

Crystal City Chatter



Issue 33

March 1997

SPRING HAS SPRUNG...

Happy Easter...Hanamatsuri
...a time for renewal, for
the flowers are blooming,
new leaves, baby birds..etc

Hi mina-san (everyone)...

"Shibaraku de"...(it's been
some time)...hoping you're
all well and feelin' good!

Sorry this newsletter is a bit
later than usual, but it's been
a busy few months for CC this
year already...we had 3 meet-
ings with JAN Museum fund rais-
ing group, Florence Ochi and
Fred Hoshiyama (who work so
hard raising the \$\$\$ necessary
for the Museum)...then our 1st
of the year meeting...and last
but not least, a fantastic
birthday party for Yamashita-
Sensei...it has been busy but
fun, and above all VICTORIOUS
for our CC campaign to raise
100,000. for the Museum (see
separate article on "Campaign
Update).

There's been meetings and up-
date on the Peruvian's fight
for their "Campaign for Just-
ice", with Sei Dyo's great as-
sistance...(see article on
update of "Campaign for Just-
ice".)

To top this off, our president
Toni Tomita is working "part-
time" again...but is so busy,
she's more busy now than ever...
so..."sumi-masen", (sorry) to
be a bit late on this paper...
but HERE I AM!...lots of news...
so here goes.....

* * * * *

The President's Corner is quiet this issue because she is extremely busy with
her work, however, I will insert a letter received after Yamashita-Sensei's
birthday party on February 22nd.

Dear Sumi,

There was a warm "afterglow" following the partygoers as they left the Sea
Empress Garden on Saturday night. Even those who were not Yamashita Sensei's
seitos (student) could rekindle their schoolday memories as they heard the
tales of attentive and inattentive students in the classroom. My brother was

(cont'd on page 2)

'BANZAI'..SUCCESS OF JANM 2-2-97 FUND RAISING DRIVE Yae Aihara

High fives were the order of the afternoon
when the total amount raised was announced
at our meeting yesterday at Sei Dyo's! We
did it! Of course, I knew all along that
our group could do it! Thank you everyone
for helping out and making a big success
of our Crystal City campaign.

I have been asked to clarify the donor wall
registry.

Those donations which were made to a donor
wall category, in other words, \$3,000. or
more will have a separate computer registry
where the names of the donors will be list-
ed. For instance, if a donation was made
in memory of so-and-so the registry will
give the name/names of those who made that
donation. Those who donated to the Windows
and Tiles automatically have their names on
them.

Now the Crystal City Association will appear
on the organizations' wall and anyone who
donates to the museum - other than the above
categories - will have their name listed in
the computer registry for Crystal City As-
sociation. So if you ever lived in Crystal
City and would like your name to appear in
the registry, please make a donation to the
museum. The amount is up to you.

The museum is accepting donations through
1997 for name inclusion so please bear that
in mind.

* * * * *

As Yae has written, you can still donate to
JANM and put on it "Crystal City Association"
and not only will you be on the registry, but
it will add to the \$\$\$ we have raised. The
goal was \$100,000. for our small camp group..
WE RAISED \$112.365. I THINK IT'S NOT ONLY
GREAT...IT IS REALLY FANTABULOUS!!! THANKS!!!

* * * * *

(Letter from Toni T., Cont'd)

telling us about all the "nicknames" given to the teachers. I guess teenagers, no matter what the generation!

Thank you for masterminding such a gala birthday celebration. Mrs. Lunz always reminds me, when she calls, how much the reunion meant to her. I know Yamashita-sensei must feel the same. She still calls us her "children" just as you and the others are also sensei's children.

My favorite motto, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going" is certainly embodied in you, Sumi. I admire your stamina and spirit. Your commitment to Crystal City and its internees is nonpareil. I know your efforts are appreciated by many, many of us. Domo arigato gozaimasu.

The next two weeks are a little hectic for me; two big conferences this week followed by three the first week in March. I'll probably be working every day.

I hope to have articles for the Chatter by March 9th. The letter from the museum must have gone out to our reunion mailing lists. Charles Mc Cullister called Miyo and he is interested in making a donation. I want to write something about him as he is one of only 25 people driving an electric car! He was written up in the LA Times as well as being interviewed on TV. Did you get a list of CC donors from Florence Ochi? Thought it would be nice to acknowledge the donor names in the Chatter.

Thanks again for a wonderful evening.

