

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League Newsletter February/March 2015

Happy New Year to SFVJACL

A perfect day for the San Fernando Valley JACL is good food, good friends, and good thoughts. It was wonderful to see a room full of new and longtime members. Special welcome to **Yukio Karawatani** who joined our chapter. Chairperson **Linda Tanaka** set each table in royal purple décor at the Odyssey Restaurant's Garden room for the Board Installation Luncheon. Thank you to Nakano Nursery for donating those healthy cyclamens that popped when combined with the silver wrapping to greet us. **Barbara Okita** welcomed us and introduced representatives from the Greater Los Angeles, Oxnard, and SELANNCO chapters. PSW Governor **David Kawamoto** and wife, **Carol**, made the event even more special.

Pastor Ruy Mizuki of the Chatsworth West UMC, beautifully sang both the invocation before our lunch and benediction at the end of the program that set the tone for a good new year blessing. Our guest speaker, Kent Wong, linked Martin Luther King, Junior's sacrifice of his nonviolent social movement that resulted in improving the lives of all minorities and Asians in the 60's. He reminded us that we are direct beneficiaries. He noted that citizenship and land ownership eluded his own family for the first generation in the United States. He recounted his own family's journey to today where the fifth generation needs to know more and be appreciative of not only the family history but Dr. King's. A story about one of his student's life and death grabbed everyone's attention. Tan Tran and Cynthia Felix' quest for citizenship and need for the Dream Act was riveting.

One guest referred to Cesar Chavez and how it affected the Japanese American farmers. Kent described the Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, and now Latino doing back breaking work today. Wong said that it is wrong when people cannot make enough to support their family. He is in favor of a changed immigration policy and consciousness. **Phil Shigekuni** also told us about his relationship with his Kent Wong's father in the past.

PSW Director, **Stephanie Nitahara**, installed the 2015 Board using her iPhone to help her with the code. They are: Harold Kameya, President, Nancy Gohata, Keiko Kuratomi, Sumi Yamaguchi, Nancy Takayama, Patty Takayama, Barbara Okita, Geri Shiraki, C. Aujean Lee, Doreen Kawamoto. Barbara Okita, Mark Aquino, Phil Shigekuni, Marcia Mahony, Paul Jonokuchi, Karen Yoshino, Marion Shigekuni, Mitzi Kushida, Brian Moriguchi, Jean Paul DeGuzman, Aiden Katagihara, Linda Tanaka, Ellen Kameya, Linda Tanaka, Mabel Takimoto, Jami Tanihana, Michiko Tokunaga, traci ishigo, and Nancy Oda.

Article continued on page 3

UPCOMING EVENTS



COME JOIN US IN THE FUN AND ACTIVITIES

February 17

Third Tuesday Movie Outing

February 21

Day of Remembrance at JANM

February 22

Rejected: Tule Lake No, No Boys

March 17

Third Tuesday Movie Outing

March 29

Tuna Canyon Detention Center

April 19

Hula Girls (a film)

April 21

Third Tuesday Movie Outing

April 26

Manzanar Pilgrimage

Questions or Comments?

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January, 2015



Greetings for the new year! As we begin this new year, I need to say that I am in awe and indebtedness to our governing board. I'm convinced that there is not another JACL board that has worked so hard and so well together as our San Fernando Valley JACL. I thank you all!

As you know, there are many challenging issues of today facing our JACL board. Some of the major issues are listed below. Please share your thoughts and opinions on these issues with us.

- Racism, Law Enforcement, Justice System what does the future look like, as the gap between the haves and have nots becomes filled with 'I used to have' and 'I wish I hads'...
- JACL Sustainability & Youth Participation what can we do to bolster our membership with younger members, and how to involve the youth.
- Tule Lake Segregation Center Education was it wrong to criminalize dissent in the face of civil injustices?
- Japanese Americans and Muslim Americans after what Japanese Americans had experienced during WWII, how should Americans treat Muslim Americans? How do they want to be treated?

With newer means of communication continuing to evolve on the internet, we hope to provide a greater degree of connectedness as we share interesting items involving JACL activities, and other items of JA culture and JA history.

Sincerely, Harold Kameya



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"Happy New Year to SFVJACL" continued from page 1

Second term president, Harold Kameya, spoke about the history of the Japanese in Nanking in detail. He told of its absence in history books and how it relates to today's issue of the Korean Comfort Women. Prime Minister Abe will formally apologize for human rights violations.

