A PETITION TO THE JACL NATIONAL BOARD AND TO THE PACIFIC CITIZEN STAFF

I/We, member(s) of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, protest the decision of the National Board to have the historic Pacific Citizen go completely digital (paperless) for members and PC recipients. I/We wish to continue receiving hard copies (paper). I/We do not want the responsibility and cost of printing the PC to fall on the chapters. Some of us do not have computers or smartphones.

Have

computer?            Print Name(s)            Signature(s)           Zip code(s)          write
Yes or No:                                               

______________________________________________  ______________________________          _____________         __________

______________________________________________  ______________________________    ______ __                  __________

Comments:

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL and mail ASAP to:

Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
P. O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA 95077-0163
We truly appreciate your support. Check out our websites: http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org or jacl.org.
THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

Newsletter December 2015

“PACIFIC CITIZEN” GOING ALL DIGITAL?

Do you have a computer or smartphone with which you can receive online the Pacific Citizen, the official newspaper of the National JACL?

The National Board of the JA CL has decreed that the JA CL will stop the mailing of print, hard-copies of the Pacific Citizen by the end of Spring 2016, to all its members, subscribers, advertisers, and others who request paper copies.

We, of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, do not welcome this short-sighted decision of the National Board (7 district governors and 8 National officers), which disregards the most loyal of all JA CL members, our elderly seniors--the oldest Nisei--those of the “Greatest Generation.” They and our over 65 (age) Sansei constitute more than 60% of our current total membership!

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Flash! From National JA CL President David Lin to all JA CLers, Nov. 23, 2015, at 5:43:44 PM PST

To: National Board Members, Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Members, JA CL Members,

At the JA CL National Board meeting this evening, the following adjustments to the Pacific Citizen digital transition plan were discussed and approved:

1. In light of the feedback and concerns expressed by JA CL members, the National Board listened, examined various options and came to the conclusion that the best course of action is to continue the printing of Pacific Citizen in its current form to minimize any potential disruption or inconvenience of receiving Pacific Citizen by our members.

2. Since the National Board still strongly believes in minimizing expenses to reduce deficit and that the digital transition of the Pacific Citizen being our goal, we will strive to sign up as many JA CL members as possible to receive the Pacific Citizen in the digital format only on a voluntary basis. This will be accomplished through a direct mail piece to our members with a return postage paid postcard. Current JA CL members will have the option of receiving Pacific Citizen in either form by checking the appropriate box on the postcard. We will also start sending the PDF version of Pacific Citizen to members with an email address on file so they can experience the digital version first hand. Additionally, we will begin requesting email addresses during the membership renewal process.

3. We would also like to stop sending paper copy of the Pacific Citizen to new JA CL members as soon as it’s feasible.

The National Board wants to thank all the JA CL members for their input and thank them for their continued support!

Best regards,
David

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The present National Board is still determined to go all digital. The above letter misses the major issue. This important decision is not the responsibility of the 15 members of the National Board but the delegates of each 104 chapters of the National Council. The chapter delegates must decide the future of the Pacific Citizen at its Las Vegas national convention in July, 2016.

Second, we look forward to reviewing the JA CL National Board letter, with its return postage postcard. If you do not receive one soon, let us know.

We, nevertheless, are asking, if you agree, to sign our petition located on the back cover of this newsletter, and mail it as soon as possible to us at: Watsonville-Santa Cruz JA CL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. We apologize you must place a first-class (49 cents) stamp on the envelope. Please do not delay.

We will forward the signatures of the petitioners to the staff of the Pacific Citizen, which is questioning going all digital. Your vote matters.

Join the 30 Senior Center members of our W-SC National JA CL who have already signed our petition!

The nation’s print newspapers and magazines are not obsolete. You can find them on news stands all over the country. Why? Many prefer to read paper copies at their leisure. Other family members may read the print copies, too.

Computers and Internet providers malfunction all too often.

Help save the historic Pacific Citizen and our institutional organization.

We’ve warned the National Board: “You (JA CL) live by high tech; you can die by high tech!” We look forward to seeing the hard copies in our mailboxes. Please help us by signing our petition and mailing it in.

The United States Postal Service has been a devoted friend of the JA CL for decades. It would be a shame to cut off services from our friend, the USPS, just when our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JA CL has asked for a commemorative stamp for our entire Nikkei nation!

WATSONVILLE’S MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION AND TREE LIGHTING

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org, Newsletter, then the month.
This year, on Sunday, December 6th, in conjunction with the annual “Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony,” we will highlight our beautiful cultural diversity with enriching activities, wonderful entertainment, and delicious cuisine from various ethnic groups. Our event, which is free of any admission charge, provides an opportunity to build unity and promote understanding and appreciation of other cultures. Bring all the members of the family.

Watsonville Taiko’s children group will open the celebration. W-SC JACL, at its booth, will teach about Japanese culture with its traditions. Come visit us!

We hope our W-SC JACL members and community friends will support this cultural celebration by attending. Dress warmly! Visit our W-SC JACL booth which features origami and writing one’s name in Japanese (katakana).

The program for the Multicultural Celebration.

At the Cabrillo College steps on Union Street:
1:00-1:30 Watsonville Taiko Drummers
1:30-2:00 YWCA Youth Choir
2:00-2:30 Estrella de Esperanza, Folkloric Dancers
3:00-3:30 Junventud Latina Folkloric Dance Group
3:30-4:00 Watsonville Hip Hop Street Dancers
4:00-4:30 Watsonville Music Program, Youth Choir

At the Stage near the Holiday Tree:
1:30-2:00 Junventud Latina Folkloric Dance Group
3:00-3:30 Watsonville Seniors “Sing-along”
4:00-4:30 Portuguese Folkloric Dancing
4:30-5:00 Aztec White Hawk Dance Group

Stay for the tree lighting at 5 pm which signals the start of the new holiday season. Come join in the fun.

Booths at the Watsonville City Plaza
YWCA of Watsonville/Artist Watsonville Music Programs
United Presbyterian Church Art and History Museum
Watsonville Salvation Army Watsonville Senior Center
Watsonville Jewish Community Sisternabrush
Slavic American Cultural Organization Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

Vendors
Live Oak School District---Champurrado and Pozole/Items
Juventud Latina Genesis---Tamales and Champurrado
Knights of Columbus---Hot Dog stand
Monterey Bay Murals---items for sale

Your name, written in Japanese and placed on the family Christmas tree, is sure to bring you good luck, joy, and happiness for the New Year.

2016 ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The 2016 ballots were mailed on Nov. 25, 2015 to 275 W-SC National JACL and National Youth/Student members. If you are a National JACL member of the W-SC JACL and did not receive a ballot in the mail, please contact Marcia Hashimoto immediately at (831) 722-6859 (please, leave a message) or email at hashi79@sbcglobal.net. The ballots are to be returned by Dec. 18, 2015 to our W-SC JACL address: P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. You may present them to any W-SC JACL board member or to Carol Kaneko of our Senior Center on Thursdays. Thank you.
It would be simpler and cheaper to have inserted the ballots in the December newsletter, but then non-members could vote. That would be a violation of our W-SC JACL Constitution.

We truly appreciate your participation in this important democratic process.

**QUAD-CHAPTER INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

You are cordially invited to our annual installation of officers of Gilroy, Salinas Valley, San Benito County and Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL chapters on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016 at the beautiful San Juan Oaks Golf Course in Hollister, hosted by San Benito County JACL. The lunch, $25 per person, will include London broil with mushroom sauce, salmon fillet with fresh herbs and vegetable dishes.

**Kurt Kurasaki** is planning an outstanding program. Registration will take place at 11 am with the program to follow after lunch.

For reservations, call **Marcia Hashimoto** at (831) 722-6859 by January 6, 2016 (please, leave a message), or email at hashi79@sbcglobal.net. We hope you will join us and meet our new board members.

**WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!**

Lisa Nagamine and her daughter, Katarina
Kimiyo Fujii
Fumi Arao
Jean Yamashita

**WHY PEARL HARBOR?** Editor

On Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Japanese Imperial Navy struck without warning or a formal declaration of war our Pacific fleet at Pearl Harbor, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Why? What was to be gained? Imperialist Japan’s plan was: (1) to destroy the American Pacific fleet which had been transferred from San Diego to Honolulu; (2) then, without opposition, have a free rein in the Pacific theater of the war, conquering the Philippines and Southeast Asia; (3) fight defensively against the United States; and (4) when Americans tired of the war, Japan would negotiate for a truce, a cease-fire.

The Japanese vastly underestimated the will of the American people. They believed articles and reports which belittled the average American as lazy, selfish, unprincipled, and undisciplined.

At Pearl Harbor, the Japanese sank aging, obsolete battleships and other ships but no aircraft carriers. They—the Lexington, Enterprise, Yorktown, and Hornet—now the heart of the fleet, were elsewhere. The failure to destroy the fuel depots and dry docks (for repairing ships) was also a huge mistake on the part of the Japanese. Pearl Harbor was back in action the next day. The Japanese had no plans to invade and occupy the Hawaiian Islands. The Japanese had no plans to invade the mainland of the United States.

In April of 1942, the Doolittle Raid from the Hornet bombed cities in Japan. It boosted the moral of the American people.

In the Battle of the Coral Sea, May of 1942, the Lexington was sunk, and the Japanese believed it had sunk the Yorktown, too. Most important, the Japanese advance in the South Pacific was curtailed.

In May of 1942, the most important early battle—the Battle of Midway—took place. The US military intelligence had broken the Japanese secret code and knew of the Japanese naval battle plans. We lost the Yorktown, but it with the Enterprise and Hornet sank four Japanese aircraft carriers with their best naval pilots. The Japanese were never to recover from their losses. We didn’t know it then, but this battle was the turning point of the War in the Pacific (1941-1945).

Everyone is encouraged to visit the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor to pay one’s respect to those who lost their lives on that fateful day. Next to it is the USS Battleship Missouri Memorial, upon whose deck the Japanese surrendered on September 2, 1945.

Nearly 75 years later, the commander of the U. S. Pacific Command is **Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr.**, stationed at Pearl Harbor. His father served as a US Navy Chief Petty Officer, and his mother is Japanese. He was born in Japan.

Japan is our closest and most dependable ally in the Pacific if not the world.

**THE NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

On Sat. Nov. 14, the men of the MIS and 100th/442nd RCT were honored by the National Park Service, the Japanese consulate of San Francisco, the Defense Language Institute of Monterey, and the National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco in the second annual anniversary celebration of Hanger 640, the MIS Learning Center. It was a most wonderful celebration in glorious sunshine.

NJHJS President **Bryan Yagi** welcomed and introduced the men of the MIS as well as the 100th/442nd RCT who gathered to share stories and to honor the memory of those who have passed on.
Veterans honored (seated) L to R: Lewis Suzuki, MIS Instructor; James Iso, MIS; Lawson Sakai, 442nd; Shig Doi, 442nd; Tadashi Sawamura, MIS-Korea; Shin Sawamura, MIS-Korea. (standing): Yoji Ozaki, MIS; Warren Eijima, MIS; Yone Satoda, MIS-Occupation; Mas Ishikawa, MIS; Joseph Kurata, CIC; Frank Inami, MIS; Ron Yoshida, MIS. Absent: Hiroshi Kaku, 442nd.

Speakers included Superintendent Christine Lehneritz of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area/National Park Service; Joshua Steinberger, Chief Strategy & Communications, the Presidio Trust; and Consul General Jun Yamada, Japanese Government.

In humble gratefulness, Consul General Jun Yamada of Japan presented a certificate of appreciation to Lewis Suzuki, MIS language instructor.

Lawson Sakai 442nd (left), as well as others, was presented with certificates of appreciation by CG Yamada for their contributions and service to the Nikkei nation, Nisei veterans of WW II and Korea, and to Japan.

The new commandant of the Defense Language Institute & Foreign Language Center, Presidio of Monterey, Colonel Phillip Deppert (above), paid the highest tribute to the men and women of the Military Intelligence Service in his address and was grateful for their contributions to our nation’s history.

Seated: L to R: Lewis Suzuki, MIS Instructor; James Iso, MIS; Lawson Sakai, 442nd; Shig Doi, 442nd; Tadashi Sawamura, MIS-Korea; Shin Sawamura, MIS-Korea, Col. Phil Deppert, Commandant DLIFLC; Back row: Odette Le Pendu, French Resistance; Nina Myers, Cherry Blossom Princess; Warren Eijima, MIS; Bryan Yagi, NJAHS President; Yone Satoda, MIS-Occupation; Hiroshi Kaku, 442nd, Mas Ishikawa, MIS, Yoji Ozaki, MIS, Joseph Kurata, CIC; Stephen Haller, GGNRA/NPS Park Historian; Frank Inami, MIS; Ron Yoshida, MIS; Chris Lehneritz, GGNRA/NPS Superintendent; Josh Steinberger, Chief of Strategy & Communications, The Presidio Trust; Rosalyn Tonai, NJAHS Executive Director; Jun Yamada, Consul General of San Francisco.

Retiring the colors by Color Guard NCOIC.
veterans of WW II are immensely honored in this gathering today. Being among the dwindling number of military servicemen of Japanese American heritage, who served honorably for our country in that war, I am indeed proud and privileged to speak today on behalf of all of us.

“As you know, our US Congress in 2011 extended recognition of the Nisei soldier’s patriotism and valor in the battlefields of WW II by awarding us one of our nation’s highest awards—the Congressional Gold Medal.

“Some 70 years have rolled by since that world conflict, and for us surviving Nisei veterans, our eyes may have grown dimmer, but our recollections remain vivid. In those traumatic days, we may have been young and impetuous, but our resolve was absolute. We felt we had a common, absolute mission to fulfill, to establish loyalty to our birthright country, America.

“In our today’s world and in our today’s generation, we wonder whether our Japanese American offsprings and grandchildren truly understand the circumstances we Nisei faced at that crucial time, .. and the motivation, thinking, and endeavors of our actions? We veterans wonder, ‘Do they truly know what motivated us at that time, to be willing to sacrifice so much?’ With the start of the war with Japan and the Axis Powers, the ethnic discrimination against Japanese Americans and the resident Japanese in all walks of life in our society, was brutal …and humiliating beyond description. We suddenly were the enemy!

“We Nisei of that generation also held great concerns as to acceptance of future generations of our offsprings in our US society. ‘Would they be looked upon as a disloyal racial group? Or, cowardly, if we Nisei did not serve in the military under the prevailing discriminatory circumstance?’

“The stakes were high. From behind barbed wired enclosed camps in which we 110,000 Japanese Americans were incarcerated, we had to somehow prove beyond any shadow of doubt, our patriotism, our loyalty and love of America. We had to be conveyed to our fellow Americans, and to our Government, and be proved by our action and performance.

“For purposes of providing a clearer understanding of circumstances for our younger generations here today allow me to briefly explain how we Nisei responded:

“In 1942, through the leadership of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), led by executive director Mike Masaoka in Washington, DC, and supported from select members of the US Congress, and Japanese American leaders from the internment camps, presented such convincing arguments that in 1943, Congress finally issued approval for volunteer Nisei to join the US Army. For most of us military age internees, this was the opportunity we had sought, to ‘show our colors,’ to prove loyalty and patriotism to country. Young volunteers eagerly stepped forward, and the military draft that subsequently followed filled the ranks of manning needed to establish the Nisei 442nd Regimental Combat Team, that succeeded the 100th Infantry Battalion in the European war.

