



For the entire family

Saturday, Dec 9th, 5 PM
SFV JACC - Sakaguchi Hall

Dancing, Singing, Crafts, Games and Pinata
Free Photo Booth
Great food and desserts

**Kids Toy Exchange is back. Bring your unused toys,
games or books to our recycled gift table for the
kids to exchange**

What to Bring: Main dish, salad or dessert
A wrapped gift with your child's name on it,
to be placed into Santa's bag (should not exceed \$20)

RSVP or for more information contact
Nancy Takayama at: nt.high.mtn@gmail.com
Or leave a message at: 818 899-7916



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



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

October 8
Tuna Canyon Detention
Center Fundraiser

October 11
Board Meeting

October 17
Third Tues Movie Outing

October 21
Buddhist/Christian Dialogue

October 31
Pacific Citizen Holiday
Fundraiser Deadline

November 8
Board Meeting

November 12
Yohen at East West Players

November 21
Third Tues Movie Outing

December 9
Holiday Party

**Questions or
Comments?**

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September 21, 2017



There was a whole lot to cover at our September board meeting. The Pacific Southwest JACL District fund raising meeting in August was a success. Money was raised in support of a fund in memory of **Dr. Ted Namba**, a JACL leader in Phoenix. Vigilant Love, an activist community organization held a JA/Muslim student dialogue at a university in Fullerton on September 17th. The American Buddhist Study Center, based in New York, is sponsoring a program on October 1st at the Aratani Theatre in honor of **George Aratani**, a generous donor to many organizations in our community. The event would mark his 100th birthday. He passed away 4 years ago. Board member **Nancy Oda's** "Only the Oaks Remain" is the subject of luncheon to be held on October 8th at the Quiet Canyon restaurant in Monterey Park. The board decided to sponsor five scholarship winners and their families to the event. In addition, about 17 JACL members will be attending this landmark event. An Image Awards Dinner, sponsored by the Organization of Chinese Americans/Greater LA will be held on October 13th. Honored will be Asian Americans making significant contributions to our communities. An individual heading the "Tuesday Night Open Mike" in Little Tokyo will be recognized. The NCIAPIA (National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance) will be sponsoring a ground-breaking conference on October 14th. On the panel will be gay/lesbian, transgender persons, from different Asian backgrounds.

Our chapter, together with the SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and the Chatsworth West United Methodist Church is sponsoring an interfaith dialogue on October 21st. I will be moderating a community forum with **Rev. Patricia Usuki** of the Hongwanji Temple presenting the Buddhist perspective, and **Rev. Ruy Mizuki** of the Chatsworth West United Methodist Church presenting the Christian position.

Patty Takayama reported on the writing project she is heading featuring writer and playwright **Tim Toyama** who volunteers at the Gardena JA Cultural Institute. Her sister, **Nancy Takayama** spoke about a senior workshop, recently organized, which is instructing seniors on lap top computers and smart phones.

Of particular note was the plight of a young JA woman, **Meg Shimatsu**, who was interviewed by **Steve Lopez** of the LA Times. Her story was subsequently picked up the Rafu Shimpo. Meg is in need of a kidney donation and has gone online asking for financial help. Our board contributed \$200.00. She is on dialysis three days a week and lives in her car in Glendale. Fortuitously, Ventura JACL Chapter President, **Anne Chilcott** happened to have bought a car from Meg's cousin a few years ago and put me in touch with Meg through her cousin. She is now living with him on the week-ends. I will be hosting Meg at our senior luncheon this Friday, and I look forward to getting acquainted with her.



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://sfvjacj.weebly.com/> or jacj.sfv@gmail.com
Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacj>



SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018
76th ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS LUNCHEON

PLACE: Knollwood Country Club

12040 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344

TIME: 11.30 am Social Hour 12.00 pm lunch

COST: \$35.00 per person

Our Luncheon Speaker is **CLYDE KUSATSU** who was born and raised in Honolulu. In 1976-79, he was in several episodes of *ALL IN THE FAMILY* and in 2017, he was in *MADAM SECRETARY*. He has made many appearances at *EAST WEST PLAYERS*.

