Executive Director’s Message

Fifty years ago, San Francisco Mayor George Christopher made history when, at the suggestion of President Dwight Eisenhower, he sent a four-member delegation from San Francisco to Osaka to establish the nation’s first sister city relationship with Japan.

This year, in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the San Francisco-Osaka Sister City relationship, the JCCCNCF in cooperation with the San Francisco-Osaka Sister City Association will be organizing three tours to Osaka to help strengthen and improve new relations between our two cities. The first will be the official trip of Mayor Gavin Newsom and a 44-member delegation in February to help promote friendship and the revitalization of Japantown. The second is the Shinzen Nikkei Youth Sports Exchange Program which will bring 20 youth and their families, totaling about 90 participants, to encourage youth to become grassroots ambassadors. The third is the San Francisco-Osaka Culinary Tour which will bring a delegation of 75 representing the finest in San Francisco’s culinary arts in an effort to promote cultural exchange between our two cities. As we look forward to the 50th Anniversary activities, we hope to make this year a historical event by bringing together our two cities most valuable resources – the citizens of San Francisco and Osaka. The mission of these citizen ambassadors is to learn, share and dialogue with the people of Osaka so that we may continue to improve understanding and develop new relationships toward enduring friendship and peace.

The JCCCNCF is proud to have been part of the development of the growing friendship and appreciation between citizens of San Francisco and Osaka. And as strong as the relationship is at the government-to-government level, and between U.S. and Japanese corporations, it’s even better at the citizen’s level. There’s no question the main reason for grassroots goodwill starts with people-to-people exchanges that link the two societies, led by this sister city relationship.

The City of Osaka and the City and County of San Francisco will be organizing many other 50th Anniversary events in San Francisco this year. I hope you will join us in celebrating this milestone.

- Paul Osaki, Executive Director

From San Francisco To Osaka

We are not afraid
of joy,
spinning it, like threads of steel
sweeping arches of our
Golden Gate Bridge,
burnished like a sunset.
Beneath it, the wind with open palms,
push ships through the Pacific.

We are unafraid
to reach out
to Nations
where homelands
are part of memory,
ancestry,
where from we have come
the transplanted, escapees, adventurers,
Those who came with hands like
shovel, sicle and hoe,
cleared a new world,
hands that delivered us,
generations of America

We rise like waterwells,
spreading through this soil,
In the Japanese and Japanese American culture, New Years is one of the most important festivals of the whole year. Here are a few traditions observed during New Years:

**Mochitsuki**
A traditional family or community activity, mochitsuki, or mochi pounding, involves the pounding of steamed rice to make soft mochi cakes. It’s usually performed at the end of the year.

**Kadomatsu**
A traditional decoration usually made of pine and bamboo, which represents longevity and wealth. Usually placed in front of the house from the first week of the New Year, they are considered temporary housing for the kami (gods) at New Years.

**Nengajyo**
A traditional custom of sending New Year’s Day postcards to friends and relatives. Postcards are delivered by the billions in Japan, usually decorated with a picture of the animal representing the New Year according to the Chinese zodiac calendar. The sender includes a brief, handwritten message to express thanks for the assistance received during the past year with wishes for continued support in the new year.

**Kagamimochi**
A traditional decoration for the New Year for inside the home is made of two large, flattened balls of mochi rice cakes, with a mikan (tangerine) on top. This decoration is displayed in a prominent place in the home, and after the new year, is eaten by the whole family.

**Shimekazari**
A traditional decoration made of rice husks for the doors of homes and shops during the New Year, and serves as a charm against evil spirits. The sacred Shinto rope is hung to indicate a purified place for receiving divinities. The shimekazari is made by attaching good luck charms like bitter oranges, ferns and lobster.

