

Currents

Asian Pacific American Community Newspaper Serving Sacramento and Yolo Counties - Volume 27, No. 2 Summer/May 2014

Update of War Relocation Centers

Manzanar faces off with solar development

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) has proposed to construct the "Southern Owens Valley Solar Ranch" on 1,200 acres across the highway from the Manzanar War Relocation Center and this plan has Inyo County residents and Manzanar supporters up in arms. There is also a Northland Power (Canadian energy company) plan to build a similar project five miles northeast of the site. DWP wants to install a 200 megawatt solar photovoltaic plant, approximately one million panels, on the site and critics says this project will have irreversible, negative impact on the culturally significant views from Manzanar, the National Historic Site visitor experience and the Inyo County environment. The project would be built on DWP land.

Last fall Inyo County was negotiating a Term Sheet with DWP to mitigate the negative effects of the project on the community. Local residents

consider the Term Sheet to be a \$4.5 million bribe which would preclude the County from challenging the Final EIR. Even the Big Pine Tribe of Owens Valley, Paiute-Shosone tribes, has argued against the project. At DWP's hearing last November, Japanese Americans spoke against the project saying that it

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Manzanar National Historic Site Mission Statement

Manzanar National Historic Site preserves the stories and resources of Manzanar for past, present, and future generations. We facilitate experiences that weave the stories of the various eras of Manzanar faithfully, completely, and accurately. Manzanar provides leadership for the protection and interpretation of associated sites. From this foundation, the park stimulates dialog and greater understanding of civil rights, democracy, and freedom.



would be an eyesore and distraction to the visual impact that Manzanar as an isolated, undeveloped, bleak area was specifically chosen for those characteristics to be a prison for Japanese Americans. Opponents also argue that there are better, closer-to-Los-Angeles locations which make better economic sense. DWP argues back claiming that the visual impact would be a thin, hardly visible strip of technology in the horizon. The historic Manzanar site does have its own photovoltaic system in place.

There were 10 camps "War Relocation Centers" during World War II to which 120,000 Japanese Americans and Japanese were forcibly removed and detained under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 as a "military necessity" which was later proven to be unfounded.

Manzanar was originally settled by American Indians almost 10,000 years ago. The Owens Valley Paiute established settlements there about 1500 years ago. In 1863, the military forcibly relocated nearly 1,000 Owens Valley Paiute to Fort Tejon. Many Paiute later returned to Owens Valley and worked on local ranches.

The town of Manzanar ("apple orchard" in Spanish), developed as an agricultural settlement in 1910. Farmers grew apples, pears,

peaches, potatoes, and alfalfa on thousands of acres surrounding the town.

In 1905 DWP began acquiring water rights and in 1913 completed the Los Angeles Aqueduct. Land buyouts continued in the 1920s and by 1929 Los Angeles owned all of Manzanar's land and water rights. Within five years the town was abandoned. In the 1930s local residents pinned their economic hopes on tourism. With the onset of World War II, tourism diminished. In 1942 the US Army leased 6,200 acres in Manzanar from Los Angeles to establish the Manzanar War Relocation Center

The first Japanese Americans interned at Manzanar arrived in 1942. The peak population exceeded 10,000. The camp closed in November 1945. After the war all but three of the camp's 800 buildings were dismantled or relocated.

- January 1972 – The site was named a California Registered Historical Landmark, No. 850
 - July 30, 1976 – The site was enrolled on the National Register of Historic Places
 - February 1985 – The site was designated a National Historic Landmark
 - March 3, 1992 – The site received a National Historic
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APSEA working with Governor's cabinet to strengthen civil rights

APSEA is working collaboratively with the Governor's Office and his cabinet to preserve and strengthen civil rights in State government. This priority reflects APSEA's mission statement: to ensure equal opportunity and advance the careers of Asian Pacific Islanders employed by the State of California. APSEA meets weekly with a Coalition of other state employee groups that include:

- Association of California State Employees with Disabilities (ACSED)
- Black Advocates for State Service (BASS)
- CAFÉ de California-Chicano Latino State Employees Association
- LULAC Lorenzo Patino Council of Sacramento
- State Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1000

APSEA recently met with Secretary Marybel Batjer, Government Operations Agency and Secretary Anna Caballero, Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. The Secretaries agreed to provide EEO leadership in the following areas:

- Sponsor and personally lead a meeting of all state department EEO Officers to address key issues and Secretary's expectations regarding statutory compliance with all EEO legal requirements spelled out in policy (Personnel Management Liaison #2013-032).
- Support the Coalition's development of Departmental EEO Officer Appointment Checklist tool to ensure and assist EEO Officers have the requisite statutory knowledge, skills, abilities, and core competencies. To maximize compliance, the form would be signed by the Director, Agency Secretary, forwarded to the control agencies (SPB/CalHR).
- Review/audit of EEO Officer appointments by SPB/CalHR.
- Update EEO Scorecard: to assess departmental compliance to update how they are evaluated in compliance with the 17 statutory EEO requirements.
- SPB Rule 250 Transfer Decision: to support upward mobility and mitigate possible negative impact of implementing Rule 250, will work with the Coalition's work groups to identify solutions.

APSEA looks forward to meeting quarterly with the Agency Secretaries to assess progress on addressing these issues prior to the legislative joint hearing on equal employment opportunity and diversity. If there are any questions, please contact Dean Lan at dlan0000@gmail.com.

Letters to the editor

Dear Currents –

I never thought racism existed or at least the magnitude had stopped after all these terror attacks. It seems if you are Asian or any minority other than white, one is vulnerable. White people think they rule this world. Since Obama came into this picture it really made a difference in our society. Most non-Asians (that I've found) do not even know their own culture. Let's face it "White" is just a color not a nationality.

Currents is a great paper to let the other side know who you are, to appreciate other peoples, cultures, values and traditions and not be one sided. This way we can understand one another.

Food for thought.

Dear Currents (1/24/2014)

I've been reading Currents for the last 15 years plus. I enjoy the informational trivia it has to offer. I'm Asian American/3rd generation. It's too bad many of my non-Asian friends are not aware of the many sacrifices most minorities face in today's world. They think and take things for granted. When I see an issue of Currents I leave an extra one at my doctor's office or hair dressers'. They probably get offended and throw it out. That is tough – because that's the way of the world. The truth does hurt. You can't help that. Best wishes for 2014.

Currents reader, 15 years plus

EDITOR: Thanks for your kind words. This showing of support makes this all worthwhile. Feel free to continue to contribute articles and information to make Currents even better!!!

Currents is online

Go to www.apsea.org "other services" to read Currents online, or to send an electronic copy to friends.

CSU Fullerton opens center for undocumented students

In April California State Fullerton opened a resource center for undocumented students, a first in the CSU system to provide specific space, program and services for students who are undocumented. The Titan Creamers Resource Center intends to offer academic and emotional support while also improving retention and graduation rates, and providing financial aid referrals and a supportive environment where undocumented students can connect with each other.

Undocumented students often feel that they have to hide their immigrant status, be selective as to who could be trusted to know and feel isolated from the community at large.

UC Berkeley opened its Haas Dreamers Resource Center in 2012. In 2011 the UCLA Labor Center opened a Dream Resource Center in downtown LA.

Orange County Register April 25, 2014

ABOUT CURRENTS

Currents is a free community newspaper published three times a year entirely by volunteers. Currents covers local and national issues and events affecting the Asian Pacific American communities of Sacramento and Yolo Counties. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the other organizations and are those of the authors or the Editorial Board. The Editor reserves the right to reject prospective materials or advertisements. Current is distributed by bulk mail and other outlets. Currents articles may be reprinted without specific permission, but the source "Currents" and author should be acknowledged. Next publication date: Fall/September 2014. Deadline: August 15, 2014. Circulation: 7,000. Editor: Pattie Fong. Distribution assisted by: The Sacramento Gazette (David Fong), Hach Yasumura, John Pamperin, Tim Fong/CSUS-Asian American Studies, UC Davis Asian American Studies and Alice Nishi. Most graphics are by Randall Ishida. Advertising rates: 3.5" X 2", \$50; 5" X 6", \$80; 10" X 6", \$200. Currents has no physical office, but donations, advertisements, addresses changes and other inquiries can be sent to Currents/Davis Asians for Racial Equality, PO Box 233, Davis 95617. Other inquiries can be emailed to pmfong@hotmail.com. CURRENTS IS ON THE WEB AT www.apsea.org "other services"



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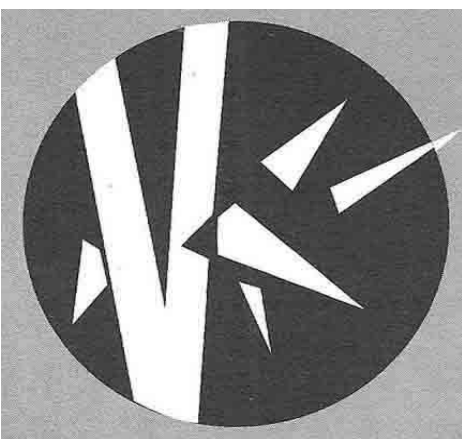
James Waterman,
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Google Welcomes Navigating Leadership held March 19, 2014

On March 19, 2014, our Navigating Leadership team participated in a day-long training program at the Google Campus. In total, nearly 60 leaders participated. The focus of the event, presented by a range of top leadership from Google, was operationalizing innovation and leadership in the workforce. This has become an organizational necessity in a world where change is now constant and service from state government to its constituent community is 24/7.



