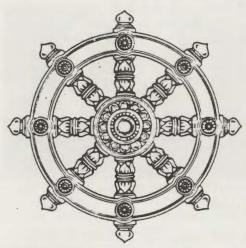
Florin Buddhist Church



1896—1918 The Japanese Settlement in the Florin area started with 10 Issei immigrants in 1896. The growth of the Japanese population passed 1,000 mark by 1912. The need of religion was felt by these pioneers, thus a committee of 18 members was formed. The membership grew to a total of 97 within a few weeks.

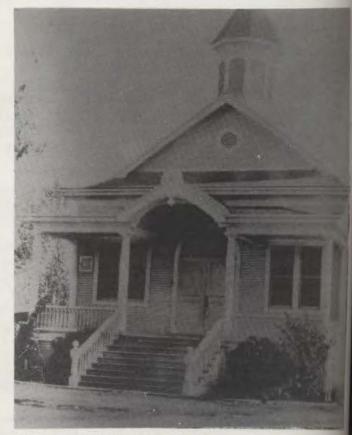
1919 The church cabinet assumed additional function as a special committee, purchased two-and-a-half acres of land under the title of Florin Investment Company and registered in the County of Sacramento. Florin Buddhist Church as officially recognized. On Nov. 3, 1919, a groundbreaking ceremony took place and the construction of the Church started. With untiring devotion, effort and sacrifice rendered by all the members, the Church was completed and on March 20, 1920, dedication service of the Church and new altar was held.

1939 With a foresight for the future, a social hall large enough for all and any activity—the YBA Hall—was constructed. Dedication ceremony was held on March 12, 1939.

1942—1945 Japanese residents of Florin area evacuated to Assembly centers and then to Concentration Camps for duration of World War II. Old Florin died when Executive Order 9066 was carried out in May, 1942.

1946—1953 During this period many of the religious organizations which lay dorment during the war years were reactivated and became very active, (YBA, Fujinkai, YABA), rejuvenating both religious and social activities of Florin Buddhist Church. On June 15, 1955, Rev. Takujo Suginari was assigned as the first postwar resident minister.

1960—1976 As the members increased, larger facilities were needed to accommodate large church functions. In 1972, Dr. and Mrs. Masayosi Ito donated parcel of property to be used for future church site. With many fund-raising projects and pledges by members, groundbreaking ceremony for a new temple was held on Sep. 14, 1975. By June 1976, the temple was completed and dedication ceremony was held on Sept. 26, 1976.



The Florin Church, built in 1919-20.

1980—October 10, 1982 A monument dedicated to the memory of the first Japanese arrivals in Sacramento in 1890 was unveiled. A time Capsule to be opened in the next century was buried at the base of the monument. The grounds of the Florin Buddhist Church were selected for the monument because it was the only sole surviving public building used by the Japanese-Americans in the area before World War II.

1986 -- Renovation of the YBA Hall was started in 1985, completing Phase 1. Phase 2, floor replacement, etc, will begin shortly.



The new Temple, completed in June, 1976.

Best Wishes for a Successful Reunion

The Inouye Family

The story of Oscar Inouye's family begins when his father, Masajiro Inouye from Yanomura, Aki-gun, Hiroshima, Japan came to the United States in 1903. His father worked on the farms of this area and in a few years was joined by his younger brother Isaburo Inouye. Together they labored and decided to settle down in Florin.

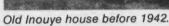
Before the Anti-Alien Land Law was passed, Masajiro and Isaburo purchased a fine place, one mile east of the town, on the north side of Florin Road. They bought 26.88 acres from William A. Gardner on March 15, 1913, where they raised the famous "Oregon Plum" strawberries and Flame Tokay grapes.

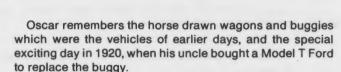
Their original address was R.F.D. Box 142, Florin, California. Later the address changed to 8815 Florin Road, Sacramento, California.

They sent for their brides (not known whether they were picture brides, or they went back to Japan for their wives). However, by 1916 Asao (Oscar) Inouye was born on the farm place where the family lived for 65 years. (March 15, 1913 to March 18, 1978).

When Oscar was still a tiny infant, his father, Masajiro, died. A few years later, he lost his mother, Fudeyo. Alone and orphaned, Oscar Asao was cared for and raised by his uncle, Isaburo Inouye. Oscar grew up with his cousins who were his family. His Uncle Isaburo had three children. Yoriko was the oldest daughter, and the second daughter was Futsuko, and a son Kazui.







The family lived on the same farm most of their lives, except for the years they were excluded and incarcerated at Fresno, then Jerome, Arkansas, then at Amache, Colorado. Oscar left to work for the Bird's Eye Food Plant at Seabrook, N.J. with a group from Florin. He worked there about three years before returning to Florin.

He took care of the grape vineyard to help his uncle, and worked at Campbell Soup Company for a while, but worked most of the years at Mather Field. He retired early to take care of his aged Uncle who had raised him. Uncle Isaburo was his "father" and lived until he was 95.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

by Roy and Mary Takai

SEIGO AND MUTSU TAKAI

At 19, Seigo Takai, Hiroshima-born, arrived in Seattle in 1907 and worked on a railroad gang. In 1908, he moved to Perkins/Taishoku area where he grew strawberries with two older brothers. He became a strawberry broker and sold berries to Sacramento stores. In 1917, he went to Japan and married Kiyo Masuda of Ibaraki-ken. June 1918, they returned to Taishoku. Kiyo taught in the Japanese school. Roy, their only son, was born later that year. 1920, Seigo purchased a furniture store, OK Furniture, in Sacramento. Kiyo died in 1920.

Seigo married Mutsu Kuwamoto, a widow, in 1924. They moved to 65th and Folsom Blvd. In 1928, Mutsu began her career as a Japanese language school teacher in Brighton (daily), later Perkins (Saturdays only). They were active in the Baptist Church and found Brighton Sunday School. In 1929, Seigo took Sacramento's Boys Scout Troop #25 on a three months' tour of Japan. In 1940, he led a Nisei kendo team to Tokyo to participate in a tournament, celebrating the 2600 year founding of Japan.

During World War II, Mutsu was interned in the Poston Relocation Camp, AZ, while Seigo was incarcerated in Bismark, ND, Lordsburg and Santa Fe, NM. After their return to Sacramento, they operated a small furniture store until Seigo's death at 69 in 1957. Mutsu died five years later of a heart attack. Seigo's devotion to the church and the Japanese community, was only excelled by his love for the young, which he manifested through the Boy Scout movement, kendo and sumo.

