

"All-Camps Summit"

A beautiful brochure from the Japanese American National Museum was received last month.
 Friday Nov, 15, 1-5 pm Registration at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel and Suites.

National Trust for Historic Preservation and National Park Service Focus Session (limited seating)

6 pm Behind the Scenes Tour of the JAN. Museum

History: Arts and Crafts from American's Concentration Camps (for All-Camps Summit registered guests only)

Saturday, Nov. 16, 8-5 pm At the Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites

Registration & Continental Breakfast

Opening Session with National Speakers

National Speakers luncheon (limited seating)

Dialogue sessions and workshops throughout the day.

6 pm All-Camps Reunion Reception

Sunday, Nov. 17 At the Japanese American National Museum

10 am Continental Breakfast

Exhibitions & Behind the Scenes Tour of the JAN Museum.

For our CC friends who intend to attend, dinner on Saturday night will be held in Monterey Park, at Paul's Kitchen Cantonese Chinese Restaurant at 7:30 pm. Please send Registration form (page 9) and fill out how many of you will be attending for the dinner. **ASAP...please.**

The President's Corner**Yae Aihara**

Indian summer greetings to you all. Hope all of you had a nice summer and ready to tackle the fall season with gusto. The All Camp Summit which is being sponsored by JANM is just around the corner. I don't know how many of you are planning to attend but we here at CC thought that if there was enough of you present, we would have a dinner at Paul's Kitchen in Monterey Park instead of the reception which is scheduled on Saturday, the 16th.

There have been so many individual camp reunions, most of them in Las Vegas and very well attended, I might add, that this All Camp Summit might come in a poor third. Please send in your registration form (In this Chatter) to let us make reservation at the restaurant as soon as possible.

"10th Peru-Kai Reunion"

Congratulations to our Crystal City Peruvian friends for pilgrimage to our ole camp. They are retracing their journey from Peru to New Orleans, a train to San Antonio, then a bus to Crystal City. They will be joined by former German American detainees and together will dedicate a historical plaque by the swimming pool water tank designating the camp that held Germans, Italians and Japanese from South America.

When Libby Yamamoto called me about their trip it was right after I had sent the Chatter 66. If I knew earlier, it would have been published in the Chatter then. The deadline for registration was August 25th, however, if any of you would like further information, please contact Libby Yamamoto in Richmond, California. Her telephone number is [redacted].

They will have former internees attending this reunion from Japan, Peru and "Tairiku", (this country). They're making their "sad and unpleasant" memory into a happy occasion. It will be at the time Crystal City will be celebrating their famous Popeye's Spinach Festival. Thank you Carmen Mochizuki for sending me copy of the itinerary for this newsletter.

I also received clipping from the Sentinal Newspaper in Crystal City, dated August 1, 2002, sent to me by our dear friend Mrs. Lunz about this special reunion. She included few other newspaper clippings which will be in the "Letters to the Editor", page 4 of this Chatter. I'm grateful for her continued support and interesting articles that she sends to me for this newsletter. Thank you very much Mrs. Lunz. I understand that there were 155 children who were born at the camp. They are natives of Texas, Zavala County and Crystal City! How about that? Texans!

"A Point of View"

It's now 14 years since I started this newsletter...quite a milestone for me...never thought I would be undertaking such a big job...however, this camp Crystal City was such a wonderful place compared to a relocation center (Heart Mountain, Wyoming), or an assembly center (Pomona)...the first and foremost important fact was that mom and I were able to reunite with papa after his unannounced, sudden arrest on March 13, 1942. Being taken to camps is one thing...most people went as a family. Having one or some people both parents arrested and taken away, not knowing what was going to happen to them, if and when you would ever be able to see them again that was something else...it's really scary and traumatic!!!

Those who did not have this trauma would never know what it is like to suddenly have the family separated. Some mothers had many small children to take care of, pack enough clothes for, necessities...can milks, baby food...and some camps confiscated can openers, spoons (to feed the babies), and "hot plate" (electric stoves) were of course prohibited...some men took care of their toddlers because the mother was arrested (as in Tenrikyo Church)...the fear, the anxiety...and what of those who had both parents arrested and taken away...a lifetime of scar...no one would know except some of us who experienced, and also know the lifetime of heartache that can not heal. I know...I've heard...I've seen...and witnessed this indelible scar that doesn't heal...the Iseets who didn't voice their anger, and anxieties.

