

Japanese American Citizens League San Jose Chapter

Volume 40, Issue 3

Fall 2009 Issue

Phone (408) 295-1250 Email sanjosejacl@sbcglobal.net Website www.sanjosejacl.org

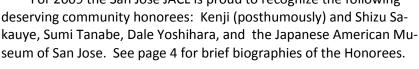
OUTLOOK

San Jose JACL 8th Annual Community Recognition Dinner by Thomas Oshidari



Kenji Sakauve

Please join us for the 8th Annual San Jose JACL Community Recognition Dinner – Continuing Commitment to Community to be held on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at the Holiday Inn -Mediterranean Center in San Jose. Tickets are priced individually at \$80 or \$800 for a table for ten. The celebration begins with No Host Cocktails at 5:30 pm and with Dinner scheduled for 7:00 pm. KTVU Reporter, Jana Katsuyama, will act as Mistress of Ceremonies for the evening's program. For 2009 the San Jose JACL is proud to recognize the following

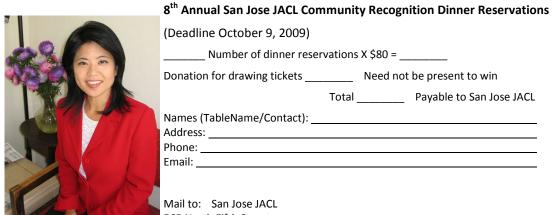




Shizu Sakauye

In conjunction with the dinner, we will again have our popular silent auction and benefit drawing to raise funds for the Chapter's programs. Suggested donation for benefit drawing tickets is 1 ticket for \$2, or 6 tickets for \$10. Grand Prize will be a pair of Southwest Airline tickets valued at \$800. No purchase necessary. This event is the Chapter's major fundraiser.

For more information contact Tom Oshidari, toshidari@yahoo.com, 408 257-5609; Sharon Uyeda, suyeda9356@aol.com, 408 259-3656; Kellie Takagi, kellie.takagi@gmail.com, 650 799-3405



(Deadline October 9, 2009)												
Number of dinner reservations X \$80 =												
Donation for drawing tickets		Need not	be present to win									
	Total _		Payable to San Jose JACL									
Names (TableName/Contact):												
Address:												
Phone:												
Fmail:												

Mail to: San Jose JACL 565 North Fifth Street Jana Katsuyama, Emcee San Jose, CA 95112



Sumi Tanabe



Dale Yoshihara



Japanese American Museum of San Jose

President's Message By Leon Kimura



There has been much talk lately of the tough times we are experiencing. Economic hardships, personal tragedy, emotional stress... They are all becoming a blur in today's world. Yet, in spite of it all, the community perseveres with an indomitable spirit. I think that we have all seen an altruistic tradition that exists in our community passed from one generation to the next where we ultimately strive to do what is best for one another.

I see it in the dedication of the board members and the purposes of community based organizations. Opportunities are created on an ongoing basis to help, to grow, to experience and support worthy goals. The JACL organization has been fortunate to be positioned to try to uphold and support this spirit of altruism. And this spirit provides some balance in our lives to combat the negativity

swirling around us on a daily basis.

Please join us this year in recognizing our four honorees that exemplify the good in our hearts and being. Read about them in our article in this issue of the Outlook. We don't have nearly enough opportunities to show our appreciation for the selfless dedication of our community members who truly make a difference for us all!

So, if you haven't taken the opportunity to sign up yet for the San Jose JACL Recognition Dinner, please consider this plea to do so and support both our honorees and the major fundraiser for the Chapter! And for yourself, please come spend an evening in the company of friends this October 17th enjoying dinner and good times! Feel free to bring a table or two of your closest friends!

Leon S. Kimura 568-0932 elskay@aol.com



OUTLOOK is published on a quarterly basis by the San Jose JACL

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The San Jose JACL Board meets on the second Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Issei Memorial Building. Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. Come and help shape San Jose JACL's future.

Honorary Advisory Board

Honorable Mike Honda
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Honoring Our Founders 80th Anniversary of the JACL

by Neil Kozuma

Come celebrate & honor the Northern California Western Nevada Pacific (NCWNP) District JACL Chapters' Founders on Saturday, October 24, 2009, 11:00 am, at the Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, California 95815. Tickets for the luncheon are \$50.00 and a table of ten is \$500.00. Contacts are: Thaya: thaya-joyce@sbcglobal.net, 916-652-0093; and Sharon: SUyeda9356@aol.com, 408-259-3656; or call the JACL office at (408) 295-1250 to join a table.

