

JACL INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

The JACL Installation luncheon will be held, **Sunday, January 20, 2013** at the Odyssey Restaurant, 15600 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills, CA. Professor Emeritus, **Don T. Nakanishi**, former Director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center will be the guest speaker at the luncheon.

Professor of political science, Nakanishi has written approximately 80 books, articles and reports on the political participation of Asian Pacific Americans and other ethnic and racial groups in American politics. He was also co-founder and served as publisher of Amerasia Journal, the top scholarly journal in the field of Asian American Studies.

The No Host Social will commence at 11:30 am with lunch served at 12:00 noon. Ticket reservations for the luncheon may be arranged by contacting **Linda Tanaka** at: **805-527-1224** or at **lkitai@hotmail.com**. Tickets are \$36.00 per person. For additional information, please contact Linda Tanaka.

Article submitted by Patty Takayama



UPCOMING EVENTS



**COME JOIN US IN
THE FUN AND
ACTIVITIES**

December 8
Holiday Party

December 15
Grateful Crane:
Home for the Holidays

December 18
Third Tuesday Movie
Outing

January 20
JACL Installation
Luncheon

February 16
Day of Remembrance

February 24
East West Players:
Christmas in Hanoi

March 23
Cherry Blossom Outing
Lake Balboa



SFV JACL HOLIDAY PARTY REMINDER

Saturday, December 8, 2012

SFV Japanese American Community Center
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima



POTLUCK DINNER – Bring a main dish and either a salad or dessert

GIFT EXCHANGE – Bring a new, wrapped gift, \$10 maximum

VISIT FROM SANTA –For children 10 and under,
contact Nancy Gohata at (818) 899-4237

or at yaiko16@verizon.net by **December 1, 2012**

RSVP TO: **Patty Takayama** (818) 893-1581 or
at pe.high.mtn@juno.com

Questions or Comments?

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

December, 2012



As we approach the end of 2012, I find myself reflecting on the many achievements of our chapter over, not just this year, but many years, even decades.

2012 was one of the most active years in recent history. We had many events including a new event, Katarou, designed to bring generations together to learn from one another. We had several special film screenings including *Sugihara: Conspiracy in Kindness* and *A Flicker in Eternity: The Life of Stanley Hayami*. We also had our usual events including Obon, Grateful Crane and East West Players as well as our monthly movie outings. Each program involves hard work by the SFVJACL board members and other chapter members who volunteer their time and energy to each event. I would like to thank all of you who helped with our events and all of you who attended as well. We will continue to bring quality programs to the San Fernando Valley in 2013.

The SFVJACL is not just about programs and events. It is about people. It is about individuals who take leadership roles in our community to make it a better place for all. We recognized leaders including **Fred Korematsu** and more locally, **Tak Yamamoto** for his many years of leadership in civil rights and **Mitzi Kushida** who was honored at the PSWD awards dinner for her outstanding service to the SFVJACL. I have great admiration for these leaders who not only took a stand for justice and equality for all people, but demanded it when others sat quietly by. It is through this tenacity that change comes and makes this world a better place.

Sadly, two of our beloved board members passed away this past year, **Tak Yamamoto** and **Chieko Merz**. They will be missed greatly. Each brought unique perspectives to the JACL and were dedicated to the fight for civil rights and equality. I am forever grateful to have known these two and always appreciated their candor and leadership. Rest in peace to you both and my thoughts and prayers are with your families and loved ones.

In 2012, we also expanded the chapter's exposure through a new website, a new chapter logo and the use of social media including Facebook. If you haven't already, please explore these new tools that will get important information out quickly to our members to keep them informed. In the upcoming year, we will continue to focus on increasing our exposure and networking with local colleges and students.

I hope to see all of you at our holiday party on December 8th and wish all of you a happy holiday season and a safe and prosperous new year!

Sincerely,
Brian Moriguchi



Please help us lower our postage cost?

You can greatly help our chapter by getting the Chapter newsletter via email.
Please go to kyoshino@verizon.net and register your e-mail address.



PSW HONORS MITZI KUSHIDA

My mom, **Mitzi Kushida**, has been a member of the San Fernando JACL along with my father, **Albert Kushida** since 1967. JACL has been an integral part of her life where she served as board president and channeled her energy into spearheading many Chapter fundraisers.

