

NISEI POST 8985



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Greetings and best wishes as you meet again for your II Florin Area Homecoming Reunion. We proudly salute you, the "Nisei" Pioneers. With your help, at one time, the Issei have made this farm area one of the most productive in this state.

The "Nisei", first American born children of the Japanese immigrants, the Issei. The "Nisei", who bridged the gap between the American and the Japanese culture. The "Nisei", legacy of Blood, Sweat, and Tears.

"Blood" spilled during W.W.II demonstrated to America that the word "Nisei" means American. What sacrifice! They have the right to be called "The America's Secret Weapon", "The Gentleman Soldiers", "The Yankee Samurai". And later, with the same honor and faith, the Veterans of the Korean and Viet Nam war, did answer this country's call.

"Sweat" was not uncommon to the "Nisei", who, when old enough, worked in the fields with their parents. Hard labor was about the only work to be found because of the Depression and the racial prejudices. Yet, many did find work and some even went on to college and managed to ameliorate themselves into the American society.

"Tears" was shed for property lost and crops rotting in the fields. The years of internment behind barbed wire fences. The loss of freedom and identity! To the "Nisei" the Constitution and the Bill of Rights was just a piece of paper.

The "Nisei" still has Hope and the Faith that this war of racial prejudice will some day be won. And that this government will correct the wrong that was done against the American Japanese.

May this II Florin Area Homecoming Reunion be the most memorable and enjoyable reunion. May the Blood be of blood relatives, Sweat be from the August heat, and the Tears from laughter and happy memories.

WE MUST ALWAYS REMEMBER ---- HISTORY FORGOTTEN! ---- HISTORY REPEATED!

HERB "MOON" KURIMA

For seven decades, teams from the Florin A.C. have participated in northern California athletic competition. The accomplishments of the athletes who competed prior to World War II are for the most part unknown, however, except to those who played. Herb "Moon" Kurima, who was a part of the Florin A.C. for more than 30 years both as a player and a coach, remembers the pre-war days well.

"Everybody was crazy about sports in those days," he said, especially baseball." Fans flocked to watch the strong Florin team, which was annually among the league leaders. Through the years, the team won its share of championships and travelled throughout the northern and central valley, earning recognition wherever it played.

Because baseball was the strength of the Florin A.C. for years, other sports did not receive as much attention. Basketball, for example, was played outdoors on dirt courts until the construction of the Florin gymnasium in 1939. The new playing site stimulated interest, and the gym was packed for every basketball game thereafter.

World War II disrupted the Florin community just at a time when Florin sports were flourishing. Teams were split up as members were sent to different relocation camps. Players continued to play at the camps, and some returned to Florin after the war and formed new teams. Florin A.C. was reestablished as well and continues today.

For those who competed before the war, nothing can compare to the teams of that time. "Moon" Kurima has a stack of scrapbooks and piles of pictures which illustrate the level of excellence achieved by the early Florin teams. The old newspaper clippings and photographs provide a vivid reminder of a time past, a time Kurima would like to relive.

"I look at them all the time," he said. "I wish I could do it all over again!"

REMEMBER WHEN!!



Florin Baseball Team



Late Pedro Ouchida -
HE WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT HIT GRAND SLAM
- IN MID 30's-

FLORIN BASEBALL TEAM
Class 'A' Champions

Fresno Assembly Center - September 27, 1942



Back - L-R Harold Ouchida (Coach), Shiro Tahara (O.F.), Archie Yoshida (C)
Mac Kurima (O.F.,Mgr.) Ichiro Miyagawa (1-B), Ernie Kurima (P),
Hutch Omachi (C), James Tanigawa (P), Hitoshi Ouchida (Coach)

Front L-R Herb Kurima (P), Sam Tsukamoto (O.F.), Hiro Tahara (S.S.,Cap.)
Yosh Tsukamoto (O.F.), Dick Kurima (3-B), Bill Tsukamot (2-B)

This picture taken at Denson Arkansas - 1943

Florin A.C. (Taiiku) had a wonderful strong team for many years which was accredited to outstanding players like the Tsukamoto brothers (Sam, Yosh, & Bill); the Tahara brothers (Hiro, Shiro, & Cooper) and the Kurima brothers (Mac, Dick, Gary, Ernie, Wilbert and Herb). There were, of course, many many valuable players who contributed to making it the super team that Florin had during the 30's. Others such as the late Ben Oda, late George Yamada, Mits Yamada, Pug Noda, late Stogee Ouchida, late Pedro Ouchida, Buddy Yasukawa, Ichiro Miyagawa, Sam Okamoto, late Dave Kato, Terry Kawanishi, Sam Sako, Yankee Sawamura, Cooper Sekikawa, Woody Ishikawa, George Itogawa, Jim Ishii, Mas Yamamoto, Fred Taniguchi, Henry Isa and Ted Sekikawa.

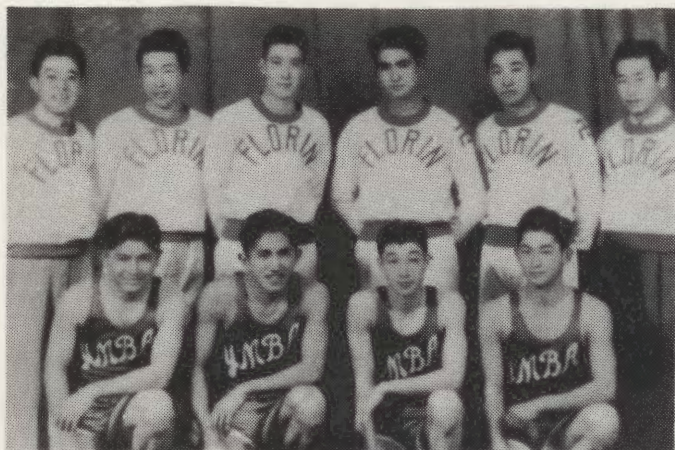


I recall some of the names of the 'ole timers' in the late 1920 to 1932. They were: Infielders Sam Nakamura, Charley Ogata, George Yasui, Mac Kurima, Tom Fukushima; Outfielders - Roy Kawamura, Harold Ouchida, Paul Yasui, Harvey Murakami, Howard Miyoshi; Pitchers Yamaguchi, Min Noda, Harry Nakatsu, Harry Ishii, Wally Tsuda, Kiyoto Tanihara.

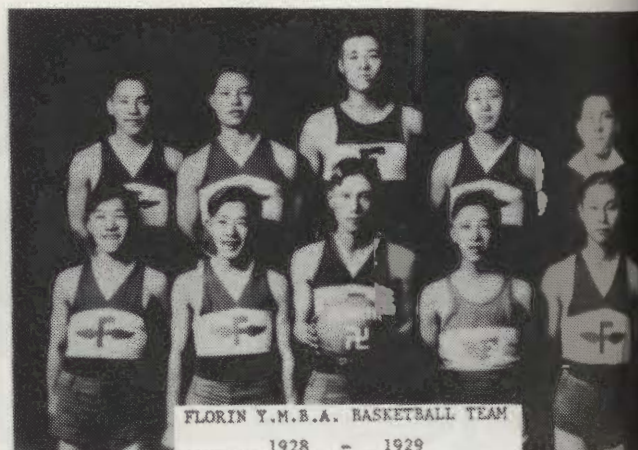
BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION

It gives me pleasure to dedicate these pages to the clubs, teams, and players involved in pre-war sports activities. Their spectacular performances in various sports including baseball and basketball thrilled Florin area fans for years.

Herb "Moon" Kurima - pre-war player, manager, athletic director, and N.C.V.C. Officer



FLORIN Y.M.B.A. BLUE STREAKS 1939-1940-1941
 Front L-R Clark Taketa, Ben Oda, Dick Kurima, Don Ishii
 Back L-R John Hirohata, Pedro Ouchida, Wilbert Kurima, Mas Yamasaki, George Tanaka, Herb Kurima (Mgr.)



FLORIN Y.M.B.A. BASKETBALL TEAM
 1928 - 1929
 Top Row - L-R Jim Yasukawa, Sam Okamoto, John Shintaku, Herb Kurima, Al Mayeda (Pres.)
 Bottom - L-R Roy Yoshinaga, John Hirohata, Mac Kurima, George Noda, Clarence Fukushima



FLORIN PANTHERS - 1940 - 1941
 Front L-R Howard Tahara, Don Ishii, Al Ishii, Sam Okamoto, Melvin Nelson,
 Back L-R Tom Nakao, Al Tsukamoto, Dick Kurima, Tom Tanihara, Herb Kurima, Mac Kurima



Top L-R Harry Tokumura, Mac Kurima, Wilbert Kurima, Howard Tahara, Mac Goishi,
 Front L-R Ted Miyata, Herbert Kurima, Tosh Tanaka, Joe Kurima, Tom Yamada

**BLUE STREAKS
 PLAY HOST TO
 CRIMSON TIDE**

**Florin YMBA Nine
 Shuts Out Vacaville**

**To Meet Florin
 Blue Streaks
 On Friday Night**

Best Wishes and Happy Reunion

BILL & KIKU HIROHATA
BOB HIROHATA
HARRY & HELEN HIROHATA
RONALD HIROHATA
TOMMY & KAREN HIROHATA
DICK & LUCY (HIROHATA) KURIMA
DOLLY (HIROHATA) UYENO
YUTAKA & HARRIET (HIROHATA) HAMAMOTO

* * * * *

We fondly recall as youths seeing Isseis daily working at the basket factory. Many people of Florin were happily employed there. At the end of the day, many carried home bundles of scrap materials good for kindling. The Tomomi Hirohatas worked with the town folks at the factory during winter months when farm work was slow.

...Florin Historian

In memory of:

KUMAKICHI TAHARA
COOPER TAHARA
MITSUO TAHARA

HOWARD and EMILY TAHARA

Eddie, Lucy, Harvey, Janie & Donna

We cherish remembering our school days when the bus stopped to pick up friends along the way. Howard lived near Cal-Vine Road on Florin-Elk Grove Road and Emily (Uyemura) Tahara lived closer to Florin Road on the Florin-Elk Grove Road.

....Florin Historian

WELCOME FRIENDS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO

our mother

Mrs. Fumiko Deguchi
For Being Honored

MOTHER OF THE YEAR
at the
CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
In April 1986

From Her Children

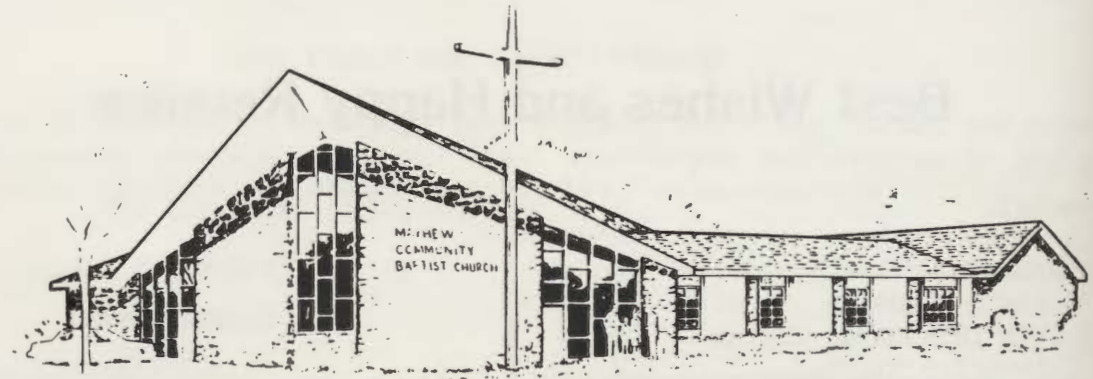
Frank & Betty Deguchi
Will & Agnes Deguchi
Fred & Nancy Deguchi
Roy & Kay Deguchi
Bill & Ann Deguchi
Ned & Betty Murata

BEST WISHES
AND

HAPPY REUNION

DON KAZUNOBU YAMABE

IN MEMORY OF LATE
LILLIAN ASAKO (GOISHI) YAMABE



RICKET & BRIGGS, Kenneth C. Rickett, ARCHITECT A.I.A.

