JACL COMMUNITY PICNIC, SAT. JUNE 28th

You and your family (clan) are invited to our annual community picnic. You don’t have to be a JACL member to attend our picnic. Everyone is most welcome. Please help keep this century-old tradition alive! We wish everyone to enjoy this fun-filled day. This is not a JACL fund-raising event. If we break even financially, then we are more than happy.

The picnic will be held at the beautiful Aptos Village Park, 100 Aptos Creek Road, Aptos, CA 95003 from 11 am to 4:30 pm, Sat., June 28th. Please bring the grandchildren, and please carpool as parking is limited.

Let’s give our mothers a break. We’ll do the cooking/barbecuing. See our flyer in this newsletter.

Our chefs: Doug Nakashima, Jim Arao, David Kadotani, Stuart Sakuma, and Randy Mano.

The chicken BBQ lunch (salad, French bread, chili beans, rice, hot dogs, fruit, and non-alcoholic drinks) is only $8 for adults and teens; for Seniors over 70 and children--$5; and for children 5 and under--free. Plus, an ice cream social with all the toppings is included!

(Right to left) Jean Yamashita, Debbe Chan, Melissa Tao, Cindy Mine, Chiye Tamaki and Mabel Broader served over 200, including Clyde and Kimi Kimura.

Youngsters (top, above) are trying to take a bite out of the yellow, takuan koko (yummy!). It smells so bad but tastes so good! It identifies who we are as Nikkei (of Japanese ancestry). Young adults and youngsters mess up their faces by “taking-a-bite-out-of-the-powdered-donut” races. Participate in races using oversized gettas or run with a bean bag on your head--just like in the old days. There are sack and egg-on-a-spoon races, and it ends with a water balloon toss. It’s great fun!

Enjoy great entertainment provided by our wonderful and talented Watsonville Taiko.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org, Newsletter, then the month.
Recognizing our young scholars, we’ll announce the recipients for this year’s scholarships. Last year, they were Marissa Kitazawa of UCSC and Amanda Akiyama, shown here with Dr. Brooke Kondo, Scholarship Chair (center).

For the Senior citizens and others, there’s free “BINGO!” with wonderful prizes.

The “all comers” jan ken po (scissors, rock, paper) contest was won by Kai Kawamoto, age 7, with scissors over paper. Kai was our youngest winner ever! This contest is free and fun, and the special prize is a $50 Miyuki Restaurant gift certificate. Wow!

Brandon Fujii Potter participated in the hashi chopstick using contest, placing five pinto beans into the plastic cup. Remember to practice, practice, practice! Will you be the winner of this year’s grand prize—an large, flat screen TV—donated by our local community members? The Kawamoto family (below) won last year.

Donations, which are tax deductible, for our raffle are appreciated. Call Marcia Hashimoto at (831) 722-6859 to pick up your donation, or you may give it to her at the picnic.

Please bring all the members of your family for it’ll be a lot of fun for everyone. Let’s maintain this important Nikkei (of Japanese ancestry) tradition!
May 2, 2014

Dear Mas and Marcia,

It was a pleasure having you with us at Congregation Sherith Israel in San Francisco last night.

I hope you enjoyed the evening as much as my staff and I did.

I so rarely have a chance to visit with the generous people who make our important work a reality. I always walk away with renewed gratitude for the support of people like you and re-energized by the excitement of bringing like-minded people together.

Back when Joe Levin and I founded the SPLC in the early 1970s, we were determined to see real equality for all people. I never dreamed that our reach would grow so great — with hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers, educators, and concerned citizens using our materials to combat bigotry and hate.

I also never would have believed the need for our work would still be so necessary more than 40 years later. Hate groups and the "patriot movement" both remain at near-record levels — even greater than its previous peak in the mid 1990s, which culminated in the mass murder of 168 people in the Oklahoma City bombing.

Frankly, given the current political climate in our country, I'm not surprised at the leaner and meaner radical right.

If you haven't had a chance to do so already, join us and the thousands of others across the country who are standing strong against the hate, racism, and intolerance infecting our communities, schools, and political debate by adding yourself to our Stand Strong Against Hate Map. Ask your friends to stand strong against hate as well.

Thank you, again, for being with us last night in San Francisco. And thank you for standing with us as we fight hate, teach tolerance, and seek justice. Together, we are working toward the day when equal justice and equal opportunity are a reality.

Sincerely,

Morris Dees
Founder, Southern Poverty Law Center

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HATE IN THE MAINSTREAM 2014 REPORT
by Mas Hashimoto, Editor

SPLC’s President, Richard Cohen, ably presented an updated report about hate crimes and hate groups around the country on May 1st, in San Francisco. His chart showed the dramatic increase of hate groups and the rise in the level of threats and violence whenever any Democrat is elected President—an African American as President is no exception.

The SPLC leaders and staff are under constant death threats, not only at their Montgomery, Alabama headquarters but at their other office sites (Atlanta; New Orleans; Miami; and Jackson, Miss).

Mr. Cohen spoke of the KKK’s bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church, Birmingham, Alabama on September 15, 1963 and the tragic deaths of Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley who were dressed in their “Youth Sunday” best. While the nation was shocked and outraged, the violence continued in Oklahoma City (Timothy McVeigh. 1995), New York City (9/11/01) and elsewhere. Today, we are subjected to searches at every major event and at airports.

He reflected on the past successes of Morris Dees and co-founder Joe Levin, Jr who, in their lawsuits, targeted not only the culprits (the Ku Klux Klan members) but their organizational headquarter’s finances to put them out of business. Thank goodness SPLC tracks hate groups’ websites, Facebook, and other sources, especially of their fund-raising and membership campaigns. SPLC is, without a doubt, the most effective hate group fighter in the country, and we are honored to be associated with it.
Mr. Cohen aptly explained the new missions of the SPLC which included the removal of CNN’s Lou Dobbs who continually repeated lies, stating them as “facts.”

SPLC’s quarterly Intelligence Report lists and locates the hate groups—the neo-Nazi, KKK, skinheads, and others—around the country. There are also black separatist hate groups listed.

Teaching Tolerance magazine is distributed to schools all around the country free of charge and is an important source of information for teachers.

Bullied: A Student, a School and a Case that Made History, a new DVD with an educational kit that can be ordered online from SPLC, offers lessons for students and educators. It chronicles the powerful story of a student, Jamie Nabozny, who stood up to his anti-gay tormentors and filed a federal lawsuit against his school district. The suit led to a landmark federal court decision holding that school officials could be held accountable for not stopping the harassment and abuse of gay students.

Four of the Teaching Tolerance program’s past documentaries have been nominated for the Academy Awards, and two films—A Time for Justice and Mighty Times: The Children’s March have won Oscars in the short, documentary category.

