The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Newsletter August 2015

2015 Scholarship Recipients

By Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains, Chairperson

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is proud to announce our 2015 local scholarship awards. Our committee reviewed applications from local high school seniors as well as graduate students who are actively involved with the JACL, Westview Presbyterian Church, or Watsonville Buddhist Temple. As part of the scholarship application, the students wrote an essay on the topic of “The Significance of the Day of Remembrance Observance Today” or “Remembering the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988 (Redress and Reparations Act)”. This year’s awardees are all dedicated students, active within their schools, as well as the community.

The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship was initially established by the Watsonville JACL (now called the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL) in memory of Kee Kitayama, who was our chapter president in 1987. Mr. Kitayama worked tirelessly for the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988 which resulted in an apology and reparations from the US Government. In 1997, Mrs. Keiko Kitayama’s generous donation in memory of her late husband established this memorial scholarship as a Trust Fund. The Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship has been awarded for over 15 years and has given our JACL youth thousands of dollars to help pursue their higher education goals. The 2015 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to our graduating high school seniors, Kelsey Kusaba-Kusumoto (left) and Sarah Nagamine (right).

Kelsey Kusaba-Kusumoto is the daughter of Kenneth and Doris Kusumoto. She graduated from Aptos High School, where she was a multi-sport student athlete and leader. Kelsey has been involved with the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and an officer for the YBA. She was a classroom aide for the Kokoro no Gakko since 2009 and an active participant in assisting with the annual JACL community picnic and the 25th Anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Mr. Mark Dorfman, athletic director, teacher, and coach at Aptos High wrote his highest recommendations for Kelsey calling her, “special K, a dynamo, energizer bunny, Tazmanian devil.” Mr. Dorfman stated that, “Kelsey is the captain of our undefeated and championship soccer team, and she is a multiple SCCAL medalist in track and field and one of the fastest runners in the county. She is an excellent student, and she is an outspoken and respected leader on campus.”

Kelsey’s essay the “Civil Liberties Act of 1988” demonstrated her knowledge of Japanese American history and civil rights, she wrote, “I believe in equal rights and freedom for all. What the United States did (redress and reparations) was a huge step towards equality and freedom, and I think we can only learn from the past and move forward. People can be irrational and do things that seem unreasonable, but we’ve learned from our mistakes and that is all that matters.”

The Frank Mito Memorial Scholarship, was established by his family through the Kokoro no Gakko, Japanese cultural school. Throughout his life, Mr. Mito was an active supporter of the Watsonville Japanese American community. Since 2014, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and Dr. Ronald Mito have reviewed and selected a deserving student who shows academic
achievement as well as dedication to community service, with preference to Kokoro no Gakko alumnus. Due to Kelsey’s well-rounded achievements and her commitment volunteering many summers as a Kokoro no Gakko classroom aide, the W-SC JACL and Mito family awarded Kelsey Kusaba-Kusumoto with the Frank Mito Memorial Scholarship for $500 as well as $500 for the Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship.

The Rekiso “Ray” and Hisako “Louise” Sako Scholarship, was generously established in honor of the Sako’s support of our local youths and their endeavors to achieve higher education. Mr. Sako was, and Mrs. Sako continues to be active in the JACL Senior Center where they are known leaders among the Japanese American Community. The Sako multi-year scholarships are awarded to an Undergraduate student, for up to four years of study, as well as a student accepted into a Graduate program, for up to two years of study. The Ray and Louise Sako Undergraduate Scholarship award for 2015 will be given to Sarah Nagamine.

Sarah Nagamine is the daughter of Glenn and Judy Nagamine. She graduated from Aptos High this year. Sarah has been an active JACL member and volunteer for over 10 years helping with the W-SC JACL community picnic and 25th Anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act. Sarah has maintained a strong academic record, all while working for her family farm as well as playing multiple sports, holding office for the Young Buddhist Association, and volunteering for the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, Kokoro no Gakko, and various community organizations.

In her essay, Sarah wrote:

“Day of Remembrance gives me the opportunity to remember the life changing struggles all Japanese American families endured, the hatred experienced by families whose children were killed fighting, and their courage and perseverance. To my family, the other Japanese Americans of that generation, and organizations such as the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, I am truly grateful for your sacrifices and dedication to ensure that our past is ‘remembered’.”

Thomas Whitwam of Aptos High’s Social Science Department wrote Sarah a letter of recommendation stating that, “Sarah is an outstanding young person with a record of achievement, involvement in sports, and life changing activities. She has only begun to tap into her abilities; the sky is the limit for Sarah. She is a true leader, an outstanding student, and, most important, a great person.”

Sarah will be attending the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in the Fall with a major in Communications Disorders with the hopes of becoming an audiologist or speech/language therapist. Sarah was awarded $500 for the Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship and $500 for the Sako Undergraduate Scholarship for 2015.

Mike Mikawa will be receiving the Rekiso “Ray” and Hisako “Louise” Sako 2-year Graduate Scholarship of $1,000. Mike is the son of Warren and Carolyn Mikawa. He attended Aptos High and UC Berkeley, where he double majored in Economics and Asian American Studies. At Berkeley, Mike began actively volunteering and participating in conferences and events within the JACL, Nikkei Student Union, and Nakayoshi organizations. He fostered many relationships with leaders among the Japanese American community and helped with several National JACL events in Washington D.C., while being a paralegal at the US. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division from 2010-2014. Richard Mosier of the U.S. Department of Justice wrote a letter of recommendation stating Mike, “…is the top paralegal in our section not only for the high quality of his work, but also because of is kindness and the generosity of his character.”

Mike wrote in his essay:

“The Day of Remembrance is essential to my identity as a Japanese American. Our community’s legacy has empowered me to stand for social justice and to realize as a young person how many opportunities today were forged and fought from injustice in the past. We must not forget the past. Although the Issei and Nisei may no longer be with us for much longer physically, their stories will live on through the Sansei, Yonsei, and Gosei. Their impact should not weaken with time. We need to ensure their stories live on forever through the Day of Remembrance.”

Mike is interning with the Office of Consumer Protection for the State of Hawaii this summer and will be attending the University of Southern California Law School in the Fall, after which he hopes to become a civil rights attorney in the U. S. Department of Justice.
The Francis B. Choy Memorial Scholarship fund was established by Dr. Conrad Hamako, with the help of Mrs. Sharon Choy. Dr. Choy was a Dermatologist in Santa Cruz County and an active and well-respected community leader. The 2015 Francis B. Choy Memorial Scholarship is being awarded to future doctor, Ms. Alison Uyeda, daughter of Norman and Susan Uyeda. Alison has graduated Cum Laude with Honors from UC San Diego with her Bachelor of Science in Human Biology and a double minor of Psychology and Humanities. Alison has dedicated herself, not only to her studies, but to volunteering at low-cost medical clinics, and medical research.

