

Pacific Citizen

\$1.50 postpaid (U.S., Can.) / \$2.30 (Japan Air)
Newsstand: 25¢

#2948/ Vol. 132, No. 9 ISSN: 0030-8579

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

MAY 18-31, 2001

Q & A with 'Da Pidgin Guerrilla'

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

Lee Tonouchi is a funny guy on a serious mission. With a wide smile, a backwards cap and an irreverent wit to boot, the 28-year-old Hawaii-born writer may not look the part of a revolutionary, but to many he is "Da Pidgin Guerrilla."

It's a nickname he earned back in his college days at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he first began experimenting with writing essays entirely in his native Pidgin.

"People have always had da misconceptions about Pidgin," he said. "Dey jus tink it's bad English."

As a youngster in fact, he recalls trying to correct the grammar of his Nisei grandmother Shizue, who grew up in the plantations.

Today, however, Tonouchi is known as one of the more outspoken advocates of a language which, despite its rich cultural roots, has been largely stigmatized as the tongue of the uneducated and underprivileged.

In his impressive debut book, "Da Word," a work of short fiction recently published by Bamboo Ridge Press, Tonouchi attempts to buck the hegemony of standard English by showcasing stories written in different Pidgin dialects. These are the stories of

everyday events in the lives of Locals — the joys, woes and worries of your grandpa, your best friend, the girl you liked in junior high. Full of detail and free of pretense, Tonouchi finds the humor in the fa-

started and how he got to be so "Pidgin hardcore."

PC: You're very involved in promoting Pidgin as a legitimate language. What inspired you to become the advocate you are today?

Tonouchi: Pidgin is different depending on your generation, ethnic group, wot island you from, wot town you grew up in. For me, da realization dat hey, Pidgin is something important nevah come until college. Our das wen I first saw Pidgin in writing. At first you tink, hey dis professor is pretty mentre cuz anybody can write dis kine easy-kine simple simon kine poem like "Tutu on da Curb," but den wen we started doing literary analysis of da work and uncovering different layers, dat made me go, bruh, I da one das lolo. I should be embracing dis aspect of my culture instead of trying for suppress 'em.

PC: How have you seen the language suppressed? As a kid, were you discouraged from writing and talking in Pidgin by teachers?

Tonouchi: Back in da days, like maybe my parents time, teachers used to buss out da ruler, but my time, da teachers nevah hit me or nahting for talking Pidgin cuz



PHOTO: TRACIE AKIYAMA

Lee Tonouchi, a.k.a. "Da Pidgin Guerrilla," gets silly while promoting his new book, "Da Word."

miliar, in tales that are perceptive, touching and told with a casual ease rarely seen in such a young writer.

Pacific Citizen recently spoke to Tonouchi about his new book, a hip literary magazine he recently

See TONOUCHI/ page 10

JACL Gets Inside Glimpse of 'Pearl Harbor'

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

The highly-anticipated Disney movie "Pearl Harbor" hasn't even hit theaters yet, but Japanese Americans are getting a sneak preview of it courtesy of JACL National Executive Director John Tateishi, who attended a screening of the film on May 10 at the El Capitan Theater in Hollywood.

Tateishi, who has been negotiating various aspects of the film with movie producers, attended the private screening along with executives Richard Cook, chair of Disney Studios, Bruce Hendricks, president of Disney Motion Pictures, and Andrea Morozas, senior vice president of Disney Studios.

"I went in expecting the worst," Tateishi said. "I went into this looking for the worst. What I saw wasn't the worst but something that I didn't expect."

Tateishi said he was surprised by the fact that much of the nearly three-hour movie is spent on developing the relationships and love triangle among the three main characters, two Army pilots and a Navy nurse, played by Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett and Kate Beckinsale.

Midway through the film, the bombing of Pearl Harbor occurs, he said. It's roughly a 40-minute sequence of battle scenes and dying, which Tateishi called "very intense."

Thanks in part to the dramatic special effects, he said you can't help but "feel caught by the vio-

lence and horror of the attack."

What equally surprised him about the portrayal of the aftermath of the attack was that, "You're not left with the sense of flag-waving or anti-Japanese [sentiment] that you get with other war movies. . . . This is not an anti-Japanese movie by any measure. There is a lot of license taken with history in the development of certain characters, but I think people who go into it expecting the worst are going to come out, feeling a sense of relief."

However, the one objectionable scene Tateishi said the film includes features a JA dentist "whose actions would lead you to believe he was a spy." This character was based on an actual individual the FBI had traced, according to producers.

That scene is counterbalanced, however, by one in which a young JA doctor, played by Vic Chow, attends to a wounded man in an American military hospital. The man says, "I don't want any Jap touching me," according to Tateishi, which showed "a kind of sensitivity with the people who made the movie about who we are, how we were seen and what we had to deal with."

Tateishi had earlier recommended the inclusion of a JA actor playing a doctor which producers agreed to. "They've really kind of bent over backwards to address the concerns I've expressed to them," he said.

See PEARL HARBOR/ page 10

Legislation Establishing API Anti-Hate Crimes Program Within JACL Sails Through Committee

Legislation establishing the Asian Pacific Islander Anti-Hate Crimes Program within the JACL sailed through its first policy committee this week. Assemblyman George Nakanishi's AB 1312 appropriates \$3 million over the next three years to develop and maintain a repository and information database on hate crimes in the API community.

"Knowledge is the single most important resource for people who are the target of a hate crime. In the API community, a lack of information and access to already available resources has meant an underrepresenting of incidents to law enforcement agencies," said Nakano.

The program would specifically target API high school students, college students and community organizations. Resource materials will include training workshops, CD ROMs, brochures and workbooks to help facilitate the flow of information to the public and between community organizations.

"This program is an orchestrated and comprehensive effort to reach out to the entire API community — the first time such an effort has been undertaken," said Nakano. "As the nation's oldest Asian American civil rights organization, the JACL is uniquely positioned to develop and implement such an initiative."

The bill has been sent to the Assembly Appropriations Committee, which reviews all bills with a fiscal expenditure. The bill would then need to pass the state Senate before heading to the Governor's desk for final approval. ■

French Consulate Honors JA WWII Veterans

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Jack Tagawa was one of 10 Nisei World War II veterans invited to a private reception on May 2 at the official residence of the French Consulate General in Los Angeles, to receive a "Diploma of Gratitude" for aiding the French government during the war.

"This is wonderful. I feel great," said Tagawa, the oldest among the group that night at age 84.

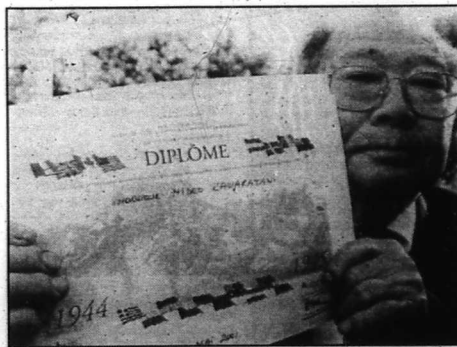
Tagawa, who was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1941, never lived in a WWII U.S. concentration camp, but his family ended up at the Amache War Relocation Authority camp. In describing his feelings when he had to face camp guards wearing the same uniform as himself to visit his family, Tagawa quoted what he often heard the French soldiers say: "C'est guerre (That's war)."

Last year, Tagawa, through WHT Tours/Chase Travel, took a special Nisei veterans' tour of Italy, which included a brief stop in France.

"You know, I wanted to see how the forests in France were because those forests took a tremendous beating," recalled Tagawa. "And it was amazing to see the forest again."

Tagawa will have a second opportunity to linger among the French forests since the reception at the French Consulate's residence was held two weeks before Tagawa and his group were scheduled to fly off to France on a tour, again arranged through WHT Tours/Chase Travel, to revisit the French battlefields.

French Consul General Josse-



Hideo Kawarataki, 79, a 442nd E Company veteran from Laguna Beach, Calif., holds up his certificate from the French Consulate. Kawarataki was interned at Poston I, but was drafted while working at a sugar factory in Utah.

line de Clausade said they wanted to recognize the Nisei men before their trip.

"We wanted to express our gratitude just before they go to France by giving them this special diploma," said de Clausade. "They are very special because they are a group of American Japanese, who fought in the American Army in France to liberate the French territory."

Yo-Jung Chen, French vice consul in charge of press and communication, said the French government has embarked on a special global program to issue "Diplomas of Gratitude" to all veterans who helped the French during WWII.

In the United States, the 10 French Consulate General's offices throughout the nation are

working with the U.S. government and the Department of Veterans Affairs to locate all qualified veterans.

"Every veteran, who has fought in France, even pilots who have flown over France during the war or even Navy personnel who participated in operations involving France, are qualified," said Chen.

"We are working with all the veterans' associations in order to find and identify all veterans," said de Clausade. "This program will go on as long as necessary."

Qualified WWII veterans are urged to contact their nearest French Consulate's office.

The next scheduled recognition ceremony in California is planned for Memorial Day in San Diego. ■

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115

0011-97858-03 01NABRAC
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Pacific Citizen

7 Cupania Circle,
Monterey Park, CA 91755
Tel: 323/725-0083, 800/966-
6157, Fax: 323/725-0064
E-mail: PacCit@aol.com

Executive Editor:
Caroline Y. Aoyagi
Assistant Editor:
Martha Nakagawa
Editor Emeritus/Archivist:
Harry K. Honda
Office Manager: Brian Tanaka
Production Assistant:
Margot Brunswick
Writer/Reporter: Tracy Uba,
Lyndsey Shinoda
Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Publishers: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. Tel: 415/921-5225 fax 415/931-4671
JACL President: Floyd Mori,
National Director: John Tateishi
Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Ken Inouye, chairperson; Paul Uehara, EDC; Hank Tanaka, MDC; Grace Kimoto, CCDC; Ken Kamei, NCWPNDC; Elsie Taniguchi, PNWDC; Jeff Watanabe, IDC; Vacant, MPDC; Deni Uejima, PSWDC

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

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PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8572) is published semi-monthly except once in December by the Japanese American Citizens League, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. OFFICE HOURS - Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time. ©2001.

Annual subscription rates: NON-MEMBERS: 1 year-\$35, payable in advance. Additional postage per year - Foreign periodic rate \$25; First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico; \$30; Air mail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice). Periodicals postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Pacific Citizen, c/o JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

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JACL COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

NEW YORK
Month of May—APA Heritage Month on TV Channel 13; "Ancestors in the Americas," "Falu Gong's Challenge to China," "Charlita," "Gaach," etc. See TV guide for schedules.
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Sun., May 27—Memorial Day Ceremony; 10 a.m.; Arlington National Cemetery.

The Midwest

CHICAGO
Sat., June 2—Market Day, a summer festival of Japanese American culture; 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; the Japanese American Service Committee community center, 4427 N. Clark; arts, crafts, food, games, gifts, plants, jumping jacks; to benefit the JASC. Info: 773/275-7212.
CINCINNATI
Fri., June 1—Deadline to register for golf at the Tri-District Conference. Info: Gordon Yoshiwaka, 513/793-2462, e-mail GHYosh@aol.com.

Thurs.-Sun., June 28-July 1—EDC-MDC-MPDC Tri-District meeting; Weston Hotel; "Training for Trainers" workshop, etc.; concurrent Tri-District Youth Conference at Garfield Suites; Cleveland State University; the Shoji Ji Dancers will participate. Info: Diane Asamoto-Grant, 330/535-5014.
MOUNTAIN PLAINS
ALBUQUERQUE
Sun., June 24—New Mexico JACL annual picnic; Holiday Park.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE CITY
2001 Heart-Sun., Aug. 30-Sept. 2—Hurt Mountain Reunion 2001; Raymond Uno, 801/355-0284.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND
Wed., May 23—Film, "Conscience and the Constitution"; 11 p.m., OPB-TV Channel 10; concerning the resisters of conscience.
Through June 2—Traveling exhibit, "Cleveland State University: The Shoji Ji Dancers will present their stories with a slide presentation; 1-3 p.m.; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 7th Ave. South. Free with museum admission. Info: 206/623-5124 ext. 114.
Fri.-Sun., July 13-15—JACL National Youth/Student Council Conference; Seattle University; workshops, networking, Saturday night party, etc. For registration forms or more information, contact: Gerald Kato, 213/626-4471, <youth@jacpsw.org>; Matthew Nakata, 206/720-3049, <Nakata_Ma@hotmail.com>; Amy Matsumoto, 301/460-5584, <amatsus@hotmail.com>; www.jacl.org/youth.

Northern California

BERKELEY
Sat.-Sun., May 19-20—Satsuki Arts Festival & Bazaar; Saturday 4-10 p.m., Sunday noon-7 p.m.; Berkeley Buddhist Temple, 2121 Channing Way at Shattuck; arts, crafts, antiques, games, food, sake, beer, sodas, etc.; Sunday performing arts festival featuring salsa, rhythm & blues, Philippine dance and music, long-sword martial arts, traditional dance and music of Okinawa, jazz ensemble. Info: 510/841-1356, <Home.pacbell.net/bangsha>.
BURLINGAME
Sun., June 3—49th Annual 'Junior Olympics'; 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Burlingame

High School (note new location). Info: Steve Okamoto, 415/680-2108 or 650/574-2641.

OAKLAND
Sun., June 10—Contra Costa JACL's Day at the Ball Game; 1:05 p.m., Network Associates, (formerly Oakland Coliseum); A's vs. Giants; \$4 per ticket. RSVP A/S: Esther Takeuchi, 223-2258.

REDWOOD CITY
Through July—Exhibit, "A Community Story: A History of Japanese Americans in San Mateo County"; San Mateo County Museum, 777 Hamilton St., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Info: Karen Rey, 650/299-0104.

SACRAMENTO
Sun., Wed., May 27 & 30—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program on KVIE Channel 6: "Hapa"; 2:30 p.m. Sunday and 8 p.m. Wednesday; by and about marathon runner Midori Sperandio. Info: KVIE, 916/923-7474 ext. 6017.
Thurs., May 31—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program on KVIE Channel 6: 8-9:30 p.m., "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; about the MIS during WWII and postwar.

Through June 10—Exhibit, "Time of Remembrance: The Japanese American Experience in California History"; Golden State Museum, 1020 O St. at Tenth St.; photos, documents and artifacts drawn from the JACL Archival Collection at CSU Sacramento. Info: 916/653-7524, <www.goldenstate-museum.org>.
SALINAS
Mon., May 28—Interdenominational Memorial Day Service; 10 a.m. at the Garden of Memories Memorial Park Columbarium, 768 Abbott St., then 11 a.m. at Yamato Cemetery, Abbott and Grower; sponsored by Salinas Valley JACL; the public is cordially invited.

SAN FRANCISCO
Sun., May 31—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program, "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; 10-11:30 p.m. on KQED-TV; about the MIS during WWII and postwar.

