



NAK NAK NEWZ

By John Nakasone

In this my final newsletter as TC JACL President, I wish to thank all of the membership for allowing me to serve in this capacity. Particularly, I wish to thank all the Board Members and Committee Chairs and volunteers who really do all the work. They are the people who deserve all of the thanks. Having served as a board member for some fifteen plus years, I can honestly say that JACL has enriched my life and given back to my family far in excess of what we have put into it. Thanks to all of you who have helped me so much this past year. Especially Cheryl Dulas! I think we can all be very proud of the Twin Cities JACL.

Twin Cities recipient of the Thomas T. Hayashi Memorial Law Scholarship award, Emily Miyamoto Faber had a nice thank you letter in the October 1-14 issue of Pacific Citizen. Emily promises to use her "legal training to provide equal justice to those groups traditionally disadvantaged because of their racial heritage." Look out world!

Congratulations also to Emi Bennett, who received the Mari and James Michener Memorial Scholarship. The National Scholarship Committee selected these two recipients from over 300 applicants and once again the Twin Cities can be proud of their selections.

I had the pleasure of representing JACL at lunch with Dr. Roy Saigo, St. Cloud State University President, and Dr. Kathi Hiya-Brown, new Normandale Community College President, and local Hmong community leader Ilean Herr. I was surprised to learn that there are very few Asian administrators in positions of major responsibility at the collegiate level. Although steps are being taken to hire for diversity, it seems that other minority groups receive more appointments due to an attitude that "you people do well enough in the school system already." Dr. Saigo is working on promoting

Asian administrators to overcome this disparity. It is interesting to note that he is still getting hit with the old, "your English is pretty good", and mistaken for being of Native American ancestry. It seems that some things will never change. In the category of strange coincidences, Dr. Brown grew up in Kapaa, Kauai and is family friends of my cousins the Blalocks, of Kapaa.

When questioned about the success of the Hmong in the Twin Cities community, Ilean humbly credited the work done by other groups, i.e. TCJACL and others before their arrival. She also noted the kindness of Esther Suzuki and her help in relocating new arrivals, and also said that because the Hmong did not understand the barriers to success that other ethnic groups faced, they did not really realize there were any and were not afraid to go after whatever goals they wanted to achieve. She thanked the JACL for paving the way for the Hmong people. I congratulated her on the great job that Mee Moua, St. Paul's East Side elected Representative did in addressing the National JACL convention.

Dr. Saigo just returned from Arkansas after having spoken on internment to a large group of people commemorating two internment camps there. While there, he ran into some old high school acquaintances. Jodie Tanaka also made the trip. Perhaps we can get her to detail her experiences in the next newsletter.

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to Bud and Mary Nakasone. They celebrated with all of the Nakasone clan in Hawaii at a beautiful Hawaiian style brunch at the Hale Koa with over 100 Nakasone family and friends. A great time was had by all!

In June, Connie Fukuda and her daughter Sachi, traveled to Iceland along with other Suzuki music students from MacPhail. While there, they participated in joint orchestral performances and

stayed with an Icelandic host family for four days. What an experience!!

Congratulations Judy Murakami on your retirement from Medtronic in August. I bet they will miss your talents greatly!

Thanks again to the Tosh Abe family for donating over \$1000.00 to the TC JACL education fund.

Carly Miyamoto Faber and her uncle Tom Reiter, ran the Twin Cities Marathon on 10/3/04. It was a beautiful day for running, and they had smiles the whole way. Sister Emily made it the last five. Mother Joyce was there in spirit.

Did you see the picture of Gary Kitaoka in the October 2004 issue of Edina Magazine, representing Fairview HealthCare for Children at a 75th anniversary celebration for Mickey Mouse?

Super Senior Sam Shimada single handedly collected almost \$1000.00 from 63 donors for the Headwaters Fund, "Walk for Justice." !!! Proceeds will benefit the TCJACL youth program. Sam received a standing ovation from fellow participants as he crossed the finish line after a long walk on a hot day. Thanks Sam for your Gambare spirit!!

