“Hana wa Saku”--Flowers Will Bloom, lyrics..

After the A-bombing of Hiroshima in August of 1945, it was believed nothing would grow for 75 years because of the radiation. Flowers soon began to bloom.

After the March 11, 2011 Tohoku earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima radiation disaster, flowers began to bloom. Yes, they did. Here’s a favorite English translation of “…Flowers Will Bloom” NHK sponsored song.

My heart goes out to you
When the winter snows give way to spring.
My heart is longing now
Longing for the town where the happiness had been.

Been a place of hope and of dreaming too
Been a home when my heart always went back to you,
But for now I only dream
Of the people who I loved and knew.

Someone is singing I can hear singing now,
Someone is weeping I can feel their tears,
Someone is smiling showing me why and how to go on
living for years and years.

Flowers will bloom, yes they will yes they will,
For you who are here or yet to be born.
They'll bloom, yes they will and they bloom again until
There's no missing sorrow and no reason left to mourn.

My heart goes out to you
When the morning sun lights up the pale blue sky
My heart is heavy now
With the grief I tried so often to deny.

I regret mistakes that I sometimes made,
But I know our love will never fade,
And that you'll live on instead of me,
And that you will have whatever love can be.

Someone is thinking I can read every thought,
Someone is shedding tears for all that was lost.
Someone is leading you to love that they sought
Asking you to love all that you love the most.

Flowers will bloom, yes they will yes they will
For you who are here or yet to be born.
They'll bloom, yes they will and they bloom again until
There's no missing sorrow and no reason left to mourn.

Yes they will, they'll bloom,
Yes they will, and they bloom again until...

You'll live and remember and love us forever more
And love us forever more ….

From the lyricist IWAI Shunji ...

To be honest, writing the lyrics for this song wasn't easy. My work always requires imagining experiences I've never had, but my abilities were never so tested as they were with this song.

While struggling to come up with the idea for the song, I remembered the words of a friend who was directly affected by the disaster. “We can only hear the stories of the people who survived. We can never hear the stories of those who died.” He said survivors could only imagine the suffering of those who lost their lives.

This helped me a lot, and I was able to let my imagination take over and follow the words where they wanted to go.

After the tsunami I was constantly tweeting, looking for family and friends living in the devastated area. I was able to find them by sharing and getting information, and passing it on to people in the same situation. One person living in the area who read my tweets even went out to find one of the friends I was looking for in the city of Ishinomaki.

I read a tweet by a young girl who was looking for a boy. She said she had a secret crush on him so she didn't want him to know she was looking for him. I thought that was so cute, and I was amazed that even in their frenzied search, people still had feelings like this. It made me smile, and I remembered that area of Japan as a sacred place in my heart where my own first love bloomed. I thought, if the young people there can still harbor a secret love just one week after the disaster, maybe it is possible that flowers will bloom out of the rubble. These were the things I was thinking about as I imagined the words to the song.

People who died from the disaster, people who survived it, and the people who worried about it from a distance, I tried to imagine how all of these people felt after 3.11. I knew how difficult it was to express something so unfathomable in just a few words, but I really wanted to try.
From the composer KANNO Yoko...

When I composed the music for “Flowers Will Bloom,” I tried to erase my own feelings as much as possible. I wanted to make the music a transparent vessel for the emotions of the singers and listeners.

To do that, I needed to be flexible, like a child. I didn’t push myself to the extent of sitting under a cold, heavy waterfall like a monk in training, but I worked hard for a whole week, trying to shed my musical ulterior motives and let go of hesitations about hurting listeners’ feelings.

Then one fine morning the lyrics arrived from film director Iwai Shunji. It was time to get to work on the melody. Iwai’s lyrics guided me along, bringing out the child in me to find the music. It was such a blessed experience to compose like that.

I chose voices for the recording that would sound like people telling their loved ones in heaven that everything is okay and that their wounds will heal as time goes by.

After 100 years have passed and no one remembers anymore how or why this song was written, I hope it continues to be sung, authors unknown.

[Editor’s note: Oh, yes, they will.]

THE JAPANESE MEMORIAL GARDEN AT THE SITE OF THE SALINAS ASSEMBLY CENTER

The winter rains and wind raised havoc with our garden at the site of our first prison, the Salinas Assembly Center. Huge trees fell onto our garden and ruined the landscape.

To the City of Salinas’ Maintenance Department, led by Supervisor Larry Oda, for clearing away the fallen trees and replacing/repairing the metal fence—a big “thank you!”

We, the five Monterey JACL chapters, must rebuild and restore the garden in honor and in memory of the 3,608 who were incarcerated here in 1942. “Yes, we will.”

We are grateful to Joe Bowes who has donated towards its restoration. Joe is one of our W-SC JACL’s most devoted caretakers of the garden, along with Gary Mine, Iwao Yamashita, Victor Kimura, and Kurt Kurasaki, SBC JACL.

Donations for the garden’s restoration are appreciated and can be made to W-SC JACL memo: Japanese Memorial Garden, and sent to W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

FLOWERS WILL BLOOM...

Consistent with Japanese love of beauty and of nature, the Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo donated 3,000 cherry blossom trees to the City of Washington, DC in 1912 as a gesture of friendship. (The first batch of 2,000 trees were diseased and had to be destroyed.)

Of our local Nikkei history, the California Alien Land Law of 1913 prohibited the Issei from owning land. Thus, the Issei paid no property taxes directly. They were spared the expense of educating their children in public schools.

In gratitude, the Watsonville Japanese Association, under the leadership of Executive Secretary, Mr. Ichiji Motoki, donated hundreds of flowering cherry trees to the city school districts—elementary, middle and high school—and to the city in the 1930s.

Nearly all of the trees in the city parks were vandalized and removed during World War II.
Sadly, the last tree which remained (above), a Kwanzan (pink double blossom) tree, died this winter. It was located at the Mintie White Elementary School on Brewington Ave at California Street. Only a few knew of its history.

In honor of the Washington DC cherry blossom centennial (1912-2012) the Japanese government, in 2012, donated a hundred cherry blossom trees to the cities of northern California.

Watsonville’s Yoshino cherry tree, planted by then Consul General Hiroshi Inomata (presently serving as the Japanese Ambassador to The Netherlands) in the City Plaza, is doing well, thanks to the care it receives from the Watsonville City’s Park and Community Services Department.

The US Postal Service presented commemorative stamps of the Washington, DC cherry blossoms in celebration of the centennial, for which we are grateful.

Below, “Neko” (Japanese for cat—“Wildcatz”), the donated Kwanzan tree at Watsonville High, is barely surviving on one of its nine lives after vandals tried to destroy it. We’ll keep an eye on it hoping for flowers next year.

“Hana wa Saku. Yes, they will.”

April showers bring May flowers …

NEW OUTDOOR LIGHTS FOR THE JACL HALL

The W-SC JACL board voted to install up-to-date outdoor lights for security reasons and for the safety of those who use our hall particularly during the evening hours—Watsonville Taiko, Watsonville Bonsai Club and W-SC JACL.

Gary Mine arranged the installation by Central Electric.