Through June 10—World Premiere, "The Clouds, the Ocean, and Everything in Between" by Michael P. Premisart of the 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors; New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St., schedules. Info: <www.asianartcentertheater.org>.
SAN JOSE
Sun., May 20—Japanese American National Museum's celebration of the Regenerations Oral History Project; 1-4 p.m., Yu Ai Kai Senior Service Center, 580 N. 4th St.; speakers: Dr. Art Hansen, local scholars; project interviews. Info: 408/294-3138.

SAN MATEO
Sun., May 20—Peninsula Widowed Group meeting; 2:30 p.m., San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St.; refreshments; videographer Suzanne Barnett will present a video on hospice care and bereavement. Info: 650/343-2793.

Tues., May 22—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program, "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; 8-9:30 p.m. on KCSM-TV; about the MIS during WWII and postwar.

Sun., May 27—Sunday Movie Matinee, "Sunset Boulevard"; 1:30 p.m., JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. Info: 650/343-2793.
Wed., May 30—Dress rehearsal performance of La Traviata by the San Francisco Opera Guild; bus departs at noon from Buddhist Temple. Tickets: San Mateo JACL Community Center, 650/343-2793.

STOCKTON
Sat., May 26—Stockton JACL Annual Picnic; from 10 a.m.; Mickie Grove Park; races, games, horseshoes, golf putting/chipping contest, door prizes; friends and family welcome. Info: 465-8107, or Nelson/478-8528.
Fri., June 8—Stockton JACL College Tour; 8 a.m.-5 p.m., UC-Berkeley and San Francisco State University; leave by bus from the Stockton Buddhist Temple. Info: Beverly Nagai, 476-8528.

Sun., June 10—Stockton JACL's 2001 Scholarship Awards Luncheon; 1-3 p.m.; King's House Restaurant, 104 E. Market St.; guest speaker, Carole Hayashino. RSVP by June 3: Joyce Tsutsumi, 478-2869, or Chieko Nozura, 474-6309.

Central California
FRESNO
Sun., May 20—JACL CCDC scholarship luncheon; 12 noon, Sunnyside Country Club.
Thurs., May 31—Asian Pacific Heritage Month program, "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties"; 8-9:30 p.m. on KPVT-TV; about

the MIS during W3WWII and postwar.

Southern California

CAMARILLO/OXNARD
Sat.-Sun., May 19-20—2001 Strawberry Festival; next to Oxnard College.
LA CANADA
FLINTRIDGE
Fri.-Sun., June 8-10—31st Annual Descanso Gardens Bonsai Show; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Van de Kamp Hall, 1418 Descanso Dr.; demonstrations on Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Free with admission to the gardens. Info: 818/952-4400.

LOS ANGELES
Sat., May 19—St. Mary's Episcopal Church Bazaar-Carnival; 961 S. Manposa Ave. Info: 213/587-1334.
Sat., May 19—Video screening, panel discussion; "Once Upon A Camp"; English at 1-2:30 p.m.; reception at 2:30 p.m.; Spanish language screening at 3:30 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo; presented by Visual Communications Filmmist 2001. Free with museum admission. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

Sat., May 19—An Afternoon of Nagauta Shamisen Music and Dance; 1:30-2:30 p.m.; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. Free with museum admission. RSVP: 213/625-0414.
Sun., May 20—Little Tokyo Walking Tour; 1-2:30 p.m. RSVP: JANM, 213/625-0414.

Through May 20—"Gila River," a play by Lane Nishikawa; 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday; JACC, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. Tickets. Info: 213/680-3700.
Thurs., May 24—Special screening, "Farewell to Manzanar"; 7:30 p.m., Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; director John Koty, writer Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, cast and crew, expected to attend. Tickets: 213/680-3700.

Through May 25—16th Annual Visual Communications Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival; featuring "Green Dragon," "Farewell to Manzanar," "American Chai," "Anino," more. For locations, schedules, call 213/680-4462. Tickets: Japan America Theatre Box Office, 213/680-3700.

Fri., May 25—Exhibit opening, C.O.L.A. (City of Los Angeles) 2001 Exhibition; Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd.; includes installations by Bruce Yonemoto, "La Vie Secrete-Moi" and "La Vie Secrete-Ar Magritte"; exhibit runs through July 15. Info: 310/440-4500.
Sat., June 9—Premiere screening, "Forgotten Valor"; 11:30 a.m., Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo; starring Lane Nishikawa and Soon-Tek Oh; presented by the Go For Broke Educational Foundation. Tickets: 213/680-3700.

Fri., Aug. 3—Salute 2001, "All Nikkei Veterans and Family Event"; JANM, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo. RSVP by July 10. Info: JANM, 213/625-0414 ext. 2240.

PASADENA
Fri., June 2—Exhibit Openings, "The Nature of the Beast: Portrayals of Animals in Japanese Paintings and Paintings, Prints and Drawings by 'Hokusa'; 4:00-5:00 p.m.; Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave. RSVP: 626/449-2742 ext. 12.
REDLANDS
Sun., June 24—Community Picnic sponsored by Riverside JACL; 11 a.m.; Sylvan Park; friends and former resisters are invited.

RIVERSIDE
Sun., May 20—Riverside JACL 2001 Scholarship Awards/Graduates Potluck dinner; 5 p.m., First Congregational Church, 3755 Lemon St. Info: Michiko Yoshimura, 909/784-7057 or Meko Inaba, 909/682-8116.
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
Sun., May 20—Spring Matsuri—Sports Day; 10 a.m.-3 p.m., San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Branford St., Arleta. Info: 818/893-6503.

Sat., June 2—Book-reading and signing "Crow Boy" and "Umbrella" by Taro Yashima, with the author's daughter, actress Momo Yashima; San Fernando Valley Japanese Language



PHOTO: JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM
"Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties" will be shown as part of Asian Pacific Heritage month.

Institute, 12953 Branford St., Arleta. Info: Heritage Source, 661/263-0623, <www.heritage-source.com>.
SAN DIEGO
Fri.-Sun., June 1-3—Poston Camp III 10th reunion; Mission Valley Double-Tree Hotel; Friday night mixer, day trip to Viejas Tribal Casino, city tour, San Diego Zoo, golf tournament, exhibit of camp memorabilia, Sunday sayonara breakfast buffet, etc. Info: Ben Segawa 619/482-1736, e-mail: <CBSegawa@aol.com>; Arnold Seck, 619/427-7116, e-mail: <Sanse1@hotmail.com>; Michi Himaka, 619/660-9865.

SAN LUIS OBISPO
Sat., May 19—8th Annual Wisteria Festival; 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple, 6996 Ontario Rd.
SANTA MARIA
Sat., May 12—Santa Maria Valley JACL yard sale; 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Christ United Methodist Church, 210 N. Mary St. Info: 805/937-5776.

TORRANCE
Fri.-Sun., Aug. 31-Sept. 2—Ninth Biennial National JACL Singles Convention, "Come Together 2001"; Torrance Marriott Hotel; workshops, seminars, mixer with line dancing, dinner, Saturday luncheon, Sunday brunch, optional trips to Las Vegas; Little Tokyo, JANM, Getty Center, golf, bowling. Call hotel for special convention rate: 800/228-9290. Register before June 30 for early bird discount: Miyako, 310/559-4024, <lbelug9@aol.com>.

Sat., Sept. 22—JACL PSW Awards Dinner; 6 p.m., Torrance Marriott Hotel; 6 p.m. cocktails/silent auction; 7 p.m. dinner; proceeds to support PSWD-JACL youth programming; community leaders will be honored; all are welcome. Ticket prices, donations, hotel information, etc.: 213/626-4471.

WEST COVINA
Sat., June 2—Summer Benefit Dance; 7-11 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; music by Jim Ikehara; to benefit West Covina Buddhist Temple. Tickets, info: Barbara, 626/810-1509.

Arizona - Nevada
LAS VEGAS
Wed., May 30—Armed Forces Recognition program; 7 p.m., Sunrise Library, 5400 Harris Ave.; recognizing the special contributions and accomplishments of the 442nd Regiment and 100th Battalion; roundtable discussion with several 442nd veterans; refreshments. Info: Betty Atkins, 221-0414.

PHOENIX
Tues., May 29—Asian American Heritage Month Screening, "Conscience and the Constitution"; 7 p.m., Pulliam Auditorium, Burton Barr Central Library, 1221 N. Central Ave.; meet director Frank Abe. Info: 602/534-0603.

Wed., June 6—Asian Pacific Night at Bank One Ballpark; 7:05 p.m. game time; Diamondbacks vs. L.A. Dodgers; Arizona JACL Taijō will perform on the field before the game. Info: Madeline Ong-Saketa, 602/222-2009 office, 602/371-8454 home. ■

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

JACL Commends Transformation of Former Aryan Nation's Headquarters to Fight Hate

The JACL made public a recent letter commending Prodigy founder Greg Carr for his purchase of the Aryan Nation's 20-acre former national headquarters.

Carr, founder of the Internet company Prodigy and the Carr Foundation, spent \$250,000 to purchase the former white supremacist national headquarters located in northern Idaho to serve as an anti-hate crimes education center to educate visitors about the consequences of hate crime activities.

Ryan Chin, JACL vice president of public affairs, said "The transformation of the Aryan Nation complex into an educational facility demeaning hate demonstrates that the thoughts of the previous inhabitants were not typical of the local Idaho residents. The JACL is encouraged by the concept of such facilities and the mentality that accompanies it."

"The JACL commends Mr. Carr and the Carr Foundation for the leadership that they have taken in combating hatred," Chin added. "We think that the effort and vision invested into the educational facilities, along with the financial investment, is admirable. Educational institutions such as this one should be regarded as the norm rather than rare exceptions."

The building that is slated to become an anti-hate education facility served as the national headquarters for the Aryan Nation, a white supremacist organization.

The hate-oriented group was forced to forfeit the land as part of a landmark decision awarding \$6.3 million to victims Victoria and Jason Keenan. The Keenans, who were represented during the trial by Morris Dees, the founder of Southern Poverty Law Center, decided to sell the facilities, but only to someone dedicated to fighting hate.

Carr, the founder and former chairman of Prodigy, earned his money by creating one of the largest Internet service providers in the world. Other past investments of Carr and the Idaho resident's foundation include \$500,000 to the Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial in Boise and \$500,000 to the Idaho Human Rights Education Center.

"We praise Mr. Carr for demonstrating how our business leaders can make innovative contributions to our communities," said Chin. "The JACL hopes that this bold step encourages others in the private sector to invest in programs that deter the insidious hate that ails our society." ■

Nakano Dedicates New Signage for Sadao S. Munemori Memorial Interchange

Calif. State Assemblyman George Nakano, along with veterans from the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and American Legion Sadao Munemori Post members, dedicated new signage for the Sadao S. Munemori Memorial Interchange, adding the words "Medal of Honor—World War II."

The ceremony was held at the Go For Broke monument in downtown Los Angeles, with nearly 100 attendees. Included in the audience were teachers from throughout the South Bay who were attending a training workshop on the stories of the Japanese American soldiers of World War II sponsored by the Go For Broke Educa-

tional Foundation. "I am honored to have been able to do this," said Nakano, who funded the new signage — located at the interchange of the 405 and 105 Freeways — in the 2000 State Budget. "Munemori is a true American hero, giving his life for our country and our nation's freedom."

Munemori was the first JA soldier to receive the MOH. Twenty-two other soldiers were elevated from distinguished Service Cross last year, among them, U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye from Hawaii. Munemori was awarded the MOH, the United States' highest military honor, posthumously in 1946. His parents had been interned at Man-

zanar at that time. "You have made easy what had been a difficult task," said Carl Miyagishima, commander of the American Legion Sadao Munemori Post #321, in reference to Nakano's efforts to fund the new signage.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Don Miyada, who served alongside "Spud," as Munemori liked to be called, and Christine Sato, executive director of the Go For Broke Educational Foundation, an organization that works to see that the stories of these veterans do not go untold. At the close of the ceremony, Nakano presented a mock version of the sign to Munemori's niece, Janet Nakakihara. ■



PHOTO: JUN NAGATA, RAJU SHIMPO
(From left)—Assemblyman George Nakano and Janet Nakakihara, niece of Sadao Munemori, join members of Sadao Munemori Post #321 at the dedication of new freeway interchange signs.

Bush Nominates Matt Fong as Undersecretary of the Army

President Bush recently nominated former California State Treasurer Matt Fong as Undersecretary of the Army. If confirmed by the Senate, Fong would become the first Asian Pacific American to hold that post.

He would join Gen. Eric Shinseki, Army Chief of Staff, as one of two APAs in prominent military leadership roles.

Fong, who has been participating in transition briefings at the Pentagon in anticipation of the nomination, is a graduate of the Air Force Academy and is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

His nomination to the Army rather than the Air Force is part of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's strategy to unite America's military branches.

Fong's father served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, while his mother, March Fong Eu, is a former California Secretary of State and Democratic stalwart.

Fong himself, a Republican, served as an advisor to Bush during his presidential election and campaigned with him throughout California.

His Senate confirmation hearings are expected to take place in late May or early June. ■

USDA Honors Prominent Asian American Farming Families During National Asian Heritage Month

The U.S. Department of Agriculture on May 3 honored five prominent Asian American farming families along with others for their contributions to American agriculture during National Asian Heritage Month.

"As we celebrate National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May, USDA wishes to thank these families for their numerous contributions to American agriculture," said Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman. "The achievements highlighted by these families have helped develop vital markets throughout the Pacific Rim for U.S. commodities."

Honorees included:
• The Higashi family of Salinas, Calif., owns/operates Easton Enterprises and are partners in New-Star Fresh Foods, a value-added produce company employing over 400 people that ships 14 million

cartons of produce annually.
• The Tanimura family, also of Salinas, is a partner in the T&A Produce Company, the largest independent grower-shipper of lettuce in the United States.

• The Nishizu family of Orange County, Calif., was originally a farming family and is now helping to construct the Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum at the Fullerton Arboretum on the California State University at Fullerton campus. Upon its completion, the museum will honor the rich agricultural history of Orange County and the Japanese American community's contributions to it.

• Dr. Mae Takahashi, of Clovis, Calif., was a member of the USDA Citizens Advisory Council on Civil Rights from 1990 to 1992. She is being honored posthumously. Takahashi's family manages a

farming operation in the Fresno area and attended the ceremony to accept the recognition on her behalf.

"The Sakata family of Sakata Farms Inc., Brighton, Colo., produces a number of commodities for domestic and international export including broccoli, corn and onions. They are particularly well known for their line of value-added sweet corn.

Each year the president designates the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month so that present and future generations will understand and appreciate the rich history of APAs. Throughout the month of May, USDA will promote the positive impact that APAs have made within the United States and throughout the world in the agricultural industry. ■

APA Heritage Month 2001: A Proclamation by the President of the United States of America

"As we move into the 21st century, the United States continues to greatly benefit from the contributions of its diverse citizenry. Among those who have influenced our country, Asian/Pacific Americans merit special recognition. Their achievements have greatly enriched our quality of life and have helped to determine the course of our Nation's future."

