



OUTLOOK

Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki visits Japantown

Leon Kimura

On an otherwise sleepy Wednesday morning August 25, 2010, a small entourage gathered in the parking lot of the Issei Memorial Building (IMB) to greet Japan's Ambassador to the United States, Ichiro Fujisaki to give him a brief tour of San Jose's Japantown. Joining the Ambassador was Yoko Anazawa, Second Secretary, Press and Information Section from the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C. and Yoshiro Tasaka, Advisor for Cultural Affairs from the Office of the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco.

First stop was the new Japanese American Museum of San Jose and Jimi Yamaichi explained the exhibit while standing in the interior of the replicated internment camp barracks. Along the walk, we stopped at the California Civil Liberties Public Education Project monument and Ikoi no Ba seating area at the IMB where we explained the four major components of the exhibits, the third component being the replicated Executive Order 9066 poster mounted on the telephone pole behind the benches and the fourth being the "mountain range" of boulders placed around the monument.

Next were the Nikkei Lantern, Issei Voices Wall/Timeline and Issei Stone at Fifth and Jackson. The Ambassador commented that the historic Japantown buildings looked too good, almost like he was disappointed that the area did not look more run-down to reflect the age and history of the area.

Then on to Yu-Ai Kai where Sophie Horiuchi-Forrester toured the Ambassador through the facility. He even saw a scrabble game in progress and addressed the assemblage at a ukulele performance! Next Reverend Sakamoto was able to show the interior of the Buddhist Church and the last stop was a special Bento lunch from Kubota Restaurant eaten in the IMB conference room where we were joined by other community representatives.



During the luncheon repast, Ambassador Fujisaki asked everyone to introduce themselves and their background and then opened it up to questions. I inquired about the JET Program (Japan Exchange and Teaching Program) and if this English proficiency program will continue. He indicated that the program has not been as successful as they had hoped as Japan is not ranked very high in English proficiency. He felt the program will continue but would also like to see an immersion program of their English teachers started. Who knows, perhaps we will be seeing Japanese Nationals coming to America soon speaking with a Texas drawl or Southern accent! ;)

Thank you to Mr. Yoshihiro Uchida for working with Yoshiro Tasaka to get the Ambassador scheduled into San Jose and to our other participants in making the Ambassador welcome: Helen Hayashi, Roy Hirabayashi, Joyce Iwasaki, Tamon Norimoto,

Kathy Sakamoto, and Ed Shikada!

President's Message *by Leon Kimura*



If the San Jose Nihonmachi is any indication of the state of our overall Nikkei community, I must say that I feel pretty good about our future! I spoke to many of you at the Issei Memorial Building Open House during the Spirit of Japantown Festival and everyone was so positive about the future of Japantown! I've spoken to many merchants and residents and find that even during these trying economic times, there is a tangible desire to offer support to one another, and more often than not, people are doing okay. And I see this strengthening of the heart of our local Nikkei community in Japantown as a means to reinforce the community throughout the greater San Jose area and beyond.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the San Jose JACL, I want to take a moment to thank all of you for support! Through your memberships, attending events, donations, feedback (good or bad), and even your good wishes, our work is made easier and more rewarding!

Thank you and I hope to see you at our big Centennial Celebration on the 23rd. We kept the price down and made it a daytime event to try and ensure accessibility to all!

Federal Government Secure Communities Program

by Neil Kozuma

The San Jose JACL along with other civil liberties groups advocated the opting-out of this controversial federal program that enlists local law enforcement in the fight against illegal immigration.

Santa Clara County Supervisors unanimously voted on September 28, 2010 to opt-out of this federal program that gives federal officials access to fingerprints of people arrested in local communities.

Law-and-order advocates say it has led to the deportation of tens of thousands of lawbreakers; immigrant rights and civil liberties groups say it focuses too much on low-level criminals and doesn't protect against racial profiling.

