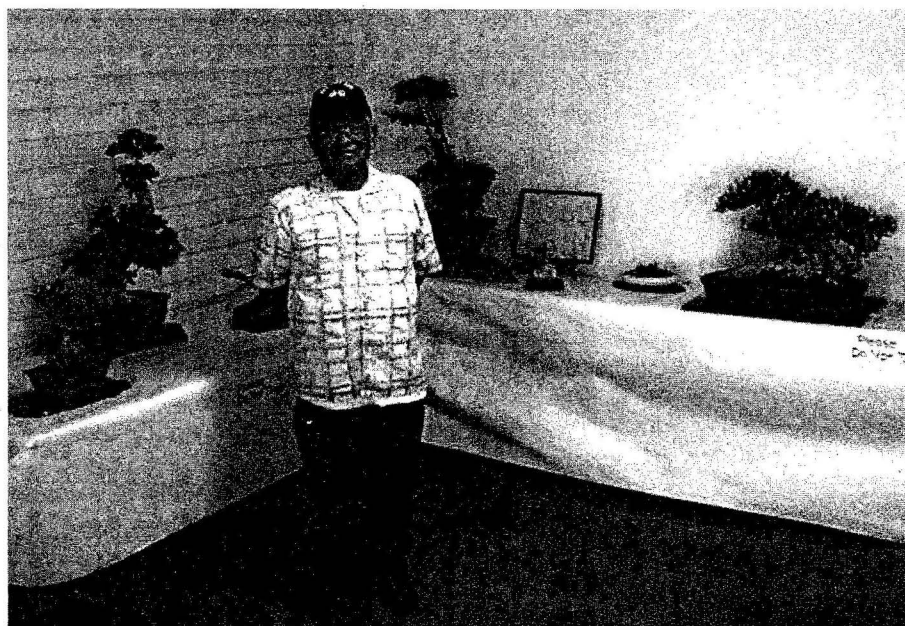


FOOTPRINTS

Impressions from where we were to where we will be...

Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego



San Diego Bonsai Club founding member Mas Takanashi poses with some of his living creations at the Japanese Cultural Bazaar, June 2004. Takanashi was among those recently honored at a Founders Gala hosted by the club on June 15, 2000. Read about the event on Page 15.

THE TALE OF TWO SCRIPTS:

Bussei Script and the Kaiho

by Bill Teague

In San Diego a simple church newsletter has involved over three generations of Japanese-American families. From its earliest days, the **San Diego Buddhist Church** (later renamed the **Buddhist Temple of San Diego**) needed to keep the local Nikkei community informed of important events. Over time this newsletter would exist in two forms, each with its own name, and eventually be joined into a single publication.

The Japanese-Language Kaiho

At first the newsletter, or *Kaiho* (meaning "organizational news"), was handwritten in Japanese by the resident minister to serve the needs of its Issei readers. Duplication was by mimeograph, and continued until the temple was closed when U.S. citizens and immigrants of Japanese ancestry alike were evacuated from the West Coast into remote concentration camps. When some three years later, temple members eventually resettled in San Diego, so did the *Kaiho*—but soon it had a companion.

The English-Language Bussei Script

The *Bussei Script* debuted in the late 1940s as a monthly chronicle in English of temple activities. It was born of necessity. Few of the Nisei could read Japanese.

Articles and production help came from youthful volunteers like brothers **Ben** and **Nobuo Honda**, **Henry Honda** (no relation), sisters **Micko Koba (Kodama)** and **Midori Koba (Koga)**, **Yukio Kawamoto**, and **Ruth Takahashi (Voorhies)**. Sisters **Margaret Arakawa (Ikeda)** and **Beatrice Arakawa** also helped. Temple records don't track all the comings and goings of

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE 3-Aug. 29 - POETRY of CLAY: Works by Minako Yamane Lee, Isamu Kawaguchi and UCSD Crafts Center students, Japanese Friendship Garden.

Cost: admission to the garden, www.niwa.org.

JUNE 24 - JACL ANNUAL PICNIC (11am-5 pm), East Crown Point Shores

JUNE 26 - "LESS SAFE, LESS FREE: Why We Are Losing the War on Terror," lecture by David Cole (7 pm) co-sponsored by S.D. Public Library and ACLU, Lyceum Theater in Horton Plaza. Free

JUNE 28 - BEER AND SAKE FESTIVAL presented by Japan Society, (6-9 pm), On Broadway Event Center, Sixth & Broadway downtown. 619/233-6873. \$50/gen. public, \$30/JSSDT

JUNE 30 - VFW-BTSD BINGO (6-9 pm), Buddhist Temple Annex Hall. 619/239-0896. \$10 buy-in

JULY 8-AUG. 1 - BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE (Sundays 10:45 am, Wednesdays, 7 pm), BTSD Annex Hall. 619/239-0896. Free

JULY 14-SEPT. 8 - JAHSSD "HOME GROWN" EXHIBITION, Bonita Museum and Cultural Center. **Opening and reception July 14** (4-6 pm). Free, donations welcome

JULY 21 - JAHSSD Board meeting (8:15 am), Austin Archives

JULY 28 - "A CHILD AT POSTON CAMP," lecture by Elizabeth Yamada (1:30-3 pm), Bonita Branch Library. Free

JULY 28 - VFW-BTSD BINGO (6-9 pm), Buddhist Temple Annex Hall. 619/239-0896. \$10 buy-in

JULY 29 - Hatsubon Service (9 am), **Obon Service** (10 am), Buddhist Temple of San Diego. 619/239-0896

AUG. 2 - "EARLY SOUTH BAY FARMING," lecture by Ben Segawa (6-8 pm), Bonita Branch Library. Free

AUG. 4 - BON ODORI: Gathering of Joy (5-9 pm), BTSD. Dance, music, food, Obon Again Shop, raffle. Free

AUG. 4 - "JAPANESE AMERICANS IN SAN DIEGO: Keeping the Culture Alive," JAHSSD's exhibit at the Bon Odori (5-9 pm), BTSD. Free

AUG. 11 - JAHSSD Board meeting (8:15 am), Austin Archives

AUG. 18 & 19 - RUMMAGE SALE (Sat. 8 am-2 pm, Sun. 8 am-noon), BTSD

AUG. 26 - BTSD GOLF TOURNAMENT (6:30 am registration, 7:30 shotgun start), Riverwalk Golf Course

SEPT. 16 - POVUCC SHOTGUN GOLF TOURNAMENT (1 pm), Vineyard Golf Course

SEPT. 16-30 - "DEAR MISS BREED," a play by Joanne Oppenheim/Asian Story Theatre, Lyceum Theater, Horton Plaza

SEPT. 22 - POVUCC CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, Catamaran Hotel

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mich Himaka

In place of our regular March board meeting, we held a retreat to discuss the future of the JAHSSD. Near the conclusion, our facilitator asked each of us to tell our dreams for the future of the organization and community.

Dream big, she said.

I said my dream for our community was for all of our community organizations to unite, gather our resources and contacts, and build a Japanese Community Cultural Center somewhere in Metropolitan San Diego.

It would consist of an underground theater seating for 400 to 450 people with a stage and sound system second to none to accommodate shows like our successful presentation of Camp Dance. (And, no, it doesn't have to be an underground facility. It could be a separate building.)

Such a facility would allow us to showcase other presentations like the East-West Theater Players from L.A., the Kodo Taiko group from Sado Island in Japan and maybe even the Takarazuka Troupe from Tokyo! I think it's been more than 30 years since the theatrical troupe last played here at the old Russ Auditorium. We might even attract Japanese musical groups or singers from Japan to come here after their L.A. appearances.

But if the theater is underground, we could have a museum and exhibit hall on the ground level to show the JAHSSD collection of photos, artwork, artifacts, and documents that tell our community story from the late 1880s, the pre-World War II years, internment camp years, and the years that followed to the present.

The exhibit area might be "tatami-ed," with glass cases to exhibit the artifacts, enlarged photos of our pioneer Isseis displayed, video screens hung from the ceiling depicting our community past and present.

Around the exhibit area would be separate glass-enclosed offices for all of our organizations with meeting rooms, rooms for classes like ikebana, bonsai, tea ceremony, origami, etc.

The exhibit hall, which we might name the Donald Hamilton Estes Exhibit Hall after our late founder and historian **Don Estes**, will also show the products of those classes with name cards of those people who designed them.

We would also have a library, named the Clara Breed Library, honoring the pre-war librarian who befriended young Nikkei and urged them to write to her as they and their families were removed from San Diego into concentration camps.

The library and the offices would be equipped with the latest computers with access to our entire collection to show where each collection item is located. It would also have state-of-the-art library equipment and locator of reference books and fictional works written by Nikkei authors and writers telling our history.

The theater—underground or otherwise—we could name after whichever corporation might step up to fund it for our community! If it takes two corporations, we can put both names on it, alphabetically or whichever can give us the largest sum towards building it. We can name the stage for the second highest if it comes down to that.

The design for the building—or two buildings?—might have a Japanese motif, like a pagoda-styled exterior. The roof would be solar paneled so we can generate our own electricity to power our lighting and air conditioning system and all of our electrical outlets, which may be substantial. The solar panels also will heat our water to all our restrooms...with larger restrooms for our women visitors! Any excess power we generate through our solar panels we will sell to power companies for income.

(Continued on Page 3)

(PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued from Page 2)

The exterior surrounding the buildings will be landscaped by our many local artistic landscape architects whose work will be labeled with their company logos. Hopefully, we will have teams of volunteers to tend and maintain our yard and maybe our koi pond.

Perhaps the Buddhist Temple could hold its annual Bon Odori Festival in our parking lot. The churches could hold their bazaars there as well.

Someday, we might be able to build a parking garage adjacent to the building or buildings.

Okay, how much will it cost? Who knows? Big bucks, I imagine.

I recently learned that there were about 70 Japanese maquiladora companies operating now in the San Diego-Tijuana areas. Might they not join our community effort and truly become part of the community? (Imagine, \$100,000 from each means \$7 million!!)

I've been told that the Chinese government donated a large sum to help the **Chinese Historical Society** build their museum downtown. Might the Japanese government do the same for us? Might the U.S. government step up and help us? After all, the Issei and many Niseis who passed away before redress was approved were deserving of the redress as well.

I told our board that some organization in our community with more clout than ours needs to step up to lead the way to achieve this dream.

The board members shouted me down with, "Why not us??"

Okay, why not us?

I was told to dream big. I did.

Is it a possibility? I don't know.

Probably not in my lifetime.

Maybe yours.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Naomi Himaka, Membership Chair

A warm welcome to our new members who have joined our organization since our last edition of Footprints. New members include **Therese James** and **Dr. Jim & Sharon Kunugi**, **Frances Uyesaka** (a gift from **Sachi Nishida**), **Jim & Masako Diley** (gifts from their son and daughter-in-law) and **Mitsu & Dawn Diley** and **Grace Ishitani** (gifts from **Ruth Morishita**). We are pleased to have all of you as new members of our Society.

Thank you to the following for renewing their memberships: **Taka & Beverly Sawasaki**, **Martin Lloyd & Emiko Ito**, **Fudo Takagi**, **Kenji & Carol Ii**, **Ford & Terri Omori**, **Tetsuo & Sasako Himaka**, **Akira Hata**, **Taye Hashiguchi**, **Mari Sato**, **Liz Suhama**, **Tomi Morimoto**, **Yoshio Matsumoto**, **Fusa Shimizu**, **Jeanie A. Kashima**, **Joe & Elizabeth Yamada**, **Roy S. & Susan Yonekura** and **Mary Yamada**.

Also renewing their memberships: **Isamu E. & Michi Akamatsu**, **Frank & Tami Kinoshita**, **Takeko Wakiji**, **Florence Yamashita**, **Jeanette M. Dutton**, **Kimie Kaneyuki**, **Sumako Sue Tsushima**, **Kenji & Satoko Sato**, **Yuri Kuratomi Owens**, **Shinkichi Tajiri**, **Bruce & Sharon Asakawa**, **Louise Iguchi**, **Tom H. & Elizabeth A. Ozaki**, **Ruth Fujimoto**, **Chiyo Nakagawa** and **Michiko Eguchi**.