A surprise guest was introduced—Julian Bond—organizer and co-founder of the 1960’s Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), chairman (1998 to 2010) of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a director of the SPLC, former Georgia legislator, and college professor. We were thrilled and honored to engage in conversation with Julian Bond. He was grateful for the contributions of the National Japanese American Citizens League on behalf of civil and human rights issues.

If you would like to learn more about SPLC, please check their website: www.splcenter.org.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

This memorial service on Armed Forces Day began at Roberts Park in the hills above Oakland in 1992 as a tribute to fallen members of Company E, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and in partnership with the City of Oakland. A redwood tree was planted in honor of those veterans.

Over the years, this memorial service has grown and now it is dedicated to all veterans of all other wars and conflicts regardless of their ethnic background.

Members of the Berkeley Boy Scout Troop 24 served as color guards, presenting and retiring the colors before and after the program.

Rev. Harry Bridge of the Oakland Buddhist Temple gave the invocation. The wonderful Band of the West beautifully played military tunes which were appropriate for the occasion and appreciated by all in attendance.

Tom Graves, author of Twice Heroes and friend of Nisei veterans, ably served as master of ceremonies.

Photos by Marcia Hashimoto.
President of FFNV, 442nd RCT veteran Lawson Sakai, welcomed all and presented a brief history about this memorial service and of the special redwood tree to the more than 100 in attendance.

Keynote speaker, Mas Hashimoto, spoke of his Watsonville neighbor and friend, Pfc Harry Fumio Madokoro of K Company, 2nd Platoon, 1st Squad, who volunteered from Poston Camp II. Harry was exempt from serving in the military during World War II for he was the sole surviving son (remember, "Saving Pvt. Ryan," the movie?), but Madokoro volunteered in March of 1943 and encouraged others to volunteer so that there would be no question about their loyalty to the U.S.A.

Madokoro was killed in action (KIA) in Italy. His mother, Matsu Madokoro, received his Distinguished Service Cross (DSC). After the war, his mother, who had no family members left, returned to Japan and died there. She gave her one and only son to this country, and by law, she couldn't become a citizen of the United States. In 1952, Mike Masaoka of the JACL led the campaign to have the law changed (McCarran-Walter Act). Other racist laws were also repealed, thanks to the JACL.

The young, memorial redwood tree is located at the right corner of the table with the flag, flowers, and incense. A special recognition of appreciation was given to Piedmont Fire Department for honoring the veterans each year with the beautiful floral arrangement. It was a very generous and thoughtful gesture of “thank you” to America’s veterans on this Armed Forces Day.

KTVU-TV aired the story during its evening news. FFNV’s next event will be the annual gathering aboard the USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Museum in Alameda, CA on August 2. FFNV will sponsor its annual reunion in Las Vegas, October 19 – 23.

For more information, please contact Brian Shiroyama at bshiroyama@gmail.com or call him at (408) 896-1021.

JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR, SANTA CRUZ
Sat., June 7, 2014  by Paul Kaneko

The twenty-eighth annual Japanese Cultural Fair (JCF) will be held on June 7th from 11 am to 6 pm at Mission Plaza Park in Santa Cruz.
This very popular, free event features many performances and activities for the benefit of the entire community. The goal of the JCF is to present the best examples available of the traditions of Japan in hope that their practices would be preserved for future generations.

Because the JCF is in need of more donations, the Board has unfortunately decided that it could not provide the free shuttle service to and from the County Government Center. Donations are still being accepted and much appreciated. So, please help the Japanese Cultural Fair by sending your generous tax deductible donations to JCF, P.O. Box 3458, Santa Cruz, CA 95063.

As in past years, the W-SC JACL, as a co-sponsor of the JCF, will have a booth selling obento, strawberries and hot tea. Please make it a point to attend this Cultural Fair on June 7th to support it and our chapter, and if nothing else, to say “hi.”

The poster illustration features the winning design submitted by local artist: Karen Kaplan.

PACIFIC RIM FILM FESTIVAL (PRFF)

We are saddened to learn the Steering Committee of the PRFF has decided to “close its doors.” We are grateful for the 25 years of viewing insightful, artful, historical, and delightful films from countries all around the Pacific Rim. And, we appreciated learning the values, traditions, customs, and humor, too, of the Pacific Rim people and their cultures while viewing these films. The mission of the PRFF has always been to promote cross cultural communication and understanding.

W-SC JACL is grateful to PRFF founders, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and the late James D. Houston; their steering committee of Cori Houston, Paula Suzuki, Denise Vivar, and Rachel Mayo; and the two major sponsors--Ow Family Enterprises and the UCSC—for expanding our horizons and bringing cultural understanding and appreciation to our county. We will miss the film festival. It was an exciting event that brought our county together.

A detailed explanation of the closing will be forthcoming in our local newspapers. Thank you, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, for your years of dedicated service to our community.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

by Jackie Yamashita

Happy 100th Birthday, Nancy Iwami!

Nancy celebrated, shown here with her daughter Nancy, with well-wishes from Buster Posey (signed autograph) of the SF Giants and a birthday card signed by President Barack Obama & First Lady Michelle Obama!

Her lei and the cake were from the Temple Sangha. Congratulating her are Kiyo Kawasaki (with the “Happy Birthday” balloon), Kitako Izumizaki and Shoren, Keiko, and Elren Hanayama. Photo by Franz Steidl.
On May 18, Rev. Kiyonobu Joshin Kuwahara was the keynote speaker for the Gotan E and Late Bishop Memorial Services.

Rev. Shousei Hanayama held Memorial Services at five cemeteries—Pioneer, PV Memorial (above), Santa Cruz, San Juan Bautista and Hollister—on Sunday, May 25th.

The Temple calendar for June (and July), 2014:

1  Sun 10 am  Sunday, Shotsuki Hoyo and Graduation Services to recognize seven high school and college graduates: Morgan Hasebe-Hester; Kelly Maemura; Hayley Sakae; Danny Souza; Melissa Tao; John Nagamine; & Kelly Shingai.