Love, Toni.

* * * * *

Thanks Toni...because you're so busy I didn't even call to see if you had something for the newsletter...a bit of reprise from CC stuff...meanwhile we did have great fun at Sensei's party...more on the party in another column...don't work too hard!!!

LA Times, Friday, Dec. 6, 1996 had Charles McCollister in EVI electric car at his Simi Valley home...he is so excited...he called me about it.

YAMASHITA-SENSEI'S 88th B-DAY

February 22nd, Saturday at 4:00 p.m. a group of 47 CC students, non-students, and non-CC friends gathered together at Sea Empress Garden Restaurant at the Pacific Square (former Kawafuku) (Yone Takeuchi made arrangement, menu for us...) ...now in the historic past, we could say the "shiju-shichi-shi"...the "47 Ronin" who were loyal to the Lord Asano ...but we were just friends of Sensei who gathered to wish him a "Medetai 88". (happy, auspicious)...IT was fun...of course, he has such sense of humor and enjoys all his "warui, yakamashii seito" (bad, noisy students) that it was easy to make it a "Roast and Toast" birthday party for him.

I'm sorry that I didn't put out the newsletter in time to invite many of you however, asked couple of his all day Japanese Language School students to give me names of those who were in his class and I sent an invitation to them...Maru Okazaki Hiratzka and husband Jordan drove down from Oakland, Joy Nozaki Gee flew in from Sacramento, Satomi Koga Ishida flew in from San Francisco, and the So. Cal group, plus few who were not in C.C., Babe and Mary Karasawa (Joy's guests), Jackie Imai (who created a lovely "Tsuru Kame" art work with Japanese coins, etc, and Sensei's children, and a friend were able to join us.

It was so impressive to hear Maru talk about her memories of the class... all in Japanese...and Takashi Takeuchi (who never talks in front of anyone), talk about the class, the stories that Sensei read, etc...all in Japanese...it was so wonderful to see all his students stand up and give comment...Yae Aihara, Satomi Ishida, Kim Takahashi...I may be missing others, but "gomen"...my memory seems to be fading with time...but some of us like Mamo Yamagishi and I were in his one hour after American school so we never had the stories read to us by Sensei...we did hear stories but others.

Joy created a skit (last minute, on the spot classroom scene) and was able to entertain us...how his questions often was very "Zen"...the evening was a wonderful outpouring of warm fellowship that I know sensei enjoyed! Happy 88th!



JAPANESE AMERICAN
NATIONAL MUSEUM

C A M P A I G N U P D A T E

Date: February 1, 1997

To: Crystal City Campaign Committee

From: Yae Aihara & Sei Dyo, Co-Chairs
Florence Ochi, Campaign Manager

Re: Campaign Victory

Campaign Goal: \$100,000
Raised to Date: \$112,365

We did the impossible! \$112,365 raised as today's meeting. Thanks to everyone for coming to the meeting and participating in the excitement of the victory. It was great!

Thanks to campaign reports totaling \$12,500 from the campaigners for working to ensure today's victory.

Campaigners attending were: Chatters: Sumi Shimatsu, Sachi Maehara, Yuki and Haj Nonoguchi, Akemi Yasuda; Dai Dai: Toni Tomita, Sei Dyo, Miyo Eshita, Tak and Emi Takeuchi, Yone Takeuchi; Gambare: Stogie and Massie Kanogawa, Yae Aihara, Fumi and Ty Nakamura; Horenso: Sid and Yukie Okazaki, Tom and Reiko Ikemiya, Henry and Kazie Okamura, Ruby Sakurai, Kim Takahasni.

Irene Hirano, Executive director, Fred Hoshiyama, Chair, Special Gifts Campaigns and Florence Ochi, Campaign Manager expressed their appreciation and gratitude for our campaign success. They also gave special recognition to the top team and top campaigners for their superb work.

A Museum pin was presented to all campaigners.

Special thanks goes to all campaigners for the delightfully delicious potluck buffet luncheon

We will have a wrap-up meeting in about a month or so to finalize any outstanding prospects campaigners are still working on. Our effort will still be to go for \$150,000.

Thanks again to each and every campaigner for a great job towards the success of this campaign. We will reach out to our Crystal City members to support our continuing campaign efforts.