In August, I had a chance to attend my first National JACL meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii. I was very impressed with the high level of commitment shown by all in attendance and at the nearly non-stop and around the clock meetings they held. They think nothing of meeting from breakfast to 10pm. This was definitely the hardest working bunch I have ever attended a conference with. It was my impression that the Twin Cities Chapter is held in high esteem due to the work of former local chapter Presidents and regional Governors. It was good to see past TC President David Hayashi and wife Sarah and son Torii. In order to bring a new resolution to the floor, David had me (TC chapter) sign a petition to change the amount of national meetings we hold from one every other year to meet once a year. The logic behind this resolution is that JACL is getting more and more revenue from grant funding. The entities which grant funding requests give money on a yearly basis and are not set up to receive funding requests every other

year. On the floor, this proposal was greeted with mixed results with other chapters complaining about the lack of funding available to send delegates to meetings on a national meeting. After much deliberation and an excitingly narrow voting margin, the proposal to meet yearly was defeated-mostly by the presence of large blocks of proxy votes against. President Mori was an excellent moderator and ran a good meeting. There is a full time parliamentarian in attendance and you better be familiar with Roberts Rules of order if you are going to speak.

Last but not least---We need your donations for the third annual Chrysanthemum Banquet Silent Auction. As I walked amongst the bidders last year, I heard more than one person saying "I wish I would have given something." This is your chance! Proceeds go to help Twin Cities JACL, and it is becoming an important fundraiser for our organization. Please see if you can find anything you can part with and give me a call. 651-646-6999. Gloria Kumagai says that if we don't beat last years sales, she and I are going to be selling Krispy Kremes door to door.

Until next year...jn

2004 Twin Cities JACL Board of Directors

John Nakasone (President)	(651) 698-3647
Dale Wakasugi (Vice-President)	(651) 578-3723
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Natalie Nakasone (MDC Youth Representative)	(651) 698-3647
Karl Nilsson	(612) 276-7077
Lisa Shakerin	(763) 537-6829
Les Suzukamo	(651) 653-0377
Ben A. Ezaki III (MDC Governor)	(952) 472-1985
Scholarship Committee (holds one seat)	
Cary Yamanaka	(952) 432-2055
(Treasurer - non-board member)	

Newsletter Staff:

Chris Noonan - noonant@attbi.com
Connie Tsuchiya - ctsuchiya@mn.rr.com

Calendar of Events:



Saturday, November 13 - Annual JACL
Chrysanthemum Banquet, 5:30 pm
Children's program, 1-2 pm
(see upcoming events)

Tuesday, October 19 - Board Meeting, 6:00 pm

Friday, October 22 - Asian Pacific Endowment for
Community Development of the St. Paul Foundation
annual reception, evening (see below)

Tuesday, November 16 - Board Meeting, 6:00 pm



CELEBRATION: JOURNEY TO SUCCESS

The Japanese American community is invited to attend the annual community celebration and grant awards program of the Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development (APECD), a member of the St. Paul Foundation's Diversity Endowment Funds. Since 1995, APECD has provided grants to Asian Pacific organizations that support youth development, elder care, cultural preservation, social services, health and economic development. This year's theme is "Celebration: Journey to Success."

Date/Time: Friday, October 22, 6:30-9 pm
Place: University Club (formerly the St. Paul Athletic Club), at Cedar and 4th St., downtown St. Paul
Program: Social hour and hors d'oeuvres/dinner, entertainment by Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese dance group, keynote address by Sen. Mee Moua
No charge, but donations to the APECD endowment are welcomed.
RSVP to Anne Pierre, St. Paul Foundation, at 651/224-5463.



Coming soon! Ballots for the 2005-2006 Twin Cities JACL Board of Directors will be mailed to the membership shortly, along with information on the Annual Meeting.

