PACIFIC CITIZEN

Special Holiday Issue

TOGETHER AGAIN

PHOTO:
PIXABAY.COM

#3422 VOL. 175 #11 NEWSSTAND $5/POSTPAID $8

DEC. 16, 2022-JAN. 26, 2023

Ventura County

Season's Greetings

KEITH and SHARON

HARADA

Happy Holidays

Janet Kajihara
Alan and Julia Miyamoto

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Karen, Daniel and
John Kikuchi

Season's Greetings

Ben Wada

HAPPY NEW YEAR
Ventura County
JACL web site

www.vcjacl.org

Happy New Year from
the Oxnard Buddhist Temple!
See you soon!

In gassho,
The OBT Sangha
250 South H St., Oxnard, California 93030
Tel. (805) 483-5948
Website: www.oxnardbuddhisttemple.org
Email: mail@oxnardbuddhisttemple.org

Toshi's Hair Design

3639 LAS POSAS RD. Ste E 125
CAMARILLO, Ca. 93010

MANICURIST
HAIRSTYLING
FOR MEN AND WOMEN
987-6240

Happy Holidays

To our friends in
Ventura and Riverside JACL

Francis and Gayle Fujioka

---

in memory of

Susan Hogan
Kinoshita

TAMAI Family Farms

Happy Holidays from Tamai Family Farms!
Tamai Family Farms www.tamaifamilyfarms.com
Follow us on IG and FB @TamaiFamilyFarms

Sharon Miyahira

REALTOR

805-444-5622



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices | California Realty

Email: homes@SharonM.com
Web: www.SharonM.com

350 N. Lantana, Suite G-1, Camarillo, CA 93010
A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

Capric PROPERTIES inc.

ID# 00937746

JULIE HIRAISHI
Broker

Office: (805) 987-4746
Cell: (805) 377-3665

email: capric.properties@gmail.com

P.O. Box 1532
Camarillo, CA 93011

Mele Kalikimaka

The Miyasaka Family

Season's Greetings
from: Chuck, Amy, Cate and Laura Kuniyoshi

Merry Christmas!

Please join us for a Christmas celebration service
on Sunday December 25 10:30 a.m.

Japanese American Christian Chapel
300 Mission Drive Camarillo, CA 90310 (805)384-9333

吾妻菊寿恵

Azuma Kikusue

Classical Japanese Dance
Instructor/Choreographer
Classes - age 4 to adult

808.651.2061 cell; 866.647.8518 FAX
kikusue.azuma@gmail.com
www.azuma-us.com

Happy New Year

The Kujiraoka's
Scott, Yasuko, Kevin, and Keith

SEASONS GREETINGS

Frank & Betty Hiji Family

VISION ANALYSIS
CONTACT LENSES

Member
American Optometric Association

Dr. Kevin K. Hirano
OPTOMETRIST

3185 OLD CONEJO ROAD
NEWBURY PARK, CA 91320

TEL (805) 499-0454
FAX (805) 499-8314

"When it's time to buy, sell or lease your home, you need professionals who understand the meaning of success."

Happy Holidays!

Leading The Way
Aviara REAL ESTATE

Direct: (805) 418-2675
Cell: (805) 444-7862
NateHarimoto@gmail.com

www.HarimotoHaas.com
Nate License #00980556 Shane License #01505864



NATE HARIMOTO | SHANE HAAS
Aviara Real Estate

MAYEDA FARMS, INC.
dba Mayeda Cut Flower Company

3006 Etting Road
Oxnard, CA 93033
Tel: 805-488-1538
Fax: 805-488-1170

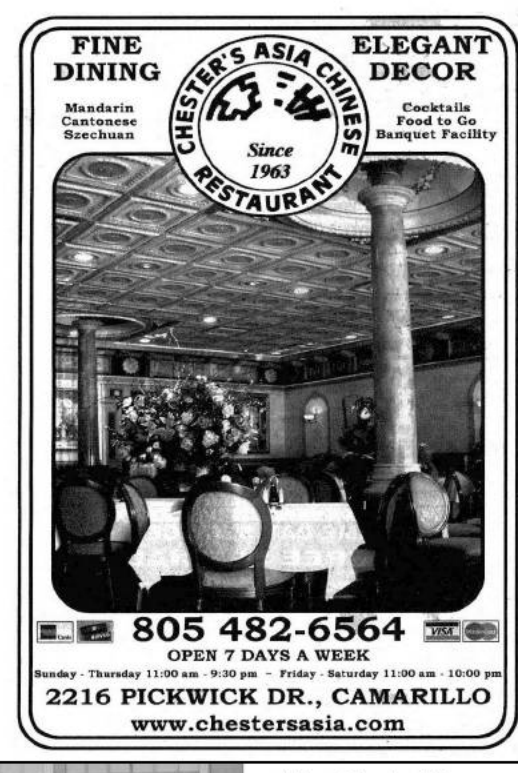


(805) 485-8302
FAX (805) 485-7027
jyncoinc@aol.com

James Y. Nakamura Co., Inc.

GARY Y. NAKAMURA

5900 N. ROSE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 1172
OXNARD, CA 93032



805 482-6564
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Sunday - Thursday 11:00 am - 9:30 pm – Friday - Saturday 11:00 am - 10:00 pm
2216 PICKWICK DR., CAMARILLO
www.chestersasia.com

In Loving Memory
of Jim Tsukida

Dignity, a brighter future, peace, abundant life to all

Love,
Dorene

---

608 S. A Street
Oxnard, CA 93030

Tuesday-Sunday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fridays till 8 p.m.

Otani's
SEAFOOD
Family Owned Since 1952

www.Otanis-Seafood.com
fb.com/OtanisInOxnard
TANI BALDONADO

Phone: (805) 483-6519
Fax: (805) 483-5901
KAREN OTANI BALDONADO

Jessica M. Wan

Attorney
e: jwan@fcoplaw.com
p: (805) 659-6800, x211

IP, employment, and business law



Joanie Miyashiro-Brennan
1958 - 2015

We miss our loving sister, aunt, wife and great aunt!

Mark and Anne Chilcott & Family

Aloha 'Oe Until We Meet Again



Aiko Ogata King
1927 - 2022

- Beloved friend
- Ventura County chapter member
- Co-founder of Stamp Our Story Campaign
- Passionate recycler

Ventura County

VENTURA COUNTY JACL

2022 High School Scholarship Recipients:

Noah Browne
Recipient of the Yoshiro "Yosh" Katsura Memorial Scholarship

Carter Kawaguchi
Recipient of the Harry Hitoshi Kajihara Memorial Scholarship

Kiena Tan
Recipient of the Dr. Tom Taketa Scholarship

Best wishes during this holiday season from the Ventura County Chapter!

Happy Holidays from
Nathan, Tanya, Abby, and Mika Inouye



Season's Greetings
June Kondo and Reiko Kondo



VENTURA COUNTY
Chapter Members and Friends

Katsumi Jimmy Arimura
Victor Kato, DDS (ret.)
Betty Katsura
Roy & Emi Kodama
Gladys Kohatsu
Ken Tsubota
Dorene Tsukida
Ken & Lily Sugino
Yuzo & Gene Matsutsuyu
Edwin & Marcia Miyasaka
Ken & Joanne Nakano
Yas & Claudia Umeda
Jo Ann Van Reenan & Les Kopel
Jessica & Christopher Wan
Megan Gately & Eric Cancino
Lily Anne & Jason Tamai
Mieko Hiroshima
Shig & Irene Yabu

Happy Holidays
The Ventura County JACL would like to thank our Chapter Supporters and Holiday Issue Advertisers. Your generous support helps fund our scholarship awards and sustain our cultural and community events.

Santa Barbara



San Diego

Holiday Greetings!
from the San Diego JACL

SAN DIEGO JACL EST. 1932
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE



Alex Yamashiro
Carol Tohsaku
Cory Mitsui*
Joanne Hayakawa
Jon Yokoyama*
Dr. Leo Tanaka
Michael Kurima*
Dr. Mits Tomita
Rob Shinno
Taiga Takahashi*
Tamami Yoshida
*2022 Officers

Hoping everyone has a wonderful 2023!

MERRY *Christmas*
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR



Arizona

Peace,
Love,
Unity

JACL Arizona Chapter

PSWDC

Wishing you all and safe and healthy holiday!
From the PSWD Board

Ryan Yoshikawa- Governor Nancy Takayama- Vice Governor

Lana Kobayashi- Youth Representative

Andrew Gruhn- Secretary Alayne Yonemoto- Treasurer

Lily Anne Welty Tamai- Member-at-Large

JACL
Pacific Southwest District

Riverside

William Takano and family
Mark Takano
Douglas and Helen Takano and Mia
Derrick and Judy Takano
Riley and Julia Takano, Aria and Cadence
Nick and Paula Takano
Gerry and Angela Takano, Erin

Happy Holidays
Gordon & Rei Okabayashi

Happy Holidays!
Judy Lee,
Lee & Koga Family

Happy Holidays
Best Wishes to everyone in the New Year
Kenny & Gina Kamoto

Social Justice through Unity **2023**
CLYDE and KATHERINE WILSON

Merry Christmas
Jennifer & Al Betancourt



May your days be merry & bright this holiday season and throughout 2023.
Dolly & Irene Ogata

Merry Christmas
Michiko Yoshimura,
James and Yoshie Butler

Happy Holidays from the Riverside Chapter!

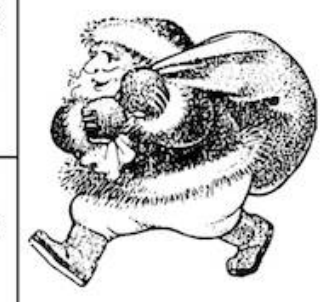
Home of the Harada House
"A powerful civil rights landmark."

Harada House Foundation
National Historic Landmark
haradahousefoundation.org

Seasons Greetings
Beverly Inaba

Happy Holidays !
Doug Urata and Alice Roe
djurata@aol.com

Happy Holidays
Akio and Helen Yoshikawa



Peace and Joy
Richard and Anne Mikami, Meiko Inaba, Doug and Resa Inaba, Gary and Laurie Oshiro

Happy Holiday Wishes
Tim and Aki Caszatt



Season's Greetings

FROM CONGRESSMAN MARK TAKANO

Thank you for all that you do. Let's make 2023 a great year!

PAID FOR BY MARK TAKANO FOR CONGRESS

SELANOCO

HAPPY
Holidays!
From
Tomo no Kai
友の会

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year wishes
from Betty and Ken Yamashiro

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM
THE INOUYE FAMILY
Kenneth and May
Nicole, Eric, Amelia and Grace
Erin, Steve, Langston and Paxton
Shannon and David
Huntington Beach, CA

Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!
Frank & Joan Kawase
Brea, CA

Happy Holidays
from
Todd Hasegawa
and
Family

Happy Holidays
Tao Family
Alan, Alice & Kenny

Holiday Greetings from the
Matsubara Family

WATANABE & SUEMORI, LLP

NATHAN KAWATA WATANABE
ATTORNEY AT LAW

17592 IRVINE BLVD., STE 202
TUSTIN, CALIFORNIA 92780
TEL: (714) 838-8755
FAX: (714) 838-7425
nathan.watanabe@wslilplaw.com

3820 DEL AMO BLVD., STE 352
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA 90503
TEL (310) 793-1201
FAX: (310) 371-1218
www.wslilplaw.com

PACIFIC CITIZEN

123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 206
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213) 620-1767
Email: pc@pacificcitizen.org
Website: www.pacificcitizen.org
© 2021-2022 The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semimonthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League. *Pacific Citizen*
123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 206
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Periodical postage paid at Los Angeles, CA
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National JACL
1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115
OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES: JACL MEMBERS: $12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. NONMEMBERS: 1 year – $50 payable in advance. Additional postage per year — $50 International Delivery. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodical postage paid at Los Angeles, Calif.

Permission: No part of this publication may be reproduced without express permission of the publisher. Copying for other than personal or internal reference use without the express permission of P.C. is prohibited.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR:
ALLISON HARAMOTO

SENIOR EDITOR, DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA:
GEORGE T. JOHNSTON

BUSINESS MANAGER:
SUSAN YOKOYAMA

CIRCULATION MANAGER:
EVA LAU-TING

PRODUCTION DESIGNER:
MARIE SAMONTE

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT:
CINDY SIU

NEWS AD DEADLINE FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication.
We reserve the right to edit articles.

Pacific Citizen Editorial Board: John Saito Jr., chairperson; Rob Buscher, EDC; Ron Kuramoto, MDC; Marcia Chung, CCDC; Nancy Ukai, NCWNPDC; Sheldon Arakaki, PNWDC; Michaela Ishino, IDC; Vacant, PSWDC; Marco Torrez, Youth Rep.

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
1765 SUTTER ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94115
TEL: (415) 921-5225; FAX: (415) 931-4671

Founded in 1929, JACL is the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization with a 10,000 membership base. JACL has 112 chapters nationwide and a Washington, D.C., office and a national headquarters in San Francisco. JACL's mission is to secure and uphold the human and civil rights of Japanese Americans and all Americans while preserving our cultural heritage and values.

National Board
President: Larry Oda; VP General Operations: Carol Kawamoto; VP Public Affairs: Seia Watanabe; VP Planning and Development: David Lin; VP Membership: Dominique Mashburn; Secretary/Treasurer: Victor Kimura; National Youth/Student Council Chair: Mika Chan; NY/SC Youth Representative: Sheera Tamura; District Governors: Carol Kawase, NCWNP; Dale Ikeda, CCDC; Ryan Yoshikawa, PSW; Sheldon Arakaki, PNW; Lisa Olsen, IDC; Eric Langowski, MDC; Michael Asada, EDC

National Staff
Executive Director: David Inoue; NCWNP Regional Director: Patty Wada; Program Director, Membership & Fund Development: Phillip Ozaki; Education & Communications Coordinator: Matthew Weisbly; Youth & Programs Manager: Cheyenne Cheng; Membership Coordinator: Ashley Bucher; Operations Manager: Bridgette Watson; Membership/Database Administrator: Tomiko Ismail
Patty Wada, Director

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



PHOTO: NINI KVARATSKHELI@ PIXABAY.COM

Together again! Well . . . as much as we can be, which for now is a huge step forward after enduring nearly three years of being apart from family, friends, coworkers and pretty much the world. Although it's definitely going to take some adjustments on everyone's part to figure out what we're comfortable with, establishing our new "normal" is something that I believe everyone is more than ready to try. "Nice to see you!" It sure feels great to say that again!

As such, visibility remains a key component at the heart of this year's Holiday Issue theme, "Together Again," as the *Pacific Citizen* worked tirelessly in 2022 to spotlight stories that otherwise might have gone unnoticed due to the pandemic bubble from which we're only now being able to emerge.

Highlights of 2022 included wartime artifacts and a 1947 list of JACL East Bay chapter members that were found in the crawl space of an Oakland home, a Santa Clara County judge's efforts to travel across the country to gain the signatures of people affected by the World War II incarceration on 48-star flags to keep the lessons of the Japanese American experience alive, welcoming Amache into the National Park Service as a National Historic Site, USC righting a wrong by conferring honorary degrees to Nisei Trojans whose education was halted by EO 9066, AAPI storytellers carrying on Vincent Chin's legacy 40 years following his death and highlighting "Defining Courage," which captured more than 20 years of stories focused on the contributions by Nisei soldiers who served during WWII.

These stories show us that no matter our challenges, together we'll continue to bring AAPI stories into the spotlight and ensure they're part of the national discussion. Today more than ever, the *Pacific Citizen* is committed to forging ahead and making connections vital to ensuring our community's long-term sustainability. As we approach year 100, let's work as one to accomplish our mission. Together again, let's be unstoppable.

— Allison Haramoto,
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

08 TABEMASHO!
By George Toshio Johnston

12 TOGETHER AGAIN, AND IT'S TIME TO TAKE SOME RISKS
By David Inoue

13 GOTV: REFLECTIONS FROM A FIRST-TIME CANVASSER
By Bridget Keaveney

13 SIGNING ON IN REMEMBRANCE OF HISTORY AND MY FAMILY
By Michael Tanaka

16 *YOUR* WORDS BRING US TOGETHER
By Lynda Lin Grigsby

21 THE OVERLAPPING STORIES OF REPARATORY JUSTICE
By P.C. Staff

21 NATIONAL NEWS
By JACL National

24 WELCOMING OUR STORIES
By Patti Hirahara

28 FRED KATAYAMA SIGNS OFF FROM JOURNALISM
By George Toshio Johnston

32 SAN FRANCISCO JAPANTOWN IS BACK
By Emily Murase

35 EATING . . . TOGETHER AGAIN
By Gil Asakawa

36 HEART MOUNTAIN: THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN CONCENTRATION CAMP
By Ray Locker

41 A BOND THICKER THAN BLOOD
By Patti Hirahara

47 THE HEALING POWER OF CONNECTION
By Marsha Aizumi

48 BUILDING CONNECTIONS TOGETHER
By JACL NY/SC

50 UHM'S DENNIS OGAWA HONORED WITH PROFESSOR EMERITUS STATUS
By George Toshio Johnston

52 CONFINEMENT SITE MEMORIALS OF REMEMBRANCE AND REPAIR
By Nancy Ukai

56 U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS SHOULD BE A JAPANESE AMERICAN PRIORITY
By Rob Buscher

59 BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM AARP
By Scott Tanaka

59 TOGETHER AGAIN — COMFORTING THE TERMINALLY ILL
By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

60 OBITUARIES: IN REMEMBRANCE 2022
By P.C. Staff

JACL CHAPTER AD INDEX

Alaska.....19
Arizona 4
Berkeley 14,15,18,19
Boise Valley 34
Chicago.....44,45
Contra Costa..... 26
Dayton 39
Detroit 38
Eden Township 22
Fresno 20
GLA.....46
Hoosier 46
Houston 38
Livingston-Merced.....20
Lodi 26
Marysville 34
Mile High 39,40
Mount Olympus 46
Monterey Peninsula 20
New England 46
New Mexico 38
Olympia 23
Philadelphia 46
Pocatello-Blackfoot 38
Portland 27
Puyallup Valley 46
Reno 22
Riverside 4
Salinas Valley..... 23
San Diego 3
San Fernando Valley 6,7,10,11
San Jose 23
Santa Barbara 3
Seabrook.....22
Seattle 23
SELANOCO 4
Silicon Valley 34
Snake River 20
Sonoma County 22
St. Louis 38
Stockton 30,31
Twin Cities 39
Venice-West L.A. 11
Ventura County 2,3
Wasatch 20
Watsonville-Santa Cruz.....34

DISTRICT COUNCILS
Central California..... 20
Eastern 38
Intermountain 34
Midwest 38
N. Cal Western Nevada Pacific 22
Pacific Northwest 34
Pacific Southwest 4

San Fernando Valley

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Best Wishes for 2023

muranaka farm inc.

Charles Muranaka, President

San Fernando Valley

Happy Holidays
Yas & Nancy Gohata

Good wishes in 2023
Mary Endo

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
Taro & Mary Ishimoto

Season's Greetings
Hazel Isa

Season's Greetings
Elaine & Gary Saito



Happy Holidays
Setsuko Sato

A Happy & Healthy Holiday To All
From Jack Takeshita and Linda Kuratomi and all the grandkids



Happy Holidays
Ronald & Jean Tsukashima

Greetings!
Kay & Kyoko Nancy Oda

Happy Holidays



Carol Taylor

Grateful for Poston Pilgrimage



October 21-22, 2022

Miyata-Negoro Family

Telesis PHYSICAL THERAPY progress in motion

Derrick T. Isa, MPT, DPT • Bryan Arias, MPT, DPT • Crista Taylor, MPT, DPT
Hannah Silverman, MPT, DPT • Ashley Miller, DPT

Thousand Oaks
T: 805.777.1023 • F: 805.777.3493
550 St. Charles Drive, Suite 100
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Camarillo
T: 805.388.3055 • F: 805.388.3611
400 Camarillo Ranch Rd. Suite 108
Camarillo, CA 93012

www.telesisphysicaltherapy.com



Season's Greetings
Phil & Marion Shigekuni

Happy Holidays!
Jean-Paul deGuzman, Ph.D.
Historian | Author | Teacher | Public Speaker
jpdeguzman.weebly.com | jpd73619@ucla.edu



Happy Holidays
Remi, Paul, Cameron & Sofia
Scolari

IN MEMORY OF MY PARENTS:
GEORGE MASATO TOKUNAGA
HARUE (HANAMOTO) TOKUNAGA AND MY BROTHER, ALLAN HIDEKI TOKUNAGA
by Michiko Tokunaga Kus

IN MEMORIAM



Big Al Has Gone Fishing

Allan Hideki Tokunaga

February 03, 1943 -
July 13, 2021

Former Owner of Tri-Arts Silk Screening

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

San Fernando Valley Chapter
Chapter Officers and Board Members

Jean-Paul deGuzman	Tomo Hattori
Lana Kobayashi	Michiko Tokunaga Kus
Mitzi Kushida	Marcia Mahony
Kyoko Nancy Oda	Marion Shigekuni
Phil Shigekuni	Geri Shiraki
Patricia Takayama	Linda Tanaka
Jami Tanihana	Jaclyn Tomita
Kiyo Fukumoto	May Wood

Barbara Okita - Secretary
May Wood - Treasurer
Nancy Takayama - President

San Fernando Valley JACL
Civil Rights • Justice

Season's Greeting

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

(818) 899-1989
12953 Branford St., Pacoima, CA 91331



Thank you SFV JACL
for your continued support of the San Fernando Valley Community

Harrison S. Reed

Seasons Greetings
50th Year Anniversary
Tri-Arts
Custom Apparel

New Owner
Bruce Schaefer
(818) 982-4236
TriArts@aol.com

7854 Lankershim Blvd.
North Hollywood, CA 91306

TriArts.com



Happy Holidays

TYSON & GINA TANAKA



The Asakawa family at Benihana restaurant in Virginia, where they enjoyed a meal with a family friend. Asakawa, in his own words, is the "chubby third one from the right, ready to pounce with my hashi."

PHOTOS: GIL ASAKAWA

'Tabemasho!'

FAMILIAR AS MOM'S HOME COOKING

Author Gil Asakawa traces the paths Japanese food took to be loved in America.

By George Toshio Johnston, Senior Editor

Of the three books Denver-based journalist Gil Asakawa has written — 1991's "The Toy Book" (with his pal, Leland Rucker) and 2015's "Being Japanese American: A Sourcebook for Nikkei, Hapa … and Their Friends" — it's likely safe to say that his new one is closest to his heart.

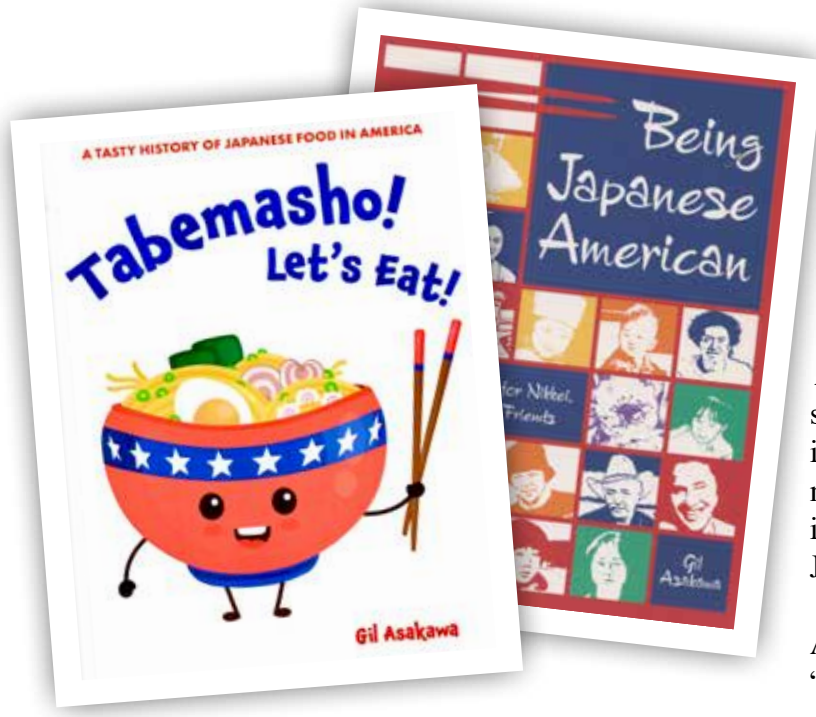
That's because the foodophile's stomach is heart-adjacent.

"Tabemasho! Let's Eat!: A Tasty History of Japanese Food in America" *(p-ISBN 978-1-61172-068-6; SRP $18.95),* published in August by Stone Bridge Press, is Asakawa's informative and chatty exploration-cum memoir of the sundry Japanese foods he grew up with, mixed with his memories of first encounters with those victuals and his historical research on how many of those foods originated, with some actually reaching these shores to become as American as pizza pie.

"I really had a lot of fun writing it," Asakawa told the *Pacific Citizen,* for which he has in the past served on its Editorial Board, including more than one stint as *P.C.* board chair.

"I think it's fascinating and important to cover, not just kind of the tradition in the history of Japanese food in Japan, but how it adapted to suit the tastes of Americans and follow how it became popular and why it became popular," Asakawa continued. For instance, he gives credit to the restaurant chain Benihana, which, as he puts it, "is what made Japanese food safe for Middle America."

Although it might simply appear to be a case of "write what you know," since Asakawa is one of those gourmands who regularly posts photos of his latest feasts of all kinds of cuisines on his social media feeds, turning his particular passion for Japanese — and Japanese American — foods into a book was, ahem, "natto" as easy it might seem, despite having a Hokkaido-born Japanese mother and Hawaii-born Japanese American father.



Author Gil Asakawa's books are a celebration of Japanese American history and heritage.

"I did a lot of research, and I learned a lot of stuff to write 'Tabemasho!' Asakawa said. "I was surprised at how much I didn't know about the food that I love." In other words, even if you've grown up around it, there is still something about Asakawa's deep dive into learning about Japanese food that you probably did not know.

Part of Asakawa's journey into *Nihonshoku* includes "foreign" foods like ramen and curry — arguably even tonkatsu —that have become part of the modern menu of foods Japanese people eat nowadays.

"One of the things that I've learned about Japanese food in general is that a lot of the things that we think of as Japanese food didn't originate in Japan and are not necessarily traditional in the historical sense," Asakawa pointed out. For example, curry is so popular in Japan that many people there eat it at least once a week. But Japanese curry is not like curry from India. The Japanee "took it from the British and then adapted it for the Japanese palette."

Speaking of menus, one of the items Asakawa used in his research for "Tabemasho!" was a 1952 menu from Los Angeles restaurant Imperial Gardens that provides a snapshot of what Japanese food used to mean to people in America. The restaurant's menu "only featured three kinds of food," said Asakawa. "Sukiyaki, teriyaki and tempura. Those three were the mains."

But, in fairness, it was still the early 1950s, not too far removed from the end of World War II, when what most non-Japanese Americans knew of Japanese food was what American GIs coming back from the occupation of Japan remembered eating.

Ironically, Asakawa noted that in Denver, "It's hard to find a Japanese restaurant that will serve sukiyaki anymore — but that used to be the standard." In "Tabemasho!" Asakawa, once a former music critic for Denver's alt-weekly *Westword,* relays that the erstwhile popularity of sukiyaki the dish is why the 1963 No. 1 pop hit in America, "Sukiyaki," aka "Ue o Muite Arukō," got its name.



Gil Asakawa enjoys a meal with the *P.C.* staff.



Gil Asakawa captures a photo of his meal before digging in.



Enjoying that last bit of a fine Japanese meal

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF GIL ASAKAWA

In "Tabemasho!" Asakawa also gives ink to hugely popular Japanese American dishes — spam musubi, the California roll (with avocado as an ingredient) and mochi ice cream, for example — that might be difficult to find on any menu in Japan. Yet, those are examples of what were in actuality fusion cuisine (before that became a label) borne of the necessity of using local ingredients, whatever was available or plain old Yankee ingenuity.

Part of Asakawa's fascination with Japanese food also comes from being old enough to remember when Japanese food was a punchline. Seaweed?! Yuck! Sushi? With raw fish?! Eeew!

Today, when supermarkets selling prepackaged sushi are ubiquitous, some young people might find that hard to believe. But Asakawa remembers how in the 1985 movie "The Breakfast Club," the character played by Molly Ringwald was mocked by Judd Nelson's character for bringing sushi for lunch. (That just might be par for the course, however, since the movie's writer-director was John Hughes, who was also repugnantly responsible for Long Duk Dong in 1984's "Sixteen Candles.")

Fast-forward to the end of the 1980s, though, and Asakawa notes that "Michael J. Fox was on the cover of *Esquire* magazine eating a plate of sushi." The image of Japanese food — for the majority of white Americans, at least — was changing.

But Fox and *Esquire* can only claim partial credit for the changing perception of Japanese food in America. Another factor: instant ramen. Originally developed in the 1950s by Momofuku Ando, an immigrant from Taiwan, instant ramen, followed in the 1970s by Cup Noodle, were hits in Japan.

"Because it was so damn cheap," both versions, especially the square noodle brick version, would also find footing in the U.S. with hungry and impoverished college students — no doubt still true — "even though it wasn't the world's greatest ramen." It may have, however, been the unintentional gateway to seeking out better ramen. For the past few years on these shores, ramen restaurants, many of which are U.S. outposts of Japan-based chains, have been getting rated and reviewed by "ramen connoisseurs" on social media sites.

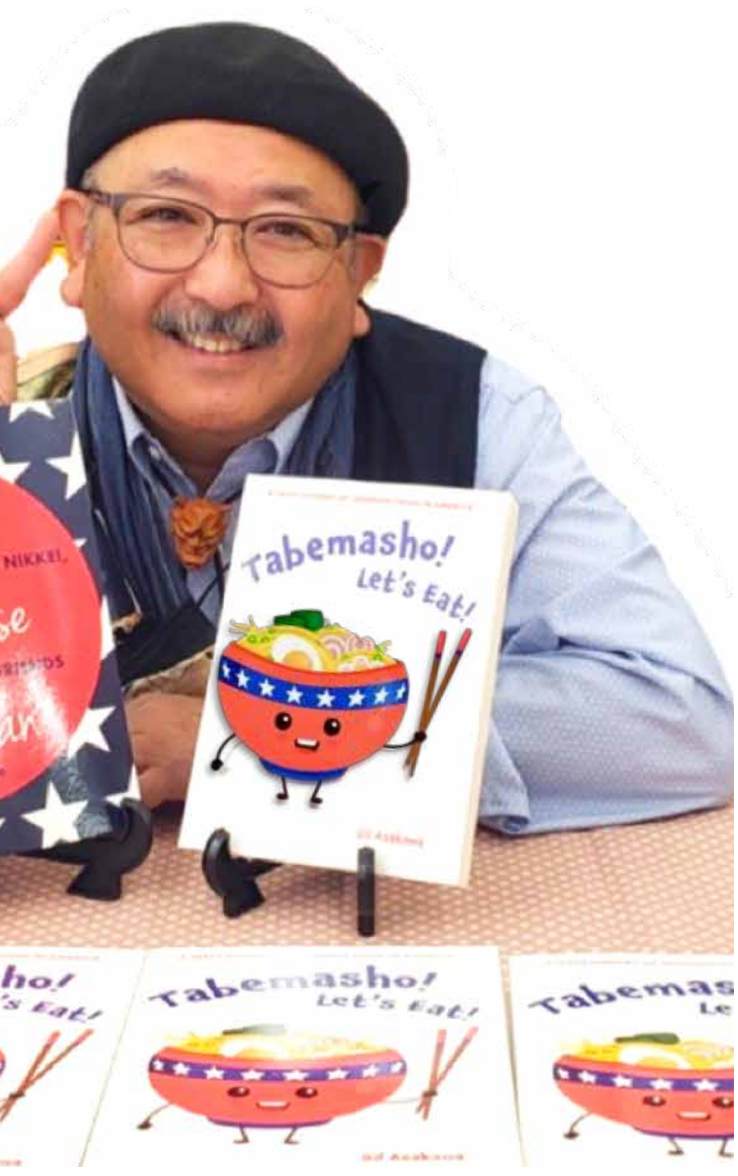
Combined with the continued soft power appeal of Hello Kitty, manga and anime, the popularity of Japanese baseball players like Shohei Ohtani and progression of acceptance through the decades of Japanese foods from sukiyaki to sushi to ramen, Asakawa's timing for "Tabemasho!" is a recipe for success.

As for what Japanese food item might be next to find American fans, Asakawa knows it would be foolhardy to hazard a guess, though he thinks yakisoba might have a chance to cross over.

For Asakawa, it's far easier to predict the foods that will probably never stand a chance of crossing over, for a variety of reasons. Horse and whale, for instance. Natto — mucilaginous and funky fermented soybeans — remains another unlikely candidate. For Calpis, as it's known in Japan, to stand a chance in the U.S. market, the beverage had to be rebranded as Calpico. One of his personal favorites is *karintō,* which he says has a striking resemblance to what you'd find in your cat's litterbox. (Despite that imagery, *karintō's* coloring and sweetness come from a brown sugar coating, which gives it its dark color. Appearances can be deceiving, after all.)

Asakawa just hopes that anyone who reads "Tabemasho!" finishes with a couple of outcomes.

"I hope it makes them hungry," he said. "And I hope it makes them want to try different kinds of Japanese food." ■



Asakawa has been traveling the country on a book tour, happy to talk about his love of all things Japanese, especially food.



Michael J. Fox was featured on the cover of *Esquire* magazine in the late 1980s with a plate of sushi, sparking conversation about its growing popularity in America.

San Fernando Valley

West Valley Nursery
House & Garden Plants & Supplies

19035 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 342-2623

Hours: 8:00 - 4:30
Sun. 9:00 - 4:00
Closed Thurs.

Holiday Wishes for a
Blessed Christmas and New Year!

Sunrise Japanese Foursquare Church

Sunday AM Service 10:30am
5853 Laurel Canyon Blvd.
Valley Village, CA 91607

Mailing Address:
14705 Wyandotte St.
Van Nuys, CA 91405

Rev. Paul Iwata
Rev. James Iwata

818-782-8738 818-642-2332

Happy Holidays

Mas & Norma JeanYamashita

Tracie & Corey Dye - Chris & Marian Yamashita

Grandchildren
McKen-Z & Brendan Leong

Peace & Joy

Dr. Mark & Mrs. Loreen Uyehara and Sarah

15989 Yarnell St., Sylmar, CA 91342

Happy Holidays
Peace and Goodwill

Mr. George Sugimoto

Happy Holidays

WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR ALL WHO ARE USING THEIR VISIBILITY AND AND VOICE TO CREATE A SAFER MORE RESPECTFUL WORLD FOR OUR NIKKEI LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY.

LOVING HEARTS = PEACE

THE AIZUMI FAMILY
TAD, MARSHA, STEFEN, AIDEN AND MARY

Best Wishes to JACL!

JT Engineering Associates, Inc.

JASON TANI

Specializing in residential, structural engineering (new construction, remodels, additions and seismic evaluations)
since 1995
jtengr@gmail.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023!
San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
invites you to join us

SUNDAY SERVICES
SHOTSUKI - MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICES

NEW YEAR PARTY & SILENT AUCTION
UDON
CHILI/BINGO NIGHT
OBON FESTIVAL
CHOW MEIN
MOCHITSUKI
and much more
(Please contact SFVHBT for details)

9450 REMICK AVE, PACOIMA CA 91331
(818) 899-4030 sfvhbt.org sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org
DHARMA SCHOOL * SANGHA TEENS * JR YBA * BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOC

Thank you for your continued support!

Happy Holidays!
Flora Teramura

Peace and Joy
Kara & Shaun Tanaka

Happy New Year!
Michael Taheri

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

GARY & AKEMI YANO

Wishing you peace & joy this Christmas!

LAURIE SHIGEKUNI
& ASSOCIATES

LAURIE SHIGEKUNI
ATTORNEY AT LAW

CONTACT@CALESTATEPLANNING.COM

415.584.4550
800.417.5250
415.584.4553 FAX

2555 OCEAN AVE SUITE 202
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94132

951 MARINERS ISLAND BLVD SUITE 300
SAN MATEO, CA 94404

225 S LAKE AVE SUITE 300
PASADENA, CA 91101

WWW.CALESTATEPLANNING.COM

Happy Holidays from the Kushida family!

- Akemi
- AL
- Cherylee
- Christopher
- Doreen
- Jose
- Kai
- Keiko
- Mitzi
- Michael

Holiday Cheers!
Mrs. Ikuyo Sakaguchi

Happy Holidays
Paul Chan, Kim Gohata, Kenyon & Kendall

Happy Holidays
From
SFVJACC Athletics

http://www.sfvjacc.com/Athletics.htm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Geri Shiraki
Moose Iwanaga

Holiday Greetings!

