



PACIFIC CITIZEN



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SPRING CAMPAIGN: A WORTHY CAUSE



By John Saito Jr.

I turned 50 last month. But in a strange sort of way, it doesn't seem long ago that I was 16 years old and I got my introduction to JACL. It was the summer of 1979, and my father, at age 50, had accepted the position of JACL regional director at its Los Angeles office a few months before. He needed someone who could type and answer

phones, so I accepted his offer of summer employment. Minimum wage was \$3.50 an hour, and my transportation and lunches were taken care of. Life was pretty good.

The office was located in Little Tokyo, on the ground floor of a musty, red-brick structure that was once a Buddhist church and would later become the home of the Japanese American National Museum. The *Pacific Citizen* headquarters, with unshakable editor Harry Honda at the helm, occupied the second floor.

As things turned out, I got into print journalism, though not with the *P.C.* I got an entry-level position at the *Rafu Shimpō*, one of the two Japanese American daily newspapers in Los Angeles. After graduating from college, I worked there as a writer and editor for 15 years.

Although the two newspapers were not true competitors, the editorial staffs at the *Rafu* and the *P.C.* kept an eye out on what the other was doing. It was a healthy rivalry. Both staffs worked in earnest on behalf of their Japanese American readership, producing quality stuff under tight deadlines — the *Rafu* publishing six days a week and the *P.C.* coming out weekly. Reporters from both papers covered local and

national stories. Both came out with a hefty year-end issue as well as a graduation/scholarship supplement. And both employed a full-court press during the redress campaign.

So, in some sense, it feels a bit weird having a byline with a column touting the merits of the *P.C.* But through the years, circumstances have changed. Today, I am involved in the JACL as a chapter president, district board member and *P.C.* Editorial Board representative.

The Japanese American community and the newspaper industry have both been through quantum shifts over the past decade and a half. When you mix the two together, the status of a paper devoted mainly to a JA constituency can change dramatically each year, based on subscriptions, advertising revenue and costs. The *Rafu* is now published four days a week, the *P.C.* comes out twice a month and all of the other JA dailies have sadly crumpled under the weight of an aging and shrinking market.

Staying relevant is the key, and it is up to JACL's wide expanse of staff and volunteer leaders to continue to steer the organization on the right path. As far as the *P.C.*, joining the editorial board last fall has given me a better understanding of operations and the privilege of working with a dedicated and experienced group. And I'm most proud to say that the current staff, led by Interim Executive Editor Allison Haramoto, has the passion to produce timely, interesting and newsworthy content.

As part of the *P.C.* Editorial Board, I've been asked to submit a piece that will help inspire our readers to do something extra for the *P.C.*

So, I close with a simple message: I have made my contribution to this paper's annual Spring Campaign because in the spirit of volunteerism, I believe in giving my time and resources to good causes. Here's hoping that you will make your contribution, too. Mahalo.

John Saito Jr. is a Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Member and president of the West Los Angeles JACL chapter.

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Tickets on Sale Now for the Los Angeles Dodgers Japanese American Community Night Fundraiser



LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Dodgers in collaboration with the Japanese American community has announced that its annual Japanese American Community Night Fundraiser will be held on July 12 when the Los Angeles Dodgers host the Colorado Rockies at Dodger Stadium.

In celebration of the Japanese American community, the evening will kick off with a special pregame event, followed by a postgame fireworks show.

A tradition started years ago, this year's JA Community Night has grown to become a larger community event with the involvement of local Japanese American nonprofit organizations. Community partners include the

Go for Broke National Education Center, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Japanese American Citizens League Pacific Southwest District, Japanese American National Museum, Little Tokyo Service Center and Japanese American Optimist Club.

Most importantly, this year's fundraiser allows a portion of the sales of each ticket sold to benefit one of the above partner organizations of your choice, to be selected at the time of purchase.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit www.goforbroke.org/dodgers.asp or contact Jillian Kwong at jillian@goforbroke.org.

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VERY TRULY YOURS

Immigration Reform Isn't New to JACL

By Harry K. Honda

LAST MONTH (April 17) from Washington, D.C., National JACL commented on the on-going bi-partisan legislation on immigration reform.

For JACL, it has its own history on immigration reform in 1947 by passage of the Soldier Brides Act to admit Japanese wives married to American servicemen and their children to the United States by working around (i.e., by amending) the Japanese Exclusion Act of 1924.

For the late Mike Masaoka (1915-91), JACL's Washington representative, it was his first successful role dealing with immigration reform lobbying in Congress. Bill Hosokawa, in his book "JACL in Quest of Justice" (1988) published by William Morrow, New York, devotes Chapter XIX to JACL's Golden Years with Mike and Etsu Masaoka in Washington and where, in 1946, Nisei were still virtually unknown.

"Secretaries (inside Congress) who saw Masaoka cooling his heels in the outer offices day after day began to feel sorry for him, engaged him in conversation, and eventually they would put in a good word for him with their bosses." Robert Cullum, a former WRA aide who joined the JACL Committee for Equality in Naturalization staff, found "Mike soon had the reputation for complete integrity. When you are playing on the side of angels, you don't use a marked card. All Mike had to

do was tell the truth. But he told it well" (*ibid.*, 287-289). I met Cullum and his Los Angeles Nisei wife (whom I knew prewar) in Albuquerque, retired, in the '90s.

The "Golden Years" culminated in 1952 when the Senate voted 57-26 to override President Truman's veto of the Walter-McCarran Omnibus Immigration Bill on June 27. The House had earlier voted 278-131 to override. Perhaps no National JACL Convention has ever celebrated, as after Haruo Ishimaru, NC-WN regional director, reported the noontime news by the Senate at the Convention in San Francisco's Biltmore Hotel. It was "pandemonium chaos." My employer *Sangyo Nippo* couldn't spare anyone to cover this convention.

President Truman's veto of the Omnibus Bill centered around Title II from the 1950 Internal Security Act codifying the imprisonment of all citizens, suspects, spies or saboteurs in a future national emergency as an invasion, insurrection or declaration of war — reminiscent of WWII when 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from their homes and imprisoned.

For JACL, however, the Omnibus Bill would eliminate race as a factor for naturalization, a proposal to be passed for Issei in the United States in the twilight of their lives.

>> See IMMIGRATION on page 16



SENIOR CARE

Forget About Tiger Mothers, What About Us Draggin' (Dragon) Daughters!

By Lily Liu

In 2011, "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother" by Amy Chua made headlines. There was quite a national debate about "Eastern" and "Western" ways of parenting and the traits and behaviors attributed to a "Tiger Mother."

During the uproar, I felt the defining story of our generation of Asian Americans is actually less about Tiger Mothers and more about what I call the "Draggin' (pronounced "dragon") Daughters" — we, the female members of our Asian American families who are the caregivers for our parents and/or other older family members.

