## FOOTPRINTS

Impressions from where we were to where we will be

The Newsletter For The Japanese American Historical Society Of San Diego

WINTER Issue 1999

Volume 8 Number 4



Rev. Norikazu Yukawa conducts kaien shiki ceremony.

### Japanese Friendship Garden Re-Opens

Several hundred San Diegans joined with dignitaries Sept. 9 to dedicate the newly renovated Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park.

San Diego's Mayor Susan Golding, Consulate General of Japan Mitsuji Suzuka and Honorary Consul General of Japan in San Diego Randall C. Phillips joined several city councilmembers and Tom Yanagihara and Kaneko Bishop, president and vice president respectively of the Japanese Friendship Garden of San Diego, in the grand re-opening of the garden.

The Rev. Norikazu Yukawa of the Konko Church of San Diego presided over the kaien shiki service.

Mayor Golding and Mr. Yanagihara participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony following Rev. Yukawa's religious ceremony.

In her address to the crowd, Mayor Golding paid tribute to Mr. Yanagihara and Mrs. Bishop for spearheading the effort to renovate and re-open the garden.

Mr. Phillips paid tribute to the Nikkei community for their efforts in bringing about this day.

Others called it a day "to celebrate the Japanese culture."

Councilmember Christine Kehoe presented garden officials with a city proclamation.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Dec. 19, 1999 - Christmas Service at Ocean View United Church of Christ 10:00 a.m. How the Grouch Found Christmas (Children Program) at San Diego Japanese Christian Church 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 19, 1999 - Mochitsuki Buddhist Temple of San Diego 6:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Dec. 22, 1999 - Candlelight Service at San Diego Japanese Christian Church 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 24, 1999 - Candlelight Service at Ocean View United Church of Christ 6:00 p.m.

Dec. 29, 1999 - Year End Prayer & Udon Fellowship San Diego Japanese Christian Church 7:30 p.m.

Dec. 31, 1999 - Joya No Kane Buddhist Temple of San Diego 7:30 p.m. Joya No Kane 11:30 p.m. Shelter Island Friendship Bell (open to the public)

Jan.1, 2000 - New Year Service Buddhist Temple of San Diego 10:00 a.m.

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Masaaki Hironaka - as always. Helping out at the Fifth Annual Meeting of the JAHSSD October 19. 1996

Masaaki Hironaka August 12, 1918 - September 10, 1999 by Don Estes

Mas Hironaka, like most of us, was many things. I'm sure however, that there is little doubt in the minds of those of us who knew him that he above any other person earned and richly deserved the sobriquet "Mr. San Diego JACL."

Mas was born at home, 414 Island Avenue, in the heart of the old downtown Japanese district. Like many of the children of his generation, Mas was helped into this world by Mrs. U. Obayashi who was one of the Issei mid-wives who served the community. Both his mother, Ichi, and father, Takizo, were from Yamaguchi-ken. Mas was the couple's third child, the only boy.

Mas lived at the family residence thirty years, until the outbreak of World War II and the mass removal of all the local Nikkei. For that whole time, the family ran a barber shop and public bath. After Mas' father died in 1922, his mother continued barber and kept the family together. Later, his foster father Dr. Gizo Kitabatake, opened San Diego's first Japanese book store the, Sekishima-do next to the barber shop.

Like most of the downtown Nikkei kids, Mas attended the old Lincoln Grammar School located at Twelfth and "F" streets. Folks like Bill and Amy Obayashi, Tatsuo and Yoshio Mamiya, Fred Katsumata, Mike Ishikawa, George Kuratomi and Tsuneyo Yamasaki were his contemporaries. Mas remembered that the Chinese kids living west of Fourth and the Nikkei young people used to have rock

fights on an empty lot between Island and "J" on Fourth Avenue that also doubled as a sumo ring.

Mas attended Memorial Junior High School and San Diego High School where he was enrolled in the school's Junior ROTC program. After graduation, he went to work for the Post Office where he was employed until April 8, 1942, the day the Nikkei exile began.

Santa Anita was the first stop for Mas, his youngest sister and their mother. The Hironaka family, unlike the majority of San Diegans who went to Poston, Arizona, were relocated to the detention camp at Jerome, Arkansas. Later Mas moved to Chicago

where he was drafted into the army in 1944.

Among the first Nikkei families to return to San Diego, the Hironakas returned home in 1946. The sitting postmaster in San Diego refused to reinstate Mas and so he fished commercially waiting out the post master's retirement and the appointment a new postal executive. In 1947, after taking the postal exams all over again, Mas was returned to service. He worked for the post office until his retirement in 1975 when he was the manager of George Washington Station at 25th and B streets.

It was just after returning to San Diego that Mas decided to become active in the local JACL chapter. At that time, the chapter was just being reorganized after the hiatus caused by World War II. The meetings were being held in the office of **Dr. George Hara**, a dentist with an office at the corner of 16th and Market street.

Mas went on to serve as the National JACL Secretary from 1964 to 1966, National 1000 Club Chairman, the Governor of the Pacific Southwest District from 1961 to 1964, and an amazing fourteen years as the local chapter president. After his last term in 1990, he became the executive director of the SD JACL, an office he held until his death. The National JACL honored Mas' service with the Silver, Ruby and Sapphire pins. He was also instrumental in the organization of the Japanese Coordinating Council of San Diego, and our own historical society.

In an eloquent eulogy for Mas, Masato Asakawa captured the essence of Mas' commitment to

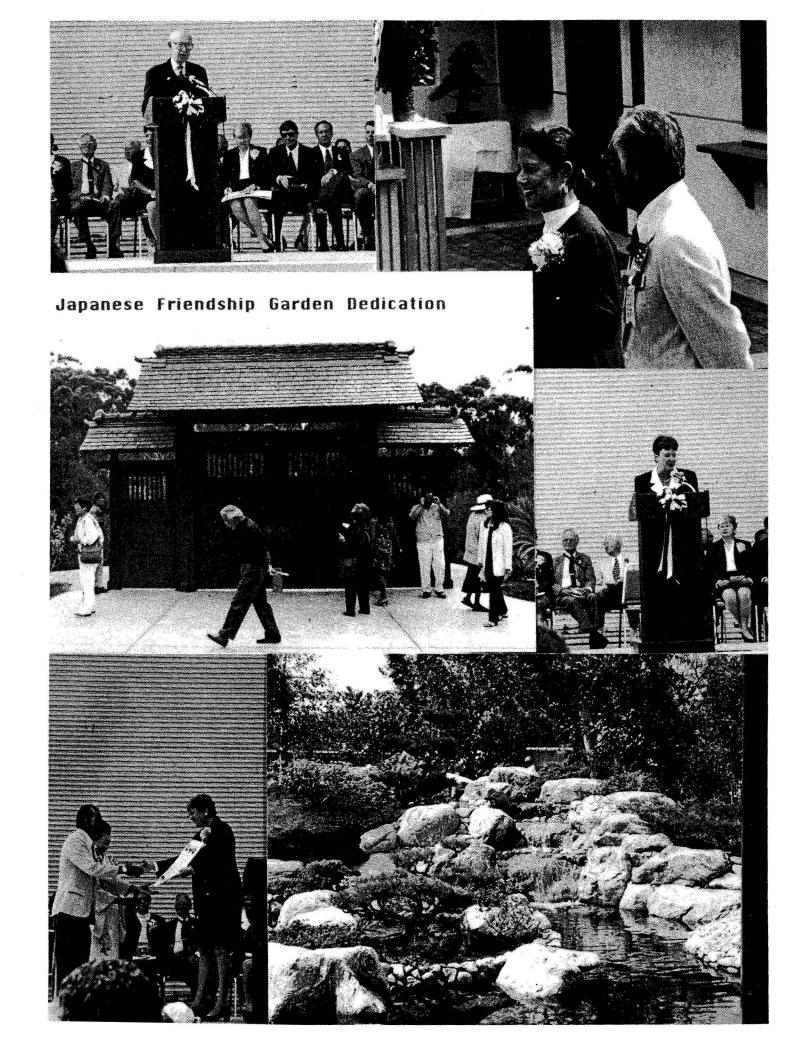
the JACL and the community when he said:

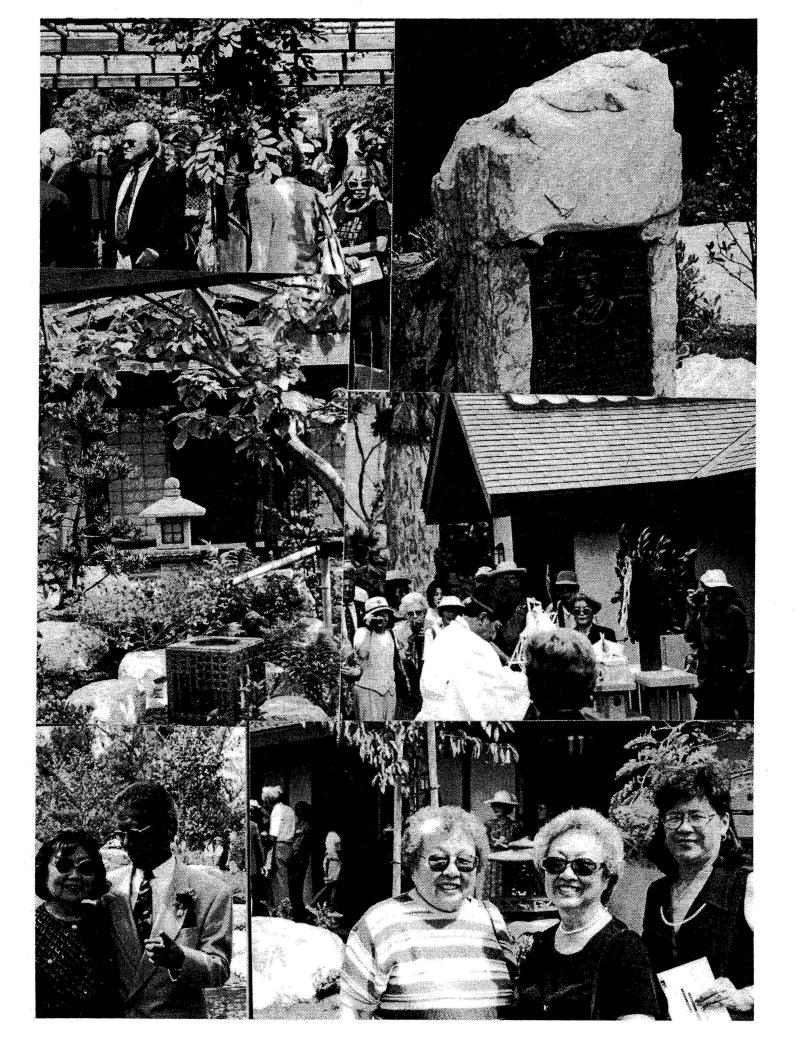
"He ran more errands for more people, attended more banquets than I can count, attended practically every funeral in our community, and if you were in need of help he would be there."

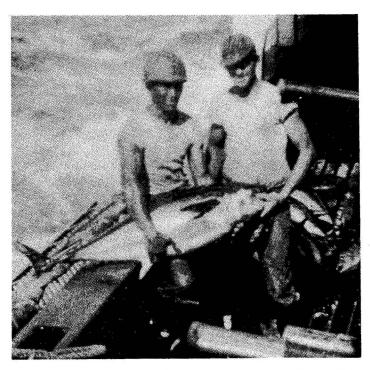
Predeceased by his wife Betty, Mas leaves his daughter, Wendy Thornton, three grandchildren, and three sisters, Teruye Okabe, Tsuneko

Koyama, and Sumako Tsushima.

The JACL and Mas seemed always ideally suited for each other. In the thirty-five years I knew and worked with Mas, he never seemed to forget what the JACL motto was trying to tell us, "For Better Americans, In a Greater America."







Joe Yoshioka (L) and Russell Casmerio (R) show off part of the tuna boat Sea Hound's catch 1946.

#### Returning to the Sea: Nisei Fishermen After the War

by Susan Hasegawa

In the past two years of my involvement in oral history interviews, I was continually amazed with the life experiences of our participants. In documenting their journey back to San Diego, I was struck by the matter-of-fact, can-do, attitude of the Nisei narrators. While listening to their stories, I was reminded of that ubiquitous slogan of a famous athletic footwear company" Just do it." In fact, returning Japanese Americans "just did it." "It" was filled with obstacles and hardships, nonetheless Nikkei slowly reclaimed their lives in the aftermath of internment.

Like other West Coast returnees, San Diego's Nikkei faced an uncertain labor market. However, San Diegans of Japanese ancestry didn't wipe the slate clean and start anew, but attempted to reconnect with familiar patterns of the prewar era. For some Nikkei, fishing was the path to social and economic

integration.

Commercial fishing was a popular occupation for Nikkei in San Diego before the war. As a matter of fact, Nikkei fisherman came to dominate the San Diego fishing industry in the 1930s. In 1938, Joe Yoshioka came to San Diego to fish on one of Tokunosuke Abe's boats. At that time, Abe had amassed a fleet of twenty-five boats. In addition to Abe's operation, there were numerous boats managed by other Issei fisherman. Joe replaced his brother, Ben Yoshioka, who went back to college, in the fishing operation in Baja California and San Diego.

World War II devastated the local Nikkei fishing industry. After the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, many Issei fishermen were arrested and their boats confiscated. Most Issei never went back to fishing after the war; however, Nisei created opportunities to get back into familiar territory.

A small but important start in the long resettlement process was the reentry of Japanese Americans to commercial fishing. In early 1946, JoeYoshioka left the service and made his way back to his wife and young child already living in San Diego. Like other Nikkei fisherman he wanted to return to the sea and found the opportunity on the Costa Rica, a Taira Hosaka, Westgate Cannery boat. captain of the Costa Rica, had reconnected with the cannery and recruited a crew of experienced Nisei including Joe.

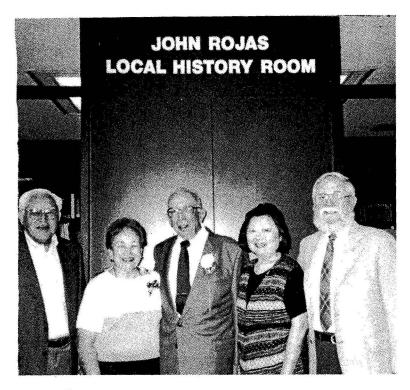
After the Costa Rica voyage, Joe found more work with the Portuguese-owned Sea Hound. Another Nisei recalled that "most of us went on boats that were either run by Portuguese or the Italians and a few that were run by Nisei." For young Nisei with experience at sea, fishing

was one avenue to self-sufficiency.

Living and working with other crew members who still had negative feelings about the war was a concern for Nikkei fisherman. This was especially important since fishing trips could last several weeks, or even months. Joe was hesitant when he was asked to join an unfamiliar boat. remembered, "... if I get on this boat, is the crew going to accept me?" And, he expressed his concern to the Portuguese boat owner who replied, "Don't worry about it. I'll take care of everything." Joe went on to make four successful trips with that crew and was later offered the opportunity to captain his own boat.

