

Ahhhh...The Sweet Success of a Great Picnic!

What can I say about such a fantabulous "Grand Finale" picnic? Words can't adequately describe how great it was! Way over 400 friends...from near and far, Isseis, Niseis, Sanseis and Yonseis...yes...Mrs. Nishii at 98 years young...we had all the many families coming together...my children remember looking forward to the Crystal City picnics, running the races, winning the prizes...eating all the "bentos" so they were all there with their children...who enjoyed running the races, winning prizes...enjoying all the delicious food that Goichi-san cooked for us...and I am so grateful, so full with warm nostalgic memories...when our folks also enjoyed the time we had together, many moons ago....THANKS to the many CC workers who made it all happen!

Today, we have had big help from the Sanseis but the ole time Niseis were also around to supervise, and also use their elbow grease...from early a.m. to late p.m...THAT's the secret to our success! It took lots of meetings, plannings, shopping and all the little things that had to be done...and we thank each and every one of you who gave us your all! You know who you are...the exhausted ones who collapsed after the picnic!

We are grateful to the Yokotake Band who has entertained our group for many, many picnics...their "natsukashii" (nostalgic) old Japanese songs brought back warm memories, and I saw and heard many who were singing along with them. So many of us Niseis (Not just in camps) grew up with the popular Japanese songs along with Glenn Miller Band, ole Blue Eyes - Franks Sinatra...us singing "Don't Fence Me In" in camps all over, listening to "In the Mood", "Chattanooga Choo Choo", and swoon to the "Moonlight Serenade". How young and innocent we were then!

So we closed the picnic get-together, but have not close the door to getting together again, so stay tuned in to the Chatter...we will have a reunion in the future...Really!

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President's Corner:* * * * *
Yac Aihara

I think you will all agree that our last picnic was a winner! And what fun to see everyone, enjoying old friendships, catching up with the latest news on our friends who could not come! And the food! Thanks to the food committee who worked so hard in the kitchen most of the day! Goichi-san and his wife worked so hard, we really appreciated all their efforts! Thanks so much! Also to our own crew of Diane and Ken Takahashi, Kimi Takahashi, Tomo Mizukami, Akemi Yasuda, Reiko Ikemiya, Joan Takeuchi, Joyce Hirota, Jackie and Shig Imai (our adopted Crystal Cityites), Yukie Okazaki, and Fusako Ichikawa. I know I'm missing some of the others but please forgive an old lady's memory, not quite what it used to be.

The Children's races conducted by Jane and Gary Komure was great...as usual, all those impatient children were waiting to run the races, play the games to win those wonderful prizes. The 18 to 64 years old Three-legged-races, to water balloon tossing which were taken care of by Nicki Yokota, Greg and Dion Ong, and Luke Shimatsu...the over 65 group were taken care of by Toni Tomita and her family. She actually had three games going on at one time! Now that's real organization...which we know she's the best in!

Ty Nakamura, Yone Takeuchi and Sho Kurakane...thanks for getting the raffle gifts together...there were so many wonderful gifts that were donated by many people...thanks a million! I had to leave for my "sister city" function so I missed pitching in to cleanup and I do thank everyone for doing my share. "Domo Arigato Gozaimashita!"

Now the picnic becomes with the rest of past activities a very warm memory for those who attended. Thank you all for coming! Thanks Greg Ong for washing dishes, pots and pans along
(cont'd on page 2)

(President's Corner Cont'd (from Front page))

with cleaning the kitchen with all of the kitchen workers who were in the kitchen all day, and to Derick Shimatsu for going around cleaning up the park, raking up and picking up all the trash.

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Further Acknowledgement

We thank Jane and Gary Komure for putting together "Goody Bags" at the registration for all the youngsters...you could hear them "ooing and ahhing" as they received their goodies, while their folks registered with Nicki Yokota, Dion Shimatsu-Ong and Sid Okazaki raking in all the \$\$\$ for the picnic.

I thank Alice Ong (my pal from Oakland), Paula Shimatsu-U., and Mei-Ling Shimatsu for helping me with selling the 2000 Mellinnum Dragon T-Shirts for the Chatter...we sold all the T-Shirts and had to re-order them, and send it to them later...(so if anyone would like to purchase a black T-shirt w/red dragon, \$20.00 will take care of the cost including the postage and handling). We also have the Crystal City Album for sale @ \$35.00 postage and handling included.