Have a Wonderful Reunion

THIS PAGE IS DEDICATED: TO THE ISSEIS OF THE NISHI FAMILIES

GRANDFATHER KICHIBEI NISHI

YAIICHI AND TAMAYO (NORISUYE) NISHE

SHIZUO AND KIKUYO (ASANO) NISHI

With grateful memories:

The Niseis, Sanseis and Yonseis of the two Nishi Families

Grandfather Kichibei Nishi, from Hiroshima-ken, came to the United States a few years after 1900. Leased some land for fruit trees in Suisun. In 1910, he called his first two sons, Yaiichi and Shizuo to join him. They grew grapes and strawberries in Florin. Then Shizuo worked in the Utah copper mines. In the meantime, Kichibei returned to Japan.

In 1913, the two sons grew vegetables in Corvallis, Oregon. Yaiichi married Tamayo Norisue in 1914. In 1915, they returned to Florin to raise strawberries and grapes again. There, Keiji Charles, Yaiichi's first son

was born.

In 1918, Shizuo married Kikuyo Asano and the next year their first son, Ellis was born. More children were born to both families. In 1930, Shizuo and family moved to Clarksburg (Holland Tract) to grow onions and asparagus. In 1939 Yaiichi and Shizuo and their sons built

front: Yaiichi, Tamayo Nishi
rear: Charles, Ikuko, Beatrice, Jiro Sanada (relative)

a strawberry basket factory in Florin which provided employment to 25 local persons.



In the spring of 1942, tragedy disrupted life in Florin. The entire community of persons of Japanese Ancestry were uprooted. Yaiichi was sent to Bismark, North Dakota. He evenutally rejoined his family at Rohwer Arkansas. Shizuo's family was sent to Gila River Relocation Camp in Arizona.

After the war, Yaiichi returned to Florin to find his life's work destroyed. Someone had set fire to the "Capital Basket Co.", in 1945. The building was completely destroyed! Later he worked with Shizuo growing tomatoes. Yaiichi moved to Sacramento, then to San Francisco, where he passed away in 1975.

- 1. Keiji Charles served in the U.S. Army. He studied soil conservation and worked for the State Reclamation Office. After a long illness, he passed away in 1970, leaving his wife Tane (Amemiya) and three children, Carolyn, Janice and Judy.
- 2. Yaeko Beatrice, a garment pattern maker, introduced her newly patented "Pattern Bodiform" in 1985. She resides in San Francisco.
- 3. Ikuko Lynn works at the U. S. Army Signal Depot and lives in Sacramento with husband Tad Kono and daughter Cheryl.





Bessie, James, Ed, John, Aiko, Dick, Ellis

After the war, Shizuo and Kikuyo raised tomatoes in Grand Island, and Isleton. In 1949, he moved to Holland Tract to grow tomatoes, sugar beets, barley, zip corn and safflower. In 1963, Shizuo was fatally hit by a car and passed away a few days later.

- 1. Ellis farmed tomatoes with his father. He lives in Clarksburg with his wife Kuniko (Asano) and children: Souris, Dennis, Amy, Reiko, Ulysses and Lillian.
- 2. Dick worked for Caltrans as an engineer and lives in Davis with his wife, Alice (Shigezumi). They have two children: Linda and Robert.
- 3. Aiko studied in Columbus, Ohio, married Matao Uwate and have three children: Vivian, Roger and Walt. In 1983, her book, "Japanese Names for Babies" was published.
- 4. Saburo John returned from Columbus, Ohio. He and his wife, Mary (Kunitake) farm in Davis with their children: Alan, Jerry, Carl, Darrell, Mitchell and Patricia Ann.
- Teruyoshi Edward discharged from the U. S. Army; became a C.P.A. in San Francisco. He is a distributor of auto parts.
- Goro James was in the Air Corps; also became a C.P.A.; lives in Oakland with his wife, Jane (Omura) and children: Gail and Stuart.
- 7. Shizuko Bessie became an elementary school teacher. She was married to Peter Takeuchi (deceased) and lives in Torrance. Their children are: Karen, James, and Sharon.

Of the Sansei, two of Yaiichi's grandchildren and four of Shizuo's grandchildren are married. Like the Issei, the Nisei parents encouraged the Sanseis to continue with higher education in order to pursue their chosen field.

Greetings and a Happy Reunion

In loving tribute to the Isseis in our Family:

Hide (Nitta) Kadokawa......1886 - 1919 Misuno (Kamidoi--Kadokawa) Toye.. 1895 - 1941



We gratefully dedicate this page to our pioneer Issei Parents who struggled long and hard to make possible all the opportunitities for us, their children, that, we might have a good start and a better life in this country.

Kazo Kadokawa, 23, in April 1900, left Hiroshima for Victoria, Canada. He worked for the railroad company, before joining his sister, Ito (Kadokawa) and her husband, Kuzo Tsukamoto in Florin. In 1906 Kazo, jointly with Kuzo Tsukamoto and Shonosuke Kushi, acquired a 60-acre parcel on the corner of Stockton Blvd and Gerber Road.

In 1909, Hide Nitta and Mikio Yamano left Hiroshima together to become brides for Kazo Kadokawa and Mototaro Kurima (family of Mac Kurima Kazo and Hide Kadokawa and brothers). Kazo and Hide had four children.



with baby Shizuye

The first born baby son died in 1910. Agnes Shizue was born in 1911, followed by Hideo, 1913 and Mary Kazumi, 1916. From Hiroshima in 1912, Joichi Nitta joined his sister, Hide's growing family. Needing more space, Kazo liquidated his 20-acre partnership holding and acquired 30 unleveled acres near (now) Cottonwood Lane south of Florin. A childhood accident crippled Kazo's left foot, therefore, young Joichi undem took the enormous task of clearing and leveling the land with horses and sheer physical force. Together Kazo and Joichi labored many long months before the land was ready. and more years before the grapes would be profitable. Strawberry was planted between the vines for early cash crop. The Isseis labored mightily to level acres of land

surrounding Florin area,

Agnes Shizuye, Misuno, Mary Kazumi, Bertha Shinoye Hideo, Kazo & Alice Kikuye (1923)

On January 17, 1918 as WWI ended Hide died from the ravages of influenza and childbirth. Her fifth child was stillborn. The influenza epidemic took many lives, especially pregnant women, Very few were spared. Unable to care for his young children and work his fields too, the grieving Kazo took his two daughters to Je to their paternal grandmother. S Hideo remained with relatives, Kuzo and Ito Tsukamoto. Kazo married Misuno Kamidoi of Fukawa,