MINNESOTA CAMPAIGN LAW INFO

Did you know that Minnesota campaign laws allow you to make up to a total \$50 in contributions to any Minnesota House or Senate candidates and receive a refund for your total contribution? For couples filing jointly it is \$100. When you make your contribution the candidate will automatically send a form to get your refund.



In November, all House seats are up for a vote. If you haven't made your contributions yet, please do it now. Your contribution is like a free money for you to spend for the candidate of your choice. Don't pass this up!!



TWIN CITY JACL

CHRYSANTHEMUM BANQUET

SILENT AUCTION

FUNDRAISER

HELP!!! WE NEED YOU TO DONATE SOMETHING TO THE SILENT AUCTION THAT WILL BE HAPPENING ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 13TH. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE BIG- USE YOUR IMAGINATION- BE CREATIVE

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT?
TICKETS TO A PLAY
TICKETS TO A MOVIE
TWINS TICKETS
TIMBERWOLVES TICKETS
WILD TICKETS
GOPHER TICKETS
ORIGAMI LESSONS
A SUSHI LESSON
HOST A DINNER PARTY
HOST A BOAT RIDE ON LAKE MINNETONKA
RESTAURANT TICKETS
YOUR CABIN FOR A WEEKEND
A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE
A NICE PRINT

PLEASE CALL JOHN NAKASONE AT 612-363-5801.

RICE PAPER announcements



After a long hiatus, the JACL Twin Cities chapter again has a website, which can be accessed at www.twincitiesjacl.org. The site is in its infancy, so there is still a lot of content to be written and posted. Over the next few months, you'll see both graphic and content changes, including a JACL news section, events section and others. Stay tuned.

The website will also serve as the primary method for people to contact our chapter: the new email address is info@twincitiesjacl.org. Feel free to send a message, we'd like to hear from you.

DR. SUESS' POLITICAL CARTOONS

TC JACL member Sudie Hofmann forwarded information from a colleague about a website containing examples of Dr. Seuss' political/editorial cartoons during WWII. See <http://orpheus.ucsd.edu/speccoll/dspolitic/> Several cartoons depict Japanese and Japanese leaders in a stereotypical manner (not politically correct in today's times!)



Emily Miyamoto Faber received a JACL National Scholarship for law school. She is the recipient of the Thomas T. Hayashi Memorial Law Scholarship. Emily is at Columbia Law School in New York City, following a year at Oxford where she earned a master's degree in Latin American Studies.

In addition, Emi Bennett was chosen, from among over 300 applicants, to receive the Mari and James Michener Memorial Scholarship.

This marks the third consecutive year the Twin Cities chapter has received a national scholarship. Leilani Savitt and Mariko Nakasone both received past undergraduate awards. This is an outstanding achievement for a small midwestern chapter. 22 national scholarships were awarded this year.



Glasses Found! A pair of women's sunglasses and a pair of prescription eyeglasses were left at the summer picnic. The owners can call Lisa Shakerin to claim their items at 763-537-6829.



HATE CRIMES ON CAMPUS

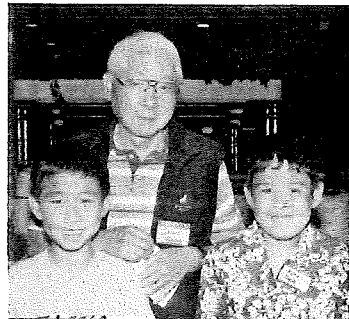
Did you know that:

Every year, over 1/2 million college students are targets of bias-driven slurs or physical assaults,
Every day, at least one hate crime occurs on a college campus, and
Every minute, a college student somewhere sees or hears racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise biased words or images.

