



Happy New Year, VJCC!

by Gail Sharp

The thing about committing to the first article for the new year, the actual writing happens in the old year and I'm still feeling nostalgic. 2024, VJCC's first full year post-pandemic, was EVENT-FILLED! In addition to planning a full capacity Shinnen Kai & Keiro Kai, returning to the two-day format Natsu Matsuri Festival and holding a second successful post-pandemic Golf Tournament, VJCC brought back Bingo Night AND hosted two new events – Bowling Night and The Shokudo Block Party Premiere!

We are healthy and enthusiastic and very much back to the business of having fun and building community!



The first major event of 2025 will be our Annual Shinnen Kai & Keiro Kai on Sunday, January 19, starting at 11:30 a.m. No reservations are needed to attend. It is VJCC's opportunity to recognize new Honorary Keiro members and exceptional volunteers, and for classes and clubs to share cultural displays, demonstrations and entertainment. Bento lunches will be available for sale on a first-come basis.

Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu! Please join us at Shinnen Kai & Keiro Kai! 🍷

Kinecta Federal Credit Union: Platinum Sponsor for the 2025 VJCC Golf Tournament

by Kevin Kunisaki

The VJCC would like to thank Kinecta Federal Credit Union for once again being a Platinum Sponsor at the upcoming 2025 VJCC Golf Tournament. The tournament will be held on Monday, September 22, at Candlewood Country Club in Whittier. All proceeds from the tournament go directly to the VJCC Building

Fund. Golfers & organizations/companies are encouraged to mark their calendars so as not to miss the event and also become sponsors of the VJCC Golf Tournament. 🍷



SAVE THESE DATES

Shinnen Kai & Keiro Kai
Sunday, January 19, 11:30 a.m.

Bingo Night
Saturday, April 5

Annual Clean-up
Sunday, August 3

Please check **VJCC.com** for the latest updates.



Board Visions

Though I am a newcomer to the VJCC board, the VJCC community has always been a significant part of my life. My family moved to the Venice area in 1971 where I attended Marina Del Rey Jr. High and Venice High School. My father, **Hank Quock**, owned and operated Marina Tire Co., an auto repair and tires sales business on the corner of Washington Blvd. and Alla Road. I started working at my dad's business at a very early age and became acquainted with many of the VJCC members and their families who were patrons of my dad's business. My dad instilled in me the importance of giving back and being part of the community. His dedication to the community is exemplified by his ongoing involvement with the Crescent Bay Optimist Club ("CBO") and the Tigers Youth Club since 1967. At 97, he is the oldest active member of CBO.



Established in 1964, CBO was led by community minded individuals who were also active members of the VJCC. **Sam Shimoguchi, Tom Nakamura, Calvin Sumida, Jiro Mochizuki, Hiro Taniyama, Phil Choy, Akira Ohno, Jack Nomura, Hideo Wachi, John Lee, Otto Nakano, James Murashige, Tom Tokuda, Paul Hatago, Dr. Mits Inouye, Judge Hiro Fujisaki** and my father, are just some of the individuals that I can personally recall who were actively involved in CBO's various community programs. In carrying out Optimist International's programs, which included honoring local police officers and fire fighters and conducting oratorical and essay contests for youths, CBO immersed itself into the VJCC community. CBO continued to carry out its motto "Friends of Youth" with such activities as conducting a youth Tri-Star basketball skills contest and operating a Tic Tac Toe game booth at the VJCC Festival with all proceeds earned being donated back to the VJCC.

CBO's most significant contribution was establishing and implementing the CBO Sports League, which has served thousands of youths from the San Fernando Valley, Gardena, West Los Angeles and Venice areas. It was this first generation of CBO members that had the foresight and fortitude to create a sports league that would not only provide an outlet for the Japanese American youths in our community, but also create a bond within the community that would transcend decades. Many of the VJCC members and their families who have participated in the CBO Sports League can attest to the memories and friendships made, as well as the positive impact *(Continued on page 3)*

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Vision Statement

"A center to preserve the heritage and perpetuate the Japanese-American cultural experience."