3  Tue  6:30 pm  Teriyaki Meeting  7:30 pm  Temple Board

4  Wed  1 pm  BWA Meeting

5  Thu  10 am  ABA Meeting

6  Fri  2 pm  San Juan Howakai

8  Sun 10 am  Sunday Service

15  Sun  No Service / Happy Father's Day

15  Sun  No Service / Happy Father's Day

Save these obon festival dates for July:

Sun. July 13  Monterey Peninsula
Sun. July 20  Watsonville
Sun. July 27  Salinas Valley

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10am Sunday June 1, 2014

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 June are invited to attend the service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

June Memorial List

Jim Yoshio Akimoto  Yaeko Akiyoshi
Akira Dooka  Tokio Fujii
Mits Hashimoto  Osami Higaki
Mitoshi Hirahara  Frances Hoshiyama
Kazuko Idemoto  Tsunechichi Iyama
George Yutaka Izumizaki  Tsutae Kamimoto
Momoyo Kanda  James Kimoto
Isamu Kimoto  Tomo Kimoto
Chisako Kobara  Kaichi Kobara
Isamu Kobayashi  Shizue Kokka
Jason Tadashi Maemura  Midori Matsu
Kenneth Matsumoto  Misao Matsunami
Tsugumi Matsunami  Bill Mato Mine
Sachi Mine  Tom Mine
Gijiro Misumi  Takaji Miura
Shozo Murakami  Tsuyuko Helen Muronaka
Tousuke Nagamine  Pauline Nakase
Norma Taeko Nishijima  Hayakichi Nishita
Fumiko Oda  Kanako Oka
Manzo Sadamura  Tsuya Shirachi
Chiyeko Suzuki  Kisaku Takei
Noboru Tanimura  Takeyo Tao
Rosie Terasaki  Jane Misako Toriumi
Toshiko Tsudama  Barbara Sanae Yamamoto
Hisa Yamamoto  Ben Tsutomu Yamamoto
Masatatsu Bob Yamamoto  Sakuichi Yamane
Akiji Yamanishi  Jitaro Yamanishi
Tadao Yamanishi  Minoru Yamashita
Misayo Yorita  Toshiteru Yorita
Masato Yoshimaru  Rempei Umematsu

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY, JUNE 15!

It’s his day. So, let him watch the SF Giants, Oakland A’s or the US Open golf tournament on TV provided he barbecues the ribs and steaks to perfection.
Dr. Masako Miura is shown here with her son, Hans Goto, at her 99th birthday party.

Dr. Masako Miura was born Masako Kusayanagi on June 29, 1914 in Pasadena, CA. Her Issei parents were Takejiro Kusayanagi and Matsu Hoshizaki. A year after she was born, her family moved to downtown Los Angeles where they lived in back of her father’s store Pacific Trading Company.

Masako was a rather sickly child. She thinks that she must have had measles three times. When she was five, she was badly burned at her aunt’s home when she got too close to a gas heater.

Masako graduated from Hollywood High School in 1931. Soon after, she and her family went to Japan to spend a year with her ailing grandfather. While in Tokyo, she encountered disfigured people who were sitting and begging on the street—they were lepers. It was that experience that motivated her to become a physician.

While in Japan, Masako attended the Kaisen Girl’s School in Setagaya, an area within Tokyo. Her father didn’t encourage her to go to school because he thought: girls would just get married anyway. After seeing his daughter’s determination, her father relented and in 1932, she entered the University of Southern California where she was active in the International Relations Club, as well as Amazons, a women’s service organization now known as the Helens of Troy. She pursued her dream and majored in premed.

In 1937, Masako was one of only two women to be accepted into the USC Medical School that year. In 1941, Masako graduated from medical school. In July of 1941, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) was accepted into the Los Angeles County General Hospital’s dermatology residency program. While there, she tried to concentrate her studies on syphilology based on the belief that “syphilis can mimic any disease. So, if one knows syphilis, one would also know medicine.”

Soon after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the official entry of the United States into World War II, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) and others were told by hospital administrators that all Japanese Americans would be discharged until ninety days after the war and could be reinstated if they wanted. Soon after their departure, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) married fellow doctor Dr. James Goto and established a medical clinic within her father’s building in downtown Los Angeles. Six weeks later, she was recruited to serve on the medical staff for one of the ten internment camps: Manzanar. She was one of the first doctors to arrive at the camp. She noted that the buildings (barracks) were poorly constructed: sometimes two-inch spaces between floorboards, tarpaper exteriors, and no insulation to protect them against the howling wind and bitter cold winter.

In the early part of their stay in Manzanar, a Kibei group was looking for Mr. Fred Toyama, president of the L.A. JACL because they thought he was responsible for the Japanese being evacuated. The group also sought Masako and her husband. Luckily, they never caught up with them.

While in Manzanar, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) noted a high incidence of skin rashes due to stress of new and unfamiliar surroundings. She also noted an increased incidence of stomach problems, peptic ulcers, psychoneurosis and hypertension in the camp as compared to the general population. She surmised that this was the result of the upheaval of the internment experience.

In Manzanar, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) was part of a small medical staff whose responsibility it was to function out of a “painfully inadequate,” small hospital space—a two-room facility which occupied an entire 100-foot by 20-foot barrack building.

By July of 1942, a new army-issued, 250-bed Manzanar Hospital was opened instead of the 14 beds before. (The previous hospital hadn’t had enough mattresses and babies had to rest in cardboard boxes or makeshift cribs constructed of discarded lumber.) Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) also supervised the training of the medical stenographers. A lot of young girls knew how to type and take shorthand, but lacked the medical background or knowledge of medical terminology and so Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) used to spend her nights making sure proper terminology was used in the records.

Between December 1942 to January of 1943, because of the threats of violence in Manzanar, Dr. Goto and his wife, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) left Manzanar for the Topaz Relocation Center in Utah. Since the Topaz Camp doctors were on strike at that time, she and her husband stayed at her husband’s sister’s home in Salt Lake City where her daughter was born. They were later admitted to the Topaz camp where they stayed until the end of the war helping the many Tseii’s who didn’t leave. German doctors were introduced in the camp, who spoke only German.
Masako and her husband practiced medicine at Topaz until they left in early September 1945.

Upon her return to the LA area, she applied for reinstatement to her residency at the L.A. County General Hospital. After some pressuring, she was given a position in the Dermatology Department.

After her three-year residency, she joined her husband, Dr. Goto in his medical practice in offices located in the building owned by her father.

Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) also worked for the L.A. County School System as a school physician from 1953-1955 while raising the couple's daughter Denise, and son Hans.

When her marriage to Dr. Goto ended, Dr. Kusayanagi (Miura) moved to Oakland and joined the staff at the Oakland Army Base Hospital. One year later, she transferred to the Fort Ord Hospital in Monterey where in 1955, she met and married Kiyoshi Miura, an agricultural supply specialist.

In 1955, she moved to the Watsonville area and after almost thirty years of medical practice, she retired at the age of 68. Dr. Miura's husband passed away in 1994.

General manager Iwao Yamashita opened the first meeting of the month with the group celebrating Mother’s Day. A moment of silence was held for all departed members. Then, we sang our song, God Bless America.

A presentation of corsages to all mothers 88 and over was held and a group photo taken: Seated: Haruko Yoshii 97, Masako Miura 99, Louise Sake 97, Chiyoko Yagi 93, Michi Hamada 92, Mitsue Tao 90
Middle: Miye Yamashita 96, Haru Ishibashi 88, Eiko Ceremony 89, Tea Hashimoto 93, Ruby Nakamura 89, Chiyeko Shikuma 89, Yae Sakamoto 88
Top: Kitako Izumizaki 92, Nancy Iwami 99, Kimi Fujii 88, Mitzi Katsuyama 93, Hide Nagamine 93, Satoko Yamamoto 88. Absent were: Frances Goon 95, Evy Kamigawachi 90, Yoshino Matano 98, Floy Sakata 88, Betty Yagi 90, and Grace Fujita 90.

