

TULEAN DISPATCH

Special Reunion III Edition

July 1988

Sacramento, California

Editor
Toko Fujii

Photos by
Shig Yokote

Huge Turnout For Reunion III

A huge crowd of almost 800 people assembled at Sacramento's Red Lion Inn on May 28-29 1988 for TULELAKE REUNION III. This large of a turnout was completely unexpected for the third meeting of former Tuleans.

Customary 100 degrees plus Sacramento summer temperatures did not materialize, which added to the overall enjoyment of the gala gathering.

All schedule activities were well at-

tended and enjoyed by the up-beat group of registrants.

General chairman Tom Okubo commended the entire organizing committee for their dedication and efficiency in putting together the third, and perhaps the most successful get-together yet.

Compliments and expressions of appreciation were expressed by numerous out-of-towners. Letters of "thanks" are still streaming in from all parts of the country.

Chairman's Message

Seven years ago, a group of us got together to consider the possibility of hosting a reunion of former Tulelakers. Along with the decision to do so, an ad hoc committee was formed and proceeded with the plans for our first meeting in 1982. The success of our first venture led to the second get-together in 1985. The success of the second leading to the third, which was held in May of this year.

While it may be presumptuous to assume that our third reunion was also a success, I am pleased to inform you that the organizing committee has decided to host the fourth and finest gathering in Sacramento in 1992--to commemorate the 50th year since many of us were first incarcerated at Tulelake.

As Chairperson, it was gratifying that so many of you, about 780, participated in the various events to ensure the success of Reunion III. Much of the credit must go to the individual members of the various committees, without whose efforts this reunion would not have been possible. My personal "thanks" to all of you.

See you '92.....Take good care.

Tom Okubo
Chairman Reunion III-1988.

See You in '92'

At the final wrap-up meeting held on Tuesday, June 14, 1988, the Tulelake Reunion Organizing Committee voted to hold REUNION IV in 1992--fifty years after 120,000 Americans of Japanese Ancestry were forcibly removed from the West coast to inland WRA camps.

Memorial Day weekend in 1992 has been set as the actual dates of the fourth, and perhaps the largest, get-together of those who spent time in Tulelake as unwilling guests of the United States Government.

All those who made it to Sacramento for Reunions I, II, and III are urged to set aside the above dates for REUNION IV.

With hundreds of additional names and addresses in our computer (thanks to Ed Sugo-ro of Seattle). There will be an all-out effort to reach as many ex-Tuleans as possible for the 1992 extravangza, said general chairman Tom Okubo.



Chairman - Tom Okubo

Registration

Registration chairperson Chieko Alice Yagi revealed that a grand total of 779 Persons had registered for TULELAKE REUNION III, held at the Red Lion Inn on Memorial Day weekend.

Over 400 (not including those from Sacramento) came from all parts of California, followed by 44 from Washington, 29 from Illinois, 14 from Colorado, 13 from Oregon, 12 from Michigan and 10 from Hawaii.

Others traveled from Georgia, Japan, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Florida, North Carolina, Nevada, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin.



Part of Registration Committee

Sayonara Dinner Dance

The always well-attended Sayonara Dinner-Dance was no exception this year as almost 700 People crowded into Red Lion Inn's Thunderbird Ballroom for an evening of fun, food and dancing.

Chairpersons Tom Fujimoto and Ruby Matsuhara and the dinner committee put together a most enjoyable evening, with Channel 3 anchor, Sydnie Kohara as Mistress of Ceremonies. A meaningful invocation by Rev. George Nishikawa (formerly of Sacramento) of Colver City was followed by an outstanding Filet Mignon dinner.

Keynote speaker was JEC National Chairman Jerry Enomoto, two-time National JAFL president, who gave an update on the status of the Redress/Reparation bill.

Door prizes, valued in excess of \$1000.00 and assembled by Harry and Mary Inouye, were given to some 25 lucky winners. Valuable door prizes were also distributed to some winners who were among early registrants.

The festive evening, with much reminiscing and with a few drops of tears, concluded with dancing in the Redwood Ballroom.

Mixer Entertainers



Thanks, Yosh

A special recognition for Yosh Ishihara and his trusty "MacIntosh" computer. Detailed and timely printouts were invaluable to those who needed accurate, up-to-date lists to plan their respective events. "ARIGATO".

Souvenir Booklet

Yoshiko Sanbongi is credited for producing the beautiful "Souvenir Booklet". There was a tremendous amount of detail work in the procuring and assembling the photos as well as working with the printers on last minute additions and corrections.

Coordination

Deki Seto and Rita Nidaido handled the key out-of-town contacts to encourage registration from outlying areas. The large number of registrants outside of host city Sacramento indicates what a great job they did.



Sayonara Dinner Dance

Mixer

The ever popular Saturday night "mixer" was attended by a crowd of 600 merry makers in the Thunderbird Ballroom. Chairperson Deki Seto and co-chairs Frank and Tessie Goi put together an entertainment program featuring the talented "Pensioneers" group, composed of Sacramentans and ex-Sacramentans from all parts of the country.