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Donations: November-December 2024

The VJCC gratefully acknowledges the following donations of time, material, and money:

Anonymous	\$100
Anonymous	\$1,000
Crescent Bay Sports League	\$650
Craig Cummings	\$100
FIA Insurance Services, Inc.	\$250
Stephen Fujimoto	Monetary Donation
Ronald & Barbara Fukuji	Monetary Donation
Kirk Kawaguchi	Car Donation
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<i>In Memory of Eddie Sekine</i>	
Nancy Toppel	\$100
<i>Senior Wellness Program</i>	
Anonymous	\$500
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Milnes & Noriko Kurashige	\$100
<i>In Memory of Martyn Sun</i>	
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George & Sheryl Yamada	Monetary Donation
<i>In Memory of Masato George Yamate</i>	
Joseph Grillo	\$100
Cedric Yoshimura	Car Donation

(Continued on page 3)

Building Fund: November-December 2024

Mark & Julie Akita	\$1,000
Jennifer Kayano	\$250
Kinecta Federal Credit Union	\$3,770
Yayeko Nishina & David Nishina	\$100

Annual Fund: November-December 2024

Anonymous	Monetary Donation
Anonymous	\$100
Anonymous	\$300
Anonymous	\$3,000
Anonymous	\$15,900
Liane Daimonji	\$100
Elton & Nancy Doi	\$250
Joyce Enomoto & Ken Rosengrant	\$250
Misako Fujisaki	\$5,000
David & Shirley Ginoza	\$500
Judith Graham-Johnson	\$100
Ken & Jane Harada	\$100
Rosalind Harper & Steven Catsiff	\$500
Joyce Hayashi	Monetary Donation
Steven & Elaine Hirohama	\$250
John & Lily Ikegami	\$3,000
Diane Imori	\$1,000
Beverly Ito	\$100

In Memory of Ichiro Ito

Anonymous	\$200
Richard & Ayako Kojima	Monetary Donation
Rachel Koza	\$100
Tom & Delcene Kuwata	\$100

In Memory of Kim Masumiya

Asao Masumiya	\$100
Norman & Patti Matsubara	\$250
Kenji Morimoto & Yoshiko Okuno	\$200
Albert & Pauline Morita	\$300
Galen & Phyllis Murakawa	\$100
Kazuo & Kimiko Obana	\$100
Virginia Okawauchi	\$150
Tatsumi Omote	\$100
Kenji & Lynn Onishi	\$500
Frances Saito & Thomas Oshima	\$100

In Memory of Mike (Masashi) Sakahara

Judith Sakahara	\$500
Tom Scheir	\$100
Minoru Jim & Beth Shibata	\$2,500
Seiko & Ayako Shimabukuro	\$100
Yukiko Shiraki	\$400
Catherine Silman	\$100
Mark & Julie Sim	Monetary Donation
Tatiana Sisikin	Monetary Donation
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Linda Takahashi	\$400
Gordon & Joan Tani	\$200
Phyllis Tanisaki	Monetary Donation
Itsuye Teshiba	\$100
Garrett Uchida	\$200
Lorenzo & Carolyn Valencia	\$100
Janet Watanabe	Monetary Donation
Harriet Woo	\$100
Margaret Yamaguchi	Monetary Donation

Board Visions *(Continued from page 2)*

it has had, and continues to have, on their lives. Though the CBO Sports League has long been separate and apart from the CBO organization, CBO continued to support the Sports League by donating funding for its annual Jamboree and scholarships.

Sadly, after 60 years of serving the Venice community, the Crescent Bay Optimist Club has reached the end of its journey. Though CBO bids its farewell, it does so with an everlasting feeling of gratitude and pride, having been able to support the community for the past six decades.

CBO would not have had its success without the VJCC community. Deeply intertwined, VJCC and VYC have graciously supported and helped CBO during its annual Pancake Breakfast fundraising event. The CBO Pancake Breakfast was an annual tradition which brought out the community spirit every year. Early on, *(Continued on page 4)*

2025 Membership Dues

2025 Annual Membership is due.

Membership application/renewals & dues must be received by January 31, 2025 by either of the following methods:

1. Online - You may go to: www.vjcc.com/membership
Instructions are provided on the website page.
2. Membership application* and check (payable to VJCC) - Form is available in this newsletter or may be printed from the website: www.vjcc.com/membership. Form and check may be mailed or dropped in the VJCC mailbox (outside the main gate) or the office mailbox (outside Room 4).

Membership year is January to December.

***Club or Organization Members:** Please input your club or class name(s) on your application where requested in order to properly notify your club/class of payment.

