THREE RISING SUNS

A duo birthday celebration in Salt Lake City recognizes three former Heart Mountain classmates.

Heart Mountain classmates Dr. Jeanette Misaka and the Hon. Judge Raymond Uno (far right) reunited in Salt Lake City for the duo birthday celebration of fellow classmate Dr. William Higuchi and his daughter, Shirley Ann Higuchi (far left). Also pictured is Consul General of Japan in Denver Midori Takeuchi (center). Misaka, Uno and Higuchi are all recipients of the Order of the Rising Sun commendation, awarded by the government of Japan.

» PAGE 4
JACSC Partners With JACL for the Upcoming National Convention.

» PAGE 5
‘Historical Headlines’ Remembers JACL’s Mission in 1958 . . .
PHOTO: P.C.

The Pacific Citizen cover for its Dec. 22, 1945, issue featured a depressingly familiar sight for the newspaper’s readers at the time, but with a difference: no rifle-toting U.S. military guard in the watchtower but instead a young Nisei couple gazing into the distance for the newspaper’s readers at Tule Lake (“Tule Lake Deportees Will Leave Soon”).

U.S. citizen Fumiko Tamura was attempting to reverse her decision to renounce her citizenship while incarcerated at Manzanar (“Judge Grants New Hearing to Renunciant”), and George Yoshioka, a 55-year-old veteran from San Jose was cruelly beaten to death in Stockton, Calif., during a robbery (“Three Arrested in Murder of Nisei Veteran”).

By the time this Holiday Special Issue edition was published, all of the WRA camps with the important exception of Tule Lake had closed. The WRA had spent $162 million to round up and incarcerate 112,000 permanent residents and citizens, while the Army spent an additional $75 million, according to an article written by Patti Hirahara.

The articles I enjoy the most are about the lives and contributions of Japanese Americans. I believe that Asian Americans’ contributions are the result of those made by individuals. The P.C. contains mostly good news, which is uplifting during these troubled times in which we currently live. You are doing a fine job as editor of the P.C., and I commend you and your entire staff. Keep up your laudable efforts!

Sincerely,

Terry Ishihara
San Pedro, Calif.

Other articles in the issue tell of a county sheriff in Nevada who fought the employment of returnees on the Southern Pacific Railroad (“California Attorney General Says Sheriff Attempted to Prevent Evacuee Employment”) and the situation of renunciants at Tule Lake (“Tule Lake Deportees Will Leave Soon”).

The Pacific Citizen newspaper archives will soon appear on our website. Our staff has been meticulously researching, transferring, converting and applying as much as we can to create a cohesive and easy-to-use collection for the P.C. website.

But it doesn’t stop here! Donations are still needed to resume and then continue archiving the microfilm and book binding for years to come!

Thank you to Mr. Tom Ige, the JA Community Foundation grant and all our donors for the funds to begin this project.

The P.C. serves as our oral history

Terry Ishihara, Senior Editor

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PHOTO: P.C.
The Pacific Citizen’s Dec. 22, 1945, Holiday Special Issue cover

The Pacific Citizen’s mission is to “educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities.”

The P.C. serves as our oral history

The Pacific Citizen’s Dec. 22, 1945, Holiday Special Issue cover

The Pacific Citizen’s Dec. 22, 1945, Holiday Special Issue cover

Dear Editor,

I am a member of JACL and subscribe to a hard copy of the Pacific Citizen. I am a friend of Patti Hirahara and attended Washington State College with her father, Frank Hirahara. I enjoy reading the articles in the P.C., especially the articles about returnees to the West Coast.

At the end of 1945, however, 7,000 Nikkei were still displaced and without a home, according to the article, which had the headline, “WRA Will Assist Returned Evacuees to Find Permanent Location on Pacific Coast.”

The article went on to state, “Because of the lack of permanent housing, about 4,000 of the returnees are living in trailers and converted Army barracks in the Los Angeles area, another 1,000 amid similar conditions in Northern California and perhaps 2,000 more in privately operated hostels, run by the American Friend Service Committee and other church groups such as Buddhist temples.

Chicago became a new center for the displaced. Its population of 10,000 made it a sizable Mid-west hub comparable to the 36,000 Nikkei who formerly lived in prewar Los Angeles.

Even New York, Cleveland and Detroit now had “2,000 or more residents of Japanese ancestry,” the article concluded.

Today’s national map of the JACL is a result of the postwar displacement of Japanese Americans after World War II. Yet, in the Pacific Citizen’s 1945 Holiday Special Issue, it was unclear how the community would evolve in the future.

The article I enjoy the most are about the lives and contributions of Japanese Americans. I believe that Asian Americans’ contributions are the result of those made by individuals. The P.C. contains mostly good news, which is uplifting during these troubled times in which we currently live. You are doing a fine job as editor of the P.C., and I commend you and your entire staff. Keep up your laudable efforts!

Sincerely,

Terry Ishihara
San Pedro, Calif.

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This spring campaign is dedicated to raising $200,000 to digitize the Pacific Citizen archives.

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**A MOTHER’S TAKE**

**STORIES**

By Marsha Aizumi

The inspiration for my columns comes from the people I meet, the experiences I have, but mainly from things that touch my heart in such a way that I feel I am changed forever.

One day as I was driving alone with my thoughts, I realized that what moves me the most are stories. People’s stories give me a window into their world. Their stories teach me by lifting up my awareness without judging how I have thought before. Stories open my heart to be more compassionate to people and communities I am not familiar with. Perhaps that is why Aiden and I have chosen to share our stories through our book, our speaking and, for me, this column.

Stories are personal, and a great story is told with authenticity and vulnerability. When Aiden and I share our story, we may seem calm on the outside, but sometimes we are scared (and sometimes even terrified) on the inside. We are never quite sure how people will react to what we are saying. Will they walk out of the room, which has happened to us before?

Or, will they look at us in contempt, which has also happened, because what we share they can’t accept?

But we trust the people who invite us to speak, and we believe that our experiences can open hearts, allowing us to connect with others who want to learn. This is what motivates us to stand in front of audiences and open our hearts.

At an event at the United Japanese-Native Christian Church (UJCC) near Fresno, Calif., we met families that had adopted children just like us. We met parents who struggled with the coming out of their child, just like I did. We met individuals who shared their mental health challenges, which Aiden has also faced. And we heard one story about a family finding their way back to each other after many years. This was our story as well.

Stories bond us, and they also make us feel there are others in the world that understand what we have gone through or are currently going through . . . and that makes us feel less isolated and unseen.

» See STORIES on page 12

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**LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY’S PERSPECTIVE**

**USE IT OR LOSE IT**

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

Scientists all over the world agree that memory disorders and age-related brain decline is not an inevitable part of aging. Brain power can be “boosted.” The phrase “Use it or lose it” applies to muscles in our bodies as well as to neural pathways and connections in our brains. This proves to be true at any age.