A Mother’s Day talk was given by Cindy Mine. She surprised us all by introducing her dog, Champ, whom she is still mothering. A “Ladies only” raffle was held, and after bingo the group had a wonderful dinner at Hong Kong Garden.

Mother’s Day decorations were by Helen Nakano: a lovely camellia flower lying on a black tray at each table and a hand folded colorful box with candy at each place setting.

It was good to see Michiko Ruble back after a long absence. We also welcomed back Satoko Yamamoto, home from a 6-month stay in Japan. We are sorry to have lost another member from our group, Richard Ishibashi. Also we send loving thoughts and condolences to Haru Ishibashi, who not only had lost her husband, but also broke her arm and will not be attending for a while.

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April/May Birthdays: Iwao Yamashita, Hisako Uemura, Nancy Iwami 100, Inako Johnson, Mitzi Katsuyama 94, and Haruko Yoshii 97. Sachi Snyder was absent. Birthday table flowers were spring blooms by Jean Akiyama and Hisako Kodama.

Marsha Wada and Patty Maruyama, Nancy Iwami’s nieces, provided a surprise lunch of sandwiches, chips, and drinks to all in honor of Nancy’s 100th birthday.

In honor of Haruko Yoshii’s 97th birthday, daughter Miyoko Yoshii and her friend, Emi Fukushima, brought a package of manju decorated with an origami crane for each Senior, and Mrs. Yoshii donated the cake and ice cream for the party. It was a special birthday celebration!

Photos by Carol Kaneko.

Manager Paul Kaneko again warned members about scams. He also encouraged members to move around and meet others instead of sitting by the same people all the time.

Cindy Mine has come to take our BP 3 times this month, and one week, 17 people took advantage of her services. Thanks loads for keeping us healthy, Cindy.

Forty-six Seniors and friends went to Chukchansi on May 20. Kumiko Nakatani paid the bus driver’s tip (thank you!) and the following took care of the goody department: Toshi Yamashita, Yoshiko Nishihara, Hide Nagamine, Jean Akiyama, Emi Hirano, Yaeko Cross, Carol and Paul Kaneko, Kimi Kimura, Chie Sakaue, Eiko Nishihara, Bobbi Jo Palmer and the Senior Center. For entertainment, Kimi Kimura showed a video about the 100 years of the Santa Cruz Boardwalk and Mr. Nakatani showed a video of the Kayo Club of the year 1989. My, my how young they all were then!!

Many thanks to the hard working toban crew of June Honda, Mitsuyo Tao, Eileen Byers and helpers. All others who have the energy and time are asked to help the toban crew clear the tables at 3 pm. They need all the help they can get. Thanks.

Upcoming events: Japanese Cultural Fair in Santa Cruz on Saturday, June 7 from 11 - 6 pm; Father’s Day will be Potluck on June 12; June birthday party is June 19; and JACL Community Picnic is Saturday, June 28 from 11 - 4:30 pm.

Monetary donations gratefully received: June/Sunao Honda, Kazuko Sakai, Kitako Izumizaki, Akira/Hisako Kodama, Eileen Byers, Mrs. Nerio, Nobue Fujii, Kimi Fujii, Paul/Carol Kaneko, Mas/Marcia Hashimoto, Sue Yamada, Ray/Lucy Matsumoto, Midori Kotake and Ken Yamane, Helen Kobara, Mark/Patt Takeuchi, Lester/Michelle Aoki, Sam/Yae Sakamoto, Matsu family, Mitsuyo Tao, Helen Nakano, Michiko Hamada, Toshiko Yamashita, Susan AmRhein, Tad/Kiyo Sekigahama, Jean Akiyama, Clint/Karen Miller, Margie Kido, Teruo/Alice Tsutsui, Hisako Uemura, Nancy Iwami, Inako Johnson, Mitzi Katsuyama, Iwao Yamashita, Haruko Yoshii, and Sam Ichiro Sugidono.

Other donations gratefully received:

Rubie Kawamoto 2 lge bags Doritos, 6 sq Kleenex, 3 pkgs arare
Yaeko Cross doz super sized tissues, 5 sq Kleenex
June/Sunao Honda 7 plates sushi, 5 packs somen with chopsticks, 10 containers cream puffs
Chiyoko Yagi 2 bags granola, 1 bag sweet potato chips
Jean Akiyama 10 small bags Cheetos, azalea plant for raffle
Kazuko Sakai 200 dinner napkins, 9 boxes Kleenex
Chie Sakaue 1 bouquet white roses, 15 bunches flowers, more flowers
Nobue Fujii 2 aprons for raffle
Eiko Nishihara 1 can assorted chocolates, doz jars jelly, another doz for raffle
‘GOOD TIMES’ (weekly publication)  BEST OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, APRIL 24, 2014

The 2014 Santa Cruz County Reader’s Poll
There were dozens of categories.  Best Local Civil Rights Warrior was written by Geoffrey Dunn, UCSC professor, author, filmmaker, historian, and lecturer:

“Mas Hashimoto may well be Santa Cruz County’s brightest shining star when it comes to trumpeting rights guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution. A retired U. S. History teacher at Watsonville High School, Hashimoto was raised in the Pajaro Valley before being incarcerated with his family during World War II in Poston, Ariz., as a result of Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in February of 1942. Along with his wife Marcia, also a retired teacher, Hashimoto has been a relentless advocate for social justice in the region—and the country at large—while never allowing those in the United States to forget the racial injustices levied on Japanese Americans on the home front during the war. He was honored in February (2014) by Japan’s Consul General, Masato Watanabe, at a formal ceremony in San Francisco, for his life-long commitment to the cause of freedom. He does it all while also editing one of the most informative newsletters in the county for the Japanese American Citizens League.”

“Japanese American Heritage Days” held at Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf
by Wendy Brickman

The first ever Japanese American Heritage Days was held on Saturday and Sunday, May 3rd and 4th, 2014 at Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey. This fascinating and fun event for the whole family that attracted thousands of attendees was co-sponsored by Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf Association and the Monterey Peninsula Japanese American Citizens League.

A thrilling taiko drum performance opened the festival each day. Highlights of Saturday’s opening included comments by Mary Alice Cerrito Fettis, President of Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf Association, Jeff Uchida, President JACL-Monterey, City of Monterey Mayor Chuck della Sala, Japanese Consulate Masato Watanabe, former City of Monterey Mayor Dan Albert, Tim Thomas and a delegation from Tateyama, Japan. There was also the traditional ceremonial Kagami Wari (opening of the sake cask) provided by Ozeki Sake from Hollister, which was enjoyed by all.