The light sensitive floodlights are over the main door, the front parking light (above) and back parking lot (not shown).

PHOTO, COURTESY OF ACLU, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

KOKORO NO GAKKO (School with a Heart)

It’s that time of the year again. Please join us for the annual summer session of Kokoro No Gakko. Registration is currently open. Kindergartners (who have completed kindergarten by June 2017) through 6th graders may enroll. The session is between June 26 through July 7th, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. There is no school on July 4th. The cost is $225 per child. Please visit our website for more information on how to register: https://kokoronogakkoweb.wordpress.com
This exhibit will run to Sunday, May 21 at the PV Arts, 37 Sudden Street, Watsonville, CA 95076 from Wednesdays through Sundays from 11 am to 4 pm.

[Editor’s note: Please bring family members to this free exhibit for all will enjoy the precious hour spent there. One steps back in time to the civil rights movement of the Sixties, of the farm laborers’ plight here, and of the natural beauty of the northern Monterey Bay and Pajaro Valley. Several of the beautiful photos are available for purchase.]

It has been said that photography has the power to inform, illuminate and instigate change. “Witness” honors the work of Santa Cruz County photographers — Bob Fitch, Tarmo Hannula (Register Pajaronian), Joe Ravetz, Shmuel Thaler (Santa Cruz Sentinel), and Sam Vestal (Register Pajaronian)—well-known for their imagination, artistry, and craftsmanship.

The exhibit is dedicated in loving memory to Betty Smith, founding member of PVA, photographer and teacher. The curators are Judy Stabile and Liz Reid.

“HOWARD IKEMOTO—THE LAST SHOW”
Howard Ikemoto-The Last Show of paintings and drawings—spanning 30 to 40 years—will be viewed and sold at the Cabrillo College Gallery on June 2, 3, and 4, 2017. This will be the VERY LAST time that Howard’s work will be shown and sold. It is the “once in a lifetime” opportunity to purchase his work at aggressively reduced prices. The proceeds will go towards Howard’s care.

Howard, an art instructor at Cabrillo College for decades and who painted three 15-foot guard towers for our reenactment “Liberty Lost ... Lessons in Loyalty,” has been fighting the effects of dementia for a number of years and had relocated to Southern California to be close to his daughters. He has recently moved to a Memory Care Facility there.

Howard was one of the participants in "Children of the Camps" video.

A vast collection of his art was stored at his house, and the house is now being sold. He has always had a strong base of fans and collectors in the Bay Area. The family wishes to find permanent homes for all of his artwork. Please plan to join us for what promises to be an exciting art event!

Friday, June 2, from 10 am to 2:00 pm
Sat., June 3-Sun., June 4 from noon to 5:00 pm
Cabrillo College Gallery, Library Building (upper campus)
6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003.
FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF NISEI VETERANS

The annual tribute to our Nisei veterans will be held on Armed Forces Day Saturday, May 20th, in Roberts Park, Oakland, CA from noon to 3 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Our guest speaker will be the President of FFNV and 442nd RCT veteran Lawson Sakai. Tom Graves, author of Twice Heroes, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Please bring a favorite dish for the potluck lunch. Dress warmly, even if the sun is shining, and be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes. Parking is free at the park.

A NATIONAL MUSEUM FOR THE US ARMY

On March 17th, an informational meeting at Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) was held regarding the National Museum of the US Army, which is being constructed at Fort Belvoir, VA. The US Army is the only branch of the service without a national museum!

442nd RCT veteran Lawson Sakai; Dr. Charles H. Cureton and Tammy Call of the US Army National Museum; Christine Sato-Yamazaki Executive Director of the National Veterans Network who arranged for this session; JAMsj President Dr. Aggie Idemoto welcomed all; and keynote speaker, Gen. Eric Shinseki, US Army (ret.).

Tammy Call, museum director, spoke of the special exhibit reserved for the 100th/442nd/MIS.

Dr. Charles H. Cureton, curator (a San Jose native and a retired US Marine officer) explained the need for this US Army museum.

Gen. Shinseki requested Nisei veterans of WW II and their families donate artifacts and stories to the exhibit recognizing the Nisei soldiers.

This exhibit is scheduled to open in 2019, and the Congressional Gold Medal of the 100th/442nd/MIS, currently at the Smithsonian Museum, will be on display in 2021.

The speakers emphasized the importance of educating future generations about the incredible legacy of honor, courage, dignity, and loyalty of the Japanese American young men and women who served their country during a time when their country treated their families with grave injustice. This is an American story that will have a place in the National US Army Museum.

Franz Steidl asked if the museum would be interested in displaying the senninbari—the 1,000 red stitch belt of good luck—that some Nisei soldiers wore around their waist while in combat in France and in Italy.
MY GRANDFATHER, HAROLD EVANS, AND THE GORDON HIRABAYASHI SUPREME COURT CASE, 1943
By Kathryn Taylor Mizuno

Seventy-four years ago, on May 10 and 11, 1943, two lawyers selected by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Frank Walters and my Quaker grandfather, Harold Evans (1886-1977), represented Gordon Hirabayashi before the Supreme Court of the United States. The case had been rushed to the Supreme Court so quickly that Walters and Evans met for the first time only half an hour before they stood before the court to present their arguments. Had the case been allowed to be considered more deliberately, carefully, and slowly, reason might have triumphed over war hysteria and Hirabayashi might have been found not guilty.

When Mas Hashimoto asked me to write something about my grandfather’s role in the Hirabayashi case in the Supreme Court, my initial response was that it happened before I was born, and I didn’t know much about it. I had just heard passing references to it from family members as I was growing up, but had little understanding of its significance. I remember him as a loving grandfather who taught his grandchildren how to swim, row, sail, and play scrabble, and kept us laughing by reading aloud to us. I especially remember him laughing so hard while reading us *Three Men in a Boat*, by Jerome K Jerome, that he had to ask one of us to read until he recovered his composure.

He didn’t talk much about his professional or social service activities. I have learned about them after I grew up.

Harold Evans worked with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in various capacities for most of his long life, serving on its Board of Directors since its inception in 1917, going to Germany in 1920 with the post-World War I child feeding program initiated by Herbert Hoover, and much later serving as AFSC Chairman until 1963. He is described in a 1963 article in the Quaker publication *Friends Journal* as follows: “Quite aside from his success as a lawyer, his civic responsibility and his contribution to Friends [Quakers] have been careers in themselves.”

When Hirabayashi v. The United States came to the Supreme Court in 1943, Gordon Hirabayashi had served concurrent sentences in Seattle in the King County jail in Seattle for two “crimes”. One was for not obeying the curfew placed by the U.S. military on all people of Japanese descent on the West Coast. The other was for refusing to obey the military exclusion order to all of these Japanese Americans, sending them to euphemistically-named “assembly centers” and then to “internment camps.”