* * * * *

This is a condensed copy of the letters received from Florence Ochi. She said that she regretted not being in a camp like ours because it was such a warm, "tight" group and worked together so well...and did sound so "kawaiso"...that sounded like "whining" so we made her and Fred "Honorary Crystal Cityites" by presenting them with a Crystal City T-Shirt at the last meeting...I caught her at a bad time because she was just filling her dish up with the pot-luck lunch goodies and all of a sudden, she was so moved, she teared and choked up.

101 Ways to Tell if You're Japanese American

Inspired by similar Chinese and Filipino lists, we took a shot at creating one for Japanese Americans. Written from a Southern California Sanel and Yonsel perspective, we tried to include not only Issei, Nisei and older Sanel insights, but those from later post-WWII Shin Issei and Nisei. But creating an all-inclusive list is impossible, so we see this as a work in progress and encourage others to add to the list. There's no reason why this can't be a 1001 list, *neh?*

Although written in good fun, understanding what it means to be JA helps define who we are as a community and the issues we face. More importantly, as we further study Japanese/Asian American history, we might begin to see current issues like immigrant-bashing, attacks on civil rights/affirmative action and the growing concentration of wealth and resources upward to a select few, in new ways.

Yes, Buddhaheads, there is life after Redress.

We would like to thank all those who shared their suggestions and helped make this list possible.

1. You know that Camp doesn't mean a cabin in the woods.

2. The men in your family were gardeners, farmers or produce workers.

3. The women in your family were seamstresses, domestic workers or farm laborers.

4. Your Issei grandparents had an arranged marriage.

5. One of your relatives was a "picture bride."

6. You have Nisei relatives named Keiko, Aiko, Sumi or Mary.

7. You have Nisei relatives named Tak, Tad, George, Harry or Shig.

8. You're Sanel and your name is Janice, Glen, Brian, Bill or Kenji.

9. You're thinking of naming your Yonsel child, Brittany, Jenny, Lauren, Garrett or Brett with a Japanese middle name.

10. All of your cousins are having *hapa* kids.

11. You have relatives who live in Hawaii.

12. You belong to a Japanese credit union.

13. Your parents or grandparents bought their first house through a *tanomoshi*.

14. The bushes in your front yard are trimmed into balls.

15. You have a *kaki* tree in the backyard.

16. You have at least one bag of *sembel* in the house at all times.

17. You have a Japanese doll in a glass case in your living room.

18. You have a *Nekko* cat in your house for good luck.

19. You have large Japanese platters in your china cabinet.

20. You have the family *mon* and Japanese needlepoint on the wall.

21. You own a multi-colored lime green polyester patchwork quilt.

22. Your grandma used to crochet all your blankets, potholders and dish towels.

23. You check to see if you need to take off your shoes at your JA friends' houses.

24. When you visit other JAs, you know that you should bring *omigae*.

25. When you visit other JAs, you give or receive a bag of fruits or vegetables.

26. When you leave a JA house, you take leftover food home on a paper plate or a styrofoam meat tray.

27. You keep a supply of rubber bands, twist ties, butter and tofu containers in the kitchen.

28. You have an air pump tires covered with lilacs.

29. You've heard Warren Furutani speak at least once, somewhere.

30. You've been to the Manzanar Pilgrimage and danced the "*Tanko Bushi*."

31. Where ever you live now, you always come home to the *Oion* festival in your old neighborhood.

32. You know that Pat Morita doesn't really speak like Mr. Miyagi.

33. You're mad because Kristi Yamaguchi should have gotten more commercial endorsements than Nancy Kerrigan.

34. You know someone who has run for the Nisei Week Queen Pageant.

35. The Japanese American National Museum has asked you for money.

36. If you're under 20, the first thing you read in the *Rafu Shimpo* is the Sports Page.

37. If you're over 60, the first thing you read in the *Rafu Shimpo* is the obituary column.

38. When your back is sore, you use *Salonpas*, Tiger Balm or that flexi-stick with the rubber ball on the end that goes, *katonk, katonk*.

39. You've played basketball in the Tigers Tournament.

40. You love to shop at Fedco.

41. You've bowled at the Holiday Bowl, or at least eaten there.

42. You've been to the Far East Cafe at least once.

43. You've eaten at Mago's or Kenny's Cafe on Centinela.

44. After funerals, you go for *Chinameshi*.

45. After giving *koden*, you get stamps in the mail.

46. You fight fiercely for the check after dinner.

47. You've hidden money in the pocket of the person who paid for dinner.

48. You don't need to read the instructions on the proper use of *hashi*.

49. You know that Benihana's and Yoshinoya Beef Bowl aren't really Japanese food.

50. You eat *soba* on New Year's Eve.

51. You start off the New Year with a bowl of *ozoni* soup for good luck and the *mochi* sticks to the roof of your mouth.