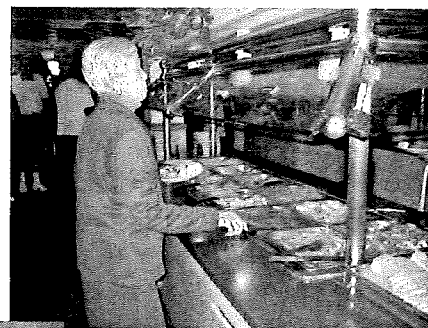
After examining hundreds of cases involving thousands of students, researchers at Tolerance.org, the activism wing of the Southern Poverty Law Center, came to the following conclusion. Although administrators, faculty and staff are vital players in any response, it is the student activist who makes the most difference. A brochure developed by Tolerance.org, titled "10 Ways to Fight Hate on Campus: a Response Guide for College Activists" is available for no charge to members of college communities. To order a free copy (available in English and Spanish), log on to www.tolerance.org/campus or send a written request to: 10 Ways Campus, Tolerance.org, 400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104.

RICE PAPER events

The **Super Senior Luncheon** was held at New Century Buffet in Bloomington on June 4. The annual get-together provides a free lunch to super seniors 75 years old and above. It is co-sponsored by TC JACL, Nikkei Project and the Twin Cities Buddhist Association.



Kyle Tsuchiya and Matthew Dulas assist Sam Honda with the raffle



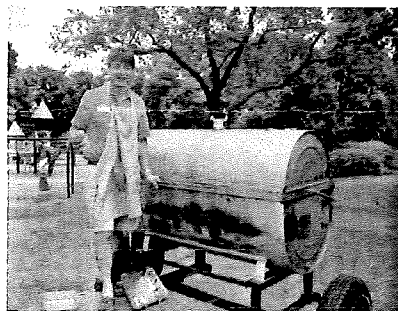
The New Century Buffet



The Osadas and Tanakas

JACL PICNIC

John Nakasone and his famous BBQ.



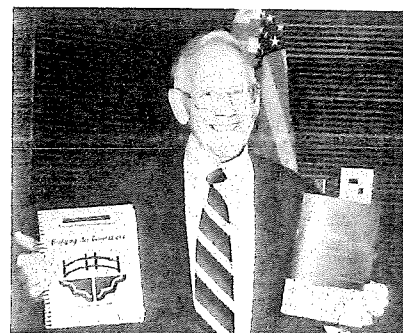
John and Todd Tsuchiya in the dads vs. kids tug-of-war.



Picnic'ers choose from a grand buffet

AUTHOR TALK ON WWII JAPANESE POWS

Author Rick Straus discussed his book "The Anguish of Surrender: Japanese POWs of World War II" at the Fort Snelling History Center in July. The TC JACL co-sponsored the event with the Japan-America Society of Minnesota, and we presented Straus with a copy of our 50th Anniversary cookbook to thank him for his interesting presentation.





Origami Class

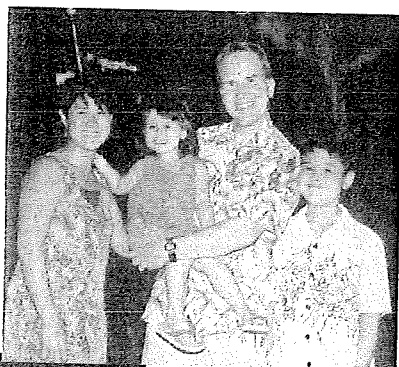


*Front row: Matthew Dulas, Ardith Ohka, Lucy Kiriara
Back row: May Tanaka, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, Tayeko Moriguchi, Rachel Matsumoto, Judy Moriguchi, Mary Nakasone, Jan Monson and Mary Tsuchiya
Not pictured: Carolyn Sandberg*

Sam Shimada participated in his 4th "Walk for Justice" this year, raising nearly \$1,000 in pledges to benefit the Headwaters Foundation and our TC JACL youth program. Youth rep Natalie Nakasone, John Nakasone, and Cheryl and Marissa Dulas carried the TC JACL banner and joined over 130 organizations in this 9th annual fundraiser. Other walkers from the TC JACL included Lynn Yamanaka, and Tim and Mari Thompson.