Hiroshima and returned to Florin. Kazo and Misuno had three children, Alice Kikuye, 1921, Bertha Shinoye, 1922 and Joe, 1924. Then Agnes Shizue and Mary Kazumi rejoined the family. On Jan. 7, 1926, Kazo

suddenly died of pneumonia
leaving Misono with 6 young
children. Hideo, 13, was
too young to carry on farm
work. Misono married Uichi
Toye. Helen Kimiko (1927)
and Harry Daitaro (1935)
were born of this union.
After seeing her three
stepchildren married, Misuno rear:
died on January 15, 1941. front:



stepchildren married, Misuno rear: Alice Kikuye, Helen Kimiko Toye, Joe, Bertha Shinoye died on January 15, 1941. Front: Dorothy with Doreen Akiko, Harry Daitaro Toye, Uichi Toye, Hideo Kadokawa (1941)

Uichi Toye family was sent to Fresno, Jerome and Rohwer concentration camps. Harry was killed in an accident in Jerome. Uichi returned to Japan, and died in 1976.

The Second Generation:

Hideo married Dorothy Nishikawa in 1938. They had three daughters Doreen (1939), Bette (1941) and Joyce (1946). When Executive Order 9066 ousted persons of Japanese ancestery, the Hideo Kadokawas were evacuated to Fresno, Jerome and Rohwer camps before they were allowed to return to Florin. For twelve years to supplement his farm income, Hideo worked for Sacramento Frozen Food Company. Until 1952, Dorothy and the children worked the farm. In 1963 the farm was sold and a home was purchased in the South Land Park Drive area. Hideo worked as Sacramento Unified School District custodian until 1978, and Dorothy worked as seamstress for H & H Drape Rite until 1981. Both are now retired.

The third generation:

Hideo's daughters completed their education in Florin and Elk Grove schools, and local colleges.

<u>Doreen Akiko</u> is public health nurse for San Francisco City and County Health Department. Doreen married Nobuyuki Yui and have two sons, Darren and Jason.

Bette Chiyeko is a laboratory technician at Sutter Memorial Hospital. She married Tadanao Okamoto and have two children, Johnathan and Denise.

Joyce Kazuye is an administrative secretary for a Pacific Gas and Electric Company lobbyist and is married to Donald Kazama.



Johnathan & Denise Okamoto, Jason & Darren Yui Bette Okamoto, Dorothy & Hideo Kadokawa, Doreen Yui Tadanao Okamoto, Don & Joyce Kazama, Nobuyuki Yui (Dec. 1978)

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE

TO

Sadanosuke and Take Kitayama



Sadanosuke Kitayama born in 1882, and Take born in 1887, were from Fukui-ken. Married in Japan in 1903, the couple came to America and worked in the Stockton area, Mandeville Island as farm laborers, then moved to the Florin-Sacramento area to farm strawberries during 1928 - 1942 years. The family evacuated, first to Fresno assembly center, then to Jerome, Arkansas and Tule Lake war relocation centers until the end of World War II.

The couple relocated to Chicago, Illinois in 1946. In 1950, they returned to Japan. On October 11, 1963, Sadanosuke passed away. Take lived until March 17, 1968.

Sadanosuke and Take had a daughter, Yoshiye. Yoshiye is married to George Bunzo Moriyama and resides in Monterey Park, California.

With Best Wishes

IN LOVING REMEMBRANCE TO



TSURUKICHI MORIYAMA



ISHI MORIYAMA

Tsurukichi Moriyama was born in Fukui-ken in 1867, and married Ishi, born in 1878 of the same ken, in Japan in 1896. Tsurukichi left Japan in 1897 to work in San Francisco as house servant. Tsurukichi returned to Japan during the 1917 -1922 period, then with Ishi, returned to America in 1922 and settled in the Florin-Elk Grove area farming and laboring in the strawberry fields until 1942, when the family was ordered to evacuate.

The Moriyama family were moved first to Fresno assembly center, then to Jerome and Tule Lake war relocation centers. In Tule Lake camp, Tsurukichi passed away on September 9, 1942. Ishi returned to Japan and died at the age of 73, on September 25, 1951.

The couple's only son, George Bunzo Moriyama, married Yoshiye Kitayama and is residing in Monterey Park, California.

Moriyamas farmed on Florin-Elk Grove Road, where they had a Buddhist Sunday School Building for children in the area (south of Carlisle/north of Calvine Road).

Historian M.T.T......

In Loving Tribute to Our Parents





Tomokichi and Sekiyo Tanaka 50th Wedding Anniversary June 24, 1961

Tomokichi Tanaka, veteram from the Calvary Divison 1st Class in the 1904 Russo-Japanese War, left Hiroshima for Hawaii on March 25, 1906, and arrived in San Francisco on November 8, 1906, and two day later was in Sacramento. Sekiyo



arrived in Seattle, June 22, 1914 from Hiroshima as a picture bride and the couple settled in Florin in September, 1915 to grow grapes and strawberries. They settled with their five children in a two-story house on Gerber Road in 1931. The house was contracted and built by Ben Thomas of Florin.

At the height of the strawberry season, evacuation orders sent the family to Arboga Assembly Center near Marysville on May 29, 1942, then a month later, to Tulelake, CA, then to Jerome, AR in June, 1943, then in September, 1944, to Heart Mountain, Wy. Their eldest son, George and wife, Martha (Ikeda) returned to the family ranch on July 4, 1945. The rest of the family rejoined them on August 12, 1945. The family worked hard to restore the vines back to the original condition as they were three years ago.

George and Martha retired in 1983 and are now settled in the Florin area. Second son, Wilbert entered the army on March 21, 1941 and served for 4-1/2 years. He has three daughters: Sharon (Mrs. Gerald Arase), and Louise (Mrs. Kenny Teranishi) both live in Sacramento, and Susan, University of Pacific graduate, is interning in Portland, Oregon. The third child, Myrna (Tanaka) Hitomi has two daughters: Norma is betrothed to Russell Nakata of Sacramento, and Donna is betrothed to Dean Shimozaki of Lodi. Myrtle (Tanaka) and George Furukawa have two children and two grandchildren: Randy is betrothed to Cindy Konishi of Sacramento and Ailene (Furukawa) and John Nishida, Jr, have John, III, (3 yrs.) and Erik (3 months) and live in Sacramento. Teri (Tanaka) and William Mizusaka also live in Sacramento, and have two children: Kim and Lenard.

