



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Website: www.sfvjacc.com

Issue 23

September/
October
2015

NISEI WEEK CORONATION



NISEI WEEK
Japanese Festival

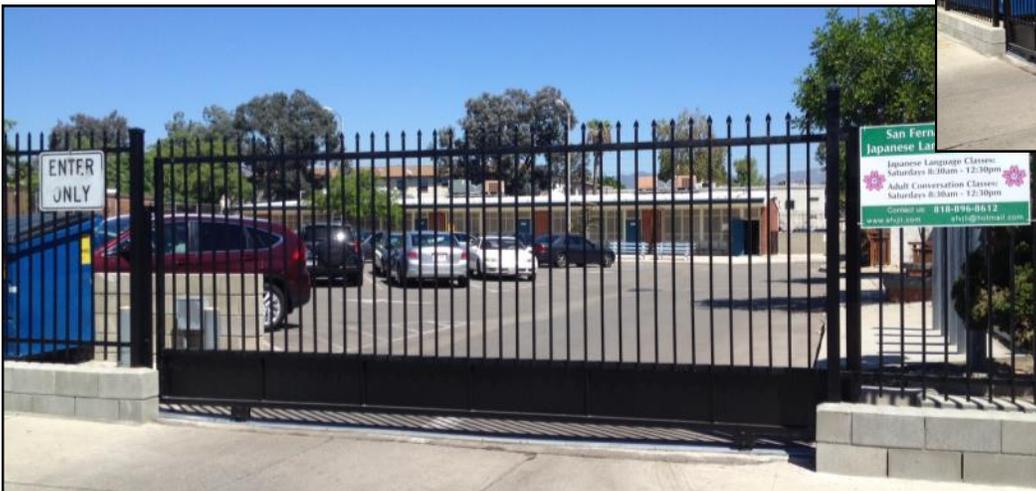
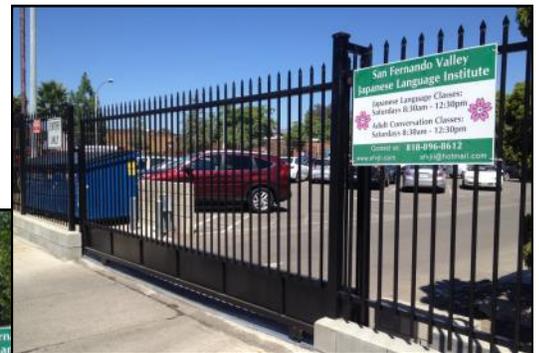
It was an exciting night at the 75th Nisei Week Coronation, emceed by our Tamlyn Tomita and David Ono. Our Queen candidate, Kelsey Nakaji Kwong, represented our Community Center well. She is pictured with some of her many supporters.

(L-R): Kenji and Kyoko Watanabe, Mabel Takimoto, CC President Paul Jonokuchi, Nancy and Kay Oda, Hitomi and Toji Hashimoto, Ken Inaba.

NEW GATES AND FENCE FOR OUR BACK PARKING LOT

In our back parking lot we have finally installed a new wrought iron fence and gates to replace the old chain linked ones. Many of us, especially Japanese School, struggled when opening the old gates along Remick Avenue so for safety and security reasons, we had to replace them.

Because of the high cost of this project, we have designated the proceeds from our upcoming Super Bingo Fundraiser to help cover the cost.



In the upcoming year we are hoping to do some other improvements to our Center. One such project would be having our front parking lot sealcoated and striping done. If you notice anything with a safety issue, needs repairing or needs to be replaced, please call the office (818) 899-1989.

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote the Japanese culture and preserve the Japanese American experience through education, events and activities for our community.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We hope you and your family had an enjoyable summer. Now that the kids are back in school most of you are getting back into your daily routine and busy schedules. There's been some strange weather with rain and humidity, but we could use the rain in this drought so try to stay cool.

During the month of August, we were deeply involved with the Nisei Week Festival. I was asked to be one of the 15 judges for the Tanabata Festival, which was difficult choosing from the 70 colorful Fukinagashi. The five main large Fukinagashi were donated by the City of Sendai. They all looked beautiful as they blew in the wind. It was a worthwhile experience! The next day we attended the Coronation Ball with a number of CC supporters for our candidate, Kelsey Nakaji Kwong. She had one of the biggest and

loudest cheering section with supporters from SFVJACC, Wakayama Kenjinkai, Terminal Island and her sorority. She did a great job representing herself as well for our community and hope she had a memorable experience. Thank you very much Kelsey! I wasn't able to participate in the parade the next day, so Nancy Oda and her grandson Kyle took part in the parade riding along in the trolley. It must have been exciting for Kyle waving to the crowd as they cheered them on. The following afternoon, we had to attend the luncheon at Tupper Tree Hotel in Japanese town to accept a Community Service Award presented by the Nisei Week Foundation. All the local Community Centers and two distinguish honorees were the recipients of the awards and citations from the local politicians. It was quite a busy weekend!

Finally the new wrought iron gates and fence along Remick Avenue were completed and installed. It looks great and now opening and closing the gates will be much easier for everyone.

Each year the SFV Bonsai Club graciously takes a Sunday off to come to the Center to trim, fertilize and spray the pine trees. We thank the Bonsai Club members very much for their effort and time maintaining our pine trees. They are well taken care! Thank you very much.

You may have already received the Board nomination form for this year's Board election. We encourage you to nominate someone who you feel will help and support the Board. A number of Board members are getting older so we need to look for a younger generation of new leaders to carry out the Board duties and responsibilities. If you are interested in the position, please help by volunteering!

In addition, a survey from the Future Planning Committee (FPC) was mailed out a few weeks ago. Please take a few moments to fill out the survey. We value your opinion and concerns that you may have and it's very important to the FPC in their planning for the future. Everyone is a stakeholder in this venture and we look forward to working together with everyone.

Oct 3rd is our annual CC Clean up, please come out and help us make our Community feel fresh and clean!

Paul Jonokuchi



**San Fernando Valley
Japanese American Community Center**

CC ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**COME JOIN
US FOR THIS
INFORMATIVE
MEETING.**

Refreshments will be served.