We also thank the following for their recent renewals: **Norma Nomura DeSaegher** (gift from **Gwen Momita**), **Joseph & Noriko Correia**, **Isamu & Pauline Nakamura**, **Ken & Judy Miyamoto**, **Harold & Kuniko Kuhn**, **Tyler & Peggy Tanaka**, **Tak & Ruth Sugimoto**, **Gene & Elsie Shimamoto**, **Dwayne S. & Karen K. Eto**, **Tsutomu & Rosie Date**, **Nancy Shimamoto & Dan Collins**, **Christy G. Vikander**, **Larry Kida**, **Joe & Terry Mizufuka** and **Ritsu Nabeta**.

(TALE OF TWO SCRIPTS continued from Page 1)

newsletter volunteers over the next three decades, but by 1970, **Harry Kawamoto** and other volunteers were helping with duplication.

Two Become One

Around that time, the *Kaiho* and *Bussei Script* were merged into one bilingual publication under the *Bussei Script* name, probably to conserve resources. The active membership were now the English-speaking Nisei and their families. Bilingual **Leora Hamada** was among those who helped the ministers generate the Japanese pages for many years. Her son, **Gary**, a graphic designer, created a new masthead for the publication.

Many Hands

Volunteers organized a Publications Committee to duplicate and prepare the monthly newsletter. This group remained remarkably stable for many years and were an unheralded group performing an arduous but necessary monthly task.

During the 1970s and early 1980s, members included **Rev. and Mrs. Koju Terada**, **Harry and Umeko Kawamoto**, **James and Katsumi Kida**, **Hideo and Kiyoko Ochi**, **Giichi and Kiyoko Omori**, **Earl and Louise Osaki**, **Mayumi Santohigashi**, **George and Sumiko Tsubakihara** and **Miyoko Yamanishi**.

After Rev. Terada left in 1983, **Tetsuyo Kashima** (whose father was temple minister from 1948 to 1953) assumed editorial duties, often with the aid of **Mayumi Santohigashi**. Tets also translated the minister's monthly Dharma messages from Japanese to English. **Taro Matsui** and **Yuriko Nogata** were additional newsletter volunteers during this time.

Around 1980, **Yukio Kawamoto**, recently retired as a computer systems analyst, became the temple's first professional, part-time secretary. During roughly ten years in the position, he installed the temple's first computer and used it to print the *Bussei Script*. **Patricia Hideko Sumi** in 1994 and **Jeanne (Nabeta) Inouye** in 1995, followed in the secretarial post, assuming both editorial and production chores. They pushed an old Gestetner copier to print over 400 legal-sized, multi-page copies of each monthly newsletter.

Joyce (Nabeta) Teague became the English Editor after the departure of her sister. Joyce introduced publishing software which eliminated physical cut-and-paste and reduced the number of sheets needed for each issue.

Active members of the Publications Committee during the early 2000s included **Rev. Tesshi and Alice Aoyama**, **Agnes Benson**, **Umeko Kawamoto**, **James and Katsumi Kida**, **Taro Matsui**, **Yuriko Nogata**, **Kiyoko Omori**, **George and Sumiko Tsubakihara**, and **Miyoko Yamanishi**.

Current members include **Miki Honda**, **Umeko Kawamoto**, **Katsumi Kida**, **Mika Mukojima**, **Kiyoko Omori** and **Miyoko Yamanishi**.

In the early 2000s, the reliable Gestetner was retired when replacement parts were no longer available. The temple acquired two sophisticated photocopiers, one of which collates, folds and staples issues. Office secretary **Mai Kawaguchi** oversees production of almost 500 copies of the newsletter. **Rev. Yushi Mukojima** uses a laptop and Japanese software to prepare the Japanese pages.

The Past Is Present

Though the need for articles in Japanese may decline over time, the tradition of the bilingual newsletter continues—both in the two languages of its title, *The Bussei Script*, and because informally temple members almost always continue to call the newsletter by its original name, the *Kaiho*.

Adapted and updated from Coming Full Circle: 75th Anniversary of the Buddhist Temple of San Diego with the permission of the publisher.

IN MEMORIAM

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

REV. AKEO "ART" TAKEMOTO ~ January 7, 2007

BETTE AYAKO TORIO
November 1, 1925 ~ February 16, 2007

YAEKO HAYASHI
December 23, 1922 ~ February 21, 2007

KAZUKO WISECUP
February 12, 1932 ~ February 23, 2007

GEORGE HASHIMOTO ~ March 2007

RUI NEMOTO
March 15, 1904 ~ March 11, 2007

FRED FUKUMI NABETA
November 23, 1925 ~ March 14, 2007

DR. SEITO YAMAGUCHI ~ March 16, 2007

EMIKO OBAYASHI ~ March 19, 2007

TAMOTSU TOM UYEJI
July 29, 1920 ~ April 6, 2007

XUAN NGUYEN NISHIGUCHI
February 6, 1968 ~ April 9, 2007

MAGOTSU KATTIE UYEJI
January 18, 1925 ~ April 15, 2007

KAREN KAWASHIGE WILFORD
May 26, 1961 ~ April 17, 2007

SATOSHI ITO
1924 ~ April 29, 2007

MANUEL SHIMODA GARRIDO
December 6, 1934 ~ April 30, 2007

YUKO HANSEN
December 31, 1951 ~ May 1, 2007

SHIYOJI EDWIN SUEYOSHI
August 3, 1964 ~ May 6, 2007

BERTHA KIYOI BAILEY
January 23, 1924 ~ May 8, 2007

HORACE KOGA ~ May 10, 2007

THOMAS NISHIMURA
November 8, 1923 ~ May 17, 2007

REIKO KUHARSKI
February 13, 1935 ~ May 21, 2007

WANTED: PHOTOS, MEMORIES of COMMUNITY PICNICS

JAHSSD is seeking photographs and remembrances of past San Diego Nikkei community picnics. This includes picnic gatherings of all local organizations—**JACL**, churches, **Gardeners Association**, **VFW**, and so on.

If you would like to donate or loan copies of your photos for a future exhibit we have planned on this topic, please contact any JAHSSD Board member.

We will also collect memories of attending or even coordinating such activities. You can either jot them down and mail them to JAHSSD or arrange for a simple interview either in person or over the phone to record what you recall.

All photos should be well-labeled (to the best of your recollection) with the group, date, location and names of people in them.

CAUGHT DOING SOMETHING NICE

In each issue of Footprints, we like to recognize and thank those members and friends who have gone out of their way to provide our Society with that effort that has made our organization so successful.

First off, the Society would like to thank accountant **Roy Yonekura** for his professional assistance in preparing our federal and state non-profit tax returns, as he has done for the past few years. His help on a "pro bono" basis is a big help to our organization and keeps us in good standing with the revenueurs!

Big thanks to our stalwart carpenter **Yuki Kawamoto** for custom-building a shelf for an exhibit case recently donated to the Austin archives by **Tom and Sumi Yanagihara**. Our friend **Rick Roussin** devoted most of his day off work to set up shelving and rearrange materials at the Austin Archives.

Our auxiliary **When's Lunch? Bunch** provided the funds for purchase of materials needed to make repairs to items donated to the Archives—thank you!

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers: **Roy Asaki** continues to work on translations of the Japanese language items found in our collection. High school student **Ashley Sylva** has been cataloging our photograph albums and scrapbooks. In this way, Ashley is fulfilling graduation requirements for a senior project at Poway High School. She was referred by Board member **Karen Kawasaki**.

San Diego Public Library recently loaned JAHSSD 24 mounted photographs of librarian **Clara Breed** and subjects related to the **Dear Miss Breed** book so that we could in turn transmit them to the **Torrance Public Library** for author **Joanne Oppenheim's** March 24 appearance there. The loan is typical of the cooperative efforts between JAHSSD and our community partners.

Seaman Poe Monuments donated the flagpole plaque which was dedicated to the late **Min Sakamoto** during the annual Community Memorial Day Service at **Mt. Hope Cemetery**. We also thank **George Furuya, Jr.** for making the presentation at the dedication ceremony. It was George whose original idea inspired the creation of our **Japanese American Veterans Memorial** in 2005.

Our thanks to **Steve Sato** and **Dennis Shimamoto** who set up and monitored the sound system for the Memorial Day ceremony. These two gents are always willing to make time to help us out in a pinch—many thanks!

(Continued on Page 5)

(CAUGHT DOING SOMETHING NICE continued from Page 4)

Our appreciation to **Lloyd and Emiko Ito** who opened their garages for a search for farm implements to loan for the upcoming **Home Grown Exhibition** (see Page 7). Kudos also to their son **Robert**, who climbed into the rafters to retrieve stored items, and also shared memories of life on the Ito farm.

Recent Donations

The Society continues to receive artifacts for its collection as well as items to help us do our work at the Archives. The following list is current as of May 17, 2007:

After the closure of its National City headquarters, **Asian American VFW Post 4851** donated the following to JAHSSD: Framed and matted poster with red kanji loosely translated as "We will win"; framed black and white photograph of building under construction with three men working; two framed original oil paintings by **M. Koide**; plaque (brass plate on wood) with "4851" by M. Koide, dated 1969; framed poster, "The Color of Valor" by **Joseph K. Kim**; framed photograph of **Sgt. Julio Kaneko**, KIA, Vietnam, March 16, 1967; and a plaque with carved wood panel of Japanese American Korean War Veterans.

We thank the Post for these items and also **Jeanne and Bill Elyea** for transporting them the Archives.

Additional recent donations:

♦ **George Furuya, Jr.**: Old photographs and portraits, mainly of Imperial Valley families and activities, some from the 1930s;

♦ **Mas Tsuida family**: Photographs taken at **Hokkaido Fish Camp**;

♦ **Mas Tsuida**: Photographs of fishermen and boats;

♦ **Trace Kawasaki**: 1940s-era photographs;

♦ **Osa and Sets Himaka**: Illuminated magnifying glass for use in the archives;

♦ **Miyo Hashiguchi**: Woodcarving tools and plane handmade in camp by **Frank K. Hashiguchi**; photos of **Fred Hashiguchi**;

♦ **John Hashiguchi**: Photos of **Frank K. Hashiguchi** and a photo of the **Sid Hardware basketball team**;

♦ **Leroy Hammond**: DVD of *Going for Broke*, published by the Go For Broke Educational Foundation;

♦ **Ruth Takahashi Voorhies**: Photograph dated 1-22-35 of Japanese American women;

♦ **Michiko Okuma**: Eight black and white photographs of members of the **Takeshita, Tashiro, Asakawa, Koba, Sakaguchi** and **Okamoto families**; a photograph of four young women in the Student Body Office at **Parker Valley High School**, 1943-44 school year; color photograph of Japanese American women, date and place unknown;

♦ **Sakiko Kada**: Poston Reunion photographs from 1978, 1987, 1991, and 1994; group photograph of men in front of barracks, date and location unknown;

♦ **Amy Kaneyuki**: 1945 graduation photographs of the following women: **Kaz Koba, Tatsuko Suwa** and **Josephine Hirai**; snapshots of the following: **Kaz Koba** and **Midori Koba**; memorabilia from **Poston III Internment Camp**, including time card, ticket to "Starmaker," invitations and dance card, **Parker Valley High School** commencement exercise announcement, and Senior Banquet invitation and program.

The Society is grateful for these recent gifts.

Summer Footprints

We'd like to thank **Tish Brown, Carol Estes, George Furuya, Gwen Momita, Christina Pierson, Miyo Reff, Bill Teague** and **Debbie Willis** for their contributions to this month's newsletter.

Dr. Michael Inoue, Yuki Kawamoto, Karen Kawasaki, Gwen Momita, Miyo Reff, Joyce Teague and **Vernon Yoshioka** are among those who provided the non-archived photos for this issue.

IN GRATITUDE

JAHSSD gratefully acknowledges the following monetary donations to the Society since our last newsletter. If we have inadvertently omitted your gift, please accept our sincere apologies. Notify Nancy Cowser at (858) 270-0733 for correction.

