



# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Website: [www.sfvjacc.com](http://www.sfvjacc.com)

Issue 33

May/June  
2017

## Remembering Paul Jonokuchi...

(February 15, 1948 - March 21, 2017)



Paul Jonokuchi left a huge footprint on our Center serving eight terms as president. As chairman of the board, he listened to the members and guided board policy to meet the changing times. Under his stewardship, the parking lot was enlarged and more lighting was installed at critical locations. Paul represented us at all New Year celebrations, the Consul General's receptions and community wide

meetings like the Nikkei Federation.

You might have seen him quietly maintaining and watering the garden, acting as vice president of the Meiji Club, or cleaning up tables after the senior Hot Meal program. He enjoyed the line dance class and singing shigin, too.

He loved learning about Buddhism, so much that he went to hear dharma at both SFVHBT and VJCCC. He led classes ever since he was seventeen years old. Each summer during the SFHBT Obon, he would be the first to set up and take down the booths plus enjoyed manning the beer booth.

As principal of the SFV JACL's Suzume no Gakkou Summer Camp, he would come early to raise a gorgeous koi no bori (carp) on the CC flag pole. By 8:30 am, he urged the campers and teachers to do warmups. He would say, "Ichi, ni, san, ichi, ni, san," accompanied by loud music coming from his boom box. Paul had many great ideas but none better than riding the Metro to Little Tokyo so that the yonsei (4<sup>th</sup>) and gosei (5<sup>th</sup> generation) would get out of their cars and SUVs to ride the Metro.

Being a former high school teacher by profession, he and his wife, Nobuko, started the Wakaba Japanese Language School to promote our culture.

A few years ago, he reintroduced the Family Day Picnic that we all look forward to each June. He wanted to bring families together for an old fashioned day eating hot dogs, hamburgers, chili, chips and ice cream and playing games.

There are many sides to Paul Jonokuchi including being a role model who was patient, hardworking and ever present. His life can be summed up in one word, **ikigai**, a purposeful life. The CC Board is working together to continue Paul Jonokuchi's legacy.

### SFVJACC MISSION STATEMENT

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

## SFVJACC RECEIVES GRANTS FROM KEIRO AND JA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The SFVJACC has been awarded two grants for establishing a computer center for our senior members. Thank you to Keiro (who awarded us \$40,000) and to the JA Community Foundation (who awarded us \$20,000) for choosing us as recipients of these grants. Also, thank you to Nancy Takayama who spent hours researching and writing these two grants.

We are very excited about being able to start this much needed service for our seniors. With these funds, we will be able to purchase computer equipment and hire an instructor to oversee our computer center and teach basic computer needs. More information will be forthcoming.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist the instructor in teaching these classes. If you are interested in helping in this program, please contact the office (818) 899-1989 and leave your phone number and/or email address.



## 2017 SF Queen Jordyn Adachi



My name is Jordyn Keiko Adachi. I am 23 years old, and grew up in Simi Valley, California. My parents are Steve and Karla Adachi, and I have an older brother named Tyler. In my free time, I enjoy fitness-related activities including weight training, hiking, and playing golf.

In May 2016, I graduated from California Lutheran University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences. I have been working at Westlake Physical Therapy as a Physical Therapy Aide for almost a year. I enjoy developing close relationships with the patients and assisting them with their recovery. Being able to witness the vast improvements they make over time, and knowing that I was able to assist them in walking again after a knee injury for example, is an amazing and rewarding experience. The gratitude I receive from the patients is also fulfilling. My desire is to become a Physical Therapist and focus on patients who have suffered from neurological disabilities, as well as patients with Down Syndrome and Autism. My goal is to attend graduate school for Physical Therapy in Fall 2019.

Continued on page 2.

# Irene Sumida Honored As Woman of the Year



On Sunday, May 5, 2017, Irene Shigeko Sumida was honored, along with four other recipients as Woman of the Year. The luncheon was held at Quiet Canon in Montebello and sponsored by the Downtown Los Angeles Japanese American Citizens League and the Japanese Women's Society of Southern California. Irene was chosen because of her involvement and many achievements in the community.

Irene Shigeko Sumida grew up in the San Fernando Valley with parents Shigeo and Yasumi Nitta, younger sisters Gail and Judy, aunt Toshiko (Okamoto) and grandparents Haruki and Misao Nitta. She attended LAUSD schools, graduating from Poly High School in 1967. In 1970, she graduated from San Fernando Valley State College (now California State University, Northridge) earning a bachelor's degree in English. In 1971, she earned her Elementary Teaching Credential and began her teaching career at Herrick Elementary, part of the Los Angeles Unified School District. In 1974, she earned a master's degree, K-12 Reading Specialist Credential and K-12 Administrative Services Credential. During her eighteen years as a teacher at Herrick Elementary, she served as the Bilingual, School Improvement and Integration Coordinator, and mentor teacher, while continuing to serve as a full-time classroom teacher. In 1987, she received an Honorary Service Award from the California Parent Teacher Association (PTA). In 1989, she was promoted to the position of Assistant Principal, and assigned to Sylmar Elementary and then Canterbury Elementary in 1990. In 1991, she was placed at Fenton Avenue Elementary in Lake View Terrace and her career path changed significantly with the conversion of the school to an independent public charter school following the passage of California's original charter school legislation: SB 1448.

In July 1993, the year Fenton Avenue Elementary was authorized by the Los Angeles Unified School District to convert to independent charter status, she became the Director of Instruction, and served in that capacity until Executive Director Joe Lucente's retirement on June 30, 2005 at which time she became the school's sole Director. Under Irene's direction, the Fenton Primary Center opened on July 1, 2008 on the campus of Fenton Avenue, and on May 1, 2012, Santa Monica Boulevard Community Charter School was divested to the Fenton Charter Public Schools, the charter management organization (CMO) she established in July 2011 to continue the growth of the Fenton schools. In September 2013, construction of a 55,000 square foot, two-story facility was completed, and the Fenton Primary Center moved to its own site in Pacoima, allowing both Fenton Avenue Charter School and the Fenton Primary Center to move off the multi-track, year round calendar to a single-track calendar for the first time in over 20 years. In August 2015, the Fenton Charter Public Schools opened two new charter schools in Sun Valley: the Fenton Charter Leadership Academy and the Fenton STEM Academy. Irene serves as the Executive Director of the CMO, which includes the five schools, a total enrollment of over 3,000 students, and 500 employees (250 full-time and 250 part-time). She oversees the organization and its operations, which includes a \$23 million yearly budget.

Appointed by Mayor Richard Riordan, from 1999 to 2001, Irene served as an Environmental Affairs Commissioner for the City of Los Angeles. In 2011, she was honored with a formal resolution from the City of Los Angeles, sponsored by then City Councilmember, and now U.S. Congressman, Tony Cardenas. In 2012, she was honored with the Legacy Award at the 20th Annual California Charter Schools Conference. The Legacy Awards celebrate those who have been stewards of the charter schools movement over the last 20 years.

Irene served as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the *California Charter Schools Association (CCSA)*, continues to serve as a board member of *CCSA Advocates*, *CharterSAFE*, and *ASCIP* (Alliance of Schools for Cooperative Insurance Programs), as well as numerous other councils and committees.