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**Mission Statement**

JCCNC is a non-profit organization which strives to meet the evolving needs of the Japanese American community by offering programs, affordable services and administrative support and facilities for other local service organizations. JCCNC also provides educational, cultural and recreational programs that meet and address the interests and concerns of the community. Our goals remain rooted in preserving the Japanese American cultural and historical heritage as well as fostering the foundation for the future generations of Japanese Americans.
Eddie Moriguchi Receives 2006 Takeo Okamoto Community Leadership Award

The 2006 Takeo Okamoto Community Leadership Award was presented to Mr. Eddie Moriguchi of San Francisco during intermission of the “Nihonmachi: The Place To Be” musical at the JCCCNC on August 25.

This is the third year that the award was presented to an individual who embodies a spirit that is modest, scholarly and who has positively impacted the Japanese American community through their long-term commitment. Created by his children, this award honors the memory of Takeo Okamoto who is renown for his leadership and dedication to the community, consistently exemplifying a strong, yet quiet and unassuming manner. Past award recipients include Mr. Wallace Nunotani, Mr. Shigeru Thomas Kizuka, and Ms. Mary Jo Kubota-Arcarese.

Eddie Ichiro Moriguchi was born in 1929 in Salinas, California and raised in San Francisco. In 1940 his family — parents Kinjiro and Elko, brother Jack and sister Betty — moved to Esparto, California. Moriguchi relocated to Utah in the summer of 1943, then returned to San Francisco to attend Lowell High School in the fall of 1945.

He entered UC Berkeley in 1946, then served two years during the Korean War in the Signal Corps at Camp San Luis Obispo and 5th Army headquarters in Chicago. To support his college education, he learned the art of Chick Sexing for seasonal work in Colorado, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska and California. He graduated in 1955 with an accounting major, then returned to Berkeley for graduate school. Moriguchi began his CPA career in 1956 and has worked for several prestigious CPA firms. Today, he considers himself “semi-retired.”


“All the organizations and the people that I have been involved with has been a joy to be with,” said Moriguchi.

“Nihonmachi: The Place To Be” concludes its run on Sunday, August 26.

Chris Hirano Resigns from JCCCNC

The JCCCNC announced the resignation of Chris Hirano, Director of Community and Corporate Development.

A native of San Francisco’s Japantown, Hirano has served on the JCCCNC staff for 11 years. He has been instrumental in the growth of the JCCCNC and has been active in Japantown community preservation and development issues as well as the JCCCNC’s fundraising and special events.

“After 11 wonderful years supporting the vision of what the Center can be, I feel that it is the time for me to move on and consider other career opportunities,” he said. “This has been the most difficult decision I’ve ever had to make. As a person who grew up in J-Town, the Center has fulfilled me both personally and professionally.

“I have been privileged to be a part of activities and events that have strengthened and changed our community. I’ve also witnessed first-hand how the Center has literally changed people’s lives, and to have a small role in that has truly been a gift.”

Hirano is also a former member of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency’s Western Addition Citizens Advisory Committee and the Japantown Planning, Preservation and Development Task Force (predecessor to the Japantown Task Force).

He has also acknowledged his wife and children. “Most of all thank you Alice, Edie and Mark for understanding and forgiving my many trespasses. There are not many who would have tolerated 50, or nearly 50, years of ups and downs. Thank you.”

“Chris has been an incredible asset to the Center and the Japanese American community for the past 11 years,” stated JCCCNC Executive Director Paul Osaki. “He has successfully taken on local, statewide and international projects and initiatives that have served the entire Japanese American community as a whole...the Shinzen Nikkei Youth Basketball Program, the Legends of the Japanese American Baseball Leagues, the Road to Cooperstown/ Japanese American Baseball Hall of Fame Tour, the Nikkei 2000 Conference, the Japanese American Sports Hall of Fame, “Salute to the Stars,” the Save Japantown Bowl campaign, as well as many other monumental events and activities.

“The community is a far better place because of Chris and his love of this community, and we will miss him dearly.”

Hirano added, “I thank the JCCCNC board, staff and every single person in Japantown for being a part of this great life experience that has always been more than just a job to me.”