Announcing the Navigating Leadership 2014 Directors and Secretaries Board Advisory

The Asian Pacific State Employees Association (APSEA), in partnership with USC Price – Sacramento Campus are excited to announce the 2014 Directors and Secretaries Board of Advisory for Navigating Leadership 2014 series. Navigating Leadership is a comprehensive leadership and change management program that is setting a blueprint that the country will follow. These individuals stand at the forefront of government in the leadership of our state's economy. They come together, as members of Navigating Leadership 2014 Directors and Secretaries Advisory Board, to collaborate a shared vision of integration, leadership, and innovation for shifting the trajectory of government to serve a digital society.

Their collective outcomes, under the 2014 program, represent the milestones that can fuel the change, innovation, accountability and transparency of performance necessary to meet the expanding needs of the state's constituent communities in a digital world.

The year-long programs and activities under Navigating Leadership began April 29,th with the first Conversations in Leadership Workshop held at USC Price, 1800 I Street, Sacramento. Subsequent workshops will be held on June 24th – a panel presentation on Human Systems and Technology – Leadership and Innovation in Today's Technological World. On September 23rd, Joe Xavier, Director, Department of Rehabilitation will lead the Workshop on Leadership, Innovation and the Unlimited You – The Time is Now.

The benefit and value of these workshops can be taken independently, but in tandem, provide an integrated value to attendees who chose to take personal accountability and responsibility for their own forward movement in the context of their government jobs or in society.

The year-long activities and events culminate on November 13th in a one-day Symposium at CalPERS. All of this year's programming is being developed, in collaboration with Cal-HR, to provide on-going training modules for state government employees. "We know we are creating a blueprint the country will follow" states APSEA Board Member and program chair, Rebekah Christensen. For more information, simply visit the APSEA website at www.apsea.org.

Sacramento's Historic Japantown - Legacy of a Lost Neighborhood

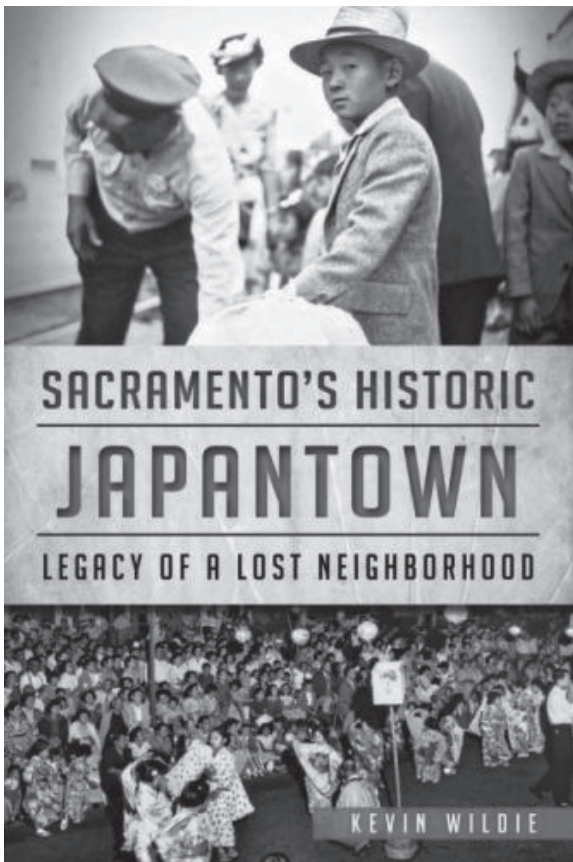
A book by Kevin Wildie

By 1910, Japanese pioneers had created a vibrant community in the heart of Sacramento – one of the largest in California. Spilling out from Fourth Street, Japantown offered sumo tournaments, authentic Japanese meals and Eastern medicine to a generation of Delta field laborers.

Then, in 1942 following Pearl Harbor, orders for Japanese American incarceration forced residents to abandon their homes and their livelihoods. Even in the face of anti-Japanese sentiment, the neighborhood businesses and cultural centers endured, and it wasn't until the 1950s, when the Capitol Mall Redevelopment Project reshaped the city center, that J-Town was truly lost.

Drawing on oral histories and previously unpublished photographs, author Kevin Wildie traces stories of immigration, incarceration and community solidarity, drafting an unparalleled account of Japantown's legacy.

Author Wildie and his book were featured on January 25th at the California Museum's Time of Remembrance event.



Kings Arena jobs

The Sacramento Kings have launched a new program to create career opportunities for low-income and disadvantaged individuals in the construction of the new downtown entertainment and sports complex. Through the program, the Kings and their partners will recruit, train and deploy at least 70 "Priority Apprentices" to help build the complex. To qualify for the program, an individual must meet the criteria as either a "Priority Worker" or live in a "Priority Zip Code."

Priority Workers Live in City of Sacramento and Meet two or more of the following: Low-income, receive cash/public assistance, receive food stamps, former foster youth, homeless, ex-offender, veteran

Priority zip codes: 95652, 95660, 95811, 95814, 95815, 95817, 95820, 95823, 95824, 95832, 95838

To learn more: Call the Area Jobs Hotline (916) 274-1019 or visit a SETA/Sacramento Works Centers for a referral (Asian Resources, 2411 Alhambra Blvd Suite 110, Sacramento 95817, 916/324-6202

30 Minutes That Can Change Your Life!



Tom Nakashima along with Deborah Short of Planning For Seniors, LLC will be hosting a FREE informational get-together for Boomers With Aging Parents.

Thursday,
June 26, 2014
7:00PM

ACC
Senior Services Center
7375 Park City Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831



Only 25 seats are available

Please RSVP by 6/15/14

530-671-3308

"Worry, stress, heartache and confusion come with caring for an aging parent or loved one...I've been there. But with Planning For Seniors' invaluable expertise, my brother and I were able to give my mom the care and comfort she deserved in her final days. We were able to do it compassionately, wisely and affordably."
- Tom Nakashima



Is 80-20 really representing the best interests of Chinese Americans?

SCA5 is the proposed constitutional amendment which would repeal parts of Proposition 209, the 1996 initiative that banned affirmative action and passed by a 55-45 statewide vote. SCA5 was heading to the November ballot when in April, the 80-20 Initiative, founded by SB Woo, a self-proclaimed non partisan Asian American political action committee grounded it to a halt with a social media campaign saying that SCA5 was bad for the Chinese American community.

Asian Americans take up nearly 40 percent of all UC slots. Last year the UC admissions slots were handed out as follows:

78 percent of Chinese Americans who applied got in

57% Filipino

48% Pacific Islanders

55% Latino

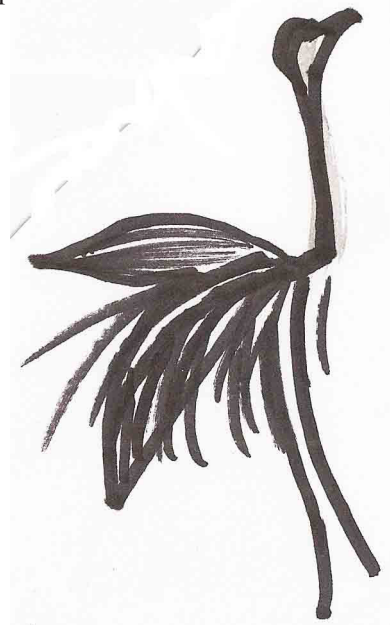
45% African American

65% white

80-20 is calling SCA5 a quota system. 80-20 is essentially saying that the API community does not have to share college admission opportunities.

In years past, Chinese Americans joined with other Asian American communities to argue for affirmative action and equal opportunity for everyone in college admissions as well in job hiring. Now that Chinese Americans dominate college admissions, can that community embrace the concept that being morally consistent is better for the entire society in the long run and should outweigh the self interests of one group? When will 80-20 realize that it is more worthwhile for the Chinese American community to work with, rather than alienate, other API communities and ethnic groups in the broad struggle for equal opportunity?

There are so many issues yet to fought to achieve fairness and to protect our civil rights. To succeed, broad coalitions must formed to effectively advocate for equal opportunity. Who does 80-20 really represent?



Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

A Day in the Life of Asian Pacific America – May 10.

A special photo and video project seeks to capture the vast and nuanced experiences that embody today's Asian Pacific America. Asian Pacific Americans in the US and beyond are invited to share snapshots and short videos of their experiences on the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center's Flickr group on May 10. Register for the project by May 1. The event is being guest curated by Eddie Wong, former Executive Director of NAATA/CAAM. More about this project is on the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center website.