The Alzheimer’s Association, as well as to neural pathways and connections in our brains. This proves to be true at any age. Dr. Cynthia Green, Ph.D., one of the country’s most-renowned experts on brain health, has published a booklet called the 14-Day Brain Workout (published by National Geographic). She says, “The science shows that there are many different activities that can benefit our brains.” This article will touch on (but not all) of Dr. Green’s comments of each of the 14 days.

Day 1: Aerobic Exercise. Get at least 30 minutes of exercise several days a week. Even brisk walking has been proven to be beneficial to brain health. Make it easier to stick to your exercise plan by penciling in time to work out and finding an exercise buddy.

Day 2: Tapping a Tune. Tap your fingers on your table (like you’re sending Morse code). Your tune can be short or long, simple or complex. Tapping a tune will challenge your brain to think about the world in a slightly different way and help with memory skills.

Day 3: Color Your World. New or different activities such as coloring, even if we do them just briefly, refresh our attention, get us to try new (or rarely used) skills and challenge us to see the world in a different way.

Day 4: Learn About Memory Loss. The Alzheimer’s Association covers everything from memory changes that come with age, early symptoms to look for, as well as the hows and whys of evaluation for memory loss.

Day 5: Jump Some Jacks. You DO remember jumping jacks, don’t you? Jumping jacks are a simple calisthenics exercise you can do standing in place that can quickly get your blood pumping. Simply stand up and do a set of 10 or 20. Do several sets over the course of the day.

Day 6: The Honorable Opposition. We often listen to information and opinions that reaffirm the beliefs we already hold. Listening to the opposite point of view gives us a chance to engage our minds in a way we may not have done in quite a while.

Day 7: Write a Haiku. Writing a haiku is a wonderful way to get out of your “boxed-in” brain and challenge yourself to think differently and creatively. Haiku is known for its simple form: 17 syllables in three lines — five, seven and five syllables, respectively.

Day 8: Take a Yoga Break. In many ways, yoga is the perfect brain health exercise. As a physical activity, yoga supports your more vigorous aerobic workouts by building strength and stamina. In addition, yoga can be used to reduce stress, anxiety and a depressed mood.

Day 9: Reorganize Your Desk. Get rid of what is nonessential. Can you think of a better way to put it all together? Organizational strategies are the best way we can remind ourselves of things we have to do or places we have to be.

Day 10: Do Something Kind. Volunteering our time gives us an opportunity to do good and a chance to stay intellectually and socially engaged. Pay an extra compliment to a friend or family member, talk with someone who looks a bit lonely — not only is it good for your brain, but it’s also good for you.

Day 11: Learn the Symptoms of a Stroke. If you suspect a stroke, try the following three things — if the person fails any of them, get to the ER as quickly as possible for an evaluation: (1) Smile. Look for unevenness in his/her facial expression; (2) Raise Both Arms. Look for unevenness in the height he/she can raise them; and (3) Repeat a Simple Sentence. Such as “no ifs, ands or buts.” Check for slurring or other disruption of speech.

Day 12: Doodle. A recent study found that subjects assigned a doodling task did 29 percent better than their nondoodling counterparts on a surprise memory test. Doodling, which improves attention, makes it more likely that you will acquire things that you want to recall.

Day 13: Hug Five People. Studies have shown that folks who are more socially engaged have an associated reduced risk of memory impairment. Just keep in mind that those hugs aren’t only good for your soul, they’re good for your brain, too.

Day 14: List 10 Ways Your Brain Is Great. As we grow older and worry about memory loss, we tend to lose sight of all the really amazing things our brains do on a daily basis. So, it’s important to take the time and think about what our brains do well.

To see the entire booklet by Dr. Green, visit www.totalbrainhealth.com. If you would like a copy of the “14-Day Brain Workout” booklet by Dr. Green, please contact my office at (310) 348-2995, and we would be happy to send you one free of charge.

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@ elderlawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author’s own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or JACL. The information presented does not constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.

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PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MARSHA AIZUMI
A BRIEF HISTORICAL LOOK AT THE JACSC

The consortium is set to participate in the upcoming JACL National Convention

By 2019 JACL Convention Committee

The upcoming JACL National Convention will include several interesting plenary sessions and workshops under the theme “Inclusion, Advocacy and Action.” These topics are important to all JACL members. With 2019 being the 90th anniversary of the JACL, the convention’s theme is a reminder that we must keep fighting for the civil rights of all Americans. Japanese Americans, in particular, have suffered greatly over the years, and we need to continue to tell our story so that no one else will ever have to endure the unjust treatment that Japanese Americans experienced during World War II.

Bill Thomas, a former Republican congressman from Bakersfield, Calif., was chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee when he introduced the Camp Preservation Bill on April 6, 2005, with Rep. Mike Honda and Rep. Doris Matsui as co-sponsors along with 112 others. The bill was originally introduced in January 2005 but died in committee. With Manzanar located in his district, Congressman Thomas took a personal interest in ensuring passage of the bill.

The sponsors of the bill on the Senate side were Sen. Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Sen. Bob Bennett (R-UT) and Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI). It was important to gain Republican support. President George W. Bush signed the bill. The result was Public Law 109-441: Preservation of Japanese American Confine- ment Sites, including the provision of grants to organizations “to preserve and interpret the confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during World War II.”

Gerald Yamada, who was national coordinator for the Japanese American National Heritage Coalition, had been working on the camp preservation issue before the JACL became involved.

The Japanese American Confine- ment Sites Consortium was established in 2016 and is a network of organizations that are committed to preserving, protecting and interpreting the history of the WWII experiences of Americans of Japanese ancestry and elevating related social justice lessons.

Members include the 10 War Relocation Authority confinement sites, as well as historical organizations, endowments, museums, commissions, advocacy and educational institutes.

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation began seeking support and funding in 2015 for a consortium of sites related to the Japanese American experience. The HMWF secured funding from the National Park Service’s JACS grant program to jump-start the organization, which first met in July 2015.

The consortium met again in 2016 in Washington, D.C., where the framework and mission for the group was established while expanding its participants.

The HMWF received a second JACS grant in 2017 to continue the consortium. Advisory council members established in 2018 were the Friends of Minidoka, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, the Japanese American National Museum, the Japanese American Citizens League and the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation.

President Donald Trump’s proposed budget defunded the JACS grant program in March 2018. But after a grassroots advocacy campaign to encourage legislators to protect the program, funding was restored for 2018 and fiscal year 2019.

The JACL is partnering with the JACSC to provide workshops about the camps at the upcoming JACL National Convention. The JACL has worked with members of the JACSC in the past, so this is a good effort to ensure that future funding for the preservation of the camps is assured.