In an article entitled “The Stolen Years” in *Columns Magazine*, the Alumni magazine of the University of Washington, Hirabayashi’s alma mater, Tom Griffin, states that the strategy of supporters of Gordon Hirabayashi, including Frank Walters, when the case was to be taken up in district Court in Seattle, was that Hirabayashi would almost certainly be found guilty in the lower court, but that the constitutionality of the curfew and exclusion orders imposed by the U.S. military would be considered in the appeals process. It seems that what they did not consider seriously enough was that anti-Japanese war hysteria would be strong enough to pressure the courts to move too quickly, and to suspend consideration of constitutional issues, deferring instead to military decisions made as a so-called necessity of war. Hirabayashi and his legal team believed that the case would be in the courts for a couple of years, during which time anti-Japanese feeling might subside enough to allow a more objective consideration of constitutional questions. This turned out not to be the case. It seems that there was political pressure to rush the case to the Supreme Court. When the appeals court in San Francisco sent some questions about the case to the Supreme Court, rather than simply answer them, they immediately put the case on the docket for oral arguments in May, 1943.

The ACLU then called on my grandfather, Harold Evans, to work with Frank Walters in presenting the oral arguments for Hirabayashi. He had only one month to prepare. Evans based his argument on a post-Civil War Case *ex Parte Milligan* (1866), which ruled that “legislative authority over civilians may not be delegated to the military when the area in question is not strictly a military area.” I understand this to mean that it was unconstitutional for the military to have issued curfews and exclusionary orders. However, it appears that to some of the justices of the Supreme Court, this was not a convincing argument. Justice Felix Frankfurter, who had been an army prosecutor in World War I, responded to Evans’ argument by saying, cryptically, “There is a lot in Milligan that will not stand scrutiny in 1943, a lot of talk that is purely political.” Evans responded, “That is for this court to decide.” In the opinion of Peter Irons*, in his book *War Powers: How the Imperial Presidency*...
Hijacked the Constitution (2006), “Evans might have reminded Frankfurter of the court’s firm statements in Milligan that the Constitution ‘is a law for rulers and people, equally in war and peace.’ and that none of its provisions ‘can be suspended under any of the great exigencies of government.’” Irons goes on to point out that the Supreme Court chose to rule only on the curfew order, rather than the broader question of the entire internment process. Walters and Evans had centered their arguments and briefs on the internment, with only about 10% of it dealing with the curfew violation. Hirabayashi himself says in the book based on his writings, A Principled Stand: the Story of Hirabayashi v the United States, that although it was a unanimous Supreme Court decision, President Roosevelt had had pressure put on Justice Frank Murphy not to dissent. “They worked on him and finally he caved in. His papers indicate this,” said Hirabayashi. Several justices did write separate concurring opinions of their own. Justice Frank Murphy had circulated a strongly worded dissent to the majority opinion, comparing the treatment of Japanese Americans in the U.S. to the treatment of Jews in Nazi Germany. Although Justice Murphy was eventually persuaded to rewrite this as a concurring opinion, he kept his assertion that the orders of the U.S. military "approached the very brink of constitutional powers."

To me, the parallels to the present day are striking. The constitutionality of many of the actions of our government today is in question. Trump and his followers are creating an atmosphere that gives permission for hate crimes to be perpetrated not only on Muslims and Mexicans, but on anyone who can be perceived as "different." A friend told me today that she thinks our era is different because there is more pushback against that kind of hate. I hope that might be true. I believe we all need to be part of that pushback.

I am glad to have been given this opportunity to put our present national crisis in perspective by looking through the lens of the Gordon Hirabayashi case.

One discovery that I would like to share is that Judge William Marutani, (1923-2004) of whom I used to hear my grandfather speak as one of the partners in his law firm in Philadelphia, was the first Japanese American to gain a judicial appointment outside the West Coast and Hawai‘i, and was the only Japanese American allowed to be on the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians commissioned in 1980 by the U.S. Congress.

*Peter Irons: “Attorney, political science professor at UC San Diego and author who in 1981 uncovered documents proving that government officials during World War II had intentionally suppressed and altered evidence in lawsuits challenging curfew and forced exclusion orders imposed on Japanese Americans. That discovery led to the reopening [and eventually vacating the convictions in]... the cases of three Nisei [Gordon Hirabayashi, Minoru Yasui, and Fred Korematsu] who had been convicted for violating the military’s wartime orders.” Densho.org.

Editor’s note: Thank you, Kathryn for this enlightening article. During WW II, Japanese and Japanese Americans were feared as “saboteurs.” Today, the term is “terrorists.” Federal authorities used “military necessity” as justification for our incarceration. Today, the term used is “national security” for the undocumented, Muslims, refugees and others.]

VICTOR KIMURA, UNSUNG HERO, HONORED

At the Gala Luncheon held on April 22 at the beautiful Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville, CA, our NCWNPD’s unsung heroes were recognized and honored for their unselfish service to the mission of the JACL.

Victor Kimura was presented with the Daruma Award for Unsung Heroes for his years of dedicated service as our W-SC JACL Treasurer by our NCWNPD Governor Carol Kawase. Please refer to our April newsletter for details of Victor’s nomination. He is a National JACL Life member who devotes innumerable hours in support of our chapter.

Our W-SC JACL delegation included L-R, Mas and Marcia Hashimoto; Carol and Paul Kaneko; Nicole, Victor, Karen, and Carter Kimura; Phil Shima; Gini Matute-Bianchi; Norris Woodford; and Gary and Cindy Mine. Missing from the photo is Jeanette Hager.
Carol Kawase presented the NCWNPD Daruma Award to honorees Dara Tom and Joann Matsuoka for their volunteer work with “Northern Notes,” the NCWNPD newsletter. Assisting is Alan Teruya, NCWNPD Treasurer.

Former Congressman Mike Honda wore an Hawaiian shirt in reference to a Cabinet member’s recent remarks about an “island in the Pacific.” He spoke glowingly of Norman Mineta for his leadership in the redress campaign and was grateful for Norm’s counsel while serving in the Congress.

Seated: Daruma honorees were Roy Hatamiya of Marysville; Margarette Murakami of Sonoma; Mas Ishihara of Stockton; back: Kevin Wilde of Sacramento; James Oshima of Contra Costa; Victor Kimura of W-SC JACL; Ron Tanaka of Berkeley; and Ken Tokutomi of Placer.

Keynote speaker Dianne Fukami stated the importance of preserving the legacy of Norman Y. Mineta. She spoke of this ongoing project—Mineta Legacy Project—hoping for its completion by the end of this calendar year.

She is an award-winning documentary and television presenter specializing in Asian American experiences. Her most recent documentary, “Stories From Tohoku,” was shown at numerous film festivals with acclamation.

Serving as the mistress of ceremonies is reporter Jana Katsuyama of KTVU Channel 2 News. This Ohio native is a multiple award winning journalist who has several Emmy Awards, Associated Press awards, and many others. She enjoys northern California. KTVU News has recently expanded its time allotment by 30 minutes, from 10 pm to 11:30 pm, Mon-Fri, so one can catch more of Jana’s reporting of the news.

Marcia congratulates Henry Uyeda on his upcoming 103rd birthday. His daughter Sharon Uyeda is San Jose JACL’s co-President.
A SUMMER HAWAII STUDY PROGRAM

My name is Laurel Mayeda, and I am entering my 5th graduate year at UC Santa Cruz. I am double majoring in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies and Feminist Studies and will continue to pick up a minor in education.

