

STEPS FROM THE CDC TO STAY HEALTHY

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Practice social distancing by keeping at least six feet away from others if you must go out in public.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, computers, phones, keyboards, sinks, toilets, faucets and countertops.
- Wear a facemask if you are sick. You should wear a facemask when you are around other people.



Questions or Comments?

Please email kyoshino@verizon.net or send comments to: Nancy Gohata at 14229 Carl Street Arleta, CA 91331

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2020

You Don't Appreciate What You Have Until You Don't Have It!



On March 4th, I returned from Japan and chose to go into self-quarantine. That night, I received a text that the SFV JACC board had voted to close the Center through April 1st. That meant my classes were canceled, no more hot meals and all the scheduled events and meetings for March needed to be postponed or canceled. My quarantine period ended on March 18th but by then the Bay Area imposed a *Shelter in Place* order which canceled my trip to San Francisco where the National Board meeting was being held. Later that week, the Governor of California placed a *Stay at Home* order. I have now been in my home for more than three weeks. In that time, I have had eight meetings all conducted via conference calls. No more "in-person meetings" or gatherings.

Earlier today while viewing Face Book I checked out what the rest of the world was doing or not doing. I realized when I saw the photos and videos of my friends and family how much I miss the socialization. I miss the "face to face" conversations and sharing the laughter with people. I remember the healthy feeling I felt when I was around the people at the Community Center. I remember how much I enjoyed sharing conversations or "talking story" with my JACL friends. I always looked forward to our monthly meetings because these friends were the most positive, humble and honorable human beings ever. They invigorate me and give purpose.

Now that I haven't seen or had any contact with anyone I realize how much I miss everyone. It takes not having something or feeling a loss before you can appreciate what you have. In my case, I have a huge family of friends at JACL and the Community Center who I miss dearly and do truly appreciate.

I will survive, as I know everyone else will too, during this pandemic. We are a strong Community that works together like a *Village*. We are on a temporary hold and we will get through this.

Just please stay healthy and safe.

The Red Cross recommends the following steps to help prevent the spread of germs during this situation:

- *Stay home if you can and avoid gatherings of more than ten people.*
- *Practice social distancing by keeping a distance of about six feet from others if you must go out in public.*
- *Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after being in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.*
- *Avoid close contact with people who are sick.*
- *Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.*
- *Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing; throw used tissues in the trash. If a tissue isn't available, cough or sneeze into your elbow or sleeve, not your hands.*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, computers, phones, keyboards, sinks, toilets, faucets and countertops.*
- *If surfaces are dirty, clean them - use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.*
- *Wear a facemask if you are sick. You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office.*

Calendar of Postponements, Cancellations or Deadline Extensions

Film Screening “Our Lost Years” March 21, 2020 – POSTPONED. New date to be determined.

JAVA Scholarship deadline extended to April 19, 2020

National JACL Scholarship deadline extended to May 1, 2020

Japanese American Cultural & Community Center Dinner – June 13, 2020 – Check website

Japanese American Bar Association Gala – March 27, 2020 – POSTPONED

National Pilgrimage to Close the Camp/Tsuru for Solidarity – June 5-7 2020.
POSTPONED

Japanese American National Museum Gala – April 18, 2020 - GOING VIRTUAL

Grateful Crane Ensemble Fundraiser – March 21, 2020. Postponed till September 20, 2020

Kizuna Dinner – May 2, 2020 - POSTPONED

Japan America Society – June 24, 2020 – POSTPONED

Manzanar Pilgrimage – April 25, 2020 – POSTPONED

Jerome/Rohwer Pilgrimage – April 16, 2020 – POSTPONED

All Camps Reunion – May 2, 2020 – POSTPONED

Amache Pilgrimage – May 16, 202 – CANCELED

Topaz Pilgrimage – June 26, 2020 – Check website

Tule Lake Pilgrimage – July 3, 2020 – CANCELED

Minidoka Pilgrimage – July 9, 2020 – CANCELED

Heart Mountain Pilgrimage July 30, 2020 – Check website

Poston Pilgrimage Oct 2, 2020 – Check website

Nichi Bei Angel Island Pilgrimage October 3, 2020 – Check website

President
Nancy Takayama



GRATEFUL CRANE ENSEMBLE - "A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE"

Wow, what a concert. About 200 people gathered to hear the talented Grateful Crane Ensemble sing and play music from the 50s & 60s. The ensemble performed many songs that had people from the audience dancing and singing. If they weren't dancing in the back of the Sambo Sakaguchi Hall, they were rocking in their seats. It was a non-stop hour and a half performance but the concert seemed to be over in the blink of an eye. It seemed like the group sang and played all the favorites from those decades and more. The young parents and basketball players, who were working the bake sale also enjoyed the show. After the show, people from the audience enjoyed bento lunches and purchased baked goods from one of our own SFVJACC Athletics Basketball team.