Annual Dues: Single Member: \$30 or Family: \$50 (Husband & wife and/or children under 18 and full-time students to age 23)

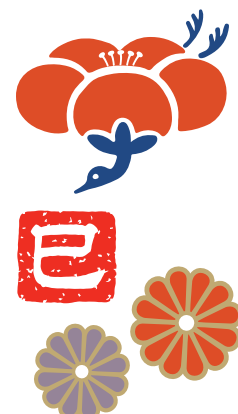
Senior Exemption: Age 80 or older and paid VJCC member for past 5 consecutive years.

Michiko Yamamoto & John Okita	\$5,000
Steven & Silvia Yoshimizu Yee	\$300

Legacy Tree Donations: November-December 2024

The VJCC gratefully acknowledges donations and pledges towards the Legacy Tree.

Fukui Mortuary	\$1,000
<i>Ted & Michi Imori</i>	
Jon Kobashigawa & Carol Kawata	\$1,000
Ed & Roberta Miyashiro	\$2,000
Stanley Oldoerp & Lisa Yumori	\$2,000
Koashi & Nan Yoshida	\$7,670
Tony & Debbie Yumori	\$1,000



Board Visions (Continued from page 3)

the Pancake Breakfast was held in the parking lot of then known “Bank of Tokyo” (currently US Bank), highlighted by the “battle of the bands” where local bands would take turns playing live music while patrons would feast on scrambled eggs, pancakes, sausages and orange Tang. Eventually, the annual event moved to the VJCC where friends and families would gather annually in May--rain or shine--to enjoy a meal, share stories, and remind themselves what it means to be part of the VJCC community.

As we bid adieu, we would like to express our deepest thanks and gratitude to **Sharon Aratani, Kazie Kame, Delcene Kuwata and Lois Tateishi** for their unwavering assistance and support to CBO throughout the years. On behalf of President **Chris Takahashi**, Secretary **Craig Singer**, Treasurer **Mike Hirahara** and board members **Joe Apodaca, Galen Murakawa, Hank Quock** and myself, it has been our pleasure serving the VJCC community.

Kevin J. Quock

私はVJCC理事会では新参加者ですが、VJCCコミュニティは常に私の人生の重要な一部でした。私の家族は1971年にベニス地区に移り住み、私はマリーナ・デル・レイ中学校とベニス高校に通いました。父のクオックハンクは、ワシントン・ブルバードとアラ・ロードの角で自動車修理とタイヤ販売のマリーナ・タイヤ社を運営していました。私は幼い頃から父の会社で働き始め、父の会社の後援者である多くのVJCCメンバーとその家族と知り合いになりました。父は私に、恩返しをすること、地域社会の一員であることの大切さを教えてくれました。地域社会への父の献身は、1967年以来、クレセント・ベイ・オブティミスト・クラブ(以下、CBO)とタイガース・ユース・クラブとの継続的な関わりによって証明されています。97歳の彼はCBOの最高齢の正会員です。

なく、何十年も続くコミュニティの絆を作るスポーツリーグを創設したのです。CBOスポーツリーグに参加した多くのVJCCメンバーとその家族は、思い出と友情を築いたこと、そして彼らの人生に良い影響を与えたこと、そして今も与え続けていることを証言してくれるでしょう。CBOスポーツリーグは長い間CBOの組織から切り離されていましたが、CBOは毎年開催されるジャンボリーや奨学金のための資金を寄付することで、スポーツリーグを支援し続けてきました。悲しいことに、60年にわたりベニス地域社会に奉仕してきたクレセント・ベイ・オブティミスト・クラブは、その旅路に終止符を打つことになりました。CBOは別れを惜しみつつも、この60年間、地域社会を支えることができたことへの感謝と誇りを胸に、永遠の別れを告げます。CBOの成功はVJCCコミュニティのおかげです。