BUDDHIST TEMPLE of SAN DIEGO

CAROL ESTES

In memory of DONALD H. ESTES

MR. and MRS. T. HIMAKA

In memory of RUI NEMOTO

MR. and MRS. MICHIO HIMAKA

In memory of RUI NEMOTO

MIKI HONDA

In memory of RUI NEMOTO

EDWARD KUBOTA

TONI KASTELIC

In memory of DONALD H. ESTES

RITSUKO NABETA

In memory of FRED NABETA

THE FAMILY of TERRY NISHIDA

In memory of Terry Nishida

MR. and MRS. ROY S. YONEKURA

ROY S. YONEKURA

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HOME SITE COMMITTEE REPORT

We have been at our Austin Drive site a year and a half, and we are halfway through the lease term. Last March, the JAHSSD Board held a board retreat to focus on the future plans for the archives.

After much discussion, which included each person articulating his or her dream for the future, the board decided that the type of arrangement that we have at Austin is suitable for now, but that when the lease comes up for renewal at the end of 2008, we should probably move to a different but similar site. The following are the criteria that we identified for the new space:

1. For the safety of the collections and the comfort of volunteers, the site should have climate control throughout. This means in the hottest months we would need air conditioning, and in the cold months, heat. At our current location, it is only the small office space that has these features. The much larger collections area, where most of the work is done, does not.

2. A location closer to freeways and trolley lines. Much of the work that is done by volunteers could be done by interns from the various colleges in San Diego. Our present location makes it difficult to recruit interns, who either rely on public transportation or are on limited time and money budgets.

3. We need more space! Donations continue to arrive, and that means we must store them.

The above criteria describe what we have called "Austin-plus," because we like the Austin type arrangement, but the above elements are very important. The Board has agreed that we are not yet ready to have a discussion about a permanent museum space, but that our present method of cataloging the collections while developing exhibitions as a guest of other museums will continue.

Watch this column for more information about JAHSSD's plans for our archives and collection.

WABI SABI: WHAT'S NEW AT THE AUSTIN ARCHIVES

by Linda Canada

Things are changing fast at our Archives on Austin Drive. If you haven't visited yet, please come. We are there working on the collection every Monday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Please call ahead to be sure we are working when you want to visit (619/660-0174).

Thanks to the work of our many volunteers, there is a lot to report about the status of the cataloging of the collection, as well as the many uses to which our materials have been put. Here is an update on our activities:

1. Working over a five month period that sometimes involved his whole family in nighttime meetings at Austin Drive, **Michael Roussin** completed the requirements for his Eagle Badge for the Boy Scouts by organizing and installing a photograph exhibition at **Kiku Gardens**. Not only did Michael review hundreds of JAHSSD photographs, he also interviewed **Ben and Grace Segawa** about the history of Kiku Gardens. Gathering a team of his fellow Scouts, he supervised the installation of photographs and captions along the main hallway in the lobby of Kiku Gardens. He wrote some explanatory text, and also helped to move some of the resident's artwork that had previously been displayed in the area. The next time you visit Kiku Gardens be sure to notice this interesting display of photographs.

2. Poway High School senior **Ashley Sylva** has almost completed the initial cataloging of JAHSSD's collection of more than 30 scrapbooks and photograph albums. The process has required her to summarize the places, activities, dates, and names of people and events contained in each album. While working on this project, she has done outside research to understand more about the internment and the history of Japanese Americans in San Diego.

Ashley has compiled a huge notebook of materials about the nature of an archives, how to catalog, and what special considerations of climate and condition affect photographs and documents on paper. This work has all been part of her senior high school graduation requirement, and she will complete the project by making a presentation to a panel of educators and community members. This is another example of how both an individual and JAHSSD may benefit from working in our Archives.

3. Photographs and copies of documents continue to be used from our collection by members of our **Speakers Bureau**, and for exhibitions in other places. For example, we assisted the **Torrance Public Library** in putting together a display of information about **Clara Breed** in connection with **Joanne Oppenheim's** appearance there in March. In addition to the "regulars" in our Speakers Bureau, **Elizabeth Yamada** has made two recent appearances on our behalf, one at the Wednesday Club, and the other at the Bishop's School in La Jolla. We assisted the **San Diego Public Library** with two discussions following films and our newest volunteer, **Roy Asaki**, talked about his experience as a Kibbei Nisei during one of these discussions.

4. Board member **Christina Pierson** is enrolled in the Museum Studies program at Mesa College, and has been busy creating exhibits for us that also satisfy her course requirements. She put together an exhibit of materials about **Clara Breed** for the gallery at Mesa College in connection with their celebration of Women's History Month in March. She's also created an exhibit about the JACL's local history for its annual Scholarship Luncheon in May.

5. **Susan Hasegawa** and I went to Fullerton to look at the Nikkei exhibit described on Page 19. This is in preparation for the opening of a new JAHSSD exhibition called "**Home Grown: Japanese Americans in the South Bay**" which opens July 14 at the **Bonita Historical Museum**. When you visit this new exhibition, you'll see ideas and artifacts loaned or made by our friends at the **Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana**, **Tim Asamen** in Imperial County, and **Tom and Sumi Yanagihara**. Thanks to all for their help in creating this new exhibition!

6. In February, we held our first ever **Photo Party**. This involved about eleven of our members gathering around a large table at Austin to identify the people, places and things in some of the photographs from our collection. Stories and jokes were told, memories shared, and a good time had by all. (Of course, the sharing of lunch afterwards helped in the day's enjoyment.) In the Fall, another of these Photo Parties will take place, and I hope you'll consider coming to join the fun.

A new item that you'll see at the Austin Drive site is a beautiful wood and glass exhibition case donated by **Tom and Sumi Yanagihara** and refurbished with a generous donation from the **When's Lunch? Bunch**. It will be used for the display of smaller items from the artifact collection.

At the Bonita exhibition, a new portable exhibition case will make its debut. The table base was made for us by our talented woodworker, **Yuki Kawamoto**. On top of this base we'll place artifacts protected by a Plexiglas cube that our Society purchased for the exhibition at the **San Diego Historical Society**.

As you can see, there is lots of activity going on. Please come visit the Austin Archives. I'm sure you will enjoy what you see and learn.



The late Min Sakamoto saluted his fallen comrades at the 2005 dedication of the Japanese American Veterans Memorial at Mt. Hope Cemetery

MIN SAKAMOTO HONORED WITH FLAGPOLE DEDICATION

by George Furuya, Jr.

At the May 28, 2007, Memorial Day observance at **Mount Hope Cemetery**, a plaque at the **Japanese American Veterans Memorial** was dedicated in memory of **Min Sakamoto**.

The plaque was placed on the monument's flagpole to honor Min's energy and spirit and to recognize his love of country, community and his fellow veterans. It was Min who conceived the idea to integrate the flagpole with the memorial monument. Min wanted the tallest and best flagpole to honor our veterans and set about finding and securing it.

With memories of Min, who died May 14, 2006, common thoughts of this dedication came from **David Lugo**, the Mount Hope Cemetery Manager; **Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego**; **Asian American VFW Post 4851** where Min was a founding member; **Seaman Poe Monuments**; and others who were aware of his dedication to the JA Veterans Memorial project. It seemed natural and fitting that the memory of Min be honored with the dedication of the flagpole.

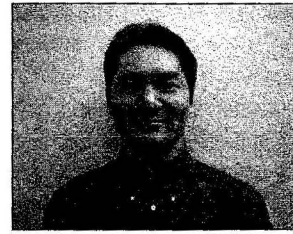
Min was a long-time resident of San Diego and a successful businessman as owner of a florist shop. He was a community leader and instrumental in the leadership of the VFW.

During World War II, Min served in "I" Company of the **442nd Regimental Combat Team**, and was one of only eight men in his company who returned home from the battle and the famed rescue of the "Lost Texas Battalion."

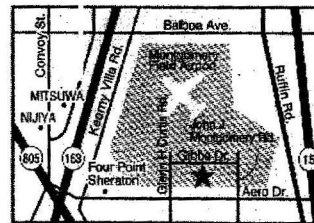
We owe much to Min Sakamoto. If you have an opportunity to visit the monument at Mount Hope, please take a moment to remember Min.

OKAZAKI CHIROPRACTIC

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NEW JAHSSD EXHIBIT OPENS IN BONITA ON JULY 14

The **Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego** will be opening a new exhibition at the **Bonita Museum and Cultural Center** this summer! Titled **Home Grown: Japanese Americans in the South Bay**, it will open on July 14, 2007, with an opening reception that afternoon from 4:00-6:00 pm. The exhibition will be open until September 8.

Included in the exhibit will be farm equipment and family artifacts from the South Bay, a display of lug label art, and **Frank Wada's** reproduction of a barrack room at Poston, furnished with artifacts from our collection.

In addition, **Prof. Susan Hasegawa** will be focusing attention on the **Alien Land Laws** and the landmark **Oyama case**, which involved a Chula Vista farmer.

During the summer, two related presentations will be made in the **Bonita Branch Library** Community Room, next to the museum.

On Saturday, July 28, from 1:30-3:00 p.m., **Elizabeth Yamada** will talk about her experiences as a child in Poston camp, some of which were written about by **Joanne Oppenheim** in her book, **Dear Miss Breed**.

On Thursday evening, August 2, from 6:00-8:00 pm, **Ben Segawa**, who spent decades working with the farmers of the South Bay, will talk about the early farming years in Bonita and Chula Vista.

Please plan to attend these events and visit the exhibit.

The Bonita Museum & Cultural Center is located at **4355 Bonita Road in Bonita**. For directions, call (619) 267-5141. There is plenty of free parking.

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CHANKO NABE

by Joyce Nabeta Teague

The Art of Gaman

On a long weekend last spring to visit one of our favorite California destinations, Bill and I made sure to stop at the **Art and Folk Craft Museum of San Francisco** which was featuring **The Art of Gaman**, an exhibit of art and handcrafts created by Japanese Americans incarcerated in U.S. concentrations camps during World War II.

Based on the beautifully-photographed book of the same name by **Delphine Hirasuna**, the exhibit pulled together examples of pent-up creativity expressed by internees of several camps throughout the U.S. Materials were limited to discarded items like packing boxes and containers, or rocks, tree branches and other natural forms found in the harsh environs of the camps.

Hirasuna translates *gaman* as, "enduring what seems unbearable with dignity and grace." The exhibit, in the museum's small but airy new space a few blocks' walk from the Museum of Modern Art, shows the range of output not only by those who were established artists before their incarceration, but also those who became carpenters out of necessity, or crafters for lack of constructive things to do in camp. Anyone with expertise was called upon to teach painting or craft-making to others using available materials and later, items ordered through mail-order catalogs.

The exhibit, consisting mostly of objects on loan from the artists or their families, ran the gamut from the practical (furniture, clothing, hand-forged tools) to fine art (drawings, paintings) to the decorative (paper flowers, carved brooches). Viewing the variety of objects with an awareness of the artists' circumstances was inspiring and moving.

For me, two striking wooden sculptures by **Akira Oye of Rohwer Camp** made the deepest impression. In true folk art tradition, Oye carved simple but appealing sculptures of a cow and a bear, each about ten inches tall. He had not done any woodworking prior to Rohwer Camp, yet his animals have a wise and whimsical air that captures your attention. An exhibit note says he never carved anything after his release.

We have always enjoyed visiting the **Asian Arts Museum** which was closed for a couple of years as it made what is clearly a successful move from its 35 years in Golden Gate Park to the downtown Civic Center in 2003. It is now housed in the original San Francisco Main Library building. The architectural redesign is impressive and exhilarating, a worthy setting for the museum's 16,000 artworks covering 6,000 years of Asian art. We even enjoyed a refreshment at the museum cafe, which offered hot tea and flavorful, reasonably-priced dishes with an Asian flair.

Unfortunately, we were not able to see the World War II exhibit, "Heroes," at the **National Japanese American Historical Society** in Japantown nor visit with NJAHS members there. This makes the second time we've stopped by the storefront during a Bay area visit and no one was in during their posted hours. This time I had even confirmed by e-mail with a NJAHS volunteer that the museum would be open, but a Closed sign greeted us when we arrived.

Their storefront—when it's open—features books and other materials related to the JA experience as well as the sale of locally made Japanese-themed handcrafts to benefit the organization. According to the NJAHS website, the current exhibit is "**MATSURI: Retrospective Photographs of Jtown Festivals.**" It will be there till August 31.