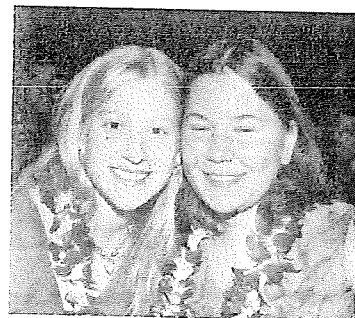


The Dulas family at the JACL luau



JACL National Convention - Hawaii August 2004

JACL Youth representatives Natalie Nakasone and Leilani Savitt at the National JACL convention sayonara banquet



Bud and Mary nakasone celebrated their 50th anniversary in Hawaii



MIS RECOGNITION AND NORMANDALE GARDEN SUKIYAKI DINNER

The veterans of the US Army's Military Intelligence Service (MIS) were recognized and honored by the Normandale Japanese Garden Committee and Normandale Community College at a ceremony in the garden on September 12. Kogen Taiko drummers led the processional for the MIS Color Guard. Lynn Friefeld, chair of the Normandale Garden Committee, gave a warm welcome, followed by an address by Edwin (Bud) Nakasone, president of the Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota. The new president of Normandale Community College, Dr. Katherine Hiyane-Brown, explained the significance of the placing of the lei.



A plaque at the bentendo and bridge that were donated by MIS veterans for the garden's dedication in 1976 states: "We, the Japanese American Veterans of the US Army Military Intelligence Service Language School, dedicate this bentendo and bridge to the people of the Twin Cities and all of Minnesota for the kind treatment we received while stationed here during World War II, 1942 through 1946."

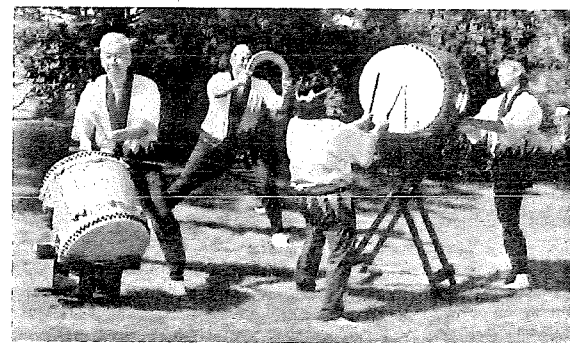
Local MIS veterans listed in the written program are: Bill Doi, Sam Honda, Norman Hashisaka, Tom Kosobayashi, Edwin "Bud" Nakasone, Isamu Saito, Sam Shimada, Sam Sugimoto, John Takekawa, Bob Teragawa, Min Tsuchimochi, David Yahanda, Mits Yoneji and George Yoshino. Other veterans and honored guests listed in the program were: Mary Abe, Kimi Hara, Nobuo Kimura, Mickey Kiriara, Jim Kiriara, Kathy Ohama Koch, Yoshio "Yo" Matsumoto, Tayeko Moriguchi, Reiko Ohno, Paul Shimizu, Reiko Sumada, May Tanaka, Yoshi Tani, Lani Tashiro-Bennett, Mits Tsuchiya, Dean Yanari, Kimi Yanari, Toshi Yoneji, Mary Yoshida and Edward Yoshikawa.

Hostesses Ruth Yahanda, Fumi Kyono and Molly Yamaguchi



Sam Honda and Bud Nakasone

Kogen Taiko



The JACL bazaar table at the **Normandale Garden Sukiyaki Dinner** fundraiser was a big success this year. We sold around \$1,000 worth of merchandise, which was from our Festival of Nations stock. Thanks to May Tanaka and Jan Monson for organizing the inventory and volunteers.

Many JACL members volunteered at the Sukiyaki Dinner, showing good support for the Japanese garden.



Camp Connections

by Sally Sudo

On September 23rd to 26th, 2004, more than 1300 former internees and their families gathered in Little Rock, Arkansas, to attend an historic conference, Camp Connections: A Conversation about Civil Rights and Social Justice in Arkansas.

This conference was conceived when Dr. Johanna Miller Lewis, professor and chair of the history department of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, first visited the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles several years ago. She was astonished to learn that two of the internment camps were in Arkansas, one at Jerome and the other at Rohwer. She felt that there were probably many others in Arkansas who were unaware of this part of their state's history. She was bound and determined to do something about it. A partnership was formed between the University of Arkansas and the Japanese American National Museum. With major funding from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, this unique project came to fruition after three years in the making.