More information will be available in the December/January 2018 newsletter. Please mark your calendar.



BUDDHIST/CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE

Because of our history of discrimination in this country JACL has taken a strong position in support of Muslims who face oppression much like that which Japanese Americans faced during and after WWII.

A significant number of JACL members profess beliefs in Buddhism or Christianity. If we are to support Muslims in their quest for equality, it would be helpful to share our understanding of the beliefs we hold within our community.

Our Chapter, in cooperation with the Council for Pacific Asian Theology (CPAT), is sponsoring a Buddhist Christian Dialogue on October 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center. Presenting the Buddhist perspective will be **Rev. Patricia Utsuki**, minister at the San Fernando Valley Hongwongi Buddhist Church located adjacent to the Community Center. **Rev. Ruy Mizuki**, pastor of the Chatsworth West United Methodist Church will present the Christian position. Moderating will be **Rev. Dickson Yagi**, Director of CPAT, who spent over 30 years in Japan and has intimate knowledge of both religions. This should be an informative panel. Hope you will make plans to attend.

For more information you may contact **Phil Shigekuni** at pshig2000@verizon.net.

DONATION



This year the Dr. Sanbo and Mrs. Kay Sakaguchi Undergraduate Scholarship was awarded to Kara Tanaka, who is attending Santa Clara University. Kara is the granddaughter of **FLORA TERAMURA** who made a generous monetary donation to our JACL chapter in appreciation for Kara's award. Grandmother Flora's donation will be used to sponsor many events this year, including our Holiday party in December. Please check November-December newsletter for more details. Thank you very much, Flora.

PSWD JACL AWARDS LUNCHEON

On Saturday, August 26, 2017, the annual PSWD JACL luncheon was held at the Quiet Canyon Country Club, in Montebello, California.

This year a scholarship was established in honor of **Dr. Ted Namba** of the Arizona Chapter of the JACL who passed away at age 58 on July 24, 2016. Ted was an active community leader in the Glendale Arizona area. Besides the JACL Arizona Board, Ted served on several other boards which included the Japanese American National Museum.

Providing entertainment was a musical group performing "Letters from Eve." **Daniel Sugimoto**, who was inspired by his grandmother to create the play, composed the music about the camp experience. He was joined by his troop of eight college-aged performers.

Representing the San Fernando Valley JACL Chapter at this luncheon were: **Nancy and Yas Gohata, Nancy Oda, Phil and Marion Shigekuni, Patty Takayama and Nancy Takayama, and Linda Tanaka. Wendy Hirota** brought her Aunt, **Masako Takiguchi** from Arizona. Mrs. Takiguchi made the special trip to honor Dr. Ted Namba.

Article submitted by
Patty Takayama

Seated(L-R):
Patty Takayama,
Nancy Takayama,
Nancy Oda,
Nancy Gohata,
Marion
Shigekuni
Standing(L-R):
Yas Gohata,
Phil Shigekuni,
Linda Tanaka



REMINDER: PACIFIC CITIZEN HOLIDAY GREETINGS FUNDRAISER DEADLINE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2017

You may contact any of the following Board members:

Marcia Mahony at msmahony2@gmail.com
Mitzi Kushida at bighisa@aol.com
Nancy Gohata at yaiko16@verizon.net
Barbara Okita at barbokt@aol.com
Marion Shigekuni at pshig2000@yahoo.com

For monetary donations, please write a check to SFV JACL and send it directly to:

**Marcia Mahony – Chairperson
18320 Hampton Court
Porter Ranch, CA 91326**

WE APPRECIATE AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!

MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORANT TO OUR ORGANIZATION

We are pleased to welcome **Ranita Chatterjee** to our Chapter. Ranita, we look forward to meeting you at our future events.