Santa Clara County leaders have said they never agreed to participate in the program but inadvertently play a role in it whenever someone is arrested and taken to the county jail. At that point, his or her fingerprints are sent to an identification system that is ultimately downloaded to the state Department of Justice. That agency, in turn, has a practice of sharing information with the federal government for law enforcement purposes. The county doesn't object to that, but it does protest allowing ICE officials to access the information to verify immigration status.

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* Must be member of National 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

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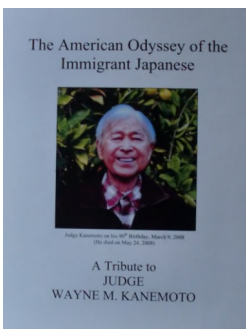
On Saturday, October 23, 2010, the Japanese American Citizens League, San Jose Chapter (San Jose JACL), will hold a Centennial Celebration Luncheon fundraiser for the historic, 100 years old Issei Memorial Building (IMB) for which the San Jose JACL is caretaker for the community. Festivities will be at the Holiday Inn, 1740 North First Street, San Jose, starting at 11 am and concluding around 2:30 pm.

Funds are needed so that the venerable building can be renovated to allow it to continue its service as a home for non-profits and a meeting place for community groups and private parties, and so that the building can be preserved and showcased as a living monument to those who have been part of its history.

This celebration is intended to showcase the IMB through its rich history of use by individuals and organizations that benefited throughout its various roles in the community.

Luncheon reservations are \$60 each. Sponsorship levels have been established as follows:

- \$5000 ~ 20 seats + 10 Judge Kanemoto books* (autographed) “Legacy Level”
- \$2500 ~ 10 seats + 5 Judge Kanemoto books* (autographed) “Heritage Level”
- \$1000 ~ 4 seats + 2 Judge Kanemoto book* (autographed) “Preservation level”
- \$600 ~ 10 seats “Table Sponsor”
- \$100 & up ~ 1 Judge Kanemoto book will be gifted at this level through December 2010



***The American Odyssey of the Immigrant Japanese – A Tribute to Judge Wayne Kanemoto**, authored by retired Judges Gerard J. Kettmann, Mark Thomas Jr. and the “Lunch Bunch,” including San Jose JACL Advisory Council member George Hinoki. This is a collection of short autobiographies prepared at various times by Judge Kanemoto, now collated into a whole by his friends

San Jose JACL would be happy to find seniors or other deserving individuals to fill available seats at sponsored tables.

In conjunction with the Luncheon, there will be a benefit drawing and a silent auction to raise additional funds needed to renovate the IMB to carry it into its second century as well as to support ongoing San Jose JACL programs—youth scholarships, senior activities, civil/human rights, civic engagement, and more.

The event program includes Secretary Norman Mineta as featured speaker. Of particular significance is that before he came to prominence on his political path to Mayor of San Jose, U.S. Congressperson, Commerce Secretary, and Transportation Secretary, Secretary Mineta ran his insurance business from an office in the IMB. NBC11’s Mike Inouye and San Jose Taiko will round out the afternoon’s program.

Efforts have been made to locate people with ties to the IMB. In fact, several “IMB babies” who were born at the IMB during its Kuwabara Hospital era or during the pre-WWII era when the building served as a midwives’ clinic have accepted San Jose JACL’s invitation to attend the luncheon as honored guests.

A luncheon reservation form and drawing prize information can be found on the San Jose JACL website, www.sanjosejacl.org. Or for more information call the San Jose JACL office at 408 295-1250 or email sanjosejacl@sbcglobal.net.