There were 30 break-out sessions to choose from, dealing with all aspects of the internment during WWII, the role of the Nisei soldiers, and civil rights and constitutional issues. There were eight exhibits at three different locations, a children's book *Under One Flag: A Year at Rohwer* written by Liz Parkhurst, and curriculum packages developed by master teachers for elementary through high school social studies classes. We had a chance to meet Little Rock students who are now studying this part of the history of their state.

A 60 minute documentary, "Time of Fear," was premiered. This documentary tells the story of the camps at Jerome and Rohwer through the first-hand accounts of those who lived it; not only the JA's who were interned, but also the local Arkansans who lived with fear and resentment. This film will be aired sometime in the spring of 2005 on PBS.

Most moving was the pilgrimage to the actual campsites. Most of the Mississippi bayous have been drained and the lands now under private ownership. The only remnant of the camp at Jerome was the tall chimney that was part of the camp hospital. At Jerome we met John Ellington, whose father bought the land in the 1950's. He remembered as a youngster visiting the camp with his father who was a bootlegger at the time. The land has remained in the Ellington family ever since then. They now grow soybeans and other crops such as turf for lawns.

The site at Rohwer was covered in cotton fields. Rosalie Gould, the mayor of the neighboring town of McGehee, owns the land that was once Rohwer. The only reminder that this was once the site of an internment camp is the cemetery and several large monuments. The one dedicated to the U.S. Fifth Army 100th battalion and 442nd regiment had a base shaped like an army tank. On the monument is inscribed the names of those who made the ultimate sacrifice and the words, "dedicated to the patriotic Japanese American men from Rohwer internment camp who sacrificed their lives in the service of their country in World War II."

For more information about the internment camps in Arkansas, see the website: lifeinterrupted.org.

RICE PAPER

Upcoming Events



Rick Shiomi of Theater Mu to be keynote speaker at 2004 Chrysanthemum Banquet

Rick Shiomi, the artistic director of Theater Mu in Minneapolis and an award winning playwright, will be the keynote speaker at the Twin Cities JACL's 58th annual Chrysanthemum Banquet on Nov. 13.

Last year's banquet featured Iwao Takamoto, animator and creator of the cartoon character Scooby Doo. This year's banquet will be held once again at the Holiday Inn Minneapolis West, at 9970 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park and feature a silent auction and a children's program in the afternoon before the banquet.

Shiomi will hold a taiko workshop for JACL children, family and friends from 1-2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. Admission to the workshop is free. The banquet social hour and silent auction will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Shiomi's talk starting at 7:30 p.m. Loren Omoto, the online editor for the Star Tribune of Minneapolis will emcee the event.

Shiomi is familiar to many Twin Cities theater lovers. He was a founding member of Theater Mu in 1992 and became the group's artistic director in 1993. He guided Theater Mu through its first full season in 1994 with "River of Dreams" appearing at the McKnight Theater of the Ordway Music Theater in St. Paul. In 1998, Theater Mu produced its first year of all original works, including the hit play "The Walleye Kid," which is being brought back this season as a musical.

Shiomi also is director of Mu Daiko, a taiko drumming group that was formed in 1997 and regularly performs at area schools and the Southern Theater and has an upcoming show, "Daiko Blizzard," set for Dec. 2-12 at the Southern Theater in Minneapolis.

Shiomi's roots reach northward to Canada, and his work has been seen in theaters from New York City to San Francisco. He has written and participated in numerous plays for the theater in Canada and America and will talk about how the internment of 22,000 Japanese-Canadians from the West Coast of Canada affected his family and career as a playwright. He won the Bay Area theater Circle Critics Award in 1982 for his play "Yellow Fever," the Ruby Schaar Yoshino Playwrighting Award for "Uncle Tadao", the Minnesota State Arts Board Cultural Collaboration Award in 1998 and an award for Excellence and Innovation in the Arts from the state Council for Asian Pacific Minnesotans in 2002.