**Saturday, December 5, 2015
9:00—10:30 AM**

Topics to be discussed:

- Financial Status
- Future Projects/Visions



SFVJACC SUPER BINGO FUNDRAISER

Saturday, November 7, 2015

Flyer and Form on Pages 11 & 12

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For the Months of July & August 2015

Donations

Dr. Bo Sakaguchi
Tamlyn Tomita
Charitable Contribution from M.A. & Josephine
R. Grisham Foundation
Kathryn Frye
In honor of father Dr. Bo Sakaguchi
Fukashi Hori
Linda Kuratomi
Appreciation thank you
Ted & Midori Yamane
Margie Yoshida
Anonymous
IBM Charitable Contribution
Tomiko Nakata
For Family Day Picnic

Use of Facilities

Fujima Seiyumi - Dianne Fukuwa
John Goka
Craig Tanaka
Kenji Watanabe
Tuesday Exercise Class
Line Dancing
Ping Pong Club
SFV JACL
SFV JACL Suzume no Gakkou & Kizuna Nikkei
Discovery Camp
Wednesday Nite Basketball
Friday Exercise Class
Aloha Club
Friday Mah Jong
Harmonica Class

Miscellaneous

Anonymous 2 lbs. Coffee
Coffee donation \$35.75
Copier donation \$7.55
Maku Cuizon 2 lbs. Coffee
Frank & Marge Tanaka 3.5 lbs. CoffeeMate
Stanley Rivera 2 (3 lbs.) Coffee
Toshi Toda 1 Box (33 gal) trash bags

DONATIONS TO HOT MEALS

For the Months of July & August 2015

Suzan Akamine Birthday cake for husband Donald
Walter Fujimori Special donuts for the kitchen volunteers
Ken Furutani Peaches for the kitchen volunteers
Doreen Kawamoto Ice Cream for the kitchen volunteers
Marilyn Kishi & Marian Murphy
..... Box of assorted cookies
Chiz Morita Cake to thank people for their well wishes
Musashi Restaurant 5 Gal. Shoyu, 2 pkgs. Chopsticks, 100 lbs.
of rice
Barbara Nakatsu Lemon pound cake for the kitchen
volunteers
Noda Family Birthday cake for Aiko Noda
K. Nomura Fresh tomatoes & Japanese cucumbers
Dr. Bo Sakaguchi Lunch for the kitchen volunteers at
Hokkaido
Marge Sato Takuwan for the kitchen volunteers
Jan Schuetze Case of 8 oz. styrofoam cups, box of
bouffant caps & 2 oz. plastic containers
Rex & Lorraine Shimizu 7 Bottles of Nestea
Lorraine Shimizu Special dessert for the kitchen volunteers
Yone Takimoto Tsukemono (2 times)
Kiyo Tomomatsu Container of sea salt & pkg. of Italian bread
crumbs
Cherry Uyeda 20 lb. Bag of rice
Sylvia Yamashita Monetary donation, 1 pkg. napkins
Harris Yoneoka Birthday cake for wife Diane, 2 Lg. Whisks

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE FOR
THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS!



You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop on Amazon? Why not shop on AmazonSmile? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support our Center every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile offers the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon and 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases will go to our Center. To register, go to smile.amazon.com

SAVE THE DATE!

**SFV MEIJI SENIOR CLUB
NEW YEAR'S PARTY**

January 19, 2016
12 - 3 PM

**MEIJI SENIOR CLUB
PHOTOS WANTED!**

We would like to display photos from the past at the 50th Luncheon on January 19, 2016. If you have any, please submit to Kay Yamada, Liz Doomey or Genevieve Lew. Original photos will be returned.

SFVJACC - Meiji Ondo Dance Group Leads Nisei Week Ondo Closing Ceremonies

By Genevieve Lew

The **San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center-Meiji Ondo Dancers** marked their 15th year of participation in the Grand Parade on August 16, 2015, the 75th anniversary of the Nisei Week Festival. They were also honored in being selected to lead the ondo dance closing ceremonies held the following Sunday. Their large green banner was introduced announcing them as the San Fernando Valley JACC-Meiji Ondo Dance Group.

Sensei Masako Rodriquez formed the **SFVJACC Meiji Club Ondo dance group** in 1999 at the urging of the late Sam Kimura. At its inception the club started out as a class for the seniors to preserve and promote interest in their Japanese cultural heritage, to exercise and practice for the summer Obon festivals held throughout Southern California.

Masako Rodriquez is the lead instructor with assistance from **Janet Yamamoto** and **Cathy Fujimoto**, co-presidents and **Julie Otake**, treasurer. Currently there are 25 active Meiji Club ondo dancers.



Sensei Masako Rodriquez

Obon festivals are summer celebrations of the Buddhist temples and as such most of the groups attending represent the various Buddhist temples in the district. The **Meiji Club**

Ondo dance group is always announced as representing the **SFVJACC**. The group has been invited to perform at many events including the Ronald McDonald Fundraiser, Cherry Blossom festival, the Japanese Garden in Van Nuys, events at the Music Center, the JAM



Ronald McDonald House Fundraiser

sessions at the Hollywood Ford Theatre, and many activities at the **SFVJACC**. The majority of the events are performed in full dress kimono, yukata or the signature green happi coats.

Since 2012, several of the members have volunteered to teach odori at the Nikkei Senior Gardens in Arleta. Their goal is to teach them dance, to exercise and to have fun.

The group holds their practices on the second and fourth Friday of the month starting at 7:00 PM at the community center. For more information, contact Masako Rodriquez at 818-899-8777.

Nisei Week Closing Ceremony with David Ono (front, center)



New Window Treatments

Have you seen the beautiful new blinds in the Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi Hall? The proceeds from the 2014 Super Bingo Fundraiser were used to purchase blackout cellular blinds for the 35 windows in the hall. Now slideshows and movies can be seen clearly and the hall stays cooler. White faux wooden blinds were also purchased for the kitchen.



Basketball News...