JACSC PARTNERS WITH JACL FOR 2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION

The consortium members will participate in various panels as part of its advocacy and action work for groups and organizations.

The Japanese American Confine- ment Sites Consortium is excited to announce that for the first time, it will partner with the JACL to offer a workshop track at the upcoming JACL National Convention, which is set to take place in Salt Lake City from July 31-Aug. 4. This year highlights the 90th anniversary of the JACL while celebrating a theme of “Advocacy, Inclusion and Action.”

Founded in 1929, the JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the U.S. This year’s 90th anniversary will also mark the many historical connections Japanese Americans have to the community in Salt Lake City.

The JACSC is a national coalition focused on preserving and interpreting the sites, artifacts and stories related to the WWII experiences of Japanese Americans. The consortium also aims to elevate social justice lessons from the unjust incarceration of Japanese Americans — a mission goal that makes the JACSC a perfect partner for this year’s National Convention theme.

In addition, the convention will include a special visit to the Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah, which covers the history of the WWII Topaz concentration camp south of Salt Lake City.

“We look forward to welcoming the Japanese American Confine- ment Sites Consortium to the 2019 annual convention,” said David Inoue, executive director of the JACL. “Combining our meetings will create a tremendous synergy for the Japanese American community as we unite and embody this year’s theme of ‘Advocacy, Inclusion and Action.’”

At the 2019 convention, JACSC members will deliver sessions on topics including multigenerational impact on mass imprisonment; travel bans and the detention of undocumented immigrants; building partnerships within and beyond the Japanese American Community; and grassroots community-building from redux to the creation of the JACSC.

The JACSC program committee for the JACL National Convention includes Brian Liesinger, Inoue, Hanako Wakatsuki, Kurt Ikeda, Mia Russell, Shirley Ann Higuchi, Sam Mihara and Stan Shikuma.

Due to the strong partnership between JACL and the consortium, JACSC members attending the conference will be able to attend this year’s JACSC sessions at no cost. With a full week of activities, there are several options for participation. Participants are encouraged to register for the full convention but can attend events “a la carte,” with several JACL workshops, tours and banquets offered.

This year’s collaboration builds upon JACSC participation in the 2018 National Convention. In a panel presentation, JACSC Coordinator Brian Liesinger moderated a discussion on the National Park Service’s Japanese American Confine- ment Sites Grant program, which featured the projects of JACL chapters and members.

Included on the panel were Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Board Chair and Washington, D.C., JACL chapter member Shirley Ann Higuchi; Chicago JACL VP Lisa Doi; and Alex Hernandez of the National Park Service who also is assistant program manager of the JACS grant program.

“It was a great opportunity to feature Japanese American Confine- ment Site grant projects to show how JACL chapters have leveraged the program for their projects and to allow attendees to gain insight on submitting successful grant proposals,” said Liesinger. “We look forward to building on this engagement this year with impactful workshops.”

The 2019 National JACL Convention will be held at the Little America Hotel in Salt Lake City. There are a wide variety of activities that will be offered to conventiongoers and Utah community members alike.

Some auxiliary events include:

• Workshops that will enhance advocacy and community outreach, with topics focusing on LGBTQ issues, immigration, social media, and membership
• Visits to the Family History Museum, the largest genealogical library in the world.
• Participation in the One Nation Project, which will bring together diverse communities for a day of learning and sharing.

For more information and to register, visit https://www.convention2019.jacl.org/.

For more information on the JACSC, visit jacs.org.

Rep. Mark Takano, a California Democrat and Heart Mountain legacy, addressed members of the JACSC delegation visiting Washington, D.C., on Feb. 28.
This year marks the 90th anniversaries of the JACL and the Pacific Citizen. Through the years, the organization and its national newspaper have been fighting for the civil liberties of all and reporting on the most important news events in our history, respectively. The following “Historical Headline” was featured in the March 7, 1958, edition of the P.C. and is a reminder for us to reflect, never forget and always remember . . .

JAPAN FAIR SET FOR ANAHEIM

ANAHEIM, CALIF. — For the first time in city history, Anaheim will have its first Japan Fair on the Center Street Promenade in Downtown Anaheim on May 25 from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. The Japanese community in Anaheim has a long, rich history, and the city has maintained a strong sister-city relationship with Mitto, Japan, since 1976.

The first endeavor will be jam-packed with entertainment from 14 artists and performing groups from Anaheim and Japan. Starting with Anaheim’s Daion Taiko, which was founded in 1978 at the Orange County Buddhist Church, performances will be presented on the main stage, in addition to a Shishimai Lion Dance, Kyokushin Karate, two samurai fight demonstrations, Hawaiian dance, a Cosplay fashion show, music by a local DJ and a special calligraphy demonstration by renowned Japanese calligrapher and artist Soho Nakano from Shizuoka Prefecture in Japan.

Live artists will include MiruDaru, Cali Crisis, Riona Hamamatsu, Cribabi Japan and conclude with featured performer DJ Taku from Japan. DJ Taku (Taku Takahashi) launched his career in 1998 as the DJ/Producer of the J-Pop music group “m-flo.” The group quickly rose to prominence, and over the last decade has sold more than 2 million copies of their 30 singles and 10 albums. Taku is also well known for his solo work as a producer/songwriter and has proven himself as one of Japan’s top internationally recognized artists in winning the Beatport Music Awards. In 2011, he established Japan’s first and only Dance Music Radio Station “block.fm.”

There will also be 25 Japanese food, beer and sake beverage vendors, which will line the Center Street Promenade, the revitalized center of CtrCity Anaheim, where small local businesses are offered with vintage vibes and a modern-day twist.

Admission is free and limited free parking is located within the parking structure closest to Anaheim Boulevard. Angels Baseball will also be participating and providing giveaways during the event.

Anaheim Japan Fair coordinator Rocky Yoneyama, of Okayama Kobo Bakery & Café and Bizen Beer Bar, which opened last year on the Center Street Promenade, said he wanted to do something new to draw interest to the culture of Japan.

“First of all, we wanted to create a unique event to attract more people to Downtown Anaheim and provide a place to introduce and experience Japanese culture by showcasing Japanese cuisine, traditional Japanese arts and pop culture like anime and J-Pop all in one place for one day,” Yoneyama said. “We are trying to produce an event that will be great for the whole family and want to experience what it would be like to be in Japan today.”

Admission is free and limited free parking is located within the parking structure closest to Anaheim Boulevard. Angels Baseball will also be participating and providing giveaways during the event.

Center Street Anaheim is just a short walk away from the happening Anaheim Packing District.