ADDITIONS TO:
MAYHEW BAPTIST CHURCH
SACRAMENTO CA.

MAYHEW COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

Mayhew Church began as the Camellia Mission in the 1920's under the auspices of the Baptist Church, serving the Japanese Immigrants located in the 47th Avenue and Franklin Boulevard area. As these farmers moved to Mayhew, Sunday School was started in the Machida family home in 1927 until Mayhew Hall was built on Kiefer Road. Reverend Muraoka continued to serve these families out of the Camellia Mission.

For many years, Mr. Kobata fired up the stove anticipating the arrival of the children each Sunday. Other names on the early Church roster included: Kitada, Sakuma, Toguchi, Matsumoto, Yamasaki, Abe, Iwasa, Kawamura, Ogawa, Deguchi, Sato, and Satow.

In 1941, under Executive Order 9066, the area evacuees stored their lifetime belongings in the Church and were relocated to a Concentration Camp in the Arizona desert. They were there for three and one half years. When the ban was finally lifted on the West Coast in January 1945, they returned to find the Church burned to the ground. The evacuees rebuilt the Church on land that was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Riichi Satow.

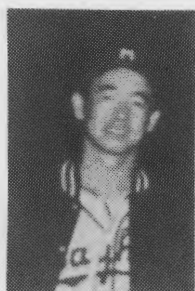
While under the service of the Reverend Igarashi, Mayhew Mission was incorporated into Mayhew Community Baptist Church. Those serving the Church through the years were missionaries Mrs. Edna Clingan Hansen, Mrs. Goldie Nicholson Yasunaga, Miss Mary Opal Crone, Miss Eleanor Crone, and Pastors Ishihara, Holbrook, Coffee Uzzel, and Marrs.

The Mayhew Community Baptist church, now a multi-racial congregation, has continued to meet the needs of the community under the leadership of Pastor John Ellis for eleven years, and currently led by the Reverend Dr. Rodney Wurst.

The Church membership has increased and outgrown the existing facility. Therefore, plans are being made to expand and construct a new sanctuary, which should be ready in 1987.

MAYHEW A. C.

DEDICATES THIS PAGE TO TWO TEAMMATES



AKI FUKUSHIMA



KENZO KAWAHIRA



MAYHEW, MARYSVILLE SCORE WINS
IN SAC TO BALL LEAGUE OPENERS

Mayhew Takes Lead ...
MARYSVILLE JA CL WINS, LOSES IN
TWO SAC TO VALLEY LEAGUE GAMES

Mayhew Again Rallies to
Beat Florin; Deltans Win

Mayhew Rallies to Win
13-10 Over Placer Nine

Top row - Left to Right
Aki Fukushima, Bob Kozan, Kenzo Kawahira, Sam Ishida,
Ted Satow, Sam Sekikawa, Ernest Satow
Bottom Row - Left to Right
Tak Iwasa, Harry Kawamura, Dave Kawamura, Dennis Hashimoto,
Sets Okino, Jack Takamoto.



Top row - Left to Right
Yosh Iwasa, Harry Kawamura, Dave Kawamura, Jack Takamoto,
Kenji Kawahira
Bottom Row - Left to Right
Jim Matsueda, Tak Iwasa, Susumu Satow, Thomas Takahashi

The local baseball teams were the outgrowth of many prewar baseball teams, formally or otherwise organized with available participants from Stockton, Sacramento, Florin, Placer County, Marysville, Clarksburg, West Sacramento, Mayhew, Riverside and many others. When communities were able to regroup after the war, the friendly rivalry continued in the form of the Sacramento Valley Rural Nisei Baseball League. In 1950, the Mayhew team took the league and valley play-off championship. Recalling partially the team roll are catcher, Dave Kawamura; pitcher, Henry Yasui/ Jack Takamoto/Yoshio Iwasa; 1st, George Ogawa; 2nd, Takao Iwasa; 3rd, Jim Matsueda; fielders, Ronald Sato, Sus Satow, Sam Sekikawa, Harry Kawamura, Sets Okino, Ted Kobata, Frank Kawamura, Thomas Takahashi and many others. (recall obscured by Father Time). The ever-faithful boosters were Messrs. Ogawa, Miyazaki, Matsumoto and Riichi Satow. Winning these Sunday afternoon games was very serious business, next only to berry/grape growing. The manager was Yoshio Iwasa. The trophy now resides in the Mayhew Baptist Church Hall.

GREETINGS FROM THE RIICHI AND CHIEKO SATOW FAMILIES

As a teenager in Chiba Prefecture, Japan, Riichi Satow's dream was to go to America. His dream was realized in 1912 at the age of 17 when his father who was working in America, made the necessary arrangements for his son to join him. For five years, he labored with his brother, Shinji, harvesting grapes, pears, apples, oranges and cantaloupes from Napa down to Imperial Valley and into Arizona. During this period, he also worked as a hotel cook in Napa.

One of Riichi's co-worker was Kantaro Seki, who was also a close friend of the family of Chieko Miura in neighboring Katsura City. As Riichi and Kantaro labored in the vineyards in Napa, Kantaro told Riichi that he knew of a young lady of 19, who would make him a fine wife. When Kantaro returned to Japan, he visited the two families involved and made arrangements for the marriage. In 1919, Riichi returned to Japan. When the ship docked at Yokohama, Kantaro was waiting there with Chieko, ready to introduce Riichi to his future bride. Riichi and Chieko were married and soon thereafter departed for America. Riichi was a strawberry farmer in Sacramento in the Oak Park area for four years.



Riichi wanted to learn the English language to prepare himself for a more promising future for his family, so the family moved to San Francisco where he worked as a typesetter for Nichi Bei Times. He attended English classes four evenings, and church meetings for two evenings a week. At this period in his life, he was earnestly seeking and learning about Christianity and before he left San Francisco, he had made a decision to become a Christian. Chieko, along with caring for three young children, worked at home doing embroidery, mainly on wedding gowns, which provided extra income for the family. After one and one-half years in San Francisco, Riichi was taken seriously ill and was hospitalized for a month. Doctors advised him to seek the country atmosphere, so the family returned to Sacramento, and resumed strawberry farming. They were blessed with two years of bumper crops, and were able to purchase land in the Mayhew area in 1930. They farmed on this land and raised nine children until evacuation forced them to leave for Pinedale Assembly Center thence to Poston Relocation Center. After residing a year in camp, the family relocated to Keenesburg, Colorado, where the family raised sugar beets. In 1947, they returned to Mayhew and resumed farming. Riichi and Chieko retired from farming in 1964, and enjoyed many activities until the passing of Chieko in 1969.



In 1970, Riichi began attending day classes in English and Social Sciences at nearby Mather Air Force Base, and did so for several years. He enjoyed Tanka poetry since he was a young man, but he did not have the opportunity to pursue it seriously until his retirement years. After composing a great number of poems, his children encouraged him to publish some of them. In 1982, Riichi (87) published "Red Soil", a selection of his writings. Today at 91, he continues to write tanka whenever he is inspired. He also practices his calligraphy. Riichi and the late Chieko Satow have in addition to their nine children, nineteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. All of their six sons served in the armed forces of our country.

As was the experience of most immigrants, life was very difficult for them in the early years in America. With perseverance, hard work, and countless sacrifices, they helped to build a foundation for their children in this land of opportunity and freedom, passing on to the next generation some of fine ways of their Japanese culture and at the same time, allowing their children to assimilate into the American life. We owe much to our parents and to all Isseis, and we honor them for the legacy which they have passed on to us. Both Riichi and Chieko Satow have been active Christians. They, along with the children, would say it was by God's grace that they and their families have been able to enjoy an abundant and promising life. It is to our loving and gracious God that we give our thanks.



Picture taken 1982

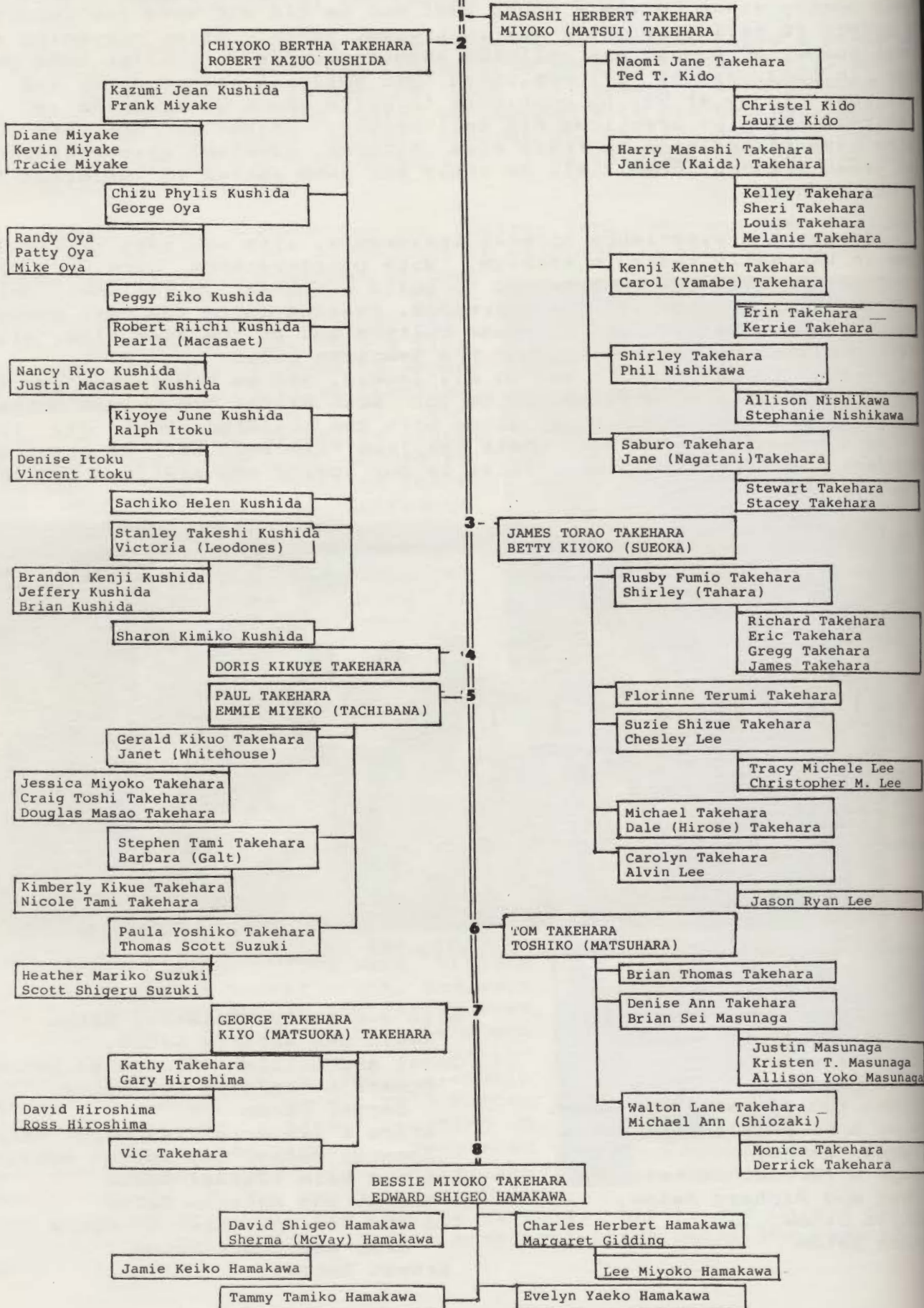
Chiyo (Satow) and Paul Aiso
 Ann & (Shig) Hamachi,
 David Aiso,
 Kathy Aiso,
 Naomi and (Stuart) Nagasawa.
 Susumu & Lily (Higuchi) Satow
 Vernon Satow,
 Hope & (Bruce) Johnson,
 Dawn and Richard Satow.
 Toshiko Satow
 Hannah Satow