"Many immigrants of Asian heritage came to the United States in the nineteenth century to work in the agricultural and transportation industries. Laboring under very difficult conditions, they helped construct the western half of the first transcontinental railroad. Their hard work was invaluable in linking together the East and West coasts, thus vastly expanding economic growth and development across the country. Over time, other immigrants journeyed to America from East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Asian Subcontinent. Today, Asian/Pacific Americans are one of the fastest

growing segments of our population, having increased in number from fewer than 1.5 million in 1970 to approximately 10.5 million in 2000.

"Asian/Pacific Americans bring to our society a rich cultural heritage representing many languages, ethnicities, and religious traditions. Whether in government, business, science, technology, or the arts, Asian/Pacific Americans have added immeasurably to the prosperity and vitality of our society. As family members, citizens, and involved members of the community, they reinforce the values and ideals that are essential to the continued well-being of our Nation.

"Diversity represents one of our greatest strengths, and we must strive to ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to reach their full potential. By recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans, our Nation celebrates the importance of inclusion in build-

ing a brighter future for all our citizens."

"To honor the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans, the Congress, by Public Law 102-456, has designated the month of May each year as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month."

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 2001, as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. I call upon the people of the United States to learn more about the contributions and history of Asian/Pacific Americans and to celebrate the role they have played in our national story."

"IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-fifth." ■



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By Pacific Citizen Staff
and Associated Press

Man Gets Death Penalty for Racially Motivated Killings

PITTSBURGH—A former immigration attorney was sentenced to death May 11 for killing five people in a racially motivated shooting spree in Pittsburgh's suburbs last year.

Richard Baumhammers, 35, was sentenced by the same jury that found him guilty of the April 28, 2000, attacks. Jurors had the option of giving him life in prison without parole.

Killed in the rampage were Baumhammers' Jewish neighbor, two Asian men, an Indian man and a black man. Another man of Indian descent was critically wounded. His attorneys admitted Baumhammers was the shooter but said he had suffered from delusions for 10 years and did not know his actions were wrong.

Prosecutor Edward Borkowski acknowledged Baumhammers was mentally ill but said he was "controlled, deliberate, calculating and selective" in picking victims, avoiding attention and eluding police.

Feds Probe Cincinnati Police After Riots

WASHINGTON—The Bush administration opened a civil rights investigation of the Cincinnati Police Department on May 7 following last month's shooting of an unarmed black man.

National Newsbytes

Attorney General John Ashcroft issued a statement announcing a government inquiry into whether there had been "a pattern of practice" of violations.

A Justice Department official said the inquiry would focus on the possible use of excessive force and any other conduct that could violate constitutional rights.

In his statement, Ashcroft said his department "will work cooperatively with the city to institute policing reforms as quickly as possible."

Kweisi Mfume, head of the NAACP, praised Ashcroft for moving swiftly and keeping his group informed as the preliminary inquiry moved forward. "We believe the problems in that department are systemic and they span the last two decades," he said. "People in Cincinnati, especially African Americans, think that this police department makes too many decisions resulting in lethal force based on race."

The shooting of Timothy Thomas, 19, by a white police officer on April 7 resulted in several days of rioting in which dozens of people were injured and more than 800 were arrested.

Governor Signs Hate Crimes Bill Into Law

AUSTIN—Gov. Rick Perry signed into law the James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Act on May 11, while

still raising concerns about the divisiveness of such a bill and whether it designates a "new class of citizens" for special protection under the law.

The bill, which aims to crack down on hate crimes committed against minorities, gay and lesbian and others, was the subject of emotional legislative debate for years.

Although he knew some Texans would disagree with his decision, Perry said he made the decision "in the quietness of my own heart." Four Democratic legislators and the parents of Byrd joined the governor as he signed the bill.

Byrd, a black man, was killed when he was dragged behind a pickup truck by three white men in Jasper in 1998. Two of the men are on death row and the third received a life sentence.

Texas already has a hate-crimes law that increases penalties if a crime is proven to be "motivated by bias or prejudice," but it does not list specific categories of people who would be protected. Some prosecutors said that law is too vague to enforce.

The new legislation strengthens penalties for crimes motivated by the victim's race, religion, color, gender, disabilities, sexual preference, age and national origin.

Attack at Asian Restaurant Kills Couple

SAN ANTONIO—An attack at an Asian restaurant in a small strip center that killed a woman and her husband was witnessed by the couple's small children.

Officers said family members were alone and preparing for the evening's dinner rush at the Asia Garden restaurant on April 23 when someone entered the restaurant and placed a to-go order.

The assailant waited for 33-year-old May Lin. He to open the cash register before turning a knife on her, police said. Officers later found her stabbed to death on the floor, not far from the open and emptied cash drawer. Her husband was critically injured and was rushed to University Hospital, where he died after three hours of surgery.

The couple's 6-year-old daughter had emerged from the restaurant's front door shortly after the attack. A worker from a nearby automotive store spotted the girl, distraught and crying. The employee entered the restaurant, found the couple and called police. The victims' 5-month-old son also was in the restaurant at the time.

Committee Reaches Compromise on Hate Crime Resolution

JUNEAU—In a compromise over a hate crimes resolution, a House-Senate conference committee agreed May 4 to condemn "wrongful discrimination."

The conference committee failed in its first attempt at compromise two weeks ago. Committee leaders Jeannette James, R-North Pole, and Jerry Ward, R-Anchorage, apparently had worked behind the scenes since then to come up with an agreement, changing the word "unlawful" to "wrongful."

The resolution is in response to

an incident in January in which three young white men videotaped themselves shooting paintballs at Alaska Natives in downtown Anchorage. The measure condemns the act and calls for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to investigate that and similar incidents.

The compromise version now will go to the House and Senate for a vote.

Ethnic Groups Look to Influence Redistricting

LOS ANGELES—An alliance of ethnic groups held a conference May 12 on redistricting, hoping unity will lead to more clout as California prepares to set its political boundaries for the next decade.

Several dozen members of three Asian, Hispanic and black organizations attended the conference at UCLA.

U.S. Census results released in March showed that for the first time California lacks an ethnic majority. Whites made up 47 percent of the total population, Hispanics 32 percent, Asians about 11 percent and blacks about 6 percent.

Release of the figures signals potentially profound changes in everything from school boards to state Legislature and Congress.

Race and ethnicity can and should be considered in remapping political boundaries because some regions have historically gerrymandered districts to dilute the voting power of ethnic groups, speakers said.

The state Constitution requires new districts to be drawn in the year following each census to reflect population changes. The Legislature must draw new lines for state Assembly, state Senate, Congress and state Board of Equalization districts.

Because of the state's population growth, the Legislature must rearrange the current 62 congressional districts into 53, each with about 639,088 residents. ■

APAs in the News

Awards, Appointments, Announcements

Don Nakanishi Appointed to Smithsonian Blue Ribbon Panel

Congressman Bob Matsui, D-Sacramento, announced on April 18 the appointment of Dr. Don Nakanishi to the blue ribbon panel for the National Museum of American History, Behring Center. Matsui nominated Nakanishi for this position in November 2000.

"Don is unmatched in his knowledge of Asian American history and his experience in bringing information to the public," said Matsui. "Don's contributions will make the Behring Center a world-class facility."

Nakanishi is the director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center and a prolific historian and author.

The Behring Center Blue Ribbon Commission will advise the secretary and Smithsonian officials on the most timely and relevant themes and methods of presentation for the museum in the 21st century.

Brett Akagi Receives Award for Excellence in TV Photography

Brett Akagi has won a 2001 national first-place award from the National Press Photographers Association (NPPA) for his coverage of spot news at TV station KARE, Minneapolis.

As director of photography and editing at KARE-TV, Akagi supervises 25 photographers and editors at the station, which NPPA recently selected as their 2001 Station of the Year for excellence in news photography and editing.

The Sansei son of Genzo and Lilian Akagi of Ulysses, Kan., Akagi is a 1988 graduate of Fort Hays State University and has been with KARE-TV since 1999. He previously worked at WDAF-TV in Kansas City, Mo.

Mike Honda Gains Seat on Key Committee for High-tech Research

U.S. Congressman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, has secured a slot on the House Science Committee, which has oversight authority over all civilian and federal scientific research in the United States. The committee also has jurisdiction on all matters relating to energy re-

search, technological development, environmental research, technical standards, and national space policy.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as a strong voice on the Science Committee for our high-tech companies and academic institutions," said Honda, whose congressional district includes Silicon Valley.

Among technology-driven bills that Honda has already proposed are the National Education Technology Corps Act (NET Corps) bill — which would recruit part-time and full-time volunteers from high-tech companies to provide support and training to school network administrators and teachers in return for federal tax credits — and a bill that would expedite the export of U.S. supercomputers and high technology.

Hawaii Lt. Gov. Hirono Receives Georgetown University Law Center Alumna Award

Hawaii's Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono received a 2001 Alumna Award from her alma mater, Georgetown University Law Center, at a celebratory dinner in Washington, D.C., on May 4.

"It is a great honor to be recognized by my peers," Hirono said, stating that she chose Georgetown because of its strong public interest law program. "Lawyers and politicians are in a unique position to make a difference. We have a responsibility to use the tools provided to us by our law degrees to improve the quality of life for the peo-

ple we serve," she said.

Hirono, Class of '78, was one of six alumnae receiving 2001 awards at the presentation, which was part of a forum commemorating 50 years of women at the law center.

John Saito Elected Block Captain

The Burnside Neighborhood Homeowners Association of the Baldwin Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles recently elected John Jiro Saito block captain for Burnside Circle, the street on which he lives with his wife, Carol.

Saito was born in Los Angeles. He and his family were interned during World War II for a year in Arizona, while his older brother served overseas with the 442nd RCT. They were then permitted to move to a small town in Idaho where John completed his high school education.

When the family returned from the internment to Los Angeles, they were prevented by restrictive ordinances from occupying a house just a few miles from where he now serves as block captain.

Saito served three years active duty in the U.S. Army and later earned his bachelor's degree in business administration from Loyola University.

He worked for the Los Angeles County for many years as deputy probation officer, human relations consultant and affirmative action specialist. When he retired in 1979, Saito became very active with the JACL in the redress struggle. He also served from 1979 to 1990 as JACL PSW regional director. ■



Hawaii Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono (right) received a 2001 Alumna Award from Georgetown University Law Center.

Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to current JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Plans may include a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Health Benefits Trust today at 1-800-400-6633.

Website: <http://www.jaclhealthbenefits.org>



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JACL Corner

CCDC Announces Scholarship Recipients

The JACL Central California District Council has announced the 2001 recipients of its scholarship and citizenship awards. They are:

- Kino Miyahara Scholarship (\$500): Katherine K. Sortini, Hoover High School; Katherine is the daughter of Steven and Linda Sortini of Fresno.

- Union Bank Scholarship (\$500): Lisa M. Naito, Madera High School; Lisa is the daughter of Henry and Yuko Naito of Madera.

- Matsuye Okada Scholarship (\$500): Jean Kawasaki, Buchanan High School; Jean is the daughter of Yasuhiko and Kayoko Kawasaki of Clovis.

- CCDC-JACL Scholarship (\$400): Grant Hanada, Clovis West High School; Grant is the son of Steve and Bobbi Hanada of Fresno.

- Tom Shimasaki Scholarship (\$400): Kelly Fujikawa, Fowler High School; Kelly is the daughter of James and Michiko Fujikawa of Fowler.

- Issei Memorial Scholarship (\$400): Shoanie Young, Atwater High School; Shoanie is the daughter of Donald and Yunya Young of Atwater.

CCDC also awards Citizen Achievement awards recognizing scholarship, leadership and community involvement. This year, the award goes to:

- Todd W. Hirasuna, Ali E. Kunkel and Tammy M. Yanagi, Bullard High School; Eric M. Imoto, Clovis West High School; Alyssa Ishii, Caruthers High School; Eric Kanagawa, Sanger High School; Rachel H. Sakai, Golden West High School; and Jonathan Shintaku, Edison High School.

The awards are offered to high



Arizona JACL Chapter President Ted Namba (center) with winners of the 2001 scholarship awardees (l-r): Jonathan Hasebe, Chad Nakashima, Michael Okamoto and Samantha Tanaka. (not present, Allison Hirohata).

school seniors planning to enroll in a two- or four-year college or university, who are of Japanese American descent or are members or children of members of a CCDC chapter. Selection is based on scholastic achievement and extracurricular activities as well as financial need.

The awards will be presented at the District Scholarship Luncheon on May 20 at the Sunnyside Country Club. The luncheon is open to JACL members and interested youth and students. For information, call the CCDC regional office, 559/486-6816, or write to CCDC-JACL Scholarship Committee, 1713 Tulare St., Suite 124, Fresno, CA 93721.

Arizona Chapter Holds Scholarship Awards and Graduates Luncheon

On April 29, the Arizona chapter held their 40th annual Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship Awards and Graduates Luncheon at the Glendale, Ariz., Civic Center. Scholarships of \$700 each were award-

ed to Jonathan Hasebe, Allison Hirohata, Chad Nakashima, Michael Okamoto and Samantha Tanaka. Hirohata was the winner of the Dr. Herbert L. Jensen Scholarship award.

College graduates recognized at the luncheon included Alan Downs, who earned a bachelor's degree in global business from Arizona State University; Lori Nakagawa, bachelor's degree in criminal justice from ASU; Randy Nakagawa, bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and Japanese from ASU; and Alyson Nakamura, medical degree in psychiatry from the University of Arizona Medical School.

High school graduates included Yusuke Banno of Prescott, Paulette Eguchi of Tempe, Heather Fukunaga of University, Jonathan Hasebe of Mesa, Allison Hirohata of McClintock, Heather Irye of Buena, Christi Kelley of Apollo, Lauren Komatsu of St. Mary's, Austin Metzger of Mountain View, Chad Nakashima of Dobson, Samantha Tanaka of Palo Verde Magnet and Rika Taniguchi of Mesa.

Elementary school graduates included Stephen Harper, Lindsey Ishikawa, Drew Leeper, Danielle Mieko Sink, Jordan Sumida, Olivia Tadano, Yuko Teraji and Sen Umeda.

The scholarship committee were: Marilyn Inoshita Tang, chair; Michele Namba, secretary; Kathy Inoshita; Nancie Haranaka; Joann Kimura; Seiko Watkins; and Jill Yano. Scholarship judges were John Tang of Royal Palm Middle School, Dr. John Rosa, assistant professor of English at ASU, and Karianne Carroll, retired Glendale Elementary School District teacher. ■

2001 Ed Iwasaki Scholarship Winners Feted

The four recipients of the second annual Ed Iwasaki Memorial Fund Scholarships were honored at a reception on May 11 in San Jose's Historic Japan town.