San Jose JACL/Yu-Ai Kai Fishing Trip *by Tom Nishisaka*

Our annual Senior Fishing trip was celebrated on September 4th. 10 seniors joined the 7 volunteers at the "cement boat" at Seacliff Beach in Capitola. It was a beautiful day but the fish were celebrating Labor Day... The seniors caught bullheads, small crabs and seaweed but none were keepers. However, at the end of the day, we handed out prizes for various categories such as most fish and least fish caught, first and last fish, biggest seaweed, etc. All the seniors won an assortment of prizes provided by Tom and Sue Shigemasa, Sharon Uyeda and Tom Nishisaka.. The seniors really enjoyed the outing as it gave them some time to socialize and eat their lunch while waiting for the BIG

strike. Several seniors commented that the fishing was not as important as the socializing. Special thanks goes out to volunteers Van Lam, a Senior at Silver Creek high school, and a father and son team Kim and Kevin Tanaka who assisted in setting up the fishing poles, cutting bait, taking photographs and unhooking the bullheads and crabs. Also assisting were President Leon Kimura, V.P. Tom Oshidari, Board members, Carrie Kimura and Tom Nishisaka. Thanks to Julie Hubbard with Yu-Ai Kai for coordinating the sign-ups again this year and to Jim Sakamoto for providing the VFW's fishing tackle. We are already discussing our plans for next year so please keep reading the Outlook.



President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

by Neil Kozuma

Staff from the JACL Washington, DC office were fortunate enough to witness a defining moment in the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community's history--the swearing in ceremony of 17 AAPI commissioners appointed by President Obama. In a large lecture hall at the US Capitol, Kiran Ahuja, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on AAPIs, welcomed the new commissioners on stage into their new leadership roles.

Daphne Kwok, the Chair of the advisory committee, and her fellow advisory commissioners will advise the President on efforts involving the AAPI community and work with the White House Initiative on AAPIs to increase access and participation in federal programs.

National Executive Director of the JACL, Floyd Mori, expressed the following statement:

"The President's Advisory Commission on AAPIs will be a critical body in airing the major concerns and needs of our community to the President. We are proud of those who were appointed and applaud the President for forming a diverse body that will represent the various communities well. We have worked closely over the years with the new Chair of the Commission, Daphne Kwok, and we are confident that she will be a great leader in directing the affairs of the Commission. There is serious work to be done, including the need for the government to focus on the Asian American fishermen, who have been devastated by the BP oil spill along the Gulf Coast."

Halloween Face Painting

On Halloween from 3:30—5:00, The Issei Memorial Building will be opened for a special treat where the tattoo artists from the State of Grace Tattoo will be ready to paint spiders and ghosts and other ghoulish and fun things on arms and faces! Following, at 5 pm will be San Jose Taiko's annual Halloween performance at the Wesley United Method Church, right across the street from the IMB. Be there or we will visit you in your nightmares! Thank you to Kari Dobashi Barton and CYS for coordinating the event.



One Nation Working Together by Neil Kozuma

On Saturday, October 2, 2010, the JACL joined the One Nation Working Together march and rally in Washington, DC.

One Nation Working Together is a social movement of individuals and organizations committed to putting America back to work and pulling America back together. Coming from a diverse set of backgrounds, experiences, beliefs and orientations, One Nation Working Together is determined to build a more united country with good jobs, equal justice, and quality public education for all.

2010 Angel Island Excursion *by Carrie Kimura*

The San Jose JACL and the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMSj) teamed up in September to co-host a tour of the newly renovated Immigration Station on Angel Island. The tour was held on September 18th and kicked off at 8:00am from San Jose Japantown. Participants traveled in comfort by Royal Coach bus from the JAMSj parking lot to Tiburon, then traveled by ferry to Angel Island. We were lucky enough to have Mr. Ed Wong, who is a former Angel Island docent, join us for the tour and speak during the trip over and answer any questions we had on our way back. His talk was aimed at both the Chinese and Japanese experience on the island, which made it very special and informative.

Once on the island, participants enjoyed super-sized bento boxes from Nijiya Market for lunch and proceeded to visit the Immigration Station and Visitor Center. We were awed by the tour led by docents Joe & Elizabeth Chan! The tour granted participants special access to areas of the Immigration Station that are not open to the public, with exhibits of living quarters for the immigrants that were detained there. We got to look over carvings in the walls of the building and some genuine articles of clothing donated to the Station by a past detainee.