It's been these injustice that was caused by the war that my heart and soul continued to write this newsletter...Crystal City friends from Hawaii, Peru, Tairiku, and those many Germans, and Italians, although I didn't know them all...have been part of me...especially those who were arrested...what they must have suffered...their fear, anxieties...not knowing if...when...they may ever see their wives, husbands, children again...this was war time...no one knew the future...was there a future?

Yet the Isseis-their quiet "shimbo"-perseverance-living so stoicly teaching, preaching, creating gardens all types of creative arts from teaching sumie, calligraphy, martial arts, "shigin" (type of singing), etc. Their quiet inner strength was true living example of "Bushido's" "way of life"- fortitude- endurance- patience- it was a place where we made lifetime friends. So when some of the readers share their memories, it is warm and precious- memories that's shared with us...and I thank them all.

Today, many of our friends are ailing, have passed on...and even we cannot say we have the "get-up-and-go" because it already "got up and went". The auto accident in March, then pneumonia that really flattened me out in April to June...then flu...wow, I was so weak, laid up, and still have residual aches from the accident...and can empathize with many who live with illness, arthritis, injury, or just old age...I know now how it feels. With treatments, braces, many magnets I put on at the early stage of my accident (it really worked well...the painful areas subsided so fast) it was funny because I had magnetic brace around my broken rib, magnetic wrist braces...sprained...got well in couple of days...magnetic ring around my broken finger, little magnets on bandaids...it was great opportunity to test it...and it did work at the beginning...probably because initially the pain is sharp.

I am very grateful to many of you calling me, sending me cards, notes, letters, e-mail to "get well" ...prayers, and thoughts...thank you very very much. It's good to feel the strength, energy and stamina building again...but I know I have to work at it with more exercise...along with the treatments...so "gambari-masu" (will fight on).

Sid and Al were sitting in a Chinese restaurant. "Sid," asked Al, "Are there any Jews in China?" "I don't know," Sid replied. "Why don't we ask the waiter?" When the waiter came by, Al asked him, "Are there any Chinese Jews?"

"I don't know sir, let me ask," the waiter replied, and he went into the kitchen. He returned in a few minutes and said, "No, sir. No Chinese Jews."

"Are you sure?" Al asked. "I will check again, sir," the waiter replied and went back to the kitchen. While he was still gone, Sid said, "I cannot believe there are no Jews in China. Our people are scattered everywhere."

When the waiter returned he said, "Sir, no Chinese Jews." "Are you really sure?" Al asked again "I cannot believe there are no Chinese Jews."

"Sir, I ask everyone," the waiter replied exasperated. "We have orange jews, prune jews, tomato jews, and grape jews, but no one ever hear of Chinese jews!"

My first job was working in an orange juice factory, but I got canned -- couldn't concentrate.

"My Experience...from Peru to U.S.A."

My name is Rose Shibayama Nishimura. I was born in Lima, Peru. My parents had a successful business importing textiles and manufacturing dress shirts. We had maids and a chauffeur who drove us to a private school. My grandparents owned a department store in Callao and were one of the first Japanese Peruvians to be taken hostage. They were used in one of the exchanges for American civilians trapped in Asia. We never got to see them again.

After the first Japanese Peruvian hostages were placed on a U.S. Army transport and shipped to unknown destination, each time a U.S. transport arrived to the harbor some of the Japanese Peruvian men went into hiding, including our father. The police came looking for him several times and not finding him, they arrested my mother and placed her in jail. Our oldest sister, who was 11 years old, went with her because she did not want our mother to be alone. When word of this reached my father, he gave himself up.

We were then put on a U.S. Army transport called Cuba. We were guarded by U.S. military personnel with rifles, machine guns and whips. Passports were confiscated. The women and children were put in a small cabin. There were 6 of us, our mother and 5 children. Another family of 4 were placed in the same cabin, so many of us had to sleep on the floor.

The men and the older boys, 13 years and older were put down below and were only allowed to on deck twice a day for 10 minutes. During those 10 minutes, the women and children had to remain in their cabins. Families were separated and were unable to see each other during the entire trip, which took 21 days.

When we arrived in New Orleans, the women and children were led off the ship first and marched to a warehouse. We were ordered to strip and stand in line naked. We were then sprayed with insecticide. We were put on a train and then the men and older boys followed the same procedure. On the train, the families were finally reunited. It took two days for us to arrive at Crystal City, Texas. One of my sisters believed that we were going to be killed at the end of the train ride.