As Nisei reestablished their niche in commercial fishing, opportunities for advancement also opened up. Joe recalled a virtual stranger offered him the opportunity to "run a boat." Mulling over his decision, Joe remembered thinking: "I didn't have that much experience in fishing yet...," but, "the least you can do is get fired." In September of 1947, twenty-nine year old Joe Yoshioka sailed out of San Diego Bay as the captain of the Sherry Ann. A profitable trip enabled Joe to acquire part ownership in his own boat and he was an independent fisherman for the next twelve

While Joe made a career of fishing, others utilized the ocean as a transition step to employment elsewhere. Masaaki Hironaka fished on the Sun Valley, a Nisei-run boat for about a year. The local postmaster had promised to rehire Mas after the war, but upon returning to San Diego, the postmaster had rescinded the earlier offer. In the midst of protesting these see Retuning to Sea page 9



Charter Life Member John and Mina Rojas celebrate the opening of the John Rojas Local History Room with Ben Segawa, Elaine Hibi Bowers, and Don Estes.

#### JAHSSD Charter Life Member Honored

John Rojas, charter life member of our society and the man known as, "Mr. Chula Vista local historian" was honored on October 23, 1999, at the Civic Center Library in Chula Vista.

Over sixty of John's friends and admirers gathered to see him recognized for his forty years of effort to preserve the history of Chula Vista and the South Bay. After a short program in the library auditorium, the audience moved to another location in the library to watch John cut the ribbon officially opening the newly designated John Rojas Local History Room.

A number of tributes to John's efforts were made by representatives of local, state and national government. Included in the program were recollections of John's contributions to the local Nikkei experience by **Ben Segawa**, Executive Director of our society, and **Don Estes**, member of the board. Perhaps the most moving remarks came from John's daughter, **Nancy Rojas** and his grandson **Daniel Pereyra**.

We are proud to join with those honoring John for his lifetime of work preserving the whole history of the South Bay.

#### **CHANKO-NABE**

By Joyce Nabeta Teague

Our family had quite a shake-up at the end of September when my father suffered a heart attack and medical personal worked for several hours to minimize the damage to his heart. Fortunately, the angioplasty doctors performed a few days later was a success. A tiny stainless steel tube called a stent propped open the damaged artery, allowing blood to flow freely to his heart again.

A stoic soul who dislikes even taking aspirin, Dad took home seven bottles of prescription medication, a file full of instructions, information, admonishments, and several months' worth of medical and classroom appointments. It was overwhelming, but meant to give him knowledge and tools to prevent another heart attack. He also brought home troubling diagnosis discovered during his hospital stay — that he suffers from diabetes.

In Diabetes II, the so-called adult-onset type, the body is dutifully producing the insulin needed to ensure absorption of nutrients into the cells. But for some unknown reason, the cells spurn the insulin and thus cannot use the glucose the body needs to function. In desperation, the body begins using stored up fat instead. That's why sometimes, as in my Dad's case, you lose weight regardless of how many trips you make to the tasty buffet tables at the California Casino. You're happily eating, but your cells are ignoring your efforts.

The first thing Dad did after leaving the hospital was throw out his cigarettes and quit his tobacco habit of 60 years, cold turkey. Then he and Mom set about making necessary dietary and lifestyle changes that would help assure his entry into the millennium and beyond. Not easy, but neither has it been earth-shakingly difficult. Deprivation? Unthinkable. But how about moderation as a good rule of thumb? One bowl of rice instead of the usual two. Once we start rethinking what we eat and how we live our lives, these are no longer intimidating changes, but manageable, reasonable, doable.

Diabetes can play havoc with your heart, circulatory system, eyesight, organ function, immunity, and energy level. Because it is passed along silently as a genetic predisposition, our entire family has to come to the realization that Dad's problem is potentially ours as well.

Now the holiday season is upon us with it's happy bounty of sweets and wonderful things to eat. This year as we celebrate Dad's birthday on Thanksgiving Day as we have for many years past, there will be some see Chanko-Nabe page 15



Espousing tolerance, Yukio and Mitsuko Kawamoto who have shared their wartime experiences with hundreds of local students over the past seven years.

#### YUKIO KAWAMOTO

by Christine Byun The Falconer

This story is reprinted with the permission of the Torrey Pines High School newspaper, The Falconer.

This is the story of a high school student during the dark time of Japanese American internment during World War II. Now he is 74 years old, a member of the Japanese American Historical Society, and shares his story to teach tolerance.

Yukio Kawamoto was senior class president of his high school. He went to all the high school dances, worked a part time job, and played cards for fun. Kawamoto's high school times were normal, except for the fact that he spent them in an American concentration camp in Poston, Arizona.

"We had carnivals and dances at our high school. We had student council and they started up a yearbook. It wasn't that much different from an

average high school today," Kawamoto said.

A San Diego native, Kawamoto is a second generation Japanese American. He grew up with occasional discrimination experiences. But nothing compared to the ultimate act of racism that occurred on April 1, 1942, when the fear and discrimination of the U.S. government escalated and spilled onto Kawamoto's life. Japanese Americans living along the West Coast were ordered to pack their things and prepare to be "relocated." Notices of the impending removal of Japanese Americans were posted around their neighborhoods on telephone poles. The government felt that all Japanese Americans were potential threats due to the raging World War II. Even though Kawamoto and many of the others were

American citizens, they were forced to leave

everything.

"Some were told to bring only what we could carry. Someone told us we would be going to a place that was very cold. So, everybody packed a lot of heavy clothes."

Kawamoto and his family traveled from San Diego to Los Angeles by train and then were moved by bus to Santa Anita. The racetrack there was transformed into an assembly center with barracks built on the parking lots and the infield.

"Since we were among the first to arrive, we

got the choice spots... The horse stalls."

For the next four months, the Kawamotos and others lived in a space enclosed by wire fences. Guard towers stood high, manned by soldiers with machine guns. Kawamoto "never really thought about it" too much.

Then the Kawamotos were transported by train to the concentration camp at Poston, Arizona. They would live there for the next three years. The housing units were very minimal, only covering a space of 20 by 25 feet per household. Constructed out of boards and tarpaper, there were many knots in the floor.

"There was no privacy at all. We had to hang

blankets up to separate the rooms."

Even though they were far from their home their life went on, and so did school. The students helped build their school out of adobe bricks. Kawamoto entered his junior year in late October.

"It was very primitive when we first started. There were no desks. We had to bring chairs from

home. Eventually, we got textbooks."

Kawamoto later graduated from the Poston III high school. He left the camp to attend college in Minneapolis through some scholarship money provided by a donor. Slowly, the people left the camps and returned to society. The Kawamoto family returned to San Diego in September, 1945.

Years later, in 1989, the government made a formal apology to all Japanese American internees. They were awarded \$20,000 in reparations. It was a bittersweet victory, because many of the older generation were not alive to receive the compensation.

Even through the ugliness of war and discrimination, Kawamoto considers his Poston times to be some of his best memories, and still reunites with

camp friends at reunions.

"I never really considered it a sad part of my life. But, later I realized what a dirty trick the government played on us. We were American citizens."



Judge Arthur Mundo congratulates the first local Issei to become naturalized Americans. (L-R) Mrs. Kaji Ono, Mr. Aizo Sogo, Mr. Shizutaro Ono, Mrs. Komume Sogo, Superior Court Judge Arthur L. Mundo, and Mrs. Hiroko Kubota

#### A Moment in Time: Classic Photographs From the JAHSSD Archive

By Don Estes

Contrary to the words so deeply inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, the United States has not always made welcome the "...huddled masses, yearning to be free." One such group was the Issei pioneers who began to arrive in the late Nineteenth Century. Unlike millions of other immigrants to this country, these natives of Japan were provided with a very special status by the Congress of the United States. These Issei were marked as, "Aliens ineligible for citizenship." The basic fact of life was they would forever be denied the opportunity to become U.S. citizens.

