



Greater Los Angeles Chapter
Japanese American Citizens League

Newsletter no. 436

January 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING/PROGRAM
Sunday, January 9, 2022

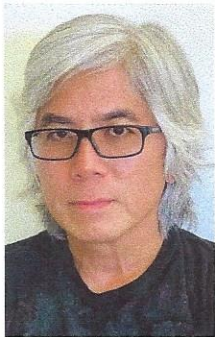
Program: In and Around Little Tokyo 1:00 pm

Business Meeting and Elections: 2:00 pm

Contact Louise for Zoom link

IN AND AROUND LITTLE TOKYO

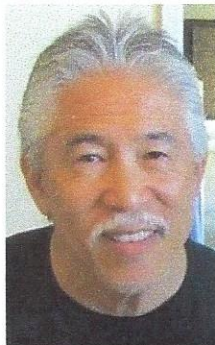
Robert Shoji and Steve Nagano will show their short films.



Robert Shoji

GONE (2019) (6 mins.) Directed by Robert Shoji

We often don't appreciate what we have until it's GONE. This film looks at present day Little Tokyo and the changes taking place. The question: Will we stand by until Little Tokyo is GONE, or will we stand up and fight for the future of our community?

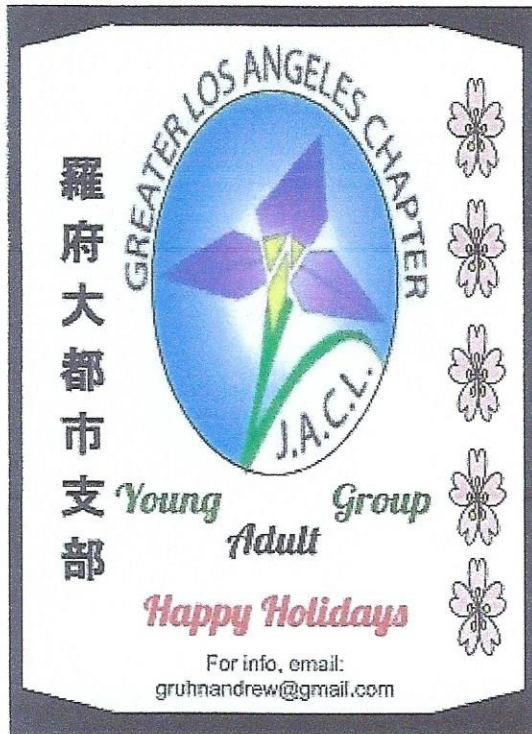


Steve Nagano

PUTTING THEM WHERE THEY COULD DO NO HARM (2021) (8 mins.)

Directed by Steve Nagano

Fletcher Bowron, former Mayor of Los Angeles, used his weekly radio show to indict Japanese people during World War II. His amazingly racist rhetoric was spewed over Los Angeles's airwaves, fueling the incarceration of people of Japanese ancestry. Now is the time to remove his name from the square that honors him.



*Best Wishes for a Happy,
Healthy, Safe New Year!
GLA officers and board members*



Year of the Tiger

Getty Images

Designed by Andrew Gruhn, the GLA YAG ad appeared in the holiday issues of PACIFIC CITIZEN and RAFU SHIMPO.

Following are nominations for the GLA JAACL Executive Board.

Elections will be held at the January 9 virtual meeting.

Questions regarding nominations, call or text Louise (310) 634-9032 or email LSakamoto@sbcglobal.net

2022 GLA JAACL EXECUTIVE BOARD

CABINET OFFICERS

Co-Presidents

Past President

Vice President, Legislation

Vice President, Programs & Membership

Vice President, Young Adults Group

Treasurer & Scholarship Chair

Recording Secretary

M. Kadogawa, Mitchell Matsumura

Janet Okubo

(vacant while there are 2 co-presidents)

Louise Sakamoto

Andrew Gruhn

Layne Sakamoto

Erica Harris

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1st Year

Susan DeGracia

Kanji Sahara

Kei Sakita

2nd Year

Joyce Inouye

A. Okada

Joyce Okazaki

Mas Oshiro

Sunday, Dec. 12, 2021 PSWD Quarterly Mtg [with Election] Notes

Governor Nancy Takayama opened the meeting 10:15

Nominations of Officers for 2022 - 2023

Governor Ryan Yoshikawa of SELANOCO
Vice Governor Nancy Takayama of San Fernando Valley
Treasurer Alayne Yonemoto of Torrance
Andrew Gruhn Recording Secretary of Greater L.A.
Seia Watanabe Youth Rep of South Bay
Lily Anne Welty Tamai Board Member at Large of Ventura County

There are still Board Positions open [at least two]; please step up, anyone.

Announcement of passing of Sharon Kumagai (70) of Venice Culver Chapter leader.
Also of Nancy Tsuguye Takano (80) of Riverside; mother of Congressman Mark Takano.

National JACL President from Washington DC **Jeff Moy** reported:

Going through tough times. Doing well through multi-generational National Board from throughout the various parts of the Country.