For more information on Japan Fair, visit www.anaheimjapanfair.com or call (310) 567-4286.
THREE RISING SUNS IN SALT LAKE CITY

Highly successful former classmates who were incarcerated together in Heart Mountain during World War II reunite to celebrate the 88th birthday of one of their own.

By Ray Locker, Special Contributor

Jeanette Misaka didn’t know William Higuchi while they were in the same grade in school at the Heart Mountain War Relocation Center, but she knew his reputation.

“He was the brains,” she said.

Those brains helped Higuchi, now 88, earn a doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences and teach at the universities of Michigan and Utah, where he led the pharmaceutical sciences department for 30 years. His contributions to science led the government of Japan to award him its Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Oak Leaves. His contributions to science led the government of Japan to award him its Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Oak Leaves.

Higuchi was the first of a trio of former classmates at Heart Mountain to receive one of the variations of the Order of the Rising Sun. Misaka, a Ph.D. in special education and emeritus professor at the University of Utah, received the honor citation in 2016. Raymond Uno, the first Asian American judge in Utah, received his in 2014.

All three now live in Salt Lake City, where they gathered on March 16 at the Grand America Hotel for a birthday celebration for Higuchi and his daughter, Shirley, who turned 60 that day. Shirley Higuchi is an attorney for the American Psychological Association in Washington and chair of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, which operates an interpretive center on the site of the former Japanese American concentration camp during World War II.

Together, Higuchi, Misaka and Uno share a traumatic wartime history that saw their families uprooted from comfortable lives in California before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

Higuchi lived with his parents, three brothers and younger sister, Emily, on a 14.25-acre farm in San Jose, Calif., in what is now the heart of Silicon Valley. Misaka and her three sisters also lived in that area, where her father, Henry Mitarai, was a farmer who pioneered the use of mechanized farm equipment. Uno was born in Ogden, Utah, but moved to Southern California’s San Gabriel Valley with his family in 1937.

All of the families lost their livelihoods after the outbreak of the war when they and 120,000 Japanese Americans were forced from their homes and businesses and sent to one of 10 concentration camps from California to Arkansas. Their families were first sent to assembly centers at the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, Calif., or Santa Anita Park horseracing track in Arcadia, Calif., before they arrived at Heart Mountain in northwestern Wyoming in the summer and fall of 1942.

The three classmates, as well as Higuchi’s late wife, Setsuko Saito Higuchi, who Misaka knew well at camp, helped build the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation and push for the creation of the award-winning museum there.

Setsuko Higuchi was also a fellow classmate. She met her future husband in class, and an exhibit in the Heart Mountain museum shows the two seated next to each other in their ninth-grade class photo.

William Higuchi

When the war broke out, two of the older Higuchi brothers, James and Takeru, were grown and living elsewhere. James was a doctor in the Army, while Takeru was studying for his doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences at the University of Wisconsin. Kiyoshi, the second brother, remained in San Jose; his education had been slowed by a four-year bout with pleurisy.

The Higuchi family was forced to sell their farm to a neighboring family at a significant loss before they went to the assembly center at Santa Anita Park and then to Heart Mountain in September 1942. Iyekichi Higuchi, who had immigrated to the United States in 1915, thought he was having a heart attack upon the family’s arrival at Heart Mountain. Doctors at the rudimentary hospital determined it was a gastrointestinal disorder.

While at camp, William Higuchi excelled at school. He and Setsuko Saito were ranked in the A class of students, which had high-achieving students from across the West Coast who had been forcibly yanked from their schools.

At the end of WWII, Iyekichi suffered a heart attack just days before he was set to return to San Jose to find a new home and farm. He recovered, and by 1946, the family bought a new farm in San Jose.

William Higuchi went on to graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley, where he bumped into his former classmate, Setsuko Saito, while walking near one of the campus tennis courts — the couple was married in 1956. He held teaching jobs at the University of Wisconsin and worked in private industry before joining the University of Michigan faculty in 1962, remaining for 20 years.
In 1982, William Higuchi joined the University of Utah faculty and guided dozens of Japanese students through their work in pharmaceutical sciences. There, he co-founded three pharmaceutical companies — TheraTech, Lipocine and Aciont. Lipocine (LPCN) is traded on the Nasdaq exchange.

The Japanese government awarded him the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, in 2012 for his contributions to pharmaceutical education in Japan through his work at the University of Michigan and University of Utah.

“It was a great honor to receive the award,” William Higuchi said. “I only wish my wife was there to see it because she wanted so much for it to happen.” Setsuko Higuchi died in 2005.

Jeanette Misaka

Henry Mitarai, Jeanette Misaka’s father, moved from Heart Mountain in 1943. Two of his business partners in California had found land that Mitarai could farm in Sigurd, Utah. He left his wife and four daughters in Heart Mountain until the following spring, when they all joined him on the new farm.

Jeanette Misaka said she was nervous about being the only Japanese American in her new high school, but her mother would not allow her to stay home. On her first day at school, the principal held a school assembly in which he announced, “We have a new student. She’s an American, just like you.”

Mitarai attended the University of Utah and then started teaching at local schools before joining the University of Utah faculty, where she is an emeritus clinical professor in the department of special education.

She met her future husband, Tatsumitarai Misaka, after he returned from the Korean War in the 1950s. He was the brother of University of Utah basketball star Wat Misaka, who was the first nonwhite player in what became the National Basketball Assn.

Mitarai received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, in 2016 for her leadership in the Japanese American Citizens League and keeping alive the memory of the Japanese American incarceration.

Raymond Uno

Along with his parents, brother and sister, Raymond Uno was forced from his home in California and sent first to Pomona and then Heart Mountain in 1942. His father, Clarence, had immigrated to the United States and then served in World War I in the Army’s Rainbow Division in France. Although U.S. law then prohibited first-generation Japanese immigrants from becoming citizens, Clarence Uno earned his citizenship through special law passed in 1935.

Two-thirds of the Japanese Americans incarcerated during the war were U.S. citizens. Few, however, were veterans like Clarence Uno, who died in January 1943 after attending a USO meeting in camp to discuss how to help U.S. troops serving overseas.

After Clarence’s death, the Uno family returned to Ogden, where Raymond finished high school, worked on the railroads during the summer and then entered the Army. He served in intelligence units in Japan during the Korean War.

Raymond Uno earned a law degree and eventually became the first Japanese American judge in the state after having previously serving as a referee of the juvenile court, deputy Salt Lake County attorney, assistant attorney general of Utah and a private practice lawyer. He became president of the JACL in 1970 and pushed for the payment of reparations to those incarcerated during WWII. Congress passed the Civil Liberties Act that provided such payments in 1988, which President Ronald Reagan then signed into law.

Uno received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, in 2014 for his work with the JACL and for supporting the Japanese American community in Utah and throughout the nation.