In large part as a result of the brilliant record of courage and bravery established by the members of 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service, and the scattering of other Nikkei serving in the armed forces during World War II, Congress reconsidered their earlier actions when they passed the McCarren-Walter Immigration and Nationality Act in August, 1952. This law, for the first time, allowed alien Japanese to apply for U.S. citizenship.

In San Diego, the Buddhist Temple and the Ocean View Congregational Church immediately established naturalization classes for their Issei members. On Friday, July 17, 1953 the first five local Issei to gain their American citizenship by naturalization were sworn in by Superior Court Judge

Arthur L. Mundo.

Four of the Issei taking part in the ceremony had waited most of their lives for the opportunity. The eldest of the new citizens was **Mr. Aizo Sogo** who was 80 at the time and his wife **Komume**, 59, of Pacific Beach. The Sogos, who had come to the United States in 1915, were the parents of seven children all born in San Diego.

The second couple was Mr. Shizutaro Ono, 79, a retired grocer, and his wife, Kaji, 65. The Onos had run a market before World War II at the corner of 25th and Broadway. Like the Sogos, the Onos also had three children all San Diego born. One of their sons, John, had been awarded two Bronze Stars for valor in fighting against Nazi forces in France.

The fifth Issei to receive her citizenship was Mrs. Hiroko Kubota, 26, who had been born in Hiroshima and came to this country as an infant. She was the wife of Mr. Robert T. Kubota and the mother of three American-born children.

These five marked the way for hundreds of other Issei in San Diego County who would eventually expatriate themselves and be admitted to full American citizenship making the words on the Statue of Liberty shine a little brighter.

#### CAUGHT DOING SOMETHING NICE

The health and vitality of our society is directly proportional to the support we receive from our members and friends. Each issue of *The Footprints*, we want to acknowledge the efforts of those folks who have helped us grow a little more. Our grateful thanks to you all.

We were gently reminded that Mrs. Masako Shima had donated over 100 individual artifacts to our society's archives in April of 1998. These items ranged in size from cuff links given by visiting Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force vessels through books, photographs and other printed materials. Included also were hand crafted items including two wonderful hand-made and hand-painted Boy's Day koi and wooden storage boxes used by the family when they were detained at the Butte Camp at Gila River. We apologize for not acknowledging these splendid examples of the local Nikkei experience in our last newsletter.

In this past quarter Frank and Sumio Kastelic donated \$1000 to our society's photo archival activities.

Our gratitude goes to **Paul and Emiko Hoshi** for their very generous donation of \$500 to our society's continuing work of documenting the community's Nikkei history through our oral history project.

\*\*see Doing Something Nice page 17\*

actions and retaking the civil service exam, Mas turned to commercial fishing to survive. After a two year battle and a new postmaster, Mas regained his

position.

Nikkei women also returned to work at the fish canneries. After initial resistance, cannery managers relented and rehired Nikkei women to pack tuna. Joe's mother-in-law, Masayo Adachi, resumed employment at a cannery after a short stint as a housekeeper. While a large number of Issei men worked as fisherman in the prewar era, many of their wives found work in the canneries. Women removed the skin and dark meat from the cooked baskets of tuna and packed the remaining white meat in cans. Although this work was sporadic and part-time, the supplementary income of women was very important to the survival and prosperity of Nikkei families. The return of Joe Yoshioka, Masayo Adachi, and other Nikkei to the fishing industry signaled a reconnection to the prewar San Diego and ensured that, at least for another generation, Japanese Americans in San Diego would continue strong ties with the sea.

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#### Membership News

A word about membership renewals. Notice that your membership expiration date is printed on the upper right corner of the mailing label of the *Footprints*. Around the first of the month that your membership will expire, we will send you a renewal notice. For example, if your membership expiration date is 1/31/2000, you should receive a renewal notice around the 1st of January, 2000.

A warm welcome to the following new members who recently joined our membership: Yoko (Mayeda) Hashima of Los Angles; Don Choji Hibi; Maxwell Hibi; Life Members Paul and Emiko Hoshi; Trace and Mildred Kawasaki; Judy (Seki) Kikuta of Monterey Park; Kikuye (Kawamoto) Koga of Parlier; Mrs. M. Konishi; James S. Matsumoto of Encinitas; Kuniteru (Ray) Mayeda of Torrance; Charles S. and Jane (Kushino) Ogino; Jean (Seki) Okazaki of So. San Gabriel; and Genji Seki. The membership for Yoko Hashima and Kuniteru Mayeda were the gift of Midori The membership for Judy Kikuta, Jean Koga. Okazaki and Genji Seki were the gift of Grace Seki. The membership for Kikuye Koga was the gift of Kiku Kawamoto

JAHSSD gratefully acknowledges the following who recently renewed their membership: Frank and Jean Boyd; California Bank and Trust (Mrs. Agnes Benson); Nancy Cowser; Sue Gerrish; Edythe Harada; Susan Hasegawa; John and Tsune Hashiguchi; Osa and Setsuko Himaka; Miki Honda; Grace Igasaki; Miyoshi and Emi Ikeda; Cecilia

Ishibashi; Chikaye Mary Itami; Hiroko Ito; Sakiko Kada; Richard and Mary Karasawa; Jon and Carrie Kawamoto; Toshiko Kawasaki; Eiji Kiya; James Kondo; Shizue Maruyama; George and Chiyoko Masumoto; Masako Matsuhara; Frank Matsumoto; Ken and Akiko Matsumoto; Chieko Moriyama; Glenn and Keiko Negoro: Emiko Obayashi; Shig Oto; Pam Springer; Yukiko Sugiyama; Kimiye Tachiki; Les and Allyne Tachiki; Katsumi J. and Yoshiko Takashima; Jane Takeshita; Mitsuo Tomita; Masayoshi and Grace Tsuida; Shigenori and Peggy Tsurudome; Saburo Uyeji; Shizu Watanabe; Mary Yamamoto; Florence Yamashita; Shig and June Yamashita; James and Yuri Yamate; and Alice Yano.

Why not consider giving gift memberships to your children or to your relatives? It would make a great holiday gift!

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#### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Know of a JAHSSD member who is sick? If you know a JAHSSD member who is ill or in the hospital, let our Sunshine Cooridinator: Nancy Cowser, know. We would like to send a card to the ailing member to let him/her know that we care and wish a speedy recovery. Every JAHSSD member is asked to help with this worthwhile project. Please call Nancy at 270-0733 and let her know the name of the person and where, if hospitalized. Your help is greatly appreciated.

#### PRESIDENT"S MESSAGE

Warmest season's greeting to all on behalf of the JAHSSD officers and board. Briefly, we've had a good year. Membership has increased to more than 330 and the treasury is sound. Our October Annual Meeting was well-received and it was particularly meaningful for those who had spent time in interment camp. Our school video grant project is progressing well. Unfortunately and regretfully, we lost one board member, Mas Hironaka, recently. However, we were able to persuade Bob and Hisae Batchelder and Vernon Yoshioka to join us.

We appreciate and thank you for your past support, and we hope we can earn your continued support. We wish all of you a joyful and bountiful new year.

> Sincerely, Elaine Hibi Bowers

#### DR. Ina at JAHSSD Annual Meeting

by Mitch Himaka

An overflow crowd was on hand for our 7th annual membership meeting featuring Dr. Satsuki Ina and her documentary, "Children of the Camps," addressing the impact of internment on Nikkei who were interned as children.

Dr. Ina, a licensed family therapist and professor at Cal State Sacramento, spoke to members and college-age students who were invited to attend after the viewing.

The one-hour video proved to be a moving reliving of the camp experience as we watched others participating in a workshop presided over by Dr. Ina expressing their inner most thoughts of internment.