A big “Thank You” to those who renewed their memberships during the July through September reporting period:

***Akemi Arzouman**

***Stephanie Cohen**

* **Mary Endo**

* **Jean Tsutsui**

A huge “Thank You” to the following members:

* **Tomo Hattori** - changed his membership from Individual to a Couple/Family membership.

* **Kristy Ishii** - changed her membership category from Student/Youth to Regular/Individual.

* **Isabelle Negoro** - changed her membership category from Thousand Club to Century Club.

You can simplify renewing your membership by going online to:

<http://www.jacl.org> > Membership > Renew> (select the membership category) On the form, the membership number field can be left blank.

Membership Chair: Harold Kameya

The 2017 JACL Scholarship Recipients Visit the August Board Meeting

Board members were treated to meeting the 2017 JACL Scholarship recipients, **Seira Narita**, **Kara Tanaka**, and **Olivia Mazzucato**. Seira received the Dr. Sanbo and Mrs. Kay Sakaguchi Graduating High School Scholarship, Kara and Olivia received the Dr. Sanbo and Mrs. Kay Sakaguchi Undergraduate Scholarship. Nova Weng who also received the Dr. Sanbo and Mrs. Kay Sakaguchi Undergraduate Scholarship was unable to attend. Dean Caudill, who received the SFVJACL Undergraduate Scholarship, had already left for UC Berkeley.

Standing (L-R): Seira Narita’s Mother, Dean Caudill’s Parents, Olivia Mazzucato’s Father.

Seated (L-R): Seira Narita, Kara Tanaka, Olivia Mazzucato.



JACLERS ENTER THE COMPUTER/SMART PHONE AGE

Pictured are a few of the Computer and Smart Phone classes recently held at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center for our seniors. Thanks to Keiro Program Grant and the JA Community Fund the Community Center received a grant to hold these classes. With this grant we purchased a 75" flat screen located in the conference room, 8 Dell Laptops, an HP Color LaserJet printer and other accessories. The next series of classes that started mid September include iPad/Tablet, Microsoft Word, Android and iPhone Smart Phone classes.

Article and photos submitted by: Nancy Takayama

Editor's Note: Board member, **Nancy Takayama** was responsible for writing the grant that brought this program to our Community Center. Nancy is the instructor for all the classes.



Seated with laptop computer:
Instructor Nancy Takayama



JACLers Seated Front Left - Sandy Nobuyuki
and Evelyn Mitarai
Seated Front Right – Mitzi Kushida and Yo
Monji, Nancy Gohata's Aunt

Front in white, JACler Doreen Kawamoto
Seated in black, JACler Helen Shimizu

TUNA CANYON DETENTION COALITION INVITES THE COMMUNITY TO HELP SUPPORT LEGACY PROJECT

During the Labor Day weekend, the Tuna Canyon Detention Station was threatened by the La Tuna Fire but our beloved oak grove remained untouched despite the fact that more than 7000 acres were scorched. Just a little bit of the treetops got singed. Thank you for all of your concern.

On October 8, the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition will hold a fundraiser to match a 2017 National Park Japanese American Confinement sites grant. Last minute tickets are available for our luncheon at the **Quiet Cannon in Montebello in the Grand Crystal Ballroom. Contact: suewong911@gmail.com** Registration begins at 11:00. Free parking

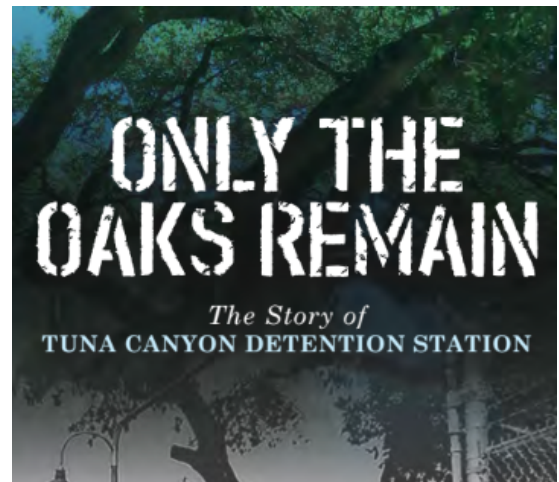
The Honorary Chairman is Representative **Adam Schiff** who represents the 28th district and is a ranking member of the Intelligence Committee. Adam has been supportive of Tuna Canyon and its history since 2013.

