

Springtime, Springtime, Springtime...Mother Nature painting our landscape with beauty..everywhere. Green, green leaves...the hillside ...the mountain...poppies and blue lupins flowering along busy highways and freeways, oblivious to the bustling trucks and cars...the mustard flowers...the flowering trees...blows my mind away...it is always amazing that somehow, Ma Nature never fails!

Of course, many of us had to get used to daylight saving time with one hour lost until next Oct. but it's so nice to have longer light hours...I understand that those with Retina Pigmentosa are very glad because they have longer light time due to their poor vision in less light time. We never know how some people have these problems that we are not aware of.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CRYSTAL CITY REUNION IN MONTEREY

Good news from the Crystal City group up North...I just received a copy of letter from George Kodama for the '93 C.C. Reunion in Monterey...it is to take place on October 8th to 10th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Monterey. There was a meeting at George and Fudge Kodama's home February 9th of this year. At the time they selected chairpersons for the various committees.

Co-Chairmen...George Kodama and Mas Okabe

Registration..Lucy (Okazaki) Matsumoto

Sadako (Kai) Ikeda

Reception.....Mas Koketsu

Banquet.....(Raffle, program, etc.)

Kiyo Mizukami & Ida (Kuge) Morikawa

Golf Tournament...(Saturday)...Toy Higashi

Tako Sera & Bill Ito

Fishing Derby.Yosh Satow

Souvenir Book.Joy (Nozaki) Gee, Kanji Nishijima, &

Sadako (Kai) Ikeda (photographer)

Sayonara Sunday Brunch Buffet...George Okabe, &

Taikyo Uyeshima

Activities....Sight seeing Carmel/Pebble Beach, Aquarium, &

Outlet Shopping...Rose (Taniguchi) Fujii

Graduating Class Activities

C.C. PICNIC COMING IN JUNE

Picnic plans are being made by the wonderful group that was selected in February...

Food Tomo Mizukami, Dottie Hatanaka, Akemi Yasuda

Drink Teddy Mizukami, Sam Hatanaka, Yosh Yasuda

Raffle Sei Dyo, Skip & Yone Takeuchi

Jelly Beans Guess...Dottie Hatanaka

Entertainment...Tomo Mizukami

Races/Games...Takeuchi Family...Miyo Eshita

Tak and Kenji Takeuchi

Isseis gift...Akemi Yasuda

Photos Thomas Ikemiya, Linda

Tea/Coffee...Kim Takahashi

Name Tags...Miyo Eshita, Tomo Tomita, Itsu McDonald

Treasurer...Sid Okazaki

Ondo Tomo Mizukami, Yuki Nonoguchi

'92 picnic will be held at the Cal State Dominguez Hills Campus ground...map and direction to be sent in next newsletter. We do request head-count to get some estimate for amount of food to purchase, type of prizes for the children depending on their ages and sexes...gotta keep the little ones happy...and prizes for us bigger kids who LOVE TO GET INTO ALL THE CRAZY GAMES THAT Kenji Takeuchi got us to do.

KRISTI YAMAGUCHI...CHAMPION!

What Grace! What talent! The many, many hours...years of practice...dedication bore wonderful fruits! The many twirls, jumps...breathtaking and so effortless...it was so exciting to watch...but how Kristi and her family must have felt so wonderful...and SHE MADE IT...SHE WON THE OLYMPIC GOLD, THE WORLD GOLD, THE NATIONAL GOLD...THE WHOLE KIT AND KABOODLE!

It was so wonderful...so very exciting...my heart was just filled with PRIDE and HAPPINESS...I'm sure that many of you felt like I did...

We CONGRATULATE HER GREAT ACHIEVEMENT!!! May she continue to enjoy years of successes...she is still so very young and seems to enjoy the competition!

I probably would be like Kristi's mom who sat in the back...nervous...watching so prayerfully...whew!!!

CONGRATULATION ON A SUCCESSFUL MEETING AND SELECTION OF THE '93 REUNION...WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GREAT EVENT!!! If there are any news that you would like in this newsletter, just send it to me and I will print it promptly...

I'm very sorry to report that Mrs. Shizue Yamashita, Bishop Yamashita's wife passed away on Monday morning, April 6th, 1992. "Makura Service" is Wednesday April 8th, and the Funeral Service Monday night, April 13, 1992. Our heartfelt sympathy to the family.