Bill and Betty (Kataoka) Satow
 Kevin and Valerie Satow.
 Oscar and Lillian (Hironaka) Satow
 Stuart & (Arlyne Au) Satow
 Sarah, Daren
 Bruce & (Valerie Nishimura) Satow
 Joanne, Becky, Gay Maryel Satow.
 Leo and Dale (Kaida) Satow
 Andrew and Matthew Satow
 Ted and Joylene (Kimura) Satow
 Erin and Robin Satow
 Ernest Satow



KIKUMATSU TAKEHARA
TAMI (KAWANISHI) TAKEHARA

Takehara Family



TAKEHARA AND ASSOCIATES



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Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

In tribute to our parents:

Hisata and Kinue (Hirakawa) Iwasa
(1882-1942) (1898-1978)

Hisata Iwasa, 16, youngest of four children, and his brother left Fukuoka-ken, Japan, to labor in Hawaii. After 2 years, his brother returned home and Hisata came to the Los Angeles/Fresno area and settled in Oak Park (1906) to farm grapes and strawberries. Kinue was the youngest of Gisaburo (d.1920) and Min (d.194-) Hirakawa's five children. On 2/24/15, Kinue became a picture-bride and joined Hisata in May. The couple went to Sacramento and had six children.

In 1930, the Iwasas moved to Mayhew farmsite on Bradshaw Road. Hisata was active in the building of the Mayhew Sunday School (the center of Mayhew's prewar community activities), No. Calif. Berry Growers, Florin Fruit Growers and Florin Wine Growers Associations. In 1937, Kinue visited Japan. Her family realized the severity of her life in America. She revisited Japan in 1960. Hisata passed away on 2/18/42. Kinue with her young family evacuated to Pinedale (Fresno) and Poston (WRA) Arizona. She patiently awaited release studying English, flower arrangements, etc. Her daughters relocated eastward to work and study. Masami sought seasonal work outside.

Kinue and her sons returned to Mayhew. Her daughters soon rejoined them. Masami and she continued to farm strawberries and grapes. Yoshio and Takao completed their military service in post-war Europe. In retirement, Kinue enjoyed gardening, tanka (poetry)



front: Kinue, Yoshio, Takao, Hisata
rear: Kiyoka, Masami, Kaoru, Miyo (1937 ?)

writing, and her seventeen grandchildren. Kinue passed away just before her 80th birthday. In loving memory and for her grandchildren, her children published selections of her tanka-writings with the help of Mr. Riichi Satow. We are grateful to our parents for the many hardships and sacrifices endured and the spirit and love freely given.

Minoru and Kaoru (Iwasa) Ouye

Kathryn (& Douglas) Jones (Emily & Erin), and Marilyn.

Masao (d. 1976) and Kiyoka (Iwasa) Kawamura

Caroline (Michele), Esther (d), Vicki and Susan.

Masami and Hisako (Tomotoshi) Iwasa

Linda, Mark and Dean.

Ted and Miyo (Iwasa) Kobata

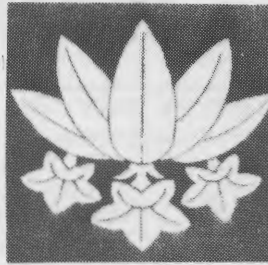
Glenn (& Amy Yamazumi), Hannah (& Michael) Guro (Thomas), and Stanley.

Yoshio and Ritsuko (Nakahira) Iwasa

Keiko (& Stephen) Watanabe, Kenneth, Arthur and Robert.

Takao and Judy (Tamai) Iwasa

Jeanette and Steven.

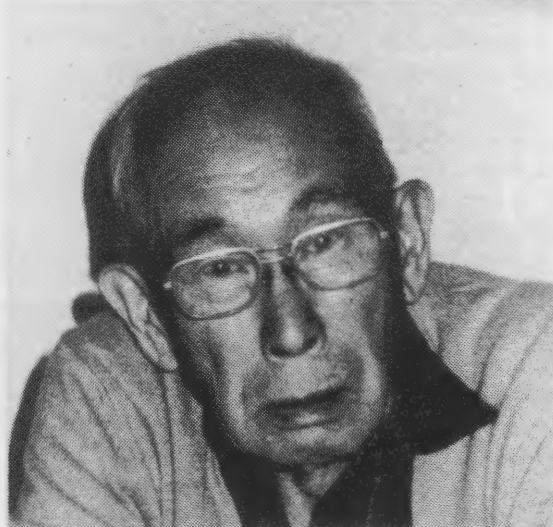


IN MEMORY OF:

FUKUSHIMA

Tsunetaro (d 1951)	Tsuru (d 1930)
Tom Tsutomu (d 1986)	
Bob Tatsuo (d 1971)	
Morio (d 1920)	
Hanako (d 1913)	

Tsunetaro Fukushima left his birthplace of Furuichi, Hiroshima prefecture, Japan at age 23 and arrived in America in 1898. He returned to Japan to marry Tsuru, a daughter of the family friend and together they came to the town of Florin, where he had previously purchased twenty acres of land at the northwest corner of Florin and Florin Elk Grove Road. Around 1920, he bought another plot of land approximately twenty-five acres, located on Gardner Avenue, about quarter of a mile, south of Florin Road. Both lands were used predominately for growing grapes and strawberries. In 1942 after the outbreak of World War II, the family was forced out of this land by government decree and relocated to Manzanar Internment Camp.



Hitoshi Ouchida as partners, purchased the Sacramento Noodle Factory and began producing "HIME" udon and other oriental paste products. In 1975 he sold the factory and retired. After suffering years from emphysema, he died March 11, 1986.

This remembrance is especially dedicated to the eldest brother, Tom who died this year. Tom was born July 16, 1906, in Florin, California. He attended the old grammar school which was located west of the current site of East Florin Grammar School, graduated Elk Grove High School and Sacramento Junior College. On January 28, 1935, he married Kinuyo Nakashima and remained on the family farm. For a few years, he grew lima beans along the Consumnes River and contracting out for tractor work with the local farmers. After internment, he relocated to Encanto in San Diego County and grew beans and celery for one season. In 1946 he and

**Best Wishes
for a Grand Reunion**

Clarence Fukushima
Bernice (Fukushima) Oki
Fred Fukushima
Percy Fukushima
Phyllis (Fukushima) Yamanaka
Clara (Fukushima) Miura

Florin Japanese Methodist Church

When the Alien Land Law passed in 1913, it created much anti-Japanese sentiment in California. The Methodist church was concerned. They sent Dr. H.B. Johnson, Superintendent of the Methodist Missions, to Florin with a proposition to assist the Japanese in establishing a Japanese Christian Church where Sunday School and a Japanese Language school could be opened. Dr. Johnson impressed everyone. He spoke fluent Japanese. He converted many to Christianity.

In 1913, Mr. Yasaburo Tsuda began a Japanese Language School in a stable which was located where the Old Buddhist Church Building still stands today. The tuition was \$.25 a month. He had three students at first. They were Yoshio Kiino, Ume Kawamoto and Teichi Yasui. The following year, 35 enrolled.

In 1914, the Kawamoto Family and Shuichi Fujii received baptism. The Sunday School started with seven children and soon reached 30. Kuzo Tsukamoto and Kennosuke Yamada picked up children on horse wagon at Christmas. The church had a program of Christmas hymns and pageant. For most people this was the first Christmas in their life.

In 1915, headed by Kuzo Tsukamoto, they raised \$1,400 for the first Japanese Church to be built in Florin. For this building fund, Kuzo and Mr. Wada gave \$50, which was 40 day's wages. Rev. Reiichi Manabe was the first pastor, and the new church was dedicated.

By 1924, 30 Japanese churches formed a Northern California Christian Federation. The Annual Northern California Young Peoples Christian Conference gave two to three hundred Japanese American Christian youths a chance to have memorable spiritual experiences.

In 1928 another major building project, led by Kuzo Tsukamoto, as Chairman, resulted in the dedication of the Florin Japanese Community Hall.

The church grew during the bleak depression years when a great revival was experienced with the arrival of Rev. Kosaburo Baba, an evangelist. Many new people were converted and old members were spiritually renewed.

By 1941 we needed an English speaking youth minister, and Rev. James K. Sasaki was appointed. After 25 years support for the Japanese Provisional Conference from the California Conference, just when we adopted the plan to become self-supporting, the outbreak of WWII changed everything.

Florin's dynamic work was possible through the superb effort of great ministers who served our church throughout its history. We pay tribute to: Revs. R. Manabe, Y. Tsuda, O. So, S. Takata, I. Haratani, S. Niwa, Norisue, Y. Sasaki and J.K. Sasaki. Then after the war came Y. Tsuda, M. Goto, W. Oyanagi, I. Inouye, J. Fujimori, G. Nishikawa, T. Goto, S. Masuko and C. Horikoshi.

Executive Order 9066 forced the church's members to evacuate from California. From 1942 to 1945 the Florin Japanese Methodist Church was boarded up and members brought their belongings to be stored in the Community Hall.

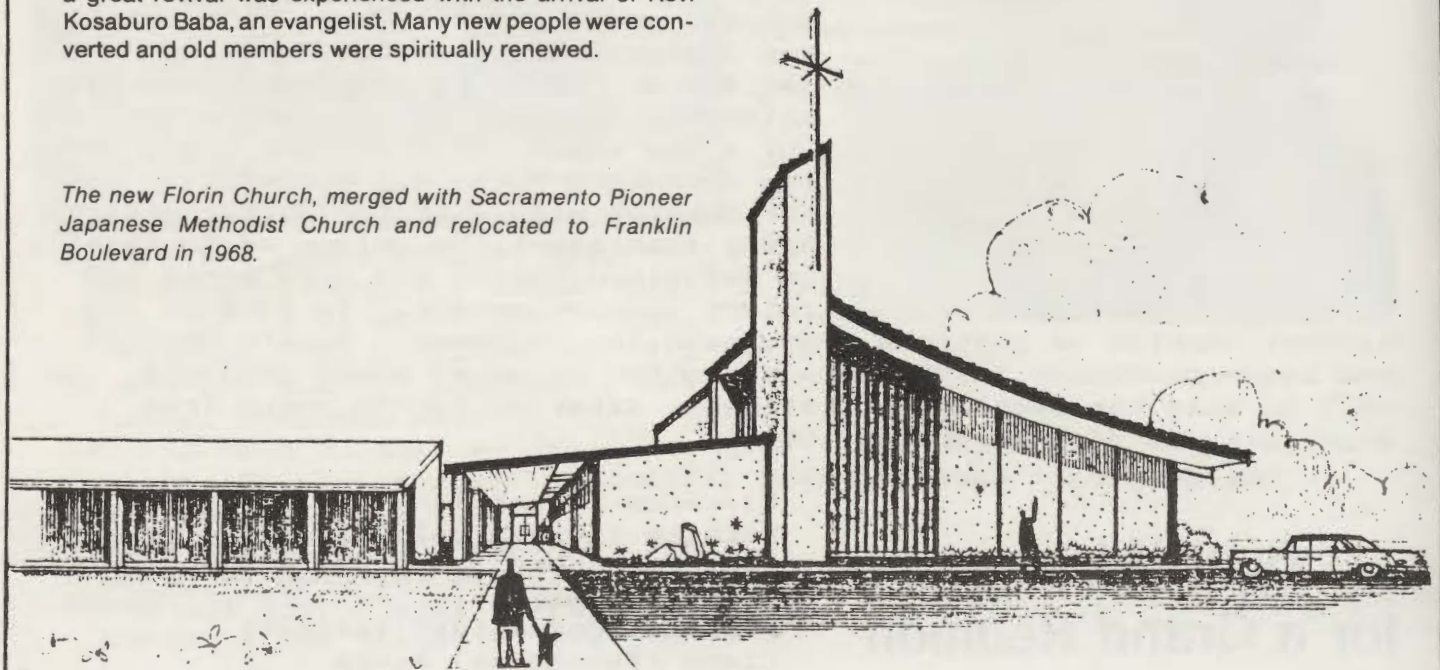
Gradually as members returned after 1945 when the ban was lifted, the Church hall was used as a hostel. The WRA loaned 30 beds and 90 blankets.