They put us in a camp with barbed wire fences and we were guarded by U.S. soldiers with machine guns in guard towers. They put 8 of us in 2 rooms of a 3 room barrack. In camp our parents sent us to Japanese language school because there were only Japanese and English schools...no Spanish schools. English was rarely used in Peru in those days.

After 2 1/2 years in Crystal City there were reports that the camp was going to be closed. We wanted to return to Peru but the Peruvian government would not permit us to return, so we were paroled to Seabrook Farms in New Jersey. There my oldest brother and sister had to go to work since my mother was pregnant and my father was unable to support the family of 6 children working alone. We had difficulty communicating with other workers because we did not speak English.

After 2 1/2 years in Seabrook, my father gave up all hope of returning to Peru, so we moved to Chicago in March 1949. Three of my brothers served in the U.S. Army. In 1952, my oldest brother got drafted in the U.S. Army. In 1953 while serving in the army, his warrant officer tried to get him his citizenship, but my brother was denied because the government claimed that he did not have legal entry to the United States.

We did not want to come to the United States...we were forcibly brought here by the U.S. government on a U.S. military transport, put in a Department of Justice internment camp administered by the I.N.S. so how could we be considered illegal aliens? Passports were confiscated when we boarded the ship. Later we learned that between 1953 and 1955 two of our Japanese Peruvian friends received their permanent residency and citizenship while in the Army.

Between August 1954 and July 1955, 150 Japanese Peruvians received permanent residency retroactive status without leaving the country. And because of their retroactive status, they qualified to receive the redress of \$20,000.

We had our hearing with the I.N.S. in August of 1954 and they sent us to Canada in 1956 to get legal entry. Now we are denied redress because of the mistake I.N.S. made. My mother received retroactive status and received redress. One of our sisters did not go to Canada and received permanent residency in 1957. She received redress after two appeals, but the rest of us are still being denied.

Thank you very much for story of injustice.... How unfair it is to have redress denied as well as permanent residency...this is the inconsistency of our government...hoping one day you will succeed!!!

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sumi, I am sending these clippings in case they will be of interest to you. I appreciate receiving your Crystal City Chatter and thank you for publishing it. Sincerely, Lee Lunz

"Japanese Visits Old Camp Site"

Caroline A. Matano Yang of Tokyo, Japan visited the site in Crystal City Tuesday where an alien internment camp once existed during World War II and where she along with her father, mother and 5 brothers and sisters lived when her father was interned at the camp.

Her father, a buddhist priest, and his family were living in Honolulu, Hawaii when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. She recalls the FBI men taking her father, as well as other community leaders of Japanese ancestry to be placed in camps.

Her father was interned in other camps before coming to the Crystal City camp. It was here that his wife and 6 of their 8 children joined him. She was then 6 years old. Yang is presently executive director with the Japanese-United States Educational Commission in Tokyo, Japan.

In Texas for a conference, Yang took time out to visit the site where a commemorative marker marks the spot where the internment camp once was located.

Yang was accompanied to Crystal City by Atsuko Ozawa of Tokyo, Japan and also with the Japanese-United States Education Commission of Japan; Rachel Barden of the University of Texas at Austin, International Programs; and Sister Margit Nagy, associate professor in History and Intercultural Studies at Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio.

Sister Margit arranged for the visit, along with Zavala County Commissioner Abelardo Marquez, whose daughter Elsa Marquez was a former student of Sister Margit.

Crystal City Mayor Eliseo C. Sanchez and Zavala County Judge Ron Carr, along with Commissioner Marquez gave the group a tour of the area where the internment camp was located. Yang was able to remember the old swimming pool and was able to guess where her house was located. Before leaving for San Antonio the group visited the statue of Popeye and could not resist posing for a picture with Popeye.

"Reporter Visits City" -- Craig Gima, a Honolulu, Hawaii reporter, working with the Honolulu Star-Bulletin was in Crystal City Tuesday, July 30. His father, aunt and grandparents were all detained at the Crystal City Internment Camp during the war.

"Family Returns to Tea Garden"

Colored pictures in newspaper of Toshiko Okabe and Miyuki Uto in their "yukata" where their grandfather who helped design the Japanese Tea Gardens-Sunken Gardens at Brackenridge Park in 1926 and was invited by the city to move his family into the two-story house on the property. Mr. Jingu Enkoji served green tea and green tea ice cream. They were evicted when WW II began and the name of the gardens changed to Chinese Sunken Gardens.