Karen Yoshino

Happy Holidays
Emi Hino

Peace & Joy
George & Barbara
NAKATSU

In loving memory of
Ted and Chieko Iida
Lorraine & Keith, Doug & Chris,
Calvin, Robert & Diana
Nicole, Bryan & Jeannette,
Kevin, Drew & Tamara

BIRD | MARELLA P.C.
BIRD • MARELLA • BOXER • WOLPERT • NESSIM • DROOKS • LINCENBERG • RHOW

PAUL S. CHAN
Attorney
pchan@birdmarella.com

1875 Century Park East, 23rd Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90067-2561
Telephone: (310) 201-2100
Facsimile: (310) 201-2110
www.BirdMarella.com

San Fernando Valley

Best Wishes

DRS. DAVID & DONNA UYEHARA

Happy Holidays

Tom Doi
Marcia Mahony

Happy Holidays!
from
Kiyo, Hailey, Connor Fukumoto
and Kase Clark



Happy New Year!
Looking forward to 2023
Dennis, Barbara & Kyle
Okita

Happy Holidays
Dale Kadonaga and Family

Happy Holidays
Linda Tanaka

CHIBA

Japanese Restaurant - Sushi
SHIG CHIBA

7515 Lankershim Blvd, North Hollywood, CA 91605
(Lankershim & Cohasset)
818-765-9119

Lunch:	Monday-Friday	11:30 AM - 2:30 PM
Dinner:	Monday-Thursday	5:30 PM - 9:30 PM
	Friday-Saturday	5:30 PM -10:30 PM
	Sunday	5:00 PM - 9:30 PM

Paul Marc & Company
CHERRY DEGUCHI
Hair Stylist
4345 Woodman Ave
Sherman Oaks CA, 91423

(818) 616-3552

MICHAEL J. ARZOUMAN D.D.S., INC.
DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PERIODONTOLOGY
AKEMI K. ARZOUMAN D.M.D., M.S.
DIPLOMATE OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PERIODONTOLOGY
PERIODONTICS & IMPLANTS

705 W. LA VETA AVE., SUITE 104
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA 92868
(714) 744-9100

WWW.DRARZOUMAN.COM

龍
SUSHI DRAGON
AUTHENTIC JAPANESE RESTAURANT
8069 VINELAND AVE
SUN VALLEY, CA 91352
818-394-9313
sushidragon.net

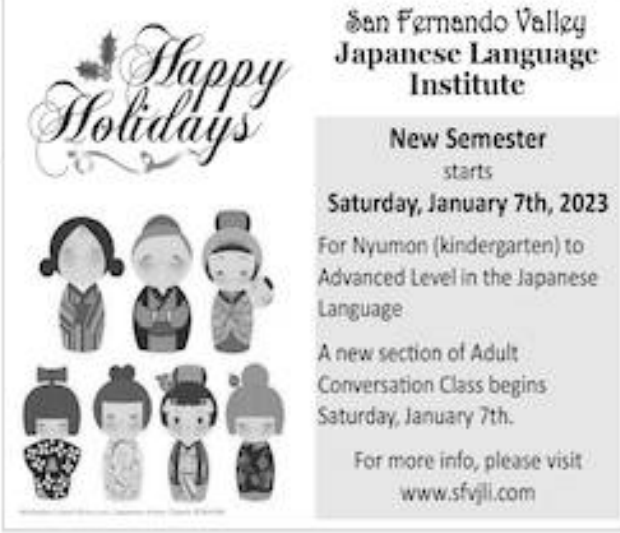
Happy Holidays!

NIKKEI
SENIOR GARDENS
Assisted Living & Memory Care

9221 Arleta Avenue | Arleta, CA 91331 | 818.899.1000
NikkeiSeniorGardens.com

Happy Holidays!

Bob and Aki
Moriguchi



San Fernando Valley
Japanese Language Institute

New Semester
starts
Saturday, January 7th, 2023

For Nyumon (kindergarten) to Advanced Level in the Japanese Language

A new section of Adult Conversation Class begins Saturday, January 7th.

For more info, please visit
www.sfvjli.com

Venice - WLA

Asian American Drug Abuse Program

CELEBRATING OUR 50TH YEAR

Changing Lives and Saving Families

To donate and to learn more about AADAP, visit us at aadapinc.org or call us at (323) 293-6284.

AADAP
People Need People

Dean Nakanishi, CEO
2900 Crenshaw Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90016

A·A·D·A·P
1972 50 2022
FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY

Season's Greetings and *Happy New Year*

John Saito, Jr. — *Carole Yamakoshi*
Carol Sebata Young — *Kenneth Ota*
Shannon Tsumaki — *Keith Kawamoto*
James Yamamoto — *Jean Shigematsu*
Ted Kumagai — *Amy Watanabe*
Sarah Johnson — *Connor Gil*
Ashley Matsumoto — *Charlene Din*
Faith Nishimura

P.O. Box 251436
Los Angeles 90025
venicewlajacl@gmail.com
Facebook: Venice-West LA JACL
www.venicewlajacl.org

Venice-West Los Angeles JACL

TOGETHER AGAIN, AND IT'S TIME TO TAKE SOME RISKS



By David Inoue,
JACL Executive Director

After nearly two years largely in isolation or with modified meeting arrangements for many of us due to Covid, this past year has marked a time when we finally crept out to experience the world in this new reality of cautiously getting together again. We had to relearn faces partially obscured by masks, often with new hairstyles or even colors from what we remembered from perhaps as long as three years ago.

It was in this context that we held our first in-person National Convention in over three years. We are especially grateful for the grace afforded by Caesars/Bally's in Las Vegas, as we held over our contract from 2020 without any adverse penalties. Amazingly, we had only two known cases of Covid postconvention, and our testing procedures caught one case before the attendee would have had the opportunity to transmit Covid to anyone else. Contrast this with our Leadership Summit a few months prior, when we had several positive cases of Covid in a much smaller group of people.

We've learned about how to reduce our risk, but still unable to totally eliminate it, which is where we generally stand today. Perhaps the risks are even greater with RSV and the flu adding to the caseloads in hospitals and decimating attendance numbers at schools.

And yet, we're all finding our own levels of acceptable risk. Some are assuming full risk by going maskless and unvaccinated. Others choose to take all precautions, remaining masked, with KN95- or N95-level masks in addition to remaining up to date on vaccines.

I can attest that even with all the precautions taken with masking and vaccination, Covid infection is still a possibility, and yet I have continued to travel, including several opportunities to once again meet with JACL members and attend chapter events. While the risk due to Covid is very real, as we do get together again, there is another risk that often impacts us even more — that of truly coming together.

The pandemic lulled us into the comfort of interacting with one another while wearing our comfortable sweatpants, virtual zoom backgrounds and, as one lawyer famously found out, cat stickers, which superimposed a cat's face over his own. As we return to in-person events, many of us are relearning how to interact with one another.

I see it especially in younger children, forced into learning online when the real learning from being in school is how to interact with one another. Teachers talk of behavioral issues on the rise and difficulties for some children to socialize with one another. Some of these developmental delays will resolve themselves with the plasticity of child development, but some may persist and have everlasting repercussions from the emotional trauma of the pandemic.

But even for adults, the social distancing, or more appropriately called social isolation, can make it more challenging to get back out into the public, especially in group settings. For those who were already introverted, getting back out again is even more difficult.

At convention this year, I kept hearing over and over how wonderful it was for people to see each other again, and yet this was a smaller convention than normal. It meant we could spend a little more time catching up with our closest friends, whom we hadn't seen for years.

But what are our prospects for expanding who we engage with? When we say we are getting together again, with whom are we actually gathering? This is where I call on JACL chapters and members to start taking some risks.

It has become too easy in our social media bubbles to only associate with those we most closely share similar thoughts and identities. Masking probably makes this even more pronounced. Simply walking on the street, it's harder to offer a smile to someone passing by.

I know the past few years have been especially polarizing, as people dug in with opposing political perspectives, but as the cult of personality for former President Donald Trump fades, there may also be opportunities to take a chance on rekindling some of those past relationships that fell to the wayside and perhaps can be repaired.

So, as we begin to gather, how can we expand our circle to include those who might benefit from being part of our JACL community? I heard the great news the other day that the Houston chapter held its first in-person meeting and elections since the pandemic and brought in over 30 new members, mostly youth and young adults.

The leadership of their new board should be applauded for the efforts they made to grow their membership so significantly, a lot of it through direct outreach on college campuses and through personal and community connections.

Even as we take the risks of coming together again as a part of this new reality of fluctuating Covid infection rates, compounded by the flu and other communicable diseases, let's also take the added risk of reaching out to one another, expand our circle and grow the JACL so that we can bring more people together again.

PS: Just as I finished writing this, I received a notification of Covid exposure, likely from a very special event I attended that I would never have wanted to miss. Without taking some of these risks now, we won't be able to live and live fully.

David Inoue is executive director of the JACL. He is based in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.

FELLOWS CORNER

GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV): Reflections From a First-Time Canvasser



By Bridget Keaveney,
JACL Norman Y. Mineta Policy Fellow

On Nov. 6, Michael Tanaka and I made our way to Houston, Texas, as part of a convoy assigned to volunteer with local Get Out the Vote organizers. We were there as part of an effort to encourage registered AAPI voters to place their vote in time for the midterm elections.

The opportunity to canvass the city came through our partners at the National Caucus of Asian Pacific Americans, specifically through its Civic Engagement Committee. Thanks to the generous support provided to us by NCAPA, Michael and I were provided the chance to assist local volunteers in Texas, one of NCAPA's target states for the election.

Mai-Thy Tyler, director of community engagement at NCAPA, was instrumental in our outreach efforts. Thanks to Mai, not only were Michael and I equipped to help the team in Texas, but we were also set up for success thanks to their help in coordinating our travel, lodging and meals during our GOTV deployment.

Michael and I spent our time in Texas knocking on the doors of AAPI households that previously registered to vote. Our goal was to encourage individuals who hadn't already placed their vote for the midterm election to do so.

According to APIA Vote, voter turnout amongst AAPIs is crucial given that they are the fastest-growing population in the United States; as such, they can shape elections and provide impactful economic strength.

Thanks to our partners at NCAPA, Michael and I were paired with local activists who guided us through Houston's Alief neighborhood, known as one of the most ethnically diverse areas in the city, which boasts a significant AAPI population.

Our team members for the day hailed from the National Asian Pacific American Women Forum's local Houston chapter. Our partners included Georgia Rodriguez and Kimberly Buettner, both of whom work to support NAPAWF's local civil rights and social action agenda in Texas.

Both Michael and I were touched by the warm welcome we received from Kim and Georgia, and we were even more impressed by their determination to inform and encourage local Texans to register to vote.

Their passion to deepen community relationships while promoting the importance of civic engagement and advocacy, especially in the wake of *Roe v. Wade,* was awe-inspiring. I feel incredibly honored to have worked alongside such tenacious and caring activists as Georgia and Kim.

As someone who had never canvassed before, I couldn't have asked for a better first experience. I feel fortunate to have partnered with Georgia and Kim and even more grateful to have been assigned in a place like Houston.

Going into the experience, I had little to no idea as to what to expect out of my time in the South; while I was cognizant of the fact that there are areas in Texas where discrimination runs rampant, as there is everywhere, I was pleasantly surprised to experience quite the opposite.

I was surprised to learn how multicultural and diverse Houston was and even more impressed by the local civil rights scene, which is made up of some of the most-dedicated and driven activists I've had the pleasure of meeting.

In total, Michael and I, along with Georgia and Kim, knocked on a total of 120 homes. For those who were not home, a leaflet was left that included resources and information on how to register to vote. The information featured on these flyers was made available in several different languages to best cater to the communities we committed ourselves to serve.





Election watch party with *(from left)* Gary Nakamura (JACL Houston chapter president), Rep. Al Green (D-Texas 9th District), Michael Tanaka (JACL Daniel K. Inouye Policy Fellow) and Bridget Keaveney (Norman Y. Mineta Policy Fellow)

Election watch party with Gary Nakamura, Michael Tanaka, Rep. Gene Wu (D-Texas, District 137) and Bridget Keaveney

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF BRIDGET KEAVENEY

Once we completed our time canvassing, Michael and I met with JACL Houston Chapter President Gary Nakamura. Gary was kind enough to invite us to a local election watch party on the night of the Midterm Elections, whereby we serendipitously ran into several members of Congress and Texas' House of Representatives.

Notable members included Rep. Al Green and State Rep. Gene Wu. It was an experience I will never forget, and I am forever grateful to Gary for making our time in Texas memorable.

We owe Gary and other chapter presidents a debt of gratitude for their selfless efforts in advancing the mission and values of JACL and working so hard to ensure that as an organization, we remain committed to our promise to eradicate all forms of hate and injustice.

My time in Texas will be something I will forever cherish, and I hope to find another excuse soon to visit again to support the local community there. As a die-hard "Friday Night Lights" fan, I would be remiss if I didn't end my reflection by writing, "Texas Forever." Texas Forever, indeed.

Bridget Keaveney is the Norman Y. Mineta Policy Fellow. She is based in Washington, D.C.



SIGNING ON IN REMEMBRANCE OF HISTORY AND MY FAMILY

By Michael Tanaka,
JACL Daniel K. Inouye Policy Fellow

I was raised to view my family's incarceration history during World War II with a lens of apathy, something that happened years ago from which we've moved on. For most of my life, I accepted this.

Growing up, whenever I told someone I identified as "Japanese American," I would be treated either as a "perpetual foreigner" or a "white-washed" Asian. Not once did I actually question what it meant to be Japanese American, and for most of my life, I accepted this, too.

It wasn't until I realized my family wasn't apathetic at all to our history — apathy was just a cover for shame, residing in a self-destructive cycle that has lasted generations — that I found meaning at the intersection of my identity and family history of incarceration. There was no apathy to be found, only learning and self-empowerment to be done.

In October, I had the gracious opportunity, with the help of Jordan Tachibana, a judicial intern for the Superior Court of Santa Clara, to contribute my family's names to Hon. Judge Johnny Gogo's 48-star flag-signing project for survivors and descendants of the Japanese American incarceration during WWII. I signed the flag in front of the Supreme Court, as Jordan is traveling throughout the East Coast and getting signatures on the flag by folks who had a family incarceration history and or served in WWII.

My family was incarcerated in Manzanar and Gila River. My dad's grandpa was taken by the FBI, and then my grandpa's family was separated between Gila River and Manzanar. My mom's side was in Manzanar, too. My mom's dad fought for the MIS while his family was in Manzanar.

Commemorating my grandparents' names on the American flag for me was more than paying my respects once more, it was preserving our profoundly complex and historical relationship to our country. It was honoring the resilience of my ancestors in the face of adversity and systemic racism. They sacrificed everything to free my rights; it's now up to me to free my mind.

Michael Tanaka is the Daniel K. Inouye Policy Fellow. He is based in Washington, D.C.



Michael Tanaka signs the 48-star U.S. flag with the assistance of Bridget Keaveney.

JACL Fellows Michael Tanaka and Bridget Keaveney hold a signed flag that is part of Judge Johnny Gogo's Japanese American Incarceration Memorial Legacy Project. More than 1,000 former WWII incarcerees and their families have participated in the signing project.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MICHAEL TANAKA

Berkeley

Holiday greetings and best wishes from

J-Sei Home: A Senior Care Facility



24954 Cypress Avenue, Hayward, CA

* Focus on Nikkei Traditions
* Asian Meals
* Engaging Activities
* Skilled and Licensed Staff

J-SEI

Contact Mary Hart, Administrator * Phone: (510) 732-6658 * E-mail: mary@j-sei.org

---

Happy Holidays!

Rick, Irene, Beth, Ricky, & Shannon Uno

Sacramento, CA



Gordon Y. Yamamoto, Esq.

5915 Zinn Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611
(510) 339-6399

Wishing everyone
a happy new year

Berkeley Buddhist Temple
berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

2121 Channing Way, Berkeley, CA 94704
1.510.841.1356 | info@berkeleybuddhisttemple.org

PEACE

from the Mori Family

Kenjiro
Toshio, Marika & Yuika
Janet and Kaz

GIANTS

In Memory of
Two long time SF Giants fans

GALE & RANDY OUYE



Mom & Dad, thanks for making me a lifelong fan. Go Bears, Let's Go Oakland!

Love, Kai

2022-2023 Holiday Wishes!

Catherine Gibbons
Aimee Terauchi
Matthew Hard
Gilbert, Arizona



PEACE

Valerie Yasukochi
& James A. Duff, Jr.
2840 Steinmetz Way
Oakland, CA 94602

MONTEREY MARKET

Fresh Fruits & Vegetables in Season

Gourmet groceries • Artisan breads • Affordable wines

Season's Greetings

1550 Hopkins St. • Berkeley
(510) 526-6042

HOURS
Mon - Fri 8 am - 7 pm
Sat & Sun 8 am - 6 pm

www.montereymarket.com

Happy Holidays



Leroy M. Morishita and
Barbara Hedani-Morishita

Holiday Greetings



Roger, Anna, Robert, Ryan and Matthew Tanaka

CHARLIE MICHELSON

INTEGRAL COACH AND CONSULTANT

cmmichelson@icloud.com

Steven T. Kobayashi, DDS

General Dentistry

Happy Holidays!!

727 San Pablo Ave., Suite 101A
Albany, CA 94706 (510) 962-9530

Warmest Seasons Greetings from

The Furuichi Family
Jim and Satoko
Derek, Caroline and Evan
Michele and Kevin Yost, Jenna and Logan

Berkeley, CA

Happy Holidays from the Morenos
Steven, Meridith, Soleia, Esai and Noemi

KOBAYASHI
Nob • Patti

---

a nikkei heritage summer program for kids

だるまのがっこう
DARUMA · NO · GAKKO

www.daruma-no-gakko.org



Happy Holiday Season!
Kevin, Renee, Kaitlyn and Keith Yasumura

Happy Holidays!

Amelia, Karen,
Daven, Cole, and
Django Huster-
Lowhurst





JOHN KISTNER
Agent, Lic. #0830683

1401 San Pablo Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94702
Bus.: (510) 526-7036
Fax: (510) 526-3311

STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANIES
HOME OFFICES: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

"Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there."®

Season's Greetings

Barry G. Kami, D.D.S.

(510) 845-1396

KRISTIN WALKER, M.D.

Adult & Pediatric Dermatology & Professional Skincare

KRISTIN WALKER, M.D.
Diplomat American Board of Dermatology
89 Davis Road, Suite 180, Orinda, CA 94563
925.254.1080 • Fax 925.254.1652

www.KristinWalkerMD.com

Berkeley

Holiday Greetings
Maru Hiratzka
37 Thousand Oaks
Oakland, CA 94605

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Jeff Dizon, Kelly Fujikawa,
Frankie & Miles Dizon
Kirkland, WA

Warm Wishes For a Happy Holiday Season
Jean Nakazono
El Cerrito, CA

Happy Holidays from the
TSUETAKI'S
Tracy, Jane, Alex, Amanda
and Bachan Hideko

Peace and Joy
Fred 'n Rhoda
Seiji

Season's Greetings
Reiko Nabeta
El Cerrito, CA

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
from
Gerry, Joy,
Doug & Wendy
SEKIMURA

Happy Holidays

Vera & Eric
Kawamura

東京魚店
TOKYO FISH MARKET
1220 SAN PABLO AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94706
510.524.7243



In Memory of
Waichi & Jane Ouye
Loved & sacrificed for their children,
grandchildren & great grandchildren

正道 SEIDŌ
CONSULTING LLC
Executive Leadership Coaching
Assisting you & your organization find
your unique **"Right Path"** for Leadership Success.
Steven Terusaki, MBA
Founder & CEO
www.seidoconsulting.com
s.terusaki@seidoconsulting.com
(510) 559-0225 Albany, California

In Memory of Sachi Kaneko
1917-2014
"I Left My Heart in San Francisco"

2023 Happy Holidays!!
Leo & Evee Terauchi
Roderick & Reiko Terauchi
El Cerrito, California



NSU
THANK YOU JACL!
FROM, UC BERKELEY NIKKEI STUDENT UNION

ROGER J. OTA, D.D.S.
TELEPHONE (510)841-0662
2020 HEARST AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94709

PEACE
Charles & Carla Stedwell



Seasons Greetings
From
BERKELEY BOWL MARKETPLACE
SINCE 1977
Visit one of our two locations
2020 Oregon Street
Berkeley CA 94703
920 Heinz Ave
Berkeley CA 94710

Holiday Greetings to All
Ken, Ann, Sean & Lee
Yabusaki
Hawaii, Encinitas



Peace and Best Wishes
Carolyn Miyakawa Adams
John and Lynn Adams
Alyssa, Briana and Cameron Adams

HOLIDAY HAPPINESS TO ALL
Alice Wakida
Lance, Mona, Brandon Wakida
Scott, Sheila, Spencer, Mallory Wakida
Erin, Bill, Kenneth and Kira Rice



Season's Greetings!
From the Matsudas

Best wishes from The Kimura Family

Best Wishes
Kenji & Nancy
TOGAMI
Berkeley, CA 94706

PAPER PLUS OUTLET
1629 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley
510/525-1799 510/418-1348
"INCREDIBLE BALLOONS"
www.paperplusoutlet.com



Season's Greetings
from the
Hi Lo Golf Club

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023
Hiraga-Stephens Family

GOOD HEALTH, PEACE, & HARMONY
Lou Minamoto



SEASON'S GREETINGS
Ron & Carol TANAKA
Lafayette, California

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM KAT THE CAT



Season's Greetings
Matthew, Nancy & Lauren
Fujikawa

BLAINE HONDA, D.D.S
TELEPHONE (510)841-0662
2020 HEARST AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94709

Holiday Greetings
LIONS INTERNATIONAL
The Berkeley Lions Club
Serving the Berkeley Community
Since 1919

Emily Murase, Neal Taniguchi, Junko & Izumi
Wish everybody the very best this Holiday Season!
emily@emilymurase.com
nealtaniguchi@gmail.com

Your Words BRING US TOGETHER

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, STORIES OF CONNECTION TRULY SHOW US WHAT LIFE IS REALLY ABOUT.

By Lynda Lin Grigsby, Contributor

I balked when *Pacific Citizen* Executive Editor Allison Haramoto invited me to write for this year's Holiday Issue. What could I possibly say? A decade ago, I served as this newspaper's assistant editor, and after a hiatus, joyfully started writing here again last year. I have filled pages with community news that I hope have enriched your lives. At the end of the year, I feel deeply that the Holiday Issue belongs to you, the readers. Because you read my writing in many other issues, I wanted to cede my space for your words. With help from JACL staffers, I put out a call for pitches with the prompt, "What does home mean to you?" The responses were overwhelming, thoughtful and touching. Each writer I worked with tells a deeply personal story about their lives and the people they love. Each story touches on connection, even in times apart. Isn't that what the holidays — and life — is about? But enough from me already. I hope you enjoy these three reader-submitted essays as much as I did.

— L. L. G.



HOPE CARRIED *Across the Mekong*

By KatieAnn Nguyen

The night is cold as silent silhouettes make their way across the ripples of the MeKong River. Fear rattles my grandparents' nerves. They pray that they'll reach Thailand before the soldiers catch them. The Vietnam War tore their village in Laos apart. Communism threatened their families.

My grandparents clutch their two young daughters with them. My grandfather was deafened after being taken as a prisoner of war. My grandmother worried about her parents in Thailand. Before they were my grandparents, they were Blia Vang and Xe Vue Thao, two parents hoping for a life without war, without soldiers guarding the roads at night, and without the sound of bullets ricocheting through the air.

Coming to the United States, my grandparents brought with them their dreams — one was to simply be happy. As they began to grow their family, the meaning of *together* began to take on new meaning.

For my grandparents and their eight children, it meant long car trips to Yosemite, watching Bob Ross paint on their small TV, crushing roaches in their cramped apartment at night. To be together was that feeling of simply being in each other's company.

When I was born, my parents raised me surrounded with that feeling. I grew up in the smells of my grandparents' home, herbal medicine and rice cooking in the pot, the noise of small feet on tile floor and cans being crushed for recycling. My grandparents calling me *Aang* because they couldn't pronounce my English name. Being together meant visits to their house filled with screams of cousins, laughter of uncles and aunts, the smell of boiled chicken cooking on the stove. My grandparents taught me the importance of family, even though I didn't speak Hmong, and they didn't speak English.

In that comfort of one another, I learned what it meant to be together. It was more than just an embrace. It was the anticipation of visiting them again the next weekend, the replaying of our memories together and the folklore tales they'd try to tell me in fragments of English.

But when my grandmother passed away in 2016, and then my grandfather in 2021, I found myself wondering what being together meant when they were no longer here. It was during this time of grief that my mother told me the story of when my grandparents came to America.

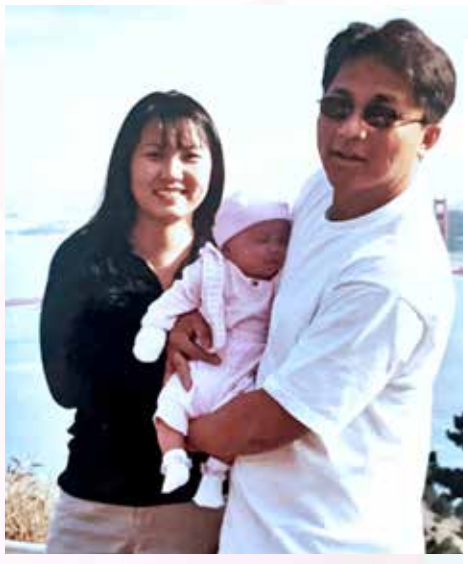
When they arrived in Thailand, they were lucky enough to enter a refugee camp and be sent to the United States. When she told me this story, I saw reflections of my grandparents' hopes and dreams. It was more than just a better life in America they were sacrificing everything for, it was a new beginning.

Their story is one of many, a story of immigration for a better life. But to me, it is more than just a story, it is *my* beginning. Those hardships were passed on to me, those dreams of white-picket-fenced houses, those hopes for a better tomorrow. For them, it was immigrating to the United States, but for me, it was continuing that story, that legacy of our beginning. It was keeping that hope they carried with them across the Mekong River alive.

When I graduated from West County High School in Sebastopol, Calif., last year and began my first year at Dominican University of California, I felt that hope resonating in me. Over these last years without them, I've learned what it means to *be together* even when they're not here.

It means the beginning they gave their children — and me — their hope for a better life. Every milestone I have reached, I felt as if it was an extension of that hope. For the first time, it felt as if we were together again, connected with that dream of a better future that they began.

KatieAnn Nguyen is a second-generation Hmong-Vietnamese American from California who is a member of the Sonoma County JACL. She is a 17-year-old freshman biology major at Dominican University of California with dreams of becoming a pediatrician.





(Left) **KatieAnn Nguyen, as a baby, in the arms of her parents.**

(Right) **Nguyen's grandparents escaped Thailand to come to the United States. They are pictured here with their daughters.**

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF KATIEANN NGUYEN



The author says her experience on the Cherry Blossom court was joyous.



June and Joyce Endo

TOGETHER ALWAYS THROUGH *Food and Traditions*

By Joyce Endo



Joyce Endo is pictured here with her father, Bill Endo, the year he died.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF JOYCE ENDO

It's an annual tradition in our family to cook all day on Dec. 31 and past midnight to welcome the new year. We celebrate Oshogatsu, or the Japanese New Year. It is truly a labor of love to cover a table with traditional dishes to share with friends. We make special traditional dishes and display them in platters and containers from Japan. I look forward to this time every year, not just for the special home-cooked meal, but also the bonding time.

My parents, Bill and June Endo, became JACL members shortly after we moved to our home in San Francisco, my hometown. As a child, I remember seeing the *Pacific Citizen* in the mail growing up and reading all the community news.

For the duration of World War II, my mom lived in Japan, while my dad moved to Utah. They did not talk about this time, except about the good memories. When a mutual friend introduced my parents after the war, it was love at first sight!

She and my dad always encouraged me to follow my dreams with piano, violin and ballet. They also encouraged me to connect to my culture. While I was in nursing school, I competed as a Cherry Blossom Queen contestant representing the Nihonmachi Merchants. I've always admired the contestants. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would have the same opportunity. My mom, a seamstress, designed my gown. It was such a joyous experience.

Now for Oshogatsu, I've taken over the cooking. I do my best to replicate my mom's cooking, but it doesn't taste quite the same. I think the missing link is her loving touch. She smiles ear-to-ear when I make one of her recipes. It warms my heart. We have always had a close relationship. The pandemic still somehow brought us closer in many ways, especially through cooking and eating!

I spend every day with her. As a Nisei, she is becoming frail, but I like to say she is still strong and mighty. My dad died shy of his 77th birthday, so Oshogatsu looks, feels and tastes different. My dad was always the behind-the-scenes strength and glue. Family is everything to me because of my loving parents.

Even though we aren't cooking together anymore, the tradition reminds me of our special bond.

Joyce Endo is a Sansei living in Orange County, Calif. She is an Orange County JACL member, who worked as a registered nurse in obstetrics, labor and delivery. She is now a residential real estate agent.

Moments THAT TAKE OUR BREATHS AWAY

By Kathryn Kimura Mlsna



Pharmaceutical Club: Eugene Kimura *(front row, second from right)* was part of the same club in 1944 at the University of Nebraska with his brother *(last row, fourth from left).*

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF KATHRYN KIMURA MLSNA



Paul Yorishige and Chie Watanabe, the author's maternal grandparents



***(From left)* Kathryn Mlsna, brother Alan Kimura, parents Grace and Eugene Kimura and sister Eugenie Chiu**

Being together again gives me the strength to make a difference in the world. My relationships remind me of who I am. They reflect my values, goals and dreams. As a Sansei, my relationships with my ancestors, family and extended family make me proud of my Japanese heritage.

I am researching and writing my family's historical biographies, so their legacy of courage, strength and perseverance will be passed down. What began as a half-day task to convert my father's 75-page autobiography, "The Orphaned Generation," from a typewritten manuscript to a Word document became a full-time, three-year project that grew to include six extensively researched manuscripts with hundreds of pages.

In the spring of 2020, as the pandemic changed our world, I started working on the biographies. They are a gift that reconnects me to my past. My story began in 1950 when my parents met through a mutual friend at the Chicago JACL.

My mother, Grace Watanabe Kimura, left Poston for Texas to complete her high school and college education in business management. My father, Eugene Tatsuru Kimura, left Camp Harmony/Puyallup to complete his undergraduate and postgraduate pharmacology studies in Nebraska and Illinois, respectively.

Although my parents spoke about their lives, I didn't appreciate all the details back then that make their noteworthy lives remarkable. Grace and Eugene overcame the premature losses of their fathers and the loss of civil rights during the war to celebrate academic and professional successes and the joy of raising a family — much in the context of longstanding anti-Asian sentiment that made them feel like perpetual and undesirable foreigners.

During the redress movement, Grace testified at the Chicago CWRIC hearings. Later, my parents gave a thoughtful and well-researched presentation about the incarceration to the residents of their retirement community. Many in the audience were hearing about it for the first time.

Before Grace and Eugene died in 2019 and 2020, at almost 94 and 98 years old, respectively, they lived 15 minutes from me in suburban Chicago. Regrettably, the pandemic prevented us from visiting our father for the last six months of his life.

The biographies, still a work-in-progress, bring me together again with my parents. The manuscripts have also brought me closer to the grandparents I never met – a Baptist pastor and a farmer/hotel proprietor.

It has been said that life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away. The value of being together again is not measured by the number of hours we are together, but by our appreciation of the relationships that make us all stronger.

Florida-based Kathryn Kimura Mlsna is a member of the Southeast JACL. She has five beautiful granddaughters and is a wife, mother and grandmother. She spent 30 years working as a lawyer and businessperson for nonprofit organizations and a large restaurant chain. She served as the alumni association's president at Northwestern University from 2014-16, and she still serves as a volunteer on several boards there.

Berkeley

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
BERKELEY

2022 Officers

Karen Lowhurst	Co-President
Tara U.	Co-President
Tiffany Ikeda	Secretary
Mark Fujikawa	Treasurer
Tak Shirasawa	Assist Treasurer
Beth Uno	Immed Past Co-Pres

Board of Directors

Carolyn Adams	Neal Ouye
Sandra Doi	Nick Sanford
Vera Kawamura	Al Satake
Lindsey Kojima	Ron Tanaka
Matthew Kojima	Nancy Ukai
Ryan Matsuda	Gordon Yamamoto |
Kaz Mori	Dani Yang

Happy Holidays from the Berkeley JACL Board of Directors!



Greetings from the Berkeley Chapter
Honoring our Longest Serving Board Member
Tak Shirasawa
July 28, 1927 - June 23, 2022

Happy Holidays!
Best wishes for the New Year!

Peggy Takahashi, Alan Lamont, Sami Lamont

Congratulations
to our son,
Nick Sandford,
Eagle Scout, Senior
Patrol Leader and
Order of the Arrow,



We are
proud
of you!
Mom and Dad



In memory of
Roy and Joan Doi

Happy Holidays
Jim Furuichi
Broker - Owner- Realtor-Notary
Kuwada Realty
1417 Solano Ave. Albany, CA 94706
(510) 527-4663 Cell: (510) 333-5686
jfiner@sbcglobal.net
DRE# 00265518



謹賀新年!
Happy New Year
Berkeley JACL!

In memory of
Kimiko & Roy
Matsumoto

HAYASHIDA ARCHITECTS

2018 Marin Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707
Tel: 510.428.2491
Tel: 510.703.7295
www.hayashida-architects.com

ARCHITECTURE
INTERIOR DESIGN
PLANNING

Wishing everyone a holiday season full of fun, rest and love!
Best, Tara, Berkeley Chapter

ONE NAME TO REMEMBER
WHEN IT'S TIME TO REMEMBER
EXCELLENT, AFFORDABLE SERVICE SINCE 1908



SUNSET VIEW
CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
CEMETERY • CREMATORY • MORTUARY
101 Colusa Avenue
El Cerrito, CA 94530
F.D. Lic #1079

CALL US ABOUT PRE-NEED ARRANGEMENTS
SUNSETVIEWMORTUARY.COM | 510.525.5111

Ronald D. Fujie, CPA

5332 College Ave., Suite 203
Oakland, CA 94618

Phone: (510) 923-1776
Fax: (510) 355-1060
email: ronald.fujie.cpa@gmail.com
Cell: (510) 604-7290

In Loving Memory of
Bill & Dorothy Fujita
and Karrie our sweet doggie

best wishes for a
happy & healthy
2023
Jason, Amy,
Kalen, Alton & Revin
YAMASHIRO
Albany, CA

In Memory of Anna Yamamoto
A wonderful Mother,
Grandmother, Wife,
and Friend

50 OBJECTS STORIES
Every OBJECT has its STORY
Website
www.50objects.org
@50objectsNikkei

Season's Best Wishes
Mark A. Fujikawa, OD
Stephen R. Chun, OD, FAAO
Rose K. Hoang, OD
The Berkeley Optometric Group
Since 1976
2414 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704
(510) 843-1228
www.berkeleyoptometricgroup.com

Berkeley

Season's Greetings
Kiyoshi & Emiko Katsumoto
2615 Brooks Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530





WISHING YOU A
HAPPY AND HEALTHY **2023!**

NEW YEAR'S CLEANUP?
WE BUY OLD COMIC BOOKS &
SPORTS/TRADING CARDS!

KALENSCOLLECTIBLES@GMAIL.COM
WWW.KALENSCOLLECTIBLES.COM

Ronald Wake, D.D.S.
General Dentistry



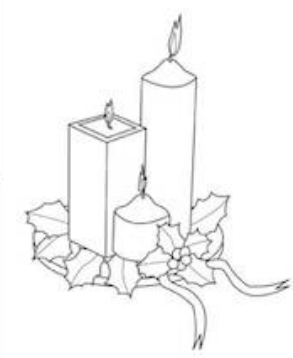
895 Moraga Road, Suite 2
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925)283-0280

Happy Holidays



Al & Maxine Satake
Grandchildren: Kai, Kotomi, Soleia, Esai, Noemi

PEACE & HEALTH
REV. JESSICA KAWAMURA
& KYLE KARIOKA



Alaska

Happy Holidays
from the
TSUETAKI'S
Tracy, Jane, Alex, Amanda
and Bachan Hideko

Happy Holidays
Kosakura Family
4488 Hock Maple Court
Concord, CA 94521

Wishing you all good health and
fortitude as we welcome the New Year!



Our history informs our future.

Gordon Yamamoto R.E.

5915 Zinn Drive
Oakland, CA 94611
(510) 339-6399
BRE#:00874453



BEST WISHES FOR 2024!

With Thanksgiving for Berkeley JACL,
The Fa-Kaji Family



Company Portrait, 1934

Holiday Greetings!

JOIN US as we celebrate 120 years of community journalism in 2023!

THE RAFU SHIMPO, with humble roots that date back to 1903, stands proud and tall today as the voice of the many generations preceding us.

Visibility with both print and digital access, readers are updated with not only local news of what's happening in and around SoCal, but events and situations garnering attention wherever it is.

Thank you! *Domo arigato!* Your support is appreciated.

The RAFU SHIMPO

@rafushimpo | rafu.com | rafunews.com (e-subscriptions)

Fresno

Happy Holidays
RANDY AOKI

2023

May the New Year
ring in
Hope, Health
and
Happiness to all!

FRESNO CHAPTER, JACL

Happy Holidays
Charlene Kiyuna
FRESNO JACL

Happy 2023
Year of the Rabbit
JOY GOTO

SEASON'S GREETINGS
Robert & Marcia Chung and Family

Happy New Year
Robert and Jane Shintaku
Paul and Jieae
Jonathan, Vivian, Daniel
Jeff, Kimberly, Juliana, Jaden

Happy Holidays
Bobbi Hanada
bhanada@aol.com

Wasatch

Happy
Holidays
from the
Wasatch
Front
North
JACL

CCDC

Season's Greetings!

from

CCDC

Livingston-Merced

Happy Holidays FROM THE *Livingston-Merced Chapter*





The Merced Assembly Center Memorial & Memorial Garden
Merced County Fairgrounds • 900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way • Merced, CA 95341

Monterey Peninsula

Arlington "Arly" La Mica
Pam Dally-La Mica

PO Box 1249
Seaside, CA 93955

Monterey Peninsula Chapter Board Members

Japanese American Citizen League
of the Monterey Peninsula

Happy
Holidays

Physical Address:

424 Adams Street
Monterey, CA 93940
FaceBook: JACLMonterey
Website: jaclmonterey.org

Mailing Address:

PO Box 664
Monterey, CA 93942
jacl93940@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS
Larry Oda, National JACL President
Happy Holidays 2022
Kazuko Matsuyama & Aiko Matsuyama

Happy Holidays
Mat's Radiator, Inc., D.B.A.
PENINSULA RADIATOR SHOP

Moko & Suzan Nishiguchi / Trent
Jim, Cindy, Sarah, Samantha, Elizabeth, Anna, Rebecca Cox,
Jeff, Denise, Hannah, Peter & Andrew Yip

1775 Del Monte Blvd., Seaside, CA 93955
Telephone (831) 394-5923

Happy Holidays
to Family & Friends
Alan Amemiya
" and "
Linda Kadani

Snake River

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from members & friends of
SNAKE RIVER CHAPTER
Ontario, Oregon

Board Members

Cathy Yasuda — Mike Iseri
Mary Ann Murata — Ted Takatori
Sherri Kitamura — Lonnie Woo
Janet Komoto — Larry Matsumura
Teresa Fetherolf — Howard Matsumura
Morgan Bruton Youngstrom*

* student board member

PACIFICCITIZEN

$50 Print Subscription *(Non-JACL member)* or **$36** Digital *(pdf)* Subscription. Use this coupon or go our website! Go to https://www.pacificcitizen.org/subscriptions/ or send with check to *The Pacific Citizen* 123 S. Onizuka St., #313, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Scan Here

Name: _____
Address: _____
(required for PRINT subscriptions)
Phone: _____
Email: _____

THE OVERLAPPING STORIES OF REPARATORY JUSTICE

Panel talks up reparations for African Americans and Japanese Latin Americans.