This summer, I will enroll in a 5-week program through the UCLA Hawaii Study Program. This program provides a critical examination of race, ethnicity, history, gender, sexuality, and U.S. empire in the context of the Hawaiian Islands.

Through field visits, service learning, discussion, and student-led research opportunities, I hope to gain knowledge on local histories and communities and problematize issues related to indigeneity, politics, economy, representation, and colonialism.

These are the two courses I plan on taking:

1. Asian American Studies M143A (Anthropology M139P): Fieldwork in Asian American and Pacific Islander Communities- Introduction to qualitative research methods and application of techniques in data collection, analysis, and reporting. Critical reflection of issues related to identity, migration, multiculturalism, tourism, and indigenous rights. Field excursions and guest lecturers from local community included.

2. Asian American Studies M143C (Anthropology M177P): Ethnic Identity and Ethnic Relations in Hawaii- Continuing construction and expression of ethnic identity in various cultural forms and social contexts in Hawaii. Overview of theoretical approaches to and basic concepts in study of ethnic identity and ethnic relations. Discussion of historical and contemporary aspects of ethnic identity and ethnic relations in Hawaii.

I chose this program because my mother’s side of the family was born and raised in Hawaii. The ‘melting pot’ that is Hawaii created an interesting childhood growing up. For example, I thought everybody I met was Japanese because of the high number of Japanese Americans in Hawaii.

This trip would provide an opportunity to reconnect with my matrilineal roots and gain community organizing skills.

Additionally, at UCSC there is no Asian American studies program, only the Critical race and Ethnic Studies major with an emphasis in Asian Pacific Islander studies. This is extremely problematic and limiting. The UCLA Hawaii study abroad program is the least expensive study abroad program that has classes directly related to Asian American diaspora and ethnic relations in Hawaii.

I am asking for $1200 because of family reasons. My mother is a single-mother who has worked hard all her life to provide me and my sister all the opportunities she never had. Within the next year my sister and mother are going to be ending graduate school.

With this, finances are extremely tight within the Mayeda household.

The costs are the following: airfare $900 and food $300.

[Editor’s note: if you can help, checks may be made payable to Watsonville Santa Cruz JACL, memo: Laurel Mayeda, and mail to P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077. She has raised $360 from friends who wish to support our former Youth Delegate and member of the W-SC JACL.]
ATTENTION, JACL YOUTH MEMBERS!

Our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Local Scholarships:

- Applicants will apply for scholarships by submitting generic application information that could apply to and satisfy all of the four scholarships:
  “Rekiso “Ray” and Hisako “Louise” Sako Scholarships
  “Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarship
  “Frank Mito Scholarship

For detailed information and instructions, check our website. Applications are available for downloading: www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org/scholarships/

Note: our deadline is Wednesday, May 17, 2017.

Send your completed forms to Dr. Brooke Rains, our Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter Scholarship Chairperson, on or before Wednesday, May 17, 2017. They should be mailed to:

Dr. Brooke Rains, Chairperson
JACL Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 163
Watsonville, CA. 95077

The presentation of the scholarships will take place on Saturday, June 24, 2017 during the JACL Annual Community Picnic at Aptos Village Park. Thank you.

WATSONVILLE BONSAI CLUB EXHIBIT

The 2017 WBC’s exhibit will be held on Sun. April 30 at the Watsonville Buddhist Temple, 423 Bridge St from 10 am to 4 pm. All are most welcome.

WATSONVILLE TAIKO AND SHINSEI DAIKO

By Bonnie Chihara

On Saturday, April 8th, we performed at the Santa Cruz Bonsai Kai event at the Museum of Art and History. Because of the construction at the museum, we performed on Pacific Avenue in front of O’Neills Surf Shop. Thank you to Helen Klee for inviting us. The next day we showed people how to make origami cranes. Here's a photo of us playing at the Bonsai Kai event.

Have you ever thought about learning taiko? We have classes for all ages.

Our beginning children’s class is scheduled at 4:30 pm on Fridays and are held at the W-SC JACL Kizuka Hall, 150 Blackburn Street in Watsonville.

Our beginning adult classes are scheduled for 7 pm also at Kizuka Hall.

For times and locations for our other classes please contact Kay at (831) 475 1088 or email us at info@watsonvilletaiko.org

Our upcoming schedule:
April 23rd - Watsonville Buddhist Temple’s Hana Matsuri, Watsonville Buddhist Temple
April 29th - Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival, Memorial Park Cupertino
April 30th - Big Sur International Marathon, Big Sur
May 13th - Human Race Walkathon, Natural Bridges State Park
May 20th - Jacobs Heart Camp Heart and Hands, Camp Ponderosa, Felton
June 10th - Japanese Cultural Festival, Mission Plaza Park, Santa Cruz
June 24th - W-SC JACL Community Picnic, Aptos
July 1st - Land of Medicine Buddha Festival, Soquel
July 1st - Campfire Event, New Brighton Beach
July 16th - Watsonville Buddhist Temple Obon Festival
Aug. 6th - Cabrillo Music Festival, Santa Cruz
Nov. 19th - Watsonville Taiko’s Annual Holiday Boutique and Raffle

SENIOR CENTER NEWS By Jo Ann Vear

It was another busy month for the Seniors. Thanks to Jean Yamashita, the following is her narration of what they did on Tuesday, April 4th:

“Thirteen spry seniors took off on a very ambitious one-day adventure to Sacramento. After a very early start at 6:30 am (yawn), we arrived at our primary destination – the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento to see the special exhibit: ‘Two Views: Photographs by Ansel Adams and Leonard Frank’, a compelling collection documenting the Japanese internment 75 years ago.

In the next room was an “Into the Fold” exhibit of gorgeous ceramics created by contemporary Japanese artists. From 11-12:30, we were fortunate to have an extended custom tour of the highlights of the Crocker Art Museum led by a very knowledgeable and enthusiastic docent, Sam Reep. We got an excellent overall glimpse of the museum.

With growing stomachs and some tired feet, we set off to our next Sacramento destination for a late lunch--Oto’s Marketplace and Mahoroba Japanese Bakery, where we were surprised to meet Sunao and June Honda who were visiting their grandkids. Many of us had never been to the very popular Mahoroba Japanese Bakery and were eager to try their scrumptious assorted goodies. The Kobe Cream Delight is the most popular item, and it was delicious! The pastry is so incredibly light! Oto’s Marketplace is not a big Japanese market but packs a lot of Japanese items including yummy bento boxes which folks enjoyed. With happy
stomachs and many boxes of pastries, we headed towards our next stop: _The Jelly Bean Factory in Fairfield._

“Those of us who had never been to the Jelly Bean Factory walked the quarter mile self-guided tour of the Jelly Bean Factory, watched informative videos, played the interactive games, received free samples, and did a little Jelly Bean shopping at the end.

“Heading home, we stopped for dinner and arrived back in Watsonville (a little worn out but all intact) around 8:30 pm. It was a lovely day spent with a wonderful group of seniors.