Like last year, we are looking for contributions to this year's silent auction. Please contact Gloria Kumagai at 763-377-5602 or gloria.kumagai@spps.org or John Nakasone at 612-363-5801 or nakasonejg@aol.com by Sun. Nov. 7 to donate items. We also are seeking corporate sponsorships of tables for the banquet. If you or your company wish to support the JACL, the country's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization and a mainstay in Minnesota for more than half a century, please have them contact the banquet co-chairs, Leslie Suzukamo at 651-653-0377 (H) or 651/228-5475 (W) or lsuzukamo@pioneerpress.com or Connie Fukuda at 952-927-9126 (H) or connie.beanies@mindspring.com as soon as possible with contacts for companies/businesses/organizations that might be willing to sponsor the banquet. Past sponsors include ECOLAB, Medtronic Asian Resource Group, Boston Scientific, Wells Fargo Asian Connection-MN.

Members who may need transportation to the banquet can contact May Tanaka at 952-934-9238, and if you can provide a ride for a member in need, please let May know as well. She's looking for volunteers.

Watch for a future mailing for more details, including ticket prices.

Submitted by Leslie Suzukamo

RICE PAPER

Eulogy of Tosh Abe delivered by Yo Matsumoto

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of my old friend, Bill Abe last Sunday. I had been hopeful that he would recover from his recent illness. My heartfelt sympathies go to his dear wife, Mary, and to members of families. Bill was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He will also be missed by his many friends and associates.

I was asked to say a few words of remembrance of my long friendship with Bill.

My memories go back a long way to the 1930s when Bill and I were teenagers. We grew up in San Diego, California, then a small city of 140,000 population and whose main industries were agriculture, the tuna fishing and canning industries and, of course, the US Navy. The country was then in the midst of the Great Depression but as teenagers it didn't seem to affect us as it did the adults.

Bill's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Abe, and my parents were very good friends. We lived in the same neighborhood just a few blocks apart. Mr. and Mrs. Abe had two sons, Toshio William, or Bill as he is known to many of you, and his older brother, Hayao Leslie, or Les, as I called him.

Bill's dad was a prominent figure in the local tuna fishing industry. I believe he had ownership some tuna clippers as we called those large fishing boats that sailed thousands of mile south to harvest the tuna off the banks of Central and South America. Their family appeared to be more well to do than most other Japanese families in our area. Bill's mother was a delightful person who always made us feel welcome in their home. Unfortunately Bill's dad passed away at a fairly young age.

San Diego was a great place to grow up in. The weather was always comfortable the year around, neither too cold nor too hot. There was always a nice ocean breeze that moderated the temperature. We never saw ice or snow on the ground. If we looked east to the distant mountains, we would see snow covered peaks during the winter months.

Our main social activities revolved around our church, The First Japanese Congregational Church of San Diego. We attended Sunday school and church services every Sunday morning. Our parents had their Japanese language sermon first followed by a sermon in English for the rest of us.

Bill was little older than I was and so he associated with the fellows of his own age group as I did with mine. The Abe brothers were pretty popular and I remember Bill as a handsome young fellow who seemed to attract the girls. I remember one Sunday when they pulled up at church in their family's brand new Chrysler AirStream sedan, which had a rather radical streamlined design. They created quite a stir among the fellows and probably meant to impress the girls as well.

The church sponsored a Boy Scout troop which Bill, his brother, Les and friends organized and which I joined when I turned 12 years old. We did all of those fun activities involved in scouting such as camping and jamborees.

After graduating from San Diego High School around 1937 Bill left San Diego to attend the University of California at Berkeley to study engineering. His brother, Les, had gone there earlier. I lost contact with Bill after that and would not see him again for many years.

In 1940 the U.S. government instituted the draft and, despite being a student at the time, Bill was inducted into the U.S. Army. After the attack on Pearl Harbor the Army needed Japanese linguists and Bill was assigned to the

RICE PAPER

Eulogy continued...