Hirano will pursue new professional challenges and spend more time with his two children, but says that Japantown will always be his home and he will remain active in Japantown organizations and events.
Students Attend International Karate League Tournament in Minnesota

The International Karate League (IKL) held its annual tournament in Forest Lake, Minnesota, on July 22, 2006. The San Francisco dojo, which holds weekly classes at the JCCCNC, was represented by the following students: Calvin Ma (white belt), Ryan Yu (junior green belt), Benita Snavely (brown belt), Harlan Hamakawa (brown belt) and Sensei Craig Hamakawa.

The JCCCNC dojo had the honor and privilege to have Shihan (Founder and Chief Instructor) Walter Nishioka lead training on July 31, 2006. The above students had the opportunity to test in front of Shihan.

Also attending the training session was Ken Maeshiro (brown belt), Olivia Pope (blue belt), Sensei Robert Rudeen of the SF Boys and Girls Club dojo and Brian Modrak (brown belt) of the Riverside dojo.

The next IKL tournament will be held in Boise, ID on July 14, 2007.

Results from the IKL Tournament:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Kata</th>
<th>Kumite</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calvin Ma</td>
<td>3rd place</td>
<td>3rd place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Yu</td>
<td>2nd place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benita Snavely</td>
<td>1st place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harlan Hamakawa</td>
<td>1st place</td>
<td>2nd place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Hamakawa</td>
<td>1st place</td>
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</tbody>
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Congratulations to the following students who received promotions:

- Harlan Hamakawa: promoted to Shodan, black belt
- Benita Snavely: promoted to ikkyu, brown belt
- Ryan Yu: promoted to gokyu, junior blue belt
- Lev Vaneev: promoted to rokkyu, green belt
- Calvin Ma: promoted to nanakyu, junior green belt

JCCCNC Makes Mochi For The New Year

JCCCNC held its annual Mochitsuki Workshops on December 29th and 30th, led by Mr. George Yamada, retired owner of Yamada Seika, a manju-ya in San Francisco’s Japantown.

“It makes me happy to see the community come out and take part in this Japanese New Year’s tradition, especially when grandparents and parents work side by side with their children,” said Mr. Yamada.

Over 150 participants watched as he transformed hot, cooked rice into a smooth white mass in the mochi pounding machine. Mr. Yamada then taught participants how to make their own round mochi cakes. They then dipped the cakes into a soy sauce and sugar mixture to taste their fresh mochi. Participants also learned how to add sweet bean paste.

Eating mochi, which is believed to ensure longevity and prosperity in the New Year, is a must for all Japanese.
Participants Explore Cultural and Historical Roots with JCCCNC Tour of Japan

The JCCCNC Cultural Historical Roots Tour to Japan encourages individuals to visit various areas of Japan that are not typically included in regularly scheduled Japan bound tours. This past Fall, the JCCCNC took fifteen participants to Yokohama, Yamaguchi, Hiroshima and Okinawa on November 14-22. This annual tour emphasizes activities that allow further exploration into a person’s ancestral heritage so that a better appreciation and understanding of our cultural and historical roots can be understood.

Last year we were fortunate to participate in the tour with 15 individuals. Some of the participants were “seasoned” travelers while others were making their first journey, but all had their particular reasons for joining us.

As each day passed and numerous discoveries were made and shared, it allowed us to bond more closely as Nikkei to learn more about ourselves and what it must have been like for our ancestors before us to make that long journey to the United States.

I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to travel with this group of individuals. They have allowed me to see Japan through their eyes that can never be described in a book or without actually being there with them to see, eat and feel all of our fun filled and sometimes exhausting days of exploration.

--Diane Matsuda, Group Tour Leader

^^ Sam Maruyama, one of the tour participants, ringing the bell of peace at Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. The solemn ringing can be heard throughout the park.

>> Among the museums visited, the Japanese Overseas Emigration Museum in Yokohama was very educational. Mr. Shigeru Kojima, chief researcher at the museum, shared the history of Japanese immigration and the lives of Nikkei outside Japan.

^^ Tour dinner at the Daikanzo on Oshima Island. Many of the participants experienced an onsen (hot spring) for the first time at this ryokan.