Some of the interactive and educational activities during this special weekend included outstanding presentations by respected local historians and authors, Sandy Lydon and Tim Thomas about the history of the Japanese on the Monterey Peninsula and the Abalone King, “Pop” Ernest Doelter. Attendees enjoyed an historic photo exhibit of the Japanese fishermen in Monterey in the Wharf Theatre. On both days, attendees enjoyed the creative abalone cooking demonstration by Chef Bruce Brown of CSUMB. There were also popular origami demonstrations, ikebana flower arranging, and bonsai demonstrations in the Wharf Theatre.

DAN Director of CSUMB’s Center for Computational and Biological Modeling.

Many thanks for all your generosity.
Keep healthy, and keep coming to our Senior Center.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ALL YEAR LONG
Mas Hashimoto spoke about Watsonville’s Private First Class Harry Fumio Madokoro, 442nd RCT, who was killed in action, to those gathered at the Friends and Family of Nisei Veterans’ memorial services on Saturday, May 17—Armed Forces Day.

May 21, at the invitation of parent Akiko Minami, Mas spoke to 30 fourth to sixth grade students at Monarch Community School in Santa Cruz about life in prison as a young student.

May 31, he will be a panelist on National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco’s program speaking about life in Poston.

Then, on June 5, at the invitation of student Ava Poen, Mas will speak to high school students of Georgiana Bruce Kirby School in Santa Cruz about the racism that led to our wartime incarceration.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY, MONTEREY’S OLD FISHERMAN’S WHARF
APRIL 24, 2014

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“Mas Hashimoto may well be Santa Cruz County’s brightest shining star when it comes to trumpeting rights guaranteed by the U. S. Constitution. A retired U. S. History teacher at Watsonville High School, Hashimoto was raised in the Pajaro Valley before being incarcerated with his family during World War II in Poston, Ariz., as a result of Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in February of 1942. Along with his wife Marcia, also a retired teacher, Hashimoto has been a relentless advocate for social justice in the region—and the country at large—while never allowing those in the United States to forget the racial injustices levied on Japanese Americans on the home front during the war. He was honored in February (2014) by Japan’s Consul General, Masato Watanabe, at a formal ceremony in San Francisco, for his life-long commitment to the cause of freedom. He does it all while also editing one of the most informative newsletters in the county for the Japanese American Citizens League.”

“Japanese American Heritage Days” held at Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf
by Wendy Brickman

The first ever Japanese American Heritage Days was held on Saturday and Sunday, May 3rd and 4th, 2014 at Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf in Monterey. This fascinating and fun event for the whole family that attracted thousands of attendees was co-sponsored by Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf Association and the Monterey Peninsula Japanese American Citizens League.

A thrilling taiko drum performance opened the festival each day. Highlights of Saturday’s opening included comments by Mary Alice Cerrito Fettis, President of Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf Association, Jeff Uchida, President JACL-Monterey, City of Monterey Mayor Chuck della Sala, Japanese Consulate Masato Watanabe, former City of Monterey Mayor Dan Albert, Tim Thomas and a delegation from Tateyama, Japan. There was also the traditional ceremonial Kagami Wari (opening of the sake cask) provided by Ozeki Sake from Hollister, which was enjoyed by all.

Some of the interactive and educational activities during this special weekend included outstanding presentations by respected local historians and authors, Sandy Lydon and Tim Thomas about the history of the Japanese on the Monterey Peninsula and the Abalone King, “Pop” Ernest Doelter. Attendees enjoyed an historic photo exhibit of the Japanese fishermen in Monterey in the Wharf Theatre.

On both days, attendees enjoyed the creative abalone cooking demonstration by Chef Bruce Brown of CSUMB. There were also popular origami demonstrations, ikebana flower arranging, and bonsai demonstrations in the Wharf Theatre.
The traditional Japanese tea ceremony was also very popular with attendees both days. Photo by Norman Abe.

Gyotaku (Japanese stencil fish printing) was a big hit with the children who came to the weekend event. Salinas Kendo martial arts demonstrations, taiko drums, Christine Hart and Robert McNamara, karaoke and other live musical performances entertained everyone during the weekend.

A “Pop” Ernest photo op and an abalone song competition were very well received. The abalone races were also fun to watch. Wharf restaurants served small bites of a variety of delicious Japanese dishes and sweet treats. Whale watching and sport fishing trips were also taken by visitors.

A highlight of the event was the presentation of a beautifully hand-crafted and painted traditional-style Japanese Maiwai Jacket by the visiting Japanese delegation during a formal presentation ceremony. At 4:00 PM on Saturday, May 3rd, a special and colorful procession with dignitaries, Lion Dancers, and musicians began at the Wharf and continued through downtown Monterey to the Japanese American Citizens League Hall in Monterey, followed by a well-attended special reception.

Former National JACL President Larry Oda modeled the jacket and led the parade. Photos by Mas Hashimoto.

According to Mary Alice Cerrito Fettis, President of Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf Association, “We are so pleased to present this outstanding event with the Japanese American Citizens League to our community and all of the visitors to Monterey. We very much look forward to working with them again next year!”

Larry Oda says, “This was a wonderful event to celebrate and share the rich cultural heritage of the Japanese on the Monterey Peninsula and to remember the important contribution and leadership of the early Japanese immigrants to the development of the fishery in the region.”

Monterey’s “Sister City” is Nanao, Japan. The Monterey-Nanao relationship dates back to 1986, when a group from Nanao first visited Monterey to study the city’s economic drivers. Like Monterey, Nanao is a coastal community that repositioned itself as a tourist destination after its fishing industry diminished. Several delegations visited California in the following years, and local Rotary clubs and non-profit organizations are involved in hosting and leading presentations. Some of the Junior Wings, past and present youth who visited Japan, were also on hand at Japanese Heritage Days in costume.

“Pop” Ernest Doelter, an entrepreneur and restaurateur at the turn of the last century, turned abalone into an American delicacy at an important period in Monterey history. He discovered its many uses and
created an entire industry around the food. Also known as the "Abalone King", "Pop" Ernest is renowned as owning the first restaurant that served abalone on the Monterey Peninsula. He developed his abalone recipe around 1908 at his restaurant that flourished between 1919 and 1952. He enlisted two well-known local artists, Jo Mora and Armin Hansen, to create attractive menus for his "Abalone and Seafood Restaurant."

Prior to World War II, the Japanese had a dominating presence on Fisherman's Wharf, as a majority of the businesses were owned or operated by Japanese. At the beginning of World War II, 119,000 people of Japanese heritage who lived on the Pacific coast of the United States were forcibly removed from their homes and livelihoods and incarcerated in internment camps and federal detention facilities for the duration of the war thus ending Japanese presence on the wharf. The U.S. government authorized the internment by issuing Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, shortly after Imperial Japan's attack at Pearl Harbor.