By P.C. Staff



The Aug. 15, 1980, *Pacific Citizen* reported that President Jimmy Carter on July 31, 1980, enacted S. 1647, which created the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

PHOTO: PACIFIC CITIZEN DIGITAL ARCHIVE



The JACL convention panel discussion was held in partnership with OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates.

Workshop Session 3's title said it all: "Reparatory Justice: The Fight for HR 40 and Japanese Latin American Redress," aptly encapsulating its topic.

The panel, held in August at the JACL National Convention in Las Vegas, discussed the history and status quo of decades-long efforts to obtain reparations for the descendants of people forcibly brought from Africa to become slaves beginning in the 17th century to what would become the United States of America, as well as people of Japanese ancestry from 13 Latin American countries (most from Peru) who, in the 20th century, were forcibly brought to the U.S. during World War II.

Moderated by Lisa Doi, president of the Chicago JACL chapter, on the panel comprised of Grace Shimizu, director of both the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project and Campaign for Justice: Redress NOW for Japanese Latin Americans; Kenniss Henry, representing the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations (N'COBRA) and the Reparations Legislative Coalition; and traci kato-kiriyama, representing the National Nikkei Reparations Coalition and the Reparations Legislative Coalition.

Following introductions, the panel began with what Shimizu described as a "JLA (Japanese Latin American) 101" informational video, which conveyed how more than 2,000 Japanese emigrants to Latin American nations and their families were, after the outbreak of WWII, rounded up and shipped to the United States so they could be used in trade for Americans captured by Japan. (Most of the JLAs were detained at the internment camp in Crystal City, Texas.)

The video also focused on the late JLA redress advocate Art Shibayama, who died in July 2018, a couple years before the Organization of American States' Inter-American Commission on Human Rights published its verdict in his favor in the case of *Shibayama, et al. v. United States. (See "IACHR Verdict a Win for Latin American Nikkei," Aug. 14, 2020, Pacific Citizen.)*

The video ended with an appeal to sign a petition linked on its website to urge the Biden administration to comply with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' verdict.

After the video's conclusion, Shimizu, tying together the movements to pass HR 40, which aims to form a commission to study African American reparations and reparations for JLAs, said, "I'd like to focus on key points that I hope you will take away with you, the main one being the importance of struggles for reparatory justice, both the struggle to pass and implement HR 40 and the struggle for JLA reparations, especially at this historical juncture in the United States, where we the people of the U.S. are embroiled in the fight against racism, white supremacist authoritarianism and for a multiracial, multiethnic, gender-inclusive democracy."

Up next was Henry, who relayed some of the history and evolution of N'COBRA's push behind HR 40, which traces its roots to 1989. The goal of HR 40 is, in Henry's words, to create a "commission to study reparations and to craft remedies for the violations that are identified."

It's a roadmap that was established by Sens. Spark Matsunaga and Daniel Inouye. In 1979, the two Hawaii Democrats introduced Senate Bill 1647 to establish a commission to study the WWII incarceration of Japanese Americans and Aleuts.

That bill was signed into law on July 31, 1980, by President Jimmy Carter, and it authorized the formation of the Commission on Wartime Internment and Relocation of Civilians, which was essential for the eventual passage of HR 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, signed by President Ronald Reagan on Aug. 10, 1988.

The success of Japanese American redress resulted in an apology from the federal government and a $20,000 check to the approximately 60,000 still-living Japanese Americans who were affected by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066, signed on Feb. 19, 1942.

"Reparations is more than a paycheck," Henry said. "For me, reparations means that this country will finally acknowledge that they stole my ancestors, they sold my ancestors, and that they had my ancestors endure centuries of pernicious history and even today, the current day vestiges."

Speaking later in the program, Henry added: "No amount of reparations can take away 400-plus years of atrocities."

Speaking next was kato-kiriyama, who read an excerpt from her book, "Navigating With(out) Instruments."

"Our Sansei generation had to find out who they were in order to move forward. And they uncovered history, and they unlocked a reckoning. We are not the moral authority on mass incarceration, mass removal or collective infliction of oppression onto one community," kato-kiriyama read.

"We are linked to a larger cycle of struggle and also a legacy of resistance and solidarity. We have stood up to white supremacy time and again. Let our lessons learned from redress and reparations for Japanese Americans serve to remind us that we were once told it was impossible, that it would never happen, that it was part of what happens at a time of war, or that the camps were not even that bad, or it was necessary and good for us. . . . Let us not only support reparations because we once won a battle for redress, [but also] let us do it because it is the right thing to do."

Later in the panel, Henry urged the audience to visit N'COBRA's legacy website *(ncobra.org)* to study the history of HR 40, and its new website *(officialncobraonline.org)* to learn about its status quo.

She also urged people to call the White House's comment line — (202) 456-1111 — to ask President Joe Biden to support HR 40 by issuing an executive order to "stand up" HR 40.

The video of the panel discussion can be viewed at youtube.com/watch?v=Cj3Q2nrjv5c.

JACL Celebrates the Passage of the Respect for Marriage Act and Advocates for the Advancement of the Equality Act

By JACL National

WASHINGTON, D.C. — JACL joins the majority of Americans in applauding the passage of HR 8404, the Respect for Marriage Act. With strong bipartisan support, the Respect for Marriage Act not only repeals the antiquated and homophobic Defense of Marriage Act of 1996 but offers important federal protections and recognition to same-sex and interracial couples.

The RMA acknowledges and upholds the validity of a marriage based on the state in which it was performed and bars the wrongful denial of federal benefits to marriages conducted in another state.

While the passage of the RMA requires states to recognize gay and interracial marriage, states still have the power to bar gay and interracial marriage from happening in their jurisdictions. Given this, there is still much work to be done.

We also join our fellow civil rights advocates in calling for the passage of the Equality Act, which would provide full protections and freedoms to the 20-million-plus self-identifying LGBTQIA+ individuals who call the United States home.

This landmark bill would grant the same rights and freedoms to these individuals that millions of other Americans already enjoy. This bill specifically prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation and gender identity in spaces including but not limited to housing, education, employment, etc.

The bill "defines and includes sex, sexual orientation and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation."

With 2022 coming to a close and 2023 fast approaching, it is critical that the JACL provides resounding support to our partner LGBTQIA+ organizations in the fight for basic human rights.

Said JACL Executive Director David Inoue: "JACL has a long history of support for marriage equality as an amicus participant in the *Loving v. Virginia* case through which the courts struck down anti-miscegenation laws and as one of the first national organizations to voice its support for gay marriage, a right also since affirmed by the court. However, we recognize the tenuous state of these rights dependent upon court protection from still-existing laws that with a change in court position could return to force. The RMA is a major step toward ensuring that the right to marry whomever one wants is a protected American right, respected by all states." ■

NCWNP

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
WESTERN NEVADA
PACIFIC DISTRICT

...2023...

Laugh Often, Dream Big, Reach for the Stars

NCWNP District Executive Board

Carol Kawase
Steve Okamoto
Miko Sawamura
Alan Teruya
Sharon Uyeda
Mark Kobayashi - ex-Officio
Nancy Ukai - PC rep
KC Mukai - Youth Chair
Bruce Arao - Youth Vice-Chair

www.jacl-ncwnp.org/

Wishing all the best for the New Year

Alameda | Berkeley | Contra Costa | Cortez
Diablo Valley | Eden Township | Florin | Fremont
French Camp | Gilroy | Golden Gate | Honolulu
Japan | Lodi | Marin | Marysville | Monterey Peninsula
Placer County | Reno | Sacramento | Salinas Valley
San Benito | San Francisco | San Jose | San Mateo
Sequoia | Silicon Valley | Sonoma County | Stockton
Watsonville-Santa Cruz | West Valley

Sonoma County

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Happy Holidays
and
Best Wishes
for a
Prosperous and Joyful
New Year
from
The Japanese American Citizens League
Sonoma County Chapter

• Contact us at www.SonomaCountyJACL.org •

Eden Township

Happy Holidays!
Eric, Laura, Kira, Trey and Jordan
Inouye

Holiday Best Wishes
Glen and Georgene
DEARDORFF
Justin, Jake, Jessica, Joshua, Ian, EmmaJean, Alice

Wishing you a peaceful 2023
Robbin Kawahata & Carl S. Gutekunst and family

Best wishes for a Healthy and Happy 2023!
Kathy and Bill Asai

Happy Holidays!
KALEPONI STRINGS
kaleponistrings@gmail.com

Happy Holidays
ABACUS PRODUCTS INC
Greg Yoshii
Aili Yoshii
23155 Kidder Street
Hayward, CA 94545
Phone 510.785.9990
Fax 510.264.3484
Print Management • Promotional Products • Warehousing & Distribution

Season's Greetings from
EDEN JAPANESE SENIOR CENTER
710 Elgin Street • San Lorenzo, CA 94580

Allen, Keiko	Makishima, Joanne	Sakamoto, Susan
Allamano, Miyuki	Mar, Joannie	Samukawa, Carol
Chan, Josephine	Masuda, Agnes	Samukawa, Masa
Chang, Marlene	Matsumoto, Michiko	Sasaki, Agnes
Clark, Keiko	Muramoto, Barbara	Sasaki, Dick
Ford, Ryuko	Myoraku,Katashi	Shinoda, Karen
Hamasaki, MaryAnn	Naito, Namie	Seibel, Coco
Hashimoto, Daphne	Nakamura, Eiichi	Takeuchi, James
Hashimoto, Joyce	Nakamura, Marion	Tamura, Milton
Higashi, Masako	Nakano, Sonny	Tanisawa, Betty
Honda, Pam	Nakaya, Chiyo	Teshima, Mary
Ide, Gorden	Naruo, Kikuko	Tsuno, Yoko
Isaacs, Sawako	Neishi, Alice	Yanagi, Amy
Ito, Yone	Nishimura, Michiko	Yanagi, Dorothy
Iwane, Fujiko	Nomura, Jean	Yokomizo, Alice
Kishi, Jane	Ogata, Judy	Yokomizo, James
Konno, Amy	Ogata, Ray	Yokomizo, Sally
Kovenich, Kiyoko	Pence, Lys	
Kuritsubo, Ruby	Sablan, Tai	

Happy Holidays From Eden Township JACL!
Stay Safe and Healthy!

Northern California
UKULELE FESTIVAL
...wishing everyone a Happy New Year!
norcalukulelefestival@gmail.com

Kevin Asai, DDS
General Dentist
33341 Alvarado-Niles Road,
Union City, CA, 94587
(510) 471-9300
www.Asaidentalgroup.com
Happy Holidays!

Member American Optometric Association
JOHN M. NEISHI, O.D.
Doctor of Optometry
15070 HESPERIAN BOULEVARD, SUITE C
SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA 94578
Telephone (510) 276-8420

Happy Holidays
Gary and Judy Oda



Happy Holidays
Ted & Susan Tanisawa

Happy Holidays!
Janet, Allison & Christian Mitobe

SEASON'S GREETINGS!
Digger, Agnes & Rik Sasaki

Reno

Best wishes for the New Year!
JACL Reno Chapter
あけまして
おめでとう

Seabrook

On behalf of the Seabrook JACL, we extend our sincere best wishes & holiday greetings to the Pacific Citizen and fellow JACL members.

Seabrook JACL

May 2023 be a year filled with peace and prosperity
Happy New Year

San Jose

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season!

KYOTO PALACE
JAPANESE RESTAURANT

DALE YOSHIHARA

- Teppan Dining
- Sushi Bar
- Cocktail Lounge
- Banquet Facilities

1875 South Bascom Avenue
Suite 2500 The Pruneyard
Campbell, CA 95008
(408)377-6456 Fax (408)377-1667
www.kyotopalace.com

Season's Greetings!
Yoshihara Financial

- Real Estate/Mortgages
- Financial Planning
- Retirement Planning
- Tax Planning
- Small Company Benefits
- Life/Health Insurance



Michael Yoshihara, CFS
161 Jackson Street #210
San Jose, CA 95112
Office: (408) 289-1110
Cell: 408-712-9259
Email: michael@yoshihara.org

UnionBank

Dennis Lin
Branch Manager

San Jose Japantown Office
590 North 6th Street
San Jose, CA 95112
dennis.lin@unionbank.com

Tel. 408 279 7409
Fax 408 289 8005

NMLSR #538205

unionbank.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE J. MOREY COMPANY!

J. MOREY CO. INCORPORATED
AN ORI-GEN FAMILY COMPANY

PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY'S INSURANCE NEEDS SINCE 1980

www.jmoreyins.com | 408-280-5551 | CA License #0655907

We are proud to be part of the Ori-gen Family of Companies
www.ori-gen.com

Happy Holidays From
SAN JOSE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE JACL

OFFICERS

Co-Presidents - Tom Oshidari and Sharon Uyeda
Secretary - Neil Kozuma
Co-Treasurers - Ryan O'Carroll and Kaitlyn Thomas
Director of General Operations - Jason Yonehiro

ADVISORY COUNCIL

George Hinoki
Art Honda
Ray Matsumoto
Vi Onishi
Shirley Ota
Wayne Tanda
Yoshihiro Uchida
Steve Yamaguma

BOARD MEMBERS

Tamon Norimoto
Steven Kiyasu Nose
Leon Kimura
Joyce Oyama
Marge Tsuji
Miko Yoshikawa Baker

HONORARY ADVISOR

Honorable Mike Honda
Fmr. U.S. House of Representatives

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Terry and Shirley Ota
San Jose JACL

HAPPY HOLIDAYS 22-23
Steven Kiyasu,
Maria Hughes,
& Trevor Masao Nose

Instruct your Congress Member To Repeal the Enemy Alien Act of 1798!
Details: San Jose JACL

Best Wishes for a Happy & Healthy 2023!
Sharon Uyeda
San Jose JACL



Happy New Year!
Tom & Terry
Oshidari
San Jose JACL

Olympia

Greetings & Best Wishes!
FROM THE OLYMPIA CHAPTER OF WASHINGTON

Bob Nakamura: President,
Hisami Yoshida & Reiko Callner: Co-Vice President,
Jan Yoshiwara: Secretary,
Pat Ward: Treasurer,
Masami Huchins & Yoshiko Tokita-Schroder: Board Members
Hanae Livingston:Youth/Student Rep

Seattle



Season's Greetings!

Seattle JACL

www.SeattleJACL.org

Salinas Valley





Dr. Anthea M. Hartig, the Elizabeth MacMillan director of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, shows her passion for preserving Japanese American history by the painting she selected to be hung in her office. The painting is titled "Arrival in Camp Jerome" by Henry Yuzuru Sugimoto.



A photo from the Smithsonian National Museum of American History "Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans During World War II" exhibition. The exhibition was so popular that it was shown for more than two years from 2017-19.

PHOTOS: PATTI HIRAHARA

Welcoming Our Stories

AMERICA'S MUSEUM PRESERVES THE JAPANESE AMERICAN LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

By Patti Hirahara, Contributor

When we think of museums in America, the Smithsonian Institution is always first on everyone's list, especially since its museums are located in our nation's capital of Washington, D.C. For me, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is one of the most popular since it has told the history of life, here in America, for 58 years.

As the nation's flagship history museum and home of historic collections of America's past and future, they are uniquely positioned to explore and share history and the democracy of the people that has made America great. Helping to lead the museum's efforts is Dr. Anthea M. Hartig, Elizabeth MacMillan director of the National Museum of American History.

Prior to her appointment at the Smithsonian, Hartig transformed the California Historical Society in her seven years as its leader, making it a vibrant, relevant organization for the San Francisco Bay area and the entire state. She launched its Digital Library, oversaw the production of more than 20 exhibitions and created partnerships with over 250 organizations, notably the City and County of San Francisco, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes in Los Angeles and the California State Library and Department of Education. As a public historian, professor, author and city planner, Hartig is dedicated to making history accessible and relevant.

According to former Secretary of the Smithsonian David Skorton, "Anthea's record as a leader and coalition builder, as well as a student and champion of history, combine to make her an ideal choice to lead one of our most-revered museums. As we turn the page on a new chapter of the National Museum of American History, we are fortunate to welcome a director whose bold leadership is perfectly suited for the time in which we live and the museum's increasingly inclusive and innovative programming," he stated in 2018.

I had the opportunity to interview Hartig last July at her office in Washington, D.C., exclusively for the *Pacific Citizen*. As we continue to navigate through the pandemic, it's more important than ever to share our stories and educate others — together.

Patty Hirahara for the Pacific Citizen: When did you become the Elizabeth MacMillan director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History?

Dr. Anthea M. Hartig: I was named the first woman director of the museum in December 2018, and the appointment became effective on Feb. 18, 2019. I oversee more than 250 employees, a budget of nearly $40 million and a collection that includes 1.8 million objects and over three shelf-miles of archival collections. Prior to my appointment, I was executive director and CEO of the California Historical Society.

P.C.: Prior to coming to the National Museum of American History, what projects or persons influenced you in the Asian American Pacific Islander communities?

Hartig: My work with AAPI communities remains one of the most important through-lines of my 30-plus-year public history career. From identifying the last building in Cucamonga's Chinatown to my enduring advocacy for the National Historic Landmark Harada House in Riverside (California), listing of the Minidoka Camp in Idaho on the "11 Most Endangered Historic Places" list to my work with heroes Irene Hirano Inouye and Sec. Norman Mineta, I remain honored to be an ally and fierce defender of Asian American Pacific Islanders and, in particular, Nikkei heritage and history."

P.C.: What was the first program you participated in as director?

Hartig: Wonderfully, that would be the Day of Remembrance 2019.

On my first day in the museum, I was honored to attend and participate in the museum's annual Day of Remembrance program. That day, we commemorated the 77th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 with our "Memory, Faith and Music" program on Feb. 19, 2019, at our Warner Bros. Theater.

(The National Museum of American History has been hosting these events since 2011. The evening featured a live 25-minute multimedia performance by award-winning singer-songwriter Kaoru Ishibashi — professionally known as Kishi Bashi, as well as a presentation by University of Southern California Professor Duncan Ryūken Williams, author of "American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War." To round out the event, Kishi Bashi and Williams joined Noriko Sanefuji, museum specialist, and Dr. Peter Manseau, curator of religion, for a panel discussion to explore the memory, faith and music in the Japanese American incarceration camps during WWII.)

P.C.: How long has this event been in existence, and why do you hold it each year?

Hartig: Every year, we make a commitment to marking this occasion at the Smithsonian as an important element of the Asian and Pacific Islander experience in the United States. We are devoted to telling the complex and inclusive story of our nation's past: triumphs and tragedies, achievements and failures and stories of rebirth and renewal. Embracing the past, no matter how terrible or imperfect, will help us make sense of the present and work together to shape a more compassionate future.

Events like the Day of Remembrance allow us to talk about the roles of museums and public history as tools of social justice. Exploring history helps people understand that today's world is not inevitable, but the result of a myriad of choices and actions made by individuals and communities. Here, we will explore how community activists are advancing discussions about history, accountability and injustice in our past, present and future.

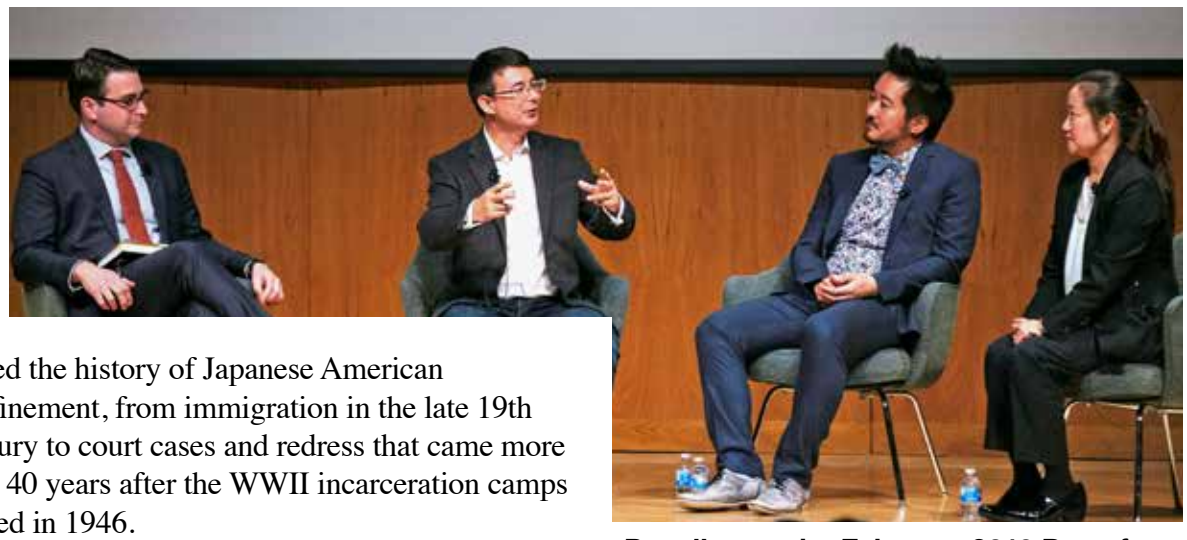
This event also highlights the heroism of the more than 33,000 Japanese Americans of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team who fought in WWII.

P.C.: How many visitors do you have each year in-person and online?

Hartig: Prior to the (Covid-19) pandemic, the museum itself had roughly 4 million in-person visitors and more than 10 million online visits. We also have an engaged following on social media and vigorous readership of our two blog platforms: "O Say Can You See" and "Smithsonian Voices." We reach a potential audience of some 5 billion through print, TV, radio and digital outlets.

P.C.: I understand the museum has a Japanese American collection, which preserves the Japanese American legacy in the United States. Can you explain when the collection was created, its significance and what it contains?

Hartig: The museum began collecting materials concerning Executive Order 9066 and its aftermath in 1985 in preparation for the museum's "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution" exhibition. The exhibition



Panelists at the February 2019 Day of Remembrance event "Memory, Faith and Music Program." Pictured *(from left)* are Peter Manseau, Lilly Endowment curator of American religious history for the National Museum of American History; Duncan Ryuken Williams, USC professor and author of "American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War"; Kishi Bashi, composer/artist; and Noriko Sanefuji, museum specialist.

PHOTO: JACLYN NASH/COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

traced the history of Japanese American confinement, from immigration in the late 19th century to court cases and redress that came more than 40 years after the WWII incarceration camps closed in 1946.

Items in our collection detail life in the incarceration camps, as well as the rich history of people of Japanese ancestry in America. Some notable items include classification cards identifying Japanese Americans as "enemy aliens," suitcases used by people forcibly removed to incarceration camps, objects and photographs representing life in the camps and military materials related to Japanese Americans serving in the U.S. military abroad.

Highlights of the collection include a Medal of Honor belonging to the 442nd Regimental Combat Team's Joe M. Nishimoto, as well as the Nisei Congressional Gold Medal awarded to the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service to honor Japanese Americans who served in WWII. The Nisei Congressional Gold Medal is currently on loan and is being displayed at the National Museum of the U.S. Army.

Some websites that highlight what has been done in this area are *https://americanhistory.si.edu/topics/asian-pacific-american-history* and *http://cgm.smithsonianapa.org/*.

P.C.: Are you accepting of any artifact, document or photograph donations to your Japanese American History Collection?

Hartig: Yes, we are always eager to hear from the community. We are not able to collect everything that is being offered, but we always appreciate the conversation.

P.C.: If a person should have something they would like to donate for consideration, what is the process involved, and who should they contact?

Hartig: The best way to get in touch with us is to send an email to *inquiry@si.edu* with a photo(s) and a brief description of the items you have, and then the appropriate curator will get in touch with you.

P.C.: The museum has had two exhibitions that have told the story of Japanese Americans during WWII. Can you explain what they were and when the exhibitions were held?

Hartig: Our most recent exhibition was "Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II," which was on view at the Albert H. Small Documents Gallery beginning Feb. 17, 2017, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, and it closed on July 31, 2019. It currently has a co-produced SITES traveling exhibit. SITES stands for the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and is the world's largest traveling exhibition service. SITES offers exhibitions to museums, libraries, science centers, historical societies, community centers, botanical gardens, schools and other institutions across the nation.

Some of the artifacts from our Japanese American and Asian American history collections are also included in several of the museum's exhibitions, including Girlhood: It's Complicated, American Enterprise, America on the Move, Price of Freedom and Many Voices, One Nation. The exhibition ran for nearly 17 years, with the National Museum of American History being the first to put the Japanese American incarceration on public view to tell the story.)

P.C.: President Joe Biden just signed into law what would lead to the creation of the National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture. How do you feel your museum helped to show interest in this area with your past exhibitions and Japanese American History collection?

Hartig: This community is an important part of American history, and the museum has, for more than 30 years, tried to include Japanese American history in its conversation. We have worked to highlight underrepresented communities and stories, but we know there is always more to do to continue to tell the story. As more museums are added to the Smithsonian, the National Museum of American History is eager to collaborate to amplify the stories of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders for future generations.

P.C.: How have you assured that the National Museum of American History will be able to continue to expand its Japanese American collection, exhibits and programming for future generations?

Hartig: The National Museum of American History relies on private financial support to host its annual Day of Remembrance events, as well as to continue to document and share the history of the Japanese American experience.

For example, in 2022, the museum's Day of Remembrance programming was made possible by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, the Japanese American Citizens League's D.C. chapter and the Asian American Foundation.

The museum established its Japanese American History Endowment in 2015, which allows donors to make gifts toward the museum's preservation efforts, in perpetuity.

The endowment provides reliable annual funding, ensuring we can fulfill our continued commitment to Japanese American history. We invite donors to help us grow this vital resource that will make possible future Japanese American exhibitions, programs, collecting efforts and the retention of curatorial experts.

P.C.: Are there any plans for future Japanese American exhibitions at the National Museum of American History?

Hartig: "Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II," the traveling exhibit, is booked through April 2023. It examines the history and experiences of Japanese Americans during and after World War II including immigration, prejudice, civil rights and heroism through photographs, personal stories and objects from those imprisoned at the camps.

We are also partnering with SITES on a new traveling exhibition called "Japanese War Brides: Across a Wide Divide," which will explore the lives of more than 45,000 Japanese women who immigrated to the United States in the aftermath of WWII.

This group's immigration would alter the fabric of U.S. society, challenging foreign policy and immigration laws, race relations and, ultimately, reshape communities across the nation.

"Japanese War Brides" will illuminate an unknown American immigration story and offer space to rethink how we hate, why we love and what it means to be American in 2024.

"We will also be presenting our annual "Day of Remembrance" event and are actively planning for 2023. We hope to continue to work together with the Japanese American community to be your steward to preserve the Japanese American legacy here in this country.

We want to be able to tell your stories to future generations, so Japanese Americans will never be forgotten. This is something that is very important to me as I work here at the National Museum of American History. ■



Pictured *(from left)* are Dr. Anthea Hartig, Noriko Sanefuji and Theodore S. Gonzalves, curator of Asian Pacific American History at the National Museum of American History, with collection artifacts.

PHOTO: JACLYN NASH/COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Contra Costa

Hau'oli Makahiki Hou
Aloha, Gerry Uesugi, Erin, Steve & Chris

Peace and Good Will
May Hirose and Family
El Cerrito, California

Season's Greeting
from
Yoko Olsgaard &
John Pritchard

Best Holiday Wishes
from Amy Iwasaki Mass and Family

Satoko Nabeta

Season's Greetings
Rena & Ed Kumai
Richmond, CA 94805

SEASON'S GREETINGS
Janna Matsuoka

Happy Holidays
Dr. Ted & Pam TANAKA
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Holiday Greetings
Aiko Iseyama
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Holiday Greetings
to all our friends...
Eiko Y. Matsuoka
El Cerrito, CA

Happy Holidays
Barbara & Harvey
Hayashida Family

Season's Greetings
Margaret and Kathy
AOKI
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Happy Holidays
JOAN AOKI,
CURT KAWABATA
& STACEY
606 Hines Terrace
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Season's Greetings
from
Erik & Ali Olsgaard
Pasadena, CA

Happy Holidays
from
Leanne Olsgaard
San Francisco, CA

Season's Greetings
Kazuko
IWAHASHI
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Holiday Greetings
Bill Sato
El Cerrito, CA

Season's Greetings To all Our Friends
Yoshiro and Julia Tokiwa
P.O. Box 87009,Vancouver, WA

Season's Greetings
Hisako Tashiro
San Francisco,CA

Holiday Greetings
to All Our Friends!
Ruby, Joni and Dana Hiramoto
El Cerrito, CA 95430

Happy Holidays
from the
Nakaso Family
Berkeley, California

Greetings from
The Ninomiya Family
412 Wood Glen Dr.
Richmond, CA. 94806

Connor Milligan
Clarity Capital Group
DRE#: 02165390
847.848.4759
connor@cjmilligan.com

NOTARY PUBLIC
Stationery, Art & Office Supplies
We support JACL!
PAYN'S STATIONERY
Mon to Sat: 9am - 6pm / Sun: 11am - 5pm
1791 Solano Ave
Berkeley, CA 94707
(510) 526-3056
payns.stationery@gmail.com

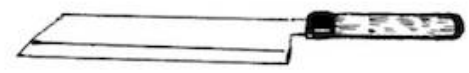
Season's Greetings to All Our Friends...
BEN & FUMIKO TAKESHITA
RICHMOND, CA 94805

JIM & CARMEN OSHIMA
PLEDGE THEIR
SUPPORT TO THE JACL!

Season's Greetings
Contra Costa JACL Board
2022
Kathy Aoki
Biansa Burke
Mary Ann Furuichi
Flora Ninomiya
Yoko Olsgaard
Jim Oshima
Esther Takeuchi

Greetings for the Holidays

RICHMOND - SHIMADA
FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION



HIDA TOOL & HARDWARE, INC.
Japanese Tools for Woodworking, Gardening, Bonsai & Kitchen Knives
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10-5
1333 San Pablo Ave. (by Gilman Ave.)
Berkeley, CA 94702 - www.hidatool.com
(510) 524-3700

Season's Greetings
The Takeuchi Family
Esther, Marcy and Tim,
Kevin, Itsuko, Sara and Kai
Richmond CA 94806-2745

Richard's Jewelers (now an ebay store)
Chris Yamashiro Amy Yamashiro
http://stores.ebay.com/richards-jewelry-and-gifts
PO Box 7067, Berkeley, CA 94707-0067
email@richardsjewelryandgifts.com

SEASONS GREETINGS
from Caroline, Richard & Irene
Wishing you health and happiness in 2023
In memory of our beloved mother,
Soyo Takahashi 1917 - 2021

J-Sei wishes you a peaceful New Year!
J-SEI
COMMUNITY • CARE • CULTURE
1285 66th Street
Emeryville, California 94608
(510) 654.4000 www.j-sei.org

PEACE
LOVE
JOY
HOPE
FAITH

Lodi

Happy Holidays
from the board and
members of the

Lodi Chapter JACL
P.O. Box 2454
Lodi, CA 95241

Portland

Happy Holidays!

Kurtis & Candace Inouye

Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Happy Holidays!
Michelle K. Sugahiro
Attorney at Law
4664 S.E. King Rd
Milwaukie, OR 97222

Happy New Year!
Ann, Scott, &
Mika Jane Winner
5722 N. Omaha Ave
Portland, OR 97217

Happy Holidays and Best wishes for the New Year!
Ralph & Jean
Yamamoto & Family

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
From
Homer Yasui

11448 Rainier Av S. # 337
Seattle, WA 98178

Best wishes for the Holidays and Happy New Year
Thank you for your acts of kindness and caring
Gokurosama

The Masuoka family

寿

Akemashite Omedeto
Chip Larouche &
Setsy Sadamoto Larouche
Happy Valley, Oregon



Kiyo and Shig Nagae

We miss you both and are thinking of you this holiday season.

Love, Linda, Jerry, Jim and Peggy



Season's Greetings and Happy New Year from Portland JACL



★★ 2022 Board Members ★★

Maki Doolittle, Erika Jennings
Weston Koyama, Setsy Sadamoto Larouche
Chris Lee, Jeff Matsumoto
Dr. Connie Masuoka, Amanda Shannahan
Jillian Toda-Currie, Heidi Tolentino
Spencer Uemura, Marleen Ikeda Wallingford
Jenny Yamada, Rich Iwasaki (Advisory Board Member)

★★ Millennium Club Members ★★

Chip & Setsy Larouche

★★ Life Members ★★

Loen Dozono, Sho Dozono, Kay Endo, Tom Fujii, Toshio Inahara, Kurtis Inouye
Rich Iwasaki, Lily Kageyama, Jim Kamikawa, James Kennedy, Chip Larouche, Connie Masuoka
Setsy Sadamoto Larouche, Jean Matsumoto, Sam Naito, Verne Naito, James Nakadate
Ken Ono, Tomoko Ono, Kevin Oyama, Masuko Oyama, June Arima Schumann
Larry Richardson, Kelly Saito, Lolita Sakamoto, Edwin Sasaki, Marilyn Sholian, Robert Suzuki
Gregg Takashima, Melisa Takasumi, Linda Tamura, Calvin Tanabe, Linda Tanaka, Gary Terusaki
Fran Toyooka, Jim Tsugawa, Homer Yasui

Happy Holidays!
Bill & Ida Sugahiro
15063 SE Orchid
Milwaukie, OR 97267

Happy Holidays!
Rich & Yoko Iwasaki
40 SW 147th Pl
Beaverton, OR 97006

Happy Holidays!
Connie Masuoka
1316 SW Curry St
Portland, OR 97239

Happy Holiday!
Kay Endo
4423 SE Railroad Ave
Milwaukie, OR 97222

Happy Holidays!
Kirk, Judi & Zoe Tambara
1205 NE 158th Ave
Vancouver, WA 98684

Happy Holidays!
Jean Matsumoto
1300 NE 16th Av #349
Portland, OR 97232

Happy Holidays!
Jim & Amy TSUGAWA

Happy Holidays!
Bob & Racheal Inouye
10655 NW Flotoma Dr.
Portland, OR 97229



Omiyage Museum Store
local, Japanese-inspired holiday gifts

November 25 – December 23
Thursday-Sunday, 11am-3pm
with extended hours Dec 20-23, 11am-3pm

JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF OREGON
411 NW Flanders St
Portland, Or 97209
At NW 4th and Flanders
(503) 224-1458
www.jamo.org

Happy Holidays!
Etsuko Osaki
12340 NE Hassalo St
Portland, OR 97230

Happy Holidays
Dr. Shoun/Grace ISHIKAWA
2842 SW Plum Circle
Portland, OR 97219



FORMER TV NEWSMAN FRED KATAYAMA *Signs Off* From Journalism

AS USJC'S EXECUTIVE VP, HE'S TAKEN HIS PASSION AND MADE IT HAPPEN.

By George Toshio Johnston, Senior Editor

(Note: This article is the result of three conversations over many months with Fred Katayama, a former TV journalist who is now executive vp of the U.S.-Japan Council. The conversations occurred before he formally began working for the USJC, a few months into the job and after the USJC conference was held in late October.)

Fred Katayama's past 10-plus months have been a time of transition and activity. On Valentine's Day in February, the award-winning veteran broadcast journalist, whose face, name and voice became familiar to watchers of CNN and Reuters Television, left his chosen profession after nearly 40 years.

In a way, it was surprising even to Katayama himself. "I never dreamed any occupation outside of journalism. I had a single-minded, razor-sharp focus. This is the only thing I ever wanted to do from the time I was a kid," he told the *Pacific Citizen*.

This former journalist's new job? Executive vp at the U.S.-Japan Council. "It's a whole new ballgame for me," Katayama said, despite being a founding board member of USJC.

Indeed, because between Day 1 in his new role and Oct. 27–28, he went from learning where the men's room was to helping with the planning and prosecution of the USJC's first in-person conference — in Japan, no less — since pre-Covid times in 2019 in Los Angeles, the last time the USJC held an in-person conference.

❖❖❖

If joining USJC is, as Katayama put it, his "second act," it's necessary to look to the time of his life before he mapped out the route he took to begin his first act of becoming a journalist: growing up in the Los Angeles suburb of Monterey Park, Calif., the eldest son of June and Hideo Katayama. His siblings were Andy, Steve and Mari, who was known as Pat to her friends when growing up.

"I was a member of Troop 145, Maryknoll Boy Scouts," Katayama recalled of his days as a member of, as he put it, the "Maryknoll Mafia." "I played in the CBO, the Crescent Bay Optimist. Japanese American basketball and baseball leagues. I saw Japanese Americans every day of my life because I went to Maryknoll School. That used to be a Catholic elementary school.

"Friday nights were [troop] meetings," he continued. "And then Saturdays were my baseball/basketball practice, depending on the season, for CBO." Since games were on Sundays, that meant participating in Maryknoll's Japanese American Catholic community was an everyday part of his routine.

One indelible Katayama memory of Maryknoll involves longtime *Pacific Citizen* staffer Harry Honda.

"He was always sitting outside on the bench after the 10 o'clock mass," he said. That connection would be useful years later when Katayama was attending New York's Columbia University, where he majored in East Asian languages and culture as an undergrad, followed a master's degree in journalism.



Fred Katayama smiles for one last photo in the newsroom as a journalist before moving on to become the executive vice president of the U.S.-Japan Council.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF FRED KATAYAMA

"The reason I went into journalism was, I was very interested about the redress-reparations drive," said Katayama. "The internment really made me interested in seeking justice. And I thought journalism was a great way to seek justice for people who were mistreated."



Fred Katayama *(far right)* poses for a group photo with other attendees at the Oct. 27–28 USJC conference in Tokyo.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF FRED KATAYAMA

That interest in journalism, his connection to Honda and timing of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians hearings in New York City converged such that he was able to cover them for the *Pacific Citizen*.

"I just went, wrote it and sent it to them in the mail, and they published it," Katayama said. "And other things that I would write, I would just send it to them." Although he "never got a dime for it," he did get published clips with his byline, a common drive for young journalism majors.