ACC Senior Services (ACC)

Help with telephone bills is just a phone call away

By Susan Sarinas, Program Manager

When you think of ACC Senior Services (ACC), you might think of the ACC Nursing Home, ACC Rides Transportation Services, Respite or the Lifelong Learning and Wellness classes. But did you know that ACC Senior Services Center also provides assistance with your telephone services?

Since 2009, ACC has been a member of the TEAM Collaborative (www.telephoneissues.com), a program sponsored and funded by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). TEAM stands for Telecommunications Education & Assistance in Multiple-languages. ACC is one of over thirty community-based organizations (CBOs) throughout the state of California that have trained staff who can provide free education and complaint resolution assistance to seniors and others who are not proficient in English. ACC is currently the only CBO providing this service in the greater Sacramento area.

Although it may be one of the lesser known programs at ACC, TEAM is an invaluable public service. The telecommunications market is very competitive and there are a myriad of options: traditional landline, wireless, cable-based, and internet-based. These choices can be confusing and intimidating to customers who are elderly or not fluent in English and can make them more vulnerable to fraud. Seniors and limited English proficient speakers may also have trouble resolving billing issues with their phone companies.

In one notable example, we helped identify charges on an elderly Japanese client's telephone bill that were the result of identity theft. We contacted the company and were able to obtain a refund of two years worth of fraudulent charges totaling over \$400! The client wrote "I just didn't know who to ask, but you were there! How could we ever thank you and your kindness and patience."


ACC also provides educational workshops for community organizations, schools that offer English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, senior meal sites, and community centers. We do monthly phone bill review clinics or can meet with individuals by appointment to review phone bills for excess charges or ways to save money. You will even find ACC at community fairs distributing telephone education materials in seventeen different languages.

In addition to TEAM, ACC is part of a pilot program, known as CHANGES (Community Help and Awareness of Natural Gas and Electricity Services). This program began in 2011 and is also sponsored by the CPUC and is funded by PG&E. Similar to TEAM, we provide free education and assistance to consumers with their PG&E natural gas and electric bills. We inform consumers about the various assistance programs, help resolve disputes, and arrange payment plans.

If you need assistance with your telephone or PG&E bill, if you would like to schedule a workshop or bill review for your community group or organization, or, please contact Soojin Yoo at ACC Senior Services Center, 7375 Park City Drive, Sacramento, 916/393-9026 ext. 338, team2@accsv.org. For more information, visit our website at www.accsv.org/education-and-classes/utilities-assistance..

Thank You APSEA

ACC Senior Services thanks the Asian Pacific State Employees Association for honoring Jean Shiomoto, Director California Department of Motor Vehicles and board president of ACC Senior Services, with the APSEA President's Award.




acc SENIOR SERVICES

ACC introduces new website

When ACC Senior Services (ACC) unveiled a modernized logo and a new name in September 2013, the next step was to update the company website. The new site needed to reflect the new logo and name, as well as demonstrate the wide array of programs and services provided by ACC. On April 16, 2014, ACC rolled out the new and improved website.

The website development team consisted of representatives from each organization and from different departments within ACC. The team devoted countless hours to create the new look and feel of the website. Visit the new website at www.accsv.org.



acc SENIOR SERVICES

Maximizing Social Security Lifetime Benefits

Presenter: Mark Pratt CLTC
Pratt Financial & Insurance Services


Learn about:

- Brief history on SSI
- Four strategies to maximize lifetime benefits
- Future of social security
- Creating security in retirement
- Effectively utilizing personal assets to supplement income

When: Tuesday, June 17th
from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.


Where: ACC Administration
7311 Greenhaven Drive, Suite 187
Sacramento, CA 95831

To RSVP please contact Luz Mendoza at (916) 394-6399 x 121 or email at lmendoza@accsv.org



ACC Senior Services Friendly Visitor Program

The Friendly Visitor program provides screened and trained Legacy Corps volunteers to help senior veterans retain their independence and assist the family and caregivers.



Want a Friendly Visitor?

- Must be a senior veteran or widow/family member of a veteran
- Have a family member who can complete a survey on caregiving

Volunteers and veterans are matched based on shared interests, language, geography, and volunteer availability as much as possible.


Friendly Visitors provide:

- Socialization
- Conversation and companionship
- Scrapbooking
- Arts & crafts
- Games
- Light exercise or walking buddy
- Reading or watching movies together
- Help preparing light meals
- Shopping escorts (using ACC Rides)

No personal care, housecleaning, or moving furniture

Fee: \$10 per hour

To request a Friendly Visitor, contact Khonnie Lattasima at (916) 394-6399 x143 or Linda Revilla at (916) 393-9026 x 323



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A FEW GOOD PEOPLE TO SHARE THEIR TIME AND TALENTS.

ACC Senior Services Center needs volunteer instructors in a variety of areas: fitness, arts, culture, dance, gardening, and computer technology. Office assistants, interpreters, and ACC Rides escorts and drivers are also needed. Opportunities for student interns are available.

To sign up, contact Khonnie Lattasima, Volunteer Manager, at (916) 394-6399, Ext. 143, volunteer@accsv.org or visit our website at www.accsv.org.

ACC Senior Services Center • 7375 Park City Drive • Sacramento, CA 95831 • Phone: (916) 393-9026



\$600,000 rehab of Isleton's Bing Kong Tong Building underway

On March 3rd, officials from Sacramento County, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), California Cultural Historical Endowment (CCHE) and Isleton Brannan-Andrus Historical Society (IBAHS) celebrated the official start of a \$600,000 rehabilitation project to stabilize the historic Bing Kong Tong building at 29 Main Street in Isleton. At the event, the building was blessed with Chinese drums and

Designated a historic structure rebuilt after a fire in 1926, the Bing Kong Tong building represents a significant example of Chinese American architecture, as well as a tangible connection to the town's cultural heritage.

"The restoration of the Bing Kong Tong building is an important milestone in the ongoing efforts to highlight and preserve for future generations the historical, cultural and architectural contributions of the early Chinese settlers in the Sacramento River Delta," said Sacramento County Supervisor Don Nottoli.

The "tong" or meeting hall was built in 1926 and served as a community center organized under a benevolent society which operated a Chinese language school and offered the local Chinese Americans social services and a place to gather. The Asian section of Isleton was rebuilt after a fire decimated the district in 1915. The Chinese section was confined to the area west of F street, while the Japanese section was constructed to the east. Eventually displaced by Federal immigration laws that excluded Chinese from entering the United States, the town's Chinese population dwindled from 1,500 to a very small number of residents today. Vacant since the 1940's, the building is in a severe state of disrepair, though it is thought to be the only

building of its type in the nation constructed of a tin sheathing that covers the frame structure.

The fully restored Bing Kong Tong building will provide a permanent home for all of the artifacts secured from the original Tong building, and those artifacts donated to the IBAHS. The building will also be community space for the City of Isleton. This phase of the rehabilitation will preserve the structure and restore its exterior to enhance the cultural significance of both the architecture and the city's historic district.

"The work that we are beginning here will do much more than just stabilize a building, replace the roof and windows and clean up some environmental remnants," said SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier. "We are breathing new life into a dormant chapter in the life and times of Chinese and Chinese Americans who settled in Isleton so that the local community and visitors can learn and appreciate their valuable contributions to the Sacramento region."

"IBAHS received their first grant from CCHE in 2011 for \$140,800. There were matching funds from Isleton's Redevelopment funds of \$41,000. These funds were taken back by the state. Since that time, 5th District Supervisor, Don Nottoli, set things in action. He introduced us to SHRA and their staff worked hard to get IBAHS underway on this historical project," said Chuck Hasz, IBAHS President.

Sacramento Japanese Buddhist Food & Cultural Bazaar – August 9-10

By Randall Ishida

This year the 2nd weekend in August marks the 68th Annual Sacramento Buddhist Japanese Food & Cultural Bazaar.

The bazaar was established in 1947 by the Buddhist Church to rebuild the Japanese American community which almost perished during WWII when the forced evacuation of all Japanese and Japanese Americans displaced residents from the west coast to desert areas in remote California and Midwest. In the early days, the bazaar was to help to buy household needs. It helped the community get back on its feet. With nowhere to go many returned to Japan where for some it was a place they never been before, having been born in the US. Those who stayed lost many of their possessions.

Today the 2-day weekend annual event has grown from a social event for church members to a community event attracting some 40,000 people from throughout northern California. The bazaar proceeds fund the church scholarship programs, the upkeep of the church and various community events.

The annual bazaar is such a time when people of all walks and nationalities come together and enjoy learn about the taste, entertainment, sights and sounds of the Japanese culture. The bazaar promotes the true meaning of "love, learn & live" because it allows people to leave their troubles behind. At the bazaar people share recipes, renew old friendships and share the feeling of wholeness of who you really are. It's like a class reunion.

The bazaar is run by at least four generations of volunteers. Many of these volunteers have move out and gone onto college. Each year on their summer break they come back to help their great-grandparents, grandparents and parents help make the sushi rice, chicken teriyaki and somen (cold noodles). More than 10,000 pounds of chicken teriyaki is served each year....you can also imagine how much rice is also made!

