Valley of the Heart

Why is the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Newsletter continually promoting “Valley of the Heart”? Why are we committed to its success and are so grateful to playwright Luis Valdez?

It is because Luis’ story is true-to-life with historical details relevant to understanding the Japanese American experience during WW II. The high emotional impact of the performance is felt by members of the audience and is captured in Wallace Baine’s review which appeared in Santa Cruz Sentinel’s The Guide, Sept 25-Oct 1:

“What is so moving in this story of a family from Japan and a family from Mexico, both heavily invested in the American promise, was how both stood behind the ideals of America even while America was betraying them. The lesson here is that patriotism is meaningless until it is tested (emphasis added).

“Valley of the Heart is a remarkably potent emotional experience for all Americans though, I suspect, it is particularly meaningful for hyphenated Americans whose love of country must somehow be stronger than the counter-vailing force of racism that’s been a part of the American story from its beginnings. Call it a fitting homage to the Japanese-Americans who endured one of the ugliest episodes in American history. Surely their hearts must have been too big for any valley to contain.”

We thank Mr. Baine for his critical understanding of the play and of our Nikkei history in this country.

We wish everyone to experience this wonderful play. The show times are 8 pm on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and at 2 pm matinee on Saturdays and Sundays from today to Oct 12.

For tickets, please call 1-800-838-3006. Sunday, Oct.12th will be the last chance to view “Valley of the Heart” at El Teatro Campesino, 705 Fourth Street, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045. Tickets are available. Parking is free. Don’t open the 2013 season websites which states the play was sold-out. Instead go to this website: http://www.valleyoftheheart.com/

Ernesto “Tito” Montaño, a son (Eduardo Z. Esparza), reads the SF Hearst Examiner to his parents, Cayetano (played by Gustavo Mellado) and Paula (played by Rosa Maria Escalante) about the removal of all Japanese Americans from the West Coast, Executive Order 9066.

Two photos, courtesy of Robert Eliason.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjac1.org, Newsletter, then the month.
Family members of the Montaños and Yamaguchis are harvesting broccoli, the winter crop.

Thanks to Commander David Ambriz and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Freedom Post 1716, Valley of the Heart now has the correct 48-star flag of WW II draped over the soldier’s coffin.

“Teruko” (above) speaks of her brother’s death “Yoshi” (Intae Kim) during the Rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion by the famed 442nd RCT. Photo by Mas Hashimoto, with permission.

JACL’s Response to Fox News Discussion on Profiling by Priscilla Ouchida, 9/23/14, National JACL Executive Director

The notion that America’s successful prosecution of World War II was attributable to Japanese American incarceration was offered in a discussion on Fox News’ “Cashin’ In,” moderated by Eric Bolling. The discussion focused on whether there is a need to profile Muslims.

One guest, Jonathan Hoenig said, “We should have been profiling on September 12, 2001. Let’s take a trip down memory lane here. The last war this country won, we put Japanese Americans in internment camps; we dropped nuclear bombs on residential city centers. So, yes, profiling would be at least a good start. It’s not on skin color; however, it’s on ideology - Muslim, Islamist, jihadist ....”

The JACL rejects the absurd extreme of profiling that would lead to mass incarceration as suggested by Hoenig’s statement. The policy adopted by the G. W. Bush Administration to avoid the use of profiling as anathema to our civil liberties values continues today. It is a policy that must be maintained despite temptations to give in to the fear and hysteria that some would create about Muslims in America.

During World War II, our country was led to believe that Japanese Americans were to be feared and, thereby, posed a security risk. This belief led to the dire consequences of establishing and operating American concentration camps based on the racial profiling of a group of people. Our system of government was established with important guiding principles that do not allow for the selective treatment of individual groups of Americans. It is a lesson we learned in the aftermath of World War II that must be repeated whenever the suggestion of disparate treatment of vulnerable groups arise.

THE FUN OF BEING A TEACHER

By Mas Hashimoto, retired

I was giving a regular US History test on what we had covered during the week. It was a routine test. While the second period students were taking the test, I was correcting the first period’s test papers at the front desk.

A student quietly sneezed.
Without looking up, I said, “Bless you.”
Immediately after, a student farted.
Without looking up, I said, “Bless you.”

A young man was falling asleep as I lectured. Maybe it was on the legacy of Martin van Buren. I might have fallen asleep on that topic, too. He was trying his best to stay awake and to pay attention. But, it was hopeless. Maybe he had to work an extra shift that night, or the football practice took all his energy. I permitted my students to sleep because they needed the sleep more than my lectures. They could always ask for a repeat during lunchtime if they had missed a topic.

I began to speak in a monotone, luring him into a deeper sleep, and I gestured to the students to be quiet.

Soon, he was sound asleep.

With the class ending, I motioned to everyone to walk out quietly. I kept the next class out in the hallway until after the passing bell had rung. Fortunately, he didn’t hear it and didn’t wake up.

The next class quietly took their seats, and I began to give instructions and proceeded with the lesson.

When he finally woke and saw the unfamiliar faces, he bolted out the door … to everyone’s laughter. I should have given him a “late pass” for his next class.

At a recent class reunion, a former student remembered the incident. Another bought me a glass of wine, announcing to his classmates, “I’ve always wanted to buy my teacher a glass of wine.” Dam! No other student felt that way.

It’s wonderful to hear the successes of my former students, now dear friends. I delight in hearing them. It’s nice they remember so many funny moments.

Friday had their children in Marcia’s kindergarten classes, and they all hold her in their highest regards.
PEOPLE FOR THE AMERICAN WAY reports

In Texas, the State Board of Education is currently considering proposed social studies textbook standards that would teach students that "states' rights" caused the Civil War, that affirmative action is unnecessary, and that Moses had a direct influence on the U.S. Constitution.

And our allies at the Texas Freedom Network report that proposed textbooks deny the seriousness of climate change and even claim that "scientists disagree about what is causing climate change" -- a blatant falsehood.

These textbook standards are part of a not-so-subtle attempt by the Religious Right to indoctrinate young people with false and misleading information. And the scary truth is, this is about far more than Texas. Because of the massive size of the state's textbook market, Texas textbook requirements have national implications, because the textbook publishers often sell the same textbooks nationwide.

We need to act now to keep deeply biased, inaccurate textbooks from making their way into the hands of public school students in Texas and across the country.