After the war, many Japanese Americans returned to the Monterey Peninsula, encouraged by a welcome-back petition signed by approximately 1,000 local notables including John Steinbeck and Edward "Doc" Ricketts. These petitions were recently discovered amongst documents housed in the JACL Heritage Museum by Tim Thomas, local archivist and historian. Faced by the disappearance of the sardines (they run in cycles every 60 years approximately), the returning Japanese Americans ventured into other fisheries, pursued entry-level jobs such as gardening, re-started or opened retail businesses, gained employment with municipal agencies, and established a presence in the medical professions.

The Japanese American Citizens League of the Monterey Peninsula (JACL) was established in 1932 to provide leadership in the community. This organization grew out of a community group that helped the Issei (first generation) community with the English language, and provided immigration, tax and contract information. JACL owns a building at 424 Adams Street which today is used as an Asian Cultural Center. The JACL has been a driving force in the community for over 80 years, sponsoring sports and educational activities, health care and social programs, and addressing civil liberties and civil rights. The JACL sponsors a Japanese language school and hosts other groups for Chinese Language study, music, traditional Japanese dance and martial arts.

In 1988, after an 18-year campaign by JACL, the U.S. Government acknowledged its error in imprisoning its citizens without due process and apologized for violating the Constitution.

For more information, go to www.montereywharf.com. Asian Cultural Center is located in the basement of the JACL Hall and contains history and artifacts of the fishing industry, baseball teams, and historical events.

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WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO
by Bonnie Chihara

On May 10th members of Watsonville Taiko walked in the Human Race Santa Cruz. We've participated in this event since 1999, raising funds for our group as well as the Volunteer Center of Santa Cruz County. Walking
this year were Sensei Ikuyo Conant, Hiroshi Musselman, Karen Groppi, Kathie Brown, Herlie Kataoka and her daughter Kellie, Bonnie Chihara, Mary Lou Jaquith, Sue Berry, Sue Walter, Joyce Smith and Simona Prochazka from Monterey and her 9 dogs! Thank you to everyone who donated to us. With your help we were able to reach our fund-raising goal.

Now we are looking forward to the Japanese Cultural Fair scheduled for June 7th at the Mission Plaza in Santa Cruz. We will perform at 11:30 am and after that we will be serving our usual menu of fried mochi, tai yaki mugicha and yaki tori plate. We hope to see old and new friends. So please stop by our booth and say hello.

Our upcoming schedule

June 7th  Japanese Cultural Fair, Mission Plaza
               Santa Cruz
June 28th-   JACL Picnic, Aptos Village Park
July 5th-    Summer Concert Series, New Brighton Beach State Park
Aug 3rd-    Church Street Fair, Santa Cruz

If you would like to contact us for information on any of our upcoming performances or classes, please call our business Manager Taeko D’Andrea at (831) 435-459, or email her at info@watsonvilletaiko.org. You can also visit our website at www.watsonvilletaiko.org, or like us on Facebook.

WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS by Leslie Nagata-Garcia

Upcoming Youth/Family Events

Gym Nites are the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, usually from 5:30 – 8 p.m., at Westview. Mark your calendars for the following dates:

• June 6 – SPRING BEACH PARTY, 2 – 6 PM @ Manresa Beach
• June 20 – 21 Gym Nite, 30-HOUR FAMINE OVERNIGHTER from 5:30 PM – 10 AM at Westview
• July 18 – CHRISTMAS IN SUMMER
• August 9 – SATURDAY NIGHT POOL PARTY 11 AM – 2 PM at the Kadotani’s (No Gym Nite, August 1st)

Westview is currently taking sign-ups for the Summer Youth Service/Educational Trip to San Francisco/Oakland with Center for Student Mission from August 10 – 13th, 2014. Contact Pastor Dan for more details & to sign-up.

Mother’s Day turned out to be a special one at Westview. Pastor Hoffman gave a special Mother’s Day message, the youth passed out flowers (photo below) to all the women and the Guiding/Growing Ministry prepared gift bags for the moms.
13 Computers were donated by Michael Fukutome’s workplace - Skidmore, Owings and Merrill LLP! They are good, fast computers, but we need monitors, keyboards, mice, software, a wireless printer, some tables, and someone with expertise to help us set it up. Also, if anyone is interested in teaching a computer class to the youth or seniors, please call Pastor Dan.

Sunday Message Series: In mid-June we will start a new series for the summer, "Instructions for abundant life."

Wednesday Study Series: We will start a new series in the fall.

We extend our love and prayers to the Ishibashi and Yamamoto Families. To Haru Ishibashi for the loss of her husband Richard, and Reiko Yamamoto for the loss of her husband Bob.

May the Lord embrace you with his comfort and peace.

Pastor Dan Hoffman will be leading a Hospice Grief Group for VNA and Hospice at Valley Heights the first Wednesday of each month from 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Come receive the healing support of others. Come learn that you are not alone in the fog of grief as you recover from the loss of a loved one.

Grief Groups will be held on the following dates: June 4th, July 2nd.

Become a Tutor…Change a Life!!...And Maybe Change Your Life Too!!

The Literacy Program of Santa Cruz County can pair you up with someone who needs to learn English and learn to read English. You will be trained and then you meet on your own schedule. They have helped 11,000 since 1967! Call 722-6708 or talk with Pastor Dan to learn more.

Kimekomi Doll Class and Workshop at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple

Thank you to the Watsonville Buddhist Temple board members for we can now open the Mataro Kimekomi Doll Making Class at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Both the workshop and the class will be conducted in the Temple’s Conference Room. Please contact Pam Yoshida: pam@yo-koo.net for registration information.

Kimekomi Doll Class:

For the last few years, we received questions and requests on how to make the historical Mataro Kimekomi dolls. We received enough inquiries to begin a class. This class will begin Sunday, September 7, 2014 and is scheduled for the first Sunday of each month, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the conference room. Mataro Academy certified instructors will conduct the classes.

The Mataro Kimekomi Dolls are not ordinary dolls. They are authentic, handmade dolls. The original kimekomi doll has a 260 year-old history and originated in Japan. Kimekomi means ‘to tuck in’. In the classes, you will learn to prepare the form for the doll and to tuck in the beautiful fabrics from Japan.

In the class, you will learn Japanese history, culture, and art. Some dolls have a unique background story. We welcome you to join us!

One Day Workshop:

I would like to introduce you to a One-Day Workshop on Saturday, July 12. Saturday from 9:30 am-4:00 pm. This one day workshop is designed to give the experience to make a kimekomi doll in just one day. Normally, you cannot finish any doll in one day, but we will prepare a doll of your choice for the workshop. Within 6.5 hours, you can finish your completed doll to take home. In our regular class, you will learn the complete steps on ‘how to make kimekomi dolls.’ So that we can prepare a kit for you, you must register by July 5. There is a cost involved. A registration form was printed in the Temple’s ICHIMI. You may also email Ciwasano99@aol.com or contact Shizuko Tao at (831) 722-3918. Bring a small pointed scissors and a hand towel for your workstation. Seating is limited, so please register early.