“That’s three of us were given the Japanese Foreign Minister’s Commendation, and the three of us were given the Order of Rising Sun,” Uno said of his fellow classmates. “That’s three of us in the same class, in Salt Lake City. I don’t think that’s happened in any other camp.”

Shirley Higuchi, who is currently writing a book about the incarceration, uncovered many of the details of her family’s incarceration and their relationships with Misaka and Uno that were never shared with her as a child.

“It’s testament to their dedication and commitment that they accomplished so much to merit receiving this award,” she said.

Ray Locker is an author and freelance writer living in Washington, D.C.
REFLECTIONS
EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066: NEED FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

By Gerald Yamada

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, authorizing the military to evacuate persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The implementation of EO 9066 unjustly disrupted the lives of 120,000 persons. Subsequent government actions have attempted to correct the harm done by EO 9066. These actions include:

• The Supreme Court in the Endo case unanimously rules that loyal citizens of the United States could not be detained without cause. Although the Supreme Court issued this decision in 1944, the Roosevelt administration delayed the release of Japanese Americans for nine more months before closing the first War Relocation Authority camp.
• President Gerald Ford rescinds EO 9066 on Feb. 19, 1976.
• The 1982 report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians concludes that EO 9066 and the actions taken under its authority were motivated by "prejudice, war hysteria and lack of political leadership."
• The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 apologizes for the evacuation, relocation and internment of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II and authorizes a redress payment to those persons who used EO 9066 to promote their racist agenda and political ambitions and engage in a broader discussion on why EO 9066 was issued.

These actions, however, do not fully rectify the harm that was inflicted by EO 9066. The Japanese American community still has unfinished business. We must ensure that those responsible for EO 9066 and its implementation are held accountable for their actions.

This isn’t being done. For example, the Japanese American Citizens League’s February 2019 Day of Remembrance stated in part, “We remember the racism and xenophobia against Japanese and other Asian communities that led up to the issuance of Executive Order 9066.”

The remainder of the message speaks to the negative impacts that EO 9066 had on persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. The message fails to identify the perpetrators of the racism and their motives that led to the issuance of EO 9066.

This is a glaring omission in JACL’s DOR message. JACL’s leadership needs to have the courage, just as the JACL leaders did during World War II, to call it like it is.

In identifying those responsible, we must start with President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who used “war hysteria” to promote prejudice and political ambitions. His role and motives for issuing EO 9066 do not appear to be publicly acknowledged by the government.

For example, on my visit to the FDR National Memorial, located on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., I could find no mention that President Roosevelt signed and issued EO 9066.

Yet, our taxpayer dollars are used to maintain a national memorial in honor of a president who never apologized for his actions that illegally disrupted the lives of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, most of whom were American citizens.

But the P.C. can’t survive without resources, and the annual Spring Campaign is our opportunity to support the writers and editors so that they can continue to record our history. I’m contributing to the Spring Campaign, and I hope that you will join me.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ukai,
NCWNP Editorial Board Member and JACL Berkeley Chapter Director

PHOTOS: FACEBOOK

JUDGMENTAL MEDICAL SERVICES

HISTORY » continued from page 2

The P.C. article led to international coverage and heightened public awareness of the racist term that is hurtful and hateful. Someday, future JACLers will read John’s article and the original Pacific Citizen reports to learn more about what it was like to live in the first quarter of the 21st century in Asian America.

Or, maybe they’ll want to learn what life was like after World War II, when an imprisoned people, recently released, struggled to get back on their feet.
To merchants who have accepted Visa and Mastercard at any time from January 1, 2004 to January 25, 2019: Notice of a class action settlement of approximately $5.54-6.24 Billion.


LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of a class action settlement authorized by the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York.

This notice is authorized by the Court to inform you about an agreement to settle a class action lawsuit that may affect you. The lawsuit claims that Visa and Mastercard, together with certain banks, violated antitrust laws and caused merchants to pay excessive fees for accepting Visa and Mastercard credit and debit cards, including:

• Agreeing to set, apply, and enforce rules about merchant fees (called definition/interchange fees);
• Limiting what merchants could do to encourage their customers to use other forms of payment; and
• Continuing that conduct after Visa and Mastercard changed their corporate structures.

The defendants deny they have done nothing wrong. They say that their business practices are legal and the result of competition, and have benefitted merchants and consumers. The Court has not decided who is right because the parties agreed to a settlement. The Court has given preliminary approval to this settlement.

THE SETTLEMENT

Under the settlement, Visa, Mastercard, and the bank defendants have agreed to provide approximately $24 billion in class settlement funds. Those funds are subject to a deduction to account for certain merchants that exclude themselves from the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class, but no event will the deduction be greater than $700 million. The net class settlement fund will be used to pay valid claims of merchants that accepted Visa or Mastercard credit or debit cards at any time between January 1, 2004 and January 25, 2019.

This settlement creates the following Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class: All persons, businesses, and other entities that have accepted any Visa-Branded Cards and/or Mastercard-Branded Cards in the United States at any time from January 1, 2004 to January 25, 2019, except that the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class shall not include (a) the Dismissed Plaintiffs, (b) the United States government, (c) the named Defendants in this Action or their directors, officers, or members of their families, or (d) financial institutions that have issued Visa-Branded Cards or Mastercard-Branded Cards or acquired Visa-Branded Card transactions or Mastercard-Branded Card transactions at any time from January 1, 2004 to January 25, 2019. The Dismissed Plaintiffs are plaintiffs that previously settled and dismissed their own lawsuit against a Defendant, and entities related to those plaintiffs. If you are uncertain about whether you may be a Dismissed Plaintiff, you should call 1-800-625-6440 or visit www.PaymentCardSettlement.com for more information.

WHAT MERCHANTS WILL GET FROM THE SETTLEMENT

Every merchant in the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class that does not exclude itself from the class by the deadline described below and files a valid claim will get a share from the class settlement fund. The value of each claim will be based on the actual or estimated interchange fees attributable to the merchant’s Mastercard and Visa payment card transactions from January 1, 2004 to January 25, 2019. Pro rata payments to merchants who file valid claims for a portion of the class settlement fund will be based on:

• The amount in the class settlement fund after the deductions described below;
• The deduction to account for certain merchants who exclude themselves from the class;
• Deductions for the cost of settlement administration and notice, applicable taxes on the settlement fund and any other defendants. The deduction is in the Rule 23(b)(3) Class Plaintiffs for their service on behalf of the Class, and attorneys’ fees and expenses, all as approved by the Court; and
• The total dollar value of all valid claims filed.

