

THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JACL PROUDLY PRESENTS

our lost years

A NEW AMERICAN FILM WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

LANE NISHIKAWA

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020

2:00 PM

Q&A with the director immediately following

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JACL

12953 BRANFORD STREET, PACOIMA, CA 91331

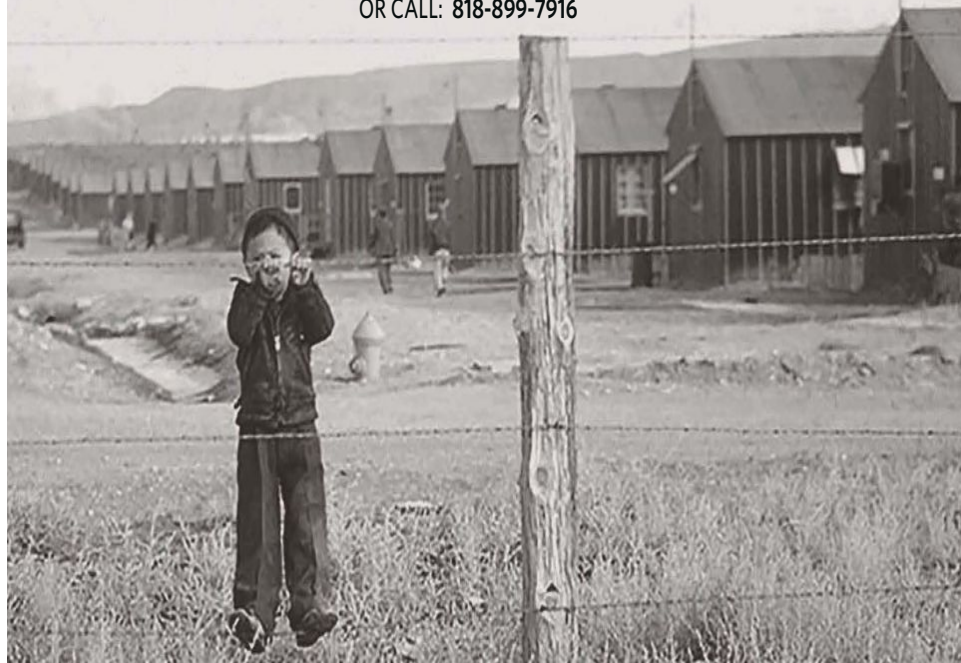
ADMISSION FREE!

OBENTO AVAILABLE FOR \$10

FOR INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE YOUR BENTO

PLEASE CONTACT NANCY AT: nt.high.mtn@gmail.com

OR CALL: 818-899-7916



UPCOMING EVENTS



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

February 12
Board Meeting

February 15
Day of Remembrance

February 18
Third Tuesday Movie Outing

February 22
The Grateful Crane Songs of
the 50s & 60s

March 7
Cherry Blossom Picnic

March 11
Board Meeting

March 14
Our Lost Years – Film by
Lane Nishikawa

March 18
Third Tuesday Movie Outing

April 25
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



Early this year I was inspired by the voices of two people. They both spoke about our JA heritage and preserving it.

Tamlyn Tomita was the emcee at the SFV JACC's 60th Anniversary Luncheon. The event acknowledged and celebrated the founders of the Community Center and the organizations and members that made it what it is today. Tamlyn is a Valley girl. It was her knowledge and passion about the Center and JA history that stood out that day for me. She expressed how important it was for everyone to share their stories of what it was like growing up and surviving during a time no one could speak up or speak out. The stories of our JA Community cannot be found in text books. Those untold survival stories and experiences that our ancestors held onto *shaped our family*. To hear them now will help us understand why and who we are today. Tamlyn's passion carried forward into everyone's heart that afternoon and re-motivated me to act on her words.

Reverend Duncan Ryūken Williams was our guest speaker at this year's SFVJACL installation Luncheon. I first saw Rev. Williams in a YouTube video. He and several other Buddhist priests all flew to Fort Sills, Oklahoma to protest the use of Fort Sills as a detention center for the migrant children separated from their parents. As our guest speaker he spoke about his research and discoveries. His research revealed Buddhist priest were immediately picked up by the FBI after December 7th. However, Japanese Christian Clergy were not. He uncovered and shared with us unknown facts and family stories I was hearing for the first time. Stories that again shaped my family's history so I may understand what they went through and why I was raised the way I was.

Motivated, I mapped out a plan. I will begin (again) the JA Heritage Preservation Project. It will begin in the spring. Once a week I will provide workshops on the "how to and what to do". We will record, document and archive our JA history. We will learn how to: research using the internet, libraries and archives; how to develop questions for interviews; how to conduct an interview; scan photos & documents; scholars will provide historical facts; instructors will teach video equipment use, audio set up, lighting, staging; video editing and archiving.