In September 2009, Irene's mother, Yasumi Nitta, moved to *Nikkei Senior Gardens*, an assisted living community in the San Fernando Valley built with the financial support of the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center (SFVJACC),

and loans and donations from community members. In 2011, Irene was invited to join the board, and was subsequently elected President and Chief Executive Officer. Seeing the need to improve and enhance Nikkei Senior Gardens, in 2012, she created the *Oya Koko Foundation*, a non-profit public benefit corporation whose sole purpose is to fund improvements for the assisted living community. Since its inception, the foundation has completed numerous projects including the expansion of the memory support area, construction of 2,000 feet of concrete walking paths, planting of over 30 cherry trees, purchase of exercise equipment, and the completion of a 9-hole putting green. The foundation has raised nearly \$600,000, all of which has been donated back to Nikkei Senior Gardens in the form of improvements to the community.

She has been married for over 44 years to husband Gary Sumida, and they have two sons: Eric, a systems engineer, and Todd, a marketing director.

## SFV Queen Jordyn Adachi

Continued from front page

I started playing basketball for the SFVJACC when I was 5 years old, and continued until high school. While I was playing for the San Fernando Rockers, my father coached for a couple of years. I have several other family members who have been involved with the SFVJACC Athletics as either a player or a coach. These family members include my mother and brother, my uncle Ted Sumida, as well as my aunt, uncle and cousins, Stephanie, Jeff, Taelyr, Trevor and Jensen Emi. I also have an aunt, Irene Sumida, who is the 2017 Recipient of Women of the Year. She was also the former President of Nikkei Senior Gardens and the Oya Koko Foundation.

I am extremely honored and thankful to represent the SFVJACC as the 2017 Nisei Week candidate. Being a candidate in and of itself is an honor that I take great pride in. I know it will require a great deal of time and effort, but I am prepared to commit myself to this journey and I look forward to the experiences that I will encounter for the next year.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**For the Months of March & April 2017**

**Donations**

Jonokuchi Family  
In memory of father Paul Jonokuchi  
Chuck Itagaki  
Matching donation  
Irene Sumida  
In appreciation of being chosen Woman of the Year  
Sally Hamamoto  
In honor of her 90th birthday  
Mike Anderson  
In memory of wife Grace Oda Anderson  
Greg Kimura  
Kisui Fujimoto  
In memory of Peri Anne (Arao) Iijima  
Linda Kuratomi  
In honor of Patty Takeyama's 70th birthday  
Dr. Bo and Iku Sakaguchi  
In memory of Paul Jonokuchi  
Cherry Uyeda  
In memory of Paul Jonokuchi

**We apologize for the late acknowledgement of the following donations made in the memory of Grace Oda Anderson -**

Co-Workers from Olympia Medical  
Center Pharmacy  
Andrea Hunt  
Norman Jung

**Use of Facilities**

SFV Ballroom Dance Club  
Kizuna Nikkei Discovery Camp  
Thursday Nite Basketball  
SFV JACL  
Ping Pong Club  
Jennifer Hamamoto  
Tuesday Exercise Class  
Ron Yamaoka  
Senior Arts & Crafts  
Friday Hanafuda  
Tuesday Mah Jong  
Aloha Cub  
Hitomi's Cooking Class  
Wednesday Nite Basketball  
Friday Exercise Class  
Friday Mah Jong  
Harmonica Class  
Mandolin Class  
Phil Shigekuni

**Miscellaneous**

Coffee donation ..... Cash donations  
Copier donation ..... Cash donations  
John and Liz Doomey ..... 1 (3 lbs) Coffee &  
1 box of coffee stirrers  
Jonokuchi Family ..... 14 Cases bottled water,  
1 box styofom cups, 1 1/4 box forks,  
1 box spoons, 1 box knives, 1 box  
of aluminum foil and small & large plates  
Aki Kishi ..... One walker and one toilet support  
Janet Saito ..... Donation of clothes & Pyrex  
storage containers (4 bags)  
Continued in next column.

**Miscellaneous - Continued**

SFV Athletics ..... 3 cases (2 reg & 1 decaf)  
SFV Ballroom Dance Class ..... 1 (3 lbs) Decaf Coffee  
Haruyo Suenaka ..... 2 (2 lbs) Coffee  
Smokey Sugii ..... 1 (3 lbs) Coffee  
Marilyn Uejima ..... 2 Reams copy paper

**DONATIONS TO HOT MEALS**


**For the Months of March & April 2017**

Kisui Fujimoto ..... Monetary donation  
Roy Imazu ..... Homemade kimchee/daikon  
kimchee  
Doreen Kawamoto ..... Ice cream & cones for kitchen  
volunteers  
Bryce Kawamoto ..... Monetary donation - In honor of  
mother Doreen Kawamoto  
Marilyn Kishi &  
Marian Murphy ..... Ginger  
Rev. Ruy Mizuki ..... Cake for Easter  
Musashi Restaurant ..... 200 lbs Rice, 5 gal vinegar & 100  
hashi  
May Rivera ..... Monetary donation - In memory of  
K. Kajiki  
Eiji & Marge Sato ..... 1 Case of Kleenex tissues  
Marion Shigekuni ..... Birthday cake for husband  
Phil Shigekuni  
Robert & Linda  
Takayama ..... 2 Crates of eggplant  
Michiko Tokunaga Kus ..... Pkgs of dried mushrooms & snacks  
Janet Yamamoto ..... Birthday cake for mother Eiko Muto  
Ruby Yamaoka ..... Strawberry pies for kitchen  
volunteers  
Ruby Yamaoka ..... Cake - In memory of mother  
Hatsumi Yamaoka  
..... Various Kikkoman products

**We're so sorry for omitting the following donation from the January/February Acknowledgements -**

George Oda &  
Mike Anderson ..... Mochi from Fugetsudo - In memory  
of daughter/wife Grace Oda  
Anderson

*Thank you so much for  
your generous donations!*

  
**Cultural Lecture Series**  
Presented by Japanese American Cultural  
& Community Center (JACCC)  
**Tuesdays, June 6th, 13th and 20th**  
Demonstrations on **Tea Ceremony,**  
**Calligraphy and Ikebana."**

# MEIJI SENIOR CLUB'S APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

By Liz Doomey, President

The Meiji Senior Citizens Club held their annual Appreciation Luncheon on May 11, 2017 at the Vegas Seafood Buffet. On May 12<sup>th</sup> we had a demonstration by the California Access Telephone Program for free phones for the impaired. The Las Vegas bus trip was on May 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>. Our next turn around to San Manuel Casino will be on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Contact Kay Yamada if you are interested in going with them. We will be having demonstrations from JACCC on Tuesdays, June 6, 13, and 20 which will feature Ikebana, calligraphy and tea ceremony during hot meal.

We are still looking for seniors who would like to donate their time in becoming members of our board. You are invited to attend our meetings on the first Friday of each month in the conference room at 12:30 PM to see what we do and perhaps take an active interest in helping us create more programs for our seniors in the future.



## MANY THANKS TO THE GARDENERS FOR GETTING THE JOB DONE!

On May 13, Roy Imazu and a crew consisting of Fumio Nakama, John Kobayashi and Ken Shinbashi did not take a "day off" but made sure that the SFVJACC campus was ready for the Veteran's Memorial Day Service on May 28. All the trees were trimmed and shaped on our property. Despite the recent rains, Roy worked all the month of May to repair the irrigation systems in the gardens since some of the shrubs lacked water.

Frank Tanaka came on that day, too, to get ready for the Memorial Day service by cleaning all the Veteran's memorial plaques. He planned to do the cleaning again just before the service to ensure that they all shined at the event.