In her essay on the significance of the “Redress and Reparations Act,” Alison wrote:

“My dad always told me, ‘a berry picked is a berry picked.’ I discovered early on that one can find fulfillment in personal industry and continuous effort, even without measurable outcomes. A similar effort brought us the Civil Liberties Act of August 10, 1988.”

Alison’s work ethic, intelligence, and drive have made it possible for her to gain acceptance at UC Davis School of Medicine for the Fall. She hopes to improve healthcare availability on a global scale in the future.

Dr. Gilbert Ho, a Geriatric Cognitive Neurologist and director of Center for Memory and Aging, supervised Alison’s research and clinical associateship. He recommended her stating:

“She is driven and has an excellent foundation with which to pursue such a career. I am confident that with diligent effort, she will become a skilled and compassionate physician and perhaps continue to pursue medical research in the future.”

Each new recipient received a book, The National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism with the hope that they will visit this site when visiting in Washington, D. C.

The previous recipients of the Sako Undergraduate Scholarship, Amanda Akiyama 2013 and Melissa Tao 2014, were recognized for maintaining strong academic records while in college and each received $1,000 Sako Continuation Scholarships to help to pursue their studies.

Presentation of the $1,000 undergraduate continuing scholarships were made by Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains (center) to Melissa Tao and Amanda Akiyama.

On behalf of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, I would like to congratulate our awardees on their tremendous achievements thus far and wish them all the best with their future pursuits.

2015 JACL ANNUAL COMMUNITY PICNIC
by Marcia Hashimoto, Chair

On behalf of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, I would like to thank everyone who helped, donated, and attended our annual community picnic on Sat., June 27th at the beautiful Aptos Village Park.

About 150 participants enjoyed the sunny, fun-filled day which included a variety of races for children and adults, exciting free bingo for Seniors and friends, a terrific performance by our wonderful and talented Watsonville Taiko, a delicious BBQ chicken lunch, a raffle, and an ice cream social.
We extend our thanks to the following committee members and friends whose assistance made this year’s picnic successful in every way possible:

Gary & Cindy Mine; Dave Kadotani; Joe Bowes; Phil Shima; Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains & Chris Rains; Iwao Yamashita; Jean Yamashita; Victor, Karen, Carter & Nicole Kimura; Clyde, Kimiyo, Cathy, & Jennifer Kimura; Randy Mano; Carol, Paul, Takeshi, & Aya Kaneko; Drs Stuart Sakuma, Janet Nagamine with Jaime Sakuma; Chiye Tamaki; Debbe Chan; Jim & Bruce Arao; Linda Wong; Charlotte Saito; Paul, Kim, Melissa, & Alex Tao; Kenny & Kelsey Kusumoto; Jordan & Julian Nakanishi-Rodriguez; Sarah Nagamine; Nick Murtha; Sara & Emiko Arao Jay; Bobbi Jo Palmer; Tom Lou; & Mas Hashimoto.

Picnic Donations:

We are extremely grateful for the generous donations from the following individuals, businesses and organizations to our picnic and raffle. Thank you, all:

- Alan Uyematsu, CPA
- Yukio & Edna Nagata
- Clyde & Kimiyo Kimura
- Dr. Steven Tanaka
- Mas & Marcia Hashimoto
- Paul & Carol Kaneko
- Paul & Kim Tao
- Bobbi Jo Palmer
- Patricia L. Suda, attorney-at-law
- Miyuki Restaurant, Yas and Janet Sakaguchi
- Imura Restaurant, Jee and Kevin Kajihara
- Yamashita Market, Goro Yamashita
- Shiatsu Clinic, Ben and Chiyoe Yamaguchi
- Flowers by Toshi, Ryoko Kozuki

Mass Donations:

Watsonville-Taiko

This year’s grand TV prize winners were the Kimura family -- Carter, Karen, Nicole, and Victor. Congratulations! Fortunately, they came in a big pick-up truck with which to transport the huge TV set home.

Special thanks for the 55” flat screen “VIZIO TV,” which has so many capabilities, to the following donors of our raffle grand prize:

- Dr. Gerald Kondo
- Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains
- Dr. Conrad Hamako
- David & Jeanni Kadotani
- Dr. Arthur Hayashi
- Dr. Reed Kuratomi
- Dr. Stuart Sakuma
- Floy Sakata

To anyone who helped or donated whose name was unintentionally omitted, I apologize. Please contact me at (831) 722-6859 or email at hashi79@sbcglobal.net and the correction will be made in our September issue.

In the kitchen of Westview Presbyterian Church, Randy Mano (center) supervised Gary Mine, Marcia and Mas Hashimoto (photographer) on cleaning and preparing the boneless chicken thighs for marinating with Randy’s special teriyaki sauce.

The next day, at the picnic, the chicken thighs, all 275 of them, were skillfully barbequed by chefs David Kadotani, Jim Arao, Stuart Sakuma and Randy Mano. Tom Lou also assisted. Everyone raved about this year’s delicious chicken.

[Editor’s note: Foster Farm boneless thighs were purchased at Costco. A package of approximately 24 thighs, weighing about 8 pounds, costs around $24 at $3 a pound. Sugar, Kikkoman shoyu and Sho Chiku Bai sake for marinating were extra. The cooking time was considerably less, and less charcoal was needed.]

Newlyweds Aya and Takeshi Kaneko sold the lunch and raffle tickets. Can you tell they are still on their honeymoon?
Fumi Arao and daughter Tina Arao Jay noticed a photo taken during our 1942 “eviction” (not to be called “Evacuation” any more) was of their Kobari family. The suitcases in the photo had the Kobari name on them!

The dynamic Watsonville Taiko entertained us.

Nancy Iwami (age 101), Tea Hashimoto, and Haru Ishibashi are waiting for that one elusive bingo number.

Running in the two-person geta race took coordination and team work. Below, helping with the race prize table—seated Alex Tao, Julian Nakanishi-Rodriguez, Carter Kimura; standing Bruce Arao, Sara Jay, and children’s race chair, Dr. Brooke Kondo Rains.

After Taiko played, it was time to eat.

Then, it was off to the races … or to play free bingo!