From the pages of the
L.A. Times... March 1992...
OLYMPICS WATCH

Reason to Cheer

Kristi Yamaguchi will be remembered for her figure skating. She will also be remembered for winning one of five gold medals that the United States took home from the 1992 Winter Olympics. And this year's Olympics will be remembered because all the U.S. gold medals were won by women.

But the picture of Yamaguchi, a Californian of Japanese ancestry, and Japan's Midori Ito standing side by side as they received their Olympic medals for figure skating should be remembered for its contrast with images in the United States and the world exactly 50 years before.

On Feb. 21, 1942, few in the United States could have imagined cheering for a Japanese-American, especially one standing alongside a Japanese national.

The United States was at war with Japan, and just two days earlier President Franklin D. Roosevelt had signed the infamous executive order authorizing the internment of thousands of Japanese-Americans.

On Feb. 21, 1992, the cheering for Yamaguchi had nothing to do with ancestry. She was being cheered for her athletic ability; so was Ito. And that was as it should be.

Albertville, France, was a long way from the internment camps where Yamaguchi's mother was born and her father spent part of his early childhood.

It was a painful chapter of U.S. and world history. But the painful memories subsided a bit as millions of television viewers across the United States cheered for the American champion, one who just happened to be a Japanese-American.

I know that many of you are aware of much of the "Japan Bashing" that has been taking place...what makes this so terrible is that it is the leaders of both countries who are making "stupid" comments...and creating ugly situations for us again in this country...the many niseis, sanseis and yonseis who must put up with the ugly bigotry.

There are so many articles in many of our newspapers...for awhile, I collected them to put into this newsletter but we really don't need to read any of these letters and articles...I guess as long as there are people...there will be prejudices, and bigotry...I finally decided not to write or put in the articles because it's something you're all aware of and cannot do much about...

Unfortunately, there are many out there who feel that we were not entitled to the \$20,000. nor that the camp was an unpleasant place...that we were well cared for...etc. etc. Nothing any of us could write or say will sway their attitude...but that's their mentality. Comparison to Bataan March, prisoner of war...the Pearl Harbor has nothing to do with the injustice that the whole group of people had to go through...but that's not considered at all.

I'm not going to try to educate any one who has closed minds and are not comprehending any of the injustices of what occurred with relocation...I just hope that no group of people are treated in such manner, ever again.

C.C. T-SHIRTS TO BE AVAILABLE

A Crystal City T-shirts will soon be available for purchase...it is to raise funds...and also for those who would like to have a T-shirt with a "Tsuru" and "Kame" as symbols...the "Tsuru"... being a crane is 1,000 years which I felt was the niseis...the "Kame" being the turtle is 10,000 years and signifies our isseis in spirit...so with those two symbols and Crystal City on the T-shirts...we hope to have them available soon. We will have men's medium and large sizes and if you care for children's sizes, could you let me know what sizes you would like...we will make sure we get it in the sizes that you would like to have...Contact Sumi...at the same address as you note on the return address of this newsletter...

"IT'S CURRENTLY THE FASHION TO BASH THE JAPANESE."...L.A. Times, Mar.9

Dear Readers: I am indebted to The New York Times (Jan. 29) for this thought-provoking tongue-in-cheek verse:

"When the phone is out of order, and the roof has sprung a leak,

"When the money in your paycheck barely gets you through the week,

"When the baby has the colic, and your dog is full of fleas,

"Don't complain to Washington — just blame the Japanese.

"When the crooks are running rampant, and the judges are too lax,

"When letters from the IRS demand some extra tax,

"When your son is quitting college, and your daughter's getting Ds,

"Just do what Iacocca does — and curse the Japanese.

"When your taxes keep on rising, while your bankbook starts to shrink,

"When pollution clouds your city, so the air begins to stink,

"When the temperature is falling, and your pipes are sure to freeze,

"Call upon your congressman to bash the Japanese.

"When everyone around you is complaining of the news,

"And some condemn Arabia, while others blast the Jews,

"Then stiffen up your lip, my son, and never bend your knees —

"Just be a true American, and blame the Japanese."

— George Dawson,

**Emeritus Professor of Economics,
Empire State College,**

the State University of New York

Thank goodness for articles like the one above. It does help to have balances... some raises our blood pressures up and at our age, we really cannot afford to have anything raise our blood pressure up...and this type of article brings the b.p. down.