A great big thanks to Curtis Oda for silk screening all those T-Shirts, the caps for the golfers, and for the pillows given to the Isseis. Another big thank you to Mei Ling Shimatsu for going to the fabric store to purchase the material and making those pillows w/dragon for the Isseis.

Thank you Reiko Ikemiya for picking up all the O-sushi, and Jeanne Kato for picking up the Chinese chicken salad...and thanks to the many bakers of cookies, lemon bars, brownies, etc. I know that many of you baked late Saturday night...and still came early Sunday morning to help us open up the park.

We appreciate Stogie Kanogawa for going to wholesale market to pick up the 6 boxes of fresh fruits from George Hosaka, in Reedley, California.

Thanks also goes to Sam Hatanaka and Teddy Mizukami for all the drinks...the balloons to guide the picknickers were put up by Yosh Yasuda...and the ice which were brought in by the Kaneko brothers, Aki and Mas.

Thanks to Tak Takeuchi for making the Ondo tapes...we ended the picnic with "One plus One" and "Tanko Bushi" ondo...and we enjoy having Mas Okabe join in and dance with us gals...Toni Tomita and Miyo Eshita for shopping for all those prizes for all the games for over 18 and over 65 years olds...oh such happy happy faces, winning everything from rice to shoyu to paper towels...no matter what, everyone wins! We also thank Toni for going to Takeshi Hamano of Umeya to have those 200 bags of Senbei (rice crackers) donated with our turtle logo and CCA imprinted.

We are also grateful to the JAN Museum friends...many who I met in Ellis Island. People enjoyed the gifts you had there...the cook book was mentioned to me...some of the children's books, etc. It's always so nice to see you...Ike and Ruth Hachimongi, Masako Lucroft, Sadako Sogioka, Marie Masumoto, and others...(I'm not good in remembering all of you...and it's not getting any better either..."toshi wa toshi"...age is age). Thank you for donating stationary for our raffle drawing

The success of any gathering...whether it be this last picnic, the reunions we have had, is the united effort of so many...the plannings at the meetings, ideas, thoughts, etc...all comes down to **team work!!!**

Last but not least, without the generosity of the late Sei Dyo and his wife Yets, for allowing the CCA to meet together at their clubhouse so many times, with the hospitality of coffee, tea, etc., it would have been difficult to be able to hold our meetings comfortably anywhere else. We will miss Sei...his smiling face, his ideas and input...and Yets, stay well..."domo domo arigato gozaimashita!"

Picnic DonationsThank you very much...to:To:

Mini-Stereo Set	Bill Kasuga, Kenwood, U.S.A
200 Bags of Senbei	Takeshi Hamano, Umeya Co.
DVD	Sho Kurakane
Razor Scooter	Jo Ann Nakamura, Joyce Nagahori and Ty & Fumi Nakamura
Boxes of Fresh Fruit	George Hosaka
Potted Plants	Yosh Yasuda
Airpot Tea Set	Akemi Yasuda
Bedding Plants	Kimi Takahashi
Picture Frames (3)	" "
Coffee Maker	Yonekuras
Telephone	" "
Rice	" "
Portable Radio	" "
Electric Fryer	Tom & Reiko Ikemiya
Coffee Maker	" "
Platter	Jim & Tomi Tanaka
3 Wine & 1 Sake	Mas Okabe
Rice Cooker	Lillian Horiuchi
Slippers	" "
Assorted Cookies	Helen Cook
Assorted Notecards	JAN Museum
Origami Swan & Pikachu	May Hamada
Table Water Fountain	Dion Shimatsu-Ong
3 Gift Bags w/candy, cookies, coffee and coffee mug	Nicki Yokota and Paula Shimatsu-U.

Chatto Donation

Thank you very very much for the generous donation to this newsletter...through T-Shirts, to \$\$\$...I know some of you paid more for the T-Shirts at the beginning because it was originally priced at \$20.00, but my sales people didn't know that I lowered the price to \$15.00, and those that had to be sent later through mail-order was \$20.00 to pay for the postage and handling. The T-Shirts were such a success I had to ask Curtis Oda for added silk screenings...thank you very much Curtis for getting it done so fast!

It will keep me busy (and out of mischief) putting this newsletter together for a while. It has opened up communication for information and education of many out there who never knew about our camp. So much have been written and known about the ten relocation camps, but very little is known about our parents who were separated, arrested wherever the FBIs and police were able to, and sent them to many detention camps. From Sand Island, Hawaii, to Santa Fe, and Lordsburg, New Mexico...from Hawaii to "Tairiku" Mainland Japanese to Peru...our parents suffered.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Sumi,

This is a short note to let you know how much I enjoy reading your Crystal City Chatter. I recognize the names of many who wrote to you. Enclosed is a small amount to help you with your expenses.