[Editor's note: the two largest textbook markets are California and Texas. It took nearly ten years for the JACL's Education Committee, led by Greg Marutani of SF JACL, to get California's State Department of Education's approval to update the history textbooks. Some textbooks ended at World War II. Some included our story with two short paragraphs—we were "interned" and some Nisei fought in the war on the Allies' side.

Thanks to the JACL, the CA social studies curriculum was updated to include four pages of our Nikkei history (stories of Fred Korematsu, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, and 442nd RCT Daniel Inouye are featured) and the contributions of the JACL. At the time we were in partnership with African-Americans, Mexican-Americans, Native-Americans, and women (women are the majority but are treated as a minority regarding status, wages, law, etc.) who wanted their major contributions made known.

Now, the Conservative Right wishes to eliminate this "civil rights" movement of the 1960s from our textbooks, returning to the "Jim Crow" days. The majority of the US Supreme Court presently reflects some of these views. The voting rights of many honest, hard-working, patriotic Americans are denied in too many states, and they are not all of the Deep South.

Your JACL is on guard, but we need your help. We would be honored to have your membership and active participation.]

HONORING MIKE MASAOKA, OUR MOST IMPORTANT JAPANESE AMERICAN

Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter would like the year 2015 to be dedicated to our most important Japanese American ever--Mike Masaru Masaoka--who was born nearly 100 years ago on October 15, 1915. Yes, there's no Japanese American more important. George Takei is more famous, Noriyuki "Pat" Morita more loveable ("wax on, wax off"), Dan Inouye more notable, but of our Nikkei nation, no one is more important than Mike Masaoka.

The Nikkei Nation owes a debt of gratitude to Mike who had the vision and the integrity to set the course of history for us under the most difficult of times when the fledgling JACL was made up of members who hadn't reached their 30th birthday.

We enjoy a privileged position today because of the heroics of our Issei (my mother 1893-1972; my father 1877-1938, died before I was 3) and Nisei who followed the JACL's position (my two older brothers volunteered for the Military Intelligence Service), and we are grateful.

Along with Mike, my heroes include Gordon Hirabayashi, Minoru Yasui, Fred Korematsu, and Mitsue Endo for the constitutional issues and the men and women who fought with the 100th/442nd/MIS and other military units during WW II. Yes, not all Nikkei were with the 100th/442nd/MIS. Thousands of others fought with other units. Ben Kuroki of the US Army Air Corps is the most famous non 100th/442nd/MIS. Frank "Foo" Fujita was one of two Nisei captured early in the war by the Japanese and survived the war.

At your upcoming National Board meeting in October, I am hopeful that the year 2015 will be dedicated to Mike Masaru Masaoka for his vision and leadership. We went into camp for there was, as Mike pointed out, no other option. Anti-Asian laws, the non-existence of support for our plight (even the National American Civil Liberties Union did not support us), and growing suspicions that we were the enemy (our young Nisei eligible for the military were reclassified as 4-C—as aliens) had to be confronted. We had to prove our loyalty. The guys of the 100th/442nd RCT proved it with their lives. The MIS saved hundreds of thousands of American and Japanese lives by shortening the war, and they stayed to help rebuild Japan into the modern and progressive nation that it is today.

Yes, it was Mike who came up with the idea of a fighting unit of Japanese Americans ... the 442nd RCT.

While in basic training with the 442nd, he thought about after this war. Well, what about after the war? He envisioned a monument in Washington, DC for the contributions of the Nikkei Nation, and we have one today. It's the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism, located not far from the Congressional building. His name is engraved but not the Japanese American Citizens League, a correction is needed soon. We need to work with the National Park Service and the NJAMP Foundation to make the additions (under Daniel Inouye we need to add Congressional Medal of Honor and under Norman Y. Mineta's name we need to add Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of Transportation). We need your help on these noteworthy additions.

Mike got the naturalization law changed in 1952 so that our Issei parents could become US citizens. Know how many Nikkei Congress men and women and Senators we had in the Congress then? Guess. Mike was amazing. He worked on the first reparations, too, in 1948.

And, this is the tip of the iceberg of Mike's legacy. Mike played a key role in redress and reparations.

Our JACL National leaders and the general membership should be proud and grateful to Mike Masaoka. Let's make 2015 a celebration. We need the National officers and staff to start working on a documentary DVD, 27
minutes long, on the Legacy of Mike Masaoka. It could be an award winning opportunity for some dedicated filmmaker, and we have them in our mist. National Park Service has these grant applications due November 12 that could be used for funding. Hopefully one of our VPs, regional directors or interns would be most willing to take on the challenge. We need to write a script immediately... approach family members for stories and photos and the national archives and universities and scholars in support without delay.

Next year's Gala Dinner, on Thursday, October 15, 2015, could be dedicated to our real Champions—Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido, Fred Tayama and others—who suffered but gaman’d. All the chapters could be requested to send their most supportive members to Washington in honor and in celebration.

What the National JACL needs is an uplift. It needs to be relevant to today's members. It needs to revive, with pride, its history of protecting Nikkei of all ages along the West Coast from the hysteria of prejudice. Mike, Saburo Kido and Fred Tayama were among the young JAClers who endured physical and verbal beatings by a group of No Nos’ and pro-Japan advocates in the camps. It is time to stop these continued verbal attacks. We should not permit negative accusations tarnish the legacy of our early leaders and fracture our National organization.

Next year's Gala Dinner should be scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2015 and be dedicated to our real Champions—Mike Masaoka, Saburo Kido, Fred Tayama and others. We hope the National JACL organization will commit to this project.

Onward!
Mas Hashimoto, W-SC JACL

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is proud to introduce Bill Imada as its first Champion of Diversity honoree at the 2014 JACL Gala, Oct. 9, 2014.

Bill Imada is founder, chairman and chief collaboration officer of IW Group, a minority-owned and operated advertising agency focusing on the growing multicultural markets. For more than 20 years, Mr. Imada has represented some of the top companies in the U.S., including American Airlines, Bank of the West, Comcast Corporation, Godiva Chocolatier, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison, Wal-Mart Stores, Walt Disney Imagineering, Warner Bros. Pictures, Verizon Wireless and many others. His areas of expertise include multicultural communications, marketing, advertising, strategic public relations, cross-cultural training and crisis management.