Gosh ... You can already smell the good food and hear the merriment of the music.

It's still early but mark your calendar and we will see you in Sacramento at the 68th Annual Sacramento Buddhist Japanese Food & Cultural Bazaar on August 9 & 10....it's just around the corner!

For more information --www.buddhistchurch.com/events/events.htm. The Sacramento Buddhist Church is located at 2401 Riverside Blvd, Sacramento.



SACRAMENTO ASIAN SPORTS FOUNDATION
PRESENTS



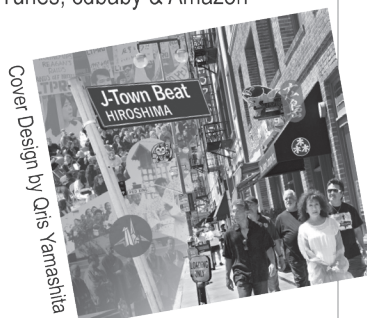
Photo by Jaimee Itagaki

AN EVENING WITH
HIROSHIMA

HIROSHIMA website:
www.hiroshimamusic.com

J-TOWN BEAT -Now available on
www.hiroshimamusic.com

Also at iTunes, cdbaby & Amazon



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twitter
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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2014
CREST THEATER
1013 K STREET ~ DOWNTOWN SACRAMENTO

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM
SHOW STARTS AT 8:00 PM

\$50 LOWER SECTION SEATING
\$40 UPPER SECTION SEATING

TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH:
WWW.THECREST.COM/TICKETS with convenience fee
OR THE CREST BOX OFFICE 11:30-1:30 M-F w/o fee

FOR MORE INFORMATION WWW.SASFQUEST.ORG

“Another Night to Remember”

By Steven Hamamoto
SASF Benefit Show Chairperson

Building on the success of the Taiko Project performance last year, Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation (SASF) is happy to announce the performer for the Second Annual Benefit Show. The Grammy nominated jazz/fusion ensemble Hiroshima has committed to perform for us on September 26th at the Crest Theater. Hiroshima's unique blend of pop, jazz, R & B and Latin influences with exotic strains of their Japanese heritage has endured for over 35 years. Hiroshima is very excited to be coming back to Sacramento. Dan Kuramoto and June Kuramoto, founders of Hiroshima said the group has not performed in Sacramento for almost 20 years!

SASF is really fortunate to host their return to Sacramento and hope all of our supporters will join us for a memorable night at the Crest Theater. All tickets will be available through Crest Theaters Ticket.com. Seating will be reserved and prices will vary depending on location in the theater. The price for tickets in the lower section will be \$50.00. All other seats will be available for \$40.00. Tickets can either be purchased through www.thecrest.com/tickets with convenience fees or directly at the Crest Theater box office Monday through Friday between 11:30-1:30 without fees. Check our website: www.sasfquest.org for all necessary information. Please mark your calendar for another Night to Remember!



Currents Faces, New Places

Betty Hirata, ACC Senior Services volunteer, is a honoree receiving a 2013 Heroes of Human Services Award for Sacramento's District 2 presented by the Sacramento Board of Supervisors and Human Services Coordinating Council.

Davis Korean Cultural Society is starting a Korean language and culture school. Info: Davis Korean Cultural Society on Facebook.

Professor Fu-Tong Liu (UCD) was named a 2013 fellow of the American Assn. for the Advancement of Science for his pioneering work in mammalian lectins (proteins that regular cell activities).

Christopher P. Lu, the first API nominated by President Obama for any deputy secretary position, needs confirmation to become a Deputy Secretary in the US Dept. of Labor.

Duncan Nakamoto, 3rd grader at Joseph Sims Elementary (Elk Grove), won \$100,000 "Big Dreams Start Small" national scholarship. He wrote that he wants to be a basketball player when he "grows up" but wants to be a doctor "for a job."

Yiyun Li, UCD professor of English, was honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters with the Benjamin H. Danks Award which is given very three years to an exceptional young writer. The prize is \$30,000.

Tsetsen Anuurad, a Davis High student, was honored as a student of the month of March by the Sunrise Rotary Club of Davis

Currents Faces, Recent Passings

Dr Richard Manabu Ikeda, the soul and founder of Health For All, died in January at the age of 81. A native of Hawaii, he graduated from Harvard and he earned his medical degree at the University of Vienna.

Kenjin Kai's in Sacramento are well alive and active today

The origin of the kenjin-kai, organizations that have played a contributing factor in forming the foundation of the Japanese American heritage.

Perhaps, a brief definition of what constitutes a "kenjin-kai" would be appropriate at this time.

A kenjin-kai is an association whose membership was originally based upon and conceived by people coming from the same prefecture in Japan. Early kenjin-kai consisted mainly of Japanese immigrants from the southern and rural parts of Japan.

Distinction and diversity could be recognized among Japanese from various prefectures by their clothing, customs and dialect. As Bill Hosokawa points out in his book, *Nisei*: "... Various characteristics were attributed to the people of each prefecture. For example, Hiroshima people were said to be industrious and tight-fisted; Wakayama people aggressive and hot-tempered; Tokyoites generous, people from Kumamoto stubborn, Okayama shrewd and clever, the northern provinces patient as a result of their long cold winters."

Although each kenjin-kai possessed unique characteristics, all of the kenjin-kai aided their members by providing social outlets and various means of economic assistance.

Even in the most difficult periods of racial discrimination and economic depression, reported Ivan Light in *Ethnic Enterprise in America*, "members helped one another because of their belief that people from the same place were morally obliged to help one another."

Kenjin-kai members have always been able to maintain meaningful and long-lasting friendships that hold a special kind of closeness not found in any other organization.

"A kenjin, someone from one's own native prefecture, was almost like a blood brother even if he were a stranger to be fostered, assisted when in trouble, to be trusted, tolerated, and to be treated gently and affectionately," said Hosokawa.

The Wakayama & Hiroshima Nikkeijin-kai, the largest kenjin-kai in the Sacramento.

Having claimed its existence since 1906, the Sacramento Nikkeijin-kai was originally called Keibi-doshi-kai. A literal translation of "Keibi-doshi-kai" is difficult because of the connotations associated with the Japanese language. However, a definition of this word is an organization whose main objective is to look after its members' well-being, similar to a big brother type of association.

In 1918, after wanting to be distinctly recognized as a prefectural organization, they changed the name to Sacramento Hiroshima Kenjin-kai. And then in 1961, a need was found again to change the name of kenjin-kai to nikkeijin-kai (a broader term meaning "Japanese") in order to better represent and include a growing number of new members such as kenjin's spouse (usually a Nisei) whose ancestry may be traced back to another prefecture.

A few of the men responsible for initiating the first Sacramento Hiroshima Kenjin-kai were Kenji Oki, Kakichi Kubo, Seigo Takai, and Nobu-ishi Yoshida.

Although this kenjin-kai started with just a dozen (rough estimate) men, it grew rapidly to meet the needs of many Issei immigrants.

From 1906 to 1941, the Sacramento Hiroshima Kenjin-kai was actively supportive in various forms of assistance ranging from rotating credit associations to social outings.

By 1910, Sacramento had the third largest Japanese population (following Los Angeles and San Francisco), but many Issei men found difficulty in establishing sufficient credit. As a result, many kenjin sought another alternative—forming a tanomoshiko.

A tanomoshiko was a rotating credit association in which Issei men pooled their money each month so that a large sum of money would be available to lend out to one of the kenjin. That particular man would repay the tanomoshiko over a designated period and soon another kenjin would be able to borrow a large sum of money.

The Issei men dealt strictly with cash, so they were very cautious to organize their tanomoshiko among ken members, those who were loyal and trustworthy.

If a member was to default by running off with the money without intending to repay the loan, he would lose face and disgrace his ken and Japanese community. This was the ultimate rejection for an Issei with traditional Meiji-era values.

However, the type of cooperation usually seen in a tanomoshiko allowed many immigrants, who would otherwise have been unable to start a business, an opportunity to make a decent living as an entrepreneur.

Another type of financial support which the kenjin-kai offered was through job assistance and business patronage.

Many Japanese immigrants faced difficulty in finding work in Sacramento, as well as in other cities, but were too proud to ask for governmental welfare or any other type of assistance by outsiders.

When an immigrant couldn't find a job on his own, a kenjin, who oftentimes felt obligated, tried to help him find a job. An immigrant would usually accept help from a fellow kenjin more graciously because of the closeness felt between their prefectural ties.

According to author Light, "The Japanese gave preference in hiring to persons from the same prefecture, and Japanese employers were expected to make hiring opportunities known to their kenjin."

Aside from the wage earners, Issei entrepreneurs often received a large portion of their clientele from kenjin-kai members. Reports

Hosokawa, "Whenever possible, one took his business to a kenjin."

Naturally, belonging to a kenjin-kai with a large membership was very beneficial for the Issei entrepreneur.

Equally as important as job assistance were the Sacramento Hiroshima Kenjin-kai boarding houses for Issei immigrants.