“Many thanks to: **Paul Kaneko** for driving the whole day and assisting seniors in and out of the van; **Carol Kaneko** for navigating; delicious goodies donated by: **Susan AmRhein, Nancy Kuratomi, Eiko Stewart, Miyeko Yamashita, Toshiko Yamashita, Jean Yamashita.**

“The guests presented Paul with a small driver tip in appreciation for his excellent driving of the big van; however, Paul graciously donated the tip back to the Senior Center.

“Thank you, Paul!”

**Jean Yamashita** announced the Watsonville Buddhist Temple is organizing a one-day trip to Table Mountain on May 24th. They are generously charging our Seniors the same price as WBT members, which is $30. However, any other guests will have to pay $40. Table Mountain will be giving back a $10 voucher to gamble and a $5 voucher for food. In order to get these vouchers, you must have a Players Card, so don’t forget to bring your photo identification; passport, driver’s license or California ID. The buffet on Wednesdays just happens to be Asian Bistro. Yum – that sounds too good to pass up. Please see **Jean or Mrs. Kodama** to sign up for this trip.

Members were sorry to hear that **Mitsuyo Tao** broke her ankle; however, she is on the mend and surprised everyone by attending our _Hanamatsuri_ celebration with her daughter-in-law, **Kim Tao.** She appreciated the card sent by the Seniors, and sent a wonderful “thank you” card in return. (The thank you card will be posted on the bulletin board.)

**Marcia Hashimoto** told of an article in the _Register Pajaronian_ which featured **Yamashita Market** and the article further mentioned that the Japanese Community in Watsonville remains strong. She also told us her husband **Mas,** who is also editor of the JACL newsletter, received the **Jefferson Award** for his speaking presentations to students at our local schools around the Monterey Bay. This is the 20th year for the Jefferson Awards and there have been four Japanese American recipients. CONGRATULATIONS to Mas for receiving this prestigious award.

**Beauty and the Beast** will be presented at Cabrillo College Theatre and anyone interested in going please contact **Jean Yamashita.** The date is Saturday, August 12 at 2 pm. Tickets for adults over 55 are $42, children ages 6-12 are $34. There is a discount if we have a group of 20 or more. Carpooling is available and there is talk about gathering together after the theatre to go to dinner. See Jean for more information. Senior photos by **Carol Kaneko.**

On April 13 Kizuka Hall was beautifully decorated for Easter by **Helen Nakano** and **Susan AmRhein.** Thanks also to Helen for the colorfully decorated hard boiled eggs, packets of salt, and Easter candy which were on the tables for all to enjoy.

_Toban_ members for the month of April were **June Honda, Rubie Kawamoto** and **Eileen Byers.** Thank you, ladies and anybody else who so graciously helped.

Guests from the BWA were **Riiko Yoshida, Itsuko Okamoto, Ryoko Suruki,** and **Kikko Akiyama.** Thank you to the BWA for donating the delicious, beautiful cake. A wonderful _Hanamatsuri Celebration_ was held on April 20 with a delicious **Miyuki Japanese Restaurant** buffet dinner.

To start we had a ‘moment of silence’ for all the friends who have passed away. **Terry Hirahara** gave the greetings from the BWA and the WBT. She announced the WBT _Hanamatsuri Bazaar_ will be held Sun 2 pm. There will be displays of _ikebana, bonsai_ and _Kimkomi Ningyō; sushi, yakisoba,_ and cabbage salad will be available this year as well as homemade pastries. There will be an _Udon Feed_ on May 6 from 4 to 7 pm. _Chirashi_ and homemade pastries will be sold.

Quoted from the BCA Bishop Reverend **Kodo Umezu:**

_“Today, we are in the midst of confusion and darkness. The world has become a place where people mistrust each other. Let us together pause and listen to the wishes of those who have gone before us. They treasured the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha and want us to do the same so that we can live our lives with joy and humility.”_
Honorees for the day were the Seniors over 90. Paul mentioned that of our 80 Senior members, 30 are 90 years of age or older. Attending were: Miyeko Yamashita 99, Mitzi Katsuyama 96, Tea Hashimoto 96, Hideko Nagamine 96, Michiko Hamada 95, Fred Oda 93, Sam Sakamoto 92, Chiyoko Shikuma 92, Ruby Nakamura 92, Haru Ishibashi 91, Kimiyo Fuji 91, Yae Sakamoto 91, Eiko Nishihara 90, Yaeko Cross 90, and Rubie Kawamoto 90. Unable to attend were: Nancy Iwami 102, Masako Miura 102, Louise Sako 100, Haruko Yoshii 99, Frances Goon 98, Chiyoko Yagi 96, Akira Kodama 95, Evelyn Kamigawachi 93, Betty Yagi 93, Grace Fujita 92, Eiko Ceremony 92, Floy Sakata 91, Akira Nagamine 91, Satoko Yamamoto 91, and Jim Kawamoto 90.

Congratulations to all. Each honoree was presented with a beautiful azalea plant from Flowers by Toshi. Many thanks to Jean Akiyama for the beautiful centerpiece and to Hisako Kodama for all the flowers on the tables.

A group picture of our 90 and over was taken, followed by words of appreciation by Iwao Yamashita, serving of the delicious cake, a few lively games of Bingo, and after Shokuzen no Gassho by Terry Hirahara, we all enjoyed a wonderful buffet from Miyuki Restaurant.

Paul Kaneko announced that Baisho Matsumoto will be coming to Kizuka Hall on Friday, May 19 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm for a special shamisen and shakuhachi performance. The concert is free. For more information, please see Paul’s article in another part of the newsletter.

Paul also announced that Victor Kimura of our JACL chapter, will be honored as our “Unsung Hero” at a NCWNP District luncheon on Saturday, April 22 in Danville. Victor was present at our Hanamatsumi celebration and joined the seniors for bingo and the Miyuki buffet.

We welcomed new member Gini Matute-Bianchi. Gini is the 1st Vice President of our W-SC JACL chapter. Welcome, Gini, and may you win many bingo games!

There was no April birthday celebration this month as the April and May birthdays will be combined on May 18.

We welcomed back Mary Perez (rt) and were happy to have her sister, Juanita Lopez, attend as her guest.

Enjoying the buffet were Mas, Victor, Phil, Kimiko and Marcia of the W-SC JACL board of directors.

On April 27, Carol Kaneko will pass out the May/June schedule of activities for the Senior Center.

Monetary donations gratefully received this month: Paul Kaneko, Watsonville Buddhist Women's Association, Iwao Yamashita, Louise Sako (for her 100th birthday), and Sam and Yae Sakamoto.

Thank you for the many Bingo donations which we all enjoy so much.