The San Jose JACL is honoring its first five presidents: Dr. Hisaichi Nakahara, William Yamamoto, Harry Toshi Taketa, Shigeo Masunaga, and Phil Matsumura.



Dr. Hisaichi Nakahara



Harry Toshi Taketa





Phil Matsumura



Shigeo Masunaga



William Yamamoto

CSU Grants Honorary Degrees to WWII Internees

On September 23, the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees voted unanimously to grant honorary bachelor's degrees to Japanese Americans who were enrolled at CSU campuses and forced into internment camps during World War II. The first of these degrees was awarded posthumously to Aiko Nishi Uwate, a Japanese American woman who was removed from San Francisco State University and sent to Gila River relocation camp in Arizona. The degree was accepted by Uwate's daughter, Vivian Uwate Nelson.

Any help you can provide in contacting the following would be appreciated!

- individuals who qualify for the honorary degree or
- groups or individuals who can assist in identifying qualified individuals

Former CSU students (or families of students) whose studies were interrupted due to the internment are urged to call (562) 951-4723, or e-mail: nisei@calstate.edu.

San Jose Bridge Club — Join Us!!

The San Jose JACL Bridge Club has been going strong since way before the big Bridge tournament they sponsored for the 1968 National JACL Convention held in San Jose. Run for many years by Aiko Nakahara, using the second floor of the Memorial Building, they now meet on the first floor and include 12 regulars: Amy Higuchi, Dr. Ernie Torigoe, Yuri Torigoe, Setsuko Taira, Shozo & Chiyo Hikido, Al & Kathy Hioki, Grace Inouye, John & Janet Kaku, and Bette Harada. The first Tuesday night of each month finds them ready for three hours of friendly competition.

Fondly remembered are Shig Masunaga and Hiroko, Dr. Tak Ichikawa, Harry Miyakusu, Ayako Saito, Tom & Dorothy Hiura, Dave Saito, Rose Watanabe, Tomo & Dr. Tak Inouye, Dr. Jim Higuchi, and many others, gone with the years.



Standing L to R: Herry Miyakusu, Shig Masunaga, and Dave Salto. Seated L to R: Bachi Miki, and Dr. Tokto Ishikawa, Chairman, Net plot mpt. Alke Nakaliars.

Community Recognition Honoree Thumbnail Biographies

Kenji and Shizu Sakauye – Long-time generous donors to the San Jose JACL scholarship program. The Sakauye's offer a \$3,000 scholarship and a \$2,500 renewable scholarship annually in helping many students continue their education.

Sumi Tanabe – Long-time community volunteer. San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin: 30-year Board Member and first woman president; founder of the Sangha Support Committee, a volunteer service group. Fuji Towers (senior housing): First woman president of Board of Trustees. Received achievement award for work with homeless women and children.

Dale Yoshihara - San Jose native, was owner/operator of Japantown institution—Bini's Bar and Grille, current partner at Kyoto Palace, and community supporter. As a task force member, contributed to shaping the Jackson-Taylor Business District into its current form. Longtime supporter of and donor to many community organizations.

Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) – Has provided a bridge from past to present through exhibits and community programs which promote understanding of the Japanese American and broader minority experience through workshops, book talks, film showings, panel discussions, speakers bureau, and teacher training. Currently building a new facility which will enhance the community's ability to understand the Japanese American experience.

The San Jose JACL is proud to provide the opportunity to show our appreciation to those who have given so much to our community! Please join us in saying "thank you" to our honorees.

8th Annual San Jose JACL Community Recognition Dinner

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Holiday Inn –Mediterranean Center

1740 N. 1st Street, San Jose, 95112

5:30 No Host Cocktails; 7:00 Dinner

JACL/Yu-Ai Kai Seniors Fishing Trip By Leon Kimura

What a blast! Our "Lucky 13" seniors caught over 45 crabs and 15 fish on our annual fishing trip held on September 12th this year. The weather cooperated this year on the coast and was pleasantly overcast most of the day with the sun peeking out occasionally just to say Hi! Joining the trip were seniors Min and Mitze Tanaka, Tony Una Dia, Ron Javalosa, Mary Ann Robles, Mae and Lloyd Nishimoto, Delia Dixon, Harry and Tom Okazaki, Lily Lie, Betty Izqueido and Ruby Fong.

Our volunteers drove the seniors to Seacliff State beach where we returned to our favorite fishing pier at the cement boat. Then Ron Yamamoto, Tom and Jennifer Nishisaka, Tom Oshidari and I helped rig the tackle so we could get the lines in the water and the seniors fishing. And Ron broke out the shrimp, squid and pile worms for the business end of the setup...