“From the internment camps also came volunteers and recruiters for the ‘Army Military Intelligence Language School’—the first of which you see here today at Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco. In the Pacific War, language graduates performed military intelligence, interrogation of POWs, translated captured military documents, propaganda broadcast, breaking enemy’s secret military codes, etc. In front lines and island hopping, battle campaigns throughout the Pacific war. The military intelligence Nisei linguist operations in the Pacific War was such a great success that General Douglas MacArthur’s intelligence commander, General Willoughby, declared, ‘The Nisei military intelligence operations and contributions in WW II, assisted in shortening the Pacific War by two years.’ This speaks volumes.

“This speaks volumes on the value and accomplishments of the Nisei linguists and infantrymen in both the European and Pacific campaigns … they have been award among the top numbers of US Medals in the military history.

“Now, I’d like for a moment to go back to the Question I asked at the very beginning of my talk, ‘Do our young generation citizens today understand why we Nisei volunteered to go to war for America, while we were still incarcerated in Japanese American internment camps in WW II?’

“Answer 1: I believe we Japanese Americans had to prove beyond any shadow of doubt that we were good patriotic citizens who loved America and were willing even to lay our lives on the line in the battlefield to prove it.

“Answer 2: I believe today’s generation of Japanese Americans can hold their heads high and be proud of what their grandfathers did, in our display of deep patriotism to country. Had we taken an alternate road in those difficult days, we could have brought about a reputation of being a ‘slacker ethnic group’ in the eyes of our American society. We Nisei could not tolerate that.

“Answer 3: Before WW II, Asians were excluded from immigrating to the US under the Asian Exclusion Act of 1924. Not totally, but an indirect acknowledgment of Asian’s valued contribution to the American Society. Congress enacted a law in 1952 which allowed citizenship to resident Asians. Therefore, my mother, who resided 40 years in the US, was able to obtain US citizenship. Concurrently, she was able to vote in American elections, and also was able to buy real estate in her name, which was denied Asians in the past.

“Answer 4: In post-war America, Asians for the first time were able to be elected to local and federal public offices. We were therefore fortunate to have such Public leaders as Secretary Norman Mineta, Senators Daniel Inouye and Sparky Matsunaga, and many others.

“God Bless America!!"

Thank you, Major James Iso!

GUN OWNERSHIP IN JAPAN

My brother, Tadashi “Tad” Hashimoto, Watsonville High School graduate, Class of 1940, volunteered for the Military Intelligence Service from Poston II and saw
military action *tdy* (temporary duty) with the US Marines in the Pacific theater of WW II.

He served during the Occupation and Restoration of Japan and ended his military career as the billeting officer of Tachikawa Air Force Base (west of Tokyo) until the base was returned to the Japanese Government.

He married a brilliant Japanese woman, Takako, and they lived in Kodaira city (west of Tokyo). They did not have any children but they did have two hunting dogs (Pointers), for they enjoyed skeet shooting and pheasant hunting with shotguns in the countryside after the rice harvest was completed.

To purchase and register a gun in the 1960s, "Tad" had to:

1. Pay for a gun license,
2. Have a photo ID taken,
3. Submit a resume,
4. Be registered with his family registry (Fukuoka ken—he had dual citizenship but that's no longer required),
5. Provide a copy of residence registration,
6. Submit a medical certificate,
7. Take a pledge (*Seiyakusho*),
8. Pass a course on gun safety, and
9. Demonstrate skill and proficiency.

Passing this course, an 8-hour course, was required for the renewal of his gun license each year. (In the US Army, all personnel were required at the time to qualify with an M-1 or carbine each year.)

The Japanese Government has eased some of these requirements. One must:

1. Attend the seminar for people who want to have guns.
2. Obtain (a) license for training, (b) license for buying or selling guns and bullet for hunting.
3. Buy the guns for shooting range.
4. Apply for training at official shooting range.
5. Apply for guns.
6. Apply for license for having guns.
7. Once you receive the license for having guns, you will bring certificate and gun to police station.
8. Then you can apply for buying the bullet.

You need to have an address in Japan. A *gaijin* (foreigner) needs to have alien registration (fingerprinting, photo ID, etc.) as well.

Japan remains one of the safest countries where gun regulations are involved.

We thank *Yoshiro Tasaka* of the Japanese Consulate in San Francisco for his assistance in this article.

**Veterans’ Day Parade and Program**

At 10:15 am Wed., Nov. 11, 2015, a platoon of Watsonville veterans from all branches of the US military marched from St Patrick’s Church to the Veterans Memorial Building where hundreds of the town folks came with their children to participate in this year’s program.

Starting the Watsonville’s Veterans’ Day program, Lt. Col. Harry Wiggins, US Army Reserves retired, rang the bell 11 times for the Armistice of 1918 (end of the “Great War”)—on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month (November). Harry was honored as the ”Veteran of the Year” during Monterey County’s 24th Annual Veteran of the Year Awards ceremony. Harry and his wife Clarice are best known for their devoted service to the Pajaro Valley community.

Marine veteran and Master of Ceremonies Todd McFarren, a Bronze Star recipient of the Vietnam War, former Watsonville City council member and mayor, is acknowledged as the Santa Cruz County “2015 Veteran of the Year” by Assemblyman Luis Alejo. Photo below: Veterans Chuck Perez and Alex Solano hold the new KIA banner, with the names honoring those killed in action.
Lt. Jimmy Panetta (US Navy Reserves), son of Leon and Sylvia Panetta, serving as the keynote speaker, explained the important roles the military around the Monterey Bay—Fort Ord, the US Naval Postgraduate School, the Defense Language Institute, Fort Hunter Liggett and of our honorable men and women—have played in our nation’s military history and defense. He served a tour in Afghanistan as an intelligence officer.

The US Naval Sea Cadets retired the colors.

**PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM …**

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) applauds President Barack Obama for awarding the Presidential Medal of Freedom to the late Minoru “Min” Yasui posthumously for his dedication in fighting for civil and human rights on Nov. 24, 2015 at a ceremony in the White House. Yasui challenged the constitutionality of a military curfew order during World War II on the grounds of racial discrimination.

"JACL commends the President for recognizing Min Yasui who took a stance on behalf of 120,000 Japanese American men, women, and children who were unjustly imprisoned during World War II," said JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida. "He joins Fred Korematsu and Gordon Hirabayashi who were previously recognized for their wartime courage. These men and Mitsuye Endo, whose case led to the release of Japanese Americans, challenged the government’s ability to deny loyal Americans their basic rights. Their cases continue to remind all citizens of this great country of the strengths and fragility of the rights promised by the Constitution."

Yasui was an active member of JACL throughout his life, taking on leadership roles at both the local and national level. He was a founding member of the Mile High Chapter in Colorado and led the JACL National Redress Committee, which successfully sought an apology and compensation from the U.S. government for the unjust treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Yasui’s commitment to justice and community extended beyond his own. He worked with the African American and Latino communities to help establish the Urban League of Metropolitan Denver and the Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy and Research Organization, respectively.

[Editor’s note: Minoru Yasui inspired all of us who have studied the Constitution of the United States with its Bill of Rights to know the meaning of the basic human rights/concepts, especially when they are tested as they were in the 1940s and when the US Government—all three branches—failed in their responsibility. All the major government servants, beginning with the President, failed in upholding their oath of office.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom was meant for those who challenged, persevered against all odds, sought and fought for the Truth.]

**W-SC JACL RECEIVES WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL’S PROCLAMATION AWARD**

On October 27, 2015, the Mayor and City Council of Watsonville honored the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL (W-SC JACL) with a Proclamation Award.

The chapter was established in 1934 and continues to be an active and vital community organization. W-SC JACL was recognized for its years of advocacy and commitment to civil and human rights for all, supporting Watsonville’s cultural diversity, valuing our Senior citizens, supporting our youth with scholarships, providing a special educational presentation to students around the Monterey Bay region on the wartime incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans, and honoring our WWII Nisei veterans. Mayor Nancy Bilich thanked W-SC JACL for its many years of outstanding service and
outreach to the Watsonville Community and wished the organization continued success.