A visit to the always fascinating **Soko Hardware** a few doors down gave us the pleasure of seeing and touching beautiful and practical household items made in Japan. We bought several pairs of *kachikachi*, bamboo clappers to sell at the **Obon Again Shop** during the

upcoming Bon Odori in San Diego. I bought a small brown clay bell in the shape of an *inoshishi* (boar) to mark my 60th year.

We had never been to the **Japanese Community Center** in the heart of Japantown. The center offers senior services, meeting rooms, and houses the archives for the organization. As luck would have it, the center was hosting a Year of the Boar celebration in its vast gymnasium/social hall. Along with many other visitors, we watched mochi being pounded and shaped, checked out the Asian-themed goods and edibles being sold, and learned how to make a glossy carry bag out of used Japanese art calendars.

My Father's Gaman

Bill and I made the weekend getaway to San Francisco last February as a brief respite from caring for my father, who had returned home in November 2006 after a long hospital stay. My three sisters, my brother and I were taking turns nursing him round the clock. On learning this, friends would comment on our great sacrifice. I would reply sincerely it was a privilege and a joy for us to be able to be there for Dad and Mom. Devoting a couple days a week for each of us to help them out? Compared to 60 years of their unconditional love and support? We were fortunate to be able to do it.

Dad passed away at home the morning of March 14, shortly after waking up. He had bravely endured ten months of a slow decline during which he was deprived of most of life's pleasures save for the company of a loving family and the comfort of the home he and Mom had made together. Their seven grandchildren, now either in college or college graduates, came by often to be with "Jiichan," even sharing care duties.

As we prepare to experience our first Father's Day without Dad, I am mindful of the circumstances and hardships of his long life—working in the fields as a boy, on his own at age 16, deprived of his civil rights and put behind barbed wire by his own country for three years—and the hard work and sacrifice he and Mom went through to ensure we kids had every opportunity to create our own success.

Fortunately for us, Dad chronicled many highlights of his and our lives in illustrated journals, scrapbooks, photo albums and letters showing a deep self-awareness and a quiet pride in his accomplishments and those of his family. These precious items will remind us that he considered his true legacy to be the family he left behind.

This one of the many ways I will remember him: sitting on his front porch playing a video poker game, wearing one of his many "joke" T-shirts, and happy to see his "kids" arrive for Saturday family dinner.



Simply "Jiichan" to his grandkids and their friends, "Daddy-O" to me. El Cajon, 2005

MAZEGOHAN

by Mich Himaka...is stewing in the pot till the Fall Issue. Come back and see what Mich has cooking then.

POVUCC: 100 YEARS OF GOD'S AMAZING GRACE

by Gwen Momita

What an exciting time for **Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ**! Throughout 2007, we are celebrating our Centennial Year under the theme, "God's Amazing Grace for 100 Years and Beyond."

In 1907, seven Issei men gathered at the Chinese mission in downtown San Diego, searching for folks with similar backgrounds and customs. Although they missed family and friends back home, they persevered in their new country, learned the language, embraced a new culture and came to love Christ. This new-found faith sustained them for many years to come. We are humbled by their vision and grateful for their legacy.

Just across town, another group of pioneers were facing struggles of their own. With determination and a love for the Lord, they established **Pioneer United Church of Christ**. Our stories blended together when the two churches merged in 2004.

In lieu of our annual **Fall Festival** (formerly the Bazaar), we are celebrating with several community-wide events throughout 2007.

♦ The first event was "South Pacific/Music and Meal" held May 19. We hope you were able to attend and enjoy some of our famous udon!

♦ On Sunday, September 16, we will hold the **POVUCC Shotgun Golf Tournament** at 1:00 p.m. at the Vineyard Golf Course in Escondido. A banquet at the course club is included.

♦ The main event of our anniversary celebration will be a luncheon banquet on Saturday, September 22, at the Catamaran Hotel in Mission Beach. A multi-media presentation of the church's history will be shown, so plan to join us on this meaningful day.

♦ A special Sunday service will be held on September 23, with the **Rev. Dr. John Thomas**, UCC President, speaking. A prepaid bento lunch will follow the service.

We welcome the entire community to celebrate with us at any and all of these events. In addition, don't forget to order your copy of our new cookbook, **A Taste of Heaven**, and the soon-to-be-published Anniversary Album, which will chronicle in words and pictures the 100-year history of POVUCC!

Please contact me at (858) 277-8808, for more information. Thank you for your participation and support of this historic occasion.

DEBRA M. KAWAHARA, Ph.D.
LICENCED PSYCHOLOGIST

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All eyes are on Junko Kajita, one of the dance leaders at the 2006 Bon Odori, a lively summer memorial to express gratitude to deceased family and friends through music and dance. Junko and other volunteers teach the folk dances at free twice-weekly practice sessions through the month of July.

BON ODORI DANCE PRACTICE OFFERED IN JULY

Each July, the **Buddhist Temple of San Diego** offers weekly dance lessons in preparation for its yearly **Bon Odori: Gathering of Joy**.

Over a dozen traditional and contemporary Japanese folk dances are taught in several all-ages group sessions to those who plan to participate in the Bon Odori, a lively Buddhist memorial to honor deceased relatives and friends.

Both the practice sessions and the Bon Odori are free and open to the public and require no previous dance experience. Attending even a few of the practice sessions and learning one or two dances make participation at the Odori so much more enjoyable.

This year's Bon Odori will be held **Saturday, August 4** from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. on Dodson Street, adjacent to the temple grounds.

Practices will be held in the Annex Hall on Sundays, July 8, 15, 22 (10:45 am-1 pm) and Wednesdays, July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1 (7-9 pm).

Dancers can wear whatever they like to the Bon Odori, but most enjoy the chance to wear colorful *yukata* (summer kimono), happi, or T-shirts with Japanese artwork. Advice on what to wear and an obi-wrapping lesson is often included at the last practice session.

The temple's Bon Odori will include performances by **Shokenji Taiko** and **San Diego Taiko**, the once-a-year **Obon Again Resale Shop**, and food sales. **JAHSSD** will have a free exhibit titled, "**Japanese Americans in San Diego: Keeping the Culture Alive**," on view.

Throughout the U.S., the Bon Odori is experienced by most participants as a Japanese cultural tradition. Its religious origins offer a time for self-reflection and an opportunity to express gratitude to our ancestors for the lives we have inherited.

"Obon is a time to remember and honor all those who have passed on before us, appreciate all that they have done for us, and recognize the continuation of their deeds upon our lives," according to **Dean Koyama**, a Jodo Shinshu minister from Mountain View, California. His description helps explain why the Bon Odori is appreciated by participants of diverse backgrounds and beliefs.

If you have any questions about the dance practices or the Bon Odori, call the Buddhist Temple at (619) 239-0896.

THREE-YEAR PLEDGES

The JAHSSD Board of Directors is very grateful those who have pledged their support of the Society's Three-Year Plan since our last issue. The listing below includes new pledges and second-year pledge payments received as of June 16, 2007. Please notify our Treasurer of any errors.



SAKURA LEVEL

CAROL ESTES

In memory of DONALD HAMILTON ESTES



MATSU LEVEL

DR. and MRS. EDGAR CANADA

DUANE SIEFERS and GWEN MOMITA



MOMIJI LEVEL

MR. and MRS. ROBERT BATCHELDER

CHIEKO L. MORIYAMA

MR. and MRS. BEN SEGAWA



TAKE LEVEL

MR. and MRS. TSUTOMU DATE

THE OBAYASHI FAMILY

*In memory of
ALFRED Y. and EMIKO OBAYASHI
and JOE U. and SUYE OBAYASHI*

DR. RUTH Y. OKIMOTO

MARY KANEYUKI

*In memory of
CARL KANEYUKI*

GIFT IN LIEU OF A PLEDGE

MARILOU SEKI & FAMILY

BOB'S BUDDIES EXCEED GOAL AGAIN

by Carol Estes

When we mention **Bob's Buddies**, the team sponsored by JAHSSD for the **Multiple Sclerosis Society Walk**, we must speak in superlatives. Each year since our first walk in 2000, Bob's Buddies has surpassed its previous year's goal.

This year we had two members collect over \$3,000, one over \$2,500, and two over \$1,000. When you consider our team consisted of only 21 registered walkers, we did an outstanding job of collecting over \$16,000. That is \$3,000 over our goal for the 2007 Walk.

As of this writing, the total raised by the MS Society in this year's walk is over 2.2 million dollars. The majority of these funds will be spent on research to help find a cure for this devastating disease.

It goes without saying that Bob's Buddies could not have been so successful again this year without the continued and generous support from all of our families and friends.

To all of you who donated and so kindly supported each of our walkers, we all say humbly and deeply from our hearts, *Domo arigato gozaimasu*. A list of everyone who helped us reach our goal will be included in the next *Footprints*.

BOB'S BUDDIES' WALKERS THANK DONORS

How do you continue to find ways to raise money for a worthy charity, year after year? **Dan Collins** and **Nancy Shimamoto** have walked with the **Bob's Buddies** MS Walk team for four years and continue to search for the answer. This year, they set their goal to increase donations by thirty percent.

"We decided to push our luck and announce our goal of \$3000," said Nancy. As always, their tried and true friends and relatives came through for them.

"We've been asking our circle of friends and relatives for support for four years, and I was afraid they were getting tired of giving to MS," said Dan. "But they astounded us by almost doubling their total donations this year." Instead of raising \$3000, Dan and Nancy raised over \$4000, an accomplishment they thought called for a special thank you to their supporters.

"We so much appreciate our donors' generosity, we decided a 'thank you' was in order," said Nancy. They held a Donor Thank You party on April 21 to honor and acknowledge generous family, friends, church members and golfing buddies.

"So many of our donors comment that their family is affected in some way by multiple sclerosis, and others just appreciate giving to a charity that they can put a face to," said Dan.

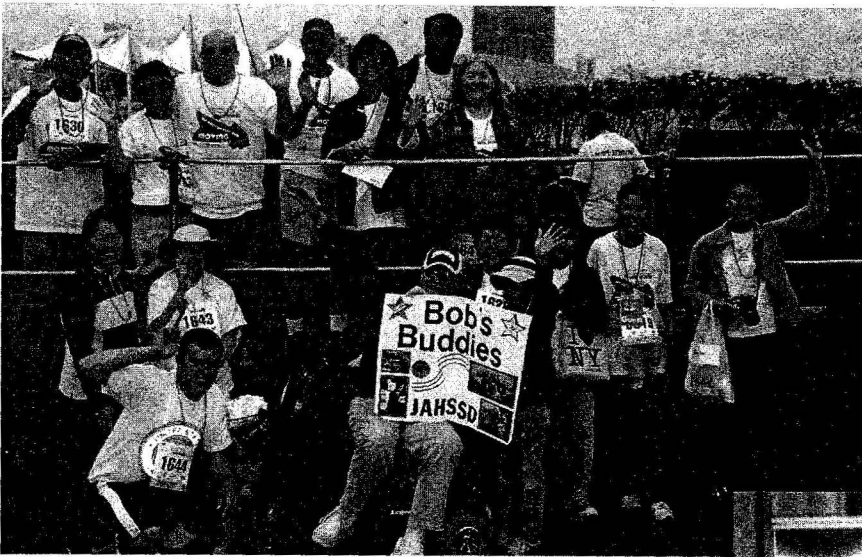
One donor even commented during the party that he hadn't given enough, and an additional check was "in the mail!" Sure enough, another \$100 was received the next day.

"Our circle of friends and family stretches far and wide, meaning many were unable to attend our donor party," commented Dan. But with the success of this year's fundraising and celebratory party, a plan is already in works for an even bigger bash next year.

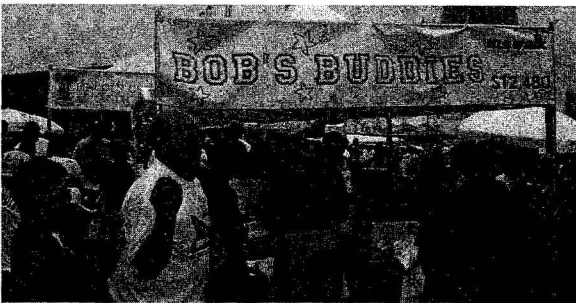
"We have to continue our efforts to find a cure for MS, as too many of our friends are afflicted by this terrible disease," said Nancy. "And with all of our support, we will find a cure."