"People from Hiroshima-ken opened the first boarding house in 1891, followed by immigrants from Kumamoto-ken who opened Tamagawa Inn," said Cheryl Cole who wrote *A History of the Japanese Community in Sacramento: 1883-1972*.

The number of boarding houses grew rapidly because of the large influx of Japanese immigrants. "By 1911, there were 37 boarding houses in Sacramento, more than any other type of Japanese business establishment," said Cole.

The houses were "clean and orderly" with lodging prices ranging between 10 and 15 cents a night, \$5 and \$15 a month and meal prices ranging between 10 and 15 cents.

It is not surprising, notes Cole, that "Japanese boarding-house keepers were important members of the immigrant community and often doubled as labor contractors in Japan with whom they made arrangements to secure work for the arriving Issei."

Apart from the financial assistance given to arriving immigrants, the Hiroshima Kenjin-kai played an important role in aiding bereaved family members when a loved one passed away.

The Sacramento both the Hiroshima Kenjin-kai and the Wakayama Kenjin-Kai started handling funeral arrangements when single Issei men died. Because the deceased had no family members in the U.S., the kenjin-kai acted as a surrogate family by arranging the funeral service and taking care of any financial matters.

The Sacramento Kenjin-kai sent an annual census to Japan, and whenever an Issei (Japanese citizen) died, the kenjin-kai would notify the Japanese consulate general of the Issei's death.

As the number of married and family-type Issei men increased, the practice of handling funeral arrangements did not diminish.

The kenjin-kai felt a great need to offer help during times of crisis. Kenjin-kai duties included collecting koden (a monetary offering by kenjin, friends, and relatives to help pay for funeral expenses or any other debts), arranging for public notices, serving tea and food at the widow's house after the funeral, and sending out thank-you letters.

Some of these things may seem trivial, but after the devastation of losing a loved one, these little things tend to be burdensome. The kenjin-kai erases the worries and gives the family emotional support at a very difficult period.

On a lighter note, all of the kenjin-kai, including the Sacramento Hiroshima Kenjin-kai, are well recognized and remembered for the social events which were sponsored annually.

Most Issei were neither familiar with the English language nor American culture and faced much racial discrimination. The rejection from the predominately white community caused emotional and psychological pain.

Kenjin-kai-sponsored picnics and New Year parties were the "tanoshimi" for them because they would be able to converse with others who spoke the same dialect and followed the same customs. Many homesick individuals would be able to express their common feelings and experiences at these gatherings.

More importantly, these get-togethers were organized to provide enjoyment and relaxation which were sorely lacking in the lives of many Issei and Nisei. In the early 1930s, kenjin-kai would even parade down streets during the celebrations of festive occasions.

Some of the happiest times remembered by Issei and Nisei were participating in the kenjin-kai's social activities. These memories would undoubtedly be cherished indefinitely.

This article was originally written for CSU-SF Asian American Studies class, "Japanese Americans in the United States," taught by Prof. Lane Hirabayashi in 1985. It was published in the Hokubei Mainichi in 1985.



Cheer on Koichi and Ellie and support a great cause MSH-May 19 Gala

By Sharon Ito

When minister's assistant Koichi Mizushima and his 9-year-old daughter Ellie take the stage at the Crest Theatre, their duet will be a song of love and a message of hope for women and children in crisis.

Mizushima is with the ministerial staff at the Sacramento Buddhist Church. He and his daughter are among the featured performers at a gala for My Sister's House, "Change...A New Beginning," on Monday, May 19th, at the historic downtown Sacramento theater.

They will be performing, "New Soul," by Yael Naim.

Gala producer Sanford Marshall says he picked the song because it "celebrates the spirit of optimism and encourages the individual to look at life with fresh eyes."

"Sometimes we have to use this skill to help us get out of circumstances we need to change," says Marshall, and adds that "for many women in abusive relationships they need the courage to pick up and start again."

Marshall believes he has found the right song in "New Soul," and the right performers in the Mizushimas. "I like the symbolism of a father and daughter singing this together because we know how important the role of a father is in shaping what young ladies look for in their future partners."

Mizushima says he recognizes "the world can sometimes be a place that is beyond our control or understanding, so as a parent we do our very best to raise our children with an awareness to try and overcome the challenges that will inevitably cross their paths."

He says he explained the mission of My Sister's House to Ellie, and in seeing his involvement with volunteer organizations and the temple, she has "a core understanding about the importance of community service."

Proceeds from the gala will help My Sister's House operate two emergency shelters, a 24/7 multilingual crisis line and a work readiness program for survivors of all backgrounds.

The Mizushimas will soon begin rehearsing with a celebrity cast that includes former NFL star Rick Jennings, State Personnel Board member Maeley Tom, Sacramento Police Chief Sam Somers and West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon.

Mizushima says he and Ellie have been singing together since she was a toddler, and through this performance he hopes to deliver a heartfelt message. "As a father there is nothing more important than creating a safe world for all of our sons and daughters."

The My Sister's House Gala takes place on Monday, May 19th, at 5:00 p.m. with a reception at The Social Club located at 1100 K Street in Sacramento.

The stage show begins at 7:00 p.m. across the street at the Crest Theatre at 1013 K Street. Tickets for the reception and show are \$100 each, and tickets for the show are \$50.

For tickets and information, call Sharon Ito at (916) 996-0506 - sharonito10@gmail.com or Erin Komatsubara at (916) 616-3746 - Monku48@aol.com or visit www.my-sisters-house.org.

Bambi and the Centipede

By Derrick Lim, YeeBrew Productions

Bambi is the cute beloved fawn, one of many classic Disney animated characters seen by countless generations of families since 1942.

The centipede is a drab colored elongated multi-legged creepy crawly bug usually found beneath the outdoor duff on the forest floor under a rock or log, or inside a cave with no discernible iconic name or pop culture status.

So, what's up with the unlikely pairing of Bambi and the centipede? The answer is a 103 year old calligrapher, ceramicist, Disney Legend in 2001, Hollywood sketch artist, kite maker, lithographer, muralist, and painter named Tyrus Wong, whose inspirational work and prodigious kite skills were on display in a special exhibit at The Walt Disney Family Museum in the Presidio, San Francisco.

Wong, a "distinguished alumni" of the Otis Art Institute now known as the Otis College of Art and Design, was only at Disney a few years after graduation. According to Diane Disney Miller, Wong was unable to stay with Disney and see the release of Bambi because of a strike resolution calling for the rehiring of artists with more seniority. Another explanation was that Wong was not rehired because he was not part of the strike.

Wong's short stay and only film at Disney was still momentous. Walt Disney liked the different approach Wong took to Bambi. Rather than the usual detailing of every facet of the drawing, Wong's concept sketches simplified the details reminiscent of the Sung Dynasty aesthetic. This Asian influenced approach created more atmosphere and stronger feeling which added to the picture's impact. Without Wong knowing it at the time, his approach was a game changer in the animation field that soon influenced other projects and future generations of leading animators even today.

Wong's passion for drawing was always bubbling inside him thanks to encouragement from his watercolorist father, Look Get. Drawing was Wong's salvation when public school in Sacramento and Los Angeles did not hold his interest so much that he frequently did not go. Wong received a small scholarship at the Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles thanks to the keen eye of his public school teacher. In order to stay at Otis where he began to really blossom, Wong worked as a night janitor at the private art school before earning another scholarship and graduating at the top of his class.

Though Disney's Bambi may have more name recognition, Wong's incredible body of work after Disney is also notable. While at Warner Brothers for most of his career, Wong's credits now include such classics as *April in Paris*, *Auntie Mame*, *Calamity Jane*, *Harper*, *PT 109*, *Rebel Without A Cause*, *Sands of Iwo Jima*, and *The Wild Bunch*. These works were in a profession and at a time when minorities were rare and not often fully credited for their work.

Outside of Hollywood studios Wong's artistry graced high end Winfield ceramic ware, hand painted couture silk scarves, commissioned murals, calligraphy, paintings, and treasured Christmas presents to his three daughters Wong elaborately crafted from recycled and repurposed household items. One of Wong's more popular Hallmark Christmas cards sold over one million copies.

In the 30's and 40's Wong was part of an eclectic scene of avant-garde artisans and performers who frequently gathered at Eddie See's Dragon's Den Restaurant in Los Angeles Chinatown. The Dragon's Den is also where Wong met his future wife Ruth Kim.

Restless with retirement at the age of 69, Wong's gifted hands and creative mind turned to

skillful craftsmanship preferring bamboo from Japan to make kites like the ones he received from his father as a young boy in China. Each month at Santa Monica Beach Wong flies colorful butterflies, cranes, owls, pandas, and swallows individually and in a flock tethered to a single line. As impressive as they are, perhaps the most impressive kites of all in Wong's vast personal collection are the vibrantly colored 100 foot long centipedes articulated in 52 segments rhythmically dancing high in the sky with the ocean breeze.

Tyrus Wong's Chinese name is Wong Gaing Yoo. He immigrated under the "paper name" of Look Tai Yow because of the Chinese Exclusion Act. The fate of the immigrant Chinese American experience gave him the name Tyrus Wong.

