



# San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

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Issue 18

November/  
December  
2014

## 10TH ANNUAL SUPER BINGO FUNDRAISER

Every year we wonder how the Super Bingo Fundraiser can measure up to the last one. We realized we are able to because of the generosity of our donors and guests. This year the event raised an amazing \$35,000!

The evening started off with MC Miles Chen welcoming everyone and then it was time to eat. Over 350 people were fed Korean ribs, salmon, mac-potato salad, green beans in miso sauce and rice prepared by Hitomi Hashimoto and her kitchen staff (many from her cooking class). Added to the meal were sesame chicken from Small Island and sushi from Musashi Restaurant. Every year, many look forward to the dessert table which was laden with home baked cakes, cookies, mochi and the delicious mochigashi donated by Mikawaya.



Miles Chen was very entertaining as MC.



The night was filled with much activity - there was the Silent Auction where people could bid on items ranging from Lakers, Clippers or Kings tickets to dinner for two at Roy's in Pasadena, 50-50 Raffle where the cash prize is split with the CC, \$5, \$10, \$25 Table as well as the bingo games and raffle.

At the end of the evening all the guests who purchased gold packages received an

insulated tote bag donated by PSCS filled with goodies such as Morinaga tofu, Pepperidge Farms cookies or Goldfish crackers, Mary Kay Satin Hand Cream, dental hygiene packets plus many other things.

This event was once again a huge success thanks to over 100 donors, 252 Gold Package participants and over 50 volunteers. A special THANK YOU goes out to our hard working and dedicated planning committee, who began planning in March to ensure that this fundraiser was a success. (Go to page 6 and 7 for the names of all the donors, participants, volunteers and planning committee.)



### Top Super Bingo Prize Winners!



1st Place Raffle Prize Winner  
Lois Okui



2nd Place Raffle Prize (iPAD) Winner  
Toji Hashimoto



3rd Place Raffle Prize (iPOD) Winner  
Laura Ito



50-50 Raffle Winner  
Sindy Saito



Blackout Winner  
Masako Hollowell

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the Japanese culture and preserve the Japanese American experience through education, events and activities for our community.



Thank You To Everyone  
Who Supported The  
Super Bingo Fundraiser!  
We Raised \$35,000!



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Paul Jonokuchi

I hope you and your family are in good health despite the unpredictable weather. If you haven't noticed yet, there are new glass backboards installed in the gym. It was done just in time for the upcoming CBO season. Thank you to Chuck Itagaki for working on this project. They look fabulous.

We also have a the website designed by Keith Matsushita. It's very user-friendly and has all the photos, announcements and activities that are going on at the Center. Please visit and log on to [SFVJACC.com](http://SFVJACC.com) to get all the updates.

Last time I reported that we signed a revenue sharing agreement with Nikkei Senior Garden which will be very beneficial and it looks very bright for our next generation. The

funds will go into our Endowment Fund, which will help with future growth and to hire an Executive Director who will run the daily operation of the center. I have heard a few members express their concerns - why should they continue to donate with that revenue coming to the Center. Well, it goes to cover our basic operating expenses. We ask for your understanding and your continue support of the Community Center. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Super Bingo Fundraiser turn out to be great event serving close to 350 dinners. A big thank you to all the volunteers, cooks, and donors for making it possible. Also, special thank you to Lois Okui and her committee, as well as Hitomi Hashimoto and her cooking class volunteers for their fantastic job!

It's coming close to the end of the year and I would like take this moment to thank each and everyone for your continue support of the Community Center. It has been a great year and we're looking forward to another eventful year. We wish everyone a memorable holiday season and healthy Happy New Year. Don't forget about our New Year Luncheon on January 3, 2015, so please come and celebrate with us.



**September 2** - CC President Paul Jonokuchi (center) met the new Consul General of Japan Harry Horinouchi and his wife Madam Sabine Horinouchi during their Welcome Luncheon at the JACCC.

**amazon smile**  
 You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop on Amazon? Why not shop on AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our Center every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile offers the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon and 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases will go to our Center. To register, go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)




**SFVJACC  
 High School Graduates**

**Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi Scholarship application is now available on the CC website at [sfvjacc.org](http://sfvjacc.org)**

**The deadline is April 1, 2105**

**CC membership is required.**

**For more info, call 818 899-1989.**



**Suzume no Gakkou  
 Summer Camp**

**July 6-10, 2015 ♦ 9:00-1:00 PM**  
**for grades entering 2-6**

**Collaborating  
 with KIZUNA  
 for grades 6-8**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**For the Months of Sept. & Oct. 2014**

**Donations**

Jake Kuwata & Faith United Methodist Church  
Boy Scout Troop 719  
Donations from his Eagle Scout project  
Rich Nakajima, Pan Pacific Services  
Wells Fargo Foundation Grant for Non-Profits  
Nishida Family - Kазy, William & Jeanette Tuliano  
In memory of parents Kazuo and Chiye Nishida  
Harley & Cora Sagara, Cindy & Noman Morishige  
In memory of mother May Sagara  
Team Mirai - Sugoi Life  
Proceeds from their fundraisers  
Mr. Tomoaki Ishizawa (Visitor from Japan)  
Evelyn Mitarai  
Bronze Leaf for the Donation Tree  
Greg Kimura  
United Way Charitable Contribution  
Burt and Selma Tokuhara  
In memory of Shizuye Ishibashi  
Jean Mazawa Goodman  
In memory of Chiyo Goka  
Yuriko Muso - Calligraphy Class  
Helen Oda Abe  
In memory of Chiyoko Goka  
Anonymous  
IBM Charitable Contribution  
Tracy & Douglas Allen  
Luau & Raffle Fundraiser

**Use of Facilities**

Sandy Nobuyuki  
Etsuko Hashimoto  
Ping Pong Club  
Wednesday Nite Basketball  
Tuesday Exercise Class  
SFV JACL  
Senority  
Poker Club  
C For East Japan  
Hula Wahines  
Harmonica Class  
Friday Exercise Class  
JACL Pacific Southwest District  
Lois Okui  
Crossway Church  
Nancy Gohata

