

Saturday, December 14th, 2019 - 2 PM

SFV JACC / 12953 Branford Street / Pacoima

FREE HOLIDAY SHOW

FREE Goodie Bag for All kids

FREE Photo with Santa Claus (for all ages)

Lots of Christmas and Holiday Songs
Sung by the Grateful Crane Ensemble



Free Admission Tickets available November 1st

Obento Tickets - \$10

See any JACLer

Or call or email to reserve your goodie bag and
your photo date with Santa

(818) 899-7916 / pe.high.mtn@gmail.com

Leave your name, phone number
of kids and # of adults

This Free Event is sponsored by SFV JACL

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

October 9
Board Meeting

October 15
Third Tuesday Movie
Outing

October 31
PC Deadline

November 13
Board Meeting

November 19
Third Tuesday Movie
Outing

Questions or Comments?

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This past month, our organization has been active in pursuing the civil rights and cultural heritage of the Japanese American citizen as, that is our mission of the SFV JACL.

On Saturday, September 7th, 2019, SFV JACL sponsored a Family Roots program, where children were encouraged to come out with their family members and learn about their Japanese cultural heritage: language, art, music, songs, instruments and family history. Embracing our history and culture provides children an opportunity to visit things that are fun, fascinating, and beautiful and makes them proud to be part Japanese. Pride, self-confidence and a willingness to embrace one's identity is important to nurture children with a healthy Japanese, Asian American identity.

In addition, members of the SFV JACL chapter participated in "We've Got Your Back... Pack" event at the Aratani Theater, on Saturday 21st to raise funds and bring awareness of the outrageously cruel treatment of child migrants being held in cages at the Mexican border, under inhumane conditions – lack of proper or clean habitat, food, water or health and safety protection.

Much of our time and effort, during the 1970s – 1980s was devoted to making our JA community and America aware of the contributions of Japanese American to our U.S. history. As part of our Asian American legacy and contributions to the changes in our American and Constitutional history, we now hold a duty to remind generations henceforth that "their battle" is "our battle", that others who now suffer under cruel and discriminatory conditions are joined in their fight against government and administrative inhumane treatment.

As we recognize our ability to unite and join forces against those who try to keep us from speaking with one voice, we will find that the administration will continue to prevent us from standing up to our detractors or those who currently wield power. We are greater in number and can speak with a louder voice, if we show up, have the courage to speak up and most importantly, we register to vote and cast ballots in the elections next year.

We the People, are all of us who show up to speak truth to power and cast our ballots on behalf of all those who need protection of our civil rights and want equality of representation and economic opportunity. *We the People, are all of us who vote.*

Please join us, this year at our upcoming activities and make a donation and become a member. Our JACL legacy is in part a reminder that our civil rights fight is for all Asian Americans and every ethnic and religious minority who suffers racial profiling and ethnic and economic discrimination. This is our legacy and our duty going forward to defend those rights that our parents and grandparents sought so hard to regain.

Presidents message submitted by Patricia Takayama

Nancy Takayama



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TUNA CANYON DETENTION STATION

Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition invites you to its third biennial lunch at the Quiet Cannon, 901 Via San Clemente in Montebello on October 13 at 11:30 a.m.



Although the Sugino letters are part of the traveling exhibit, it was a complete surprise to find **Elizabeth Ayako**, the youngest child of **Kenzo and Chica Sugino** at the recent SFVJACC New Year event last January. She had eight boxes of family wartime letters at home in nearby La Cresenta. One box was written at Tuna Canyon that will be creatively revealed with guests. **Soji Kashiwagi**, Executive Producer of the Grateful Crane, wrote an original show that will honor their story. If you want to come, contact me at nancyoda64@gmail.com
Tickets: \$75

Article submitted by Nancy Oda

SUMMER BOARD GATHERING

The evening was just perfect for the annual Summer Board Gathering held on Sunday, August 11, 2019 in Simi Valley. The Hawaiian centerpieces with brass sea creatures and shells emphasized the Hawaiian theme. It was a wonderful time for the hardworking board to relax and enjoy each other.

We started the social hour with refreshing drinks. **May Wood** brought a fabulous tray of hors d'oeuvres, professionally prepared by her daughter. It was enjoyed by all. The pot luck buffet dinner was great as usual with Japanese and Chinese dishes together with traditional salads. Everyone enjoyed eating outdoors on a beautiful summer evening.

