



Hakuju Celebration 白寿



Marie Shiromoto



Kimi Kaneko



John Oshige



Soyo Takahashi

In this school year, four of our seniors (shown above) celebrated their 99th birthdays at the senior center. *Hakuju* means 99th birthday. In *kanji*, when you write the character “white”, if you add an extra stroke you will write a character for “one hundred”. “*Ju*” means *congratulate* and *longevity*. Wearing a white vest, a white cap and holding a fan are part of the custom when celebrating *Hakuju*. Sakura Kai members enjoyed celebrating *Hakuju* birthdays with them and their families - it's remarkable to have four in one year. Congratulations and best wishes for many more years.

今年の学年度は、四人のメンバーが白寿のお誕生日をシニアセンターでお祝いなさいました。上記の皆さんです。おめでとうございます。白寿とは99歳のお誕生日のことです。白寿の「白」という漢字は「百」という漢字の上の「一」を取り除くと「白」になる事から「はくじゅ」呼ばれるようになりました。「寿」は長命を祝うという意味です。白い帽子に白いチョッキを着て、扇子を持つのが白寿の伝統的なお祝いの衣装です。桜会で一年に四人の白寿のお祝いしたのは初めてで、ご家族の皆さんとメンバー全員で特別なお誕生日会を楽しみました。白寿を迎えられた皆さんこれからも益々お元気でお過ごし下さい。

SAKURA KAI UPDATE

By Marjorie Fujioka

After six years of dedicated service, Setsuko Doi has announced that she will retire as Coordinator at Sakura Kai as of August 31, 2016. With her passion, commitment, and generosity she has helped Sakura Kai to reach a high level of service, and we are very grateful for her leadership.

Although not available until possibly next January, Etsuko Hattori has agreed to be our next coordinator. In the interim Sakura Kai board members will take on the coordinator responsibilities.

Increased State funds for schools in 2016-2017 means that adult school will continue this coming school but proposed legislation AB 1846 does not include older adult programs. We need to continue working to inform our legislators of the need to be included in the Consortium for older adult program funding.

An added challenge in 2016-2017 is that the West Contra Costa adult school principal resigned August 18 to work in another school district. The leadership committee at adult school was asked by Human Resources to list qualifications we thought important in our replacement principal who has not yet been selected.

Continued funding by the West Contra Costa school district provides us with some liability protection, two part-time teachers, Kimi Honda and Marjorie Fujioka, use of adult ed copying facilities, and rent free use of the El Cerrito Senior Center. This is made possible with our Memorandum of Understanding between the school district and the city of El Cerrito. We explored other possible locations if it became necessary and our Open House Senior Center provides us with the best location choice.

桜会最新情報

藤岡マージョリー

六年間に渡りコーディネーターの勤めてきた土居節子が2016年8月31日をもってリタイアすることを公表しました。彼女の情熱、献身、寛大さで桜会のサービスの向上に尽力しました。彼女のリーダーシップに感謝します。

次期コーディネーター、服部悦子の都合で来年の1月頃まで任務に就けません。そこでその間、桜会の役員が臨時にコーディネーターの仕事を分担します。

2016年-2017年学校の為の州の資金増加という意味は、今年のアダルト スクールは継続されますが、AB 1846 法案、高齢者プログラムは含まれていません。私達は高齢者プログラムの資金が団体連合に含まれる事の必要性を立法議員に知らせ、働きかけ続ける事が必要です。

2016年2017年に追加された課題は、ウエスト コントラ コスタ アダルト スクールの校長が他の学校区に勤務するため、8月18日に辞任したことです。アダルト スクールのリーダーシップ委員会は人事課から、私達が重要と考える未だ選ばれていない次期校長の資格のリストの提出を求められました。

