

The 1990 Crystal City Dinner and Picnic is now a history...For those of you who joined us, WASN'T IT WONDERFUL? And for those of you who couldn't/didn't, we missed you!!! The turnout was GREAT!!!!...far more than we expected both for the dinner and the picnic.

There were ten Isseis who joined us. Rev. and Mrs. Yamashita came with their daughter Hiromi on Saturday night, to the dinner, and the other eight Isseis came to the picnic on Sunday...they are: Mrs. Fukunaga, Mrs. Hatana-ka, Mrs. Ogawa, Mr. Okamoto, Mrs. Omai, Mrs. Yamane, Rev. and Mrs. Yoshida.

The Crystal City Association had a special gift for each of the Issei guests...a bright red, warm, hooded sweat shirt with a yellow "origami tsuru" silk-screened on it for "Good luck". Yamashita Sensei put his red sweat-shirt on at the dinner...and he not only looked younger, but adorable!

Mr. Goichi Tsukahara who cooked for us at the '88 Reunion picnic, donated gifts for us...there were nice pastel colored pen for the women, leather coin purse for the men, and sun visors. We are very grateful.

The prime rib dinner was delicious, we watched the '88 Reunion video tape that Mr. George Nomura took, and were entertained by an impromptu singing by Cynthia Lim, daughter of Lillian Muraoka Horiuchi.* It was so very nice of her. Thanks Cynthia...

We ended the warm fellowship with the C.C. ladies practicing Heisei Ondo and Tanko Bushi for the picnic...

The picnic was a HUGE SUCCESS, again...it was filled with good food from Tojo Catering Service...not only was it good, there was so much of it that many went for seconds and I'm sure thirds...

Sachi Maehara placed numbers of jellybeans in a plastic pitcher...and everyone took a guess at it...Tom Ikemiya took picture of the group...so many of you will soon receive a copy (those who attended)...Skip and Yone Takeuchi took care of the raffles...and there were so many nice gifts...

The surprising thing is the number of 5 and under children...especially around 2 and under...real baby boom...the races that were taken care by Kenji Takeuchi...the games were a bit more difficult...especially tossing the water-balloon...tossing them under one leg, under...like the center at a football game, backward...there were many moanings to be heard, but everyone had fun...one of the lady was so surprised that even losers got prizes. She was tickled pink...and went in all the games after that...

Everyone was happy with so many prizes...

Well, we know now that we'll have to shop for more prizes for the toddlers and babies at the next picnic...the grandchildren are increasing in numbers. Perhaps, those who will be attending would be able to send in the age group of their grandchildren...that would help our shopper...next picnic.

The Yokotake Band entertained the group while we were eating our lunches...many people enjoyed the Japanese music...especially our Issei guests. They played the Heisei Ondo and Tanko Bushi while we ladies danced...it was so nice to see so many people join in...and the sanseis joined in too! so it was really great!...the "Takarazuka Troup" from Texas...WOW...It's so wonderful to see so many people enjoy joining in...

The wonderful niseis and sansei ladies and young ladies baked all those delicious cookies for dessert. Everyone seemed to enjoy munching on those delicious morsels...and we thank each and everyone of you who contributed to the sweet tooth of many.

All those fresh fruits and melons were brought to us from Mae Hosaka...fresh from Central Calif. farms. They were all so juicy, sweet and great! Natures' own dessert at its finest..thanks a lot Mae...we really enjoyed your joining in with us!

The games finished off with good ole "Tug-0-War"...and I was very glad that no one got injured...everyone tries so hard to pull that rope, I am always surprised that no one injures themselves.

Sei Dyo was the MC and being the chairman of the C.C. Association, took care of all the events. Sid Okazaki took care of all the money...and did a fantastic job!...we ended up quite well...and his wife took out all the aluminum cans out of the rubbish and took them in for recycling...and received a hefty \$20.00 for the cans, so she donated it back into C.C. Funds...THANKS A LOT... I'm so glad that we have another recycler beside myself...I CAN'T see things wasted and thrown away...a bag lady at heart.

Our star receptionists are for dinner: Kim Takahashi and her sister Chiyo Matsumoto...and they donated all the beautiful centerpiece for our dinner...a circular basket with flowers and balloons...and for the picnic...THE Takeuchi sisters...Miyo Eshita, Tomo Tomita, and Itsu McDonald.

Working with the C.C. Association for the very first time, I am so impressed with the smooth operation that the people work under... everyone is so generous with their time and their efforts...all I had to do many times was telephone...we met only 3 times in a centrally located area (Lil Tokyo coffee shop), and even though some of the people were very busy people with other group events to take care of, they came through 100%.

Our roving photographer was George Oshimo. The pictures came out great...and George was so busy because he was taking pictures of the Nisei Week Festival which was held at the same time...so inspite of his being very busy, he gave us few hours of memorable snapshots. An album has been made so anyone who would like to see these pictures...it will be at the next reunion.

Talking about next reunion, we hope to have one within the next 2 years...last month a golf group went up north to around Monterey to play golf...among those who went were the Hatanakas, Ikemiyas, Mizukamis, Nakamuras, Yamagishis and the Yasudas. I understand that the fellows met with George Kodama and Grace Kodama Ito and discussed the possibility of having our next reunion up in Northern Calif. ...nothing really concrete but will keep you up to date of this possibility.