Marcia Hashimoto spoke, “On behalf of the W-SC JACL, it is a great honor to receive this Proclamation Award from Mayor Nancy Bilicich and the Watsonville City Council. To be recognized by the leadership of Watsonville is very special.

“This presentation belongs to the membership and the Board of Directors of the W-SC JACL.

“I would like to take a moment to introduce our Board members who voluntarily dedicate their services to our greater community.

“Dr. Maria “Gini” Matute-Bianchi, retired cultural anthropologist of UCSC and currently the President of the Watsonville YWCA.

“Joe Bowes, retired California Highway Patrolman and a taiko drum craftsman.

“Jeanette Otsuji Hager, Financial Director at Second Harvest Food Bank.

“Mas Hashimoto, retired WHS US History teacher.

“Cindy Hirokawa Mine, Community Involved Registered Nurse.

“David Kadotani, owner of Kadotani Auto Repair.

“Carol Kaneko, retired WHS mathematics teacher.


“Victor Kimura, worked at UCSC for 41 years and for the past 11 years has been the Chief Financial Officer at Second Harvest Food Bank.

“Dr. Brooke Kondo-Rains, dentist in partnership with her father, Dr. Gerry Kondo.

“Gary Mine, retired 3rd generation lettuce farmer.

“Aimee Mizuno, K-teacher at Hall District Elementary School.

“Bobbi Jo Palmer, publisher of an outstanding multi-county magazine, Out and About.

“Phil Shima, graphic artist and photographer.

“Iwao Yamashita, retired flower grower and bonsai master teacher.”

[Editor’s note: Marcia Hashimoto is a retired PVUSD kindergarten teacher and community activist. She didn’t “introduce” herself.]

“Again, the W-SC JACL thanks Mayor Bilicich and the Watsonville City Council for this prestigious honor.”

Our good friend, Geoffrey Dunn of Santa Cruz, was acknowledged with a Proclamation Award by the City Council of Watsonville for his years of service.

This year, he was honored as “Santa Cruz County’s Artist of the Year.”

A fourth generation Italian American (a Stagnaro) of Santa Cruz County, Geoff is internationally recognized as an author, journalist, filmmaker, lecturer, historian, baseball enthusiast (family friend of the Joe DiMaggio’s and Nisei ball players), and, foremost, an outspoken advocate for social justice. In our county, he has worked tirelessly with his companions—Sandy Lydon, George Ow, Jr., and the late Tony Hill—against racial bigotry, bullying, and discrimination.

His books include two volumes of “Santa Cruz Is In The Heart,” “Chinatown Dreams: The Life and Photographs of George Lee,” and a national bestseller, “The Lies of Sarah Palin.” He contributed a significant chapter in “Una Storia Segreta: The Secret History of Italian American Evacuation and Internment During World War II.”

He has written over 400 articles about sports, history, and politics for The Huffington Post and served as Senior Editor for Metro Newspapers in northern California.

His documentary films include the outstanding “Dollar a Day, 10 Cents a Dance (of Pajaro Valley’s Filipino farm workers history),” “Miss … or Myth?,” “Chinese Gold,” “Calypso Dreams,” and most recently, “The Glamour Boys Again.” His films have qualified for Academy Award nominations.

He was the founder of Community Television of Santa Cruz County which highlighted our important local events. His assistance in videotaping our 2002 reenactment of our wartime incarceration, “Liberty Lost … Lessons in Loyalty,” and showing it on CTSCC repeatedly is most appreciated.

This graduate of Santa Cruz High School went onto University of California at Santa Cruz where he received his BA in politics, MA and PhD in sociology. At UCSC he taught filmmaking, nonfiction writing, and American political history and culture.

He has received numerous awards for his investigative journalism.

Earlier in October, Geoff was honored by State Senator Bill Monning at a public presentation of his work at The Museum of Art and History where he was presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the California State Legislature “for preserving and sharing the history of our region.”

He commented that his first job as a journalist was with the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian.

He remains one of the W-SC JACL’s dearest and most honored friend.
DAVID AMBRIZ HONORED ...

The Post Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Freedom Post 1716, David Ambriz, received the Proclamation Award from Mayor Nancy Bilicich for his many years of service to veterans, their families, and to our community.

David (right) with his Honor Guard, is always there to give military honor at funeral services of Nisei veterans, at Veterans’ Day and at flag-raising events. [Editor’s note: After WW II, our Nisei veterans were not invited to join the American Legion but the VFW stated it would charter a post if they formed one of their own, which our guys did—VFW Post 9446. We, the W-SC JACL, are grateful to the VFW. Below is the plaque that the Watsonville JACL and the Nisei Post 9446 of the VFW dedicated at the flag-raising at the Watsonville City Water Works on Freedom Blvd in 1963. This plaque has been transferred to the Pajaro Valley Memorial Park’s (cemetery) flag pole, thanks to Patrick Carroll of Ave Maria Memorial Chapel and PV Memorial Park. Please visit it when you’re there.]

POLICE CHIEF MANNY SOLANO HONORED

Editor

Over 200 friends and family gathered to express their appreciation to Chief Manny Solano on Nov. 17 upon his well-deserved retirement after 30 years on the force.

Manny, a cancer survivor, will continue to serve the community as an instructor at Monterey Peninsula College’s South Bay Regional Police Academy. There’s no one more qualified or dedicated to law enforcement.

VETERANS’ DAY TRIBUTE BY THE SCOUTS

On Veterans’ Day, our Scouts of Troop 558 hoisted the American flag on the new flag pole. Thank you, Scoutmaster Chris Garcia and Scouts!

When the flag goes up at sunrise, it is hoisted quickly. When the flag is retired at sunset, it is lowered slowly.

If a flag is to fly at half-mast, it is to be raised to the very top quickly and then slowly lowered to half mast. When it is retired, the flag is hoisted to the top and then slowly lowered.

The flag may be displayed at night if it is illuminated properly.

The flag at the US Marine Memorial (Battle of Iwo Jima) near Washington, DC is displayed at an angle. It received special Congressional permission to be flown in this manner.
Watsonville High School Social Studies teacher Rhea DeHart’s “Ride Along” program, where students sat in the back seat of the squad car, had a tremendous impact on Manny’s troubled teen years. While watching our local police officers in action, he learned how difficult a police officer’s daily life is but he embraced the mission … “to protect and to serve.” It became his calling.

Local community police chiefs, sheriffs, educators, city officials, and community activists all praised Manny for his contributions to Jacob’s Heart, Pajaro Rescue Mission, PAL, Monterey Bay Teen Challenge, Freedom Women’s Center, Kidpower, PV Prevention and Student Assistance, Defense de Mujeres, Pajaro Valley Little League Baseball, and many others in this tri-county region.

Carlos Palacios, former city manager, praised Manny when he took the reins of leadership as Police Chief during the “worst recession since the Great Depression in 2007 when the city budget was cut by 20%.”

Carlos Palacios, former city manager, praised Manny when he took the reins of leadership as Police Chief during the “worst recession since the Great Depression in 2007 when the city budget was cut by 20%.”

It was Danny Contreras (left) who spoke so highly of Manny that many shed tears of compassion. Danny spent years in prison as a gang member and convicted murderer. Manny spoke to many of the prisoners about a second chance. Upon his release, Danny, a convicted felon, couldn’t find a job. Not from Watsonville, Danny sought Manny, who found him a job and respectability. Danny speaks against gang organizations and violence.

The family: seated parents Patricia and Alex Solano. Son Alex, Manny, wife Megan, and son Nicholas (SC County Deputy Sheriff). Son Daniel of Austin, TX was absent.

The police station at 231 Union Street has always been a part of “Japantown.” The building now houses the Parks and Community Service Office. The new police station is even closer to Japantown at 215 Union Street!

My father, Ikuta Hashimoto, was a cook, and we had a small udon restaurant at 110 Union Street (next to Yamashita’s Market at 114 Union). He catered to weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, funerals, and other events. He also brewed sake. He was a non-drinker but definitely a taster. My older brothers, Tsuyoshi and Tadashi, helped with the brewery.