Payments to merchants who file valid claims for a portion of the class settlement fund will be based on:

ATTORNEYS’ FEES AND EXPENSES

Attorneys’ fees and expenses and service awards for the Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel will be awarded through final approval of the settlement by the district court, Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel will ask the Court for attorneys’ fees in an amount that is a reasonable proportion of the class settlement fund, to not exceed 10% of the class settlement fund. Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel will seek reimbursement at their normal hourly rates. Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel will also request (i) an award of their litigation expenses (not including the administrative costs of settlement or notice), not to exceed $40 million and (ii) up to $250,000 per each of the eight Rule 23(b)(3) Class Plaintiffs in service awards for their efforts on behalf of the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class.

HOW TO ASK FOR PAYMENT

To receive payment, merchants must fill out a claim form. If you do not exclude yourself from the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class, you will receive a claim form in the mail or by email. You may ask for one at www.PaymentCardSettlement.com, or call 1-800-625-6440.

LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

Merchants who are included in this lawsuit have the legal rights and options described below:

• File a claim to ask for payment. Once you receive a claim form, you can submit it via mail or email, or may file it online at www.PaymentCardSettlement.com.
• Exclude yourself from the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class if you do not exclude yourself from the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class, you will receive a claim form in the mail or by email. Or you may ask for one at www.PaymentCardSettlement.com, or call 1-800-625-6440.

Settlement Class members may ask the Court for attorneys’ fees in an amount that is a reasonable

Hearing about this Settlement

On November 7, 2019, there will be a Court hearing to decide whether to approve the proposed settlement. The hearing will also address the Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel’s requests for attorneys’ fees and expenses, and awards for the Rule 23(b)(3) Class Plaintiffs for their representation of merchants in MDL 1720, which culminated in the settlement agreement.

Questions?

For more information about this case (In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litigation, MDL 1720), you may call toll-free: 1-800-625-6440. Write to the Class Administrator:

1-800-625-6440
P.O. Box 97208-2530
Brooklyn, NY 11201

You do not have to go to the Court hearing or hire an attorney. But you can if you want to. At the hearing, The Court has appointed the law firms of Robins Kaplan LLP, Berger Montague PC, and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP as Rule 23(b)(3) Class Counsel to represent the Rule 23(b)(3) Settlement Class.

Questions?

For more information about this case (In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litigation, MDL 1720), you may call toll-free: 1-800-625-6440. Write to the Class Administrator:

Payment Card Interchange Fee Settlement
P.O. Box 2530
Portland, OR 97208-2530
Email info@PaymentCardSettlement.com

Please check www.PaymentCardSettlement.com for any updates relating to the settlement or the settlement approval process.
CALENDAR

The 2019 JACL National Convention Salt Lake City, UT May 11; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 100 Montgomery St. Save the date! Join JACL at its annual National Convention in Salt Lake City! Registration is now open! Don’t miss this opportunity to connect with JACLers from across the country as the organization continues its civil rights advocacy mission. Info: Visit www.jaccl.org.

NATIONAL

‘A Community Fractured — Compliance & Resistance’ San Francisco, CA May 11; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 100 Montgomery St. in the Presidio Price: Bento lunch available for $15 with RSVP This program features an exploration by detention camp survivors, activists and scholars of the issue: Who is an American? It features Heart Mountain draft resistor Tak Hoshizaki, historian Arthur Hansen, Barbara Takei, John Tateishi, Susan Hayase and Kimiko Maru. A film, including video from the March 30 protest at the Diley, Texas, immigration detention center, will also be shown. This presentation is sponsored by the National Japanese American Historical Society and J-Sea. Info: To RSVP and for more information, visit thentheycame.org.

Minidoka Swing Band Bay Area Performances San Francisco, San Mateo, Mountain View, CA May 17-19 The Presidio 100 Montgomery St. San Mateo Beresford Recreation Center 2720 Alameda de Las Pulgas San Mateo Info: Visit www.jaccc.org. This new exhibition celebrates the 30th anniversary of the contemporary artist’s first solo show and features the complete collection of his work from 1984-1983. The exhibition also showcases artist prints by Sharaku as well as two-dozen prints by contemporary Japanese woodblock artists. Info: Visit pacificasianmuseum.usc.edu or call (626) 449-2742.

Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival Los Angeles, CA May 2-10 Film Screening Locations Vary: check website for full details. Produced by Visual Communications, the nation’s premier Asian Pacific American media arts center, the 35th LAAPFF will screen films at select cinemas in the Los Angeles area. The festival continues to be the Bay Area’s largest celebration of Japanese Americans and will feature craft exhibits, clothing, food, children’s activities and much more. An event for people of all ages! Info: Visit https://vcmedia.org/festival.

PSW

Tsuruya Kokei: Modern Kabuki Prints Revised & Revisited Pasadena, CA Thru July 14 USC Pacific Asia Museum 46 N. Los Robles Ave. Price: Admission free for members; $10 General Admission; $7 Students and Seniors; Free for Children Under 12

PNW

Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebrations Seattle, WA May 5 1:45 a.m.-5 p.m. Seattle Center 205 Harrison St. Seattle Center Festal presents this event that explores the cultural roots of the Asian Pacific Islander community through live performances, visuals, arts, hands-on activities, food, games and a lively marketplace. Also featured will be a lion dance and live drumming, martial arts exhibitions and artists from around the state. This event is presented in partnership with the Asian-Pacific Directors Coalition. Info: Visit http://www.apheritage.com.

MDC


‘Caught’ Minneapolis, MN May 17-June 2 Dowling Studio of the Guthrie Theater 818 S. Second St. Price: Tickets prices vary. Full Circle Theater presents “Caught” by Christopher Chen and directed by Rick Shiomi. This play begins with a visual art exhibition by a Chinese artist and then Lin Bo, the artist himself, appears to give an extended talk about his experience in China as a dissident artist. This play delves into issues of appropriation, racism and white privilege within the American intellectual elite. Info: For tickets and further information, visit fulcircletheatremn.org.

Shinto: Discovery of the Divine in Japanese Art Cleveland, OH Thru June 30 The Cleveland Museum of Art 11150 East Boulevard Price: Members are free; Nonmembers $10; $5 Seniors and Students; $5 Children 6-17. The veneration of deities called kami has been a central feature of Japanese culture for many centuries. This exhibition introduces works exemplifying kami worship from the Heian period (794-1185) through the Edo period (1603-1868). It takes a thematic approach to understanding the artworks created to celebrate the world of kami. This exhibition will be presented in two rotations; Rotation 1 runs thru May 19; rotation 2 runs from May 23-June 30. Info: Visit https://www.clevelandart.org/exhibitions/shinto-discovery-divine-japanese-art.