We remember working in the fields in the grape vineyard or berry farm together throughout our formative years, with fond memories. The hardships our parents struggled and endured, gave us the incite and guidance to live our lives today with deep humility and gratitude. We dedicate this second reunion to our dear parents with deepest appreciation. We shall always treasure these cherished memories.

(June, 1986)

IN MEMORY OF

KATSUNOSUKE NAKAO

SHINAYO NAKAC

Herbert NakaoLas Vegas
Tom and Rose NakaoLos Angeles
Jack and Chiz NakaoSacramento
Sam and Matsuye (Nakao) Doida. Denver
Ella (Nakao) MatsumotoLas Vegas
Joe NakaoSacramento
Tad and Judy (Nakao) TanakaIllinois
Goro NakaoDenver
Fred and Molly (Nakao) OdaLos Angeles



Back row L to R: Jack, Herb, Tom, Joe Fron row Ella, Shinao (Mother), Goro, Molly, Judy, Kasunosuke (Father), and Matsuye

Fondly we recall the Nakaos farmed on Elder Creek Road, West of Bradshaw, near the Mistuyoshis, and the Hiragas. During the hustle and bustle of a busy strawberry season as the community became electrified with action, all the young Nisei men in the community were driving trucks loaded with berries to be delivered to Florin to be shipped, or to take to the market in Sacramento. Herb and Tom drove the truck for a Produce Company. We remember with pride Tom and Jack served with the famed 442nd All Nisei Combat Team.

......Historian M.T.T.

FROM THE CHILDREN OF LATE MR. AND MRS. KOTARO HIROHATA



Tomomi Hirohata (Deceased)
Miyuki (Hirohata) Suyeda of San Jose, CA
John and Haruko Hirohata of Mesa, Arizona
Frank and Chiyeko Hirohata of Mountain View, CA
Paul (Hirohata) and Sueko Ishikawa of Mesa, Arizona
Bessie (Hirohata) Mori of Los Angeles, CA
Herbert and Toshiye Hirohata of Thermal, CA



Toku

Kotaro

* * * * *

We fondly remember Kotaro Hirohata, who came to Florin around 1904, his wife Toku around 1910. They lived on a 15 acre place on Gardner Way. He faithfully served his Buddhist Church as the Horin, assisting the Reverend and even substituting when the need arose. John was our second Florin JACL president. He was a leader in his church, even representing Florin at a conference in Hawaii! In those days Al remembers he saw him leave on a ship! Florin had an entertainer and an actor in John, he has continued to do so, a notable actor in Arizona today.

......Florin Historian

Best Wishes from

Sam & Carol Hironaka



2031 Stoner Way Sacramento, CA. 95822 BEST WISHES TO ALL THE LOYAL FLORING

* * * * *

Sorry, we won't be able to attend.

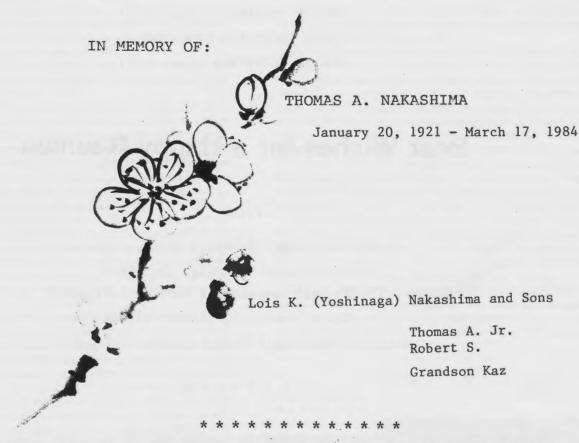
Thanks very much for your hard works wish you heaps and heaps of luck.

FUJU SASAKI - Japan-born, naturalize American Citizen since 1953.

KIKUE (OUYE) SASAKI - born in Florid
California in 1913.

Fuju and Kikue had a tofu shop in Florin. We all called him "tofu-ya san" to distinguish him from other Sasakis in Florin. He was an able, biligual caring, person. Soon they affectionately called him "Mayor". Mayor Sasaki, the tofu-ya san was upi rooted with his large family. They struggled through Fresno Center, Jerome, Arkansas, and Bridgeton, New Jersey. The Seabrooks Farms Community made him HONORARY MAYOR. Eventually the family settled in Souther California.

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion!



Fondly we recall the Yoshinagas and Nakashimas farmed on Elk Grove-Florin Road. They returned to the area. Later Tom and Lois settled on a place on Carlisle Avenue. Their sons attended Elk Grove schools and local colleges.

We recall with pride our own Florin Sansei, Tom Jr. has become a popular Radio K 108 and Television celebrity. With Sandra Gin Yep of KCRA, Channel 3, Tom helped produce several Emmy award winning documentary films focusing on the Asian search for Justice in a series called "Perceptions".

There is a most unique Robert Nakashima and the Soul Prophet Rhythm Blues Band that is gaining popular attention. He is the only Asian musician to start such a Rhythm Blues Band in this area.

.....Historian M.T.T.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF OUR PARENTS

ASAKICHI YOSHINAGA (died 1955)
and TOKI YOSHINAGA (died 1977)
and Sisters
KIMIYO YOSHINAGA (died 1915)
ELLA YOSHINAGA (died 1946)
HARUYE YOSHINAGA (died 1943)

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

from

Norma (Yoshinaga) Inouye & Family, Ogden Utah
Roy Yoshinaga & Family, Ogen Utah
Lois (Yoshinaga) Nakashima & Family, Sacramento, CA
Hanna Yoshinaga, Sacramento, CA
Mildred (Yoshinaga) Miya & Family, Ogden Utah

* * * * * * * *

Asakichi and Toki Yoshinaga arrived in Florin and at one time lived on the Landsborough Ranch (between what is now Pritchard and Kara's Tract), where some of the childredn were born. They later moved to the Reese Ranch off of Gerber Road, West of the site where Pepsi-Cola now operates a huge Plant and Distribution Center.

They then settled down on their own 20 acre strawberry farm on Elk Grove-Florin Road, between Gerber and Cal-Vine.

They were staunch supporters of the Florin Buddhist Church and there among the cluster of farm families in the area where the Yoshinagas farmed. They all worked together to build a Buddhist Sunday School serving the children that lived there.

They returned from the Evacuation ordeal to resume life once again on their farm. Toki lived 20 years after Asakichi passed away. They had 8 Nisei childre and now have 11 Sansei grandchildren and 11 Yonsei great grandchildren.

......Historian M.T.T.