<< Tour participant Michael Kido (right) researched his ancestral roots with Reverend Tansei Fuji (left) at the Tokuji Temple. “I was ecstatic to obtain a lot of my family’s historical information. As a yonsei, I now have a greater appreciation for the preservation of our cultural and familial ties.”

^^ Tour participant Michael Kido (right) researched his ancestral roots with Reverend Tansei Fuji (left) at the Tokuji Temple. “I was ecstatic to obtain a lot of my family’s historical information. As a yonsei, I now have a greater appreciation for the preservation of our cultural and familial ties.”
“Nihonmachi: The Place To Be” Musical Premieres at JCCCN

“Nihonmachi: The Place to Be,” a musical journey about California’s Japantowns featuring nostalgic Japanese and American songs, had its world premiere in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of San Francisco’s Japantown on August 25 and 26 at the JCCCN in San Francisco. Produced by the Los Angeles-based Grateful Crane Ensemble, and presented by JCCCN, “Nihonmachi: The Place to Be” is written by San Francisco native Soji Kashiwagi (“The Camp Dance: The Music & The Memories”), directed by Academy Award winner Chris Tashima (“Visas and Virtue”), with musical direction by Scott Nagatani.

The JCCCN was pleased to present this world premiere in celebration of San Francisco’s Japantown’s 100th anniversary. It’s a wonderful way for the entire community to gather, celebrate, reminisce and reflect upon what makes our Japantowns and memories of our Japantowns so important,” said Paul Osaki, JCCCN Executive Director.

Funded by a grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP), as part of the Birth of A Community Grant, the two-act show tells the fictional story of Alan Iwata, a tired, burned-out, third generation manju maker who is shutting down his family business after 99 years in Nihonmachi. But just before he closes his doors for good, the spirit of his Issei grandfather returns and takes Alan on a journey back some 77 years to Nihonmachi the way it used to be.

By learning his family history, said Kashiwagi, Alan realizes the tremendous sacrifices and challenges his family overcame to keep the family business alive, and in the end he decides it’s well worth the extra effort to work one more year so he and the community can celebrate 100 years of manju making together.

Similar in format to the Grateful Crane Ensemble’s hit touring show, “Camp Dance,” classic Japanese and American songs are interspersed throughout this show.

“The songs will trigger fond memories and will take our community back to a special time and place in their lives,” said playwright Kashiwagi. “And many of the songs, especially those by Misora Hibari, gave our community strength and hope and helped get us through some very difficult times throughout our history.”

The seven-member cast included Yoko Ibuki, Haruye Ioka, Keiko Kawashima, Kurt Kuniyoshi, Merv Maruyama, Helen Ota and Ping Wu. Musicians include Scott Nagatani on piano, Danny Yamamoto (of Hiroshima) on drums and San Francisco-based Sansai Mark Izu on bass and sho.

JCCCN’s “Asian Americans On Broadway” A Smashing Success

The “Asian Americans on Broadway” concert on October 13 and 14 was an overwhelming success. The three-show concert, presented by Citibank, was produced by the JCCCN, and seen by over 1,000 individuals from the community. The concert honored Asian Americans in the entertainment and performing arts industry who have broken barriers for aspiring Asian Americans.

Popular Broadway hits included songs from 42nd Street, Miss Saigon, My Fair Lady, La Cage Aux Folles, West Side Story and more. The audience was treated to poignant anecdotes on how the songs influenced or inspired these Asian Americans on their path to success in theater. The concert featured veteran performers Alvin Ing, Christine Toy Johnson, Hazel Anne Raymundo, Kim Varhola, Michael K. Lee and Alan Muraoka (director) and local talent Sophie Oda and Colette Ikemi with music director Edward G. Robinson and musicians Dwight Okamura, Akira Tana and Michael Zisman.

This concert is the return of the “Salute to the Stars” performers from the 2005 gala event which honored the lifetime achievements of some of the greatest Japanese American performers to grace the silver screen and Broadway stage.

Major corporate sponsors were thanked for their support to make the event possible -- Citibank, Union Bank of California and AT&T. Other sponsors included: The Seligman Family Foundation, Kristi Yamaguchi’s Always Dream Foundation, and 3D Investments.