With the success of the entire Bob's Buddies Team, which also exceeded its goal, raising over \$16,000, they are well on their way.

Clockwise from life: Bob's Buddies at start of the walk; Bob Batchelder; Donor Thank You party at the Collins home; the Buddies' special team tent, a perk for past performance



BOB'S BUDDIES TEAM ~ April 29, 2007



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- ▶ Printing (business cards, postcards, brochures) graphic design & setup
- ▶ You name it, we make it

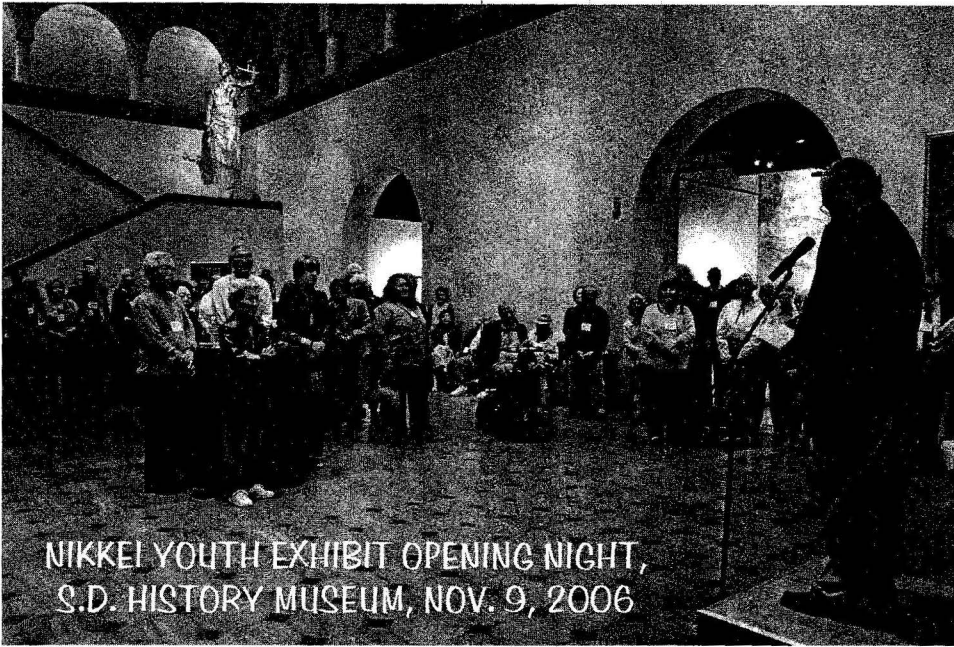


Jeffrey Obayashi
JAHSSD & JACL Member

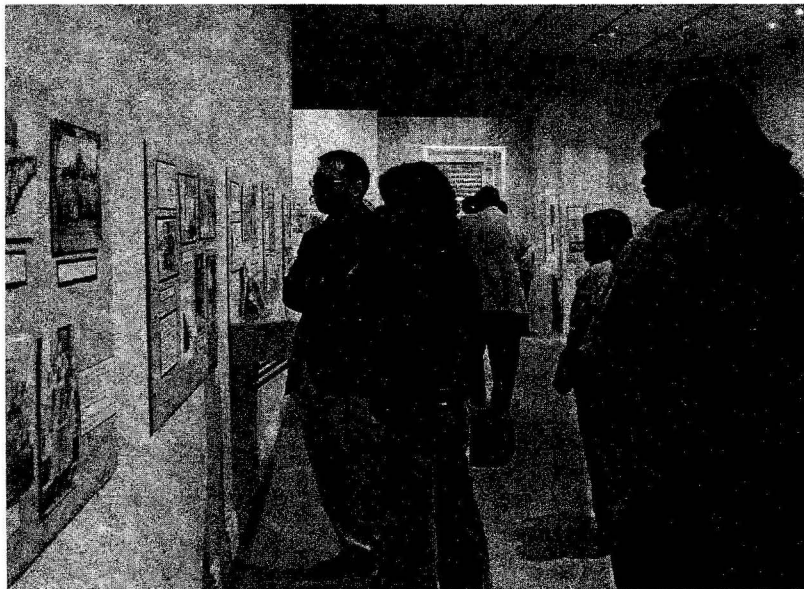
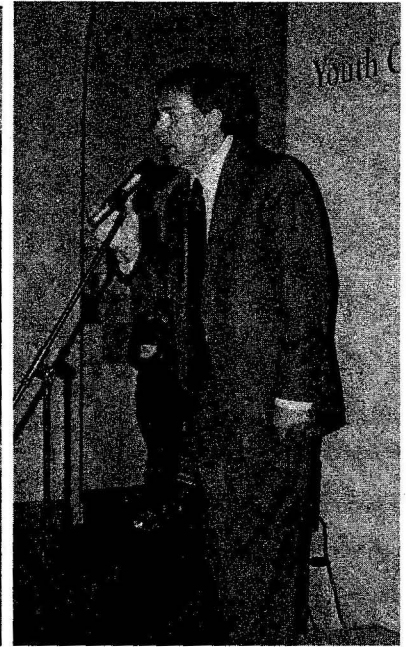
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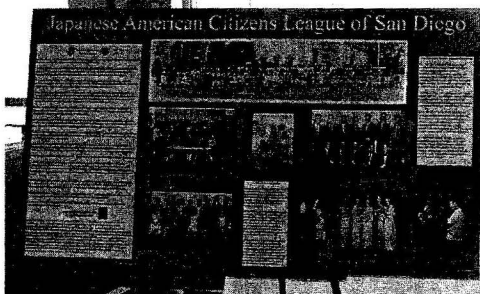
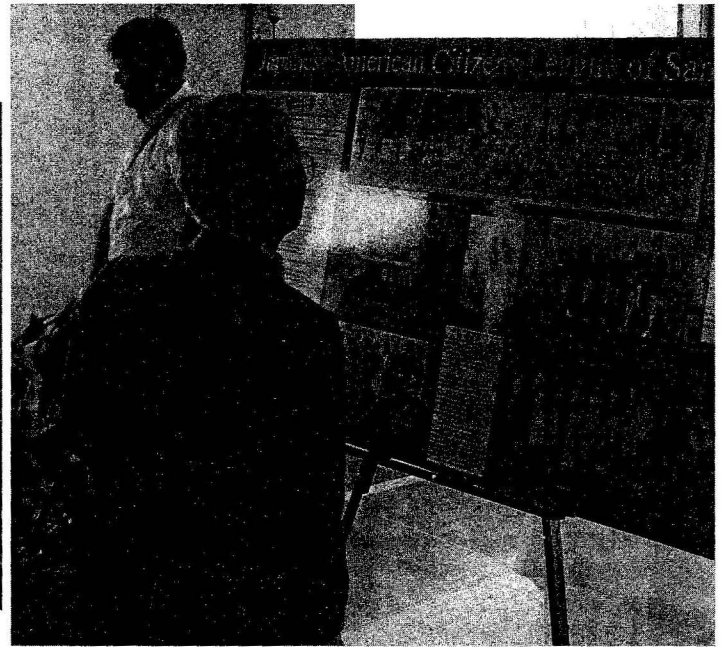
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SAN DIEGO JACL 50th ANNIV.
SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON,
TOM HAM'S LIGHTHOUSE, MAY 8, 2007



JAPANESE CONSUL GENERAL KAZUO
KODAMA GETS TOUR OF SAN DIEGO
NIKKEI HISTORY, JAN 23, 2007



POSTON III REUNION SET FOR SPRING 2008

by Mich Himaka

Former Poston III internees asked San Diegans to host the 13th **Poston III Reunion** after the last one held in Las Vegas.

Ask and they shall receive.

I hope they respond enough to make it as successful a gathering as the one in 2001 chaired by **Ben Segawa**.

Our reunion committee, co-chaired by the author and **Rev. Jim Yanagihara**, has scheduled it for **April 18, 19 and 20 of 2008** at the Doubletree Hotel in Mission Valley.

Once again, the committee has decided to open the reunion to San Diego residents and their relatives who were interned in camps other than Poston III. We also are inviting even those who were NOT in any camps as we have so many committee members and San Diego residents who were not even born during that time.

So far, we have had a core of about 25 to 30 people show up for committee meetings held monthly at the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. And we know we will need even more volunteers to help put this thing together.

We have pretty much decided on the menu for the Friday night mixer, which will be hosted by the classes of 1943, 1944 and 1945 (**Yukio Kawamoto, Grace Tsuida, Parker Uda, Masato Asakawa**); the Saturday night banquet, which will be hosted by the classes of 1950, 1951, 1952 and the younger crowd (**Rev. Jim, Mich, John Hashiguchi, Jeanne Elyea, Naomi Himaka** and others); and the Sunday morning brunch, which will be hosted by the classes of 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1949 (**Bubbles Shimasaki, Po and Amy Kaneyuki, Taka and Beverly Sawasaki** and others).

We have a booklet committee, thanks to **Tom Ozaki** with help from **Liz and Joe Yamada, John Asakawa** and **Jean Fujisaki Nelson** (who I understand has done a great job in putting together the 100th anniversary booklet for the Pioneer Ocean View Church celebration) and others.

Bob Batchelder, our treasurer, has been keeping us on the ball. Were it not for Bob, Masato and Yukio, we might still be spinning our wheels! Goes to show what experienced hands in all things related to reunion planning can do for these inexperienced hands!

Thanks to that trio, we have a timeline of things to do. We hope to get our first mailing out in June asking those we hope will want to come what things might pique their interest.

Right now, we hope to have a golf tournament for those interested in playing. We have asked **Steve Sato** and **Pauline and Sam Nakamura** to set those plans up for us. We have also inquired of **Viejas Casino** officials to help set up buses for those interested in going there for casino play or the outlet center for a few hours.

We have asked **Aya Ibarra**, Program Director of the **Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana**, about a shopping tour of Tijuana should there be an interest among those who plan to attend. Of course, anyone planning to take that trip should come with their passports in hand, as that will be required next year.

We have asked JAHSSD archivist **Linda Canada, Carol Estes, Sumi Kastelic** and **Susan Hasegawa** if they would prepare an exhibit of camp life for our visitors. We also hope to ask **Frank Wada** and his crew if they could assemble the partial barracks model they have put together for us in the past.

While our programs for entertainment have yet to be set up, we hope to get some performers for the banquet. We do not plan to have

any speakers at this time as people my age tend to fall asleep at the sound of a microphone.

Arnold Seko (my cousin) is putting together brochures for our initial mailing we hope to get out this month.

Babe Karasawa in Los Angeles has e-mailed us with the first bit of good news we've heard in a long time. Babe reports that one of our favorite teachers in camp, **Mrs. Barbara Washler Curry** of Kansas has told him that if we hold our reunion in San Diego, she will be there! Mrs. Curry attended our last reunion held here in 2001 along with **Mrs. Vivian White Calhoun** of Mission Viejo.

Both Mrs. Curry and Mrs. White had volunteered to come to Poston III to teach us. Mrs. Curry taught high school classes and Mrs. White taught fifth grade. We still hope we can get other teachers to come but it seems we have lost contact with them or they have passed.

This could be the last Poston III Reunion because the number of survivors dwindles and bones and minds shrink. What are chances of a 14th Poston III Reunion? I'm not sure. Perhaps a three-day cruise to Ensenada will suffice! We'll see if a Los Angeles or Central California contingent is game enough to try it.

We understand health concerns are a primary problem for everyone so stay healthy, everyone!

We'll have more news in the future.

JAHSSD RECEIVES ASIAN HERITAGE AWARD NOMINATION

The Society was recently nominated for a 2007 **Asian Heritage Award** in the category of Historic Preservation. **Alexander Chuang**, co-founder of the **San Diego Chinese Historical Museum**, received this year's award in that category.