The Kanekichi Tsukamoto Family

Kanekichi Tsukamoto was born in lwakuni, Yamaguchiken, Japan in 1888. He was only 20 when he came to Hawaii and then on to California around 1908, working as a laborer. Eventually he settled down with a pretty picture bride, Hatsu Fujikami, and worked in Suisun, CA. There Katsuko (1910), Sam (1912) and Shizue (1914) were born.

Then he took his family to work at Sutter Island in Courtland. There, Isamu (1916), Teru (1918), Yosh (1920), Bill (1922) and Masashi (1924) were born. Sadness came when Masashi died when he was 15 months old. In 1926 Rosie came. Then Kanekichi moved to Sacramento County to work at a place the Japanese people called "Jon Make" (where the Jesuit High School is now located.)

It was about 1928 when the family moved again to Southeast Florin, to the Eleven Oaks Ranch to sharecrop pears and raise strawberries. Jim was born in 1929.

About 1931 when Kanekichi bought 20 acres from Mr. Hildred. He hired William Jenkins to level the land with a team of horses. There he raised strawberries, grapes and lettuce.

The oldest child, Katsuko, at 5 years of age was sent to Iwakuni, Japan to comfort her grandparents, and to get an education. In 1929, she returned to the Tsukamoto family when she was a young lady of 19, ready to be married. The rest of the children attended Reese Elementary School and Elk Grove High, except Jim who was 13 when the war interrupted all normal life for the Tsukamotos and the Japanese people farming in this area — affecting even the American-born citizens.

The older children were already married and starting families of their own when the evacuation order hit all persons of Japanese ancestry. May 29, 1942, the Tsukamotos found themselves behind barbed wires looking out to a nation at war. They were sent to Jerome, AR and then when that closed in June, 1944, they were sent to Rohwer Internment Camp.

They returned to Florin when they were allowed to come back into California to resume farming again. Father Kanekichi died of a heart attack while enjoying a restful visit at Gilroy Hot Springs when he was 67 years of age, in the winter of

1955. Mom Hatsu lived 15 years more working in the fields and enjoying her children and grandchildren, until 1970, at 80 years of age.

Father and mom raised 10 children (even with the early loss of Masashi at 15 months). With a big family of his own, he took in his nephew, Tadao Okihiro, who lost his mother and whose father was sickly. He raised Tadao as his own until he became an adult. All of his children were survivors until Sam suddenly died on April 19, 1985, at age 73.

Sam and Arlene (Hayashi) had Elaine, Edith, Hannah, Lorie and Sam Jr.; Katsuko (Tsukamoto) and Roy Kawamura have Harry, Frank, Stanley, Connie, Elaine and Jane; Shizue (Tsukamoto) and Harry Kawahata have Harry Jr. and Richard; Isamu and Betty (Nagal) have three daughters, Barbara, Janet and Grace; Teru (Tsukamoto) and Eddie Fukushima have George; Yosh and Mary (Sugimoto) have Myrna, Stan and Randall; Bill and Toyo (Omachi) have Karen, Kathy, Colleen and Lonnie; Rosie (Tsukamoto) and Joe Tanaka have Jackie and James; James and Beatrice (Yasui) have Steven, Robert, Kristine and Cheryl. Kanekichi and Hatsu have 30 grandchildren and at the present in 1985, have 32 great-grandchildren.

Kanekichi and Hatsu sent two of their sons to war. Yosh and Bill graduated from Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling and served with the Occupation Forces in the Asiatic Front. PFC Yosh Tsukamoto was sent to Japan. S/Sgt. Bill Tsukamoto served in the Philipines.

Dad was pretty strict on discipline and liked sports. He was proud of his sons playing baseball. He never tolerated laziness. Even after playing a big football game on Friday night at school, he had all his kids farmed out to various farmers to pick wine grapes. His motto was "No Work-No Play!"

Tsukamoto baseball stars —back, Jim and Sam; front,





Kanekichi and Hatsu with Sam and Shizue, about 1915.



Father and Mother Tsukamoto (seated), taken about 1930. Back L-R: Shizue, Nephew Tadao, Isamu, Sam, Katsuko, Teru, Front L-R: Yoshio, Bill, Rose, Jim on Mother's Iap.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION

The Tahara Family

IN LOVING MEMORY OF KUMAKICHI TAHARA AND CORPORAL COOPER TOSHIYUKI TAHARA

In grateful, loving tribute we recall:

Kumakichi Tahara arrived in the United States in 1900. As a very young man he had left his native Hiroshima with other youths to find an opportunity to labor and make something of his life

After working for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company for awhile, he set out to establish a niche in the communities of San Jose, Fresno, Sacramento, and finally came to stay in Florin.

He returned to Japan for his bride, Tsune. He share-cropped on Fairbairn and Jenkins vineyards and in 1928 settled down on a 40-acre plot of land on the Old Jackson Homestead on the corner of Elk Grove-Florin and California Vineyard.

His struggle to make an honest living as a strawberry and grape grower was suddenly disrupted when the government ordered all persons of Japanese ancestry to evacuate from the West Coast. The family went from Fresno, to Jerome, Ark. and Rohwer, Ark.

Tsune and Kumakichi had a family of five sons and a daughter. Cooper Toshiyuki Tahara served in the All Nisei 442nd Combat Unit and paved the road to heroic fighting in the European battlefronts. His Unit was reported to be the most decorated, and to have the highest number of casualties in USA military history.

The unwelcome letter from the White House announcing that their son, Corporal Cooper Tahara, had given his ultimate sacrifice for his country, reached the shocked Tahara family in an American Concentration Camp in Rohwer, Ark. after his death on Nov. 5, 1944. Their fourth son, Shig, served in the U. S. Army, and was sent on duty to Japan with the Occupation Forces.

The Tahara family returned to Florin to pick up where they left off, to resume their living on their farm. They actively supported the work of the Florin Buddhist Church program.

When the National JACL and their leaders, veteran heroes of WWII returned to fight against bigotry and injustice, they passed the McCarran Immigration, Naturalization Bill in 1952, which finally gave the Isseis the privilege of becoming naturalized American Citizens.

In March, 1953, Tsune and Kumakichi were members of the graduating class of sixty Isseis from this Florin area who received a Diploma of Graduation from the Americanization class and gained their American Citizenship after 50 years of working and believing in this country and giving their precious son's life for this USA.

Tsune is 90 years old this year. She is spry and able to live in one of the oldest pioneer cottages still being used on Florin Road, right next to the Old Buddhist Church Building.