J.P, DeGuzman prepared the annual video full of photos from 2014 to the tune, "Happy" with colleague, Nancy Takayama. Everyone was really pleased when Marion Shigekuni announced that he was receiving this year's recognition award. At first, he was an undergraduate student at CSUN working on a project about JA history in the San Fernando Valley. He has been Scholarship Chair and Recording Secretary with vivid details for non-attending members. He could be found at the JACL Doughball booth at the Obon Festival despite the intense summer heat. He has also written articles about social outings and Tuna Canyon Detention Station for the chapter, SFVJACC, Pacific Citizen, and the Rafu Shimpo. He is recognized as Doctor of Asian Studies at U.C.L.A. which he richly deserved. He said that his ten years of participation with SFVJACL is a "drop in a bucket". J. P., it must be a big bucket!

Nancy Gohata taught us how to sing, "Good Night Irene", which the younger members never heard before. Although Group B won the prize because of their showmanship, Group A was the first to rock softly to the melody. Indeed Group B improvised to a higher level, but Group C sang in "western style" the best. The writer belonged to Group C.

Barbara closed the day with thanks for all who came. Gifts donated by the Board were readied for each family attending. Indeed, it was a really memorable day for us all.

Article submitted by Nancy Oda

Photo: (To the left)

Guest speaker, Kent Wong

Photo: (Below)

Regional Director, Stephanie Nitahara, installs the 2015

SFVJACL Board of Directors



Sono Kondo (November 20, 1923-December 11, 2015)

Remembrances of former JACL Board member, Sono Kondo by Mitzi Kushida and Nancy Gohata.

Sono Kondo began teaching with the Los Angeles Unified School District at Dacotah Elementary School in East Los Angeles in 1957. She went on to Multnomah Elementary and transferred to the Valley in the 1960s. Unfortunately, information of schools where Sono was assigned were not available to us, but we think she retired from Sharp Elementary School in Pacoima in the late 70's.

Sono, aka Sunny, was a great supporter of our Boutique Fundraiser, where the ladies in our chapter made Holiday items to sell. Sono's contributions were always unique with a creative twist, along with her verbal contributions which brought much laughter. Another area which was typically Sono, was her potluck dishes, they were always delicious one-of-a-kind surprises.

Upon retirement, she fulfilled her lifetime desire and took classes in Creative Writing. Also, about this time, she was the Recording Secretary for the SFV JACL chapter, where she applied her skills in creative writing. Her monthly reports were filled with a dry sense of humor, which brought smiles and chuckles to the Board members as they read. Additionally, she typed them using an old Underwood typewriter where some letters were in dark print while others very light, but all done in large print size.

Unfortunately, we only had copies of the 2006 and 2007 minutes. Here are some of Sono's creative notes from the minutes:

From the December 14, 2005 minutes:

Installation Luncheon January 16, 2006: Tak Yamamoto chose the buffet fare. Tickets are yet to be placed in our hands to sell. Is Tak still in Mexico? Is he held for ransom? Find out at our next meeting. Recognition: Two people will be recognized this year. You'll know when you attend the installation.

From the February 8, 2006 minutes:

"Camp Dance" chair, Nancy Gohata and owner Soji Kashiwagi had a misunderstanding about the gate receipts. After negotiation we can take 100%, instead of dividing 50-50 with the Grateful Crane; whereas, we tune piano, put up blackout curtains, feed the crew, gave Cranes 17 complimentary tickets. This, in addition to paying the standard \$3000 fee for bringing these birds to the Valley.

From the March 14, 2007 minutes:

Thank you, Clara Hashimoto, for the giant strawberries and grapes, and chocolates, and dips. Our cup runneth over.

From the April 16, 2007 minutes:

Newsletter (Brian Moriguchi) Those who received the newsletter via internet were impressed with the work put out by Brian and Karen Yoshino.

Those who did not: Tough!

Those of us who had the opportunity to really know Sono Kondo, appreciated her boundless generosity and independent thinking. We were fortunate that Sono crossed our path.

Photo: Sono Kondo (middle on bottom row) taken at the 1996 Installation of Officers.



DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Saturday, February 21, 2015

The theme of this year's Day of Remembrance (DOR) is "E.O. 9066 and the [In]Justice System Today". The program will have the traditional commemoration of the impact of the executive order and will have a "conversation" with three community activists around the current injustices evidenced by the lack of indictments in the killing of unarmed black men (Michael Brown, Ezell Ford, Eric Gamer – among others).