“Asian Americans on Broadway: Opening Doors” proceeds will benefit the JCCCN cultural arts programs for children and youth in the community.

JCCCN has produced a commemorative recording of the concert, available in DVD format to the general public at $20 each. To order, call the JCCCN at (415) 567-5505.
2005 was a year of outstanding accomplishments for the JCCCNC. We are proud to have established the Japantown Landmark in the Peace Plaza, organized the California Conference on the Internment of Japanese Americans, organized the California Nisei High School Diploma Project, and orchestrated the “Salute to the Stars” production. In addition, we continue to provide over 100 quality programs, classes and workshops for our community throughout the year.

With great accomplishments also comes the reality that it takes major funding to support a community center. A day in the life at JCCCNC can include mailing out letters to our donors and members, setting up classrooms and workshops and events, and hundreds of administrative tasks. On the other side of the coin, JCCCNC gives resources in the form of space, funds and services to community organization, individuals and corporations. We provide free and low-cost office space for tenants like Nobiru Kai, Kimochi and the Japanese Community Youth Council.

None of this would be possible without the financial support of our many donors, members and corporate sponsors. We thank you. We also thank the leadership of our Board of Directors, enthusiastic volunteers, generous donors and hard-working staff. The unwavering dedication, commitment and generosity to preserving our culture and community pushes us towards building a Center of greater service for this community.

2005 Expenses

Figure I (left) summarizes spending during the 2005 calendar year. The following provides details:

Building and Operations is the largest area of spending comprising over one-third of JCCCNC’s expenditures. On the facilities side, this includes expenses incurred from running a public facility visited by over 20,000 individuals annually, which is primarily maintenance and upkeep of a 17,500 square foot building. This includes utilities, equipment leases, public relations, advertising and marketing, licensing and permit fees, facility insurance and consulting services. On the administrative side, this includes staff, salaries, benefits and staff development and training.

Programs is the second largest area of spending at JCCCNC. These expenses encompass any class, corporate or community meeting room rental, sporting event, seasonal fair, community forum or event or cultural program. By nature, JCCCNC programs are highly resource intensive because of all associated (and often obscure) costs of materials, instructor and insurance fees and all related costs necessary to run successful programs. JCCCNC provides over 100 workshops and classes on an annual basis. These workshops and classes are appropriate to the mission of the Center which is to provide cultural arts, social, recreational and educational classes.

Development spending includes any costs related to direct fundraising following its comprehensive development program that generates individual donors, foundation, philanthropic and various foundations and corporate support. The department’s principal charge is to ensure the sustainable growth and financial health of the organization by gathering resources and long term support through grassroots fundraising, major donor cultivation and foundation and corporate sponsorships. In 2005, the annual fundraiser event was the “Salute To The Stars” performance at the Palace of Fine Arts which honored Nikkei arts and entertainment legends.

2005 Revenue

Figure II (right) summarizes revenue during the 2005 calendar year. The following provides details:

It is the sole responsibility of the Development Department to produce the most significant revenue for non-profit organizations. For JCCCNC our individual donors collectively contribute the most significant portion of our Development revenue.

The Membership Department’s role is to increase visibility of JCCCNC within the surrounding community, instill in our members a sense of belonging and to grow and sustain relationships with people and organizations that believe in our charter. Currently, JCCCNC is highly dependent upon our senior and senior couple contingency and aim to increase our family and sustaining memberships to mirror our success with the senior/senior couple involvement. As an indicator, typically membership-related non-profits generate more than 25% of their annual budgets from membership.

Programs produce about 16% revenue for JCCCNC, generated from class or event fees and donations. JCCCNC makes a conscious choice to keep the class fees to a minimum as JCCCNC believes in providing low cost services whereby no attendee is constrained by cost.

