

January / February/March 2018

Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

Coming Events

- Mar 24 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the
Apr 14, 28 North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst
May 12, 26 Ave., Berkeley. This group meets every 2nd
Jun 9, 23 and 4th Saturday of each month. For
information contact Howard Fukuda
(howardfukuda@gmail.com)
- Mar 24 **Sogioka Lecture**; see article and flyer
attached
- Apr 15 **Berkeley JACL Grant Applications due**;
see article inside
- Apr 20 **J-Sei Flavors of Spring**; see attached flyer
- Apr 29 **Berkeley JACL Scholarship Luncheon**;
see attached flyer
- Thru May 20 **Art of Incarceration**; MIS Historic
Learning Center
- Jun 15 **Baseball and Bento with Berkeley JACL**;
see article inside

Making Noise is a means to exercise your right to express your views, humor, concerns, or anything else of interest. We will be happy to print it in our Newsletter. Please write to the JACL Berkeley Chapter newsletter, c/o Berkeley JACL, P.O Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609. **MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**

E-mail the Berkeley JACL at: berkeleyjacl@gmail.com
Visit our Website at www.berkeleyjacl.org
www.facebook.com/BerkeleyChapterJACL/



2018 Berkeley JACL Pioneer Award Recipient- Lee "Cubby" Nakamura



Lee Nakamura, a native son of Berkeley who is better known by those close to him as "Cubby", is the Berkeley Chapter's recipient of its 2018 Pioneer Award. The Chapter is proud to recognize Cubby for his long time service to the East Bay community and to the JACL. Cubby is the co owner of the Tokyo Fish Market, 1220 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Tokyo Fish is an East Bay institution with a large number of loyal customers who shop there for fresh sushi grade fish, rice, soy sauce, and many other Japanese food staples.

Born and raised in the Berkeley area, Cubby participated in many sports programs as a youth and enjoyed his time with the Berkeley Bears local basketball and baseball teams. He graduated from Berkeley High School and SF City College where he earned his degree in Culinary Arts.

Cubby's culinary interests began at the early age of 14 where he was a dishwasher at Toraya Restaurant in Albany. He became a manager at the Toraya. He moved on to co-manage the seafood department at Berkeley Bowl Market for over 8 years. He was also the co-owner of Osumo Restaurant in Oakland.

In 1988 Cubby joined forces with his current business partner, Larry Fujita, at Tokyo Fish Market. Established in 1963 by his partner's parents, Isamu and

Tazuye Fujita, Tokyo Fish is a fixture in the East Bay and is a popular place to shop for both Asian and non-Asian customers who enjoy Japanese food. Cubby's specialty is in the buying and stocking of seafood where the store merchandises more than 100 kinds of fish including bluefin tuna from Japan, farmed salmon from Scotland, and halibut. The store also stocks a wide variety of Asian condiments, noodles, rice, Japanese snacks and candies, sake, bento boxes, and sushi.

From the time he started working, Cubby has had a passion to work with youth. He functions as a mentor to the youth and supports the local community. Indeed, many local organizations have benefited from Cubby's generous contributions and support of local community activities. Cubby is married to Cathy, and they have two sons, Andrew and Ryan, both of whom have played team sports and work in the family business.

College Corner

By Hope Fa-Kaji

"College Corner" is a new section to our newsletter. College corner provides chapter scholarship recipients a channel to provide feedback on their college experiences. This first article comes from Hope Fa-Kaji (2017 recipient). Hope is in her freshman year at Rice University in Houston, Texas.



Houston's mid-August humidity made it clear to me that the Fall was going to be unlike anything I had ever experienced. Sure enough, immediately upon arriving on the Rice campus, our car was swarmed with upperclassmen, faces painted with neon colors and enormous smiles. They shouted my name in welcome and whisked away my luggage to the dorms. I had been officially introduced to O-Week, the summer camp of an orientation for all new Rice Students.

My O-Week group was made up of seven freshmen, one exchange student and four

upperclassmen advisors. We spent the week together and, through midnight talks and waterballoon fights, became a family of parents, siblings and children. It was my O-Week advisor, Maddie, who convinced me to join our residential college's Powderpuff (Flag Football) Intramural team, along with two of my O-Week sisters. Together we discovered the thrills of tearing flags off opponents, trying to get around a block, and scoring a touchdown.

Besides Powderpuff, I joined clubs like Engineers Without Borders (designing engineering solutions for communities in the developing world) and DREAM (a STEM-based high school mentorship program). These clubs integrated my passion for community service and working with kids with my field of study in engineering.

Thanks to the JACL's generous scholarship, I was able to purchase books for my engineering courses *and* for classes outside of my major. 'Introduction to Psychology' and 'Early American History' classes complemented my work in classes like 'Ordinary Differential Equations' and 'Computational Mathematics' by forcing me to think about the world through different, non-technical lenses.

Even outside of the classroom, being at Rice taught me lessons I don't think I will ever forget. From weathering the destructive currents of a hurricane to uniting under the banner of the Astros' first World Series title, it is an amazing time to live in Houston. The people are resilient, vibrant and proud of their city. And I am grateful to Rice and the many people, organizations and scholarships that have afforded me the opportunity to be a part of it. All the best.

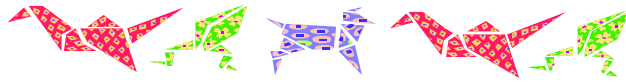
Hope Fa-Kaji, Rice 2021

Podcast: Order 9066



American Public Media (APM) with the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is set to launch a podcast chronicling first hand experiences from the Japanese American Incarceration during WWII to the redress movement. *Order 9066* was launched on Day of Remembrance, February 19 in commemoration of the signing of EO 9066.