Also, I would appreciate it if you could put another Crystal City-ite onto your Chatter mailing list. He is: Frank Nagashima, [redacted] Las Vegas, NV 89134.

Sincerely,

Sachio Yamamoto

Thank you very much Sachio for the nice note...and for your donation to the Chatter. I have added Mr. Nagashima on the mailing list so he should start receiving the newsletter. sumi

Dear Sumi & Picnic Committee,

Just to thank you ALL very much for your hard work on the "grand finale" picnic. I think the breeze we felt here Monday could have easily been your collective sighs of relief. What a wonderful turnout! It was so nice catching up with friends we hadn't seen for awhile; also enjoyed meeting some very nice people who hadn't attended before.

The food was great as usual (wish that restaurant was closer to SD) The Yokotake band performed a variety of songs that brought back some fond memories, - always loved Misora Hibari's songs. We used to go to the "katsudos" (movies) at the local Japanese churches to see her movies. Some of my close childhood friends used to do "their impressions" of Hibari - (can't mention names, don't want to be strangled). Actually, they were very good!

My mother, Nobue Nishii asked me to extend her best wishes and appreciation for the beautiful purple pillow she received with the "TATSU" (dragon) "screened" on it. It's the first thing she seems to notice when she walks into the family room. Thank you for the memories!

Best regards always,

Akiko Nishii Matsumoto

We had to leave a little early so did not get to talk to Tomo M., Kim H. and some others I wanted to talk with. Were the Nishijimas there? We missed seeing them this time. Please give them my regards if you talk to them.

I'm always so excited to know that you mom would be attending the picnic...seeing her so "genki" (energetic), is so great...her mind is clear, at 98 she doesn't seem to age at all even from the time we all went to San Antonio, Texas for the Pilgrimage in '97...it's a great incentive to keep myself well, mind clear, and hope that I can age as well and as graciously as your mom.

The Nishijimas did not come...their daughter Jane Komure and her husband were in charge of the children's goody bags and races...and did a splendid job...they never missed one meeting for the picnic...really "kanshin" (commendable) couple. I'm sure that they were very glad that the picnic was over, that the children really enjoyed the races and games...and their parents were very grateful for their thoughtfulness.

Thank you very much for always writing promptly...I appreciate it very, very much...love, sumi

Dear Sumi,

I'm sending greetings from hot, dry Crystal City and including three items which may interest you. You probably have the 1956 letter from Kathryn (Mrs. Goldsmith Moore), but I decided to send it to you instead of saving it longer. I hope it brings some good memories for you.

I imagine there was sadness as well as happiness at your last CC reunion.

Best regards,

Lee Lunz

Dear Mrs. Lunz,

Mrs. Moore's letter was very warm and I could hear her as she wrote (cont'd on page 6)

Honored Guests and Visitors (from Far Away Places)Honored Issci Friends:

Mrs. Nobue Nishii
 Mrs. Matsuye Yamamoto
 Mrs. Yoshida
 Mrs. Chiyo Fukunaga

We regret that Mrs. Otari Kaneko, Mrs. Iyano Ogawa, and Mr. & Mrs. Hyodo could not attend ...we hope that they are well.

Guests From Out of State:

Helen (Kamatani) Sheriff	Honolulu, Hawaii
John Amerson	Coppell, Texas
Joe & Millie Ando & Family	Albuquerque, New Mexico
James Arima & Family	Bellvue, Washington
Lillian (Muraoka) Horiuchi & Family	Las Vegas, Nevada
Kim (Kaneko) Falcey & Leslie	Marble Head, Mass.

Guests From Northern and Central California

Kay (Takeuchi) Eto & Family	Larry & Marie (Sakamaki) Onizuka
Mabel & Nicole Higashi	Joe & Yone Sakamaki
Jordan & Maru (Okazaki) Hiratzka	Hiro & Tomie Sera
Blanca & Amy (Maoki) Katsura	Tako Sera
Libia (Maoki) Yamamoto	Jim & Tomi (Matoba) Tanaka
Kay & Fumi Kawashima	Izumi & Barbara Taniguchi & Family
Mas & Karlene Koketsu	Ray Yamagishi
Mas & Shirley Okabe	Greg & Dion Ong & Family
George & Masako Okabe & Family	Alice Ong

There were many from San Diego area and other Southern California cities who drove far distance to join in...it was great to see y'all but I really will have a time listing you so if you don't mind, I'm putting all of you in Southern Californians...I know it was long driving and with the prices of gas today, well, it was great to have you join us and make it a blast from the past last picnic!

