



Howdy everyone!... "Shibara-ku de"... (It has been some time)... it is autumn... a very magical time of year when one can see beautiful changes in color of leaves... in the North and especially back East... or Japan and the "Koyo"... Momiji... Japanese Maple in red, orange, yellow... so many shades of color... especially amongst the background of green green pine trees... bamboo, etc.

I love the redwoods, pines and the golden aspens... shaking and quivering with each breeze and wind... In Wyoming, Montana, Idaho... and the Sierras... AHHHHHHH! Food for my soul... (and it's no fat, very healthy, no cholesterol diet).

Memories are so precious... of course, some are not, but as one slowly add years... we accumulate more and more treasures... and the IRS can not tax us for this.

Soon, very soon, this year will come to a close... summer memories, vacations, trips to here and there are on Kodaks and Fuji films and prints... and holidays are looming head of us... so get your rest now!

Meanwhile, much has been happening with our C.C. I've been busy with many correspondence... and trying to answer them promptly, relaying all of them to responsible party... or parties... has been keeping my typewriter warm and my telephone busy... but it is so GREAT to connect and have interest in our camp alive! I will try to keep you informed on all of the going-ons.

When I took it upon myself to start a little newsletter... after the '88 Reunion, just to pass along little news of our C.C. friends, I did not have any idea that it would continue to grow, and that I would learn so much, "meet" & know so many of you... and that we would now unite with the

Peruvian-Japanese group... this is really wonderful... many of the C.C. friends have wanted the WHOLE C.C. group to get together for reunions and picnic.

Ms. Grace Shimizu of Berkeley who is writing a newsletter for former Peruvian-Japanese groups, and who along with several other C.C.P.J.s that was about to attend our picnic until the earthquake shook up their plans... nevertheless, we are getting together in Monterey next year.

We will be holding a discussion group open to everyone at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. We welcome your input... join us!! It should be enlightening, educating, and enjoyable!!!

Ms. Shimizu has been attending the '93 Monterey Reunion meeting... and also is involved with Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project... collecting information, interviews, etc. It is an enormous task but the effort that Ms. Shimizu is putting, it will be SUCCESS!!!

She requests that if any of you of former Peruvians... contact her: Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project c/o NJAHS [redacted] San Francisco, CA 94103. If you know any former Peruvian, who would like to be on their Peru Kai Directory, please write to her at the same address.

Thank you friends for many of the cards and phone calls that came for Paula, my daughter who was injured June 23rd of this year and sustained broken neck... she is doing great! The halo traction has been removed September 24th, 3 months of wearing the cumbersome head gear... now she's able to take showers, drive, etc... we thank you for your prayers, thoughts and well wishes...

As Chonda (Chieko Honda Ingham) has written in her note in Christmas Greetings... "We always thought once our kids grew up... we'd worry less..."

REUNION MEETING IN SAN JOSE. Aug.

The turnout for the '93 50th Anniversary C.C. Reunion meeting August 23d was a great success! So many No. Californians attended this meeting... George Kodama, Mas Okabe, Rose (Taniguchi) Fujii, Tets Fujii, Joy (Nozaki) Gee, Mabel Higashi, Toy Higashi, Sadako (Kai) Ikeda, Fudge Kodama, Shoji Koga, Mas Koketsu, Lucy (Okazaki) Matsumoto, Frank Morikawa, Ida (Kuge) Morikawa, Kanji Nishijima, George Okabe, Ray Yamagishi, Jane (Kawamoto) Takagi, George Okabe, Jay Sasagawa, Susie (Masuda) Sasagawa, Tako Sera, Grace Shimizu and Libia (Maoki) Yamamoto... both CCPR... (C.C. Peruvian Representatives)

On Nov. 8th, another meeting was held... meanwhile, a request is made for snapshots, souvenir and memorabilia from our camp for display at the Reunion... we hope you will share it with us. Please contact George Kodama or myself... I will forward it to him. Remember those plastic money... for meat, red; vege & grocery, green; gray, merchandise. Any one have any? Remember all those pins made of castor beans and carved birds, etc... carved from soft pine wood from crates and painted and lacquered many times... letter openers from manzanitas... getas... signs... etc... many, many arts and crafts... Sketches, paintings, drawings... we welcome all memorabilia and we will take good care of them.