This trip gave everyone a special chance to walk in the footsteps of our immigrant forefathers and get a unique glimpse of their first experiences in the United States. I want to thank my partner in planning, June Honma, for all her dedication to making this trip happen! I hope we will be able to offer another chance at a great experience like this one in the future!



Photos courtesy of Will Kaku

Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution *by Neil Kozuma*



January 30, 2011 will be the first Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution. According to Ling Woo Liu, Director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute for Civil Rights and Education at the Asian Law Caucus, this is the first time any state has designated a day to honor an Asian-American.

Fred Korematsu, only 23 years old at the time when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, refused to abide by government orders. Like so many of the 120,000 Japanese Americans who were imprisoned in the internment camps, Korematsu could not agree with the government's disregard for their rights as US citizens.

In 1944, the US Supreme Court ruled against Korematsu in *Korematsu vs. United States*, claiming that the forced relocation was out of military necessity.

Korematsu's case re-entered the court circuit in 1983 in the federal district-court of San Francisco, and this time Korematsu won-- a moment of vindication after the decades of a "disloyalty" conviction by the government. His case helped to pave the way for redress in 1988.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed AB 1775 [co-sponsored by Assemblymember Warren Furutani (D - South Los Angeles County) and Assemblymember Marty Block (D - San Diego)]. AB 1775 encourages schools across the state to teach students about Fred Korematsu's story and its relevance today. The first Fred Korematsu Day will be celebrated on January 30, 2011, on Fred Korematsu's birthday.

Congressional Gold Medal Bill Passes in the House of Representatives *by Neil Kozuma*

Senate Bill 1055 recognizes the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service with the nation's highest civilian honor by the United States Congress.

The recognition extends not only to those who are living but to those who were killed in action and those who have passed on. The next step is for the President to sign the bill.

The JACL acknowledges the leadership and work of Senator Barbara Boxer and Congressman Adam Schiff in passage of the bill.

JACL National Executive Director, Floyd Mori, commented on the debate. "It was very emotional to listen to Congressman after Congressman extol the valor of the Japanese American soldiers during World War II in spite of the fact that their families were incarcerated behind barbed wire for no reason other than their race. Many referred to the similarity of then and today's hatred aimed at loyal Muslim Americans. We thank the veterans, and we commend the Congress for the unanimous support of a measure that provides a great lesson that

patriotism is beyond color and ethnicity."

Congressman Adam Schiff, who introduced the House version of the bill, had stated: "... Man for man they were the most highly decorated combat units of the war. I can't imagine a group more deserving of Congress' highest honor."

Terry Shima and Grant Ichikawa, who are World War II Veterans and leaders of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), worked tirelessly with JACL staff in visiting Senate offices on Capitol Hill to ask for co-sponsorships of the bill. The Senate had passed S 1055 unanimously and also passed the amendment to include the Military Intelligence Service to the bill.

David Kawamoto, JACL National President, stated: "The Japanese American veterans of World War II are absolutely deserving of this recognition with the nation's highest civilian honor. Their patriotism during difficult times is exemplary. This honor is long overdue but welcome. We are very happy that this bill has passed so overwhelmingly."

IMB Open House *by Leon Kimura*

During the Spirit of Japantown Festival, the historic 100 year old Issei Memorial Building (IMB) was opened to the public and for over 7 hours, a steady stream of people came through starting at 10 in the morning and even after the 5 p.m. festival close! We often had 15 to 20 people at a time all throughout the lobby, exhibit room, back yard and upstairs. When pointed out, people could readily see the difference between the steep 1910 historic stairway and the modern stairs installed 27 years ago with the renovation. And they loved to hear the stories about how the Kumamoto Kenjin Kai had to build the hospital in order to get a Japanese speaking doctor to come from Japan and practice in San Jose. Also about how then insurance agent Norman Mineta had his office in the building before he became Mayor, Congressman, Secretary of Commerce then Secretary of Transportation. You know, that person the airport and freeway are named after... And how Congressman Mike Honda's mother was born in the building. In many respects, with all the people and organizations getting their start or having early history in the IMB, it can be considered the birthplace of our community!