During Prohibition (1920-1933) my father was a “bootlegger,” making sake “across the street from the police station.” Whenever federal agents were in town, the police chiefs (Sylvester Whitsett 1911-1925 and Robert L. Hasting 1925-1934) kindly let my father know. The family hid the “still” next door until it was “safe.” Next door was the Watsonville Buddhist Church. Did they hide the stuff and equipment in the hondo?

When the “coast was clear,” my father made a special pilgrimage to the police station. I can’t help but wonder if he took them something other than a bottle of sake.

During our wartime incarceration (1941-1945), Chief James “Matt” Graves was sympathetic and helpful and in 1945 welcomed us back.

Chief Frank Osmer (1947-1951, 1954-1962) grew up in Pajaro and had many Nisei buddies. Frank could swear in nihongo with the best of them, and Frank was a member of our Watsonville JACL.

All of the chiefs, because of the proximity, were friends of the Nikkei community.

The famous whorehouses were at 58 Union Street (yes, in Japantown). Each week these “painted” ladies walked pass the Nikkei baseball field, Toyo (“Far East”) Hall (our community theater), Japanese language school (Union Street entrance to Burger King), Watsonville Buddhist Church, our house, Japanese Presbyterian Church (since moved to the west side of town—now, Westview Presbyterian Church on First Street), and the Watsonville Police station on the way to Dr. Sambuck’s medical office on the corner of Union and Maple Streets for their check-up.

During WW II and the post-war period, Watsonville was “sin city” and “off limits” to army and naval military personnel from Monterey (Fort Ord).

The soldiers and sailors would knock on our door, thinking they were at the whorehouse. While still an elementary school student, I would point them to the correct house. While in “civies (civilian clothes),” they...
always gave themselves away with their spit-polished military shoes.

During the early years of the “Crosby” golf tournament at Pebble Beach, Bob Hope and Bing Crosby had their weekly radio shows broadcast from Fort Ord, and whenever they mentioned “Watsonville,” everyone in the audience laughed.

Today, the whorehouses are gone, but according to Yahoo, Watsonville today is the third worst small city in the country—all of the United States and territories!! Coming from Yahoo it must be some kind of a reversed honor.

**QUESTIONS OF LOYALTY RESURFACES …**

In February of 1943, young adults and Issei in “camp” were asked to answer a loyalty questionnaire. The first 26 questions were generic—namely, for identification.

Question #27 asked: "Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty wherever ordered?"

Question #28 asked: "Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?"

It asked three questions but wanted two answers. While the vast majority answered in the affirmative, the questionnaire divided our community.

There’s a new challenge regarding Syrian refugees.

**ACLU sends letter to Congress about Syrian Refugee Resettlement.**

Over 20 U.S. governors and federal lawmakers have attempted to draw a link between the tragedy in Paris and the admission and resettlement of Syrian refugees in the U.S. It would violate the Constitution for a governor to bar an entire group of refugees from coming into their state because of their nationality.

The ACLU sent a letter to the House and Senate expressing support for the U.S. refugee resettlement program. It urges members of Congress to oppose proposals that call for the suspension of the program or the imposition of restrictions on funding for Syrians and other groups of refugees. The letter was signed by 80 organizations — a coalition of refugee and immigration law experts, humanitarian aid organizations, faith, and labor and civil and human rights groups.

*Editor’s note:* during WW II governors spoke against the location of the “camps” in their states. Only Colorado’s Gov. Ralph Carr spoke against the incarceration of Japanese and Japanese Americans.

**EXCLUSION ESSAY …**

By Evan J. Wallach, Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal District

“In 1924 Congress passed and the President signed into law what became known as the Japanese Exclusion Act. In fact, it was primarily aimed at Italian and Jewish refugees fleeing post World War One Europe. It completely banned immigration by any Asians and Arabs (except for the Chinese who had already been barred by law in 1882).

“The basis for the law was a toxic brew of fear of ‘foreign ideas’ and anarchy which had culminated in the Red Scare of 1920, fear of cheap labor competition, and straight up racism and anti-Semitism (remember, this was the apogee of the Ku Klux Klan throughout the South and Midwest).

“When the law was signed it caused an immediate rupture in US Japanese relations which to that point had been relatively cordial. Certainly, in the aftermath of World War Two, Japanese leaders pointed to it as starting the path to war with the United States.

“My point is simply this. It is an historical (not to say moral) error to believe that what gets said on the floor of Congress, in the halls of state legislatures, or by American politicians is ignored or forgotten outside this country. Referring, for example, to Arabs as ‘dogs’ is a particularly nasty cultural insult. It may be done out of ignorance, but it will be perceived as intended, and necessarily increases anti-American sentiments.

“As Churchill once said, ‘A gentleman is someone who never insults anyone else, unintentionally.’

“Now, following the mass murder of innocents in Paris by savage and medieval thugs, and out of a mix of fear and particularly vulgar political opportunism, public discourse has turned to exclusion of immigrants by race and religion.

“That must stop. It is immoral, it is foolish and it is useless. Our concern should be transient terrorists not refugees fleeing their terror. We are a mature nation; we can separate the two. Not even close to all Muslim refugees are terrorists; not even close to all terrorists are
Muslims (have we forgotten the Klan, the IRA, or Oklahoma City?).

“This nation was founded on the concept of rational discourse. Please, let us return to it.”

[Editor's note: Judge Wallach, a recognized expert in the law of war, has taught at a number of law schools, including Brooklyn Law School, New York Law School, George Mason University School of Law, and the University of Muenster, Germany.

He served on active duty in the Army of the United States from 1969 to 1971 (took basic training at Ft Ord). During his military career, he was awarded the Bronze Star, the Air Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Nevada Medal of Merit, the Valorous Unit Citation, a Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the RVN Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

He received his B.A. in Journalism from the University of Arizona in 1973, his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1976, and an LLB with honors in International Law from Cambridge University in 1981.

Judge Wallach is a friend of the JACL. His wife, Katherine C. Tobin, WHS Class1967 and “Hall of Fame” inductee, currently serves on the U. S. – China Economic and Security Review Commission. She is a member of the USPS’s Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee and of our W-SC JACL.]

HATE/FEAR

“If you are against the Syrian refugees escaping terrorism, you are helping the terrorists to win.”

22nd ANNUAL PEACE AND UNITY

This banner, remembering those loved ones who were killed by gun violence, was at the forefront of this year’s march on Nov. 7, 2015.

Participating were Mas Hashimoto, Phil Shima, Marcia Hashimoto, Aimee and father, Takashi Mizuno.

Mariela Renteria spoke of her 20-year-old brother who was shot to death 20 years ago. Gang violence and shooting must stop! Danny Contreras with son (behind), a former gang member who spent 12 years in jail, said, “I threw a lot of my years away with gangs and drugs. I want a better future for my son.” [Editor's note: Danny was the principal speaker at the retirement party of Chief Manny Solano.]

Watsonville High School students marched to remember Jason Reyes, a 15-year-old who was shot to death while riding his bicycle near Airport Blvd in November of 2014. An innocent four year-old bystander was killed earlier this year.

Hundreds marched in the parade, including Marcia, Aimee (with W-SC JACL’s small banner) and Mas, to show their support against violence. In the hat and white shirt is our Assemblyman Luis Alejo, who had been voted the “2015 Legislator of the Year.” Congratulations, Luis!

We believe in making a difference in our community.
IN REMEMBRANCE … Mary Tsuyuki

We are so sad to announce the loss of our beloved Mother and Grandmother. She passed peacefully at home the morning of Wednesday, November 4th, with her family by her side.

Mary was born April 11, 1920 in Seattle, Washington to Otojiro and Tomi Shoji. She was the eldest of four children.

She was always a hard worker. Her first job was selling cucumbers for a family friend at the Farmers’ Market at age 9. Mary earned $1.00 a day (35 cents of which went to buy a delicious hamburger for lunch).