A big thank you to the Grateful Crane Ensemble, the Guardian, a SFVJACC Athletics Basketball team and to our audience. I know the people enjoyed the music, dancing, being with friends and remembering those good old days.

Article submitted by
Linda Kuratomi

Photo: Brian Yamamoto
on guitar, Keiko
Kawashima, and
Danny Yamamoto
on drums



Photo: The San
Fernando Guardians
basketball team at
their bake sale during
the Grateful Crane
performance.

REMEMBERING HARRY KAJIHARA

In our last JACL Newsletter (Feb-Mar), there was an article on HARRY KAJIHARA, a truly dedicated advocate of civil rights. Many of our chapter members were unable to attend Harry's funeral service which was held on the same day and time as the SFV JACC 60th ANNIVERSARY Luncheon. However, our chapter President **Nancy Takayama** and Board members, **Phil and Marion Shigekuni**, **Nancy and Yas Gohata**, and **Al and Mitzi Kushida** wanted to pay our respects and honor this outstanding leader in making Redress a reality.

On February 16th we met at **Janet's** (Harry's wife) favorite Chinese restaurant in Camarillo, along with daughter **Julia Miyamoto** and Ventura JACL past President **Anne Chilcott and husband Mark**. More than just enjoying the delicious food, we recalled and reminisced Harry and Janet's history of working tirelessly for justice and civil rights through JACL. When they moved from New York to California, Harry was a member of our chapter. Few years later, he started the Ventura County JACL chapter and became their President. In 1988 he was the National JACL President and attended the signing of The Civil Liberties Act by President Ronald Reagan.

Our warm regards to Janet and daughters **Alicia, Claudia and Julia** and their families.

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida



Photo (L-R): Yas, & Nancy Gohata, Nancy Takayama, Anne & Mark Chilcott, Phil & Marion Shigekuni, Julia Miyamoto (Harry's daughter), Janet Kajihara, Mitzi & Al Kushida

DONATIONS

February 2020



Our chapter is most grateful to **BOB and AKI MORIGUCHI** for their most generous monetary donation. They are fervent supporters of justice and civil rights. Our chapter tries to be the vehicle to achieve these goals as Bob did during his presidency in 1968. Thank you again for your gift and continued support.

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida

WHAT WE NEED TO REMEMBER ON THE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Our community does well to remember, each year, our concentration camp experience. Increasingly at the DOR we look at the whole picture of our experience to help us look at what is happening in our country today.

The presidential commission that was appointed to thoroughly investigate the treatment we endured concluded that we were victims of war hysteria, racial prejudice and a failure of political leadership. The fear generated post 9/11 had to affect the way we view those in the world with foreign religious beliefs and who looked different. Muslims are seen with suspicion and not treated well by our government.

The Supreme Court decided our incarceration was justified for reasons of national security. It proclaims, today, similar reasons to justify banning Muslims from entering this country.

Our DOR speaker, **Satsuki Ina**, who was born at Tule Lake, told of how she has worked with the refugees who have been imprisoned in our present-day concentration camps, and how their children have been imprisoned in separated camps. What she told us about listening to the stories of these refugees was quite moving.

She is co-sponsor of Tsuru for Solidarity, a group of activists being organized to march on Washington in June to protest the treatment of these refugees and close the camps.

How wonderful that a special day (January 30) commemorates the courageous stand taken by Fred Korematsu. Again, the Supreme Court decided his arrest and imprisonment were justified for reasons of national security. Thankfully, his conviction was over turned due to the efforts of a team of attorneys led by Sansei attorney Dale Minami.