The catch? Well, mostly undersized crabs (we started calling Betty the "crab lady" since she caught so many!), sculpin, an occasional anchovy or stingray but also some decent surf perch suitable for pan frying! But the biggest "catch" of the day was a warm heart filled with the fun feeling of a day spent with good people just having a good time!

To cap off the day, the awards ceremony was conducted by Tom Nishisaka who has the ability to make a crab smile! (You may remember him as "IKA MAN" at Nikkei Matsuri!) Everyone received a prize or two by the close of the "ceremonies".

Many thanks to our volunteers, to Julie Hubbard with Yu-Ai Kai for coordinating the seniors sign-up, to Tom and Sue Shigemasa who generously donated great and plentiful prizes, and to Jim Sakamoto and the VFW for again loaning us their fishing tackle! And special thanks to Ruby for spending as much time taking photos as catching fish during this trip!

Tight lines everyone!



Photo Collage by Ruby Fong

BAAPALS Summer Intern Mixer 2009 by Danielle Duong

The Bay Area Asian Pacific American Legislative Staffers (BAAPALS) hosted a Summer Intern Mixer on Thursday, July 30, 2009 at the Issei Memorial Building. The garden was beautifully decorated with light pink lanterns, white lights, and summer flowers. With generous donations from local non-profit organizations and elected officials, we had a delicious assortment of finger foods and refreshments. The warm summer evening kicked off with lots of great energy and enthusiasm where attendees engaged in great conversations about community involvement, recent policy issues, personal and professional backgrounds, and more. Overall, BAAPALS welcomed over 150 interns, students, staffers, and professional leaders from non-profit, government, legal, and private organizations.

The program began with event organizers telling the history of BAAPALS highlighting their primary goals to build a strong political pipeline for the local Asian American Pacific Islander community. Many elected officials gave encouraging remarks to the young people in attendance about their personal experiences as well as the importance of mentorship, political activism and community service. Students and professionals alike were extremely engaged and enthusiastic about becoming more involved in the community and doing their parts to make a difference. The young people asked many great questions and were comfortable and eager to meet new people.

Throughout our country, we have seen significant new changes in the political landscape. BAAPALS continues to support a network of young leaders committed to creating positive changes in the greater community. Now more than ever do we need to build bridges across generations of leadership to maintain the fight for equality and social justice. BAAPALS remains at the forefront of such efforts to develop a network of leaders that reflects the diversity of our community.

BAAPALS would like to thank...

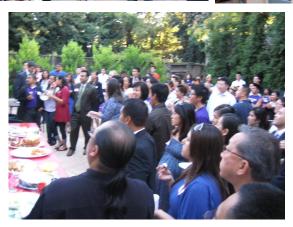
Our Co-Hosts: Hon. Mike Honda, Hon. Anna Eshoo, Hon. Paul Fong, Hon. Margaret Abe-Koga, Hon. Evan Low, Hon. Ash Kalra, Hon. Madison Nguyen, Hon. Gilbert Wong, Hon. Randy Okamura, Hon. Steve Ngo, Hon. Buu Thai, Hon. Michael Chang

Our Co-Sponsors: San Jose Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI), Vision New America (VNA), Asian Law Alliance (ALA), Asian American Donor Program (AADP), Asian American Recovery Services (AARS)











San Jose JACL (408) 295-1250 email sanjosejacl@sbcglobal.net

United States Census 2010 by Leon Kimura

The 2010 Census is coming! April 1st is not for fools next year. It is for citizens and non-citizens alike, who are savvy enough to make a difference in our community. As the census forms come to you to ask 10 quick questions, your participation is very important. In fact, for your assistance in identifying **each** and **every** person in your household, the County will then expect to receive about \$1,200 for each person counted. This adds up to billions of dollars that will then be channeled to us based upon our census count. The more people counted, the more money we will receive. And this count will set our allocations for the next 10 years!

The census is safe! Every census bureau worker takes an oath to protect the confidentiality of your census response. By law, the information cannot be shared with anyone, not even other government agencies. Census workers are subject to hefty fines and jail time for violating the oath of confidentiality. So, your answers are protected and your identity is safe!

It is important! Census counts will determine our number of seats in the US House of Representatives. It will help decide community planning such as for roads, hospitals and schools. It will impact jobs and services such as for health care. It will help to identify any sections of the population that may justify the need for any variety of local initiatives such as ESL programs, or urban revitalization money.

So, please do your part in supporting our community and yourselves! Ensure that everyone is counted in a complete and accurate 2010 Census!