I will be reaching out to all of you for stories, photos, students, trainers, volunteers and general support.

Beware! You will hear from me/us again!!

Nancy Takayama
President



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

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

The San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League celebrated New Years on Sunday, January 19, 2020, by installing the Board at the Knollwood Country Club in Granada Hills, California. **Dennis Okita** exchanged his treasurer's hat for the master of ceremonies hat with his dry, well prepared monologues.

Guest speaker **Reverend Duncan Ryuken Williams** who has launched an impressive multi-city book tour for "*American Sutra*," made time to visit our chapter for this event. His message included Tsuru for Solidarity where he influenced 25 Buddhist leaders and 5 members of Tsuru for Solidarity to come to Fort Sill, OK, on July 20. He said, "I was able to join this gathering alongside our friends from many communities including the Japanese American group Tsuru for Solidarity, Latinx Dreamers, American Indian Movement, and Black Lives Matter at a protest organized by United We Dream. The protest was held here -- where the Trump administration had announced in June that up to 1,400 children, separated from their families, would be moved this summer. This gathering followed an initial June protest in Dilley, Texas. The collective endeavor of many people led to the administration's announcement a week after the second protest that they would halt this transfer to Fort Sill. One camp closed."



Board members who were installed by PSWD board member **Ryan Yoshikawa** were **Kiyo Fukumoto, Nancy Gohata, Michiko Kus, Al and Mitzi Kushida, Marcia Mahony, Nancy Oda, Barbara and Dennis Okita, Phil and Marion Shigekuni, Geri Shiraki, Nancy Takayama, Linda Tanaka, and May Wood.** In absentia, **Doreen Kawamoto, Patty Takayama, Tomo Hatori, Mabel Takimoto, Jami Tanihana, Jaclyn Tomita, Lauren Takeshita.**

Article submitted by Nancy Oda

Guest speaker Reverend Duncan Ryuken Williams

HAPPY NEW YEAR "The Year of the Rat"

As we open a new year, our nation is faced with many new challenges, especially the "Impeachment of President Trump." Now the U.S. Senate will be conducting a trial to determine the fate of our nation. As an organization dedicated towards achieving civil rights for all and to fight against injustice, we continue to encourage others to become JACLers. Our Chapter will continue to contact members whose membership has lapsed, and encourage our membership to join us for the many activities planned for the year. For only \$30 a year, one can purchase a YOUTH membership, so our teenagers and young adult can begin learning about JACL. Hopefully, they will begin participating in our efforts. Please contact mar.@jacl.org for the complete JACL membership application.



Article submitted by Membership Chair – Kiyo Fukumoto

IN MEMORIUM HARRIET NISHIZAKA

Harriet was born in 1933 under the blue skies on the island of Oahu - she was the youngest of seven children. After graduating from the University of Hawaii, Manoa Campus, she taught at a secondary school in Hilo. Then, young Harriet decided to search for more adventure and went to New York University.

In the exciting big City of New York, she met her future husband, the one and only **John Nishizaka**. They married in 1957 and Brooklyn was their first home. A short time later, they left Coney Island and New York for the West. First, they stopped at Sacramento, then Van Nuys and finally Granada Hills where John worked at Rocketdyne as an engineer.

Harriet was a very caring and loving mother to their three children **Susan, Steve and Scott**. She also worked in the Reading Labs at both Tulsa Elementary School then at El Oro Way Elementary School. Her busy schedule included serving on the SFV JACL Board, held the office of Secretary for many years, contributed innovated ideas, and supported our fundraisers, such as, working in the hot summer Obon Dough Ball booth and swirling the messy Cotton Candy, stitching Christmas items for the Holiday Boutique, and serving on the Ono Ono Hawaiian Plate lunch line.

Harriet was a tremendous support to John while he worked tirelessly as the President of our Chapter, then President of SFV JACC, and as one of the Founding Fathers of Nikkei Village. As the children became more independent, she spent her leisure time reading, traveling, and working on crossword puzzles. Above all, it was time for Harriet to put her feet up and she followed the Dodgers.

On December 7, 2019 she passed away in Irvine, CA and is survived by daughter Susan, and sons Steve and Dr. Scott and Scott's wife, Stacey and their precious girls Ava and Maya. The SFV JACL chapter members and friends will miss Harriet dearly, but we've created wonderful sweet memories with Harriet Nishizaka.