Sunao/June Honda 10 plates Spam musubi, coconut mochi, 9 Easter egg baskets, 4 plates blackberry pie shortbread cookies

Dylan, Aubrie & Alex

Jean Yamashita 7 pkgs. brownies, 7 bags cocoa banana bars, 6 Easter bunnies candies, 6 hot cross buns, 11 green tea muffins

Miyeko Yamashita 8 pkgs. senbei, 2 bags chagashi

Toshi Yamashita 4 pkgs nori, 2 large bags pretzels, 6 jars of jelly bellies, 2 bags chagashi

Nobue Fujii 5 jars cauliflower tsukemono, 1 bag lemons

Rubie Kawamoto 2 pkgs. senbei, 1 pkg cookies, 3 large pkgs arare, 6 boxes Kleenex, 100 bags Japanese green tea, 18 bottles Dawn dish soap

Eileen Byers 5 bunches flowers

Hisako Kodama 10 bottles Dawn dish soap

Kimi Fuji 2 dozen eggs, 4 plates apple cake

Mitzi Katsuyama
Haruko Yoshii          large bag senbei
Terry Hirahara       3 foil, 6 Dial soap, 2 Chexmix,
                     24 rolls toilet tissue
Kitty Mizuno          6 rolls toilet tissue,
                     wagashi/Japanese sweets
Eiko Nishihara       12 jars of jam
Yoshiko Nishihara     18 bottles Dawn dish soap
Nobuko Akiyama        6 rolls paper towels
Hide Nagamine         6 bags cucumbers
Jo Ann Vear           12 Kleenex tubes
Susan AmRhein         11 lemon buttermilk mini Bundt cakes
Pat Marr              15 Easter candy
Eiko Stewart          6 rolls toilet tissue
Yaeko Cross           12 rolls toilet tissue
Kazuko Sakai          2 pkgs. crackers and 2 bags cookies
Jean Akiyama          4 boxes Kleenex
Haruko Yoshii         1 bag arare
Sam/Yae Sakamoto      2 bags cookies
Mary Perez             4 pot holders, 2 boxes crackers
Jeanette Crosetti     3 pkgs. cooked rice
Bette Garcia          1 bag panko, 4 pkgs dashi,
                     1 can black soy beans

Thank you to all our seniors who attend our Thursday meetings. Please keep coming, stay healthy, exercise, and have fun!

WES T VW ENTERTI AN “CHIMES”
By Leslie Nagata Garcia

The Purple Revolution
"Revolution begins with the self, in the self." - Toni Cade Bambara,

Ephesians 4:1-6
I … urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit.

We are family, and We are family, first!
So we are in a divisive political climate—which is an understatement.
Some are elated Trump was elected and applaud his actions, some want to move to Canada, and cringe at his actions.
I love our church. I love the diversity of our church. I don’t want the divisive political climate to hurt our church family. Amen?!
I want to affirm our church family: you are kind, loving, and gracious. You serve the poor through the Salvation Army, the tutoring club, and care well for each other.
Many in our church have a personal or family history of the reality of internment during WWII, and out of that has come a compassion to care for the least and the persecuted and the marginalized—I love that about you!

We are a mixed church politically and yet you all have been doing great being respectful to each other in this divisive political time. I am grateful and proud of you. Thank you.

So as to continue to protect our family, here are some Ground Rules to protect our church family:

Rule #1. As your pastor, I will try not to take sides or be partisan from the pulpit.
However, when things are happening in our world or country, it is my job as a pastor/preacher to be relevant and help us reflect on God’s Holy Scripture in light of these events. I would not be doing my calling to keep my head in the sand or keep silent.
So it is my job to remind you of Scripture and help you reflect on that as issues arise. Karl Barth, the great theologian, said "we must preach holding the newspaper in one hand and the Bible in the other."

Rule #2. I want us to not engage in political discussions if we cannot respect the other person or cannot respectfully dialogue. So if I can’t remain respectful remembering my love for the other person, best I keep my opinions to myself.
However,

Rule #3. I DO want us to engage in political discussion if we CAN do so with a deep breath, with an affirmation of our respect and love for each other as brothers and sisters.
And only if we seek to listen first and truly try to understand the opinions of the other, then share our opinions. Also we must keep to the issues, but never attack the person! We can and must learn from each other. We need each other. Let us love each other first and foremost.

For 2000 years issues have threatened to divide the church. Jesus knew this would be a huge issue for his beloved church so in his final prayer for the church before he died for us, he prayed in John 17: “that all of them may be ONE, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you…so that they may be brought to COMPLETE UNITY.”

We are family as a church and I want us all to seek to build that up and keep it sacred.
We are family as a Nation! and I want us all to seek to build that up and keep it sacred.
So I propose to you The Purple Revolution:
We are not red (republican) or blue (democrat) but we are all purple! That’s right a mix of red and blue, which makes purple!

We are family as a nation and our destiny is wrapped up with each other. Amen!

- Let us together seek the good of our country and our world not the good of our party.
- Let us not play into the hand of the partisan propaganda and seek to demonize the other party.
- Let us try to listen to balanced news.
- Let us try not to speak ill of our leaders, but, of course we should speak critically of their actions when needed.
- PRAY for our leaders!
- Seek to use democratic means to change their policies if we don’t agree.

March, write letters, attend town hall meetings—BUT when we protest let us do it in a spirit of love, not hate. PRAYING for those on the other side!—for they are indeed our brothers and sisters! Amen! ML King could pray for them looking down the barrel of a gun, or as being attacked by dogs, while others were hung in trees. So we can.

Let us promote the purple revolution!
We are the purple family! Let us see us all as one United States of America!
We are one family as a church! Amen!
We are one family as a nation! Amen!

You have been an amazingly loving, understanding church in this divisive political climate. I am proud of you. So keep spreading the Purple Revolution! “Revolution begins with the self, in the self.” Amen?!

Father make us one! Amen!

May the God of peace and love fill you to the point of overflowing,

-Pastor Dan

Maundy Thursday Potluck and Communion.

- Local Pastors co-celebrating Good Friday Service.
- Easter Service.
- Easter Egg Hunt.

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 – 7:30 pm, at Westview. Mark your calendars for the following dates: May 5th, May 19th.
Wednesday Study Series: Based on John Ortberg’s book, *The Life You’ve Always Wanted*, we will study how to grow the spiritual practices in our lives in this modern world that will be the center and front from which we live and thrive! Wednesday Study Series are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 pm at the Paloma Del Mar Community Center, 2030 Pajaro Lane (photo at left—Bible study at Paloma Del Mar) For the month of May, we will meet on May 10th and May 24th.

Sunday Message Series: “Ancient Wisdom for Life—discovering the signposts set by God in the Hebrew Scriptures” so they can guide us as we walk the journey of life.

Many of our students have much need for help in math and reading! Our Tutors are awesome!—Mary Lou Hoffman, Diane Mio, Susan Manabe, Pastor Dan, and Joanne Hayashi! If you want to join us Thursdays 3:30-5pm let us know!

It has been a delight to reach out with love and care for our neighbors.

**Japanese Cultural Fair Set for June 10th**

By Paul Kaneko

Saturday, June 10th is the date for the thirty-first Japanese Cultural Fair at Mission Plaza Park in Santa Cruz. One of the major co-sponsors of the event will once again be the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter of the JACL. This is a major opportunity for the entire community to get to know more about what our chapter does: fighting for civil rights of everyone (not just Japanese-Americans) and educating people about our unique experience of being incarcerated during WWII. The Cultural Fair is our opportunity to be visible to the entire community and provide some of the other, more tangible facets of the Japanese culture such as delicious obentos, ocha, and locally grown strawberries and cucumbers.