❖❖❖

Like many people when they are young, Katayama went through what he describes as an identity crisis. Whether it was burnout from that seven-day-a-week Maryknoll regimen, adolescent angst or a personal form of rumspringa, it happened.



Small black group stirs CWRIC air in New York

By FREDERICK KATAYAMA

NEW YORK—Among the variety of topics addressed by witnesses before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians here on Nov. 23 were the employment of Japanese Americans at Seabrook Farms in southern New Jersey, the plight of the Peruvian Japanese internees, and an unusual recommendation of a garden memorial as a form of redress. But the only testimony that drew hisses and sarcastic laughter from an otherwise passive audience of about 450 at the Roosevelt Hotel was the deposition of Clarence C. Reynolds, president of the obscure, 100-member Black "Organization for a New Life and Freedom!" of Chicago.

Reynolds opposed "any pay of money for the interned Japanese Americans." He explained, "We know you've been mistreated; we Blacks have been too for 850 years. But we're not asking for billions of dollars (in reparations); we're dedicated to improving the country."

Reynold's stand on this issue marked the first time in a series of nation-wide hearings that a member of a minority organization had submitted testimony disapproving the Japanese American community's fight for redress and monetary retribution.

The goal of the New Life and Freedom group, according to Reynolds, is to move 65,000 Black Americans back to Africa "to build a nation where we'll have first-class citizenship."

But rather than asking the U.S government for money, Reynold explained that they intend to seek "assistance" from the U.S. government in relocating Black Americans to Africa.

When he attempted to defend his view by stressing to the Commission that "one of my good friends was of Japanese origin during World War II," Commissioner William M. Marutani provoked laughter among the audience by humorously responding "Some of my best friends are Black."

Reynolds then countered by telling Marutani, "you've got a powerful base—Japan. You have a right to go back too."

Once again, the audience reacted with laughter when the Nisei Commissioner replied to Reynolds, "I have no desire to go back to Japan. I've never been there; so I'm not going 'back'. If you think I face discrimination here, wait till you get over there."

Commissioner Arthur S. Flemming, who chaired the hearing, put an end to the exchange by calling forth the next witness.

Local Nikkei Mobilized

When the hearing commenced at 9 a.m., the 500 seats were occupied. By late afternoon, there was a capacity audience comprised mainly of Nisei, some Sansei and a scattering of Issei and Caucasians.

The East Coast Japanese Americans for Redress (ECJAR), com

Continued on Page

Before he became a broadcaster, Katayama submitted many articles for the *Pacific Citizen*, like this article from Dec. 11, 1981.

"When I was a kid growing up, I had an identity crisis," he recalled. "And I wanted nothing to do with Japan, nothing at all, or Japanese Americans, even though I went to Maryknoll school and spent seven days a week with them, even though my closest friends are still Japanese American."

A couple of things, however, would redirect him to embrace his Japanese American and Asian American heritage. It was during college that Katayama, as he put it, "discovered Japan." Instead of becoming economics major, he became an East Asian Studies major. That, combined with his master's degree in journalism with a focus on business journalism would later pay off in his future career.

Before that, however, Katayama had a fateful encounter with a now-legendary local TV news anchor who not only opened his eyes to the world of a professional newsroom but also urged him to embrace his identity. That TV journalist's name: Tritia Toyota.

Prior to that, he also remembered seeing on the local ABC affiliate something new: a Japanese American TV news anchor. His name was Ken Kashiwahara. Until then, the only other person of Japanese ancestry he had seen on TV was George Takei, aka Mr. Sulu of "Star Trek." Hoping for a second sighting of Kashiwahara, Katayama began watching every newscast hoping "to see this guy pop up."

"Pretty soon I got so into news, it didn't matter whether he was on or not. I was just watching every day," Katayama said. "CBS, NBC and ABC — all of them, but especially ABC at the time."

Sometime later, it was a meeting with Toyota that Katayama remembers as a life-changing experience. It happened when he was a Boy Scout selling Nisei Week programs in Little Tokyo, when Toyota was a VIP in the motorcade. He ran after her car when it went up the parking structure ramp of the Kajima Building, when the Sumitomo Bank was a tenant.

"She hears these thumping footsteps and sees this little kid with programs running after her. So then, she says, 'What do you want?' Totally out of breath, totally out of breath, 'Your autograph.'

"She says, 'Oh, OK.' Gets the car to pull over, and then she says, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' And I said, 'I want to do your job. Do what you're doing.' 'No kidding?' 'Yeah, I want to be a journalist.'"

Katayama remembers her questioning his sincerity, asking him if he didn't really instead want to be a doctor, lawyer, accountant or engineer — the "usual professions" Asian American kids' parents steered them toward. He told her, "All my life, I want to be a journalist." Toyota told him if he ever wanted to see the newsroom to call the station, offering to

give him a private tour.

"So that's what I did. And when I went to the newsroom, I felt like a seminarian who has confirmed his calling. The energy of that newsroom — I said, 'This is definitely what I want to do.'"

Interestingly, according to Katayama, Toyota not only transmitted the journalism bug to him, she foreshadowed her own eventual departure from the field — and may also have implanted the idea that he, too, might someday leave journalism behind.

"That time when I visited the newsroom, she told me about that. She said, 'I'm not going to be here that long because at one point, I'm going to switch — I'm taking courses at UCLA now. I'm really into Asian American Studies. And you should think of yourself not just as a Japanese American, think of yourself as Pan Asian.' I guess the term Asian American that Yuji Ichioka had coined was not as standardized yet. She said, 'Think Pan Asian.' Then a few years later, she founded that Asian American Journalists Assn. So — oh, that's what she's talking about.'"

As for his identity crisis problem, Katayama thanks Toyota. "She's the one who got me out of it," he said. And, of course, Toyota left TV news years ago for UCLA, where she is an associate researcher at the Asian American Studies Center and has served as an adjunct professor in anthropology and Asian American Studies.

❖❖❖

Katayama credits another woman for his path to the U.S.-Japan Council: Irene Hirano-Inouye, a legend in her own right, having been involved with the founding of both the Japanese American National Museum and USJC.

As a New Yorker, Katayama was already on the board of the Japan Society of New York when Hirano-Inouye sought him out. He remembers her telling him that she was "thinking about forming this organization" that would become the USJC. She asked him: "Can you help me out?" As it turned out, the concept of USJC was already something on which he was presold.

After meeting with other nonprofits to learn how they were structured, he remembers attending a meeting in 2008 where a select group of Japanese Americans worked on writing a vision statement for the nascent organization. Among those present at the meeting was Hirano-Inouye's husband.

"I'll never forget what Sen. Dan Inouye said that day. He said, 'You know, when you think about it, Japanese and the Japanese American communities we live in are more or less the same cities — Honolulu, Los Angeles, Portland, Seattle, Chicago, Washington, D.C., New York. But how well do we really know each other?

"'We get together at an annual dinner, Japanese companies often pitching in with a lot of money. We shake their hands, may play in a golf tournament, then we don't see them for another year. We don't socialize with them. We don't really know them. Wouldn't it be great if we got together and got to know each other more? And together, we could also do something for U.S.-Japan relations.' And that was for me like the lightbulb moment."

When the USJC became an official nonprofit entity in 2009, Katayama said, "It grew much faster than any of us expected."

"I thought, 'Wow, it's even bigger than I had imagined.' . . . I never imagined younger people getting so engaged. I thought the more Americanized you got, as you've got Yonsei, Gosei, that you might forget or not be in touch with your heritage," Katayama said.

The big difference, he believes, was that the days of Nichibei-Keizai Masatsu — Japan trade fiction — were decades in the past. "Now it's



USJC Executive VP Fred Katayama addresses the audience at the 2022 conference in Tokyo.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF FRED KATAYAMA

Cool Japan. Now it's anime. Now it's manga. Now it's Japanese food. So, you don't have that resistance or that sense that, you know, you can't defend Japan because they might think you're not American. Now you can embrace that culture."

❖❖❖

Just like Toyota before him, Katayama said he started thinking about life beyond journalism a few years ago. But he had questions — and stipulations. He asked himself, "Is there a way I can make a difference?" Furthermore, he knew that "whatever I do in the second act, I want it to involve Japan. And if not Japan, Asia."

Katayama's second act, transitioning from journalism to being in charge of development at USJC, started to come together about a year ago.

"I served on the board until my term came up," he said. "And then when this opportunity came, at first I didn't think about it. I knew someone had left, but then a fellow board member reached out to me and said, 'Hey, have you thought about it?' I didn't even answer him right away."

But when Katayama's wife, Kaoriko Kuge, also a TV news journalist, told him he should consider it, he did. He had lunch with Suzanne Basalla, who he had known for years, from before she became the USJC CEO and president after Inouye-Hirano resigned from that role due to health reasons,



Attendees at the USJC conference, held Oct. 27-28 in Tokyo, take the opportunity to exchange business cards.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF FRED KATAYAMA

before her death in April 2020.

Regarding Basalla, Katayama said, "She's someone I really respect. I think we had a chemistry. I felt the chemistry and the kinship in our lunch. And then we chatted some more the following week, and I just kept getting jazzed and jazzed and more jazzed and pumped up. I thought 'Yep, for this I can leave journalism.'"

Asked how his new work contrasted to what he did before, Katayama said, "I'm an executive now. I've got a team, as opposed to before when I was a member of a team. . . . Two, I'm in a nonprofit; my whole career has been in the private sector. But I think in terms of culture, one thing is dealing with a lot of meetings. But we've resolved some of that problem. For example, Focus Fridays, where we decided no meetings on Fridays, when we get a lot of work done. But I think if there's a difference in terms of attitudes toward the job, I felt that for the first time, I can focus on my passion 24/7.

"Our mission is to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations on a people-to-people basis," he continued. "I love meeting people, and I think being able to have lunches with them, doing office visits, finding about how their kids are doing, has really been a great part of my job. I really enjoy the people-to-people nature of it and seeing progress.

"Now I'm more in a quantitative world of numbers because I'm in development. How are we doing? How are we tracking against our goals? In journalism, we really didn't do that."

Katayama does allow, however, that when news broke of the July 8 assassination of former Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, his journalistic instincts returned to the fore.

"I dropped everything that I was doing," he said. In a role reversal, though, he was no longer the person on camera and instead worked with the USJC's communications manager. "My old station called me and said, 'Hey, Fred. We heard about you at this U.S.-Japan nonprofit. . . . Can I interview you?' And I said, 'No. Thanks for your interest, but I'm not the face of the organization. Suzanne Basalla is our CEO, so she should be on camera. And I will arrange it, so she will as long as she accepts. So, we got her on my old station at KIRO, Channel 7, in Seattle. She also appeared on KING TV, Lori Matsukawa's old station."

❖❖❖

It's now been almost two months since the USJC conference — the theme for which was "The Great Reconnect: Strengthening Alliances, Partnerships and Communities" — took place at the Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel in Tokyo.

In addition to the usual holiday season hubbub, Katayama is busy trying to meet fundraising targets before the year's end. He is also busy now with other responsibilities, but in retrospect, pleased that the conference was a success.

"It makes me so proud and happy when you see more than 700 people gather in Tokyo, despite all those pandemic travel restrictions that were in place at the time when we announced the conference in the summer," Katayama said.

"I think there was almost nearly a fourth, if not more, of the people there under the age of 40. Name any other U.S.-Japan or Japanese American organization that you know of that had a big powwow where we had that percentage of people under the age of 40. That's a lot of momentum and energy and idealistic vibes there.

"And you see them, Japanese Americans, engaged with their Japanese counterparts, all in the name of a common goal of strengthening U.S.-Japan relations through the people-to-people level. Then you say, 'Wow, this is all worth it.'"

It would appear that for Katayama, leaving behind what once was his life's passion has worked out.

"It's my life," he said. "My wife is from Japan, my son is a dual citizen and I'm an American. And this unites all of us — a Japanese American-founded and Japanese American-led organization is now more diverse. It's not just Japanese Americans and Japanese. It's other Americans, too. And the board has also become more diverse. And to do this, to turn my passion into my profession — my passion was my profession. I'm really lucky. Journalism, that's all I ever dreamed of. But along the way, in college, I discovered Japan, and now I'm able to turn this passion into my second act." ■

Stockton

Wishing you
Happy Holidays
Tad and Carolyn
Ishihara

Happy Holidays
Mayko Horita
and family

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM STOCKTON

For information about Stockton Chapter Events
Contact Steve Sue 209-329-0661

JACL Scholarship Applications
For Stockton & San Joaquin County Area ONLY
Contact Tad Shibata ttshibata@aol.com

Port of Stockton
CALIFORNIA

Chairman: Anthony Barkett
Vice Chairman: Michael Patrick Duffy
Commissioners: Jay Allen,
Gary Christopherson, David Atwater,
Stephen Griffen and William Trezza
Port Director: Kirk DeJesus

Happy Holidays



Gordon, Dale &
Chance Mizuno

Happy Holidays
Kimiko, Yumi
Leonard & Family



In Loving Memory of
Jim Tsunekawa
Jan 30, 1945 to Oct 5, 2022
Sally, Steven & Willaine,
Bradley & Rina; Tyler & Joyce

DELTA EYE
Medical Group

- Andrew P. Chen MD, FACS
- Alan S. Nakanishi MD, MS, FACS
- Julio Narvaez MD
- Pamela Tsuchiya MD

1617 St. Mark's Plaza, Suite D • Stockton, CA 95207 • (209) 478-1797
521 South Ham Lane, Suite A Lodi, CA 95242 • (209) 334-5886
2160 W. Grant Line Rd., Suite 100 Tracy, CA 95377 • (209) 835-2227



Season's Greetings from
CHARTER WAY FLORIST
5620 N. Pershing Avenue
(209) 956-9087
Mario & George Pedregosa

Happy Holidays
From the Saikis
May, Rod, Heidi & Family

Happy Holidays
Tad Shibata

Reliance Real Estate, Inc.

Brian Nakashima / Realtor
2025 W. March Lane Ste. 5
Stockton, CA 95207
Cell: 209-601-7562
Office: 209-472-7300
Fax: 209-644-6970
Email: bgnakashima@gmail.com
www.RelianceRealEstate.NET
DRE # 01466875

GLOBAL AUTO PARTS
Import Parts Specialist Since 1977
7827 Thornton Rd., Stockton, CA 95207
Tel: 209.951.3761
www.globalautoparts.biz

Happy Holidays!
Craig I. Yoshikawa

Holiday Greeting's
Debbie Nakade

Happy Holidays from Illinois
Acko Yoshikawa & Family
Jason & Karen - Kimi and family

TRUEX
INSURANCE

Jeff Tokunaga, CPCU
Principal

p 209-477-1111
c 209-482-8101
e JTokunaga@Truexins.com
Lic. # 0G80306

[redacted]

RESTAURANT & DELI
REST: (209) 951-4152
DELI: (209) 951-1213
(209) 951-4150

DAVE 黃 Wong's
SINCE 1975
CHINESE CUISINE
www.davewongsrestaurant.com

2828 W. MARCH LN.
STOCKTON, CA 95219

Happy Holidays
Koko Green & Family
Minden Nevada

Happy Holidays
Allan, Janice, Eric, Reiko
Takahashi

Peace on Earth
The Endow's
Peter, Phyllis, Katelyn, Nick

Happy Holidays!
Tom & Zack Endow

Happy Holidays!
Noby & Jacquie Oshidari



BOWLING
- Rock-N-Bowl
- Special Parties
- Field Trips
- Youth, Adult, and Senior Leagues

LOUNGE
- Multiple Tv's
- Billiards
- Darts

Conference Room Banquet Room Facilities
PACIFIC AVENUE BOWL
5939 Pacific Ave
Stockton, CA 95207
209-477-0267
www.pacificbowl.com
"The Home of Family Entertainment"

Happy New Year
Nancy E. Baba

Happy Holidays
Bob & Sally Tanaka

Brookside
Optometric Group

John K. Fujii, O.D.
Optometrist

3133 West March Lane, Suite 2020
Stockton, California 95219
(209) 951-0820 • Fax (209) 951-2348

Laser Vision Management
Family Vision Care
Contact Lenses
E-mail: drjfujii@earthlink.net

Enjoy the Holidays
Henry & Alice
Hirata
Stockton

Happy Holidays
Kent & Gail
Ishimaru

Season's Greetings
Mark H. Nishiki MD
3625 Heron Lakes Court
Stockton, CA 95219

Happy Holidays
Jim Kochi
Stockton, CA

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
THE MATSUMOTOS
Taiga, Trevor, Kimi, Paul,
Kristina and Stephanie

Pacific Window Tint
Exclusive Mobile Service
Automotive-Commercial-Residential

Evan Wong
(209) 954-9896
CA Lic #896816

7277 Pacific Ave,
Stockton, CA 95207
WWW.PWTINT.NET

Happy Holidays
JOHN & MARLANA BAKMAS

May the New Year be filled with
Peace, Good Health & Happiness

Mike Shibata

Season's Greetings
ANDY'S
MOWER & SAW
TORO-SNAPPER-ECHO

Trimmers - Blowers
Lawn Mowers

SALES - SERVICE - PARTS
2377 Waterloo Rd
Stockton, CA 95205
Robert Kishi
(209) 465-2693

Stockton

LOUIE'S 雷 MARKET
ESTABLISHMENT #295 · QUALITY WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MEATS · FAMILY-OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1945 · SE HABLA ESPAÑOL
JAYSON LOUIE
209.464.7693
730 EAST MAIN STREET • STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA • 95204

Happy Holidays
From the Tsutsumis
Gary, Joyce
Alex & Kaitlyn

Happy New Year
Ryan, Amy,
Payton, Chloe and
Royce Whitmore

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
The Yagis
Frank & Hiro
Stockton, CA

Mele Kalikimaka!
Suellen U. & T.Ted
Yoneda & Family
Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

MARK KOMURE OPTOMETRY
Mark Komure, O.D.
2087 Grand Canal Blvd., Suite 15
Stockton, CA 95207
P (209) 477-0296
F (209) 478-7322

North *West* Pacific Risk
Risk Management & Safety Services
Property - Liability - Worker Safety
Steven Sue, ARM
209-329-0661
northwest.pacific@live.com

Best Wishes for the New Year

Nelson & Beverly Nagai

RED WING SHOES®
Independently Owned & Operated
6032 Pacific Ave.
Stockton, CA 95207
(209) 957-1378
2221 McHenry Ave., Suite "I"
Modesto, CA 95350
(209) 529-0447
Happy Holidays from Our Staff
Robert O. Endow * Debbi E. Hatanaka
Kenny Tokunaga * Roy Uyeda
In Loving Memory of Edwin T. Endow

Season's Greeting
KENNETH Y NATSUHARA, DDS
KNATSUHARADDS@GMAIL.COM
3414 BROOKSIDE ROAD #200
(209) 475-1100

Happy Holidays
Lee Kusumoto

Holiday Greetings
Linda
Kimio
Akemi
Bazett

松山
Matsuyama Restaurant
Japanese Cuisine
Lodi: 209-368-3888
Stockton: 209-952-0688
Galt: 209-251-7652
Discovery Bay: 925-516-6298
Tracy: 209-836-5888
www.Matsuyamabestsushi.com

Wishing you health and happiness in the New Year!
Welcome 2023!
Charles & Darlene Bagshaw
Alex Sakata

SAKURA
JAPANESE GROCERIES & GIFTS
4343 Pacific Ave., A-4
Stockton, CA 95207
Phone (209) 477-3939
M-F 10:00 am – 7:00 pm
Sat. 9:00am – 6:00 pm
sakuragroceries@yahoo.com

Happy holidays from our family to yours.
The Hoangs

- PEACE -
Gladys Ikeda

Happy Holidays
Keith & Christina Yoshikawa

Happy Holidays
Takako Ueda

Season's Greetings
Aiko Yagi
Hiroshi and Lori Ann Yagi-Doi
Nicole, Stephanie & Megan

Holiday Greetings!
Phillip Merlo, Executive Director
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM AT MICKE GROVE
11793 N. Micke Grove Road
Lodi, CA 95240
P.O. Box 30
Lodi, CA 95241-0030
(209) 331-2055
info@sanjoaquinhistory.org



RE/MAX GRUPE GOLD
Izumi Assauw
Realtor ®
日本語 - Fluent in Japanese
209-639-5680
izumiassauw@hotmail.com
DRE# 01904630

PACIFIC WOUND CENTER MEDICAL GROUP INC.
Kenneth K. Shimozaki, DPM
Wound Specialist / Clinical Research Coordinator
4722 Quail Lakes Dr., Ste. A, Stockton, Ca 95207
209-476-0675 • 209-476-9389 Fax

Golden State GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
Happy Holidays!
Homes for the holidays...
Adopt, Don't Shop.
www.gsgsrescue.org - 877-447-4717

Happy Holidays
Central Valley Asian American Chamber of Commerce
Leslie Nakao-Edman, Executive Director
209-405-2630

Wishing you the Blessings of
CHISTMAS
PEACE * HOPE * JOY *LOVE
Debbi Endow Hatanaka

Happy Christmas!
Timmy
Maddie

CHEROKEE MEMORIAL
FUNERAL HOME • CREMATORY • CEMETERY
14165 Beckman Road - Lodi, CA
(209)334-9613
Proudly Serving The Japanese Community Since 1940
FD 1657 CherokeeMemorial.com Ins. Lic. 060242

Mikasa JAPANESE BISTRO
15138 Harlan Road
Lathrop, CA 95330
209-858-1818
WWW.MIKASABISTRO.COM

Mikasa ASIAN BISTRO & SUSHI BAR
2610 S. Tracy Blvd
Tracy, CA 95376
209-830-8288

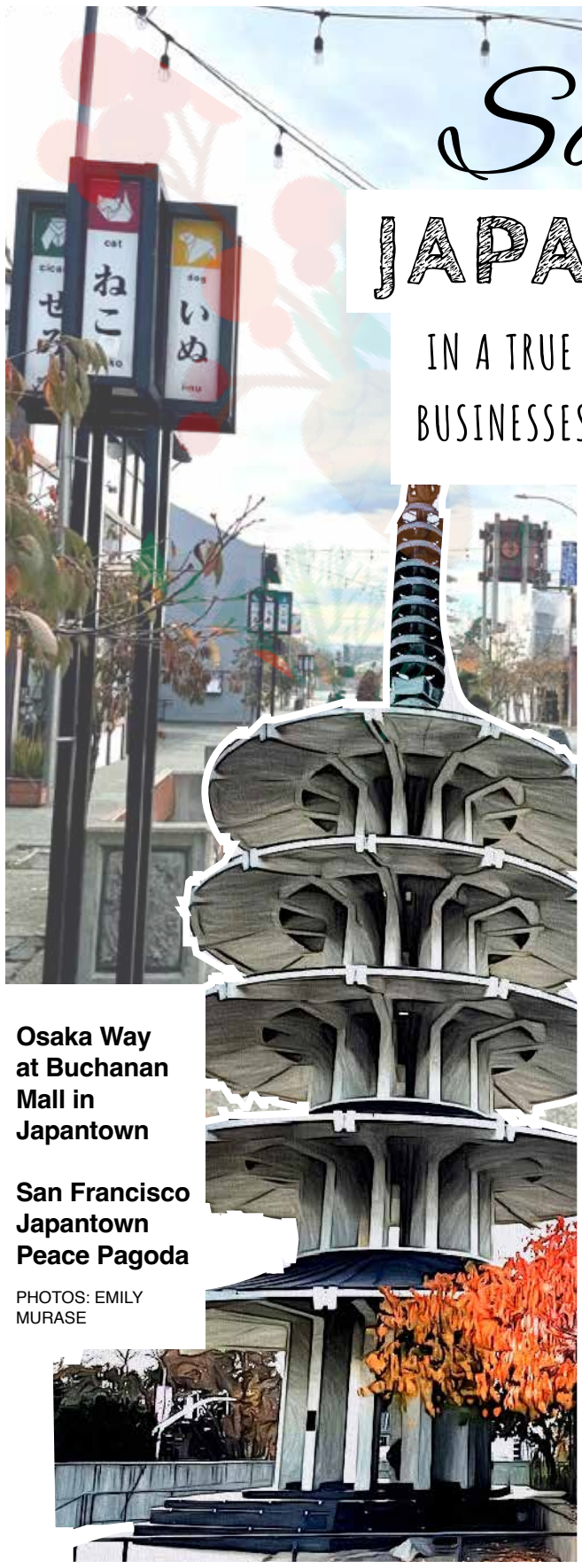
Now Open
MIDORI
FINE • ASIAN • CUISINE
2541 Naglee Rd,
Tracy, CA 95304
209-835-8882
WWW.MIDORITRACY.COM

Come home for the holidays
Please call to schedule your complementary lunch & tour!
RIO LAS PALMAS
FIVE STAR SENIOR LIVING™
877 EAST MARCH LANE • STOCKTON
209-957-4711
www.RioLasPalmasRetirement.com
©2013 Five Star Quality Care, Inc.
RCFE #392700640

San Francisco

JAPANTOWN IS BACK

IN A TRUE TESTAMENT TO THEIR RESILIENCE AND HARD WORK, BUSINESSES, YOUNG AND OLD, REBOUND FROM THE PANDEMIC.





Osaka Way at Buchanan Mall in Japantown

San Francisco Japantown Peace Pagoda

PHOTOS: EMILY MURASE



Japanese black pine in front of Japan Center West Mall

Ruth Asawa origami fountain #1 located on Osaka Way



Japantown monument by the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council

By Emily Murase, Contributor

Before World War II, there were more than 80 Japanese American communities across the country, according to the Nichi Bei Foundation. Yet, due to the wartime incarceration, only three Japantowns remain: Little Tokyo in Los Angeles, San Jose Japantown and San Francisco Japantown, the nation's oldest and largest.

San Francisco Japantown survived not only the wartime incarceration but also devastating redevelopment policies of the late 1960s and early 1970s that, in the name of urban renewal, forcibly dispersed Japanese American residents and businesses to other neighborhoods. And yet, Japantown has persisted.

In 2013, the city and county of San Francisco designated Japantown as its first Cultural District, which now numbers 10, including African American Arts, SoMa Pilipinas and the Castro LGBTQ Cultural District.

The next big shock to San Francisco Japantown was the Covid pandemic that resulted in temporary shutdowns, empty stores and permanent closures. But now after nearly three years of pandemic-related challenges, San Francisco Japantown is back.

Stores are busy, the Peace Plaza is filled with people and restaurants are packed. It is a testament to the hard-working people of Japantown that the community has rebounded so successfully. The resilience of Japantown is captured in its intrepid small businesses.

Soko Hardware, the oldest business in San Francisco Japantown, continues to thrive despite pandemic challenges. Masayasu and Naka Ashizawa immigrated from Japan in the 1920s and opened the first hardware store in Japantown in 1925.

Their son, Masao Ashizawa, and his wife, Agnes, became the store's second-generation business owners, followed by third-generation Philip and Eunice Ashizawa, whom you can find at the store today.

Son David, daughter Lauren and nephew Aaron Katekaru have lended a hand or continue to help out at the beloved hardware store that also features a diverse mix of Japanese and Japanese-themed home goods.

Soko Hardware has operated continuously since 1925, with the exception of WWII, when the family was incarcerated at Topaz, Utah. In 2019, the City and County of San Francisco Office of Small Business designated Soko Hardware a Legacy Business and placed it on a registry for special recognition and benefits.



Soko Hardware has been at the corner of Post and Buchanan streets since 1950.



Eunice and Philip Ashizawa, third-generation owners of Soko Hardware





Among Soko Hardware's variety of items are Kitazawa specialty seeds and Japanese tansu chest knobs and hinges.

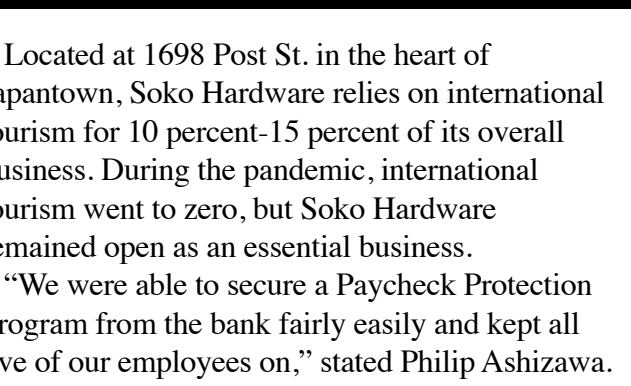
Located at 1698 Post St. in the heart of Japantown, Soko Hardware relies on international tourism for 10 percent-15 percent of its overall business. During the pandemic, international tourism went to zero, but Soko Hardware remained open as an essential business.

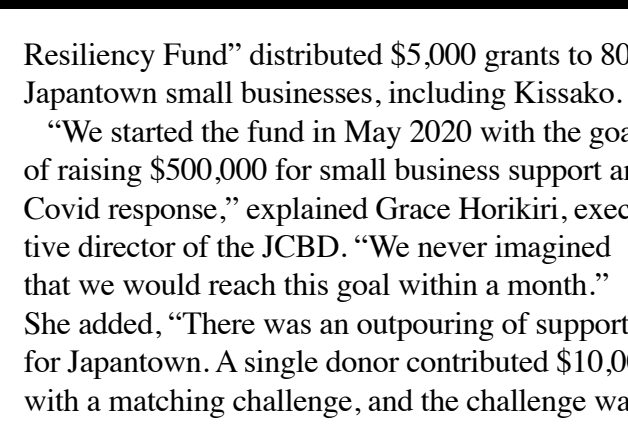
"We were able to secure a Paycheck Protection Program from the bank fairly easily and kept all five of our employees on," stated Philip Ashizawa.

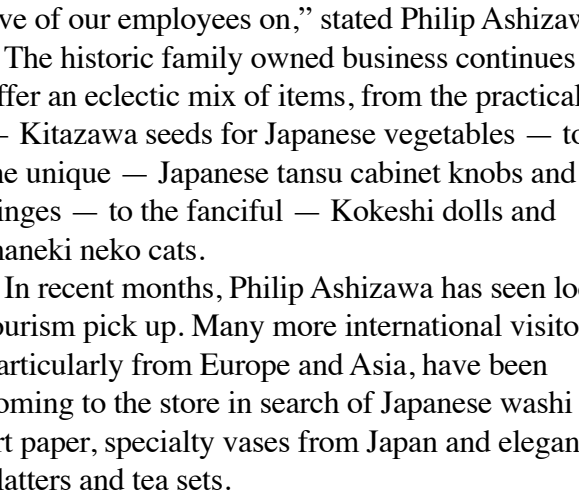
The historic family owned business continues to offer an eclectic mix of items, from the practical — Kitazawa seeds for Japanese vegetables — to the unique — Japanese tansu cabinet knobs and hinges — to the fanciful — Kokeshi dolls and maneki neko cats.

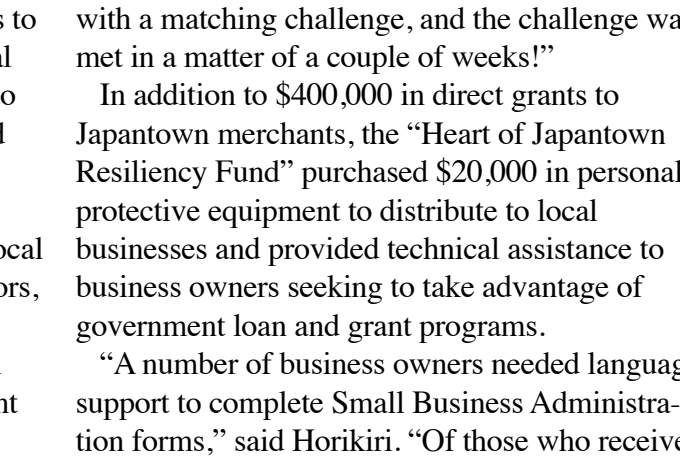
In recent months, Philip Ashizawa has seen local tourism pick up. Many more international visitors, particularly from Europe and Asia, have been coming to the store in search of Japanese washi art paper, specialty vases from Japan and elegant platters and tea sets.

Looking to the future, Philip and Eunice Ashizawa said: "We hope everyone in San Francisco Japantown will have a prosperous New Year. We look forward to a 2023 Cherry Blossom Festival in full swing."









Soko Hardware's variety of items also include kokeshi dolls, maneki neko cats, washi paper and Japanese vases, platters and tea sets.

PHOTOS: EMILY MURASE

New Japantown small business owners Anne and Richard Matsuno purchased Kissako, a cafe featuring Japanese snacks and treats, from a previous owner in July 2019. Richard Matsuno's family had owned Japantown's Maruya Sushi for generations before its closure more than a decade ago.

Daughter Megumi Matsuno, a college sophomore, is the social media intern for the JACL San Francisco chapter when she is not working at the cafe. Her younger twin brothers, Hiroki and Naoki, who just started college, also work at the cafe whenever they can.

However, just nine months after acquiring the business, the pandemic broke out, posing very difficult challenges for the Matsuno's.

"We stayed open throughout the entire pandemic, serving frontline workers from local hospitals and neighbors working from home," said Anne Matsuno. "Because we didn't yet have a track record with the business and were a family business without formal employees, we didn't qualify for government programs. To sustain our business, we relied on the 'Heart of Japantown Resiliency Fund' and the 'Gambaro Program.'"

Sponsored by the Japantown Community Benefit District, the "Heart of Japantown Resiliency Fund" distributed $5,000 grants to 80 Japantown small businesses, including Kissako.

"We started the fund in May 2020 with the goal of raising $500,000 for small business support and Covid response," explained Grace Horikiri, executive director of the JCBD. "We never imagined that we would reach this goal within a month." She added, "There was an outpouring of support for Japantown. A single donor contributed $10,000 with a matching challenge, and the challenge was met in a matter of a couple of weeks!"

In addition to $400,000 in direct grants to Japantown merchants, the "Heart of Japantown Resiliency Fund" purchased $20,000 in personal protective equipment to distribute to local businesses and provided technical assistance to business owners seeking to take advantage of government loan and grant programs.

"A number of business owners needed language support to complete Small Business Administration forms," said Horikiri. "Of those who received assistance from the JCBD with their applications, 100 percent received some sort of funding."

In November 2020, JCBD also partnered with the Department of Public Health to organize Covid testing at Peace Plaza in the heart of Japantown. This was a key strategy to address Covid infections in the broader AAPI community.

In addition, with half a dozen senior living facilities in the neighborhood and nearby, Japantown is home to a high percentage of senior residents who are vulnerable to Covid impacts.

Importantly, the convenient location enabled workers and staff of Japantown businesses and agencies to access testing, enabling more predictable staff management. Even today, on-demand Covid testing at Peace Plaza continues to be available throughout the week.

Another program that supported Kissako and many other Japantown small businesses was the "Gambaro Campaign," organized by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California in cooperation with the Japantown Merchants Assn.

Through a very generous grant by the Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation, the campaign purchased numerous gift certificates from small businesses that generated essential revenue at a time when shelter-in-place orders severely limited customers.

Said Anne Matsuno: "Sometimes, there were days when we barely saw five customers. The gift certificate program provided an infusion of cash when we badly needed it."

Thanks to programs like the "Heart of Japantown Resiliency Fund" and the "Gambaro Campaign," businesses like Kissako survived the pandemic. Today, Kissako's made-to-order onigiri, including the original spicy spam onigiri, has become a fan favorite.

"I'm just amazed at the fan base for our onigiri," exclaimed Matsuno. "Customers come from all over the San Francisco Bay Area, Sacramento and even out-of-state from as far away as Seattle and Vancouver, Canada."

Currently, Japantown is also witnessing a steady increase in new business ventures.

- The Chameleon Vintage clothing shop has arrived at the Japan Center Mall with a selection of popular T-shirts, jeans and other clothing from a past era.
- Jina Bakes incorporates Korean and Japanese flavors into unique baked goods that attract a long line of hungry customers.
- Anime fans will find treasures at the Flying Raijin, the "ultimate anime store."
- Outside of the Japan Center Mall, Chika & Sake (1700 Laguna St.) offers curated sake by master sommelier Chika Ohta.
- In the new year, Japantown will see additional new businesses, including an izakaya pub, new boba tea purveyors and a variety of pop-up shops, including one by the Japantown Community Benefit District.







***(From top)* Kissako cafe features Japanese snacks and treats. Megumi Matsuno helps out at the family run business.**

Fresh dango mochi at Kissako

PHOTOS: EMILY MURASE

Kissako is also known for its delicious made-to-order musubi.

Thanks to well-designed support programs for small businesses, San Francisco Japantown remains a cultural gem not only for San Francisco, the State of California and the country, but also the world. All are welcome back to come explore, enjoy a delectable bite to eat, purchase unique items and support this longstanding historical district.

Emily Murase is privileged to work in San Francisco Japantown as executive director of the Japantown Task Force. She hopes that readers will plan a visit to Japantown, early and often, in 2023.

PNWDC

Have the Merriest of Holidays and a Safe and Prosperous New Year
from the
Pacific Northwest District Council

Officers		Chapter Presidents	
Governor	Sheldon Arakaki	**Alaska**	Dennis Arashiro
Vice Governors	Suzanne Ishii-Regan	**Gresham-Troutdale**	Terry Nishikawa
	Marleen Ikeda Wallingford	**Olympia**	Bob Nakamura
Secretary	Stan Shikuma	**Portland**	Jeff Matsumoto
Treasurer	Chip Larouche	**Seattle**	Stan Shikuma & Kyle Kinoshita
Historian	Eileen Yamada Lamphere	**Spokane**	Ben Furukawa
Youth Reps	open		

Silicon Valley



Happy Holidays!

best wishes to stay healthy and safe

Silicon Valley JACL
bridging generations

Watsonville-Santa Cruz

In memory of Mas Hashimoto
"Onward"

Liberty Lost… Lessons in *Loyalty*

Greetings from the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Chapter

"Most often, Mas was the one behind the camera taking the photographs, recording history. Then, he would take "pen" to paper (nowadays "computer") to document, teach, advocate and fight against injustices. Mas is our inspiration. He will be greatly missed. Please continue his work in whatever way that you can... speak out, educate, advocate."
~ Jeanette Hager

IDC



Boise Valley

~ Happy Holidays ~

Boise Valley Chapter

2022-23 Chapter Officers and Board Members:

Katie Niemann
Maki Jackson
Robert Hirai
Tom Koto
Dean Hayashida

Visit the *Pacific Citizen* Archives!