**Miscellaneous**

Coffee Donation ..... \$34.75  
Copier Donation ..... \$17.00  
Don Akamine..... 2 (1 lb) Jars of coffee creamer  
Yone Takimoto ..... 2 lbs. Coffee, 2 bags of green tea  
Maku Cuizon ..... 2 lbs. CoffeeMate creamer, 1 pkg.  
styrofoam cups  
Sylvia Yamashita ..... 4 Pkgs. Napkins  
Arline Ong ..... 3 Cases of Copy paper  
Curly & Flo Sato ..... 2 lbs. Decaf coffee

**DONATIONS TO HOT MEALS**

**For the Months of September & October 2014**



J. Longworth ..... Box on udon  
Musashi Restaurant..... 200 lbs. rice, 10 gal. oil & 4 pkgs.  
chopsticks  
Satsuki ..... Pastry for kitchen staff  
Yone Takimoto..... Fukujinzuke 3 times & takuwan  
Liz Doomey..... Cake to celebrate John's birthday  
Al Tokunaga..... Miscellaneous fish  
Doreen Kawamoto ..... Ice cream  
Sandy & Karl Nobuyuki..... Cake for Tuesday lunch  
Sally Hamamoto ..... Cake for Tomi's birthday  
Hisako Hazard ..... Kitchen aprons  
SF Athletics..... Paper cups  
Eiji & Marge Sato ..... 4 heavy duty aluminum foil & 1  
plastic wrap (3000 sq. ft.)  
Dr. Bo Sakaguchi..... Monetary Donation (for Hot Meal  
and volunteers)  
Yoko Kawamura ..... Large box of special nori  
Michiko..... 2 boxes chocolate sandwich  
cookies, etc.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR  
THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

**SFV MEIJI SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB  
49TH NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON**

**JANUARY 10, 2015  
12 NOON**

Tickets are available through  
Board and Cabinet Members



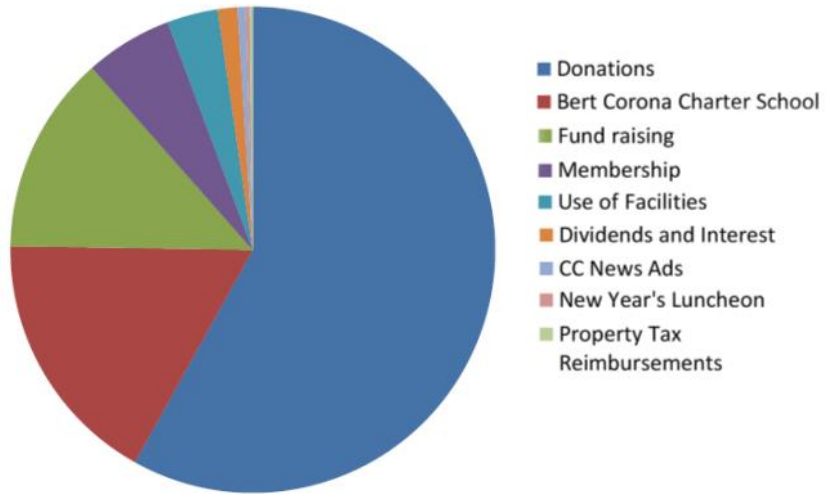
**2015 SFVJACC  
New Year's  
Luncheon**

**January 3, 2015  
11:30 am**

See flyer on page 11  
For more information, call 818 899-1989

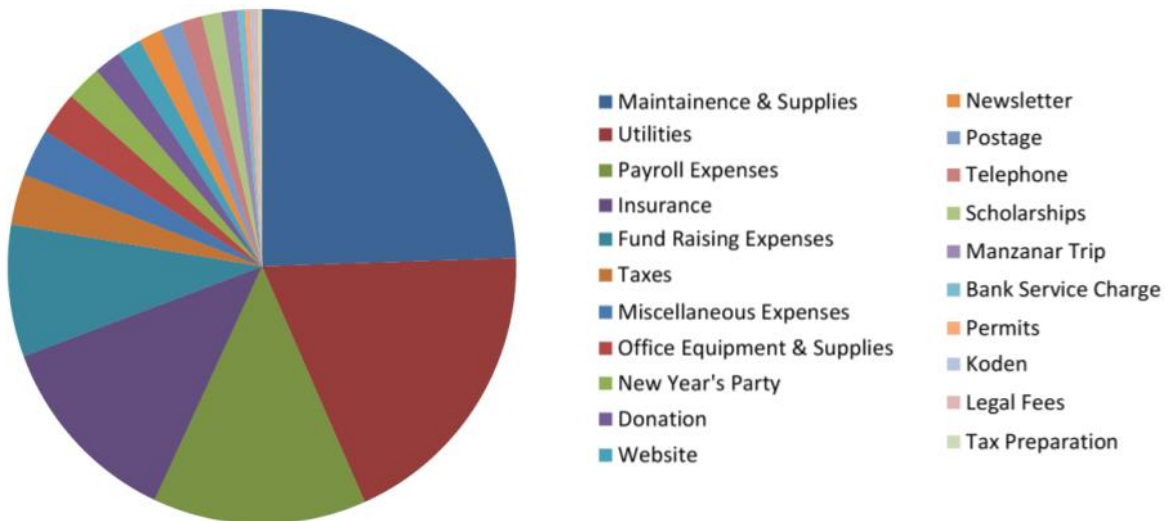
**San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center  
Schedule of Income Received  
For the Eleven Months Ended November 30, 2014**

Donations	\$	287,939
Bert Corona Charter School		85,000
Fund raising		65,572
Membership		28,825
Use of Facilities		16,858
Dividends and Interest		6,453
CC News Ads		2,708
New Year's Luncheon		1,230
Property Tax Reimbursements		1,062
<b>Total Income</b>	\$	<b>495,646</b>



**San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center  
Schedule of Expenses Paid  
For the Eleven Months Ended November 30, 2014**

Maintenance & Supplies	\$	48,665	Newsletter	2,912
Utilities		37,575	Postage	2,695
Payroll Expenses		26,982	Telephone	2,680
Insurance		24,615	Scholarships	2,500
Fund Raising Expenses		16,488	Manzanar Trip	1,962
Taxes		6,317	Bank Service Charge	968
Miscellaneous Expenses		5,938	Permits	630
Office Equipment & Supplies		5,412	Koden	500
New Year's Party		4,469	Legal Fees	500
Donation		3,452	Tax Preparation	500
Website		3,053	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 198,813</b>



## CC Clean-Up

On October 4, the Center held it's annual clean-up. Parents and kids from Athletics and Japanese School came to do the hard and dirty job of cleaning out the storage rooms in the gym and by the Judo dojo, besides the usual jobs of cleaning the gym and the garden work. Faithful members from the Gardeners Association, Ken Shinbashi, John Kobayashi and Fumio Nakama did quick work of trimming the front garden and the playground trees. A delicious lunch was prepared by members of JACL for all the hungry volunteers. We thank and appreciate all those who took the time to beautify our Center!