16th Annual Hollywood Dodgers Las Vegas Invitational Tournament



SF Blakers 4th Grade Red Division Champs

Won all games 3 - 0

Back row (L-R): Coach Victor Yamauchi, Ryan Tjenalooi, Kyle Minami, Scotty Nimura, Andy Okazaki, Justin Perez, Coach Danny Okazaki

Front row (L-R): Brenden Yamauchi, Ryuto Murata, Troy Kadonaga

San Fernando Ninjas 5th Grade Division Champs

The boys played hard
and won all 3 games!

GO NINJAS!!

Back row (L-R): Coach Craig Yahata, Coach Robert Kunisaki

Front row (L-R): Isaac Kim, Ryan Ogimachi, Antonio Velasquez, Michael Kwon, Wyatt LaMarsna, Ryan Yahata, Kai Burris, Jacob Lee



Congratulations to the following teams that placed in the tournament: Tigers - Jaguars - Championship; Sharks - 2nd Place; Gangreen - 2nd Place; Tigers - 2nd Place; Angels - Championship

Pee Wee Clinic July 11 - August 1

Twenty-eight players, ages 4-7, participated in the Pee Wee Clinic which ran for 4 Saturdays. The clinic director was Curtis Takimoto with many of the SF Athletics high school players helping out. They ended the clinic with a luncheon for the families.

SF Athletics and Pasadena Bruins sponsored a Pee Wee League, running from July 12 - August 2 for the players. This gave them a chance to try their newly learned skills and to get some experience playing as a team.



For Love of the Game

By Keston's father, Kirk Hiura



No, this is not about the movie starring Kevin Costner and Kelly Preston. Instead this is about a kid who grew up playing basketball at the SFVJACC with the San Fernando Timberwolves several years ago. He is Keston Hiura who just completed his freshman year playing baseball at the University of California – Irvine (UCI). He has had several articles written about him both locally and nationally and they characterize him as being “humble, down to earth, ultimate team player giving credit to others before himself, and hard worker with great ethics.” I believe his personality development was reinforced by the SF Athletics/Timberwolves through the teachings of teamwork, do your best, winning is good but helping teammates is better concepts. His many memories of the pancake breakfasts, obons, carnivals, family picnics and clean ups helped to reinforce our family values. True to his form of not wanting to draw attention to himself, Keston declined writing this article so it is up to his “old man” to do the honors. Call it my inability to play (or even be considered) at the “next level” that I have resorted to live vicariously through Keston’s eyes. My father (Keston’s grandfather) who recently came up on the losing end in the game against cancer used to tell everyone about his grandson, how proud he was, his accomplishments, and now I finally truly “get it”. At last month’s Hollywood Dodgers Vegas Tournament, I saw many friends and acquaintances associated with SFJACC/Athletics and they asked how Keston is doing. I thought this would be an ideal way to share his journey.

Keston received a D1 athletic scholarship to play baseball for UCI last year. The team finished 3rd in their conference and Keston put up some impressive slash numbers: .330/.392/.520 (ba/ob%/slg%). He made the UCI Freshman record books in home runs, runs scored, total bases, hits, doubles, and at bats. He had hitting streaks games of 19, 12, and 6 along with a consecutive RBI game streak of 12. At the end of the season he was recognized as Big West Freshman Position Player of the Year and Big West All-Conference 1st Team. Nationally he received Freshman All-American 1st Team honors from all 5 national publications. He was also elected to the NCAA Div1 All Region 2nd Team.

Keston spent this summer playing baseball in Washington for the Wenatchee AppleSox organization. By the end of the season he put up .356/.439/.623 numbers which was good enough to be placed on the West Coast League (WCL) All-Conference 1st Team and #4 in the WCL Top 10 Prospect Ranking. Along the way he led the team in almost every offensive category and set 4 team records. In the WCL Conference he appears in 15 of 17 top 10 offensive categories. He reached base safely 48 out of 49 total games with an impressive 41 consecutive game streak (thought to be a record).



he appears in 15 of 17 top 10 offensive categories. He reached base safely 48 out of 49 total games with an impressive 41 consecutive game streak (thought to be a record).

It’s hard to believe and comprehend the success this Asian-American kid from Valencia has experienced. In the back of my mind I still recall hearing Keston and his friends when they were in elementary school imitating NBA/MLB players saying they want to be just like them. The philosophies of SFVJACC and SF Athletics will help begin, shape, and fulfill the dreams of many young minds whether it be the road to athletics, work force and/or family. I don’t know what kind of success Keston will have in the coming years but if it is part of God’s Plan we will follow. Keston has started and played every inning in 105 games during a 175 day period this year and he keeps on going without complaining. At first I couldn’t understand his dedication and drive but then I came to the conclusion the only logical reason is it must be.....**For Love of the Game.**

SF BONSAI CLUB

On Sunday, August 16, the members of the Bonsai Club did their annual pine tree trimming. Our Japanese gardens once again look beautiful and serene. Arigato Bonsai Club!!



A huge thank you to the following -

W. Zipusch	S. Murata
A. Kimura	G. Suzuki
O. Yakura	A. Rivera
T. Inoshita	D. Ono
K. Yamazaki	
S. Wakamatsu,	

SHADOWS FOR PEACE, FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN, THE HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI EXPERIENCE

By Phil Shigekuni

Hiroshima/Nagasaki has connections to many in our community. Many of our Issei forbearers originated from Hiroshima. In discussing our program which was held on August 2nd, our Community Center President, Paul Jonokuchi, revealed to me that he had lost a grandfather in the A Bombing of Hiroshima.

A Hiroshima/Nagasaki Art Exhibit presented by Nisei Week Honoree, Richard Fukuhara, served as a backdrop for this most memorable 70th Anniversary of the dropping of the bombs.

I welcomed the gathering, noting that what had prompted me to initiate the forum was my need to, after 70 years, come to terms with the event, examining it once more with its many facets. When the bombs were dropped, I was re-located from the Amache internment camp with my family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. My loyalty to this country was suspect, and I readily accepted the government's version of their reasons for the bombings. I had attended a forum in March which was produced by Robert Horsting and Richard Fukuhara, and was inspired to pursue the subject at the event which was held on August 2.