The teenagers—Nick Murtha; Sara Jay, Sarah Nagamine, Melissa Tao, Kelsey Kusaba-Kusumoto, and Julian Nakanishi-Rodriguez enjoyed the “powdered donut” eating race. They ended up with powdered sugar all over their faces!
In the yellow *ko ko* eating race, the littlest one is asking, “Do you really eat that stuff?” Answer: “We love it!”

The water balloon toss was won by the team of Randy and Tracy Mano. They received a gift certificate to Miyuki’s Japanese Restaurant. All the racers in a group.

Only two *jan ken po* contestants, Alex Tao (15) and Akira Nagamine (who will be 90 this fall), remained. Who won? Who was presented with a Miyuki Japanese Restaurant gift certificate?

We appreciate all the volunteers who see a need and then fill it. They not only serve the lunch but clean up after. The Santa Cruz County Park (SCCP) Department loves our group for they know we will leave the Aptos Village Park cleaner than we found it. We are grateful to the SCCP Department and to the Aptos Lions Club that built the park with its wonderful facilities and then donated its use to the park department and community!

The W-SC JACL will continue this century-old tradition of the Watsonville Nikkei community as long as the community believes it is a worthwhile tradition to maintain.

Next year’s picnic will be held on Saturday, June 25, at the Aptos Village Park. Please reserve the date. We’d love to have you and your family/clan join us for a day of fun.

**FLAG POLE DEDICATION, SUN., JUNE 28, 2015**

By Chris Garcia, Scoutmaster

Angelo Long of BSA Troop 558, chartered out of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, recently completed his Eagle project for the Boy Scouts of America and attained the rank of Eagle.

His project was to erect a flagpole at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. Having been a scout for several years at the Buddhist Temple and noticing that the temple lacked a flagpole, Angelo decided to build a flagpole for his project. He picked a spot for it and pitched the idea to the temple board. Upon approval, he set about to find donations of goods and services and to arrange the different stages of the project including permits, and construction. An Eagle project involves many steps including planning, budgeting, soliciting for donations, construction, and last but not least, leading. The final cost was over $2,000. During the Eagle project a scout must demonstrate all these qualities.

Angelo and his twin brother Rocky were scouts for Troop 558 for 7 years attaining over 30 merit badges in addition to countless service hours to the community and the charter organization. The skills and life lessons that they learned during their time in the scouts will prove invaluable as they graduate high school and move on with their lives.

Troop 558 BSA Scoutmaster Chris Garcia (left) with Angelo Long and fellow Scouts and family.
The Scout’s Honor Guard unfurls the American flag.

While war veteran bugler Tony Rojas plays, the Honor Guard of VFW Post 1716, led by Post Commander, David Ambriz (right), offers a gun salute.

442nd RCT veteran Sam Sakamoto attended the ceremony, with his son-in-law, Franz Steidl.


BSA Troop 558 has been an integral part of Temple history, since 1926 when T. S. MacQuiddy organized it incorporating it with our Temple’s Boys’ Club.

Proper flag etiquette must be learned, practiced and maintained.

We are grateful and honored to have this group of fine young men continuing the tradition of “On my honor ….”

UPCOMING AUGUST EVENTS

Sat. Aug 1—30th Anniversary Celebration, Agricultural History Project with Sandy Lydon and Jim Panetta
Sat. Aug 8—JAMsj Legacy with Karen Korematsu and Mas Hashimoto in San Jose, 9 am to noon
Sun. Aug 9—San Benito Co. JACL BBQ, Flea Market
Sat. Aug 15—USS Hornet “Living Ship” program with Lawson Sakai, Franz Steidl, Tom Graves, Al Tortolano.
Sat. Aug 22—Carmel Kamigawachi’s funeral service 11 am, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
Michelle Amano is the daughter of Richard and the granddaughter of Mike M. Masaoka.

HONORING MIKE M. MASAOKA

Mas Hashimoto, spoke to the delegates of the National Council of the JACL about Mike M. Masaoka on July 14, 2015 in Las Vegas. Photo by Marcia Hashimoto.

Mike Masaoka is the most important and influential leader both in the JACL and in Japanese American history.

It is fitting that Mike be honored this the centennial year of his birth (October 15, 1915). At age 25, he, as our Executive Secretary, wrote the "Japanese American Creed" in May of 1941.

Even as President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, whereby 120,000 innocent persons of Japanese ancestry were unjustly incarcerated, Mike was thinking about our future after the war.

He understood that no matter how badly we were treated, America was the only home we had.

Mike became the force behind the creation of the 442nd RCT in 1943. This shirt with the 442nd patch I am wearing was designed by Mitchie Miyamoto of Watsonville.

Mike was convinced that military service must be the foundation of our fight for justice.

And, five Masaoka brothers were to serve—Ben was killed in action and Ike was permanently disabled.

While fighting in Europe, Mike got nearly 2000 stories back to the "Stars and Stripes" and to hometown newspapers. Thus, the American public learned of the dedication, heroics, and sacrifices of the 442nd RCT.

The public learned of the men dying for a country that had imprisoned their parents behind barbed wire.

And, that public changed their opinion of us.

Without Mike, the story of the 442nd RCT would have been lost to history!

To this day, the JACL and Japanese Americans—Sansei, Yonsei, and Gosei—are the beneficiaries of what the Nisei soldiers of the 100th/442nd/MIS did in both the European and Pacific theaters.

Right after the war, Mike served in Washington, DC as the only voice Japanese Americans had.

Mike worked the hall of the Congress—once dominated by committee chairmen from the racist, segregated South.

Mike's achievements are listed in the resolution and need not all be repeated here.

But, one clearly stands out—citizenship for "aliens—previously—ineligible for citizenship"—our Issei parents!

Finally, in the campaign for redress that culminated in the enactment of H. R. 442 on August 10, 1988, Mike's counsel was timely....

Having Grayce Uyehara and Grant Ujifusa as our key members of JACL’s Legislative Education Committee, Mike's understanding of how Congress works and doesn’t work played a pivotal part.

JACL's identify was forged by Mike Masaoka during challenging times. To defend and to celebrate Mike's legacy is to defend and celebrate the JACL.

For his contributions to the welfare of all Japanese Americans and for justice for all Americans, we ask that this National Council adopt this resolution honoring Mike's life and achievements.

Thank you.

Mas Hashimoto, Delegate, W-SC JACL
Our W-SC JACL resolution was unanimously adopted.

We are grateful to Lily Kawafuchi of Gilroy JACL who graciously seconded our resolution, NCWNP District Governor David Unruhe for his unwavering support, Marcia Hashimoto for introducing the resolution to the delegates of the National Council (the governing body of the National JACL), and Mas Hashimoto who spoke for the Mike M. Masaoka resolution.