### Thank You to the following:

Sachi Arai  
Jill Clever  
Kevin Endow  
Dennis & Jill Fukumoto  
Susanna & Caitlin Fukumoto  
Nancy Gohata  
Shoichi & Fusako Hagiwara  
Roy, Kristin, Ryan & Kate Higashi  
Teresa Hito  
Betty & Lauren Ikemoto  
Kei Inoue  
Jack Ishibashi  
Paul Jonokuchi  
Harold Kameya  
Doreen Kawamoto  
John Kobayashi  
Lon & Reid Kurashige  
Al & Mitzi Kushida  
Miles, Rouxann, Hawk, Jake  
& Grant Kuwata

Bing & Tre Lau  
Yoko Matsui  
Jolyn & Justin Mayeda  
Linda Miyamoto  
Isabelle Miyata  
Dr. Harvey Negoro  
Karen & Scotty Nimura  
Nancy Oda  
Noelle Ogasawara  
Kei Ogata  
Lois Okui  
Megan Okui  
Camille Pagkalinawan  
Ken Shinbashi  
Margaret Takimoto  
Denise Tanaka  
Linda Tanaka  
Stacy, Ty & Derek Tanaka  
Shaun & Nathan Tanaka  
Wesley Tanijiri

Nancy Takayama  
Patti Takayama  
Kaemin Tosasuk  
Sumi Yamaguchi  
Linda & Grant Yamamoto  
Darlene, Alana & Brenden Yamauchi  
Gary, Davis & Taylor Yoshino



## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPER BINGO DONORS!

### MAJOR DONORS

Willard & Jill Clever	PSCS
Disneyland Resort Community Relations	SF Athletics
Harry Nakada	SFV Meiji Senior Club

Donna Aari	Marilyn Kishi	Roy's Restaurant Pasadena
Henry Asao	Mas Kosaka	Nancy Sakata
Brent's Deli	Miles & Rouxann Kuwata	Santa Anita Park Los Angeles Turf Club
Café Bizou	Mickey Lau	Emiko Sekine
Ninie T. Chang	Selena Lee	Senior Arts & Crafts
Shirley Docken	Linda Makuta, DDS	SFV JACL
Liz Doomey	Joanne Matoi	SFV Japanese Language Institute
East West Players	Lynn Matsui	SFV Judo Club
Tim Manaka - FIA Insurance Services	George Matsumoto	Phil & Marion Shigekuni
Cathy Fujimoto	Tomiko Mendoza - Heavenly Macs	Lorraine Shimizu
Fukui Mortuary	Hyla Merin	Skateland
George & Grace Goto	Mikawaya	Skirball Cultural Center
Kaori Hall	Isabelle Miyata	Sugoi Life - Team Mirai
Jennifer Hamamoto	Morita Produce	Shig Sumida
Toji & Hitomi Hashimoto	Ken & Priscilla Mui	Edward & Margaret Tajiri
Heritage Source - Carolyn Sanwo	Mariko Mui O'Byrne	Bill & June Takeshita
Frank & Betty Hiji	Marian Murphy	Craig Tanaka - Pepperidge Farms
Taro & Mary Ishimoto	Musashi Restaurant	Kevin Tanaka & Dara Sae-Tang
Chuck Itagaki	Amy Nagatoshi	The Gold Rush
JACL Ballroom Dance Club	Garland & Debbie Nicklaus	The Huntington
Gary Johnson, DDS	Nikkei Senior Gardens	Toyo Miyatake Studios
Paul Jonokuchi	Northridge Hospital Medical Center	Trader Joe's Granada Hills
Scott Jonokuchi	Masao & Tsukimi Okamoto	Upper Crust Enterprises, Inc.
Judd Matsunaga's Elder Law Services of California, APC	Matt Okui, DDS	Vitellos Restaurant
Julie Barkan Jewelry	Tadao & Lois Okui	Darrell Vivian & Jayne Komoto
Ron & Cynthia Kado	ONEgeneration	Garrett Yamada
Christy Kamimura	Coleen O'Neill	Don Yamagishi
Paris Kariya	Arline Ong	Gary & Sandy Yamamoto
Chika Kawahara	Phiten USA, Inc. (Torrance Store)	Diane Yamashita
Patti Kimura	Leslie Piatt	Erin Yokomizo
Kinokuniya Book Store	PRP Wine International	Kathy & Steve Yoshimura
	Stan Rivera	

## THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED

### **SUPER BINGO PACKETS & REGISTRATION TABLE**

Linda Ogimachi  
Denise Tanaka  
Linda Yamada  
Kay Yamada

### **KITCHEN CREW**

Cathy Fujimoto  
John & Liz Doomey  
Nancy Fukumoto  
Cathy Nakano  
Patti Kimura  
Linda Kuratomi  
Carol Mochinaga  
Doug Nakada

NJ Nakamura  
Debbie Nicklaus  
Kathy Norihiro  
Jeri Okamoto  
Coleen O'Neill  
Julie Otake  
Janet Yamamoto

### **BBQ CREW**

Paul Jonokuchi  
Tim Manaka  
Richard Nakamura  
Jim Tsuda

### **Super Bingo Planning Committee**

Jill Clever  
Fuyumi Hashimoto  
Toji & Hitomi Hashimoto  
Patti Kimura  
Akiko Manaka  
Priscilla Mui  
Debbie Nicklaus  
Kathy Norihiro  
Tadao & Lois Okui  
Megan Okui  
Coleen O'Neill  
Harvey Negoro & Isabelle Miyata  
Linda Yamada  
Gary & Sandy Yamamoto  
Kathy Yoshimura