Mr. Enkoji passed away in 1938 but his wife continued to operate the tea garden until WW II. She returned to San Antonio in 1984 when city officials finally issued an apology to the Jingu family and rededicated it the Japanese Tea Gardens. Mabel Jingu Enkoji presently lives in Oakland, California.

Those of us who made pilgrimage to Crystal City in 1997 remember visiting this park...my, that was many many moon ago neh. Thank you Mrs. Cunz for all these interesting articles. I'm glad that the Jingu family received apology for this special garden that Mr. Enkoji created.

Dear Sumi, Just a note to tell you how much I appreciate receiving the CC Chatter. The information regarding the Santa Fe Internment Camp marker was very interesting. Many thanks to Joe and Millie Ando to send me some snapshots of the marker and information about the dedication.

I hope you've recovered from your accident and feeling fine now. Thanks again to you and the Chatter committee to send out the information to keep us all in touch. Enclosed is a small donation toward expenses. Gratefully, Chiyo Masumoto

Many thanks for your continued support...always generous and kind words...can't quit when you flatter my ego...the letters and notes I receive, with the donation that keeps the Chatter alive, is what keeps this newsletter interesting for the many readers. Their life experience, point of view, etc. injects broader view of life. Thank you very much Chiyo...was great seeing you at your sister Kim's memorial service the other night.

Dear Sumi, Thank you for the CC Chatter. The articles are always as interesting; I like to share them with members of my family since I'm the only one who went to Crystal City. They were unaware of the plight of the Japanese from Peru and were appalled at their (Cont'd on page 8)

"Jinsei" (Life)

Dear Sumi,

I read with great interest the June '02 Issue of CC Chatter. You truly outdid yourself putting out the excellent issue. I was particularly moved by Art Shibayama's story, since I know well the Peruvian Japanese experience and have written to the President about their petition for redress and to the major TV networks to do a story on this hidden, untold chapter of WWII incarceration -- to no avail, however, should you have space in the next issue of the Chatter, I would like to add the following as my response to Art's story and in support of his ongoing fight for justice.

Having repatriated to war-torn Japan from Crystal City in February 1946 as a 13-year old I was confronted with the problem of needing to prove to the U.S. Consul in Kobe that I was an American by birth, although I had a copy of my birth certificate. As a minor I could not legally relinquish my citizenship, and yet I had to obtain affidavits from relatives in the States that they indeed knew me as a kin. But the notarized affidavits were not enough, not even when combined with my birth certificate. I had to have an eye witness who knew me as a boy before the war.

Fortunately, my uncle-in-law was in Japan and made the arduous trip from Tokyo -- though stricken by a stroke and needing a cane to walk -- to point me out to the Consul and say, "Yes, I saw this boy when I was in the United States." After my identity as an American was established, I was able to register with the Japanese government as an alien national and carry with me their "Gaijin Toroku Shomei Sho" (Foreign National Registration Papers) which was required to receive rationed rice, barley and clothing. (I'm not sure if you can call this irony or a post-WWII snafu.) But my situation can in no way compare to Art Shibayama's ordeal to change his status from illegal alien to permanent resident and finally to naturalized citizen in 1970 - even after serving in the U.S. Army in 1952.

I'm sure Art was perfecting his English, while I was losing mine in the remote regions of Japan, because I was busy studying Japanese in "shogakko" (elementary school) and "chugakko" (middle school). but what saved me was the arrival of a few boxes of books in English at the tiny, one-room library in town. I spent an entire summer vacation reading all the books I could possibly consume, and it was then that I renewed my promise to myself that I would become a writer -- even though I didn't understand most of the words I read or even know how to pronounce them.

At any rate, knuckling down at the age of 65, I have complete four novels and a collection of short stories with more works to come. *The Cast Fox, a Novel of the 100/442nd RCT*, has been out since last September, perhaps an item of interest to your readers who were inspired by Senator Daniel Inouye's story in today's Chatter as I was when I first read about his war experiences. The protagonist's motto in *The Cast Fox* is "fight to survive, survive to fight." I hope I can add this to Art Shibayama's arsenal in his fight -- our fight -- to bring about justice and right a wrong.