We are "draggin'" with fatigue, worry and responsibility as we care for our elders while often also shouldering child care and juggling the demands of our jobs.

Now the sole caregiver for my mom, I have joined the sisterhood of loving family caregivers on a journey that has huge financial, health and emotional implications on our own lives.

Research conducted by AARP, where I work, reports that in 2009 in the United States, there were approximately 42 million family caregivers. About one out of five adults is providing care to an adult with limitations in the activities of daily living — bathing, toileting, dressing, grooming or feeding themselves.

In the Chinese culture, traditionally it has been a "given" that the younger generation will care for our elders. Filial piety ("xiao") is the first Confucian virtue. So, it is important to first acknowledge that often we do not consider ourselves "caregivers." We think we're just "helping out." And others in the family may have the mistaken notion that a caregiver is a home-health aide who is paid and that the family care we provide is a labor of love.

The term "family caregiver" is applied to any relative, partner, friend or neighbor who provides assistance for an older person or adult with a chronic and/or disabling condition.

As Chinese American caregivers of the Baby Boomer generation, we deal with some unique challenges on top of the already-complicated situation faced by most caregivers:

Our immigrant families are often small and nuclear in nature. Other caregivers might have a supportive network of relatives who lend a helping hand. Ours may live far away in Asia. Pressures of an already-isolated and -isolating responsibility are often magnified for us.

As multicultural caregivers, we must be interpreters. Many 1.5-generation immigrant children like myself help interpret for relatives who cannot communicate fluently in English. In navigating the complicated health care system, patients and their caregivers need "health literacy," which is the ability to comprehend and use health information to make good decisions about one's health and medical care. Being literate in English about health and healthcare is already difficult to achieve; how much more so also in an Asian language! I grab every Chinese-language resource I can find to help me learn medical vocabulary.

Multicultural caregivers wear another unique hat — that of cultural "translator" in order to provide care successfully for elders. How does one initiate a family conversation about end-of-life decisions so that a durable power of attorney for health care is discussed, filled out and ready when the need arises?

>> See DRAGON DAUGHTERS on page 16

'Congress recognizes the Japanese (Issei) were good enough to be admitted and become citizens.'

'With the help of the AARP Caregiving Resource Center, I hope I can transform from the 'Draggin' Daughter' to a true 'Dragon Daughter' ...'

ALL PHOTOS: CONNIE K. HO



Hundreds Gather to View the Congressional Gold Medal at JANM

(From left) Hitoshi Sameshima, Don Seki and Bruce Kaji are recognized for their service during the opening program at the Japanese American National Museum.

By Connie K. Ho, contributor

One by one, they all stood up. Tall. Proud. Seen. Heard. Recognized. This was the scene at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo, as Japanese American veterans of World War II stood up among a seated crowd in Aratani Central Hall to be noted for their service, sacrifice and loyalty to the United States. Hundreds were in attendance to celebrate the Smithsonian Tour of the Congressional Gold Medal, which made its stop at JANM on May 4.

The Congressional Gold Medal was awarded in 2011 to Japanese American, or Nisei, military veterans for their heroic accomplishments during WWII. In particular, the U.S. Congress recognized the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Veterans for their bravery and valor. During WWII, more than 19,000 Japanese American soldiers served in these units. The Gold Medal represents the highest expression of national appreciation by Congress for distinguished achievements and contributions, with past recipients including civil rights pioneers such as Rosa Parks and Jackie Robinson.

"I feel that if it wasn't for the Japanese American soldiers, this country might have lost the war," said Bruce Kaji, an 87-year-old Los Angeles resident who served in the MIS. "I really feel that the veterans truly deserve the gold medal that they awarded us. It's well-received and well-earned."

Various distinguished guests were in attendance to support the opening program at JANM. Attendees included U.S.-Japan Council President Irene Hirano Inouye, ABC7 Eyewitness News Co-Anchor David Ono, Los Angeles Fire Department Deputy Chief David Yamahata, Los Angeles Police Department Deputy Chief Terry Hara and Los Angeles Councilwoman Jan Perry. Following a pipes-and-drum musical

processional by the Los Angeles Police Emerald Society, some took to the stage to speak about the contributions of the Japanese American veterans.

"I'm excited about this exhibit. It's wonderful that these young people are here," said Perry, gesturing to a group of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts in the audience. "We have to continue telling this story — all of us, every one of us — to keep it moving forward so that it should never be forgotten, so it can continue to inspire people who come behind us."

Hirano Inouye, the widow of U.S. Sen. Daniel Inouye, echoed Perry's statements after a video tribute on Sen. Inouye was shown.

"The turn of the Congressional Gold Medal today has meant that many more Americans will know this story, but there are so many more that do not know about these experiences. We must do all that we can to ensure that that story is told," said Hirano Inouye. "As we come today to remember the 442nd, the 100th and the MIS and the remarkable foundation that they laid for us, each of us will remember to carry forward and ensure that our children and all children of this country would have every opportunity for freedom and democracy."

The Congressional Gold Medal will be on view at JANM as part of the presentation "American Heroes: Japanese American World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Medal" until June 9; it currently is part of a yearlong, seven-city national tour.

The visit to JANM, a Smithsonian Affiliate in Los Angeles, follows stops in New Orleans and in Honolulu. The Los Angeles presentation includes a monthlong public program series that includes film screenings and public dialogues.

"We were always hopeful that one of the venues would be the National Museum because of the historical significance and the collateral artifacts that we have and the mission we have to continuously tell

the story," said G. W. "Greg" Kimura, president and CEO of JANM. "And the great thing about having it here is really we have so many of the veterans and the families, we have the entire context of the history of Japanese America of which this is such a critical and central piece."

Individuals traveled far and wide to see the Congressional Gold Medal, including father-daughter pair Tracey Seki Matsuyama and Don Seki of Kona, Hawaii.

"I am honored as a Sansei and daughter of the 442nd, learning what it means to be an American citizen from my dad and my mom being an intern. I think I have the best from both histories and what it really means to be honored and to be an American.

To have the honor of having this medal presented to our fathers — it's great," said Seki Matsuyama, who accompanied her 90-year-old father, who served in the L Company. "All these times, we've only seen the replica. To actually see the main gold medal is an honor and a pleasure. I'm glad that we were able to travel the 5,000 miles to see it."

The tour will continue from Los Angeles to other museums across the country, including the De Young Museum in San Francisco, the Oregon History Museum in Portland, the Chicago History Museum in Chicago and the Holocaust Museum in Houston. At the end of the tour, the medal will be on permanent display at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

The tour is a collaborative effort by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES), the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and the National Veterans Network to share the stories of the men who fought on the battlefields of Europe and Asia

while many of their family members were held in internment camps in the U.S.

The Los Angeles presentation was supported by regional sponsor Union Bank and organized by the Southern California Community Committee for the "American Heroes" exhibit.