52. You know not to eat the tangerine on top of the *mochi* at New Year's.

53. You have a 12-pack of *mochi* in your freezer—that you still refuse to throw away in July.

54. You pack *bento* for road trips.

55. You know that the last weekend in April is Opening Day at Crowley Lake.

56. You stop at Manzanar on the way to and from Mammoth.

57. You see your relatives at the California Club in Las Vegas more often than you see them in L.A.

58. Your grandma made the best *sushi* in town.

59. You cut all your carrots and hot dogs at an angle.

60. You know the virtues of SPAM.

61. You were eating Chinese chicken salad, years before everyone else.

62. You know what it means to eat "footballs."

63. You grew up eating ambrosia, waffles and finger jello at family potlucks.

64. You always use Best Foods mayonnaise and like to mix it with *shoyu* to dip broccoli.

65. You use the "finger method" to measure the water for your rice cooker.

66. You grew up on rice: bacon fried rice, chili rice, curry rice or red rice (*osekihan*).

67. You like to eat rice with your spaghetti.

68. You like to eat your rice in a *chawan*, not on a plate.

69. You can't start eating until you have a bowl of rice.

70. You use plastic Cool Whip containers to hold day-old rice.

71. Along with salt and pepper, you have a *shoyu* dispenser at your table.

72. You have a jar of *takuan* in your fridge.

73. You buy rice 25-pounds at a time and *shoyu* a gallon at a time.

74. Natto: you either love it or you hate it.

75. As a kid, you used to eat

Botan rice candy.

76. You know the story of *Momotaro*—the Peach Boy.

77. You have had a pet named *Chibi* or *Shiro*.

78. Someone you know, owns an Akita or Shiba dog.

79. You went to J-school and your best subject was recess.

80. At school, you had those Hello Kitty pencil boxes and sweet smelling erasers.

81. When you're sick, you eat *okayu*.

82. Milk makes you queasy and alcohol turns your face red.

83. Your dad owns a Members' Only jacket.

84. Someone you know drives an Acura Integra, Honda Accord or Toyota Camry.

85. You used to own one of those miniature *coral* keychains.

86. You have a *kaeru* frog or good luck charm hanging in your car.

87. Your parents compare you to their friends' kids.

88. You hang on to the illusion that you are superior to other Asians.

89. Your dentist, doctor and optometrist is Japanese American.

90. You know what "S.J." stands for.

91. You socialize with groups of eight or more people.

92. Whenever you're with more than three people, it takes an hour to decide where to eat.

93. You and your friends call yourselves "Buddhaheads," but don't like it when White people do.

94. You've heard your name pronounced a half-dozen different ways.

95. You use the derogatory terms *Kuichi* and *Kurombo* when you should be using Jewish and African American or Black.

96. You know what the acronyms M.I.S., 100th/442nd, J.A.C.L., C.Y.C., N.A.U., S.E.Y.O. and S.C.N.G.A. stand for.

97. The name Lillian Baker makes your fists clench.

98. You know that E.O. 9066 isn't a zip code.

99. You're not superstitious, but you do believe in *bachi*.

100. You never take the last piece of food on a plate—but will cut it into smaller pieces.

101. As much as you want it, never ever take the last—anything. *Enryo, enryo, enryo.*

(Jenni Kuida and Tony Osumi write from West Los Angeles and Panorama City, respectively. Send your lists to *Rafu Shimpo* English Section, 259 S. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.)

I do hope that you like the 101 Ways ...my Tai Chi friend Florence Takaaze thought it'd be fun for my readers... as I've mentioned many, many times, I appreciate each and every one of my friends...they are all so thoughtful and kind...and I keep on meeting more!

I think this article tells it all... we niseis, sanseis and yonseis, etc. Thanks to Jenni Kuida and Toni Osumi, for their great sense of humor (& fact) and thanks Florence for remembering my readers!

* * * * *

Today, we have over 500 readers...I hope they read the newsletter, but we have over 500 to mail out, and others given by hand...and 90% of you are recipients of generous gift from the 10% who send donation to cover the expense of sending the Chatter to you.