OVERWHELMING CASE FOR MIKE MASAOKA: A tribute given at the JACL National Convention in Las Vegas on July 15, 2015 by Grant Ujifusa.

I want to thank David Lin and Priscilla Ouchida for inviting me to speak tonight. David, always the complete gentleman, shows that JACL has become an Asian American organization. Priscilla joins a group of extraordinary Japanese American women who have stepped forward to lead us - among them Grayce Uyehara, Cherry Kinoshita, and Etsu Masaoka.

And I am so happy that the National Council voted unanimously yesterday for the resolution offered by Mas and Marcia Hashimoto to honor Mike Masaoka.

I think this: Because Mike was the father of the 442, he is also the father of JACL as we have known the organization for more than 70 years.

How did this come to be? We need to know because origins matter and mostly determine identity. Let me say that as the number one “inu” in the camps, Mike counseled loyalty - shall we call it Allegiance? - to the only country Japanese Americans really had. He then asked young Nisei men to fight and die for that self-same country - one that had grievously betrayed them.

Initially only 1256 men volunteered out of the ten camps, which showed the influence wielded by the vocal anti-inu, the pro-Japan faction among the internees. Eight hundred were selected to serve. These early few, especially those who were killed in action, proved what we tragically had to prove, and that was Japanese American loyalty to the United States of America.

Try arguing, Mr. Redneck politician, with the young man who has come home in a box.

I once asked Mike if he ever lost any sleep about sending young Nisei men to fight and die in Italy and France.

He said, “Not a minute. Under circumstances, blood had to be shed.”

One of his brothers was killed in action, and another was severely disabled.

I also asked Mike if he ever regretted counseling cooperation with the government AFTER 9066 came down.

He said, “No. They had the guns. We didn’t.” We need to remember that Min, Gordon, and Fred were all young bachelors.

Mike was like that. He could think and act with clarity and precision.

As a 27-year-old wartime leader in 1942, Mike was already thinking about what our lives were to be like after the war was won and the camps were closed. And what Mike wanted, we soon enough got: acceptance into the American mainstream of a small group of people once as intensely hated and feared as perhaps no other
in our country’s history. The Bataan Death and the Rape of Nanking didn’t help us.

The brutal truth is that the alternative to what Mike wanted was a Japanese American legacy of no-no. What happened instead we owe to Mike, to the 442, and I will say to JACL. Together I think he, they, and we wrote an immigrant story more powerful than that of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock. To me, that story - of young Nisei men out of the camps dead in Italy and France -- gives depth of meaning and the weight of inconsolable tragedy to our being together here tonight, as it has for JACLers for more than 70 years.

Mike was the principal author of the Japanese American story--which is one reason why we honor him tonight.

As a political leader, Mike was both IQ smart and street smart. And what did we expect of our leader? The answers to two questions, the second usually more important than the first:

What should we do, and how should we do it?

In the twilight of his life, Mike was an indispensable leader of how we did redress.

Understand that Mike was a big-time problem-solver, as adept at making things happen in Washington, a very strange place, as any lobbyist in town - after 50 years in the trade, he was connected and trusted nearly everywhere.

A conversation I had more than once with Mike after dinner around 9 in the evening:

"Mike, the wheels are coming off this thing, in Washington and inside JACL. Let me tell you what Mr. X is up to now. What are we going to do?"

Mike would say, "Give me the night to think about it."

"But, Mike, you don't understand. The wheels are coming off this thing."

"Give Me The Night To Think About It."

An example of a big problem Mike solved.

In January of 1987, Barney Frank told me in his office that he was going to push our bill in a big way. This after years of being bottled up by sub-committee chairmen before him.

But Barney wanted bi-partisan Republican cover on his sub-committee, which meant that he was not going to send HR 442 to the full Judiciary Committee and then to the House floor where a vote could be taken unless Pat Swindall, the number one Republican on the sub-committee, would agree to support the bill.

I said, “Barney, this guy is a born-again Christian from Georgia. A really tough get.”

“I need to have him,” Barney said, “and you have to get him.”

I called Mike and asked him what to do.

He said, “I need the night to think about it.”

In the morning, he called and told me to call Dave Brodie, the chief congressional lobbyist of the Anti-Defamation League, and ask to meet with him. Mike said that Brodie had taken many Southern born-again members to Israel on “fact-finding trips” - also called junkets.

Mike knew that this was one way the Jewish Americans allied themselves with the more numerous “born-again”s. Both a big stake in Israel being taken care of. And so, besides the trips, campaign money was often raised for incumbent Republican politicians in places like Georgia.

I saw Dave in his office at ADL. On his desk, he had a small award maybe 20 years old from the JACL. Dave said he would set up a meeting with Swindall.

Dave and I met with Swindall, though I knew that Dave had already talked to him. Swindall so eager to make sure Dave was happy that joining us that day in the Congressman’s office was his wife and their infant daughter. Effusive introductions were made all around, including to the daughter.

The Republican Congressman from Georgia then told me that he was going to support the bill in Barney Frank’s sub-committee. He added that an aide who was half Japanese was also for the bill, and that helped.

On the day of the vote on the House floor, Swindall made a speech supporting Constitutional rights for Japanese Americans, rights he then said should be extended to the unborn.

Mike knew, as perhaps no one else on the planet did, that to get Swindall on board in Barney’s sub-committee, you needed first to travel through Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

I think Mike Masaoka is the single most gifted leader we have had in our proud history in America. With nothing more than a shoe shine, a smile, and the savvy of his indomitable wife Etsu, Mike got Congress, in his time dominated by Southern segregationist committee chairmen, to agree to Issei citizenship, to the War Brides Act, and to the Hawaiian statehood bill. Then, there was Mike’s indispensable role in the success of HR 442.

That’s what Mike Masaoka did. Now, tell me. Just exactly what have you done?

A rooting interest in what passes for the compelling issues of the day doesn’t count.
For me, Mike’s critics, academics and others supremely confident of their opinions, stand on his shoulders and box him about the ears.

But tonight, Mike, JACL honors you for all you did for JACL, for Japanese Americans, and for our country. I was honored to have known you. Rest in peace.

For reversing Ronald Reagan’s opposition to HR 442, Grant Ujifusa was knighted by the Japanese Government in 2012.