## THANK YOU TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED

### DINNER SERVERS, BINGO/RAFFLE/50-50 RAFFLE RUNNERS/\$5,\$10,\$25 TABLE & OTHERS

Ramon Arriola	Tracy Kaku	Will Nakada	Glen, Audrey, Amanda,
Miles Chen	Christy Kamimura	Jon & Amy Okui	Brooke & Jordan Yamamoto
Joe, Grace & Kenny Cheng	Nick & Dani Kaprelian	Kellie Ogimachi	Jared, Jonathan & Jayden
Amy Date Nagatoshi	Patti Kimura	Adam Orozco	Yamasaki
Jennifer Davine	Taryn Manaka	Tommy Patikamanant	Lauren Yokomizo
Erin Fujitani	Michelle Mori	Angelo & Chelsea Pinon	Kasey Yoshimura
Amber Furlenbach	Doug Nakada	Susan Shojinaga	
Miku Inoue	Gary Nakada	Travis Shojinaga	

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPER BINGO SUPPORTERS

Don Akamine	Bert & Kei Inoue	Chiz Morita	Robert & Setsuko Sato
Mike & Grace Anderson	Taro & Mary Ishimoto	Evelyn Motoyama	Gene Schuetze
Donna Tanaka Arii	Chuck Itagaki & Linda	Yo & Tak Motoyasu	SFV Judo Club
Craig & Sharon Asanuma	Takahashi	Priscilla Mui	SFV Landscape Gardeners
Lyle & Mitsu Asaoka	Laura Ito	Tomi Muranaga	Emiko Sherman
Yoichi Baba	Grace Iwamasa	Victor & Lois Muraoka	Dorothy Shiba
Cyndi Bartok	Mildred Kado	Noriko Murata	Florence Shimizu
Grace Cheng	Larry & Diane Kadonaga	Dennis & Marian Murphy	Ken & Ritsuko Shinbashi
Kimiaki & Sayoko Chiba	Seiji, Emiko & Kay Kami	Eiko Muto	Raymond Shinsato
Leah Chong	Chisato Kanagi	Harry Nakada	Tony & Tami Shiotani
Robert & Marian Chun	Itsue Kanemura	Willie Nakada	Anna Shishido
Willard & Jill Clever	Pat Kasahara	Fumio Nakama	Alice Shojinaga
James G. Corpuz	Doreen Kawamoto	Harvey Nakamoto	Richard Shojinaga
Stan & Diane Date	Raymond Kawamoto	Mark & Joanne Nakamura	Yoshiko "Smokey" Sugii
Terry & Shirley Docken	Yoko Asao Kawamura	Morris & Susan Nakamura	Shigeo Sumida
John & Liz Doomey	Patti Kimura	Richard & NJ Nakamura	Emi Suyehiro
Gary Endow	Sumie Kimura	Barbara Nakatsu	Margaret Takimoto
Cathy Fujimoto	MariYn Kishi	Harvey Negoro & Isabelle	Yone & Tommy Takimoto
Kisui Fujimoto	Don Kobayashi	Miyata	Denise Tanaka
Donald K. Fujitani	Powell Kodani	Garland & Debbie Nicklaus	Leonard O. Tanaka
Mo Fujiu	James Komatsu	Nanako Nishida	Frank & Marge Tanaka
Eiji Fukumoto	Jayne Komoto & Darryl Vivian	Amy Niwa	Katie Tanijiri
Peggy Furutani	Ron & Jan Kondo	Karl & Sandra Nobuyuki	Sam & Kate Toji
Terri Furuyama	Ken Kumagai	Kenso & Yoko Nomura	Michiko Tokunaga
Nancy Gohata	Fusako Kumamoto	Kathleen Norihiro	Kiyo Tomomatsu
Robert Goka	Albert & Mitzi Kushida	Fred Oda	Robert Tracy
John Goka, Jr.	Mickey Lau	George Oda	Cherry Uyeda
Paul & Marsha Greco	Gene & Genevieve Lew	Kay & Nancy Oda	Tom Uyeda
Sally Hamamoto	Sonny Loriaux	Gary & Linda Ogimachi	Kenji Watanabe
Robert & Deanna Hanashiro	Marcia Mahony	Jane Okano	Nobuko Welch
Hikowo & Etsuko Hashimoto	Tim & Akiko Manaka	Sid & Yukie Okazaki	John & Kay Yamada
Toji & Hitomi Hashimoto	Ike & Yoshi Matsuda	Barbara Okita	Hiroshi Yamaguchi
Harold Hatakeda	Norm & Arlene Matsuoka	Tadao & Lois Okui	Sumi Yamaguchi
George & Yo Hazama	Teri McClure	Coleen O'Neill	Gary & Sandy Yamamoto
Franklin & Emi Hino	Monte Minami	Daito Ono	Janet Yamamoto
Dick & Suzie Hirasuna	Kimiko Miseroy	Julie Otake	Junko Yamane
Charles & Masako Hollowell	Evelyn Mitarai	John Rivera	Teddy Yamane
Ruby Honjio	Bruce & Carol Miyake	Harley & Cora Sagara	Ruby Yamaoka
Cindy Ichikawa	Linda Miyamoto	Elaine K. Saito	Sylvia & Diane Yamashita
Richard & Reiko Iga	Kiyoshi & Yaeko Mochizuki	Bo & Iku Sakaguchi	Darlene Yamauchi
Betty Ikemoto	Yoshiko Monji	Sachiko Sakamoto	Margaret Yoshida
Kaname "Ken" Inaba	Eugene & Yone Montgomery	Dale Sakuda	Kathy Yoshimura
Ken & Shigeeko Inaba	Bob Moriguchi	Stephen & Karen Sasaki	
Ayumi Inoue	Reiko Moriguchi	Eiji Sato	

# .... News Around the CC ....



**Congratulations Jake Kuwata!** In November, Jake earned the rank of Eagle Scout. He, like his brother Hawk, did his Eagle Scout project at the Center. The beautiful gray benches around the trees in the back parking lot were built by him and members of his troop in July. There is one more brother eager to follow in their footsteps.