In addition, there will be a premier of "Only the Oaks Remain" by the Grateful Crane Ensemble. The Grateful Crane Ensemble, Inc. is a non-profit theater group whose mission is to present educational and theatrical programs in appreciation for the unique hardships and inspiring contributions of Japanese Americans in our country's history. The script for the luncheon comes directly from Tuna Canyon detainee's moving diaries, letters and poems.

Since establishing our nonprofit only four years ago, we have actively reached out to the Japanese, German, Italian, and Japanese Peruvian communities to preserve their stories while confined in Tujunga, California during World War II.

During the 2017 season, we were fortunate to display our story at the Japanese American National Museum for sixteen weeks, then to the Pasadena Playhouse when "Hold These Truths" was shown, the Manzanar Pilgrimage, and then, to Bolton Hall Museum in Tujunga. Dr. Lloyd Hitt was proud to report that 400+ visitors came when he and the Little Landers Historical Society led tours. The traveling exhibit will go to Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center this fall then to the Santa Barbara History Museum in January through April 2018.

Article submitted by: Nancy Oda,
President of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition



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TELLING OUR STORIES

On Saturday, August 12, 2017, we held our last “Telling Our Stories” class meeting for this year. From March until mid-August our instructor, academy award winner, **Tim Toyama** led three sessions with writing prompts, topics and show and tell suggestions on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Class members came together to tell their dramatic stories and share humorous experiences in a safe inviting circle of friendship.

Tim had this to say about the classes. “The writing workshop has been an amazing experience for me: not only hearing great and unique stories, but meeting interesting and fun people. Writing and preserving our stories is important. The stories connect people and children so future generations will know and appreciate their heritage.”

Class members hailed from Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei, Happa and non-Asian participants. The geographical origin and travel experiences of the class members reflected their unique and fascinating stories. Some of the stories included experiences from camp, from Hawaii, Tonga, Japan and holidays with non-Japanese relatives and New Years food or Obon traditional activities. Sharing our stories provided us an opportunity to compare notes - what was unusual and what was normal in other Japanese American households, including rituals and attitudes.

Some of the comments from class members included: “Thanks for inviting me to the class.” “It was fun.” “I really enjoyed hearing other people’s stories.” “The class was really friendly.” “I liked sharing stories.” “I learned so much.” “The stories were so fascinating.” “I was surprised how much people revealed about their attitudes and personal lives in their stories.” “You have a chance to see and understand and feel close to the class members as friends.”

Attending classes this year were: **Nancy Oda, Harold Kameya, David Osako, the late, George Wakiji, Doug Doi, Bob Moriguchi, Nancy Takayama, Anne Chilcott, Priscilla Mui, Shawn Iwaoka, Michiko Kus, Phil Shigekuni, Bo and Iku Sakaguchi, Leigh Clark and Patty Takayama.**

The “Telling Our Stories” classes will resume next spring on Saturday afternoons. Regrettably, Tim’s schedule does not permit any weekday evening classes. Please join the class next year and share your stories.

Article submitted by:
Patty Takayama

Seated (L-R): Patty
Takayama, Phil Shigekuni,
Michiko Kus, Priscilla Mui,

Standing (L-R): Harold
Kameya, Leigh Clark,
Tim Toyama, Anne
Chilcott, Shawn Iwaoka.