It was so good to see all of you...I tried to go around to say "Hi and welcome" to all of you but I know I missed some of you...or couldn't recognize some either...had to use the name on the label to make sure I knew who I was talkin' to...we've all changed...some though haven't...after all, I no longer have pigtails and many of us are either gray haired or some thinning on top...so time has changed many of us...neh.

So many of you were with your families...your children and their children...I marvelled at the whole groups of you...enjoying the food, fun and festivities! So many of us (not only Niseis but the Sanseis were equally exhausted for days after) but felt it was worth every bit of the tired muscles and bones to see the happy smiles and hear the laughters of ole friends meeting each other here, there and everywhere...and though we won't have the biannual picnics, we will have reunion in the near future...we must keep up with our contacts as long as we could...the friendships born 57 years ago in hot, humid Texas camp is priceless! Our bond is not only strong but so precious!

We were grateful that some of our Peruvian friends joined in. Carmen Mochizuki (sporting a horrible black eye) and her husband Mike (No he didn't give Carmen the black eye), Libia Yamamoto, Blanca and her daughter Amy Katsura...we are also so glad that our friend Charles McCollister made it...after rushing his two sisters to LAX after the Democratic Convention in L.A.

"Letters To The Editor" Cont'd (from page 4)

the letter 44 years ago...my how time flies...I recall how she always wrote Christmas-time to many of her students who wrote...keeping us up with the latest news...will be putting it in this newsletter one day soon. It will bring back warm nostalgic memories from the past.

I'm sorry you're having all that hot, dry weather in Texas...it rained few days ago didn't it? Yet, it probably isn't enough after so many parched days...stay cool and well.

Always, sumi

I think you'll like the following...sent by Akiko Nishii Matsumoto, San Diego...

The Right Rules Wrong!

1. Don't use no double negative.
2. Make each pronoun agree with their antecedent.
3. About them sentence fragments.
4. When dangling, watch your participles.
5. Verbs has to agree with their subjects.
6. don't use, commas, which aren't necessary.
7. Try to not ever split infinitives.
8. Proofread to see if you any words out.

Anonymous

Someone has said that there are FOUR kinds of 'BONES' in very organization.

1. There are the WISHBONES, who spend their time wishing someone else would do the work.
2. There are JAWBONES, who do all the talking, but very little else.
3. Next, there are the KNUCKLEBONES, who knock everything anyone ever tries to do.
4. And finally, there are the BACKBONES, who get under the load and do the work.

(Source: San Diego Union, date & writer unknown)

...and these are the bones that no Chiropractor can adjust to correct their "posture".

Dear Sumi,

Enclosed is a small donation for the newsletter and for the purchase of one "Year of the Dragon Millennium 2000 T-Shirt, size medium.

I have been enjoying reading your "pearls of wisdom!" I know a lot of thought, planning, and labor are needed to produce each issue.

Many thanks for your hard work!

With best regards, Helen Ishida

Thank you very much Helen for your kind words. Yes, lots of thoughts, effort, work goes into each issue...but it is a "work of love"...it has also given me a place to inform and educate many out there who never knew about our internment camp...so much is known about the 10 relocation camps but so many do not know about the arrest and detention of our parents...that they were totally innocent...how could priests, ministers, teachers, leaders of community all be "Bad People"? That's why I put in everything I can into this Chatter...and keep it also amusing, healthful, keeping us aging Niseis well, etc. etc. The T-shirt is on its way...enjoy!
sumi

"Natsukashii Shashin"
(Nostalgic Pictures)

Our "official" photographer, Tom Ikemiya, brought all the pictures he had from past picnics. Everyone was looking at the pictures trying to find themselves...and many were so happy to be able to take them home...I know some of my children were asking me if I saw any of them in the pictures...I tried looking several times when there weren't as many people trying to locate familiar faces...but must say that we must have missed those picnics...couldn't find our family...

Anyway, it was really nice to have those old pictures...stirring up memories and being able to take some of those pictures home...many little babies and toddlers are now middle age...isn't that something? And us? Well, "Ji-sans and Ba-sans" are what we are now..."Nasake nai neh". (Isn't it sad?) but that's life...and we were all once very very young...way back in camp...thanks a lot Thomas...we have many many memorable pictures through your shutterboxes.