Serendipitously, the SF Samurais were practicing in the gym. Their many hands made the work go faster. Thank you to all including Cliff Iwai, Richard Wong and Kay Oda for stepping up to remove the trash.

## Iku's Box Presentation



Roy Imazu and Iku Kiriayama with her box.

On April 8, Iku Kiriayama came to share about her "box". Iku has given her presentation throughout the area many times but this is the first time at the Center. CC member Roy Imazu went to one of these presentations and was so impressed that he, along with Isabelle Miyata and Jun Hori (Little Tokyo Service Center) arranged to have her come speak to our members.

How Iku's box came about -

When Iku's husband passed away, she thought they had prepared documents early on but found that they were totally unprepared. She realized when you experience something devastating for the first time, you have no prior reference to prepare adequately and then her box was created. After requests by friends, she shared her experience at a forum called "Death is a Sure Thing: Are You Prepared?" Originally, thought to be a one-time presentation, it has turned out to be ten years that she has presented what is now commonly called "Iku's Box". Since that first forum in 2007, "Iku's Box" has evolved.

At her presentation, Iku shared her thoughts on what she now calls a "life & death" box, not just a document box you prepare for survivors. She went through her box and showed how it was set up (she actually has TWO boxes at home!). She shared tips on how to make your daily life simpler and more organized.

The following are some tips Iku was not able to cover that day but still wanted to share: 1) Ask your bank rep for a printout of your accounts. Do this once a year if any movement occurred in your account (This would be helpful for survivors because

everything would be on one page with all your information that the bank would need to help survivors manage the accounts for distribution.) 2) Passwords - these should be in a folder (in alphabetical order) so survivors can access any important files. 3) Pension - Have a copy of your communication with the pension company along with instructions for survivors. (Knowing and finding whom and where to call or write can be difficult for survivors if they don't know the details of your retirement, stocks, annuities, etc).

We would like to thank Iku for her wonderful and informative presentation and for sharing her box with us! Also, thank you to Little Tokyo Service Center and Isabelle for a well-planned event!



The SFVJ Language Institute's 2015-2016 school year will be coming to an end soon but we have still been busy raising funds and having fun!

Our Yard Sale held on May 6 was a success. Despite the inclement weather we were able to raise \$906. Only a few hundred short of the average we have made when it was held during more pleasant weather conditions. The school celebrated Undokai on Saturday, April 29. We had many family members come out to volunteer and to cheer the children on. After the games, everyone enjoyed yummy bento's and the children enjoyed various ice cream treats. A great time was had by all! On June 3, the last day of the school year, the students will be competing in a reading contest to show off the skills they have learned during the year. It is sure to be another fun day!

The school board will be providing lunch for the teachers this Saturday, May 20, in appreciation for all of their hard work and dedication. We truly do appreciate the time and dedication they put into teaching the children every Saturday!

SFVJ Language Institute is starting to plan for the Obon Festival. We will be offering Somen, Edamame, Mugicha and Lemonade for sale in our fundraising booth. Please stop by while attending the festival and purchase some of our yummy offerings and support the school!

The summer Adult Conversation and Writing class will begin on Saturday, July 8. If you know anyone who is interested in learning Japanese, the 5-session course will be held on Saturdays from 10:00am to 12:00pm for just \$130. For more information please contact [sfvjli@hotmail.com](mailto:sfvjli@hotmail.com).

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE**

**Adult Conversation and Writing Class**

Class meets:  
 Saturday from 10:00am to 12:00pm  
 July 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug 5  
 Tuition: \$130

For more information  
 Please email [sfvjli@hotmail.com](mailto:sfvjli@hotmail.com)

12953 Branford St, Pacoima CA 91331  
 818 896-8612

**NEW SCHOOL YEAR STARTS**

**AUGUST 12, EVERY SATURDAY**  
 From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

- Entry level from age 4 yrs
- High school credit test class
- Variety of cultural events

Adult Conversation Class 12 weeks course starts from August 12 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE LANGUAGE INSTITUTE**

サンフェルナンドバレー 日本語学園

[sfvjli@hotmail.com](mailto:sfvjli@hotmail.com) 818-896-8612

The J-school is still actively trying to complete the improvements in the playground area of the campus. We are searching for a contractor to work on this project. If anyone knows of a reliable contractor or is interested in donating their time or money to this cause - please contact: [watanabekiyo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:watanabekiyo@sbcglobal.net)

We are now accepting credit card payments which makes donating very convenient.

# SF Athletics Jamboree

By Tiffany Pearlstein



The SFVJACC Athletics had their annual Jamboree on Saturday, April 29, 2017. The jamboree is the one event where the players from all grade levels get to come together and enjoy a night of food and fun. This year the Emeralds and SuperSonics hosted the event. The event started with the welcoming smell of food being prepared by the "taco guy" Jesus Valadez. Guests were quickly served tacos with their choice of meat and then were able to get all the rice, refried bean and salsa they could fit on their plate. Inside the hall, tables were decorated with adorable centerpieces made by Esther Jin, mother to Caleb Jin from the SuperSonics. Each centerpiece was filled with homemade lollipops and bouquets of colorful balloons. The kids did not waste a moment before digging into those yummy lollipops. To top off the meal, coolers filled with delicious popsicles, fresh fruit and a tray of assorted cookies were brought out to the table.



Charlene Paloma was the MC and kept the event flowing with her lively personality, slipping in some jokes wherever possible. All the kids were excited over the raffle prizes that filled the stage. The prizes ranged from Target gift cards to Lego sets, but the highlight was the grand prize...four tickets to a Dodger game. Raffle tickets were called throughout the night. You could see the joy in each kids face as their names were called. The last raffle drawing was for the grand prize. Throughout the night, kids and adults enjoyed being silly in the Snappyjoe photo booth. Guests were able to choose from a table full of picture props. Winnie and Stephen from Snappyjoe helped each guest operate the booth. Three poses were taken and one copy was printed for each silly session on a background customized just for our event. After the event, guests were able to download full resolution photos from the Snappyjoe website.



The coach/player gift this year was a black shirt with the SFVJACC Athletics logo on the front and a custom design on the back. The custom design was created by our very own Sophie Battle from the Emeralds (3<sup>rd</sup> grade). Sophie has been into drawing since she was old enough to hold crayons. Drawing is one of her favorite things to do, but if you ask her what she wants to be when she grows up, she would say she wants to be an actress which disappoints her dad who is a character designer on a TV animation show. After being given a generous opportunity by her coach, Jeremy, to submit a design for the Jamboree shirt, she happily drew one and was so proud when it was selected. At the event, Sophie proudly

wore her shirt backwards so that she could display her awesome design. She even wore it to her school the very next week. During the coach and player tribute each team came up to the stage to get well-deserved recognition. The players enjoyed introducing themselves into the microphone.

As the Jamboree came to a close, people rushed to get a few more photos taken in the booth and eat more popsicles. All the kids continued playing around as they made their way out of the hall.

Special Thanks to...

Stuart Matsuda Family, Dennis and Susan Taguchi, Gary and Sandy Yamamoto, Guy and Tracy Niizawa, Tadao and Lois Okui, John and Liz Doomey, Ray Miyagawa, Margaret Takimoto, Charles Itagaki, SFV Meiji Club, Sophia Battle and Family, Muranaka Farm, SoCal Physical Therapy, Zigabid, Get Shaved, Islands, America's Funniest Home Videos, West Pac Designs, SuperSonics Families and Emeralds Families.



Sophie Battle and her winning design.