The next 23 years the Florin church worked to meet the needs of its members. It was a struggle. The membership was scattered all over the country by the evacuation, and the few remaining Isseis were passing away, leaving a great loss in support and leadership.

In 1968 it merged with the Sacramento Japanese Pioneer Methodist Church. Together they moved into a new site at Franklin Boulevard which is now the Sacramento Japanese Methodist Church.

BEST WISHES

The new Florin Church, merged with Sacramento Pioneer Japanese Methodist Church and relocated to Franklin Boulevard in 1968.

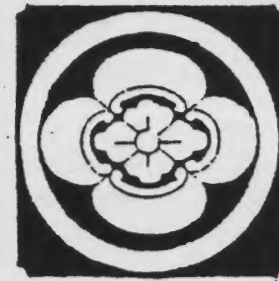
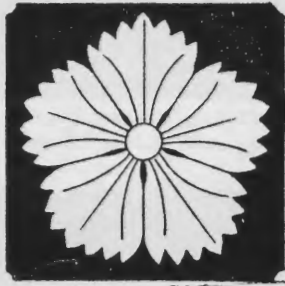


BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION

FROM THE NITTA FAMILY

Connie Miyoko (Nitta) Yamada
Grace Nobuko (Nitta) and Kern Kono
Doris Yukiko (Nitta) and Bill Taketa

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SHIZUKO AND JOICHI NITTA



We fondly recall:

Shizuko (Kadokawa) and Joichi Nitta both came from Hiroshima and farmed strawberries and grapes in Florin for more than fifty years. In 1942, along with their daughters and other farm people living in Florin and surrounding areas, Shizuko and Joichi Nitta were forcibly removed and confined to the Fresno Assembly Center, Jerome and Rohwer, Arkansas, for three years. In 1945, they returned to Florin to farm once again.

Shizuko and Joichi Nitta celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1970 with family and friends. Shizuko lived and enjoyed a happy life for five more years. She lived until she was seventy years of age. Joichi, lonely but with loving relatives, dear friends and family, enjoyed nine more years of life. He lived until he was eighty-eight years of age in May, 1985.

Joichi and Shizuko were both active leaders in the Methodist Church. They were caring, close friends that helped us to know a great deal about our cultural heritage and values and our Hiroshima Family roots.

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

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

FAMILY HISTORY :: SHIGENO FAMILY

Hikokuma Sakonjo Shigeno, the seventh of eight children, was born on April 9, 1873 into the Sakonjo family of the Satsuma clan in Kagoshima. Later he was adopted into his maternal aunt's family, the Shigeno, to perpetuate the family name when the last of the four Shigeno daughters married into the Onkubo family of Toshimichi renown.

When Meiji Restoration brought sweeping changes, the family lost its status as samurai retainer. Hikokuma spent his younger days teaching in Kagoshima and later went to Tokyo. Before he came to America, he spent several years working as locomotive engineer in Taiwan where his brother-in-law, Baron Kenjiro Den was serving as the first Civilian Administrator and his other brother-in-law, Shikanosuke Niimoto, was the head of the Taiwan National Railroad.

Koyoshi Den Shigeno, the second of eight children of Tomokichi and Komatsu Den, was born on October 29, 1884 in the remote area of Hyogo Prefecture known as 'Tanba no Kuni'. She was married to Hikokuma in 1903.

Hikokuma heard that there was a land of opportunity across the sea, that money virtually grew on trees for the picking. It was this lure that beckoned him in 1907 to America. After working his way down at various odd jobs, beginning with the railroad in Canada, he came to Florin and bought a parcel of land in 1908. He sent for his wife and daughter, Hideko, and settled here raising grapes. In 1931, Hikokuma bought a piece of land across the road from the Ishigaki's on Elk Grove Road to raise strawberries and vegetables.

Hikokuma, a Christian baptized in Japan long before coming to these shores, was an active member of the Florin Japanese Methodist Church and served as a Chartered Member when it was founded. Koyoshi was baptized in 1915 by Rev. Manabe. Hikokuma was also active in the Florin Ninonginkai.

When the evacuation order came, the Shigeno family in Florin consisting of the parents, Ted, Lily and Florence, decided to go to Sacramento to be evacuated together with Hideko, who was married to Jun Miyakawa. They were first in Walerga Assembly Center and then was transferred to Tulelake. Ted left Tulelake, first to top sugar beets in Montana and then, to Chicago to work with Hyde Park Co-op before going on to Boston University to finish his college education. Lily relocated to Chicago and there met and married Tom Hunkle. Until her death on January 1, 1963, she lived in Texas.



A young Shigeno family clipping tokay grapes in Florin. Hikokuma, Koyoshi, and Hideko Shigeno



Agnes Hideko Shigeno, Hikokuma Shigeno (father) Koyoshi Shigeno (mother).



Family of Jun Miyagawa, Agnes Hideko (Shigeno), Carolyn, Edward, (Author of "Tule Lake") and Marilyn (Sacramento)

Tulelake was subsequently changed to a 'Segregation Center' and the Shigenos, still in Tulelake, chose to go to Topaz Relocation Center where the Tani (Rose) family were. The Miyakawa's relocated at this time to Boulder, Colorado.

Florence decided to leave her parents in Topaz to go to Elmhurst College.

Rose Tani with her family moved out to St. Louis, Missouri where Henry worked with the Evangelical and Reformed Church in the Youth Program.

After the end of the war, Hikokuma and Koyoshi relocated to Chicago and worked for University of Chicago Faculty Club as gardener. He retired when he became eligible for social security benefits at the age of 75. In 1952, they returned to Japan to be with their son, Ted. Hikokuma died in Kamakura, Japan on July 21, 1961 at the age of 89. After Hikokuma died, Koyoshi came back to the U. S. and lived with her youngest daughter, Florence, and her husband Mits Kawagoye in Los Angeles. Koyoshi died on November 3, 1970, at the age of 86.

The couple had six children:

The oldest Hideko Agnes was born in Japan and came to the U.S. with her mother when she was one year old. She married Jun Miyakawa and lives in Sacramento. Jun died in 1983. She has three children: Carolyn, Edward, author of the book, "Tule Lake", and Marilyn.

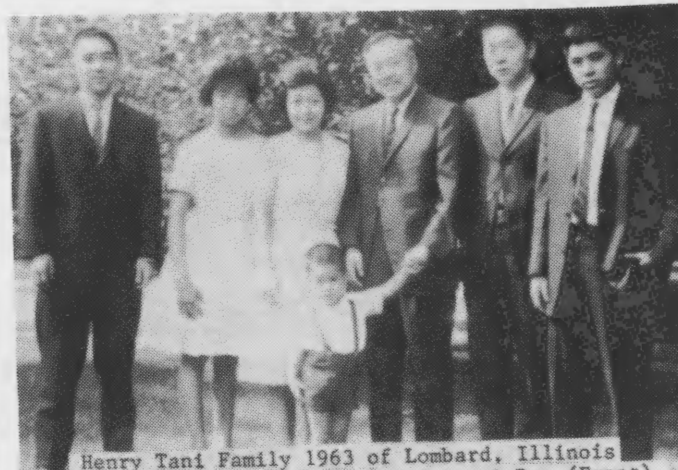
The first son, Isao, died in a dynamite accident when he was seven.

Rose Sawako married Henry Tani of San Francisco and had five children: Dick, John, Steve, Christine, and Dan. Henry died in 1965. Rose lives in Lombard, Illinois.

Ted Kiyoshi married Kiyoko Aoki (deceased 1973) of Tokyo and has five boys: Isao, Tadashi, Tsutomu, Manabu and Osamu. Ted lives in Japan.

Lily Yuriko married Tom Hunke of Texas and had one son, Eric. Lily died in 1962.

Florence Nobuko married Mits Kawagoye of West Los Angeles and have two children, Anne and Jim. Their home is in Torrance, California.



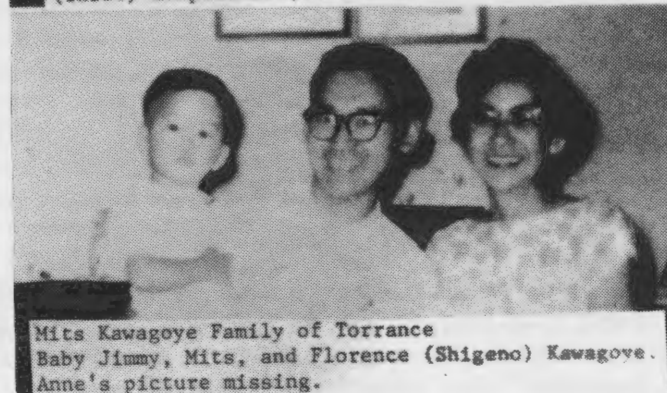
Henry Tani Family 1963 of Lombard, Illinois
Richard, Chris, Rose, Henry, Steve, John, & Don (Front).



Shigeno Family in Japan
Ted & Kiyoko (Aoki) Koyoshi & Hikokuma Shigeno,
sons, Tadashi, Tsutomu & Isao.



Tom & Lily (Shigeno) Hunke of Texas.
(inset) adopted son, Eric Hunke.



Mits Kawagoye Family of Torrance
Baby Jimmy, Mits, and Florence (Shigeno) Kawagoye.
Anne's picture missing.

GREETINGS

H A V E A M E M O R A B L E R E U N I O N

In grateful memory of:

T A R O A N D K A M E D A K U Z A K U

P. F. C. J U L I A D A K U Z A K U

The Dakuzaku Family:

Masako, Ruth, Mary, Isabel, Jean and George



* * * * *

At 17, leaving his bride, Kame, with his mother, Taro left Okinawa for Hawaii. Few years later, March, 1906, he arrived in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake and fire. He worked as cook on the Southern Pacific Railroad, on farms in Walnut Grove and Sacramento Valley. In partnership with brother, Choshin and a few young Okinawan friends, Taro had a laundry business on Geary Street, San Francisco. He called his bride and daughter to America in 1911. Meanwhile complying with her widowed mother-in-law's wishes, and heart-broken, Kame left Masako with her grandmother in Japan. Masako was never to join her family in America. In 1925, Taro moved his family into the Jenkins farm on Gerber Road, Florin. He became a successful strawberry and grape farmer.