93+ years

Browse the JACL from its beginning.
Read historical news and stories of the
Japanese Americans and Asian Americans since 1929.



https://www.pacificcitizen.org/digital-archives/

Marysville

Best Wishes from Marysville JACL





(Top, from left) **My New Year's mochi made by Erin's uncle; Osechi Ryori bento boxes from Enchanted Oven; New Year's Day spread from 2019.** ***(Bottom, from left)*** **Preparing sashimi for our family Oshogatsu; Christmas sukiyaki and crab from 2014**

PHOTOS: GIL ASAKAWA

EATING . . . TOGETHER AGAIN

By Gil Asakawa

It's been a long, sometimes lonely three years since Covid-19 arrived in the world and changed all of our lives. For many of us, this holiday season might be the first since the pandemic shutdowns when we'll be traveling to visit family once again — and dining with them.

If we're lucky, we live not far from our parents and grandparents and have been able to drive over for Sunday dinners or pick up takeout to enjoy with them this whole time. But if we live far — if we live across the country, for instance — and have to fly home for the holidays, well, we know how that's gone.

After a family trip to Japan in October 2019, I didn't step on a plane until this year. It still feels a little disconcerting to go through an airport and board a flight, especially when I'm the only one who tries to wear a mask, except when I'm sipping my paltry soda water or tearing open the tiny packet of pretzels.

Yet, we still dream of family gatherings and getting together with old friends to celebrate milestones and holidays, and we finally are getting the chance to do that freely, if a bit cautiously (take those masks!).

Thanksgiving has passed us by. For the first time ever, my wife and mother-in-law and I went out to eat instead of cooking up the requisite turkey with fixings, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy and, for me, the highlight: gravy on hot white rice.

Instead, we went out to an Italian restaurant chain that advertised a turkey dinner with a side of pasta (and the ability to order off its Italian menu, which we considered for takeout but had too much nokori to take home as it was!). It felt a little weird, but also liberating, to not cook all day and clean all night.

Looking ahead, we have the Christmas holiday and, of course, the New Year celebration to plan for.

Christmas for us has always been a family dinner with rotating themes, from sukiyaki or shabu shabu to "breakfast for dinner" or an American Chinese spread (egg foo young with gravy – there's a gravy theme emerging!).

Things changed last year after my father-in-law passed away, and that's one reason we chose the restaurant night out for Thanksgiving. But we'll probably cook up something again for Christmas as a tribute to his memory.

And, of course, the Big One has always been Oshogatsu, the New Year's Day celebration, when a variety of traditional Osechi Ryori dishes are served for good luck. We've scaled it back in recent years, but when I first met Erin and was introduced to her extended family's New Year spread, I was simply amazed.

My family had some nice New Year's Day dinners, and my folks would invite a few friends over. My mom would make a lot of sushi and stack them in our round and square lacquerware boxes, and my dad would grill up some steak or maybe yakiniku beef on the hibachi on the back porch.

We never lived around relatives because we moved from Japan to northern Virginia, and then to Denver, and we always lived in suburban neighborhoods. I grew up with all white friends. My folks had some Japanese friends from my dad's military days or my mom's childhood who live in the area, but not enough for a big gathering.

My wife's family, however, has roots in the Denver area and many branches that have grown out from the family tree. Plus, her cousins invited a lot of friends, not just relatives, to New Year's. So, the first Oshogatsu I went to at her uncle's house blew my mind.

There were long tables arranged throughout the kitchen, and the dining room and living room were covered with food brought potluck-style by all the guests, both traditional Japanese and non-Japanese dishes.

Erin's dad usually cooked up tempura and supplied the trays of sashimi ordered from the local Japanese market; in later years, Erin cut the slabs of fish into perfect sashimi slices and arranged them on trays before we took them over to the family gathering. My father-in-law also supplied king crab for the feast.



Ozoni by Erin's mom

You could always count on Japanese traditions like Kuromame, sweet and savory black beans with a small sign for the uninitiated to take an odd number for good luck, and homemade mochi. And Japanese American stuff like multilayered Jell-O, which I just love.

Last year, we ordered Osechi Ryori from a local Japanese bakery and café, and it was great — three stacked boxes of compartments filled with a variety of traditional Oshogatsu items. We supplied our own mochi and Jell-O. We'll order this excellent Osechi Ryori set again, I think, and have a small celebration.

And before the big New Year's feast with extended family, we spent time in the morning with Erin's folks, and her mom made Ozoni, the traditional New Year's soup with dashi and mochi. I grew up with a different soup because my mom grew up in a small town in Nemuro, and for New Year's, she always made Oshiruko or Zenzai, which is basically anko, the sweet red bean paste served thin as a soup, with mochi added in. It was like slurping candy, so, of course, I always loved that.

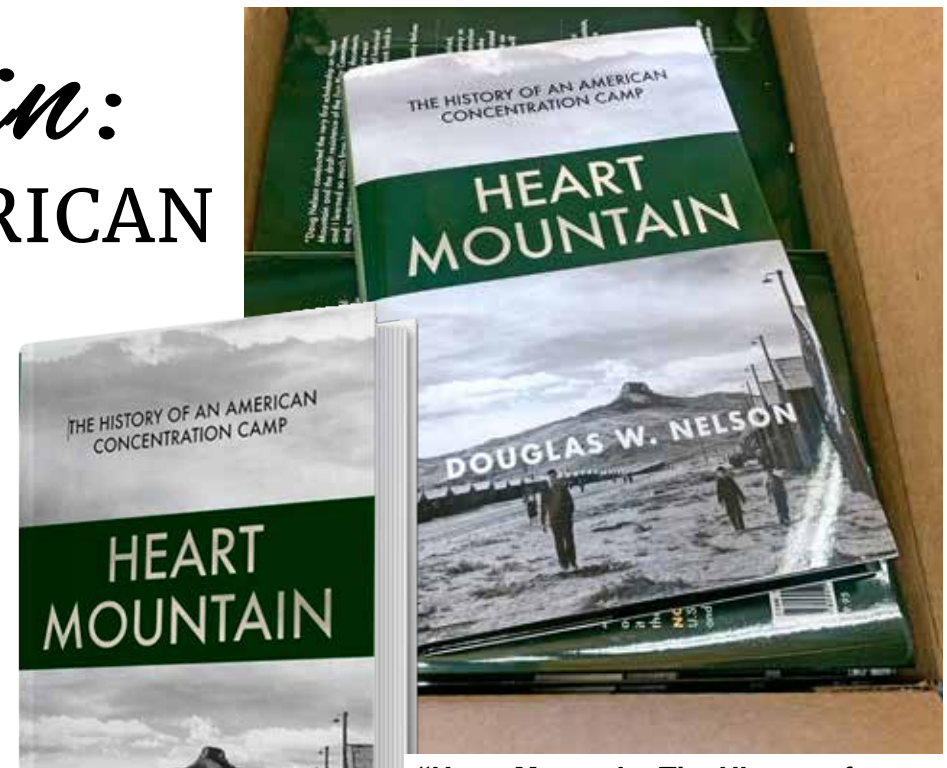
These traditions live on in our community, and this year, thanks to Covid receding (though remember, it's still around!) we can enjoy them again with our loved ones.

Happy Holidays, everyone, and have a wonderful, loving New Year celebration with friends and family . . . together again!

Gil Asakawa is the author of "Tabemasho! Let's Eat! A Tasty History of Japanese Food in America" (Stone Bridge Press).

‘Heart Mountain: THE HISTORY OF AN AMERICAN CONCENTRATION CAMP’

Heart Mountain republishes the groundbreaking book about the World War II American concentration camp and incarceration.



“Heart Mountain: The History of an American Concentration Camp” has been newly reissued after first being published in 1976. It can currently be purchased through the Heart Mountain online store.

By Ray Locker, Contributor

Douglas Nelson arrived in Laramie, Wyo., in the fall of 1968, fresh from graduating from the University of Illinois and marrying his wife, Linda. He started studying history as a graduate student and teaching assistant at the University of Wyoming.

He didn’t know that he would soon discover a topic that would change the direction of the rest of his life.

By the time he graduated from Wyoming, Nelson had written a master’s thesis that would eventually be adapted into a book released in 1976 — “Heart Mountain: The History of an American Concentration Camp.”

That book has now been republished by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation with new photographs, a foreword by Sec. Norman Mineta and Sen. Alan Simpson, as well as a new chapter about the foundation’s creation.

“I am proudest of the fact that, despite all the euphemisms that were used by our government to describe the World War II treatment of the Japanese Americans,” Nelson said in an interview with the *Pacific Citizen*, “I tried to be forthright about its illegality and tragic impact on the lives of those unjustly uprooted and imprisoned.”

Guided By His Adviser

The first step toward the book coming to fruition came when Nelson met his faculty adviser, Roger Daniels, who was then a scholar studying the Japanese American experience and incarceration. Before joining the Wyoming faculty, Daniels had received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and written extensively about Japanese Americans.

He suggested that Nelson visit the site of the former camp at Heart Mountain to see what was there.

What Nelson discovered was that there were few signs that 25 years earlier a camp that was then Wyoming’s third-largest city spread out along the road between Cody and Powell, Wyo. All the barracks had been sold for $1 and carted away.

No former incarcerees lived in the area; all had moved away as soon as they could after being released from camp. Few local residents seemed inclined to talk about the prison camp that had been in their midst.

There was certainly no interest in building a museum at the site to commemorate what had happened there during WWII.

“When the book was released in 1976, I knew it told an important story, but I had no expectations of it having impact on much of anything,” Nelson said. “I wasn’t even sure that many people would read it, so I was surprised when it sold quickly and was favorably reviewed. But then I was stunned when the book became a finalist for the Pulitzer [Prize]. I knew then that there was a profound interest in the largely untold story of the incarceration.”

A Major Discovery

As he started his research, Nelson discovered a few local sources of valuable information. The *Cody Enterprise* and *Powell Tribune* newspapers had archives that detailed much of the local reaction to the camp, while the *Heart Mountain Sentinel* provided news about the happenings inside the barbed wire.

These sources gave Nelson the basics of Heart Mountain history.

Nelson then tapped into Wyoming government records to track how the state coped with the camp’s presence and how officials either welcomed the Japanese American incarcerees or gave into the prevailing racism that led to continued discrimination.

He discovered that state lawmakers sought to ban the incarcerees from fishing in the state’s waters and wanted to prevent any Japanese Americans from remaining in Wyoming after the war had ended.

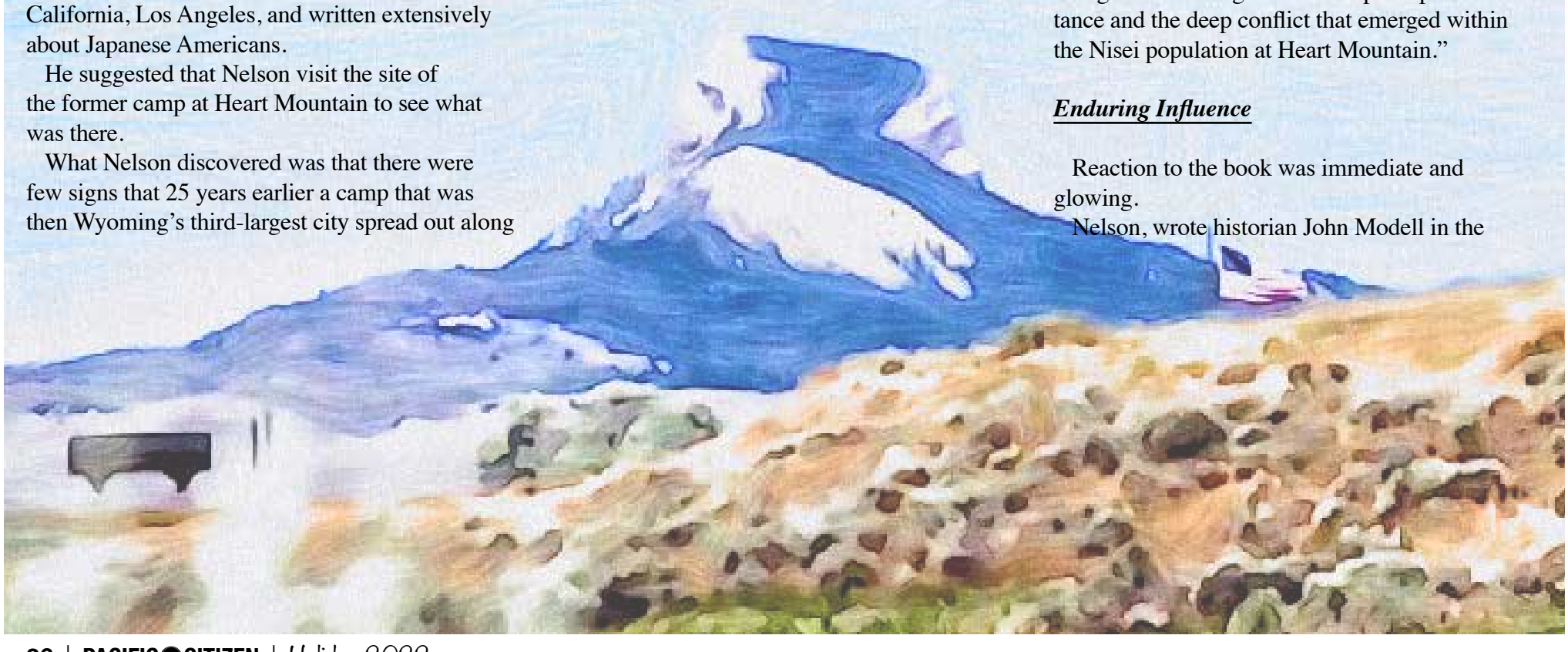
Nelson’s major discovery, however, was the case of the 85 young men incarcerated at Heart Mountain who resisted the military draft, were arrested, convicted and sent to federal prison. The story of the Heart Mountain draft resisters had been hidden for 25 years behind the shame of family members, government obstruction and a community-wide derision against those who fought for their rights.

“Probably the most unexpected part of my research into Heart Mountain was the discovery of the widespread resistance to [War Relocation Authority] policies and to the government’s decision to draft Nisei men out of the camp,” Nelson said. “The little that had been written about Heart Mountain suggested that it was ‘a happy camp,’ where incarcerees worked to make the best of their situation, and almost no notice was given to the significant and principled resistance and the deep conflict that emerged within the Nisei population at Heart Mountain.”

Enduring Influence

Reaction to the book was immediate and glowing.

Nelson, wrote historian John Modell in the





Sen. Alan Simpson *(left)* with Douglas Nelson at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center in May



HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi speaks at the annual Heart Mountain Pilgrimage in 2017. Looking on *(from left)* is HMWF Vice Chair Doug Nelson, former U.S. Sen. Alan Simpson, the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta, JANM President and CEO Ann Burroughs and Consul General of Japan Hiroto Hirakoba.

PHOTO: DON TANGUILIG



Former Heart Mountain incarceree Bacon Sakatani, shown here at a Heart Mountain Pilgrimage, said he was inspired by Nelson's book to learn more about the Japanese American incarceration.

PHOTOS: RAY LOCKER

American Historical Review, "attacks the stereotype of the docile Japanese American patriot eagerly marching to war."

Nelson's work on the resisters inspired other scholars and created new activists among the former incarcerees.

Harumi "Bacon" Sakatani was 13 when he was sent to Heart Mountain. After the war, he returned to California, attended college and served in the Korean War. He knew or talked little about his wartime incarceration.

In 1982, Sakatani was asked to organize the first planned reunion of Heart Mountain incarcerees. He went to the library to research the incarceration and discovered Nelson's book. Sakatani said that experience changed his entire view of the incarceration and inspired 40 years of continued activism.

"I went to the library and looked up in the books about the camp, and boy, I was just amazed at what was written about the camps" in Nelson's book and others, Sakatani told an interviewer with Densho in 2010. "I didn't know a thing about all the illegalities and all of that about the camps, and, and so I guess that was the start of my research on the camp."

Sakatani arranged speaking engagements that also featured leaders of the draft resistance movement, including Frank Emi, one of the leaders of the anti-draft Fair Play Committee.

"There is now a vast body of research and writing about the incarceration. Heart Mountain, I hope, still provides a good starting point for those interested."

Leading Heart Mountain

Nelson was recruited to join the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation in its early years and was instrumental in raising the money needed to build its award-winning interpretive center and museum.

As the foundation's vice chair, he has worked steadily to help shape the foundation's mission and raise money, tapping into the network of nonprofit leaders he worked with for decades as the president of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Along with HMWF Chair Shirley Ann Higuchi, Nelson was instrumental in creating the Mineta-Simpson Institute, the Heart Mountain affiliate named for Norman Mineta, the former Heart Mountain incarceree, House and Cabinet member, and Alan Simpson, the Republican former Senator from Wyoming.

Mineta and Simpson met as Boy Scouts in 1943 inside the barbed wire at Heart Mountain and went on to careers in public service noted for their commitment to bipartisanship and principled disagreement.

Nelson's book was published under the auspices of the Mineta-Simpson Institute.

"As part of the Mineta-Simpson Institute's vision, many books have been associated with the growth of our institution," Higuchi said. "Heart Mountain" is at the forefront of those books, along with "Light One Candle," which was republished by Heart Mountain last February.

The foundation is also working on a graphic novel about Mineta and Simpson.

Aura Sunada Newlin, Heart Mountain's interim executive director, said the foundation decided to republish Nelson's hard-to-find work because it provides an excellent introduction/overview to the Japanese American incarceration history.

"For those who are new to this history and want to learn more, this is a key resource," she said. Newlin added that all proceeds from the sale of the book will go to support the foundation's work.

Expanding Its Reach

The relatively remote location of Heart Mountain makes it difficult to attract as many visitors as the foundation would like. That's why its leaders believe it's important to publish books that tell the camp's story.

"I hope the book enriches the experience of people who visit our museum and provides a way of learning about what happened at Heart Mountain for those who can't come there," Nelson said.

Along with being sold at the Heart Mountain store, the book will be part of the curriculum for Heart Mountain's upcoming workshops for educators sponsored by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"I hope my book will provide a helpful and accessible starting point for people who want to know more about this important and tragic chapter in our history," Nelson said.

"Heart Mountain: The History of an American Concentration Camp" by Douglas Nelson is on sale at the Heart Mountain online store at https://shopheartmountain.org/collections/featured-products-and-giving-opportunities/products/heart-mountain-the-history-of-an-american-concentration-camp.

MDC

Celebrating over 90 years of defending rights and freedoms of all Americans.

Our work will go on.

Governor - Eric Langowski
1st Vice Governor - Vinicius Taguchi
2nd Vice Governor - Steven Mitori
Secretary - Peter Langowski
Youth Representative - Ayako Tischler
Young Professionals - Zara Espinoza

Chicago
Cincinnati
Dayton
Detroit
Hoosier
Houston
Omaha
St. Louis
Twin Cities
Wisconsin

St. Louis

Happy Holidays

From The St. Louis JACL



New Mexico

Warmest Wishes

FROM

The New Mexico Chapter of JACL

Pocatello-Blackfoot

Wishing you Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year!

Pocatello-Blackfoot Chapter
Intermountain District

Detroit

SEASONS GREETINGS

AND

BEST WISHES FOR

2023



FROM
DETROIT CHAPTER JACL

EDC



Houston

Holiday Greetings from Texas!

Wishing all of you & your families a very Happy & Healthy 2023!

President: George Hirasaki, PhD
Treasurer: Marc Kashiwagi, JD
Secretary: Coleman Lambo
Immediate Past President: Gary Nakamura

JACL Houston Chapter

Twin Cities

Holiday Greetings from the Twin Cities JACL



2022 Board of Directors

Vinicius Taguchi, President
Ryan Toshio Sudo, Vice President
Amy Dickerson,
Sylvia Farrells
Jonathan Kent
Mary Kojima
Elaine Koyama
Gloria Kumagai
Karen Tanaka Lucas
Ammanda Nietz
Paul Imon Pedtke
Lisa Shakerin
Kendal Takeshita

Education Committee
Carolyn Nayematsu,
Chair & Board Member

Andrew Aoki
Susan Binkley
Amy Dickerson
Peggy Doi
Cheryl Hirata-Dulas
Sylvia Farrells
Lil Grorthe
Krista Hanson
Kathryn Hayes
Patti Kameya
Roi Kawai
Lucy Kirihara
Gloria Kumagai
Karen Tanaka Lucas
Hana Maruyama
John Matsunaga
Gordon Nakagawa
Yuichiro Onishi
Steve Ozone
Sally Sudo
John Suzukida
Teresa Swartz
Kimmy Tanaka

Scholarship Committee
Pam Dagoberg,
Chair & Board Member
Sylvia Farrells
Teresa Swartz
Fred Tsuchiya

Social Justice Committee

www.twincitiesjacl.org

Dayton

PEACE

and

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2023

From the members of the

DAYTON CHAPTER JACL

Dayton, Ohio

www.daytonjacl.org

Mile High

Wishing all a
Joyous New Year

from our offices at Sakura Square

Nikkeijin Kai

formerly the Japanese American Association of Colorado

1215 19th Street, Suite A
Denver, CO 80202

President - Calvin Hada
1st Vice President - Minoru Tagawa
2nd Vice President - Shigeo Kimura
Vice President, Community Affairs - Kimiko Side
Treasurer, Jolie Noguchi
Investment Advisor, Dennis Kitayama

115 Years Serving Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Community

Happy Holidays
&
Best Wishes for 2023!

SONODA'S
SUSHI & JAPANESE CUISINE

3108 South Parker Road, Suite D-1
Aurora, Colorado 80014

Phone: (303) 337-3800
Fax: (303) 750-5567

Website: www.aurorasonodassushi.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SonodaAurora

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Holiday Lanes
10350 W. Colfax Ave
Lakewood, CO 80215
303-238-0407
303-238-4376 FAX
www.holidaylanesco.com

Home to Nisei Bowling League

Bowling, Billiards, Restaurant, Lounge
Derrick & Amber Fossett

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Frances Furukawa
580 South Poplar Way
Denver, CO 80224-1557

In Memory of Tom & Lily Masamori
Susan Masamori
2010 Lamar Street
Edgewater, Colorado 80214-1048

Season's Greetings

Gary & Deb Yamashita

Broomfield, CO 80020

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Donna Hansen
REALTOR®, GRI, CNE
303.949.3393
donna@Breathe-RealEstate.com



breathe
real estate

Best Wishes from Colorado

HomeSmart
Calvin & Kristi Hada
(303)550-7852

Mile High

Peace on Earth

In Memory of Jun and Frances Hamai
With Love, Their Sons,
Richard, Randy, David, Don & Joe Hamai



Email: fthamai@yahoo.com

Seasons' Greetings to All!!!



Mile High Chapter Board

Bonnie Clark, Michael Coppola, Elizabeth Fugikawa, Richard Hamai, Donna Hansen, Tom Migaki, Dylan Mori, Brent Otsuka, Danielle Otsuka, Courtney Ozaki, Marge Taniwaki, Allison Yaguchi and Gary Yamashita

Season's Greetings

Richard Hamai
333 East 16th Avenue #613
Denver, Colorado 80203

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

FENTRESS
ARCHITECTS

See us for all your banking needs.

- Checking Accounts
- Savings Accounts
- Online & Mobile Banking
- Mortgages
- Business Services
- And Much More!

Visit us online or at any convenient location.

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

efirstbank.com
1.800.964.3444
NMLS ID # 458768
Member FDIC

banking for good 1STBANK

Warmest Holiday Greetings & Peace in the New Year!

Ruby Mayeda

Happy Holidays! Peace and goodwill to All.

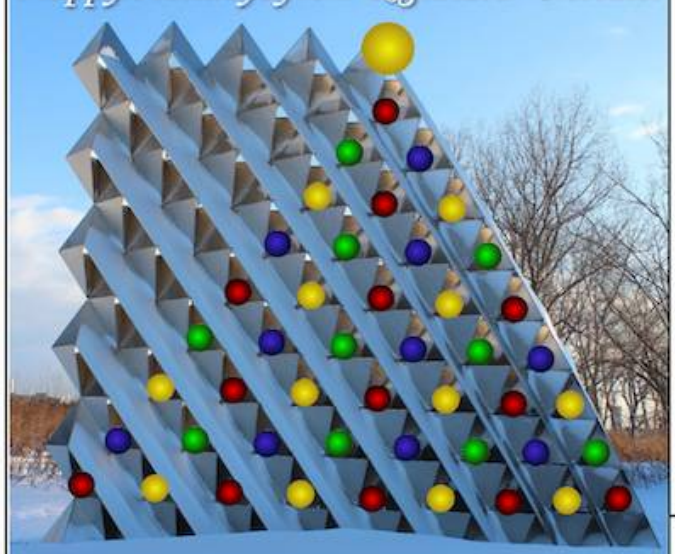
Joe Hayashi

Happy Holidays!
All the best for the year ahead.
Dylan Mori

Happy Holidays!

Pat Hayashi

Happy Holidays from Rigidized® Metals!

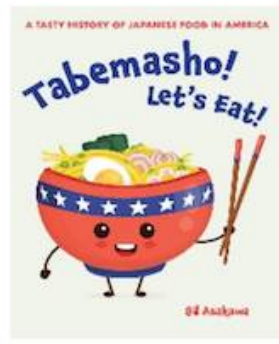


RIGIDIZED METALS CORPORATION
https://www.rigidized.com

Happy Holidays

from Erin Yoshimura
and Gil Asakawa

Gil's new book, "Tabemasho! Let's Eat! A Tasty History of Japanese Food in America," is now available in bookstores and online.



Best Wishes for the Holidays
Pacific Mercantile Company

FINEST ASIAN FOOD & GIFTS
MON - SAT 9 AM - 6 PM
SUNDAY 9 AM - 2 PM
CLOSED HOLIDAYS
1925 LAWRENCE ST. DENVER, CO 80202
PHONE: 303-295-0293 FAX: 303-295-2753
WWW.PACIFICMERCANTILE.COM
ARIGATO - THANK YOU

Holiday Cheers
Tom, Shelley & JoAnne Migaki
Denver, Colorado

Best Wishes for the New Year!
Charmaine, Michael & Sean Palmer
Boulder, Colorado

Health & Happiness

ANN O. NAKAMURA, D.D.S.
MICHAEL A. NAKAMURA, D.D.S.

New Office Address:
7913 Allison Way, Suite 202
Arvada, CO. 80005
Telephone: (303) 425-4253

MERRY CHRISTMAS - HAPPY NEW YEAR

In Memory of Dr. Frank F. Sakamoto

Toshiko K. Sakamoto
2020 South Monroe Street #103
Denver, Colorado 80210

Season's Greetings from Forms+Surfaces

FORMS+SURFACES®

HAPPY holidays

WISHING YOU A VIBRANT HOLIDAY SEASON AND A NEW YEAR FILLED WITH JOY, PEACE AND PROSPERITY.

SAKURA SQUARE

1255 19th Street, Suite 103
Denver, CO 80202
sakurasquare.com

Holiday Greetings from

Wayne & Chris

ITANO

1995 Dartmouth Ave.
Boulder, CO 80305
(303) 499-4248

Happy Holidays!
Marge Taniwaki

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Kerry and Linda Hada
Denver, Colorado



History in the making: The Salt Lake City JACL debuted the Earl Anderson and Uyematsu family story at its Sept. 14 meeting. Pictured *(back row, from left)* are Co-President Trey Imamura, Hannie and Tom Coleman, Elaine Iwa, Yoshiko Uno, Michael Iwasaki, Rebecca Roper, Metra Barton, Cory Anderson and Tamara Hauge and *(front row, from left)* Co-President Jason Kunisaki, Jason Kunisaki, Dr. Jeanette Misaka, former JACL National President and Judge Raymond Uno, Norio Uyematsu, Brek Anderson and Ladd Anderson.

PHOTOS: PATTI HIRAHARA

On Veterans Day 2022 at the Korean War Memorial in Fullerton, Calif., Congressman Lou Correa, U.S. Representative for California's 46th Congressional District, presented Korean War Veteran Norio Uyematsu, who enlisted from Brigham City, Utah, with his personal copy of the U.S. House of Representatives' "Congressional Record," which was recorded on Nov. 16.



A BOND *Thicker* THAN BLOOD

An unknown story of generosity and compassion creates an opportunity for two Utah families to be together again 77 years later.

By Patti Hirahara, Contributor

The story began 77 years ago in a Japanese American incarceration camp in Heart Mountain, Wyo., when Niroku and Shitsuyo Uyematsu were told that they had to leave with their family of four children: Norio, Meriko, Harry and Juno.

Given $25 each and a one-way train ticket to anywhere they wanted to go may have felt exciting for some, but for the Uyematsu family, this was devastating news since they had no where to go, much like many other Japanese American families after the end of World War II.

Having left a five-acre berry farm in March 1942, which was ready for harvest, in Campbell, Calif., the farm had two homes, a big two-car garage, a packing shed and all their farm equipment. Due to the signing of Executive Order 9066, they had to leave, with only what they could carry, to go to the Pomona Assembly Center in Southern California. The Uyematsu's were forced to sell their farm to an Oklahoma fruit picker for $500, and Niroku and Shitsuyo Uyematsu never returned to live in California after the war ended.

According to eldest son Norio Uyematsu, "Even though they lost everything, my parents never complained once about their loss."

Uyematsu continued, "While in the camp, we were surrounded by barbed-wire fences and guard towers with searchlights, manned by United States Army soldiers armed with machine guns, rifles and pistols. It is ironic, since we were not the enemy and American citizens, to be forced to live in camps on American soil."

The State of Utah's situation, during WWII, was unique since individuals of Japanese descent living in Utah did not have to relocate and could continue to live and work there. Utah had a Japanese American incarceration camp at Topaz, which was located near Delta, Utah, and the state was also a location where Japanese families could relocate, during and after WWII, since it was out of the designated war zone set in place by the War Relocation Authority.

Needing to move again in November 1945 by order of the U.S. Government, the Uyematsu's heard about a man named Earl Garrett Anderson, who was a compassionate and generous individual that gave Japanese families a second chance to live and work on his more than 1,000 acres of farmland in Brigham City, Corinne, Deweyville, Honeyville and Perry, which were all located in Box Elder County, Utah.

Anderson was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and his story of helping the Japanese was largely unknown — until only recently.

"The opportunity to work for Earl Anderson was a dream come true for my family to live and work on his farm," Norio Uyematsu recalled. "He converted a building on 6th East in Brigham City and made it into a six-room apartment with each having its own kitchen and bedroom. Other Japanese families who lived and worked on the Anderson Farms were the Fukuchi's, Hattori's, Ikegami's, Inouye's, Kanashiro's, Kawamoto's and the Sumida's."

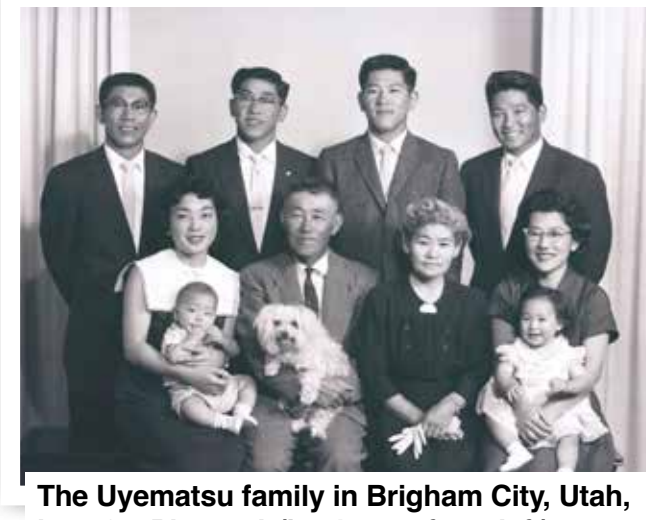


Brigham City Museum members discuss the details about Brigham City's first Japanese American exhibit in 2025. Pictured *(from left)* are Aubrey Hanks, curator; Alana Blumenthal, museum director; Jennifer Hill, collections manager; and Norio Uyematsu, who has made the initial donation toward the exhibit creation fund.

PHOTOS: PATTI HIRAHARA



Norio Uyematsu speaks at the Salt Lake JACL meeting at the Salt Lake Buddhist Church to tell the Earl Anderson story.

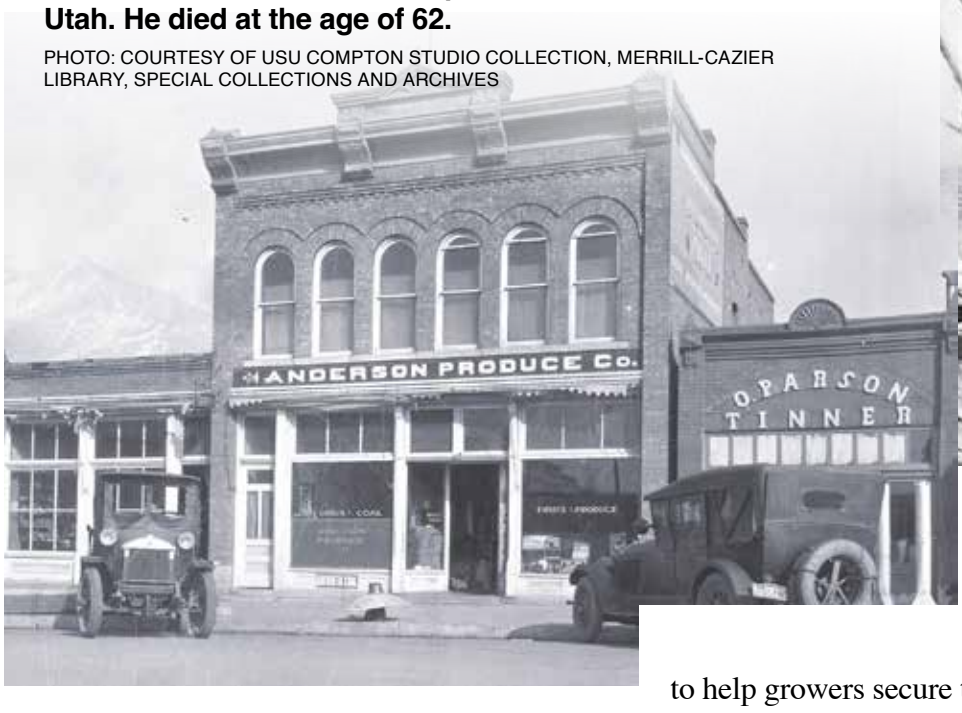


The Uyematsu family in Brigham City, Utah, in 1961. Pictured *(back row, from left)* are sons Norio Uyematsu, Juno Uyematsu, Harry Uyematsu and son-in-law Tad Higashi and *(front row, from left)* daughter-in-law Rose Uyematsu (Norio's wife) with son Michael, Noroku Uyematsu with Chibi, Shitsuyo Uyematsu and daughter Meriko Uyematsu Higashi with daughter Karen.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NORIO UYEMATSU

Earl Anderson worked very hard to help the people in his community. He created his produce business that helped the Japanese American community, both locally and for those that needed help outside of the State of Utah. He died at the age of 62.

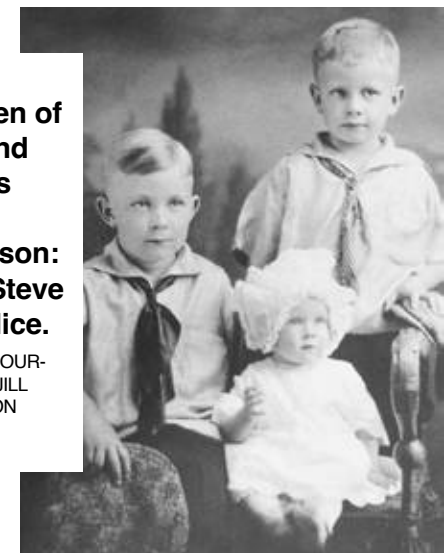
PHOTO: COURTESY OF USU COMPTON STUDIO COLLECTION, MERRILL-CAZIER LIBRARY, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES





Earl Anderson with his sons, Robert and Steve Anderson

PHOTO: COURTESY OF KYM COUTURE



The children of Earl and Gladys Hoist Anderson: Bob, Steve and Alice.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JILL ANDERSON GERING

Earl Anderson had been an active community leader in the Box Elder County community and was a prominent fruit grower, produce shipper and broker. He was also active in the Brigham City Kiwanis Club and was involved on many Box Elder Chamber of Commerce committees over the years.

He served as president of the Box Elder Fish and Game Protective Assn. for two terms, was president of the Utah Wildlife Federation and the Brigham Gun Club and also was one of the men who was instrumental in successfully lobbying for the establishment of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge, which was signed into law by President Calvin Coolidge in 1928.

According to a news article in the *Box Elder News Journal* on April 27, 1928, it said that "with the U.S. Government's appropriation, the State of Utah would have the largest single bird refuge and public shooting grounds in the United States."

According to Ladd Anderson, Earl Anderson's grandson whose father was Earl's second son Steve, "In the 1920s, Earl envisioned a way for local growers to combine their harvests into volumes that could justify a packing and shipping operation; a cooperative whereby local growers could combine their product for sale at larger markets. Anderson [Farms] would buy local produce at a fair price, sometimes advancing cash to help growers secure their crops. The company would then inspect, sort, package and ship the product by trains and trucks to markets usually in the Midwest.

"During the harvest seasons, the packing plants in Brigham City ran around the clock to ensure that time-sensitive harvests were packaged and shipped to arrive and ripen in time to sell.

"Anderson Produce Company, North Farms and the Anderson Farms were consistently the largest employers in the region," Ladd Anderson continued. "I learned from others and my father, Steve, that Earl G. Anderson was a community leader, business innovator and a brilliant 'large-scale' thinker. I was only 5 years old when Grandpa Earl died, but I will always remember that he was a very big guy who was never without a cigar and had a big, hearty laugh. The most telling summary of the impact of his life was by a speaker at his funeral whose introductory remark was, 'The tallest tree in the forest has fallen.'"

The Anderson and Uyematsu family bond was unique, since they considered each other more like family rather than strangers who met during an unfortunate circumstance.

"When Earl Anderson passed away in 1952, it was a sad day for my family. My younger brother, Harry, was a pallbearer, and my father, Niroku, was an honorary pallbearer," Norio Uyematsu said.