Caucasian friends, who we invited to attend, said the video moved them to tears as it did with most of us Nikkei in attendance.

The participants in the workshop were internees who ranged in age from one who was born in camp to age 14. They were in various camps from Poston to Arkansas.

Dr. Ina said that post-traumatic stress among some internees can be traced directly to their interment experience.

Dr. Ina's video program was the result of a three-year long project. She conducted three-day workshops for over 10 years with former fellow internees to gather her material.

(Copies of the video are available for \$40 through NAATA Distribution, 346 Ninth St. 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA. 94103 or by calling 415-552-9550.)

#### **Board Installs New Officers**

Installed at the October 9, 1999 Annual Meeting of the JAHSSD were this year's officers. Serving her second term as president of our organization will be Elaine Hibi Bowers. Susan Hasegawa will continue as our vice president, as will Jeanne Marumoto Elyea as secretary. Robert Batchelder will be assuming the duties of our organization's treasurer, replacing Masato Asakawa who will be returning to the board. Don Estes as historian, Yukio Kawamoto as membership, and Ben Segawa, continues to serve as your society's executive director.

Serving with Masato on the board will be Hisae Batchelder, Nancy Cowser, Michio Himaka, Todd Himaka, Carol Kawamoto Karen Kawasaki, and Vernon Yoshioka.

#### IN MEMORIAM

The JAHSSD notes with great sadness the passing of San Diegans and former residents of our community. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

Masaaki Hironaka - September 10, 1999
Takashi Hamabata - September 17, 1999
Hide Maeshiro - September 18, 1999
Judith Ann Yamasaki - September 15, 1999
Tad Yano - October 6, 1999
Patsy (Pat) Tanaka - October 8, 1999
Misako Hoagland - October 8, 1999
Chiseko "Chickie" Oya - October 25, 1999
Ruth Mitsue Ogura - November 24, 1999
Ruby Kimiko Yamada - November 25, 1999
Itsuro Seko - November 27, 1999
George Terusaki - November 28, 1999

#### IN GRATITUDE

The membership and the Board of Directors of the JAHSSD would like to gratefully acknowledge the following memorial donations to your historical society.

Dr. Francis Tanaka and Family in memory of Mrs. Pat Tanaka

Don and Carol Estes in memory of Mrs. Pat Tanaka

Bill and Jeanne Elyea in memory of Mrs. Pat Tanaka

Yukio and Mitsuko Kawamoto in memory of Mr. Masaaki Hironaka

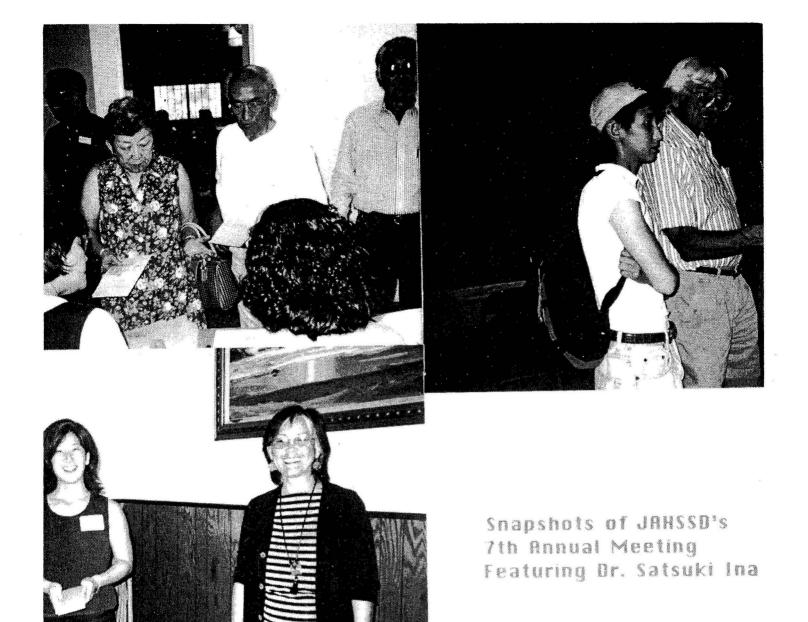
Charles and Elaine Bowers in memory of Mr. Masaaki Hironaka

Don and Carol Estes in memory of Mr. Masaaki Hironaka

Bill and Jeanne Elyea in memory of Mr. Masaaki Hironaka

Arnold Watanabe in memory of Anna Fusako (Kikuchi) Yamauchi

Elizabeth and Joe Yamada in memory of Anna Fusako (Kikuchi) Yamauchi









#### Veteran Coach Glen Takahashi Enters Wrestling Hall of Fame

Veteran Valhalla High School wrestling Coach Glen Takahashi was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame in Stillwater, Okla., on Nov. 9.

The son of **Howard and Hisae Takahashi** of Spring Valley, Glen is in his 28th year of coaching. He began his career at University of San Diego High School and then went to Valhalla High in El Cajon.

He goes into the Hall of Fame together with his old mentor, **Bill Clauder**, who began coaching him when he was an eighth grader hanging out at the La Mesa Recreation Center.

When Takahashi attended Monte Vista High School in Spring Valley, Clauder again was his coach.

Takahashi went on to win San Diego section CIF championships in his weight class for Monte Vista in 1966 and 1967.

After graduating from high school, Takahashi went to Brigham Young University and went on to win a WAC championship there. Four other San Diegans were inducted into the Hall of Fame with Takahashi and Clauder, including Dan Dierdorff, Mark Nelson, John Woods and the late Ivan Olsen.

In an interview with the San Diego Union-Tribune's Tom Shanahan, Takahashi said "I'm humbled to be in such a group."

Following his graduation from BYU, Takahashi returned to San Diego to coach wrestling at USDHS.

In 1985, Takahashi's Valhalla squad won the state team title. His wrestlers have won seven individual state titles during his career.

No other coach in San Diego has had his athletes

win that many titles, according to the U-T.

Takahashi's Valhalla team has posted a 195-44-1 record in dual meets and have won 16 Grossmont League titles along with 10 CIF Division championships.

By comparison, Clauder, who coached 31 years, won a state title and his teams had a 262-16-2 record in dual meets, won 22 Grossmont League titles and 17 San Diego CIF Section division titles.

Congratulations and hats off to Glen

Takahashi for this honor.

#### Letters

Dear Friends,

Enclosed is a contribution in memory of my sister, Ann Yamauchi. Thank you so much for printing Michio's article about Anna - a most precious memento and remembrance for the entire family.

Sincerely,

Liz Yamada

Dear Elaine Hibi Bowers,

I was saddened to read about Anna Kikuchi

Yamauchi's passing away.

Rev. Kikuchi was our pastor at San Diego Congregational Church before the war. We ended up in the same Block 329. His family was very good to all of us. We had good times in camp. Then he came out to Chicago and I was able to see him.

It is sad to read about old friends passing away. I

also knew Chester Kaneyuki.

Take care. You are doing a magnificent job. Keep it up!!!

Sincerely, Arnold Watanabe

Hi Gang!

Taro sent me back copies of your *Footprints* to read, and it's so interesting and informative. I've learned quite a bit about our parents livelihood and our youth.

All of you have good memories of the best years of our lives, places and happenings! You amaze me,

and I'm older then you!

Thanks! You're doing a great job! Sincerely, Midori Koga

Printing

Audrey Barry

10016 Campo Rd. Spring Valley California 91977-1801

PH 670-9953 FAX 670-3397 lowfat, sugar-free treats offered the table as well. No big deal. Far more importantly, along with the glut of goodies and gifts exchanged, will be the fond gatherings of family and friends in the annual rituals that give our lives substance and meaning. The playful banter of the noisy grandkids, the teasing among siblings, the laughter and family tales elicited by viewing fading slides projected on the living room wall. These are the real reasons neither Dad nor the rest of us will find reason to "monku" (complain) during this winter season.