Mr. Imada is very active in the Asian-American community and serves on several nonprofit boards, including California Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment, Advertising Educational Foundation and Center for Asian American Media. He also co-founded the Asian/Pacific Islander American Chamber of Commerce and Entrepreneurship. Additionally, he serves in an advisory role to many organizations such as Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Asian Real Estate Association of America, Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund, Ascend, National Association of Asian American Professionals, Racing Toward Diversity magazine, Kizuna, Japanese American Citizens League and OCA National.

Mr. Imada is a member of President Obama's Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. He has an interest in mentoring young entrepreneurs and has invested in several start-up companies focusing on real estate, crowd-funding and music.

Tickets, $200 per person ($150 for non-profits), can be purchased by contacting gala@jacl.org or (202) 223-1240. The annual gala will be held on Thurs., Oct. 9, 2014, at the Capital Hilton in downtown Washington (1001 16th Street NW). A reception will be held at the hotel at 6:00 p.m., with dinner and a program following.

The 2014 honorees are:

Champions of Diversity
Bill Imada
Peter Lenkov and Ken Solarz, writers of Hawaii Five-0 Season 4 episode “Ho‘onani Makuakane” (“Honor Thy Father”)

Congressional Award
Adam Smith

Corporate Partner
UPS

The above Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL ad in the Gala Dinner booklet was designed by Phil Shima.
The Eric Shinseki I know by Milt Valera

My friend, Eric Shinseki, resigned recently as head of the second largest agency in the U.S. government, behind only the Department of Defense.

His resignation as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs was a sad inevitability as the forces who demanded he step down were too much to overcome, even for a seasoned soldier who was asked, yet again, to respond with perseverance, courage and sacrifice.

He was vilified by politicians, the media, veterans groups and even those who claimed to know him well. So it was not unexpected when the president took the easy route to jettison the former Army hero, who deserved better from a White House that had pledged, as a priority, to transform the VA. With virtually no support, Eric Shinseki was done, summarily and unfairly dismissed from a calling he had lived by as a soldier and statesman for half a century – serving his country.

Eric's resignation was a blow to many; it was personally shattering for me, though it shouldn't have been, certainly after knowing him for 67 years – from kindergarten to Lihue School, from summer camps to Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts we enjoyed, and then through Kauai high and beyond.

I knew Eric was never a quitter, and he isn't one today. And I wanted readers to know that the real Eric Shinseki is not the one portrayed in negative news articles and television reports we've all seen in the past few weeks.

Eric left for the Mainland and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1960 after 18 years on Kauai. With him he brought a culture of trust, reliability and civility – qualities that he never lost. So when the time came to stand up to the controversies resulting from an avalanche of policy handcuffs already in place at the bureaucratic VA, he did so like a soldier and a professional, without bitterness and criticism of others. Eric was ready, again, to sacrifice for his country.

He was always a straight-up guy and a person of depth and integrity, even as a youngster. Eric was polite and never participated in pranks or tricks on others, yet was always considered one of the guys.

As Hawaii's favorite son on the level of the late Dan Inouye, who served in the U.S. Senate for 49 years, many felt that Eric, the most decorated Asian-American soldier in U.S. history, would someday return home to succeed the beloved senator.

Eric was destined to be the leader he became. He was president of our high school student body, an honor student and, more importantly, someone everyone wanted to follow. As a student leader, he was already beginning to hone skills he was to use successfully in his professional life. He never pounded the table, spoke loudly or threatened others. He just never subscribed to the badgering manner that some said was needed in the VA. Eric was a consensus builder before he made decisions, and his way served him well throughout his career.

Of the 169 graduating seniors in our 1960 class at Kauai High School, some 30 went into the armed services, and Eric was very aware of every one of them who went on to serve their country. After graduation at West Point, he was off to Vietnam himself, where his two tours of duty resulted in sacrifices any veteran can only respect and venerate. He lost part of a foot and then nearly an eye in frontline battle. For his Vietnam service, Eric received three bronze stars for valor and a purple heart with an oak leaf cluster. For him, it was all part of the sacrifice that he and his high school sweetheart, wife Patty, had signed on for.

He returned home physically broken, but far from defeated as a soldier. And for months in Tripler's military hospital in Honolulu, Eric fought hard to put himself back together again with Patty's endearing patience and encouragement. For one who had to learn to walk and see clearly again over many months in a hospital, charges of his insensitivity to the plight of America's vets today is undeserved.

Tough as things had become for Eric, he felt his sacrifice was a small consolation to all proud Japanese-Americans who had to suffer the indignity of being sent away to internment camps in California, Arizona, Wyoming and elsewhere during the war.

Country and honor were always part of Eric's upbringing as he learned of uncles who volunteered to serve in the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe. They established the standard of sacrifice Eric inherited. His inner strength and discipline, coupled with his friendliness and compassion, helped more and more to define him as a soldier and a leader. And his will enabled him to battle back to become commander in chief of the U.S. Army forces in Europe and commander of the land forces in Central Europe as well as commander of the NATO stabilization force in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

After nearly four decades in the Army, rising to the rank of four-star general, Eric was promoted to Army Chief of Staff by President Clinton and served two distinguished terms. But even that time of service was interrupted by yet another call for sacrifice when his honest military assessment at a Congressional hearing countered that of then Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. As an experienced wartime general, Eric testified – and history is in appropriate support of his early testimony – that considerably more troops into Iraq was necessary to normalize the country following its liberation from Saddam Hussein. The issue exploded in the national press, and Eric was virtually relegated to persona non grata status by Rumsfeld.

Today, the sacrifices for his country continues, and it should come as no surprise.

For all the years I have known Eric, he has been an incredible individual of trust and principle, an effective
leader and a person who believes that integrity, honesty and honor ultimately proves one’s character. The Veterans Administration has lost a good man. For a lifetime of duty, service and sacrifices for our nation, Eric Ken Shinseki deserved more than a kick out the door.

Milt Valera
Chairman, National Notary Association and The National Notary Group, Chatsworth, Calif.

Heartfelt Thanks to Classmates from Eric Shinseki

Aloha – many thanks for sharing Milton’s very generous testimonial, along with wonderful comments from Espe, Glenn and Glen, Ricky, Kuri, Norman, June, and Phyllis. Coming from folks I grew up with, their words were hugely uplifting. I regret that things ended the way they did at VA, but it was for the best. Patty and I are fine. Uplifting. I regret that things ended the way they did at VA, but it was for the best. Patty and I are fine. No anguish and no regrets.