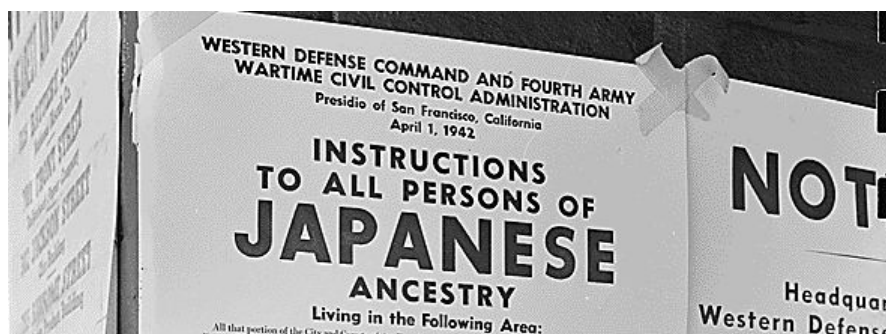
Planning for this year's DOR goes back many months. Several community organizations, which included NCRR, spent many hours working together with the JANM board. Sen. Mazie Hirono was initially asked to speak at the event via a video. At a last-minute meeting of the planning committee, the video presentation was cancelled, at the request of the JANM board, with the concurrence of the Go for Broke representative. Understandably, many on the planning committee objected.

The explanation for JANM's position was that Sen. Hirono's position was "too partisan." It was disappointing to have Norm Mineta rationalize moving the showing of the video to a lounge down the street.

Given today's human rights violations, it is crucial to have them spelled out in order to relate them to our WWII experience. In viewing the video, Sen. Hirono states very clearly the violations occurring today, and she does mention President Trump's responsibilities for these violations.

The Day of Remembrance allows our community to remember our past, with an obligation to do all we can to mitigate the injustices we suffered from being inflicted on innocent men, women and children of today. Making Sen. Hirono's views expendable because they were "too partisan" seems to me a cruel and insensitive way to avoid this obligation.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article by Board Member, Phil Shigekuni appeared in the Saturday, February 29, 2020 issue of the Rafu Shimpō. Phil is a regular contributor. Look for his column: Senior Moments. You can contact him at pshig2000@verizon.net.



REMEMBERING MICHII IMAI

We just learned that long time JACL member **Michi Imai** passed away on December 31, 2019 at the age of 105 years old. Michi was born on May 12, 1914 in Montebello, California and graduated from Whittier College. She was a first grade teacher at Stonehurst Avenue School in Shadow Hills and retired from teaching after 23 years. She traveled extensively, with approximately 69 trips around the world. Michi and her husband, Tom lived in the same house that Tom built before World War II. She is survived by her son, Stuart Iami and two grandchildren.

The MORIGUCHI FAMILY

The Moriguchi family, Bob, Aki, Susan (from Philadelphia) and Brian, were guests of our February Board meeting. Bob was our Chapter President in 1968 and he readily recalled distributing the book, *NISEI: The Quiet American* by Bill Hosokawa to high schools and libraries, participating with community leaders on Black issues after the Watts riot, and was the Commissioner for both the Nisei Race Relay and PSWD Insurance. Then, we celebrated Aki's young 90th Birthday with a cake and flowers. Brian was our Chapter President for five years, beginning in 2010. He mentioned some highlights, but because we were pressed for time, he will return again to continue. We'll be looking forward to hear of his experiences. Our sincere gratitude goes to the Moriguchis for sharing their JACL history with us. They are ardent supporters of our Chapter.

Article submitted by
Mitzi Kushida

Photo: Bob and Brian
celebrate Aki's
birthday.



Quality Health Plans since 1965
1-800-400-6633

CHERRY BLOSSOM PICNIC

The Cherry Blossom Picnic chaired by Marion Shigekuni was well organized and enjoyed by everyone. It made my day when I partnered with Marion and was able keep up with her, our super JACL board walker. On our walk, we saw people setting up a wedding reception, families enjoying a picnic, men fishing , and of course a few Cherry trees in bloom.

Then we had line dancing led by Linda Tanaka and Marcia Mahoney. Everyone participated and enjoyed dancing. They commented it was fun and we had a small audience watching.

Lunch came next with a great spread of food. We had Chirashi rice, chicken wings, Chop Chae (Korean noodle), sausage and pasta casserole, shrimp tempura, sushi, potato salad, vegetable dish, spinach salad and more. For desert we had cookies, snacks and May's delicious experimental cheese cake. This buffet was a lot for 11 people. It was great that we were able to sit together and enjoyed each other.

We ended our picnic with a sing-along accompanied by Phil Shigekuni and Evelyn Mitairai just as it started to get windy. We all had a wonderful time despite the cold weather.