Rentals derive 6% of annual revenue. Similar to our affordable programs philosophy, JCCCNC believes in providing highly subsidized facility space for community groups and organizations, with special reduced rates for non-profits.
Ikebana

Ikebana is a traditional Japanese art of flower arrangement. Ikebana, literally translated to “living flowers,” creates a harmony of linear construction, rhythm and color. The entire structure of a Japanese flower arrangement is based on three main points that symbolize heaven, earth and humankind. While western flower arrangements tend to emphasize the quantity and colors of the flowers, devoting their attention mainly to the beauty of the blossoms, Ikebana emphasizes the linear aspects of the arrangement and includes the vase, stems, leaves and branches, as well as the flowers.

John Boyce, the class instructor, shares his teaching style. “I studied with Mrs. Oka (the former Ikebana class instructor) Shoka, Rikka and Free-style Shimputei styles of Ikebana for 27 years. I was honored when she selected me to take over teaching this Ikebana class. It is most interesting to see the older and newer students develop their distinctive styles seen in their finished arrangements each week. It would make Mrs. Oka proud.”

John received his B.S. in Floriculture at the University of Illinois and has worked in San Francisco since 1963. He has also studied Bonsai since 1960 and continues to study at the Bonsai Garden in Lake Merritt Park in Oakland, California.

Ikebana is held Tuesday nights, 6:30pm – 9:30pm, JCCCNC Member fee: $50/month, non-member fee: $65/month. This class is open to adults of all ages and of all experience levels.

JCCCNC Ikebana Class Instructor John Boyce

Greet the New Day: Body Toning Workout

JCCCNC offers a light, brisk refreshing body toning class designed to give the body a workout without being a real sweaty experience. Start your Tuesday mornings with low impact exercising aimed at reducing stress, risk of heart disease and hypertension. Assists in retention of bone and muscle mass through strength training. Includes stretching, breathing, relaxation and strength training exercises.

The purpose of these stretching exercises includes: keeping muscles supple, increasing range of motion of joints, enhancing flexibility, improving coordination, increasing body temperature and heart rate, increasing blood flow to muscles and preventing injuries.

Denise Teraoka, the class instructor, says of her class, “I want folks to have fun and to greet the day with a smile and sense of well-being. It’s with that intention that I structure this body toning class workout that starts the day with stretching, low impact movement routines, strength training and core strengthening exercises. Where else can you move to R&B, the BeeGees, Glenn Miller, Hiroshima and old Japanese favorites? Or soothe the muscles, mind and spirit to Hawaiian slack key?”

Denise received her Personal Training Instructor certification in 2001 at California State University, Hayward; Personal Trainer certification, 1997; Sports Nutrition certification, 1998.

She has had 15 years of health and fitness training including weightlifting with free weights.

Greet The New Day is held Tuesday mornings 8:30am – 9:15am, JCCCN Member fee: $8/session or $28/month, non-member fee: $10/session or $36/month. This class is open to adults of all ages.
JCCNC Members are eligible to receive discounts at participating merchants. Must show current and valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID. If you have questions on merchant discounts, please contact JCCNC at (415) 567-5505 or membership@jcccnc.org.

Travel discount packages to Tokyo roundtrip airfare from San Francisco on ANA plus three nights in a Tokyo hotel as low as $970 for Sustaining Members! Visit http://www.jcccnc.org/membership/promotions.htm

Book online with Hawaiian Airlines and receive the lowest available web fare. Visit www.hawaiianair.com/affiliate and enter the Affiliate Program Code AMWEBJCC.

Preferred room rates starting at $169 per room per night at the Hawaii Prince Hotel. Special $60 golf rate at the Hawaii Prince Golf Club.

Movie Vouchers - $6/ticket
Pick up vouchers at JCCNC. Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Krispy Kreme Discount Card - $10/card, buy 1 dozen, get 1 dozen free Pick up discount cards at JCCNC.