Also featured were the "Downbeats" dance band, whom were organized and played in Tulelake during internment days. Original members George Nakao of Marysville, Blacktie Maeda of Rocklin and singer Riki Matsufuji of Upland (all in California) anchored the present day Downbeats.

Tours

At 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, one busload departed for Napa Valley and the wine country, while two buses took off for Reno.

A tour (and tasting) of Charles Krug Winery was enjoyed by the visiting Tuleans, while Harrah's Club hosted those who trekked to the "Biggest Little City in the World".

Chairperson Mary Shimazu led the Napa tour, while Sue Okubo and Yuki Oshima conducted the Reno trip.

Continental Breakfast

Chairman Shig Shimazu estimated that more than 600 complimentary continental breakfasts were served to Reunion guests over the 3 day period.

Available for the asking were coffee, tea, fruit juices, donuts, sweet rolls and croissants.

Exhibits

Preceded by outstanding exhibits in 1982 and 1985, this year's display was no exception as the well prepared presentation was viewed by hundreds of non-registrants (many non-Japanese included) as well as all attending Reunion III.

Committee members Henry Taketa, Gene Itogawa, Ellen Kubo and Wayne Maeda assembled the highly informational display which featured photo collections of Stone Ishimaru and Jack Iwata of Los Angeles. Iwata was official photographer for the Tulelake WRA Center during its existence.

Isao Fujimoto's slide presentation, telling a capsulized version of the evacuation experience, was well received by hundreds who viewed the collection of photos and documents, accompanied by narration by Fujimoto. Fujimoto is currently teaching at the University of California at Davis.

Secretarial

Keeping everything recorded correctly and in order was the job of capable secretary Abu Guilday.

Finance

Finance chairperson Toyo Nakatogawa's meticulous recordkeeping on funds related to Reunion III made chairman Tom Okubo's job less difficult than it could have been.

Printer

Miscellaneous printing and all signs were produced through the efforts of Howard Matsuhara.

Memory Booklet

First time ever "memory booklet" will be mailed to all those who were registered with a full packet by the end of July, said booklet chair Toko Fujii. Photos were taken by Coronet Portraits. Re-orders or new orders may be placed with them at 2116 21st Street, Sacramento, CA 95818.

The book contains individual and couple shots as well as those of numerous reunion activities.

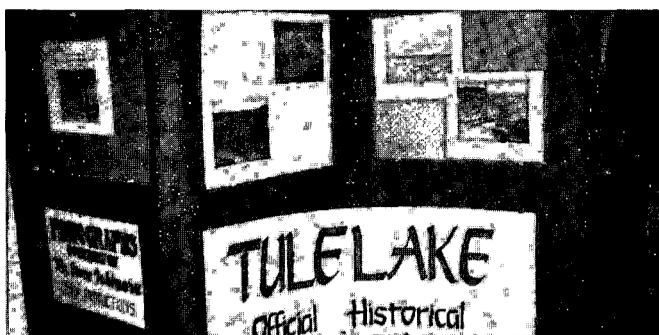
Golf Tournament

Chairman Eddie Yumikura of the Reunion Golf Tournament thanked all local golfers who gave up their spots so that out-of-town golfers could play. With only 48 starting times available, the entries had swamped the committee.

The tournament was played under cloudy skies at nearby Haggin Oaks Municipal Golf Course.

Winners: Men's Division-Kats Tokunaga of San Jose; Women's Division-Shirley Fukui of Marysville.

Exhibits



Hospitality Room

The most popular and appreciated service of the whole 2 day gathering was the "Hospitality Room", made available almost around the clock for the convenience of the registrants. Chairpersons Teiko Matsuo, Mary Tsugawa, and Terry Kagiya commended the many donors who kept the delectable selections coming continuously. sushi, chicken, desserts, (added to the purchased items, such as cha shu, chow mein, etc.) made the array of foods truly "gourmet" and outstanding. Constantly crowded was the popular wet bar, featuring 7-up, Beed, Chivas and Crown Royal.

Hospitality Room Bartenders



Picnic Bus Service

Transportation head Frank Hiyama reported that a total of 200 persons were transported to and from Elk Grove Park on Sunday for the picnic.

Picnic

Departing from the traditional "Bento", the 1988 picnic-goers were treated to a delicious bar-b-que ribs and chicken lunch at beautiful Elk Grove Park in southern Sacramento. The Reunion outing was combined with Sacramento JACL's annual picnic, whose games and door prize drawing were enjoyed by Reunion guests.

In addition to the main entrees, the chow line had available ranch style beans, garlic bread, green salad, pasta salad, and assorted fruit basket.

Chairman Joey Ishihara was credited with overseeing an outstanding and much enjoyed outing.