After a stirring opening prayer by Rev. Dickson Yagi, Richard Fukuhara read, "The Experience", the story of the Enola Gay leaving the Tinian Island with the bomb, "Little Boy", and three days later, Kokura, Nagasaki, "Fat Boy". Following this were three video interviews-Grant Hirabayashi (MIS) who interrogated Japanese prisoners of war; Hideo Sakata/Nagasaki hibakusha; and Ms. Kaz Suyeishi/Hiroshima hibakusha. Following this was an interview with Dr. James Yamasaki, physician in charge of investigating the aftereffects of the bombings on pregnant women in Nagasaki.

Then, Wataru Nama/Hiroshima hibakusha spoke, revealing his shocking experience as a young child surviving in the aftermath of the bombing. After Dr. Cobb's address, Kikuko Otake served on a panel and told of her experience as a child in Hiroshima, barely escaping the blast, while losing her father.

Our keynote speaker was Dr. John Cobb, who was born in Japan of Methodist Missionary parents. He said his earliest memories were of his childhood in Hiroshima before moving to the US in 1940. He returned to Japan after the war as a member of the US occupation force, and subsequently served as professor of theology at the Claremont School of Theology until his retirement in 1990.

In his introduction, Robert Horsting says Dr. Cobb has six honorary doctor of philosophy degrees, and has written over 50 books. His presentation was entitled, "The Problem of Morality in Total War." With his background, what he had to say in his address surely had to be taken seriously. He started by saying after the bombs were dropped in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, he became emotionally affected, and had a fever which lasted for a few days.

Dr. Cobb said that in total war all in this country are guilty. Although we are not able to make choices made by the government for good or ill, when we pay our taxes, we are complicit. In a total war civilians become involved, and the first example in this country came during the civil war in the South when civilians were exposed to the fighting. This degenerated over the years into what happened in Japan when the firebombing of Japanese cities were intentionally meant to kill civilians.

Dr. Cobb says the climate of total war makes for extreme positions taken, making no provision for compromise. The US demanded unconditional surrender. Japan, after suffering losses on all fronts and devastation by fire bombing of 60+ cities, desperately sought to surrender. They were denied because according our terms of surrender the emperor had to suffer consequences. Dr. Cobb said allowing the emperor to not be prosecuted would have resulted in an honorable surrender and made unnecessary the dropping of the bombs. As history recorded, Japan's surrender finally came with its emperor maintaining his position.

Dr. Cobb called comparing the attack at Pearl Harbor as justification for the A bombings, nonsense. He said that Theodore Roosevelt called Japanese "honorary Aryans" which encouraged their military actions. Because of the oil embargos imposed on the Japanese, President Franklin Roosevelt was expecting a Japanese attack to occur somewhere in the Pacific. Their attack at Pearl Harbor was like any other military attack, made without warning. Dr. Cobb said that to compare this attack with the bombing (A bombing or incendiary) of innocent civilians is wrong.

He concluded his powerful address by asking what we can do to counter our war-like nature. He proposed that if we spent 100th of our energies studying peace as do spend in making war, this would be a good start.

Studying Hiroshima/Nagasaki can cause us to look at ourselves and begin to care more about peace.



Back row (L-R): Paul Jonokuchi, Richard Horsting, Harold Kameya
Front row (L-R): Richard Fukuhara, Wataru Namba, John Cobb, Dickson Yagi, myself, and Nancy Takayama

LOOKING FOR A TAX DEDUCTION?

Consider donating to our Super Bingo Fundraiser, our biggest fundraising event held on November 7, 2015. We could use donations such as sports tickets, gift cards, etc. for our bingo games, raffle drawing and silent auction table. Help us have our best event ever!

GIVING CAMPAIGNS & MATCHING GIFTS?

Does your work place or company do employee giving campaigns or matching gifts to non-profit organizations? Consider naming our Community Center as a recipient. Several of our members have been doing this for years and these donations do help.

Tuna Canyon Detention Station

By Nancy oda

Los Angeles - September 13, 2015

Three hundred guests that were community leaders and activists congregated for the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Traveling Exhibit fundraiser held on August 29, 2015, at the Nishi Hongwanji Betsuin Kaikan in Little Tokyo. Many descendants were moved by the photos and charts that depicted a lost time in their personal histories. The goal to raise funds to match a National Park Service grant was successfully met with a small reserve for the future memorial onsite.

The San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center is one of the four Platinum sponsors. President Paul Jonokuch and Neil Hashiba greeted every guest as volunteers in the parking lot. Thank you, gentlemen.

David Ono, Channel 7 news anchor, was the master of ceremonies. Since Tuna Canyon is a relatively new discovery about World War II, there was a sense of urgency about this place located only a few miles away from the Los Angeles City Hall on the Verdugo Hills Golf Course. Dr. William Lloyd Hitt and Minoru Tonai, were honored for their decades of service to the community. Minoru Tonai's first-hand accounts of the war years described his role as the eldest son. Dr. Hitt's drive for Tuna Canyon to be an historic cultural site is legendary.

A clip courtesy of "Citizen Tanouye" producers showed what Torrance High School students learned about the political shifts in California after Pearl Harbor, and the confinement of "enemy aliens" at Tuna Canyon. Ruth Matsuo Brandt, daughter of Sei Fujii, publisher of the *Kashu Mainichi*, told of her father's plight at Tuna Canyon produced by Brian Maeda. Mrs. Brandt and her daughter, Lucia, donated a framed photo of him in front of the newspaper office when it opened and a group photo for the traveling exhibit.

Music by the renowned Hiroshima Band members, June Kuramoto, Dan Kuramoto, and Kimo Cornell, added to senses. Tribute songs by Franny McCarthey and Rob Narita included "What American Means to Me" and "Allegiance" Their songs told of a strong belief in America's promise while connecting to emotional pain of the Tuna Canyon experience. Nancy Teramura Hayata danced in a traditional *kimono*, Japanese dress, that had symbolic gold cranes on a turquoise sky with red inner sleeves. June Kuramoto played "One Thousand Cranes" on the *koto*, a Japanese instrument with hopes for world peace.

More than one thousand Japanese, Germans, Italians and Japanese Peruvians were detained from December 1941-October 1943 until they were assigned to more permanent sites like Crystal City, Texas that was run by the Department of Justice. Coalition members exhibited newspaper clippings, historical events, and photos that will be part of a museum quality exhibit that the National Parks Service has selected for the 2015 grant year of the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant.