The racism faced by Japanese Americans has continued with communities of color . . . especially the African American community. We hope this event will be a great, consciousness raising program.

The 2015 DOR will be held at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) on Saturday, February 21, 2015 from 2:00-4:00 pm.

Article submitted by Kay Ochi, DOR Chair

Frolicking at ELF Escapades

Little elves and Santa helpers were out in numbers to frolic at the Elf Escapades last December 13, 2014 for the JACL holiday party in Sakaguchi Hall at the SFV JACC. **Traci Ishigo**, the M.C. opened the holiday program.

A savory selection of potluck dishes was followed by arts and crafts where artistic hats with elf ears were later seen bobbing about the dance floor. Many revelers visited **Nancy Takayama's** photo booth with assorted blow up figures, including: snowman, deer, penguin and of course an elf sitting on a shelf to capture fun-filled happy memories.

Nancy Gohata then led the group in songs and dances before the children assemble to break the piñata which sent the children scrambling for candy. The finale, of course, was the arrival of Santa Claus who handed out gifts to all the good little children. And while the children played with their gifts the adults proceeded to select a present in the annual gift exchange.

Attendees took home candy, food, crafts, photos and lots of fun-filled Elf Escapade memories to share with family and friends.

By: Patricia Takayama



Photo: Nancy Takayama (middle), Christine Lee (on floor) and traci ishigo (top row)

SAVE THE DATE

HULA GIRLS (A FILM) COMING TO THE SFVJACC ON SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015

Hula Girls is a Japanese film first released in 2006. It is based on the real-life event of how a group of enthusiastic girls take on hula dancing to save their small mining village, Iwaki, helping the formation of Joban Hawaiian Center (now knows as Spa Resort Hawaiians) which was later to become one of Japan's most popular theme parks.

Hula Girls was critically acclaimed in Japan and nominated for a total of 12 awards at the 2007 Japan Academy Awards, going on to win five major awards, including that of best film, best director, best screenplay, best supporting actress, and most popular film. More details in the April/May newsletter.

For more information contact Barbara Okita at <u>barbokt@aol.com</u> or Nancy Gohata at yaiko16@yerizon.net.



SUZUME NO GAKKOU CAMPERS ENTERTAIN AT THE SFV JA COMMUNITY CENTER NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON

Fifteen Suzume no Gakkou campers from the 2014 summer class, volunteered to entertain at the annual SFV JA Community Center New Year's Luncheon. The children sang, *Donguri Koro Koro* (Rolling Acorn) *Aka Tombo* (Red Dragonfly), *Koi Nobori* (Carp Streamers) and their signature camp song *Suzume no Gakkou* (Sparrows' Singing Song). **Andy Kato** introduced the group to the audience. **Troy Kadonaga** and **Becca Yonemura** described some of the activities they learned in the week of Suzume no Gakkou. **Enzo Kato** introduced seven-year-old **Kendall Gohata-Chan** who had a solo verse in the first song, *Donguri Koro Koro*. **Troy Onaga** and **Joanne Welch** translated the meaning of the song. **Kai Sugahara** introduced **Kimiko Katzaroff** and **Taylor Yoshino** as they had solo verses in the second song,

Aka Tombo. Kishi Sugahara was introduced by Kenyon Gohata-Chan as she sang a solo verse in Koi Nobori. **Kenji Lao** introduced the final song and the childrens' favorite, their school song, Suzume no Gakkou. Bryce Iwai and Lindsey Kadonaga completed the group. Andy concluded our portion of the program thanking President Paul Jonokuchi and the Community Center for inviting them to participate in this year's New Year's celebration. The children were treated to pizza and thanks to the JACL, each participant received a "goody bag". The children did a fabulous job and their performance was most appreciated by the audience.



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SELANOCO INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

Saturday, January 25, 2015 the Selanoco chapter held its installation luncheon at Coyote Country Club, in Fullerton. Representing the SFV JACL chapter were: Mabel Takimoto, Doreen Kawamoto, Nancy Gohata, Yas Gohata, Nancy Takayama and Patty Takayama.