NORMAN Y. MINETA

By W-SC JACL Editor

The former Secretary of Commerce and of Transportation, Norman Mineta, spoke about his brother-in-law, Mike M. Masaoka and sister, Etsu Mineta—when Etsu was leaving Heart Mountain camp on Feb 12 to marry Mike in Salt Lake City, UT on Valentine’s Day Feb 14, dissidents smashed all the windows of the Mineta room. The Mineta family had to leave that camp for their personal safety.

Norm confided that he kept a copy of Mike’s Japanese American Creed on his desk which served as a guide for both his private and political career.

Mike was the best mentor a freshman Nikkei Congressman could possibly have in 1975. Norm went on to explain details of Mike’s contributions.

Then, Norm read Mike’s Creed as a reminder for the elder JACLers and a mission goal for our youthful members.

He concisely articulated the misconceptions of George Takei’s Allegiance, the musical which maligns Mike Masaoka, the JACL, and the Nisei soldiers of WW II.

Norm expressed gratefulness to the JACL National Council for honoring Mike Masaoka—his legacy and contributions.

We are grateful to Bill Yoshino, Midwest Director, for the outstanding video on Mike Masaoka, which was shown at the Sayonara Banquet.

Both Norm Mineta and Grant Ujifusa received standing ovations from an appreciative audience.

Supporters of Mike Masaoka included Gerald Yamada, Marcia Hashimoto, Grant Ujifusa, Nancy Yamada, David Lin, and Mas Hashimoto.

Attending were six past presidents and one current president. Seated: Floyd Shimomura 1982-1984; Raymond Uno 1970-1972; Floyd Mori 2000-2004; standing Ken Inouye 2004-2006; Larry Oda 2006-2010; David Kawamoto 2010-2012; and David Lin, current 2012-2016. All have served with distinction, and we are the beneficiaries.
Las Vegas, NV: Four resolutions were passed by the National Council at the 46th JACL National Convention:

Resolution 1 honored Mike Masaru Masaoka for his leadership and service to the welfare of the Japanese American community.

Resolution 3 recognized the importance of camp artifacts created by incarcerated Japanese Americans during the World War II internment, and resolved that JACL will continue to educate and engage its members and the general public about the artifacts' historical importance.

Resolution 4 supported House Resolution 40, which would establish a commission to study the institution of slavery in the United States and provide recommendations to Congress on appropriate remedies to address the harm inflicted upon African Americans. Copies of the JACL resolution will be sent to members of Congress, select Congressional committees and caucuses, the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans.

Emergency Resolution 2, which calls upon JACL to be an ally to the transgender community and support increased access, equity, and fair treatment of transgender individuals.

A constitutional change: a waiver for those existing chapters which do not have the 25 minimum number of members to remain in “good standing” for conventions.

"KAKEHASHI" PROJECT FOR 2015

Las Vegas, NV: Minister Tamaki Tsukada, of the Embassy of Japan (above left), reported on the success of this year’s Kakehashi Project (“Bridge for Tomorrow”) at the 2015 JACL National Convention. It was so successful that the Japanese government hopes to make the Kakehashi Project a permanent annual program and that the number of participants would double to over 180 for 2015.

Speaking enthusiastically in support was Consul General Jun Yamada (photo right).

The Kakehashi Project was established to facilitate cross-cultural understanding between Japanese Americans and Japanese and to encourage deeper U.S.-Japan relations. Participants travel across Japan, take part in various cultural activities, and learn about different aspects of the relationship between the two countries.

Japanese American and Asian American undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to apply for this year’s program.

More information on the 2015 trip dates, program application guidelines, and deadlines will be available soon! The not-so-good photo by the editor is of those who were involved in the 2014 exchange program.

KAWAKAMI–WATSONVILLE SISTER CITY NEWS
by Robb Mayeda

Thank you all for supporting our fundraising event at Miyuki’s Japanese Restaurant Tuesday, July 21st, and we appreciate the support of Yas and Janet Sakaguchi. Patrons enjoyed the dinner and fellowship.
Shortly before Consul General Masato Watanabe left San Francisco, Phyllis Nagamine and I had the pleasure of attending a sister city ceremony at the Consul General’s residence. This commemorated the one hundredth sister city involving California and Japan. The newest relationship is between Millbrae and Hanyu.

This photo, taken at the ceremony, features from left to right: Consul Hagiwara; former U.S. Secretary of Commerce and of Transportation, Norman Mineta; Marge Colapietro, Millbrae Councilwoman; former Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada (now a state senate candidate); Mrs. Watanabe; and Consul General Masato Watanabe; and Vice Consul Higo. Masato Watanabe is now serving as the Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh.

During the various speeches, we received a history lesson regarding the sister city program. In 1956, President Eisenhower held a White House summit on citizen diplomacy. He envisioned a network that would be a champion for peace and prosperity by fostering bonds between people from different communities around the world. By forming these relationships, President Eisenhower reasoned that people from different cultures could understand, appreciate, and celebrate their differences while building partnerships that would lessen the chance of new conflicts. The goal was to promote peace, friendship and understanding, while focusing on cultural exchange, international development, humanitarianism, and global economic development.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO
By Bonnie Chihara

This summer has been a very busy time for us. On June 27th some of us performed at the annual JACL picnic while a few of our members plus members from Shinsho Mugen Daiko performed at the Land of Medicine Buddha.

On July 4th, we performed at New Brighton State Beach at their Summer Concert Series, an annual event that we've participated in for the past eight years.

On July 18th, we had to split our group again with some members performing at the Relay For Life at Watsonville High School and some members performing at a private party at the home of Dave Newcombe.

Then, on Sunday July 19th, we performed at Watsonville Buddhist Temple’s Obon Festival.

Naoko Yamamoto (left) was featured in a wonderful solo.

On July 26th we will be performing at the Wharf to Wharf and the Festival of Books at Harvey West Park.

We are also gearing up for our annual Holiday Boutique and Raffle which will take place at Kizuka Hall on November 15th from 12 noon to 5 pm. We will have our usual Japanese themed quilt as the grand prize as well as some other great prizes this year. We will have various vendor booths along with our gift baskets for purchase. It's become a tradition for people to come and do their holiday shopping at our boutique. We will have unique gifts at great prices. We hope to see everyone there. More info will be posted on our website www.watsonvilletaiko.org.

Is anyone or any businesses interested in donating to our boutique? Please contact our business manager Taeko D’Andrea at info@watsonvilletaiko.org or call her at (831) 435 4594. Thank you.