On October 6, 2012, Harry Honda and Helen Kawagoe, JACL Southwest District awardees along with my mom and nine other chapter honorees were recognized at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles. It was a gala event where suits and ties were a common sight and I thought Cardinal Mahoney was going to step out anytime and give his blessings to the honorees. Both Ken Inouye and Priscilla Ouchida (District Governor and Executive Director, respectively) welcomed the attendees and reminded the audience of JACL's progress and ongoing focus on civil and human rights, cultural education and heritage, preservation and youth empowerment.

The San Fernando Valley had three tables full of supporters who all enjoyed an evening of inspiring speakers, delicious food, and to my surprise a silent auction filled with a vast array of gifts. It is my regret that I didn't bid on the Lakers basketball tickets as an early Christmas gift to myself.

There were many living legends recognized that evening for their service to JACL and I feel honored that my mom was one of them.

Article submitted by Doreen Kushida



Mitzi Kushida and Brian Moriguchi

SERVING LUNCH AT CC CLEAN-UP

Our chapter was in charge of making lunch for Community Center members who came to work at the annual SFVJACC Clean-up Day on October 27, 2012. **Marion Shigekuni** shown on the left, led the kitchen crew. Also shown, from left to right, are **Sumi Yamaguchi**, **Yas Gohata**, **Mitzi Kushida**, **Brian Moriguchi**, and in the back **Dennis Okita** and **Al Kushida**.



TAK YAMAMOTO, PIONEER JAPANESE-AMERICAN GAY ACTIVIST

Takenori (Tak) Yamamoto, pioneer Japanese-American gay activist, passed away on Friday, Nov. 9, 2012 at his home at the age of 74. Tak was openly gay most of his life, including during his service in the US Air Force. He retired from the Los Angeles County Voter Registration department.

Paul Chen and **June Lagmay** were founders and co-chairs of the Asian Pacific Lesbian & Gays, the first such API LGBT organization in the nation. Because of their fast growth, they soon reorganized, and Tak was voted to be their first president.

Tak served as the first openly-gay president of a JACL chapter and was instrumental in having the JACL endorse gay marriages at their national convention in 1994.

Prior to the national JACL convention, Tak arranged for his San Fernando Valley JACL chapter to present a panel on homosexuality, the first ever such panel in the southern California Japanese American community.

In 1990, Tak Yamamoto was one of two gay Japanese American persons featured in a Tozai Times article called "A Minority within a Minority." The now defunct publication described Japanese-American gays and lesbians living previously invisible lives within the Japanese-American community.

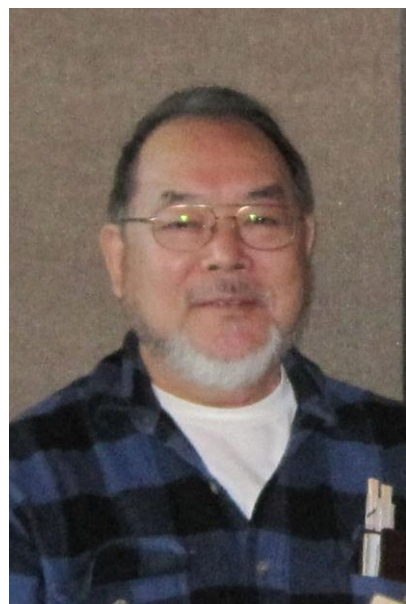
I read that article in complete amazement, being a father with a gay daughter who had come out just two years earlier. During the 1980s-1990s, public support of gays was practically non-existent. Because of the suffocating atmosphere of Japanese-American culture that I felt at that time, I couldn't imagine seeing a newspaper feature with the NAME of a gay person, as well as his PHOTO! I did not know who Tak Yamamoto was at that time, but I was very grateful for his courage, for it let us know that we were not alone in the Japanese-American community! I don't know how many other families he affected by that article, but we are forever grateful for his action.

A few years later, my wife and I were able to meet Tak, as he worked with **May Yamamoto** (not related) in forming the Lambda Chapter of the JACL, the first LGBT chapter for the civil rights organization.

In recent years, Tak was honored by the Southern California Japanese-American Historical Society, and by the API Equality Los Angeles organization in their Pioneers Project.

Tak has also been a member of the Manzanar Pilgrimage project since its inception in 1970. **Bruce Embry**, Manzanar Committee co-chair, described Tak as a devoted community organizer who was a fighter, whether it was a struggle for full redress and reparations or a staunch advocate of LGBTQ rights. Other adjectives furnished by Bruce were: thoroughly organized, tireless, fearless, committed, determined, loyal, but patient as well. Jovial was another common adjective used for Tak by his friends.