We have young photographers today, like Nicole Higashi from San Francisco and this year disposable cameras were given to people and had them take pictures to capture more memories. I've had them developed and printed and will take them to the Crystal City Picnic luncheon next month.

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"The Isseis: The Prologue of the Memorial"

This article was in the special Father's Day Issue of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation newsletter sent to me by our friend Susie (Masuda) Sasagawa. She has kept me in touch with articles that she has read in different newsletter, of which this, she thought was like "Duhhh, where have you been"...because so many people...including the Niseis, don't seem to know our parent's arrest and separation..

This article was talking about the Isseis who were farmers, despite the 1920's depression by 1930 many families were coming back on their economic track..."but that nothing prepared them for December 7 and the weeks and years that followed."

"Although many books have been written about the War years, none captures the total havoc those years caused to the lives of the Issei. By legislation, Isseis were not eligible for citizenship. This created a tremendous dilemma to parents of children who were full citizens in the United States."

"For the first time in their lives, parents were separated from each other immediately after Pearl Harbor. As families were uprooted, mothers who could neither read nor understand English tried to be the strength to children as they underwent the most traumatic experience of their lives."

(And no mention of the mothers who were arrested and taken away...separated from their children...and what of those children whose father and mother were both arrested...how do you think those children felt not knowing where their parents were taken to, and when or if they would ever see them again.)

"Meanwhile fathers were helplessly isolated in internment camps thousands of miles away. Communications were limited to censored letters which looked like cut out rectangular doilies which only served to say "Pappa was still alive." Rumors were rampant. Assurances were rarely given. While bravely stoic during the day, many of these Issei women quietly cried themselves to sleep in their lonely cots after the lights went out."

(Mothers who had many children had to pack up necessities for each child alone, also having to store their personal belongings in as safe a place as possible. where was safe? No one knew what the future was going to be or if they would ever return again.)

(Cont'd on page 8)

"The Isseis: The Prologue of the Memorial" cont'd from page 7)

(And what about the child/children whose father and mother were both arrested and were in different "Detention" camps, in different state...they cried every day)

"Ironically when it was all over, most Isseis did not talk about that dark chapter during War II, even though they lost most (all) of their worldly possessions and were reduced to laborers in a still hostile environment."

Well, 'Hello out there...I'm glad that some of you finally realize what kind of people were arrested...not bad people, are they? And would you believe it, they did nothing to cause this country any problem...no spies among them...they were so squeaky clean and such high respected isseis! How dare they...how dare any Niseis ever question the integrity of those arrested and interned in those real internment camps...not relocation camps but honest to goodness, real internment camps with hearings, interrogations, physical as well as mental and emotional abuse...and those who were in the ten relocation camps think their camp was really an internment camp...no censorship...no day labor in hot New Mexico summer sun...maybe, somewhere, somehow, some of the Niseis, Sanseis, Yonseis, and dai dai (generations) to come will know what our Crystal City folks had to go through...maybe'

Thank you Susie for your continued support, reading and sending me articles of interest. I am grateful to you for your alert reading...keeping our readers informed...this is why I put out this newsletter...to continue informing the people out there what our mothers and fathers had to go through...Crystal City Internment Camp was not just another relocation camp! It was a very highly restricted camp...BUT our family was able to be all together once again...it was real home life!!! and this was the birth of our close, warm friendship...the Crystal City Internment Camp friends.

Shingles...Aging is a Factor

Those of you who have had 'shingles' know how painful and irritating this viral disease is. It is persistent, very long-lasting. The 'post-herpetic neuralgia (PHN)', is linked to weakened immune system which can result from stress and is vulnerable to aging community. It usually forms a "belt" encircling rash pattern often on the torso from the back to chest.

Today, acyclovir has been the medication of choice to speed healing and relieve pain, yet two newer medications famciclovir and valacyclovir, may be more effective than acyclovir in fending off PHN or in shortening its duration.

Early treatment is essential and that they should get to the doctor if there is an unexplained rash or pain in any part of the body. While they can't stop the course of the shingles, over-the-counter and prescribed pain killers, cold compresses and anti-itching lotions such as calamine can provide some relief. Antidepressant and anti-seizure drugs may be recommended for severe or chronic pain. (Lyseine from Health Food Store has helped some)

Pain from shingles can be relieved very effectively by the Lidoderm patch. There's no numbness or any of the side effects caused by other methods of relief. Caution: People with a history of drug sensitivity should be cautious in using the patch.