Last month, I took three albums filled with past C.C. banquets snapshots, and dropped it off at Kay Kawashima's Sunshine Nursery in San Jose. It was so nice to visit with Kay and his wife Fumi... Kay, as many of you know, is the 'silent' but smily and warm... his nursery is green and beautiful... it's so nice to be able to see plants kept lush and healthy... and as all of you are now aware that nurseries... is like Disneyland to me! Thank you very much Kay and Fumi!

In the last issue, you may have recalled that I was trying to have Crystal City recognized at our Los Angeles Japanese American National Museum....wrote to Aya Hosaka Yamakoshi and her husband Noby who are charter members of the Museum...I had received a warm letter from Noby in August...and had forwarded my letter to the Museum...with suggestion that I contact Ms's Irene Hirano, Nancy Araki, Ake-mi Kikumura. Noby is in charge of all their PR and fund raising...the museum is fortunate!!

Shortly after his letter, I received a letter from Ms. Kikumura, Ph.D. Director of Program Development and Curator... offering apologies for any miscommunication that may have transpired between some people who have inquired about our CC Internment Camp memorabilia... and sent along "Collection Information Form" to list items for the Museum...artifacts, documents, photographs, and item associated with C.C. experience ..their staff will then assess the items and may then be on display to represent our camp.

I then sent copies of both Noby Yamakoshi's letter and Ms Kikumura's to Col. Joe Ando... I received a very nice letter from Joe last month..he listed few photographs, 1944 Round-Up Yearbook, etc. I appreciated his letter and his interest... he suggested that each of you look through old boxes, crates for paintings, sketches, photographs, carvings, hobby item that were made in Crystal City reflecting our camp life...too bad none of us kept our shopping carts....it was a special social activity each morning.. for our mothers...and some of us...marketing.

Joe is out of the Air Force and is still in the workforce. He works for Martin-Marietta's U.S. Postal Systems Division. Thank you very much Joe....for taking the time to write to me. I appreciate Noby Yamakoshi, Ms Kikumura for their prompt response. I know they are busy...

Last month I received call from Jay Thompson who is writing about Lordsburg, New Mexico and Crystal City, Texas... I understand that he had interviewed Izumi Taniguchi, had spoken to Kimi Hayakawa Takahashi...and was given my telephone number. He is writing his papers on these internment camps and wanted as much information as he can find.... I understand that he is from Fullerton State College and that there is a professor who is collecting information on Japanese Americans and their wartime camp experiences. When he found out that I wrote this newsletter, he requested to be on the mailing list.

Our camp was so unique...it IS the ONLY camp that can be called "Internment Camp"....I know that others are now calling their relocation camp "Internment" camp but they have absolutely no idea what a real INTERNMENT camp was like..THIS CAMP MUST NEVER BE FORGOTTEN!!

Last month, just before the Thanksgiving week, I received a phone call from Joy Nozaki Gee that she sent me a packet for this newsletter. I have since gone on two weeks vacation to Hawaii, compliment of my son-in-law Clay Yokota..and returned Dec. 6th, no packet. Joy called on Dec. 6th...and I told her that I did not receive the packet so she said no worry, she will send me another next day...one week later and no packet...so sorry Joy, the U.S. Mail goofed again. I waited to put in the enclosure in this edition..."Shikata ga nai neh"...some things are beyond our ability.

Honolulu was very nice...it was cool weather, non-sticky.. visited with Ella Ohta Tomita and husband Jimmy...she showed me some of her father's sketch and haiku that he did in camp. Really artistic and creative!! Am hoping to get copies to be displayed at our '93 reunion.. ONEGAI - Ella...others please make copies for our display...

Ella also arranged a lunch with Mrs. Sakai, ex-girl scout leader and her daughter, Yuriko Lillian Kimura (who used to live in Camarillo until her husband passed away five years ago)..It was good to see both of them... though Mrs. Sakai is eating for her husband 93 years old. It's exhausting but her daughter is a big help...I also was able to visit a short time with ole Toki Tanimoto Maeda...she's looking real good...