Said Union Bank President and CEO Masashi Oka: "On behalf of Union Bank, we're proud to help sponsor this inspiring event. The world needs to know what these patriotic Japanese American veterans did to sacrifice in the name of duty and honor."

For more information about the Congressional Gold Medal, an iPad application, social-learning website and curriculum are available online at cgm.si.edu.



The presentation of colors by the 1st Battalion, 1st Brigade, Regional Support Command, State Military Reserve at the opening program at JANM.

Photos Sought of JACLers and Community Allies Who Fought for Redress

This year's National Convention in Washington, D.C., entitled "Justice for All," will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. As a result of this historic Act, the U.S. government acknowledged the World War II incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans with a presidential apology and monetary redress.

The Legacy Luncheon on July 26, led by JACL's National Youth/Student Council (NYSC), will touch upon the success of the Redress Movement and provide a prospective view of this historical movement as portrayed through the eyes of youth. The luncheon will honor the legacy of young leadership during the Redress Movement and how young leaders today are following in the footsteps of these activists who continuously fought for the rights of Japanese Americans.

Plans include a slideshow of JACL members on the chapter, district and national levels, as well as community partners that were critical to this unique grassroots effort. Redress required the participation of hundreds of "everyday" folks whose assistance was invaluable to the leaders and strategists of the movement.

To ensure the recognition of these "foot-

soldiers" of the redress story, we are seeking photos of JACL chapter and district members, as well as others who took part in any capacity — whether it was testifying before the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, visiting legislators' offices, working on a letter-writing campaign, attending meetings, making phone calls, doing interviews, talking with and educating others, etc. Photos need not be contemporary, but may be of participants from their "younger" redress days.

Please email photos (color or black and white, 300 dpi preferred) to Kristine Minami at jacl.kristine@gmail.com. If you wish to submit hard copies, photos may be mailed to Kristine Minami, c/o JACL Washington, D.C., Office, 1629 K St., NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006. It is requested that only copies be submitted, as photos cannot be returned. Please include the name(s) of those pictured in the photo and the date (or approximate date). Also, if the photo is of a particular event or meeting, please indicate that as well. Photos are due by July 1.

For more information, contact Kristine Minami or JACL regional directors Stephanie Nitahara (snitahara@jacl.org) or Patty Wada (pwada@jacl.org).

President Obama Meets with JACL and AAPI Groups to Discuss Immigration and Health Care

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National leaders representing Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander organizations met with President Barack Obama on May 8 to discuss immigration reform, access to affordable healthcare for all Americans and civil rights protections.

JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida participated in the discussion along with leaders from other national AAPI organizations.

Obama discussed his call for common-sense immigration

reform that will strengthen the economy and grow the middle class. He emphasized that immigration reform continues to be a top legislative priority and that he looks forward to working with the AAPI community to achieve that goal.

AAPI leaders expressed their support for a bill that provides a pathway to earned citizenship and supports family unity. The leaders also expressed their commitment to working with Congress to strengthen the legislation that is being considered.

The president and the leaders also discussed efforts to provide affordable, accessible health care to AAPI communities.

"This was a historic meeting for the AAPI community," Ouchida said. "The meeting represented an extraordinary commitment on the part of the president to work with the JACL and other AAPI organizations on issues of national importance and allowed our community to put our issues on the table."



President Barack Obama met with Asian American and Pacific Islander national leaders in the Roosevelt Room of the White House on



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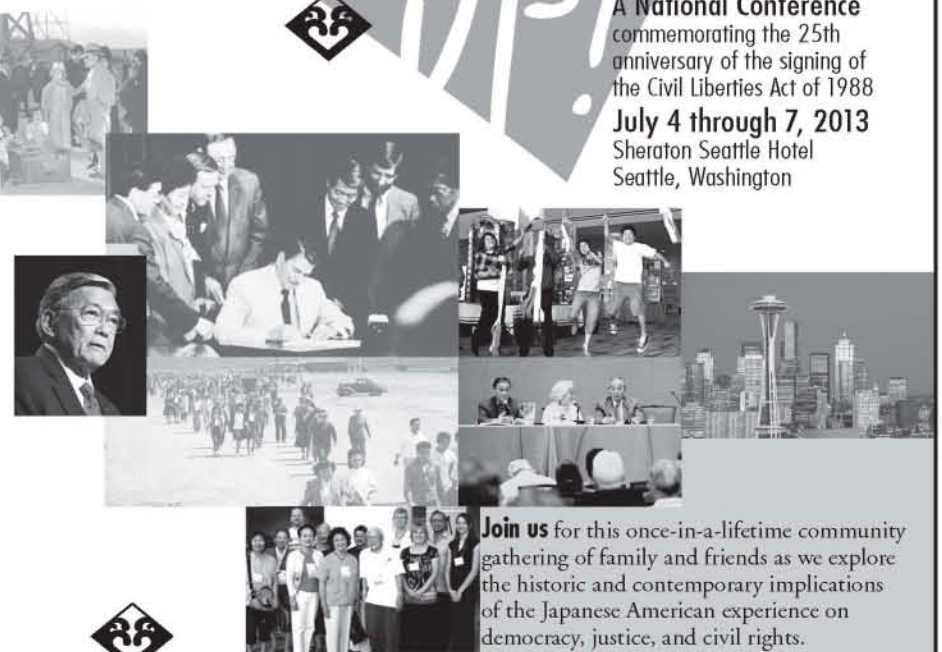
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UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

Welcomes Santa J. Ono as Its First Asian American President



ALL PHOTOS: UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

In this photo from November 2012, Santa J. Ono, now president of the University of Cincinnati, is held up to the stadium crowd by UC cheerleaders.

By *Connie K. Ho, contributor*

Santa Jeremy Ono was moved to tears. It was Friday, April 19 — the day of the investiture, where he would be formally installed, or “invested,” as the 28th president of the University of Cincinnati (also known fondly as UC).

Friends from elementary school, junior high, high school, college, and graduate school were in attendance. People flew in from all over North America and, along with family and friends, there were more than 50 delegates from different universities in attendance. Among the crowd in Corbett Auditorium in the College-Conservatory of Music, there also were two U.S. senators.

The installation ceremony was formal and traditional, starting with musical performances, speeches and processions, with marchers in colorful academic regalia — all leading up to the moment where Ono would be given the university medallion, thus officially making him the first Asian American to assume the position of president of the University of Cincinnati.

On that day, Ono took part in a ceremony that usually occurs during the first 12-18 months of service and gives the university community the opportunity to recognize and



Santa J. Ono is formally invested by faculty members of the University of Cincinnati.

celebrate its new chief executive. Along with his role as president of UC, Ono also serves as professor of pediatrics within UC's College of Medicine and professor of biology in the McMicken College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to his

current post, Ono served as senior vp for academic affairs and provost at UC. He was appointed to the presidency on Oct. 23, 2012, after serving on an interim basis for two months.