This year's recipients were: Eric Chen, of Saratoga High School, who will attend Stanford; Rita Nguyen, of Mt. Pleasant High School, who will attend Stanford; Cindy Nakano, of Wilcox High School, who will attend UC San Diego, and Jennifer Sin, of Iolani High School, who will attend the University of Pennsylvania.

Each awardee was presented with a \$500 scholarship for their high school academic record, involvement in school and community activities and demonstration of vision and leadership qualities. The scholarship program is sponsored by the Ed Iwasaki Memorial Fund, Inc. and the Japanese American Chamber of Commerce of Silicon Valley. It was named after Ed Iwasaki, a 22-year employee at Apple Computer and a leader in community and professional groups, who died suddenly in 1999. ■

Assemblymembers Nakano, Chan and Liu Proclaim May As APIA Heritage Month

California Assemblymembers George Nakano, D-Torrance, Wilma Chan, D-Oakland, and Carol Liu, D-La Canada Flintridge, introduced a resolution recognizing May as Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 58 passed unanimously through voice vote on May 14, commending APAs for their accomplishments and service to the State of California.

"This is a time we come together to celebrate the many cultures and communities that make up the greater Asian Pacific Islander community," said Nakano, who along with Chan and Liu are the only APAs in the State Legislature.

Nakano, chair of the newly

formed API Legislative Caucus, said that "May is the time to recognize the many contributions Asian Pacific Islanders have made in the areas of architecture, music, politics, economics and science within our state and country," pointing out that the APIA community has come a long way since Filipinos established St. Malo in Louisiana in 1763 — the first APIA settlement in the United States — to the recent appointments of Norman Mineta and Elaine Chao to presidential Cabinet posts.

According to the 2000 Census, the APIA community is the fastest growing minority in the United States since 1980 and now accounts for 12 percent of California's population. ■

VC FilmFest Turns Sweet 16

The 16th annual Visual Communications Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film & Video Festival 2001 is set for May 17-24, where it will showcase nearly 100 films and videos at the Directors Guild of America (DGA), The Village at Ed Gould Plaza and the Japan America Theatre.

Bookending the festival will be the L.A. opening night premiere of "Green Dragon" by Timothy Linh Bui (co-producer and co-screenwriter of "Three Seasons") on May 17 at the DGA, and a rare closing night showing of John Korty's 1976 telefilm "Farewell to Manzanar" on May 24 at the Japan America Theatre.

"Green Dragon," an official selection of the 2001 Sundance Film Festival, is a multi-part story about the first wave of Vietnamese refugees who were housed in camps across the southwestern deserts of the United States in 1975.

"Farewell to Manzanar," based on the book by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James Houston, is perhaps the first feature-length film to tell the story of the World War II internment of Japanese Americans from a first hand perspective. It has long been out of circulation but thanks to the California Civil Liberties Public Edu-

cation Fund, a newly restored print of the film will be shown, and members of the cast and crew will be in attendance.

The festival will include: Anurag Mehta's coming-of-age story "American Chai"; Rod Pardo's Filipino American family tale "The Flip Side"; DJ Q-Bert's underground animation hit "Wave Twisters"; the first feature by Robert Altman protégé Abraham Lim; Amy Chen's "Chinatown Files"; and Seung-Hyun Yoo's "Daughters of the Cloth."

International works, such as Raymond Red's "Anino," which was the first Filipino film to win a coveted Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival; and short films and videos, traditionally the backbone of the VC FilmFest, will also be shown.

The festival will also present, in conjunction with the Japanese American National Museum, the premiere of the three-part educational series, "Once Upon a Camp" on May 19 at JANM.

For online program and ticket information, visit the website at www.vconline.org. For phone orders with credit card, call the Japan America Theatre Box Office at 213/680-3700. For additional program information, call 213/680-4462, ext. 68. ■

Go For Broke to Celebrate 2nd Monument Anniversary on June 9

On June 9 the Go for Broke Educational Foundation will celebrate the second anniversary of the Go for Broke monument. Tribute to all five units honored on the monument will take place along with a special speaker representing the future of the monument. Susan Hirasuna from Fox 11 News has tentatively agreed to emcee the event.

Immediately following the ceremony, the premier of Lane Nishikawa's "Forgotten Valor" and a reception will take place at the Japan America Theatre.

Funded by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program, "Forgotten Valor" presents a story of how America took 50 years to recognize its heroes. The

film features Soon Tek Oh playing the character of Col. Young Oak Kim and Lane Nishikawa as a 100/442nd veteran who faces post-traumatic syndrome. The cost of the screening is \$20 per person, or \$35 per person for both the screening and reception that immediately follows in the JACC Plaza.

The "Forgotten Valor" screening is a fund raiser for the foundation's education program. The event will not only raise funds for the foundation but it will provide an opportunity to increase awareness of the education program.

To purchase tickets to the screening, call Michelle Dojiri at 310/328-0907 ext. 16. ■

Poston III Christian Church Reunion, June 3

The Poston III Christian Church reunion, worship and fellowship gathering will be held as an extension to the Poston Camp III reunion program on June 3, 10:15 a.m., at the DoubleTree Hotel, 7450 Hazard Center Drive, in San Diego.

Christian ministers will share their spiritual journeys, many of whom were Christian leaders in camp and went on to become

ministers, such as Rev. John Miyabe, Rev. Dr. Paul Nagano, Rev. Lloyd Wake and Rev. Carl Yoshimine. Attendees for this event do not have to register for the reunion, and there is no fee for this event.

For information contact Rev. Dr. Paul Nagano, <PMnagano@cs.com>, or Marie Kurihara, Pine United Methodist Church in San Francisco, 415/282-3705. ■

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Topaz and Gila River Highlighted at 32nd Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

The more than 450 attendees at the 32nd annual Manzanar pilgrimage, held on April 28, were greeted with many new features — new historical replicas, new self-guided tour signs and even a new superintendent, among others.

This year also marked the 10th anniversary of the 50-500 Committee, which organizes an annual 250-mile prayer run from Los Angeles' Little Tokyo to Manzanar. Each year, runners begin their trek a week earlier, and participants dedicate a certain marathon segment to different aspects of the community (i.e., day 1 is dedicated to those who suffered in the camps; day 2, for the camp children; day 3, for the women; day 4, for the elders; day 5 for the sick and imprisoned; day 6, for future generations; and day 7, for a pollution-free earth).

During the marathon, the 50-500 Committee carry with them a scroll written by hibakusha survivor Kaz Suyehi and the Hiroshima peace flame, continually housed at the Koyasan Buddhist Temple in Little Tokyo.

The pilgrimage program also featured 47 interfaith taiko drummers from Chikara Taiko of Centenary Methodist Church, Kinnara Taiko from Senshin Buddhist Temple and Yoki Daiko from Tenrikyo Mission Church.

Honored at the pilgrimage was the late Shiro "Shi" Nomura, who starting back since the 1970s, led a one-man crusade to collect camp artifacts for the Eastern California Museum. The Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California presented a plaque in Nomura's name to the museum.

This year's featured camps at the pilgrimage were the Gila River and Topaz War Relocation Authority camps.

The Manzanar National Historic Site Advisory Commission met on April 27, a day before the Manzanar pilgrimage. The meeting was held in Independence, at the Sierra Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, which is a converted Manzanar barracks.

Commissioners in attendance were Keith Bright, Bill Michael (vice chair), Vernon Miller, Richard Stewart, Dennis Otsuji, Rose Ochi (chair), Sue Embrey and Gann Matsuda.

National Park Service (NPS) staff in attendance were Debbie Bird (acting superintendent), Jeff Burton (archaeologist), Scott Haney (maintenance worker), Frank Hays (new superintendent), Misty Knight (administrative assistant), Kim Linsé (interpretive park ranger), Dick Mansfield (volunteer) and John Ward (volunteer).

Headstone Returned

Bird and Stewart reported that someone anonymously left a headstone in the cemetery recently. NPS believes that someone had returned the headstone after seeing activity at Manzanar. Burton researched the headstone's history and

placed it at its original site. Translation of the headstone's Japanese scripture indicates that the grave belonged to Midori Takayama, who passed away on Nov. 21, 1942, at the age of 22. Burton added that his research indicates that Takayama's body was later removed from Manzanar, most likely at the request of family members.

Amnesty Day

The return of the headstone prompted the commission to propose organizing an amnesty day where anyone can return camp artifacts with no questions asked. Ochi asked Miller to look into this.

Other Camp Updates

- A replica of the hand crafted, two-sided "Manzanar War Reloc-



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA
The NPS recently put up a replica of the historical Manzanar sign on its original posts.

tion-Center" sign is now mounted on the original posts

- New roofs have been placed on the two sentry guard houses
- Historic cemetery fence, reconstructed from local black locust, has been completed.

Confinement

Although the U.S. government-published book, "Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites," is out of print, there is still a high demand for the book, with more than 3,000 people currently on a waiting list. To date, it has gone through four printings, and 107,000 copies were distributed. Recently, the University of Washington Press has agreed to re-issue the publication, and it is scheduled to come out in the Spring of 2002. This edition will cost money to purchase.

In recognition of the work put into "Confinement and Ethnicity," the lead author of the book, National Park Service archaeologist Jeffrey Burton, recently received NPS's highest award.

Miyatake Exhibit at Eastern California Museum

Michael and Stewart reported that Archie Miyatake, son of the late famed photographer Toyo Miyatake who snuck a camera lens into Manzanar, has helped them put together a photo exhibit on camp life.

The exhibit's text came from a four-hour interview with Miyatake, who explained some of the stories behind the photographs taken by the Miyatakes. Stewart noted that various museums such as those in Cleveland and Tokyo have already shown interest in sponsoring the exhibit. The project is funded, in part, by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program.

Visitors

Linsé reported that within the last 11 months (not including this year's pilgrimage month of April), they have counted 17,000 cars entering Manzanar, which they roughly estimate comes out to 43,000 visitors.

Education

Stewart, who has given numerous tours of the site, urged the NPS to take a multi-faceted approach to Manzanar's history because some schools still refuse to bring students to the former concentration camp site for political reasons. Other subjects to consider are: the indigenous population (Paiute Indians), agriculture (Owens Valley orchard community), geology, botany, animal/bird-life, etc.

Students from USC's School of Architecture have an ongoing project to design a public area for the historic site.

Park Ranger Report

Linsé has been conducting tours on request and has been meeting with educators throughout Inyo County, from Mammoth to Ridgecrest. She noted that they are getting informational requests as far away as New Jersey. She is continuing the ID card program started by her predecessor, Kari Coughlin. To help carry out more educational programs, Linsé is applying for various grants. She reported five active volunteers, who have contributed 350 hours of service.

MIS

Volunteer Dick Mansfield is compiling a history of the men from Manzanar who entered the Military Intelligence Service. Anyone with information should contact him at 569 Lowell Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301-3816; tel: 650/321-4558; e-mail: EandDM@aol.com.

Replicas

Volunteer John Ward, who built a replica of the Manzanar hospital last year, displayed his latest creation, which was a replica of Block 34 and Merritt Park. In appreciation of Ward's services, NPS made an unprecedented move and award-

ed him with a much needed hearing aid replacement.

Archive

Embrey reported that she flew out to NPS's Western Archaeological and Conservation Center in Tucson in March to help NPS staff sort through 20 boxes of donated Manzanar documents. She reported that NPS is "doing a wonderful job with our stuff." She also visited former Manzanar superintendent, Ross Hopkins, who retired in Arizona.

Exhibit Presentation

NPS staff from the Harpers Ferry Center (HFC) are designing the interpretive exhibits and movie that will be displayed at Manzanar. The HFC staff is working closely with local NPS staff and the Manzanar Advisory Commission to determine how best to present the camp story. HFC contracted Harris H. Shettel, a museum consultant, to conduct two evaluations, and last year, commis-

sioners Michael, Matsuda, Otsuji, Embrey, Okui and Miller participated in a focus group, which discussed design options such as what experiences should be highlighted, how climate will affect the visitors' experience and other detailed interior and exterior analyses.

In selecting the production company for the movie, Otsuji and Ochi said it was a difficult selection process since the pool included strong contenders. The committee finally agreed on the Signature Communications Group from Maryland.

Krister Olman Design, based in Santa Monica, Calif., was selected to design the visitor center exhibits.

Otsuji, who is leading the landscape design aspect of the site, reported that he is working with a team of eight landscape architects and the NPS to carry out Manzanar's General Management Plan.

Plans to put together a souvenir brochure have also begun. ■

Hays Takes Over as Superintendent of Manzanar Historic Site

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

Frank Hays, 42, considers his new position as superintendent of the Manzanar Historic Site as the culmination of 20 years of service with the National Park Service. He officially started at Manzanar on April 16.

For Hays, who had been managing the natural resources program at Grand Canyon National Park, the decision to uproot his entire family from Arizona and move out to California was "definitely a big decision." His wife and three children will not join him in California until the end of the children's school year.

But in recalling his first visit to the Manzanar cemetery earlier this year, Hays said, "I found it to be an evocative site, very moving. It's especially a powerful place to be with the monument and the mountains in the background."

In addition to the cemetery, Hays was moved by the remnants of the rock garden. "It was touching and powerful," he said. "Here were people forced into this horrible situation and they tried to make the best out of it by creating beauty in this harsh life."

Growing up, Hays had little contact with Asian Americans. Since his father was in the U.S. Navy, he spent his childhood moving around and has lived in Spain, Florida and Georgia.

It was in Georgia that Hays realized he wanted to be a ranger when he grew up. "I was in fourth or fifth grade, and I looked up at the mountains and knew I wanted to be a ranger," he said. "I set that as my goal."

Hays credits his father for instilling in him a love of the outdoors. He recalls going out on family hikes, camping trips or sightseeing excursions almost every weekend.

And although his father served in the Korean Conflict and his two uncles served during World War II, Hays said he never recalled hearing anti-Japanese sentiment.

"My parents were broad-mind-

ed," he said. "They loved to go to different areas and learn about different cultures."

Learning about different cultures is something Hays takes to heart. One of his favorite assignments has been working at the Chaco Culture National Historical Park in the heart of New Mexico's Navajo community.

At Chaco, one particular incident gave Hays a good lesson on Navajo world perspective. He recalled helping a Navajo rancher round up cattle on a day that he described as a "nasty, cold, windy, hard and brutal day." After the round up, Hays, who was feeling cold and miserable, was invited to his friend's hogan for warm mutton stew. An elderly man walked in, saying, "Isn't this just a beautiful day?"

"That was an eye opening experience to have this older, grandfathers' Navajo Indian tell me this," he said. "It was a powerful experience, and one I will cherish."

In a similar way, Hays hopes to learn about the Nikkei culture. He noted that he first heard about the WWII incarceration of the Nikkei community during a high school history class.