This is a difficult note for me to write, but not because of what I’ve been through recently. Those of us who take these appointments know what we are getting into when we sign on. Character assaults can be blood sport in these appointments. Knowing this, we still take these jobs because of the opportunity to make things better for people who most need help – in my case, Veterans.

As I’ve said before, serving as Secretary of VA allowed me to care for the folks I went to war with in Vietnam nearly 50 years ago. It also gave me the opportunity to help those young Americans I sent to war as Army Chief of Staff. And finally, I had the chance to assist Veterans who saved the world in the 1940’s, and Korea in the 1950’s. I am indebted to the President for the privilege of being able to care for men and women who sacrificed so much for this country.

In jobs like this one, we all work as hard as we can for as long as we can, knowing our tenures are finite. Leaving the house at 5:00 AM was not unusual, and a 7:00 PM return was an early night. Weekends on the road were not infrequent. Patty deserves tremendous credit for keeping us all healthy, positive, and upbeat for 5+ years.

During that time, we succeeded in growing the VA budget from about $98 billion to roughly $163 billion -- resources to provide more care to more Veterans than ever before. The President deserves the credit for this.

On 9 Apr, when I asked the VA Inspector General (IG) to review allegations of misconduct at the Phoenix VA Medical Center, I could not comment publicly about any of those charges until the IG had completed its work. A final report will probably be released in Aug.

On 28 May, the IG released interim findings that some VA employees had been untruthful in reporting appointment scheduling delays. When VA’s Health Administration could not explain why, I decided to resign. Such behavior was inexplicable, intolerable, and unacceptable. Only I could accept responsibility for the Department’s failures, and I did so. I publicly apologized to Veterans and the American people – they deserved better – and decided to submit my resignation to the President on 30 May. Following a previously scheduled address to the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, I went to the White House, thanked the President for allowing me this privilege to serve, received his thanks, handed him my letter of resignation, and departed VA. His statement at the following press conference was kind and generous.

But those remarks were no more kind or generous than those of James Carvalho. I don’t cry either, James, but reading about your tears brought them to my eyes, as well. Ilona, Mike Cockett from Lihu’e School days, and that wonderful tribute by Milt Valera with comments from the other Classmates I mentioned earlier -- I could never thank them enough for standing up for me.

What makes this note difficult to write is the knowledge that my friends felt compelled to protect and defend me because of what they saw in the media. Their unquestioning and unwavering loyalty and friendship was overwhelming. I’m embarrassed to read such glowing tributes and by the use of the word “great” to describe their childhood friend. I want them to know that I am no different today than I was in the late-1950’s, when we assembled as KHS ’60. The values we learned then growing up on Kaua’i – work hard every day, treat everyone with dignity and respect, and care for those who most need help -- remain unchanged in me today. Their generous, unsolicited, public defense of me, at a time when I could not say much publicly, was tremendous, and I struggle with saying thank you properly.

I have been very fortunate in my life. Opportunities and experiences have been abundant. Some of them resulted from my own choices about how to live my life. Others, I had little control over – just luck, like being carried off the battlefield twice on the backs of American Soldiers. But, the very best of this good fortune is to have been born on Kaua’i and to be a member of this very special Kaua’i High School Class of 1960. In this, I had absolutely no say, yet from it has come some of the richest blessings in my life – Classmates who have gifted me with unwavering, unquestioning, unstinting support and friendship. Words alone cannot convey how deep my appreciation and affection go.

So Jane – thanks, again, for sharing Milt’s article. I thank him immensely for his kindness. I also want to thank our Classmates for their many notes of support and tributes and by the use of the word “great” to describe their childhood friend. I want them to know that I am no different today than I was in the late-1950’s, when we assembled as KHS ’60. The values we learned then growing up on Kaua’i – work hard every day, treat everyone with dignity and respect, and care for those who most need help -- remain unchanged in me today. Their generous, unsolicited, public defense of me, at a time when I could not say much publicly, was tremendous, and I struggle with saying thank you properly.

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So Jane – thanks, again, for sharing Milt’s article. I thank him immensely for his kindness. I also want to thank our Classmates for their many notes of support and encouragement. I was moved and uplifted by their generosity. This is longer than I intended, but it comes from the heart. Thank you for relaying this note to them for me and for what you have done over many years now to keep us all connected. See you at Waimea Landing.

Warmest thanks and Aloha -- Ric

[Editor’s note: Among his family, closest friends and classmates, he is known simply as “Ric.”

Dr. Samuel Foote, now retired, first exposed the serious problems at the Phoenix (AZ) Veterans Affairs hospital and as a former clinic director for the VA in Phoenix, called the report by the department’s Inspector General a “whitewash.” He told the House Veterans Affairs Committee, “At its worst, it is a feeble attempt at a cover-up.” The report,” he criticized, “deliberately uses
confusing language and math, invents new unrealistic standards of proof ... and makes misleading statements.”

The current Veterans Affair Secretary Robert McDonald called the IG’s report troubling.

“ISSEI: THE FIRST GENERATION” DVD IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!

You can purchase your own DVD copy by using this website: https://www.createspace.com/390128.

Or, I can order copies for you.

The cost is $25 per DVD (I’ll take care of the shipping and handling costs). Many will wish to order more than one copy to give to members of the family, relatives and friends. It’ll make a great present.

(The cost for university libraries and other institutions is $200 per copy.)

The deadline for ordering will be Thursday, October 9th. Make checks payable to Mas Hashimoto, memo “Issei” and send to 578 Vivienne Drive, Watsonville, CA 95076-3530. To place an order you may call Mas at (831) 722-6859 or email at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

The funds will go to another worthy project by Toshi Washizu.

KAWAREM CITY TRIP TO WATSONVILLE by Robb Mayeda, Chair

On Friday, September 5, Watsonville welcomed sixteen students and four adults from our sister city, Kawakami-mura, Nagano-ken. After landing at San Francisco International, the group boarded a charter bus. Their first stop was at Cowboy Corner for lunch.

Mr. Itaru Nitao and I greeted the group at the Buddhist Temple.