“I think what touched me was the feeling of responsibility for this community — I really care about the faculty and staff and students of this institution, and it's very moving to be in the presence of those people who have helped you in your development, your formation and your education,” said Ono. “To be in front of the students, faculty and alumni who love the institution tremendously, to be given the responsibility to lead the university — I felt honored, I felt moved, I felt excited, I felt humbled.”

The investiture was also a remarkable moment for Ono's family, who were immigrants from Japan. His parents and older brother, Momoro, left Japan after World War II when it was still a very poor country. His father, Takashi, arrived at the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study as a visiting member and later on served as a professor at the University of British Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania.

“So, part of what made it emotional was that we were an immigrant family to the United States and, for my parents, it was something very special for them. They came to this country with one suitcase, never expecting to stay,” said Ono. “For them to see their child actually take on this sort of

'I think the major responsibility of a CEO or a president of a university is to connect and communicate ...'

— Santa J. Ono

responsibility is something that made them very happy."

Ono, one of few Asian Americans to serve as chief executive of a major research institution in the United States, took on a number of leadership positions in academia prior to arriving at UC in 2010. He previously served at Emory University as vice provost for academic initiatives and deputy to the provost and then senior vice provost for undergraduate academic affairs. He was also a professor in the Department of Ophthalmology at Emory University's School of Medicine. Apart from his stint at Emory, Ono held a number of teaching, research and administrative positions at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Harvard Medical School in Boston and at University College London and Moorfields Eye Hospital in London.

Throughout his career, Ono has sought opportunities to be involved in the Japanese American community. When he was an assistant professor at Johns Hopkins, he served as part of an executive committee of the Japanese American Fellowship Society. While in Cincinnati, he has spoken at Japanese American Society meetings and at the Japanese American Citizens League.

"Whenever I speak to a Japanese American or Asian American group, especially one where there are senior citizens who remember what it was like to be interned or what it was like to ever dream that a Japanese American would be the chief executive of a company or the president of a college or university, for them, it appeared to touch them as well," said Ono. "In a relatively short time, about 70 years, they could move from where they were interned in their own country to seeing a Japanese American move to a situation where they could actually lead the college or university. So, it was very moving for them, very moving for me."

To coincide with the investiture and Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Ono's family purchased a number of cherry blossom trees that have been planted near the student union building on UC's campus. Through the work of Wendy Yip, Ono's wife, other Asian American faculty and staff members have donated funds to purchase trees that will be planted on campus.

The planting of the trees also coincides with the 100th anniversary of Japan's donation of cherry blossom trees to the United States.

Along with civic life, Ono has readily embraced campus activities and can be seen meeting with students on campus and with UC alums in other cities. He even kept his promise of shaving his head if the UC men's basketball team won their first 10 games of the season. Following the Jan. 7, 2013, game against Notre Dame, Ono had his hair buzzed off to raise funds and awareness for the



Santa J. Ono and Wendy Yip with their daughters, Sarah (left) and Juliana.

Dragonfly Foundation, a local charity that focuses on assisting young people who are diagnosed with cancer or a blood-based illness at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

"I think the major responsibility of a CEO or a president of a university is to connect and communicate because the president has a cabinet where there are individuals who are chief operating officer, chief financial officer, there are vice presidents in all sorts of areas," said Ono. "So, a president's role in a university is really to connect internally and externally."

Apart from attending campus events, Ono can be reached via social media. He has a huge following on platforms like Twitter, where he currently has more than 17,000 followers. His tweets range from updates on campus and photos of campus life to inspirational quotes and song lyrics.

"For me, it's an incredibly effective way to communicate with a lot of people simultaneously. It's very efficient and it's only 140 characters. It doesn't take me very much time to communicate something positive about the university, to keep them abreast with what's happening. When I go out and meet with alumni of different cities, they talk to me about how much they appreciate that," said Ono. "And it's not just me broadcasting things, they will communicate with me and I will respond to them. It really is a dialogue."

Ono's messages on UC are found with the phrase #HottestCollegeInAmerica, and he hopes to encourage more students to attend UC.

"We would love to see students from all around the country consider the University of Cincinnati — I really truly believe that it is the #HottestCollegeInAmerica," said Ono. "And I think that when students come here and see the campus and learn about our academic strengths, it's an easy sell if you wish."

To find out more about Dr. Santa J. Ono, connect with him on his Twitter handle @PrezOno.

Japan Pulls Back on Denials of Wartime Sex Slavery

By Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan has acknowledged that it conducted only a limited investigation before claiming there was no official evidence that its Imperial troops coerced Asian women into sexual slavery before and during World War II.

A parliamentary statement signed on May 7 by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe acknowledged the government had a set of documents produced by a postwar international military tribunal containing testimony by Japanese soldiers about abducting Chinese women as military sex slaves. That evidence apparently was not included in Japan's only investigation of the issue, in 1991-93.

Tuesday's parliamentary statement also said documents showing forcible sex slavery may still exist. The statement did not say whether the government plans to consider the documents as evidence showing that troops had coerced women into sexual slavery.

Recently, top officials of Abe's conservative government have appeared to soften their stance on Japan's past apologies to neighboring countries for wartime atrocities committed by the Imperial Army, saying Japan does not plan to revise them.

The backtracking appears intended to allay criticisms of Abe's earlier vows to revise the apologies, including an acknowledgment of sexual slavery during the war, and calm tensions with neighbors South Korea and China. The U.S. government also has raised concerns about Abe's nationalist agenda.

Abe has acknowledged so-called "comfort women" existed but denied they were coerced into prostitution, citing a lack of official evidence. He also has repeatedly vowed to reassess apologies by past Japanese administrations.

The parliamentary statement, released May 7 and seen by the *Associated Press* on May 8, was in response to an official inquiry last month into the upper house of Parliament by opposition lawmaker Tomoko Kami, who said the government's investigation into sex slavery was "insufficient" and documents it claimed to have collected were incomplete.

Kami, of the Japan Communist Party, also asked whether the government had ever updated its archives to reflect more recent findings than the earlier investigation. The answer was no.



Former comfort women Ok-Sun Lee (left) and Yong-soo Lee pose with a memorial in Palisades Park, N.J.

The statement acknowledged documents produced by the 1946-48 International Military Tribunal for the Far East, held in Tokyo, but said they were not in the Cabinet Secretariat's archives. It did not say when the documents were found or whether they are reflected in any official statements about sexual slavery.

Abe also has criticized the tribunal's decisions as "condemnation by the allied victors' judgment," but has said he's in no position to object to the rulings Japan had already accepted.

The parliamentary statement described the 1993 findings as "the result of an all-out and sincere investigation" that brought "closure." But it said the government is open to updates if new findings are valid.