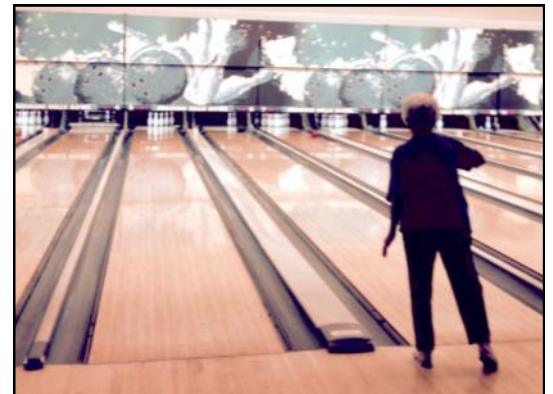
Great job Jake!!



**JACL Ballroom Dance** held their annual dance on October 25. Everyone that attended had a great time. Ballroom Dance meets every Tuesday evening from 7 - 9 pm. Come join the fun!



**Hot Meal Turkey Lunch** - The all volunteer Hot Meal kitchen staff prepared a wonderful home-cooked holiday meal for the seniors on Friday, November 19. It was delicious and special, especially for the seniors who don't have family to spend the holidays with. We want to thank you Kei Inoue and her staff for their willingness to serve the seniors.



**Friday Night Bowling League** - Mabel Takimoto, 94 years young, was hot on the lanes with 3 strikes, 7-8 spares and she picked up two major splits. Way to go Mabel!

## SF Wildcats VFW Tournament 7th Grade Silver Division Champs

Back row: Coach Henry, Camille Pagkalinawan, Megan Miyamoto, Caitlin Fukumoto, Lauren Ikemoto, Coach Dave

Front row: Jordan Yamamoto, Jayden Yamasaki, Kate Higashi, Alana Yamauchi

Missing: Aly Kaneshiro







**Sho Chiku Bai**  
Porter Ranch Bonsai Club  
**Happy New Year 2015**

We meet on the first Sunday of every month  
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  
Contact Yoko or Walter at  
818-746-6677



**Greetings from our members.**

Pictured from left: Walter Zipusch, Yoko Zipusch, Ben Estorga, Georgette Tuck, Toshi Furuta

Not pictured: Alan Dorfman, Michael Arnold, Marilyn Fisch, Bradley Brizee



Bold Cypress

**松竹梅 盆栽クラブ**

- We are proud to announce Sho Chiku Bai Bonsai trees were displayed at the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens on Chinese New Year 2014.
- Two saikei bonsai were also displayed at the Descanso Garden Club in July 2014.
- Bold Cypress bonsai was displayed at the 45th Annual Descanso Exhibit and won a ribbon in the advanced class in June 2014.



Procumbens Nana Juniper



1000 Stars and a Cotoneaster



Yoko at Descanso

**Roy's Corner** - Being a member of the local Chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers organization introduces me to many new fruit varieties. Have you ever heard of Goji Berry plant? Also known as Chinese Wolfberry. It is supposed to be high in antioxidants. I have room for a shrub of this size in my yard. I plan to order it from a nursery in the state of Washington when it becomes available. If you have space in a sunny part of your yard, you may want to consider a few blueberry bushes. They can be planted in a container so a paved area would be OK. They require an acid soil so that means a lot of peat moss in the mix. Another requirement is that the soil must be kept damp.... I have been growing "volunteer" cherry tomatoes this summer. It has good size with good flavor. If you want some specimens to be used as seeds next year, give me a call---Your comments are welcome at (818) 522-4891

**Hula Classes**

Would you or your child be interested in learning the hula. Please call to let us know at 818 899-1989.



Want to join Girl Scouts?  
Call 818 899-1989 if you are interested.



## A Visit from Santa

By Old Wakaba, Bud Sagara

Kazuo loved working as the Santa for the local mall during Christmas because so many children would come to see him. Christmas cheer was in the air and everyone seemed to be nicer to one another. As one little boy climbed up onto his lap, Santa Kaz noticed that he was holding a photograph of a young girl. When Santa Kaz asked the young lad about the photo, the boy sadly replied that it was a photo of his sister, Connie, who was very sick. The boy added that Connie really wanted to visit Santa in person, but she was in a hospital. Santa Kaz tried to be jolly and coaxed a smile from the little boy by asking what he wanted Santa to bring him for Christmas. Santa Kaz glanced to his left to see the boy's grandmother waiting patiently nearby. When the boy was finished, he hugged Santa Kaz, showed him the photo again, and asked him to remember his sister.

As the grandmother walked near Santa Kaz to gather up her grandson, she hesitated for a moment as if she wanted to say something, but slowly continued on. Santa Kaz noticed and jokingly asked if there was anything she wanted to say to Santa. The grandmother turned and said that her name was Reiko and the child in the photograph was her granddaughter. Her tears began to fall as she told Santa Kaz that her granddaughter was a cancer patient in Children's Hospital, and that Connie was not expected to live past Christmas. Reiko said that she knew it would be asking a big favor, but was there any way for Santa to go to the hospital to see Connie? A visit from Santa was all that the little girl had asked for Christmas. Santa Kaz started to get misty-eyed himself as he told the grandmother to leave the hospital information with one of his elves and that he would see what he could do.

For the remainder of his work shift, Santa Kaz kept thinking about the grandmother's request. How could he refuse a wish from a dying child? He had a ten year old granddaughter himself. After Santa Kaz finished talking with all the boys and girls, he retrieved the information that the grandmother had left and drove all the way downtown to Children's Hospital. Upon finally arriving at Connie's hospital room, Santa Kaz peeked through a half-closed door and saw little Connie lying in a bed with all kinds of wires and tubes coming out of her hospital gown. The room was full of people, including the boy and grandmother he had spoken to earlier. A young woman sitting at bedside was stroking Connie's thin hair and quietly speaking to her. Santa Kaz could sense the closeness and warmth within this family and their love for this sick child.

Taking a deep breath, and forcing a smile on his face, Santa entered the room, bellowing a hearty, "Ho, ho, ho!" "Santa, you came!" Connie shrieked weakly. Her skin was very pale and her hair was missing in patches from the chemotherapy, but Connie's eyes were huge, sparkling brown pools. She raised her spindly arms to hug Santa as he came near. Santa's heart melted immediately and he had to choke back his tears to put on a brave front for Connie. Even though Santa's attention was on Connie, he could hear gasps and quiet sobbing from the people in the room. As Santa and Connie began talking, the family members crept to the bedside to lightly touch his shoulder as if to say "thank you" without words.