Over the past decade Wong is finally getting much deserved public recognition for his profound influence in elevating the way animation is done and depth of artistic work across many media.

When the Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles opened in December 2003, it featured a retrospective of Wong's work that was so popular the exhibit was extended several times to October 2004.

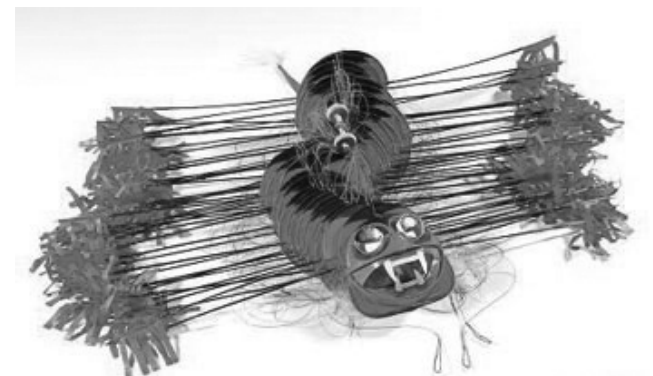
To commemorate his 100th birthday in 2010, the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation's *Immigrant Voices* featured Wong Gaing Yoo's poignant stay on the island when he was nine years old and separated from his father. Wong and his father were not able to reunite until Wong's release after officials interviewed Wong's father and uncle in Sacramento. Wong's mother and sister remained in China with scarce hope of family reunification.

Independent Los Angeles film director, Pamela Tom, is producing a documentary on Tyrus Wong with a working title, *Brushstrokes in Hollywood*. The project has been fundraising since 2008. Visual Communications is providing fiscal sponsorship. Several grants have been received. Crowd funding thru a 2012 Kickstarter campaign easily surpassed the \$35,000 goal to enhance post production.

On May 7, 2014 as part of the 30th anniversary of the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival started by Visual Communications, the public will get the chance to see an exclusive 20 minute excerpt of the film as a special tribute to Wong. The entire documentary is to be released later this year. The festival screening is made possible by a grant from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and support from the Chinese American Museum of Los Angeles.

If you did not get the chance to see the special exhibit at The Walt Disney Family Museum, there is a book of the exhibit by the same name, *Water to Paper, Paint to Sky: The Art of Tyrus Wong*.

Tyrus Wong soared as an artist and kite enthusiast, two disparate endeavors -one a career, the other a hobby- with characters that seem to have nothing in common. Let there be no doubt that Wong's touch, Tyrus style, ensured that Bambi and the centipede came to life and made all the sense in the world.



Tyrus Wong, Mini-centipede, c. 1990.
Courtesy Tyrus Wong Family.

Update of War Relocation Centers

Continued from Front Page

Site designation and became part of the National Park Service. Annually 86,000 visitors, including the annual April pilgrimage by former Manzanar internees and their families, come to see the 814 acre site.

April 24, 1997 – The land ownership was transferred from the City of Los Angeles to the National Park Service.

December 6, 2002, two sections of the mess hall were moved 45 miles from the Bishop County Airport. At the Bishop Airport location, the building served as the Northern Inyo Hospital from 1946-1949, then later used for storage, and afterwards abandoned in a state of disrepair. The restored mess hall opened in January 2011. It was one of 36 mess halls at Manzanar.

April 24, 2004 – The restored historic auditorium was opened to serve as the interpretive center and headquarters for the site.



September 2005, the National Park Service with Friends of Manzanar completed the reconstruction of guard tower #8 near Highway 395. During WWII the guard towers were equipped with submachine guns, shotguns and 30 caliber rifles.

In the 2009-10 session, Congress approved funding to reconstruct two barrack buildings in Block 14.

In 2011 exhibits were installed in the restored mess hall. Future plans include reconstructing one or more additional buildings such as a latrine, a laundry room or an ironing room. Friends of Manzanar www.friendsofmanzanar.org are fundraising for the reconstruction of additional buildings.

In 2013, a concrete koi pond and garden site was excavated in Block 33.

Manzanar supporters are encouraged to protest the DWP project in writing, either by using the online petition at www.friendsofmanzanar.org or writing a letter including your name, city, and state, if you were incarcerated during WWII – give the name of your camp, if you are affiliated with an organization-state the name of the group and your title or membership status. Send your communication to: Ms. Nadia Parker L.A. Department of Water and Power 111 North Hope Street, Rm. 1044, Los Angeles, California 90012-2607.

Internment-Australia

Remembering the Internment: Mary Nakashiba

By Christine Piper, 4 Mar 2014

Mary Nakashiba, born: Thursday Island, 1926,
iInterned: Tatura, Victoria, 1942–44

“I felt betrayed by my country”

Seventy years have passed since half-

Japanese Mary was interned as a fifteen-year-old, but the shocking turn of events after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor is still clear to her. After being arrested in Darwin, Mary and her family were transported to Sydney by ship along with hundreds of other Japanese. “When we got off the ship, there was a crowd of people lining the harbor. They were screaming, ‘Kill them! Shoot the bastards!’ I couldn’t believe it—these were Australians, people of my own country. I’ll never forget it. I was in total, utter shock. That was the point that I realized my life would never be the same.”

Mary’s brother, Sam, was separated from the family and taken away. “My mother protested that he was only seventeen years old. But [the soldier] said, ‘No, he’s got to go.’ We didn’t hear from him until he was released... We didn’t know where he was...” The rest of the family—Mary; her Japanese father, John, who migrated to Australia fifty years earlier; her European mother, Anna; and twelve-year-old sister Rhoda—spent the next three years inside the barbed-wire fences of Tatura camp in Victoria.

Although they were treated reasonably well by staff at camp, it was a far cry from the comfortable life they’d had in Darwin, where Mary’s father had a general store. They endured freezing winters and had to sleep on sacks stuffed with straw until Mary’s mother negotiated with the Red Cross to receive proper mattresses and bedding.

For a vibrant teenager such as Mary, the years at camp were “a time of extreme boredom.” “You felt powerless... I thought many times of climbing that fence. But I thought, if I do climb that fence and they don’t shoot me, where would I go?”

During the many months she was interned, Mary mourned “the loss of [her] Australian identity.”

“I felt betrayed by my country... That was the biggest hurt of all—to know that I was an enemy alien in my own country. I had no people, no country, because I wasn’t accepted by the Australian people, and I wasn’t accepted by the Japanese. I couldn’t identify with anybody.”

For Mary, one of the most difficult aspects of internment was living with the imperialistic Japanese internees at camp. When Mary refused to bow in the direction of the Emperor, one of the compound leaders forcibly pushed her head down. And when Japan bombed Darwin in February 1942, Mary was enraged that the internees around her celebrated.

“They put on a celebration. Banzai! It was just terrible... I lost a lot of close, close friends [in Darwin]. So that bred a lot of hatred. I think hatred keeps you alive, keeps you going... My mother used to say, ‘You mustn’t hate.’ But I hated.”

The Nakashiba family’s inability to fit in with the more traditional Japanese internees was a continual source of friction, culminating in a dispute over laundry facilities.

“My mother was using a boiler in the laundry, and one of the internees came and took out her washing and dumped it all on the ground so that he could use it. She shouted at him, so he hit her on the head with a stick. I threw a bar of soap at him. Then he blamed me for starting the fight.”

As a result, Mary’s family moved into a neighboring compound that housed mostly Japanese from the Dutch East Indies (present-day Indonesia). “The people in the Indonesian camp were very nice people,” Mary says. “We made a lot of friends.”

Mary’s father had a mental breakdown in camp, which she attributed to the conflict he felt as a Japanese who had lived nearly all his life in Australia.

“He felt Australia was his country, his home... and so to have this disrupted and find that you are an enemy alien... And also there was the

heartbreak [of the Darwin bombings]—this was his country that was doing it... He knew there was no place for him.” John died a few months after they were released from internment in 1944. “It’s the older people, not the younger people, that are really affected by warfare,” she says.

After the war and the death of Mary’s father, the family was penniless and relied on the kindness of friends, family, and strangers to get by. Despite Mary’s ordeal, she is not bitter and does not want an apology or compensation from the government. “It’s part of my life, I accept it... I think it built a lot of iron in me. It built resilience. And I tell you what, it certainly gave me a lot more compassion.”

This article was originally published on Loveday Project on October 22, 2012.

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Researchers uncover little-known internment camp

Kooskia Internment Camp, Idaho

By Nicholas K. Geranios | Associated Press

July 27, 2013

Deep in the mountains of northern Idaho, miles from the nearest town, lies evidence of a little-known portion of a shameful chapter of American history.

There are no buildings, signs or markers to indicate what happened at the site 70 years ago, but researchers sifting through the dirt have found broken porcelain, old medicine bottles and lost artwork identifying the location of the first internment camp where the US government used people of Japanese ancestry as a workforce during World War II.

Today, a team of researchers from the University of Idaho wants to make sure the Kooskia Internment Camp isn’t forgotten to history.

“We want people to know what happened, and make sure we don’t repeat the past,” said anthropology professor Stacey Camp, who is leading the research.