This year's party was special because it was the first time **JP de Guzman and Beatrice Contreras** attended this function after all these years. We welcomed **May Wood** to her first Board party as well. Also in attendance were **Kiyo Fukumoto, Nancy & Yas Gohata, Linda Kuratomi, Al & Mitzi Kushida, Marcia Mahony, Barbara & Dennis Okita, Marion and Phil Shigekuni, Geri Shiraki and Linda Tanaka**. Best Dressed Barbara Okita was gracious enough to entertain us with a beautiful hula. We then played a game guessing hula movements and its meaning. The evening went quickly as Board members again enjoyed these annual festivities.

Article submitted by Linda Tanaka

Editor's Note: Linda has been hosting this Summer Board Gathering for several years. We all enjoy being in her beautiful home and appreciate her Aloha hospitality.



Beatrice Contreras and JP de Guzman

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





PC HOLIDAY AD REMINDER

October 31, 2019



Please turn in your PC Holiday Ads before **October 31, 2019** to any SFVJACL PC Committee Member.

For more questions, please contact **Marcia Mahony** at msmahony2@gmail.com

THIRD TUESDAY of the MONTH MOVIE OUTING

If you enjoy going to see movies at a theatre, please join us on the Third Tuesday of every month (except in June/July). We usually go to the Pacific Theatres at the Northridge Mall or the Winnetka Pacific Theatres. We also go to the Laemmle Encino and the Laemmle NoHo Theatre.

If you're interested, please contact **Nancy Gohata** at nancygohata@gmail.com and you'll be placed on the Third Tuesday Movie Group Email List. Each month's film selection will be emailed to you with its synopsis and the screening time selected for our outing.

We usually attend the late afternoon screening, around 4 or 5 o'clock. Most of us go to dinner after these screenings. Hope you'll be able to join us.



HELP OUR JACL MEMBERSHIP GROW!

The San Fernando Valley JACL continues to actively support and develop community activities which reflect the goals of JACL and our community. We currently have 132 active members with 11 holding youth memberships. We need your input on how we can best increase our membership. One idea is to sponsor a youth with a membership. You may wish to pay for a membership for family members who are interested in learning more of the efforts of the JACL.



An effort will be made to remind and encourage our membership to continue their participation. Members may want to think about joining the Thousand Club.

I plan to purchase a youth membership for my grandson who just started high school. My two adult children will receive membership as a gift.

Please join us in December for the **Grateful Crane Holiday Program**, our **Installation Luncheon** in January, our **Third Tuesday of the month Movie Outings**, and our **Monthly Board Meeting** held the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the SFVJA Community Center.

Article submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto

THE GRATEFUL CRANE FREE CONCERT



The Grateful Crane Ensemble performed a medley of 1960-1970 songs in a free concert to honor and show appreciation to hardworking Sansei and Nikkei caregivers. The free concert was held on Sunday, August 25, 2019 at the SFV JACC Sakaguchi Hall and was co-sponsored by the SFV JACL and was open to all SFV JACC Members and Guests. .

The lead singers included: **Keiko Kawashima, Kurt Kuniyoshi, Helen Ota and Brian Yamamoto.** They featured songs from the carefree Sansei years dancing at Rodger Young Auditorium and singing songs such as “*My Girl*,” and “*Back in The Day*.” The beat picked up and began to swing with the performance of “*Jail House Rock*,” by Kurt Kuniyoshi, The cha cha was popular with quite a few people who took to the dance floor with such tunes as “*Hello Stranger*” and “*Suavecito*.” performed by guest singer, Brian Yamamoto.

The musicians included **Scott Nagatani** on keyboards, **Danny Yamamoto** on drums and **Hiro Morozumi** on bass.

Article submitted by Patty Takayama



2019 Pacific Southwest District



*Honoring Our History
And Forging Our Future*

Celebrating the 90th
Anniversary of the JACL

Saturday, October 26, 2019
Doors open at 11:30 AM
Lunch 12:00 PM

*Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach
3635 Fashion Way, Torrance, CA 90503*

Honorees

JACL Service Award
Marissa Kitazawa

Community Service Award
Mario Reyes

Community Partnership
Japanese American Cultural
& Community Center

Courage Award
Supervisor
Lisa Barlett

District Chapter Honorees

SAVE THE DATE

SFV JACL's 78th Annual Installation Luncheon

Sunday, January 19th, 2020

Knollwood Country Club
12024 Balboa Blvd, Granada Hills 91344
Social Hour: 11:30am Lunch: 12:00pm
\$35.00 per person
Reservation Deadline: January 6, 2020



Guest Speaker
Duncan Ryūken Williams



Duncan Williams is currently Professor of Religion and East Asian Languages & Cultures and the Director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture and former Chair of USC's School of Religion.