Sincerely, Bob Kono, Eugene OR

Hi Bob...went to couple of bookstore...including Border's (which gives 20% off on Thursdays, Senior discount), but couldn't find your books...maybe you'll know where I could pick them up...would love to read them...I had hard time getting my citizenship straightened out in Japan, especially when you have "koseki tohon", dual citizenship that my folk's registered me in Sendai when I was born... plus going from Crystal City, we were never given passport so the red tape it took from Yokohama American Consul to Washington D.C. took the slowest boat across...then they lost my papers, so had to start all over by going to Yokohama from Sendai again and you know how it was traveling right after the war...anyway, was lucky to get back...I commend you on your studying at both elementary school and the middle school...and for taking the initiative to read many English books...and then to write..."kanshin kanshin"...(commendable)

I've written for the Peruvian-Japanese too, and have talked about this injustice on national radio talk show, twice, and have always included this continued injustice whenever, wherever I'm requested to discuss being in Crystal City Internment Camp...have written to Reader's Digest, Guidepost, but nothing came of it. Anyway, will keep fighting for the right...and am grateful to you for your very interesting experience. Thank you for your support and for your kind compliment.

Dear Sumi,

Just read June '02 CC Chatter cover-to-cover-- So many interesting articles, so many "I've got to remember this 'wise sayings'". Our father was interned in Santa Fe, being a Buddhist priest.

What prompted this letter is the fact that my brother, Milton Koji Takahashi, passed away in December last year, at age 61. My 91 years old mother talks about the "wrong order" - she has attended her granddaughter's and now her son's funerals. (Cont'd on page 6)

Milton and I used to go to the hospital at Crystal City to collect ant lions under the ward barracks. Some Issei patients saved their lunch desserts (cakes) to give to us. Of course, a treat once offered will have children going back for more! I don't remember how often he and I did this, but it was certainly enough times that I recalled it while reading the CC Chatter this afternoon. What a lovely memory! Of course, if my mother became aware of this, how embarrassed she might feel

Enclosed is a check for Chatter expenses in Milton Koji's memory. Frances Takahashi Nakamura

Thank you Frances for your "omoide" ...warm memory of our camp...little joys of life - cakes. Isn't it nice to be able to remember those kindness of those who were in the hospital...to give joy even when they were not well. These are the "little" stories that I would like to share with our readers...that Yamashita Sensei. (Rev. Kenko Yamashita.) always said. "Jinsei wa ku de aru. demo ku no aida, tanoshimi mo aru" ...Life is one of sorrow but amidst the sorrow, there are joyful moments too.

I agree with your mother that the order is for the parents to go before their children or grandchildren however Life doesn't always deal in the "proper order", nor has it ever been fair...neh...that's when we say "shikataga nai neh" ...it cannot be helped). Thank you for your donation in memory of your brother Milton...it is greatly appreciated!

Dear Sumi,

The Santa Fe historic marker dedication program and luncheon at a nearby Radisson Hotel were very memorable and moving events. The committee members who worked towards this history making occasion should receive special recognition as well as the politically sensitive situation that Mayor Delgado found himself in when he was required to break a tie vote on whether the marker project was to be realized or not. And Joe and Millie Ando certainly had the will and courage along with others to see everything through to its final and remarkable finish!

At the luncheon and among a number of speakers was Jerry West. His father, Harold "Hal" West was an artist who became a security guard at the Santa Fe camp. He made a number of wonderful drawings of the guards and a few of the camp scenes. Jerry West brought his dad's art work for interested guests to look over the wonderful illustrations. Some of us requested copies which he sent in a 9 x 11 booklet with written memories of his life in New Mexico and his dad's artwork in the camp. If you want to request a copy of the booklet (about 26 pp), I'm sure he would not mind if I give you his address. He has not indicated as yet what the cost would be.

Jerry R. West

Santa Fe, NM 87508

He has 2 titles for the publication: A Local Santa Fe Bystander's View of the Japanese Internment Camp, or Remembrances of the War Years in Santa Fe, 1941-1946.

At the dedication Mike and I were happy to see Sachi, May and Ruby, Kaz and Fusako and Ty Nakamuras! It was disappointing not to have you there. Hope you are now up and running following rehab. One of the "it's a small world" happened at our luncheon table. A Dr. Gus Tanaka was introduced to Mike; the doctor turned out to be uncle to a husband of Mike's niece in the Seattle area. Dr. Tanaka's father was the physician in Santa Fe camp. He volunteered to remain in the hospital until the last patient was released and the camp was closed. His dad, as I understand it, had permission to leave and join his family but instead chose to help the remaining internees who needed medical attention. Can imagine how grateful the patients felt.

Enjoy the summer months and stay healthy. I'm enclosing another belated check for the Chatter expenses. Thanks so much for your dedication! Also here are two photos: thought you might like to see a wider angle of the marker sight and a general view from Ortiz Park. It would be worth another pilgrimage. In case you don't have copies of articles from S.F. papers (on SF dedication) am sending these.