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida



Help Us Reduce Postage and Visit Us Online

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

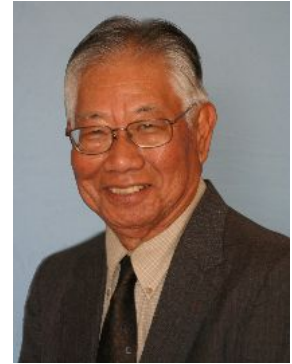
Please go to kyoshino@verizon.net and register your e-mail address

Visit us online at: <http://sfvjac1.weebly.com/> or jac1.sfv@gmail.com

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfvjac1>



IN MEMORIUM HARRY KAJIHARA



Harry Kajihara was 91 when he passed away on December 3rd of last year. I remember Harry as a friendly, ever-smiling guy. Living up in Oxnard we did not see much of Harry, but when he was down in the Valley visiting the Nishizakas, he was always easy to talk with. Janet, Harry's wife, was John Nishizaka's sister.

Harry was present at the Redress meeting held at our Community Center in April of 1975. He was active with his Ventura JACL Chapter, and became an enthusiastic supporter of Redress. Harry served as our JACL National President when the Redress Bill was signed into law by President Reagan in 1980. I felt a real sense of pride seeing him in the picture with all the other JACL leaders who made Redress a reality.

President
Ronald Reagan
signs The Civil
Liberties Act
of 1988.

**Harry
Kajihara**
stands at the
far right.

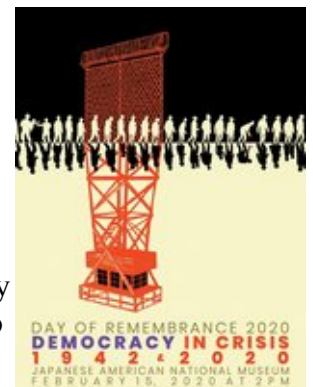


Article submitted by Phil Shigekuni

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 2PM
at the Japanese American National Museum
Our Democracy in Crisis: 1942-2000

February 19th is a significant date for the Japanese American community. On this day in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which gave the U.S. Army the authority to remove civilians from the military zones established in Washington, Oregon, and California during WWII. This led to the forced removal and incarceration of some 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, who had to abandon their jobs, their homes, and their lives to be sent to one of ten concentration camps scattered in desolate, remote regions of the country. Every February, the Japanese American community commemorates Executive Order 9066 as a reminder of the impact the incarceration experience has had on our families, our community and our country. It is an opportunity to educate others on the fragility of civil liberties in times of crisis, and the importance of remaining vigilant in protecting the rights and freedoms of all. We hope to see our SFVJACL members at this event this year.



Dr. Bo Sakaguchi passed away in April of 2019.

His photo was not included in our slide presentation at our recent Installation of Officers Luncheon.

Our sincere apology to Iku and her family.



JACL Cheer Committee

Our condolences to **Roy Imazu** on the death of his wife, **Violet**. Violet passed away on October 26, 2019. She leaves behind her husband, Roy Kazuo and 4 children as well as 9 grandchildren. Roy is a founding member of the SFVJACC and Gardeners Association. We wish him well.



Our sympathies to the family of **Yoneko Takimoto** who passed away on December 05, 2019. She was a long-time member of the SFVJACC participating in the Arts and Crafts and Hana Fuda Groups. She leaves behind her family who remain active in the SFVJACC, **Jane Little**, **Liz and John Doomey**, **Dorothy and Lipo Romero**, many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Her husband, **Shigeo** and son, **Tom** preceded her in death. Our hearts go out to them.

Special thanks to **Scott Nagatani**, pianist for the **Grateful Crane** who generously provided Christmas CDs for the Children's Holiday Goody Bags.

It was wonderful to see **Iku Sakamoto**, the wife of the late **Dr. Bo Sakaguchi** at our 2020 SFVJACL Installation Luncheon. She is recovering well.

Article submitted by Michiko Kus and May Wood

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY THE GRATEFUL CRANE

On Saturday, December 14, 2019, the SFV JACL chapter sponsored a free musical holiday performance by the Grateful Crane Ensemble that spotlighted fond family memories while visiting a father/uncle who resided at Nikkei Senior Gardens. The family members brought sushi, seven layer Jell-O and ham, things they traditionally shared during the holidays and reminisced over some dishes that were not present made by sisters/aunts no longer around. .

The heart warming story recalled: opening presents on Christmas day, the joys of sharing or squabbling over toys and other gifts, tasting savory foods that some relative made, singing songs and watching sporting games together during holiday gatherings. At the end of the performance Santa Claus encouraged the children to join him on the stage to sing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Obento and pizza slices were on sale, prior to the performance. Also, the San Fernando Athletics Guardians basketball team provided their delicious bake sale desserts and drinks for the audience seeking refreshments during the event.