Military Intelligence Service. He was one of the early students at Japanese Language School hastily set up at Camp Savage and later moved to Fort Snelling. After completing his training he was sent overseas to the China-Burma-India Theater where he was attached to a unit that was fighting the Japanese in the jungles of Burma. His job was to interrogate Japanese prisoners and translate captured Japanese documents. He mentioned that he had a couple of Indian Gurkha bodyguards to protect him from his own troops who might mistake him for an enemy.

In 1942 President Roosevelt issued his Executive Order 9066 which ordered the evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the Western States. Bill's family and mine and all other Japanese families were interned in various camps located in the interior areas of the United States. Bill's mother and brother were sent, I believe, to a camp in Jerome, Arkansas. A few years later when the Government ordered the release the internees, many no longer had a home to return to on the West Coast, so they settled in various parts of the U.S. where they or their children could find employment.

After his discharge from the Army, Bill returned to the Twin Cities where brother, Les, and mother had settled and where Les had established a store selling imported Japanese merchandise in Minneapolis. Bill entered the University of Minnesota and completed his studies for an engineering degree. He mentioned that he operated his own engineering design service at one time and that later he went to work at the engineering firm of Erickson Ellison.

In 1962 I relocated to Twin Cities from Detroit with my wife and three sons to join 3M Company. It was here that I renewed my acquaintance with Bill after some 25 years, and met his wife, Mary, and his sons. Our families began visiting each other often and became good friends. Bill later joined 3M and we worked in the same department for many years until our retirement. Bill's mother and brother have since passed away.

Bill was proud of his military service. He has maintained his personal archive of news clippings and other information connected with the Military Intelligence Service, which, I'm sure, will be of future interest to his sons and grandchildren and others. He has been an active member of the Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota and the Japanese American Citizens League. He has participated on various discussion panels and appeared on television talk shows to tell about the Japanese American experience during the turbulent period of the 40's.

During the past few years I have been a frequent guest at the home of Bill and Mary where I enjoyed their gracious hospitality. Mary always sets a beautiful table and serves a delicious dinner. Bill is always the perfect host who is attentive to the drink department. We enjoyed each other's company and we never discussed the inevitable. We reminisced often about those wonderful years in San Diego long ago and our old friends. I guess, we felt that in our hearts we are still Californians.

I shall close by saying it was a privilege to know Bill. Sadly, he was the last of the Abe Family I had known in my youth. But his sons and grandchildren will carry on their family heritage. And to Bill, whose spirit is still with us, I will say thank you for our friendship and the happy times we shared. Bill, God bless you in your new life.

And thanks to all of you for coming today.

Japanese
American
Citizens
League

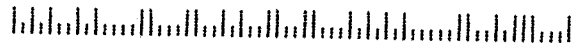
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LOOK INSIDE FOR MORE TC JACL NEWS
and mark your calendars for our Chrysanthemum Banquet – Saturday, Nov. 13!

5280.

KNOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JACL? We have had no new members join us this past quarter. Talk to your neighbors or friends about joining our organization. Coming this winter, National JACL will be sending out information regarding the new membership drive. The goal will be for every member to recruit a new member. I am not sure about the details, but there will be a mailing sent this winter. Our chapter has a membership brochure that we can send along with a current issue of the Rice Paper to those who might be interested – just contact Rachel Matsumoto, Membership Chairperson, 612-827-

5280. or would have an interest in teaching please contact Rachel Matsumoto at 612-827-5280. Look for other classes coming this winter. If you have anything you would like to learn

grasshopper dessert. hosts, Lucy, Rachel & Jan provided lunch which included an Asian chicken salad & of figures which included a holiday tree, kimono, crane, and gift box. To top off the workshop, participants who attended the class at Lucy Kirihara's house. The participants made a variety We had a wonderful turn out for the class, Origami - A Don't Cut Class. There were 9

WRAP-UP