Sincerely, Marion Goshu Fukuma

I thank you very much for your thoughtfulness Marion...I've seen the illustrations that Sachi showed many of us and they are so nice...will be ordering the booklet myself. I recall my father carving cigarette holder, pipe, made out of manzanita wood, pen and ink holder with letter opener and two pen out of some root found in the SF desert...he said that they couldn't have tools so they broke Coke bottles for knives, carved and shaved with it smoothly and used flannel material to give it polished look. I still have the ink holder with pen and letter opener...and all the getas they made...it was amazing!!! How creative without tools neh "Domo arigato" (Thank you very much) for your continued donations supporting the Chatter...

A Letter From A German Crystal City Ex-Internee

Dear Sumi: Thank you for your work on the **Crystal City Chatter**. It means a lot to me. I was in the camp 60 years ago from Costa Rica to Seagoville, TX by plane on 11-42, then to Crystal City when it was ready. When did you get there?

A member of my extended family was put down harshly when a professor at a university stated no Germans were ever in a camp. She asked me to put something together that would show that "yes there were Germans in Crystal City *Internment Camp in Texas*." Can you believe that after 60 years this is still there from a **doctorate professor in Humanities?**

I have read that 2200 Latin Americans of Japanese descent from 13 Latin American countries: 400 from Peru were sent to Seagoville, TX, formerly a Reformatory *Prison* for women...is all this correct or is it wrong?

It is said that Germans arrived in Kenedy, Tx. Can you enlighten me where Kenedy is?

Would you know if the exchange ship, SS. Gripsholm held wounded German soldiers on board to Africa Corp with Rommel...my brother remembers that on our exchange voyage he heard about it.

When I was in San Antonio, I was told that there were Japanese prisoner of war on two military bases...now I hear that it was with you and I in Crystal City? Is this true?

Enough questions Sumi - take care of yourself.

Hermann Carl Moehrbach

Mr. Moehrbach sent pictures of the marker he took when he visited the old camp site, and a "Crystal City City Limit sign, population 8263."

Dear Hermann: It's so good to hear from you...I'm glad that you read and enjoy the Chatter. I did not know that they flew you to Seagoville Detention camp in Texas- most of us traveled by ship, train & bus to camp. I was one of the 21 people (there were 97 of us) who went to Crystal City from Ellis Island, Sept. 1943 when the SS Gripsholm was filled and could not take on the 97 who were then taken to Ellis Island for four days. We then took a train to Texas...It was hot (no air conditioner in the train) and took 5 days.

I'm sorry that the professor at the university where your extended family member was told that no Germans were incarcerated during the war. There were some in Ellis Island along with Kenedy, Seagoville and Crystal City. Unfortunately many professors, teachers, newspapermen, etc. do not know much about being in camps, or how and who ran these Justice Department camps. I had experienced ignorance from a Mr. William Hohri of a Japanese newspaper in C.A., Rafu Shimpō who had no knowledge of our camp and reading books from a caucasian professor, believed her writing that the ten relocation centers had more restrictions than our internment camp. Amazing isn't it that these so-called people write or say things without thorough investigation.

I do know that over 2,000 Japanese from Latin America were brought over here as hostages...most were from Peru. I do not know the numbers from other Latin America country however, about 1000 were in our camp.

I do not know the exact location of Kenedy, Texas but know there was a detention camp there. Seagoville is a women's prison and there were 30 mothers-wives who were incarcerated there after they were arrested. Many of the Peruvian Japanese women were sent there, and not knowing English language my very close friend's aunt (also her mother was put in this prison after being arrested) who was a professor at a university in Utah, and was able to read, write, converse in English, ordered clothings, shoes, necessity from Sears and Montgomery Wards catalog for them...she was so busy, that she worked late into the night every day, and was so tired however, she knew of their plight so helped them in spite of exhaustion.

I do not know if there were German soldiers on board the SS Gripsholm, however, it was an exchange ship so it may be true. I recall there were three exchange group to Germany from Crystal City.

There were three prisoner of war in our camp. in 1944, Mr. and Mrs. Imakita were taken as prisoner-of-war by the U.S. Navy and were thoroughly searched, Both had their hair shaved to check if there were any secret message sewn in their scalp, all orifice were searched and Mrs. Imakita was so humiliated...she was my mother's very very good friend so we knew the couple quite well. Mr. Imakita was deaf, due to bombings on their Marshall Island. He owned 13 island and produced "copra" (coconut oil) for export, the other prisoner was a Japanese nun from one of the Pacific islands, she was also shaved...Thanks for writing.