After being sent alone to the Tule Lake Internment Camp, she was given the chance to leave camp on a work furlough. She headed for Caldwell, Idaho, to work in the potato fields. Her job was making sandwiches for the field workers.

It was there that Mary met our Dad, Larry. They were married December 31, 1945. After working at various jobs, they settled in Watsonville. They were sharecroppers for the Hurley Ranch.

Photo: Mary and Larry reflecting upon a happier time.

In 1950, Mary and Larry founded River Nursery & Flower Shop. After many years of hard work they built a successful business. They were able to put all three girls and their grandson through college.

Mary was a very kind and generous person. She treated everyone with respect. When we lived by the river, “hoboes” would come down from the levee asking for help. She would never turn them away.

She would go out into the nursery and pick tomatoes and fruit for them to eat.

Mary was very interested in art and antiques. She studied constantly. Antiques were added to the nursery. Mary enjoyed sharing her knowledge with all of her customers.

Mary is survived by three daughters, Laura (Bill) Cass, Jennifer Tsuyuki, Deborah (Paul) Banta, her grandson William Lawrence Cass, her brother, Bob Shoji and many nieces & nephews.

As per her wishes, there will be no service.

Contributions may be made in her name to the Salvation Army, Westview Presbyterian Church, Watsonville–Santa Cruz JACL, or to a charity of your choice.

Lois Fusaye Kimoto Ota

On Fri., Nov. 6, Lois Ota passed away in her home following a courageous battle against cancer at the age of 93.

She was born in Gilroy on June 27, 1922, the third child of seven. She attended elementary school in San Juan Bautista and La Selva Beach, and graduated from Watsonville High School in 1940. There she was active in the Chorale and Scholarship and Spanish Clubs. She worked in farming before and after school as well as attending Japanese school.

Following high school she worked in Monterey as a nanny and cook for a family, and in the canneries. In 1942 she was incarcerated due to the Japanese Internment mandate to temporary lodging at the Salinas Rodeo Grounds and finally to Poston, Arizona with her entire family. There she helped teach elementary students and work as an aide in the hospital.

Following WWII Lois held various jobs in Watsonville and San Francisco, eventually marrying Zenichi Ota in 1957. Their son, Zane Katsumi, was born the following year.

Lois served as the secretary for the Watsonville JACL and editor for the Young Buddhists’ Association News.

They are together now.

Lois was known by all as a modest, sweet, gentle and generous soul - always supporting and gifting school teachers and community workers. She enjoyed crafting, sewing and crocheting and made a wide variety of gifts and food for friends and family.

Lois leaves behind her sister Ruth Ikeda (Salinas), sister-in-law Nina Kimoto (Watsonville), as well as son, Zane and daughter-in-law, Holly and her pride and joy granddaughters, Allison and Sydney. She was preceded in death by her husband Zenichi in 2009.

The family extends its appreciation for exceptional health care from Dr. Robert Weber, Dr. Joseph Robb, Stanford Medical Center and Hospice of Santa Cruz County.

In lieu of flowers donations in honor of Lois’ memory can be made to the Watsonville Buddhist Temple or to Hospice organizations.

Janet Eiko Fujinari

Birthplace: Palo Alto, CA Died November 4, 2015 at Dominican Hospital, Santa Cruz, CA. Janet was an R.N. for a total of 44 years. She served as a Captain in the USAFNC, Aerospace, Medical Group, Vandenburg AFB.

Then, she moved to Santa Cruz to work at Dominican Hospital for 32 years, retiring in Aptos.

Memorial service was held on Nov. 21 at Redeemer Anglican Church, 2402 Cabrillo College Drive, Soquel, CA 95073. Burial will take place at San Joaquin National Cemetery.

We send our deepest condolences to the Tsuyuki, Ota, and Fujinari families, relatives and friends.

ATTENTION: VW AND AUDI CAR OWNERS
Minami Tamaki Files Class Action on Behalf of VW and Audi ‘Clean Diesel’ Owners

On October 6, 2015, Minami Tamaki LLP and a prominent East Bay plaintiffs firm filed a class action case on behalf of 21 owners of Volkswagen and Audi “clean diesel” vehicles in California, Pennsylvania and Maryland against the automakers for violating federal and state law by installing illegal “defeat devices” in their vehicles.

These “defeat devices” allowed Volkswagen to cheat federal and air emissions standards by turning on commission controls during testing. However, during normal operation these vehicles emitted pollutants at 10 to 40 times the standard allowed under United States and California law.

Investigations by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and California Air Resources Board have found that Volkswagen secretly installed “defeat devices” in nearly 500,000 vehicles in the United States and 11 million vehicles worldwide. Vehicles equipped with these “defeat devices” include 2009-2015 Volkswagen Golf, Passat, Jetta, and Beetle, as well as the 2009-2015 Audi A3.

In testimony before Congress, the CEO of Volkswagen USA testified that Volkswagen senior executives were aware of possible noncompliance with federal and California emissions standards since the spring of 2014.

“This is an outrageous fraud,” said Minami Tamaki Partner Jack W. Lee. “Volkswagen deceived the most ecologically conscious consumers into becoming unwitting pawns in generating more pollution. To date, Volkswagen still has not been able to set forth a fix that would provide consumers with the vehicle they were promised.”

Minami Tamaki encourages individuals who purchased a 2009-2015 “clean diesel” Volkswagen or Audi vehicle to contact us toll-free at 888-823-8278 to discuss your experiences and to allow us to review your potential claim. Minami Tamaki represents VW and Audi owners nationwide and has decades of experience successfully prosecuting complex class action cases on behalf of consumers.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS by Jo Ann Vear

On Oct. 29th, the Senior Center was decorated for Halloween with little pumpkins and lots of candy at each table. Thanks to Helen Nakano and Susan AmRhein for the decorations. Donna Fujita had candy treats for all, and Jean Yamashita served home grown watermelons and had a “count the beans in the jar” game for everyone to play. Below: our Seniors who dressed up for Halloween.

November 12 was the combined October/November birthday party. October/November birthdays: Edna Nagata, Yaeko Cross, Tea Hashimoto 95, Kiyo Arao, Satoko Yamamoto 90, Nobuko Akiyama and Toshi Yamashita. Absent was Nina Wagner. Satoko Yamamoto donated the cake, and her family made a generous monetary donation to the Senior Center in honor of her 90th birthday. Tea and Satoko were presented with a package of manju for being 90 or over.

On November 17, 36 seniors and friends spent a relaxing day at Table Mountain Casino. Goodies for the trip were plentiful and were provided by: Jackie Yamashita, Alice Misumi, Jon and Alice Drier, Rubie Kawamoto, Toshi Yamashita, Haru Ishibashi, Yaeko Cross, Lillian Etow, Emi Hirano, Yoshiko Nishihara, Eiko Nishihara, Cindy Mine, Nancy Iwami, Kazuko Sakai, Vergi Cael, Jean Yamashita, and the Senior Center. Big winner Noboru Nakatani donated the bus driver’s tip. Thanks to all for a fun day!

Our thanks to the toban ladies for the month of November: Judy Hane and Jo Ann Vear. A special thanks to Eiko Stewart, June Honda and Susan AmRhein for helping because we were short-handed and couldn’t be there every time and all the other members that were in and out of the kitchen helping, too.