## SF Athletics Scholarship Winners



Kyle Motoyasu

Wayne Yamamoto was a student athlete and was a member of SF Athletics in the 1960's and who's memory we honor with the Wayne Yamamoto Memorial scholarship. This years award is presented to Kyle Motoyasu. He is the son of Scott and Patti Motoyasu. Kyle played SF basketball from 1st grade through the 12th grade with the SF Tigers. He attends Valencia High School where he played volleyball and varsity basketball. He was basketball team captain and had a successful high school basketball career. Kyle was selected to play in the North South Asian tournament and received numerous awards. Besides participating in the SF Pancake Breakfast, Obon, Pasadena Buddhist Church events, Kyle has volunteered his time as the volunteer coach in Valencia and San Gabriel basketball club, and has been involved in Asian culture club, Unicef, Circle of Friends. Kyle says the following, "SF Athletics has played a huge role in my life by introducing me to teammates who have become life long friends.

Continued on next page.

## SF Athletics Scholarship Winners - Continued from page 6.

Participation in the SFVJACC Athletics program has influenced every part of my life and shaped me into a confident young adult who is proud of his Japanese background and culture. The program has made a profound impact on my life and I'm so thankful to have been a part of it." Kyler will be attending Indiana University majoring in business and finance.



Taryn Manaka

Hoshiko Hirano was the first Girls' commissioner and was instrumental in starting the girls athletics program in the 1960's. In those days the girls played softball. The late Mrs. Hirano, along with her husband Yoshi Hirano, who was the boys commissioner were actively involved in promoting our program. The Hoshiko Hirano Memorial Scholarship was established to honor her memory and contribution to the Girls' Athletics program. We are pleased to award this year's Hoshiko Hirano Scholarship to Taryn Manaka. She is the daughter of Akiko and Tim Manaka. Taryn played SF basketball from age 5-14 years. She will be graduating from Chaminade HS and played freshmen basketball. Due to injuries, Taryn had to give up playing but was still involved as the team manager during sophomore, junior and senior years. Her involvement in school activities includes being a Blue Crew member, debate team member, student athlete and honor roll member. Her community involvement includes volunteering at the Pee Wee clinics, NYABC special needs clinic, Suzume no Gakko summer camp, Super Bingo and New Year's events. Taryn has been assistant Girl Scout Leader and helped coached SF girls basketball team. Active with the JAO, Taryn, yearly organized Christmas Crafts events for inner city school kids. Taryn said "Participating in the SFVJACC Athletics program has really taught me many life lessons. The main things I have learned and affected my life is the importance of hard work, teamwork and community. Growing up at the CC, I was always surrounded by people who were hardworking and dedicated, which has ultimately impacted my life in many ways." She will be attending Valparaiso University majoring in marketing and business.



Kaye Umeda

Athletics established the Lauren Taguchi Memorial Youth Service Scholarship in 2009 year to honor her memory. As an active member of the SFVJACC Athletics, as well as many other community organizations, Lauren was an exemplary student athlete, a role model, friend and teammate who demonstrated sportsmanship on and off the court. We are pleased to announce Kaye Umeda was selected as recipient of the Lauren Taguchi Memorial Youth Service Scholarship and is the daughter of Irene and Johnny Umeda. Kaye was a member of the SF Athletics for 6 years through the 5th grade when the team Lil Wahines disbanded. She will graduate from Grover Cleveland Charter High School where she played Varsity basketball 2014-2017 and was team captain in her senior year. Her team took city championship for their division. The scholarship committee's selection was based on her outstanding achievement in academic excellence, her spirit of volunteerism and citizenship, through community service. As an involved student and student leader, Kaye received the Scholar Athlete award. Kaye active in girls scouts, received her prestigious Gold award by spending 10 months at The Rescue Mission shelter working with kids developing fine and gross motors skills. Kaye has volunteered her time at the Rose Bowl parade floats. Youth basketball foundation, Valley food bank, JCI carnival, Heal the Bay, Mend, Dale M. Inouye Foundation, counselor in training at camp Sherwood. Kaye said "being a girl scout made me see the joy in working with kids and inspired me to volunteer summers and winter breaks working with kids and helping out the in community. What I learned from volunteering is the ability to deal with adversity, to be a team player, take charge and to be comfortable in my own skin. On a daily basis, I use these qualities when I'm at school in group projects, on the basketball court as team captain or to be able to handle myself in various situations that life throws at me." Kaye will be attending CSUN, majoring in physical therapy.



Derek Itagaki

The Evan Yoshio Niizawa Memorial Continuing Education Scholarship is given in memory of his accomplishments, scholastic excellence and participation in athletics in the face of severe illness and life challenges. Evan was an inspiration to all who knew him and admired his determination in all aspects of his life. The Evan Niizawa Memorial Education Scholarship was established by his parents Guy and Tracy Niizawa along with SF Athletics this year to honor Evan's memory. Evan had a long battle with cancer but was able to continue his highly successful high school career and attend UC Berkeley but had to leave school in the end. This scholarship is given to a current or past member of SFVJACC Athletics who has demonstrated scholastic excellence and overcame challenges during his/her life. We are pleased to announce Derek Itagaki was selected as recipient of the Evan Niizawa Memorial Education Scholarship. Derek is the son of Chuck and Linda Itagaki. Derek will graduate from Chapman University majoring in Environment Studies with a Nutrition minor. Derek is applying to graduate school to continue his education in Environment Studies. Derek said "Even when I had heard that Evan had been diagnosed with cancer, his personality and confidence never wavered before me. I only saw him a few times during the time when he was fighting cancer, but his bravery and courage during such troubling times truly astounded me and pushed myself to overcome all hardships that came before me. One of the things about Evan and his fight with cancer was that, sometimes I forgot how bad it really was because every time I saw him, he didn't seem any different from the 12 year old that was keeping our team together or showing off his skateboard skills. I continue to work towards having the bravery and confidence that Evan Niizawa had and am eternally grateful for having his friendship for that chapter of my life." Paying it forward is what Derek plans to do!

Kyler, Taryn, Kaye and Derek, we are very proud of all of you and wishing you much success in your college endeavors.

# SF Athletics Basketball Teams



## Dominators

### Sure Shots - Kinder

Back row (L-R): Coach Candice Sullivan, Coach Garrett Reyman, Coach Justin Yoshizawa

Front row (L-R): Brady Sullivan, Dexter Rhodes, Quinn Reyman, Evan Yoshizawa, Sophia Dao, Parker Low, Ocean Nakama, Peyton Endow, Kyle Nakaza, Colin Song

## Samurai 5th Grade Boys

Back row (L-R): Coach Russell Nakajima, Harrison Hirota, Lucas Chow, Kyle Oda, Ethan Wong, Christian Valero, Aiden Banayo, Coach Dayna Tanaka

Front row (L-R): Brennan Leem, Bryce Iwai, Carsen Yahata, Nick Kuroda,

Not pictured: Jaren Yee



## Flash 6th Grade Girls

Back row (L-R): Coach Rich Kang, Ava Kang, Natasha Ray, Jordan Lac, Jamie Yue, Samantha Nakano, Mika Neri-Kanai, Caroline Lew, Coach Luc Lac





# SF Athletics Basketball Teams



## Blast 6th Grade Boys

Back row (L-R): Ryuto Murata, Brendan Yamauchi, Kyle Deng, Coach Victor Yamauchi, Justin Perez, Ryan Tjenalooi, Kyle Minami