Taro & Kame Dakuzaku Mary & Ruth



Standing: Seichiro, Moriyuki Niizaki
Masako Niizaki
Front: Yukari (Seichiro's baby)
Kimiko (Seichiro's wife)

Suddenly in 1942, he was forced to abandon his ripe berry and productive grape crops. This was a considerable loss! And they were sent to Fresno, Jerome then relocated to Chicago and Kalamazoo, Michigan. When the West Coast exclusion ban was lifted in 1945, Taro and Kame with Jean, returned to Florin, but the rest of the family was scattered.

Not until 1957, was Taro, and the rest of the family, able to meet his first-born daughter, Masako Niizaki from Tokyo. Widowed, she too suffered hardship, raising two boys in war-torn Japan. She now has four grandchildren.

Ruth and Hugh Kiino family with son, Carl, settled in Kalamazoo, to remain. They operated a Kiino's Derby Inn. Hugh became a Food Director of Borges Hospital and Ruth became a secretary and Registrar of the Borges Nursing School. Two more children were born in Kalamazoo: Diane and Duane. Christine and Carl



Jan, Duane, Tim, Hugh, Diane
Ruth (1977)

(deceased) have two children: Lauren and Sarah. Dr. Diane (Kiino) and Dr. Tim Swartz have a daughter, Morgan. Duane and Jan have two girls: Lisa and Libby.



Sarah (10), Lisa (5), Hugh, Libby (3) Ruth, Lauren (13) (1985)



Al, Mary, Marielle (1976)

Mary and Al Tsukamoto returned to their Florin farm. In due time, Al quit farming and went to work for the U. S. Army Signal Depot. Al, thirty years as Quality Control Inspector, and Mary, 26 years of teaching in the Elk Grove Unified School District, retired, and are active in community reunion and historical works. Daughter Marielle taught elementary school near San Jose, in the Alum Rock School District and now a reading specialist in charge of the Learning Center.

Isabel and Tom Oshiro settled in Concord, as cook and gardener for the Prost family. After thirty plus years, they have retired. Son, Cmdr. Neal Oshiro, U.S. Navy, is stationed in Japan, and Kiyo have two children; and daughter, Judy (Oshiro) and Chuck Dehont have a daughter.



Neal, Kiyo Mark & Tina



Judy (Oshiro) Dehont, Betsy Dehont, Chuck Dehont, Isabel & Tom Oshiro

Jean married Art Kaku of Tracy. They adopted two boys, and have two grandchildren. After operating a garage, Art now has a Bike and Locksmith Shop and specializes on Security Burgular Alarm systems. Jean keeps the family business financial records.



Art and Jean Kaku (1985)
Insert grandchildren:
Dawn Marie (Bobbie's)
William, Jr. (Billie's)

Julia, the youngest daughter, volunteered into the WAC's from Kalamazoo. While stationed at Pasco, WA, she passed away, on September 1945.



Pfc. Julia Dakuzaku (1945)

George served in the U. S. Army in Europe, and had completed his military service in Japan. There he was able to find sister, Masako, safe in postwar Japan. It was a great relief to the Dakuzakus. He returned to Florin to help on the farm. He married Grace Yasui and is living in Dixon and is farming on the Schultz Ranch. They have two daughters: Susan and Nancy, both are married.



Nancy, Grace, Susan George (1973)

The Ogata Family

Charles Yonemitsu Ogata was born Jan. 19, 1900 in Fukuoka, Japan to Kurakichi and Kikuno Ogata. When his parents left for the United States with his younger brother, Masanori, Charles stayed in Japan and later lived in Korea with his grandfather and older sister Hatsuye.

At the age of 17, Charlie came to Seattle, WA to be with his family, who had a barbershop at the time. Due to his father's failing health, the family decided to return to Japan, leaving Charlie in Seattle to work in a laundry during the day to support himself and attend school at night.

In 1922, he came to San Francisco to work and joined a traveling baseball team that played games with teams in the Japanese communities around Northern California. When the Florin baseball team was in need of a good second baseman, Charlie was hired by a Mr. Ikeda, and Charlie made his home in Florin.

It was here that he met and married Hatsuko Margaret Tsukamoto, the eldest daughter of Kuzo and Ito Tsukamoto. On Nov. 25, 1925 the wedding was held at the Florin Japanese Methodist Church.

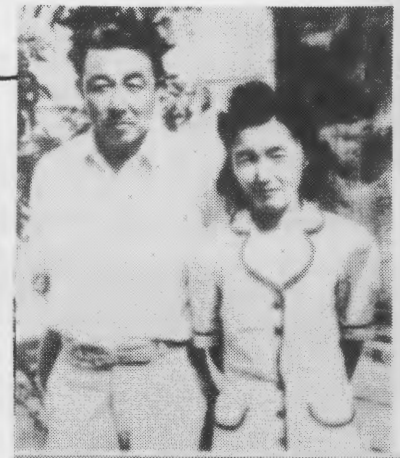
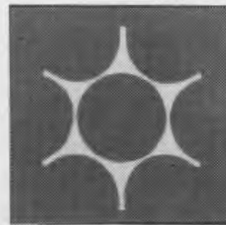
In 1928, the Ogata family of four, including two little children, Chizu and Masa, went to a small town near Bakersfield, called Arvin. Charlie worked as a foreman for two years on the farm of a Colonel DiGiorgio while Margaret learned to cook for a big gang of laborers.

Eight years later, he had drawn up a contract with Mr. Yamamoto to raise hops in a small farming area near the foothills, east of Florin, called Sloughouse.



Ogata family picture, taken in 1934. Back L-R: Alfred Iwao Tsukamoto, Namiyo Tsukamoto, Margaret Hatsuko Ogata, Charles Yonemitsu Ogata. Front L-R: Grandpa Kuzo Tsukamoto, Raymond Masa Ogata, Violet Chizuko Ogata, Alvin Mitsu Ogata, Grandma Ito Tsukamoto, Arlene Ogata.

Welcome! and Best Wishes



Charles and Margaret in Benton Harbor during 1955.

With a little money they had saved from raising hops, Charlie and Margaret opened the Ogata Grocery Store in 1937 next to Hodge's Hardware Store. Their small store was quite prosperous until the war broke out in 1941.

When the shocking Military Orders were issued, they were forced to close their store. In the hectic days prior to this mass removal, they hurriedly tried to sell what they had. They had to practically give away their entire inventory, selling their stock for ten cents on the dollar.

On May 29, 1942, they picked what they could carry and took their family of five daughters and two sons and went on the train from Elk Grove to Fresno Center, then Jerome Ark., to Gila, Ari. Government Internment Camps for nearly three years.

When closing the internment camps was inevitable and the ban was lifted to return to California, Charlie and Margaret opted to make a fresh start in a new place. They moved to Eau Claire, MI where Charlie worked as a supervisor on a Henry Lane Peach Farm. Two years later, when the Henry Lane Farm was sold, they moved to a small town called Benton Harbor.

They started a small farm raising strawberries, cabbage and tomatoes, with much help from their children. They farmed for 20 years. Along with this farm, the Ogatas opened a small grocery store on their property which Margaret ran at first, later hiring help to run it.

Charles and Margaret adopted their grandchildren, Kent and Chuck, when their mother remarried. So Margaret and Charlie have been the dedicated parents of nine children, and blessed by 14 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

In the last 15 years, Charles became a successful, well-liked nursery and landscape gardener and businessman. Charlie's work became recognized as an outstanding contribution to beautifying the entire area of Southern Michigan. He became the first person to start Japanese rock gardens, which delighted everyone. He was honored by the community and was invited to join the Chamber of Commerce.

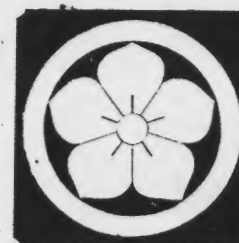
In 1982, the Ogatas found a quiet place and moved to a lovely home in St. Joseph where he built himself a beautiful garden, too. He enjoyed his new home about a half-a-year before he found in December, 1982, a better place to rest and continue building beautiful gardens.

Arlene Ogata

Page 49

HAPPY REUNION FROM:

THE HAROLD OUCHIDA FAMILY



Four generations of the Ouchida family have lived in Florin. It started with Sennosuke (1868-1944) and Soyo (1873-1928) Ouchida from Fukuoka-ken. They left a daughter and a son, Yoshio in Japan. They worked in the basket factory and in the berry and grape fields. Three sons, Harold Yasuji (1905-1964), Hitoshi 'Stogie' (1909-1970) and Pedro Hiroharu (1915-1986) were born in Florin and attended local schools. Partner with Mr. T. Otani, Harold managed the Northern California Farms Co, and shipped berries out of Florin. In the thirties, Florin was known as the strawberry capital of the world. In 1929, Harold married Edith Tsukamoto, the company bookkeeper. They had five children, but their lives in Florin were disrupted with Executive Order 9066. The family was sent to Fresno, Jerome, and Gila internment camps. Harold worked for Seabrook Farms Project of Birds Eye Frozen Food Company, recruiting workers from the ten camps. Staff Sgt. Hiroharu Pedro Ouchida, veteran of the famed 442nd Nisei Combat Team, and recipient of the Purple Heart, returned to Florin in 1946. He married Yori Oga. Their son, Peter Kei, married Priscilla Morita. Stogie and Rosie (Itogawa), with their three children, Danny, Ronnie and Janice, came back to Sacramento in 1945 and started the Sacramento Noodle Factory.

Harold and Edith with their five children, returned to Florin. Wayne Ouchida, their sixth child, was born. He would be the last Ouchida to attend Florin and Elk Grove schools. Harold's shipping business was lost! The lawyer, entrusted with the business records during their absence, died, leaving no records. He tried to revive the strawberry business, but an industry without many growers, could not be revived. Stemmed strawberry to supply the Borden's Ice Cream Company, was insufficient. Health failing, Harold died at 59. Edith enjoyed the love of her six children, Kenneth, Lucille Yokota, Earl, Lester, Harold, Jr., and Wayne, and twelve grandchildren. At 75, her life in Florin came to an end, leaving a beautiful memory of a very special person.



back: Mary, Pedro, Rosie, Janice,
Stogie, Harold, Edith, Mr. Uda
center: Mr/Mrs. Itogawa (Rosie's parents)
Yoshio Ouchida, Sennosuke,
Tsune Ouchida, Kuzo & Ito
Tsukamoto
front: Kenneth, Earl, Ronnie, Danny,
Lester, Harold Jr., Lucille.
(2/23/44, Jerome)
inset: Wayne Ouchida (1958)



REUNION GREETINGS FROM THE KASHIWAGI FAMILY

ESSEI

Yoshisuke
(Deceased)
Misa (age 89)

NISEI

Bill & Elizabeth

Paul & Sue

Sam & Betty

George & Amiko

Natsuko & Ian
Wallace

Masao

SANSEI

Brenda & Gerald

Warren & Karen
Michael & Maryann
Nancy & Dale Taniguchi
David & Teresa Okita

Maryann Marubashi
David
Wesley
Sandy

Carol & Dale Tateyama
Diane
Alan
Joy

Scott Maeda
Bruce Maeda

YONSEI

Robyn Nagata
Kristyn Nagata
Blayne Nagata

Gordon Tadao

Neil Marubashi
Laura Marubashi



Front: Yoshisuke, Isamu, George & Misa
Second: Paul, Bill & Masao Insert: Natsuko

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

Nellie (Seno) Sakakihara and Sons
Lloyd, Marvin, Bruce and Dean

We dedicate this page in grateful memory to:



EISAKU AND HATSUYO SAKAKIHARA

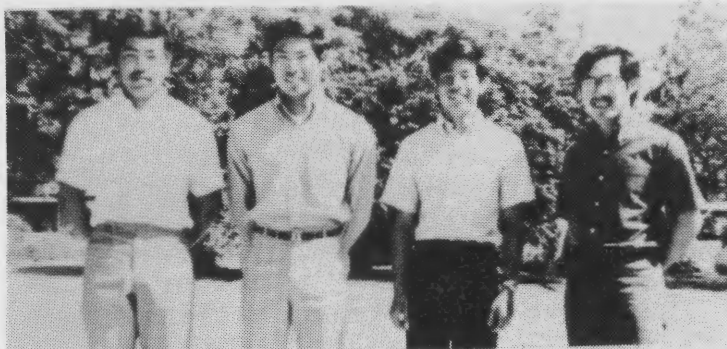
HARRY SAKAKIHARA

Harry and Nellie were friends attending the same neighborhood schools and church. After returning to Florin once again, a happy wedding took place. It was the first wedding to be held in the Florin Japanese Methodist Church, reopened after four years of closure, while Japanese Americans were excluded from the West Coast.