It’s an important mission, said Charlene Mano-Shen of the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience in Seattle.

Mano-Shen said her grandfather was forced into a camp near Missoula, Montana, during WWII, and some of the nation’s responses to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 evoked memories of the Japanese internments. Muslims, she said Thursday, “have been put on FBI lists and detained in the same way my grandfather was.”

After the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor plunged the nation into the second world war, about 120,000 people of Japanese heritage who lived on the West Coast were sent to internment camps. Nearly two-thirds were American citizens, and many were children. In many cases, people lost everything they had worked for in the US and were sent to prison camps in remote locations with harsh climates.

Research such as the archaeological work underway at Kooskia (KOO’-ski) is vital to remembering what happened, said Janis Wong, director of communications for the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

People need to be able “to physically see and visit the actual camp locations,” Wong said.

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Update of War Relocation Centers

Continued from Page 10

Giant sites where thousands of people were held — such as Manzanar in California, Heart Mountain in Wyoming and Minidoka in Idaho — are well-known. But Camp said even many local residents knew little about the tiny Kooskia camp, which operated from 1943 to the end of the war and held more than 250 detainees about 30 miles east of its namesake small town, and about 150 miles southeast of Spokane, Washington.

The camp was the first place where the government used detainees as a labor crew, putting them into service doing road work on US Highway 12, through the area's rugged mountains. "They built that highway," Camp said of the road that links Lewiston, Idaho, and Missoula, Montana.

Men from other camps volunteered to come to Kooskia because they wanted to stay busy and make a little money by working on the highway, Camp said. As a result, the population was all male, and mostly made up of more recent immigrants from Japan who were not US citizens, she said.

Workers could earn about \$50 to \$60 a month for their labor, said Priscilla Wegars of Moscow, Idaho, who has written books about the Kooskia camp.

Kooskia was one of several camps operated by the Immigration and Naturalization Service that also received people of Japanese ancestry rounded up from Latin American countries, mostly Peru, Camp said. But it was so small and so remote that it never achieved the notoriety of the massive camps that held about 10,000 people each.

"I'm aware of it, but I don't know that much about it," said Frank Kitamoto, president of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Memorial Committee, based in Puget Sound, Wash., which works to maintain awareness of the camps.

After the war the camp was dismantled and largely forgotten. Using money from a series of grants, Camp in 2010 started the first archaeological work at the site. Some artifacts, such as broken china and buttons, were scattered on top of the ground, she said.

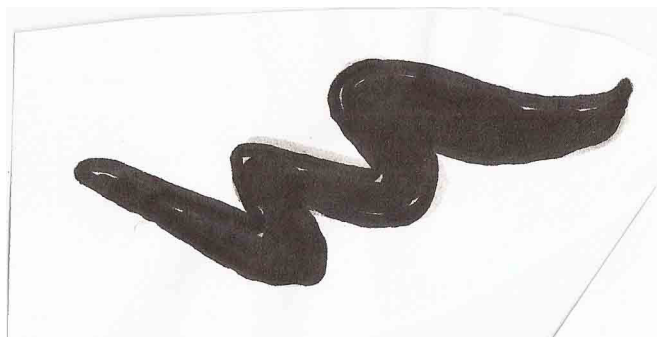
"To find stuff on the surface that has not been looted is rare," she said.

Camp figures her work at the site could last another decade. Her team wants to create an accurate picture of the life of a detainee. She also wants to put signs up to show people where the internment camp was located.

Artifacts found so far include Japanese porcelain trinkets, dental tools and gambling pieces, she said. They have also found works of art created by internees.

"While it was a horrible experience, the people who lived in these camps resisted in interesting ways," she said. "People in the camps figured out creative ways to get through this period of time."

"They tried to make this place home," she said.



Calendar

Continued from Back Page

1-2pm at 230-330pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). This American Red Cross First Aid certification class will prepare you to care for others during a medical emergency until advanced medical personnel take over. Maximum: 10 participants. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required at least two days prior to class date. \$50 with certificate/\$40 without certificate. Register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

June 21 Sat **Hiroshima (the ban) plays at the 9th Annual Big Bear Lake Jazztrax Summer Music Festival** in Big Bear Lake, CA. info www.jazztrax.com.

June 24 Tue **APSEA Navigating Leadership – Panel Presentation on Human Systems and Technology – Leadership and Innovation in Today's Technological World.** Info: www.apsea.org

Jun 26 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Tips for Choosing Cell Phone Service."** 230-330pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). If you are thinking about buying a cell phone or changing your cell phone service provider, this class is for you! In this workshop you will learn what questions to ask when choosing a service, what you should know before you sign a contract, and how to cut your cell phone costs. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 26 Thu **ACC Senior Services "30 Minutes that Can Change Your Life!"** 7pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). Tom Nakashima along with Deborah Short of Planning for Seniors, LLC, will be hosting an informational get-together for boomers with aging parents. Light appetizers provided by Eddie Fong. Limited seats available. Free. To register: 530/671-3308. Call by 6/15/14.

July 3-8 **PACT Family Camp**, a gathering of adoptive families with children of color. Granlibakken Conference Center, Tahoe City. Scholarships available. Info: Deanna Matthews 510/243-9460.

July 12 Sat **Chinese American Council of Sacramento Trip to San Francisco and Lecture by Philip Choy.** Info: www.cacsweb.org

July 19 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting.** 830am at Sac. Sheriff's South Area Office Community Room (7000 65th St, Sac).

July 22, 29, Aug 26 **CATS Showing: "Ancestors in the Americas: The history and legacy of Asians in the Americas,"** a series produced by the Center for Educational Telecommunications. 8 films over 3 evenings. 7pm at Madelyn Helling Library, Nevada City. Sponsored by Community Asian Theatre of Sierra. Donations accepted. Info: Jeannie 530/265-2990, info@catsweb.org

Aug/Sept **CATS' Southeast Asian Cooking Class and Mahjong in the Beautiful Outdoor.** 12-4pm at location TBA. Cooking demonstration and stories from the homeland by Kwong Chew, owner of Asia and native of Singapore. Sponsored by Community Asian Theatre of Sierra. Info: Jeannie 530/265-2990, info@catsweb.org, www.catsweb.org

August 9-10 **Sacramento Japanese Buddhist Church Annual Food and Cultural Bazaar** (2401 Riverside Blvd, Sac). Info: www.buddhistchurch.com

Aug 11-14 **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation's Basic Hoops Clinic.** 6-730pm at SASF Community/Recreational Center (9040 High Tech Ct, Elk Grove). \$45/person. Fundamentals of basketball for children from kindergarten through 3rd grade. Registration: www.sasf-quest.org.

Sept 23 Tue **APSEA's Navigating Leadership – Leadership, Innovation and the Unlimited You – The Time is Now.** Info: www.apsea.org

Sept 26 Fri **Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation: An Evening with Hiroshima. 7pm** at Crest Theater. \$40-50/seat. Info: www.thecrest.com/tickets, www.sasfquest.org

Sept 27 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting.** 830am at Sac. Sheriff's South Area Office Community Room (7000 65th St, Sac).

Sept 27 Sat **Alzheimer Assn Sacramento Walk to End Alzheimer.** 930am at south steps of State Capitol (11th X N Sts, Sac). Info: Jason Glassner 650/962-1902, jglassner@alz.org

Oct 4 Sat **Sacramento Aloha Festival** at Cal Expo. Info: Sarah Kaulalena Fonseca 916/502-6319, resources.sacalohafest@gmail.com

Thank you for your support

Donations received from Guy and Akimi Turner and Artina M. Lim help to pay for printing and postage expenses of this paper.



My Sister's House Café is a volunteer-based support program for My Sister's House to help domestic violence and human trafficking survivors. Open Monday-Friday 8am-2pm, 455 Capitol Mall #110. 916/475-1864.

UCD Confucius Institute

Wednesdays through June 11: Tea and Conversation. A lecture series featuring salon style discussion of Chinese folk customs, the Chinese family, and Chinese community. 12:05-12:55pm in 3013 Wickson Hall.

Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 10: Tai Chi. The choreographed, slow, fluid and continuous movements improve physical strength and vitality, balance and coordination, reduced pain and stiffness, reduced stress and enhanced sleep. \$150. 6-730pm on the UCD campus.

May, June: Chinese Paper Cutting. 130-245pm at 1017 Wickson Hall. Two workshops on zodiac animals will be scheduled in May and June.

May 5, June 9: Tea and Beverage Workshops. Learn where China's best tea leaves are produced, visit tea houses and trace the voyage of tea around the world. Noon to 1pm in the Sensory Teater, Robert Mondavi Institute for Wind and Food Sciences.

May 22: Origins of Chinese Food, free lecture by Prof. E.N. Anderson from UC Riverside. 5-6pm at Vanderhoef Studio Theatre at the Mondavi Center. Registration requested.