Not pictured: Chris Mo, Adrian Huang

## Lakers 6th Grade Boys

Back row (L-R): Coach Brent Doi, Ethan Kodama, Andy Okazaki, Scotty Nimura, Coach Rob Kodama

Front row (L-R): Troy Kadonaga, Jared Doi, Kyle Imanishi, Kayden Wee

Not pictured: Tyler Chang



## Ninjas 7th Grade Boys

Back row (L-R): Antonio Velasquez, Ryan Ogimachi, Kai Burris, Coach Craig Yahata, Jacob Lee, Isaac Kim, Wyatt LaMarsna



# Congratulations!



## SF Blakers

### West LA Tournament Champs 6th Grade - White Division

Back row (L-R): Scotty Nimura, Ethan Kodama, Justin Perez, Tyler Chang, Coach Victor Yamauchi

Front row (L-R): Ryan Tjenalooi, Jared Doi, Troy Kadonaga, Ryuto Murata, Brenden Yamauchi



Write

## TELLING OUR STORIES REVISED SCHEDULE

Come sharpen your writing skills. Have fun. Record your memories. Share your numerous stories with a sympathetic audience. We want to hear your stories. Academy award winner for short documentary, Tim Toyama guides writers to develop short stories based on every day personal experiences.

Become a published writer. Gwen Muranaka, the English language editor for the Rafu Shimpo has invited Toyama to submit short stories from his classes to be published in The Rafu Shimpo.

Invite your friends and prepare to use this class as writing practice for submitting a longer short story to the "Imagine Little Tokyo" writing contest next January.

The 5-week-Summer class begins on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm and meets July 15<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>. The fee is \$25.

The Spring-writing class is meeting June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in checking out the class, contact: Patty Takayama at [pe.high.mtn@juno.com](mailto:pe.high.mtn@juno.com)

To register for the class or for information, leave a message at: 818-899-7916. To visit a class, the fee is \$5 per session. Call ahead for the topic and be prepared to share a 500 word story.

## FOUR SHORT FILMS AT JUNE 16<sup>TH</sup> HOT MEAL

Sponsored by: The Meiji Club

By: Patricia Takayama

Come for a hot meal. Stay for the movies. On Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 four Digital Histories filmmakers will present their films at the SFV JACC in the Pioneer Center at 12:15pm. The filmmakers: Larry Furukawa, Steve Nagano, Robert Shoji and Cathy Uchida address a variety of subjects in their short films...

In **Cathy Uchida's film, "Not Just Gardening"**, she examines the gardeners who left their spiritually and aesthetically Japanese footprint on southern California. Gardening was not just a job to support the family but a means to send their children to college and their creative efforts transformed the region into artistically cultivated islands in our environment. .

**Steve Nagano's film, "6 Weddings and a Dress"** is a heartwarming story about six couples who find love at Manzanar, a WWII WRA relocation camp in the desolate Mojave Desert camp. Despite the isolation, and meager access to goods and services, these brides managed to find a dress to make their wedding – "stuff dreams are made of" with a borrowed gown, artificial flowers, a groom in a suit and memorable wedding photo.

In **Larry Furukawa's film "Breaking Happiness: A Japanese American Family's Struggle with a Rare Disease."** Furukawa looks at a rare genetic disease which usually appears around age 30 or earlier. The disease, dentatorubral-pallidolusian atrophy or DPRLA symptoms manifest as seizures, loss of muscle control and mental and emotional problems.

**Robert Shoji's film "I Am an American,"** is based on interviews with the Toshiko Shoji Ito, his aunt. Toshiko wrote the novel "Endure," about being born to Japanese parents in America. In the film, she reminisces about her forced incarcerated into the Minidoka War Relocation Camp in Idaho.



## CSUN/JACL Manzanar Pilgrimage Saturday, April 29, 2017

By Tomo Hattori, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Asian American Studies Department  
California State University, Northridge

To mark the 75th anniversary of President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066, the San Fernando Valley JACL Chapter this year sponsored two buses to the Manzanar Pilgrimage. One bus carried a SFV JACL contingent and the other one carried 28 students, faculty, and staff largely from California State University, Northridge (CSUN) mixed with 13 SFV JACL members. CSUN Department of Asian American Studies

Professor **Tomo Hattori**, who is also a SFV JACL board member, arranged the CSUN involvement. The two buses left on time around 7:30 am from the SFVJACC Community Center thanks to the skilled organizing of board member **Patty Takayama**. Patty's cousin once removed **Shawn Iwaka** was also particularly helpful directing traffic, loading the buses, distributing food and drinks, assembling name card tags, and numerous other necessary tasks. Patty prepared a sheet of informative Background Notes for the participants as well as name tags of notable incarcerated who we could trace at the museum once we got there. Patty's outstanding itinerary kept the whole day running smoothly.

Notable CSUN participants included graduate journalism students **Fathima Mohaideen** and **Maria Clara Ramirez** who covered the event and conducted interviews with their smartphones, College of Humanities Student Services Director **Marvin Villanueva** and companion **Ximena Quezada**, Chair of the Department of Asian American Studies **Dr. Eunai Shrake**, and President of the CSUN Muslim Students Association **Omar Aly**. UCLA alumni **Susan Abraham Areeckal** and students **Jeannie Chen**, and **Zili Wang** were also able to join the trip. CSUN AAS Majors **Arturo Aseo, Jr.**, **Von Bondoc**, **Nuttakung Booncherm**, **Kegan Durrance**, and **Cielito Thea Fernandez** represented the wider AAS Department. **Maria Barron**, **Zachary Carlson**, **Kevine Ecliserio-Velez**, and **Jen McClellan** represented a contingent from Professor Hattori's AAS literature courses. Members from the SFV JACL community who kindly volunteered to share their time with the CSUN group included **Min Tonai**, **Bo Sakaguchi**, **Phil** and **Marion Shigekuni**, **Evelyn Mitarai**, **Tom Nishimura**, **Sharon Kodama**, **Ryan Kuromiya**, **Jean-Paul deGuzman** and **Beatrice Contreras**. **Phil** and **Marion** brought **Yasuko Takezawa**, an anthropology professor from Kyoto University, who is re-releasing her 1995 book *Breaking the Silence* on the Redress Commission Hearings for the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EO 9066.



After a rest stop at the McDonald's in Mojave, **Phil** led the CSUN bus in song with "Don't Fence Me In," "I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing," and "We Shall Overcome." Patty's provision, courtesy of the SFV JACL, of water, chips, muffins, clementines, and cookies on both the outbound and inbound bus rides kept us in good spirits all the way. On arrival at Manzanar, both bus groups enjoyed an excellent obento lunch ordered from **Yamatani Restaurant** in Bishop. After lunch, we were able to catch the core of the Manzanar program including the major addresses by **Bruce Embrey**, **Alan Nishio**, and **Warren Furutani**; the poetry reading by **traci kato-kirayama**, **traci ishigo**, **Kathy Masaoka**, and **Sahar Pirzada** of **#VigilantLOVE**; and folk songs by **Ken Koshio**.

After **Monica Embrey's** Roll Call of the Camps and the Procession to the Monument, we boarded the buses again to visit the museum. We enjoyed over an hour of deep immersion in the outstanding exhibit and then it was time to head home. **Phil** again entertained the CSUN bus, this time with stories from the incarceration recounted by himself as well as by **Min Tonai**, **Bo Sakaguchi**, and **Phil's** sister **Evelyn Mitarai**. These stories, spoken from the microphone from the front of the bus, were the true treasure of the day for the CSUN group. The remaining supply of SFV JACL snacks, supplemented by a fruit and power bar cache courtesy of CSUN AAS Chair **Eunai Shrake**, satisfied those who were not fast asleep. Exhausted but also fulfilled, thanks to our excellent drivers **Christina** and **Oscar** of **Patty Wagon Charter**, we all arrived safely back at the Community Center around 8:30 pm.