We are looking forward to meeting you at the workshop and/or regular class.

Masanori (Isako) Wasano, Director
Northern California Shibu-Miyabi Kai

Kawakami-Watsonville Sister City Association News “Another Successful Trip” by Robb Mayeda

On May 6, fifteen Watsonville students and their two chaperones left San Francisco for Tokyo. Upon their arrival at Narita, along with two representatives from Kawakami-mura, Dorothy and I waited for the group while they spent an hour in customs. After loading the nineteen sets of luggage, we went on our four-hour bus trip to Kawakami-mura. After a meal at a rest stop that contained about a dozen fast food restaurants, we carried our luggage up the 20-step stairs to the golf course hotel. The students and adults turned in for the night. We were all tired, but the students did not seem to have any
problem waking up early (with no daylight savings time, it gets light at 4:30 A.M.). We were served a western breakfast in the hotel’s restaurant, then enjoyed the view of the mountains and cherry blossoms before loading our bags onto a small bus that took us downtown. The students got to select bento lunches at the local super market. After we observed a nursery school in one of the village’s community centers, we ate our lunch. We then walked to the beautiful Kawakami Junior High School. A student assembly awaited us. There were speeches from the Kawakami student leaders, and the Watsonville contingent introduced themselves in nihon-go. Thanks to the classes taught by Katherine and Takashi Mizuno, our students were able to identify their age, and talk about their hobbies and interests. The students were introduced to their school buddies, and then it was off to class. Deputy Principal Seiki gave the adults a school tour.

Although the school only has 160 students for three grades (6-9), the school had a 40-station computer lab, a music room with a pipe organ, a wood shop, cafeteria, two gyms and a science lab. At the end of school (6 p.m.), host families arrived in the cafeteria. After more introductions, our pairs of students went to their new homes.

Saturday, the students went to Fuji-kyu Amusement Park, home of the highest roller coaster in Japan. We discussed the student trip and our personal trip to Tottori-ken. He asked us to take good care of his children in September.

We returned for a school lunch before boarding a bus for Tokyo. After another four-hour ride, we arrived in the Asakusa district of Tokyo, near the new Sky Tree Tower, which is now the tallest tower in the world, nearly 2000 feet high. Megumi and Keita from the village office were our guides. Megumi attended college at U.C. Davis, and her Eigo (English) is excellent. We were treated to a really fancy western dinner in a banquet room on the 27th floor of the Asakusa View Hotel. The next day included a short subway train ride to Sky Tree, lots of shopping, and a buffet dinner at the hotel.

The next morning Keita loaded the bus, and the students, Ms. Maleta, and Mr. Knupfer left for Narita Airport. To save some money, the return flight had a stop over in Seoul, South Korea. The students enjoyed their eye-opening trip and experienced extreme hospitality. They are anxious to see their new friends again when the Kawakami students come to Watsonville on September 5.

After attending sister-city meetings at the Japanese Consulate, we found that little old Watsonville has the largest sister city student exchange program in Northern California and Nevada!

“Kawakami Night at Miyuki’s,” Tues., June 3rd, helps fund hosting events and partial scholarships for chaperones. Please join us.

The Kawakami-Watsonville Sister City Student Exchange Program invites you to help support our upcoming activities with our Sister City delegation from Kawakami-mura. Please join us for KAWAKAMI NIGHT at MIYUKI FUNDRAISING DINNER Tuesday, June 3rd, 2014 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Sister City Exchange Program! Dine-In or Take-Out Miyuki Japanese Restaurant 452 East Lake Ave., Watsonville (831) 728-1620 Thank you for your support!

Kawakami Night at Imura’s Restaurant will take place on Monday evening, December 8. Imura’s will donate a portion of the night’s receipts to our general fund. Please mark the date on your calendar.
IN REMEMBRANCE …

HISAE “GRACE” AKIYOSHI ARAMAKI

Hisae “Grace” Akiyoshi Aramaki passed away on September 11, 2013, after a long illness. She was 93 years of age and was a long-time resident of Watsonville.

Hisae was born on March 23, 1920 in Watsonville. She spent most of her life in Watsonville and graduated from Watsonville High. She married Yoshiro “Roy” Aramaki and was happily married for 59 years until his death. They had six children: Betty Mae Black, Linda Aramaki, Theodore (Natsuyo) Aramaki, Sherry Aramaki, Susan Merchant and Janice Aramaki.

She was predeceased by her loving husband, Yoshiro “Roy” Aramaki and her brothers, Toshio, Masao and Shigeo Akiyoshi and her sister, Momoe Mori. She is survived by her six children and six grandchildren, Michelle Black, Scott Aramaki, Andrew Aramaki, Nicholas Merchant, Natalie Merchant and Christopher Merchant and two great grandchildren.

After her retirement from Watsonville Community Hospital, Grace and her husband Roy enjoyed traveling. They especially enjoyed visiting relatives in Japan and Hawaii. They had warm memories of the cherry blossoms in Washington D.C., the fall colors in New England and the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena. They also traveled to the World's Fair in Vancouver, Canada and stopped on the way home to see the Portland Rose Parade. Of course, they looked forward to their monthly casino trips.

Grace was known for her radiant smile and sunny disposition. She loved music and had a lovely singing voice. Only a few people knew she played a lively harmonica. She was a talented seamstress and wonderful homemaker.

A nature lover, Grace appreciated the little pleasures of life like watching the birds, especially hummingbirds and spotting the first spring wild flowers. However, nothing made her happier than seeing to it that her family was happy and content.

Grace was a wonderful caregiver, assisting Roy as he was battling cancer and tirelessly helping her mother-in-law who passed away at the age of 105.

The Aramaki Family wishes to extend their heartfelt gratitude to those special members of Grace's medical team and caregivers who were especially compassionate and kind to our beloved mother.

Mom, memories of your gentle soul, kind heart and unconditional love will sustain us and live forever.

A private family memorial and celebration of life has been held.

RICHARD “DICK” SHIGEKI ISHIBASHI

Richard “Dick” Shigeki Ishibashi passed away on April 18, 2014 at Watsonville Community Hospital. He was 84 years old. Born on September 3, 1929 in San Jose, California to parents Kiyoshi and Shigeyo Ishibashi.