ウエスト コントラコスタ学校区による継続的な資金提供は、私達になにがしかの法的責任の保護、2人のパートタイム教師の本田きみと藤岡マージョリー、成人教育施設のコピー機使用、エルセリート シニアセターの賃貸料を無し、を供給してくれます。これは学校区とエルセリート市と間で交わした合意の覚え書きで可能なのです。もしも、新しい施設が必要になった時の為に、他の可能な場所を検討しましたが、オープンハウス シニアセンターは私達にとって最適な場所に位置しています。



MAH JONG AT SAKURA KAI

By Charlotte Sakai

Have you wondered what was making the sound of clicking blocks in the back classroom? If you peek into the room, you would see several card tables with players moving blocks around concentrating on their tile blocks and laughing. They are playing Mah Jong. Sakura Kai has always offered the classic Chinese tile game starting first with Elaine Sato as our instructor. We now offer both Japanese Mah Jong and Hong Kong Mah Jong. Miyo Uratsu is the instructor of Hong Kong style and Nancy Nijima teaches Japanese Mah Jong.

Mah Jong is fun socialization and good exercise for the mind. The game requires concentration, memory and strategy. It's also addictive with a bit of gambling. The basic game is simple but it has many intricacies and variations. Miyo says Mah Jong challenges the player no matter their skill level. The basic differences between Japanese and Hong Kong Mah Jong are the use of kanji on Japanese tiles and some of the rules. Nancy and Miyo welcome new players and are happy to introduce them to their favorite game Saturdays at 9 a.m.

ASSOCIATE CLASS ENROLLMENT

Full time students at Sakura Kai can take any classes they choose but because of our waiting list to become a full-time student, anyone interested in taking one class can enroll as an associate student, depending on the instructor of the class and space availability. Check with Kimi Honda or Marjorie Fujioka at (510) 778-3406 or ECsakuraKai@gmail.com if you are interested in participating as an associate student.

桜会の麻雀

酒井シャーロット

教室の後から聞こえるカチャカチャという音を何かと聞いたことがありますか？ 部屋を覗いてみると、3,4卓のカードテーブルがあり、ゲームをしている人達は集中しながら牌（ゲームに使う駒）を動かしたり、笑ったりしています。彼らは麻雀をしているのです。桜会は最初に佐藤イレインさんに講師をお願いし、古典的な中国式の麻雀を常に提供してきました。現在は、日本式麻雀と香港式麻雀の2クラスがあります。浦津みよさんが香港式麻雀を、新島ナンシーさんが日本式麻雀を指導しています。

麻雀は楽しい社交であり頭脳の運動にもなります。ゲームは集中力、記憶力と戦略を必要とします。又、少しギャンブルの熱中性もあります。基本的なゲームは単純ですが、沢山の複雑さとバリエーションがあります。みよさんは、麻雀はプレイヤーの技量に関わらず挑戦しますと言います。日本式と香港式麻雀の基本的な違いは牌の漢字と一部のルールです。ナンシーさんとみよさんは新しいプレイヤーを歓迎し、2人の好きなゲームを土曜日の午前9時に紹介するのを嬉しく思っています。

准生徒のクラス登録

現在、桜会の正会員は順番待ちです。正会員になると好きなだけクラスがとれますが、正会員になる為の空席待ちの間に、クラスに空きがあり講師の許可があれば、准生徒として誰でも興味のあるクラスを1科目とする事が出来ます。准会員に興味がおあり方は、本田きみ 又は、藤岡マージョリー迄お問い合わせ下さい。

電話：(510) 778 - 3406

ECsakuraKai@gmail.com

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

By Sam Uchihara

Sakura Kai is really fortunate to have generous donors to support our on-going programs and to make it possible to put on new programs of interest to members. In fiscal year 2016 we received donations from individuals in excess of \$12,000. These gifts were not only for programs, it extended beyond that. For example, in 2011, after the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, we began a campaign to receive relief funds for the victims of the disaster. A total of \$3,500 was collected and taken to the Consul General of Japan. Then in April, 2016, after the Kumamoto earthquake disaster, we began another disaster relief campaign. This time, through the generosity of our donors, we were able to send \$4,000 to the Consul General for distribution to those in need. These are very impressive amounts considering the size of Sakura Kai membership. With such community support, Sakura Kai will be in good hands for a very long time.