Hermann has been Chatter reader from the beginning...I have written to him about the coming reunion trip by the Peru-Kai in November, and that a plaque with Germans, Italians, Japanese from Peru will be dedicated there at that time.

(Cont'd from page 4, Letters to the Editor:)

treatment. Take care and stay well. Enclosed is a small donation for the increased postage.
Thank you. "Bubbles" Tsuida Shimasaki

The story about the Peruvians continue to make many readers shocked by the injustice!!! As you can read more in this Chatter the U.S. Government's inconsistency...INS, Justice Department, even in Japan...most of us know the many long red tape it took to return to United States from Japan, but for these Peruvians to be brought here against their will, and be told that they didn't enter properly into this country is adding insult to the injustice already felt by many. Many from Hawaii don't know about the arrest of Isseis there being arrested and taken to Sand Island...then to Santa Fe, NM, Lordsburg, NM and Crystal City, TX.

I'm so glad that this little newsletter has been informing, educating, spreading the truth...all these years...it's worth the many hours it takes to put the Chatter together, then mail it to over 500 people...I am grateful for this opportunity for having a "voice"...and as you know, my voice has always been loud. Thanks Bubbles for your kind thoughts and the life blood of the Chatter, donation.

Dear Sumi: Thank you for keeping us updated on Crystal City activities. Heard from Joe Ando and I was very impressed with the program they had at Santa Fe Internment Camp dedication. Have good health to all. Thank you again.
Very truly yours, Kanji & Shiz Nishijima

Thank you Kanji & Shiz...The Santa Fe marker dedication was a great success and am so glad so many did go from CC...they seemed to have had a wonderful get-together with their gracious host and hostess, Joe and Millie Ando...from all the snapshot taken, they have a lovely home with all the spring flowers blooming when they went...how perfect...even Martha Steward would say, "It is a good thing". Thank you for your donation...I'll keep the Chatter up as long as it's "alive".

Dear Sumi, After a half a century working for the U.S. Government in Japan, I threw in my towel and am happy to be back in town closer to my sister (Maru Hiratzka), brother (Sid Okazaki) sons and grandkids. Being overseas and away from the real world I welcomed and enjoyed reading your newsworthy "Chatter" which kept me up to date. Thanks so much Sumi, you're doing a great job. "Kore kara mo yoroshiku one gai shimasu." (Please continue to take care)

Sincerely, Terumi "Tee" Okazaki

Welcome home to U.S.A. and thank you Tet-chan, for your note...and have noted your change of address...what a big change it must be for you and your wife to relocate neh...you've been there for so many years...sorta like the "urashima taro" story huh where life is so different yet, working for the Government, you still had hand in the modern technology, etc. It'll be nice to be able to visit your sister, brother, family all around without flying to get there...only now you have to drive on the right side of the street. Thank you for your donation. Will continue to keep the Chatter informative and interesting.

Dear Sumi, Thanks so much for sending us the "CC Chatter". There are so many interesting articles in it! I'm enclosing some copies of fun articles that friends have passed on to me. I'm also enclosing a long overdue check to defray some of the costs in sending out the newsletter. Thanks for keeping us on your mailing list.
Helen Erlandson

p.s. I plan to attend the "All-Camp Summit" at the JANM in November. Hope to see you then.

Hi Helen. It's so good to hear from you...Yae just mentioned that you were coming and staying with her for the "All Camp Summit Reunion"...and you weren't even in any camp...that's great! Meeting you in NY back when we went to the Ellis Island Exhibit was so wonderful...Yae's friends from before the WWII days, in Washington...you, Yone and Yae...it was fun listening to you...and how you and Yone never went into any of the relocation camps. It's so amazing because most of us were and had to learn how to live in communal life...that was so difficult at the beginning...but boy, you can get used to it if you have to. Will look forward to seeing you in November...join us at our dinner, and thank you for your donation.

Sumi, Thanks for the newsletter you send. The last one brought me to tears from the pieces on the memorial. I enclose some stamps to help with the postage.
Dr. Addie W. Brown

Thanks for those beautiful stamps...the postage has gone up quite a bit this time...yet the service doesn't seem to change...and just yesterday I heard that the postal department is in debt over one billion dollars...I wonder where all the increase goes to? Are they thinking of raising the stamp fee again? Gosh, and I was just talking to someone about remembering when letters were 3 cents, postcards 1 cent, and we even had delivery twice a day...if you send it out in the morning, you could get it to the party in the same city that afternoon.