I counted about 90 people around San Jose, San Francisco, Monterey, Sunnyvale, Oakland, El Cerrito, Daly City, Watsonville, Los Gatos, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Los Altos, Santa Clara, Rio Vista, Monte Sereno, Turlock, Richmond, Berkeley, Albany, Foster City, Walnut Creek, Lafayette, Elk Grove, Union City, San Mateo, Palo Alto, Roseville, Penngrove, Mountain View, Portola Valley, Pacific Grove, Saratoga, Petaluma, Sebastapol, Sacramento, Davis, etc.

It's like we have 45 from Los Angeles, 25 from Gardena, 15 from Torrance, 12 from Monterey Park, and you have several from Long Beach, Bellflower, Whittier, Pasadena, Altadena, Palos Verdes, Cerritos, Buena Park, Anaheim, Irvine, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Orange, Mission Viejo, Carson, Commerce, S. San Gabriel, Reseda, Lake View Terrace, Granada Hills, Canoga Park, Sepulveda, Glendale, Eagle Rock, Hawthorne, Santa Monica, West Los Angeles, Culver City, and so many other outlying communities...yet part of our spreading L.A. region...

Then you have Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Oxnard, Santa Barbara...and down south, Vista, Riverside, Chula Vista, San Diego, National City, La Mesa, Corona Del Mar, Lemon Grove...we are all spread apart in areas...but do not mind driving to visit or to enjoy a nice get-togethers, reunions...so we do hope that we can put together another reunion that will bring us all together again.

SO...LET'S HAVE A REUNION...AGAIN...IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA...ANY IDEAS...SUGGESTION...WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

This does not mean we expect you Northern Cal people to do ALL the work...many of us from the Southern Cal will be working with you...and we will have all the rest of the people joining us again like in '88...people from Hawaii, from Chicago, N.Y., all over the nation and overseas, again.

Many of you have sent in generous donation for this newsletter...and I THANK YOU!!! It is heartwarming to know that many of you actually READ THIS newsletter...I was amazed at so many of you from so far have sent in your checks to cover the expense of getting the C.C. Chatter to you. Words at times are inadequate in expressing my appreciation..."DOMO DOMO ARIGATO GOZAIMASU." ..."THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY VERY MUCH..."

Many of these newsletters have returned with "No Forwarding Address"...and hope that somehow if you hear about this, and have not received any recent newsletter, just send me your new addresses. Those that came back: Carolyn Izumi, Yoko/Charlie Kato, Eugenia Kato, Mr/Mrs. Kojima, Mr/Mrs. Koketsu Irma & Shiro Kudo, Frank Maoki, Kiyoka/Wayne Matsuoka, Tatanobu Miyahara, Felicita/Richard Moriguchi, Eisuke & Mrs. Murono, Junko Nakashima, Kame Noguni, Mr. & Mrs. Kay Sera, Momoko Sato, Isamu Shiozaki, Mrs. R. Shiozaki, Mr. & Mrs. Yutaka Shiozaki, Brent & Nobuko Steinecker, Kiyoko Tawara, Saburo Ushida, Nobuko Whitelaw, June Wolfe Mr. & Mrs. Yamasato.

We had a appreciation dinner held in Gardena for all those who made this picnic and dinner so successful. It was so nice to see the familiar people again...and everyone felt good that the get-together was such a success. The satisfaction that comes from job well done is very heartwarming. ...the many wives and husbands of the C.C. people who devote as much time, if not more, is very commendable...I know many of you who worked shoulder to shoulder...and then some for each C.C. events. Again, I thank you for being supportive!

THIS IS WHAT MAKES THIS C.C. GROUP WORK SO WELL. EVERYONE TAKE THE TIME, THE EFFORT, THE CARE TO MAKE EVERYTHING GO THROUGH SMOOTHLY...THE KIMOCI AND THE SPIRIT...I am very grateful to be a part of this unique group...I always felt that the C.C. people were extraordinarily "KANSHIN" and very "OYA KOKO"...maybe because our parent (s) were taken and arrested by the F.B.I.'s...maybe because our camp was more unique in that we were more tightly guarded and restricted and censored...and perhaps, maybe because we had a teacher like Yamashita Sensei...who always considered all of his students to be "Warui Yatsu"...(Bad Kids).

Whatever it is, it is a unique group of dedicated people. Many struggled after camp...and even getting back to U.S. from Japan...but we sure did make it, didn't we?

They say that as you age, you become more and more nostalgic of the past...I don't know if that is the case...I just know that each get-together we have, I meet more people that I did not know in camp...and the circle becomes bigger each time...so, SEE YOU AT THE NEXT GET-TOGETHER EVERYONE...so make my circle even bigger, let's meet!

It's great to know that many of the Isseis and Niseis will finally be getting their \$20,000.00. Some 100 plus Isseis will be flying to Washington D.C...Unfortunately, many are gone..."Zannen zannen" (Regretful...regretful)...As always, Sumi S-U.

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