"Most of the Japanese families who were released from the incarceration camps that lived and worked for the Andersons had made enough money to go back to California, while my family stayed and made Brigham City, Utah, our permanent home," he continued.


Box Elder News Journal

WHAT'S Inside

Family turns tragedy into success thanks to philanthropy, generosity of Brigham City man

Driscoll honored with Brigham City's Jim Davis Award

The Earl Anderson and Uyematsu family story made headlines in the *Box Elder News Journal* in November and gave readers an insight into the unknown Japanese community in Brigham City, Utah.

Life for Japanese Americans in Brigham City was not always easy.

"In thinking about Earl Anderson all these years, he had a lot of guts to do what he did for the Japanese. In talking with his granddaughter, Jill, she told me that her grandfather did what he wanted to do and didn't think about the consequences since he did what he thought was right and didn't care what others thought. There was hostility that lingered against the Japanese, living in America, after the end of WWII, and it was not the time, nor place, to help the Japanese community. Earl Anderson believed in us and wanted to help, which has always impressed me to this day," said Norio Uyematsu.

Many people in Brigham City were hostile against the Japanese families who were released from the camps during that time.

"When I was a teenager in Brigham City, I remember going to the Capitol Theater to see a movie," Norio Uyematsu remembered. "Since I was of Japanese descent, I was not allowed to sit in the center section and was only allowed to sit in the left or right sections of the theater, which made me feel unwelcomed. But once the Brigham City community got to know us, the people of Brigham City finally accepted the Japanese families released from the concentration camps and allowed us to live and work in their community."

Once Earl Anderson passed away, his sons, Robert and Steve Anderson, continued with the operation of the farm and the Anderson Produce packing shed business.

Norio Uyematsu had fond memories of his time on the Anderson farm, and with the death of his wife, Rose, in 2020, he wanted to bring meaning to the rest of his life. Therefore, he started making a bucket list of things he wanted to do before he died.

No. 1 on his list was to tell the story of Earl Anderson and his sons, Robert and Steve, and to publicly thank the Anderson family for what they did for the Uyematsu's in 1945.

Norio Uyematsu went to Brigham City, last September, to visit his brother, Harry, and participate in Brigham City's annual "Peach Days" celebration. He had hoped during that trip to meet members of Earl Anderson's family,



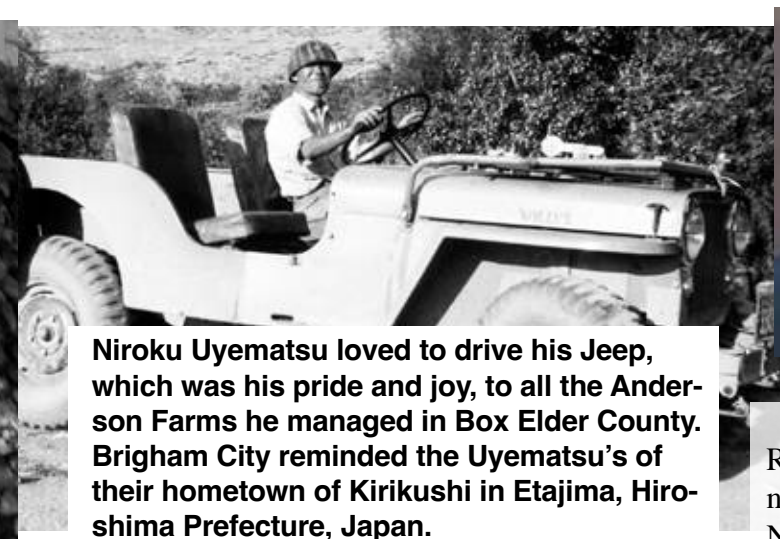
The Uyematsu family picnics with the Earl Anderson family near the cherry trees on the Anderson Farm. Pictured *(top)* are Earl and Steve Anderson and *(center)* Juno, Shitsuyo and Norio Uyematsu and *(bottom)* Niroku Uyematsu in the hat with the notation "Pop."

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NORIO UYEMATSU



Meriko Uyematsu stands in front of the home the Anderson family allowed the Uyematsu's to live in while they worked on the Anderson Farm in Brigham City, Utah.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF NORIO UYEMATSU



Niroku Uyematsu loved to drive his Jeep, which was his pride and joy, to all the Anderson Farms he managed in Box Elder County. Brigham City reminded the Uyematsu's of their hometown of Kirikushi in Etajima, Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan.



David Takashi Kano was the 38th mayor of Brigham City, Utah, and its only Japanese American mayor. He served from 1998-2002 and was a Brigham City councilman from 1992-95.

and his wish came true by being able to meet his descendants.

Since Norio Uyematsu was a member of the Salt Lake City JACL, his first opportunity to tell the Earl Anderson story was at the chapter's special meeting on Sept. 14. He was joined by Steve Anderson's children, Ladd and Brek Anderson, and Brek's son, Cory.

"It was a wonderful opportunity to get together again after all these years," Norio Uyematsu said, and it was apparent that history was in the making as the stories were being told about the Uyematsu's and the Anderson's that evening at the JACL event at the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.

Ladd Anderson shared some stories about the Uyematsu family that night.

"When the Andersons farmed their own produce, it was on one of those farms where I first recall Mr. and Mrs. Uyematsu and family," Ladd Anderson said. "Fact is, I don't remember a time when the Uyematsu's were not part of our lives. As a young boy, I suppose I would have guessed that the Uyematsu's were always there, like they just came with the farm! For the Earl Anderson family, the Uyematsu's were people that needed help, and the Andersons had the means and opportunity to help, so we did."

"Just inside the east boundary on acreage in East Brigham City, the Anderson family owned a white-framed farmhouse surrounded by tall trees," he continued. "The understanding I was given was that the house was Mr. and Mrs. Uyematsu's, and it never occurred to me that the acreage below the house was other than the Uyematsu farm. I suppose since I was there during the summers, Mr. Uyematsu was almost always there, and it seemed to me that my dad, Steve, talked to Mr. Uyematsu like it was his farm."

"My dad was so proud and confident of Mr. Uyematsu's art and expertise since the individual fruits that were produced looked like they were formed in a factory. Whenever a decision, question or concern came up about the row crops and even other stuff, some standing responses from my dad, Steve, were, 'Go ask Huey,' or 'Get Huey.' Such was the trust between my dad and Mr. Uyematsu. Incidentally and by executive order, Dad could call the Uyematsu parents 'Huey' or 'Mrs. Huey,' but for me, it was Mr. or Mrs. Uyematsu – that was it. Our family loved the Uyematsu's, and it was an honor and pleasure to share some of these memories with you all," Ladd Anderson concluded.

Norio Uyematsu enjoyed hearing Ladd Anderson's stories, and he added to the conversation with some of his own thoughts.

"My father was the one who showed everyone how to prune fruit trees to produce quality fruits. I recall, the same as Ladd, that my father was never given any orders or directions on what to do on the Anderson Farm and was allowed to run the Anderson's Farms just like it was his own," he said. "I don't think anyone had such a special relationship as the Uyematsu's had with the Andersons to this day.

"Each year, my mom held a picnic and invited the Anderson family to join," Norio Uyematsu continued. "I have only one picture of one of those picnics, but I wrote the names on the photo so that memory was spoiled by my wanting to show who was who.

"In 1952, my family was able to save enough money to buy a four-acre parcel of land with a home in Brigham City. My parents grew and sold strawberries and boysenberries. My father worked for the Andersons until his retirement at 90 years old in 1985. He worked for the Anderson's for 40 years," Norio Uyematsu concluded.

Brigham City, Utah, is a special place for the Uyematsu family since this is where Niroku and Shitsuyo Uyematsu made their permanent home, became American citizens in 1967 and are buried in the Brigham City Cemetery.

But how have things changed in Brigham City for the Japanese American community since the early days?

Over a 77-year period, Norio, Meriko, Harry and Juno Uyematsu graduated from Box Elder High School, as well as Harry Uyematsu and his wife Kathy's children and their great-grandchildren. The Uyematsu's are now five generations strong living in Brigham City.

Norio, Meriko and Juno went to live in California, while brother Harry remained in Brigham City with their parents.

And Harry Uyematsu's daughter, Darla, married the grandson of Robert "Bob" Anderson, Rob Holbrook, and "it is wonderful that we are now officially part of the Anderson family," Norio Uyematsu said.

Many Japanese families had their children graduate from Box Elder High School, and in 2019, a Japanese Culture Club was established there under adviser Brock Cheney. With the first Japanese exhibit at Box Elder High School held in 1930, the creation of a Japanese Culture Club there after all these years honors the Japanese pioneers of the region.

Many Japanese American students were involved in athletics at Box Elder High School and gained distinction as Utah State champions and Academic All-State honors. According to Robbie Gunter, head football coach at Box Elder High School, "Sports welcomes all that are willing to compete and bring value to the team. A person's background and race are less important than their desire and effort. That diversity can also strengthen the team."

Many of the Uyematsu family were active in basketball, football, golf and wrestling while at Box Elder High School and are noted in the school's 128-year history.

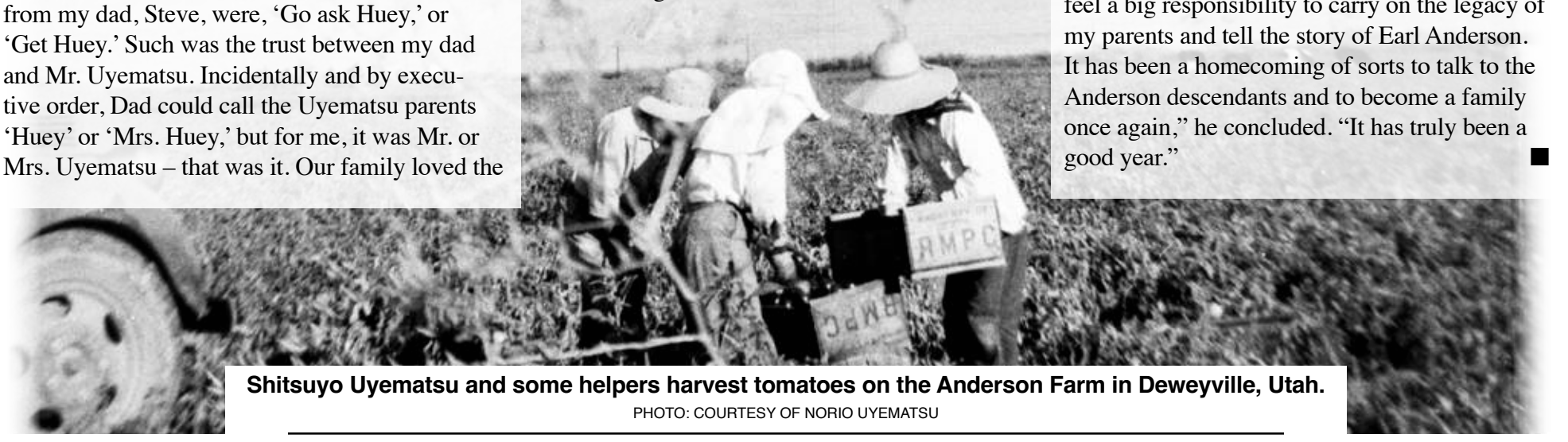
With Norio Uyematsu making his first trip to Utah to promote the Earl Anderson story last September, another opportunity was created due to an invitation from Brek Anderson to speak before the Brigham City Kiwanis Club on Nov. 9.

Due to Norio Uyematsu's wish to preserve Earl Anderson's legacy and have the story of his second hometown be told, Norio Uyematsu has now started a project that has never been attempted before.

According to museum director Alana Blumenthal, "The Brigham City Museum is planning for its first exhibition on the Japanese Pioneers of Brigham City, Box Elder County and surrounding communities in Utah in 2025. With this exhibition, the museum will be creating its own Japanese American History Collection and will be working in collaboration with the University of Utah, Utah State University and the Brigham City Library to formulate exhibition materials."

Today, at 91 years old, going on 92, Norio Uyematsu shows no signs of slowing down, and 2022 has been a good year for making things happen.

"Since I am the oldest in my family, I now feel a big responsibility to carry on the legacy of my parents and tell the story of Earl Anderson. It has been a homecoming of sorts to talk to the Anderson descendants and to become a family once again," he concluded. "It has truly been a good year." ■



Shitsuyo Uyematsu and some helpers harvest tomatoes on the Anderson Farm in Deweyville, Utah.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NORIO UYEMATSU

Chicago

HAPPY NEW YEAR
from
The Buddhist Temple of Chicago
1151 W Leland Avenue, Chicago IL 60640
(773) 334-4661 buddhisttemplechicago.org
A diverse, welcoming temple

Happy Holidays
Karen & Rick Okabe
Salt Lake City, Utah

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR FROM
Tonko & Paul Doi | Chicago
LauraMuraoka & Peter Izui | Chicago
Tom & Verna Muraoka | Honolulu
Grace Kido | Chicago

IN MEMORY OF
Tomoye & Shiro Muraoka
George Izui
George Kido
Mitsuji & Ritsue Doi

& ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

united bindery service, inc.
1845 WEST CARROLL AVENUE ■ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60612
(312) 243-0240
bruce f. kosaka
PRESIDENT

Season's Greetings
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin
Jack Rubin
Seth & Emiko
Chicago
pat@ckrubin.us
New York & Amache, Colorado
Los Angeles, California

Season's Greetings to all our JACL friends
Carol & Bill Yoshino

Wishing everyone health & happiness in the New Year
Midwest Buddhist Temple
435 West Menomonee Street
Chicago, IL 60614
312-943-7801
www.mbtchicago.org

Happy Holidays to all
Anne Shimojima & Jonathan Friedman
Morton Grove, Illinois

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Pat Harada, Tom Rowland
Northbrook, Illinois

Greetings for the Holiday Season
Aikido, The Art Of Peace
Andrew M. Sato, 7th Dan Shihan
Chief Instructor – Aikido World Alliance
AIKIDO WORLD ALLIANCE®
4512 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago, IL 60625
Ph: 773-784 4450
E-Mail: AikidoAlliance@yahoo.com www.aikidoworldalliance.com

Happy Holidays
Tad & Takako
TANAKA
Stanley
TANAKA
George & Joyce
POTAMITES

Clay Cerny
Resume Writing
& Career Coaching
773-907-8660

Happy Holidays to Everyone
from
Lisa Sloan

HAPPY 2023!
LISA DOI (CHICAGO) &
ERIC LANGOWSKI (HOOSIER)

SEASON'S GREETINGS!
Judy Tanaka & Cary Wong
Wilmette, IL

Wishing you Peace this Holiday
LakeviewFuneralHome.com
Honoring the life.
Lakeview Funeral Home
LakeviewFuneralHome.com
1458 W. Belmont Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60657
773.472.6300

in loving memory of
MAY NAKANO
from her adoring children, Megan & Matt

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
GLENN AND LINDA YAMAMOTO

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
Ron & Joyce Yoshino
yosh44@aol.com & jyoshino44@aol.com

·SEASON'S· *Greetings* (*Hello to Bean Nakano and Zeus & Athena Doi!*)

love from
Filbert and Cashew

In Memory of
HIRAO "SMOKY" SAKURADA

JASC
Japanese American Service Committee
Serving the greater Chicagoland community since 1946.
Spanning Generations and Bridging Cultures through:
- aging adult social services
- cultural classes
- archives & collections
- wellness programs
- community heritage & cultural events

Chief Executive Officer – Michael Takada
Board President – Stacy Uchida Brown
4427 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640 • 773.275.0097
www.jasc-chicago.org

Happy Holidays to all
From a Friend in
CHICAGO

Chicago

JACL
Japanese American Citizens League
CHICAGO CHAPTER

Lisa Doi
Tonko Doi
Josh Fidler
Kelly Ijichi
Kenton Knop
Brandon Lee
Kristi Lin
Megan Nakano
Brian Ozaki
Lisa Sakai
Judy Tanaka
Cary Wong
Tom Yatabe
Pat Yuzawa-Rubin

WISHING YOU A
HAPPY 2023

In memory of these and other friends and neighbors who raised their families, contributed to their community, served their country, and enriched our lives.

Yoshiko Adaniya • Kimi Ankrum • June Aragaki • William Glen Chan
Dr. Ben Chikaraishi • Takeshi Chikazawa • Mikio Doi • Doris Endo • Albert Fujii
Takeo Fujii • Mutsuo Mat Fukuya • Steve Furuta • Mitsuo Goi • Johnny Koichi Greene
Kunio Hagio • Yuri Hamada • Geraldine Harano • Marilyn Hayashi • Teruko Teri Hirai
Tatsuya Hirotsuka • Steven Cass Horita • Stephen Imada • May Imaoka
Karen Kayko Ishibashi • Ray Ishino • Yatsue "Hazel" Iwatake • Osamu Kasuya
Rosalie Kato • Frances Kawabata • John Kawano • Susie Kimura
Rev. Koyo Sunnan Kubose • Stanley O. Kurokawa • Nancy Akiko Kurotsuchi
Norman Mineta • Georgia Sato Mishima • Brian Mita • Timothy Miura • Emi Miyazato
Tamio Mochizuki • Jerry Morishige • Chizuko Munemoto • Teruko Teri Mura
Takao Nagai • May Nakano • Eddie Nakashima • Katsutoshi Kats Nakashima
Atsuko Nakayama • Mary Okada • Henry Okamura • Hiroshi Jimmy Okura • Tracy Oshita
Clayton Ota • Aileen Otsuka • Kimiko Plackmann • Kiyoshi Sawada • Rose Senda
Joe Shikami • Mary Shimoda • Thomas Kazuo Shintaku • Yoneko Shintani
Andrew Leo Shiozaki • Mary Taira • Kay Takeda • Arthur Takei • Ken Tamura
Donald Tanagi • Fran Walker • Asako Watanabe • Grace Watanabe • William Whiteside
Sandra Kasuyama Williams • Chiharu Mark Yasumoto

JAPANESE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY
Embracing our legacy and building our future
WWW.JMASCHICAGO.ORG
2249 WEST BERWYN AVENUE • CHICAGO ILLINOIS 60625 • p 773.907.3002



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Steve Arima
&
Elaine Ogawa

Happy Holidays!

The Yatabe Family



JACL CHICAGO REMEMBERS

MAY
NAKANO



May was a dedicated & beloved member of the Chicago Japanese American community. The chapter will miss her lively spirit.

1943 - 2022

SEASON'S GREETINGS

From the Members of
Chicago Nisei Post 1183
The American Legion

CHICAGO-NISEI POST NO. 1183

SEASON'S GREETINGS

Mary Doi and Jac Cerney
Evanston, Illinois

和

PEACE

The Sakai Family

To a Healthy 2023
FROM
Richard and Kathy Yamada

Happy and Healthy 2023

Chicago Japanese American Historical Society

CJAHS

Holiday Greetings from the Takagi Family

Bob, Nancy, Bruce & Ellen
Kelli, Danny & Miss Parker Nitahara

Have a *Pawsome* Holiday from the Ozaki Family!

From: Stevo, Phillip, Becky, James, Bennett, Asha, Nancy, Steve, Marina, Norma and; *Cats:* Ash, Ellie, Momma, Oyster, & Pup Nova

Kai Ozaki-Lumbera
Celebrating the Next Generation
Finn Leong



In memory of Sam, Harue & Ed Ozaki

Happy Holidays

BARRY-REGENT
QUALITY DRY CLEANERS
JOHN SASAKI FAMILY
Voted Chicago's #1 Cleaner
Plant on Premises • All Services • Prompt Quality Work
3000 Broadway, Chicago, Illinois 60657
Phone: (773) 348-5510

Wishing everyone a happy & healthy 2023
LYNN ODA

Happy Holidays
SHARON HARADA
Livermore, CA

New Year Wishes to Friends & Community

IN MEMORY OF MITZI SHIO SCHECTMAN

Lary Schectman
Chicago, Illinois

Greetings from Livermore, CA

Ryan and Lynn Harada Murashige
and Ayden

Mt Olympus

Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu

(Happy New Year)

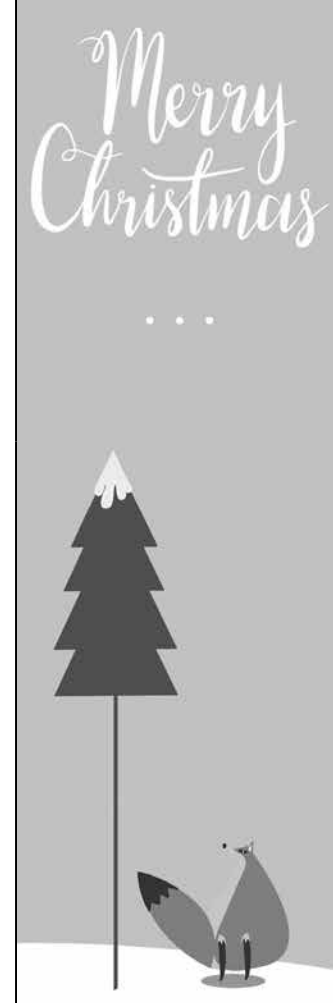
from the

Mount Olympus JACL

2023 Executive Board

President	Richard Mano
Vice President	Rebecca Oniki
Corresponding Secretary	Amy Tomita
Recording Secretary	Carolyn Valentine
Treasurer	Richard Mano
Membership Chair	Floyd Mori
Scholarship Chair	Reid Tateoka
Newsletter	Kayla Watanabe
Hospitality	Sadie Yoshimura
Pacific Citizen Contact	Karen Okawa
Board Member	Gary Okamoto
Board Member	Irene Mori
Youth Chair/Advisor	Floyd Mori
Youth Advisor 2	Velma Itamura
Youth Rep	Noelle Howe
Youth Rep	Logan Mano
Youth Rep	Mira Larsen





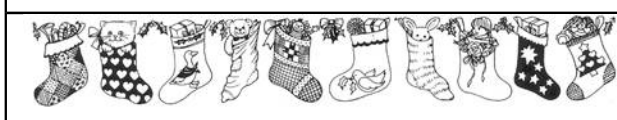
GLA

Happy Holidays



Miyako Kadogawa
Nakazawa Family





SEASONS GREETINGS

In memory of Mount Olympus members
May Akiyama, Ken and Dawn Nodzu

Akiyama, Guzman, Higashi, Misaka, Nodzu, Okawa and Watanabe Families

Philadelphia



New England

HAPPY & HEALTHY HOLIDAYS

from your friends in New England

JACL New England Chapter

On the web at nejacl.org

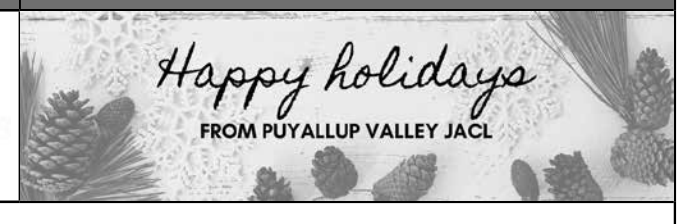
Hoosier

Holiday Greetings for 2023

Hoosier JACL

Indianapolis, Indiana

Puyallup Valley



THE HEALING POWER OF CONNECTION

By Marsha Aizumi

Brené Brown, best-selling author and researcher, says that we are wired for connection. And Dr. Vivek Murthy, the 19th and 21st surgeon general of the U.S., talks about the importance of human connection in his recent book, "Together: The Healing Power of Human Connection in a Sometimes Lonely World." In his book, Dr. Murthy explains, "While loneliness engenders despair and ever more isolation, togetherness raises optimism and creativity. When people feel they belong to one another, their lives are stronger, richer and more joyful." I think the past two-and-a-half years have shown us what isolation and loneliness can do to our world.

Brown shares her thoughts about loneliness: "Loneliness kills people. It is a huge predictor of mental health, physical health and early death." And so, being together again and meeting with family and friends lifts up our mental health, physical health and longevity.

But even when we are with people, we can feel lonely, isolated or afraid, especially for those in the LGBTQ+ community. I know the idea of being able to gather for the holidays is something many of us have missed the past two seasons.

However, I also know that many LGBTQ+ individuals are dreading the idea that they have to be with family, watching what they say, how they dress or act, enduring the constant barrage of questions about why they do not have a girlfriend or boyfriend or are not married. I know I have done this in the past, but I wasn't aware of how this made LGBTQ+ individuals feel who were not out to everyone. Today, I am much wiser.

After Aiden transitioned to be his true self, the one comment I often heard, especially from family members, was how different he was. Previously, he was a quiet, withdrawn person; after his transition, he was social, friendly and talking with others.

Of course, that would make sense. Previously, he did not want to say anything that would tip people off that he was LGBTQ+, so he sat quietly trying to be invisible. It must have been excruciating to have to hold this secret of who he was in order to not cause tension, judgment or rejection at family gatherings. But today, Aiden is relaxed, engaged and full of conversation. How different it is when we can be our true selves and know we are loved and accepted for all we are.

As we get together this year, here are a few things to keep in mind for the holidays, so that LGBTQ+ individuals can be part of gatherings and feel welcome and respected.

- Please use the names and pronouns that the LGBTQ+ person would like you to use. If you make mistakes, just correct yourself and move on.
- Please respect those individuals that use the pronouns "they/them." Yes, I know it might be confusing for those of us who were English majors and taught that the words they and them are plural, but LGBTQ+ individuals are using it as singular. Some individuals do not feel they are male or female (nonbinary), so "they/them" is a pronoun that is not gendered. This makes our LGBTQ+ individuals feel seen.
- Please welcome the LGBTQ+ guests your family members bring to your holiday gatherings. If your gay family member brings their partner, greet them warmly and include them into your home like any other guest.
- Many LGBTQ+ individuals don't have a place to spend the holidays if their families are not accepting or still on their journeys to acceptance. Please invite them to join your gathering. We have a friend who has been a part of our holidays for many years. For a time, it was hard for them to go home because their family would not use their new name and pronouns. Today, their family has come around, but initially we were able to provide a relaxed space to celebrate Thanksgiving or the holidays without them worrying about being misgendered or called a previous name.
- If your LGBTQ+ friend or family member is nervous about the holidays, you can be their Go-To Ally. Being available to them to talk through concerns and feel support can be helpful. Please listen to your LGBTQ+ loved ones. Don't comment or try to explain away their anxiety. When Aiden was coming out to the family, I thought everyone would be accepting, but he said you never know. We made a plan to leave the gathering if he felt judged or rejected. Thankfully, that did not happen.
- LGBTQ+ individuals need to keep healthy boundaries, so if things are not comfortable for them, please support them if they need to leave early.



(Counter-clockwise, from top)
My PFLAG family; my Okaeri family; Christmas together; speaking with Aiden; journals from Aiden
PHOTOS: MARSHA AIZUMI

When I looked up the synonyms for "together," these are some of the words I found: calm, cool, wise, in sync, in harmony, adaptable, unitedly, all together. I also discovered that there was a large number of synonyms. One site listed over 100! But in the end, if a person was all together, there was a sense of this individual being calm, cool, wise and well-balanced. And if a group was together, they were in harmony, in sync, united and adaptable.

So, my hope for this holiday season is that we gather as individuals who bring a sense of peace, fun and relaxation and for the group as a whole be patiently flexible with each other, in harmony, united in love, acceptance and openness.

The holidays for me are so important. Being together and celebrating with family traditions and making new ones is a memory that I carry throughout the year.

Aiden and Mary know I love paper, so every year, I get a new journal. From the kids, Papa gets a photo mug, which he has over 20 years of precious memories watching the kids grow up. And last year, we started a new tradition in which each of our children picks five ornaments off our Christmas tree to decorate their tree in the home they are building and life they are creating for their own families.

It is so fun to have them gathered around the tree eyeing which ornaments they will take to add to their collection at home. I am proud of how they are respectful of each other, asking, "Does anyone want this ornament?" Or how I love to see that the ornaments they take are not always the most beautiful and expensive, but have deep meaning, like simple ornaments made in elementary school.

May these holidays be a blessing, a warmth and a gift that you carry in your heart the whole year through. And may the word "together" take on a new meaning, as we truly understand how important being with others, sharing with others and giving to others can be.

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."

Building Connections Together

JACL's National Youth/Student Council is comprised of students and young professional leaders who represent their peers on the district and national levels of JACL. Together, it supports and empowers young leaders to create positive changes in their schools, workplaces and communities. They are the voices making a difference for our today and tomorrow.

As 2022 continued to see many challenges, there are glimmers of hope as we welcome in 2023. Being able to once again hold in-person retreats and meetings, in addition to welcoming new faces and allies, did much to bolster the NY/SC's ability to build upon community and set its sights on achieving many goals, including its new upcoming "Back to School" campaign.

NY/SC's new executive board reflected upon what it is most looking forward to accomplishing in 2023.



The NY/SC executive board at JACL's San Francisco headquarters during its recent fall retreat

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF KC MUKAI

Sheera Tamura, National Youth Representative



"As I complete my fourth and final year on the JACL NY/SC, I would be remiss in failing to recognize the diverse array of projects that our executive board was able to accomplish throughout this past year. From successfully executing two in-person retreats to onboarding a predominantly new youth board, the success of the NY/SC has been nothing short of transformational.

"Throughout this next year, I am ecstatic to launch a brand-new 'Back to School' campaign that will allow our youth representatives to connect with Japanese student groups of all ages. I am very humbled and ecstatic for the year we have ahead, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work in community with a team of innovative young leaders."

Sheera Tamura (she/her) was elected National Youth Representative at the JACL National Convention in August. A recent graduate of Seattle University in social work, Tamura is pursuing a master's degree in social work at the University of Washington. A fourth-generation Japanese and Chinese American, she has worked with refugee high school students and English-learning immigrants. She is committed to intersectional activism and advocacy.

Mika Chan, National Youth Chair



"Throughout the fall quarter, the NY/SC has worked diligently to create programming that will increase engagement among the JACL's youth membership base while also highlighting our mission to support and uplift the community.

"With initiatives such as our 'Back to School' campaign, district youth summits and Day of Remembrance events, I'm excited for our work come to fruition and see how we can strengthen and forge new and existing relationships with youth members.

"The NY/SC has been shown so much support and encouragement from the community, so I'm hopeful we can further amplify the JACL as an organization, its youth constituents and the greater Japanese American and AAPI community."

Mika Chan (she/her) was elected National Youth Chair at the JACL National Convention in August. As a fourth-generation Japanese and Chinese American who grew up in San Francisco Japantown, Chan is passionate about sustaining Japanese American communities. She currently works as an account representative at Amazon in its Seattle office and serves as co-chair of Tsuru for Solidarity's Education and Policy Advocacy committee.

Lana Kobayashi, PSW Youth Representative



"As the newly appointed PSW youth representative, I look forward to expanding the youth membership and creating personal connections with the youth members of my district. Through outreach programs to college and high school students, to establishing a youth district board, I hope to promote our JA culture while preserving our history. I am lucky to be surrounded by a group of supportive, like-minded peers, and I cannot wait to see what we all accomplish in 2023!"

Lana Kobayashi (she/her), a Shin-Nisei, also serves as the San Fernando Valley youth representative. She has interned for the Japanese American Bar Assn. and the Japanese American National Museum. A public affairs major at the University of California, Los Angeles, Kobayashi discovered her passion for social justice after taking Asian American Studies classes.

JACL NATIONAL YOUTH STUDENT COUNCIL

Lyra Paez, CCDC Youth Representative



"In 2023, I am most looking forward to furthering connections with the youth. After experiencing the Fall Retreat alongside other members of the NY/SC, I realized how empowering it is to be among like-minded individuals who are each passionate about preserving the connection between the JA community and culture. Through youth summits and our new 'Back to School' campaign, I'm excited to do my part in creating more opportunities for youth connection and community involvement."

Born in Sapporo, Japan, Lyra Paez (she/her) is a Nisei raised in the Central Valley and studies at the College of the Sequoias. As part of the Central Valley Japanese School, she volunteered at local Obon festivals and joined the JACL Tulare chapter. A first-time youth representative, she is excited to serve the Japanese American community in California's Central Valley.



Ayako Tischler, MDC Youth Representative

"In fall of 2022, NY/SC had the wonderful opportunity to meet each other in San Francisco and share our interests, communities and plans that we hope to amplify over the coming years together. In 2023, I am most looking forward to taking these ideas and excitement and translating them into opportunities to connect with youth across our districts. The NY/SC is fortunate to have the resources and the collective energy to create programming unique to our members. I can't wait to see what we accomplish together!"

A Shin-Nisei raised in the Midwest, Ayako Tischler (she/her) became involved in the JACL Detroit chapter after volunteering for the Tadaima Virtual Community Pilgrimage. With a degree in environmental studies and economics from the University of Michigan, she currently works in environmental consulting and advocates for communities experiencing environmental injustice.



Cameron Sueoka, IDC Youth Representative

"In 2023, I am looking forward to furthering my connections with the youth in the Japanese American community. I had an amazing time in San Francisco meeting my new friends and peers. I am hoping to use what I learned there to help me accomplish my goals of motivating the youth in my community to be engaged and active in the JACL community. One area I really want to focus on is bringing awareness to the Topaz Museum to keep the story alive. I'm looking forward to another great year and our next retreat!"

Cameron Sueoka (he/him) serves as youth representative of the JACL Salt Lake chapter. A senior at the University of Utah majoring in finance, Sueoka is the co-founder of the Asian American Collegiate Alliance, which is dedicated to bringing together Asian American students throughout the state. He also plays taiko drums for the Salt Lake and Ogden Buddhist churches.



KC Mukai, NCWNP Youth Representative

"Although I was sad to see the members of the last NY/SC board step off, I am more than thrilled to be working with the amazing group of individuals in this next cohort of JACL youth leaders. Rare is it to find a group of highly motivated youth dedicated to their community from across the United States, and it's an honor to be able to learn and grow with them.

"I am looking forward to an ambitious year of programming alongside the amazing individuals on the NCWNP District Youth Board: Bruce Arao, Halle Sousa, Cecelia Shimizu, Jackson Sousa and Emily Yoshii. Some of our upcoming programs include our 'Advocacy 101' workshop in collaboration with Tsuru for Solidarity's Education & Advocacy Committee, an Intergenerational Potluck in San Francisco Japantown, our district's annual gala in April, a light fundraiser and so much more! I am so grateful for the members of NY/SC and DYB for their work and support, and I am so excited for what is to come!"

Yonsei KC Mukai (she/her) is a third-generation JACLer originally from the Central Valley. She graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2021 and currently works on campus as a development associate. A past participant in the Nikkei Community Internship, Mukai is active in the JACL Berkeley chapter and Tsuru for Solidarity.



Sarah Remy Kageyama, EDC Youth Representative

"As a new youth rep, I am honored to be able to represent the Eastern District Council on JACL's NY/SC, and I look forward to working with the youth in my district to promote cultural and civic engagement. For the coming year, I will be focusing on bringing more youth participation to JACL through NY/SC's 'Back to School' campaign, alongside other programming. This year's cohort is filled with so many incredibly inspiring individuals, and I'm excited to work with such an amazing team!"

Born in China and adopted by a Japanese American family, Sarah "Remy" Kageyama (they/them) has been active with Kizuna in Little Tokyo and the Chinese Language School of Southern California. Kageyama has worked under Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and Congressmembers Ted Lieu and Grace Meng. She is studying industrial and labor relations at Cornell University.

Claire Inouye, At-Large Youth Representative



"One of the new programs that the NY/SC is working on is our 'Back to School' campaign, which is to encourage more youth to join the JACL and learn more about our mission. I'm excited to continue this programming to really grow the younger generation within the JACL."

A Gosei whose great-grandparents were incarcerated at Gila River, Claire Inouye (she/her) became involved in the JACL Salt Lake chapter after being invited to speak at the annual Nihon Matsuri as Miss Utah's Outstanding Teen 2019. A student at the University of Utah, Inouye is majoring in medical laboratory science. She has also served on the State Attorney General Youth Committee.

— Additional reporting by Emily Murase

JACL NATIONAL YOUTH STUDENT COUNCIL

UHM's Dennis Ogawa Honored With Professor Emeritus Status

Despite his Sept. 1 resignation, University of Hawaii at Manoa Regents can't let him go.

By George Toshio Johnston, Senior Editor



Dennis Ogawa grins amidst several leis during the 2016 ceremony at which he received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon medal.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

Can you name the number of living professors in the field of Asian American Studies with more than 50 years of full-time employment?

Whether you needed just one hand or possibly two, a name that must be on the list is that of Dennis Masaaki Ogawa, Ph.D., professor of intercultural communication, part of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's American Studies Department. After 53 years, his storied career came to an end when he resigned on Sept. 1.

Or did it?

On Sept. 25, Ogawa, 79, received a letter from UHM President David Lassner letting him know that the university had conferred upon him the title of professor emeritus ". . . in recognition of the dedicated and honorable service you have rendered."

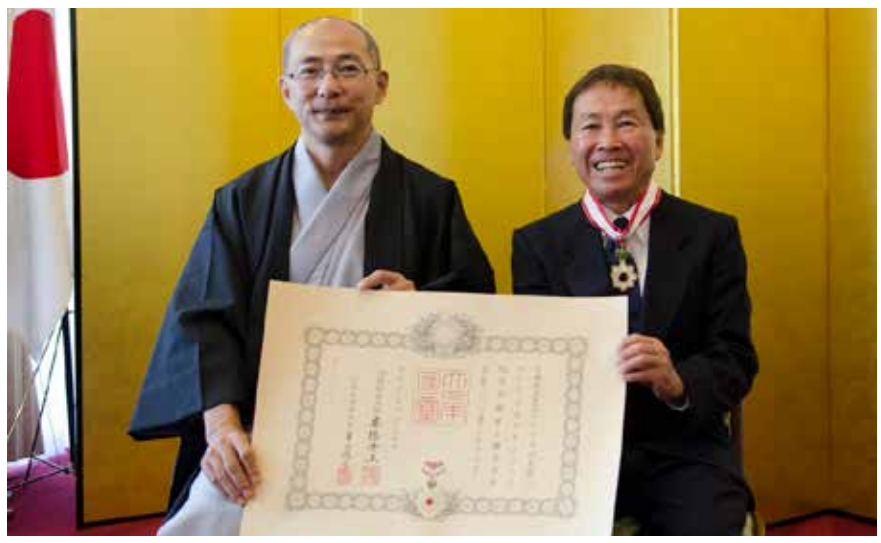
The letter continued: "On behalf of the Board of Regents and members of the UHM, I join them in applauding you and thanking you for your distinguished service. Your contributions to your discipline and to UHM have enriched the lives of your students, fellow faculty members and helped to build the reputation of UHM as a world-class university."