The master of ceremony for the program was **George Tanaka** who reminded the audience with several *baaa* jokes that this was the Year of the Sheep. The guest speaker for the event was **Naomi Hirahara**, writer of the *Mas Arai* mystery series spoke about her father who was a gardener and her new series with protagonist. L.A. bicycle cop, *Ellie Rush*. She spoke about the use of Japanese onomatopoeia in her writing much like Jewish writers introduced Yiddish words which are so commonplace in spoken American. Heritage Source was on site offering books for sale, especially those about and by Asian Americans. (See link for Carolyn Sanwo) http://www.heritagesource.com/

In addition to the installation of the new board, special recognition was given to the new president, **Karen Mizoguchi**, a recent graduate and active member of Tomo no Kai while at UCI and participation on national committees. **Frank Kawase** was recognized for his outstanding service. Also, the winner of the **Clarence Nishizu** Scholarship was announced by a family member to **Alia Kochiyama** a young relative of Yuri Kochiyama.

Article submitted by Patty Takayama

Photo: (Seated: L-R) SELANOCO President Karen Mizoguchi, Author Naomi Hirahara, Doreen Kawamoto Standing: Yas Gohata, Nancy Gohata, Patty Takayama, Nancy Takayama,







MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORANT TO OUR ORGANIZATION

In 2014 we welcomed new JACL members **Helen & George Abe, Robin Fujimoto, Kira Morrison**, and **Floyd Shimomura**. We also welcomed **Yukio Kawaratani**, a JACL member from San Gabriel, who transferred to the San Fernando Valley Chapter.

We thank Lex Nakashima, who recently changed his regular membership to the Century Club level.

Please help us recruit new members for 2015. We are one of Pacific Southwest District's most active chapters, however like other JACL chapters, our Board is heavily made up of retired seniors.

Please contact me at <u>yaiko16@verizon.net</u> for membership questions/and or ideas for recruiting new members. Nancy Gohata, Membership Chair

2015 SFV JACL PROGRAM

January 18 SFV JACL Installation Luncheon
February 21 Day of Remembrance at JANM
February 22 Rejected: Tule Lake No, No Boys
March 29 Tuna Canyon Detention Center

April 19 Hula Girls (a film)

April 26 Manzanar Pilgrimage

May 2 or 3 Chapter/District Fundraiser

May 24 Food Justice/Cooking Workshop
June 27/28 SFVH Buddhist Temple Obon

July 6-10 Suzume no Gakkou/Kizuna

September 9 Pacific Citizen Holidya Issue Fundraiser Begins

September (TBA) Board End-of-the-Summer Party

September 27 Big Band Concert with Dan Taguchi

Sept/Oct. (TBA) East West Players "Chinglish"

Sept/Oct. (TBA) PSWD 18th Annual Awards Benefit Luncheon
October 14 Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue Fundraiser Deadline

December 12 Holiday Party

January 17, 2016 SFV JACL Installation Luncheon

2nd WEDNESDAY MONTHLY MEETING AT 7:00 PM

THIRD TUESDAY MONTHLY MOVIE OUTING (No Outing in June, July, & December)

DONATIONS

PAT KUBOTA made another generous monetary donation, just because she appreciates the programs and activities that our chapter sponsors. She celebrated her 90th Birthday last year. Pat drives herself to attend our activities to catch up with old members and friends in the San Fernando Valley. Keep it up Pat. We like you, too!



短電送

A Background of the SFV JACL's support of the Glendale Peace Monument

As president of our chapter last year, I would like to say that I'm proud of the position taken by our board on January 2014.

As minorities here in the US, we like to pick those cultural values that are the best of cultures we observe. As you know, there is much to be proud of, and to admire in, the Japanese culture.

I want focus on values of integrity, honesty and truth, and how our San Fernando Valley JACL board has worked to uphold those values.

About 20 years ago in the 1990s, my wife Ellen and I attended an Asian film festival at UCLA where we saw a documentary called, "In the Name of the Emperor". It dealt with the atrocities committed by the Japanese Imperial Army in Nanjing China, and the Japanese citizen's understanding and reactions to the event. The upper estimate of civilians killed in Nanjing is more than 300,000 people --- or all of the spectators watching 3 Super Bowl games! In the 1980s and 1990s, much of the public in Japan had never heard about the Nanjing Massacre, at least not from their history books in school. "I can't believe it happened," said two young professors, one from the Sophia University and another from Tokyo University. The professor from Sophia then said, "So I looked into it, and sure enough, it never happened!" The professor from Tokyo University said "I couldn't believe it happened, so I looked it up, and yes, it did happen!"