Visitors also had their stories to tell about when: they used to come practice odori dancing in the community room, saw the museum exhibits, got Yu-Ai Kai services, visited people who lived upstairs and sat in their living room, or climbed the stairs when they were 5-years old when their sister was born... Others had passed by the building for years and never saw the inside. And many saw that the rear yard/kitchen/conference room was available for rent for as low as \$25 and will definitely be coming to book some events and activities!

Our conference room tables were lined with exhibit boards with the history of the IMB and the various past and current tenants of the building so the visitors could see how the community has been affected in so many ways by the existence of the IMB. These exhibits will be displayed again at the IMB Centennial Celebration on Saturday, October 23rd. So, if you haven't purchased your tickets yet, please do so and show your support in preserving this community gem! And you'll even get a chance to meet and listen to that airport person (our distinguished keynote speaker)!



San Jose JACL Appreciation BBQ *by Sharon Uyeda*

The grills were manned by Aron Shimada and three Tom's (Nishikawa, Nishisaka and Oshidari) as tri-tip and chicken were barbecued for the enjoyment of our volunteers and supporters. This annual barbecue is the Chapter's way to say "thank you" to all the individuals who help us throughout the year. Thanks go to the Board members who brought side dishes, salads and desserts to share. The event was held on Friday evening, August 20th in the backyard of the IMB with over 60 people attending. President Leon Kimura talked about the IMB Centennial Luncheon to be held on Saturday, October 23rd and also acknowledged the many ways that the attendees give to our community and to our Chapter. The barbecue is one small way that the Chapter can say, "Domo Arigato."





JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SAN JOSE

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16: GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

- 1:00 PM: CEREMONIAL BLESSING
ENTERTAINMENT BY SAN JOSE TAIKO
OPEN HOUSE

Guests are invited to tour the museum following the ceremony (approx. 2 pm) every half hour until 5 pm. Pre-register for a time slot by calling 408.294.3138.

Following the Grand Opening weekend, JAMsj will charge an admission fee of \$5 general; \$3 students and seniors. No charge for members and children under age 12. To become a member, see website: www.jamsj.org.



A Good American

Being locked up behind barbed wire with armed guards, made me feel sad..like maybe I wasn't really a good American.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17: TRAVELING EXHIBIT ARTIST CHIZ JUDY SUGITA DE QUEIROZ

- 1:00 PM: "CAMP DAYS: 1942-1945" SLIDE PRESENTATION
2:30 PM: WATERCOLOR HANDS-ON DEMO
For students Grades 3 - 12. Pre-registration required.
To register, call (408) 294-3138.

QUESTIONS? Call Aggie Iemoto, (408) 268-4440 or email aggie@jamsj.org

Directions to JAMsj

Highway 101: exit 13th St. to Jackson St. to Fifth St.

Highway 87: exit Taylor St. to Fifth St.

Highway 880/17: exit First St. to Jackson St. to Fifth St.

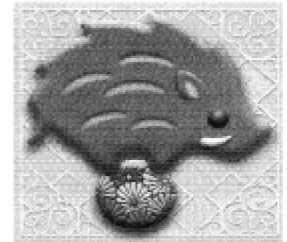
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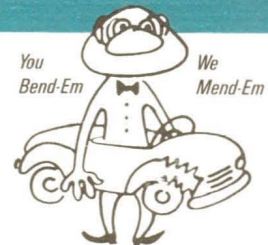
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THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteers:

Amy Halcrow	C, O
John Hayakawa	B
June Honma	A
Reiko Iwanaga	S
Will Kaku	A
Carrie Kimura	A, B, F
Leon Kimura	B, C, F, O, S
Richard Konda	S
Neil Kozuma	B
Van Lam	F
James Matsumoto	B, O
Ken Matsumoto	B, O
May Matsuzaki	B
Greer Nishikawa	B
Tom Nishikawa	B
Jennifer Nishisaka	F, O
Tom Nishisaka	B, C, F, O
Tamon Norimoto	C, F, O,
Tom Oshidari	B, C, F, O
Joyce Oyama	C, O, S