Admission to the Cultural Fair is free and attendees will be treated to great examples of the traditions of Japan all in one day with the performances of two taiko groups, Minyo Folk Dance, Koto, Bon Odori, Shakuhachi, Tsugaru Shamisen, Awa Odori, and Okinawan Dance, and much more on the main stage in the park; Ikebana, a Kimon Workshop, Tea Ceremonies at the Zen Center; and the various martial arts demonstrated at the Aikido of Santa Cruz Dojo on Mission Street. The Fair will begin at 11 AM and conclude at 6 PM. A free shuttle provided by Toyota of Santa Cruz will be available all day long between the park and the County Government Center at 701 Ocean Street. A free bicycle parking valet will also be provided in the park.

For more information about these and other programs of the Japanese Cultural Fair, please go online: [www.jcfsantacruz.org](http://www.jcfsantacruz.org). Please do not miss this important event. Come and also see and meet some of the members of our JACL chapter.

**Mr. Baisho Matsumoto Coming Back to Watsonville for a Special Performance May 19, 2017**

By Paul Kaneko

On Friday, May 19th, Master Shamisen player Mr. Baisho Matsumoto will return to Kizuka Hall for the second straight year to perform for our community. The event is scheduled from 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

Mr. Matsumoto is from Japan and travels to the U.S. to perform at the annual Hakone Gardens Festival in Los Gatos. At this special performance, Mr. Matsumoto will be performing not only the shamisen, but also the shakuhachi, a traditional Japanese bamboo flute. Mr. Matsumoto has been playing the shamisen and singing folk songs for over forty-five years. He has performed all over the world in order to introduce the world to his wonderful Japanese music. When he turned 70, he turned over a new leaf of his life and changed his name to Matsumoto Baisho. (His former name was “Hidekatsuryu Fujimoto.”) Matsumotosan’s mission in life is to continue performing traditional Japanese music all over the world. He says: “Your support and encouragement will be greatly appreciated.”

Admission to the event is free and sponsored by the Senior Center of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Chapter of the JACL. Doors will open at 2 PM. Please mark your calendar and come, enjoy, and support Mr. Matsumoto as he performs his special traditional Japanese music.

The attached is a flier designed by Ms. Jean Yamashita. Please post it wherever you can and share it with everyone that you know. You don’t have to be a senior citizen to attend. Everyone is welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

**2017 COMMUNITY PICNIC, JUNE 24TH**

For over 100 years the Japanese American families of Watsonville have enjoyed a traditional event known as the “Community Picnic.” This was established by our immigrant Issei pioneers who struggled and worked tediously and who could afford only one day out of the year to relax and celebrate with gratitude the survival of another year.

Since the end of World War II, the W-SC JACL has sponsored this important cultural tradition. As a community picnic, everyone is welcome. Highlights include a delicious barbecue lunch, the presentation of scholarships, fun races for all ages, free bingo for our Senior citizens and friends, entertainment by Watsonville Taiko, and an exciting raffle.

We cordially invite you and your family to join us at this year’s picnic, which will take place at the beautiful Apts Village Park, 100 Apts Creek Road, Apts, CA 95003 on Saturday, June 24th, from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

Sincerely,
Marcia Hashimoto, President
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL
TRI-TEMPLE HANAMATSURI SERVICE 2017

By Barbara Shingai, President of WBT

The Monterey Peninsula, Salinas and Watsonville Buddhist Temples coordinated a Tri-Temple Hanamatsuri service on Sunday, April 9, 2017 at the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple in Seaside, CA. There was a wonderful turnout of over 200 people in attendance.

Bruce Arao lead the kansho, ringing of the temple bell, and Chairman Larry Oda welcomed all.

Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara, Co-Director of the Center for Buddhist Education in Berkeley, was the guest speaker. He spoke about the significance of Hanamatsuri (birth of Buddha) and the history of Siddhartha Gautama who was born on April 8 over 2,500 years ago in India. The Hanamido (flower shrine) is a replica of the beautiful Lumbini Garden where he was born. The sweet tea, which is poured over the baby statue, symbolizes the rain that fell on that day.

Rev. Kuwahara talked about how Prince Siddhartha left his privileged life in search of understanding how to live in this world of suffering. Siddhartha later became enlightened (Shakyamuni Buddha) and continued to spread the teachings of the Dharma. Rev. Kuwahara spoke about the Three Poisons – “Greed, Anger and Ignorance”. His sermon, both in English and Japanese, was enjoyed by all.

Gail Wurtenberg, in front of the beautiful Hanamido, poured sweet tea over the statue of Buddha.

Organist Kahori Kuramura played Flowers Will Bloom beautifully while the Sangha did oshoko before the Hanamido.

The Dharma School students joyfully led the Sangha in singing “Living in the Moment” by Jason Mraz.
WE DID IT!!!!!!......A HUGE THANK YOU and MUCH GRATITUDE to each and everyone of you for your hard work and countless hours throughout the process with months of planning and finally executing another successful Hanamatsuri. (that was a great run on sentence!) We truly appreciate those of you who took time out of your schedules for each minute, hour, day, or days that you spent with us to make sure we got the job done. We hope, though it was a lot of work, that you enjoyed yourself, learned a thing or two, met someone new and made them feel welcome.

I’m really proud to say that "WE" came together as a community and it was so wonderful to see a lot of new and friendly faces! We hope to see you all again in our upcoming major events:

If at all possible, please save these dates as it really does take a village to keep our precious traditions going. Thank you so very much again for everything, from helping in any way, to your generous and thoughtful donations. PLEASE pass on these words of gratitude to any family and friends who may not receive this email.

Sincerely,
Kim Yoshida~Hanamatsuri Chairwoman and the rest of my wonderful Hanamatsuri Committee

**May 2017 Temple Calendar:**

- **2** Tue 7:30 pm Temple Board Meeting
- **3** Wed 7 pm Buddhist Study Class
- **4** Thu 10 am ABA Meeting
- **7** pm 110 Year Planning Meeting
- **5** Fri & 26 Fri Secretary out of office
- **6** Sat 4-7 pm Udon Feed
- **7** Sun 2 pm Shotsuki Hoyo & Sunday Service
- **1-4** pm Kimekome
- **10** Wed 7 pm Buddhist Study Class
- **14** Sun No Service Mother’s Day
- **15** Mon 7 pm Tri-Temple Meeting in Watsonville
- **20** Sat 2-4 pm Public Lecture with Rev. Yuki Sugihara of Florin
- **21** Sun 10 am Trip-Temple Gotan E Service in Watsonville – Luncheon to follow
- **24** Wed 8 am BWA Fun Trip to Table Mt.
- **28** Sun Memorial Day Cemetery Service

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**WATSONVILLE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWS**

Hello Everyone!

Let us gather to remember and express our gratitude. The families of the following deceased are invited to attend the May service and to Oshoko (offer incense). We look forward to seeing you at the service.

