



**THE GRAPEVINE**  
Volume XLIV–No.4 July- August 2020  
**SONOMA COUNTY JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE**

**July**

**Calendar of Events**

**August**

Please continue to check our website and the website for the Enmanji Buddhist church for updates on events that have been cancelled or rescheduled.

### ENMAN NO TOMO NEWS

We hope you are all staying safe and healthy during this long and difficult time. We appreciate that you are being cautious and sheltering in place. Unfortunately it is taking longer than was anticipated, but we do not want anyone to risk getting this virus. Although we miss seeing all of you and would love to visit like before, we would like to continue to follow the lead of the experts and will not have any Enman no Tomo meetings until it is safe to do so. We also anticipate that we will have to make some changes to adapt to the recommended practices to keep everyone safe. We will let you know when we will start meeting again after the all-clear sign is given.

In the meantime, if anyone needs anything or would just like to chat on the phone and keep in touch, please let us know. Maybe we can do the old fashioned method of calling each other on the phone and share stories and ideas. If anyone would like to share what they are

doing during these tough times, please share with us. We would like to support you and encourage you to stay safe and healthy.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Kinu Iwamoto at 707-795-7920 or at kinuiwamoto@comcast.net or Nancy Davlin at nrdavlin@yahoo.com or 707-762-2355. If anyone needs a cloth face mask for now or in the future when we can go out again, please contact Nancy and we can send you some, hopefully that you would be willing to wear.

Also we would like to acknowledge donations from Jocelyn and Jack Gardner and Kathy Wat in memory of Marie Sugiyama..

Please continue to shelter-in-place and practice social distancing, and we will all get through this together.

ENMAN NO TOMO BOARD

#### To Our JAACL Friends,

As you all know, Sonoma County is in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. While under this shelter-in-place order, we hope you are safe and healthy. Please stay informed as this is a fluid and scary time. Below are the state and national websites that provide up-to-date and important information.

State of California's COVID-19 Response Site: <https://covid19.ca.gov/>

The Center for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

As we're all impacted by the spread of COVID-19 to some degree, Sonoma County JAACL wants to support you and your families during this time. Please let us know about community members that may need or want assistance during this health crisis. We would like to work with you to generate ideas on how to help our community – now and when we return to something closer to "normal." We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

We appreciate you being a part of the JAACL and look forward to reconnecting once things are safer for all of Sonoma County.

Best regards, Sonoma County JAACL Board

Contact us at: [SonomaCountyJAACL@gmail.com](mailto:SonomaCountyJAACL@gmail.com) or [info@sonomacojacl.org](mailto:info@sonomacojacl.org)

## ENMANJI SERVICES AVAILABLE ONLINE

**ENMANJI SERVICES** can be accessed on the Enmanji website at

[www.enmanjitemple.com](http://www.enmanjitemple.com)

Here you can find various links to church services and lectures.

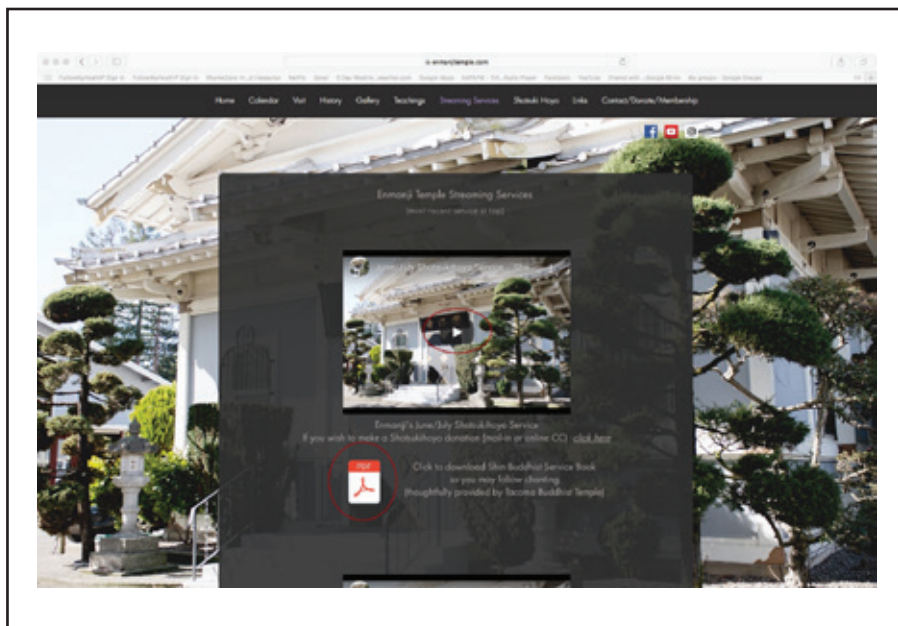
**TO ACCESS ENMANJI SHOTSUKIHOYO SERVICE** for June and July: log onto the Enmanji website at

[www.enmanjitemple.com](http://www.enmanjitemple.com)

click on “[click here to view](#)”



**ENMANJI SHOTSUKIHOYO SERVICE** Click on triangle view video of service  
Click on PDF icon to download service manual for songs and chants



## SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP RATES DURING COVID EPIDEMIC

**Dear Sonoma County JACL members,**

We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well and safe.