On November 6, 2012, Tak's partner of 46 years, **Karl Vonl Fish**, took Tak to his home precinct so that he could turn in his ballot personally. Tak was a strong Democrat.



Article submitted by Harold Kameya



THIRD TUESDAY MOVIE OUTING



Our **October** movie, *Argo*, left most of us riveted to our seats for two hours. Director **Ben Affleck**, who also plays CIA agent Tony Mendez, is getting kudos for a job well done. Based on the actual events of 1979, when militants seized control of the U.S. embassy in Tehran, during the height of the Iranian revolution, *Argo* spins a lesser known saga about the fate of the six foreign service workers who escaped the U.S. compound and found sanctuary in the home of Canadian ambassador **Ken Taylor**. On a personal note, SFVH Buddhist Temple Minister, **Patricia Usuki**, met Ken Taylor before she became a minister, working for the Canadian government in New York.

Through animation, *Argo* provided us with a lesson of late 20th century Iranian history. This helped us recall some of the events shown in this film.

The plot centers around getting the six diplomats out of Iran. Here's where the nail-biting begins as Mendez's plan is to disguise the U.S. workers as a Canadian movie crew, scouting locations in the Middle East for a sci-fi adventure movie titled, *Argo*. Strong acting performances were given by **John Goodman**, playing make-up pioneer **John Chambers** and **Alan Arkin** as the producer. *Argo* got high critic ratings, as well as high marks from the monthly Tuesday movie-outing group.

Our **November** movie was *Lincoln* directed by **Steven Spielberg**. The film focuses on the final four months of Lincoln's life when he was trying to get the House of Representatives to pass the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. With the end of the Civil War in sight, Lincoln's first priority was to abolish slavery, not with the Emancipation Proclamation, but with an amendment to the Constitution.

In a recent interview on KPCC, Lincoln biographer **Ronald C. White** (*A. Lincoln*) was asked how accurate the movie was to actual events. Mr. White stated that this was not a documentary film and much of the dialogue may never have been uttered, but the main events depicted were accurately recounted. He affirmed **Daniel Day-Lewis'** portrayal of Lincoln to be true to what historians have recorded. Day-Lewis is surrounded by a talented cast which includes **Sally Fields** as Mary Todd Lincoln. This movie-goer's favorite historical figure was Representative Thaddeus Stevens, a true abolitionist from Pennsylvania, brilliantly played by **Tommy Lee Jones**, Stevens has some of the best lines in the film in his verbal attack to convey to his colleagues the error of their ways. Author White also confirmed the accuracy of Steven's role in the battle to pass the 13th Amendment.

Spielberg and screen writer **Tony Kushner** exposes the battle in Congress depicting behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing and a very messy political process. However, in this most contentious battle, the political process came together to act as an instrument of moral good. Here's hoping the 2012 Congress can measure up to America's lawmakers of 1864.

Given high ratings from critics, *Lincoln* is a film to add to your movie-to-see list.

SUZUME NO GAKKOU SIMMER CAMP

June 17-21, 2013



Due to popular demand, SFV JACL's Suzume no Gakkou will be back. This summer camp is a rich, cultural experience for kids from elementary grades 2-5.

Enjoy learning Japanese conversation, story time, art, music, snacks, and making new friends.

Calling out for volunteers! Youth, parents, grandparents, and friends are welcome. Field trip is included.

For more information contact **Nancy Oda** at nancyoda@juno.com or call: (818) 935-2603.

YEARS OF INFAMY/A FLICKER IN ETERNITY SCREENING

It must have been heartwarming for Writer/Director **Sharon Yamato** to see the large turnout (about 130) for the presentation of her two films, “Out of Infamy: Michi Nishiura Weglyn” and “A Flicker in Eternity”, at the SFVJA Community Center on Sunday afternoon, October 28th.

The first film was a documentary/biography on Michi Nishiura Weglyn, who was a pioneer in writing Years of Infamy, the Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps. The film goes into Weglyn's drive and motivation and how Walter Weglyn, her husband, himself a survivor of the Nazi holocaust as a child, inspired and kept her focused on the project.

In the second movie, “A Flicker in Eternity”, the cartoon style of drawings and informal letters left behind by Stanley Hayami to his sister are used. This is a heart-wrenching story of an 18-year-old “kid” in Italy, doing “the right thing, defending his country”. This film is so aptly titled “A Flicker in Eternity” for there must be so many “FLICKERS” like Stanley, each with his own story.

Thanks to people like Sharon Yamato who find themselves interested enough to present the Japanese American experiences in a different mode of communication, such as films. After all, not all of us are readers! By the way, I found myself going to my bookshelf and picking up my copy of Years of Infamy again after all these years.