The values of Japan regarding national pride <u>and</u> national shame were best illuminated in that documentary by the testimony of four veterans of the Japanese Imperial army. They went on national TV to cleanse their consciences, and they described how they killed civilians after raping them. As a result of their TV appearance, they received 4 tall stacks of "fan" mail. The letters <u>all</u> condemned them for bringing shame onto the nation, and asked them to commit ritual suicide. These soldiers were revealing their truths, and were condemned as a result!

I left the theater at UCLA feeling very disturbed. We all are proud of the land that we were born in, and additionally, there is an inherent desire to be proud of the land of our ancestor's birth. Instead, I felt very ashamed.

In fact, a few years later, we heard a reporter named Honda Katsuichi from the Asahi Shimbun newspaper, who published a book titled "The Nanjing Massacre - A Japanese Journalist Confronts Japan's National Shame." He appeared wearing a disguise of a wig, moustache, sun glasses and a hat. He said that those precautions were necessary, as his life had been threatened in Japan because he dared to tell his truth.

At UCLA, we joined the International Student Center's program of community ambassadors, where we were to act as community hosts to a student or two. We had students from Austria, Cameroon, Egypt, Argentina and China. The students from China appreciated that we brought up the subject of the WWII atrocities. We did not want to ignore "the elephant in the living room"! Over time, I then heard of additional crimes against humanity by the Japanese Imperial Army.

As mentioned, the dishonesty of Japan's regarding its war crimes bothered me. When I was notified by other JACL people about the Glendale Peace Monument dedicated to the memory of the Comfort Women, I attended the lecture and dedication on July 30th, 2013. **Kathy Masaoka** of the NCRR was invited to speak at the unveiling of the monument.

When Kathy Masaoka was requested by media from Japan for interviews, she invited **Phil Shigekuni** and me to participate. When three members of the Japanese Diet met with us in an unofficial capacity, they were quite surprised that Japanese Americans <u>would not automatically</u> support the beliefs or policies of Japan! Similarly, there were members of the Korean American Forum of California, sponsors of the monument, who were pleasantly surprised by our support.

Mike Honda, who was responsible for Congress passing bill HR 121 that supported the Korean Comfort Women, utilized the resources of the 600-person Congressional Research Staff to thoroughly research the issue before formulating his bill.

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"A Background of the SFV JACL's support of the Glendale Peace Monument" continued from page 9

In January of 2014, our JACL board passed a resolution of support of Mike Honda's bill HR121 and the Glendale Peace Monument. Our resolution was not sent to the Japan Consulate's office, but was sent to the Rafu Shimpo.

The City of Glendale is in our 'front yard'. As an issue of civil rights and as an issue of human rights, I feel that it would have been **shameful** for our chapter to **not** take **any** action on the issue. Our honesty and integrity as a civil rights organization would have been seriously questioned.

During WWII, the Japanese Americans wanted to prove that they were loyal Americans. We wanted the rest of the people in the US to realize that the Japanese Imperial Army was way over "there", and that "we" were NOT "them"! Patriotism and integrity were important values in people's minds.

In some respects, today's message is similar: The policies of erasing the history of atrocities in WWII is that of "them," the Japanese government, and NOT us!" Honesty and integrity are values that we value in the United States.

However, it has been said that in international relations, there is **no** morality. Powerful countries exercise power whenever and wherever they can. Issues are often made cloudy and dragged down into the morass of shades of gray.

Our chapter's position on the Glendale Peace Monument may have made our national JACL office feel somewhat awkward. The national office was involved in a program of youth exchange with Japan called the Kakehashi "Bridge for Tomorrow" project. We endorse such projects that encourage people-to-people interaction, and increases mutual understanding of cultural values. Our chapter's resolution did not affect that at all.

Apparently, international pressure has resulted in Prime Minister Abe stating a few weeks ago that he will be making a statement of remorse for Japan's wartime responsibility. His statement is scheduled for the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. I, for one, look forward to that statement. May it cause the citizens of Japan to hold their heads up higher!

- Harold Kameya

Addendum: On Jan. 22nd, Phil Shigekuni and Harold Kameya attended a book signing of "Daughters of the Dragon," written by William Andrews. It is a work of historical fiction that has received rave reviews in Amazon.com, and promises to make a strong impact on the dialogue of the Korean Comfort Women. We purchased a copy of the book for our JACL library.