The **Centennial Education Fundraiser** is started up well, with a goal of \$3 million in 3 years.

National Endowment for the Arts materialized.

JACL/OCA Leadership Summit was a great success. [It was in person: See below.]

Let's look forward to in-person National Convention in Las Vegas at Bally's.

Dates: Mon. - Sat., August 1 - 6, 2022. Mostly from Wed. through Sat.

Look for OTOSHIDAMA campaign

Young Professionals Caucus report: (by Jeff Moy)

Look for Young Professional's Podcast:

"Speaking Nikkei" Podcast

Report: JACL/OCA Leadership Summit in Washington D.C.

by **Joseph Gu**, of SELANOCO.

Attendees: Noah Kurima, Ryan Yoshikawa (SELANOCO), Seia Watanabe (South Bay).

Events: State of Civil Rights with Jeff Moy, National JACL President

Capitol Hill Visit: Congressman Kevin Nunes's staff

Congressman Miuchelle Steele's staff

Congressman Mark Takano's staff

There were more than several beautiful photo of 22 attendees.

Vist jacl.org

Youth Rep Seia Watanabe's Report

"Civic Dinner" will return in 2022, "all set"; stay tuned for updates.

Matt Weisbly's Report:

OTOSHIDAMA; look for Stickers to get; very popular, and other merchandise

Look for Nat'l Endowment for Arts for summer of 2022

I.

II. Treasure's Report. by Alayne Yonemoto

Big income from Helen Kawagoe (past Nat'l President) estate: \$25,000

Aratani Foundation annual donation: \$ 5,000

Large income from the annual Legacy Grant Fund from the National JACL.
PSWD idea: to plan an activity.

Treasurer's report was approved as presented.

III. DOR, Day of Remembrance will be in-person, February 19, 2022 at JANM

Note: GLA JACL gives annually as a supporter

a. Phoenix, AZ DOR in Japanese Garden on same day.

b. Phoenix also presents "Sakura Matsuri" on Feb. 26 and 27.

IV. Carol Kawamoto gave Education Committee report

V. Matt Weislby : KAKEHASHI Program: as Japan is closed; it will probably be summer trip in 2022. March plan is cancelled as Japan will still be closed.

VI. PC Holiday Issue ad is 'in'.

VII. Little Tokyo Towers: Ken Kawai is on the Board representing PSWD JACL.

There are many issues the City of L. A. wants taken care of.

VIII. Columbia Park in Torrance

Ken Inouye plans to get recognition of the Hayakawa Family who lost the entire property via Eminent Domain farce.

Kanji Sahara started "Torrance Wall" to recognize Nikkei who were incarcerated during WWII. Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi obtained State funds.

ELECTION:

Governor: Ryan Yoshikawa

and Officers listed at top of report:

Voted-in unanimously

Ryan Yoshikawa's statements

a. Please help as PSWD progress more in-person events.

b. Please bring-in projects to which we can all look forward

c. He will be attending the National Board Mtg coming Saturday, Feb. 19.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alayne reported how to communicate via contact via website.

Some special trips are being made into the Little Tokyo office.

Jan. 30th, 2022: Ventura County Installation Dinner at noon.

Location: Ronal Reagan Library \$35 - \$40 with ticket to see the Library Museum.

Repeat :

Next National Convention at Bally's Aug. 4th through Aug. 7th, 2022.

Adjourn : 13:08

Report by M. Kadogawa



Following reprinted from GLA October 2021 newsletter

JACL Speaker at Nikkei Student Union, San Francisco State University

Lauryn Murata is one of GLA's 2020 scholarship recipients.

Lauryn is the Cultural Coordinator for the Nikkei Student Union at San Francisco State University.

Lauryn inquired about a guest speaker from JACL for a NSU program on September 21. Haruka Roudebush appeared in person to be the speaker. Haruka is the Senior Programs Manager at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California. He was formerly the JACL Vice President for Membership.

Lauryn reports, "The presentation at the meeting went extremely well! Haruka did an amazing job breaking down the different levels of JACL and its history to our members."

Lauryn: Here is a bit about NSU:

Nikkei Student Union, or NSU is an organization devoted to promoting, preserving, and educating college-aged youth about the history and culture of Japanese Americans. We are a safe space for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Japanese American narrative through social and community events, lessons, and volunteer opportunities. Our primary goals are to connect with other on-campus organizations through social events, serve the JA community in the bay area through community service, encourage and promote academic excellence through members, and encourage unity between Japanese Americans and non-Japanese Americans.

Every other week we hold meetings where we teach various lessons about JA culture to our members. Alongside teaching lessons, we also plan to work closely with JACL and the Japantown here in San Francisco to further educate those about JA history, culture, etc. and be leadership examples to future generations. As a club, we hope to help the JA community in every way we can and we look forward to what the future has in store.

Lauryn is a sophomore studying pre-kinesiology at San Francisco State University.