Several guests traveled as far as San Francisco like Grace Shimizu, an expert on Japanese taken from Peru. Kristin Okimoto, a strong advocate of the memorial, came from San Jose. She was interviewed by Kaitlyn Tang, a Peninsula High School student, who was interested in Ms. Okimoto's grandfather, Sanjiro Miyoshi. Ms. Okimoto recounted what happened to him as a Terminal Island fisherman on the eve of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

The Manzanar Park Rangers were represented by Superintendent Bernadette Johnson, Supervisory Park Ranger Alisa Broch, and NPS Anthropologist Jeff Burton who visited Tuna Canyon and hiked in the heat then went on to visit Historic Wintersburg the day before the event.



(L-R): Ruth Matuo Brandt (daughter of Sei Fuji), Nancy Od and MC David Ono



Descendants 24

Tuna Canyon Detention Station - Continued from page 8

Guests remarked that it was a true community event with Boy Scout Troop 738 setting up, and Troop 719 posting the colors, Nikkei Student Union volunteers from Cal State University Fullerton, University of California at Irvine, University of California in Los Angeles, Cal Poly Pomona, San Fernando Valley Team Mirai, SFV Angels, and the grandchildren of Board members working hard to make the event flow. It seems like the next generation will keep the torch burning.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center.

To see a short clip of the event by Keith Matsushita go to <http://www.sfvjacc.com/sfvjacc-newsletter.html>

The Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition is dedicated to education and to raising public awareness about the detention that was a violation of civil liberties and to the continuing struggle of all peoples. It plays a key role in the development of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Memorial at 6433 La Tuna Canyon, Tujunga, CA 91402.

For more information, call (818) 935-2603 or check our web at <http://www.tunacanyon.org>. Donations will be accepted addressed to Tuna Canyon Detention Station (TCDSC) c/o 12953 Branford Street, Pacoima, CA 91331 or online.

San Fernando Valley **JACL** CORNER

By Harold Kameya

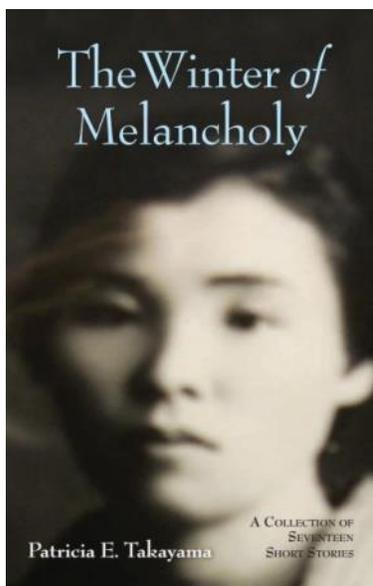
Have you read the book "Train to Crystal City" by Jan Jarboe Russell? The book was loaned to me by a classmate whose Buddhist priest father was taken to Crystal City. The rest of his family in Hawaii eventually joined him there. Through the author's extensive research and access to FBI files (including the FBI files on Eleanor Roosevelt) I gained a new viewpoint of FDR's early concerns prior to WWII.

- In 1934, Roosevelt asked J Edgar Hoover to start investigations into potential Nazi sympathizers. Then in 1936, he was asked to expand his investigations into other subversives, and the FBI then started a file on Eleanor Roosevelt as well.
- in 1939, FDR requested a count of all US citizens in Germany, Italy and Japan. The total was over 100,000, and FDR foresaw a need to gather a large number of hostages for a hostage exchange program with those countries.
- in 1940, FBI agents checked on Germans and Italians residing in Latin America.
- in 1941, some months *before* Pearl Harbor, FDR convinced Peru and several Latin American countries to deport Germans, Italians and Japanese to the US for prisoner exchange purposes.

Given the lengthy period of research by the FBI, their agents had a long, detailed list of names and addresses of foreigners and "non-aliens" to round up after the attack on Dec. 7, 1941.

The official name of the camp was the Crystal City Internment Center, and held approx. 3,400 people at its peak. It was the only camp that provided family facilities. Although life was very difficult, especially with 120 degree summers, the detainees could not imagine what awaited those that were exchanged as hostages and were sent to Germany or Japan.

In the early chapters, Eleanor and a few others (Biddle, Harrison) are portrayed as the lone voices of reason in calling for the protection of rights of the innocent people that were incarcerated. The superintendent of the Crystal City camp, Joseph O'Rourke, was described as a caring man who did his best to make life in Crystal City as tolerable as possible.



Book Party Celebration !!

Join in the celebration to commemorate the publication of Patty Takayama's long awaited collection of short stories drawn from interviews of Japanese American women.

The gathering of friends, family, food, drinks and storytelling will be held

Sunday, November 15th, 2015

From 2pm - 4pm

SFVJACC Pioneer Building - Dr. Sanbo Sakaguchi Hall
12953 Branford Street / Pacoima, CA 91331

The event is free

Book sales will be handled by
Carolyn Sanwo's, Heritage Source

For more information, contact Patty at: 818-899-7916



The Colors of Super Bingo

By Old Wakaba, Bud Sagara

Do you take the time to really look at the abundant and vast beauty that God creates in the world? It's there for everyone to partake, all one has to do is to pause from the busyness of life and receive it. The great masters of impressionist painting like Vincent van Gogh or Claude Monet tried to capture this by putting emotion into every brushstroke of color and light. Some of the greatest accomplishments of man are what artists have captured in stone, on walls and on canvas; where the details are not as important as the deeper meaning of the piece. Others try to educate me on the finer points of art, but most of my time in art museums is spent looking for a comfortable place to sit and the locations of the restrooms and cafeteria. Sometimes I have those special moments when a particular painting catches my eye for some reason. The piece inexplicably transports me into the scene to feel and experience what the artist was trying to convey. The colors are so perfect and personal that they take me to wondrous nights filled with stars.