COMMUNITY CORNER

Condolences to the family of **Carroll "Butch" Shoji** age 71, who passed away on December 13, 2014. He leaves behind his daughters, Leslie and Noelle and son, Jeremy.

Condolences to the family of **Rose Natsuko "Tsuneishi" Yamashiro**, age 85, who passed away on December 23, 2014. She leaves behind daughters, Kimiko Ellen, Mariko Jean and son, Musashi Mark.

TAKARAZUKA!!!

Written by Susan Soon He Stanton Directed by Leslie Ishii Reviewed by Jean-Paul deGuzman

Our latest outing to East West players was to watch a creative production of *Takarazuka*, a dramatization of the eponymous Tokyo-based all-female revue. Takarazuka, the actual musical theater, is well-known in Japan for its moving and melodramatic tales of love. Housewives and other women find escape in the performances that help them imagine expressions of romance they can't find in their mundane lives.

Takarazuka, the play, tells the story of Yuko who, although at the pinnacle of her fame, must retire. Yuko, who performs male roles, embodies all of the dashing qualities that the audience loves and craves. Furthermore, she shares an intense relationship with Chifumi, her counterpart who plays the leading female roles. In the midst of their relationship they must grapple with Yuko's impending retirement, since tradition dictates that all performers must remain young. Yuko herself takes great pains as she hands over the reins to her replacement and transitions back into a life of anonymity.

Exiled back to her rural prefecture, Yuko desperately tries to forget her storied past. Her efforts are to no avail, however, when a dedicated fan finds her. Yuko contemplates suicide, but upon learning of the many hardships that young fan had faced, decided to try and return to Takarazuka. Breaking the tradition that Takarazuka performers must sever all ties with the revue once they retire, Yuko her former director devise a arrangement where she can return to mentor future generations of performers. Back at Takarazuka, she also reunites with Chifumi.

This was a complex and layered performance filled with insights about gender-bending (Yuko's performance of masculinity) sexuality (Yuko and Chifumi's relationship) and age (Yuko's forced retirement). However, a central narrative feature of the play - dialogues between the protagonist's onstage and offstage personas - was as much confusing as it was intriguing (or so the JACLers around me and I thought!). Nevertheless, this was an impressive performance. The actors, many of whom are not Japanese, both spoke and sang in the Japanese language. The musical performances themselves were quite a feat and non-Japanese speakers enjoyed translations that were projected atop the stage.

To get a sense of what Takarazuka performances are like, visit: http://youtu.be/SmKvw8jwFl4.



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REJECTED: Forum on Tule Lake Inmates

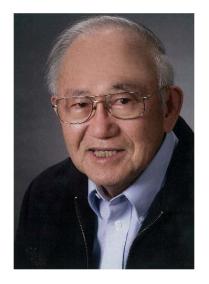
The San Fernando Valley chapter of the JACL is sponsoring its first Forum on the Tule Lake Segregation Center on Sunday, February 22, 2015, starting at 2:00 in Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi Hall at the Community Center located at 12953 Branford Street, Pacoima. **Dr. Art Hansen**, Professor Emeritus of History and Asian American Studies, and will shed light on the question 27 and 28 that has affected our community for three generations for our yonsei and gosei audience. Author, **Takako Day** will describe the Kibei experience and **Yukio Karawatani** will recount his personal story living with the label, "No, No Boy". Japanese and Japanese Americans have suffered indignities from their own people to this day; it is time to learn from this tragic episode in American History. It is time to heal.

Barbara Takei wrote: Shin Issei, Takako Day, makes a valuable contribution to the literature on Tule Lake, providing us with rare Japanese English translations of interviews with Japanese American dissidents."

Dr. Hansen is the founding director of the Japanese American Oral History Project. In 2014, he was the recipient of the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Legacy Award sponsored by the Manzanar Committee.

Yukio Karawatani, author of "Reluctant Samurai- Memoirs of an Urban Planner," is currently a Little Tokyo Historical Society director and a member of the Little Tokyo Community Council Transportation Committee. Yukio will speak about life altering experiences of Tule Lake inmates, during and after World War II. The presentations will be followed by a questions and answer segment. Light refreshments will be served.

Article submitted by Nancy Oda







Yukio Kawaratani

Dr. Art Hansen

Takako Day

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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

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