Harry and Tozo Abe, brother-in-law, started a produce department in the first Farmers Market in Del Paso Heights. For eleven years he continued this business with brother, Tom. After they sold the business, Harry continued working for Farmers Market. On July 15, 1975, a prolonged illness ended his time on this earth.

They were blessed with four sons. Harry and Nellie saw to it that the family would be happily involved in positive, nurturing activities that would help build and train them for living. The four boys learned self-reliance and responsibility by faithfully maintaining the Sacramento Bee paper route for thirteen years. They also actively participated in the programs offered by the Asbury Methodist Church, P.T.A., Boy Scouts, Little League. Harry made time for family camping, fishing trips, thus providing a memorable legacy for his Sansei children with a dream for his Yonsei grandchildren.



1 to r: Bruce 15, Lloyd 20, Dean 13, Marvin 17 (1960)

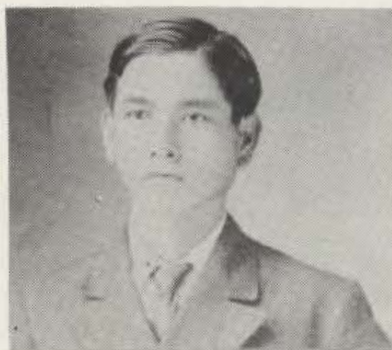
* * * *

Lloyd is project head, San Bruno Naval Engineering Command. He lives in Belmont with wife,

Maxine and son, Gregory. Marvin is a registered Internist at Napa-Kaiser Permanente, where he resides with wife, Jean. Bruce is Bel Air warehouse general manager, lives in Sacramento. Dean is civil engineer with San Bruno Naval Engineering Command, and lives in Union City with wife, Tracie, and son, Scott.

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY REUNION

This Page is Dedicated in Loving Tribute to:



Kojo Oshiro
(1876 - 1918)



Kamato (Kaneshiro) Oshiro
(1879 - 1945)

Bobbie Oshiro
(1947 - 1978)

Kokan and Akiyo Oshiro Family

Tom and Isabel Oshiro Family

Kojo Oshiro came to America in 1904. He was the first Okinawan to farm in the Imperial Valley. Farming melons successfully with partners he became rich. Then unsuccessfully, he tried hog farming, and ended in in great debt. It was a tragic blow to his wife, Kamato, and sons, Kokan and Koyei. They had just arrived on Angel Island, the very day Kojo suddenly died of influenza. An epidemic, which claimed many lives in 1918. Discouraged, Komato decided to return to Okinawa, but Kokan and Koyei (Tom) were released from Angel Island under the guardianship of a family friend, Fukei Kinjo. They worked together to repay their father's debts. Kokan found farm labor jobs.

Koyei Oshiro, 15, too young for farm labor, was sent to San Francisco to work as houseboy and to attend Mission Grammar and Japanese Methodist Church schools. Koyei graduated in 1929 from high school, and continued domestic work, and married Isabel Dakuzaku in 1938. They were evacuated from Florin to Fresno, then Jerome and relocated to Kalamazoo, Michigan. After WW II, the couple was discouraged in farming in Florin. They worked for the Prost family in Concord for thirty years, and are retired. They have two children; Commander Neal Oshiro, U.S. Navy, married to Kiyo Takayama of Japan, and Judy Oshiro married Chuck Dehont of Danville. They have three grandchildren, Mark and Tina Oshiro and Betsy Dehont.

Kokan Oshiro followed the crops up and down California. It was the melons in Imperial Valley and then to Turlock (worked for the Dakuzakus) then peaches, grapes, oranges, almonds and cotton harvest further southward. When the Dakuzakus moved to Florin, he came to harvest berries and to help, when out of work. Liking Florin, he

stayed to farm in 1931. In 1934, he married Akiyo Oshiro of Hawaii. Eventually he purchased property from Reiff Gunter, located on Florin Road, west of Bradshaw Road with Fukumatsu Gibo, his brother-in-law. They farmed until evacuation ordered their exclusion. Kokan, Akiyo and their four children went to Fresno, Jerome, Ark, then Gila, Ariz. camps, before returning to Florin. They lost their farm. By the late fifties they purchased another farm from Bill Gunter on Florin Road, on the east side of Bradshaw Road. The family had increased to six children.

Three of their four sons served in the U. S. Army: Dick and Bobbie in Europe and Hiroshi served in Korea. Dick married Linda Tsuyuki in 1967. Linda is a notable dancing instructor of the Hanayagi School. Masako Oshiro married Wallace Tsuda, Jr. in 1957. He is a federal Tax Auditor. They have five children: Michael, Scotty, Kevin, Rusty and Janet. Rusty and Janet are in school. The three older boys are involved in various business ventures. Ruby Oshiro married Ben Inouye in 1960. They have two sons: Gilbert is at West Point and Louis is in high school. Bobbie Oshiro was a State Tax Auditor. While on a job assignment, a tragic plane accident ended the bright future for a very special person. Hiroshi Oshiro married Kyo Sugiyama of Japan in 1982. They have a daughter named Cathy Miki. Donald, the youngest, is a Computer Programmer.

In 1984, their children happily celebrated Kokan and Akiyo's Golden Wedding Anniversary as their photo shows:



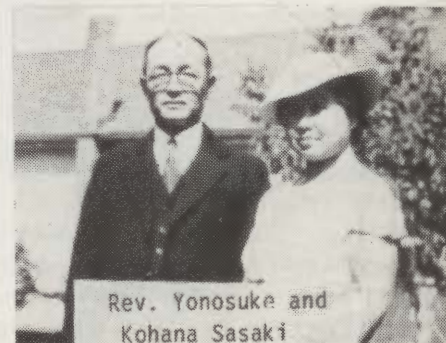
back row: Michael Tsuda, Ben Inouye, Louis Inouye, Hiroshi Oshiro, Scotty Tsuda, Chuck Dehont
 next row: Yoko Goto, Dick & Linda Oshiro, Ruby Inouye, Isabel Oshiro, Kyo Oshiro, Masako Tsuda.
 front row: Donald Oshiro, Rusty Tsuda, Kokan & Akiyo Oshiro, Janet Tsuda, Cmdr. Neal Oshiro
 Tom Oshiro
 floor row: Mark Oshiro, Betsy Dehont, Tina and Kiyoko Oshiro

Best Wishes

Welcome to Florin

THE REVEREND YONOSUKE SASAKI FAMILY

The Rev. Yonosuke Sasaki Family story began in 1925 when he arrived in Seattle, WA to assume duties of 'fuku-bokushi' or vice-minister and to continue his religious studies here. Already many Japanese immigrants were on the West Coast and he requested to be sent to America to minister to their religious needs. He was challenged by the adventurous spirit and excitement of this new country and life. While a student he became interested in the Sendai Methodist Church affairs. Although his father wanted him to be a doctor, Rev. S. Kimura encouraged him into the ministry. He graduated from Tokyo's Aoyama Gakuin, then became a minister at Ueda, then Aomori Methodist churches. He married Kohana Kashima in 1921, and wanted to come to America. First he had to serve a year at Hokkaido's Muroran Methodist Church before he could embark to America.



Meanwhile, Kohana graduated from Ochanomizu Koto Joshi Daigaku, a prestigious cultural arts teacher's college in Japan, then she taught at Aizu Wakamatsu high school and cared for their two children. While Yonosuke was in America, she returned to be near her family and taught at Sendai Mishima Daigaku until 1928. In 1927 after two years in America, he returned to bring his wife and children, Setsuko Mildred (4) and Shizuka Jack (2) to the Vacaville Methodist Church in 1928. There, Takashi Robert and Dorothy Keiko were born.



In 1931, the family came to Florin Methodist Church to minister to the many rural Japanese families. Junko June was born. For ten years until 1942 evacuation orders, Rev. Sasaki's ministry through the depression years, were busy and exciting years. The active couple drew the church and community closer together spiritually, socially, and culturally. Mrs. K. Sasaki taught Japanese School, Sunday School, Japanese etiquette, cooking, arts and crafts. directed many Japanese dramas. They sought to inculcate the pride in being Japanese in a foreign land and combined the best of both cultures to enrich and nurture this community's life. Their 1942 camp destination was Tule Lake WRA. In 1943, after graduating from high school, Jack went to work in Chicago and to attend St. Paul, Minnesota college. Mildred left for Cincinnati, Ohio. Upon the camps segregation, the rest of the family went to Jerome, then to Rohwer WRA in Arkansas. In 1945, the family relocated to Seabrook, New Jersey before WW II ended. Rev. Sasaki died in Seabrook in 1956. He thought of returning to Japan many times, but was never to see his native land again.

"Kasuga no Tsubone", by Mrs. K. Sasaki, included cast of Florinites.
 (Circa late 1930's) Remember that production and faces?



back Elmerine Sakakihara, Sumiko Uchida, Kinuye Tamura, Isabel Dakuzaku, Misu Kushi, Dorothy Yamada.
 center: Director Sasaki Sensei, Mildred Sasaki, Jean Dakuzaku, Grace Hirabara, Miyo Nitta,
 Rosie Shigeno, Lily Kushi, Nami Tsukamoto, Kazuko Kiino
 front: Kiyoko Kiino, Emi Inouye, Julia Dakuzaku, Hatsuye Tamura, Lily Yamasaki, Mae Yamasaki.

For almost thirty years, Rev. and Mrs. Sasaki ministered unselfishly to the religious, social and cultural needs of their flock. Even with their professional duties and responsibilities, they were loving and caring parents to their five children. Their children are pursuing their professional and personal lives in different parts of this country.

Setzuko Mildred, a graduate of University of Cincinnati, in Ohio, is a nursery school teacher and director, and currently lives with her husband, Cedrick Shimo in Los Angeles.

Shizuka Jack, a Masters Degree in Social Work from Columbia University, worked as child psychotherapist, and is now director of New York City mental health clinic. He lives in Bergenfield, N. J., with wife, Reiko, and two sons, John, 21, third year student at Cornell University and Jeffry, 18, incoming freshman at Columbia University, Engineering and Applied Sciences School.