Keeping the b.p. down all the time is the trick. Right? Low or no salt, lots of veges, low meat, etc. etc.

Letters from C.C. Friends

Some time ago, I received a letter from Hisao Inouye in San Francisco who brought me up-to-date with 3 other Issei members residing in San Francisco.

Archbishop Nitten Ishida, San Francisco, 94115; Takeshi Koga, San Francisco, 94121, and Taro Ohashi, whom I have met in San Jose in October. I understand that another Issei, Susumu Inouye passed away in Menlo Park, CA.

Archbishop Ishida and Mr. Koga are in their 90's, and Hisao Inouye-san is still very young at 83 years young.

Thank you Inouye-san for taking the time and effort to write, and your donation is greatly appreciated.

Another letter that I put away so carefully, that I did not find it until now...is from Maru (Okazaki) Hiratzka. She and her husband Jordan visited her folks at a "Rehab" nursing home...they spent couple of days in Sakai City (near Osaka) which is sister city to Berkeley, CA...and met the publisher of the Sakai Journal...she found a familiar face on a column (each month)...Reiko Uyeshima...she has been friends with her since 1935 when they met on the Tatsuta-Maru when they returned from Japan after a 3 months visit.

Reiko Uyeshima has been writing a column in this journal IN JAPANESE monthly. I have difficult enough time writing periodically in English...but to write in Japanese...WOW...inspite of having Yamashita-Sensei for my Japanese Language class, I have forgotten everything that I was supposed to learn.

Thank you Maru for your letter...very late but none-the-less, I found the letter for this issue.

Maru reminded me that at

the '88 C.C. Reunion year, we lost both Roi Koike and Mory Taniguchi. I did not list them in our obituary column. Again, thank you Maru.

Notes of encouragement, of appreciation, donations have kept this newsletter up...the very white, blank sheet of paper staring at me each time doesn't seem so bad when I know that many of you enjoy my rattlin' on...but it's the lil notes and letters that also

1990. (平成2年)11.1 (木曜日)

"feed" this newsletter. I appreciate it very much... Kim (Hayakawa) Takahashi, Paul and Midori (Inaba) Fujii, and a very long, nice letter from Susie Masuda Sasagawa...Amy Masuda's sister...which I will type excerpts of on page 4.

I do hope that many of you can read the Japanese excerpt of the article that Reiko Irene Uyeshima wrote... Maru enclosed this with her letter.

堀シマール



当の老婦人は、坊やに小さな紳士になる為の訓練をほどこしたのであるが、私はフランス人の親切さをじかに体験して、美しい記憶を懐雅な都市ぐるみ、いつまでも胸中に暖めることになろう。

「西武新宿駅を山手線場降り山手線に乗り換えるために、シルバースートのりばと置かれた地点に立った。すくやうてきた電車は降車場で、老人優先席は若者たちで独占されていた。怒ガラスに

は、お年寄りやからだの不自由な方に席をゆずって下さい」と注意書きがあるのに、ある者は新聞を読み、ある者は眉根りして、残りはい部馬耳風だった。

正面に坐った。席はやがて若者たちで一杯になり次の駅で老人一人乗り込んで用事にぶら下がった。私の好奇心はさつきの母親が少年を立たせて老人に席をゆずるだろうかと思っていたが、その母親は懐かしいほどしらん顔をしていった。

アメリカから

元タイム社英文ライター

上島 礼子

去年の十月パリへ旅した。そぼる雨の一日、地下鉄を利用してみたのである。午前十時の車内は、案外大学生らしい若者が数人たっているほどのさみしい合であった。と、入口ちかくに坐っていた老婦人が、孫らしい六歳位の坊やへ何かをささやくと、坊やは席からすべり下りて立った。そして彼女は私に坐って下さい、というチェスチャーをした。「よらしいのですよ」とフランス語でいえないまま、有難く好意を受けて席をゆずってもらった。

ニューヨークへ帰って間もなく、ロサンゼルスの人か利用した。その折の折の風を感してその新聞へ送ったもの。そのコラムの一部を転載させて頂く。

私は前車にぶらさがって日本の若者たちの表情を六の関くほど見つめながら、今、一人の老人が目の前に立っているのに、彼らの意識は微動もせず、影一つBOTTOBERされないのだろうか、と尋ねていた。

あそここのことを知人に聞いたら、東京の人は席をゆずることをほしめないですよと言った。どうしてと訊いたら、則がないし、今の日本人は損得でしかものを考えないからだ。席をゆずって自分が立つことは損だからと応えた。なんと懐しさの片りんも無い風景であろう。

東西の車内風景

日本へ

- ◆ (在ニューヨーク) 地方の人は東京を真似るべからず。

"Dear Sumi,
Happy New Year! Thank you for the lovely message of "Peace" in your last newsletter. I cannot tell you in words how much I have enjoyed hearing from you.