The Japanese have a Phrase, Kusare-naawa mo yaku ni tatsu: even a rotting rope can be put to use. Or, as we Americans say, deal with it. Roll with the punches. Play the cards you're dealt. To use a food metaphor, when life hands you a lemon, make lemonade. If you've a positive attitude and genuine gratitude for what you have, it won't much matter whether it's sugar or a noncaloric substitute you mix

into your lemon juice and water.

Like life itself, the taste will still be both

deliciously tart and sweet. Just right.

#### TAKENORI MURAOKA ATTORNEY AT LAW

1901 FIRST AVE., SECOND FLOOR SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 TELEPHONE (619) 233-6434

#### We Could Sure Use Some Help

Our society is still interested in any materials any of our members and friends might be willing to share connected with sports programs in the local Nikkei community.

In addition we are in need of any photographs showing scenes of the Santa Anita Assembly Center in 1942. They are needed for use in the video production, *The Day the Devil Wept* currently being filmed under the direction of our historical society.

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please contact **Ben Segawa** at 482-1736, **Don Estes** at 280-9418 (email: nezumi1936@aol.com),or **Susan Hasegawa** at 483-2206 (email: shasegawa@ucsd.edu).

#### FROM YUTAKA"S CAMP COOKBOOK

(The late Yutaka Kida was a cook in Poston's Camp III. During the period he was working in the mess hall, Yutaka kept a meticulous record of the meals served in Block 330. From time to time, we reproduce these menus. If you wish to try any of these recipes on your family, you may wish to cut down the portions. The measurements here are the original quantities.)

Menu for Friday (Christmas) Dec. 25, 1942

Breakfast:

Apple Sauce
Oatmeal
Fried Bacon
O'Brien Potato
Bread Jam Potato

Christmas Dinner: Grapefruit Basket
Celery Pickle
Giblet Sauce
Chestnut Stuffing
Southwest Sweet Potato
Waldorf Salad
Dessert Asst. Fruits
Fig Bar Cookie
Cranberry Sauce

**Biscuit** 

Jam Coffee Milk

#### Roast Turkey

grease onion celery turkey 1 hand salt grease

oven (about 2 hrs slow fire 300° - 350°) 2 dipper hotwater

Chestnut Stuffing

1 bucket onion

bell pepper 1/2
celery 1/4
1 tub bread crumb
shredded wheat
sweet potato
turkey skin (ground)
1 dipper turkey stuff

#### THANKSGIVING '99

No, we used up that \$80 ham finally. But it just doesn't go away.

This Thanksgiving morning, nephew Rick Shimada decided we should have a family golf

tournament with prizes and booby prizes.

We lined up nephews Rick, Gordon Shimizu, Himaka, Shimizu. Don Gary Norman Himaka, Uncles John Copple, Moto Tsuneyoshi, So Yamada, my sons Keith and Dan.

We arrived at Mission Trails around 6 a.m. The sun wasn't even up yet! And it was cold enough to form icicles on the nose.

I was ready for this day. Just a few days ago, I had shot a 49 playing nine holes at National City. Now, that score for me is excellent! Well, pretty good, anyway. For me.

Keith had a little trophy made up for the occasion but he wouldn't show it to anyone. (I think it

was in case he won the thing himself!)

Rick lined up four boxes of golf balls for the winning foursome, handicap included, of course.

Moto, So, John and I were in the Old Fogies

foursome.

We teed off into the sunrise barely able to see where the balls went. (Well, I couldn't see where mine went until Moto said, "I think it went rolling down the hill.")

Heck, I thought I hit it well. The others lined up behind us sort of chuckled. (I think they were being

polite because they hadn't teed off vet.)

John had prepared for this day ahead of time telling one and all he had a sore back and his neck was stiff and that he was seeing a chiropractor and had visited Dr. Tanaka, who had prescribed medication for all his aches and pains and how the cold weather was hurting him.

And then he got off a nice tee shot. Funny how a good tee shot will cure everything.

So off we went to the first hole.

We Old Fogies got a shot a hole handicap except for par three holes.

Uphill, downhill, sideways, into a water hole. Oh crap! Anyone looking? Fore! Oops! Sorry! Where's the flag? Where'd it go? Is that your ball or

mine?

Eighteen holes! It's a good thing we had carts. At the end of the round, my knees were sore. (I think they hurt before we started but I wasn't going to use that as an excuse. Not me, boy! But, you know, they were *really* sore!)

I'm sure glad we had Moto and So on our team cuz if we were depending on John or my score, we would be in big trouble.

I think our total score was the result of their

scores.

As we Old Fogies sat in the clubhouse waiting for the others to finish up, I added up the scores. So shot a 93, Moto a 100, John 122 and I shot a 123.

John and I were tied after the first 14 holes and for the next three holes, I would ask John what he shot and he'd say, "The same as you." Then on the last hole, I asked him again and he asked, "What did you shoot?" I told him I shot an eight or something like that. He said he shot one less. And so he beat me by one shot.

I still felt pretty comfortable though. I thought for sure I would finish ahead of at least Keith. He shot a 50 something at National City just the other day.

And Norm and Gary hadn't played in months or

years.

When everyone had finished up, we added up our scores and the Old Fogies won the team event winning a box of golf balls each.

Keith then figured out the individual scores.

And the winner was...

WHO ELSE?

#### I COUNTED EVERY SHOT I TOOK! HOW CAN EVERYONE ELSE SHOOT SO LOW? DID THEY USE THE HANDICAP GIVEN US ON EACH HOLE?

Yeah, that's it! They must have used the handicap.

> The trophy? Oh yeah. It reads:

**HAMakas** 

Home of the 80 dollar ham WALL OF SHAME

It has a plastic toy plate with a toy fork, toy

spoon and a plastic toy ham on it.

My name is in the first slot with my score. (A TRUE unadulterated score cuz I didn't use my handicap.)

Now I'm obligated to keep the trophy in full view

in my house for the next year.

The rule, I'm told, is that if I don't have it on display, I have to pay whoever notices that it is not on display \$5.

So, it's mine for the next year.

Low score went to Don. He shot an 83 I think. His prize? A WIMPY canned ham. Enough for an hors d'oeuvre or two. Amateur!

--Mich Himaka

Jeanne and Bill Elyea continued their practice of supporting our annual meetings by donating \$366.73 to support this year's meeting Seventh Annual Meeting.

**Toshiko and George Asakawa** also recently donated \$300 for the furtherance of the society's efforts to preserve the local Nikkei history.

Dale Kusumoto has donated \$50 to the society at our annual meeting as did Bill Vetter who renewed his annual gift of \$30 for our work. We also want to acknowledge and thank Ben and Midori Koga for their welcome gift of \$10.

Speaking of the annual meeting, we owe thanks to a great many people who made this year's meeting one of our most successful. We want to thank Tommy Yanagihara for his donation of a elegant Sago palm as a door prize. Harry Hasegawa of Hasegawa's General Store located at Hana on the beautiful Island of Maui. Harry sent us a number of store items to be used as doors Yoshihito Minezaki of the Hillcrest prizes. **Ichiban Restaurant** donated seven tee shirts which we also happily gave to some of our lucky guests as door prizes. Minezaki-san also helped us out again this year by maintaining the price of the delicious obento's we enjoyed for the sixth consecutive year. Dr. Satsuki Ina, our guest speaker was kind enough to donate four Children of the Camps tee shirts to the society. We thank the active members of our Board of Directors who also donated individual door prizes. Naomi and Michi Himaka deserve our grateful thanks for the donation of the thought provoking center pieces which consisted of a plant, a kite and a piece of barbed wire. Do you know how hard it is to find barbed wire these days? Naomi knows all too well, but George Yamamoto came to the rescue with wire from the Yamamoto Family Farm in Chula Vista.

