’s. My host student Shizuka, wasn’t there because she was in the hospital getting her appendix removed, but I got to meet her little brother. The next morning was the first morning with our host family. The mother made us a nice and yummy breakfast. Then we went to an amusement park called Fujiku highland, this amusement park held the 2nd highest roller coaster in the world. That night, we got to meet Shizuka and her older sister. We exchanged gifts and the girls loved their new nail polish I brought from America. In the early morning, we went on a Hot Air Balloon ride, that was super fun. After the Hot Air Balloon we had a Bar-BQ, where Karla made homemade quesidillas. The next day was our first day attending the Jr. High school. Their school schedule is very similar to mine, except that they clean their school everyday. Shizuka and I cleaned the girl’s bathroom. After school we went to a public pool and had dinner with Shizuka’s friend and her host family. The next day we went to an elementary school. This was where Shizuka’s younger brother went to school. We played with 2nd graders and then we did calligraphy with 5th graders. After our elementary visit, we went to a few temples. One of them we meditated for 20 minutes. The priest would give anyone who was not following instructions a smack with a light wooden stick. I was very nervous of getting hit. The next day we went to a ninja tricky house. One part of the tricky house, the entire room was tilted. It was super cool. That night, we had a farewell dinner. My host family said something special to us, this made me feel part of their family. Shizuka and I cried when we had to say goodbye. She’s coming to the Untied States in September, with a group of Kawakami students. This entire trip was a great experience. I made a lot of new friends on this trip. Thank you for supporting me the last 2 years in all the fundraisers, buying my art or just wishing me a fun and safe trip. This trip was an amazing experience, I really enjoyed it. I loved trying new things there I would have never done in the US. I loved meeting my host family. My favorite part of this entire trip was going on the Hot Air Balloon because I have never been on one. To do this in Japan made it even more special. The one thing I’ll take home is an international friendship that will last forever. Thank you very much I’ll never forget this opportunity to go to Japan and all your support in making this trip possible for me.

Love, Maddie Yuriko Hiura
Seniors’ Corner  September 2012

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TOURS

Santa Cruz Follies
“Copacabana Finale,” featuring music from the Rat Pack, Motown, Jazz, Pop/Rock
Friday, September 14, 2012, 1 pm matinee
Cost: ticket price is $20, transportation will be by carpool
Deadline to reserve tickets is Wednesday, September 5
Call Carol Kaneko at (831) 476-7040

If you have suggestions where our Seniors would enjoy a one-day or multiple-day trip, or can help in the planning of such trips, please call Carol Kaneko. Thank you.

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:
Thursdays, September 6, 13, 27 Regular Bingo
Friday, September 14 Santa Cruz Follies
Thursday, September 20 September 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.

NIKKEI CORNER

Exciting upcoming events:
August 31st-September 2 Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show
September 7th to 12th Kawakami Students' Visit
September 7th Dedication of the Flowering Cherry Tree plaque, City Plaza
September 7th Allegiance, the Musical opens in San Diego
September 8th Midori Kai Arts and Craft Boutique in Mt. View
September 8th Youth/Family Event, Seacliff Beach, Aptos, Westview Presbyterian
September 11th to 16th Santa Cruz County Fair
September 14th-15th Cine San Juan Film Festival
September 22nd Watsonville Buddhist Temple Chicken Teriyaki Take-out Dinner
September 27th National JACL Gala Dinner, “Salute to Champions,” Washington, D. C.

October 6th YBA “All You Can Eat Spaghetti Feed,” 4-7 pm
October 14th CROP, Hunger Walk, 2 pm, Westview Presbyterian
October 19th-24th Pacific Rim Film Festival

November 10th Special Veteran’s Day program, W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall
THE SEARCH FOR JAPANESE AMERICAN U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL'S GRAVESITES

Using this PV Memorial Park map, please help us locate the gravesite of all family members and friends who served.

Example: Shigeru T. Kizuka, US Army, 442nd RCT, WW II, marked with an "x" in "Memory."

Name:
circle WWI, WW II, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan, other

Name:
circle WWI, WW II, Korean War, Cold War, Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Iraq, Afghanistan, other

Others:
Please mail to Mas Hashimoto, 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076 by October 10, 2012.
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.