Want to see and learn more? Go to: factfinder.census.gov. Thank you!

JAMsj WINTER BOUTIQUE by Reiko Itamura



The Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) invites you to attend their annual Winter Boutique on Saturday, November 14th. This will be the perfect way to "kick start" your holiday shopping. Bring along a friend to enjoy a fun-filled day of "shop till you drop." When hunger pangs set in, one can "refuel" at the food booth. Bento lunches, egg rolls, ohagi and other delicious snacks will be available. The event will be held at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Gymnasium located at 640 N. Fifth Street in San Jose's Japantown. With this being JAMsj's main fund-raiser for the year, all proceeds will benefit the museum to further its mission for the preservation of Japanese American art, history and culture with a focus on the Santa Clara Valley.

Early entry for "Members Only" is from 9 - 10 am. The General Public is invited to attend from 10 am - 4 pm. The featured author this year is John Hamamura who will

be signing his debut novel, "The Color of the Sea" from 11 am -1 pm. JAMsj welcomes back past artisans and a few new ones. Showcased items are Japanese-style collages, clothing and accessories, hand-crafted jewelry, Washi crafts, stationary, and other specialty gifts. Donation drawings will be held during the event. Also, a Silent Auction table will feature antiques, crafts donated by the artisans, gift baskets and more. For additional information, please call the museum office between the hours of 1:00 - 4:00 pm at (408) 294-3738 or visit our website: http://www.jamsj.org/events/2009/WinterBoutique/jamsj winter boutique.htm



SAVE THE DATE!



DIRECTOR OF "WHITE ON RICE" THANKS THE SAN JOSE JACL by Dave Boyle



October 1st, 2009: As my film "White on Rice" enters its third week at the Camera 3 Cinemas in San Jose, I would like to thank the JACL San Jose Chapter once again for supporting the film, and helping it to find an audience.

It has been an interesting journey to theaters, starting with the first time I met Hiroshi Watanabe. It was at an audition session for my film "Big Dreams Little Tokyo" in Los Angeles, and Hiroshi was nervous because he had only had 30 minutes to prepare. I assured him that we would take that into consideration, and he began his scene.

It was perfect! Despite having no preparation time, Hiroshi's performance in the audition was everything you'd hope for from a great actor. Immediately, I remembered a story I had been developing about a down-on-his-luck divorcee who sticks to his family like "white on rice," and something clicked...I knew Hiroshi Watanabe was the man for the job.

Two years later, after working together on the script (along with my collaborator Joel Clark) Hiroshi and I were on the set of "White on Rice." The supporting cast was filled out with wonderful actors such as Nae, Mio Takada, Lynn Chen, James Kyson Lee and Nikkei child newcomer Justin Kwong as "Bob," the 10-year-old nephew, confidante and "life-coach" of the main character.

People often ask me why I made a film starring mostly Asian and Asian American actors. Well, why not? Hiroshi Watanabe and the other stars were the right people for the parts, so I cast them. People are people, and I hope that audience members of all backgrounds will find common ground with the characters in "White on Rice."

I have a very special place in my heart for San Jose. I filmed part of my first movie here, and in a stroke of luck we were selected as the Opening Night for the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival screening in San Jose. It was during that time that I first met Chapter President Leon Kimura and other JACL members.

I want to extend a special thanks to those who participated in the JACL's Opening Weekend Fundraiser, and to all those who have helped "White on Rice" have such a remarkable run in San Jose. As I write, we are still playing daily at the Camera 3 Cinemas. If you haven't already, please stop by and enjoy the work of my wonderful cast in a story that's sure to leave you smiling!



Call for Volunteers!

San Jose JACL is looking for volunteers to help the chapter with our 2009 activities or with new ideas you may have that benefit our community. If you would like to participate, call the JACL office at (408) 295-1250 or contact Leon Kimura at elskay@aol.com.



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Anne Namba Trunk Show Coming on Nov. 22nd by Sharon Uyeda

Anne Namba, designer from Honolulu, Hawaii, is returning to San Jose. She will be bringing a wide selection of her creations to the Issei Memorial Building on Sunday, November 22nd for members and friends to look, try-on and hopefully purchase. A portion of the sales will be given to the Chapter, so the event will be a mini-fundraiser. Anne has donated a lovely three piece outfit (crinkle tank top, long skirt and reversible jacket) for the silent auction at the Community Recognition Dinner, so those attending will have the opportunity to see one of her creations. Circle the date and come between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to see a collection of beautifully designed and styled clothing that you will cherish for many years.