"Due to the nature of the issue, there is a possibility that previously unavailable documents may be discovered. In such a case, we are asking related ministries and offices to report to the Cabinet," it said.

The documents quote testimony from Japanese soldiers saying they recruited

women by posting advertisements for factory workers and "threatened them and used them as prostitutes for the bestial lust of the troops."

One army lieutenant testified that he helped set up a brothel for soldiers, including himself, forcing five women in the city of Guilin in southern China to work as prostitutes for eight months.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said May 8 that Japan recognizes the harm it caused during its invasion and occupation of much of Asia, and that it has repeatedly and clearly stated that position.

"The Abe government has expressed sincere condolences to all victims of the war, in and out of the country, and there is no change in that," Suga said in a response to a question about a comment by South Korean President Park Geun-hye, published in the *Washington Post*, asserting that Japan should correct its view of its wartime history.

China and South Korea have reacted harshly to recent nationalistic events and remarks, including visits by several Japanese government ministers and nearly 170 lawmakers to Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine, which memorializes 2.3 million war dead, including 14 wartime leaders convicted of war crimes.

JACL PSW Now Accepting Registrations for 2013 Katarou Histories Program

LOS ANGELES — The Japanese American Citizens League Pacific Southwest District is pleased to announce the second year of its intergenerational oral history program Katarou Histories.

Katarou Histories is a summer program designed to engage Nikkei high school youth, college students and adults in the preservation of Japanese American history in the Greater Los Angeles region through the sharing of personal, family and regional stories.

The program is sponsored by the UCLA Aratani CARE grant, South Bay JACL Chapter, Greater LA Singles JACL Chapter and the San Fernando Valley JACL Chapter.

Katarou, meaning "let's share stories" in Japanese, is the primary goal of this program. In retelling the story of Japanese Americans to an intergenerational community, this program fosters dialogue, teaches the value of history, encourages collaboration and consequently helps to build a stronger community for the future.

As Japanese American roots deepen, the younger generation of Yonsei, Gosei, Shin-Issei and Shin-Nisei become further removed from the previous Nikkei struggle in America. Therefore, it's critical for youth to learn the sacrifices and successes of those who laid the roots for

the present-day Japanese American community. Simultaneously, in the collaborative space of Katarou Histories, older Issei, Nisei and Sansei become familiar with issues affecting Japanese American youth today, looking beyond the scars of World War II.

This summer, participants will gather for 10 weekly sessions, where they will collaboratively learn about identity, community and history through workshops and discussions. They'll also gain oral history skills and other relevant historical preservation tools. Together, participants produce a "final project" that will address historical preservation through stories. In the long term, this program creates a sustainable community by nurturing today's youth to take a proactive role in preserving the legacy of the Japanese American community.

This year's program will be run simultaneously in two locations from June-August. In the South Bay region, Katarou Histories will operate out of the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute on Tuesday evenings. In the San Fernando Valley, there will be a parallel program at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center on Thursday evenings.

Any adults and seniors interested in connecting with youth,



Katarou Histories participants Evelyn Mitarai (left) and Paige Negoro collaborate together on collective poetry during their workshop session last year.

discovering hidden histories and telling your stories are invited and encouraged to participate. Registration is \$50 per participant for all 10 sessions and covers food, materials and workshops.

For more information and to download a registration form, visit www.jaclpsw.org or call (213) 626-4471.



Asian American Community Groups Remain Outraged by Taxpayer-Funded 'Anti-Asian' Video Despite City Apology

ASIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY GROUPS ARE ORGANIZING IN THE HOPES OF HAVING THE NEW LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL ADDRESS A 'RACIST' VIDEO PRODUCED BY A CITY DEPARTMENT.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

More than a week after news broke that the Los Angeles Department of Public Works used taxpayer money to produce a video that ridicules Asian Americans, community groups remain angered and vow to take their concerns to the next City Council members.

CBS Los Angeles broke the story on May 9 that the Los Angeles Department of Public Works had produced a video featuring a non-Asian American male speaking in a stereotypical Asian accent while wearing geisha garb. The video was filmed at the Japanese Garden at the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant in Van Nuys, Calif. The intent of the video was to talk about the recycled water used at the garden.

But some Asian American community members say they are angered that a government agency used taxpayer money to fund a video that they say only perpetuates Asian American stereotypes.

"The government protects free speech, not abuse of it," said Sean Yee, a 28-year-old Taiwanese American. "I want to make it very clear that this is a race issue, not an Asian issue because if they can do this to Asian Americans, who's next? Who's next? Who are we going to poke fun at next?"

The video was part of the city's L.A. City Works program, which airs short videos on a city-owned channel. The project

costs taxpayers \$48,000 a year.

At the L.A. Board of Public Works May 13 meeting, community members voiced their outrage about how the video mocks Asian American stereotypes.

"We understand public information messages about water reclamation are likely to be boring. That's understood," said Mark Masaoka, policy director with the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council (AP3CON). "But the accent and the exaggerated facial expressions — that's what makes it approach ridicule."

Masaoka spoke at the May 13 meeting, where the board also issued a prepared apology.

"On behalf of the board and the Department of Public Works, we deeply regret and sincerely apologize for the production of a video skit that has offended the Japanese American and Asian Pacific Islander American communities," the apology read.

Warren Furutani, a Japanese American who was newly appointed to the board on March 11, also condemned the video as racist.

The video was removed from the department's YouTube channel, and clips are now only available on the CBS Los Angeles website.

"It's disappointing that this video ever made it online at all," said Stephanie Nitahara, regional director of the JACL Pacific Southwest District. "There were writers, producers, actors, even the person who clicked that upload button, all of whom could have stopped and questioned whether this was

an offensive portrayal of Asian Americans. It's frustrating that such blatant racism was deemed as comedic by this group."

Yee, a graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, says he was infuriated by the video. He compares the video to the viral anti-Asian rant made by former UCLA student Alexandra Wallace after the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

"'Saturday Night Live' — they poke fun at Asian people all the time. But the thing is, they poke fun at every race," Yee said. "First of all, we have to make it clear: If a private citizen pokes fun, is very racist and says racist things like Alexandra Wallace, as an American, I believe in freedom of speech. And that's her freedom of speech. But this is the government!"

Wallace's rant received national press coverage. After receiving death threats and issuing an apology to the school newspaper, Wallace left the college.

In response to the Asian American community's outcries about the video produced by the Department of Public Works, Commissioner Capri W. Maddox said the board is scheduling mandatory cultural diversity training for all staff. An investigation will also be conducted to identify those responsible and, if any, necessary disciplinary action is needed.

"Even if the filmmakers had some different creative intent, the effect is that it's very demeaning," Masaoka said. "So, I think AP3CON is working to sort of help shape the community's response. We're reaching out to some student groups because they are now the most passionate advocates on this issue."