Thanks again to the SFVJACL Board for having this event and making it available to the Community. The committee, made up of **Marcia Mahony, Barbara Okita, Linda Tanaka, Mabel Takimoto, Mitzi**

Kushida, Doreen Kawamoto, Marion and Phil Shigekuni, Keiko Kuratomi, Sumi Yamaguchi, and **Nancy Gohata** did a terrific job, thank you. In addition, thanks to the technical team made up of **Yas Gohata, Al Kushida** and **Dennis Okita** and the set up crew, **Al Kushida, Brian Moriguchi, Yas Gohata, Dennis Okita, Emil DeCastro** and **Patty Takayama**. The delicious desserts were made by Board members. A Big Thank You to Everyone!!

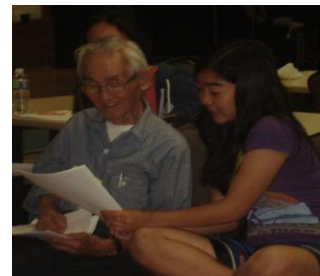


From L to R: Linda Tanaka, Sharon Yamato, Nancy Gohata, Barbara Okita, Marcia Mahony and Marion Shigekuni.

Article submitted by
Harriet Nishizaka



Katarou Histories
Inter-Generational
Workshop



Come join us next summer as we uncover our valley history.
Learn about our JA culture and document our undiscovered past.

Program starts June 2013

MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO OUR ORGANIZATION

We welcome new members **Cherylee and Michael Arzouman (Cherylee is the daughter of Board member, Mitzi Kushida)** and student member, **Allison Mohrfeld**.

Included in this month's newsletter is a **JACL Gift Membership** certificate that you can use to "gift" JACL memberships to your friends and family this holiday season. All you need to do is buy a membership for the person receiving your gift. (A membership form is included in this newsletter) Then, you can send the Gift Membership certificate to your lucky receiver to let them know that you've purchased them a JACL membership. The certificate has a place to fill out your name, their name, and space for a short message. I hope you will give the gift of a JACL membership to someone this year. Thank you for helping us increase our membership.

This month **Patty Takayama** shares why she joined JACL and why it's important to be a member.

When I moved to Sacramento to work for the Senate, I only knew two couples, all four people I'd known from law school. One introduced me to Twyla Tomita and Andy Noguchi. Andy invited me to attend a meeting of the Florin chapter of the JACL, headed by Mary Tsukamoto.

Mary was a dynamo in generating support for Redress and Reparations. She testified at the hearings on Wartime Internment and subsequently wrote a book: "We The People: A Story of Internment in America." She was an articulate teacher and motivated those around her to volunteer and become involved with the JACL. Mary and the other members of the Florin chapter were quick to include me in their activities and by the second meeting I'd been enlisted to take over the newsletter. The members were all friendly and welcoming and encouraged me to take liberties with the newsletter format, which I did to my advantage. I started a column called, "Chanpon." In it, I included the recipes that people had submitted, but I also added some poetry.

I believe it was Mary Tsukamoto's energy and commitment to Redress and Reparations that inspired me to join the Florin chapter of the JACL. Before I met Mary, I felt that the JACL was a late comer to the Redress movement and not a particularly activist organization. Whereas, it was Mary's view, that the organization was what we made of it. It was through our efforts that policies were formulated and pushed forward. That was the teacher in her. She made you believe that we could change the world a little at a time. She is not the kind of person you can forget or would want to disappoint. In fact, like a loving parent, she was the kind of person you worked diligently for to seek her approval.

I joined the SFV JACL chapter while my sister Nancy was president and I was living in North Carolina. *She pointed out that members of the SFV JACL chapter were a politically progressive and active group. She noted that Phil Shigekuni was an early supporter of Redress and Reparations and worked with the National Coalition on Redress and Reparations (NCRR). She also noted that while Tak Yamamoto was president, he led the SFV JACL chapter to offer forums in support of Gay rights in the mid-1990s before other civil rights organizations had declared their support. The fact that the SFV JACL chapter has been vocal about its support of civil rights and articulated positions in support of individuals and persons who were targets of discrimination, makes me glad that I joined a chapter standing up for civil rights when standing up is difficult or when others are indifferent or lack the initiative.*

My father used to complain that no one (except the Quakers, American Friends Service Committee) ever came to the defense of the Japanese Americans when they were being removed and incarcerated. It made me ponder my responsibility to my neighbors and friends. If I had been around in 1942, would I have done anything? Would I have acquiesced to government and military authority? Might I have been one of those people my father complained about, who failed to act, to speak out in defense of the Japanese Americans? Perhaps, alone, I might do nothing, but that's why I am pleased to be a member of one of the most active and progressive JACL chapters in the U.S.