Gift Certificates - $10.70 for 1lb. box of candy
Pick up certificates at JCCNC. Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

10% Discount on Food Only
Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Sain Sain
22 Peace Plaza, #501
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 292-3542

5 minute extension on 30 minute massage OR a 10 minute extension on a 60 minute massage Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Hukilau San Francisco
5 Masonic Avenue, (415) 921-6242

Hukilau San Jose
230 Jackson Street, (408) 279-4888

Hukilau Palo Alto
642 Ramona Street, (650) 329-9533

10% discount on services only. Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Sain Saine
22 Peace Plaza, #501
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 292-3542

10% Discount on Food Only
Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Kansai Restaurant
1737 Buchanan Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 775-2770

10% Discount on Food Only
Must show valid JCCNC Membership card and photo ID.

Nichi Bei Times
P.O. Box 193098
San Francisco, CA 94119
(415) 921-6820

50% Discount on Newspaper Subscription
* Contact JCCNC at (415) 567-5505 to initiate subscription.
Ten Ways To Support JCCCNC!

Any amount and type of giving makes a difference – it’s what keeps JCCCNC energized and active. Here are ten ways to support our efforts.

1. **Become a Member.** Join us today. Your membership provides support to the JCCCNC to carry out its educational, cultural, recreational and social programs. Be a part of the Center where future generations will learn about our community, culture and traditions.

2. **Gifts in memory or in honor.** Giving on behalf of someone special or someone who has passed on is a heartfelt way to pay tribute to unique people in our lives. If you would like to donate a gift on behalf of someone you know, please send us your donation and contact information and we will send out a personal thank you to the family or individual letting them know of your gift to JCCCNC.

3. **Planned Giving.** You can bequest cash, property and estate gifts to JCCCNC and preserve your estate, your family’s valuable assets, as well as provide you with significant income and tax benefits. This is a significant way for you to help maintain the legacy of the Nikkei community.

4. **Gifts of Stock.** Your stock contributions can provide JCCCNC with long term benefits and can benefit you by providing significant breaks on capital gains taxes.

5. **Sponsorships.** Corporations or individuals can sponsor a JCCCNC special event or program. Donated products, subsidized venue rates or services are all needed in order to produce our annual events. Sponsors receive extensive visibility at our events.

6. **Corporate Fund Matching Programs.** Did you know that most corporations offer to match their employees’ donations to non-profit organizations? Consult your human resources department to find out how to increase your individual donation (often 100% match) though your employer’s fund matching programs.

7. **Volunteering.** Give us your valuable time and assist us with special events, programs and administrative duties. Examples of volunteer work are teaching a class and assisting with organizing our annual community events. University students may also be eligible for course credit for completing community service at JCCCNC.

8. **Individual Donations.** We’ve made it easy for you to give to JCCCNC. Give safely and securely online at www.jcccnc.org. Or if you prefer, drop a check to us, or call us if you would like to set up recurring payments with your credit card.

9. **Join eScrip.** eScrip is an organization that benefits us by crediting you for shopping at your favorite stores and donating percentages of your spending to JCCCNC. Log on to www.escrip.com and register to give today.

10. **Gifts In Kind.** Donate items which you would otherwise give or throw away. JCCNCN will either utilize the item or will sell/give to other parties.

For questions on giving to JCCNC, email us at info@jcccnc.org or call (415) 567-5505. All information and inquiries are kept confidential.

Sign up for our monthly newsletter!

Get up-to-date information about the latest JCCNC programs, events and member only deals. It’s easy to sign up for our free email newsletter. Just click on the “sign up for our email newsletter” button on our website and enter your email address.

www.jcccnc.org
New Tax-Saving Opportunity for Donors Aged 70½

On August 17, 2006, President Bush signed into law new tax incentive for charitable gifts from donors who are 70½ or older. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 encourages financial support of the good work done by charitable organizations across the United States.

Under the new law, you can make a lifetime gift using funds from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) without any undesirable tax effects. Previously you would have to report any amount taken from your IRA as taxable income, then take a charitable deduction for the gift, but only up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. In effect, this caused some donors to pay more in income taxes than if they didn’t make a gift at all.

Fortunately, now these IRA gifts can be accomplished simply and without tax complications. Plus, you can make the gift now – while you are living and able to witness the benefits of your generosity.