EDC

Asia in America: Next Generation New York, NY May 23; 7-10 p.m. 125 Park Ave. Price: $60 until May 1; $80 after Save the date for the 2019 edition of this Asia in America celebration! This party recognizes Asian American artists and creative who have played a transformative role in the arts in the U.S. and abroad. All proceeds to this year are Devika Bhise, Danielle Chang and Kenzo Digital, each of whom leads sociocultural developments that have long-term impact on the presentation and response to Asian American culture. Info: Visit asiassoc.org.

Eaglenami: Collecting Japanese Art in Gilded Age America Boston, MA Thru June 2 McMillan Museum of Art, Dale Family Gallery Boston University 2101 Commonwealth Ave. Price: Ticket prices vary. This exhibit features bronze, silver and ivory sculptures of birds of prey in folding screens, scroll paintings, needlework, lacquerware and textiles to bring to life the history of the Boston College Eagle. During a recent conversation, Boston College’s monumental bronze eagle was found to be a Japanese masterpiece from the Meiji period (1868-1912), which was donated to the college in the 1950s. Info: Visit https://www.bc.edu/sites/artmuseumexhibitions/eaglenami.

Conservation in Action: Japanese Buddhist Sculpture in a New Light Boston, MA Thru June 30 Museum of Fine Arts 465 Huntington Ave. Price: Free This exhibit offers a rare, behind-the-scenes look at the conservation of seven Buddhist sculptures. The wooden figures are decorated with polychromy and gilding and date from the 9th-12th centuries. The conservation project occupies an entire gallery in the museum, allowing visitors to observe the techniques employed by conservators as they carefully clean the sculptures and secure areas of loose paint, lacquer and gilding. Info: Visit https://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/conservation-in-action-japanese-buddhist-sculpture-in-new-light.

ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Please, no “Spotlight Ads,” add photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO: pc@pacificcitizen.org (213) 620-1767
Asano, Hideo, 93, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 19; she is survived by her son, Gary (Vickie Wakinaka) Asano; sister-in-law, Setsuko Asano; gc: 1.

Fukushima, Michiko, 86, Dinuba, CA, Feb. 12; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Jerome WRA Center in AR; in 2009, she was predeceased by her husband, Kiyoshi; she is survived by her children, June Toshimi Bandiwal and George Toshio (Sachi) Johnston; gc: 2.

Hitomi, Frank Takeshi, 93, Centinela, CA, Jan. 13; he is survived by his children, Glenn (Debbie) Hitomi and Nancy Nambu; gc: 3; ggc: 2.

Johnston, James, 89, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 8; he is survived by his wife, Toshiko; children, June Toshimi Bandiwal and George Toshio (Sachi) Johnston; gc: 2.

Katsuda, Tsuneji, 80, Yorba Linda, CA, Jan. 21; he was predeceased by his wife, Fukuko; children, Jo Ann (Eugene) Hotta, Fred (Jill) Katsuda, Kathy (Roger) Lew and Sharon (David) Lund; sister, Harumi Tokuyama; gc: 8.

Kawaguchi, Yukiko, 94, Ogden, UT, Feb. 23.

Kodani, Shoji, 91, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 23.

Matsuda, Misao, 95, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 16; she was predeceased by her children, Douglas Matsuda, Kathleen (Martin) Unemoto and Patty (Marvin) Furuya; sister, Irene (Robert) Inouye; gc: 4; ggc: 3.

Matsutomo, Kathryn, 72, Wahiawa, HI, Feb. 10.

Nakamura, Tsuyako, 87, Oxnard, CA, Jan. 13; she was predeceased by her husband, James; she is survived by her children, Gary (Sue) and Linda; gc: 4; ggc: 4.

Nakamura, Yoshio Shim, 99, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 21; he was predeceased by his wife, Mary; he is survived by his daughters, Jackie Nakamura, Christine Nakamura and Donna Mastrostione; gc: 3; ggc: 23.

Ogawa, Ruth Sumiko, 95, Los Angeles, CA, Dec. 29, 2018; she is survived by her sons, Kenneth (Kate Ikii), Richard (Julie) and Kirkland; sisters-in-law, Mikki, Frances and Mitzi Toshima; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 2.

Page, Jane Satsuyo 73, Pearl City, HI, Feb. 16.

Quan, Walter, 90, La Habra, CA, Feb. 15; a Korean War veteran, he is survived by his wife, Olivia; children, Vincent (Tina), Victor (Kathleen) Quan and Marie (Bob) Kawahara; siblings: gc: 5.

Sakamoto, Jiro, 92, Park Ridge, IL, Jan. 18; he was predeceased by his siblings, Harry and Fukuyo (Jack) Hamahahi; he is survived by his wife, Molly; sons, Don (Cheryl) and Ken; sister, Chiyoko (late Henry) Morikawa; he is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Sato, Kyoko, 89, Costa Mesa, CA, Feb. 20; she is survived by her three children and their families.

Shintaku, Hisako, 95, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 20.

Takeda, Laura Teruyo, 91, Huffington, UT, Feb. 16.

Takeda, Rhoda Takeda, Cassie (Philip) Castain, Laurie Gebhard, Kevin Takeda and Carrie (Dean) DeVlugt; sisters, Winifred (Lawrence) Abe, Eunice (Minoru) Kaneshiro and Hilda (Tom) Isobe; gc: 11; ggc: 2.

Wadamoto, Fusako Ashida, 98, Northridge, CA, Jan. 23; she was predeceased by her husband, Henry; he is survived by her children, Wayne Wadamoto, Janice (Garry) Hankawa; brother, Buddy (Ayiko) Ashida; gc: 7; ggc: 3.

Yamada, Mitsuo ‘Mits,’ 98, Sacramento, CA, March 1; during World War II, his family and he were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ, where he met his wife, Miyoko, and enlisted in the Army, where he served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team; he was predeceased by his wife, Myo, and siblings George, Shiz, Chiz and Aya; survived by daughters Lynne (Alan) Chinn, Patti (Dennis) Webb and Emily (Eugene) Ishii; gc: 5; ggc: 2; and many nieces and nephews.

Yamada, Scott, 52, Torrance, CA, Jan. 20; he is survived by his wife, Dena Tornez; children, Brandon, Blake and Madison; mother, Jean (Mas) Butsumyo.


Yamamoto, Doris Kauzyue (Mori), 85, Walnut Creek, CA, Feb. 21; she is survived by her sons, Gene (Ahn) and Vincent (Roberta); siblings, Ernest (Cleome) Mori and Joyce (Joe) Nishimura; gc: 5.

Yamamoto, George, 82, San Diego, CA, Feb. 11; he is survived by his wife, Miyuki Ann; children, Guy and Krisi (Christopher) Schmidt; gc: 2.

Yamamoto, Toshi, 75, Nebraska, March 5.

Yamamoto, Toshiko, 93, Montebello, CA, Feb. 17; she is survived by her son, Ronald (Mitsuko) Yamamoto; gc: 2.