His latest book is *American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War*, which got up to **#3 on the LA Times Bestseller List for Nonfiction**.

Using newly translated sources and extensive interviews with survivors of the camps and veterans of the war, *American Sutra* reveals how the Japanese American community broadened our country's conception of religious freedom and forged a new American Buddhism.



For Reservations & Questions

Contact: Linda Tanaka
Email: ikitai@hotmail.com
Ph: (805) 527-1224



PHIL AND MARION VISITS A MUSLIM COMMUNITY

For this year's 50th Manzanar Pilgrimage, **Phil and Marion Shigekuni** accompanied many Muslim leaders, on their bus to the Pilgrimage. Phil spoke about Manzanar and the history of the internment years. After this experience **Ekram Haque**, president of the Dallas/Fort Worth Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) asked Phil to speak to his Chapter members in Dallas. As with the JACL, their national headquarter is in Washington DC. with Chapters throughout the country.

Phil spoke to about 40-50 people, both young and old. The audience was very receptive, especially as Phil related our wartime incarceration with the current discrimination facing Muslims and others in this country.

Phil and Marion were most appreciative with the hospitality they received from Ekram, his wife and other Chapter members. It gave them both a chance to learn more about Islam, and become acquainted with other Muslims.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Look for Phil's complete report of this trip in the Rafu Shimpō.

Photo: Marion Shigekuni,
Ekram Haque and Phil Shigekuni



DONATIONS

By popular demand, **Dan Taguchi** and his *Swinging Big Band Concert*, will be performing on September 28th. Long time members, **BOB and AKI MORIGUCHI**, who were unable to attend made a generous monetary donation instead to our Chapter. We sincerely appreciate and THANK YOU for your continued support.

We want to thank **IKU SAKAGUCHI** for her most generous monetary donation in memory of her late husband DR BO SAKAGUCHI, see June-July 2019 issue. He was always in our presence during our activities, sponsored many Sakaguchi scholarships, and we all enjoyed him thoroughly with his good sense of humor. We miss him dearly. Thank you again IKU. Keep yourself young and please continue to join us in our activities.



Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida

SEARCHING FOR OUR JAPANESE AMERICAN ROOTS

The students from, five to seventeen years old, their parents, Meiji Club members, and friends joined together for the first “Searching for our Japanese American ROOTS” program held on Saturday, September 7th at the SFVJACC. The attendees enjoyed meeting new people and eating pizza together before the start of the program. The opening performance was the San Fernando Valley Taiko group, and they, literally, started our program off with a BANG. **Reid Taguchi**, instructional leader, invited the youth and adults to join them on Sundays to learn how to play the taiko. Next, the picture book, “Grandfather’s Dream” by Allen Say was shown on the large screen with the story read by Shaun Iwaoka. A slide presentation, by **Kiyo Fukumoto**, showed the history of Japanese immigrants coming to the United States with their dream of wealth and success, and the obstacles and difficulties they faced after their arrival.

The children were divided into groups and they moved to different learning stations. The learning stations included **Family Tree**, developing a chart of their family, **Calligraphy**, led by **Tosh Noda** and **Mrs. Ikuko Sogabe**, writing individual names on a scroll in *katakana*, or *hiragana*, **Learning Taiko**, led by **Reid Taguchi**, participants played the taiko, **Japanese Language**, led by **Patty Takayama**, **Ariel Imamoto**, and **Liz Doomey**, students were taught Japanese words and phrases, **Singing Japanese Songs**, led by **Nancy Gohata** and **Julie Otake**.

The children learned Suzume no Gakkou, Musunde, and Haru ga Kita. The children sang the newly learned song on stage to an appreciative audience. The final activity was the **Obon Odori**, “**Pokémon**,” led by **Christine Inouye** and **Linda Tanaka**. We all enjoyed dancing and laughing together. The students all received a “goodie bag” which included individual photographs of their participation in the day’s activities. We all benefited from sharing and learning about our roots and hopefully we can join together again next year.

Article submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto

Photo to the right:
Linda Tanaka getting the students
Ready to sing Japanese songs.