Behind the scenes again this year insuring that all of you who were able to attend would have a great time were Linda Marumoto McLemore and her sister Allyne Marumoto Tachiki who were staffing the front desk and welcoming all our guests. Assisting in the kitchen were Mits Kawamoto, Dorothy Asakawa, and Grace Segawa. Carol Estes and Toyoka Murakami took millennium greetings for our newsletter. Bob and Hisae Shima Batchelder were busy selling a variety of goods and books that the society regularly offers for Board members Nancy Cowser, Himaka, Karen Kawasaki, Don Estes, Yuki and Mits Kawamoto, Bruce and Dorothy Asakawa, Mitch and Naomi Himaka worked diligently in setting up and more importantly cleaning up. Doing his usual yeoman job getting our obentos to us on time and anything else that needed to be done or fixed was Bill Elyea. Also as usual, keeping the whole support staff on task and all heading in the right direction was Jeanne Marumoto Elyea. Don Estes, Yukio and Mitsuko Kawamoto organized and set up the photo and art displays from your society's archives and collection.

Masato Asakawa took care of the money - especially the bills and Susan Hasegawa as our Vice President was responsible for the program. Handling the social end of things was our Executive Director, Ben Segawa, who was seen on his knees cleaning up at the end of the meeting. Our President Elaine Hibi Bowers who remained cool and calm made us all look great. Finally, we wish to again acknowledge and thank the members of the San Diego Buddhist Temple who once again allowed us the use of their great facilities.

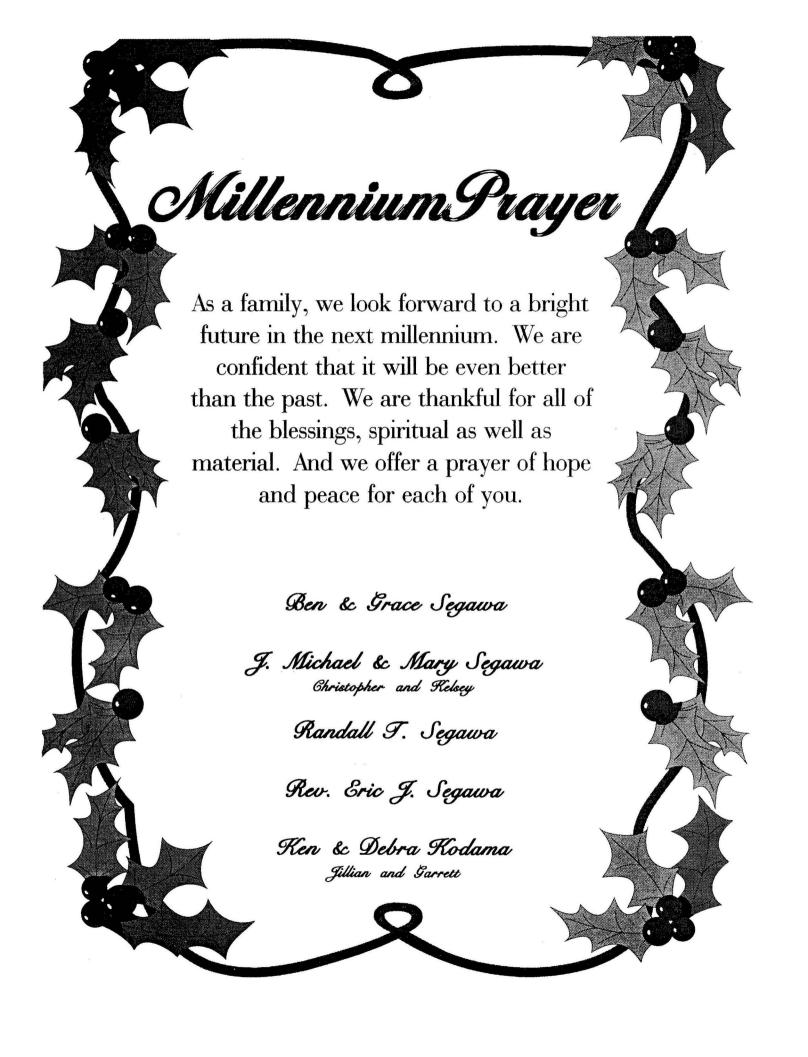
We would also like to acknowledge another welcome donation to our growing archives that came to us from **Hisae and Bob Batchelder.** The Batchelders have collected examples of art work done by **Hisae's** father, **Akira Shima**, while he was at **Butte Camp** at the **Gila River Relocation Center**. Bob and Hisae have made color copies of the art works and compiled them into an impressive booklet.

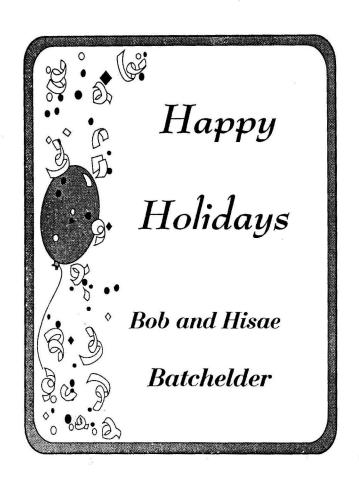
We also want to recognize Mitsuko and Yukio Kawamoto who spoke to Professor Susan Hasegawa's U.S. History class in November at San Diego City College on the camp experience, and the next week Yuki drove to Oceanside to relate his relocation experiences to a high school class there.

Our society wants to thank Kenny and Debbie Kodama who kindly volunteered the use of their home for the shooting of the opening scenes of our new video on relocation and resettlement. Joyce Teague, Carol and Don Estes acted as the commissary and helped feed the crew and cast of twenty-five.

A big JAHSSD thanks also to Kristine Yuki Aono for the donation of a copy of her video, "Relics From Camp: A Video Journey, 1998." The video is presently showing at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. The video details how Kristine created her exhibit built around earth taken from the sites of each of the detention camps, and relics that individual internees saved from that period.

Finally, the JAHSSD would like to offer our thanks to Mrs. Mary Kelly of San Diego who contacted us to make a donation of a copy of the *Granada Pioneer*, the internee newspaper for the camp at Amache, Colorado. In mint condition and dated August 25, 1943 the paper is a welcome addition to our collection. Mrs. Kelly donated the copy of the Pioneer in the memory of her late husband Mr. William G. Kelly, who was the Alien Property Officer for the WRA at Amache.







As we enter the new millennium our best wishes to you all is for a Healthy & Happy New Year

Dorothy & Masato Asakawa



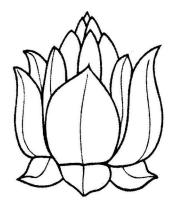
We would like to wish all our friends a special holiday greeting for the millennium. We wish everyone good health and happiness as we enter it, and hope the big year 2000 will be the best ever.

Happy Holidays!

John & Tsune Hashiguchi



Live the Lotus - May humanity rise above the mire and show its true beauty



Motoo Tsuneyoshi Family

Silent Right, Holy Right

Merry Christmas <sup>and</sup> Happy New Year

Vernon, Shinobu, Christine

Yoshioka







In memory of husband, father, grandpa, great-grandpa, Kikuichi Marumoto





Our family's hope is that "Whatever your lot in life, that you build something on it," and that all of you have much happiness, good fortune, and Especially a fruitful and healthy New Year





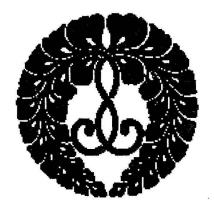








### Warmest Best Wishes in the Year 2000!



The Matsumotos & Nobu Nishii





As we enter the new millennium

the Estes family takes this opportunity to wish

you all

Bealth, Bappiness and Prosperity.