This is an extraordinary and unprecedented time, bringing many challenges to our lives. We understand many people are experiencing health and financial challenges in ways we have never faced before due to the covid-19 pandemic.

We have been offering a special discounted individual membership fee of \$10 for new members for the last couple of years. The Sonoma County Chapter of JACL Board has approved extending this discount to all members for one year beginning in April of 2020 through March of 2021. This means that all memberships, new and renewals, for individuals will only be \$10 and \$20 for couples. If you want to receive the printed copy of the Pacific Citizen, the \$17 fee still be an additional fee. We will reevaluate the situation early next year.

This is a way to show our appreciation to members who have been supporting JACL for so many years, and to make sure we are not going to lose any members due to financial challenges people might be facing. We also hope this will continue to help us grow our membership.

If you would like to still continue to send a full amount, we will accept anything above the discounted dues as a donation to National since they are also experiencing financial challenges.

I thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions, please contact me by phone or email. Please take care and continue to be safe.

## CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 15

As we move toward the November 2020 election, the newsletter will highlight propositions that might be of interest to our membership. The Sonoma County JACL is not taking a position; instead we hope to make it easier to slog through the many proposition that usual appear on the ballot.

California Proposition 15, the Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative, is on the ballot in California as an initiated constitutional amendment on November 3, 2020.

A "yes" vote supports this constitutional amendment to require commercial and industrial properties, except those zoned as commercial agriculture, to be taxed based on their market value, rather than their purchase price.

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thus continuing to tax commercial and industrial properties based on a property's purchase price, with annual increases equal to the rate of inflation or 2 percent, whichever is lower.

To see lists of supporters and opponents of this proposition, as well as short arguments, Ballotpedia.org presents information clearly and concisely.

SoCo JACL's statement supporting the Holocaust Memorial Fountain Rededication Ceremony. If you are interested in viewing the short video created for the July 20, 2020 rededication, please use the link below.

<https://youtu.be/gXJYpISZ86I>



## ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

The Sonoma County JACL Oral History Project has been busy over the years telling the story of Japanese Americans, and in particular those who lived in Sonoma County, to schools and organizations and reaching thousands of children and adults.

As time has passed, the stories continue to be told by those who did not experience WWII incarceration firsthand but by succeeding generations who believe in the importance of telling the story and its relevance today.

Because of the excellent powerpoint presentation set up by the committee, anyone can be a speaker. You do not have to have a relative who was incarcerated, just a desire to tell the story. If you have photos of family or friends you know who went through the wartime experience, they can be inserted into the powerpoint to make history more personal.

In addition to the powerpoint presentation, a Kamishibai (picture storytelling based on the popular Japanese street theater) for elementary school children was created by members Sachiko Knappman, Cynthia Kishi and Becky Sugiyama to tell the story of incarceration. And, as we found out, the 20-minute Kamishibai story is just as popular with adults as it is for kids.

To present the Kamishibai, you just have to read the cue cards and change the colorful paintings as the cue cards are read.

In this time of the pandemic and Shelter-In-Place, our powerpoint and Kamishibai presentations have also gone virtual and we have successfully presented them to audiences via Zoom this past spring season.

If you would like more information about the Oral History committee and Speakers Bureau, either as a speaker or to request a speaker, visit the Sonoma County JACL website at: <https://www.sonomacojacl.org/speakers/> .

And check out our new Instagram page at [socojapaneseamerican](https://www.instagram.com/socojapaneseamerican) !!!

## SAVE THE DATE- BELL RINGING PROJECT

### US - Japan Sister Cities Bell Ringing Project

In partnership with Sebastopol World Friends, Sebastopol's sister city organization, Sonoma County JACL will be holding two zoom events to commemorate the 75th year since the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. You can join on one or both of the following zoom events.

- Wednesday 8/5 at 4:15pm (US PDT): the date and time the first bombing on Hiroshima (8:15am on 8/6 in Japan)
- Saturday 8/8 at 7:02pm (US PDT): the date and time the second bombing on Nagasaki (11:02am on 8/9 in Japan)

More details to come soon. Please stay tuned.