After unloading their luggage, it was off to city hall where councilman and former mayor, Daniel Dodge greeted the group. He talked about the various immigrant groups who have made Watsonville home. He emphasized that young people such as these students would determine the future success of Watsonville and Kawakami. After a session in the council chamber, the group toured the library, police station and the fire station. Mr. Nitao acted as the interpreter for all these tours. After these tours, I led the group through the farmers’ market (stopping for kettle corn). We walked from the plaza, through Watsonville High School and then onto the Buddhist temple. On Blackburn Street, several Watsonville students who visited Kawakami-mura this past May intercepted the Kawakami students. The welcome dinner was attended by Council members Daniel Dodge and Dr. Nancy Bilićic. Assistant Superintendent Murry Scheckman represented the Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

Both student groups gathered before the Temple bell for this special group photo. Photos by Robb Mayeda.

After dinner and speeches, (board member Emi Sato acted as the interpreter), the weary Kawakami students (it is a four-hour ride from Kawakami-mura to Narita Airport) went home with their host families. The chaperones, Shigeru Seki (deputy principal) and Toshiko Hara (village librarian), went home with Dorothy Mayeda. The tour guide, Junko Sakai, went
home with Bob and Denise Gomez. The Finance Director, Naoki Nishizawa, who arrived in the U.S. on Wednesday to handle some business at the Japanese Consulate, made accommodations at the Holiday Inn Express.

On Saturday, the host families took their guests to various places, although most of them went to the Santa Cruz Boardwalk. Recently, the Santa Cruz Boardwalk has won the Golden Ticket Award for Best Seaside Park every year since 2007. Amusement park experts and enthusiasts from around the world in a poll that is conducted by Amusement Today, the industry’s leading trade publication, select Golden Ticket Award winners. The visiting adults went to Bargetto Winery. Katie Bargetto Maleta, who chaperoned the May trip to Kawakami-mura, arranged for a tour of the facility. Her cousin Jeff talked about the family history and the wine making process. The sister city committee paid for the wine tasting and Dorothy Mayeda prepared a picnic lunch. We ate on the Bargetto patio overlooking Soquel Creek. After lunch we went to Heritage Brewing Company in San Jose. Brew master Ron Manabe led a tour of the facility and described the beer brewing process. We spent quite a bit of time in the tasting room and sampled beers recommended by Ron. At the end, Mr. Seki and Mr. Nishizawa were given a set of complimentary Hermitage flight glasses. The evening ended with a dinner at Jalisco’s in downtown Watsonville.

On Sunday, the Kawakami visitors, host families and friends of sister city gathered at Seacliff State Beach for a barbecue and potluck lunch. It was a rare opportunity for the Kawakami students to play on the white sand beach. People took advantage of the great weather and stayed late.

On Monday, all the students gathered at E.A. Hall Middle School for a welcome assembly. After a tour of the school, the students, visitors and hosts, boarded a PVUSD bus to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and shopping on Cannery Row.

Tuesday was a school day. The chaperones visited six schools that hosted Kawakami-mura students. Tarmo Hannula and Todd Guild from the Register-Pajaronian interviewed visitors at Lakeview Middle School. After the visits and tour of school concluded at 1:00 P.M., Dorothy Mayeda prepared a real American picnic lunch complete with wooden basket, homemade potato salad and fried chicken. She took adults on a walking tour in Henry Cowell State Park, which has information written in Japanese about the various stops on the trail.

Two Kawakami students, visiting their host Pajaro Middle School, are wearing Pajaro gym clothes.

The evening ended with the farewell dinner at Casserly Hall. The chili, tri-tip, and garlic French bread were prepared by WFD Captain Matt Ryan. After the end of their city council meeting, Councilmen Lowell Hurst, Daniel Dodge, and Felipe Hernandez along with Mayor Katrina Cervantez, joined us.

Mayor Karina Cervantez presented a gift to Toshiko Hara, Kawakami’s librarian.

Wednesday morning began early at the Buddhist Temple, where the Kawakami visitors and their hosts gathered for photos, tears and embraces. Our Kawakami friends boarded their bus to San Francisco International Airport to begin their second leg of their American adventure in southern California.
MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION SIGNED

On Friday, September 5, 2014, in San Francisco, California Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. (left) and Japanese Ambassador to the U.S. Kenichi Saseae (right) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on behalf of the State of California and the Government of Japan. Also participating were CalEPA Secretary Matthew Rodriguez and Consul General Masato Watanabe.

“Specific areas of cooperation outlined in the MOC include: climate change; renewable energy; energy storage; trade and investment; vehicles (particularly zero emission vehicles); joint engagement with cities, sister agencies, nongovernmental organizations, academia and the private sector; cooperation on possible demonstration project(s) on the effectiveness of DC fast charging and enhanced EV use; high-speed rail and other passenger rail services; and water conservation and management.

“Based on this MOC, Japan and California will move forward to strengthen and coordinate their efforts to curb climate change.

“In the spirit of this MOC, I look forward to collaborating with each of you in the future in all areas to further the Japan-California relationship.”

With regards,
Masato Watanabe
Consul General of Japan, San Francisco

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Kitako Izumizaki

Our last casino trip was to Table Mountain with goodies supplied by Toshi Yamashita, Kazuko Sakai, Yaeko Cross, Alice and Jon Drier, Jackie Yamashita, Senior Center, Eiko Nishihara, Cindy and Gary Mine and Yoshiko Nishihara. Mrs. Nakatani took care of the tip to bus driver, Don Cox, for which we all thank her very much.

Another excursion taken on Sept 12 was to the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium to see the matinee performance of The Santa Cruz (Seniors) Follies “Moments In Time”—the wonderful 1930s to the 1950s songs and dances of which we remembered and enjoyed. A good time was had with the group enjoying an evening meal together before heading home.

September birthday celebrants were Susan AmRhein, Shirley Chin, Donna Fujita, Akira Nagamine, Fred Oda 91, Jane Sugidono and Mitsuyo Tao. Sadly the only ones present were Susan and Mitsuyo.

However, a lovely cake along with ice cream was enjoyed by all.

Carol Kaneko passed out a new events paper for the months of September and October. The 43rd anniversary of the center will be celebrated on October 2nd with obento from Imura Restaurant.

Paul Kaneko announced an upcoming trip for Sunday, November 2, 2014 to see the Kristi Yamaguchi and Brian Boitano’s Golden Moment figure skating show at the SAP Center in San Jose. See Carol if interested.