I doubt that you remember me* since I attended Japanese School with my sisters, Bessie & Lury. My brother, Richard, was kindergarten age when the war broke out. he also attended Japanese School. My dad had all intentions of going back to Japan after the war. My sister Bess was a freshman when we left Rohwer, Arkansas Relocation Center. I was an 8th grader and Lury was a 6th grader --so we all went through quite an embarrassment attending Japanese School with much younger classmates in Crystal City. It was quite an adjustment for all of us. Amy continued her high school education since she only had two years til graduation. You may remember our uncle Mikio Masuda--he was a member of the "North Stars."

I would often envy my friends who were able to attend English school but it was a blessing in disguise because we all learned so much about our parents' culture--it was truly a growing experience. We all learned to speak Japanese fluently & amazed our friends after the war.

I do remember you very well as an energetic cheerleader--and so good! Vi Nozaki was our neighbor and we "girls" would attend games and enjoy watching all the activities. We did play on our block "Q" basketball team.

Amy married Tak Nishikawa of Crystal City. He was a friend of our Uncle Mickey. She passed away 20 years ago and we lost our dad 9 years ago.

My sister's and my husband and I took our mother to the last all camp Crystal City reunion. It was very heartwarming for her to see her friends. It was our first and since then we have been fortunate to receive your newsletter.

Our mother is now 86 years old and in the best of health. She

is into health foods, still plants in her spacious garden, exercises with the T.V. exercise programs every a.m. and walks daily. She and our dad used to bowl in mixed leagues together since they were in their 50's. Mom stopped bowling for two years after our dad's death but my brother forced her back into a league.

To this day she is still bowling. Last weekend seven of her grandchildren in their 20's and 30's took her bowling for fun--this has been an annual event now for several years. I've often said to our kids--'How many sansei-yonseis' can claim they took their 86 years old grandma bowling?'. They have such a good time with her. She bowls in a "hakujin" league (caucasian) but there is one Japanese war bride in her 70's to keep mom company. She carries a good average of about 130 or so. She is quite a role model for all the 13 grandchildren & 2 greatgrandchildren.

We have never stopped our mother from doing anything because of her age because she is so physically fit. It just goes to show you--just keep on moving---

My husband is retired, but I'm still working as a secretary for Beckmore Instruments--only 1/2 block from our home. We live near the Stanford Campus & Industrial Park so I walk home daily for lunch. My sisters' are both working too. My brother is self-employed and has a dental lab.

I am enclosing a check for your use toward the postage fund for your newsletters. Thank you again for keeping us all informed--your writing is enjoyed by all family members.

Do-mo arigato gozai masu---
Sincerely,

Susie Masuda Sasagawa
p.s. I told Sadako Kai Ikeda that I would be glad to help in any way if she needed assistance regarding the forth-

coming reunion."

Thank you so very much for this wonderful letter Susie.. your mother gives us inspiration...here we are at the threshold of senior citizens and really still "young".... and your mom is bowling...and at 130 average? I have no words to express how FANTASTIC she is...

Sachi (Sasaki) Maehara and I enjoyed several days with Shiz (Ochiai) Kato and her husband Jimmy in Las Vegas... she still works for Hilo High School as an administrator... putting in 15 plus hours.... she was selected the Big Island Department of Education employee of the year! She's in the running now for the State's employee of the year. What does this mean? (writes her husband Jimmy)...just that she'll continue working 12-14 hours a day...bringing home the box with additional school work that she does about 10-11 p.m...Whew...that's loooooong hours Shiz...do you ever sleep?