- **Akiyama, Hideo**
- **Akiyoshi, Fumiyi**
- **Arao, Akiharu**
- **Chihara, Akino**
- **Flanagan, Sharon**
- **Fujii, Sumito**
- **Fujita, Jim Yoshio**
- **Hashimoto, Noriyuki**
- **Higaki, Mariko**
- **Hirahara, Takeso**
- **Ikeda, Somekichi**
- **Izumizaki, Fumio**
- **Kajihara, Ippei**
- **Kuroiwa, Kichiemon**
- **Marui, Youemon**
- **Misumi, Yoshino**
- **Morimoto, Reymi**
- **Morishima, Chieko**
- **Nishita, Betty**
- **Sakamoto, Michiko**
- **Shibata, Hideji**
- **Tao, Mitsue**
- **Takamune, Rin**
- **Tawamoto, Hisa**
- **Tsuji, Yoshiie**
- **Tsuda, Matsue**
- **Uchimaru, George**
- **Ura, Dorothy**
- **Wada, Masao**
- **Yoshida, Masao**
Gail and Bill Wurtenberg are manning the WBT information desk. The Bonsai display is in the background.

Kimekomi doll display in the foreground; judo demonstration on the stage. Don Yamaguchi purchased sushi.


THE 2017 JEFFERSON AWARD NOMINEES

This year’s volunteer nominees were (LtoR), Mas Hashimoto of the W-SC JACL; Caroline Mierzwa, a senior at Carmel High School; Nancy Fountain of Pacific Grove; B. Scott Caldwell of Felton; volunteer firefighter Cheryl Goetz of Carmel who will go on to Washington, DC to represent our region; Ray Najar of Greenfield’s police department; and Joseph W. Heston President of KSBW-TV.

“Thank you, Dan Green, Mr. Joseph W. Heston, and KSBW-TV’s editorial and news team. And, thank you, Union Bank, for your sponsorship.

“Congratulations to the 5 nominees who are being honored this evening. You have made the Monterey Bay region, by your selfless contributions to the communities, the most wonderful area in which to live and to work. Thank you.

“Special appreciation to Victor Kimura and Dr. Gini Matute-Bianchi. Thank you for your nomination and your faith in me. And, thank you to my family and friends attending today for their support.

“I delighted in teaching about Jeffersonian Democracy at Watsonville High in rural, agrarian Watsonville. I never thought it would come to this. And, Happy Birthday Mr. Jefferson this Thursday (April 13).

“May I introduce my wife, Marcia? She is my best friend and the love of my life. Years ago, I was a boy scout. A scout is ‘trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly,
courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, reverent.” Marcia says I possess 7 of the 12 traits. She seems satisfied.

“This year, 2017, marks the 75th anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt’s infamous Executive Order 9066. This Jefferson Award belongs to the 120,000 innocent persons of Japanese ancestry who suffered an unjust incarceration during WW II, and it must be shared with the 3608 of us of the Monterey Bay region who were imprisoned at the Salinas Assembly Center—the old Salinas Rodeo Grounds—without charges, attorneys, trial, or due process of law. My federal prison number is 12524 D. To quote Gordon Hirabayashi, “Ancestry is not a crime!”

“With the present administration, our work for civil rights and social justice continues.

“I am forever grateful to the public and private school teachers of 3rd, 5th, 8th, high school, and university students who invite me each year to speak about the racism that led to our incarceration. I am grateful, too, to the students who have taken our story of injustice to heart.

Above: Raising their hands are the 3rd graders of “School of the Arts” at Alianza School in Watsonville.

Instructor Sera Hirotsuna (far left) introduced Mas to the Gavilan College students in Gilroy.

“To the Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter of the National Japanese American Citizens League (the JACL), thank you for your continuing support!

“Thank you, Tom Lopez, Bianca Beltran, and others of KSBW-TV for covering our continuing story on TV.

“Thank you, KSBW-TV and Union Bank.”

[PS: To those of you who have written or called, thank you for your kind words of support.]

15 years ago, on April 27, 2002, we reenacted our wartime incarceration. We must remain vigilant.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS
Charles “Rusty” and Reba Arao Condon.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EDUCATION FUND
We are grateful for each and every donation for it permits us to carry out our mission. You may donate to Greatest Need, Scholarship/Education or Newsletter. Thank you, members and friends.

Newsletter
Hon. Judge Raymond Uno (ret.) of Salt Lake City, UT
Gary Kono

DONATIONS, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM...
Joyce Kubota in memory of husband George Kubota
In honor of Mas Hashimoto, Jefferson Award nominee
Esther Ura
Chiyoko Shikuma
Joe Bowes toward the restoration of the Salinas Japanese Memorial Garden

JOIN US--WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JACL
If you are not now a member of the National JACL, please consider joining our W-SC JACL chapter.

If you are a member, please consider gifting family members and relatives their membership dues for 2017. We are a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, educational, civil rights organization. Our tax deductible federal ID is #94-2659895.

Annual membership dues are $80 for individual, $150 for couples, and $25 for youth between the ages of 14 and 25.

Yes, you don’t have to be a Japanese American to be a member. You don’t have to be a US citizen. You must be an advocate for justice and for civil rights for all.

Current members, please look at the date after your name on the address label. E. Txxxx 3/17 means your membership expired back in March 2017! Please renew before your membership’s expiration month. Marcia who sends renewal reminders will be very grateful.

If you have moved or are planning to move, please let us know your new address. Please do not mail to our Kizuka Hall address on Blackburn Street.

Our mailing address is: W-SC JACL, P. O. Box 163, Watsonville, CA 95077.

Thank you for reading this May 2017 newsletter. Comments are always welcome at hashi79@sbcglobal.net.

For our full, living color newsletter, log onto http://watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org, Newsletter, then the month.

Onward!
Mas Hashimoto, Editor
Mr. Baisho Matsumoto has been a professional musician for over 40 years, performing throughout Japan and internationally. He is a renown master of Tsugaru Shamisen, Akita Shamisen, and other styles of folk music. His performance will include Shakuhachi, a Japanese end-blown flute known for its rich tone coloring and variation.

Friday
May 19, 2017
2:30 PM
Doors open at 2 PM

Kizuka Hall
150 Blackburn St.
Watsonville, CA 95076

Admission: Free
THE WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ JA CL 2017 ANNUAL

Community Picnic

Free admission! Join us for a day of family fun! Everyone is welcome!

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017

11:00 AM — 4:30 PM

APTOS VILLAGE PARK
100 APTOS CREEK RD.

GPS: N 36 58.644, W 121 54.154

For more information, contact the Watsonville-Santa Cruz Japanese American Citizens League:
Email: wsc.jacl@gmail.com or visit us at http://www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org

General public parking is at the upper lot area.
Clearance is needed for fire trucks, so there is no parking along the driveway down to the park.

Lower parking area is reserved for our volunteers, Seniors, handicapped, and Watsonville Taiko.

Featured Entertainment

Watsonville Taiko

Lunch

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

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<th>TEENS &amp; ADULTS 69 YEARS</th>
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Parking is limited – Please Carpool!

11:00-Noon
Races and Senior Bingo

Noon
Watsonville Taiko

12:25
Scholarship Presentations

12:45
LUNCH!

1:45-3:00
More Races and Senior Bingo

3:00
Ice Cream Social

3:10-4:30
Raffle! with many great prizes!
No Increase in the 2016 – 2017 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.