Impressionist paintings make use of bright colors and light to create the image with emphasis on the whole instead of the brush strokes themselves. The same can be said of any event at the CC. Whether it be the *Obon*, the Crossway Church Thanksgiving Dinner, Super Bingo, or the Pancake Breakfast; it is the people that make the event. Each person brings his or her own contribution to create a dynamic, living landscape. For example, what would Super Bingo be like without Miles Chen, Lois Okui, or Fuyumi Hashimoto? What if Sylvia Yamashita, Yo Monji, Sumi Kimura, or Fuji were not able to attend? There would be something missing from the whole experience. It would just not feel right.

It is the fellowship with others and the fun atmosphere that makes Super Bingo what it is. Many people arrive early to save seats for their friends and family. There are colorful post-it notes all over the tables to stake claim to the seats up front. Volunteers are busy setting up the hall, cooking in the kitchen, and out back manning the barbecue grills. As the start time nears, energy builds in the hall when old friends mix and mingle to form a living pallet of vibrant humanity. It's wonderful to see the youth from CC organizations serving the sushi appetizers, dinner, and helping with the clean-up and the bingo games that follow. When the event begins, the tables are dismissed by rows for an orderly service. Most people want to line up for dinner first, but my wife would rather go later so that she can head over to the dessert table first to score her favorite selections. The dessert table is one of the highlights of Super Bingo with its mind boggling display of commercial and homemade goodies of every color, flavor and texture that is sure to send blood sugar readings soaring.

The silent auction is the place where strategies abound and timing is everything. There are those who sign up early in hopes of discouraging others to sign the bid sheets and there are those who sign up late and then stand guard over the bid sheet as if to impede access to others who might outbid them. The last few seconds of the silent auction are as brutal as any life and death struggle on the Serengeti Plain. Finally, the silent auction is over and the winners add their victorious voices to the din of the crowded hall.

Winning a big prize is not the primary reason why most attend Super Bingo. Just ask our Aunties Alice, Grace and Itsue who have not been lucky so far, but always attend with us. Real fun is receiving a toothbrush or a package of *nor*i and proudly hoisting it up as if we had just won the Stanley Cup and laughing with friends. The hall takes on a hue of quiet determination when everyone gets down to business when the bingo games begin. Players are at the ready with markers in hand as each number is read and lighted on the bingo board. The tension mounts as each game proceeds toward its end with players on edge waiting for their last number needed for the win. Here's a riddle to break the tension: What causes a nice little old lady to swear like a sailor? The answer is--have another nice little old lady yell "Bingo!"



November is known for combinations of weather that creates splashes of colors in the sky that neither van Gogh nor Monet could match. The clouds of sunset reflect brilliant oranges and reds that gently fade into pastel pinks and purples as dusk settles over the Valley. The trees are dressed in their fall colors that are not quite as spectacular as those of New Hampshire or Vermont, but nonetheless a beautiful display. The colors hang in the trees until the winds take them to unknown addresses upon their currents, leaving behind only the blinding blue of the sky.

November is also the time between the red heat of summer and the gray cold of winter and it teaches us about the fleeting nature of beauty. It is there for just a moment and then it is gone. This is a story that is repeated over and over again and pertains to life itself. In Psalm 27:4, King David reminds us, "One thing I ask of the LORD, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple." King David's greatest desire was to live in the presence of God each day of his life. That's where beauty that lasts for eternity is found. The next time you are struck by the beauty of God's creation, there should be no doubt who He is. He is irises, a water lily pond, a starry night over the Rhone, and infinitely more.

Welcome New Community Center Members

David & Sandra Dalie	S. Steve Suzukawa
Maria Dungca	Alan & Nancy Wong
Mica Miyamoto	Josephine Zarate
Luellen Rey	

CLASSES

Interested in learning how to play taiko drums or dance hula? Want to exercise with Zumba or Tai Chi? Learn Ikebana or Japanese calligraphy?

Call the CC office (818) 899-1989 for info.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

11th Annual

SUPER BINGO FUNDRAISER

Saturday, November 7, 2015

5:00 PM

Nikkei Pioneer Building
12953 Branford St • Pacoima 91331

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL—\$100.00
ENDS OCTOBER 17**

Cost of Package After October 17—\$125.00

GOLD PACKAGE

INCLUDES

5 Bingo Cards, 5 Raffle Tickets & 1 Dinner

- Cash & Other Prizes for each Bingo Game
- Blackout Game Prize - \$500
- Raffle - Top 3 Prizes - \$500 Each Plus
Many Other Raffle Prizes!!

Huge Silent Auction!

*iWatch, 4 Disneyland One-
Day Parkhoppers, Sports
Tickets and more!*

Deadline is Friday, October 23, 2015

Additional Dinners (limit 1 per package) - \$25.00/person (pre-orders only)

For info, call Lois Okui 818-899-1989 or email Tadao Okui : tadokui@aol.com

**All proceeds will go towards new gates and a brick and wrought
iron fence in the back parking lot on Remick Street.**

Thank you for your support!!

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

Super Bingo

Saturday, November 7, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

- Please print legibly and fill out information completely.
- Make check payable to "SFVJACC" and note "Super Bingo" on check.
- Gold Package is \$100.00 (Early Bird Special) and includes 5 Bingo Cards, 5 Raffle Tickets, and 1 Dinner. After October 17, cost of Gold Package will be \$125.00.
- Additional dinner tickets are available for \$25.00 per person (pre-order only). **Limit 1 additional dinner per Gold Package.**
- **Deadline for all orders is Friday, October 23, 2015.**

Please give me _____ Gold Package(s) @ \$100.00 (\$125.00) each. \$ _____

Please give me _____ additional dinner ticket(s) @ \$25.00 each. \$ _____

Limit 1 additional dinner per Gold Package.

Total amount due \$ _____

***Bingo cards and raffle tickets are to be picked up at the door.**

Please mail check and this entire form to: SFVJACC
Super Bingo
12953 Branford St.
Pacoima, CA 91331

Any questions, contact Lois Okui at 818-899-1989 or email Tadao Okui: tadokui@aol.com.

All the proceeds will go towards new gates and a brick and wrought iron fence in the back parking lot on Remick Street.

Thank you for your support.