"At that time, I couldn't believe this happened in America, that we actually did something like that," he recalled. "It made me think a lot about democracy and how democracy works, and how important it is for people to know each other and about other cultures. There's a lesson to be learned at Manzanar and at the other internment camp sites."

Hays has been immersing himself in learning about the camp experience. Even before agreeing to take on the superintendent position, he picked up Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston's book, "Farewell to Manzanar." As superintendent, one of the first things he hopes to do is have a Cultural Landscape Report completed. This will allow the staff to begin re-creating the camp to its original state.

Hays can be reached via e-mail at MANZ_Superintendent@nps.gov. ■

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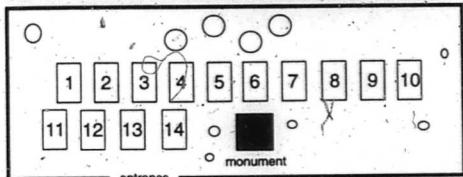
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Manzanar Cemetery Mapped Out and Researched by Archeologist



- Grave of Matsunosuke Murakami, widower age 62, who died of pneumonia on May 16, 1942. A former farm laborer, he was at Manzanar 54 days before his death. His was the first burial in the cemetery, and the headstone and rock border are original.
- Former grave of Sachiko Sawamura, who died on Nov. 26, 1942, at the age of 6 months of tuberculosis-related meningitis.
- Former grave of Midori Takayama, who passed away on Nov. 21, 1942, at the age of 22. The wood fence around the grave is a reconstruction based on historic photographs. A married housewife, Takayama was at Manzanar five months, two of which were spent in the hospital, before she died of acute cardiac failure resulting from pulmonary edema.
- Former grave of Toshiro Nozawa, who died at birth on Jan. 1, 1943.
- Grave of Minoru Kihara, 63, who died Nov. 27, 1942, of shock from a massive hemorrhage of a gastric ulcer. A laborer, he was at Manzanar eight months prior to his death. The wood grave post is original.
- Former grave of Edna Hitomi Muraoka, a baby, who died on Aug. 16, 1942, of unspecified causes.
- Former grave of an unnamed baby who died at birth Feb. 27, 1943. The parents were Mr. and Mrs. Wataru Sakamoto.
- Grave of Noriyuki Arasuna. Born premature at five-and-one-half months, he died on July 20, 1943. His parents were later transferred to the Tule Lake Segregation Center. The grave post is original.
- Grave of Midori Susan Furuya,

a premature baby who died Aug. 14, 1943. Her parents were transferred to Tule Lake. The grave post is a reproduction based on historic photographs.

10. Grave of Shinnojo Fukumoto, 62, who died on Dec. 19, 1944, of uremia. A cook, he was at Manzanar two-and-a-half years before his death. The grave post is a reproduction.

11. Former grave of Roy Hasegawa, a premature baby who died April 4, 1942. He was the son of U.S. Army Pvt. Sam and Yoshiko Hasegawa.

12. Former grave of Tetsuo Kusaba, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Torasuka Kusaba, he died April 25, 1943.

13. Former grave of Toshiro Gerald Ogata, who died on Oct. 15, 1943, at age two months, of a congenital heart defect. The headstone is a replacement for a concrete headstone stolen from the cemetery in the 1980s.

14. Former grave of George Kaechi Takeuchi, 69, who died Jan. 31, 1944, of complications of Parkinson's disease. He was married and was a cook, but he spent his entire 11 months at Manzanar in the hospital.

15. The 15th individual buried at the cemetery was a stillborn baby, who was buried in an unmarked grave. The record is listed as confidential.

Other rock circles in the cemetery denote the former location of trees or are recent memorials. One includes an offering to those killed in the Manzanar Riot, placed by Harry Ueno in 1991. To the north of the cemetery, outside the fence, is the pet cemetery. ■

Tri-district Hosts a Variety of Workshops

RENO, Nev.—Several workshops were held during the California Tri-district conference April 20-22. They included the following.

SMARxT — Jack Christy & John Gallapaga

The SMARxT (Senior Medication Awareness & Training) program was sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). This program is an outreach effort to help increase the proper use of medication because

according to AARP, the misuse of medication accounts for more than 100,000 deaths, and between 15-25 percent of seniors end up in emergency rooms, hospitals and nursing homes. Both Jack Christy and John Gallapaga emphasized the following:

- Don't expect to get a prescription every time you visit your doctor;
- Ask your doctors about the differences of a prescription drug or generic brand;
- Pay attention to side effects;
- Bring your medication to your doctor;
- Take medicines correctly, and
- Ask questions — this is the most important point.

Information to share with doctors:

- Names of all medicines you are taking, including non-prescription, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins and herbal medicine;
 - Any problems you're having with medicine; and
 - Any medicine you are allergic to.
- When to use AARP's SMARxT card: with your doctor, pharmacist and whenever buying non-prescription medicine, vitamins or herbs. Their golden rule was to always talk to your pharmacist when taking prescription medicine.

How to take your medication as directed:

- Know why, how and when to take your medicine;
- Have the instructions repeated;
- Write down questions and answers;
- Bring a friend or relative so they can hear it also;
- Don't stop medicine unless instructed;
- Don't share your medicine; and
- Store your medicine safely (i.e. dry place).

- If you: "Forget a dose?"
- Have trouble remembering if you took your medication?
- Hard to keep all the different

- medicines straight?
- Can't swallow your medicine?
- Is it okay to drink alcohol?
- Do you take it before or with a meal?

• Any foods to avoid?
 Don't guess; always ask questions. Christy and Gallapaga always recommended calling your pharmacist since doctors are usually hard to get a hold of. For information or to set up a presentation, contact Gallapaga at 916/489-9544.

Planned Giving for Dummies — Steve Okamoto

Although some planned giving workshops are designed for the rich, Steve Okamoto, CLU, ChFC, CSA, led a seminar, which was simple and tailored towards the average net worth person. He noted that JACL's planned giving program was already in place and is supported by the national board. The following are some of the points that Okamoto brought up:

Why give? — To leave a legacy; everyone is taken care of; tax incentives (i.e., income tax, estate tax and capital gains tax).

When is planned giving? — creating a plan today to give forever. When to give? — If given now, gifts can be in the form of planned giving or direct gifts. If given at death, gifts can be indicated in the will or a provision made in a living trust or life insurance, naming JACL as a beneficiary.

Request in a will — This is the most common form of giving. By naming an executor to carry out your wishes and including a provision naming JACL as a beneficiary, your assets will go to JACL.

Trusts — Most common is the Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT). Through this, the donor transfers asset into the trust; the trust sells the asset and invests the proceeds; donor can enjoy the income; and at the donor's death, JACL can own the asset. Some advantages of the CRT are that the donor receives income, estate, capital gains tax advantages; donor enjoys flexibility and control; assets grow tax-deferred; assets in trust protected from creditors; at death, assets go to JACL.

What about my kids? This is the biggest concern among donors but children can be protected. The most common trust is through a Wealth Replacement Trust (WRT), which applies for life insurance; the trust owns and is a beneficiary of the insurance; the donor gifts premium to the trust; at death, the trust pays income to beneficiary according to the donor's wishes; insurance proceeds are not part of the estate. Giving through life insurance is the second most popular means of giving. The role of life insurance may be to fund a WRT, "second-to-die" life insurance; use of distributions from the plan to fund premiums; tax considerations.

For information, consult your legal or financial advisor or contact Okamoto at 415/680-2108.

Leadership — Lucy Kishiue

The objective of this workshop was to understand how values influence behavior, how that behavior is perceived by others and how this impacts our professional and private lives. The workshop was based on a program developed by LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacific, Inc.).

Lucy Kishiue discussed general Asian Pacific America cultural values which included: concept of shame; self-control; harmony/conformity; fatalism/destiny; perseverance and hard work; humility; loyalty to family/group; loyalty to ethnic group and traditions; respect for authority; filial piety; education is highly valued; frugality; material goods showing status; political; group consensus; interdependence; reciprocity and indebtedness; success syndrome; religion where certain beliefs take great control over family; male dominant/female submissive roles; family roles such as birth order and parent roles; and indirect communication in reference to the behaviors of others.

Kishiue shared a survey that was done with major mainstream CEOs regarding how they perceived certain APA behaviors. To work within the dominant culture, Kishiue discussed the importance of first understanding your cultural values and then making modifications to your behavior.

Care Giving — John Yamada

This workshop focused on who is a caregiver and what to expect. John Yamada, JACL Aging & Retirement Committee member, noted that caregiving in the traditional sense has meant children taking care of their parents or grandparents but more recently, it has come to mean parents or grandparents taking care of their grandchildren. Yamada talked about some of the problems inherent in these situations and how to solve them.

Dealing With Interpersonal Conflict — D. Ronald Kiyuna

Differences in values, beliefs, and opinions may lead to conflicts, and Ronald Kiyuna discussed how to deal effectively when faced with interpersonal conflicts. He focused on the question of "how do I attend to the other person, while maintaining my personal boundary." Kiyuna, an associate professor at California State University, Fresno, and chair of the Department of Counseling and Special Education, is also a licensed psychologist and marriage and family therapist.

Legacy of the Nisei Veterans — Carol Kawamoto

Carol Kawamoto presented an introduction to the accomplishments of the Nisei veterans during World War II and also gave an update on new projects, including the Hanashi oral history program and the newly revised curriculum and resource guide. ■

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Fujii and Ikeda Honored at Tri-district



Two JACL men and several volunteers were recognized during the recent Reno Tri-district awards luncheon. A moment of silence was also observed for the passing of three JACLers — Peggy Liggett, Dr. Roy Nishikawa and Dr. Mae Takahashi.

Pictured are: (l-r) Alan Teruya, NCWNPD governor; Toko Fujii, NCWNPD award recipient; Fresno County Superior Court Judge Dale Ikeda, CCDC award recipient; Bob Taniguchi, CCDC governor; and Richard Ikeda, Fresno JACL chapter president.

The volunteers who were recognized but not pictured, were: Joan Aoki, John Hayashi, Ken Kamei, Lucy Kishiue, Kate Motoyama, Alan Nishi, Steve Okamoto, Fred Okimoto, Tom Shigemasa, Alan Teruya and Patty Wade.

Cherry Blossoms

Springtime
While cherry blossoms
Blowing gently in the wind
Look like falling snow

In the backyard of the house where I grew up, we had fruit trees. Peach, pear, apple, plum and cherry trees produced a bounty of flowers every spring. The cherry trees were my favorite; after the blossoms had opened,

By
CHRISTINA SHIGEMURA

Stranger Than Fiction

they would fall to cover the ground with a blanket of white.

Learning

Glorious May days
Perfect for contemplation
Wasted taking tests

Spring is my favorite time of year, but I haven't been able to enjoy it much lately. Everyone at the school where I teach is under a lot of pressure to dramatically raise our Stanford 9 standardized test scores this month. Last year we only improved by 14 percentage points instead of the required 15, so this year students and staff are facing the possibility of the removal of our principal and other punitive measures if we don't bring our scores up. Yes, Harcourt Assessment Company (whom we can thank for the Stanford 9) is certainly raking in taxpayers' money, but what do students really get out of this? From what I've observed, students are very nervous and frustrated during testing. They also become highly proficient at filling in bubbles. However, I know of no university which offers a degree in "bubbling," and I don't know any employers who would be impressed to see this skill on a resume.

The Necessity of Field Trips

Taco Bell, TV
Liquor stores, Kmart, the mall
World's outer limits

Despite the fact that Los Angeles Unified School District schools are spending three or more days administering the Stanford 9, Roy Romer, the latest in a long succession of overpaid superintendents, has declared that field trips are a waste of time. Ideally, students' parents would provide their children with lots of enriching trips and experiences, but this doesn't usually happen in the neighborhood where I teach. A lot of parents are struggling for economic survival, and taking their children to museums is understandably not at the top of their list of priorities. Without field trips, many children will be deprived of wonderful educational experiences. Some may not even get to see and learn about the cherry blossoms. ■

Christina Shigemura is a sixth-grade teacher.

COMMENTARY

'Citizen Involvement'

By FRANK and
JOANNE IRTANI

Since its founding in 1929, the JACL has accomplished a lot. But lately, just about every issue of the *Pacific Citizen* mentions declining membership and financial deficits. One of the things that can be done is to improve our citizen involvement — be more active with voter registration, help in getting out the vote and encourage public service.

Census 2000 figures show increases of Asians in just about every state; some show a 150 percent or more increase over the 1990 census. California has almost 34 million people, and there are over 281 million in the United States. Asians make up 10.9 percent of the population in California and 3.6 percent in the United States (quickfacts.census.gov).

This increase will not mean much unless "we can be at the table." Japanese Americans cannot "forget World War II" when they were forced into smelly horse stalls at race tracks for a few months and then relocated for several years to barren, remote areas like Topaz and Heart Mountain because they had no representation in any state legislature or Congress to fight this and other discriminatory, anti-Asian policies.

There is a Census 2000 undercount now and several APA groups except the JACL have expressed concern and urged President Bush and Congress to reme-

dy the undercount. (P.C., March 16-April 5).

A *Sacramento Bee* (Dec. 22, 2000) article mentions "voter turnout continues falling in both U.S. and state. In California, a mere 51.9% of eligible voters went to the polls, the worst since 1920." We can assume the voter turnout among JAs and Asian Americans is also nothing to brag about.

Washington State Rep. Kip Tokuda says, "Box showing of Asian voters is because (1) many don't have faith in the process, (2) lack of understanding of the process and (3) lack of Asian candidates and language barriers" (*Norwest Asian Weekly*, October 1995). Recently, Bob Ueyama, Florin JACL membership chair, conducted a survey of our membership as to our priorities. Eighteen priorities were indicated. Among the 53 responses, 13, or 24 percent, indicated voter registration/elections, and about a third mentioned "civil rights issues."

Now is the time for our JA community to focus on the "C," or citizens, in JACL — voting, involvement in the election process and public service. I have tried to be active in local voter registration, Get Out The Vote (GOTV), Census 2000, redistricting, etc., but rarely have I encountered another JA or AA. Truly, there is a pressing need for the JACL and other AA groups to engage in candidate development to coalition with highly respected groups like the League of Women Voters,

and the Anti-Defamation League, and with county and state elections offices. There is a need to promote non-partisan voter registration, issues discussions, and greater citizen involvement.

Considerable recent unrest and student demonstrations at various Cal State, Stanford, Duke and other campuses call for legislators and congressional people to get involved. There are seven different programs on the JACL website (www.jacl.org) to which another program, "citizen involvement," should be added. Also, APIA Vote is mentioned and referral is made to the APIA VOTE 2000 webpage. As I recall, the JACL was hardly involved in APIA VOTE 2000.