## SCHOLARSHIP AND ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

**Two renewals** were presented for the Faye Uyeda Medical scholarships

### The two essay contest winners were:

High school - Katieann Thou Nguyen (repeat winner from last year's middle school)

Middle school - Jaidyn Atherton

## SONOMA COUNTY UNITED IN KINDNESS PROJECT



Sonoma County JACL is proud to be a supporter of the Sonoma County United in Kindness Project. Formed last year as part of the Interfaith Council of Sonoma County, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors recently adopted the United in Kindness statement as a Gold Resolution.

Read more about the project in the letter below:

Sonoma County United In Kindness

Dear Sonoma County United in Kindness ("UIK") Project Supporters,

In response to our request, many of our 1500 allies recently registered their support of "UIK" with the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. In response, the Board of Supervisors adopted our "Sonoma County United in Kindness" statement as a Gold Resolution on Tuesday, June 9th. Thank you all for the support!

### UIK's Progress to date:

We have participated in tabling at 18 major events within the county to inform people about acts of kindness since March 2019. Additionally, we have presented two multi-faith seminars on "Shared Values Among Religions" and "Religions and the Environment" with the St. Patrick Episcopal Church in Kenwood with great success.

### UIK's Future plans:

We are currently reaching out to Sonoma County schools to introduce and promote our UIK agenda and to convene a multi-faith symposium on "Root causes of bigotry and what we can do about it". The symposium was originally scheduled at the Sonoma County Day School's 700-seat auditorium in September 2020 for all Sonoma County schools and their students/parents. However, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, a different date and platform will be needed for this event — perhaps via Zoom.

In collaboration with a group of parent activists, we have created a kindness toolkit, which is ready for use by willing teachers for the purpose of engaging their students to be more sensitive, inclusive, and open minded.

Either in person or through video, we have organized and are ready to present highly qualified speakers and trainers to discuss the following topics at interested schools or organizations: racism, bullying, inclusivity, tolerance, and respect for others.

We plan to work with large local businesses in Sonoma County to adopt and promote acts of kindness in their daily operations. We are also planning to engage city and county officials and agencies to integrate acts of kindness into their policies and conduct.

### Requesting your help:

To effectively achieve UIK's goals, we need support from the endorsers of our project and from the public. We are asking our endorsing organizations to publicize this letter in their newsletters and social media, and to inform their members about UIK. We are asking the public, the 1500 people who have signed our declaration, and newcomers, to assist with these projects. In particular, if you have expertise in the area of web design, or if you can offer other ideas on how to achieve our UIK goals, please let us know!

Thank you!

From the Sonoma County United In Kindness Team  
UnitedInKindness@interfaithsonoma.org

**If you have any suggestions for future activities you would like to include in our programs, food demos, movies, bowling, social-business expo, you name it. Please let us know!**

**Send us a message thru our website, [www.sonomacojacl.org/contact-us/](http://www.sonomacojacl.org/contact-us/)**

## SONOMA COUNTY JA CL CHAPTER

515 Petaluma Avenue  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

### THE GRAPEVINE

Sonoma County JA CL Newsletter

515 Petaluma Ave.  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

#### Annual Membership dues:

Single \$65; couple \$110  
Student (18 to 23 yrs) \$30  
75+ senior single \$35.00  
75+ senior couple \$55.00  
1000 Club Individual \$200.00  
1000 Club W/ Spouse \$232.00  
Century Club \$350.00  
Century Club Spouse \$382.00  
Millennium Club \$1,000.00  
Millennium Club Spouse \$ 1032.00  
One time membership payment:  
Thousand Club Life \$3000  
Thousand Club Life Spouse \$3032.00  
Century Club Life \$5000  
Century Club Life Spouse \$5032.00

Your membership includes a digital copy of the Pacific Citizen Newspaper. If you wish to receive the PACIFIC CITIZEN by mail, please add \$17.00

### SPECIAL DISCOUNTED MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The Sonoma County Chapter of JA CL Board has approved extending a discount to all members for one year beginning in April of 2020 through March of 2021. This means that all memberships, new and renewals, for individuals will only be \$10 and \$20 for couples. If you want to receive the printed copy of the Pacific Citizen, the \$17 fee still be an additional fee. We will reevaluate the situation early next year.

If you would like to still continue to send a full amount, we will accept anything above the discounted dues as a donation to National since they are also experiencing financial challenges. I thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions, please contact me by phone or email. Take care and continue to be safe.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Please send your  
renewal forms  
and checks to:

Sonoma County JA CL  
c/o Membership Chair  
515 Petaluma Ave.  
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Membership chair will deposit your check into our account and then submit your membership info and National dues to National JA CL HQ office. This step is required because we have the extra requirement of submitting the balance due for those senior members whose membership dues are subsidized.