Santa and Connie talked and talked, and she assured him that she had been a very good girl all year. As their time came to a close, Santa asked the family if it would be okay to pray for Connie. Connie's mother nodded in agreement and the entire family circled around Connie's bed, holding hands. Santa asked Connie if she believed in God who lives in heaven. Connie answered, "Oh, yes, Santa, I do." Santa then told Connie that he was going to ask God to watch over her. Santa ended his prayer with a quote from Psalm 145:8-9, "The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made." Emotions were heartfelt at that moment, tears of hope, tears of despair, and tears for this little girl who was loved so much.

Santa mustered all his courage as he held Connie's frail hand and told her authoritatively, "You have a job to do, and that is to concentrate on getting well. I want you to have fun with your friends this summer, and I expect you to visit me at my temporary home in the mall next year." Santa knew it was a long shot to make such demands on a little girl with terminal cancer, but it was all he had to give her...Hope. Santa leaned down and kissed her goodbye on the forehead and quickly left the room. As he hurriedly walked back to his car, he began to cry; a big, shoulder shaking cry.

One year later, Santa Kaz was back at his part time job at the mall listening to boys and girls go on and on about the toys they want for Christmas. A little girl climbed up on his lap and said, "Hi Santa, do you remember me? You visited me at the hospital." Santa Kaz's mouth fell open as he looked into those big brown eyes. Tears immediately sprang from his. "Connie!" he exclaimed as he hugged her tightly. He had barely recognized her because her hair was full and silky and her complexion rosy. He looked over and saw Connie's mother and grandmother waving at him while wiping away their tears. This was the best Christmas ever for Santa Kaz as he gazed up to heaven and whispered, "Father, thank you for your love for us by sending your only Son to be born in Bethlehem so many years ago."



Merry Christmas

Old Wakaba Note: This is my version of a Christmas story from the Internet whose author was listed as unknown.



明けまして  
おめでとう  
ございます



Happy New  
Year

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

## 2015 NEW YEAR'S LUNCHEON

JANUARY 3, 2015  
11:30 AM

SFVJACC NIKKEI PIONEER BUILDING  
DR. SANBO SAKAGUCHI HALL

**\$25.00 PER PERSON**

**Deadline: December 26, 2014**  
**(At the door: \$35.00, limited lunches)**

For more information, call Lois Okui (818) 899-1989 or Akiko Manaka (818) 472-5012

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### RESERVATION FORM

Deadline: December 26, 2014

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ @\$25.00/person

Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form and check made payable to: SFVJACC New Year's Luncheon  
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima, CA 91331

SAVE the DATE!



## E-Waste Collection & Udon Sale

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2015

At

San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

DISPOSE of E-WASTE RESPONSIBLY!

EAT UDON!



**IMAGINE LITTLE TOKYO**  
LITTLE TOKYO HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
2ND ANNUAL  
SHORT STORY CONTEST

SET A FICTIONAL SHORT STORY IN LOS ANGELES' LITTLE TOKYO.  
CAN BE IN THE PAST, PRESENT OR FUTURE!

SELECTION WILL BE BASED ON STORYTELLING ABILITY  
AND BEST USE OF LITTLE TOKYO AS A CULTURAL SETTING.

DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2015

**\$600** FOR BEST ENGLISH LANGUAGE STORY  
**\$600** FOR BEST JAPANESE LANGUAGE STORY  
**\$400** FOR BEST YOUTH (18 & UNDER) STORY

FOR GUIDELINES AND MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OR EMAIL US:  
www.littletokyohs.org | littletokyohs@gmail.com

FOLLOW US: f /littletokyohs @LTHSnews

WEBSITE: [QR CODE]

## LTHS Offers Three Cash Prizes for Short Story Contest

By: Patricia Takayama

The Little Tokyo Historical Society announced its second annual fiction short story contest. This year, the contest has expanded to include a Japanese-language and youth division. The deadline for submission is January 31, 2015.

The prize for the first place winner is \$600 for each of the adult (English and Japanese language) divisions, while the first place award for the youth division is \$400. The theme for the fiction story is "Imagine Little Tokyo."

The purpose of the contest is to raise awareness of the Little Tokyo neighborhood of Los Angeles through a creative fiction short story that takes place in contemporary, past, or future Little Tokyo. The winning stories will be published in the Rafu Shimpo newspaper and the Discover Nikkei website.

Writers with far ranging, young and elderly perspectives are encouraged to submit stories. For more information, contest details and guidelines go to their website at: [www.littletokyohs.org](http://www.littletokyohs.org).

## Welcome New Community Center Members

Phil & Kim Bishop  
David Castro  
Cyrus Chan  
Peter & Sharon Conroy  
Alberto Davila  
Kevin & Melissa Endow  
Charles & Kathy Funakura  
Alex & Tyo Katsume Hamidi  
Morgan Hamon  
Michael Helms  
Richardo Hernandez

Brett & Heather Houk  
Susan Istvan-Wood  
Elizabeth Akiyama Kim  
Taeko King  
Tamiko Mendoza  
Kaz Matamura  
David Nagano  
Long & Gena Doi-Long Nguyen  
Jon & Amy Okui  
Anthony & Heidi Olsen-Coronado  
Porter Ranch Aloha

Stuart & Chizuko Ramsbottom  
Kiko Rubin  
Jennie Sato  
Naomi Shigiyama  
Taki & Deborah Shimojima  
Akiko Sugamata  
Marian Takesue  
Ryan Tanaka  
Cindy Tanaka-Cohen  
Johnny & Irene Umeda  
Jon Pablo & Mercey des Valdez Valdez