NISEI WEEK QUEEN JORDYN ADACHI VISITS JANM

After spending a morning at City Hall with Mayor Gil Garcetti, 2017 Nisei Week Queen, **Jordyn Adachi** and the Nisei Week Princesses continued on to the Japanese American National Museum. I had the pleasant duty of taking the Queen and her court on a tour of the museum's Common Ground exhibit. Later, they joined the museum staff and volunteers for a sashimi and potluck lunch in the Takei Lounge. We can be very proud of Queen Jordyn representing our San Fernando Valley Community Center and all the Princesses representing their Japanese Community.

Article and photo submitted by Mas Yamashita. Mas is a long time member and former Board member of the SFVJACL Chapter. He has also been a docent at JANM since 2006.

Photo(L-R): Kaitlin Tomomi Hara, Tomi Colleen Okuno, Yurika Kristy Yoneda, Mas Yamashita, Nisei Week Queen Jordyn Keiko Adachi, Kelly Akiko Sera, Claire Mari Imada, Jordyn Akari Terukina.



SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 11, 2018

YAMATO – The Drummers of Japan

Chousensha – The Challengers

PLEASE JOIN US at CSUN, Valley Performing Arts Center, to watch the artistry of the Yamato Drummers as they create a unique experience. The troupe has given over 2500 performances in 51 countries. *"Yamato will leave audiences exhilarated by this visually spectacular, high energy and explosive show."* -Theatre Royal Glasgow
More details of this event to follow.



If we get **20** people or more for Yamato-The Drummers of Japan, we can get a group discount of 20% off the ticket price of \$23-\$63.

Please contact: Tomo Hattori at tomo.hattori@gmail.com for more information.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Linda Tanaka graciously opened up her home for the end of summer Board Party on August 13th. Linda described this event as a true Board Party - everyone provided the good food and fun, even cleared the buffet table, organized the leftovers, washed the dishes, folded the table and chairs, and also carried in the chair and ottoman from the garage. She joked that she could even have asked to have her floors cleaned! What a great bunch! Mahalo from Linda.

Congratulations to Mother of the Bride, **Linda Kuratomi** on the marriage of her daughter **Traci to Jeremiah Graber**. The nuptial took place on September 9th. Traci is currently working on her MBA at UCLA and Jeremiah is an Aerospace Engineer at Northrop Grumman. Traci received the JACL/JACC Scholarship in 2005, the National JACL Gongoro Nakamura Memorial Freshman Scholarship in the same year. In 2006 she received the National JACL Nobuko Kodama-Fong Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship. Traci continues to be JACL member. Best wishes to the Bride and Groom!

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



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**THANKS TO CHURCH, TEMPLE, AND ORGANIZATIONS IN OUR
COMMUNITY WHO SUPPORTED OUR
PACIFIC CITIZEN HOLIDAY ISSUE FUNDRAISER**

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www.sgvapipflag.tumblr.com, facebook/sgvapipflag
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BALLROOM DANCE CLASS

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Pacoima, CA 91331
For Info: Barbara Okita
barbokt@aol.com or (818) 784-5128

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**ONLY THE OAKS REMAIN
TUNA CANYON DETENTION STATION**

www.tunacanon.org
RememberTunaCanyon@gmail.com



San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League Membership Application

Annual 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

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 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

🍏 New Member

🍏 Renewing Membership

🍏 Gift Membership

Annual Membership

🍏 Regular/Individual - \$67.00

🍏 Thousand Club - \$200.00

🍏 Century Club - \$350.00

🍏 Couple/Family - \$110.00

🍏 Thousand Club Spouse - \$32.00

🍏 Cent. Club Spouse - \$32.00

🍏 Youth/Students - \$25.00

🍏 Millennium Club - \$1000.00

Life Membership (one-time payment)

🍏 Thousand Club Life - \$3000.00

🍏 Century Club Life - \$5000.00

Member Information

Member ID: _____ (renewals only)

JACL Chapter

San Fernando Valley

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Email _____

Gender _____

Phone _____

Year of Birth _____

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Japanese American Citizens League

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Or join Online: <http://www.jacl.org> → **Membership** → **Join/Renew** → (select membership category)