Children, young and old were encouraged to visit with Santa Claus, have their photo taken with hats and costumes and received a goody bag sharing in the holiday fun. Special thanks to Scott Nagatani, pianist with the Grateful Crane for donating his Christmas CD for our goody bags. After the performance, the free Santa photos were available for pick up at the photo counter.

Article by Patricia Takayama



The Takayama Sisters, Nancy & Patty with Santa John Yamaoka

YEAR-END DONATIONS

As we celebrate the Holidays, we are most grateful to the members that remember our chapter with a monetary gift. **FLORA TERAMURA** is one of our annual supporters with her generous monetary donation. Along with **FLORA'S** donation and similar contributions, the chapter was able to invite the community to a *free of charge* Holiday Program featuring the popular *Grateful Crane* ensemble. The brilliant program was received outwardly well by the attendees. Thank you **FLORA** for your annual thoughtfulness.

We also had many year-end donors who contributed thru our annual *Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue* and Fundraiser. We sincerely want to THANK YOU, each and everyone for remembering our SFV Chapter. You enable this Chapter to keep turning the wheels!



Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida

SEV JACL PRESENTS

**A Trip Down Memory Lane
MUSIC OF THE
'50s and '60s**

Performed by
GRATEFUL CRANE
Ensemble

**Saturday
February 22, 2020
2pm**



**Community Center Sakaguchi Hall
12953 Branford St, Pacoima 91331**

\$15. Donation

\$10. Bento

(Bento Pre-order Deadline: Sun, Feb 16, 2020)

For tickets and reservations contact **BARBARA OKITA** at:

email - barbokt@aol.com

cell - (818) 371-7029

Mail checks to Barbara Okita at 13343 Magnolia Blvd.

Sherman Oaks, CA 91423





SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

CHERRY BLOSSOM PICNIC

WITH VENTURA CHAPTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2020

9:30 AM – 1:30 PM

LAKE BALBOA PARK, PAVILION 3
6300 BALBOA BLVD, VAN NUYS, CA



Please join us for a relaxing outing as we enjoy a spectacular show of cherry blossoms (sakura) in the park

- Leisure walking starts at 9:30 am (hats and comfortable shoes)
- Line Dancing and Singing
- Potluck lunch at 11:00 am -- Bring a Main Dish, Salad, Fruit, or Dessert
We'll bring water and paper goods. Alcohol not allowed at the park
- Lake Balboa/Anthony C. Bielensohn Park: laparks.org/aquatic/balboa

Everyone is welcome!

RSVP BY WED, FEB 12: MARION SHIGEKUNI, 818 893-1581

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORTED OUR PACIFIC CITIZEN HOLIDAY ISSUE FUNDRAISER

BUON GUSTO RISTORANTE

15535 Devonshire Street
Mission Hills, CA 91345
(818) 893-9985
buongustoristo@verizon.net



BIRD/MARELLA

Paul S. Chan, Attorney
1875 Century Park East,
Los Angeles, CA 90067-2561
(310) 201-2100
(310) 201-2110 (FAX)
pchan@birdmarella.com



3D TATTOO DORNEL

MEN & WOMEN

*Brows *Eyes
*Lips *Hair Tattoo
(818) 831-8909

PAUL ARNESON-CONSULTANT CORPORATE TRAVEL CENTER

885-B Patriot Drive, Suite B
Moorpark, CA 93021
cell: 818.268.9964
home: 818.993.1896
email: parneson@socal.rr.com



CHIBA JAPANESE RESTAURANT

Shig Chiba

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

LAURIE SHIGEKUNI, Attorney at Law

(415) 584-4550
225 South Lake Avenue, Ste 300
Pasadena, CA 91101
(800) 417-5250
2555 Ocean Ave., Suite 202
San Francisco, CA 94132
laurie@calestateplanning.com

VALLEY SKATE & SURF

Surf, Skateboard & Skate Shop
16914 Parthenia St.
North Hills, CA 91343
(818) 892-5566
@valleyskateandsurf
www.valleyskateandsurf.info



WEST VALLEY NURSERY

House & Garden Plants & Supplies
19035 Ventura Blvd.
Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 342-2623
Hours: 8:00 – 4:30 PM
Sun. 9:00 – 4:00 PM
Closed Thursdays

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!



VILLAGE FLORIST

Kathy Hsing
17818 Chatsworth Street
Granada Hills, CA 91344
Store: (818) 832-7770
Cell: (818) 800-5601
kathy@villagefloristla.com
www.villagefloristla.com



SUSHI DRAGON

AUTHENTIC JAPANESE RESTAURANT
8069 Vineland Avenue
Sun Valley, CA 91352
(818) 394-9313
sushidragon.net



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>



14229 Carl Street
Arleta, CA 91331