### 4TH ANNUAL "IMAGINE LITTLE TOKYO SHORT STORY CONTEST" WINNERS

Back row (L-R): **Yoshi Ishii** (Japanese Category Runner Up), **Ronan Takagi** (English Category Runner Up), **Kai Horikoshi** (Japanese Category Runner Up).

Front (L-R): **Madeline Parga** (Youth Category Runner Up), **Jamie Han** (Youth Category Co-Winner), **Elizabeth Farris** (on computer laptop - English Category Winner), **Masafumi Mori** (Japanese Category Winner), **Akira Tsurukame** (Japanese Category Runner Up).





## A Box in the Garage

By Old Wakaba, Bud Sagara

We have a rule at our house that says if we want to store something in the garage or attic, we have to get rid of an equal volume of stuff that is already stored there. This rule not only prevents the excessive buildup of stuff, it will save our daughters future time in going through the stuff when we go home to the Lord. They will most likely give away or discard most of our prized junk anyway; but for us, it takes a long time to throw away anything because each item is filled with memories that spring to life once touched. This article is about things in an old cardboard box stacked in the garage. Sounds exciting doesn't it?

The first thing out of the box was my old saltwater fishing reel. It was pocked with areas of corrosion where it had not been thoroughly washed of the saltwater. I remember fishing up and down the Southern California shore, casting in close for surf perch using sand crabs for bait that was captured by hand from the wet sand beneath my feet. Other times we would cast out far for bigger fish. Our poles would rest on metal sand spikes which held them high as we watched the gentle motion of the tides pull the line in and then back out to sea.

Sometimes we would also go night fishing for bonito off the rocks in the Redondo Beach harbor. I recall there were always big rats scurrying among the rocks as we fished. We did not have much money, so we learned to improvise some of our fishing tackle. The bonito would strike on our homemade lures constructed of segments of McDonald's plastic drinking straws placed over the shank of treble hooks. We used heavy floats that we fashioned from tree branches that were cut in four inch segments, painted white, and with an eyelet screw to attach the line. These heavy floats allowed us to cast out far and also keep the McDonald's lures near the surface when we reeled them back in. Once, I accidentally hit my fishing buddy, Mike Ito, in the back of his head with my heavy float with an errant cast. Mike saw swirling stars to add to the countless real ones that were twinkling above the beach those nights. Sometimes we would fish from the barge anchored off Redondo Harbor that eventually sank years later during a winter storm. Once, the CC Fishing Club sponsored a half-day fishing excursion for the Wakabas on a real fishing boat. The biggest fish that day was a halibut caught by Freddie Tsutsui with the help of his big brother Herb. Most of us Wakabas had a great time catching rock cod from the bottom, but a few Wakabas, including my brother, spent the entire trip hanging over the rail and wishing that their miserable day would end.

Among my work papers in the box was a composite drawing of the Night Stalker, whose real name was Richard Ramirez. He was a professional burglar so he was able to make his living by slipping in and out of houses without been seen. The problem was that he escalated his life of crime to a life of pure evil. The composite brought back memories of 1984-85 when he terrorized the City of Angels as he silently prowled neighborhoods to proclaim his allegiance to Satan by raping and torturing 25 victims while murdering 13 of them. Even on hot summer nights, citizens kept their windows locked and hunkered down to await daylight. The Night Stalker had murdered a family in Sun Valley, so everyone in the Valley sensed he could be near and imagined seeing his face in every shadow and hear him in every night sound.

This feeling of dread and helplessness reminds me of a verse from a letter by the Apostle Peter which said, "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." When a soldier standing guard sees the enemy approaching, he doesn't run out and start fighting. He reports the impending attack to his commanding officer, who then organizes the defense. It is foolish to do battle alone when there is always help nearby. We can come to Jesus at any time because he loves us and will take care of us. Let your burdens fall on his big shoulders and you will discover a partner who is gentle, humble and who will give you rest for your soul.

An old cigar box emerged from the cardboard box. When I was a kid, cigar boxes were common as a handy place to store stuff at school and at home. This particular cigar box belonged to my dad and contained some of his things from his service in the 232<sup>nd</sup> Combat Engineer Company of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team during WW II. There was an odd mix of things including black and white photos, an English-Italian dictionary, tarnished lieutenant's bars, military patches including a "Texas-T" from the Lost Battalion, a whistle, and assorted battle ribbons.



There was also a small blue box which contained a Purple Heart medal in the cigar box. My dad never spoke of getting shot or injured during the war, so the story behind this Purple Heart is lost. Most Nisei soldiers did not want to talk about their wartime experiences and my dad and my uncles were no different. The soldiers of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT truly personified *gaman*, the internal fortitude to silently bear all the death and destruction they had seen. They fought and died for the sake of their families who were incarcerated behind barbed wire fences back home just because they were of Japanese ancestry. Their hope would be for their future children to be free to become doctors, teachers, community leaders, or anything that they wanted to be without the stigma of discrimination that they knew so well. There are times when things happen and you can't do anything about them, *shikata ga nai*. Other times, you muster all that you are to make change happen and "Go for Broke." That's what they did.



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Eddie & Precy Adriano  
 Margarete Allen  
 Michelle Avila  
 Steve Dao  
 Suzi Delander  
 Andrew & Yootje Jo Ka Tien  
 Mark & Paige-Fujimoto Low  
 Michael Montuya  
 Yuji & Yoko Nakaza  
 Eric Nishimoto  
 Sayuri Nomoto  
 Taeko Oguri  
 Christopher & Annie Rhodes  
 Tony Stonehill  
 Richard & Candice-Fukuzaki Sullivan  
 Marian Wibowo  
 Mark Yokomizo



# Family Day



**Saturday • June 10, 2017**

**12 noon to 3:00 pm**

**Family Day will be back at the Community Center this year**  
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima, CA 91331

### Lunch -

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Chili,  
Rice, Corn, Coleslaw, Chips

**Adults - \$5.00**

**Kids (5-10 years) - \$3.00**

**Kids 4 years & under - Free**

**Ice Cream Cart**

**Children's Games**

**Bingo (12:30 pm)**

### Raffle Drawing 2:45 PM

**1st Prize - \$500**

**2nd Prize - \$300**

**3rd Prize - \$200**

**Plus many other prizes**

Winner need not be present  
for the top 3 prizes.

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



## Help Make The SFVJACC Kazari!

SFVJACC will have a Kazari for Los Angeles Tanabata Festival (LATF) but we need help making it.

The Kazari will be made during the CC Family Day on June 10th.

You and your family can make one, too!

LA Tanabata Festival will be held Saturday & Sunday, August 18 & 19

Food \* Entertainment \* Arts \* Crafts Booths \* Games.

Location of LATF is by JANM and the Kazari display will be by Geffen Moca in Little Tokyo.

Tanabata is "summer stars" Festival, literally "seventh moon" festival.

For more info, visit [www.TanabataLosAngeles.org](http://www.TanabataLosAngeles.org)



2016 Kazari  
Contest  
Winners



## Here's What Happening At Nikkei Senior Gardens...

### Keiro Awards Grant to Nikkei Senior Gardens



Leona Hiraoka, CEO/President of Keiro presenting the check to Stan Date, Chairman of the Nikkei Senior Gardens Board.