You May Contribute Funds in This Manner If:
- You are age 70½ or older
- The gift is not more than $100,000 per year
- You make the gift on or before December 31, 2007
- You transfer funds directly from an IRA or Rollover IRA
- You make the gift to a public charity (this includes our organization but excludes gifts made to charitable trusts, donor advised funds and supporting organizations).

How to Make a Gift:
Contact your IRA custodian to transfer your desired gift amount to the JCCNC.

For More Information:
It is wise to consult with your tax professionals if you are contemplating a charitable gift under the new law. Please feel free to call Teresa Ono, Director of Development, with any questions by phone (415) 567-5505 or by email tono@jcccnc.org.

JCCNC Helps Nikkei Connect Online

For years now, the larger JCCNC community beyond the San Francisco city limits has been asking for ways to connect with all members, regardless of physical location. The JCCNC has responded by launching an online community not only for its own members, but for the Japanese American community wherever they may live. This will give Nikkei the opportunity for consistent involvement in our community, reaching well beyond the eight mile radius surrounding San Francisco’s Japantown. This free service is not just for those living outside of San Francisco, it is for all of us who have hectic schedules and have trouble connecting with the Nikkei community as often as they would like and keeping up-to-date on community events.

With your help, the success of this online community will be easy to achieve. Sign up today. With all the challenges we face today, now is the time to strengthen our bonds and extend our physical reach. This online community will help you keep in touch with others, develop business relationships, meet new people and find ways to help the community no matter where you live.

What some people are saying about the online community:

Gordon Sasamori (Mountain View). “I’ve been wanting to connect with the Nikkei community for years now, but living on the peninsula with my young family it has been difficult to attend San Francisco events (and a little intimidating not knowing who will be there). Now that I am connected through the online community, I can see who is attending and even arrange to connect with others at events before I make the drive up. Thanks for this great community tool!”

Dave Kozuki (Honolulu). “I miss being connected to the Bay Area Nikkei community after moving from San Francisco to Honolulu last year. Now I look forward to a more interactive relationship through the online community.”

Visit www.jccnc.org for a convenient link to the online community. JOIN TODAY. There is no cost.
Through the unfolding of Japanese language and meaning, and his personal observations of the Issei, the first Japanese immigrants, Tsukasa Matsueda offers a window into the transmission of Japanese culture and adaptation to life in America, in a new book entitled, “Issei, The Shadow Generation.”

“Issei, The Shadow Generation” is the first book to ponder the influence of Japanese culture on childrearing practices and offers a model and philosophy for cultural balance. He explains, “shitsuke” in Japanese, the word for childrearing, is composed of the characters of “beautiful” and “being.” Ultimately, the Issei believed in raising a “beautiful person who is physically, mentally and spiritually able to cope with the realities of life.” Throughout the book, he distills how the Issei reinforced Japanese culture to build strength of character and inner beauty in their children, from childhood through adulthood, in spite of the adversity of racism they faced in America.

Published by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, “Issei, The Shadow Generation” is a well-deserved, long overdue and timely tribute to the pioneers, especially as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of San Francisco’s Japantown and the imprint the Issei have made in America,” states Paul Osaki, Executive Director of the JCCCNC. “The message is powerful, especially to Sansei and Yonsei, who may have only vague memories of their great grandparents. It is because of the Issei and their contributions that we celebrate our community and our lives today.”

“Issei, The Shadow Generation,” released on December 1, 2006, retails at $16.80, JCCCNC Members are eligible for a discounted rate of $15.50 (tax included). For more information, contact the JCCCNC at (415) 567-5505, or visit www.jcccnc.org

About the Author
Tsukasa Matsueda, Ed. D., an avid educator, taught for 33 years at Sequoia Union High School in Redwood City, CA. Selected as a Fulbright Exchange Teacher to Japan, he taught for two years at the University of Niigata and the attached Junior High School in Niigata City, Japan. He later taught Japanese American Ethnic Studies classes at Stanford University and San Jose State University. He was born in Stockton, raised in San Mateo, and spent the war years in Rohwer, Arkansas and Tule Lake, California. After his release, he was drafted and served in the 525th Military Intelligence Service.