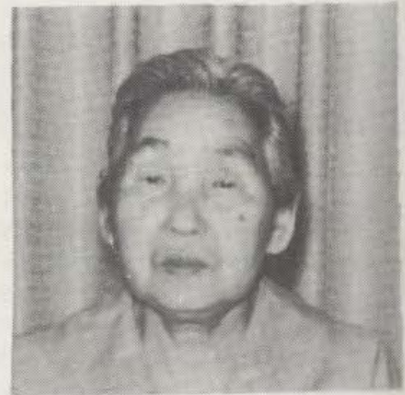
Takashi Robert, a graduate of Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, and Kyoto University with advanced Japanese language and history. He worked as Japanese interpreter in advertising for the U.S. State Department, and now with Equitable Insurance Company in New York City. He lives in Dix Hill, N. Y., with wife, Joanne, and three daughters, Kirsten, 18, Suffolk Community College student, and twins, Annette and Annique, 16, high school sophmores.

Dorothy Keiko attended Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City and currently works in Los Angles. She lives with husband, Roy Kaneshiro in La Mirada, CA.

Junko June earned a Masters Degree at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. and taught in Hollywood's junior high school for over twenty years. She lives with Dorothy and Roy Kaneshiro and her mother in La Mirada, CA.

Mrs. Kohana (Kashima) Sasaki lives in La Mirada, CA with her two daughters and son-in-law in a well deserved retirement.

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY REUNION



UCHIDA FAMILIES REMEMBERS

Masaichi Uchida 1967

Iisaku Uchida 1917

Kazuo Uchida 1937

Yoshio Kiino 1980

Shizu Uchida 1979

Shizuye Uchida 1937

Chokichi Nakano 1961

Howard Uchida 1982

Daniel Uchida 1985

GREETINGS FROM THE UCHIDAS



DAVID & "MARY" UCHIDA
EILEEN & "JIM" FUKUHARA
MITSUKO UCHIDA
LEO & "FLORENCE" UCHIDA
RUBY NAKANO

ELMER & "SETSUKO" UCHIDA
SUMIYE & "ROY" TAKENO
GEORGE & "FRANCES" UCHIDA
MAY & "EDDIE" TOMINAGA
MARY KIINO



Best Wishes. For a Very Happy Reunion!

Tokumatsu Seno was born in Hiroshima, Japan, on May 15, 1878. At age 20, he crossed the Pacific Ocean to the new land. Ten years rolled by while he labored in the fields harvesting crops throughout California.

In 1908, he returned to Hiroshima and the following year married Hisayo Kuwabara, born July 25, 1889, with the understanding that he would not return to America. This pact originated from the tragic experience. When Hisayo was eleven, her father (at 45) died in a railroad accident in Pocatello, Idaho, about six months after arriving in America. In spite his promise, Tokumatsu soon became restless and convinced that California was his destiny, received permission to return to the U. S. for the second time, in 1910.



Hisayo and Tokumatsu Seno
Fiftieth Anniversary
Oct. 19, 1959



This house was built by Kunakichi Hara.

He purchased property on Florin Road, a mile east of town. With help from friends and neighbors, this virgin land was leveled and prepared for raising strawberries and grapes. In 1912, Hisayo joined him. In the next sixteen years, six daughters and two sons were born. Frances Masako, Florence Fusaye, Elsie Yukiye, Nellie Misao, Alvin Masashi, Matsuji (died at birth), Josephine Shigeko and Mary. Around 1921, with the help of Rev. Tsuda and Rev. Buckner of the Methodist Church, Hisayo was able to locate her father's grave in Pocatello, Idaho. She was instrumental in returning her father's remains to Japan. For this accomplishment, she was grateful and realized that her coming to U.S. was not in vain.

In the midst of the bleak depression years of 1930's, while experiencing real hardships, the Seno family found spiritual strength and renewed hope at great revival meetings with Rev. K. Baba, evangelist at the Florin Methodist Church. As church members, the family faithfully gave service and support to its work.

Frances and Florence were married in 1934 and 1939 respectively. Just as bright days appeared on the horizon with Elsie and Nellie working for State Department of Motor Vehicles, World War II

broke out. The family was sent to Manazantar Relocation Center in May, 1942, leaving behind a flourishing vineyard and ready-to-harvest strawberries. In 1944, Nellie and Jo left to work in Washington, D.C. Alvin was drafted into the U.S. Army. When the government decided to close the camps, Tokumatsu and Hisayo with Elsie and Mary, relocated to Denver, Colorado, but within one year, they returned to Florin. It was not a very happy homecoming. Unable to keep up their mortgage payments, the family had lost their farm during their incarceration.

The family stayed at the Florin Methodist Church hostel for two years. July, 1948 was a happy day! They purchased a house on a small property on Florin Road, not too far from the original farm. Tokumatsu assisted Alvin in the landscape gardening work until 1956, when he suffered a stroke. March 29, 1954 was a memorable day for Hisayo, when she was one of the proud recipient of an American citizenship. Long life in Florin came to an end for Tokumatsu, 90, in 1968 and for Hisayo, 96, in 1985.



rear: Elsie, Father, Florence, Frances, Mother, Nellie
front: Josephine, Alvin, Mary (1930)

Present status of their children are:

Frances married Teruo Asahara, deceased 1972, and have six children and actively engaged in business endeavors.

Florence married Major Tozo Abe, have two children, and now retired after 33 years in the Salvation Army service.

Elsie married Fred Matsumoto, have four children and has retired after 25 years with state Department of Motor Vehicles.

Nellie married Harry Sakakihara, deceased 1975, have four children and retired after 23 years with U. S. Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Alvin married Toyoko Mizobe, have three children and is actively engaged in landscape gardening.

Josephine married Percy Fukushima, have two children and retired after 14 years with State Department of Social Services.

Mary married Satoru Shimasu, have three children and retired after 32 years with Signal Depot.

Best Wishes for a Happy Reunion

IN MEMORY OF OUR PARENTS



Shonosuke Kushi
1877 - 1962



Masa Kushi
1888 - 1959

Tommy and Frances Kushi - Sacramento, CA
Lily Kushi - Chicago, Illinois
Misu (Kushi) Miyata - Chicago, Illinois

Shonosuke Kushi came to Florin from Hiroshima, encouraged by his Uncle, Kuzo Tsukamoto to a life in Florin, California. The three related Hiroshima youths, Kuzo Tsukamoto, Kazo Kadokawa, his brother-in-law, and Shonosuke Kushi, his nephew purchased property on the corner of Stockton Boulevard and Gerber Road long before anyone heard of the Alien Land Law.

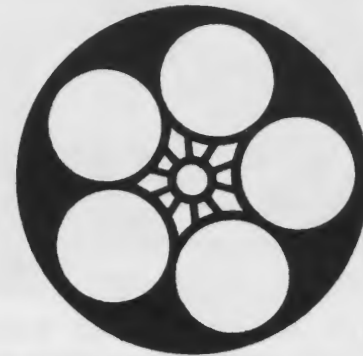
Later, Kazo Kadokawa bought a farm in South Florin and the Tsukamotos settled on Florin Perkins Road, leaving Shonosuke and Masa Kushi to farm a 20 acre farm, (a 1/3rd of the original purchase). There the children were born, all attended Florin Grammar School, Elk Grove High, and were active in the Florin Japanese Methodist Church.

In 1942, those living on the West of the SP Railroad were uprooted to Tule Lake. The Kushis were sent to Tule, then Jerome, later worked at the Seabrooks Farms, New Jersey and relocated to Chicago.

Around 1952, Tommy and Frances with daughter Lynne, brought his parents home to Florin. They purchased a place in Sacramento to stay. Masa and Shonosuke live their happy retired years with family and among churchfriends and relatives. She died at 72 and Shonosuke at 84.

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

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Reunion



UMEDA
MASATARO - TOMEGIKU

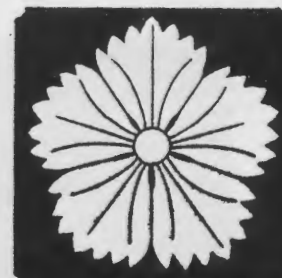
From:

Masao and (Lily) Umeda
Stanley & (Christine) Umeda
Robin and Gregory Umeda
Daniel & (Pauline) Umeda
Todd, Don, Marc and Kimberley Umeda
Joy (betrothed: Randy Yee) and Linda Umeda
Fred and (Akiko) Umeda
Wesley & (Kay) Umeda
Faye (Umeda) & (Michael) Sondler
Gary & (Lanette) Umeda
Paul Umeda
Harley and (Lucy) Umeda (both deceased)
Lois Ann and Kathleen Umeda
Tom and (Gail) Umeda
Eric and Melanie Umeda
Mary (Umeda) and (Terry) Kawanishi
Karen (deceased)
Alice (Umeda) and (Kenneth) Kawamoto
Regina, Barbara, Kenneth, Jr.,
and Allison Umeda

Masataro and Tomegiku farmed on Fruitridge Road, not far from Hedge Avenue, an area called Taishoku. They were faithful members of the Florin Japanese Methodist Church. Masao returned early in January, 1945 to resume farming. The Umeda family spent nearly three years of enforced exclusion, in Fresno Assembly Center, Jerome and Gila River WRA camps. Masao and Lily Umeda were the last strawberry growers of Florin, when they sold their place in 1985.

Historian M.T.T.....

BEST WISHES FOR A WONDERFUL REUNION



It all started when young Kuzo ventured to America in search of work, wealth, a dream, and a meaning for his life. It was early after Japan opened her doors to emmigration in 1885. Kuzo left Misasa-machi, Asagun, Hiroshima with the second contingent departing for Hawaii, loaded with young laborers. Kuzo was attracted to Florin in 1892, having labored from Vancouver, Canada throughout the Northwest, in the mines, the railroad, and various farms.

Kuzo and Ito Kadokawa were married in Hiroshima in 1895. By 1902 they were settled on the Reese farm on Gerber Road, a home Kuzo had prepared for his family. Ito brought her 5 year old nephew. They had been married over 8 years, and were childless, so they adopted George Etsuzo. They worked hard to give him a good education. Years later when George married Sawayo Watanabe, they gave him a fine start in life by setting him up at the "L & M Garage" in Sacramento.

In due time, Kuzo and Ito became proud parents of four children. The family worked hard making a living as berry and grape farmers, supporting the Japanese Methodist Church and always aware the continued need for positive support for the growing Japanese American community.



The Tsukamotos endured the traumatic exclusion for three years, and returned once again, reunited as a family in 1945. In the turmoil of resettlement, months passed before many more family members and friends returned from their wanderings all over the land. There was no time to plan a celebration for Golden Wedding Anniversary, although this union endured 50 years! The following year on October 25, 1946, we were able to think about this observance.

When the evacuation uprooted the people of Japanese Ancestry from the West Coast, the close knit family ties were broken. We scattered afar by thousands of miles:

Charlie and Margaret (Tsukamoto) Ogata Family

Settled in Benton Harbor, Michigan, they farmed for years. Charlie became a well-respected landscape gardner. In 1975, they also celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary and both retired into a lovely home in St. Joseph, Michigan. Suddenly Charlie

passed away in 1982. They had seven children (two adopted), 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren scattered in Michigan, Illinois and California.



rear: Alvin, Arlene, Ray, Charles Ogata
front: Beverly, Margaret Toshi, Margaret, Shirley



Margaret and Charles Ogata
50th Wedding Anniversary

Harold and Edith (Tsukamoto) Ouchida Family

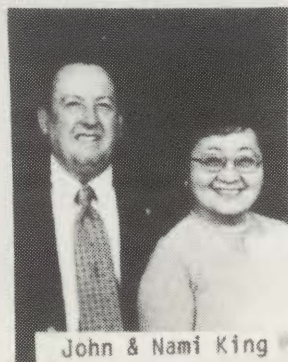
When the family returned to Florin, they were unable to recover their produce shipping business. They worked hard and managed to pick up their lives again. Their post-war baby, Wayne, was their sixth child. All six Ouchida children graduated from Elk Grove High School and various universities, helping each other to finish their schooling. Harold died in 1964. After 20 years of widowhood, Edith passed away in 1984. Twelve Ouchida grandchildren are blessed with a fine legacy.