I mention this because most people did not know in our group that the donation received for putting out the Chatter comes from only 10%...or less than 50 people...most are from those who are always working, and attending our meetings, planning many events and picnics, etc., for our CCA.

From 1988, we have been able to put out 4 to 6-7 newsletters per year... I find that amazing that we continue to keep the paper circulating...we have wonderful group, and at a moment's notice, there are 25-30 people who would meet for the association.

This is real dedication...as much as I'm given credit to putting this paper out, it takes the \$\$\$ and effort of the nucleus in our CCA to keep our group going...I know the JAN Museum people admire our group because of it's tight-knit organized group...believe me, we have something to crow about, so crow I will!

THANK YOU...ALL OF YOU WHO ARE ALWAYS GIVING 200%...your time...your effort...your \$\$\$ THIS helped us with the successful fund-raising drive for the JAN Museum, Phase II, it has always been the success of each picnics, the banquets, the exhibits, all the discussions that we have been asked to be on, all over, any where...any time. I'm grateful to each and every one...

"CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE"

Update

We had Sei Dyo attend many of the meetings for the Peruvian-Japanese friends who were in CC, to assist them in their class action lawsuit to get formal apology and redress from the US government. He knows that our involvement has helped a great deal...he mentioned that the Newsletter and others who have requested letters to be written by hand to Washington D.C. was successful...

There were over 100 letters sent from the Peruvians in Japan, friends, and families; and over 300 letters from those in Peru, to Washington. I consider that a great success in getting the word out to write and get involved in fighting for the rights of our Peru friends...in our group at one of our JANM campaign meeting, we wrote a letter apiece to Washington D.C...I and many others have received an answer from President Clinton...hopefully, it will be effective in getting long overdue justice for our friends.

There has been a Send-Off Party to wish the Japanese Latin Americans and other Campaign members luck on their trip to Washington, D.C. in March to deliver letters to President Clinton and meet with various Congress members. I could not attend but hope it was as successful as many of their meetings.

As I have written before, THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT CAUSE!!! LET'S HELP OUR FRIENDS NOW!

Also, I would like to see our Peru friends join in at our many CCA events ...we really would like to have you in on our meetings and events...no matter where you-all came from...remember, you all came to Crystal City Internment camp...and were part of the whole camp...

* * * * *

Did you know?

...that there were around 100 Japanese, Japanese American orphans who were taken to Manzanar camp...that it was the only camp that had orphans in it? Father Laverly of Maryknoll and the sisters had to take them there... that it was very lonely life for them ...watching children with families...

Letters to the Editor:

First, let me share with you, the letter from the White House, regarding the letter written in behalf of the Peru friends:

Jan. 23, '97

Dear Sumi:

Thank you for writing and sharing your concern about human rights. The promotion of democracy and human rights serves as a cornerstone of my administration's foreign policy. We seek to help ensure that citizens of all countries benefit from the kinds of personal freedoms that Americans so greatly value.

I appreciate your interest.

Sincerely Bill Clinton

* * * * *

The following letters were pertaining to Yamashita-sensei's 88th birthday party we held on February 22nd, 1997.

Feb. 10'97

Dear Sumi,

Many thanks for your kind invitation to join all of you for the celebration of Yamashita-sensei's 88th birthday. That's a great idea and I hope there will be many attending.

Sorry we can't make it but please accept this small token of my sister's (Mory Taniguchi) and our contribution. Yes, I do believe my sister was in his class.

You must've been so busy putting together the CC reunion. Glad you had a great turnout and heard it was a tremendous success.

"Yo-ro-shiku" to Yamashita-sensei and tell him we all appreciate all of his efforts and support to keep all of us together.

Best to all ---

Tets and Rosie (Fujii) (Taniguchi)

* * * * *

Dear Rosie and Tets,

Thank you very much for your gift for Sensei's birthday. We had a wonderful time and since he's a Dodger's fan, we gave him a Dodger cap, jacket,

and a Nomo's T-shirt...and got a "ben-to bag" in Dodger blue with "peanuts and Crackerjack" and some cash for all the Dodger Dogs and snacks...

Everyone was so generous, and I know he had a great time...

Thank you again, sumi

* * * * *

Feb. 22nd

Dear Sumi,

Thank you, again, for inviting me to Yamashita-sensei's 88th Birthday Party. I wouldn't have missed it for the world. He is such a special person, and we all think of him so highly,

It was so nice and thoughtful of you and your "committee" to plan such an exciting and memorable event. Thank you! I will certainly remember this celebration for many years to come.