JACL/OCA DC Leadership Conference by Leon Kimura

It is now time to once again recruit candidates for the JACL/OCA DC Leadership Conference. The 2010 Conference will be held from March 5-9, 2010, in Washington D. C. beginning with a reception on Friday night. The deadline for districts to have the application materials for their approved participants submitted to the JACL Washington DC office is January 15, 2010. This is an outstanding opportunity for members of the JACL to experience the Washington scene, to meet leaders within the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, to learn about public policy, and to gain valuable leadership skills.

2009 – 2010 SANTA ROSA SYMPHONY FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE CONCERT SERIES

The Day of Remembrance will be commemorated in one of Santa Rosa Symphony's featured concerts titled, "Cause and Consequence: Music in the Remembrance of the Japanese American Internment."

We are honored to be part of the Symphony's Festival of Remembrance Concert series.

It will be performed on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, Jackson Theatre at the Sonoma Country Day School facility in Santa Rosa.

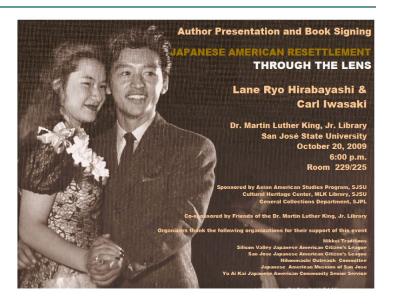
The Santa Rosa Chamber orchestra will perform selections by Toru Takemitsu, considered the greatest 20th century Japanese classical music composer.

The work of distinguished living composer, Joji Yuasa whose *Solitude* was written in memory of Takemitsu will also be performed.

Sonoma County Taiko will be Santa Rosa Symphony's guest performers.

Gaye LeBaron, celebrated local journalist and Sonoma County historian, and Marie Sugiyama, Sonoma County JACL board member, are scheduled speakers.

Please join us in this unique Day of Remembrance Commemoration event.



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Thank you for your Support! Apologies to anyone left off the list

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Volunteers (continued)

RD, BBQ, OM, SF, WOR

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Ron Yamamoto SF

Volunteers:

Kari Dobashi-Barton BBQ BM, BP, RD, BBQ, SJF, SF Leon Kimura

Teri Elkington BM Neil Kozuma RD. BBQ Ken Furukawa RD **Garrett Morimoto** BM Amy Halcrow OM, RD Jennifer Nishisaka RD,SF

RD, BBQ, OM, SF Denise Imamura **BBQ** Tom Nishisaka BP, RD, BBQ Carrie Kimura BM, WOR **Tamon Norimoto**

Kenzo Kimura RD, BBQ Steven Nose BBQ Legend:

BBQ - Appreciation BBQ

- Bowling Mixer BP - BAAPALS

OM - Outlook Mailer

RD - Recognition Dinner Mailer

SF - Senior Fishing

SJF - Spirit of Japantown Festival

WOR - White on Rice

Calendar of Events

October

- 9 JACL Board of Directors Meeting Issei Memorial Building
- 10 Keiro Kai
- 17 San Jose JACL Recognition Dinner Holiday Inn
- 20 "Through the Lens" Book Signing
- 24 Honoring Our Founders Luncheon

November

- 6 Yu-Ai Kai 35th Anniversary Gala
- 13 JACL General Membership Meeting/Elections Issei Memorial Building
- 14 JAMsj Winter Boutique SJ Buddhist Church
- 22 Anne Namba Trunk Show
- 26 Thanksgiving

December

- 11 JACL Board of Directors Meeting Issei Memorial Building
- 12 Bonen Kai (tentative)
- 19 Mochitsuki (tentative)
- 25 Christmas
- 31 New Years Eve

OCTOBER 2009

S	M	Tu	W	Th	Fri	Sa
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NOVEMBER 2009

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29	30					



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Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue by Sharon Uyeda

The San Jose JACL held its annual volunteer appreciation barbecue on Friday, August 28th. It was an ideal summer evening for a barbecue. We had a record turn-out of over 80 people. Tamon Norimoto served as chief cook and was assisted by Doug Ray. On the grill was barbecued tri-tip, teriyaki chicken, sausages, and corn-on-the-cob. A number of board members brought side dishes, salads and desserts. There was plenty of delicious foods and as everyone was enjoying themselves, Rodney Takahashi of Ukelele Source entertained us with Hawaiian music. He also brought some of his students to perform. Winning tickets were drawn for the Stay At Home drawing and the lucky winners are listed elsewhere in the *Outlook*. The barbecue was a huge success due to the support of board members and the attendance of volunteers who have helped us throughout the year. Thank you to everyone for a great barbecue! See you next summer.







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