Our upcoming schedule:

Aug. 9th Church Street Fair, Santa Cruz
Aug. 30th Aromas Day, Aromas
Sept. 5th Ksitigharba Day, Land of Medicine Buddha, Soquel
Sept. 26th Discovery Learning Center Summer Concert Series
Oct. 11th Santa Cruz Open Streets, West Cliff Drive
Nov. 8th - Big Sur Half Marathon, Asilomar
Nov. 15th Watsonville Taiko’s Annual Boutique and Raffle
Dec. 6th Watsonville celebrates Cultural Diversity, Watsonville Plaza

CONSUL GENERAL JUN YAMADA’S VISIT
On Friday, July 17th, the new Consul General of Japan, SF, Jun Yamada, visited our furusato (home village)--Watsonville.
The Consul General was escorted by Itaru Nitao (center), President of Daihiron-Nokai Northern California and Director of International Farmers Aid Association, farmer Akira Nagamine; educator and Director of our Kawakami Sister City Association Robb Mayeda, and Rev. Shousei Hanayama.

CG Yamada enjoyed touring and learning more of Pajaro Valley’s agricultural industry and the contributions made by the Issei pioneers and Japanese Americans.

He enjoyed picking the raspberries of Richard Uyematsu’s farm. Accompanying the CG is Vice Consul Shinsuke Mochizuki, whose expertise is in agricultural production. Later, they toured, escorted by Kenny Kusumoto, Driscoll’s cooling plant on San Juan Road.

Welcome to Watsonville, CG Jun Yamada!

“HISTORY OF THE MONTEREY BAY” EVENT

Consul General Jun Yamada was a guest of the Monterey Bay Aquarium where he learned more of our local history. Accompanying him were consulate staff Yoshiro Tasaka and Larry Oda of Monterey.

The Chinese and Japanese fished for “trash” seafood that others wouldn’t eat—calamari (squid) and abalone. Have you priced them lately?

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

The history of our Obon is one of traditions and fun! Our Temple’s festivities are low-keyed and enjoyable with delicious foods, great entertainment, and, of course, obon dancing.

In 1940, Rev. Yoshiio Iwanaga and Mrs. Helen Chizu Iwanaga were assigned from Stockton to the Watsonville Buddhist Church. Rev. Iwanaga is known as the “Father of the Obon Odori” dancing and its celebration, having introduced the festival to the United States.

Then, in 1942, the family - with sons Mutsu (Gordon) and Rio — were incarcerated in Poston Camp II, Block 219. We even enjoyed obon dancing in Poston Camp II. The photo of “Hep Cat” Rev. Iwanaga is from the camp’s yearbook, El Chaparral 1945, Editor Pete Hironaka of Salinas.

Our Temple’s Death Registry includes those members who died in “camp.” Rev. Iwanaga took the historic book into “camp.”
After the war, the family returned to Watsonville where Rev. Iwanaga served until his untimely death in 1950. He was 50 years old.

Rev. George Matsubayashi, retired minister, was our guest speaker on Sat. July 11th at the evening service when he delivered a delightful insight into our Obon.

This is the first time our Buddhist flag (no, it’s not a LGBTQ flag but it sure looks like it) flew with the American flag, thanks to Eagle Scout Angelo Long of Troop 588.

One little boy is enthralled with Christine Bowes’ taiko playing during the Obon odori (dancing).

Rev. Hanayama presented the Dharma School Vicki Usuki Memorial Scholarship to Sarah Nagamine, Kevin Yamaoka, and Christopher Inokuchi during Obon.

Aileen Kawasaki (center) presented the BWA college undergraduate scholarships to Danny Souza and to Kelly Maemura, who is studying at Hokkaido University in Japan. Accepting on her behalf is Matthew Maemura, her younger brother.

Rev. Hanayama, Sensei Lisa Honda and Sensei Akemi Ito, with Janice Tao and Rev. Fujikawa, enjoyed the center stage dancing during the obon festivities.
Watsonville Buddhist Temple August Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Sun</td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Japanese Service</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>Sunday &amp; Shotsuki Hoyo Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Tues</td>
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<td>No Temple Board Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Thurs</td>
<td>10 am</td>
<td>ABA Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7-8 Fri-Sat</td>
<td>8 am-3 pm</td>
<td>Rummage Sale!</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ministers' Fuken in San Jose</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Fri</td>
<td>2 pm</td>
<td>San Juan Howakai</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 Sat</td>
<td>5 pm</td>
<td>CD ABA BBQ Bingo Morgan Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Wed</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Ministerial Affairs Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Shotsuki Hoyo Service
August Memorial List

Akiyama, Chou  Akiyama, Matajiro
Akiyoshi, Shigeo  Arimura, Ken
Aoki, Mieko  Arita, Sadako
Nadamoto, Champagne  Sumie  Etow, Kenzo
Fujimoto, Zenkichi  Hashimoto, Ikuta
Hamada, Teruo  Hatsushi, Kisa
Hirano, Mary  Jofuku, Kazushige
Jyoji, Masaru  Kajihara, Eiji
Kimura, Kawano  Koda, Evelyn Misao
Koda, Wakataro  Kowaki, Hama
Kusumoto, Masumi  Kusumoto, Yoshiharu
Maemura, Matsu  Matsui, Tamiko
Matsumoto, Isaku  Matsunami, Iwao
Morimoto, Joe Kazumi  Morimune, Harry Sozo
Muronaka, Tooru  Murakami, Hisami
Nakase Sen  Nakase, Tom
Nakashima, Junko  Nishimoto, Hamaichi
Nishita, George  Oita, Motosuke
Okamoto, Haruo  Okamura, Hiseto Harry
Ota, Teruzo  Saiki, Kimiye
Sakamoto, Juzo  Sakata, Namiko
Sasano, Iwataro  Shirachi, Maxine
Sukekane, Noboru  Tachibana, Masao
Tanaka, Minoru  Tsuchiyama, Ai
Tsukiji, May Takako  Tsuji, Misu
Yamakoshi, Kenro  Yamamoto, Hiromi H.
Yamaoka, Tony Masami  Yonekura, Hisaye
Yorita, Kenjun

Westview Highlights by Leslie Nagata-Garcia

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 in August and September: August 7th, August 21, September 4th, and September 18th.

Youth Mission Trip to Navajo Nation
Native American Reservation in Arizona
July 25th – July 31st: Our Youth had a very busy schedule in July raising funds for this trip. The Youth helped out at our 4th of July fireworks booth from July 1st – July 4th, car washed to their heart’s content on July 11th, and also helped prepare/sell chicken teriyaki tickets July 18th. On Sunday, August 9th, we will hear from our Westview Church Youth Group about their trip. Photos above from left to right: First two are from Everything Isaac Gym Nite that took place on July 3rd; Youth helping to sell fireworks at our booth & washing cars to raise funds for their Mission Trip.