Lassner added: "While you may have retired from active service to UHM, you continue to be one of UHM's potentially most valuable resources, for you possess the wisdom and experience from your many years of service. I hope that when asked, you will serve on special task forces, panels, projects and committees that support and sustain our campus. With your continued support and active engagement, we can continue to help UHM become an even greater university that can better serve the needs of the State, its students, faculty and staff.

"On behalf of the University of Hawaii and the communities we serve, we greatly appreciate your dedicated efforts and exceptional contributions. Please accept the title of Professor Emeritus with our deepest gratitude."

Asked if it was a paying gig, Ogawa laughed loudly and said, "You asked the right question!" While he didn't offer an answer, the letter did note that he will continue to receive "electronic mail, library and parking privileges."

Since retirement doesn't mean an end to activity — more on this further in the article, but Ogawa has yet another book in the works, naturally — those privileges may prove useful.



Consul General Yasushi Misawa of Japan *(left)* helps UHM Professor Dennis Ogawa display the certificate that accompanied the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon medal he received in 2016 for his "contribution to the development of Japanese studies in the United States of America and promotion of mutual understanding between Japan and the United States."

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

Still in the process of clearing out his old office space (which he inherited from the late Stuart Gerry Brown, who had served as a presidential campaign adviser for both Robert Kennedy and Adlai Stevenson), he had this to say about his career trajectory: "I was very, very lucky that American Studies was established at the University of Hawaii.

"They had great professors, and I had helped create the Ethnic Studies program at the University of Hawaii, but that's a process that's step-by-step. So, when I resigned as the director of Ethnic Studies, American Studies wanted me to join them. And I felt really blessed to be with the professors there because it's interdisciplinary."

Luck or hard work or some of both, Ogawa's status as a pioneer in the field of Asian American Studies is secure.

"Dennis Ogawa is an important figure in Asian American Studies. He was one of the founders of Asian American Studies at UCLA while he was a graduate student here," said UCLA Asian American Studies Director Karen Umemoto, who holds the Helen and Morgan Chu endowed chair.

According to Umemoto, Ogawa was a Ph.D. student when one of the original "parent" professors in the then-nascent field, Yuji Ichioka, was teaching the Orientals in America course.

"The title 'Orientals in America' just reflects the fact that it was taught before Yuji coined the term Asian American," Umemoto said. Because Ogawa was, she said, one of the only doctoral students with experience as a teaching assistant, he ended up volunteering to TA for the class.

For the Manzanar-born, Santa Monica, Calif.-raised Ogawa, the class was no doubt a transformative event for the UCLA student, who told the *Pacific Citizen* — unlikely as it might seem, since the fields are so different — he originally entered as a physical education major.

"I think for him, growing up in Santa Monica, then an all-white community, going to UCLA, which was almost vast majority white at that time, finding that space where he could learn more about his own family history *(see "Dennis Ogawa Shares Memories on Growing Up in Santa Monica," Pacific Citizen, Feb. 19, 2021)*, I think it really helped him understand his family's history within a larger sociohistorical context," Umemoto said.

"He was already moving toward this study of race relations because he and several of his friends were one of the first cohorts trying to define this area of interracial communications. So, from my understanding, he was naturally interested in Asian American Studies based as an extension of his more foundational work on interracial communications."

Brian Niiya, Densho's content director and editor of the Densho Encyclopedia, has known Ogawa for years when Niiya worked at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, of which he said Ogawa was "a huge supporter."

Niiya credits Ogawa for saving the photo archive of the *Nippu Jiji,* a Hawaii-based Japanese community newspaper that shuttered in the 1980s. Because of the era in which it existed, it's a trove of reporting on Hawaii's Issei community.

"According to legend, Dennis actually literally pulled the photos out of a dumpster as they were shutting down," said Niiya, adding that the collection, now housed at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, had work performed by several different entities — JCCH, Densho, Japan's National Museum of Japanese History — to preserve and digitize the collection. As Niiya put it, if Ogawa "hadn't stepped in and literally saved them, they'd be gone.

"He had the foresight to recognize, 'Hey, you know — there's some significance to these, we should probably try to preserve them.' That's very significant. . . . The important thing is, it's been preserved, it's accessible for future generations."

The preceding anecdote makes complete sense because, as Ogawa tells it, one of his priorities has been to preserve the stories of the Issei.

"A lot of the work I did and the research and the courses I taught, when all is said and done, I was devoted to the founding Issei generation because they're the ancestral anchors," Ogawa said. "It was because of their vision that there are now Japanese Americans."

Ogawa says that he's been accused of being "corny" for his perspective, especially when compared with issues like "the injustice of systemic racism." Ogawa says he knows those other issues are important and he is, of course, supportive of studying them — but, he adds, "there's a lot more."

Another of Ogawa's areas of output over the years has been the many books he has written and co-written. Again, he says he is guilty as charged for those books' titles, which he says he has (again) been criticized for as being "corny" or "gooey." "Who You? Hawaii Issei," "Jan Ken Po: The World of Hawaii's Japanese Americans," "Kodomo no Tame Ni: For the Sake of the Children," for example.

But there are also other books, such as "From Japs to Japanese: The Evolution of Japanese American Stereotypes," "California Hotel and Casino: Hawaii's Home Away from Home," "Ellison S. Onizuka: A Remembrance" and "An Unlikely Revolutionary: Matsuo Takabuki and the Making of Modern Hawaii."

Those latter two books are about a Nisei and a Sansei, respectively, which shows that Ogawa has interests beyond the Issei.

Looking at the greatest Nisei and Sansei Hawaii has produced, Ogawa brought up an interesting proposition.

"If a question is posed to me, like, 'OK, you tell me, who is the No. 1 Sansei in Hawaii, the one that I would rank No. 1 of all time and forever, and who is the No. 1 Nisei of all time, forever?'" For Ogawa, this mythical No. 1 Sansei was the late Onizuka, who was among the astronauts killed in the 1986 Space Shuttle Challenger disaster. "No questions asked," he added.

As for the Nisei, the obvious answer most might go for would likely be the late Sen. Daniel Inouye. "Inouye is always to be respected," Ogawa said. But for him, Hawaii's No. 1 Nisei was Matsuo Takabuki, who, before his death in 2007, was a mentor to Ogawa. (If you're wondering why Takabuki ranks so high in Ogawa's estimation, well, you'll have to read his book.)

Those books might also be part of the entrepreneurial spirit Ogawa has shown over the years. He famously helped found Nippon Golden Network, Hawaii's unique premium cable TV network that specialized in showing Japanese language programs from Japan for Hawaii's large population of Japanese Americans and expatriate Japanese interested in such shows.

Perhaps for some, his work on NGN was an unusual "side hustle" for a professor in the hallowed halls of academia. For Ogawa, however, being an entrepreneur was simply a matter of, as he put it, "survival."

"We all got to work. So, if we're going to have to work, we might as well learn to be entrepreneurial," Ogawa said. "You've got to have the guts, you've got to be able to know how you deal with your money. And I was lucky. I had a better education than Stanford or any of these other kinds of business schools and all that because I was mentored by Matsuo Takabuki. Takabuki is the genius of all time." (Now you might really want to read Ogawa's book on Takabuki!)

One thing to keep in mind regarding Ogawa's retirement is that because of his more than five decades as a university professor, his own impact on Hawaii is remarkable.

"He's had an enormous impact as a teacher," Niiya believes, "because he's been teaching this class over 50 years. It's a big class, a couple hundred people, and if you just do the math, you realize he's taught like thousands, like tens of thousands of students, including members of the state legislature, people who are in all these leadership positions in Hawaii. In this way, I think he's had an enormous influence.

"He talks about not just having the children of old students showing up in his classes, but their grandchildren . . . because Hawaii is the way it is, it's people with real power in running the state, whether in the legislature and the governor's office and corporate offices and the legal sphere — half of them have taken his class."

From that perspective, it's no wonder that the bigwigs at UHM were interested in keeping Ogawa tethered to the university in some capacity after his retirement.

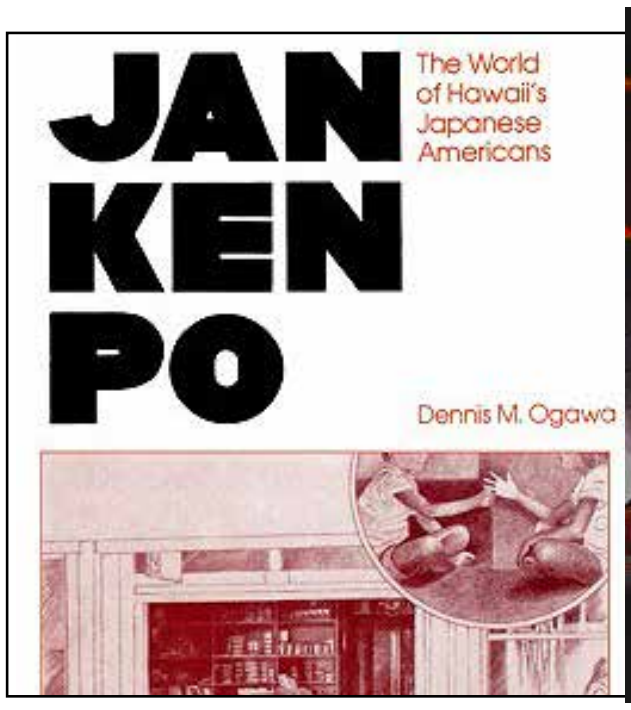
And that aforementioned book Ogawa will begin working on soon? Like some of his other titles, this one, too, might be considered corny — as if he cares. But it's fitting because he wants to call it "Omakase," as in a multicourse dinner menu chosen by a restaurant's master chef.

It remains to be seen what Ogawa will be serving in "Omakase." He wants it to be different. He wants to tell stories and impart hard-won knowledge and wisdom. It'll be his choice of what he thinks the audience wants and needs, even if they don't know.

Hopefully, the book will contain some of the stories he told that didn't make it into this article, like interacting with legendary UCLA basketball coach John Wooden or being a teacher to a young Naruhito, now the emperor of Japan, interacting with fellow UCLA students such as Olympian Rafer Johnson, Walt Hazzard or tennis superstar Arthur Ashe or how, when he dropped out of ROTC at UCLA and then decided to enlist in the Army to serve in Vietnam — and was turned away when asked if he had been incarcerated in Manzanar.

Were it not for that incident, Ogawa might have never gone on to write those books, found NGN or teach for 53 years.

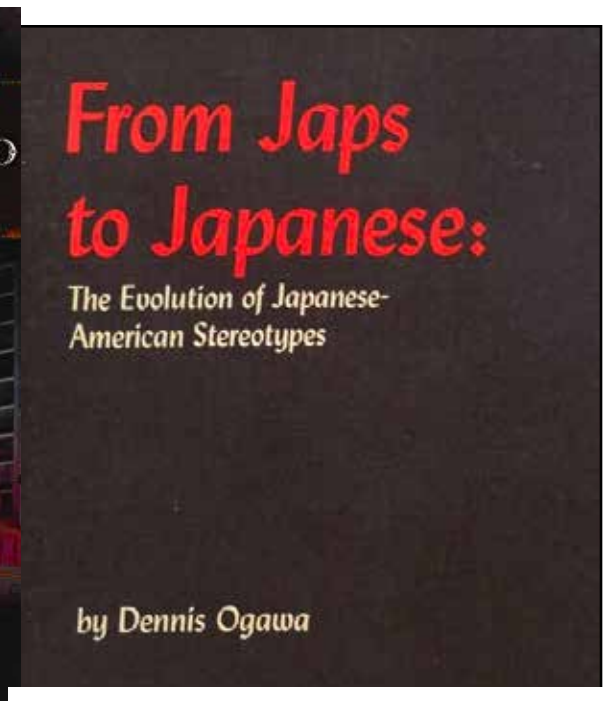
If, as Ogawa says, he's been lucky, then so be it — and thank goodness. His luck has been everyone else's good fortune. ■



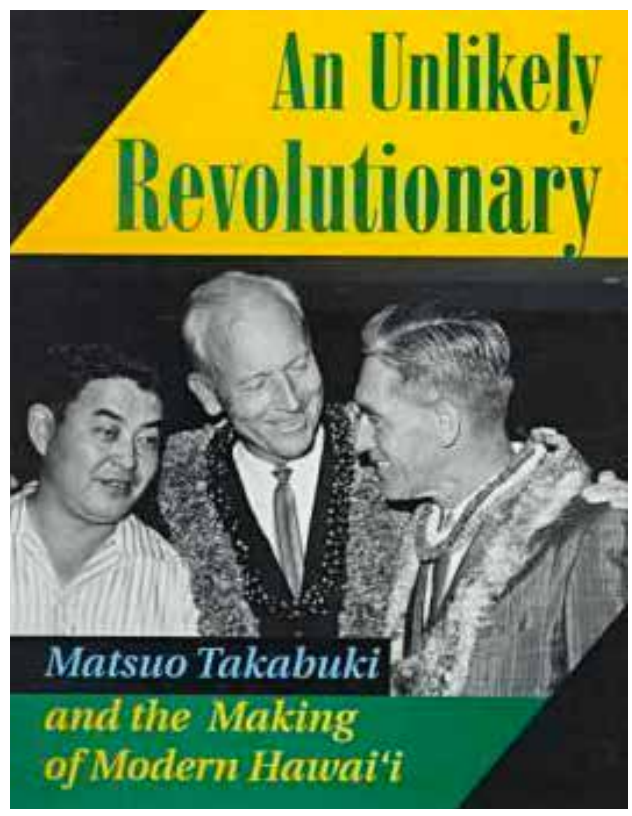
Written in 1973, "Jan Ken Po" is Dennis Ogawa's exploration of Japanese Americans in Hawaii.



"California Hotel and Casino" is about how the Boyd family created an oasis in Las Vegas for Japanese Americans from Hawaii.



1973's "From Japs to Japanese" explored the changes in how Japanese and Japanese Americans were depicted in mass media before, during and after WWII.



"An Unlikely Revolutionary: Matsuo Takabuki and the Making of Modern Hawaii" was Matsuo Takabuki's memoir and was written with the assistance of Dennis M. Ogawa with Glen Grant and Wilma Sur.

Confinement Site Memorials of *Remembrance and Repair*

Eighty years after the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, communities unite in collective efforts to remember and honor generations.







TACMC Chairman Doug Yamamoto *(left)* and Vice Chairman Steve Okamoto, both JACL members, stand in front of the newly dedicated Tanforan Memorial featuring a statue of the Mochida sisters.

The $1.4 million Tanforan Memorial took more than 10 years to complete and stands as a reminder to all that injustices once suffered must never be forgotten.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF STEVE OKAMOTO

By Nancy Ukai, Contributor

The desire to give permanent form to memory — in stone, cement, words — began as soon as the camps opened during World War II, following the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1942.

The earliest memorials were gravestones. "Infant Masaki" was inscribed on a cement headstone in 1942 in the Rohwer cemetery in Arkansas.

The iconic Manzanar obelisk in eastern California, a monument of resistance and resilience, was built by prisoners in the camp cemetery in August 1943.

At Topaz, in Utah, Issei immigrants erected an unauthorized stone memorial to mark the spot where James Wakasa was murdered by a military guard. Officials ordered its destruction, but the wily builders buried it.

After the camps closed — the last site, Crystal City, Texas, shut down in 1948 — survivors began rebuilding their lives. The construction of memorials went quiet.

The locations of the camps, intentionally built in remote places, were barely known, easing the erasure of history. How can you build a memorial at a concentration camp if you don't know its location?

Activism in the 1960s led to greater interest in the incarceration history, and pilgrimages to Manzanar in 1969 and Tule Lake in 1974 marked the first organized returns to sites of confinement.

Manzanar was designated a State Historic Landmark in 1972, perhaps the first time a government plaque recognized a confinement site.

In 2022, 80 years after EO 9066, memorials continue to be built. Increasingly, they are collaborative efforts led by survivors and descendants, JACL chapters and other community groups and governmental bodies.

Following is a list of memorials that opened in 2022, future projects, anniversaries and remembrance developments.

Memorials Opened in 2022

Tanforan Memorial, San Bruno, Calif.

A bronze statue of Miyuki and Hiroko Mochida, two young girls tagged before their intake to Tanforan, was dedicated on Aug. 27 outside the Bay Area Rapid Transit station. This is the site of the former racetrack that served as a detention camp from April-October 1942. The Dorothea Lange photograph of the Mochida children is universally recognized as a symbol of the wartime incarceration, but nowhere is the image more meaningfully expressed than at Tanforan, their first place of imprisonment.

The 10-yearlong project was led by Doug Yamamoto (Contra Costa JACL), Steve Okamoto (San Mateo JACL) and the Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial Committee. More than 750 people attended the opening, including 50 original survivors, according to Yamamoto.

The memorial includes a panel of the 7,984 names of incarcerees, a replica horse stall, an Akebono cherry tree and granite donor pavement bricks. A permanent installation of photos and panels by Paul Kitagaki Jr. and artist Na Omi Shintani is in the BART station.

Rededication of Arboga Memorial, Yuba City, Calif.

Silhouettes of three barracks welded in metal, accompanied by large photographic portraits of four incarcerees, were rededicated on Oct. 22. The collaborative project was led by the Marysville JACL, designed by Stuart Gilchrist, an artist and Marysville City Council member who grew up near the site, and supported by Yuba-Sutter Arts and Culture.

Camp survivor John Tateishi, former JACL executive director and chair of its National Committee for Redress, gave the keynote speech. Roy Hatamiya of the Marysville JACL and Florin JACL member Christine Umeda, who were incarcerated at Arboga Assembly Center as children, were among those who attended the ceremony.

Memorial Projects in Development

Puyallup Assembly Center Memorial Remembrance Gallery, Puyallup, Wash.

The Puyallup Valley JACL chapter is spearheading a project to create an extensive remembrance gallery at the historic fairgrounds, which were used as a detention camp that officials in 1942 called "Camp Harmony."

Plans include a panel that lists the names of the 7,603 incarcerees and a replica of a barrack and a horse stall that will be located beneath the grandstands.

"This is not just Puyallup, this represents the other assembly centers and WRA camps," said Eileen Yamada-Lamphere, chapter president. "Just 20 miles from the Puyallup fairgrounds, we have the Northwest Detention Center, where immigrant families are locked up in camps. We have the moral imperative to say, 'Stop, you are not going to do this again.'"

The target date for the remembrance gallery opening is spring 2024. Donations may be sent to the JACL through the chapter website at *https://puyallup-valley-jacl.square.site*.



Members of the first "pilgrimage" to Manzanar, Calif., in December 1969 clean the obelisk in the camp's cemetery. It was built in 1943.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF ROBERT NAKAMURA



The Arboga Assembly Center Memorial

PHOTO: YUBA-SUTTER ARTS AND CULTURE

Snow Country Prison, Bismarck, North Dakota, Internment Camp Memorial

Between 1941-46, some 4,000 prisoners of Japanese, German and Italian descent were confined at the Fort Lincoln Department of Justice camp in Bismarck, N.D.

Two prisoner groups of Japanese descent were incarcerated there. The first group of 1,100 Issei community leaders arrived from the West Coast in February 1942, and the second group of 750 young men were transferred from Tule Lake, targeted for deportation because of their defiant answers to a loyalty questionnaire, in February 1945.

An undulating outdoor memorial wall is planned for the United Tribes Technical College campus, which was built on the site that is within the ancestral homeland of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Ari-kara People, later Dakota and Lakota. The memorial project is named after a haiku written by Itaru Ina of San Francisco while he was imprisoned at the camp.

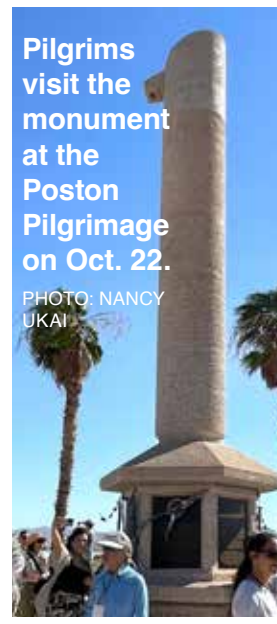
"The intersecting injustice of genocide, unjust incarceration and cultural erasure of Native Americans has … been underacknowledged," writes MASS, the social-justice architectural firm designing the memorial. "Former prisons must grapple both with the legacies of unjust incarceration as well as their theft of native land for these purposes."

Tulare Memorial, Tulare Fairgrounds, California

Students at Mission Oak High School in Tulare, Calif., were so surprised and disturbed to learn about the role that their city played in the wartime incarceration of 125,000 Japanese Americans that they decided to memorialize the Tulare detention camp at the city fairgrounds, which had no historical marker. They received approval from the Tulare County Fair Board in April and hope to install a bronze monument within the next two years.

At a community meeting in June attended by 150 people, Tulare native Alice Ichinaga Nanamura, 90, said she was glad that the students are engaged.

"I'm the only one here in Tulare who is alive — everyone else is gone," she said in a KVPR news report. And high school teacher Michael Paul Mendoza, whose cultural history class inspired the students, said: "We don't just learn history, we make history."



Pilgrims visit the monument at the Poston Pilgrimage on Oct. 22.

PHOTO: NANCY UKAI



The mold of Poston monument in 1992 before builders leave Sacramento for Poston on Aug. 9, 1992. Pictured *(from left)* are Duke Takeuchi, Jim Kobata, Sus Satow, Ted Kobata, Sid Arase, Mas Sunahara, Jim Namba and Nat Ohara.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF GLENN KOBATA

Campaign for Signage

Sharp Park Memorial interpretive signage, San Mateo County, Calif.

The former Sharp Park internment camp for 193 Issei community leaders is now the quiet, verdant home of the San Francisco Archery Club, which is located in a canyon owned by the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

If a campaign underway to install historical signage succeeds, the city will acknowledge the little-known detention center that held incarcerated Japanese Americans, Japanese Latin Americans and other prisoners during WWII.

Informational meetings on the potential content and design of a historical plaque will begin in 2023, according to Diane Matsuda, president of the city's Historic Preservation Commission.

In September, the SF Board of Supervisors and SF Historic Preservation Commission unanimously adopted resolutions calling on the Recreation and Parks Department to develop signage, a proposal supported by the SF JACL.

Anniversaries in 2022

Santa Fe Internment Camp Marker, New Mexico: 20th Anniversary

The controversial decision 20 years ago to erect a historic marker above the former site of the Santa Fe Internment Camp polarized the city, but the anger has subsided over the town council's vote in 2002 to approve the monument, a six-ton boulder and plaque. More than 4,500 Issei were once confined at the DOJ camp.

The proposal was opposed by veterans of the Bataan Death March, some of whom conflated the Japanese Army with the inmates of Japanese descent.

The New Mexico History Museum and the New Mexico JACL held a program this year on the history of the camp and the courage of the Santa Fe community in resolving the controversy.

Poston Memorial Monument, Poston, Ariz.: 30th Anniversary

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Poston Monument, a 30-foot-tall concrete pillar that was dedicated on Oct. 6, 1992, on land granted by the Colorado River Indian Tribal Council, financed through survivor and descendant donations from the three Poston camps and manufactured by expert volunteers.

Designers Ray Takata and Stephan Hamamoto placed 12 small pillars around the monument, making it a working sundial. The lead contractor, Nisei Ted Kobata, constructed the complicated mold in his Sacramento backyard and drove it with his team to Arizona, where they erected it on Mohave Road near Camp I.

The Colorado River Indian Tribes gave the Poston community a 99-year lease for the land on which the monument is erected.

The Ireicho and the Wakasa Monument

+Ireicho: A new form of remembrance and repair

The Ireicho, a 1,000-page, handmade sacred book, carries the names of every person of Japanese descent who was incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps, a total of 125,284.

The compilation represents the first time a comprehensive list of incarcerees has been created and gives new form to Japanese American monuments of remembrance and repair.

The "book to console" was dedicated at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo in September, led by Rev. Duncan Ryuken Williams, a professor at the University of Southern California who received a Mellon Grant to lead the path-breaking project that will include a digital component and light sculptures to be installed at camp interpretive centers.



Karen Ishizuka, chief curator of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, pays tribute to the Ireicho book of names on Sept. 24, 2022.



In Los Angeles, Amache survivor Min Tonai places a *hanko* stamp next to a family member's name in the Ireicho.

PHOTOS: TRACY KUMONO

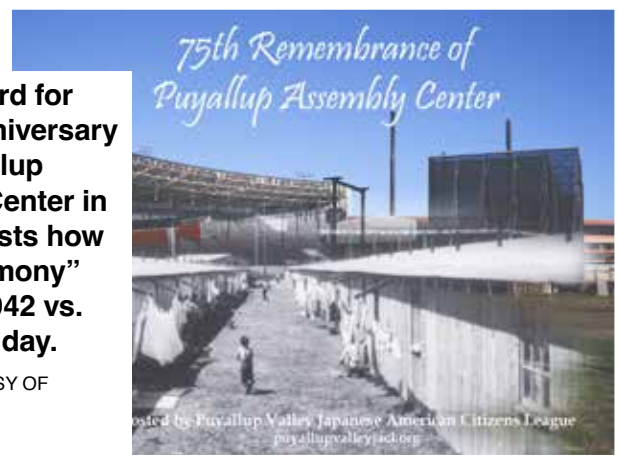
Descendants are invited to place a *hanko* stamp next to the name of family members and ancestors while the Ireicho is at the museum. Future venues are being discussed.

+ Progress on the Wakasa Monument

The top of the long-buried Wakasa Monument was rediscovered by archaeologists in 2020. In 2021, the 1,000-pound stone was unearthed by the Topaz Museum Board using construction machinery.

Five meetings to discuss the protection of the artifact and site have been held since September by the Utah State Historical Preservation Office with participation by members of the Topaz board, the Wakasa Memorial Committee, the National Park Service and Utah State Sen. Jani Iwamoto.

The working group is currently discussing how to protect the 1,000-pound stone and the memorial site in advance of the 80th anniversary of James Hatsuaki Wakasa's military homicide in 2023. ■



This postcard for the 75th anniversary of the Puyallup Assembly Center in 2017 contrasts how "Camp Harmony" looked in 1942 vs. the present day.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF PUYALLUP JACL



Alaska Chapter ~Suzanne Ishii-Regan
Arizona Chapter ~Donna Cheung
Berkeley Chapter ~Sandra Doi-Sanford
Berkeley Chapter ~Valerie Yasukochi
Berkeley Chapter ~Tara Umemoto
Berkeley Chapter ~Karen Lowhurst
Berkeley Chapter ~Gordon Yamamoto
Berkeley Chapter ~Neal Ouye
Boise Valley Chapter ~Dean Hayashida
Chicago Chapter ~Rebecca Ozaki
Contra Costa Chapter ~Yoko Olsgaard
Detroit Chapter ~Mika Kennedy
Eden Township Chapter ~Diane Morimune
Fresno Chapter ~Charlene Kiyuna
Greater LA Chapter ~Andrew Gruhn
Hoosier Chapter ~George Hanasono
Livingston-Merced Chapter
~Janet Fujimoto-McCabe
Marysville Chapter ~Richard Arent
Mile High Chapter ~Richard Hamai
Mile High Chapter ~Dylan Mori
Mile High Chapter ~Tom Migaki
Mile High Chapter ~Courtney Ozaki
Mile High Chapter ~Brent Otsuka
Monterey Peninsula Chapter
~Pam Dally-Lamica
Mount Olympus Chapter ~Karen Okawa
New England Chapter ~Margie Yamamoto
New Mexico Chapter - Shelley Takeuchi
Olympia Chapter ~Bob Nakamura
Philadelphia Chapter ~Rob Buscher
Pocatello-Blackfoot Chapter ~Karl Endo
Portland Chapter ~Marleen Wallingford
Puyallup Valley Chapter ~Eileen Lamphere
Reno Chapter ~Madalyn Kao
Riverside Chapter ~Jennifer Betancourt
Salinas Chapter ~Shari Higashi
San Diego Chapter ~Michael Kurima
San Fernando Valley Chapter ~Marcia Mahony
San Fernando Valley Chapter ~Linda Tanaka
San Fernando Valley Chapter ~Mitzi Kushida
San Fernando Valley Chapter ~Barbara Okita
San Jose Chapter ~Tom Oshidari
Santa Barbara Chapter ~Wade Nomura
Seabrook Chapter ~Michael Asada
Seattle Chapter ~Sheldon Arakaki
SELANOCO Chapter ~Alice Ishigame-Tao

Pacific Citizen's Holiday Helpers

Silicon Valley Chapter ~Mariko Fujimoto
Snake River Valley Chapter ~Mike Iseri
Sonoma County Chapter ~Gary Sugiyama
St. Louis Chapter ~Steve Mitori
Stockton Chapter ~Debra Endow Hatanaka
Venice-West L.A. Chapter
~John Saito, Jr.
Ventura County Chapter ~Joanne Nakano
Ventura County Chapter ~Ken Nakano
Wasatch Front North Chapter ~Sandra Grant

District Councils

CC DC - Dale Ikeda
EDC - Michael Asada
IDC - Karl Endo
MDC - Steve Mitori
NCWNPDC - Carol Kawase
PNWDC - Sheldon Arakaki
PSW - Alayne Yonemoto

thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you

THANK YOU!

Pacific Citizen's Spring Campaign Donors

Albert Eddow
Beverly Mikuriya
Beverly Quan & Jack Sakaguchi
Carl M. Asakawa
Carol Fujita - Kinu Shishido
Chip & Setsy Larouche
Chris & Kenny Lauer
Christine Chen
Emiko Kawamoto
Endow-Hatanaka Family
Floyd & Ruth Shimomura
Frances Burress
George H. Morishita
George M. Watanabe
George Shimizu
Gladys Kohatsu
Grant Ujifusa
Handy Horiye
Harvey Iwata
Hiroaki Komori
Hisako Miyake
Janet Mullen
Janice Abe
Janis Shibata
Jeffrey Dohzen
John Masaki
Juno & Ethel Uyematsu
Keith Yoshikawa
Kenneth K. Inouye
Kenzo Mayeda
Lee Kusumoto
Linda Austin
Margaret Oyama
Milo Yoshino
Nancy Motomatsu
Nancy Okano
Nathaniel Tashima & Cathleen Crain
Norio Uyematsu
Patti Hirahara
Paul Arakawa
Paul Uyehara
Richard Kushino
Robert Mashihara
Sally Yamashita
Tad Kagawa
Takuji Kasamatsu
Ted Muneno
Tieko Moriya
Tom Uriu
Toshiko Sakamoto
Toshio Nakanishi
Yoshiko Tsuzuki
Yoshiyuki Kawazoe


Veterans,
when you're struggling,
soon becomes
later becomes
someday becomes
...when?
Don't wait. Reach out.
Whatever you're going through,
you don't have to do it alone.
Find resources at VA.GOV/REACH
ad COUNCIL
VA
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS SHOULD BE A JAPANESE AMERICAN PRIORITY





***(Left)* Fall colors at Kiyomizu-dera and *(below)* Fushimi Inari in the Kyoto hills**

Rob Buscher outside Kyoto University of the Arts where his journey to Japan began.

PHOTOS: ROB BUSCHER

By Rob Buscher, Contributor

After a decade-plus of Japanese American and Pan Asian American community work, I recently took a position at Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia in the summer of 2021. JASGP is a nonprofit organization that seeks to inspire mutual curiosity, understanding and collaboration between Japan and the Greater Philadelphia region through citizen diplomacy.

We operate Shofuso Japanese House and Garden, produce the Philadelphia Cherry Blossom Festival and provide Japanese arts, cultural and educational programming for all ages.

The past year and a half working for JASGP has reminded me why I got into this field in the first place, and I would like to share why I think more Japanese Americans should also become involved in these kinds of efforts.

Whether through circumstance or intentional design, the Japanese American community has historically been excluded from most official diplomatic channels related to U.S.-Japan relations. Yet, it is our community who suffers the most when these relations sour.

The wartime incarceration is an obvious example, but even in my own childhood amid the U.S.-Japan trade war of the late 1980s and early '90s, I recall an extreme amount of prejudice targeted at me and my family living just over an hour's drive outside of New York City.

Anti-Asian hate crimes have been on the rise nationwide throughout the past three years, and closer to home, Shofuso, our only Japanese structure in the city of Philadelphia, was vandalized in June 2022.

In light of these more recent events, I feel there is a certain immediacy in the need to be involved in work that continues to strengthen the relationship between our two countries. While this is not a singular solution, strengthening the U.S.-Japan relationship is one means of safeguarding our Japanese American community from further instances of violence.

This can be done effectively on the local level by engaging in cultural and educational programming that demystifies Japan, its culture and its people. In one of my work projects related to the history of Shofuso, I found compelling evidence that suggests the Nisei leaders who resettled in Philadelphia after the wartime incarceration engaged with Shofuso and other Japanese cultural programs for this express purpose.

Considering that the same Nisei led both the Friends of the Japanese House and Garden and JACL Philadelphia chapter, the Japanese American community's involvement in Japanese cultural spaces seems to have had a deliberate goal of building empathy among the Philadelphia population at-large, particularly amid the Redress movement era.

The Nisei were uniquely qualified to do this sort of work because of the Japanese culture that their Issei parents imparted on them. I would argue however, that even for Sansei, Yonsei and later generations who did not have the benefit of a bilingual/bicultural upbringing, we can and should engage in work that embraces our Japanese cultural heritage and share it with others.

It can seem daunting to even know where to begin. The good news is that there are more ways than ever before to plug into cultural and language learning programs from the comfort of our own homes.

In my case, I began my journey back to Japan about 17 years ago when my Issei Hibaachan died. Hibaachan was our matriarch, the last surviving Issei in our extended family unit and our only direct link to Japan.

When Hibaachan died, I began to question whether I was still Japanese without her presence in my life. It took two years for my plans to materialize, but in the summer of 2008, I moved to Kyoto and began a Japanese-language-intensive program at Kyoto University of the Arts.

There, I learned enough conversational Japanese to navigate daily life in Japan, as I spent the next semester living in Tokyo studying at Temple University Japan Campus. After that experience, I decided to pursue a graduate degree in Japan Studies and had the opportunity to live in Kyoto again during the summer of 2010 while conducting research for my master's thesis.

When I decided to live in Japan and learn Japanese, I was trying to prove to myself that despite being mixed race and not having grown up speaking the language, I was Japanese enough to have a relationship to my ancestral culture.

As a result of my time in Japan, I finally felt able to identify as a Japanese American, as I gained the perspective to identify the many elements of my upbringing that were both Japanese and Japanese American. It took living in Japanese society for me to discern the nuance between these two, sometimes contradictory, cultural influences.

In a sort of backwards way, I would not have found the community I was seeking unless I had first made contact with my identity as a Japanese American by traveling to Japan. Similarly, it was my work in the Japanese American community that allowed me to be hired into my current position at JASGP, which involves engaging the multigenerational Japanese American community in our daily activities at Shofuso. Reconnecting to Japan has brought incredible joy and fulfillment to my life, and now that I am working in the field of U.S.-Japan relations, my closeness to Japan has begun to shape this current phase of my career in new and exciting ways.

I do not mean to minimize the



Masking at the Shibuya Crossing

impact of institutional white supremacy and internalized racism that accompanies the intergenerational trauma preventing many incarceration descendants from pursuing an education in Japanese language or culture. These are very real challenges that our community continues to grapple with on a daily basis as Japanese Americans navigate our conditional acceptance within mainstream America.

I also acknowledge that my experience is specific to me as a mixed-race white-passing Yonsei who benefits from immense privilege in even being able to study in Japan in the first place. However, I share my story to suggest that many within our community may also be grappling with the fear of being perceived as "not enough," and I would like to encourage others to push through that and find your own way to enjoy a meaningful connection with contemporary Japan.

I recently had the opportunity to represent JASGP at the international symposium organized by the America-Japan Society of Kyoto, which was my first work-related engagement in Japan, aside from chaperoning a couple of school trips. In many ways, this was a homecoming of sorts, since Kyoto was the city where I first lived in Japan.

This was my first visit to Kyoto since 2016, though I had the opportunity to chaperone the Kakehashi Program in 2019 just before the pandemic began. Returning to Japan was a cathartic experience that allowed me to shed a lot of the pandemic stress that I had been carrying around with me and reinvigorated my interest in working to bring our countries and people closer together.

Visiting Japan at my current age brought up a lot of new feelings, especially now that I am a father. I feel content knowing I have made it this far in my journey of self-discovery as I continue to explore what it means to be a mixed-race Japanese American, and I am excited to be able to guide my son in his own exploration of identity.

Not exclusive to this trip, but with each visit to Japan, I find my appreciation for certain elements of the culture continues to deepen in new and unexpected ways. For example, I spent my first two nights of this trip in the Namba neighborhood of Osaka.

A younger me would have enjoyed the crowded nightlife of Dotonbori, but I found myself more drawn to Doguyasuji – a covered shopping arcade filled with restaurant suppliers who sell specialty cookware, utensils and restaurant uniforms. Perhaps it is just a part of getting older, but there was a time when I would not have looked twice at some of the shops I spent hours perusing during this last trip.

In this sense, I find the Japanese concept of *kaizen,* or continual refinement, to be particularly apt in describing my own relationship to Japan. The more that I learn, the more I realize there is left to discover. Likewise, I would also use *kaizen* as a metaphor to describe what the ideal U.S.-Japan relationship should look like. In terms of the bilateral relationship, our two nations have never been closer than they are today. However, to think that this means no attention is needed to build or strengthen this relationship would prove a critical oversight.

Compared to the bubble economy years, American students are less interested in studying or working in Japan. Japanese immigration policy is largely to blame for this, as it is notoriously difficult to get a permanent visa to live and work in Japan as a noncitizen, so many college students forgo it as a realistic possibility for post-graduate employment.

From the Japanese perspective, there are also fewer reasons to go abroad when the aging population of Japan has resulted in an unprecedented number of job openings in their own domestic economy. Considering how safe Japan is compared to the U.S., risk-adverse Japanese citizens may be further deterred from venturing overseas amid the rise in anti-Asian violence. There is also the matter of the isolationist mentality that has developed in reaction to the Covid lockdowns, which is a factor in both Japan and the U.S.