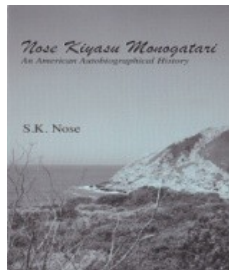


Margie Oyama	C, S
Sue Shigemasa	F
Tom Shigemasa	F
Aron Shimada	B
Kevin Tanaka	F
Kim Tanaka	F
Henry Uyeda	B, C, O
Sharon Uyeda	B, C, F, O
Ed Wong	A
Joyce Yamamoto	S
Emi Young	B



Legend:

A	- Angel Island
B	- Appreciation BBQ
C	- Centennial Mailer
F	- Seniors Fishing Trip
O	- Outlook Mailer
S	- Spirit Festival Open House



New Book Release: 5 Stars on Amazon.com

Which Vantage Press describes as

"A Paean to . . . family & . . . Japanese ancestors:
"Nose Kiyasu Monogatari",
An American Autobiographical History.

S.K. Nose, (whose grandparents emigrated from Japan to America in the early 1900s), was born in Washington, D C, and was educated at Columbia University and the University of Maryland, where he earned a Master's degree in Architecture. He has worked as an architect and served on the board of directors for the JACL.

To Purchase: 1-800-882-3273 MasterCard / Visa/ Amex/ Or send \$12.95 plus \$3.50 + \$1.50 ea. additional copy to Vantage Press, Inc., 419 Park Ave South, NY, NY 10016
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Honoring *Issei* and *Nisei* American soldiers who proudly served in the United States Armed Forces

in the following wars:

Spanish – American

World War I

World War II

Korean War

Vietnam War

Judy Niizawa, President
San Jose JACL - 1980 & 1981

The San Jose JACL has completed their office relocation to the first floor of the Issei Memorial Building (IMB). We are now located in the first office as you enter the front doors which happens to be the insurance office of Norman Mineta. If you haven't visited recently, stop by and check out our new digs!

The IMB is in need of maintenance and repair help! The railings for the ramp at the front of the building is looking for volunteers to help rebuild it...perhaps the Boy Scouts as an Eagle project?



Japanese American Citizens League

San Jose Chapter

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Calendar of Events

October

- 8 Board Meeting
Issei Memorial Building, 7 pm
- 16-17 JAMsj Grand Opening
new museum facility, 1 pm
- 20 Yu-Ai Kai Dr. James Akiyama Wellness
Center Grand Opening, 4pm
- 23 IMB Centennial Celebration
Holiday Inn San Jose, 11 am-3 pm
- 31 SJ JACL Halloween facepainting
IMB 3:30—5 pm
San Jose Taiko performance, SJPD skit
Wesley United Methodist Church, 5-5:30 pm
Trick-or-Treat in Japantown, 5:30-6:30 pm



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, October 23, 2010

11 am—3 pm

IMB Centennial Celebration

Hosted by

San Jose JACL

Holiday Inn, San Jose

Mediterranean Room

1740 N. First Street

San Jose, CA 95112

November

- 12 SJ JACL General Membership meeting & elections
Issei Memorial Building, 7 pm
- 25 Thanksgiving Day

December

- 10 SJ JACL Board Meeting
Issei Memorial Building, 7 pm
- 25 Christmas Day

**Be sure to get your Benefit Drawing Tickets
For a chance to win any of these fantastic prizes**

- 1st Prize: 4 Southwest Airlines tickets (value (\$1,600)
- 2nd Prize: 2 Southwest Airlines tickets (value \$800)
- 3rd Prize: \$500 cash
- 4th Prize: Harrah's/Harvey's 2 Nights Package & 2 Show
Tickets (value \$350)