Masaoka said AP3CON hopes to bring this issue to the L.A. City Council's attention to help raise awareness that anti-Asian sentiments and anti-Asian stereotypes still exist. The 15-member L.A. City Council will be elected on May 21.

A tentative meeting between Asian American student groups and community organizers is scheduled for May 29. ■

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Little Tokyo Walking Tour****LOS ANGELES, CA****May 25, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.****Japanese American National Museum
100 North Central Ave.****Cost: \$9/Members; \$14/Nonmembers**

This tour is led by museum docents who will teach attendees about the history of Little Tokyo. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

Info: Call (213) 625-0414 or visit www.janm.org.

>>NATIONAL

**The JACL National Convention
WASHINGTON, D.C.****July 24-26****Renaissance Hotel Downtown
999 Ninth St., NW**

This year's 2013 JACL National Convention falls on the 25-year anniversary of the historic signing of the Civil Liberties Act. The convention's theme is "Justice for All." It will kick off with an opening banquet on the first evening. The reception will be held in the National Archives, with the original Redress bill on display.

Info: Email dc@jac1.org or visit <http://jac1.org/2013>.

>>EDC

**Asian American Composers and
Lyricists Project****NEW YORK, NY****May 19, 8 p.m.****Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theatre,
Pershing Square Signature
Center****480 W. 42nd St.**

Asian American Composers and Lyricists Project features works created and sung by Asian American artists. The emcee will be Ann Harada. Tickets are free, but seating is limited.

RSVP: Email EE0@actors-equity.org.

**The Asia Society's 2013
New York Awards Dinner****NEW YORK, NY****Oct. 17****The Pierre****2 E. 61st St.**

The Asia Society's awards dinner will honor leaders who have earned global praise and recognition. The dinner also marks the launch of the Asia Society Policy Institute.

Info: Call (212) 327-9335 or email AnnualDinner@AsiaSociety.org.

**Asian Women's Healthcare
Forum****BOSTON, MA****May 29, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.****Federal Reserve Building
New England Room
600 Atlantic Ave.**

The State of Asian Women's Health in Massachusetts is a forum for policy makers, service providers and community organizations that cater to women of Asian heritage. The event is organized by Asian Women for Health, in partnership with the Massachusetts Comprehensive Cancer Prevention and Control Program.

Info: Call (413) 545-3459.

>>PSW

**JACCC's 'A Taste of Success'
Dinner****BEVERLY HILLS, CA****June 30****Beverly Hilton****9875 Wilshire Blvd.**

The Japanese American Cultural and Community Center's 33rd anniversary celebration and awards dinner's theme is "A Taste of Success" and celebrates Japanese culture and cuisine. Honorees include Chef Akira Hirose, Michael Hide Cardenas and the late-Frances Hashimoto-Friedman.

Info: Call Janet Hiroshima at (213) 628-2725 or email jhiroshima@jaccc.org.

'Two Spirits, One Heart'**Book Talk****LOS ANGELES, CA****June 9, 1 p.m.****Centenary United Methodist
Church****300 S. Central Ave.**

Author Marsha Aizumi will share her memoir "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgendered Son, and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance." Her son, Aiden,

will join her for a Q & A session.

Info: Call (213) 617-9097 or visit www.centenaryunitedmethodistchurch.org.

>>IDC

**Minidoka Pilgrimage
TWIN FALLS, ID****June 20-23****Cost: \$350/Seattle Package;****\$325/Seniors and Children;****\$150/Boise, Twin Falls Package;****\$125/Children and Seniors**

The annual Minidoka Pilgrimage will honor Japanese Americans who had "gaman." This year, attendees will be able to walk through

an original barrack and mess hall from Block 22, a warehouse, fire station and root cellar. A bus will leave from Bellevue, Wash., to Idaho on June 20.

Info: Visit www.minidokapilgrimage.org or email minidokapilgrimage@gmail.com

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2013 TOUR SCHEDULE

GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR	JUN 24-JUL 3
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Traditional Craft Hands-on Experience.	
PANA CONVENTION	SEPT
Buenos Aires-Argentina.	
EAST COAST ISLANDS GETAWAY TOUR	SEP 29-OCT 4
Mohegan Sun Resort & Casino(5 night stay), Day visits to New York City, Hamptons, Rhode Island.	
KOREA HOLIDAY TOUR	SEP 30-OCT 13
Seoul, Jeju Island, Busan, Oedo Island, Tongyeong, Gwangju, Daejeon, Namiseom Island, Chuncheon, KBS Drama Center, DMZ (Japanese-American Korean War Memorial).	
NEW ENGLAND FALL FOLIAGE TOUR	OCT 12-18
Boston, Stowe, Vermont, Green Mountains, Woodstock, Ogunquit Booth Bay Harbor, Maine.	
DISCOVER CUBA HOLIDAY TOUR (limited space)	NOV 3-10
Havana, Hemingway's Farm, Pinar Del Rio, Guanabacoa, Museum of Revolution, Tobacco Farm, Cigar & Rum Factory, Craft Market & Art Center, Tropicana Cabaret Show.	
OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR	NOV 3-12
Ishigaki Island, Yufu Island, Buffalo Cart Ride, Taketomi Island, Onna Son, Ryukyu Mura, Churaumi Aquarium Expo Park, Manzano, Himeyuri Monument, Peace Memorial, Gyokusendo at Okinawa World Park, Okinawa Cultural Show, Orion Beer Brewery, Shuri Castle, Traditional Hands-on Experience, Naha.	
TROPICAL COSTA RICA HOLIDAY TOUR	NOV 16-24
San Jose, Guanacaste/Tamarindo Beach, Doka Coffee Estate, Monteverde, Cloud Forest Reserve, Arenal Hot Springs, Lake Arenal Cruise, Cano Negro Nature Preserve River Cruise viewing exotic animals.	
SAN ANTONIO HOLIDAY SEASON TOUR	DEC 5-9
"American Venice with its River Walk", Fiesta de Las Luminarias, Mission San Jose, Alamo, riverboat ride on the illuminated Paseo del Rio, LBJ Ranch-Texas White House, BBQ dinner at Bandera dude ranch, South Texas Heritage Center, Texan Farewell Dinner	

2014 TOUR SCHEDULE PREVIEW (tentative)

CHINA ICE FESTIVAL HOLIDAY TOUR (Beijing, Harbin).	FEB
JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR (Kyushu, Shikoku)	MAR
NORTHERN LIGHTS HOLIDAY TOUR (Aurora Borealis-Alaska)	MAR
AMERICAN HERITAGE HOLIDAY TOUR	APR
AUSTRIA-SWITZERLAND HOLIDAY TOUR	JUN
GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR (New)	JUN
SOUTH DAKOTA ADVENTURE HOLIDAY TOUR	JUL
CANADIAN ROCKIES VIA RAIL HOLIDAY TOUR	JUL
EAST-WEST MEDITERRANEAN HOLIDAY CRUISE	AUG
ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA HOLIDAY TOUR	OCT
HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU HOLIDAY TOUR	OCT
AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOUR	NOV

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For more information and reservations, please contact: Ernest or Carol Hida

In Memoriam

Adachi, Michiko, 82, Torrance, CA; April 28; predeceased by husband, Ichiro; she is survived by son, Warner; daughters, Elaine and Coleen; sister, Yoshiko Masuda.