We are pleased to announce that the Keiro Board of Directors has awarded Nikkei Senior Gardens a one-year grant of \$50,000 to be used for renovating the medication station. The expansion of the medication station will help meet the changing needs of the residents and community. Nikkei Senior Gardens is committed to improving the health and quality of life of the residents living in the community.

Keiro is expanding its reach to broadly engage and support Japanese American and Japanese older adults wherever they call home. Serving primarily Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties, Keiro provides services to older adults and caregivers, along with programs for residents of Keiro's former facilities. For more information, visit [www.keiro.org](http://www.keiro.org).

### WORK PLACE GIVING CAMPAIGN & MATCHING GIFTS

Does your work place or company do employee giving campaigns or matching gifts to non-profit organizations? Consider naming our Community Center as a recipient. Thank you to our members that have been doing this for years. Your donations do help!

### To all the fathers Happy Father's Day



# Obon 2017

SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
SUNDAY, JUNE 18  
5 PM to 10 PM

VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER  
8850 LANKERSHIM BLVD  
SUN VALLEY, CA  
*Free Admission*



SUN  
V  
A  
L  
L  
E  
Y

お盆  
OBON



#### Demonstrations

SATURDAY: Karate, Kendo,  
Tea Ceremony  
SUNDAY: Minyo Odori, Judo,  
Tea Ceremony

#### Entertainment

SATURDAY: Akaoni Daiko  
SUNDAY: LA Taiko Ichiza  
(formerly known as LA Matsuri  
Taiko

*Japanese Dance  
Cultural Exhibits  
Games  
Raffle  
Food*

**Ondo practice dates are June 2, 6 & 9 \* 7:00 - 9:00**

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

SAT 4:30PM - 10:00PM

# OBON

## JUNE 24-25, 2017

SUN 4:30PM - 9:00PM

FREE ADMISSION • RAFFLE • FOOD • BEVERAGES  
JAPANESE CULTURAL EXHIBITS • GAMES  
TAIKO PERFORMANCES • OBON DANCING

### THIS YEAR'S RAFFLE PRIZES

1ST PRIZE: \$1000  
2ND PRIZE: \$500  
3RD PRIZE: \$300

### JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

12953 BRANFORD ST.  
PACOIMA, CA

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

(818) 899-4030  
SFVHBT.ORG/OBON  
f /SFVHBT

## Four, Three, Two, One...

The countdown has begun to one of the biggest community events of the year. On **Saturday, June 24 from 4:30-10:00 P.M. and Sunday, June 25 from 4:30-9:00 P.M.** the San Fernando Hongwanji Buddhist Temple will hold its annual Obon Festival at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center. We hope that every member of the greater SFVJACC community will come out and enjoy all the cultural culinary treats, exhibits, dancing, taiko performances, and games our event has to offer. This year for the first time, we are adding **entertainment** to our Obon program! Both evenings, prior to the activities around the yagura, there will be a program showcasing Community Center classes. All of the entertainment will take place in the gym on stage except for judo.

Here is the line-up: On **Saturday, June 24, beginning at 5:00**, at about 10 minutes intervals, Judo will be in the Judo Dojo; then in the gym you'll see Ping Pong, Qi Gong, Country Western, Karaoke, and Japanese School groups displaying their skills. On **Sunday, June 25, beginning at 4:30**, you'll see Ukulele, Hula, Line Dancing, Ondo, and SFV Taiko.

At the conclusion of our showcase of SFVJACC classes, the emphasis will then switch to the area outside around the yagura which will host performances of taiko followed by Bon Odori dancing. Everyone is welcome to participate in the dancing, no experience or fancy kimono or happi coat required. Think of it as a giant Japanese-themed Conga line. For those individuals who wish to get a little practice in before venturing out among the circle of dancers, or if it's been a while since you've danced at Obon, or if you just want to come out and have some fun and get some exercise, make some new friends or get re-acquainted with some old ones, practices will be held on **Tuesdays and Thursdays: June 13, 15, 20, and 22 from 6:30 P.M. to 8-8:30 P.M.** in the Temple parking lot located at 9450 Remick Ave., in Pacoima. The temple is located next to the Bert Corona Charter School just north of the SFVJACC. Just as everyone is welcome to attend Obon, everyone is more than welcome to attend the practice sessions. If you'd rather just "wing-it" at Obon, that's fine too!

So come out and join the fun! Eat some good food, play some fun games, marvel at some wonderful cultural exhibits, dance some familiar and not-so-familiar dances, and support your favorite Community Center group demonstration. There is sure to be a lot to enjoy at this year's Obon. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

**MANZANAR REUNION 2017**  
**August 14,15 & 16, 2017**  
**California Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada**

By Marian Murphy



The Manzanar Reunion will be held on August 14-15, 2017 at the California Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Manzanar becoming a national historic site and national park.

Registration forms have been mailed out to all individuals currently on the mailing list. If you wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact our committee members listed below. We welcome anyone who is interested in the internment at Manzanar or any other facility.

On Monday, August 14, there will be an evening mixer providing attendees their first opportunity to get reacquainted with old friends and make new friends. There will be games, bingo, and a meet and greet with the Manzanar Park rangers and a short program.

On Tuesday, August 15 there will be a banquet and a feature presentation by the Manzanar Park rangers on current, ongoing, and past preservation projects at the site.

Both evenings you will have the opportunity to get to know the park rangers, view photo collages of past reunions and of course visit with all the other attendees to make lasting new memories.

For information call: Grace Deguchi (310) 968-1666 or Cherry Uyeda (818) 981-2629 or Marian Murphy (818) 891-8808 or email at [ymeinla@roadrunner.com](mailto:ymeinla@roadrunner.com).



**2017 San Fernando Pee Wee  
Basketball Clinic**

**Saturdays (July 8, 15, 22, 29)**

Registration 10:00 a.m. Clinic 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**SFV Japanese American Community Center**

12953 Branford Street, Pacoima, CA 91331

**Clinic Director: Curtis Takimoto**

1993-2007 SFVJACC Athletics - Terminators

2003 Frosh, 2004 JV, 2005-2007 Varsity Basketball - Chatsworth HS;

2005-2011 - Counselor Pierce Brahma Basketball Camp (Ages 8-12); 2007-2012 UCI Intramural Basketball

2012-present NAU Basketball; 2016 JV Basketball Coach Beckman HS, Irvine

C.O.R.E Basketball League Director - Corona Del Mar; 2016 Yonsei Boys' Assistant Coach

2016 -2017 JV Basketball Assistant Coach South Pasadena HS

**\$45** (includes Coaching by SF Coaching Staff, Jersey and Basketball!)

Register Today! (There's space for only 20 boys and girls! First come, first served!)

**For Boys and Girls, 4 through 7, ready to learn the basics & meet new friends!**

**4 Saturdays of fun!** (8-year-olds who have never played before also welcome)

To register or for more information, call Margaret (818) 701-7628 or

email: [JNCMOM@aol.com](mailto:JNCMOM@aol.com) • Deadline for forms and payment— May 31, 2017.