As usual bingo donations were very generous:

Jean & Iwao Yamashita 10 pkgs. vegetables
10 pkgs. Brownies
Hisako Uemura 9 rolls toilet tissue
Chiyoko Yagi 3 bags Cheeto Puffs
June & Sunao Honda 7 plates corn meal butter cake with pomegranate sauce,
5 persimmon pineapple bread
10 bags persimmons
June’s Mom 7 plates corn meal butter cake
June’s grandchildren with pomegranate sauce,
5 persimmon pineapple bread
10 bags persimmons
Kazuko Sakai bag chocolate candy
Haruko Yoshii 24 rolls toilet tissue
Eileen Byers 20 Dawn dish soap
Reiko Yamamoto 6 boxes Kleenex
Donna Fujita bags of candy for everyone
Kumiko Nakatani 8 bags tomatoes, persimmons for everyone
Jean Yamashita watermelon, 2 bags Kabocha, 1 bag steamed Kabocha
Terry Hirahara 2 bags Cheetos, 2 bags popcorn, 4 boxes storage bags, 1 pkg. napkins
Miye Yamashita 6 bags arare and senbei
Jean Akiyama 8 rolls toilet tissues, 4 boxes Kleenex
Chie Sakaue 2 bunches flowers
Eiko Nishihara 12 jars strawberry jam
Yoshiko Nishihara 14 bottles Dawn dish soap
Mitzi Katsuyama 5 bags cookies
Rubie Kawamoto 6 boxes Kleenex, 1 large box Cheez-it, 4 boxes Kleenex
Gail Wurtenberg 12 rolls paper towels
Mitsue Tao 12 rolls toilet tissue
Eiko Ceremony 6 pack Ramen noodles, 1 can pineapple, 1 can tropical fruits, 4 cans tuna, 1 can chicken
Lisa Nagamine Rolls of toilet tissue
Toshi Yamashita 16 rolls toilet tissue, 9 seasoned seaweed
Eiko Stewart 6 rolls toilet tissue
Haru Ishibashi 12 rolls Bounty paper towels
Kimiko & Pat Marr 9 Manju
Pat Marr 14 small gifts
Karen Kurokawa 40 magnets
Yuki/Edna Nagata 6 boxes Kleenex
Yaeko Cross 12 packages noodles
Kiyo Arao 2 bags candy
Satoko Yamamoto Birthday cake! 5 antibacterial hand wipes.

Thanks to Helen Nakano’s daughter Susan AmRhein for making sure the decorations were there and for all her work in preparing the annual Thanksgiving dinner on November 19. We all enjoyed a marvelous turkey dinner with all the trimmings and many wonderful potluck dishes.

Members welcomed new JACL member Jeanette Crosetti. She hopes to come to seniors regularly to play bingo. It was nice to see Chiyoko Yagi back playing bingo.
Leigh Sakaguchi had his debut calling bingo on November 19. For his first time he was very good, and we look forward to Leigh helping out in the future.

Carol Kaneko passed out the November/December schedule of events at the Senior Center, and continued to collect 2016 dues, both Senior Center and National Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL. Please see Carol if you have not yet taken care of this obligation.

“Knock, Knock” crimes are on the rise coast to coast. The suspects in the string of burglaries were nicknamed “knock-knock” burglars because they typically knock on your door posing as utility service workers and get inside your home to rob you. Do NOT open your door to anyone you don’t know. Talk through a window and ask to see their credentials before opening your door.

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The Senior Center continues to be the grateful recipient of once a week dinners for our 90 and over Seniors from Swingtime Catering. A monetary donation has been sent to Peggy Triplitt in appreciation for their generosity.

Here’s the list for monetary donations gratefully received: Yoshino Matano; Phil and Sachi Snyder; Bruce, Jeff, Wayne, Steve, and Gene Yamamoto (in honor of Satoko’s 90th birthday); Yaeko Cross; Edna Nagata; Tea Hashimoto; Michiko Hamada; and Art Hayashi through Watsonville Rotary Foundation.

Enjoying the holiday festivities were (above): Jo Ann Vear and Susan AmRhein with her turkey headwear and (below) Nancy Iwami and Toshiko Yamashita loved the turkey dinner with all the trimmings.
Thurs., Dec. 17 December Birthday Party; last 2015 meeting; Hong Kong II for dinner at 4 pm
Thurs., Dec. 24, 31 Senior Center closed for Holidays.

Happy New Year!!

Thurs., Jan. 7, 2016 – First day back for 2016!
Please check out our Senior Center website to keep up with our activities, see photos, and to check our calendar: http://kizukahallseniors.wordpress.com.

WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS

Sunday, December 13th, 9 am to noon is Mochi Pick-up at the Temple, but you must place your order by calling (831) 724-7860 (Temple office hours are from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm, Monday through Friday) or by emailing the Temple office no later than December 8th. The Temple office email is info@WBTemple.org. Please remember to leave your phone number and specify how many regular mochi and/or osonae you wish.

Elren Hanayama and her friend are happy to show you a box of our delicious mochi.

Elren and Shoren Hanayama chaired the Pet Memorial Service on Nov. 8th. Ashes, photos, and memories of our beloved pets were displayed (below).

Rev. LaVerne Sasaki presented the Dharma message for the BWA Memorial Service on Nov. 15th.

We will miss Kitako Izumizaki (above, center) and Betty Oda (below, second from right) at mochi tsuki time.
On behalf of the BWA, Mrs. Kiiko Akiyama spoke words of condolences both in English and in Japanese to the families who lost loved ones. Two hundred and twenty one BWA members had passed away.

The Calendar for December 2015 and the New Year:

1 Tues 7:30 pm Board Meeting
2 Wed 1 pm BWA Meeting
3 Thurs 10 am ABA Meeting
4 Fri Secretary off
6 Sun 9:30 am Japanese Service
10 am Sunday, Shotsuki Hoyo & Bodhi Day Services with Bishop Umezu
8 Tues 7 pm Teriyaki Meeting
11 Fri 2 pm San Juan Howakai
13 Sun 9 am-12 pm Mochi Tsuki Sale
13, 20 & 27 No Sunday Services
31 Thurs 7 pm Joya e Service

After bell ringing, enjoy a soba dinner treat.
Jan 1 10 am New Year’s Day Shusho e Service

Shotsuki Hoyo Service
10 am Sunday, December 6, 2015
Aramaki, Yoshiro Roy  Enomoto, Kiku
Eto, Wataru  Etow, Hajime
Etow, Shigeru  Fukuba, Norman
Hamada, Takino  Hamada, Tomiye
Hane, Machie  Hara, Yoneko Hirahara, Teyo
Ito, Uta
Kadotani, Mitsuko  Kaita, Kaneko
Kamimoto, Kay  Kawasaki, Jihei
Kimura, John Mitoshi  Maemura, Yoshinobu Matoba, Tatsue
Matsumoto, George Matsumoto, Michie Mine, Kikue
Misumi, Mary  Misumi, Shizue
Morimoto, Haya  Morimune, Soichi
Murakami, Kumajiro  Murakami, Shoichi
Nakamura, Meiji  Nishita, Shuichi
Nitta, Kumeo  Oda, Toku
Oda, Tokuzo  Saiki, Hajime
Saiki, Roy  Sakai, Chiyono
Sakai, Kiyoto  Sakata, Ichiji
Sakaue, Somo  Shinta, Kunito
Shirachi, William  Sudou, Sakaye

Tada, Ben  Takemoto, Toshiye
Hamamoto, Kimi  Tawamoto, Tsunesuke
Terasaki, Sam Yoshinobu  Teshima, Iwao
Torigoe, Bunkichi  Toriumi, Jim Shigeru
Tsuji, Saizo  Ura, John Susumu Uyeda, Jitsuo
Wada, Wada, Hatsu
Wada, Shozo  Yamakoshi, Frank
Yamamoto, Tadashi  Yonemura, Edward
Yoneyama, Lee Ritsuo Yoshida, Yaemon Yoshii, Kumakichi  Yamamoto, Lewis K.
Yamashita, Akira  Yamashita, Haru
Yamashita, Masano  Yamashita, Tomiko

Bishop Umezu will be at the December 6th Bodhi Day Service to make a presentation to the Centenarians: Nancy Iwami, Masako Morimoto, Yoshino Matano and Fujiye Idemoto.

JAPANESE CULTURAL FAIR OF SANTA CRUZ

Please come to support the Japanese Cultural Fair Santa Cruz. Bring this coupon in to the IHOP Capitola (41st Avenue) on the next to last Monday of every month through June 2016, and the International House of Pancakes will donate 20% of all purchases to the JCF Santa Cruz. Cut out the coupon below.