During World War II, Richard and his family were incarcerated in Heart Mountain, Wyoming. The family was then interned at Poston Camp II with his family and then served in the U.S. Army with the Military Intelligence Service and the 441st Central Intelligence Corps detachment in Japan. He attained the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC), taking

Richard is survived by his wife of 32 years, Haruyo Sakoda Ishibashi, sons and spouses Rick Ishibashi (Susan), Michael Ishibashi (Becky); step-children and spouses; Harold Sakoda (Wendy), Clarence Sakoda (Leah), Lizzie Goodson (Bill), Pam McTighe (Tim), Gayle Mellor (David), Carol Cooper (Ernie); brothers; Ken Ishibashi (Fumi deceased) and Saburo Ishibashi; brother-in-laws James Sekigahama and Mas Nakamura; sisters Midori Kotake, Eleanor Sekigahama, Carmen Hata (deceased), Betty Nakamura (deceased); and first wife Aiko Ishibashi (deceased).

Richard also is survived by nieces and nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and his beloved dogs Sydney and Trixie.

Memorial service was held on May 3, 2014, at the Ave Maria Memorial Chapel in Watsonville.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to: Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center, P.O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077 and/or Westview Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 2505, Watsonville, CA 95077.

ROBERT K. “BOB” YAMAMOTO

Robert K. “Bob” Yamamoto, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on May 6, 2014. Bob was born and raised in Watsonville and was blessed to have lived 90 years.

During World War II, Bob was incarcerated in Poston Camp II with his family and then served in the U.S. Army with the Military Intelligence Service and the 441st Central Intelligence Corps detachment in Japan. He attained the rank of Sergeant First Class (SFC), taking
great pride in serving his country. Following his military career, he farmed strawberries with his father and brother for almost 10 years and then pursued a landscape gardening business for over 50 years until his retirement in October of 2013.

Bob was a member of Westview Presbyterian Church, Watsonville JACL, and life member of the Monterey Nisei VFW post 1629. His hobbies throughout the years included bowling, fishing and golf as well as spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bob was a good man with a sense of humor and a big smile for everyone.

Bob is survived by his wife Reiko, daughter Linda (Dennis), sons Al (Sylvia), Wes (Rhonda), nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. He is also survived by sisters Makiko Nakaji, Lena Gabel, and sister-in-law Nancy Yamamoto. He leaves numerous nieces and nephews and was predeceased by his brother James Yamamoto.

A military burial ceremony was held at Pajaro Valley Memorial Park followed by a private memorial service at Westview Presbyterian Church on May 16, 2014.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Bob’s memory to Westview Presbyterian Church, P.O.Box 2025, Watsonville, California 95077, or Hospice of Santa Cruz County, 940 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley, California 95066.

**AN AMERICAN WAR HERO: ROY MATSUMOTO**

Roy Hiroshi Matsumoto, who served with the famed Merrill’s Marauders during World War II and inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame, passed away on April 21, 2014.

The film, “Honor and Sacrifice: The Roy Matsumoto Story,” was produced by Don Sellers, Lucy Ostrander and Karen Matsumoto.

MISer Col. Thomas Sakamoto, US Army retired, listened to Roy Matsumoto during an MIS panel discussion at Presidio of San Francisco.

Matsumoto is survived wife, Kimiko, daughters Fumi and Karen; sons-in-law Richard and John; and three grandchildren. He was a life member of the Japanese American Citizens League, Merrill’s Marauders Association, Military Intelligence Service Association, Ranger Regiment Association, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Aramaki, Ishibashi, Yamamoto, Matsumoto, and Gavin-Ura families, relatives and friends.

**DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM…**

Richard and Susan Uyematsu, birth of their grandson
Jane Sugidono in memory of Curtis Gavin
Mas and Marcia in memory of Dr. Francis Choy
Mary Okamoto in memory of Shoichi Kobara
Esther Ura in memory of Robert Yamamoto
In memory of Richard Ishibashi from …

Ken Muronaka
Tom and Harumi Murakami
Alan and Gayle Uyematsu
Bill, Ida, and Yoshiko Akimoto

“HERE COMES THE BRIDE”…

Our scholarship chair, Dr. Brooke Kondo, was surprised with a wedding shower—cake and champagne—during our last board meeting. Congratulations and best wishes, Brooke and Chris Rains!

Jeanette Hager, Aimee Mizuno, Gary and Cindy Mine, Phil Shima, Brooke Kondo (our bride), Marcia Hashimoto, David Kadotani, Carol Kaneko, Iwao Yamashita, Kimi Kimura, and Mas Hashimoto.

Photo by Paul Kaneko.

**WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL**

Our mailing address is:
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
P.O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA 95077-0163

Please do not mail to our Kizuka Hall address.
Thank you for reading this June 2014 newsletter.
Most of all, thank you for your membership and for your continuing support of our programs and projects. We cannot succeed without your help. Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2014. Our dues have not increased for the past 6 years.

To check your current membership status, look at the date after your name on the address label. Example:
C. Mxxxx 4/14 This means your membership expired after April of 2014.
If you have moved or are planning to move, please let us know your new address.

This newsletter is the monthly publication of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, Please write or email us at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

Read our full color newsletter online at our website: http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org.

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor
THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JA CL 2014 ANNUAL

Community Picnic

Free admission! Join us for a day of family fun! Everyone is welcome!
SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2014

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

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

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.

Lunch
BBQ chicken, hot dogs, chili, rice, salad, French bread and beverages

TEENS & ADULTS TO 69 YEARS $8
SENIORS 70 YEARS & UP $5
CHILDREN 6 TO 12 YEARS $5
CHILDREN 5 YEARS & UNDER FREE

11:00-Noon Races and Senior Bingo
Noon Watsonville Taiko
12:20 Scholarship Presentations
12:45 LUNCH!
1:45-3:00 More Races and Senior Bingo
3:00 Ice Cream Social
3:10-4:30 Raffle! with many great prizes!

Parking is limited — Please Carpool!

Featured Entertainment
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
Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter
National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

No Increase in the 2014 Membership Dues

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

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

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

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

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

- **Family/Couples**: $150 This includes two National dues with one subscription to the *Pacific Citizen*, local dues and our monthly JACL newsletter, and all children under age 14 to be included.
- **Individual Member**: $80 This includes National dues with subscription to the *Pacific Citizen*, the official paper of the National JACL, and local chapter dues and our monthly JACL newsletter.
- **Youth/Student**: $25 for each of ages 14 to 24, which includes a subscription to the *Pacific Citizen*, local youth/student membership, and our monthly JACL newsletter. Youth membership is required for scholarship consideration.

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

Name: ___________________________ (Last Name) ___________________________ (First Name) ___________________________ (Middle Name)

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

Address: ____________________________________________________________

Home phone: (_____) __________________ E-mail: ____________________________

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

Name: ___________________________ Age: __________________

Name: ___________________________ Age: __________________

Name: ___________________________ Age: __________________

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

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
c/o Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Membership Chair, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077

Thank you so much for your support.
Check out our websites: watsontillesantacruzaajcjl.org and jacl.org.