**COORDINATING COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONS—MEETINGS-CONTACT PERSONS**

Coordinating Council.....	1st Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Nancy Oda .....	818 786-0914
Community Center.....	1st/3rd Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Paul Jonokuchi.....	818 894-5327
Athletics.....	3rd Tues., 7:30 PM.....	Margaret Takimoto .....	818 701-7628
CC News.....	Lois Okui.....	818 892-1487.....	Email: loisokui@aol.com
Chatsworth West United Methodist Church .....			
.....	2nd Sun., 1:00 PM.....	Doreen Kawamoto.....	818 764-8850
Crossway Church.....	2nd Sun., 12:30 PM.....	Diane Date.....	818 701-6607
SFV Bonsai Club.....	4th Sun., 8 AM-12 PM.....	Walter Zipusch .....	818 746-6677
SFV Fishing Club.....	3rd Mon., 8:00 PM.....	John Goka .....	
SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.....	2nd Mon., 7:30 PM.....	Terry Ishigo.....	818 899-4030
SFV JACL.....	2nd Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Doreen Kawamoto.....	818 764-8850
SFV Japanese Language Institute....	Sat., 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.....	Stephen Nakata .....	818 896-8612
SFV Judo Club .....	4th Wed., 7:03 PM.....	Mo Barrera .....	818 331-9444
SFV Landscape Gardeners .....	Sat. of every other month.....	Nob Tamai.....	818 347-3912
SFV Meiji Senior Citizens.....	1st Fri., 12:30 PM.....	Kay Yamada .....	818 763-4861
Nikkei Senior Gardens.....	2nd Thurs., 7:00 PM.....	Toji Hashimoto .....	818 897-4216
Sho Chiku Bai Porter Ranch Bonsai Club.....			
.....	1st Sun., 9 AM-12 PM.....	Yoko Zipusch ..	818 746-6677
Sunrise Foursquare Church.....		Reverend Paul Iwata .....	818 782-8738
Valley Japanese Community Center .....			
.....	2nd Fri., 7:30 PM.....	Neil Hashiba .....	818 732-5837

**Want to reserve the Community Center for an event?**

Call Tadao Okui  
at 818-892-1487  
or email:  
tadokui@aol.com

**Want to submit an article for the CC Newsletter?**

Email:  
loisokui@aol.com

CC Deadline:  
2nd Friday of  
every odd month.

**SPECIAL CLASSES**

Arts & Crafts.....	Monday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Sally Hamamoto	818 361-2902
Ballroom Dance.....	Tuesday	7:00-8:30 PM	Nancy Gohata	818 899-4232
Bowling*, Mission Hills Bowl.....	Thursday	9:30 AM	George Seko	818 998-0682
Bridge*.....	Mon/Wed	12:00-4:00 PM	Ray Shinsato	818 767-5550
Country Western Music*.....	1st /3rd Tuesday	10:30-11:30 AM	Janet Schuetze	818 767-1819
Craft Workshop.....	2nd Sat, even months	10:00 AM-12 PM	SFVJACC@gmail.com	818 899-1989
Exercise Class.....	Tuesday	9:00-10:00 AM	Ralph Ahn	818 897-1322
Exercise Class.....	Friday	10:00-11:00 AM	Reverend Leo Fong	818 618-4368
Guitar Class.....	Tuesday	10:15-11:30 AM	Greg Librando	818 896-6503
Hanafuda*.....	Friday	1:00-3:00 PM	Yone Takimoto	818 765-6735
Harmonica Class*.....	Friday	11:00-11:30 AM	Call CC office	818 899-1989
Hawaiian Hula.....	Friday	12:30-1:30 PM		
Hitomi's Cooking Class .....	4th Tuesday	7:00-9:00 PM	NJ Nakamura	818 893-6503
Ikenobo Ikebana.....	2nd/4th Thursday	10:00-1:00 PM	Ritsuko Shinbashi	818 892-0470
Japanese Calligraphy.....	1st/3rd Thursday	9:30-11:00 AM	Yuriko Muso	818 726-8935
Japanese Classical Dance.....	Friday	3:00-6:30 PM	Diane Fukuwa	310 217-0443
Karaoke*.....	1st/3rd Thursday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Walter Fujimori	818 352-1075
Kokusei Shigin Class.....	Thursday (Off premises)	2:00-4:00 PM	Paul Jonokuchi	818 894-5327
Line Dancing*.....	Thursday	8:45-10:00 AM	Mark Nakamura	818 363-3038
Mandolin.....	Friday	9:30-11:00 AM	Call CC office	818 899-1989
Mah-Jong*.....	Tuesday	1:00-3:00 PM	Yoko Kawamura	818 765-3513
Ondo Dancing* .....	2nd/4th Friday	7:00-9:00 PM	Masako Rodriguez	818 899-8777
Ping Pong Club.....	Thurs/2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesday	10:00 AM-3:00 PM	Burt Tokuhara	818 469-8934
Qi Gong .....	Thursday (J-School)	7:00-8:30 PM	Mamie Kosaka	661.645.4515
SFV Judo Club.....	Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri	7:00-9:00 PM	Mo Barrera	818 331-9444
Tai Chi Class*.....	Monday	9:00-10:00 AM	Florence Takaaze	310 202-6693
Ukulele Class .....	Friday (Gym)	9:00-11:30 AM	Greg Librando	818 896-6503
Yoga Class.....	Wednesday	10-11 AM/11:00 AM-12 PM	Call CC Office	818 899-1989
Zumba.....	Monday	7:30-8:30 PM	Margaret Takimoto	818 701-7628

**SUPPORT GROUPS & SERVICES**

Alzheimer's Support Group.....	1st Saturday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Facilitator: Isabelle Miyata
Blood Pressure Screening*.....	3rd Friday	9:00-11:00 AM	Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room
Podiatrist*.....	2nd Saturday	11:30—2:00 PM	Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room

\*Meiji Senior Citizens' Activity or Service

For more information, call the CC at (818) 899-1989.



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY  
HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

9450 Remick Ave., Pacoima  
818 899-4030 [www.sfvhbt.org](http://www.sfvhbt.org)

Rev. Patricia Usuki  
Temple President: Roger Itaya  
Dharma School: Sunday 11:00 am

**BUDDHIST TEMPLE CALENDAR**

**December**

- 7 Shotsuki: Monthly Memorial service & Bodhi Day (Shakyamuni Buddha's enlightenment); appreciation luncheon 10 am
- 14 No service; mochitsuki fundraiser
- 21 Music service 10 am
- 28 Regular service 10 am
- 31 (Weds., 6 pm) Joya-e New Year's Eve service

**January**

- 1 New Year's Day service 10 am
- 4 Shotsuki: Monthly Memorial service, 10 am
- 11 Ho-onko: Shinran's Memorial service, 10 am; New Year's luncheon
- 18 Regular service, 10 am
- 25 Regular service, 10 am

*Service at Nikkei Senior Gardens  
on the third Thursday of each  
month at 10:30 a.m.*



(Formerly San Fernando  
Valley Holiness Church)

9610 Haddon Avenue  
Pacoima, CA 91331  
(2 blocks east of Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
between Branford and Osborne St.)