Cindy Mine was here to take BP as usual. We were happy to see Louise Sako back. We met guest Osami Gonzales, health caregiver. Also, we met health care person for Louis Sako, Lisa Callen. To get in touch with Betty Oda, the following address was given: c/o Becky Henry 510 St. Thomas Ln. Foster City, CA 94404.

Marcia Hashimoto announced that anyone who wishes a copy of the DVD documentary, “Issei: The First Generation,” may order through Mas Hashimoto. He’ll order it online. The cost is $25 per DVD, and the deadline is October 4th.

Many thanks to busy tobans Yaeko Cross, Gail Wurtenberg, Shirley Chin and helpers. Thanks also to SwingTime Catering for continuing to provide weekly meals to several of our Seniors.

Monetary donations gratefully received: Shirley Chin, Go For Broke Foundation, Mitsuyo Tao, and Susan AmRhein.

Other donations gratefully received:

- 2 lb bag Hershey Kisses
- 8 rolls Bounty towels
- doz double roll tissues
- 30 bunches flowers,
- 2 bags apples
- 5 pkgs banana bread
- 6 rolls paper towels
- 9 plates zucchini/carrot bread
- 20 bags grapes, 2 boxes plastic forks, lots of Asian pears
- 5 bags are, 8 rolls tissues,
- 3 pkgs udon, 7 bags senbei
- 10 watermelons, 7 bags pears,
- 4 bags Cheez Puffs
- 2 boxes soap pads,
- 5 boxes storage bags
- 6 mini loaves banana bread/cheesecake
- 4 doz eggs
- 2 boxes Cheez It, 4 bags cookies,
- 4 pkgs blueberry muffins
- 8 plates mochi, 3 boxes Kleenex
- 3 bags tomatos, 8 plates chocolate mochi brownies
- 8 rolls Bounty towels,
- 3 boxes Kleenex
- doz jars strawberry jam
- doz bottles Dawn soap
- 6 rolls Scott paper towels
- doz double rolls tissues
- 3 pkgs paper napkins, 2 pkgs chopsticks, 2 boxes Kleenex
- 4 lge boxes Kleenex
Kimi Fujii
4 Dawn soap, 16 double roll tissues

Nobuko Akiyama
5 orchid plants

Eileen Byers
4 bottles soft soap, 4 lge Kleenex

Mitsuyo Tao
16 double roll tissues

Kitty Mizuno
2 boxes cookies, 2 bags sugar coated peanuts

Steve Kim
4 bags arare

Many thanks for all the goodies. Don't forget the upcoming 43rd anniversary celebration on October 2nd and October birthday party on the 16th.
See you all next week.

**BLACKOUT CURTAINS FOR THE JACL HALL**

Badly needed blackout curtains had been discussed for years, and finally--thanks to Bonnie Chihara, her son Hiroshi Musselman, Gary Mine, and Joe Bowes--the windows can be covered so that slide shows, movies, DVDs, etc can be shown in appropriate darkness. Bonnie and Hiroshi measured and sewed the curtains while Gary and Joe installed the mounting brackets.

Joe Bowes recommended capping a natural gas outlet where the previous water heater was housed. Marcia will call PG&E for help. Joe and Phil Shima will design stands for a clearer sound system.

Seniors have commented that the hall is often too hot for them and wish it to be cooler.

**CLEANING UP THE GARDEN AND HALL**

Thank you, Gary Mine and Joe Bowes, for removing the accumulated trash, and Iwao Yamashita for pruning the bushes at the Japanese Memorial Garden in Salinas.

Every Tuesday, Mas and Marcia Hashimoto will take the trash cans to the sidewalk curb, pull weeds, and pick up the litter around the hall. Gary and Cindy H. Mine trim the bushes so that they are neat and beautiful. Gary also puts drainage solution in the toilets on a regular basis.

Thank you Bonnie, Hiroshi, Gary, Cindy, Joe, Iwao, Mas and Marcia for looking after our JACL Hall and garden.

**REMEMBERING WHEN ...**

Remember when all the rooftops had TV antennas? The city’s skyline was filled with thousands of these unsightly gadgets. We no longer need to worry.

Thank goodness we have satellite dishes instead.

Near Starlight Elementary School this fence had been heavily graffitied until the neighbors claimed it back with the wonderful artistry of their young people. Written in nihongo is “Peace.”

**JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER OF CASTROVILLE**

While visiting the Center, Pam Yoshida of San Jose noted a large plant (no, that’s not an artichoke plant in the photo) was blocking the exhibit’s interpretive history panel.

It will be removed and placed elsewhere on the property, thanks to Jerry Hernandez, Analyst, Monterey County Economic Development Department.

Thank you, Pam!
Nearly 25 YBA members, advisors and chaperones are excited to be attending the play, “Valley of the Heart,” by Luis Valdez on Sunday, Oct. 5th at El Teatro Campesino in nearby San Juan Bautista for they wish to learn more about the unjust wartime incarceration of those of the Nikkei nation, 70% of whom were American citizens by birth, in 1942. After the play, they will have dinner at Dona Esther, a famous Mexican restaurant. The party will be led by the newly elected officers and advisors.

We are grateful to our Yonsei and Gosei youths who have expressed interest in our wartime experience.

Congratulations to the 2014-2015 YBA officers and advisors: Advisor Yoshie Maemura; Religious Chair Mathew Maemura; Secretary Kaitlin Sakae; Treasurer Sarah Nagamine; Vice President Christopher Inokuchi; President Kevin Yamaoka; and Advisor Kim Yamaoka. They will be in charge of the annual YBA “All You Can Eat” Spaghetti Dinner, Sat. Oct. 4, from 4 to 7 pm. Please come to support our young people. It’s a wonderful and fun event.

The annual Chicken Teriyaki Take-Out Dinner was a huge success thanks to the Sangha and to our patrons who support us every year. Thank you.