Marion & Phil Shigekuni, Mitzi & Al Kushida, Bob & Donna Johnson with grandson Ethan (Shigekuni's guests), Evelyn Mitarai, May Wood, Marcia Mahoney and Linda Tanaka all commented it was fun.

Article submitted by Linda Tanaka

Photo:

Mitzi and Al Kushida at the Cherry Blossom picnic at Lake Balboa.



2020 Ventura County JACL Installation Luncheon

Once again, SFV JACL members joined in the installation of the **Ventura County JACL 2020** at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library on February 10, 2020. We were welcomed at the entrance by the new Installation of a large hieroglyphic panel from the Egypt's Lost Cities Exhibition at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. It gave us a hint of what we would be viewing after the Installation Luncheon

The new **2020 Executive Board** was installed by **Ken Inouye**, former National Board Member. The Ventura Chapter will be led by Co-Presidents: **Dr. Lily Anne Welty Tamai and Megan Gately.**

SFV JACL members, **Mitzi and Al Kushida; Marion and Phil Shigekuni, Nancy and Yas Gohata; Linda Tanaka; Barbara and Dennis Okita; May Wood and Michiko Kus** enjoyed a delicious chicken lunch in the meeting room of the Reagan Library prepared by the Reagan Library staff overlooking the Air Force One Exhibit.

Keynote Speaker, the Reverend Duncan Ryuken Williams, who had previously spoken at our SFV JACL Installation Luncheon in January introduced his theme as **GOEN** meaning making connections. He explained that it had taken 17 years to complete this book, *American Sutra* because it required Goen. He connected his research and journey of discovery because he admitted he lacked the Japanese American experience since he was raised in Japan by his Japanese mother and British father. He came to the United States as a student. As his research progressed many Japanese Americans who had little literacy in Kanji characters asked for translations of their parents' diaries. There was a **Karmic Connection** as he listened to 120 oral histories and translated JA diaries. Another connection was made as he discovered that his Harvard mentor, Reverend **Masatoshi Nagatomi's** father **Shinjo Nagatomi** drew the calligraphy for the Ireito constructed at the site of the Manzanar War Relocation Administration (WRA) Site. He concluded by urging us all to continue to delve into our connections with our ancestors and the eastward direction of American Buddhism.

Our **SFV JACL President, Nancy Takayama** gave out flyers for **A Trip Down Memory Lane, Music of the 50s and 60s** performed by the **Grateful Crane Ensemble** at the SFV JACC on Saturday, February 22, 2020.

Marion Shigekuni passed out flyers on the joint **SFV JACL AND Ventura JACL Cherry Blossom Picnic** at Lake Balboa Park on Saturday, **March 7, 2020**.

JACL proudly announced the arrival of 4,00 paper cranes from Japan to support **Tsuru for Solidarity's March on Washington D.C.** on June 5, 6 & 7, 2020.

We thank the **Ventura JACL** and the **Tamai Farms** for their graciousness and generosity for the individual gifts and delicious fresh vegetables. It felt like Christmas in February. This time we received a large assortment of fruits and vegetable that included the best and sweetest cabbage I ever tasted which I made into a slaw with a miso dressing. The strawberries were the highlight of a Strawberry Shortcake for my family which disappeared lickety-split.

Article submitted by May Wood



TIME TO GIVE BACK TO OUR SFVJA COMMUNITY CENTER SUPPORTERS

Please call to confirm business days and hours

Chiba Restaurant: (818) 765-9119
7515 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood, CA 91605



Musashi: (818) 360-8884
19713 Rinaldi Street, Porter Ranch, CA 91326

Small Island: (818) 341-1884
9545 Reseda Blvd. #16, Northridge, CA 91324

Sushi Dragon: (818) 394-9313
8069 Vineland Avenue, Sun Valley, CA 91352



Sushi Katsuya: (818) 678-1700
9701 Reseda Blvd., Northridge, CA 91324

Thanks to Nancy & Kay Oda for suggesting we support these restaurants. Enjoy Takeout!

MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO US

Request to renew your San Fernando Valley JACL membership will be mailed to you as soon as we finish with the Coronavirus Pandemic engulfing our world. I hope ALL of you and ALL of your family members are well or are safely recovering. Now is the time for all of us to reach out to our family and friends, and to develop plans to make productive, meaningful, and enjoyable use of our precious time. I am proud, thankful, and applaud the doctors, nurses and all the warriors who are facing and fighting COVID 19 every day. Kokoro Kara.