Fukuwa, Herbert Sakaye, 96, California; March 4; he is predeceased by his wife, Kiku Kae; survived by his daughter, Lorraine Ryuko Fukuwa.

Inoue, Yasuo, 80, Tarzana, CA; March 5; survived by his wife, Kumiko; daughter, Utami Teshima; sisters, Mitsuko (Kiyoya) Hino and Teruko Ino; sister-in-law, Yukiko (Hisashi) Yajima.

Inouye, Meriye, 99, Torrance, CA; April 2; preceded in death by husband, Bob Saburo Inouye; survived by daughters, Aileen (Yoji) Sumi and Karen (Gary) Dickinson; sisters, Chizue Ouchi and Elsie Morales; 2 gc; 4 ggc.

Izumihara, Noriko, 62, Cerritos, CA; May 2; predeceased by her father, Bishop Seimoku Kosaka; survived by her husband, Donald Yukio; children, Kyle Tetsuo, Nora Tsuneko and Kay Akiko; mother, Kimiko Kosaka and brother Rev. Seishin (Tomoko) Kosaka; 1 gc.

Kato, Shizu, 94, Los Angeles, CA; April 29; survived by her children, Norman Toshio (Gay) Kato, Marilyn Nami Kobayashi and Nadine Kayo (Rodney) Yamane; sisters-in-law, Kazuko Kato and Kimi Iwahashi; brothers-in-law, Shuji Uyematsu and Mas Hitomi; 6 gc.

Kobayashi, Sohei, 73, Los Angeles, CA; March 15; survived by

his wife, Masako; children, Takuya (Shiho) and Rika (Richard) Saito; 1 gc.

Koyano, Sumi, 88, Thousand Oaks, CA; March 13; survived by her husband, Wesley; children, Duane (Karen) and Yoko (Wayde) Shimoda; siblings, Tom Tochiara, Hatsuko Moriguchi and Katherine Doi; in-laws, Setsuko (Roy) Mikawa, Roy Koyano, Arthur (Tamiko) Koyano and Lily (Bernie) Brenes; 3 gc.

Masuda, Kazui, 96, San Gabriel, CA; April 24; survived by her children, Marci and Douglas; siblings, Mas and Yo Oshiki, and Yemi Tokunaga; sisters-in-law, Kiyoko Higuchi, Masae Arima and Taeko Iwanaga; 5 gc; 2 ggc.

Nagasugi, Fumiko, 89, Seal Beach, CA; Feb. 17; survived by her children, Clinton (Jill) and Craig; sisters, Betty Nakawatase, Kazue Matsui and May Nishimoto; in-laws, Toshie Murakami, Mary (Fred) Kasai, Takashi, John (Lily), Kiyoshi (Donna) and Eiji (Barbara) Nakamura; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; 4 gc.

Nakamura, George Suguru, 93, Fullerton, CA; March 20; survived by his children, Alice (Hank) Kadowaki, Sharon (Glenn) Sugita and Gail (Ken) Nishida; siblings, Yutaka (Hisako), Fusae (Joe) Endo and Hideko Noriyuki; 4 gc; 1 ggc.

Nakano, Shigeru 'Jim,' 87, Monterey Park, CA; May 1; survived by his wife, Helen; children, David (Mercedes), Ronald (Jennifer),

Kimmi (Paolo Tostello) and Steve (Margarita) and Cindy (David) Ige; step-son, Guy (Vera) Shishido; step-grandchildren, Kyle Shishido, Lana (Bobby) Lee and Jodi Shishido; siblings, Tsurue Toyoshima, Dorothy Carvalho, Margaret Martin, and Peggy, Masaru and Harry (Lily); 6 gc.

Nakaoka, Kiyoko Helen, 93, Los Angeles, CA; April 24; survived by children, Archie (Barbara), Clyde (Linda), Arlene (Frank) Balkin and Glen (Chris); cousin, Hisao (Yoko) Takahashi; 8 gc, 3 ggc.

Nakata, Shinae, 88, Pomona, CA; March 5; survived by children, Joanne and Myra; brothers, Katsuo (Betty), Walter Yamashiro and Hirashi Nakada; sisters-in-law, Misao Higa, Elsie Nakada, Grace, Nakada, and Grace Peshkin; brother-in-law, James (Elanor) Nakada.

Okada, Ayako, 96, Diamond Bar, CA; April 25; a former internee of Jerome and Gila River; survived by her children, Hiroko (Lowell) Chun and Susan (James) Nakata; sister, Miyeko Nakamura of Japan; 4 gc.

Okada, George Masayoshi, 87, San Jose, CA; he was interned at Heart Mountain; predeceased by his wife, Miyoko; survived by children, Hayato Sonny, Peggy Izumi (David) Trude, and Eric Isamu; sister, Hideko Jane McNeely; 2 gc.

Takata, Masako, 71, Los Angeles, CA; April 29; survived by son, John; daughter, Nancy; sisters, Setsuko (Michio) and Kayoko (Kent) Fukumoto.

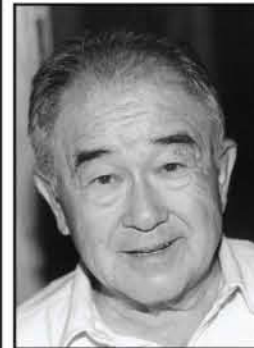
Takazaki, Meriko, 91, Arleta, CA; Feb. 24; survived by her husband, Kinya; children, Glenn (Kathleen) and Cathrine; 2 gc; 2 ggc.

Tamae, Masako, 94, Torrance, CA; Feb. 12; survived by her children, Mitzi (George) Akamine, Hiroko (Yoji) Niho, Richard (Momoko) and Paul (Hide); sister, Sueko (Ichiro) Moroga; in-laws, Jean Kawakone, Betty Ganik, Clara Uyema, Seiki (Yoko), Grace and Robert; 8 gc; 4 ggc.

Yamashita, Dorothy Keiko, 90, Monterey Park, CA; April 27; a former internee of Manzanar; predeceased by her husband, Nobuo; survived by children, Wayne (Kathleen), Lorraine (James) Ito, Eileen (Joseph) Carton and Karen (Tim) Uraine; sisters, Grace Ono and Frances Hiraoka; 9 gc; 4 ggc.