(I myself found that ultrasound to the nerve root, plus high vitamin B complex helped this terrible condition. High B-complex, 100-125 mg, really helps many with problems with the nerves)

Shingles is caused by the varicella-zoster virus, the same virus that produces chicken pox in children, which can hibernate in nerve cells near the spine for years. Decades later the virus may reactivate, this time in the form of shingles.

The weakened immune systems in the elderly causes the vulnerability for people over 50. So keep your immune system healthy...exercise, eat well, don't exhaust your self, and rest.

Facts About Your Favorite Food Institute for Cancer Research

Two percent milk is lowfat. True or False?

False: An eight ounce glass of two percent milk contains five grams of fat, which doesn't qualify it as lowfat. A lowfat must have 3 grams of fat or fewer per serving.

Spicy foods cause ulcers. True or False?

False: In healthy people, chili peppers and other spices encourage the formation of mucous, which coats the stomach and protects the lining from damage. (People with ulcers or esophageal, gastro-intestinal or acid reflux diseases should follow their doctor's advice concerning spicy foods or avoid them)

Frozen and canned vegetables make healthy choices: True or False?

True: Vegetables and fruits are frozen straight from the field and have nutrient levels similar to freshly harvested produce. Canned produce is preserved after a short cooking time and retains most of its nutrients and fiber. Choose products that are labeled sodium free, low sodium, no sugar added, canned in light syrup or packed in own juices.

All the alcohol in wine, beer and liquor burns off during cooking: True or False?

False: The higher the heat and the longer the cooking time, the more alcohol gets burned off. Most or all of the alcohol in a cold dessert that is never heated will remain in the dessert. A stew made with wine that simmers for three hours will burn off most or all of the alcohol.

"Wheat" or "brown" bread is whole wheat. True or False?

False: "Brown breads" such as rye, honey wheat and pumpernickel are made mostly from refined wheat. To find breads that are truly whole wheat --- made from the whole wheat grain, bran and all --- read the labels. Even breads labeled "whole grain," "nine grain" or "seven grain" can contain varying amounts of whole grains. Look for a bread that says 100% whole wheat, 100% whole grain or that lists whole wheat flour as the first ingredient in the package ingredient list.

Beans don't have to take a long time to cook: True or False?

True: Canned beans are quick, convenient, affordable and healthy. Just rinse before using to wash away extra sodium. If you do want to cook beans from scratch, know that different beans have different cooking times.

Raw sugar isn't any better for you than white sugar: True or False?

True: "Natural" sugar is no healthier than regular white sugar, honey or high fructose corn syrup (found in sodas and many processed foods and drinks). Brown, raw, or turbinado sugars have insignificant amounts of vitamins and minerals. Sugar is sugar; choose what you prefer based on taste and enjoy it in moderation.

Good Thoughts and Attitude = Wellness; Good Health!

"Accentuate the Positive, Eliminate the Negative" creates good health, staying well...
Anxiety/depression = compromises immune system; Helplessness/hopelessness = increases digestive problems; anger/fear = inhibits detoxification, cell repair; Love/joy = heals, cleanses.

"A Leisurely Drive"

"Two elderly women were out driving in a large car, both could barely see over the dashboard. As they were cruising along, they came to an intersection. The stoplight was red but they just went on through.

The woman in the passenger seat thought to herself, "I must be losing my mind, I swear we just went through a red light."

After a few more minutes they came to another intersection and the light was red again, and again they went right through. This time the woman in the passenger seat was almost sure that the light had been red, but was really concerned that she was mistaken.

She was getting nervous and decided to pay very close attention to the road and the next intersection to see what was going on.

At the next intersection, sure enough, the light was definitely red and they went right through. She turned to the woman driving and said, "Mildred! Did you know we just ran through three red lights in a row? You could have killed us!"

Mildred turned to her and said, "Oh, am I driving?"

Thanks to Nicki Yokota

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OBITUARY; Our deepest and heartfelt condolences to: Yets Dyo and her family for the loss of her husband, Sei Dyo.

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"My religion is kindness"

The Dalai Lama

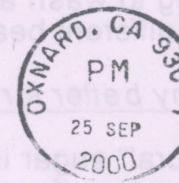
*"Renew thyself completely each day;
do it again, and again, and forever again"*

Chinese Inscription cited by Thoreau

"Peace comes within the souls of men

When they realize their oneness with the universe!" *Black Elk*

sumi shimatsu
Crystal City Chatter
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