

# San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League Newsletter December 2020/January 2021

# Season's Greetings! Thank you to all our 2020 Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue Contributors and Donors



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Buon Gusto Ristorante
Jean-Paul deGuzman
Richard Fujimoto
Yas & Nancy Gohata
Pastor Paul Iwata
Darren, Kristine Kameya & Family
Dawn Kunihiro
Bob & Aki Moriguchi
The Negoro Family
The Okita Family
SFV JACL
Ikuyo Sakaguchi



Hiro & Joyce Nagata
Kay, Nancy Oda & Family
SFV Ballroom Dance Class
SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
Phil & Marion Shigekuni
Patty Takayama
Tyson Tanaka
Carol Taylor

Valley Skate & Surf







# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 2020









Wishing you all a very Happy Virtual Holiday with your family and friends.



We have had nine months of isolation.
We now have experienced and should understand
"gaman" (patience, endurance, perseverance) and
"shigata ga nai" (it cannot be helped).





Our family's past has become our present. We can survive this time because we have learned from history and we have the support of our family, friends and community.



We ae now into the third wave of the pandemic and it's flu season.



Let's be smart and safe this holiday season, so we all can be Present in 2021 to have an in-person Thanksgiving and Christmas.



To many more holidays together.



仕方がない







Nancy Takayama President

### INTERVIEW WITH BRIAN MORIGUCHI

I was very interested in interviewing Brian, given his past experience with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

A bit of history: Brian, in essence, sued the Sheriff's Department twenty years ago over the treatment he received as a beginning officer. He had lodged numerous complaints concerning blatant racist acts directed towards him, and called for the establishment of a Review Board to address cases like his. The Board of Supervisors awarded him \$60,000, which Brian declined and offered the money to establish a Review Board, which they declined.

Brian retired last year after serving 35 years with the Sheriff's Department. The last ten years he was President of the Peace Officer's Association, an elected position.

Early this year, two officers were shot in largely Black, Compton. An Asian woman reporter for a radio station was attempting to cover the story of the officers being taken to the hospital. Despite clearly identifying herself as part of the media, photos were taken of her being knocked to the ground, with her camera being stepped on.

I asked Brian about his "take" on the incident. He seemed to accept the officer's account that the woman was interfering with the transfer to the hospital although he said an apology to the woman would have helped to ease the tension.

Brian carried on his fight for justice by serving for five years as our Chapter President. We certainly wish him well in his retirement.

Article submitted by Phil Shigekuni

Photo: Brian Moriguchi



# JOIN US ON ZOOM FOR THE MONTHLY JACL BOARD MEETING

### IT'S ALWAYS HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH



CONTACT: NANCY TAKAYAMA
AT <a href="mailto:nthigh.mtn@gmail.com">nt.high.mtn@gmail.com</a>
Before December 9th

**NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH** 



# **SFV JACL Virtual Holiday Party**

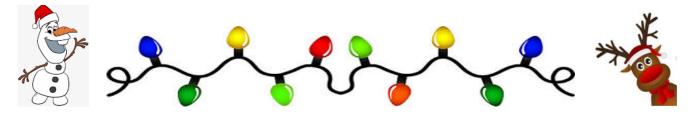
This year, our SFV JACL Holiday Party will be unique. We look forward to seeing you at our first Virtual Holiday Party and joining in the fun, singing, games, craft and competitions for prizes. Our Holiday Party will include: team games, individual competitions and participation in songs and an icebreakers. After all, though we are members of the same organization, we know very little about each other or may never have met.

An email with the ZOOM link will be emailed to you on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. You will also receive in a separate email game cards, instructions and attachments for game and craft materials. Please print the materials prior to the event and read the instructions and prepare your Bingo card before joining the party.