The surviving family members with Tsune Tahara are:

Howard Hiroyuki and Emily Tahara
Tadashi and Yoshiko Yamanaka
Shiro Albert and Hatsuko Tahara
Richard Goro and May Tahara
Mrs. Mitsuye Yamaji
Shig and Carol Tahara
17 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Cooper Tahara at Fort Smith.







The Tahara family: Front L-R: Shig, Tsune, Mitsuye, Kumakand Richard Goro. Back L-R: Howard Hiroyuki, Cooper Tosil yuki, Shiro Albert.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION

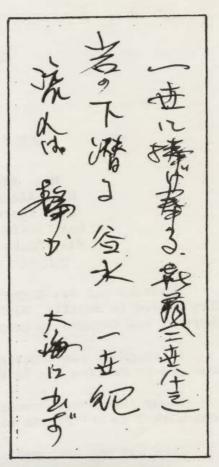
SPECIAL GREETINGS AND LOVE

James M. Imahara Family Baton Rouge, Louisiana

DEDICATED TO ISSEI.....

Beneath the boulder, a trickling canyon water flows for a century, Silently entering the Great Pacific.

Ki-o (Nisei) 83 yr.





Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1977

front row: May, James, Haruka, Irene. 2nd row: Walter, Flora, John, Jane, Jun, Lily, Philip.

OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR A SUCCESSFUL REUNION

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS

MORITARO AND ASA MIYOSHI

Mrs. Hana (Howard) Miyoshi...Torrance, CA Mrs. Alice (Miyoshi) Kakita...Los Angeles, CA Mrs. Agnes (Miyoshi) Usui..... Honolulu, HI Mrs. Betty (Miyoshi) Shimazu...Los Angeles, CA Mrs. Yaeko (Miyoshi) Furuya....Los Angeles, CA

Moritaro and Asa Miyoshi came from Kyo Bashi Machi, Hiroshima, Japan in 1908. They landed in Seattle, Washington. They eventually settled in the Florin area where he was engaged in grape contracting.

Although he was educated as a pharmacist in Japan, he was never able to become one in America due to restrictions on an alien from the Orient.

About 1914, they opened a small grocery store for a few years. They later both worked in the Florin Basket Factory until it shut down in 1930s.

They had one son, and seven daughters. Four are living in America.



Standing L to R. Agnes Tamaye, Hana, Yaeko Seated L to R. Alice and Betty.

Because Alice and Tamaye were both my classmates, I have fond memories of sharing our school experiences, and remember how actively they were involved with the Language School events and at the Buddisht Church where a great many people of Florin were members. They lived upstairs in the apartment above Akiyama Store with Moritas, and other as neighbors.

.... Historian M.T.T.

Greetings and a Happy Reunion

TADASHI AND FUSAYE KURIMA AND FAMILY

JOE KURIMA AND WILBERT KURIMA

Rt. 2 Box 42 Monee, Illinois 60449

DICK AND LUCY KURIMA AND FAMILY

4850 S.W. 111 Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33328

* * * * * *

We remember fondly our school days when the Kurima boys, two families of cousins, played all kinds of sports and were active in the Florin Japanese Community Baseball team as well as being involved in the sports program of the Young Buddhist Association. The Kurima brothers and their father farmed grapes and strawberries on Florin-Perkins Road across the road from the site of the Army Depot. The Sacramento County Humane Society Animal Shelter just opened this year, 1986.

Historian M.T.T

to Old and New Friends

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

Mrs. Haruko (Tokumura) Kanemori

Harry Tokumura

Mrs. Fred Noda



Fondly we recall life in old Florin.....

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS
HOICHI AND YUKI NAKAMURA
Ms. KAE NAKAMURA
MINORU AND SUMI (NAKAMURA) KAKUTANI

We cherish remembering each
We fondly recall...

The Nakamuras farmed on Elder Creek Road and shipped Grapes to the Florin Fruit Grower's Association as many Growers did in Florin. The land was near where a fine Camellia Elementary School now stands. IN MEMORY OF

HISAKICHI UYEMURA

MISUNO UYEMURA

HARRY and FAYE UYEMURA

And Family

... Historian M.T.T.

Best Wishes and Happy Reunion



JAMES AND PEGGY (ITO) KAWAGUCHI
717 North Robinson Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026

We remember fondly many families who lived happily in Florin, though the struggle to make a good living was a great challenge. The Itos had a farm on Florin Road near Hedge Avenue. We are delighted when word comes from them to help us recall dear friends and people we cared about that were so traumatically dispersed 44 years ago.

.....Historian M.T.T.

May You Have a Wonderful Reunion

In paying tribute to the Isseis, we recall the story of Jirokichi Nakano and his wife, Masumi (Sagawa) Nakao, pioneers in America, settling in Taishoku and Florin.

JIROKICHI NAKANO (1882-1971)

Jirokichi Nakano, 16, from Hiroshima-ken, immigrated to Hawaii in 1898. At 19, he arrived in San Francisco, and moved to Oroville, working on the railroad to Reno, Nevada. After six months, he moved to Colusa to work on a dairy farm. Two years later, while still working the dairy farm, he started the Todai Laundry with Messrs. Chikaraishi, S. Hinoki and T. Kono. In the meantime, Mr. Yoneda offered to sell his general merchandise store. Jirokichi Nakano and his partners acquired and renamed it, the Todai Shokai.

When the 1913 Alien Land Law passage became imminent, Mr. Okigawa advised him to purchase property. Disposing interest in Todai Shokai and laundry, and with Mr. Okigawa as partner, Jirokichi bought 30-acres in Walsh Station, a small Japanese community, east of Sacramento. There he raised money for a Japanese School site. This area was referred to as Taishoku (i.e. land settled during reign of Emperor Taisho, late 1910-early 1920).

Few years later, Jirokichi went to Japan and returned in April, 1915 with bride, Masumi (Sagawa) Nakano. In 1927, he acquired 40 acres near the Elk Grove-Florin Road and raised strawberries and grapes. After a few years, with five partners, Jirokichi started the Florin Berry Company to help local farmers sell and ship strawberries.

He assisted in building the Florin Buddhist Church and completed the Kaikan (YBA Hall) in 1939. While living at Taishoku and Florin, the Nakanos had four sons and three daughters. Before the 1942 spring strawberry harvest was completed, the family was ordered into Manzanar, an American Concentration Camp. By the end of WW II, the Nakano family relocated to Los Angeles, October, 1945. Sam Shigeo preceded the family to prepare for resettlement. Eventually they purchased an apartment house on Cummings Street in East Los Angeles, but the freeway constra uction forced the family to move to another area in the Wilshire District. Life progressed well for the family.