In Hilo, I spent time with Shiz Ochiai Kato and her husband Jimmy (Lots of Jimmys in Hawaii) ...it's amazing how years have gone by from camp days...yet we pick up our friendship as though it was yesterday in camp..that's the most precious thing that I believe we gained in campdays... the special bonding in friends.. and it not only continues on today, but continues to grow, with each picnics, banquets, reunions our friendship grows and grows!! What camp had groups from Hawaii ...Peru...Mainland (Tairiku USA) and the wonderful couple from Alaska, the interesting POW couple from Marshall Island...beside Germans and Italians? I recall the breathtaking stories being taken as POW onto destroyer ship strip searched, shaved, humiliated thoroughly as a human being, how she wanted to die than to be "haji'ed" by being taken POW.... yet after the war, and when she returned to Osaka, she was very grateful to be alive..to see her daughter again though their two sons were taken into the Japanese Navy and was never heard from... she was close friend of mom, and it was good to hear from her periodically...

I just received a letter from Rose Taniguchi Fujii... she and her husband Tets are on the C.C. Reunion Activities Committee.... They request a check-off list of the activities that are available and how many will need transportation (those not driving to the reunion by car.) This checklist will be in the next newsletter w/ Joy's enclosures. Thanks for all the letters, phone calls, etc....



I would like to thank many of you for the very generous donations that you have sent in...not only for the picnic but for this newsletter. It is very helpful to be able to get 450 copies made, purchase stamps and other necessary supplies for this newsletter...it's difficult enough trying to put out newsletters...but the notes and letters that you sent in with the donations encourages me to continue. It's not easy but with many people's help it is working.

It's great to have right-hand-person like Tomo Mizukami to work with...(she'll just die reading her name in this newsletter but that is how many of the work is done...through telephone messages...without our discussions, etc., I would not be able to write this newsletter...We also have mailing helpers like Sachi Maehara, Haj and Yuki Nonoguchi, a non-Crystal City friend, Ms Grace Ike, Akemi Yasuda, Dot Hatanaka, again Tomo....and all the food and goodies we do enjoy while working together...Haj making the coffee...Teamwork...

I thank all the Christmas donation too...you are making this newsletter possible.

I will be sending out more information next year about coming reunion...and the packet from Joy with enclosures will also be in the mail...

A wonderful booklet "War Time Japanese Internees' Family Roster" dated February 11, 1944, listing the families, address, information of where their original address in Japan was, in Japanese was sent to me from Mr. Hisao Inouye of San Francisco, with very warm words..."In appreciation and profound gratitude for serving the members of Crystal City Association and maintaining pipeline of communication with "Crystal City Chatter." written in it...I was so touched and am so grateful, I have a friend at the Japanese Consul translating it into English...and will have it available in time for our reunion. Thank you Inouye-san... I will treasure this forever...

Thanks to Curtis Oda, Ed Odason, for the silk screening of the T-shirt picnic-time...

Thanks to Jeff Ikemiya, Tom Ikemiya's son for printing all those picnic pictures...140 of them...sent out to all the wonderful people who donated then.

I'm sorry to report that our friend and English teacher Mrs. Kathryn Goldsmith Moore passed away in her sleep Thursday Nov. 19, 1992. Her nephew writes "I know that her time as a teacher with you and your friends was of great importance to her and she considered this one of the highlights of her teaching career.

When your group invited Kathryn to California and honored her at your reunion she was extremely touched and pleased... She often told the family how much love and respect she had for all of you.

She was a great lady who lived an important and meaningful life. The world is a better place because she passed this way. We will miss her greatly." Wm. L. Moore..

We will miss her. Also, Sidney and Maru Okazaki's (Hiratzka) mother passed away. They lost their dad earlier in the year, now their mother followed...our deep sympathies to the Okazaki families...

This year has been one with many mixed feelings for myself. There has been many stressful, and difficult situations...yet there has been very rewarding, wonderful times, such as our fabulous picnic...Lots of good and some not so good but...

I wish each and everyone of you...

MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS...

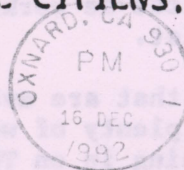
and a HAPPY, and HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

LET'S GET TOGETHER, AND LAUGH, AND REMINISE...AND BE WARMED ALL OVER, WITH THE FELLOWSHIP OF FELLOW CRYSTAL CITIENS...OCT. 8-10

MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

CRYSTAL CITY CHATTER

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