Come Support the Japanese Cultural Fair

Bring this “coupon” in to the IHOP Capitola (41st Avenue) on the next-to-last Monday of every month through June 2016 and the International House of Pancakes will donate 20% of all purchases to the JCF Santa Cruz. 2015 – Dec 21st / 2016 – Jan 25th, Feb 22nd, Mar 21st, Apr 18th, May 23rd.

By Bonnie Chihara

Our Holiday Boutique and Raffle held on November 15th at the W-SC JACL Hall was a huge success.

Thank you to everyone who supported this fundraiser for our group. Special thank you to Mas and Marcia Hashimoto for putting the flyer and info in the JACL Newsletter and coming out and purchasing our gift baskets, Cindy Mine for posting flyers for us again this year and helping with clean up, and Carol Kaneko for her donation of 12 succulent gardens.

The winners of our raffle are:
- Sue Barry- Orchid/plant basket
- Kim Tao-Vitamin/protein basket
- Lindsey Roscoe-Taste of Santa Cruz basket
- Dawn Binder-Rubber Ducky Basket
- Elren Hanayama-Cuisinart

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- Dawn Binder-Rubber Ducky Basket
- Elren Hanayama-Cuisinart
The grand prize winner was **Rose Harrigan**, a loyal fan who traveled from Northern California to see our Anniversary Show. She recently moved to the East Coast. She will receive the quilt soon from her friend, **Terri Basille**, who will mail it. Photo: *taiko* members (left) Sandy Allen, Bonnie Chihara, Terri Basille; (right) Kathie Brown, Suzee Grilley, Naoko Yamamoto and Taeko D’Andrea. Congratulations, Rose!

We will be having our annual holiday party on **Friday, Dec. 11th from 6-9pm**. This is a potluck dinner with games, a cake walk and a few local vendors for any last minute holiday shopping. Everyone is welcome! If you would like to join us, please RSVP our business manager **Taeko D’Andrea** at 831-435-4594 or email her at info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

Our upcoming schedule includes:
- Dec.6th  Watsonville’s Multi-Cultural Celebration, Watsonville Plaza 1-5 pm
- Dec.11th  Watsonville *Taiko’s* Holiday Party 6-9 pm
- Mar 23rd  Stevenson School, Pebble Beach

**WATSONVILLE KAWAKAMI SISTER CITY**

*By Robb Mayeda*

On November 19, KWSC Association held its first meeting for the students and their families in preparation for the May 2016 trip to Kawakami-mura. This year we will be sending sixteen students. This is the largest sister city student exchange in Northern California/Nevada.

The first Kawakami Watsonville Sister City Association fundraiser for the trip is scheduled for **Applebee’s** for **Sunday, December 6 from 8:00 to 9:45 A.M.** The cost is $10 for the breakfast buffet that features Applebee’s famous flapjacks.

**DONATIONS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM** …

Kokoro no Gakko (use of hall)
In memory of Lois Ota from …
Mas and Marcia Hashimoto
Esther Ura

In memory of Mary Tsuyuki from …
Christine, Henry, Sandy, and Stefanie
Izumizaki and families.

Scotty Muira of Forestville, CA
Mas and Marcia Hashimoto
Gayle and Elizabeth Ivanovich
Tom and Harumi Murakami
Patt and Mark Takeuchi
Esther Ura

In memory of Helen Kobara from …
Ron and Millicent Mito of Los Angeles

**WESTVIEW CHIMES** by Leslie Nagata-Garcia

- **December 6th:** JACL Senior Center Christmas Party, 2 pm
- **December 12th:** Christmas Caroling followed by a Christmas Potluck hosted by Dr. Art & Joanne Hayashi at their home. Meet at Westview at 1 pm

Advent begins November 29th. Come to Sunday worship each Sunday before Christmas to prepare our hearts again for the coming of our Savior!

**Fall Congregational Meeting Update:** The Fall Congregational Meeting was held on November 8th.
Nancy Shott and Mary Lou Hoffman were elected as 2016 Deacons and the 2016 Annual Budget was approved.

**Harvest Dinner:** On November 14th Westview Church had its annual Harvest Dinner. We ate delicious teriyaki chicken and raised almost $900 to benefit both
our Westview Church Neighborhood Tutoring Club and House of Joy Navajo Church in Arizona (where our youth served this past summer). Thank you to all who volunteered to help cook, decorate, etc. for making this a successful, fun-filled event!

On Sunday, December 20th Solid Rock Church will host their Gift of Christmas again this year in Westview’s parking lot after church. Please come and help us help Solid Rock care for our neighbors as we give out Christmas presents to children, yummy posole, and clothes as we enjoy a carnival with jumphouses and games! Also come help wrap presents on Saturday in the gym. Contact Pastor Dan or Diane Mio to help.

Pastor Appreciation fund: Our Pastor, Rev. Dan Hoffman, has been working very hard for us and has always been available for our spiritual needs. We are taking collection for the Pastor Appreciation Fund. Let’s share some happiness with Reverend Dan!

Wednesday Study Series: What is the confusing Book of Revelation really about and how does it speak into our time? Wednesday Study Series are usually held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Westview - come explore the Book of Revelation as we discuss Max Lucado’s study of Revelation. Please mark your calendar for the following dates: December 9th, (no Wednesday Study on December 23rd), January 13th, January 27th.

Help your youth/children grow a strong foundation in Christ!

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:

December 4th – Salvation Army Meal/Gym Nite, 4 – 7 pm, Westview

December 18th – Gym Nite Christmas Party

Photo: Halloween Youth Party visited by Monty Python’s knights of Nee!!

Westview will be starting a tutoring club to local students after school at Westview on Thursdays from 3:15 - 4:45 p.m. beginning in January. Please be in prayer as we reach out to our neighbors with God’s love and much needed help. Contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in helping in this loving outreach to our neighbors.

Sunday Message Series: “Care for your soul - taking care of the only part of you that will last for eternity!” - based on John Ortberg’s book Soul Keeping.

Sunday School During Worship Service in our Youth Room

Youth with Youth Leader Hanna Kasik
Children with Kathy Crudge

Salvation Army: Westview will be serving Salvation Army meals beginning December 4th. Salvation Army meals are usually prepared and served the first Friday of each month through April. Meet at Westview at 2 pm. For more information contact the Deacons or Pastor Dan.

World Premiere!

San Jose Stage Company in partnership with El Teatro Campesino presents “Valley of the Heart,” written and directed by Luis Valdez.

The fight to maintain dignity, identity, family and love are at the heart of this American love story deeply rooted in the fertile Santa Clara Valley. The dramatic interaction of two immigrant families—the Yamaguchis and the Montanos—highlights their challenges, struggles, and amazing survival through the turbulent years of WW II. It
is historically and emotionally powerful, written and directed by master playwright, Luis Valdez.

For tickets, first go to El Teatro Campesino's website. Then, click onto Valley of the Heart. The tickets are moderately priced from $30 to $60. There are only 21 performances from Wed. Feb. 10 to Sun. March 6, 2016. The theater seats less than 200 so you're close to the performers. Make your reservations today.

CONGRATULATIONS! 50th ANNIVERSARY OF EL TEATRO CAMPESINO—1965 - 2015

"If the last 50 years have taught us anything, it is that theater is a creator of community, and that community is the creator of theater. You are our community and our familia. Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of Alcario and Carmen Castellano, and all of you - our donors and supporters - a new era of El Teatro Campesino is about to begin in celebration of our 50th anniversary!"

– Luis Valdez

JOIN US—WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL

We'd love to have you, your family members, relatives and friends join us for 2015-2016. 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.

Thank you for reading this December 2015 newsletter. Onward!

Mas Hashimoto, Editor
No Increase in the 2015 – 2016 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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Membership Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family/Couples</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Member</td>
<td>$80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth/Student</td>
<td>$25 per age</td>
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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.

$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.

$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.