The Asian Heritage Awards were established by **Asia Journal of Culture and Commerce** to applaud members of the API community for individual and organizational achievement. Among the winners in eleven categories this year were the **Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana** (Business Enterprise) and San Diego State professor **Kenji Ima** (Art/Philosophy/Literature). **Dr. Michael Inoue**, San Diego's Honorary Consul General of Japan, was given special recognition for his efforts to bridge San Diego's communities.

Linda Canada and **Joyce Teague** represented JAHSSD at the awards luncheon which was held at USD's Joan Kroc Institute for Peace and Freedom. The luncheon and awards ceremony were attended by over 300 people, about three times the number at the inaugural awards ceremony back in 2004.

JAHSSD will probably be nominated for its preservation efforts again, at which time we hope to have ample notification time to inform our membership so they can participate in the voting process. This year's winners were determined by hundreds of votes cast online and hundreds of paper ballots mailed to *Asia*.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

This year's annual membership meeting will take place **Saturday, October 6**. Our VP in charge of the event has begun discussions on the theme, special exhibit and keynote speaker. Nominations are now being accepted for the **2007 Kansha Award**. Please help the Nominating Committee by submitting the name of someone you think deserves recognition for his/her service to the community. Send your nominee to our P.O. Box or e-mail contact@jahssd.org.

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB HOSTS FOUNDERS GALA

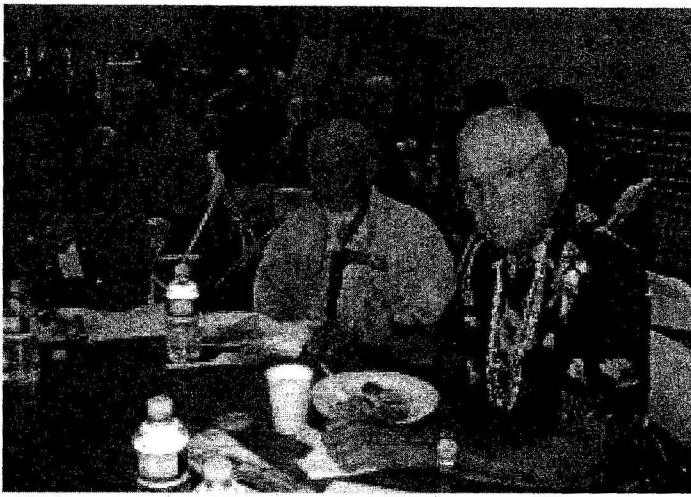
On June 15, 2007, the **San Diego Bonsai Club**, one of the oldest bonsai clubs in California, held a Founders Gala at the Hanalei Crowne Plaza in Mission Valley. Founded by twelve individuals in October 1965 and now boasting a membership of over 300 bonsai practitioners and aficionados, SDBC honored the three remaining of its founding members, **Mas Takanashi**, **Ko Tsushima** and **Jerrold Parrish**.

The event also honored the **Japanese Friendship Garden** with its President **Tom Yanagihara** and Vice President **Fred Miyahara** in attendance. Much of SDBC's collection is on view at the Friendship Garden.

Also recognized was **Wild Animal Park**, which has recently provided expansion space for the **Bonsai Pavilion** first opened in May 1987 during the Wild Animal Park's 15th year celebration. The Bonsai Pavilion was developed 20 years ago with land provided by the **San Diego Zoological Society** and constructed through joint efforts of the WAP, SDBC and **San Pu Kai**, a bonsai club based in North San Diego County.

The new space is about three times the size of the Bonsai Pavilion and will provide a tranquil garden including waterfall, stream, and expanded educational, work and display areas. The silent auction and benefit drawing at the gala were part of a current fundraising effort to assure the project's completion.

The SDBC is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide its members "with a forum to exchange information, learn, teach, and promote the art of bonsai." The group meets monthly at the Del Prado Building in Balboa Park on the second Sunday morning of each month, except for the months of May and October.



Robert Ito (left), his father **Lloyd Ito**, and **Stu Hedley** take a lunch break at Poway High School where Lloyd and Stu shared their World War II experiences in U.S. history classes, June 1, 2007. Lloyd received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart as a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Stu was on board the USS West Virginia during Japan's December 1941 attack at Pearl Harbor.

WE GET LETTERS

Dear Joyce,

After reading Mich [Himaka]'s "Mazegohan" and Yukio [Kawamoto]'s front-page memories on Poston III High School in the latest *Footprints*, it dawned on me to see what there was about the San Diego Japanese community in my 1915 Shin-Sekai Japanese directory. And since my new printer provides pages from a book to be scanned and copied, I'm mailing to Yuki two pages (pp.152-153) showing the list of Japanese residents in San Diego city and region (the RFD addresses) and three pages (pp. 139-141) with nine business ads in San Diego.

Someone who can read the names—all in kanji—will be needed to reproduce the information in English. And what a fantastic page that would be in the next *Footprints*. May sound like work, but the product will be indispensable to research and an added attraction to old-timers like you two. Also enclosed will be (FYI) my two columns [from the *Rafu Shimpō*] about finding and describing the directory.

Harry Honda
Rowland Heights, California

Editor's reply: Thank you, Harry, we always welcome and appreciate your contributions! We had our archives volunteer Roy Asaki translate the directory pages for us and Linda Canada is doing the write-up using information from your columns. It will appear in our Fall Issue.

READ ONLY IF YOU'RE A FOODIE

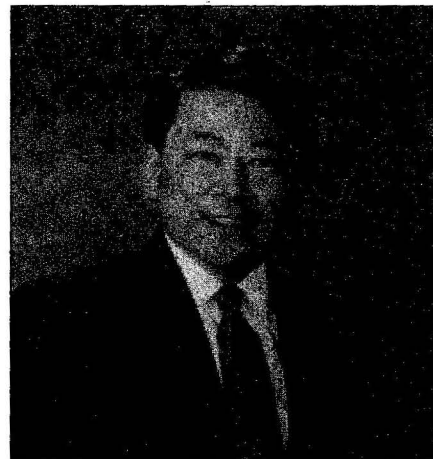
by Your Eat-it-tor, a Card-Carrying Foodie

Do you know the Japanese franchise confectioners called **Beard Papa Sweets Cafe**? Beard Papa makes delicious fresh cream puffs to order. You can happily create your own "beard" of confectioner's sugar while munching these pastries, which come in vanilla, chocolate and other lip-smacking flavors.

Mr. Foodie and I found our first Beard Papa in San Francisco last February and I've been fixated on it ever since. I'm told the location nearest San Diego is in Gardena. This is so wrong, but I want to consume 60 of these cream puffs before my 60th year comes to an end.

So far I've only had two, so it's not really an addiction, is it? Yet? Hmm, at what number do you think an intervention would be in order?

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FISHING NET:

Trolling for Internet Treasure

by Joyce Teague

There are countless interesting, educational and entertaining Nikkei-related websites out there in the vast ocean of the Internet, but the waters are deep and the currents ever-shifting. **Fishing Net** is a new feature which will point out resources we think JAHSSDers will enjoy exploring for information, enlightenment or fun.

This first column features the web addresses of mostly local Nikkei organizations with whom we're all familiar.

One site you should have already bookmarked is **JAHSSD's** own website, www.jahssd.org. Webmaster **Noriko Inoue** reports we have hundreds of "hits" (visitors to the website) by web surfers all over the world each week. Many of them are students researching topics like Japanese American internment for school papers. Some are seeking specific Japanese resources in the San Diego area, like flower arranging classes.

Some inquiries come from people blissfully unaware that having "Japanese" in your title does not mean expertise in All Things Japanese!

Here are links to the websites of some organizations often mentioned in this newsletter:

- **Buddhist Temple of San Diego:** www.btsd.net
- **Colorado River Indian Tribes (C.R.I.T.)** for updates on the **Poston Restoration Project:** www.postonalliance.org
- **Japan Society of San Diego & Tijuana:** www.japan-society.org
- **Japanese Friendship Garden:** www.niwa.org
- **Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ:** www.pioneeroceanviewucc.com
- **San Diego History Museum:** www.sandiegohistory.org
- **San Diego Japanese Christian Church:** sdjcc.tierranet.com

The inspiration for this column came when first exploring a site my pal Bill alerted me to. Coordinated by the **Japanese American Museum (JAMN)** and funded by the **Nippon Foundation**, the website www.discovernikkei.org will tug you in lots of different directions, reflecting the diversity of the global Nikkei experience. Described as a site about "Japanese Migrants and Their Descendants," it is easily navigated and readable in English, Japanese, Spanish and Portuguese.

Find all kinds of info there: history, resources, interviews (including those JAHSSD did for the **Regenerations Project** in the 1990s) and a community forum. There's a tutorial how to upload your own info and photos so they're accessible to visitors to the site. How cool is that?

One of my favorite areas is **Real People**, featuring hundreds of short videotaped interviews arranged by name and topic. Learned about **Mike Shinoda** of the popular hardcore band, **Linkin Park**. The son of a Japanese American father and Caucasian mother, Mike's ethnicity didn't mean much in his racially mixed L.A. neighborhood until he interviewed his grandmother about her World War II internment experience. This became the inspiration for the song "Kenji" on his first solo album, which has got a lot of his young fans to learn about internment. "There's a difference between being Japanese and being Japanese American," Shinoda says, "and you start to really realize that as you get older."

Beginning in the Fall Issue, the Fishing Net will be cast by **Robert Irie**, a young net-savvy friend with experience and interest in cataloguing online Asian American resources.

Have fun trolling for treasure! Robert and I invite you to send any web links you think will be of interest to our membership to footprint-seditor@cox.net.



James Yamate (left) receives a plaque and a gift from National JACL President Larry Oda and San Diego JACL President Miyo Reff on May 8, 2007.

JACL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

by Christina Pierson

The **San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League** celebrated its 50th Annual Scholarship Luncheon on May 8, 2007, at Tom Ham's Lighthouse. Scholarship recipients from the past 50 years were in attendance with their family and friends. Many local families were recognized as second- and third-generation JACL scholarship recipients.

Special guests included California Assemblywoman **Shirley Horton** (representing South Bay), JACL Scholarship Committee Founder **James Yamate**, and National JACL President **Larry Oda**.

The San Diego JACL scholarship program was begun in 1958 with a \$500 donation to the chapter in honor of **Dr. George Hara**. The scholarship fund became an official program when the **Chula Vista Gakuin** [now defunct] gifted their property to the San Diego Chapter of the JACL. The Chula Vista Gakuin had only one request: that at least one scholarship be awarded annually to a South Bay student. The JACL has gladly honored that agreement for 50 years.

The original scholarship committee was headed by **James Yamate** who has dedicated 25 years of service providing support to San Diego area students. Yamate was given a plaque recognizing his dedication to the scholarship program. In his acceptance speech, Yamate spoke of struggles, prewar and postwar, Nisei had to overcome to further their education. He encouraged current scholarship recipients to continue the tradition of giving back to their community following their education.

Christina Pierson, board member of both San Diego JACL and the **Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego (JAHSSD)**, curated an exhibit for the luncheon focusing on the history, community support, youth involvement and events of the JACL in San Diego. JAHSSD provided historic photos of the **San Diego Chapter JACL Youth Council** and of the 1935 and 1966 National JACL meetings held in San Diego.

The scholarship committee is currently co-chaired by **Carol Kawamoto** and **Dr. Yuri Kaneda**, both of whom received JACL scholarships in their youth. The committee and a group of committed volunteers spent countless hours planning the anniversary luncheon.

Congratulations to the 2007 scholarship recipients. They are listed in *Celebrations!* on Page 21.

LOCAL JACL REVITALIZES BOARD

At the beginning of this year, the board of the **San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League** appointed and elected seven new board members to fill board vacancies. Recruiting the new members was part of an ongoing effort by the local chapter to revitalize its leadership by increasing the diversity of its members.

The JACL Pacific Southwest District Governor, **Alayne Yonemoto**, traveled to San Diego to install the new board at the local chapter's annual meeting held March 18, 2007, at Fuji Steakhouse and Sushi Restaurant.

The new board members are:

Erika Hiramatsu, a state prosecutor with the Office of the Attorney General, Appeals Writs and Trials section. Erika is the incoming president of Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego, and has previously served as its President, Vice President, and Treasurer. She is also sits on the State Bar Commission on Judicial Nominee Evaluation, where she is serving the last of three one-year terms. Outside the practice of law, Erika is a member of the Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana, sings with the La Jolla Symphony Chorus, and studies the Uransenke school of Japanese tea ceremony.