Just about every time Congressman Bob Matsui makes a public speech, he points out that we are underrepresented in our state legislatures and Congress. JACL President Floyd Mori states there are three realms in which JACL needs to focus its programs: social, political and economic. ("JACL Today," P.C., April 20-May 3). Allan Hida, a former JACL chapter president and Midwest District governor, in an oral history just completed by his daughter Susan, says, "The internment can happen again so we should support our democracy by our vote." He expresses great admiration for people like Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta and Sen. Daniel Inouye. "We need to get the Issei feeling of *shikataganai* and get involved."

The strength of our political system depends on the full and willing participation of us all. ■

COMMENTARY Talks Collapse on Japanese YWCA, Trial Date Set

By PATTY WADA
NCWNP Regional Director

Three months of mediation between the Soko Bukai (Japanese American Christian Churches of San Francisco) and the San Francisco YWCA have ended with no resolution. The site of this important community battle now moves to the courtroom with a trial date set for Nov. 5.

For years now, a coalition of Japanese American community organizations and individuals have been working with the Soko Bukai to regain ownership of the former Japanese YWCA building, located in San Francisco's Japantown. And while this building may be located in the City-by-the-Bay, this is an issue that touches Japanese Americans everywhere.

This building was purchased with funds raised primarily by the Issei women of the Japanese YWCA. The title to the building was not put in their name due to the existence of California's racist Alien Land Law — a law which forbade our ancestors from owning land. These industrious and visionary Issei women asked the San Francisco YWCA to hold the property in trust for the permanent use of the Japanese YWCA, a trust agreement that is documented in the YWCA's own minutes of the 1920s and 1930s.

In 1932, the Japanese YWCA celebrated the opening of this building on Sutter Street and continuously and exclusively occupied and controlled the building, from which they provided services to Japanese women and girls. These programs were abruptly halted in 1942 when Executive Order 9066 forcibly removed all Japanese Americans from the West Coast. During the years of

incarceration, the Japanese YWCA leased the building to the American Friends Service Committee, which provided services to JA internees.

Institutional memory of the trust agreement was lost during those years of confinement and the years that followed, and our community never regained control of this important landmark. In 1996, the SF YWCA attempted to reap the profits from their sale of the building, and it was then that the Soko Bukai and the Nikkei community rallied to affirm the original trust agreement through mediation and the courts.

We believe that in the 1920s the YWCA board made a promise to our community. And, we believe that the YWCA board of today must honor the promise of their predecessors, just as we are fighting to protect the legacy left to us by ours.

Both the NCWNP district and national JACL adopted resolutions supporting this struggle for justice. And several of our district chapters and members have worked hard circulating petitions and contributing to Soko Bukai's legal defense fund.

Today, as this battle continues, we need everyone's help. The California Alien Land law targeted our community in the century now past, but today in this new millennium, we find that its vestiges of racism touch us still. Those wishing to volunteer some time may contact the JACL NCWNP regional office at 415/345-1075.

As a community, we must reassert our claim to this building left to us by these strong Issei women. This is our history. And it is for them — our mothers, our grandmothers and our great-grandmothers — that we must continue the challenge. ■

U.S.-Japan Exchange Fellows to Display Artwork at JANM

To help commemorate the U.S.-Japan Creative Artists Exchange Fellowship Program and the first biennial meeting of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON) in Los Angeles, an art exhibition featuring installations by three American artists who participated in the program will open at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) from May 11-Sept. 2.

"Beliz Brother, Mei-ling Hom and Kim Yasuda: Celebrating the U.S.-Japan Creative Artists Exchange Fellowship Program" showcases the work of these three artists, who were given the opportunity to live in Japan for six months and pursue the interests of their choice as part of the fellowship program run jointly by JUSFC and the National Endow-

ment for the Arts (NEA).

Yasuda, who was a Fellow in 1999, is planning an installation dealing with Japan's subway system, where the concept of personal space versus public space is played out in the crowded environment of Tokyo subway cars. A professor of art at the University of California at Santa Barbara, Yasuda was a featured artist in JANM's collaborative art project "Finding Family Stories."

Visual artist Brother, a resident of Seattle, spent her fellowship in Japan in 1997 and will unveil a new piece for the exhibition. She received an NEA Visual Arts Grant and has exhibited her work in the Seattle Art Museum, Philadelphia Institute of Contemporary Art, San Francisco's New Langston Art and Seattle's Henry Art Gallery.

Sculptor Hom will install an existing work titled "Silkworm

Grind," which originally was shown at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia. Her work explores the influence of Asian cultures on America, or how "their very presence transforms, redefines and expands our ideas of American culture." A Fellow in 1996, Hom is the recipient of a 1999 Leeway Foundation Fellowship and a 1998 Pew Fellowship in the Arts.

Since 1979, more than 80 artists from across the country and representing every creative art medium have completed their residencies in Japan. Author and poet David Mura, who lived in Japan in 1986, wrote his autobiography, "Turning Japanese," about his experiences and search for identity.

For more information on the exhibition or the CULCON/JUSFC meetings, call JANM at 213/625-0414. ■

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From The Bookshelf

Fiction

Paper Bullets: A Fictional Autobiography
By Kip Fulbeck
University of Washington Press
273 pp., \$18.95 paperback, \$35 hardback

This is a fictional autobiography that explores the Hapa issue of a young man, who, like the author, is shaped by the conflicting desires, stigmas and codes of conduct in this country. Part coming-of-age, part racial/sexual adventure and part love letters, "Paper Bullets" chronicles a contemporary man's search for love and meaning.

Pearl Harbor Hinge: A Different Past, A Different Future
By Richard Ziegler and Patrick Patterson
Trafford Publishing
218 pp., \$22

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and the authors of this novel ask the question: what if the bombing of Pearl Harbor was followed by a successful invasion and occupation of the Hawaiian Islands by the Japanese? The book bases its narrative on policies carried by the Japanese in the Pacific between 1941 and 1945. To purchase a book, or to read excerpts online, visit www.trafford.com/robots/00-0256.html.

NonFiction

Dusty Exile: Looking Back at Japanese Relocation During World War II
By Catherine Harris
Mutual Publishing Company
152 pp., \$10.95 paperback

Catherine Harris, at age 22, found herself a teacher at the Poston War Relocation Authority camp and came face to face with the results of racial prejudice. In this book, Harris chronicles the camp experience through her perspective. The chapters alternate between her personal experiences in the day-to-day living situation to the changing events and attitudes on a national level.

Resistance: Challenging America's Wartime Internment of Japanese Americans
By William Minoru Hohri
Morris Publishing
170 pp., \$6

This book is about the U.S. ci-

izens of Japanese ancestry who challenged the constitutionality of the mass, racially based, World War II internment in Wyoming. It profiles Frank Emi, a leader of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee, and three resisters of conscience — Mits Koshiyama, Yosh Kuromiya and Takashi Hoshizaki. The author also develops a legal theory that the Selective Service Act did not permit young men who were imprisoned to register for the draft. The book is available in selected stores: Asian American Curriculum Project (650/357-1088); Japanese American National Museum (213/625-0414); and Kinokuniya bookstore in Los Angeles (213/687-4447).

Unjust Enrichment: How Japan's Companies Built Postwar Fortunes Using American POWs
By Linda Goetz Holmes
Stackpole Books
224 pp., \$24.95 hardback

Linda Goetz Holmes has been researching WW II prisoners of war in the Pacific for 23 years and has interviewed more than 400 former prisoners. The book focuses on the slave labor used by more than 40 Japanese factories, shipyards and mine companies, including major corporations such as Mitsubishi and Nippon.

Dreaming of Gold, Dreaming of Home: Transnationalism and Migration Between the United States and South China, 1882-1943

By Madeline Hsu
Stanford University Press
304 pages, \$45 hardback

Madeline Hsu, a professor at San Francisco State University, shows how Chinese immigrant men were not merely the "lonely bachelors" often portrayed in history texts, but were tied into long distance relationships to women and families in China. In many parts of South China, having extended family networks that included overseas Chinese male laborers became a normative pattern. Hsu's research leads to new insights into how gender, domestic, and community relations look absolutely different when seen from a transnational perspective.

Henry Sugimoto: Painting an American Experience
Edited by Kristine Kim
Heyday Books/JANM
141 pp., \$24.95 paperback, \$50

UCLA Asian American Studies Books

Identity in Hawaii!
By UCLA Asian American Studies Center
250 pp., \$13.00 plus \$4.00 shipping

This volume challenges the stereotypes of a happy multicultural society in Hawaii and looks at the role of native Hawaiian activists. Guest editors Candace Fujikane and Jonathan Okamura collected essays that include the following: "Settlers of Color and Immigrant Hegemony: Locals in Hawaii" by Hawaiian Kay Trask; "Hawaii and the United Nations" and "Hawaiian Sovereignty" by Mililani Trask; "Ilio'ulaokalani: Defending Native Hawaiian Culture" by Momiola Kamahele; "Ideological Images: U.S. Nationalism in Japanese Settler Photographs" by Eiko Kosase; "Local Story: The Mass Case Narrative and the Cultural Production of Local

hardback

Artist Henry Sugimoto was born in 1900 in Wakayama, Japan, the grandson of a displaced samurai. His career spanned California, Earis, Mexico and two World War II concentration camps in Arkansas. When he died in 1990, he had been living for more than two decades in New York City's Harlem. This book follows Sugimoto on a journey that transformed his art, challenged his identity, and in the end, deepened his humanity.

Guilt by Association: Essays on Japanese Settlement, Internment, and Relocation in the Rocky Mountain West
Edited by Mike Mackey
Western History Publication
289 pp., \$18.95 paperback

Mike Mackey's latest book includes a diverse mix of topics. These include: "Japanese Settlement in the Intermountain West 1882-1946" by Eric Walz; "Phantom Explosives and Smoking Guns: The White Pine County Internment Case Revisited After Redress for Japanese Railroad and Mine Families" by Andrew Russell; "Censored! U.S. Censors and Internment Camp Mail in WWII" by Louis Fiset; "Koreans as Interpreters at Japanese Alien Detention Centers During WWII" by Hyung-ju Ahn; "Political Ideology and Participant Observation: Nisei Social Scientists in the Evacuation and Resettlement Study, 1942-1945" by Arthur Hansen; "Japanese and Japanese Latin Americans at Idaho's Kootana Internment Camp" by Priscilla Wiegars; "Caregiving in Camp: Japanese American Women and Community Health in WWII" by Susan Smith; "Young Women's Everyday Resistance: Heart Mountain, Wyoming" by Susan McKay; "Japanese American Women: Guilty by Race and Gender" by Kumiko Takahara; "Media Influence on Local Attitudes Toward the Heart Mountain Relocation Center" by Mackey; "Dislocations: The Built Environments of Japanese American Internment" by Lynne Horichi; "The Loyalty Questionnaire" by Chizu Omori.

The book can be ordered through Western History Publication, P.O. Box 291, Powell, Wyoming 82435.

Jitsuo Morikawa: A Prophet for the 21st Century
Co-Edited by Paul Nagano &

House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and the barriers faced by APA women in politics are some of the issues addressed in the new almanac. It also contains 2000 U.S. Census figures and the findings of the pilot study of the National Asian American Political Survey. Listed are more than 2,200 APA elected and major appointed officials for 34 states, the federal government, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. It also features the November 2000 exit-poll data on APA voters in San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York City. The almanac was co-edited by Don Nakanishi and James S. Lai. Leigh-Ann Miyasato and Francey Lim Youngberg served as researchers and consultants. It also features commentaries on the impact of the November 2000 election from: Andrew Aoki, Vida Benavides, Emil Guillermo, Thu-hung Nguyen-Vo, Vijay Prishad, Paul Watanabe and S.B. Woo. Studies were also done by Pei-te Lin, Elena Ong, Francey Lim Youngberg, Leland Seito, M. Margaret Conaway, Takyuu Lee and Janell Wong.

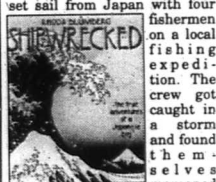
2001-2002 National Asian Pacific American Political Almanac
By UCLA Asian American Studies Center
308 pp., \$16, plus \$4 for shipping and handling

The impact of the 2001 redistricting on Asian Pacific Americans, the findings of the White

Kids Korner

Shipwrecked! The True Adventures of a Japanese Boy
By Rhoda Blumberg
HarperCollins
80 pp., \$16.95 hardback
For ages 8 and up

This is the true story of 14-year-old Manjuro, who in 1841 set sail from Japan with four

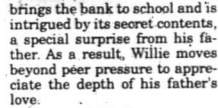


fishermen on a local fishing expedition. The crew got caught in a storm and found themselves marooned on a small island 300 miles off the coast of Japan. They were saved more than six months later by American whalers, who brought them to the United States. In America, Manjuro learned English and would go on to play an important role in negotiations with Commodore Perry that led to the Treaty of Peace and Amity, signed in 1853, between the U.S. and Japan in opening Japan's ports to U.S. ships. He also designed ships capable of crossing oceans using Western technology and established a profitable whaling industry in northern Japan. In 1860, he joined the first Japanese embassy to the U.S. as an interpreter.

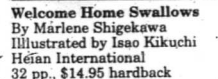
Willie Wins
By Almira Astudillo Gilles
Illustrated by Carl Angel
Bee & Low Books
29 pp., \$16 hardback
Ages 4 and up

In "Willie Wins," Willie is

asked to find a savings bank as part of a school project. His father gives him an alkanisiya, a bank made out of a coconut shell from the Philippines where Willie's dad grew up. Despite his initial reluctance, Willie brings the bank to school and is intrigued by its secret contents, a special surprise from his father. As a result, Willie moves beyond peer pressure to appreciate the depth of his father's love.



Welcome Home Swallows
By Marlene Shigekawa
Illustrated by Isao Kikuchi
Heian International
32 pp., \$14.95 hardback



This is perhaps the first children's book to examine the question of loyalty that the Japanese American community struggled with during World War II. Junior, the main character, has two uncles — one who served in the U.S. Army during the war and another who went to Tule Lake. The conclusion that Junior comes to is worthy of discussion with all American children.

William Malcomson
Council for Pacific and Asian Theology
400 pp., \$24.95 hardback, plus \$5 shipping

This is a collection of 62 of Jitsuo Morikawa's sermons, divided into six sections of personal salvation, corporate salvation, the pastor, the theologian, theological issues and mission. Before WW II, Morikawa served as pastor to three American Baptist churches in the Japanese American communities of Terminal Island, Gardena and Los Angeles. During the war, he was interned at Poston before being given the rare assignment of becoming the first JA pastor of a predominantly white church in Chicago. He

went on to serve in Baptist churches in Pennsylvania, New York and Michigan. To order, make checks to the Council for Pacific Asian Theology (CPAT) and mail to c/o Michi Tanioka, 1401 Masser Pl., Montebello, CA 90640-3313; tel. 323/728-4708; e-mail <bg393@afn.org>.