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

Coordinating Council..... 1st Wed., 7:00 PM.....Nancy Oda. ....818 786-0914  
 Community Center..... 3rd Wed., 7:00 PM.....Call CC Office .....818 899-1989  
 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.....Jennifer Trax .....818 896-1676  
 Nikkei Senior Gardens..... 2nd Thurs. (even months), 7 PM..Tadao Okui..818 515-8247  
 SFV Bonsai Club..... 4th Sun., 8 AM-12 PM....Kazuhiko Nakanishi ..805 492-3439  
 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 ..... 2nd Sat., 8:30 AM.....Kiyoo Watanabe .....818 896-8612  
 SFV Judo Club ..... 4th Wed., 7:03 PM.....Kenji Couey .....818 381-7232  
 SFV Meiji Senior Citizens..... 1st Fri., 12:30 PM.....Liz Doomey.....818 892-7381  
 Senior Hot Meals ..... Tues. & Fri. (no meal on 5th Tues. & 5th Fri.) ..818 899-1989  
 Sunrise Foursquare Church.....Reverend Paul Iwata.....818 782-8738  
 Valley Japanese Community Center .. 2nd Fri., 7:30 PM.....Christine Inouye.....818 825-9583

**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 Wednesday of  
every odd month.

**SPECIAL CLASSES**

Arts & Crafts.....	Monday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Sally Hamamoto	818 361-2902
Ballroom Dance.....	Tuesday	7:00-9:00 PM	Barbara Okita	818 784-5128
Bowling*, Matador Bowl .....	Thursday	9:30 AM	George Seko	818 998-0682
Bridge*.....	Monday	12:00-3:00 PM	Sam Toji	661 255-2824
Country Western Music*.....	1st /3rd Tuesday	10:30-11:30 AM	Janet Schuetze	818 767-1819
Exercise Class.....	Tuesday	9:00-10:00 AM	Ralph Ahn	818 302-6658
Exercise Class.....	Friday	10:00-11:00 AM	Phil Shigekuni	818 893-1581
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 (Hula Wahines).....	Friday	12:30-1:30 PM	Suzan Akamine	818 367-1723
Hitomi's Cooking Class .....	4th Tuesday	7:00-9:00 PM	NJ Nakamura	818 893-6503
Ikenobo Ikebana .....	2nd/4th Wednesday	10:00-2:00 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	3:00-5:30 PM	Dianne Fukuwa	310 217-0443
Karaoke*.....	1st/3rd Thursday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Janet Yamamoto	818 365-8361
Kokusei Shigin Class.....	Thursday (J-School)	2:00-4:00 PM		
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
Nikkei Bowling League .....	Friday (Canoga Bowl)	9:00-11:00 PM	Stan Date	818 701-6607
Tuesday Mah-Jong*.....	Tuesday	1:00-3:00 PM	Asako Giegoldt	805 433-3763
Friday Mah-Jong*.....	Friday	1:00-3:00 PM	Yone Takimoto	818 765-6735
Ondo Dancing*.....	2nd/4th Friday	7:00-9:00 PM	Masako Rodriguez	818 899-8777
Ping Pong Club.....	Thursday/Tuesday	10:00 AM-3:00 PM	Aaron Sanwo	661 755-0584
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	Kenji Couey	818 381-7232
Tai Chi Class*.....	Monday	9:00-10:00 AM	Florence Takaaze	310 202-6693
Taiko .....	Sunday	10 AM-2 PM	Reid Taguchi	818 571-1797
Ukulele Class.....	Friday	9:30-11:30 AM	Call CC Office	818 899-1989
Yoga Class.....	Wednesday	10:00-11:00 AM	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	9:30-11:00 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 Avenue, Pacoima  
818 899-4030 sfvibt@sfvibt.org  
www.sfvibt.org

Resident Minister: Rev. Patricia Usuki  
Temple President: Terry Ishigo

Sunday, 11:00 am Dharma School

**BUDDHIST TEMPLE CALENDAR**

**June**

- 3 9:30 am Dharma discussion
- 4 10:00 am Shotsuki monthly memorial service
- 10 Southern District Conference, Odyssey Restaurant
- 11 10:00 am Regular service with Dharma Name Ceremony
- 13 6:30 pm Obon dance practice
- 15 10:30 am Service at Nikkei Senior Gardens
- 6:30 pm Obon dance practice
- 17 9:30 am Dharma discussion
- 18 10:00 am Father's Day and Graduation service
- 20 6:30 pm Obon dance practice
- 22 6:30 pm Obon dance practice
- 24-25 Obon Festival

**July**

- 1 9:30 am Dharma discussion
- 2 10:00 am Summer service
- 9 10:00 am Obon-Hatsubon service
- 16 TBA
- 20 10:30 am Service at Nikkei Senior Gardens
- 23 TBA
- 29 9:30 am Dharma discussion
- 30 10:00 am Summer service



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**

9:00-9:45 AM  
Sunday School for ages  
junior high through adult

10 - 11:15 AM  
Worship Service  
(childcare for infants - Pre-K)

Kid Venture Children's Ministries  
(K - 5th grade)

11:15 - 11:45 AM  
Coffee Fellowship

**Youth Fellowship**

Friday, 7:30 PM  
Meetings at the church  
for Jr. High and Sr. High

**Mid-Week Home Groups**

We believe that fellowship, friendship, 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

Please refer to our website for more information:

[www.sfpj.weebly.com](http://www.sfpj.weebly.com)

**Sunday Schedule**

10:00 AM  
Worship Service

Lunch and Fellowship  
after worship service on the  
1st Sundays

Wednesdays, 10 am  
Prayer @ Pastor's house



**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 @ 10 AM & 7 PM**

**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  
Sat. @ 11 AM Rm.1**

Instructor: Sharon James

**Chi Fung Mind & Body Fitness  
Tuesday @ 10 AM Fellowship Hall**

Instructor: Leo Fong

**Fellowship @ High Noon Lunch &  
Activity - Wednesdays  
For info call Lowell (818) 694-1046**



**SUNRISE FOURSQUARE CHURCH**

5853 Laurel Canyon Blvd.  
Valley Village, CA 91607

**Pastors:**

Rev. Paul Iwata  
Rev. Haruko "Spring" Iwata  
Rev. James Iwata

**Meetings and Addresses:**

Sunday Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.  
(Prayer for Healing on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays)

Sunday Evening Service - 6 p.m.

Thursday Evening Bible Study - 6 p.m.

In the Prayer Chapel at  
14705 Wyandotte Street  
Van Nuys, CA 91405

Worship Praise & Service Preparation  
every Saturday at 3 pm.

**Monthly Events:**

2nd Sunday - Board Meeting  
after the service at church.

Prayer on the last Friday of the month  
from 8 pm in the Prayer Chapel.

Counseling is available for individuals,  
couples and families. Please call.

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

Email: [pmiwata@gmail.com](mailto:pmiwata@gmail.com)

**Website:**

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

Newsletters in English and Japanese  
are posted on our website.

Seminary classes taught by our pastors  
in Biblical Studies and Greek/Hebrew.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CC**

**June 3, 2017**

SFV Japanese Language  
Institute - Reading Contest

**June 10, 2017**

CC Family Day & Raffle  
Fundraiser

**June 24 & 25, 2017**

SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
Obon

**August 26, 2017**

Judd Matsunaga's Elder Law  
Seminar

**September 9, 2017**

SFV JAFL Grandparents Day

**September 16, 2017**

CC Steak Dinner

**October 7, 2017**

CC Clean Up

**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**

**10 am - 12 pm**

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

**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)



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

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Van Nuys, California  
Permit No. 21

## San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

### 2017 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership period: January 1 to December 31, 2017)

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 - \$60.00

Single Membership - \$40.00

(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.