**Office Phone:**

818 896-1676 (English)  
(818) 899-4115 (Japanese)

Please refer to our website for more  
information: [www.crosswaysfv.org](http://www.crosswaysfv.org)

**English Department**

Pastor Roland Hazama  
Pastor Raynold Nakamura

**Sunday Schedule**

9:30 AM  
Kid Venture Children's Ministries  
(infant -6<sup>th</sup> grade)  
Sunday School for ages  
junior high through adult

10:30 AM  
Coffee Fellowship

11:00 AM  
Worship Service  
(childcare for infants-Pre-K)

**Youth Fellowship**

Friday, 7:30 PM

Meetings at the church  
for Jr. High and Sr. High

**Mid-Week Home Groups**

We believe that fellowship, friend-  
ship, and spiritual growth happens  
best in our small groups that meet  
during the week. We have a number  
of groups meeting in the San  
Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys.  
Come, visit, and get to know our  
church. For more information, please  
call us or check our website.

**Japanese Department**

Pastor In Hyun

**Sunday Schedule**

11:00 AM  
Worship Service

Lunch and Fellowship  
After worship service on the  
1st and 3rd Sundays

Wednesday, 10:00 AM  
Prayer Meeting @ church

Please ask about  
other weekday meetings.



**Chatsworth West  
United Methodist  
Church**

(Formerly West Valley  
UMC merged with Chatsworth UMC)

**Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors**

10824 Topanga Canyon Blvd.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
818 341 1270

E-mail: [chatsworthumc@juno.com](mailto:chatsworthumc@juno.com)  
FAX: 818 341 1271

**Pastor: Ruy Mizuki**  
**Lay Leader: Jim Melichar**

Worship Service 10AM  
Sunday School 10AM  
Social Hour following service  
Nursery care provided

**Bible Study Thurs @ 10AM & 7:15PM**  
**Tuesdays @ 1PM**

**Choir practice 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @**  
**3:00PM**  
Musical Director: Steve Foreman

**Japanese Class – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @**  
**9AM**  
Instructor: Junko Wayama

**Shotokan Karate of America**  
**Fri. @ 6:30 PM Rm.1**  
Instructor: April Warynick  
[www.ska.org](http://www.ska.org)  
1 213 437 0988

**Electrobattles Dance for children**  
**Fri. evening, Rm. 5**  
Instructor: Sharon James

**Chi Fung Mind & Body Fitness**  
**Tuesday @ 9AM Rm.2**  
Instructor: Leo Fong



**SUNRISE FOURSQUARE CHURCH**

5852 Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
North Hollywood, CA 91607

English: Pastor Paul Iwata  
Japanese: Pastor Haruko Iwata

Phone: 818-782-8738  
818-642-2332

Email: [pmiwata1@hotmail.com](mailto:pmiwata1@hotmail.com)  
[Haruko.iwata@gmail.com](mailto:Haruko.iwata@gmail.com)

Website:  
[www.sunrisejapanesechurch.org](http://www.sunrisejapanesechurch.org)

Sunday Morning Service - 7:30 a.m.  
(Prayer for Healing on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

Sunday Evening Service - 6 p.m.  
Thursday Evening Bible Study - 7 p.m.  
Late Night Counseling and Prayer  
on the Last Friday of the Month  
From 8 p.m. to 12 midnight  
Location: The Prayer Chapel'  
14705 Wyandotte St.  
Van Nuys, CA 91405 (mailing address)

Torrance Home Meeting – 7 p.m.  
On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month

**A Quote and a Thought for You**

“Get wisdom and understanding. Do not forget or turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not leave her alone, and she will keep you safe.” Proverbs 4:5-6

Wisdom and understanding help us to make the right decisions that set us on a safe path of life with its richest opportunities.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CC**

**December 6, 2014**

CC Annual General Membership Meeting

**December 13, 2014**

SFV JACL Holiday Party

**December 20, 2014**

SFV Japanese Language Institute Holiday Program

**January 3, 2015**

CC New Year’s Luncheon

**January 10, 2015**

SFV Meiji Senior Club New Year’s Party

**January 25, 2015**

SFV Judo Club Tournament

**February 7, 2015**

SFV Japanese Language Institute New Year’s Party

**March 21, 2015**

SF Athletics Pancake Breakfast



**Tuna Canyon Detention Station Updates**

By Nancy Oda

Tuna Canyon was originally a Civilian Conservation Corp Camp before December 7, 1941. That night, an order went out by US Secretary of State, Frances Biddle," to arrest or cause the arrest of aliens" on an ABC list. Immediately twelve foot high fences with barbed wires and search lights were installed and armed guards took over the CCC camp and it became a prison. More than 2000 Japanese, Germans, Italians, and Japanese civilians from Peru were housed on what is now the Verdugo Hills Golf Course in Tujunga.

Despite the recent delay of the case between Snowball West and the City of Los Angeles, the Coalition has applied for a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant from the National Parks Service. The goal is to build a museum quality traveling exhibit called, "Only the Oaks Remain." We need to collect oral histories and respectfully request your help. Contact Nancy Oda at [nancyoda64@gmail.com](mailto:nancyoda64@gmail.com). Should the HCM designation be removed, the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition will reapply for Historic Cultural Monument status.

**ALZHEIMER’S SUPPORT GROUP**

If you have a loved one affected by Alzheimer’s disease, come join us — A non-judgmental, confidential place to share ideas, frustrations, concerns and joy.

**Meetings: First Saturday of the month  
Time: 10 am - 12 noon**

For more info, call the Center. (818) 899-1989



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE  
AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS  
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima 91331  
818 899-1989 Fax 818 899-0659

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Permit No. 21

## San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

### 2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership period: January 1 to December 31, 2015)

1. Complete the information below.
  2. Tear off the membership card for your records.
  3. Make check payable to "SFVJACC".
  4. **Send your check and this form to:** SFVJACC – Membership
- Family Membership - \$55.00  
 Single Membership - \$35.00

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\* For information, please call SFVJACC at (818) 899-1989. Thank you for supporting our Community Center.  
FAX is (818) 899-0659.