Please remember always,

Ninjo ni kokkyo nashi

Threre are no boundries to kindness

Carol, Don, Matthew, and Rumao



The Membership and the
Board of Directors

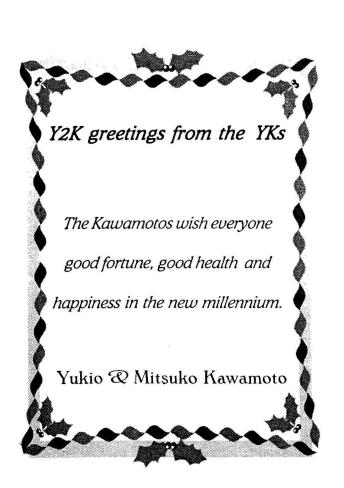
of the

San Diego Chapter

Wish you all

Bealth, Peace and Prosperity

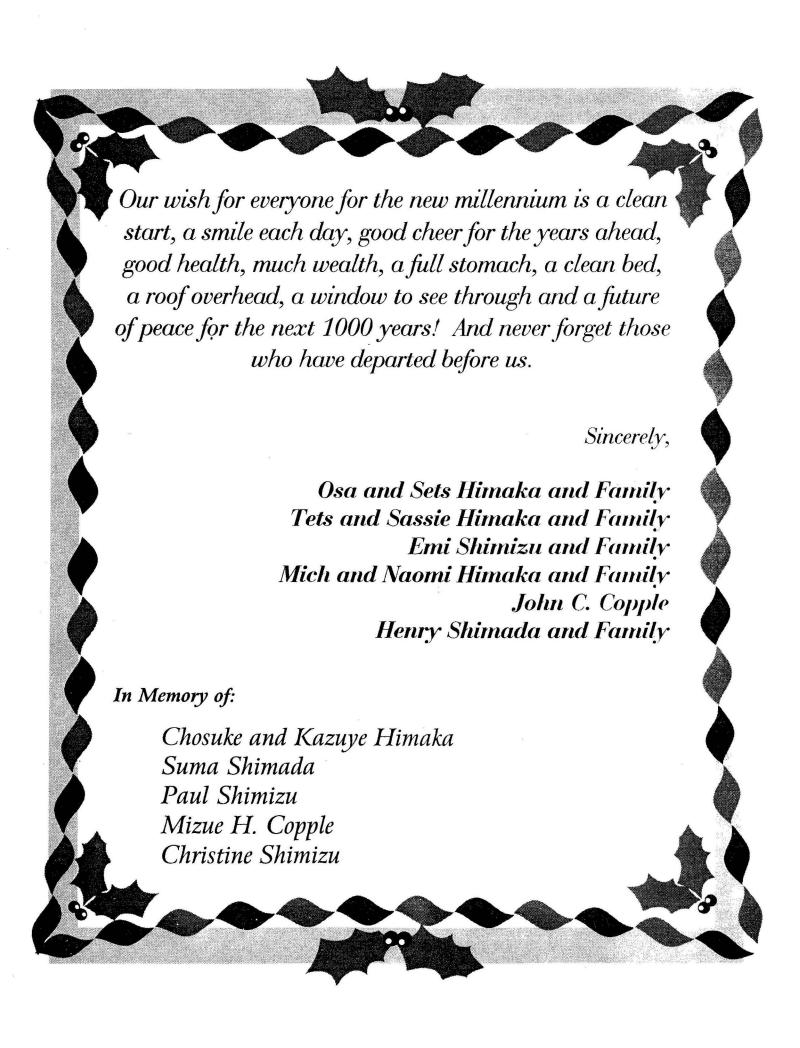
In the New Year

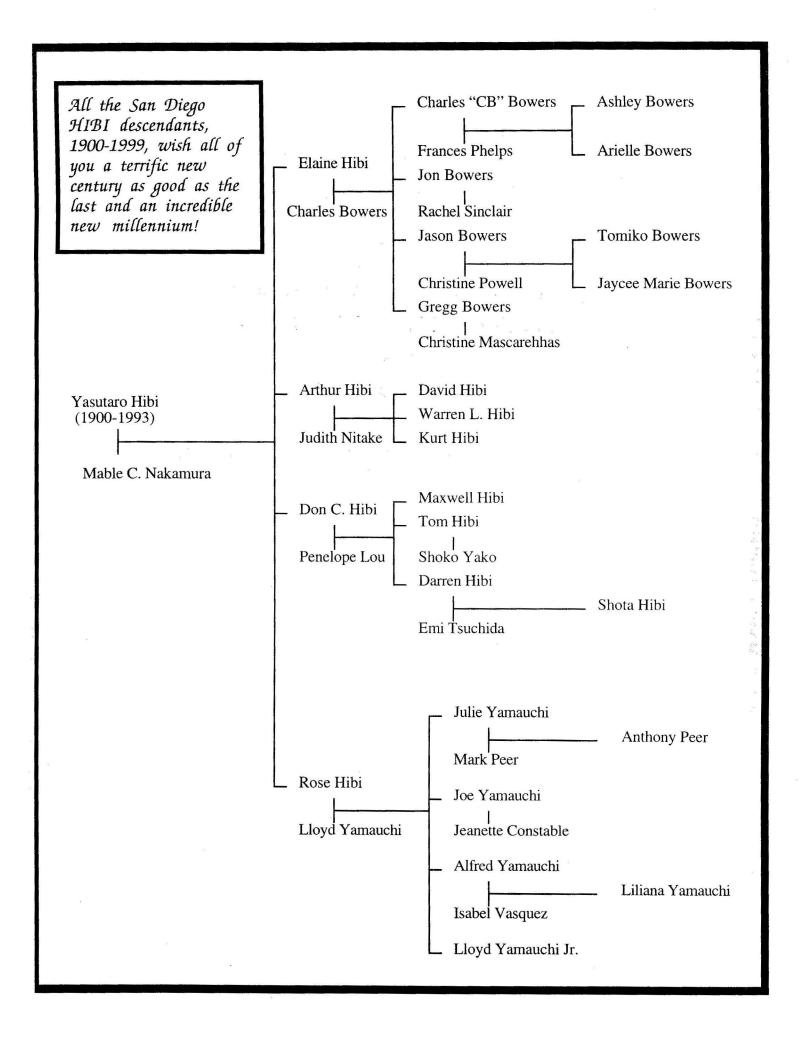




Susan Hasegawa and Bruce Sherman of Sherman Investment Management, Inc.

We wish you many happy returns in the New Year!







# THE JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO

Thanks Each of You for Your Ongoing Support of Our Continuing Mission

to

Preserving Our Past,

**Educating the Present** 

and

**Securing Our Future** 

# MAY YOU ALL ENJOY A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

### Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego 2000 Membership Application

(INCLUDES FOOTPRINTS NEWSLETTER)

	Initial Application $\Box$	Renewal Application 🚨
0	\$20 Individual	
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ū	\$25 Senior (Couple)	Address
	\$200 Charter Life (Individual)	City, State, Zip
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O	\$100 Corporate (Annual)	Please mail form and check to:
	\$500 Corporate (Life)	JAHSSD Masato Asakawa, Treasurer
, ,	\$15 Student (K-12) College 12 units (undergraduate) 9 units (graduate)	P.O.Box 620988 San Diego,CA 92162-0988
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Please attach camera-ready ad or your business card (for individual section). If you do not have camera-ready artwork, we will attempt to assist you in designing an ad for an additional charge.

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Editors:

Michio Himaka Yukio Kawamoto

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> Footprints Editor P.O. Box 620988 San Diego, CA 92162-0988

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