Fireworks!! Our first year of selling fireworks was a very successful one! A special thank you to Randy Mano and the Veal Family for coordinating the whole process of being able to sell/selling them. Also, thanks to everyone who volunteered their time and effort to help out at our booth (youth included) and to Jane Yoshida for cooking some meals for these volunteers!! The Westview Warriors did it again this year by surpassing our $1,000 goal and raising almost $2,000 for the American Cancer Society at the annual Watsonville Relay for Life on July 18th and 19th! This year’s booth sales included our traditional chicken teriyaki box lunches, snack packs and lap beads for walkers who wanted to keep track of how many laps they did as well as many luminaria sales (we sold more than 70!) Westview would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped out with the chicken meal preparation, meal ticket sales, manning our booth, stamping lap bead charms, the decoration of luminaria bags, walking the track, and the donating of snacks to our...
Good job, everyone!!

**Tutoring Club:** Westview will be starting a tutoring club to local students after school at Westview one day a week **beginning in September**. Please be in prayer. Contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in helping in this loving outreach to our neighbors.

## SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Vear

Thanks to the July tobان group--Yaeko Cross, Gail Wurtenberg, Leigh Sakaguchi--and to all others who chipped in to help. And, a special thank you to Susan AmRhein and Helen Nakano for being the General Chairmen of the toban group.

“They offered to give me things to the point of embarrassment, but not to sell them.” This quote is from the book “Beauty Behind Barbed Wire,” written by Allen Eaton in 1952. Laura iyama and Nancy Ukai Russell came to the Senior Center on July 23 to tell about the recent attempt to auction off items collected at Heart Mountain and the importance of keeping artifacts from the camps. They had a short slide show showing the collection that was to be auctioned in New Jersey. They created a Facebook page to delay the auction entitled, “Japanese American History Not for Sale,” and advised that within one week they had 7,000 members protesting the auction. They told us of the 10 permanent camps and there were 120,000 Japanese Americans interned, of which 2/3s were U. S. citizens. There is a large collection at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. They further requested that people keep their artifacts or find somewhere to donate them for the hall.

There are Japanese books available to take for free! They are located on the back tables.

On September 18, a trip is being organized for Seniors to attend the Santa Cruz Follies. It is a 1 pm matinee, and groups will car pool. Tickets are $20.00 per person. Let Carol know if you are interested.

On June 25, all Seniors enjoyed green tea ice cream compliments of **Jee Kajihara** of **Imura Japanese Restaurant**!

And on July 2, it was a red, white, and blue day in honor of the Fourth of July – the hall was decorated in red, white, and blue, and we were treated to vanilla ice cream topped with strawberries, raspberries and blackberries, all from Helen Nakano and Susan AmRhein. Thank you!

Many donations are always gratefully appreciated for the bingo players:

- **Nobue Fujii**, **Kumiko Nakatani**, **Sunao Honda**
  - July birthday cake and ice cream, 60 pkgs of 2 an pan with a pair of chopsticks

- **Grace Fujita**
  - 1 bag pretzels, 1 can sardines

- **Rubie Kawamoto**
  - 3 boxes Cheeze-It, 6 boxes Kleenex, 3 bags rice crackers

- **Ted Wada**
  - 7 bags lemons

- **Haruko Yoshii**
  - 12 rolls bathroom tissue, 3 rolls paper towels, 12 rolls tissue, 1 bag rice crackers

- **Eileen Byers**
  - 8 rolls Bounty paper towels

- **Pat Marr**
  - 4 placemats, 8 napkins, diffuser, wash cloth, 2 pkgs. wasabi nori, 3 box cookies, 4 pkgs arare, 5 pair chopsticks

- **Chie Sakaue**
  - 4 bags Japanese cake, 19 bunches flowers, 4 pkgs. an pastry

- **Yukio/Edna Nagata**
  - 18 rolls bathroom tissue, 4 pkgs. Kleenex

- **Yaeko Cross**
  - 10 pkgs. cookies

- **Iwao Yamashita**
  - 38 bags apricots and plums

- **Donna Fujita**
  - 4 Pringles, 60 candies

- **Miyeko Yamashita**
  - 5 bowls noodles

- **June/Sunao Honda**
  - 4 zucchini breads, 6 Spam sushi

- **Terry Hirahara**
  - 2 bags veggie chips, 250 napkins, 3 sandwich bags

- **Second Harvest Food Bank**
  - 39 crates strawberries

- **Eiko Nishihara**
  - 12 jars strawberry jam

- **Yoshiko Nishihara**
  - 14 dish soaps

- **Satoko Yamamoto**
  - 14 bags Japanese cookies

- **Dora Hoshiyama**
  - 3 handmade cards in memory of Frances Hoshiyama

- **Jo Ann Vear**
  - 2 bags popcorn, 2 boxes granola bars

- **Helen Nakano/Susan AmRhein**
  - Strawberries and Ice Cream

- **April Goral**
  - 5 bottles Dawn dish soap, 5 boxes Kleenex

- **Haru Ishibashi**
  - 12 rolls Bounty paper towels

- **Mary Perez**
  - 1 box cheese nips, 2 bags candies, 10 cookies

- **Kimiyo Fuji**
  - 5 Dawn dish soap, 6 rolls Bounty paper towels
Eiko Ceremony 3 rolls paper towels, 4 cans soup, 4 pkgs. Ramen
Mitsuyo Tao 6 – 1 lb baskets strawberries
Tea Hashimoto 30 jumbo rolls toilet tissue
Mitzi Katsuyama 2 rolls paper towels, 8 Dawn dish soap
Kazuko Sakai 3 pkgs. Kleenex, 2 bottles hand soap
Hide Nagamine 4 Nappa cabbage, 24+ pkgs. cucumbers
Gail Wurtenberg/Mitsue Tao 16 rolls tissue, 8 rolls paper towels
Nancy Iwami 4 bags rice crackers
Eiko Stewart 6 pkgs. tsubishi-an manju
Yae Sakamoto 3 boxes canning jars
Susan AmRhein 6 bags cherry tomatoes, 3 banana bread
Kumiko Nakatani 9 cantaloupes from Fresno, 7 bags tomatoes
Hisako Kodama 12 jars cucumber pickles

July birthday honorees were: Nobue Fujii, Michiko Hamada - 94, Sunao Honda, Kumiko Nakatani and Phil Shima. “Happy Birthday” also to those who were not in attendance: Mary Perez, Floy Sakata – 90 and Chiyoko Yagi – 95. Many thanks to Nobuko Akiyama (donated flowers), Mitsuyo Tao and Hisako Kodama for the flowers and arrangements.