Passages to Modernity: Motherhood, Childhood and Social Reform in Early Twentieth Century Japan
By Kathleen S. Uno
University of Hawaii Press
238 pp., \$47 hardback, \$24.95 paperback

Contemporary Japanese women are often presented as devoted full-time wives and mothers. Children of working mothers are pitied, and day-care workers, both children and mothers, are often disparaged for having inadequate home lives. But historical evidence reveals that child tending by non-maternal caregivers was widely accepted at all levels of early 20th century Japanese society.

Generations: A Japanese American Community Portrait
Edited by Diane Yen-Mei Wong
Photo Editor: Brad Shirakawa
Project Director: Paul Osaiki
136 pp., \$45 hardback

This is a photographic history of San Francisco's Japantown. This project began in 1998 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCNCC). Since then, the project burgeoned into a community effort involving 30 writers, designers, photographers, researchers and support staff. To order, call JCCNCC, 415/567-5505, or visit www.jccncc.org.

Editor's Note: The book page is offered to readers solely as a guide to recent literature written by or related to Asian Pacific Americans. Books contained herein cannot be purchased through the Pacific Citizen. If you are interested in ordering a particular title, please contact the listed publisher or your local bookstore.

Amerasia Journal: Who Writes Asian American History?
By UCLA Asian American Studies Center
UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press
250 pp., \$13, plus \$4 shipping & handling

This edition looks at the lives and writings of 10 living historians across the nation who write Asian American history. The historians range from women and men in their 20s to those in their 70s and 80s. They include Him Mark Lai, Yuji Ichioke, Eileen H. Tamura, Alexander Saxton, Alice Yang, Catherine Ceniza Choy, Henry Yu, Ruthanne Lum McCuan, Chris Friday and Scott Kurashige.

Amerasia Journal: Whose Vision? Asian Settler Colo-

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TONOUCHI

(Continued from page 1)

bumbye sue job. But still if you wanted to use bachroom you had to use "pupper English," oddahwise dey no let you take a pee. If I end up having bladder problems, can sue da state for cruel and unusual or wot?

P.C.: With writers such as Darrell Lum and more recently Lois-Ann Yamanaka, do you feel there is a growing acceptance of the use of Pidgin in literature both within and outside of Hawaii?

Tonouchi: Um, I tink Mister Lum wen help start tem ova here, but Lois-Ann wen help spread 'em all ova da place. Lois-Ann really gets around. She sez dat da people who go to her readings really get into it even if she using all da full-on Pidgin. But I guess it's cuz da people who check her out already get one pretty open mind. They already accepting of different kind voices. To me, Pidgin is progressive.

P.C.: Your new book, "Da Word," is terrific, I thought. You highlight the humor and poignancy in everyday experience. How did these stories come to be, and how true to life are they?

Tonouchi: Thank you. I tink it's pretty good too. ... One time I did one reading at one local elementary school and Mrs. Song, da teacher, wuz so proud of da kine vocabulary tree wud coconut shape ornaments dat she had her kids make. She axed me if das how mines used to look cuz I had dat kine insani my story called "Da Word." Das wen I had to tell her dat I nevah know cuz I made dat whole part up. So I guess dat wuz life imitating art. If anything, most of da-stories is made up. Das why dey call tem fiction. But maybe da ting dat makes 'em seem real is da emotion — ees da feeling dat makes people relate.

P.C.: How did you hook up with Bamboo Ridge Press?

Tonouchi: I used to cruise around by their book tables fo' talk story. Dey knew I wuz one writer. I knew dey published Local kine books. Basically dey wen approach me fo' publish "Da Word." I nevah go to dem. Dey wanted me baaaad. Nah, I dunno. I dunno wot goes on in their minds.

P.C.: Besides your book, you put out a Pidgin-oriented literary magazine called *Hyobooks*. How did that come about, and what has the response been?

Tonouchi: Everybody who work for *Hyobooks* work for free, ninety-nine kine, so it takes awhile from issue to issue. Da biggest problem we get is distribution. Right now we working on improving dat. Hopefully we going be online pretty soon. Wen da first issue came out, we got lotta orders from da continent. We nevah have our own website yet, but people saw da article on top da *Honolulu Star-Bulletin's* website so dat wuz pretty cool. So we getting plannyy positive response. I heard comments like we da hip alternative to da now venerable Bamboo Ridge, or we da ethnic minority supplement to Bamboo Ridge. I dunno why gotta have da comparison, but I guess Bamboo Ridge been around so long dat dey kinda like da institution.

P.C.: What does your family think of you being a writer? Did they influence you in any way?

Tonouchi: Um, dey no really undahstand wot I do or why I do wot I do. Everytime get one write-up or one review of something I did in da papah, my grandma axes, "How much you paid for dat?" I tell her it's not like one ad. Da people dea saw merit in wotevah projekt I wuz doing so dey wrote one article. Wen I had one short story insani *HONOLULU* magazine, I wuz kinda proud, but my grandma tot I wuz cuckoo blowing my money for put my story insani dea. So once again, I had to explain, "No grandma, dis one wuzn't only free, dis time dey even paid me!" Anyhow, probably wen she see dis interview in da *Pacific Citizen* she going shake her head and be all like "takai deahoo nee!"

P.C.: Besides promoting your new book, got any other projects up your sleeve?

Tonouchi: Right now my plate overflowing. I working on one play wot da guy who wrote "Pidg Latin," Yokanaan Kearns. He one Local boy. I get one noddah play undah consideration in California — dey doing one play reading of my play "RACE" at East-West Players. Couple publishers wen already approach me for do some Pidgin projects. ■

Sen. Boxer Launches Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Webpage

In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., has launched a special webpage. The page features interactive interviews with Asian Pacific American leaders and cultural celebrations throughout the state.

The page is located at <http://boxer.senate.gov/apa> and may also be accessed by following links from the Boxer home page, <http://boxer.senate.gov>.

"My site provides Californians with a unique way to celebrate and learn more about Asian Pacific American Heritage Month," said Boxer. "Visitors may listen to interviews with Asian Pacific American leaders and learn about how they can participate in events in their communities."

On the site, visitors may listen to online interviews with U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta, Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation Vice President Ginny Yamate, Nisei Baseball Research Project Director Kerry Yu Nakagawa, former Japanese American Baseball League player Takeo "Babe" Utsumi, Westminster City councilman Tony Lam and Manzanar internee and Japanese American National Museum Chairman Emeritus Bruce Kaji.

In addition, visitors may read a historical timeline, use Boxer's event locator to find APA heritage events in California communities, and test their knowledge with a history trivia quiz. ■

PEARL HARBOR

(Continued from page 1)

He also mentioned that Guy Aoki of the Media Action Network for Asian Americans (MANAA) had originally pushed for more Asian American casting in the film.

"This subject has a real burden for us," Tateishi said. "There's a stigma. The consequences of Pearl Harbor changed everything in our lives forever. To go to a movie like this means we would have to confront this all over again."

Asked whether he felt Hollywood simply exploited this subject for profit, Tateishi responded, "I think movie-makers do that. They take moments in history and make something out of it. Unfortunately, this is one of those incidents that is so ripe for special effects [and money-making]. I wish they had not made this movie. But you can't tell movie-makers what to make and what not to make."

Immediately after the screening, Tateishi met with the Disney

executives in attendance to give them his impressions of the movie.

He also mentioned that JACL, along with other JA community groups, are planning a press conference to be held May 21 in Los Angeles, coinciding with the Honolulu premiere of the film.

"What we want to do is basically inform the media about the role of Japanese Americans in the United States. The concern with a movie like this is the potential for backlash," he said. "We want to re-instill in the minds of the public that they need to distinguish between those they see on the screen and the people that they see in the streets and in their everyday lives."

"There are a lot of impressive people out there, a lot of not very intelligent people," as well as people such as talk radio show hosts who will exploit the film's hype causing potentially harmful repercussions for JAs and AAs alike, Tateishi said. "That's something we have to watch out for."

"Pearl Harbor" is scheduled to open in theaters nationwide on May 25 at the start of Memorial Day weekend. ■

NAATA Offers Diverse PBS Line-up

The National Asian American Telecommunication Association (NAATA) released its May public television line-up in recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. NAATA will be presenting seven new programs nationally, in addition to 12 previously premiered programs.

The seven new programs are as follows:

Presented as a one-hour compilation of documentary shorts will be "Sewing Woman" by Arthur Dong; "Double Solitaire" by Corey Ohama; and "Fighting Grandpa" by Student Academy Award recipient Greg Pak. All three explore issues of immigrant families in moments of discovery and adversity.

"Turban" by Erika Surat Anderson and "Eagles Against the Sun" by John Akahoshi chronicle the coming of age in America polemics that many young APAs are subject to.

"Living Asia" by Keiko Bang is an innovative half-hour program examining the richness of modern Asian life, where an exciting fusion is taking place as ancient cultures meet the 21st century.

"Yellow," a feature narrative by Chris Chan Lee, accesses the trials and tribulations of young APAs in Los Angeles.

Other award-winning programs available on select PBS stations will be "Ancestors in the Americas" by Loni Ding; "Beyond Barbed Wire" by Terr DeBono and Steve Rosen; "Citizen Hong Kong" by Ruby Yang and Lambert Yam; "Visas and Virtue" by Chris Tashima on Independent Lens; "I Am Viet Hung," by Diep Bui on Independent Lens; "Raymond's Portrait" by Donald C. Young; "The Shot Heard Round the World" by Christine Choy; "Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women" by Dai Sil Kim-Gibson; "Searching for Go-Hyang" by Tammy Tolle; "Rabbit in the Moon" by Emiko Omori on P.O.V.; "Regret to Inform" by Barbara Sonneborn on P.O.V.; "First Person Plural" by Deann Borshay Liem on P.O.V. ■

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Letters to the Editor

WWII Veteran Corrects Position

The heading, "WWII Veteran Supports Stand Taken by Resisters of Conscience," to my letter in the April 6-19 Pacific Citizen was neither correct nor incorrect. I had not taken a side.

I wrote to the P.C. because writing directly to the VFW posts and to certain members has failed to stop their wretched lies shed upon honorable men of the Heart Mountain War Relocation Authority center.

I have yet to receive anything from the VFW that would vindicate their writing that I could possibly investigate to prove myself wrong. If they had supported their position with research, honesty and truth, there would be no reason for my involvement.

Today, I will, for the first time, take a stand against an apology for the following reasons:

I do not feel it is proper for the present JACL to speak for the WWII JACL. A prewar charter president for the lower East Bay area JACL, who was interned at Topaz, attended many discussions at JACL's wartime headquarters in Salt Lake City.

Years later he learned that the course JACL took caused a father of a Heart Mountain protester to attempt suicide. He further found the harassment or more like the persecution of those who did not go along with JACL's desires or of the Nisei Army men caused Heart Mountain families of the men to suffer unbearably.

I am thankful he passed away before learning that a mother of a resister did take her life after returning to the West Coast. The Issei mother could no longer bear to attend her place of worship due to the same type of fabrication directed towards her that the VFW is reiterating to this day.

In the 1950s, this charter president approached the JACL to ask the Issei parents for forgiveness. An individual, who stopped this earlier apology attempt, carried his vendetta publicly until his death against the men who stood up for their constitutional rights.

Those Issei, who suffered the false accusation of being unworthy parents and other unkindly remarks, are gone now. The number of Heart Mountain men of conscience has also thinned.

I have now come to the conclusion that trying to get the VFW to change their approach by stating facts instead of mendacity would never succeed.

Writing directly to a veteran, who signed a letter to the editor in the P.C., brought refutation of authorship. A response from another VFW post was that those who opposed an apology were but a few and that I should understand as a Nisei that the majority of the Nisei would rather go along than rock the boat.

What that meant to me cannot be published in a family publication. Like the P.C., the VFW mistook my letter as taking a side rather than my protest to the VFW or the members' deceitful diatribes.

It would be sagacious for the JACL to repeal the resolution rather than have the VFW continue tarnishing the rest of the Nisei veterans by their inappropriate behavior.

From experience, I have learned they ain't never going to change. At the same time, JACL should issue an apology to whom the Sacramento Nisei VFW directed in their April 6-19 letter to the P.C. except to the resisters. A tribute could be extended to the protesting VFW members for their patriotism.

Withdrawing the apology resolution should end the disgraceful performance of certain VFW members and bring this controversy to some conclusion.

After we're gone, some future JACL could pay a tiny tribute to

the only organized Japanese American group who had the audacity during WWII to protest the unconstitutional incarceration of U.S. war veterans, and citizens without a trial.

Hisaaki Ishiyaki
via e-mail

JACL Should Reject Philip Morris Donation

The JACL national board will decide on May 19 to accept or reject a financial contribution by Philip Morris. The NCWNP district voted May 6 in opposition to the donation.

JACL is the latest target of Philip Morris' campaign to buy the reputations of prominent minority organizations to convince the public's perception that the company cares about the welfare of the community — even as it sells products that kill people. The reputation of the JACL should not be for sale.

A Philip Morris internal document, "Corporate Affairs Five-Year Plan, 1992-1996," clearly demonstrates the tobacco industry's motives. One objective of the plan is "to [develop] offsetting relationships among groups that are often used by the anti's suggesting they are victims because they use the company's products."

Even in financial straits, the JACL should not depend on the corporate crutch offered by Philip Morris. We would then risk a dependency on their contribution placing us at the mercy of their corporate objectives down the road. The fact that the Organization of Chinese Americans accepted tobacco money is not reason enough for the JACL.

Please join the silent majority of JACLers that oppose a Philip Morris handout. E-mail: sayno2tobacco@yahoo.com.

Keith Kamisuga
San Francisco Chapter

Re: 'Pearl Harbor'

My hat is off to John Tateishi and the JACL on discussing with Disney the potential negative backlash of the movie "Pearl Harbor." Working to nip a potential Japanese American problem in the bud is a valuable JACL role. Hopefully, John can turn lemons into lemonade. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Disney agrees to neutralize any hate that might come from the movie with positive JA publicity? I would think that Disney would be concerned about negative backlash that the movie could cause.

Alan R. Hirasawa
San Clemente, Calif.

Pacific Citizen

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of issues and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Iida, Tom T., 70, Gardena, April 24; survived by mother Chiyoto Iida; brothers Roy H., Harry T.; sister Michiko Gondo.

Ikemoto, Miso., 77, Dominguez Hills, April 16; survived by sons Robert, Mark; daughters Eunice Ikemoto and husband Gary Stein, Susan Toriyama and husband Robert (Newada); 2 g.c.; mother Tomiji Miyakawa; brothers Manabou Miyakawa, Jack Miyakawa and wife Betty, Tsuyoshi Miyakawa; sister Betty Kawashima and husband Frank; sisters-in-law Kiyu Yamagami and husband Mineo, Connie Sakamoto and husband John; brother-in-law Shigeru Ikemoto and wife Judy (Florida).

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$14 per column-inch. Text is reworded as needed.