Boy, it was many many moons ago...but that was then, and now is now...oh boy...hold on, the stamps will go up again one day...that's life!! Thank you very much Dr. Brown for your consideration...really appreciate it.

Healthy Food

Apples help take a bite out of **Asthma**:: An apple a day will keep the doctor away, but two apples a week are like a breath of fresh air--because they can actually ward off breathing problems. The fruit can slash your risk of developing asthma by up to 32 percent. Apple also contain **quercetin**, a natural plant chemical which creates immune system's defense. Apple also contain **flavonoids**, compounds that protect your lungs by combating harmful substances in the body called radicals. *American Journal of Respiratory & Critical Care.*
(An apple a day lowers blood pressure, lowers cholesterol if you eat the peeling too)

Bananas help prevent strokes. If you take a diuretic, consume food rich in **potassium** such as bananas, milk and green leafy vegetables, it may lower your risk of stroke. It can also help atrial fibrillation - an irregular heartbeat...University of Hawaii in Honolulu

Blueberries have the highest amount of antioxidant...a blueberry extract diet reversed memory loss in rats at Tufts Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging in Boston.

Figs are full of nutrients. They have the highest fiber and mineral content of all the usual fruits, nuts or vegetables, and contain more **calcium**, in fact, by weight, they actually have more **calcium** than skim milk. It has 80% higher **potassium** than bananas and are extremely easy to digest. They also have more iron and are extremely high in **magnesium**

Grapes, purple (check label to see if it's 100% concord grape juice) preliminary studies reduces blood clotting and make blood vessels flexible (which can improve blood flow). = important for a healthy cardiovascular system.

Grapes, red contain **resveratrol**, which is also found in red wine...red colored fruits, berries, veges have high content of antioxidant.

Nuts, Almonds, peanuts, walnuts, etc., are very beneficial for your cardiovascular system... mono unsaturated oil, lowering total cholesterol and bad LDL cholesterol. Peanut butter made the old fashioned ways separated with oil on top is better than the hydrogenated smooth type...even though it takes time to mix it well when using.

Papaya has enzymes, aids in digestion.

Pineapple Also has enzymes, aids in digestion.

Red Wine a kitchen remedy for cold sore...the chemical **resveratrol** protects grapes from fungal infection.

Soy Beans, (Edamame) lowers cholesterol, strengthen bones, possible protection from breast and prostate cancer.

Tea helps with bone density. The benefit occurred when drinking an average of nearly 2 cups daily. Tea contains fluoride and chemical compound include estrogen-like plant derivati both of which may enhance bone strength. **Green tea** contains polyphenols = low rates in prostate cancer in Chinese. National Cheng Kung University Hospital in Taiwan.

* * * * *

Registration Form for Dinner November 16

Paul's Kitchen

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

How many in your party: _____

\$20.00 per person (tax/tip included)

Please send this in as soon as possible to:
(We need your head count, please)

Sumi Shimatsu

Camarillo, CA 93010

Thank you!

Inspirational Thoughts

Eleanor Roosevelt

Many people will walk in and out of your life,
but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

To handle yourself, use your head: To handle others, use your heart.

Anger is only one letter short of danger.

If someone betrays you once, it is his fault; if he betrays you twice, it is your fault.

Great minds discuss ideas:

Average minds discuss events;

Small minds discuss people.

He who loses money, loses much;

He who loses a friend, loses much more.

He who loses faith, loses all.

Beautiful young people are accidents of nature.

But beautiful old people are works of art.

Learn from the mistakes of others.

You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Friends, you and me...

You brought another friend...

And then there were 3...

We started our group...

Our circle of friends...

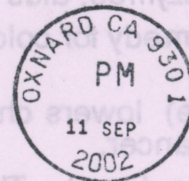
And like that circle...

There is no beginning or end...

* * * * *
Obituary: Our deepest and heartfelt condolences to: Mrs. Takahashi and her family for the loss of her son Milton Koji Takahashi.

Mrs. Chieko "Chonda" Honda Ingham for the loss of her husband Richard "Dick" Ingham.

Sumi Shimatsu
Crystal City Chatter
Camarillo, CA 93010



TAD & SATOMI ISHIDA
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

Practice Random Kindness
and
Senseless Acts of Beauty