Yamasaki, Wally Kiyoshi, 71, Fresno, CA, Feb. 18; he is survived by his wife, Gerry and their children; gc: 6; ggc: 1.

Yamamoto, Toshio ‘Steve,’ 91, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 16; he is survived by his wife and two children.

Yamasaki, Yukio, 86, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 7; he was predeceased by his wife, Katsuko; children, Kenya (Jeane) and Shiz Watanabe; he is survived by his wife, Yoshiko ‘Yoshi’; son, Brian Yukio (Jennifer Schultzman) Yamazaki; gc: 2.

Yonemoto, Dean Satoshi, 57, Lake-wood, CA, Jan. 21; he is survived by his father, Noboru (Joyce) Yonemoto; brother, Mark Yonemoto; uncles, Sumio (Junko) Yonemoto, Hiroshi (Fumie) Yonemoto and Yutaka (Mariko) Yonemoto; aunts, Kiko (Sam) Akiyama and Sumiko Yamamoto; he is also survived by many other relatives.

Yamasaki, Wally Kiyoshi, 71, Fresno, CA, Feb. 18; he is survived by his wife, Gerry and their children; gc: 6; ggc: 1.

Yamamoto, Toshi ‘Steve,’ 91, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 16; he is survived by his wife and two children.

Yamasaki, Yukio, 86, Los Angeles, CA, Feb. 7; he was predeceased by his wife, Katsuko; children, Kenya (Jeane) and Shiz Watanabe; he is survived by his wife, Yoshiko ‘Yoshi’; son, Brian Yukio (Jennifer Schultzman) Yamazaki; gc: 2.

Yonemoto, Dean Satoshi, 57, Lakewood, CA, Jan. 21; he is survived by his father, Noboru (Joyce) Yonemoto; brother, Mark Yonemoto; uncles, Sumio (Junko) Yonemoto, Hiroshi (Fumie) Yonemoto and Yutaka (Mariko) Yonemoto; aunts, Kiko (Sam) Akiyama and Sumiko Yamamoto; he is also survived by many other relatives.

PLACE A TRIBUTE
In Memoriam is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of $20/column inch.

CONTACT:
Editorial@pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767 ext. 104

Yoshio Manuel Matsunami

Yoshio Manuel Matsunami was born Jan. 4, 1928, in Sacramento, Calif., to Kanichi and Yanaye Matsunami. He was the seventh of 11 children. The Matsunami family was forced to relocate to the Topaz Internment Camp during World War II, where Manuel graduated from high school in 1945.

He lived in Omaha, Neb., with his family briefly after being allowed to leave camp and before he enlisted with the United States Army in January 1946, serving on the USS Boxer. He was honorably discharged in November 1947 and entered the Naval Reserves. He was called up to active service in September 1950 and released in April 1952. He was honorably discharged again in June 1954. While in service, Manuel received the World War II Victory Medal, the Philippine Independence Campaign Medal and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal.

Manuel met Doris Weathers in 1952, and they were married on Sept. 4, 1955, in Anthon, Iowa. They had six children: Randy, Ricky, Renee, Russ, Rhonda and Risa. Manuel was always active in the children’s sports activities. The family was honored by Omaha Northwest High School (where all six children graduated) in its inaugural Alumni Family Achievement Award in 2012. Manuel and Doris have 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Manuel became a watchmaker and jeweler by trade and owned Matsunami jewelers in Omaha for over 30 years.

Manuel served as a president for the Omaha Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League and as the VFW Commander for Omaha Post 3421 from 1996-97. Manuel was also active in the Optimist Club and is a Mason.

He passed away on April 6, 2019, in Omaha, Neb.; he was 91 years old. Graveside service Friday, May 10, 11:30 a.m., Forest Lawn Cemetery.
AARP recently released its Grandparents Today National Survey, which highlights the latest trends among grandparents in the United States. Since 2001, the number of grandparents has grown by 24 percent, from 56 million to 70 million. In addition, 4 in 10 grandparents work, contributing to their strength as a significant market force.

The AARP survey revealed that while grandparents make important financial contributions to their grandchildren, they also share wisdom and guidance. Many say they relish giving advice on everything from health to education, thereby providing a moral compass, as well as emotional and social support, to their grandchildren.

Grandparents also contribute to their grandchildren’s well-being by babysitting or serving as their primary caregivers. One in 10 live in the same household as their grandchildren and babysit, and 5 percent of these grandparents provide their grandchildren’s primary care, according to the national representative sample.

Currently, one-third of grandparents surveyed have grandchildren of a different race or ethnicity than their own. In 2011, 77 percent of grandparents had identical-race grandchildren, but by 2018, that number had declined to 72 percent.

Grandparents who have a grandchild of a different race or ethnicity say it is important to help their grandchildren learn about the heritage they share. In addition, 7 in 10 make an effort to help their grandchildren learn about the heritage they do not share.

This struck a nerve with me and made me so thankful of JACL-supported programs that impact multiple generations. Both of my daughters have benefited from participating in and volunteering with our local JACL Washington, D.C., chapter over the years. In contrast to former generations, today’s grandparents are more accepting of their grandchildren’s different sexualities as well, with a majority saying they would support an LGBT grandchild. A strong majority (73 percent) of the grandparents surveyed enjoy their role and rate their performance as high, up from 66 percent in 2011.

With 4 in 10 grandparents in the workforce today, their busy schedules as well as the schedules of their children and grandchildren create the second-largest barrier to spending time with their grandchildren.

However, many feel it’s vital to connect with their grandchildren because it gives them a mental and emotional boost. To overcome time constraints, grandparents increasingly adopt new technologies, such as group texting and video chats. As grandparents’ use of new technologies increases, however, their use of phone calls to contact their grandchildren decreases. Only 46 percent say they reached out to their grandchildren by phone in 2018, while 70 percent did in 2011.

Other Key Findings of the Research Include:
• 94 percent of grandparents provide some sort of financial support to their grandchildren.
• 87 percent would accept an LGBT grandchild.
• 34 percent have grandchildren of mixed or different race/ethnicity.
• 71 percent say their health status is very good or excellent.
• 89 percent say their relationships with their grandchildren are good for their mental well-being.
• 29 percent live more than 50 miles away from their closest child, up from 19 percent in 2011.
• 11 percent have a grandchild living with them, consistent with 2011 results.
• 5 percent of those in multigenerational households are primary caregivers of a grandchild living with them.

Just remember that the more emotional support grandparents and grandchildren give each other, the happier and healthier they all will be. One day, I look forward to being in the ranks of grandparents teaching and learning new things with my grandchildren.

Ron Mori is a member of the Washington, D.C., JACL chapter and manager of multicultural leadership for AARP.