TRIBUTES

SHIGEKI MARUMOTO



May 25, 1924-March 7, 2013

Escorted by military honor guards, a graveside service was held for Shigeki Marumoto, 88, of Los Angeles, CA, who died at Keiro Nursing Home in Lincoln Heights on March 7, 2013. Born on Terminal Island, Calif., to Namie and Kichitaro Marumoto of Miwasaki, Wakayama-ken, Japan. Shig grew up around Hollywood where he delivered the *Rafu Shimpō* each morning before school. He attended Belmont High until WWII forced him and his family into the internment camp at Heart Mountain in Wyoming. He served with the 442nd as a sergeant and squad leader in the 100th Infantry Battalion, fighting from hand-dug trenches in the hills of France and Italy. Shig returned to Los Angeles and worked as a technical illustrator and supervisor on Boeing and Douglas aircraft projects for many decades. Eventually moving to San Pedro, he enjoyed his retirement years babysitting, eating out, gambling and playing countless rounds of golf and poker with his wide circle of friends. Warm and big-hearted, he will always be cherished as the fun bachelor uncle to two generations of nieces and nephews.

Shig was predeceased by his sister, Miwako, and brother, Kazuharu. His survivors include brother-in-law Henry Nishizu, nieces and nephews Donna McFarland, Elaine Nishizu, Eileen (Chris) Rodenhizer, Alan Marumoto, Karen (Dana) Kong, Glenn (Cris) Marumoto and five grandnieces and nephews.

YUKIKO JANET SATO

Private family funeral services for Yukiko Janet Sato, 88-year-old West Los Angeles resident who passed away on May 2, 2013, were held on Saturday, May 11, at West Los Angeles United Methodist Church, officiated by Rev. Gary Oba.

Yuki is survived by her sister, Janice F. Okinaga; nieces, Elaine H. Okinaga and Carolyn Sato; nephews, Robert (Anna), Gary (Esther) and Brian Sato; she is also survived by other family members here and in Japan. She is predeceased by her brother-in-law, Richard S. Okinaga and brother, Yuzuru "Yuzy" Sato.

In lieu of koden and flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made in Yuki's memory to West Los Angeles United Methodist Church, 1913 Purdue Ave., West Los Angeles, CA 90025.

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SECURITY LENDING

IMMIGRATION >> continued from page 3

Immigration thus would mean, "Congress recognizes the Japanese (Issei) were good enough to be admitted and become citizens." If postwar Japan was to emerge as a democratic state, its citizens could not be treated less worthy than nationals of other countries, so stout JACLers felt alone.

In 1948, citizenship bills for Issei, the first one introduced by Rep. Walter Judd, a medical missionary in prewar China, became entangled with internal security matters. For instance: A State Dept. official, Alger Hiss was indicted for perjury after denying charges he gave government secrets in the 1930s to Whittaker Chambers, a Communist agent and onetime newsmagazine editor. Sen. Joe McCarthy (R-Wis.) fanned public fears with unfounded charges that Communists were already infiltrated in federal government. Hiss was found guilty in 1950.

In 1950, Truman vetoed the Internal Security Act authorizing the president extraordinary powers to build camps and promulgate other severe restrictions to control Communists, but was overridden by Congress in 1952.

With the Omnibus act effective in December 1952, JACL instituted Americanization and Citizenship classes for Issei, qualified by their 25-years residency and permitted to take the test in Japanese.

As a postscript, Pat Okura of Omaha, then chairing JACL public relations, recommended that Mike be sent to Japan to relate JACL's role in government. George Inagaki of Venice-Culver added since Mike was often asked about Japan by government officials and others in Washington, he would be in a better position to comment on problems.

But Saburo Kido, wartime national JACL president (1940-46), spoke against it single-handedly. He reminded that delegates at the 1946 convention in Denver had voted to stay clear of international relations and be a tool of Japan.

In 1968, Mike received Japan's highest decoration to a foreigner, the Emperor's Order of the Rising Sun, Third Class, for promoting amity and understanding.

Harry K. Honda is the Pacific Citizen editor emeritus.

DRAGON DAUGHTERS >> continued from page 3

All caregivers share common challenges related to finances and our own retirement security. We often accumulate significant out-of-pocket expenses averaging around \$5,000 annually, and more for long-distance caregivers.

Other sacrifices affect our employment. A 2011 Gallup poll found that working caregivers are forced to miss an average of 6.6 days of work a year because of caregiving responsibilities. The majority of caregivers say they need workplace accommodations, such as late arrival, early departure or time off. I personally was approved to telework for a period of time when first becoming responsible for mom's care.

There is a business case for flexible policies in the workplace and supervisors who are sensitive to family caregivers. Accommodations have been demonstrated to enhance employee productivity and reduce absenteeism and costs to employers.

Caregivers also are at risk for physical health and emotional programs, such as feelings of isolation. More than half of caregivers say they give up vacations, hobbies and time with friends and their social networks. Experts advise us to set aside the time — however short it may be — to get away.

A tough, if not *the* toughest, challenge as a family caregiver is not knowing where to turn to for information and resources. Fortunately, just when I needed it in 2012, AARP launched its Caregiving Resource Center (www.aarp.org/caregiving), an excellent online resource that is accessible around the clock.

I've been able to find information, tools and support

to help me care for mom and for myself. The online support group members share lessons learned, and I benefit from their hard-won wisdoms.

My parents came to this country in pursuit of the American Dream. With such a great resource, I can help to make sure that my mom's final years are not a nightmare.

Mom is in relatively good health, despite having a chronic health condition. She needs help managing her most basic personal needs. But she knows that I am here for her. I have to be. I will make my best attempt to "pay down" my debt of gratitude for all the love and caring she has given us, her three kids, throughout our lives.

I sincerely believe this time we now have together reflects a divine plan to make sure I (finally!) learn to cook — writing down mom's special recipe for her one-of-a-kind hot-and-sour soup and preserving her secret to the best fried eggroll in the world (peanut butter in the meat filling, who knew?!). She and I have been given the precious gift of time to record her riveting life story of leaving the Chinese mainland as a teenage refugee in the late 1940s.

With the help of the AARP Caregiving Resource Center, I hope I can transform from the "Draggin' Daughter" to a true "Dragon Daughter," a daughter who honors her mother's indomitable spirit of overcoming challenges and fulfills her immigrant hopes for us in this land of freedom and opportunity.

Lily Liu is the brand story adviser (AARP historian) for AARP.



Tony Taguba

Retired U.S. Army General Tony Taguba has spent decades serving on the front lines for his country while being an advocate for social equality. A lifetime AARP member, Tony mentors tomorrow's leaders through the non-profit national organization, Pan-Pacific American Leaders and Mentors. He also supports military veterans and is an avid community volunteer. What's Tony's secret to life? Staying mentally and physically fit to run two marathons a year. Join Tony today and enjoy the support and resources for life at 50+ by becoming an AARP member. Visit us at aarp.org/asiancommunity

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Advisor
Friend
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