Article submitted by: Membership Chair Kiyo Fukumoto



JACL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Our San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League (SFV JACL) is accepting applications for the 2020 Scholarship Program. Our local **2020 SFV JACL Freshman Scholarship due date of May 1, 2020 differs** from the National JACL Scholarship Program, Our Local SFV JACL uses the same application, but will not forward them to National JACL Headquarters.

Scholarship Program guidelines are available on the JACL website, www.jacl.org then click on "Youth" on the menu bar. There are also student aid scholarships for those in need of financial assistance in this era of rising tuition costs.

The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

All those applying to the National JACL Scholarship Program **must be a youth/student member of JACL**. Youth/Student Membership is **\$25** for those 25 years or younger or students currently enrolled in a college, trade school or university.

Each application packet must include:

1. One original and two (2) copies of the application
2. One official, sealed transcript including fall semester grades for senior year
3. Verified SAT/ACT scores either contained in the original transcript or a copy from the Board of Test Administration website.
4. One letter of recommendation
5. Application **MUST BE** signed and dated.



Thanks to the following businesses who supported our Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue fundraiser.



muranaka farm inc

STRATEGY THE SALON

18908 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 758-9467



JT ENGINEERING Associataes, Inc.

JASON TANI

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

Fantasy Footballers

FantasyFootballers.org
Discover the online world of
FANTASY FOOTBALL at
FantasyFootballers.org.
Use our free tools, stats, and
strategies to become a winning
fantasy player!



Telesis

PHYSICAL THERAPY

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

Thousand Oaks	Camarillo
T: 805-777.1023	T: 805-388.3055
F: 805-777-3493	F: 805-388-3611
550 St. Charles Dr. #100 400 Camarillo Ranch Rd	
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360	Suite 108
	Camarillo, CA 930
www.telesisphysicaltherapy.com	

TRI-ARTS

CUSTOM DESIGNING
7854 Lankershim Blvd
North Hollywood, CA 91605
(818) 982-4236

Dr. Rolen S. Higashida
Chiropractor – Palmer Graduate

21127 Victory Blvd.
Canoga Park, CA 91303
(818) 704-7647

Reed Capital Management, IC.

Harrison S. Reed, ChFC
3625 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd. Ste 108
Westlake Village, CA 91362
(805) 277-3946

Help Us Reduce Postage and Visit Us Online

You can greatly help our chapter by getting the Chapter newsletter via email.

Please go to kvoshino@verizon.net and register your e-mail address

Visit us online at: <http://sfvjacl.weebly.com/> or jacl.sfv@gmail.com

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacl>



San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League



Membership Application

Membership Categories

Regular/Individual - \$67

Regular sustaining members of the organization

Couple/Family - \$110

Membership for an individual, their spouse/partner and any children under 25 years of age.

Youth/Student - \$25

Members 25 years of age or younger or students currently enrolled in a college, trade school, or university.

Thousand Club - \$200

A membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Century Club - \$350

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Thousand Club Spouse or Century Club Spouse - \$32

Spouse or partner of a JACL Thousand Club or Century Club member

Millennium Club - \$1000

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Life Membership Categories

Thousand Club Life - \$3000

Members who pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

Century Club Life - \$5000

An exclusive membership category where members pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

Pacific Citizen Newspaper

The 2016 JACL National Council approved a resolution and budget amendment assessing a \$17 surcharge on memberships receiving the print edition of the Pacific Citizens beginning January 1, 2017. Digital subscriptions do not incur additional fees.

☐ **Yes**, I would like to receive the Pacific Citizen newspaper. Please add \$17 to my purchase.

☐ **No**, I will not pay an additional surcharge and will receive the digital version via email.

☐ **New Member**

☐ **Renewing Membership**

☐ **Gift Membership**

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Member Information

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Payment Method ☐ **Check enclosed**, make checks payable to "JACL"

Please charge my Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Card Number: _____ **Expiration Date:** _____/_____/_____
(Month / Year) **Security Code:** _____

Name (as it appears on card): _____

Please send this form to:

Japanese American Citizens League

P.O. Box 45397

San Francisco, CA 94145-0397

Membership Dues \$ _____

Pacific Citizen Newspaper (\$17) \$ _____

Additional donation to JACL (optional) \$ _____

Additional donation to SFV JACL (optional) \$ _____

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

JOIN or RENEW Online: <http://www.jacl.org/member>