AJS Kyoto Symposium panel featuring Japanese Americans Kathy Matsui and Tosh Minohara



Japan America Society delegation, including Rob Buscher *(back row, second from right)* at the AJS Kyoto Symposium reception

While Japanese Americans may not be able to address these core challenges directly, our involvement in grassroots cultural exchange programs and other citizen diplomacy efforts may help on both sides as a presence that both Japanese and Americans can relate to.

Now that the travel restrictions have been lifted to allow easier entry into Japan, the Kyoto Symposium was the first opportunity for the U.S.-based Japan America Societies and Japan-based America-Japan Societies to hold a joint meeting since the Covid pandemic began.

While it was interesting to learn how our peer organizations are engaging in this work, my favorite parts were the many casual conversations between sessions with Japanese colleagues as we argued about baseball and swapped travel stories in each other's countries.

After the joint meeting concluded, our delegation participated in a daylong summit with policy experts and diplomatic officials weighing in on issues related to security in the Indo-Pacific region, challenges and opportunities in bilateral relations during the Covid pandemic and best practices for strengthening U.S.-Japan relations on a local level.

One of the speakers made an analogy that I thought to be quite profound. Although U.S.-Japan relations are the best they have ever been, like a garden, the relationship needs regular tending to ensure its continued prosperity. At risk of stumbling into an Issei gardener trope, I wonder who better than the Japanese American community to entrust this great responsibility?

Becoming a member of your local Japan America Society or participating in some of their cultural exchange programs is a good first step to getting involved in citizen diplomacy. For individuals already involved in this work looking to take their engagement to the next level, consider joining the U.S.-Japan Council, a membership organization founded by Japanese Americans and focused on amplifying our voices within the field of U.S.-Japan relations.

JACL is also doing great work to this effect in our continued partnership with the Embassy of Japan on the Kakehashi Project that brings youth ages 18-25 to Japan for short-term homestays. Another homestay program open to participants of all ages is the Japan America Grassroots Summit, organized by the Center for International Exchange.

With so many resources available, it is easier than ever before to get involved in U.S.-Japan relations. It is deeply satisfying to do this work, and I encourage others within our Japanese American community to seriously consider how they might become more involved in strengthening and maintaining this critical relationship over generations to come. ■



Even tanuki wear masks.

Dotonbori in Osaka

Donate to Our 2022 Holiday Campaign!



Dear Members & Readers:



As we navigate this ever-changing world, nothing brings us more comfort than being ***Together Again.***



We have so many nurturing stories of gatherings from this year! From Convention, to Education Workshops, and PC covereage of community events.

Let's move forward together! **Please support our holiday campaign to bring us even closer together so that we will achieve our bold vision for justice, education and a thriving community.**

In Community,

David Inoue
Executive Director
JACL

Allison Haramoto
Executive Editor
Pacific Citizen

Online: www.jacl.org/donate

Phone: 415-921-5225 x26

***Checks**: To "JACL" at 1765 Sutter St. San Francisco, CA 94115

*Please refrain from sending check to our LA/PC Office nor make out checks to the Pacific Citizen as this is a joint campaign

janm JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

2023 Oshogatsu Family Festival

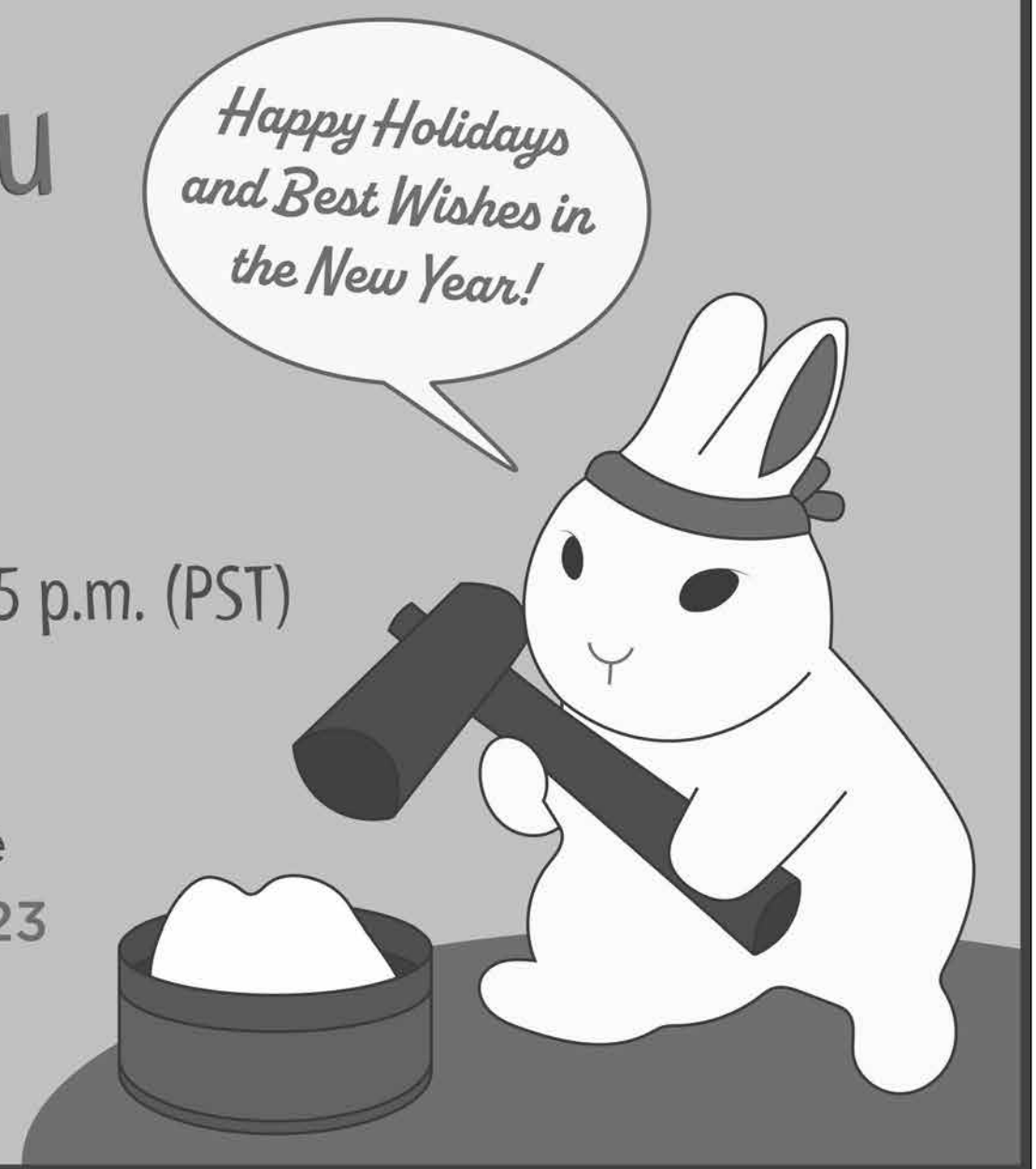
Year of the Rabbit

Sunday, January 8 • 11 a.m.–5 p.m. (PST)

FREE ALL DAY!

Join us in person and online

janm.org/oshogatsufest2023



100 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012 • 213.625.0414
janm.org • janmstore.com • DiscoverNikkei.org • @jamuseum

BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR FROM AARP

By Scott Tanaka

As I reflect on this past year, all I can say is that it's been a year. I am grateful, however, for the return of family gatherings and in-person activities. The holiday season is well underway, and I was happy to attend the JACL Washington, D.C. chapter's annual mochitsuki event in person!

Mochitsuki is a tradition for our chapter and many Japanese American families, where we come together to pound rice to make mochi. We always have delicious food, including homemade ozoni, a traditional Japanese New Year's dish. And we had the return of the JBE Band! The band is comprised of musicians who work at the Embassy of Japan and Japanese corporations who are members of the Japan Commerce Association of Washington, D.C. I am so glad they were able to join us once again. Mochitsuki was a great opportunity to catch up with friends and make new ones — what a way to close out the year!





Staying connected with others is good for your brain and overall health.

PHOTO: AARP

With all the busyness the holiday season brings, I want to take this opportunity to talk about the Global Council on Brain Health and brain healthy habits. The GCBH is an independent organization, convened by AARP, to provide trusted information on how all of us can maintain and improve our brain health.

Clear and dependable recommendations generated by GCBH are based on current scientific evidence provided by scientists, doctors, scholars and policy experts from around the world.

The GCBH is led by my colleague, Sarah Lenz Lock, JD, senior vp for policy and brain health. Sarah's team is part of AARP's Policy, Research and International Affairs department, which is the part of the organization I work in. The council has developed the Six Pillars of Brain Health, which include:

- **Be Social —** Keep in touch with friends and family, and don't let yourself get isolated.
- **Engage Your Brain —** Find ways to stimulate your thinking, explore new interests and hobbies.
- **Manage Stress —** Practice relaxation, adopt a stable daily schedule.
- **Ongoing Exercise —** Move throughout the day and target two-and-a-half hours a week of moderate physical activity.
- **Restorative Sleep —** Get seven to eight hours of restful sleep every day.
- **Eat Right —** Choose a nutritious, heart-healthy diet of fish, veggies and fruits.

I know this list can seem overwhelming, but you don't have to tackle it all at once. Start small, and find what works for you. Exercise doesn't need to be about lifting weights and walking on the treadmill, it could just be working in the garden.

During my most recent trip back home to Los Angeles, I saw an older couple picking up trash on the beach. This may not seem like exercise, but it got them outside and moving. A bonus is that they were serving their community and helping to take care of the environment.

For me, an important one is to be social. This is especially true during the holidays where people may feel the impact of isolation more or are missing loved ones that are no longer with us. So, even if you're not able to gather in person, check in on one another. Staying connected with others and letting them know you care is good for our brains and our overall health.

I want to close by saying that these Six Pillars of Brain Health are not just for older adults. They are good for all of us. To learn more about the Global Council on Brain Health and access its free resources, please visit *GlobalCouncilonBrainHealth.org*.

You can also sign up for a quarterly e-newsletter by sending an email with your first and last name to *GCBH@aarp.org*.

I hope everyone stays healthy and safe this holiday season, and I wish you all the best for the New Year!

Scott Tanaka is a member of the JACL Washington, D.C., chapter and is a policy, research and international affairs adviser at AARP.

TOGETHER AGAIN — COMFORTING THE TERMINALLY ILL

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

"Together Again" is a song written by Janet Jackson, singer, songwriter, actress and dancer, to a friend who had recently died of AIDS, as well as AIDS victims and their families worldwide, as stated in the liner notes of "The Velvet Rope" (1997). "I wanted to do a song that was uplifting, rejoiceful," said Jackson, "I do believe that life doesn't end here. That they've gone into another life. And that I will see them again."

If you are caring for someone you love at the end of his or her life, talking with him or her about the future, including death, is important, albeit difficult. Accepting death requires tremendous strength. Yet, the experts say that most people who are confronting death find comfort in sharing concerns and having an opportunity to prepare for the tough decisions that they might face in the future.

Although painful in so many ways, a serious illness offers you time to say, "I love you," to share your appreciation and make amends. When death occurs unexpectedly, survivors often regret not having had a chance to do these things. Dr. Ira Byock, author of "Dying Well," suggests that people with serious illness and their families have conversations with each other that include four statements: "I love you," "I forgive you," "Forgive me" and "Thank you."

These early conversations, difficult as they are, will help you both to face harder times, when they come. Raising these issues can help in multiple ways. For most people, "unspeakable" issues are the most frightening, and opening the door to talking about them makes them less scary. Airing your concerns can also relieve loneliness, making you and your loved one feel closer and can allow you to share your strength and courage.

You may find that your loved one has been stifling numerous fears — such as the fear of leaving friends and family, losing control, becoming a burden or leaving tasks and plans unfinished. Sharing such fears and expressing beliefs about death can help people feel less overwhelmed. Talking can help reduce some of the sadness and anxiety that people with serious illnesses inevitably experience. It can also diminish physical pain, which is aggravated by fear.

The assurance that others will be able to carry on — perhaps to help children grow up or to fulfill another shared dream — may offer enormous relief. Remember that living, even in the shadow of death, is still living, and there are opportunities for growth, connection and emotional healing.



Talking about the future, including death, with someone you care about is important and provides a valuable opportunity for connection and emotional healing.

Following are some strategies for making the most of this time taken from Harvard Medical School's "Special Health Report — Grief and Loss."

(1) Discuss Important Questions. Your loved one needs to tell you what type of care he or she wants as the illness continues to unfold. Here are some of the questions that should be addressed:

- If time is short, how do you want to spend your remaining days, weeks or months?
- What are you willing to go through for the chance of having more time?
- What is so essential to your well-being that you wouldn't want to be without it?
- What are your fears and worries about what is ahead?
- How will you talk with your kids about your illness?
- How do you make sure your family's needs are honored?
- Do you want treatment aimed at keeping you alive as long as possible, regardless of the side effects? Or do you want to focus on comfort in your last days?

(2) Let Your Loved One Teach You. A person with a serious illness frequently feels helpless. Being able to impart useful information helps counter the sense of diminishment that comes with an illness and can be therapeutic for the person who is sick. Ask your loved one about practical things — where the key to the safe deposit box is kept, for example, or how to make a favorite family recipe. Encourage him or her to share important values and beliefs about how to live a good life.



(3) Acknowledge the Uncertainty. Most family members continue to hope for a good outcome, and those hopes and wishes may make it hard to see what truly lies ahead. But at some point, you need to prepare for the possibility that things won't turn out the way you hope. Talking about and making plans for the eventuality that your loved one may not survive does not mean that hope is gone or that you are giving up. Rather, it will help you support your loved one in case things go poorly and help you be prepared for what comes. You may have worries about how to cope when you're alone, or feelings of being abandoned. These are normal. Talk with your partner about them.

(4) Talk With Your Religious Leader or a Hospice or Hospital Chaplain. Priests, rabbis and other religious leaders can offer real comfort to believers. Even people who do not regularly attend religious services may turn toward their faith as an illness progresses.

This brings me full circle back to Jackson's song "Together Again." Is she right? Here's what Billy Graham, "America's Pastor," said: "I am often asked this question — and my answer is always a resounding YES" *(source: "The Heaven Answer Book" by Billy Graham)*.

But it is important to point out that Graham wasn't talking about being a reincarnated being, how would you recognize your loved ones? According to Graham, the Bible clearly indicates that our identities will remain unchanged. "This is why it's so important for us to tell our loved ones about Christ. Nothing is more wonderful than for our families to share in this great hope of being part of the heavenly family."

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@elderlawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.

Hershey Miyamura Dies at 97

The pride of Gallup, N.M., won the Medal of Honor.

By P.C. Staff



Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura

PHOTO: GEORGE TOSHIO JOHNSTON

Medal of Honor recipient Hiroshi Miyamura, born and raised in Gallup, N.M., and better known by his sobriquet "Hershey," died early Nov. 29 in Phoenix, where he had been living with his daughter, Kelly Hildahl. The World War II and Korean War veteran was 97.

By the time Miyamura had joined the Army in January 1945 and assigned to the segregated and storied 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the war in the European Theater had begun to wind down. With Germany's surrender by May, he avoided seeing combat. Five years later, however, when the United States became embroiled in the Korean War, Miyamura, who was in the Army Reserve, was recalled to active-duty status.

It was in that conflict where Hershey Miyamura's valor would earn him the nation's highest military decoration.

"I was greatly saddened to hear of his passing, as he was truly the best representative for the Japanese Americans during the Korean War," said fellow Japanese American Korean War veteran Harumi "Bacon" Sakatani. "His bravery to defend his comrades was in the best tradition of the American way. His humbleness throughout his life showed what a great man he was."

"The Japanese American Veterans Assn. is saddened to learn of the passing of Hiroshi 'Hershey' Miyamura," said JAVA President Gerald Yamada, who noted that Miyamura served as the organization's honorary chairperson. "As a combat veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II and a Medal of Honor recipient for his valor during the Korean War, he is a role model for those who make military service their chosen career. His spirit and support will be missed."

Ken Hayashi, a Vietnam War veteran and friend of Miyamura, told the *Pacific Citizen,* "If the government said we wanted to create a person to represent the Medal of Honor and the country, they couldn't have done a better job than Hershey. He was just such a humble and gracious man — and such a patriot. You just couldn't ask for more in a person."

For Mitchell Maki, CEO and president of the Go for Broke National Education Center, Miyamura "embodied America's promise."

"The son of immigrants and a veteran of WWII and the Korean War, he demonstrated that being an American is not a matter of the color of one's skin, the nation of one's ancestry or the faith one chooses to keep," said Maki, speaking for GFBNEC. "Being an American is about courage and service to others. Beyond being a Medal of Honor recipient, he was a gentle soul with a keen sense of humor and a heart filled with compassion."

Hershey Miyamura was the fourth of seven children born to Yaichi and Tori (née Matsukawa) Miyamura, Issei who had emigrated from Japan and settled in New Mexico. His mother died when he was 11. As for his nickname, "Hershey," that was because an elementary school teacher couldn't pronounce his first name, Hiroshi.

Because the Miyamura family was living outside the Western Exclusion Zone during WWII when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 in February 1942, they were spared from being uprooted and incarcerated in U.S. government detention centers, as were more than 120,000 ethnic Japanese, most of whom were U.S. citizens who were living along the West Coast.



President Eisenhower presents Hershey Miyamura with the Medal of Honor in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 27, 1953.

That was not the case, however, for Miyamura's Los Angeles-born wife, Tsuruko "Terry" Tsuchimori. With her family, she had been incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in Arizona. After the war, she was living in Winslow, Ariz., and the two married in June 1948.



Hershey and Terry Miyamura

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE MIYAMURA FAMILY



SGT. MIYAMURA GETTING MEDAL OF HONOR OCT. 27

Gallup, N.M.

Sgt. Hiroshi H. Miyamura, Medal of Honor hero of the Korean campaign, was home this week as a civilian after VIP treatment at the Ft. Bliss Separation Unit last Saturday.

He and his wife were home Tuesday this week after being honored by the El Paso American Legion Post, which also hosted a legionnaire convention the same weekend. They were also honored guests of the Las Cruces (N.M.) VFW on their return trip.

The Miyamuras will attend the wedding this Sunday of ex-Sgt. Dan McKinney of Clovis, N.M., who is to marry Joyce Ann Riley. McKinney was a POW camp buddy of the Nisei soldier.

This screenshot from the Oct. 16, 1953, *Pacific Citizen* reported the upcoming Oct. 27 ceremony at which Hershey Miyamura would receive the Medal of Honor.

As a member of the Army Reserve, Miyamura was called back to active duty when the U.S. entered the Korean War in June 1950.

On the night of April 24, 1951, near Taejon-ni, Miyamura's company came under attack by an invading Chinese force. Cpl. Miyamura ordered his squad to retreat while he stayed behind and continued to fight, giving his men enough time to evacuate. Miyamura continued to fight in order to protect his fellow soldiers.

Miyamura and fellow squad leader Joseph Lawrence Annello, of Castle Rock, Colo., were later captured. By that time, it was estimated that Miyamura had killed more than 50 enemy soldiers.

Though wounded, Miyamura carried the injured Annello for miles until Chinese soldiers ordered him at gunpoint to leave Annello by the side of a road. Miyamura refused the orders until Annello convinced him to put him down.

Annello was later picked up by another Chinese unit and taken to a POW camp, from which he escaped.

Miyamura was held as a prisoner for two years and four months. Upon his release, he weighed less than 120 pounds. After returning stateside, he was presented the Medal of Honor by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. It had been awarded in secret while he was still a prisoner of war.

"I never ever thought I would receive the Medal of Honor for doing my duty, which I thought that's all I was doing, was my duty," Miyamura said in the 2018 Netflix documentary "Medal of Honor."

Miyamura and Annello later met up and would remain lifelong friends until Annello's death in 2018. The story of their friendship was told in "Forged in Fire: The Saga of Hershey and Joe," written by the late Vincent H. Okamoto, who was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his service in the Vietnam War and later appointed to be a Los Angeles Superior Court judge.

After the Korean War, Miyamura returned to Gallup as a hero, a word he chose not to use to describe himself. More than 5,000 people came to meet his train. He spent much of the rest of his life working in town as an auto mechanic.

In his Living History documentary in the Congressional Medal of Honor Society library, Miyamura reflected on the soldiers who deserved recognition but never received it.

"There are so many Americans who don't know what the Medal represents or what any soldier or servicewoman or man does for his country. And I believe one of these days — I hope one of these days — they will learn of the sacrifices that a lot of the men and women have made for this country," he said.

Miyamura remained active in veterans' issues and gave annual summer lectures to military members in Gallup, N.M., where a street, a park and a high school have been named in his honor. The talks drew hundreds of servicemen and servicewomen over the years.



Hershey Miyamura and Sen. Daniel Inouye greet one another in this *Pacific Citizen* file photo.

PHOTO: LILLY FUKUI



Gallup, N.M., is the home of Miyamura High School, named after Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura.

PHOTO: JON KAJI

In 2019, an aide announced that Miyamura had likely given his last public talk due to declining health.

New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham and Navajo Nation Vice President Myron Lizer both called Miyamura a hero, saying he will be missed by many who are forever grateful for his service.

Reflecting on Miyamura's life as an American soldier and a civilian, GFBNEC's Maki said to think of him "simply as a warrior … I think does a disservice to Hershey," he said. "The man demonstrated what it means to be an American in terms of service to others and service to the nation. And he did that in so many different ways, including the military, but also off the battlefield."

Miyamura's funeral service took place on Dec. 10 at Sunset Memorial Park in Gallup, N.M.

Miyamura was predeceased by his wife, Terry, in December 2014, and his siblings, Chiyoko Herrera, Momoko Saruwatari, George Miyamura and Kei Miyamura.

Miyamura is survived by his sons, Mike (Marianne) Miyamura and Pat (Jill) Miyamura, and his daughter, Kelly (Clay) Hildahl; his sisters, Michiko Yoshida, Suzi Tashiro and Shige Sasaki; granddaughters, Megan Miyamura, Marisa (Joe) Regan and Madison Miyamura; grandson, Ian Miyamura; and great-grandchildren, Marshall Miyamura, Thomas Regan, Emi Regan, Michael Regan and Lora Regan.



This Dec. 10 photograph of the Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura statue with a flower wreath was taken during his funeral service in Gallup, N.M.

PHOTO: JON KAJI

For those who would like to donate to the memory of Miyamura, support may be given to the Miyamura High School Scholarship Foundation by making donations out to either "McKinley Education Foundation" (annotate the memo line as HMHS Scholarship Fund) or "HMHS Scholarship Fund" and mailed to ATTN: Gerald Herrera MEF, Treasurer, 1038 W Layland Ave., Queen Creek, AZ 85140-3532.

(Associated Press contributed to this report.)

NOTABLE 2022 LOSSES

Warren Minami (83)

The Potomac, Md., resident died Jan. 9, 2022. He was a retired senior executive with the International Monetary Fund. As a child, his family and he were incarcerated at the Gila River War Relocation Authority Center in Arizona during World War II.



Minami's Asian American community involvement included serving on the board of governors of the Japanese American National Museum and as the chair of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation.

Jeffrey L. Yoshioka (63)

Yoshioka, who died Feb. 20, earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from San Jose State University and helped found the Silicon Valley JACL chapter in 2009. He served as its president and treasurer, using his skills as a certified public accountant. He helped organize the annual Silicon Valley JACL Basketball Tournament.



Among his other involvements, Yoshioka participated with the JACL Health Trust, National Japanese American Memorial Committee, API Justice Coalition, the Japantown Community Congress, and he represented the chapter at Day of Remembrance and other community events. The JACL's NCWNP district honored him with its Unsung Hero award.

Yuriko Kikuchi (102)

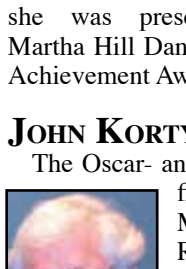
The dancer-choreographer died March 8 in New York City. She was born Yuriko Amemiya in San Jose, Calif. A Kibei Nisei who furthered her dance training in Japan early in life, she returned to the U.S. in 1937. During WWII, Kikuchi was incarcerated at the Gila River War Relocation Center.



She went to New York City when she was released in 1943 after signing a loyalty oath, and in 1944 joined the Martha Graham Dance Co. and became known as an acolyte of the noted dancer and choreographer. Known professionally just by her first name, she was said to be the first nonwhite dancer in Graham's company. Kikuchi appeared in the 1956 film version of "The King and I." In 2012, she was presented with the Martha Hill Dance Fund Lifetime Achievement Award.

John Korty (85)

The Oscar- and Emmy-winning filmmaker died March 9 in Point Reyes Station, Calif. Korty was best-known for directing the acclaimed 1974 telefilm "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," "Who Are the Debolts? And Where Did They Get 19 Kids?" and the 1976 telefilm "Farewell to Manzanar," the adaptation of the book of the same name written by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and her late husband, James D. Houston. It won the 1977 Humanitas Prize, which honors film and TV writing, in the 90-minute category.



The Houstons and Korty collaborated on writing the telefilm's screenplay and were nominated for a Primetime Emmy in the category Outstanding Writing in a Special Program, Drama or Comedy, Adaptation.

Norman Yoshio Mineta (90)

The Edgewater, Md., resident died May 3. For much of his adult life, he was known as a barrier-breaking public servant, having served as mayor of San Jose, Calif., and beginning in 1974, he would serve 10 terms as member of the House of Representatives for California's Silicon Valley. During his service in Congress, Mineta was a member of the "Big Four" of Japanese Americans in Congress — Sens. Matsunaga and Inouye and Rep. Matsui — who helped shepherd the Japanese American Redress bill through both houses, culminating in 1988 with President Reagan's signature.



As Commerce Department secretary under President Clinton and Transportation Department secretary under President George W. Bush, Mineta became the first Asian American Cabinet member, serving in Democratic and Republican administrations.

As a 10-year-old during WWII, Mineta accompanied his family when they were incarcerated at the Heart Mountain WRA Center in Wyoming. Returning to San Jose after the war, he went on to graduate from the University of California, Berkeley, with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He served in the Army for three years as an intelligence officer in Korea and Japan. After being discharged, he returned to San Jose to run his father's Mineta Insurance Agency.

Mineta's foray into politics came in 1967, when San Jose's mayor tapped him to fill a vacant seat on the city council. He won re-election and served four more years on the council before winning the city's top seat in 1971, making him the first Asian American mayor of a major city, which now has an airport that bears his name. President Bush awarded Mineta the the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

As Bush's Transportation Department secretary, Mineta led the department during the crisis of Sept. 11, 2001. After a second plane crashed into the World Trade Center, Mineta ordered the Federal Aviation Administration to ground all civilian aircraft — more than 4,500 in flight at the time, a first in the history of U.S. aviation. He would oversee the creation of the Transportation Security Administration.

Masaru Hashimoto (86)

The Watsonville, Calif., resident died June 20. At age 6, his mother, some of his brothers and he were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center (Camp 1, followed by Camp 2) in Arizona as a result of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066.



In his adult years, Mas, as he was known, served in the Army from 1958–60. He married Marcia Hashimoto, who survives him, in 1970. Both were educators, with Mas Hashimoto teaching U.S. history at his alma mater, Watsonville High School, for 36 years.

Marcia and Mas Hashimoto were also active members of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple. He stayed productive to the end of his life, contributing a column to the *Pacific Citizen* that appeared in the June 24, 2022, issue, a tribute to his late friend, former Transportation Secretary and U.S. Rep. Norman Mineta.

Shinzo Abe (67)

The former prime minister of Japan was assassinated July 8 as he delivered a political speech on a street in Nara, Japan.



A leader in Japan's Liberal Democratic Party, Abe served two terms as Japan's prime minister, September 2006–September 2007, and December 2012–September 2020.

Abe was Japan's longest-serving prime minister, but was seen as a polarizing figure, as part of his legacy included the 2014 reinterpretation of Japan's postwar constitution that allowed "collective self-defense," meaning that for the first time since WWII, Japan's Self Defense Force could join U.S. Armed Forces in military actions beyond its borders.

Henry Fuhrmann (65)

The Claremont, Calif., resident died Sept. 15. Fuhrmann spent 25 years at the Los Angeles Times in various capacities. Before accepting a buyout in 2015, Fuhrmann's name was in the paper's masthead as its assistant managing editor.



Active in the Asian American Journalists Assn. locally and nationally, Fuhrmann was the eldest of four siblings born to Ronald and Yukiko Fuhrmann, née Miyamoto.

Fuhrmann is credited for championing the L.A. Times to change its guidance on the word "internment" to describe camps operated by the U.S. government during WWII for Japanese Americans, since the word by its definition applies to foreign nationals, not U.S. citizens. A celebration of life is scheduled for Feb. 19, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Little Tokyo.

Franklin Odo (83)

The Amherst, Mass., resident died Sept. 28. The Hawaii-born author-academician's achievements in research and historical inquiry in the area of Asian American Studies led to Odo becoming the inaugural director of the Smithsonian's Asian Pacific American Program for a 13-yearlong stint beginning in 1997. At its 2008 National Convention, the JACL presented to Odo its President's Award.



Odo's educational résumé included degrees from Princeton University (B.A. and Ph.D.) and Harvard University (M.A.). His teaching career included stints at Occidental College; University of California, Los Angeles; California State University, Long Beach; University of Pennsylvania; Hunter College; Princeton University; Columbia University; University of Hawaii at Manoa; and University of Maryland-College Park. Odo's most recent-position was teaching American Studies at Amherst College.

Cecilia Marshall (94)

The Falls Church, Va., resident died Nov. 22. The daughter of Philippine immigrants, "Cissy" Suyat was born in Pu'unene, Maui, Hawaii.

After WWII ended, she moved to New York City, became a court stenographer and landed a job as a legal secretary at the NAACP.



Her future husband was Thurgood Marshall, the first African American Supreme Court justice and before that, the NAACP's lead attorney in the landmark 1954 high court case *Brown v. Board of Education*.

Mary Urashima (62)

The Huntington Beach, Calif., resident died Nov. 20. She was a dedicated advocate for the preservation from demolition of the Japanese mission site known as Historic Wintersburg in Huntington Beach, Calif., which included the Furuta Gold Fish Farm, in the century-old property in the former Wintersburg Village.



In 2014, Urashima wrote "Historic Wintersburg in Huntington Beach." That same year, the JACL's Pacific Southwest District presented her with its Community Hero Award. In 2018, the California Preservation Foundation presented her with its President's Award.

In February, however, the Wintersburg site was left in shambles by a fire, followed within hours by the demolition of buildings on the site prior to an arson investigation. Urashima, quoted on the LAist.com website, said, "I'm devastated. I'm heartbroken." ■

TRIBUTE

SEI SHIMOGUCHI



Resident of Oakland, Calif.

Our beloved Sei Shimoguchi passed away suddenly on Friday, Nov. 11, 2022, at the age of 62. He is survived by his loving wife, Karen; their devoted daughter, Sam; parents, Sam and Kuni; sister, Maya (Mark); brother, Ty (Amie); and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Sei was born in Los Angeles, Calif., and grew up on the Westside of L.A. He had a lifelong love of sports and especially excelled in basketball. After graduating from UCLA and then from Loyola Law School, Sei practiced law for over 35 years. An avid surfer, he loved to vacation with his family to the Monterey Coast and Lake Tahoe area, where they enjoyed biking, hiking and golf. He worked for the State of California Commission on Judicial Performance until his untimely passing.

Sei cared deeply for family and friends, and never hesitated to lend a hand. He was a beautiful writer and patient adviser, a treasured gem to those whose lives he touched. He took great joy in watching his family pursue their creative passions. He cared fiercely about the environment. We remember Sei as a kind, generous, funny and intelligent man, who loved his family more than anything else. We will love and miss him forever

PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. **Tributes** honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of $20/column inch.

CONTACT:
Editorial@pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767 ext. 104

福井 FUKUI MORTUARY
Five Generations of Experience
FD #808
707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213/626-0441
Fax 213/617-2781
Gerald Fukui
President

FD-829
KUBOTA
Sharing. Community. Legacy.
久保田葬儀社
T 213-749-1449
F 213-749-0265
911 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90015
www.kubotamortuary.com

Happy Holidays!

Inflation Buster

This coupon entitles you to purchase a Basic Trust Package !!

$1250 **Single Package**

$1500 **Married Package**

(Normal Price $2500 - $3500)

Offer Expires January 31st, 2023



Judd Matsunaga
Attorney at Law

Living Trust Package Includes:

- Custom Drafted Living Trust
- Certificate of Trust
- Pour-Over Will
- Power of Attourney for assets
- Power of Attourney for Healthcare
- Trust Transfered Deed
- Notorization of Trust

Office Locations

Torrance • Pasadena • Encino • Fountain Valley

CALL Today!

800-403-6078

Judd Matsunaga's
ELDER LAW SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA
A Professional Law Corporation

A TASTY HISTORY OF JAPANESE FOOD IN AMERICA

Tabemasho! Let's Eat!



Gil Asakawa

Your favorite Japanese foods, home-cooked, packaged, or served in restaurants, and how they came to delight the American palate.

Tabemasho! Let's Eat! is a tasty look at how Japanese food has evolved in America from an exotic and mysterious — even "gross"—cuisine to the peak of culinary popularity, with sushi sold in supermarkets across the country and ramen available in hipster restaurants everywhere. The author was born in Japan and raised in the U.S. and has eaten his way through this amazing food revolution.

STONE BRIDGE PRESS

www.stonebridge.com

No matter how you look at it, JACL Credit Union has what you need to brighten up your finances all year long!



Enjoy the holidays, then check out our website for more details at jaclcu.com.

Happy Holidays!

National JACL Credit Union

Fax # - 801-424-5220 | 3776 S Highland Drive
jaclcu@jaclcu.com | Salt Lake City, UT 84106
www.jaclcu.com | 801-424-5225 or 800-544-8828
*Annual Percentage Rate Membership & Eligibility Required OAC

NCUA | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

MONJI optometry

happy HOLIDAYS

GARY MONJI, O.D. JUDY ICHIUJI, O.D.

153 N. San Fernando Blvd., Burbank, CA 91502
(818) 848-6659 monjioptometry.com



Nichi Bei NEWS
Connect, Inform, Empower



In DIGITAL, PRINT or BOTH!

28 issues a year! *plus:* • JA Community Resource Guide • SF Japantown Map

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!:
www.nichibei.org/subscribe

Published by the Nichi Bei FOUNDATION

FREE with your *Nichi Bei* subscription!

The **Japanese American Community Resource Guide** features:

- Hundreds of nonprofit organizations
- Japantown maps, historic sites
- JA historic destinations / incarceration sites
- Japanese public gardens
- Cultural arts classes and festivals
- Cultural and community centers
- Japanese language schools and summer cultural programs
- Community & senior centers, Japanese grocery markets, churches



Educational Programs:

Films of Remembrance
Feb. 25-26, 2023
www.filmsofremembrance.org

WAKAMATSU TEA AND SILK FARM COLONY PILGRIMAGE
Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023
www.nichibei.org/wakamatsu-pilgrimage

OTOSHIDAMA (お年玉) CAMPAIGN



- Give the Gift of a JACL Membership Today! -

Join us in celebrating and honoring the long-standing Japanese tradition of *Otoshidama* by **gifting or renewing** a membership for someone you cherish dearly today.

Every new member will receive:





- 1 Power of Words Educational Handbook
- 3 Graphic Stickers
- **1 Free New Year's Issue of the *Pacific Citizen* - Print Edition**
- **ALL** other JACL Membership Benefits





We encourage you to take advantage of this **AMAZING** deal that we are offering at this time:

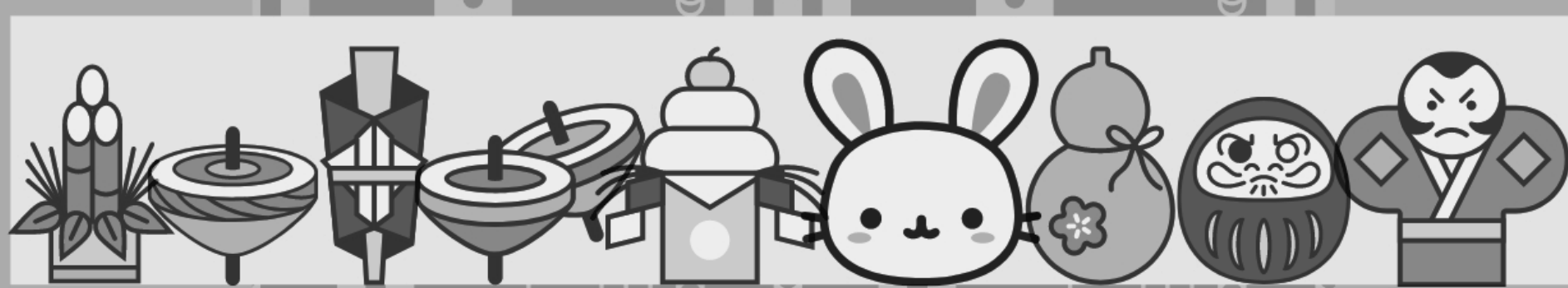


- $5 rebate when you gift a 2-year membership
- $10 rebate when you gift a 3-year membership
- $150 rebate when you gift a Thousand Club Life membership
- $250 rebate when you gift a Century Club Life membership

To gift someone you love, follow the instructions below!

Order Online: jacl.org/otoshidama

Order by Mail/Questions: mbr@jacl.org or (415) 921-JACL (5225) ext. 25





A New Year with continued dedication to the Japanese American community

The New Year's promise is built upon past commitments. We recognize and value our long-standing partnership with the Japanese American community. As we reflect on our past, we look to the future.

This year, like many new beginnings, brings hope and excitement. You can always rely on our financial expertise and services that are tailored to you and your needs.

It is our promise to continue cultivating this trusted relationship and building a greater legacy with the Japanese American community.

unionbank.com/japanese.

UnionBank

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

©2022 MUFG Union Bank, N.A. All rights reserved. Member FDIC.
Union Bank is a registered trademark and brand name of MUFG Union Bank, N.A