Remember to mark your calendar for the SFV JACL Holiday Party, **Saturday, December 5, 2020** at 1pm – 3:15pm. If you wish to participate, please R.S.V.P. via email to: Kiyo Fukumoto at: <a href="kiyofukumoto@yahoo.com">kiyofukumoto@yahoo.com</a>. Or contact Kiyo at: 626-483-2578 with your email address. Please **RSVP** by midnight, Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Happy Holidays!** For those of you who may need assistance with Zoom, we recommend you sign-in 30 minutes early for tips on how to navigate Zoom. Or you can call (818) 601-6296 after 12 noon for sign on help.

Article submitted by Patty Takayama





### SAVE THE DATE

SFV JACL'S 79<sup>th</sup> Installation via Zoom Sunday, January 24, 2021 1:00pm



## **Short Story Writing Contest**

"Imagine Little Tokyo" the 8<sup>th</sup> annual short story contest sponsored by The Little Tokyo Historical Society, (LTHS) is accepting submissions for its 2021 short fiction story contest. The three competition categories are: English language, Japanese language and youth (18 years and under). The short story contest is sponsored by the LTHS in partnership with the Japanese American National Museum's (JANM) Discover Nikkei project. The submission deadline is: Sunday, February 28, 2021.

First prize in each of the categories is \$500 and publication of the winning stories in the Rafu Shimpo and JANM's online portal: Discover Nikkei. The story must be original, fiction, and written either in Japanese or English language. For more information and guidelines, see "Imagine Little Tokyo Short Story Contest" or view littletokyohs.org for more information.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic the normal announcement celebration was held virtually earlier this year for the 2020 contest winners, but portions of the Imagine Little Tokyo Short Story Contest awards celebration were recorded and appear on youtube.com with dramatic readings of the winning stories.



Article submitted by Patricia Takayama

### MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO US

The National JACL Membership Committee, under Phillip Okazaki and others, have developed a Playbook to increase membership and to develop activities and programs. With JACS Funds. Chapters will be able to stimulate and inspire the membership to develop strategies to better serve the community. All JACLers are invited to help us as we begin the task of making sure our Chapter serves all its membership after 2020.

### "TUESDAYS in DECEMBER"

Dec. 1st. JACS Advocacy Day. Develop educational and other programs

Dec. 7th. "Round up". Invite Lapsed members to rejoin

Dec. 15. Implement strategies to reach new members

Dec. 29. End of the year program and strategy evaluation

The effort is to rally the members in the Japanese American community, Sanseis, mixed families, Hapa, Non-JA's and Shin-Nikkei, to join together in appreciating the culture, heritage, history, as a member of the Japanese American Family.

Please plan to join us.

Contact Membership Chair Kiyo Fukumoto at kiyofukumoto@yahoo.com.

Article submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto



### **OCTOBER 2020 DONATIONS**

This year due to the COVID challenges, our Chapter passed on our annual *Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue* Fundraiser. However, faithful longtime members, **MAY and WALLY ARAKAWA** made a monetary donation to sustain our Chapter. We are most grateful for their thoughtfulness and continued support.

**DAWN KUNIHIRO** is the daughter of former members Harry and Kathy Otsuki of Granada Hills. Harry was our Chapter President in 1963. His wife Kathy was always beside him with her gracious smile and always working to support our Chapter. Recently, our Chapter was the beneficiary of Dawn's generous monetary gift which we are most grateful, especially during this COVID pandemic. Thank you loads for remembering us.

Aki and Bob Moriguchi have been members of our Chapter for the past 60 years! As President in 1960, Bob was involved in man Civil Rights issues: acquiring housing on 1st Street for the displaced Isseis' during the Los Angeles Redevelopment, attending the UCLA Symposium for racial equality (Watts Riot '63) and distributing books on Japanese American history to many San Fernando Valley High Schools. Today they continue to keep our Chapter near and dear to their hearts with frequent monetary donations. We are grateful for this support to meet our needs during this time of uncertainty. THANK YOU, **Bob and Aki.** 

Our Chapter was the recipient of a generous monetary donation from **Carol Taylor**, sister of Board member, **Marion Shigekuni**. Carol values and supports the timely issues that our Chapter highlights, such as, our October Board Meeting with speaker, **Brian Moriguchi**, a past Chapter President and retired sheriff officer. All of our members were invited to this Board meeting. Thank you, Carol, your contribution will inspire our Chapter to continue our work towards "Civil Rights and Justice".