JACL Gift Membership

Welcome to the JACL! With over 10,000 members and a history of leadership since 1929, becoming a JACL member means joining the oldest, largest, and most experienced Asian American civil rights organization.

One Year Gift Membership For _____

As a Gift From _____ On _____

JACL Member Benefits

- Subscription to the Pacific Citizen, JACL's national newspaper
- Access to scholarships, internships, and fellowships
- JACL Credit Union
- JACL Health Benefits Trust
- Many discounts on prescriptions, dental care, rental cars, medical plans, long-term care plans, and insurance

Visit us online at www.jacl.org for more details

Your membership is valid one year from gift date. You will receive a membership card in the mail within

2-3 weeks. Please contact JACL Membership with any questions at 415-921-5225 or mb@jacl.org.

SLICE

On Friday, November 9, 2012 a group of SFVJACL members and friends went to see “Slice” by **Paul Kikuchi** at the Freemont Centre Theatre in South Pasadena.

After a long week at work and driving to find the restaurant, we gathered at The Canoe House Restaurant for a casual dinner. We were fortunate enough to have Paul Kikuchi join us for dinner. He gave us some insight as to how he came up with the idea for “Slice” and background on himself. He inherited a sword from his grandfather and from there, the idea for the play started.

We saw the play in the theatre that holds around 70 people. The night we went, the play was sold out. Our group was about half the audience, and the comfortable feel of the theater made it seem like you were right in the middle of the performance.

“Slice” takes place in 14th century Japan, at the time of Lords and Samurais. It is the story of Kai Matsuda (**Scott Keiji Takeda**), an aspiring swordsmith who strives to make an award winning sword that will bring him fame and fortune. He lives with his mother, Akiko (**Emily Kuroda**), who is the hostess at a Geisha house. They serve under Lord Ito (**Mike Hagiwara**), who’s right hand man is Tashiro (**Aaron Takahashi**). And the fugitive from another province, Fumi (**Elizabeth Ho**), who kindhearted Akiko protects and shelters.

The play has comedy, romance, action (swordplay) and gives the audience a feel for ancient Japan yet in a language that is understandable to everyone. You don’t need to understand Japanese history or the language to enjoy this performance.

A special Thank You to **Nancy Gohata** for organizing our dinner and theater reservations. I just wish I will be able to see the other productions that Paul Kikuchi has written, especially Wrinkles.

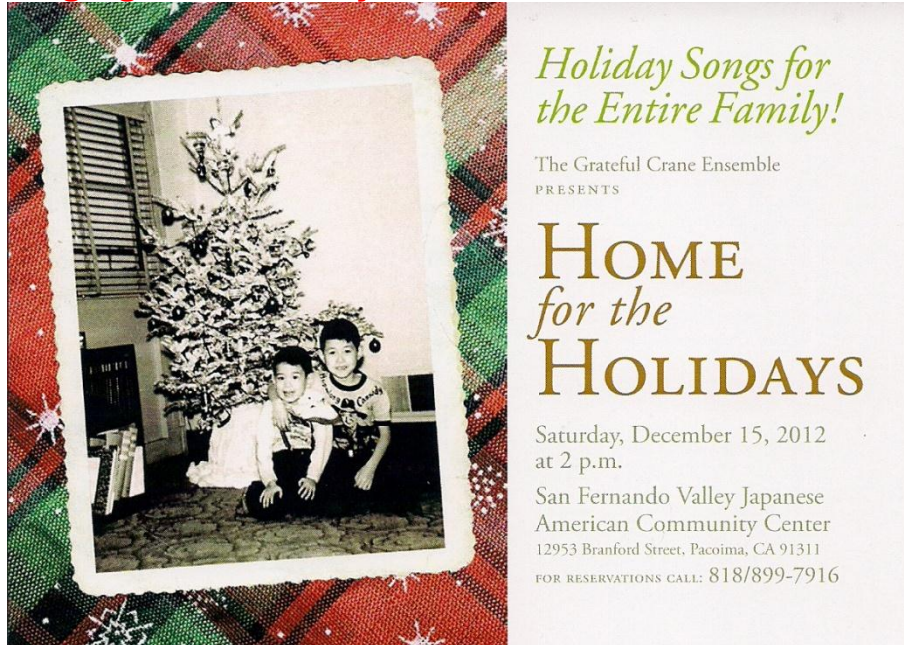
Article submitted by Keiko Kuratomi



Standing L to R: Roger Itaya, Dr. Bo Sakaguchi, Nancy Gohata, Linda Itaya, Paul Kikuchi, Dennis Okita, Jim Cronk, Yas Gohata and Keiko Kuratomi
Seated L to R: Iku Sakaguchi, Mitzi Kushida, Barbara Okita, Linda Tanaka and Tsuyu Emi