Enclosed is a small contribution for your expense.

Love, Satomi (Koga) Ishida

Dear Satomi,

Wasn't it a blast? How many bishops can you roast and toast...and have fun joking with them? In all the many Japanese school teachers, I doubt there were any other teacher or priest that you can pull their leg, and can have your leg (s) pulled in return.

There weren't any other Japanese school teacher who addressed us as, "Warui yatsura", or "Yakamashi yatsura", ...one would think that you were with a Yakuza gangster instead...yet, he commands respect, dignity and heads the North American Zen Buddhists...and was a speaker for the United Nations several years back...

He keeps his feet on the ground, has great love and fond memories of CC, and was one of the 42 Buddhist priests that were in our camp...what a holy camp...unique? You bet!

Thank you for your generous gift and donation...I really enjoyed sitting next to you...it was fun!

love, sumi

* * * * *

Sensei will always be young in heart! (letters, cont'd on pg 9)

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**SEATTLE JAPANESE AMERICAN WOMEN
IN THE WORLD WAR II INCARCERATION CAMPS**
PRESENTED BY THE UW JAPANESE AMERICAN YOUTH SOCIETY

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 1997
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
130 KANE HALL, 7:30 P.M.**

**SURVIVORS OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT
CRYSTAL CITY INTERNMENT CAMP, TEXAS**
PANEL DISCUSSION
PRESENTED BY THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

AKIRA ICHIKAWA FORMER CRYSTAL CITY INTERNEE
PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE,
UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE, ALBERTA, CANADA,
"THE ROAD TO REUNION DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS"

SATORU ICHIKAWA FORMER CRYSTAL CITY INTERNEE
"MEMORIES OF CRYSTAL CITY: A TEENAGER'S PERSPECTIVE"

**KAZUKO "KAZZIE"
(TAKAHASHI) KATAYAMA** FORMER CRYSTAL CITY INTERNEE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR, KING COUNTY
"PERSONAL REMEMBRANCES OF THE CRYSTAL CITY EXPERIENCE"

**SUMI UTSUSHIGAWA -
SHIMATSU** FORMER CRYSTAL CITY INTERNEE
PRESIDENT, CRYSTAL CITY ASSOCIATION
"CRYSTAL CITY INTERNEES: HOW ARE THEY DOING TODAY?"

TETSUDEN KASHIMA INCARCERATED AT THE TOPAZ, UT, WRA CAMP
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UW AMERICAN ETHNIC STUDIES
MODERATOR

**THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1997
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
110 KANE HALL, 7:30 P.M.**

VISIT THE WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WEBER.U.WASHINGTON.EDU/~MUDROCK/ALLEN/](http://WEBER.U.WASHINGTON.EDU/~MUDROCK/ALLEN/)

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AN INVITATION TO A TRAVELING EXHIBIT

**A MORE PERFECT UNION:
JAPANESE AMERICANS AND THE US CONSTITUTION**

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON LIBRARIES
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MARCH 21-MAY 1, 1997

AND THE COMPANION EXHIBIT
**GREEN TEA AND BARBED WIRE;
REFLECTIONS ON THE JAPANESE AMERICAN INCARCERATION**

ALLEN LIBRARY BALCONY
MARCH 21-JUNE 30, 1997

OPENING RECEPTION: MARCH 21, 7:00 P.M. *SHARP*

EXHIBITS WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED BY SCOTT OKI,
UW BOARD OF REGENTS

REMARKS BY JEFFREY HATTORI, PRESIDENT
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZEN LEAGUE, SEATTLE CHAPTER

SEATING LIMITED: RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

RSVP:



(Letters to Editor, Cont'd)

Feb. 24, 97

Dear Sumi,

You must be sighing a big relief! A job well done in coordinating a birthday party for Sensei! Thank you for all your efforts, worries and arrangements in planning a successful celebration. I'm very sure Sensei was pleased to see everyone there as we roasted and toasted him. It was great fun! He looked great too!

Even though I contributed \$----- into the cash "pot", I'm enclosing a small check for you for my share of your expenses for the Dodger Cap, Jacket, etc.

As Jordan and I drove back to Oakland, the almond blossoms along the freeway and the green hillsides added to the happy memories of Saturday's celebration.