Committee Roster

Evelyn Akiyama, Jack Akiyama, Toko Fujii, Toyoko Fujii, Isao Fujimoto, Tom Fujimoto, Riichi Fuwa, Frank Goi, Tessie Goi, Abu Guilday, Roni Hironaka, Harry Inouye, Mary Inouye, Frank Hiyaama, Eiko Imai, Joe Imai, Joey Ishihara, Fumi Ishihara, Eugene Itogawa, Angel Kagiyaama, Terry Kagiyaama, Frank Kashiwada, Sally Kashiwada, Lynne Kataoka, Kay Kato, Bubbles Keikoan, Myra Kiyota, Ellen Kubo, George Kubo, Jo Anne Kubokawa, Eiko Kurimoto, Blackie Maeda, Wayne Maeda, Howard Matsuhara, Ruby Matsuhara, Shoichi Matsuo, Teiko Matsuo, Toyo Nakatogawa, Rita Nikaido, Sue Okubo, Tom Okubo, Miyo Omoto, Sam Orite, Ray Orite, Yuki Oshima, Tsutomu Ota, Jean Oto, Yoshiko Sanbongi, Shig Sawamura, Deki Seto, Louis Seto, Mary Shimazu, Shig Shimazu, Larry Takai, Henry Taketa, Dubby Tsugawa, Mary Tsugawa, Cathy Umeda, Alice Yagi, George Yagi, Sam (Tsugio) Yamamoto, Jean Yego, Alice Yasutake, Tim Yoshimiya, Eddie Yumikura

Tulean Dispatch Reunion

The 1942-43 staff of the Tulean Dispatch assembled for the first time in 45 years at the recent Tulelake Reunion III in Sacramento. The Dispatch served over 20,000 evacuees on a daily basis for more than two years.

Those attending were: Howard Imazeki-SF; Harry Inukai-Hood River; Kunio Otani-Seattle; Tsuyoshi Toots Nakamura Chicago; Grace Otani Uyeda-Loomis, CA; Yuri Kobukata Yoshino-Gastonia, NC;

Ken Hayashi- Los Angeles; Rose Ichimoto Fukuba,-San Jose; Rose Serizawa Nieda-Tiburon, CA; and Hiro Morimoto Sunnyvale, CA.

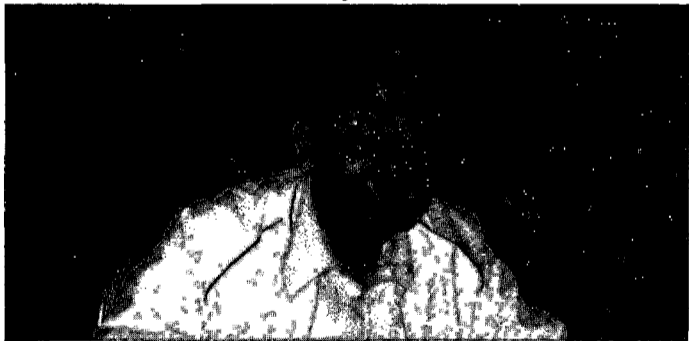
Hosting the reunion luncheon at the Hoi Sing Restaurant were Sacramento ex-staffers Toko Fujii, Eugene Okada, Katsuro Murakami and Bryan Maeda.

Also in attendance were Jenifer Nogaki a student at Philadelphia's Haverford College and Terri Farley, a graduate student at the University of Nevada Reno. Farley is currently completing her master's thesis on "The Tulean Dispatch".

Tulean Dispatch Reunion



Toko Fujii - Editor



Book On Tulelake

Harry Inukai, former staff member of the Tulean Dispatch during 1942 and 1943 has just published a hard cover book featuring excerpts from each issue of the Dispatch published to the date of segregation.

Also contained in the book are the names, camp addresses and family numbers of those who were Tulelake internees during 1942 and part of 1943.

Supply is limited, Inukai said. The special introductory price is \$27.95 and may be ordered from Inukai Publishing Co. 4650 Punch Bowl Road, Hood River OR 97031.

Photos

All photographs appearing in this issue of the Tulean Dispatch and all of the activity shots in the "memory booklet" were taken by official photographer Shig Yokote of Loomis, CA.

Original shots will be catalogued in an album and may be ordered, said Yokote.

He was assisted by his wife, Rose.

June 24, 1988

Dear Friends:

Just a line to let you know how much I enjoyed the recent Tulelake Reunion and how wonderful it was to renew the friendships that were established during the few months we all were together on the staff of the Tulean Dispatch more than 40 years ago.

I must admit that some of the names and faces were hard to place at first, but the longer we were together, the more my memory improved. I am thankful that I have reestablished ties with my old friends and look forward to seeing them again soon.

It was an occasion to be fondly remembered and God willing, perhaps we can have another meeting of the Dispatch staff soon. (how about 1992?). Thanks for the memories.

Sincerely,
Kunio Otani Seattle, WA