Grateful Crane Ensemble who brought you
I Saw Bachan Kissing Santa Claus
Camp Dance: The Music & Memories / Nihonmachi: The Place to Be
Project Momotaro / Nikkei hit Parade: A Tribute to the Nisei Generation
Natsukashi no Kouhaku Uta Gassen / The Betrayed, A Play by Hiroshi Kashiwagi

Is bringing their Holiday Show to the San Fernando Valley



San Fernando Valley JACL presents Grateful Crane Ensemble's

"Home for the Holidays"

Saturday, December 15th, 2 PM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

Tickets	General Admission	_____	x	\$25	_____
	Children under 12	_____	x	\$15	_____
	Children under 5 free				
	Total				_____

Make check payable to: **Grateful Crane Ensemble**

Mail to: Nancy or Patricia Takayama / 10441 Kewen Avenue / Pacoima, CA 91331

Credit Card:

Name on Card _____

Type: Visa MasterCard Discover AMX

Card Number _____ Security Code: _____

Signature _____

For information Email or call:

Patricia or Nancy at (818) 899-7916 or pe.highmtn@juno.com

TEA, WITH MUSIC

Book and Lyrics by Velina Hasu Houston, Music by Nathan Wang,

Directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera

Reviewed by Jean-Paul de Guzman

On a crisp November afternoon twenty-seven JACL members, family and friends attended a preview performance of *Tea, With Music* by the acclaimed playwright **Velina Hasu Houston** at East-West Players. Currently a Professor and Associate Dean of Faculty at USC's School of Dramatic Arts, Houston brings to life one of the least understood waves of Japanese migration to the Americas – military brides. *Tea, With Music* tells the story of five Shin Issei military brides in Kansas in the late 1960s and reveals the ways in which they reconciled the promise of love and the American Dream with the cruel realities of racism, sexism, and sheer isolation in the heartland.

After a brief soliloquy by one military bride, the musical opens with a song, innocuous enough, about drinking tea. The audience quickly learns that one of the brides, Himiko Hamilton, is a ghost whose spectral presence gives voice to a set of tragic events many in the local circle of Japanese military brides would like to forget. The remaining brides, Atsuko Yamamoto, Setsuko Banks, Teruko Mackenzie, and Chizuye "Chiz" Juarez meet in Himiko's home to gather her possessions in the shadow of her suicide. As they converse, without knowing of Himiko's presence, each bride unfolds a tale of how they came to Kansas. As the ashes of World War II continued to smolder, each woman shared stories of meeting Yankee servicemen. White soldiers wooed Himiko, Setsuko, and Teruko while Chiz married a Mexican American soldier and Atsuko fell for a young Nisei.

As the brides pack up Himiko's home we learn of her tortured life. Fleeing the endemic poverty after Japan's pacification, she found work in a dancehall catering the American soldiers. She fell in love with one American soldier whose Galahad façade crumbled once they settled in the US: he routinely beat her and on one occasion abandoned in the dead of Winter without food. With little recourse available she murdered her husband and thus catalyzed a campaign of suspicion and shunning by the other Japanese brides. Further tragedy enveloped Himiko as her daughter Mieko was savagely beaten, raped, and killed. With the weight of these events pressing upon her mind, Himiko took her own life. As the rest of the brides set about tidying Himiko's house they reveal many of the unforeseen hardships that they faced in America, ranging from the pangs of assimilating to American culture to the tensions that arose in raising biracial daughters who often derided the ways of their mothers.

Woven throughout the play are themes of judgment, redemption, and community. Atsuko claims a sense of ethnic superiority given her marriage to a Nisei and regards Himiko as, at best, a tragic figure and, at worst, a sullied woman and embarrassment to the other military brides. Chiz, who became a restaurateur and regularly attended English classes to jettison her accent, chides Atsuko's attitude, reminding the brides that they all faced similar travails. The factors that divided the brides – fear of being associated with Himiko, Chiz's marriage to a Mexican American, Atsuko's marriage to a Nisei – were artificial roadblocks to forging a cooperative sense of community. Chiz warns the women that they should support each other in their daily lives – not only when one dies. Faced with their own mortality and realization that their shared life histories are stronger than what divides them, the women return to tea and vow share in each others struggles and triumphs. With this scene, Himiko is finally allowed to rest in peace.