COORDINATING COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONS—MEETINGS-CONTACT PERSONS

Coordinating Council.....	1st Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Nancy Oda	818 786-0914
Community Center.....	1st/3rd Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Paul Jonokuchi	818 894-5327
Athletics.....	3rd Tues., 7:30 PM.....	Margaret Takimoto	818 701-7628
CC News.....	Lois Okui.....	818 892-1487.....	Email: loisokui@aol.com
Chatsworth West United Methodist Church.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	2nd Sun., 1:00 PM.....	Doreen Kawamoto	818 764-8850
Crossway Church.....	2nd Sun., 12:30 PM.....	Jennifer Trax	818 896-1676
Nikkei Senior Gardens.....	2nd Thurs., 7:00 PM.....	Toji Hashimoto	818 897-4216
SFV Bonsai Club.....	4th Sun., 8 AM-12 PM.....	Walter Zipusch	818 993-4478
SFV Fishing Club	3rd Mon., 8:00 PM.....	Al Tokunaga	818 982-4236
SFV Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.....	2nd Mon., 7:30 PM.....	Terry Ishigo	818 899-4030
SFV JACL	2nd Wed., 7:00 PM.....	Doreen Kawamoto.....	818 764-8850
SFV Japanese Language Institute	Sat., 9:30 AM-12:30 PM.....	Stephen Nakata.....	818 896-8612
SFV Judo Club	4th Wed., 7:03 PM.....	Kenji Couey	818 381-7232
SFV Landscape Gardeners	Sat. of every other month.....	Nob Tamai	818 347-3912
SFV Meiji Senior Citizens.....	1st Fri., 12:30 PM.....	Liz Doomey	818 892-7381
Senior Hot Meals.....	Tues. & Fri. (no meal on 5th Tues. & 5th Fri.) ..	818 899-1989	
Sho Chiku Bai Porter Ranch Bonsai Club	1st Sun., 9 AM-12 PM; 2nd Mon., 5-7 PM.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	Yoko Zipusch.....	818 746-6677
Sunrise Foursquare Church.....	.....	Reverend Paul Iwata	818 782-8738
Valley Japanese Community Center .....	.....	Neil Hashiba	818 732-5837

**Want to reserve the
Community Center
for an event?**

Call Tadao Okui
at 818-892-1487
or email:
tadokui@aol.com

**Want to submit an
article for the CC
Newsletter?**

Email:
loisokui@aol.com

CC Deadline:
2nd Friday of
every odd month.

SPECIAL CLASSES

Arts & Crafts.....	Monday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Sally Hamamoto	818 361-2902
Ballroom Dance.....	Tuesday	7:00-8:30 PM	Barbara Okita	818 784-5128
Bowling*, Mission Hills Bowl.....	Thursday	9:30 AM	George Seko	818 998-0682
Bridge*	Mon/Wed	12:00-4:00 PM	Ray Shinsato	818 767-5550
Country Western Music*	1st /3rd Tuesday	10:30-11:30 AM	Janet Schuetze	818 767-1819
Exercise Class.....	Tuesday	9:00-10:00 AM	Ralph Ahn	818 897-1322
Exercise Class.....	Friday	10:00-11:00 AM	Phil Shigekuni	818 893-1581
Guitar Class.....	Tuesday	10:15-11:30 AM	Greg Librando	818 896-6503
Hanafuda*	Friday	1:00-3:00 PM	Yone Takimoto	818 765-6735
Harmonica Class*	Friday	11:00-11:30 AM	Call CC office	818 899-1989
Hawaiian Hula (Hula Wahines).....	Friday	12:30-1:30 PM	Suzan Akamine	818 367-1723
Hawaiian Hula (Ages 3-adults)....	Saturday	2:00-3:45 PM	Mikilani Young	818 692-4189
Hitomi's Cooking Class	4th Tuesday	7:00-9:00 PM	NJ Nakamura	818 893-6503
Ikenobo Ikebana	2nd/4th Thursday	10:00-1:00 PM	Ritsuko Shinbashi	818 892-0470
Japanese Calligraphy.....	1st/3rd Thursday	9:30-11:00 AM	Yuriko Muso	818 726-8935
Japanese Classical Dance.....	Friday	3:00-6:30 PM	Diane Fukuwa	310 217-0443
Karaoke*	1st/3rd Thursday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Walter Fujimori	818 352-1075
Kokusei Shigin Class.....	Thursday (Off premises)	2:00-4:00 PM	Paul Jonokuchi	818 894-5327
Line Dancing*	Thursday	8:45-10:00 AM	Mark Nakamura	818 363-3038
Mandolin.....	Friday	9:30-11:00 AM	Call CC office	818 899-1989
Tuesday Mah-Jong*	Tuesday	1:00-3:00 PM	Asako Giegoldt	805 433-3763
Friday Mah-Jong*	Friday	1:00-3:00 PM	Yoko A. Kawamura	818 765-3513
Ondo Dancing*	2nd/4th Friday	7:00-9:00 PM	Masako Rodriquez	818 899-8777
Ping Pong Club.....	Thurs/2nd, 3rd, 4th Tuesday	10:00 AM-3:00 PM	Aaron Sanwo	661 755-0584
Qi Gong	Thursday (J-School)	7:00-8:30 PM	Mamie Kosaka	661.645.4515
SFV Judo Club.....	Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri	7:00-9:00 PM	Kenji Couey	818 381-7232
Tai Chi Class*	Monday	9:00-10:00 AM	Florence Takaaze	310 202-6693
Taiko	Thurs (Beginners) 7-8:30 PM	Sat (Interm.) 10-11:30 AM	Reid Taguchi	818 571-1797
Ukulele Class	Friday (Gym)	9:00-11:30 AM	Greg Librando	818 896-6503
Yoga Class.....	Wednesday	10-11 AM, 7:30-8:30 PM	Call CC Office	818 899-1989
Zumba.....	Monday	7:30-8:30 PM	Margaret Takimoto	818 701-7628

SUPPORT GROUPS & SERVICES

Alzheimer's Support Group.....	1st Saturday	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	Facilitator: Isabelle Miyata
Blood Pressure Screening*	3rd Friday	9:00-11:00 AM	Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room
Podiatrist*	2nd Saturday	11:30—2:00 PM	Nikkei Pioneer Conference Room

*Meiji Senior Citizens' Activity or Service

For more information, call the CC at (818) 899-1989.