Jirokichi passed away on July 10, 1971 at age 90. His widow, Masumi Nakano, 90, is still an active member of the Los Angeles Homps Hongwanji Buddhist Temple and the Nanka Hiroshima Fujin Kai, She resides in Los Angeles as do her two sons, two daughters and a daughter-in-law. Another daughter lives in Newcastle.

- Masato Nakano (wife-Toshiye (Miyata) deceased)
 Hideo and Emiko (Nakano) Okanishi Harry and Glen.
- 2. Sam Shigeo and Aiko (Yano) Nakano Dennis, (Ron &) Linda (Nakano) Mizufuka,
- 3. Masa and Janet (Nakano) Matsumoto Brian and Carol.
- John and Janice.
- 5. Harry and Helen (Nakano) Nakama Stacie and Lori.
- (Eugene &) Gail (Nakano) Nakano, and Kathy 6. Herbert Shunso (deceased) and Fumi Nakano Jane and Gary.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES

TO THE FLORIN AREA JAPANESE COMMUNITY REUNION

IN MEMORY OF

HERBERT SHUNSO NAKANO

born May 24, 1919 Florin, California

died July 29, 1983 Los Angeles, California

Sincerely
Mrs. Herbert S. Nakano
Jane and Gary Nakano

Herbert Shunso was the son of Jirokichi and Misuno (Sagawa) Nakano and a fine family history was sent for this Reunion publication by Sam Shigeo Nakano of Los Angeles (see Jirokichi Nakano Family). We are indebted to those who have taken the time to provide us with important links to Florin's past.

..... Historian M.T.T..



BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION TO ALL THE FLORINITES

Our Tribute to:

TOKUMATSU AND YAE MIYAO



Walter H. Miyao Family

Walter Miyao, raised on a strawberry and grape farm in Florin, attended Florin East School, Elk Grove Union High School, U. C. at Berkeley, and continued on to Wayne State Graduate School and Electronic Institute of America. In 1943, Walter married Elyse H. Yamaji from Mt. View and have three sons and two daughters. Enlisted in the U. S. Army (1941-1944), he had responsibility of Field Hospital Laboratories. After discharge, he relocated from Amache WRA Center, to Detroit. He worked at Bendix Research Division, of Sherman Pharmacetical Lab and Detroit Department of Health Laboratories as an Assistant Director. He published several scientific papers, such as, the effects of gamma globulin therapy on advanced T.B. patients, etc.

He has been active in National JACL, American Society of Medical Technologists and National Registry of Microbiologists. His work has been recognized and tributes of testimonial award from City of Detroit and Emeritus awarded by the National Registry of Microbiologists.

His family:

<u>Lloyd</u> (1945) is married to Naoe Ushijima of Tokyo, Japan and is the Western Regional manager of Hitachi America, San Francisco and San Francisco State University alumnus. Their children are Petel (16) and Jane (6).

Carolyn (1946) is married to James Moore, senior partner of law firm, Gregory, Moore, VanLopik, and Jearle. Couple have two sons, Derik (13) and Ian (9). Carolyn and Jim are alumni of University of Michigan.

Charlotte (1949) is married to Charles Micus, general manager of an architectural engineer company in Houston, Texas. Couple have daughters, Erin (6) and Allison (3). Their alma mater is Eastern University, Michigan.

Ross (1958) is an alumnus of Wayne State University is Quality Control manager for Detroit Engineer Company of Troy, Michigan.

Dean (1961) is an Industrial Designer of Black and Veatch Engineer Company of Troy, Michigan. He has attended Denison University of Ohio, Western University of Michigan and Lawrence Institute of Technology.

****The Tokumatsu Miyao farm was close to the corner of historic Seven-mile House and Florin Road, beford the evacuation. Today, the area is the Lindale subdivision. The families, who are special friends, have scattered all over the United States. Their children have pursued their own dreams. We had no idea what may have happened or where they settled and what have been the story of the Sanseis and Yonseis. It is gratifying to hear from some of these families, who have helped to fill in the missing gaps to a thrilling history that has emerged from our small community, Florin.

....Historian M.T.T.....*****

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Wish You Success in This Reunion!

IN MEMORY OF

RYOSUKE UMEMOTO (1889 - 1931) KUSU UMEMOTO (1899 - 1962)

FROM THE FAMILY OF:

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Junji Samuel Umemoto and Kiyoko Umemoto (Retired from Sam Reibow Co.)
Yoshio and Mihara (Umemoto) Matsumoto (Retired)
Stanley and Yoshimi (Umemoto) Yamasaki (Retired)
Hank Shozo and Kay Umemoto

* * * * * * * * * * * *

RYOSUKE UMEMOTO

Neighbors and friends of Umemotos remember fondly that Ryosuki Umemoto brought his family to farm in Florin before World War I. They eventually settled down on a farm on Bradshaw Road. Not far from the Takeokas and the Mukais. They raised strawberries and a find grape vineyard, one of the better more productive vineyards of the Florin Fruit Grower's Association.

When his father died, Ben, the eldest ran the farm for his widowed mother until WWII when the entire Japanese American Community was removed.

The two eldest Umemotos went to Japan and became most successful in a refrigeration business. Innovative and creative ideas were invented and the company flourished. Ben retired from the Sam Reibor Company of Japan, and moved to Los Angeles, where the brothers established Sam Reibow Company.

..... Historian M.T.T.

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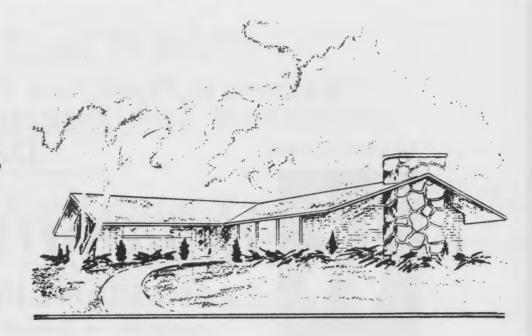
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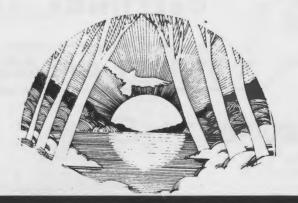
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WE THANK YOU ALL FOR WORKING AT MANY TASKS TO GET THE JOB DON'E!

Somehow photos were missed:

Transportation and Housing,

Fred Matsumoto, Glenn (Ch) and Mary Shimazu

Video Taping,

Walter Menda and Paul Takehara

Souvenir Photo Album Project

Teri Mizusaka (Ch)

Reno Trip on Monday

Arlene and Percy Nakashima (Chairpersons)

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINE COOPERATION!