Temple Calendar

October 2014
4 Sat 4-7 pm YBA Spaghetti Dinner
5 Sun 9:30 am Japanese language service
10 am Sunday Service & Shotsuki Hoyo
2 pm Valley of the Heart, play
7 Tue 7:30 pm Board Meeting
8 Wed 1 pm BWA Meeting
9 Thu 10 am ABA Meeting
10 Fri 2 pm San Juan Howakai
12 Sun 10 am Sunday Service
19 Sun 10 am Sunday Service & Eshinni Ko
20 & 21 Mon & Tue Lake Tahoe Fun Casino Trip
26 Sun 10 am Sunday Service & Hatsumairi

Halloween Party, Luncheon
Sun Nov 9 10 am Veterans Day Memorial Service

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10 am Sunday October 5, 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 October are invited to attend the service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

October Memorial List

Masao Akiyoshi Phyllis Arao Mitsuo Aoki
Masayuki Fujii Suyeno Fujimoto
Atae Haneta Miyeko Hayashida Bego Higaki
Yaye Hayashida Tsuruko Tizushita
Jioji Hiwatashi Masataka Kadotani
Kazuo Ikeda Yoshiko Kimura
Kazumi Nakamura Tom Mametsuka
Hisato Kikuchi Yoshihiro Kohara
Kathy Kobara Tom Mino
Glenn Kowaki Tadashi Mino
Masako Manabe Tadao Nakamura
Kazue Mayeda Waye Nishita
Tadashi Mino
Dennis Nishita

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ABA is looking forward to the Hatsumairi Service on Oct. 26, 2014. If you know of babies who have not had this service, please contact Jackie Yamashita at (831) 724-7860 during office hours, Monday-Friday from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Dharma School will be held once each month with teachers Ken Tanimoto and Dr. Reed Kuratomi.

YBA will have a busy month with the Spaghetti Feed; the play, Valley of the Heart; Halloween Party; and the CC conference in Fresno on Nov. 8th.

Boy Scouts will be assisting with the Watsonville Airshow on Oct 10-12. On Oct 25 and 26 they will be camping “under the stars” somewhere in the Panoche Hills.

Cub Scouts: The Sangha welcomes the rebirth of young Cub Scouts.

Board: Locking the water faucets and electrical outlets around the Temple: There are more homeless people in Watsonville near Corralitos Creek and the Pajaro River since the City of Santa Cruz has been cracking down on them. Watsonville now has more transients from Santa Cruz who are drug addicts. Some are mentally unstable as well as those victimized by the economic downturn. Do not confront them but do call the local authorities.

A SPECIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR NISEI VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

by Sam Sakamoto, 442nd RCT, with Mas Hashimoto

This year, the Watsonville Buddhist Temple is honoring the men and women who served in the United States Army’s Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II with a memorial service on Sunday, November 9th, 2014 at 10 am, Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge Street, Watsonville, CA 95076.

All are welcome to attend regardless of religious faith. On November 1, 1941, anticipating a possible war between the United States and Japan, the US Army established a top-secret Japanese language school in Building 640 at Crissy Field, located at the Presidio of San Francisco. This school was transferred to Camp Savage and later to Fort Snelling both in Minnesota. Two Japanese language instructors of that first class were Tom Tanimoto of Watsonville and Shig Kihara of Monterey.

In November of 2011, along with the men of the famed 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, the MIS received just recognition for its services to this country when the Congress presented a Congressional Gold Medal.

The first MIS emblem (left) is of a gopher wearing a war bonnet (Minnesota is the “Gopher State), and the second is the logo of the Northern California MIS veterans’ organization. They are not official Army patches.

Participating in the ceremony will be the Honor Color Guard of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Freedom Post 1716, led by Commander David Ambriz.

Our guest speaker will be Mas Hashimoto who served with the Chemical Section, Sixth US Army Headquarters, Presidio of San Francisco during the “Cold War” (against the Soviet Union and Communist China). A Watsonville High School retired US History teacher, Mr. Hashimoto, whose two older brothers—Tsuyoshi and Tadashi—served with the MIS, speaks today to students around the Monterey Bay about the wartime experiences of the Japanese and Japanese Americans during WW II.

We welcome veterans, families and friends, regardless of your faith or beliefs, to participate in this service. The event is free of charge, and lunch will be served after the service. Donations will be gratefully accepted.

Of the over 200 Watsonville-Santa Cruz Nisei men and women served, 59 were MISers serving during WW II and/or the post-war period in Japan.

Bill Doi
Hideo Hashimoto
Tsuyoshi Hashimoto
Masaki Inouye
Minoru Iwami
Suama Iwanaga
Kaz Jofuku
Mike Kado
Joe Kamitani
Toshi Kimoto
Paul Kiyotoki
Suyeo Manabe
Kasuto Mayeda
Enge Mita
Roy Mori
Tom Murakami
Fred Nakagawa
George I. Nakamura KIA
Katashi Oita
Sam Ono
Frank Shimamoto
James Takehana
George Tani

Dave S. Fujita
Tadashi Hashimoto
James Ichikawa
Takeo Isobe
Nobuyuki Iwanaga
Tsugio Iwanaga
John Kado
Masato Kajikawa
Hideyuki Tom Kawano
Burt Kitahara
Sho Kobara
Jack Matsuoka
Bill Mine
Perry Mori
Harry Morimune
Satoshi Nagase
Nick Nakamori
William Nishimura
Jack Itsumi Oita
Isao Sakai
Min Takata
Satoru Takemoto
Hiroshi Tanouye
Watsonville Taiko members are gearing up for our biggest and most important fundraiser of the year--our annual Holiday Boutique and Raffle. We'd love to have you attend. Admission is free of charge, and there is plenty of free parking across the street.

The boutique will be held on Sunday, November 2nd from noon to 5 pm at the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn St. Watsonville, CA 95076.
We will have arts and crafts from local vendors, baked goods, gift baskets, gift certificates and many unique gift items for sale for all of your holiday gift shopping.

We will also have our fabulous **Japanese themed quilt** as the **grand prize** for our raffle. You don’t want to miss out on the chance to win this beautiful quilt. Other great raffle prizes will also be available.

Tickets for the raffle are $10 each, and there is a limit of 250 tickets available so your chances of winning are very good. Please see our flyer for more information and for raffle ticket orders. Be sure to get yours before we sell out!

**Our upcoming schedule:**

Sun. Nov 2nd  Holiday Boutique and Raffle, Kizuka Hall
Sun. Nov.16th  Big Sur Half Marathon, Asilomar

**LOOK FOR OUR YOUTH SCHOLARS AND THIS AD IN AN UPCOMING PACIFIC CITIZEN ISSUE**

**WESTVIEW HIGHLIGHTS** by Leslie Nagata Garcia

Important announcement: Westview Presbyterian Church’s new mailing address is 118 First Street, Watsonville, CA 95076. Disregard the PO Box address.