Approximately 40 are signed up for Table Mountain on July 28. Tickets are “SOLD OUT” for the July 26 production of Mary Poppins at Cabrillo.

Welcome to new member Karen Sugidono (daughter of the late Sam Sugidono), and guest Lisa Nagamine (niece of Akira and Hide Nagamine) who will join us as often as she can to help out.

Members were saddened to hear that Carmel Kamigawachi passed away. There will be a memorial service on August 22nd in Watsonville at 11 am.

April Goral told of her move to North Carolina to be near family and a new grandchild so July 23rd was her last time at Senior Center. She will be missed very much, and she promises to keep in touch. Thank you, April, for all your help!

Monetary donations for July: Chiyoko Yagi, Mitsuyo Tao, Nobue Fujii, Michi Hamada, Kumiko Nakatani, Sunao Honda, Floy Sakata and April Goral. Thank you to all of you for your generosity.

Senior Circle News recently had an article regarding scams. Who are the Most Vulnerable? Scam artists typically target those most vulnerable: The Elderly, those with limited English language skills. Most of us honest people don’t recognize common persuasion tactics or the tricks used to manipulate people into signing contracts or giving away their money and when we discover we have been scammed, we become embarrassed and reluctant to share our experience with others. Do NOT give out your social security number. DO NOT give credit card account numbers. DO NOT believe IRS is calling you. DO NOT believe Microsoft is calling you about your computer. DO NOT turn on your computer and follow along the instructions they give you on the phone. If you DO NOT recognize the telephone number on your caller ID then DO NOT answer the phone. If it’s a legitimate friend, they will leave a message. If you do not have caller ID on your phone, it’s wise to have your phones upgraded. The scamming will get worse so take precaution!

[Editor’s note: Don’t ever dial area code 809 (Jamaica), 284, or 876 from the US or Canada. If you do, it may cost you a minimum of $2425 per-minute. You’ll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the phone as long as possible to increase the charges.

You may get a call, “Hey, this is … (a common woman’s or man’s name). Sorry I missed you- get back to me quickly. I have something important to tell you.” Then she repeats a phone number beginning with 809.

If you make the call, there’s not much telephone companies can do. Instead, don’t answer a call unless you absolutely know it is from a relative or friend. Listen later to your answering machine.]

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM …
DOREF Greatest Need
Mary Ellen Martinelli of Carmel

DOREF Scholarship Fund
Linda Wong
Charlotte Saito
Anonymous in memory of Ichiro Sam Sugidono

DOREF Newsletter
Jeanette Misaka of Salt Lake City, UT

In memory of Saichi Kimoto from …
Jennifer Gavin

In memory of Jim Uyematsu from …
Uyematsu Family Lynn Wada
Nancy Yamamoto Edna & Yukio Nagata
Mas & Marcia Hashimoto Nobue Fujii
Jennifer Gavin Joyce German
Susan Hirano Haruyo Ishibashi
Victor Kimura Gordon Kobara
JoMarie Lake Bernice Leonardich
Carolyn Mikawa Diane Mio
Mark & Patt Takeuchi Fred Oda

70th Hiroshima Memorial, August 6, 1945-2015 from …
Nobue Fujii in memory of …
Father, Cousin, and Great Uncle,
Hiroshima City Otemachi Kokunin Gakko,
3rd grade classmates (9 and 10 years old) and teachers. “Peace …”

JOIN US–WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL
We’d love to have you, your family members, relatives and friends join us for 2015-2016. A membership application is included in this newsletter for you and your family. Yes, you don’t have to be a Japanese American to be a member. You don’t even have to be a US citizen. You must be an advocate for justice and for civil rights for all.

Thank you for reading this August 2015 newsletter.
Onward!
Mas Hashimoto, Editor
Friday, September 18, 2015, 1 pm matinee Santa Cruz Follies

“THOSE WERE THE DAYS” - ‘Diamond Anniversary – 60 years of song and dance’
Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, 307 Church St., Santa Cruz, CA
Cost: $20 for senior ticket. We are arranging car pools and need drivers!
After the show, we will go out for an early dinner.

Reservations: Carol Kaneko 476-7040 or Rubie Kawamoto 854-2028
Non-Senior Center members are welcome to join us!

July birthdays: Phil Shima, Michiko Hamada 94, Nobue Fuji, Kumiko Nakatani, and Sunao Honda. Absent: Mary Perez, Floy Sakata 90, and Chiyoko Yagi 95. Center photo: Laura Iiyama, Kimiko Marr, and Nancy Ukai Russell who hold local camp artifacts made from wood in “camp”; April Goral, Gail Wurtenberg, and Mitsue Tao on April’s last day at the Senior Center. Grace Fujita and her niece, Karen Sugidono, a new member.

Upcoming Activities at the Senior Center:
Thurs Aug 6 & 13 Regular Bingo
Thurs Aug 20 August Birthday Party
Thurs Aug 27 Performance by Eiji Natsuki, regular bingo after

Please check out our Senior Center website: http://kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com to keep up with our activities, see photos, and check our calendar.

*Please join our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Senior Center! If you enjoy playing bingo, celebrating special birthdays and holiday occasions, and going on trips, and would like to regularly receive health information and have your blood pressure monitored, join us for our Thursday get-togethers. We’d love to have you and your spouse and/or friends join us. “Active Senior Center Members,” who have paid their membership dues and who make annual birthday and Senior Center anniversary donations, are eligible for reduced fares on our trips. Please contact Carol Kaneko (831) 476-7040 for registration information. Since our Senior Center operates under the auspices of both our local JACL chapter and the National JACL, we encourage all members of the Senior Center to become members of the National JACL through our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapter. HELP WANTED! The Senior Center is always looking for able-bodied, caring, fun-loving volunteers (any and all ages welcome) to help out weekly (or once a month or so) with toban duties. We need your help on Thursdays from 12:30 to 3:15 pm to help our toban teams prepare tea, set out the tea and snacks, and clean up. You are invited to play bingo with us while you wait for clean up time - or you can help our bingo team check bingo cards! Let us know if you can help out on one or more Thursdays each month. Call Susan AmRhein at (831) 724-9454 to volunteer and have some fun.
Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter
National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

No Increase in the 2015 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:  [http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org](http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org) and jacl.org.