YOU HAVE HELPED US COMPLETE A MONUMENTAL TASK!



... The Publication Team.

Bettie Yamamura, Dan Inouye, Mary Tsukamoto, Ritsuko Iwasa, Paul Takehara and Al Tsukamoto.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank all who participated with their family stories, photographs and donations. The history of Florin is still far from complete but we have something here to be treasured because YOU have helped to make it so. We know it will bring nostalgic memories of long-ago Florin and the dear people we had loved and respected.

We wished more families had sent us their stories. The reunion gave us the incentive and inspiration to undertake this enormous project. It will be difficult to ever attempt this again.

Many of the stories were well written. We struggled to squeeze as much as possible into the one or two pages as requested, and to include the special photographed that were sent. We regret having to cut down the articles to fit the space available. Some stories could have easily filled into a third page. We hope you will understand and will be pleased with the results.

We recognize those who have generously added their special talents to give our booklet that extra touch of quality.

Mrs. Estuko Wakayama, a notable Calligraphy
Instructor, has honored us by writing to enhance
the Dedication message in cherished Japanese
for our Isseis to read and appreciate. She
used a fine brush to give us a lasting momento of her artistry.



We turned to our outstanding leader, Jack Tsuchida, to give us an excellent translation of the English Dedication into Japanese. Faithfully, he translated into Japanese to express what was written in English by Mary Tsukamoto.

The beautiful Pine that welcomed everyone as the pages were opened in the First 1981 Reunion Souvenir Booklet, was created by Florin's own sumie artist, Lillian Sato, will have an encore. We are grateful to receive Lillian's special talent in carrying out our Dedication theme for this 1986 Issue.



We acknowledge the special skills and dedication of the members of the publication team that made this effort possible.

Starting with two examples of past Florin's Historical Booklets: the First 1981 Reunion Souvenir Booklet and the 1985 "Once-in-a - Lifetime" Reunion Booklet. Historian Mary Tsukamoto attempted to add more history of Florin than was printed before.



Betty Yamamura, our past experienced Editor-in-Chief of our publication team, gave us the needed leadership and assembled all the advertising and the final organization of the entire booklet pages ready for the printer.

Inouye's technical Without Dan skills as an excellent photographer, it would have been impossible to present every story and photographs camera-ready for the printer. The project has been an enormous undertaking for Dan, in time and effort.



Ritsuko Iwasa, with dogged determination and her trusty computer/word processor to get each page typed and spaced for photographs and captions, continued working into the night to meet the deadline.

Paul Takehara, our business manager, negotiated with the printer and the final work was completed for the reunion. He has assumed contacting for ads as well. Others who worked to solicit advertising were: Bill Tsukamoto, Al Kanemoto, Teri Mizusaka, Bill Matsumoto, Al Tsukamoto, Hideo Kadokawa, Hanna

Yoshinaga, James Abe and Bill Kashiwagi.

Extra copies of this booklet will be available at the Reunion for \$5.00 a copy. Should you wish to order extra copies for your family/friends through the mail, an additional \$1.00 for each booklet is requested for mail handling charge. Please contact:

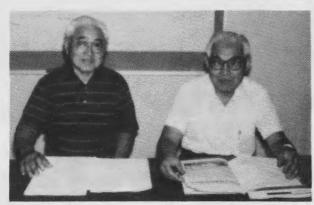


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REUNION COMMITTEE



Al Tsukamoto and George Furukawa co-chairpersons



Treasurer: Woody Ishikawa, Yosh Tsukamoto Bill Tsukamoto



Secretary: Mrytle Furukawa (Record.) Hanna Yoshinaga (Corres.)



General Arrangements:

Hideo Kadokawa (Chr.)

George Miyao

Tosh Tanaka

Mike Umeda



Co-Chrs. Tommy/Frances Kushi Mary Ishikawa



Publicity: Bill Kashiwagi

Have a Great Reunion



Telephone Committee
Dorothy Kadokawa, Lily Umeda, Grace Kono,
Elsie Matsumoto, Nami King(Ch) Lois Nakashima.



Registration Committee
Myrna Hitomi, Tommy Kushi, Grace Kono,
Betty Abe, Kae Nakamura, Frances Kushi,
Carol Hironaka, (Not Pictured) Mary Ishikawa.



Saturday Picnic
General Chr.:Percy Nakashima
Obento: Bill Matsumoto
Bingo: Myrna Hitomi
Beverage: Glenn Shimazu/Fred matsumoto
Baseball: Bill Tsukamoto



Saturday Nite Dance and Fellowship
General Chr): James Abe
Refreshments: Betty Abe(Chr.)
Carol Hironaka
Myrna Hitomi



Issei: Lois Nakashima (Chr.) Kae Nakamura, Mrytle Furukawa, Herbert Kurima Rev Newton Ishiura



Banquet Committee
Grace Kono, Teri Mizusaka, Kae Nakamura,
Hanna Yoshinaga, Kern Kono, Bill Kashiwagi,(Ch.)
Dan Inouye, Masako Tomono, Toyo Tsukamoto,
Mary Tsukamoto, Bill Matsumoto, Al Tsukamoto.



Friday Nite Mixer
Food(Co-Chrps.), Masako Takeoka,
Dorothy Kadokawa, Emi Takehara,
Committee: Percy Nakashima, Nat Ohara,
Al Menda, Tosh Hamataka, Mike Umeda,
Grace Kono, Nami King, Lois Nakashima,
Kae Nakamura(Co-ch.), Hanna Yoshinaga,
George Miyao, Fred Matsumoto, Bernice
Ouye, Grace Niki, Lily Umeda, Elsie
Matsumoto, Nellie Sakakihara(Co-Ch.).



Lillian Sato

Banquet Decorations: Toyo Tuskamoto (Chr.) Kae Nakamura Masako Tomono



Historical Exhibit Committee Minoru Kakutani, Glenn Shimazu Tosh Tanaka, Mary Shimazu.



Sunday Golf Tournament (Chr): Paul Takehara Ned Murata



Early in 1985 we began our first plans Lois Nakashima, Frances and Tommy Kushi, Mary and Woody Ishikawa, Bill Kashiwagi, Emi and Paul Takehara, Teri Mizusaka.



Refreshments(Chrs.) Dorothy Kadokawa, Emi Takehara Masako Takeoka



Historian and Editor met often.



Faithful Planning Committee met monthly.



Saturday Memorial Service Shig Tahara, Alvin Seno(Co-Chrs) George Miyao, Rev. Newton Ishiura.

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