寛大な寄贈者

宇地原サム

桜会は進行中のプログラムを支援して下さり、そして、メンバーの興味のある新しいプログラムを可能にする寛大な寄贈者の皆さんがいらしてとても幸運です。2016年の会計年度に\$12,000.を超える寄付を個人から頂きました。これらの贈り物はプログラムだけではありません。例えば、2011年の東北大震災の被害者救済キャンペーンでは、合計\$3,500.が寄せられ、日本領事館に届けました。それから、2016年4月の熊本大地震の後、私達は災害救済キャンペーンを始めました。今回は寄贈者の寛大さのお陰で、これを必要としている人々の為に私達は\$4,000.を領事館に送付しました。これらは桜会の会員のサイズを考えると大変目覚ましい金額です。此の様なコミュニティーの支援で、桜会は長い間安泰でしょう。

SAKURA KAI TREASURER'S REPORT

FYE JUNE 30, 2016

Cash Balance – July 1, 2015 \$58,868.94

RECEIPTS

Donations – LIC/UW/Corp	\$ 4,382.78
Donations – Personal	16,830.00
Program Fees	5,144.00
Craft Sales	809.00
Food fund	1,103.00
Field Trips	2,950.00
Interest from Savings Account	10.73
Computer Internet Use Fee	149.00
Other	<u>2,858.50</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$34,237.01

EXPENSES:

Food Expenses	\$10,628.71
Office Expenses	546.98
Kitchen Expenses	206.63
P.O. Box Rental	132.00
Field Trips – Lunches/Admission	3,396.35
Field Trips – Transportation	2,580.00
Special Projects	489.82
Newsletter	641.06
Birthday Cakes	600.00
Computer Expense	198.00
Craft Expenses	2,467.00
Gifts/Donations	30,257.90
Bonen Kai Expenses	3,875.00
Miscellaneous	<u>250.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$56,269.45</u>
NET GAIN (LOSS)	<u>\$(22,032.44)</u>
CASH BALANCE – June 30, 2016	<u>\$36,836.50</u>

COMPOSITION OF CASH BALANCE:

Checking Account – CB&T	\$18,608.48
Savings Account – CB&T	17,478.02
Petty Cash Fund	
Coordinator/Food Volunteer	<u>750.00</u>
TOTAL CASH BALANCE	<u>\$36,836.50</u>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016

January 16 Monthly Program: 99th birthday celebration for Mrs. Takahashi.

February - April Assistance in preparation of Federal and State Tax income for seniors

February 6 Monthly program: Zazen meditation by Rev. Gemmyo

March 5 Monthly program: Taiko workshop by PJ Hirabayashi. Hina Matsuri celebration, Bento lunch and Sakura mochi

April 2 Monthly program: lecture on "Medical Problems" by Fumi Suzuki, M.D.

April 17 Cherry Blossom Festival Senior Appreciation Brunch in SF. Our honoree: Betty Kano, conversational Japanese

April 28 Field trip to Oakland Museum Lunch at the Laney Bistro

May 7 Annual Health Fair Screening with professional volunteers, medical staff, other volunteers

May 16 Bill and Taye Waki Day, Bento lunch

May 18 Casino trip to Cache Creek

July 2 43rd anniversary celebration. Entertainment: Kami Shibai by Goshi Kogure, Zeni Daiko by Diablo Zeni Daiko Line dance and Bon Odori

August 6 Special program: 99th birthday celebrations. Entertainment: Nihon Buyo

(Traditional Japanese dance) by Keiko Allen and her students, and the music bell

September 3 Monthly program: lecture by Junko Kenmotsu, SW from Asian Legal Outreach and Elder Abuse

September 11 *Otsukemomo* and rice booth at J-Sei Family Festival

October 1 Monthly program: "New J-Sei" by Miyuki Iwata, case manager

November 5 Monthly program: lecture on "Physical Therapy " by Dr. Janet Soto Yamada

December 3 Bonenkai (year-end-party) at a restaurant)

December 17 Christmas party, Santa visit, Bingo at the center

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Our deepest sympathy on the passing of Sakura Kai seniors and condolences to their families.