The funny skit dreamed up by Joy (what a "ham" she is!) the memory of Tak's CC days, Yae's comical remembrance, the singing of your creative lyrics and the happy faces all around enjoying a scrumptious Chinese feast was so heartwarming. I loved the fellowship!

My daughter, Marilyn saw the pages you xeroxed with the Japanese children's songs and immediately wondered if there might be music for those songs. She was excited about those songs! Too bad we didn't have time to sing some of those that night. Of course I realized we were limited to the time at the restaurant.

Thanks again Sumi!!!! Take care. Now, what's next on your agenda???

Love, Maru Okazaki Hiratzka

Dear Maru,

I must say, your speech in Japanese to Sensei really impressed me... talk about impeccable Japanese and wow, I guess I can't tease Sensei about not teaching us much...for you learned a lot...I know you've been brushing up on your Japanese too so "kanshin kanshin" (commendable)

Sensei really enjoyed the evening and was very, very happy with the

celebration.

Now, I believe he'll live till 100, just to receive another party from us. Thank you for driving I-5, enjoying the lovely almond flowers...I too, have always enjoyed the spring display of the flowers and green, green hills...this year with all that rain, the hills were like Irish moss...green and lovely!

I'm sorry Cal Bears lost in the NCAA sweet 16...but so did UCLA...

Take care, enjoy and thanks for your generous donations, gift to sensei, etc.

Love, sumi

* * * * *

Joy Nozaki Gee invited Babe and Mary Karasawa to the party...and this is a letter from Mary.

Feb. 25, 1997

Dear Sumi,

What a nice 88th party you had for Yamashita Sensei. To see him roasted as you guys did was a different experience for me! It has always been Sensei (with respect) and me. Come to think of it, he was just a young "bonsan" (priest) back in Crystal City. Someone all of you could call a respected friend as well as Sensei. Anyway, I am glad Joy used this occasion to get us together after 50 + years. I went out to college after graduation (1943) and was not aware that a lot my classmates including Sid Okazaki had gone to C.C.

Sensei was my mother's favorite too. So I'm glad I was able to celebrate the occasion. My mom died 3 years ago at 93 -- very genki until the end. I don't know if you remember her.

I know you'll enjoy these pictures which your father may have taken. Since your family was moved around so much I thought perhaps some of the old pictures and stuff were lost. Even if it happens that you had saved these -- pass them on to your children -- as part of their family history! I will certainly remember to call you when I can get Mitsie and Taka and Mieko for some kind of get together.

Mieko and Taka have both lost their husband.

(cont'd on page 10)

(Letters to Editor, Cont'd)

moons ago.

I'm sure our paths will cross again. It was a nice reunion last Saturday. Genki-ni --

I'm glad that you joined us and that your family knew Sensei before the war. Wasn't it fun to see Joy again? She is so active and so creative...the skit she did on the spot shows her versatility.

Love, Mary Karasawa
Dear Mary,

Looking at the pictures of many yesteryears brought back warm memories...(it was when we were taking "Odori"...Japanese dance...it was a time of peace...naive-ness...the time of "growing up in a home, before camp" days...it was really nice and I didn't have copies because of moving from camp to camp to camp, etc.

I'm glad you were able to see the other side of Sensei...he is wonderful! It made Japanese school livable!

Thank you...we'll meet again...

Always, sumi

The girls' names mentioned are the friends I used to dance with...many

Akemi Masuda Yasuda knew Sensei before the war...she was his "oldest" student ... (not in age, but knew him before Crystal City) She says, he was very young and very handsome...wow...

* * * * *

PILGRIMAGE TO CRYSTAL CITY

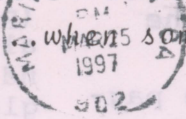
IF you are interested in joining us, notify me ASAP...we will be leaving around November 14 and return 21st...stopping in Vegas couple of days on the way back to L.A...Spinach Festival in CC will be Nov. 14, 15, 16. Write NOW!! We will have the cost soon as we hear from couple of group tours..Let's go!!

* * * * *

" GUMPI SM" The Wit and Wisdom of Forrest Gump.

"If you're gonna screw up, do it while you are young. Older you get, Harder it is to bounce back."

"Only laugh when somethin' is funny"



sumi utsushigawa-s
Crystal City Chatter
[Redacted]
Camarillo CA 93010



TAD & SATOMI ISHIDA

[Redacted]
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94116