Photo to the left:
Nancy Oda helping students with
their Family Tree.

WE GOT YOUR BACK...PACK

A Benefit Concert for Migrant Children

Presented by the Nikkei Progressives

Aratani Theater

September 21, 2019

On a pleasant fall evening, SFVJACL members and over 300 others joined the Nikkei Progressives in supporting the needs of children. The families and children seeking asylum will be supported with these funds to purchase children's supplies that will be placed in backpacks, provide legal aid, bond payments so the detained families and children can be released prior to their court dates.

The opening activities began with a Tongva Blessing provided by Tina Orduno Calderon, an Elder who represented the Gabrielino Tongva and Chumash nations. All of us participated by bowing to the compass points beginning with the North which represents the children. Each stage of humankind is represented by the compass points. In the Tongva language "Ewachem" means, "We are still here" and the Native American spirit resonated with the chanting of the blessing.

The Little Tokyo/Japanese American Organizations issued a Fort Sill Statement against the imprisonment of children and asylum seekers. Fort Sill began as a detention area for Native American and children and other Nativists such as Geronimo who died in 1909 while at Fort Sill.

East L.A. Taiko provided a multicultural taiko group mixed with Afro-Cuban rhythms and taiko beats. The group swayed their way to the entrance inviting us to enter the Aratani Theater. **Phil and Marion Shigekuni** and I joined the East L.A. Taiko and danced away toward the entrance to enjoy the concert.

Inside the theater we were joined by **Nancy Oda** who rushed from the SFVJACC Steak Dinner leaving her husband, Kay behind to sweat behind the grills for the barbeque. Later we met **Kiyo Fukumoto** as we exited the theater.

The Nikkei Progressives explained their stance supporting the protests at Fort Sill. Their motto, "NEVER AGAIN IS NOW!" clearly states their belief. The Nikkei Progressives began as a small all-volunteer organization. They support the human and civil rights of immigrants, Muslim American and other groups who face marginalization and discrimination. The Nikkei Progressive believe in building bridges between people. They firmly hold that families belong together and that children separated from their parents must be reunited immediately. They state that migrants and asylum seekers deserve safety and freedom from violence and imprisonment in prison camps.

Comparisons to the nightmare of Executive Order 9066 were made by Japanese Americans who had suffered the imprisonment in Camps during World War II. A film clip showed the actual protests at Fort Sill which led to the reversal of the Federal orders to use Fort Sill as a holding prison for children and families. The courageous men and women who peacefully and calmly refused to move away from the Fort Sill area despite threats to arrest them by military police are wonderful examples for the rest of us to stand up for the rights of the oppressed. Protesters included Buddhist priests such as **Duncan Ryuken Williams** who is our Keynote Speaker for our Installation Luncheon. The strings of gently waving paper tsuru (paper cranes) punctuated the fierceness of their stance eventually causing the Federal government to rescind the order to imprison children at Fort Sill. A small, but important victory.

The remainder of the evening was a rousing mix of musical cultures. The Grammy Award Winning Quetzal Quartet provided solos from their children on piano and vocals as well as the tacones (flamenco heel tapping) as percussion instruments. Members of Cambalache joined the stage and provided back up for Maya Jupiter a Turkish-Mexican Australian rapper who sang "Inshallah, Mashallah"(God willing, Thanks to God) and Alice Bag, an early punk rocker who will never go quietly into the night.

The pounding Finale of the evening was the appearance of Aloe Blacc who uses his voice for social change and the TAIKOPROJECT (led by Bryan Yamami) combined with the full cast as a call out for LOVE not hate.

Article submitted by May Wood

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

MEIJI SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

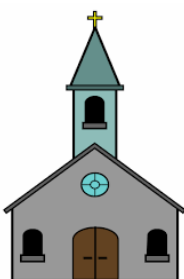
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MEIJI SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

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barbokit@aol.com
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Sunrise Japanese Foursquare Church

5853 Laurel Canyon Blvd.
Valley Village, CA 91607
14705 Wyandotte Street
Van Nuys, CA 91405
Rev. Paul Iwata Rev. James Iwata
818-782-8738 818-642-2332

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

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Japanese American Citizens League

P.O. Box 45397

San Francisco, CA 94145-0397

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Additional donation to JACL (optional) \$ _____

Additional donation to SFV JACL (optional) \$ _____

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

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



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