下記の桜会シアの方がお亡くなりになりました。無くなられた方のご冥福をお祈り致しますと共に、御家族の皆様へ心よりお悔やみを申し上げます。

Mrs. Elsie Ogata  
Mrs. Kim Takata  
Mrs. Sugie Kuroki  
Mrs. Noriko Kato  
Mrs. Kiyoye Unoki  
Mrs. Ami Oki  
Mr. Raymond Matsunaga

## **SAKURA KAI BOARD**

Marjorie Fujioka  
Grace Goto  
Kimi Honda  
Charlotte Sakai  
Bill Sato  
Amy Shinsako  
Scott Takeda  
Ben Takeshita  
Sam Uchihara  
Angela Urata  
Mayumi Wani  
Kathy Yoshii

## **COORDINATORS**

Setsuko Doi, Coordinator  
Kimi Honda, Assistant Coordinator  
Marjorie Fujioka, Assistant Coordinator

## **VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS**

Ruth Ichinaga, Taiko  
Mary Ann Furuichi, Taiko  
Susan Nishizaka, Taiko  
Kaz Nakahara, Iroiro  
Ellen Inada, Iroiro  
Betty Kano, Conversational Japanese  
Grace Morizawa, Conversational English  
Muey (May) Saechao, Sit-down Yoga  
Angela Urata, Sit-down Yoga  
Kimi Honda, Blood Pressure  
Koko Baker, Japanese Computer  
Marjorie Fujioka, English Wi-Fi  
Scott Takeda, English Wi-Fi  
Vicki Yamaguchi Chin, English Wi-Fi  
Rena Kumai, Japanese Calligraphy  
Hatsuko Mitsuda, Japanese Calligraphy  
Itsuko Uota, Japanese Calligraphy  
Yo Hiraoka Origami/Crafts  
Sandy Kaya, Ukulele  
Takako Hayakawa, Hula and Music Bell  
Bill Sato, Line Dance  
Nancy Sakamoto, Karaoke  
Taeko Maeda, Music Bell  
Nancy Nijima, Music Bell  
Noriko Nakahara, Music Bell

Yasuyo Floyd, Japanese Computer

## **VOLUNTEERS AND ASSISTANTS**

May Doi  
Etsuko Hattori  
Larry Oishi  
Judy Fujita  
Jerry Fitzpatrick  
Gordon Oishi  
Aki Honda  
Shig Doi  
Katheen Umeda  
Miyoko Uratsu  
Satoko Tyrus

## **KITCHEN**

Chef Saburo Baba  
Noriko Yoshida  
Shozo Fujita  
Scott Takeda  
Amy Shinsako  
Glenn Shinsako  
Charlotte Sakai  
Michael Tanaka  
Keiko Watabe (since July)  
Yasuyo Floyd

## **IN-KIND DONATION**

### Cookies, Sweets, Sozai Donation

Grace Goto  
Junko Kamimura  
Susan Nishizaka  
Takeko Saito  
Maggie Shimada  
Bingo Donor  
Takara Sake USA

**HARVEST LAND** prints our Sakura Kai happi coats and keeps our Sakura Kai web page with links to our on-line newsletter and Facebook picture updates current.

Let us know at [ECsakuraKai@gmail.com](mailto:ECsakuraKai@gmail.com) or (510) 778-3406 if there are errors or omissions so we can make corrections in our next newsletter.

Study trip to Oakland Museum and Laney College Culinary Arts for lunch



Retirement party for Setsuko Doi at center



Pictures by Scott Takeda and Jerry Fitzpatrick. Our Facebook link at [www.SakuraKaiEC.org](http://www.SakuraKaiEC.org) has pictures and video clips of other activities and special programs updated by Susan Nishizaka.