Whenever we three gals and (and one fella) get together, in Las Vegas, we write a lil note to Mrs. Moore and Ella (Ohta) Tomita...well, I got a letter of "let me know next time...beforehand so I could join the "club"...well, maybe we could have one of our future reunion in Vegas...Ella writes her busy schedule with chaperoning 4th graders from Honolulu to Hawaii Island Field trip...her hiking (103) with the group...from Kilauea-iki crater to Thurston Lava Tube...etc. etc...I think Mrs. Masuda at 86 years young may be able to keep up with her... I better start getting my puny legs working out to be able to do some serious walking with these hardy friends...then Ella and Jim, I will be able to take hiking trips with you.

Thanks for writing friends. please continue...

Sincerely,
Sumi

Crystal City Picnic

IT'S THAT FUN-TIME AGAIN...THAT OLD FASHION PICNIC...WITH GREAT FOOD...DRINKS...
RAFFLE...ENTERTAINMENT...ONDO...RACES AND GAMES...TUG O' WAR...ABOVE ALL,
GETTING TOGETHER WITH ALL THE WONDERFUL C.C. FRIENDS AND CATCHING UP ON THE
LATEST...

ALL ISSEIS ARE OUR HONORED GUESTS...PLEASE BRING YOUR FOLKS...

SEND IN THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW WITH YOUR DONATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...
SO WE CAN HAVE AN IDEA OF HOW MANY TO PREPARE FOR...THERE ARE MANY LITTLE ONES, OUR
LITTLE GRANDCHILDREN WHO WILL BE RUNNING THESE RACES. WE WANT THEIR AGE, AND THEIR
SEX ON THE FORM SO WE WILL HAVE ADEQUATE PRIZES FOR THEM. ONEGAI SHIMASU...THANK YOU!

Registration Form

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Adults: _____ Isseis: _____

Children: Boys.....Age..... Girls.....Age.....
Under 12

Donations

Donation is requested for expenses of the picnic:

- Expenses to date: \$300.00 for the use of the park.
- 350.00 for the entertainment
- 11.00 per person for lunch to be provided
- ?? for raffles
- ?? for prizes
- ?? for tables and chairs rented
- ?? for drinks to be provided

We are also requesting donations for the expenses of sending out the newsletter
Crystal City Chatter, about four times per year at \$250.00 for the cost of
copies and postages...so again, Onegai shimasu...thank you, thank you!

DONATION FOR THE PICNIC: _____

DONATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER: _____

Although it has been quietly kept, Mrs. Chiyo Inaba has passed away...we send our sympathy to her family...

Few months ago, Sid Okazaki left to visit his dad because of his failing health...I do hope that he is doing better.

we can enjoy your singing in Japanese again...until then, keep practicing Meg.

Many of our friends and their family have had illness and eventual death...and we may not know of all those who have...nevertheless, it saddens me to know that little by little, these friends are passing away...and we will miss their smiles, laughs and presence.

Meg Yoshimura was in town for a short while, but had to go back to Japan to help care for his folks...thanks a lot for the generous donation for the C.C. Chatters...I'll make sure that you'll be kept in touch through this newsletter.. and will await your return so

I do hope that many of you will come to our picnic in June...bring your family...the children and their children...and join in on the many races and games...guessing the jellybeans in the jar, try your luck on the wonderful raffle prizes and just having good time!!

Please send registration form back in the self-addressed envelope, with any donation towards the picnic expenses, hoping that you will join us, or towards the C.C. Chatters. By the next newsletter, I will have more information for the Crystal City T-Shirts...Thank you very much.

I often enjoy reading Krishnamurti's books...and would like to share few thoughts from his "Freedom From The Known"... "We have separated living from dying, and the interval between the living and the dying is fear..." "We think that living is always in the present and that dying is something that awaits us at a distant time. But we have never questioned whether this battle of everyday life is living at all." "We want to know the truth about reincarnation, we want proof of the survival of the soul, we listen to the assertion of clairvoyants and to the conclusions of psychical research, but we never ask, never, how to live---to live with delight, with enchantment, with beauty every day."

"Most of us are frightened of dying because we don't know what it means to live. We don't know how to live, therefore we don't know how to die. As long as we are frightened of life we shall be frightened of death."

"The man who lives without conflict, who lives with beauty and love, is not frightened of death because to love is to die." "...death is purification, a rejuvenating process;"

To this I only add that it's the living...those of us left behind, that misses the presence of those we enjoyed being with...those we were fortunate enough to know and love.

CRYSTAL CITY ASSOCIATION

CAMARILLO, CA 93010



MR. & MRS. TAD ISHIDA
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