Ishikawa, John Shuichi, 85, San Fernando, April 18; survived by brothers Hank and wife Fujiko, Joe and wife Olivia; sister Chiyoko Nakahama; many nieces and nephews.

Kamatani, Yoneko, 83, Walnut, April 11; Santsu Ana-born; survived by sons Kazumi Ikeda and wife Kinu (Walnut), sons in Japan: Hiroshi Ikeda, Takashi Ikeda and wife Kiyu; 6 g.c.; brother Masaru Kamatani and wife Fuyui; sisters Hideko Hirabayashi, Yoshiko Matsuda and husband Yoshiko.

Kawaguchi, Tochi, 97, Orland, April 20; Shizuoka-born; survived by daughters Yoshiko Kaneko, Taiko Fujinami and husband Mitsuru; sons Henry and wife Mitsi, Kuoki and wife Caroline; 12 g.c.; 20 g.c.; 3 g.g.c.; daughter-in-law Mineko Kawaguchi.

Kawakoa, Florence Morimoto, 80, Petaluma, April 17; Huggs-born; survived by sons Dennis and wife Maureen, (El Cerrito), Keith and wife Margaret (Petaluma); daughters Diane Hansen and husband Einar (Petaluma), Betty Wilson and husband Gerald (Sacramento); 8 g.c.; sisters Florice Kuwahara (Riverside), Lois (Woodland) and husband Ben (Woodland), George, Herbert, Albert, Harry and George Morimoto.

Kimura, Kadori, 83, Van Nuys, April 17; survived by wife Hanayo; sons Stanley, Ronald and wife Lisa, James and wife Sue; daughters Frances K. Hori, Marion Mason and husband Jim; 8 g.c.; brother Robert S. and wife Ayako.

Kobashigawa, Hideo, 64, Los Angeles, April 14; Phoenix-born Kibei artist of Okinawan descent, pre-WWII Army veteran, Manzanar and Tule Lake internee; longtime Brooklyn, N.Y., resident; survived by brothers Dick Jiro (San Francisco), Hiroshi (Los Angeles), brothers in Okinawa, Japan and Brazil.

Mass, Jeffrey, 60, Palo Alto, March 30; New York-born; regarded as the foremost contemporary Western interpreter of medieval Japanese history.

Matsumoto, Tom, 98, Vancouver, Wash., March 9; Hawaii-born, raised in Japan until age 16; imprisoned by Army until he could establish his citizenship, then interned at Tule Lake; 50-year Montana resident; survived by daughters Rue Takekawa (Vancouver), Ralec Stallman (Rockford, Ill.), sons Tyrus (Bellevue, Wash.), Tats (Greenfield, Ind.), Ted (Moscow, Idaho); predeceased by wife Kazue.

Matsushita, Haruko, 87, Sun Valley, April 22; survived by brothers Masahiko and wife Michi, Kats K., and Shigeru Matsushita; sisters Kimiko Matsushita; nieces and nephews.

Miyao, George Hiroshi, 89, Sacramento, April 21; Florin-born; survived by wife Masayo; sons Yoshihiro, George Jr. and wife

Judie Kinuyo, Gary and wife Georgia; daughter Beverly Hiroko Tanaka and husband Ernie; 6 g.c.; brothers Walter, Jesse and wife Chiyoko; sister Helen Ioka; brothers-in-law Kazuo Yamamoto and wife Maxine, Takeshi Shishido and wife Irene.

Morikawa, Minoru, 77, Culver City, April 17; Stockton-born; survived by son Glenn, daughter Anne Kinuyo and Karen Sachiko Morikawa; sister Chisato Suenaga; brother Mitsuru and wife Marjorie; sisters-in-law Mary, Chiyoko and Dorothy Shizuka Nakazawa, Kiyoe Kobayashi and husband Ken; brothers-in-law Kango Nakazawa, Koichi Nakazawa and wife Sumie.

Nakamura, Junsuke John, 85, Los Angeles, April 18; Redondo Beach-born; survived by wife Mary; daughters Keiko Takahashi and husband Kenny (Colorado), Anita Haru-Nakamura, 3 g.c., 5 g.g.c.; sisters-in-law Eiko Yamamura, Ann Nakamura, Emi Hirai (Seattle), Junne Hirai (Oregon); brother-in-law Paul Hirai and wife Ginny (Washington).

Nakashimo, Hideo, 89, Los Angeles, April 22; Norwalk and wife Chizuru, Shoji and wife Masako; daughter Miyoko Kanazawa and husband Sanji; 5 g.c.; 2 g.g.c.; brothers Minoru and wife Sakae, Keiji and wife Sadako; (both Japan); brother-in-law and sister-in-law in Japan: Masaharu Takahashi, Yasuko Fujiwara and husband Toshihiko.

Naruse, Betty Tsuyako, 78, San Ramon, April 21; El Centro-born; longtime Milford, Utah, resident; survived by husband Haruichi; sons Donald and wife Linda, Dick and wife June; daughter Judy Miyashiro and husband Alan; 7 g.c.; 1 g.g.c.; brothers Ben and Osamu Yumori. Predeceased by Rhoda Walker and brothers Isamu and Don Yumori.

Nishi, Shizuye, 84, Pacoima, April 9; National City-born; survived by daughter Dorothy K. Rutkin and husband Robert; 3 step-g.c.; 8 g.g.c.; brothers Ayao Sujishi, Dentaro Sujishi and wife Hajime, Yasuhiko Sujishi and wife Asaye, Hishashi Sujishi and wife Michie; sister Kumiye Nakamura; sisters-in-law Junko Ajima, Tomiko Sujishi.

Nunokawa, Lily (Miyaji), 80, Chicago, April 16; Bakersfield-born; survived by son Mark; daughters Sheryl Wyatt-Rocks, Pamela Van Alstin and husband Jim; 2 g.c.; sisters Ruth Munn, Marley Kanetani and husband George, Gladys Kuwahara and husband Tom, Dorothy Nakagami; sister-in-law Mary Miyaji.

Okii, Masao, 78, Gardena, April 20; Stockton-born; survived by wife Chiyoe "Joy"; sons Steven and wife Ana, Brian; daughter Lisa Oki and husband Jonathan Kurohara; 4 g.c.

Okubo, Tadashige, 94, Chicago, April 21 service; Tokyo-born; survived by wife Shizue; brother-in-law Kaoru Okubo (Japan).

Ohita, Rikiye, 94, Pasadena, April 23; Hiroshima-born pioneer resident of Pasadena; survived by sons Miyuki Ohshita and wife Kazuko (Illinois), Teruyuki Ohshita and wife Jane Sonoko, Phil Ohshita and wife Patricia (Tustin); daughter Mikasa Lum and husband Michael; 13 g.c.; 5 g.g.c.

Ozawa, Hayato Harumi, 92, Pasadena, April 24; Kumamoto-born; survived by wife Shigeko Elizabeth; sons Kenneth, Michael and wife Charlene; daughter Patricia Lindsey; 6 g.c.

Sakai, Harry Shiozo, 80, Oxnard, April 17; SAs Animas, Colorado; born; survived by wife Yoshie; sons Philip Hisashi and wife Melinda, Dennis Shigeru and wife Deanna; 6 g.c.; 1 g.g.c.; sisters Ruth Shizue Nishimoto, Sumiko Shimura (Japan).

Sato, Tadai, 78, Gardena, April 23; Sato Bay-born; survived by wife Mineko; son Akira and wife Mary Izumi; daughter Yoko Takeuchi and husband Steve; 1 g.c.; brother Shigeru Sato and wife Ba-

bara Setsuko; sister Michiko Ozawa.

Shintaku, Akira Haroin, 84, Cleveland, March 23; Florin-born; longtime Cleveland resident; Arkansas internee; survived by daughter Sharon Shintaku (San Francisco), brother Kaoru (Detroit); sister Kinuyo Yamamoto and husband Tatsuo (Renton, Wash.); brother Nobuo (Yuma, Ariz.); predeceased by wife Kiyu Suzuki, brother Masaru.

Sotowa, Ichiro, 91, Rosemead, April 23; Snoqualmie, Wash.-born; survived by wife Masako; son Nobu and wife Ann; 3 g.c.

Sugil, Masaru "Mabo", 78, North Hollywood, April 19; Gardena-born; survived by wife Mary, son Steven and wife Marysue (Palmdale); daughter Gayle Wakano and husband Glenn; 3 g.c.; brother Yoshihiko and wife Toshiye; sisters Kumiko and Tsuneko Sugi.

Takechi, Kazuo, 87, Omaha, Neb., March 26; Kochi, Japan-born; founder of Omaha Sister City Association; decorated by the emperor of Japan; helped establish the Japanese garden at the Omaha Botanical Gardens; survived by wife Kimi; sons Steve, Richard; daughters Jane Kawasaki (Highland Ranch, Colo.), Julie Takechi and Jeri Endo (both Omaha); sister Nobuko Matsuda (Japan); 5 g.c.

Tanouye, Tom Tamotsu, 75, Canyon County, April 23; Parlier-born; WWII MIS and 442nd RCT Army veteran; survived by wife Michiko; sons Ron, Wayne; brothers George and wife Kazuko, Henry and wife Aiko, Johnny Hisashi; sisters Grace Kim, Janet Takachi and husband Sumio; brothers-in-law Toshiro Nakamori and wife Masako, Keiji Nakamori and wife Ryoko.

Yamamoto, Kunio, 75, La Palma, April 22; Los Angeles-born; survived by wife Frances Atsuko; sons David and wife Denise, Thomas and wife Elizabeth-Paul and wife Janice; daughters Laura Kobayashi and husband Richard, Anne Perez; 9 g.c.; brothers James Teruo and wife Charlotte, John R. and wife Jane I.; sister Mabel Maruyama and husband Motofusa.

Yamayoshi, Shunzo "Jim", 75, Torrance, April 10; Santa Rita-born; Korean War veteran; survived by wife Yolanda; sons Kent, Ronald; daughters Noreen Arikawa and husband Norman, Arleen Yamayoshi, 1 g.c.; brothers Noboru and wife Yuri, Tom Tetsuo (Chicago), Takeshi and wife Chizuko; brother and sisters in Japan: Shizuyo Washizuka, Ikuo Tsubakada and husband Saburo. ■

DEATH NOTICE

KENTARO TAKATSUI
TARZANA, Calif.—Kentarō Takatsui, 85-year-old Nisei, passed away April 20 at Kaiser Hospital in Woodland Hills. Born in Mukitoe, Wash. Mr. Takatsui was a veteran of the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service. He is survived by his daughter Wendy (Larry) Hirata, grandchildren Brad, Lauren and Brent Hirota, sister Masako Takaguchi, brother Fumio Takatsui, and nieces. Private services were held Fri. April 27 at Private Brothers Valley Oaks in Westlake Village.

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Video on 100th/442nd Wins National Telly Award

A video documentary that chronicles the little-known heroism of the Japanese American fighting soldier during World War II has won the prestigious Telly Award for outstanding non-network and cable television programming, according to Zed Merrill, executive producer.

Titled "The Silent Glory," the production documents the battle achievements of the 100th Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, whose incredible war record earned them more citations than any other fighting unit in United States military history.

"The Japanese American soldier actually fought two wars," Merrill said. "One against an enemy of tyranny in Europe and one against an enemy of discrimination in America."

The video features combat footage and on-camera testimonials from several JA veterans.

The highlight of the production is the coverage of their rescue of the Lost Battalion, which is now considered by war historians as one of the most gallant battles in American history. Merrill said they were not only fortunate to interview the actual person who was in charge of the suicidal rescue but also the commanding officer of the trapped Americans.

For more information about "The Silent Glory," write to: Zed Merrill & Associates, P.O. Box 19608, Portland, OR 97219. ■

'Beyond Barbed Wire' to Air on PBS for APA Heritage Month

For the third year in a row, PBS will broadcast the award-winning documentary, "Beyond Barbed Wire," in May in celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

The critically acclaimed film tells the exploits of the highly decorated Japanese American military units in World War II: the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service.

Produced by Terri DeBono and Steve Rosen, the film profiles the bravery and heroism of the men who chose to fight for a country that had stripped them of their civil rights. It features poignant, emotion-filled interviews with JA veterans who faithfully served their country while their families were locked away in concentration camps.

In reviewing the film, the *Hollywood Reporter* said, "The con-

tributions of minorities — most prominently Japanese Americans — to the World War II victory are in stunning contrast to the prejudice they experienced on the homefront. It is a gripping hour that portrays many subjects talking with difficulty about their experiences. In one interview, a wife listened earnestly to her husband as he tearfully recalled the terrible fox-home death of one of his buddies; she had never heard the story after all these years."

Television reviewers have called "Beyond Barbed Wire" "... revelatory and inspiring" (*Variety*); "... a moving look at a neglected chapter in U.S. history," (*Los Angeles Times*) and "... a bittersweet testimony to the power of uncompromised honor" (*Entertainment Weekly*). The film is narrated by Noriyuki "Pat" Morita.

Viewers should check their local TV listings or call their local PBS station for broadcast dates and times. PBS will broadcast the 56-minute version of "Beyond Barbed Wire." The uncut 88-minute version can be ordered by calling 831/646-9532. ■



Update on Heart Mountain Fund

Recently there was an update on the Heart Mountain Relocation Center Memorial Association's (HMRCMA) Heart Mountain Fund on which many people had donated until 1999.

On June 30, 1999, HMRCMA dissolved, and in accordance with its bylaws, the assets were "delivered to the Park County Chapter of the Wyoming Historical Society (WHS)."

Since HMRCMA had no debts or liabilities, the assets were accepted by WHS as a certificate of deposit. It is designated as the "Heart Mountain Fund" (HMF), and is to be held until there is enough money to do restoration and preservation work on the chimney at Heart Mountain.

The history of the HMF goes back to 1975 when the Ladies of the Heart Mountain Extension Club spearheaded the building of a memorial at the Heart Mountain War Relocation Authority camp site. The memorial included a

plaque, which was designed with a map and photograph to allow visitors to visualize the camp as it was during World War II. The memorial was dedicated on July 2, 1978.

Nine years later in 1987, the HMRCMA was formed. A year later in 1988, a post similar to those used by the National Forest Service was erected at the memorial site. Visitors were able to leave donations at the post.

Envelopes left at the post were recorded and listed in an account book. Other pertinent information were placed in a "scrapbook" in the care of Mary Ruth Blackburn, former HMRCMA treasurer.

In 1999, since the HMRCMA dissolved, the post was removed, and management of the memorial was turned over to the Bureau of Reclamation.

All records from the HMRCMA are placed in the WHS's archive, which is located at Court House, 1002 Sheridan Ave., Cody, Wyoming. ■

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Oct 29	Japan Fall Classic - 11 Days - 23 Meals - \$3095 - Tokyo-Takayama - Nara-Maiko-Hiroshima-Tsuwano-Inland Sea-Shodo Island-Kyoto.
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