Watsonville will be participating in the **CROP Hunger 5k Walk** on Saturday, October 18th starting at 9:00 am at the Second Harvest Bank (800 Ohlone Parkway) in Watsonville. CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Services and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. For more information contact Diane Mio at (831) 724-5834.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars on **Saturday, November 8th at 5 pm**, as Westview will be having its annual Harvest Dinner.

**Matching($Grant**

Gretchen Warner, Leslie Hoffman’s mom, saw the budget shortfalls published in our newsletter and graciously offered Westview **$2000 for a matching grant**. So, if you would like to invest in Westview’s ministry and help decrease our large 2014 budget shortfall please consider giving towards the **Warner Grant** (write in check memo) and every dollar you give will be doubled up to $2000. Please consider a donation and please try to make it above and beyond your regular tithe.

**Youth/Family Upcoming Events**

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

- October 3 - Beach Party at Manresa Beach, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- October 17 – Halloween Party – come in costume!!
- November 7 – Mini Golf at the Boardwalk! Meet at Westview
- November 21 – Thanksgiving Fun! (Bring a can of food for donation)

Their stories will be included in the next issue.

These films are all classics! Thank you, owner Henry Garcia! You always serve our community.
Jordan Souza’s Appreciation Day 09/07/14. Westview will truly miss her as she goes off to Cal Poly.

Photos from the Sushi Bowl event, 08/23/14

Grief Group: Pastor Dan 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: October 1st, November 5th.

Wednesday Study Series: We are reading and discussing The Hope Quotient, a fantastic book about nurturing hope in your life by Rev Dr. Ray Johnston! You can order a book online at Unleashinghope.com or for $15 at Amazon. Wednesday Study Series are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Westview. For the month of October and November we will be meeting on October 8th and 22nd, November 12th and 26th.

Sunday Message Series: “How to play the game.” Based on John Ortberg’s book, When the Game is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box, we will learn vital lessons about how to play the MOST IMPORTANT GAME EVER…the game of life.

Santa Cruz County Election Department Deadlines for registration: Mon., Oct. 20, 2014

Election Day is Tues., Nov. 4, 2014

As a Santa Cruz County resident you may register to vote if: www.voterscount.com

1. you are a citizen of the United States
2. you are a resident of California
3. you are not in prison, on parole, serving a state prison sentence in county jail, serving a sentence for a felony pursuant to subdivision (h) of Penal Code section 1170, or on post release community supervision
4. you will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election (Nov. 4, 2014)
5. you have not been judged by a court to be mentally incompetent to register and vote

When is it necessary to Re-Register?

You need to re-register if you have moved, changed your name, wish to change your political party affiliation, or if your signature has changed.

How to register:

• In Person—you may complete a Voter Registration Card at the Santa Cruz County Elections Office located at 701 Ocean St., Room 210 in Santa Cruz.
• Voter Registration Cards are also available at many public locations in Santa Cruz County including U.S. Post Offices, public libraries, Department of Motor Vehicles offices, as well as many government offices—Watsonville City Hall, 275 Main Street. 4th floor, Watsonville, CA 95076.
• By Phone—you may request that a Voter Registration Card be mailed to you by calling the Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections office at 831-454-2060 or 866-282-5900.
• Online—you can but it is complicated.
DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED …

We apologize for omitting …

PAUL AND KIM TAO for our 80th Anniversary

OTHER THOUGHTFUL DONATIONS RECEIVED …

30 cup electric rice cooker from Steven Kim

In memory of Tomiko Matsui from …

Jennifer Ura Gavin
Esther Ura
Ichiro Sam Sugidono

In memory of “Champ” from... 

Patt and Mark Takeuchi

In honor of Mark Takeuchi’s 68th birthday from …

Patt and Mark Takeuchi

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Thank you for reading this October 2014 newsletter.

Thank you, too, for your continuing support of our programs and projects. We can only succeed with your membership and participation. Please encourage family members, relatives and friends to join us for 2015, or you may wish to gift their memberships. Our membership dues have not increased for the past 7 years.

To check your current membership status, look at the date after your name, example: E. Txxxx 3/14. This means the membership expired after March of 2014.

If you have moved or are planning to move, please let us know your new address. The newsletters are returned with first class postage due. We can inform our National JACL Headquarters and the staff at Pacific Citizen.

Our mailing address is:

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
P.O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA 95077-0163

Thank you for not using our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.

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

We are grateful to those who took the time to write to us about the content of our monthly newsletter.

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

Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor

Page 17: We were honored by Consul General of Japan Masato Watanabe and assistant Yoshiro Tasaka’s visit to Watsonville and San Juan Bautista.

Page 18: The photos of the Temple’s 53rd Annual Chicken Teriyaki Take-Out Dinner are without captions. My apologies. Editor.

Page 19: Seniors’ Corner by Carol Kaneko.
Consul General Masato Watanabe, with assistant Yoshiro Tasaka, was greeted by Rev. Shousei Hanayama of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and paid his respects to our Nisei veterans at W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall; toured (Robert) Kitayama Brothers’ nursery of Gerbera Daisy and white gardenias; picked Richard Uyematsu’s strawberries and organic raspberries; toured Driscoll’s distribution plant; enjoyed dinner with Luis and Lupe Valdez at Jardines; was introduced by Kurt Kurasaki and Phillip Esparza at the theater; and noted the butsudan and thoroughly enjoyed the “Valley of the Heart” play.
Seniors’ Corner

October 2014

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

**Sunday, November 2, 2014**  4 pm show
Kristi Yamaguchi and Brian Boitano Golden Moment Skating Show
SAP Center  San Jose
Bus will leave Watsonville at 2:30 pm; return around 7:30 pm
Cost for ticket and bus: **$70** for Senior Center members  **$80** for non-members

*For information or reservations: Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040
A few seats are still available.*

**Our annual One-Day Senior Center Shopping Trip**
San Francisco Japantown and Marukai or Mitsuwa
*December 2, 2014* [Tuesday]  9 am to 5 pm

Cost: **Active Senior Center Members** $30 and others $40 (new price)

*Reservations: Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto (831) 854-2028
Non-Senior Center members are welcome to join us!*
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: watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org and jacl.org.