The series will include eight episodes. The series will be narrated by Sab Shimono and Pat Suzuki, both of whom were incarcerated.



Endowment Fund Grant Applications

By Vera Kawamura

The Berkeley JACL is currently accepting Endowment Fund Grant applications. Grant Applications are available on the Berkeley JACL website: www.berkeleyjacl.org. Applications should be submitted by April 15, 2018. Grants up to \$2,000 may be awarded.

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to support Japanese American community-oriented projects or programs that further the Chapter's goals and purposes. The Chapter's goals include: upholding the human and civil rights of Japanese Americans and all other people; promoting understanding, respect and appreciation of all cultures; and strengthening community ties and fostering coalitions with other groups sharing similar interests as the Chapter.

<http://berkeleyjacl.org/endowment-fund-grants/>

Sogioka Lecture

By Nancy Ukai

Jean Sogioka La Spina, the daughter of Nisei artist Gene Sogioka, will present a slide lecture about her father's watercolors made at the Poston concentration camp on Sat. March 24, at J-Sei. Jean, visiting from Florida, also will discuss research she did on her family history, including immigration records from Hiroshima. She recently published her research and her father's artwork in a book, "An American Family Album."

Before the war, Jean's father was a 26-year-old background artist at Walt Disney Studios. He had worked on Fanatsia, Bambi and Dumbo when WWII broke out. He escaped with his wife, baby daughter and parents to the Fresno area from Los Angeles, hoping to sit out the war there. But when the entire state was designated a military zone, the extended family of about 12 people hid in the mountains for a month or more, only giving up out of exhaustion and fear. All subsequently went to Poston from Sanger.

Gene Sogioka painted 134 watercolors of camp life while he was imprisoned at Poston's Unit II as the

staff artist of a government research project. Sogioka's paintings are unusual for their vivid depictions of unrecorded scenes of camp life, including the beatings and violence which occurred during the Poston strike of November 1942. He also used caricature and humor to depict barrack life, the shower rooms, dust storms and youth dance scenes.

Sogioka headed to NY after being released in December 1943, his art career derailed. In 1980, his wartime paintings were discovered in an attic on the Cornell University campus in upstate NY. The family holds the copyright but the physical collection is archived at the university.

For more information on the Sogioka paintings, see <https://50objects.org>.

Baseball, Bento and Bombs Bursting in Air

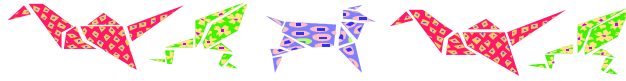
By Mark Fujikawa



The 15th Annual Berkeley JACL Baseball and Bento event will take place on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 6 pm, when the Oakland A's play the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim. In addition to plaza infield seats, a delicious **bento dinner**, and a bottle of water, there will be a **fireworks show** following the game. **All this for only \$42.** If purchased at the same time, prepaid discounted parking passes can be purchased for an **additional \$16.**

We have reserved 75 tickets for this popular event, so get your checks in early. Last chance to get tickets will be Tuesday, **May 15th**. I will mail the tickets about one week before the game. For information, call me at 510-232-0724.

For tickets, please email berkeleyjacl@gmail.com



Freshman Scholarship Recipients

Photo not available

Jared Akiyama (Berkeley HS)



Alyssa Cho (El Cerrito HS)



Kailee Nabeta (Rio Americano HS, Sacramento)



Alexander Tsuetaki (Durham Academy, NC)



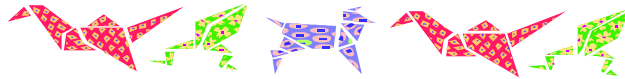
Luka Uchiyama (Castro Valley HS)



Sydney Wong (El Cerrito HS)

Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient

Maya Kashima (Berkeley City College)

***J-Sei Seeks a Volunteer and Nutrition Asst***

J-Sei is seeking a food-service professional to support their onsite lunch program as well as their home-delivered meal program. This would be a 20-hour per week position located at the J-Sei office at 1285 66th Street in Emeryville. Contact Diane Wong at Diane@j-sei.org or 510-654-4000 for more information.

***J-Sei Crab Feed a Success***

The J-Sei's 27th Crab Feed was a successful, festive and delicious event! They had a record crowd of eager diners (570 folks), and more at the door ticket sales than ever before. They were lucky to keep getting enough food in to supply the crowd. J-Sei really could not hold this event without the generous assistance of all the member organizations. The Berkeley JACL had 5 volunteers who helped serve during the first shift. The volunteers were: Cole Huster, Tiffany Ikeda, Karen Lowhurst, KG and Neal Ouye.



Berkeley JACL Volunteering at JSei Crab Feed
Tiffany Ikeda, Cole Huster, Amy Tomine (Alameda Buddhist Temple), KG Ouye

**Co-Presidents**

Tiffany Ikeda, Nancy Ukai Russell

Secretary

Lindsey Kawahara

Treasurer

Tak Shirasawa

Directors:

Carolyn Adams, Alix Ching, Jim Duff, Mark Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda, Cole Huster, Vance Oishi, Vera Kawamura, Kaz Mori, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Grant Shimada, Alyssa Suzukawa, Ron Tanaka, Tara Umemoto, Ken Whang, Gordon Yamamoto, Evan Yoshimoto

**Newsletter****Editor**

Neal Ouye

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Moving and changing your address?
Send us a *Change of Address* card at:
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