Registration is required for these events. For more information and to register, visit the website <http://confucius.ucdavis.edu>

Calendar

May 2 Fri **Center for Asian American Media (CAAM) Asian/Asian American Youth Media Makers Building Bridges.** Screening of films by youth media makers and panel discussion. Free. Ninth Street Independent Film Center (145 Ninth St, SF). Info: www.caamedia.org

May 3 Sat **OCA Sacramento Dragon Boat Festival Celebration.** 530pm reception, 7-9pm gala at California Museum (1020 O St, Sac). Honoring My Sister's House, Full Circle Project/AAPI Ambassadors at CSUS. \$85/non-member, \$75/member, \$40/student. Sponsorships available. Info: Jinky Dolar jinky.dolar@crossingstv.com, 916/203-3707, Linda Ng Ingimh@sbcglobal.net, 916/996-3770.

May 3 Sat **Loriene Honda – bookreading/signing of The Cat Who Chose to Dream,** a children's book about the Japanese American internment, featuring the artwork of Jimmy Mirikitani. 230pm at Avid Reader bookstore.

May 3-4 **Hiroshimo (the band)** plays at Yoshi's Oakland (501 Embarcadero West, Jack London Square, Oakland).

May 3 Sat **My Sister's House Free Legal Clinic for Southeast Asian Women.** Confidential, interpreters available. Everything a Southeast Asian woman should know to keep her family safe and together. 10am-noon. Call for location: 916/428-3271. Info: www.my-sisters-house.org

May 3-4 **Chitresh Das Dance Company presents Pandit Chitresh Das' new work, Pancha Jati.** Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (SF). Info: Chitresh Das Dance Company website.

May 8, Jun 12, Jul 10, Aug 14, Sep 11 Thu **ACC Senior Services Free Phone & PG&E Bill Review.** 2:30-4:30pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). Bring a recent phone bill (residential or wireless) or PG&E bill to see if we can save you money. Info: Soojin Yoo, 916/393-9026 x338, team2@accsv.org.

May 8 Thu **My Sister's House's 2014 Soroptomist Wine Tasting Party.** 5330-8pm at Old Sugar Mill (Clarksburg). \$25/person (\$13 to MSH, \$12 to Soroptomist women/children projects). Tickets: My Sister's Café (455 Capitol Mall #110, Sac). Info: www.my-sisters-house.org

May 8 Thu **UC Davis Alzheimer's Disease Center Lecture on "Your aging genes: What you need to know about your risk for dementia"** by Charles DeCarli. 6-7pm at UCD MIND Institute (2824 50th St, Sac). Free. RSVP Jayne LaGrande 916/734-5728

May 10 Sat **Asian Pacific Spring Festival in Locke.** 11am-5pm on Main Street, Locke (I-5, Twin Cities Road to Highway 160 to River Road). Lion dance, martial arts, taiko drums, poker tournament, mahjong demonstration, cultural dances and music, arts and crafts, food vendors, raffle prizes, community organization exhibits. Free admission, free parking.

May 14, Jun 11, Jul 9, Aug 13, Sep 10 Wed **ACC Senior Services Family Caregiver Support Group.** 12-1pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). Self-help group run by and for people with challenges/life changing situations involving caregiving for a loved one with memory decline, such as dementia/Alzheimer's disease, and mild cognitive impairment (MCI). Free. Info: Linda Revilla, 916/393-9026 x323, lrevilla@accsv.org.

May 17 Sat **CAPITAL Meeting.** 830am at Sac. Sheriff's South Area Office Community Room (7000 65th St, Sac).

May 17 Sat **4th Annual Hill Physicians Asian Heritage Street Celebration (AHSC) and Center for Asian American Media' Cinema Showcase.** 2-4pm at Asian Art Museum (200 Larkin St, SF). Free.

Featured videos: Box of Hearts, Kae, Sumo Roll, Wendy Lieu, Samnang, Ramen Party, Martin Yan. Cinema Showcase short films and music videos: Distance, Community Heroes: The Tastemaker Edition Video, Chnam Oun 16, Drenched, Arranged Marriage, Con Kids, Bigger They Come, Russian Hill Roulette, Queen of My Dreams, Tule Lake, Biz Mulfi's Shala Peela

May 17 Sat **PACT What Adopted Children (and their parents) Need to Know – Addressing Ages 10-12 years old.** 930am-noon in Emeryville. Register at www.pactadopt.org, 510/243-9460.

May 18 Sun **PACIFIC RIM STREET FEST.** 10am-5pm in Old Sac.

May 19 Mon **My Sister's House 13th Anniversary Gala "Change ... A New Beginning!"** Sensei Brian Mizuchima from the Sacramento Buddhist Church will be performing. VIP Reception 5-630pm at The Social Club (1100 K St, Sac). 7pm Stage Show at Crest Theater (1013 K St, Sac). Info: www.my-sisters-house.org

May 20 Tue **ACC Senior Services "Understanding Your Phone Bill."** 330-430pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). We will review what's on your bill, what charges are unnecessary, and ways you can save money. We will compare the different services (landline v. wireless) so you can make an informed decision. Bring a recent phone bill. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

May 22 Thu **Alzheimer's Association "Understanding Memory Loss: Strategies for Care."** 9-4pm at Sacramento Convention Center (1400 J St, Sac). This annual education conference is for families caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or a related dementia, and professionals. For info: 800/272-3900 or email denise.davis@alz.org. Register at <http://edconference.kintera.org/2014Sacramento>.

May 22 Thu **Asian Bar Assn of Sacramento Law Foundation 12th Annual Wine & Food Tasting.** 6-830pm at Pavilions (Fair Oaks Blvd, Sac). \$40/person. Info: www.abaslawfoundation.org

June 1 Sun **Filipino Fiesta.** Jose Rizal Community Center (7320 Florin Mall Dr, Sac). Beauty pageant, parade, traditional Filipino food, live entertainment. Info: sactofiesta.org.

June 5 Thu **ACC Senior Services "5 Wishes: California's Advanced Medical Directives."** 1-2pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). California and Federal laws give every competent adult, 18 years and older, the right to make their own health care decisions, including the right to decide what medical care or treatment to accept, reject, or discontinue. Learn about a free legal document which gives your medical decisions a voice when you may not have the ability to express them. Presenter: Cori Deck, Community Liaison, VISTA Innovative Hospice Care. Free. To register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 12 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Understanding Memory Loss, Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease: The Basics."** 2:30-4pm at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). Topics: symptoms and effects of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia; how it affects the brain; causes and risk factors. Presenter: Bonnie Chow, MSW, Family Care Associate, Alzheimer's Association. Free. Pre-registration requested. Call: 800/272-3900, ptardio@alz.org.

June 12 Thu **Chinese for Affirmative Action 45th Anniversary Celebration of Justice.** 6pm reception, 7pm dinner/program at Empress of China restaurant (SF). Info: John Fong, jfong@caasf.org, 415/274-6760 X315

June 15 Sun **CATS (Community Asian Theatre of Sierra) bus trip to see Puccini's Madame Butterfly** at the SF War Memorial Opera House. \$175 roundtrip

(bus, Orchestra Ring seat). Space limited to 18. Info: Jeannie 530/265-2990, info@catsweb.org

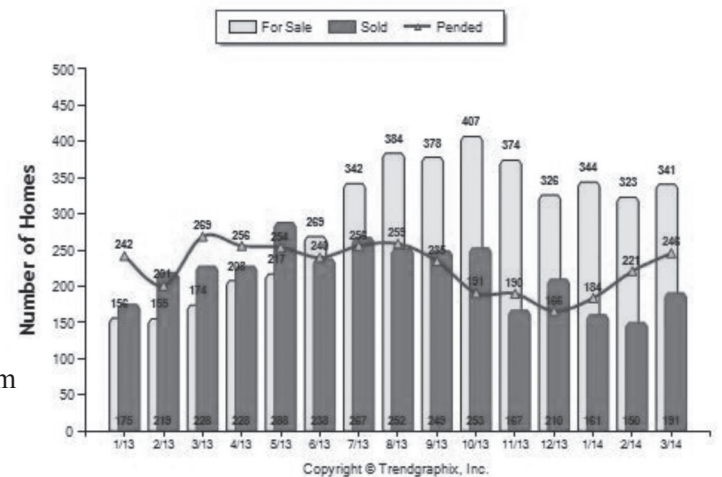
Jun 17 Tue **ACC Senior Services "Maximizing Social Security Lifetime Benefits."** 530-730pm at ACC Administration (7311 Greenhaven Dr, Ste 187, Sac). Learn about SSI, strategies to maximize lifetime benefits, future of social security, creating security in retirement, and utilizing personal assets to supplement income. Free. RSVP: 916/394-6399 x121, lmendoza@accsv.org.

Jun 19 Thu **ACC Senior Services "Internet Safety."** 10-11am at ACC Senior Services Center (7375 Park City Dr, Sac). The workshop will cover how to use the internet safely and how to avoid online scams. Topics covered included: identity theft, online banking, and online shopping. Presenters: Victims of Crime Resource Center staff, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. Free. Register: 916/393-9026 x330, classes@accsv.org.

Jun 20 Fri **ACC Senior Services "First Aid."**
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