George and Sawayo Tsukamoto Family

The couple had settled in Los Angeles in the twenties. They returned from Manzanar & New Jersey to resume their lives. George worked in the produce department of Iida's Grocery. Their three children are married, there are now ten grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. On December 1970, George died at age, 75. Sawayo, active in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Los Angeles, passed away in 1983.



George, Ben, Percy, Margie, Sawayo



John & Nami King

John and Nami (Tsukamoto) King

Nami and John were married in 1972 and both are retired from Sacramento U. S. Army Depot. Residing in Rancho Cordova, CA, both are active in Tanoshimi Kai, Florin JACL, Florin Methodist Church and are the dependable mailing team for the Florin Homecoming Reunion and JACL Redress/LEC.

Al and Mary (Daizaku) Tsukamoto Family

Al and Mary gave up farming in 1949. Pulling up the grapevines, as did most farmers at that time, Al found employment in the newly established Sacramento Army Depot. For 30 years, Al was a Quality Control Inspector until retirement. Mary became an elementary teacher for the Elk Grove Unified School District, retiring after 26 years. Marielle has taught in Alum Rock School District, San Jose, CA as an elementary teacher, and now a Reading Specialist in charge of the Learning Center. In our retirement years, we are deeply involved with the work of the Florin JACL, Redress/LEC, the Reunion, the National Japanese American Historical Society, and enjoying Tanoshimi-kai activities and occasional trips and tours, here and there.

Best Wishes for a Grand Reunion

INOUE FAMILY



Standing: Sam, James, Edward, Helen, Amy.
Seated: Tony, Ben, Shihei, Hanayo, David, Mary
(1948 Elk Grove home)

IN MEMORY OF

Shihei Inouye.....1883 - 1957
Hanayo Inouye.....1902 - 1976
Tony T. Inouye.....7/1/37-4/1/63
Diane M. Inouye.....11/22/59-12/30/59

BEST WISHES AND THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES FROM:

Edward K. & Fumie Inouye (2)	Encinitas, CA
Dan T. & Margaret Inouye (2)	Elk Grove, CA
Helen H. & George Tanikawa	San Jose, CA
Amy E. & Min Shimada (3)	Sacramento, CA
James J. & Virginia Inouye (2)	San Diego, CA
Sam S. & Jean Inouye (1)	Sacramento, CA
Ben M. & Ruby Inouye (2)	Elk Grove, CA
Mary M. Nakahara (2)	Maryland
David T. Inouye	San Francisco, CA

Published in "A Kid's History",
Joseph Kerr Junior High School:



Sam, David
back when.....



Dan visits relatives
in Hiroshima, 1946

IT HAPPENED IN ELK GROVE

by Tim Inouye

My grandmother is Mrs. Hanayo Inouye. She is seventy one years old. She lives on Bradshaw Road. Fifty years ago, when she was twenty one, she came to San Francisco from Hiroshima, Japan with her husband, Shihei. They had high hopes of making a success in the new country. When she heard about a grape picking job in Elk Grove, she was very excited and eager. She dressed in her best clothes to make a good impression and took a taxi from Sacramento to Elk Grove.

She was shocked that her living quarters would be in the barn. The work was hard and the day was long. However, she was impressed with the beauty of the delicious grapes and wished that her parents could somehow enjoy them.

Today, Grandma enjoys modern conveniences and hopes she can pass on some of the heritage of her generation to her grandchildren.

GREETINGS FROM THE HIKOEMON YOSHIDA FAMILY

The whereabouts of

Hikoemon Yoshida, 84, in 1961 and Sadame Yoshida, 83, in 1972, both passed away in Cleveland, Ohio.

Edna married Roy Koyama of Medford, Ore, and are retired owners of a food franchise. They are residing in Euclid, Ohio.

George married Masa Koyama of Medford, Ore, is a Metropolitan Housing Development Supervisor in Dayton, Ohio, Their two children: Diane Lynn is married to Frank Graham, with children, Angela M. and Benjamin D. Graham. Michael Allen married Deborah Doss. Both families live in Dayton.

Harry married Betty Weaver, of Vandalia, Ohio, and is manager in retail. Their two children: Patricia Ann married Denny Flint with Denkon Lee Matthews, lives in Dayton. Gregory Allan married Vickie Thurman, resides in West Milton, Ohio, with Beau and Amantha Yoshida.

Eva married Mitch Hashiguchi of Los Angeles, formerly a manager in fine jewelry. Mitch passed away in 1983. Eva lives in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. Their three children are: Beverly Haru married Mark Kerecman of Parma, Ohio, lives in Lyndhurst, Ohio, with David Hideki and Michael Mitsuo Kerecman. Don Hisao married Roslyn D'Agostino of Garfield Heights, Ohio, resides in University Heights, Ohio with Luke Anthony and Matthew Mitch Hashiguchi. Mark Mitsuo resides in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.



back: Roslyn & Don Hashiguchi, Mark Hashiguchi, Beverly & Mark Kerecman

front: Luke Hashiguchi, Eva Hashiguchi w/Matthew, David Kerecman

inset: Michael Kerecman

Henry married Ora M. Robinson, Dayton, Ohio, and is Vice President-Research and Development with Hewlett-Packard in San Jose, CA. Their two children are: David Alan married to Kathi Arditto living in Cupertino, CA. Lisa Lynn is living in San Francisco.

Mary married Kazumaro Fujimoto of Hokkaido, Japan, and an executive with the utility company. Since the divorce, Mary lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Rosaline married Herbert T. Fuke of Maui, Hawaii, formerly a branch manager in opticals. They reside in Willowick, Ohio. Their son, Douglas Shizuo married Linda Forsberg of Willowick, Ohio, now reside in Mentor-on-the-Lake, Ohio.

WELCOME

Gedatsu Church of America
4016 Happy Lane
Sacramento, California 95827

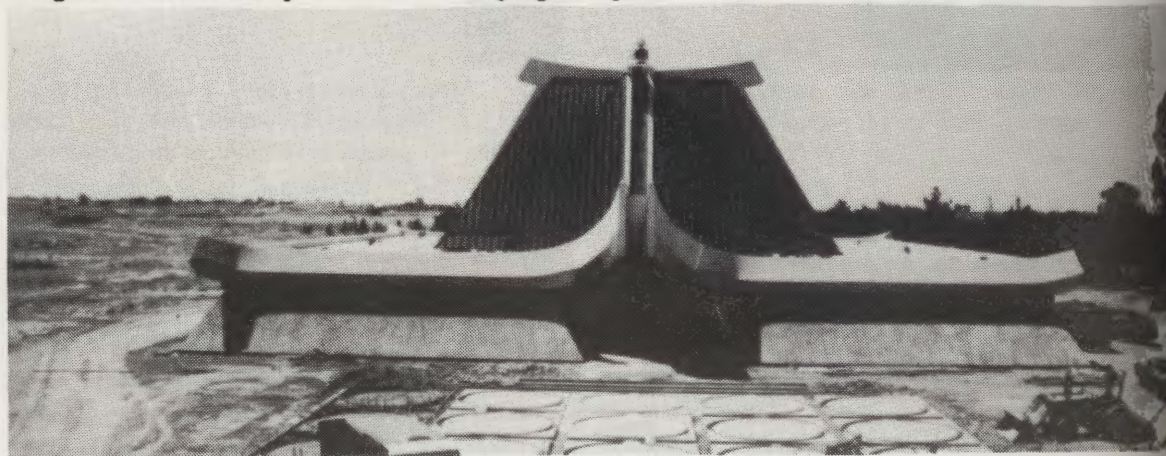


The Gedatsu Church, a non-sectarian Buddhistic oriented religion, is located on Happy Lane in the Mayhew Area. The objective of the Gedatsu Church is to provide an opportunity to study the spiritual influence that permeates the universe and to live one's daily life in gratitude and harmony with the Universal Law. The teachings of Gedatsu were introduced to America before World War II and the local church grew from the influence of Kenyu Kiyota.

The local nucleus was formed by G. Baishiki, Mitsugu Matsuda, Yukio Tanaka and Yei Takahashi. The church was incorporated and the site was acquired in early 1950. The first building, a half-cylinder metal sanctuary, was built by a small congregation, and grew under the leadership of the late Archbishop Kishida.

The new Gochi Sanctuary was drawn by architect Ed Kado and constructed by Ted Kobata Construction Company. Originally a ten-year building project with a five-year planning stage, the new sanctuary was completed in 1983. The planning and financial support was not only from the local membership, but from their sister churches in San Francisco and Los Angeles and from headquarter church in Tokyo, Japan.

Rev. Akira Sebe has been assigned as the minister to the Sacramento Church since 1966. The Gochi Sanctuary serves as a holy place to eradicate confusion and sufferings and to bring happiness into our lives. The public is invited to attend Sunday worship services held twice a month, as well as the English and Japanese study groups.



Best Wishes for a Grand Reunion

ROSE YAMAMOTO - Cleveland, Ohio
TED SEKIKAWA - Sacramento, California
HOWARD SEKIKAWA - Chicago, Illinois
GEORGE SEKIKAWA - Chicago, Illinois
ELEANOR IKESAKI - Sacramento, California
BILL SEKIKAWA - Sacramento, California
BETTIE YAMAMURA - Sacramento, California
SAM SEKIKAWA - Sacramento, California



With appreciation and gratitude we gratefully dedicate this page to GENKICHI SEKIKAWA (1887-1948) and FUDEYO SEKIKAWA.

Genkichi Sekikawa was born to Suyematsu and Wasa in Iwakuni Yamaguchi Ken on February 25, 1887 and came to America at the age of 16 via Hawaii. Fudeyo was born to Sasuke and Kaya Saiki in Iwakuni Yamaguchi Ken on December 13, 1894 and came to Seattle at the age of 19. In 1913 Genkichi went to Seattle to marry Fudeyo and returned to Sacramento to labor in many of the orchards and vineyards throughout California for approximately 10 years. In the early 1920's he purchased 22 acres west of Florin-Perkins road. Prior to being affected by Executive Order 9066 in 1942 Genkichi and Fudeyo were proud to be a part of the community that set records for producing strawberries and grapes in 1941.

After the evacuation Genkichi and Fudeyo returned to California not knowing what the future would be. Genkichi was determined to continue farming although he lost the 22 acres on Florin-Perkins road. After farming for 2 years Genkichi became ill and passed on to the spiritual world in 1948 at the age of 61. If Genkichi was here today he would be very proud of his children. They all married and Fudeyo at the age of 92, enjoying 23 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 2 great great-grandchildren. Fudeyo is now confined to the wheelchair but all the children and grandchildren visit her frequently and discuss about the past years. We often wonder how Florin would be today if it was not for the evacuation. Genkichi was a sport enthusiast. He just loved to see his sons play baseball. The baseball diamond was located on Florin-Perkins road at the entrance to the Sekikawa driveway. Fudeyo still reminisces about the days when she would tell Genkichi don't go to the ball game today because we have lots of work to do but when she looked up he would be heading for the ball diamond. Ted, Howard and George all played baseball for Florin A.C. Today to carry on the tradition Alan Sekikawa is playing baseball for Florin under the leadership of Tom Sugimoto and Jim Tsukamoto. We the Sekikawa's would like to show our appreciation to all of you who took part in making this reunion possible and giving us the opportunity to share our memories.

We are very grateful to our parents for sacrificing their life so we may enjoy our life.

MAY GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU!!!