Originally written as a play, this musical version was beautifully staged. The primary set was spartan, allowing for the actors to freely move time and space: war-torn Japan, post-war Kansas, and the afterworld. B-roll projected onto triptych screens above the stage of different scenes of the War, the Midwest, and various archival photos of (presumably) actual Japanese military brides provided visual context. The cast took on, with great success, the task of portraying not only the military bride protagonists but also their husbands and daughters. Through this, the audience gains a better appreciation for the experiences of the military brides as refracted through their husbands who ranged from loving to misguided, to misogynistic as well as their biracial and bicultural daughters. Houston, who is also the child of a Japanese military bride and an African American soldier, vividly takes the mundane – drinking tea and packing – and uses it as a platform to unravel the complexities and intimacies of war, migration, and community.

Continued on page 12

Note: Over twenty-five years ago, Ms. Houston, whose mother is Japanese and father an African-American was one of the speakers when our chapter sponsored a program addressing “hapa” issues.



Front row (kneeling) L to R: Linda Kuratomi, Linda Tanaka, Barbara Okita, Nancy Gohata, Marion Shigekuni and Norma Jean Yamashita
Back row (standing) L to R: Dennis Okita, Mitzi Kushida, Madeline Matias, Emi Hino, Harriet Nishizaka, Stephaine Bowen, Alice Kaku, Judy Matsuzaki, Yas Gohata, Priscilla Mui, JP DeGuzman, Velina Has Houston, Evelyn Mitarai, Marcia Mahony, Doreen Kawamoto, Ken Mui and Sumi Yamaguchi

SFV JACL – REFERENCE INFORMATION

- SFV JACL Newsletter – Published bi-monthly.
Submit articles to Nancy Gohata at yaiko16@verizon.net .
- SFV JACL website: <http://sfvjacl.weebly.com>
- SFV JACL facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacl>
- SFV JACL email: jacl.sfv@gmail.com
- SFV JA Community Center website and facebook: www.sfvjacc.com
- SFV JA Community Center facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SFVJACC>
- Pacific Citizen Newspaper: www.pacificcitizen.org
published twice each month except once in January and in December.
- Pacific Citizen FAQs: <http://pacificcitizen.org/frequently-asked-questions>

SFV JACL – REFERENCE INFORMATION continued from page 12

- Pacific Southwest Division website: www.jaclpsw.org
- Pacific Southwest Division email: info@jaclpsw.org
- Pacific Southwest Division blog: (to be furnished-how to subscribe)
- National JACL website: www.jacl.org
- National JACL facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/JACLNational>
- National JACL blog: <http://jaclblog.wordpress.com/>
- JACL DC Alerts: to receive the JACL DC Alerts, send an email request to DCdigest@jacl.org
- JACL Member Benefits: <http://www.jacl.org/misc/JACLMemberBenefits.htm>
- JACL Young Professionals group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/38302431742/>
- Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue advertisements can be used by businesses that you patronize or can be used for your personal holiday greetings.

SUMI'S CORNER



Condolences to **Mary Ishimoto**, whose father Ritz Takeuchi passed away on September 1, 2012, only twenty-four days after her mother's death. The family had been planning his 100th birthday celebration in December.

A belated sympathy to **Susan DeGracia**, whose mother, Grace Megumi Okumoto, passed away on April 28, 2012. Mrs. Okumoto was a long time member of JACL.

We were all saddened to hear the death of long time Board member and former president of our chapter, **Tak Yamamoto**. Harold Kameya has written an article about Tak in this issue.

A hearty congratulations to Board member, **Christina Lee**, who received the Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship given by the National JACL. As noted in the last issue of our newsletter, Christina is a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Champagne Urbana, seeking an M.A. in Urban Planning.

VISIT US ONLINE!

<http://sfvjacl.weebly.com>

Make sure to bookmark us to learn more about...

- Our board members and board meetings
- Editorials and opinions on civil rights and other contemporary events
- Upcoming community events
- Scholarship opportunities



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

2012 PACIFIC CITIZEN HOLIDAY GREETINGS

SEASON'S GREETINGS AND **THANK YOU** for your personal ads in our PACIFIC CITIZEN HOLIDAY ISSUE. Our deepest appreciation for supporting our chapter's major fundraiser.
Your generosity will help our program for 2013.