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

9450 Remick Ave., Pacoima
818 899-4030 www.sfvhbt.org

Rev. Patricia Usuki
Temple President: Roger Itaya
Dharma School: Sunday 11:00 am

BUDDHIST TEMPLE CALENDAR

August

- 1 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 2 Summer Service 10 am
- 9 No service
- 15 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 16 Summer Service 10 am
- 23 No Service
- 29 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 30 Summer Service 10 am

September

- 6 No Service (Jr. YBA Conference)
- 13 Shotsuki: Monthly Memorial Service & Dharma School starts 10 am
- 19 Fall Equinox Seminar 1-4 pm
- 20 Shuki Higan-e: Fall Equinox Service 10 am
- 26 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 27 Temple Clean-up, no service

October

- 4 Shotsuki: Monthly Memorial & Eshini-Ko/Kakushinni-ko Service 10 am
- 11 No Service
- 17 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 18 Regular Service 10 am
- 24 Dharma discussion, 9:30 am
- 25 Pet Memorial Service 10 am

*Service at Nikkei Senior Garden
on the third Thursday of each
month at 10:30 am*



crosswaychurch

(Formerly SFV Holiness Church)

9610 Haddon Avenue
Pacoima, CA 91331
(2 blocks east of Laurel Canyon Blvd.
between Branford and Osborne St.)

Office Phone:

818 896-1676 (English)
(818) 899-4115 (Japanese)

Please refer to our website for more
information: www.crosswaysfv.org

English Department

Pastor Roland Hazama
Pastor Raynold Nakamura

Sunday Schedule

9:00-9:45 AM
Sunday School for ages
junior high through adult

10 - 11:15 AM
Worship Service
(childcare for infants - Pre-K)

Kid Venture Children's Ministries
(K - 5th grade)

11:15 - 11:45 AM
Coffee Fellowship

Youth Fellowship

Friday, 7:30 PM
Meetings at the church
for Jr. High and Sr. High

Mid-Week Home Groups

We believe that fellowship, friendship, and spiritual growth happens best in our small groups that meet during the week. We have a number of groups meeting in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. Come, visit, and get to know our church. For more information, please call us or check our website.

Japanese Department

Pastor In Hyun

Please refer to our website
for more information:
www.sfip.weebly.com

Sunday Schedule

10:00 AM
Worship Service

Lunch and Fellowship
after worship service on the
1st Sundays

Wednesdays, 10 am
Prayer @ Pastor's house



**Chatsworth West
United Methodist
Church**

(Formerly West Valley
UMC merged with Chatsworth UMC)

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

10824 Topanga Canyon Blvd.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
818 341 1270

E-mail: chatsworthumc@juno.com
FAX: 818 341 1271

Pastor: Ruy Mizuki
Lay Leader: Jim Melichar

Worship Service 10AM
Sunday School 10AM
Social Hour following service
Nursery care provided

Bible Study Thurs @ 10AM & 7:15PM
Tuesdays @ 1PM

**Choir practice 1st and 3rd Wednesday @
3:00PM**
Musical Director: Steve Foreman

**Japanese Class – 2nd & 4th Sunday @
9AM**
Instructor: Junko Wayama

Shotokan Karate of America
Fri. @ 6:30 PM Rm.1
Instructor: April Warynick
www.ska.org
1 213 437 0988

Electrobattles Dance for children
Fri. evening, Rm. 5
Instructor: Sharon James

Chi Fung Mind & Body Fitness
Tuesday @ 9AM Rm.2
Instructor: Leo Fong



SUNRISE FOURSQUARE CHURCH

5852 Laurel Canyon Blvd.
Valley Village, CA 91607

English: Pastor Paul Iwata

Email: pmiwata1@hotmail.com
haruko.iwata@gmail.com

Website:

www.sunrisejapanesechurch.org

Japanese: Pastor Haruko Iwata

Phone: (818) 782-8738
(818) 642-2332

Sunday Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
(Prayer for Healing on 5th Sundays)

Sunday Evening Service - 6 p.m.
Thursday Evening Bible Study - 7 p.m.

Late Night Counseling and Prayer
on the Last Friday of the Month
From 8 p.m. to 12 midnight

Location: The Prayer Chapel'
14705 Wyandotte St.
Van Nuys, CA 91405 (mailing address)

Torrance Home Meeting – 7 p.m.
On the 2nd Wednesday of the month

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE CC

October 3, 2015
CC Clean-up

October 24, 2015
SFV JACL/SFVJACC Dance
- Let's Swing

November 1, 2015
Daylight Saving Time

November 7, 2015
Super Bingo Fundraiser

December 5, 2015
CC Annual Membership
Meeting

December 19, 2015
SFV Japanese Language
Institute Holiday Program

January 9, 2016
SFVJACC New Year's
Luncheon

January 16, 2016
Meiji Senior Club New
Year's Party Luncheon

January 31, 2016
SFV Judo Tournament

SFV JACL and SFVJACC PRESENTS...

Let's Swing!



SATURDAY
OCTOBER 24, 2015
7:30–11:30 PM

MUSIC BY
DJ MIKE

SFVJACC
12953 BRANFORD STREET, PACOIMA 91331
TICKETS \$13.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 818 899-1989

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rafunews.com

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

If you have a loved one affected by Alzheimer's disease, come join us — A non-judgmental, confidential place to share ideas, frustrations, concerns and joy.

Meetings: First Saturday of the month
Time: 10 am — 12 noon

For more info, call the Center. (818) 899-1989



SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE
AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima 91331
818 899-1989 Fax 818 899-0659

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Van Nuys, California
Permit No. 21

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center

2016 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership period: January 1 to December 31, 2016)

1. Complete the information below.
 2. Tear off the membership card for your records.
 3. Make check payable to "SFVJACC".
 4. **Send your check and this form to:** SFVJACC – Membership
- Family Membership - \$55.00
 Single Membership - \$35.00

(Please Print)

Name _____ Phone _____
(Last Name) (First Name)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

* For information, please call SFVJACC at (818) 899-1989. Thank you for supporting our Community Center.
FAX is (818) 899-0659.