### ANONYMOUS DONATION

Our Chapter is most appreciative of gifts, big and small, identified or be it anonymous. Thank you very much for keeping us up front in your thoughts during these difficult times. The Board meets every

second Wednesday of the month and is trying to find ways to virtually connect with members. THANKS A MILLION for your very generous donation and continued support. Please look forward to our virtual December Holiday Fun Zoom event and our January Installation. Our heartfelt thanks go to our Anonymous donors.

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida

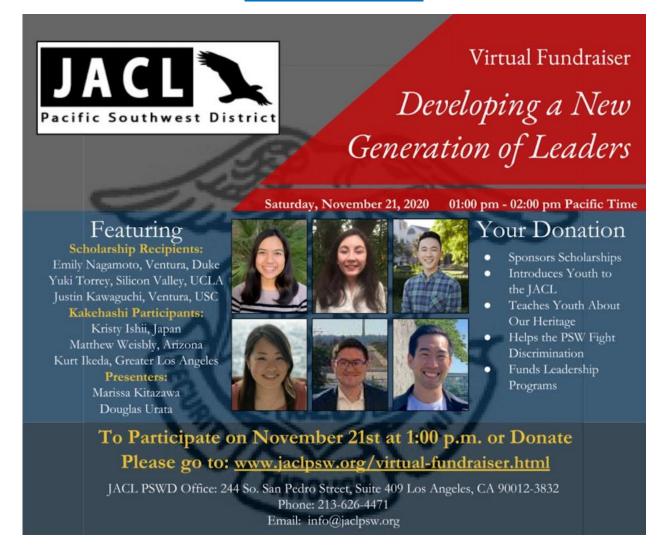




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### JACL Pacific Southwest District 2020 Annual Fundraiser Event

**Click HERE to view video** 



# **Help Us Reduce Postage and Visit Us Online**

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

Please go to <a href="mailto:kyoshino@verizon.net">kyoshino@verizon.net</a> and register your e-mail address

Visit us online at: <a href="mailto:http://sfvjacl.weebly.com/">http://sfvjacl.weebly.com/</a> or <a href="mailto:jacl.sfv@gmail.com/">jacl.sfv@gmail.com/</a>

Facebook at <a href="mailto:https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacl">https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacl</a>



### **LEVITY DURING COVID-19**

I know this. When this ends—AND IT WILL—every game will sell out, every restaurant will have a 2-hour wait, every kid will be glad to be in school, everyone will love their job, the stock market will skyrocket, every other house will get TP'd, and we'll all embrace and shake hands. That's gonna be a pretty good day.

a pretty good day.

Hang in there, World.

I told my suitcases that there will be no vacation this year. Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage.



# Coronavirus throat spray



# 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 approve receiving the print edition of the Pacific C				
$\square$ <b>Yes</b> , I would like to receive the F $\square$ <b>No</b> , I will not pay an additional s				
☐ New Member	☐ Renewing Membership		☐ Gift Membership	
<u>SAN F</u>	ERNANDO VALLEY M	ember Inform	<u>nation</u>	
First Name	Last Name			
Street Address				
City	State		Zip Code	
Phone	Email			
Payment Method   Check en Please charge my Credit Card				□ Discover
Card Number:	Expire		/ Security C nth / Year)	Code:
Name (as it appears on card):		·	·	
Please send this form to:  Japanese American Citizens Leag P.O. Box 45397 San Francisco, CA 94145-0397	Additional d	Citizen Newsponation to JA	paper (\$17) \$CL (optional) \$	

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

TOTAL enclosed \$\_\_



14229 Carl Street Arleta, CA 91331