THANK YOU again for the following personal ads:

Wally & May Arakawa	Bryce & Rosie Kawamoto	Dr. Bo & Iku Sakaguchi
Kats & Fuyo Arimoto	Doreen Kawamoto	Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi
Lyle & Mitsu Asaoka	Robert Kobata	Robert & Setsuko Sato
Susan DeGracia	Sono Kondo	Paul & Remi Scolari
JP DeGuzman & Christina Lee	Pat Kubota	Phil & Marion Shigekuni
Elizabeth Frost	Linda Kuratomi	Patrick & Helen Shimizu
Momoyo Fujiu	Al & Mitzi Kushida	Gerri Shiraki
Bob & Ruth Fukuhara	Miles & Rouxann Kuwata	Butch Shoji
Kim Gohata & Paul Chan	Greg & Maebelle Librando	George Sugimoto
Yas & Nancy Gohata	Marcia Mahony	Jean Taguchi
Frank & Emi Hino	Evelyn Mitarai	Michael Taheri
Dick & Suzie Hirasuna	Bob & Aki Moriguchi	Kara & Shaun Tanaka
Ted & Chieko Iida	Brian & Jodi Moriguchi	Linda Tanaka
Lily Ikuta	Chiz Morita	Rod & Carol Taylor
Roy Imazu	George & Barbara Nakatsu	Flora Teramura
Hazel Isa	Harvey Negoro & Isabelle Miyata	Paul & Aiko Tsuneishi
Taro & Mary Ishimoto	Harriet Nishizaka	Dr. Arthur & Jean Tsutsui
Paul & Nobuko Jonokuchi	Kay & Nancy Oda	Sam & Terry Uyehara
Shoichi & Dale Kadonaga	Dr. Mary Oda	Sumi Yamaguchi
Harold & Ellen Kameya	Dennis & Barbara Okita	Tak Yamamoto & Karl Fish
Keith & Kristina Kawamoto	Elaine & Gary Saito	Mas & Norma Jean Yamashita
		Gary & Akemi Yano
		Gary & Karen Yoshino

We also want to THANK our generous monetary donors.

Paul Chan & Kim Gohata	Pat Kubota	Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi
Yas & Nancy Gohata	Al & Mitzi Kushida	Gary & Elaine Saito
Jose Gonzalez & Doreen Kushida	Marcia Mahony	Irene Shoon
Larry & Wendy Hirota	Musashi Restaurant	Phil & Marion Shigekuni
Hazel Isa	Marian Nakagawa	Patrick & Helen Shimizu
Taro & Mary Ishimoto	Harriet Nishizaka	Yoneko Takimoto
Paris & Ron Kariya	Scott & Stacey Nishizaka	Rod & Carol Taylor
Linda Kuratomi	Dennis & Barbara Okita	Tak Yamamoto & Karl Fish

Business and professional advertisers as well as more persona ads will be acknowledged in the coming issues.
Please look forward to your copy of the *Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue* in December.

With much appreciation, Mitzi Kushida, Nancy Gohata, Marion Shigekuni, & Barbara Okita.

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League

Membership Application

Membership Categories

Regular/Individual

Regular sustaining members of the organization

Couple/Family

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

Youth/Student

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

1000 Club

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

1000 Club Life

Members who pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

1000 Club or Century Club Spouse

Spouse or partner of a JACL 1000 Club or Century Club member

Century Club

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

Century Club Life

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

☐ **New Member**

☐ **Renewing Membership**

☐ **Gift Membership**

☐ Regular/Individual - \$67.00

☐ 1000 Club Individual - \$100.00

☐ Century Club - \$175.00

☐ Couple/Family - \$110.00

☐ 1000 Club Spouse - \$32.00

☐ Century Club Spouse - \$32.00

☐ Youth/Students - \$25.00

☐ 1000 Club Life - \$3000.00

☐ Century Club Life - \$5000.00

Member Information

Member ID: _____ (renewals only)

First Name

Last Name

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Phone

Email

Payment Method

☐ **Check**

Please make checks payable to:

Japanese American Citizens League

☐ **Credit Card**

☐ Visa

☐ MasterCard

☐ American Express

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

(Month / Year)

Send the completed application along with your payment via U.S. mail to: **JACL Membership**

P.O. Box 45397

San Francisco, CA 94145-0397

Or join Online: <http://www.jacl.org/member> → →PSWDC → →San Fernando Valley