Linda Kato, an assistant professor in the School of Leadership and Education Sciences at the University of San Diego. Linda has an extensive background in social policy research and evaluation, program development and management, education, and community engagement. She has been involved in community-based popular education, teaching literacy and workers rights to migrant laborers in the rural United States and Mexico, and to factory workers in Indonesia. Linda has been a member of JACL since her undergraduate years.

Andrea Nakano, a sports reporter for Fox 6 in San Diego. Before moving to Fox 6, she was a news reporter for KFMB-TV News 8. Andrea is fluent in Japanese and has basic conversational skills in Spanish. After graduating from the American School in Tokyo, Japan, Andrea continued her studies at Stanford University and has a BA in Radio-Television from San Francisco State University. Andrea has graciously emceed or been the mistress of ceremony for many events in San Diego including the San Diego Asian Business Association awards dinner and JACL's Mochi Ice Cream Social.

Patty Shigetomi Nakamura, a graduate of San Diego State University where she earned bachelors and masters degrees in Speech Pathology and Audiology. Patty has been employed by San Diego Unified School District for over 30 years as a special education aide, teacher, therapist, and presently as a speech/language pathologist for the Special Education Early Childhood department. Patty co-chaired the JACL-sponsored Kids' Cultural Day program for 10 years with **Janis Tani**. Patty is married to **Jake Nakamura** and they have two children, **Nick** (age 19) and **Lauren** (age 17).

Christina M. Pierson, a medical administrator and instructor, has been a resident of San Diego since 1996. Christina is a fourth generation member of the Kobayashi family of San Diego County and has worked extensively on the Kobayashi family history and the history of Japanese Americans within the San Diego community. Christina has been serving on the board of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego since 2002. She is currently a full time student at Grossmont College and taking courses on grant project development and writing at the San Diego Foundation.

Nancy Sasaki, an experienced executive with 24 years in the non-profit and health care fields, is currently Chief Operating Officer at Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties. Before that she was the Executive Director of the ACLU of San Diego and Imperial



San Diego JACL Board members at Fuji Restaurant installation, March 2007.

First row (from left): Alayne Yonemoto (PSW Governor), Suzanne Okazaki, Carol Kawamoto, Linda Kato, Miyo Reff; Second row: Hiro Suzuki, Robert Ito, Nancy Sasaki, Christina Pierson, Miyo Ikeda; Back row: Karen Tani, David Iwashita, Erika Hiramatsu, David Kawamoto, Tom Yanagihara

Counties. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a BS in Education and a M.Ed in Community Health. Her career has taken her to Texas, Hawaii and Los Angeles. On weekends Nancy can be found on the volleyball courts in Mission Beach.

Hiro Suzuki, a past S.D. JACL scholarship winner who joined Phoenix Realty Group in 2006 where he participates in the origination, underwriting and acquisitions for the San Diego Smart Growth Fund. Prior to joining Phoenix, Hiro was a Council Representative in the San Diego City Council District Eight office where he was responsible for housing, redevelopment, budget and stadium issues. Hiro, a former minor league soccer player, holds a Master's in Business Administration from the Anderson School at UCLA and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Yale University.

The remainder of the 2007 board is composed of: President **Miyo Tanaka Reff**; Vice President **David Kawamoto**; Secretary **David Iwashita**; Treasurer **Karen Tani**; and returning board members, **Joe Horiye**, **Dr. Miyo Ikeda**, **Robert Ito**, **Carol Kawamoto**, **Roy Muraoka**, **Suzanne Okazaki**, **Steve Sato**, **Dr. Mits Tomita**, **Tom Yanagihara** and Youth Representative **Kimberly Shintaku**.

Information for this article was excerpted from the spring issue of the San Diego JACL publication, *Borderline*, and was used with permission.

WHY DO WE RECORD WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?
WHY DON'T WE JUST TALK ABOUT YESTERDAY?

Because what we experience, endeavor, accomplish
and overcome today becomes our history tomorrow.
Write it down. Share it. Help preserve our history.

S.D. LIBRARY'S YEAR-LONG "DEAR MISS BREED" EVENTS

The San Diego Public Library has been presenting a year-long series of events as part of its "Dear Miss Breed" California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) grant. JAHSSD is co-sponsoring many of the events, including some lectures and the screening of internment-related films at various library branches.

The next event, a lecture titled, "Less Safe, Less Free: Why We Are Losing the War on Terror," by Constitutional law scholar **David Cole**, will take place Tuesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m. at the downtown Lyceum Theater.

Cole, who has been called "one of the country's great legal voices for civil liberties today," will examine the Bush administration's record in the "war on terror" and argue that the administration's initiatives have sacrificed basic commitments to the rule of law and have made us more vulnerable to future terrorist attacks.

The lecture is being co-sponsored by the Library in partnership with the **American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)** of San Diego and Imperial Counties, and the **American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee**. It is free and the public welcome.

Last year, the library was awarded a \$66,000 grant from the CCLPEP fund to oversee the adaptation of the book *Dear Miss Breed* by **Joanne Oppenheim** into a play to be produced in San Diego in 2007. The book focused on the assistance provided by the late **Clara Breed**, the children's librarian at the time, to Japanese American children held in internment camps during World War II.

The stage production is being done in partnership with the **Asian Story Theater** and Ms. Oppenheim, who is writing the script based on her book. **Andy Lowe**, founder of the **San Diego Asian American Repertory Theatre**, will direct.

The play "Dear Miss Breed" is scheduled to run September 16–30 at the Lyceum Theatre in Horton Plaza downtown. More information on the production will be featured in the Fall Issue of *Footprints*.

For more information of the "Dear Miss Breed" events, go to www.sandiegolibrary.org or call **Lynn Whitehouse** at (619) 236-5821.



Joanne Oppenheim's stage adaptation of her 2006 book, *Dear Miss Breed*, has been rescheduled to open September 16, 2007 at the downtown Lyceum Theatre. Oppenheim will be present and JAHSSD will be involved with the opening night festivities. The play will run through September 30.

Young Voice: THE NIKKEI YOUTH EXHIBITION

by Debbie Wills

Debbie is a student at City College in Professor Susan Hasegawa's Introduction to Asian Civilizations class. She wrote about her impressions of the recent JAHSSD exhibit at the San Diego History Museum. Debbie plans to transfer to San Jose State University and major in graphic arts. She is a long-time member of the San Diego Japanese Christian Church.

The **Nikkei Youth Culture: Past, Present, Future** exhibition by the **Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego** was about the Japanese community right here in San Diego, focusing on the early 1920s-1940s and World War II.

The exhibition began with a display of their childhood or, in Japanese, *kodomo no koro*. During the early 1920s, there was an annual sumo contest at Silver Strand, Coronado. Kids learned from their parents sumo and kendo, two very traditional Japanese sports. This section included photographs of Nisei kids, some dressed in the traditional kimono. I found it quite interesting because I had no idea that local Japanese Americans held such events to keep the Japanese culture alive.

As I walked through the exhibition, I came across a section on the Issei pioneers. The Issei were the [first generation of] immigrants who came to America.

To encourage Japanese teens to seek out people their own age, the **Buddhist Temple of San Diego** and the **San Diego Japanese Christian Church** sponsored youth groups. This especially caught my attention because I grew up and attended the JCC on E Street, which has been around for 77 years. The start of these youth groups illustrates the Japanese way of community and the importance of belonging.

A very important section of the exhibition was on World War II and the internment camps. A week after April 1, 1942, the San Diego Nikkei [people of Japanese descent] were put on a train and moved to the Santa Anita racetrack. This piqued my interest because I was always curious to learn where exactly the local Japanese Americans were sent, and I was surprised to find out they were eventually moved to the **Poston Relocation Camp III** in Arizona.

The short video of the interviews with two locals of San Diego who lived during WWII and talked about their experience with the internment camps really added to the presentation. I am glad that they did not reveal the identities of these two voices, because it allows one not only to imagine these two particular individuals and their experience, but [that of all the] Japanese Americans who were subjected to leave their homes and try to live a life of normalcy in these camps.

Towards the end to my visit, I came to the Hapa display. I have heard of this term before and also of the book, *100% Hapa*. Since I too am a Hapa [Nikkei of mixed heritage], it was nice to see the Hapa movement is growing and going strong. I was also pleasantly surprised to discover that Hapas consist of 16.8% of the total Asian population in San Diego. I had no idea that there were so many of us in our community.

The Nikkei exhibition was very much educational and enriching, not only because I was able to learn about an important community of San Diego but also because I grew up with different generations of Japanese at my church. By learning about their life and history, I have a better understanding and appreciation of their contributions.

I took my mom along to the museum, and she enjoyed it very much. She even saw a familiar face in one of the displays. I am very glad I had the opportunity to further my knowledge of the past, the present, and the future of the Nikkei community.

NIKKEI EXHIBITION AT CSU FULLERTON

by Linda Canada

If you are making a trip to Orange County for shopping or visiting relatives on some weekend before July 29, 2007, be sure to plan a stop at the **Fullerton Arboretum** on the campus of **CSU Fullerton**.

Their **Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum** has a great exhibition about the Nikkei of Orange County. Ninety percent of the people were farmers so most of the exhibition is about that subject. Separate elements of the 2,500 square foot gallery focus on what crops were grown and how they were planted, harvested and sold. Other parts illustrate how families lived. There are excerpts from oral histories, and some great photographs of Orange County before the war. There is even a strong San Diego connection, since **Reverend Kikuchi** of what is now **Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ** had a long pastorate in Orange County before arriving in San Diego.

Stephanie George and **Carlota Haider** created the exhibition as part of their Master's degree requirements at CSU Fullerton. Since neither of them is Japanese American, they told **Susan Hasegawa** and me that they learned a lot about the culture while working on their project.

They have done a very creative job of developing activities for children to go along with the exhibits, and have even included recipes for the various vegetable crops that were grown in Orange County. Stephanie and Carlota were very gracious in sharing their ideas and resources with us, and our version of some of their creative work will be included in the **JAHSSD** exhibition "**Home Grown**" that opens July 14 at the **Bonita Historical Museum**.

The museum and arboretum are open Saturdays and Sundays from noon until 4:00 p.m. The street address is 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, California, 92831.

There is parking right outside the gardens, and the museum is just a short stroll from the parking lot. Allow about an hour and a half driving time from San Diego.

For more information, go to <http://arboretum.fullerton.edu/museum>.

MESA COLLEGE PROF WINS ACCOLADE FROM ALMA MATER

Dr. Yoshito Kawahara has received the Asian/Pacific American Alumni Award from his alma mater Indiana University. Last spring, Kawahara flew to Bloomington to accept the award at an invitation-only dinner on April 27, 2007.

"It was a great honor to receive the award from Indiana University. It was an emotional high for me," said Kawahara.

The Distinguished Asian/Pacific American Alumni Award recognizes alumni of IU for outstanding achievement and community service. Kawahara, professor and chair of the Department of Behavior Sciences at San Diego Mesa College, earned a doctorate in physiological psychology from IU in 1978.

Kawahara taught at City University of New York before joining the faculty at Mesa College in 1975 where he served as co-director of the Bridges to the Baccalaureate program at Mesa College, a program to help prepare underrepresented students for university success.

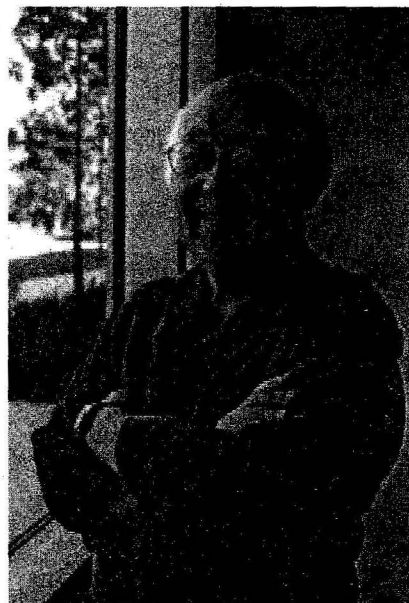
He joined the Asian American Psychological Association (AAPA) in the 1970s and served various posts in the organization from 1991 to 2007. He has twice been awarded the organization's Distinguished Contributions Award and has the rank of Fellow. He is also active in the **Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC)** here in San Diego.

Kawahara is a third generation Japanese American whose family was incarcerated at the **Heart Mountain Detention Center** during World War II.

"We were housed in tar paper barracks where the burning hot summers and the freezing winters could easily be felt. I spent almost three years behind barbed wired fences and guard towers with American soldiers pointing their guns into the camp," Kawahara said of his childhood experience.

Kawahara is planning to retire from Mesa College this June. He is married to **Marleen Kawahara**, a biologist. They have two adult children, **Quinton** and **Matt**.

We thank ASIA Journal of Culture and Commerce and the Indiana University Alumni Association for information that appears in this article.



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WANT TO SHARE A BIT OF HISTORY OR SOMETHING ELSE YOU LEARNED TODAY?

If you found something worth sharing on these pages, please consider giving a JAHSSD gift membership to your children, relatives, or friends. They will receive their very own four informative issues of *Footprints*... and the Society will benefit as well!

STATE SENATOR YEE VISITS SAN DIEGO'S API COMMUNITY

by Miyo Reff

California State Senator **Leland Yee, Ph.D.**, visited San Diego on May 18, 2007. Senator Yee is the newly appointed Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Asian Pacific Islander Affairs and the first Asian American elected to the upper house in 40 years. Senator Yee is leading the Senate effort to reach out to the API community and discuss issues and concerns affecting Asian Americans.

Senator Yee started his day at **Kiku Gardens**, followed by visits to **UPAC (Union of Pan Asian Committee)**, San Diego's **Asian Pacific Historic District**, **Mabuhay Alliance**, **Korean-American Association Center**, **Asian Business Association**, and concluded with a Town Hall meeting at the **Taiwanese American Community Center**.

The **San Diego Chapter of the JACL** was asked to coordinate Senator's Yee visit with the Nikkei community at Kiku Gardens. JACL President **Miyo Reff** moderated the program which began with an introduction to the history of the Japanese American community given



State Senator Leland Lee

by JAHSSD President **Mich Himaka**.

Superior Court Judge **Lillian Lim**, a founding member of the **Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego**, presented a request for a resolution to establish a California **Fred Korematsu Day of Recognition**. This day would be used as a teaching opportunity and would recognize the Supreme Court vacating Fred Korematsu's wrongful conviction for resisting the orders excluding, removing, and detaining citizens and residents of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

Dave Tuites, Executive Director of the **Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana**, presented the concerns of the **Japanese Maquiladora Association** for more efficient means of transporting goods and services across the international border. Tuites said the JSSDT strongly supports the study of the Japanese language in the K-12 public school system.

The program concluded with a talk by **Steve Sato**, Executive Director of **Kiku Gardens**, who spoke about senior housing for local Asians. He then gave Senator Yee a tour of Kiku Gardens.

This is the first time there is a Senate committee focused on API affairs. San Diego had the honor of being the first community to be visited by Senator Yee.



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CALIFORNIA JAPANESE-STYLE GARDENS: Tradition and Practice

by Tish Brown

Tish is a member of the California Garden and Landscape History Society which was founded in 1995 to celebrate the beauty, wealth, and diversity of California gardens and landscapes. The Society organizes annual conferences and publishes Eden, a quarterly review.

Exotic portions of great estates, commercial tea house gardens, modest bungalow gardens, and public peace or friendship gardens: for more than a century, the lure of Japan has inspired a category of gardens that is the subject of the **California Garden and Landscape History Society** annual conference.

The conference will be held **September 28-30, 2007** in Los Angeles, California. Through talks, an exhibition visit, and garden tours, the conference will focus not only on Japanese-style gardens but also on the Japanese Americans who designed, cultivated, and maintained them.

Little Tokyo, long-time heart of the Los Angeles Japanese American community, is the site of the conference which begins on Friday evening at the **Japanese American National Museum** with a reception and private viewing of the exhibition "Landscaping America: Beyond the Japanese Garden."

On Friday there is the option to visit two important Japanese-style gardens: the **UCLA Hannah Carter Japanese Garden** and the Japanese garden at the **Huntington Botanic Gardens**.

On Saturday, experts speak about the history, design, and maintenance of Japanese-style gardens. A walking tour of Little Tokyo includes the **James Irvine Garden** and surviving pre-World War II buildings in the Little Tokyo National Historic Landmark District. The New Otani Hotel's **Garden in the Sky**, based on a Sixteenth Century Japanese strolling garden, is the location of the Saturday afternoon reception. **Naomi Hirahara**, author of a popular mystery series featuring fictional Los Angeles gardener, Mas Arai, will entertain with a reading at the dinner.

On Sunday, conferees will visit a variety of Japanese-style gardens in the Los Angeles area, including the private **Storrier Stearns Garden** (1937-1942) and a city block with modest Japanese-style gardens.

This conference is organized in partnership with the Japanese American National Museum, the Garden Conservancy, and the Los Angeles Conservancy. The public is invited to participate.

For information or to register, visit www.cglhs.org, e-mail conference@cglhs.org, or call (323) 462-2443.

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FRESNO OKAYS MEMORIAL PROJECT

The **Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Project Committee** announced that it has reached an understanding with the City of Fresno and developer (a California limited partnership), for the development of a memorial in Pinedale to be known as **Remembrance Plaza**.

The memorial will help preserve the history of the site, which was part of the **Sugar Pine Lumber Company, Pinedale Assembly Center, and Camp Pinedale**.

On November 28, 2006, the Fresno City Council approved designation of Remembrance Plaza to the Local Register of Historic Resources. The Council also approved the site plan for Remembrance Plaza.

According to the understanding, the developer will dedicate to the City of Fresno approximately 7,100 square feet of property for Remembrance Plaza. The memorial will consist of a fountain, planter area around the fountain with California Registered Historical Landmark No. 934, planter wall/bench around the planter, circular stamped-concrete plaza, concrete walkways, interpretive wall with story boards and landscaping, including lawns, Evergreen Pears, Red Japanese Maples, Weeping Japanese Cherries and various plants and flowers. The developer and the Committee's sponsors, **Central California Nikkei Foundation** and **Central California District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League**, will be responsible for these elements.

Improvements and transfer of the property is expected to be completed by November 2008. A February 2007 ground-breaking ceremony was planned on the 65th anniversary of **Executive Order No. 9066**, which authorized military leaders to exclude persons from military zones and was the legal basis for the World War II exclusion of Americans of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The current draft of the historical landmark's inscription of the landmark reads as follows:

***PINEDALE ASSEMBLY CENTER:** This memorial is dedicated to over 4,800 Americans of Japanese ancestry who were confined at the Pinedale Assembly Center from May to July 1942. This was an early phase of the mass incarceration of over 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II pursuant to Executive Order No. 9066. They were detained without charges, trial or establishment of guilt. May such injustice and suffering never reoccur. California Registered Historical Landmark No. 934. Plaque placed by the State Department of Parks and Recreation in cooperation with the City of Fresno, Japanese American Citizens League and Central California Nikkei Foundation. February 19, 2007.*

For more information on Remembrance Plaza, contact **Dale Ikeda** at (559) 434-1264 or **Bob Shintaku** at (559) 304-3486. The information for this article was provided by Dale Ikeda.

CELEBRATIONS!

Congratulations to JAHSSD members **Osa and Sets Himaka** who recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at the Barona Resort and Casino with family, relatives and friends. All four children and six grandchildren were at the celebration: **Gary & Karen (Sugiyama), Todd and Garrett, Rev. Carol Himaka, Norman & Katharine (Kada), Jessica and Ryan, and Lynn & Steven Fuchigami, Lani and Brent.** Osa and Sets (nee Suwa) were married March 8, 1947, at the historic Blackstone Church in Cleveland, Ohio.

Cousins **Amy Graeber** and **Katie Santohigashi** spent two weeks traveling together in Europe before Katie headed back to India, Nepal, and Tibet under a research grant she was awarded for summer study.

Trevor Kinoshita and **Lauren Nakamura** are among a handful of young Americans selected by the Buddhist Churches of America to spend ten days in a cultural exchange program in Kyoto and Hiroshima, Japan. The group will visit temples and participate in a home stay program. The Buddhist Temple of San Diego's resident minister, **Rev. Yushi Mukojima**, will accompany the youth group.

Scholarship Winners

San Diego JACL held its 50th anniversary scholarship awards luncheon last May. Recipients of the **Tetsuyo Kashima Memorial Scholarship** were: **Ashley Takahashi**, Bonita Vista High (\$1000); **Shawn Teeter**, High Tech High (\$1000); **Lauren Kodama**, Westview High (\$750); **Caitlin Baker**, Cathedral Catholic (\$500); **Christine Emerson**, Hilltop High (\$500); **Leann Fujinami**, Scripps Ranch High (\$500); and **Amanda Segawa**, Steele Canyon High (\$500).

Winner of the **Dr. Roy K. Tanaka Continuing Education Award** (\$500) was **Elysa Kinoshita**, a student at the Univ. of San Francisco.

Grandbabies Galore!

Lee & Susan Moribe have joined the happy ranks of photo-carrying New Grandparents: **Riley Hiroshige Moribe** was born to **Michael & Bounmy Moribe** on March 21, 2007.

Glenn and Keiko Negoro welcomed their second grandchild, **Kazuo William Sannwald**, on March 25, 2007. The happy parents are **Bill & Suzanne Sannwald** of El Cajon.

Little **Cassidy Muraoka** is doing fine after coming into the world on May 24, 2007. Her parents are **Ken & Sharyn Muraoka** and big brother is **Trevor**. Last year's Kansha Awardee **Roy & Aiko Muraoka** are the proud grandparents.

If you or someone you know is marking a milestone, please share the news with the membership by sending it to footprintseditor@cox.net. Photos welcome!



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FROM THE JAHSSD ARCHIVES...



Kiyo Kimura was an 18-year-old internee at Poston Relocation Camp when this photo was taken on the banks of the Colorado River circa 1944. Her best friend was Kazuko Miyashita whose brother, Toshito, took this snapshot. The Kimura family lived in Block 330, Barracks 3-D in Poston Camp III. Most evacuated San Diego families were assigned to Camp III.

After the war, Kiyo married Hideo Ochi and they raised their family in San Diego.

This moment in San Diego Nikkei history is brought to you by:

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MOHAVELAND: In 1945, the Poston III Young Buddhist Association published this 70-page book as a remembrance of life in the Colorado River War Relocation Center. Primarily a photographic record of Buddhist families and individuals who resided at Poston III during WWII, it contains hundreds of photographs depicting camp life and its residents. Of great interest to former residents of Poston Camp III, their children and grandchildren, and to anyone interested in internment history.

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DEAR MISS BREED (Joanne Oppenheim ©2006 Scholastic Press): The award-winning story of San Diego's brave Children's Librarian, Clara Breed, who carried on a three-year correspondence with children who wrote her from behind barbed wire during World War II. Their letters offer remarkable insight into camp life and the hopes, dreams, and tenacity of young Americans branded "enemy aliens" by their country.

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SOUTH BAY MONOGATARI: Tales of the South Bay Nikkei Community (Donald H. Estes ©1996, Chula Vista Historical Society): Stories of struggle and success among San Diego's Japanese immigrant families. By the acknowledged expert on the San Diego Nikkei. 195 pages, photographs, annotations and index.

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A NOSTALGIC VISIT:

Becky Obayashi and her sister **Marilou Seki** stand in front of the historic **Sun Cafe** which their family owned and operated for many years. They were on a walking tour of San Diego's old Japantown sites conducted by JAHSSD's **Yukio Kawamoto** on October 28, 2006.
Photo by Andy Katayama

JAHSSD is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the collection, identification, preservation and display of materials related to the Japanese American experience in the San Diego region. We view our function in the greater community as historical, educational and cultural. **Footprints** is JAHSSD's quarterly publication for its membership. Subscription is free with membership. We welcome your articles, stories, letters and comments. Send them to: FOOTPRINTS EDITOR, P.O. Box 620988, San Diego, CA 92162-0988, or send e-mail to: footprintseditor@cox.net.

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