1964年に設立されたCBOは、VJCCの現役メンバーでもあったコミュニティマインドを持った人々によって率いられました。シモグチサムさん、ナカムラトムさん、スミダカルビンさん、モチツキジロウさん、タニヤマヒロさん、チョイフィルさん、オオノアキラさん、ノムラジャックさん、ワチヒデオさん、リージョンさん、ナカノオットーさん、ムラシゲジェームスさん、トクダトムさん、ハタゴポールさん、イノウエミツ博士、フジサキヒロ判事、そして私の父など、私が個人的に思い出せるだけでも、CBOの様々なコミュニティ・プログラムに積極的に関わった人たちがいます。地元の警察官や消防士を表彰したり、青少年のための弁論大会や作文コンテストを実施したりといった国際オブティミストのプログラムを実施する中で、CBOはVJCCのコミュニティに没頭していきました。CBOは、青少年トライスター・バスケットボール・スキルコンテストの実施や、VJCCフェスティバルでのチックタック・トー・ゲームブースの運営(収益は全額VJCCに寄付)などの活動を通じて、「青少年の友」というモットーを実行し続けました。CBOの最も重要な貢献は、サンフェルナンドバレー、ガーデナ、ウエストロサンゼルス、ベニス地区の何千人もの青少年を対象にしたCBOスポーツリーグの設立と実施であります。CBOの第一世代のメンバーは、先見の明と不屈の精神で、日系アメリカ人の青少年にスポーツの場を提供するだけで

VJCCとVYCは深い絆で結ばれており、CBOが毎年開催するパンケーキ・ブレイクファストの資金集めのイベントを快く支援し、手伝ってくれました。CBOのパンケーキ・ブレイクファストは毎年恒例で、毎年コミュニティ精神を引き出してきました。初期の頃、パンケーキ・ブレイクファストは当時有名だった「バンク・オブ・トーキョー」(現在のUSバンク)の駐車場で開催され、スクランブルエッグ、パンケーキ、ソーセージ、オレンジタンに舌鼓を打ちながら、地元のバンドが交代で生演奏を披露する「バンド・バトル」がハイライトでした。やがて年中行事はVJCCに移り、友人や家族が毎年5月に集まり、雨の日も晴れの日も、食事を楽しみ、話を分かち合い、VJCCコミュニティの一員であることの意味を再認識しました。アラタニシャーロンさん、カメカジーさん、クワタデルセーヌさん、タテイシロイさんの各氏には、長年にわたりCBOを支えていただき、誠にありがとうございました。タカハシクリス会長、シンガークレイグ幹事、ヒラハラマイク会計、アポダカジョー理事、ムラカワガレン理事、クオックハンク理事を代表し、VJCCコミュニティに奉仕できたことを光栄に思っていることをお伝えします。

クオックJケビン




Venice Japanese
Community Center

2025
Shinnen Kai & Keiro Kai



YEAR OF THE SNAKE

January 19, 2025
11:30 am



KOSHIN TAIKO LA MARATHON CLASS

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 [koshintaiko](https://www.instagram.com/koshintaiko)



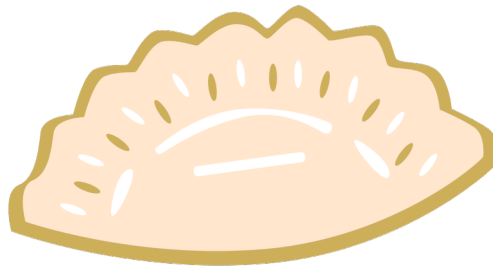
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20 frozen dumplings -\$15

Pork & Cabbage

Kimchi & Pork



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Veggie

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<https://scout-troop-764-dumpling-fundraiser-copy.cheddarup.com>



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Pick up on Sat. Feb 1st (7:30 AM- 12PM)

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Senior Wellness Program



JANUARY 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
← SWP Closed →						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	10-11am Tai Chi (MPR)	10am-12pm Chinese Mahjong (MPR)				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	10-11am Tai Chi (MPR)	10am-12pm Chinese Mahjong (MPR)		10am Movie: Breakfast at Tiffany's (CL)		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	10-11am Tai Chi (MPR)	10am-12pm Chinese Mahjong (MPR)		10-11am "Young at Heart" Exercise Class (MPR)		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	10-11am Tai Chi (MPR)	10am-12pm Chinese Mahjong (MPR)		10-11am "Young at Heart" Exercise Class (MPR)		Location: L = VJCC Lounge MPR= VJCC Multipurpose Room CL = VJCC Classroom

Young at Heart Strength Training Exercise class from Independence at Home (A Scan Community Service)

33 class series start Thursday, January 23, 2025, from 10 - 11am (Please RSVP)

Young at Heart Strength Training A Free Fall Prevention Fitness Program for Older Adults

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- Reduced Stress
- Improved Mental Health
- Social Interaction
- Reduced Number of Falls
- Improved Strength & Flexibility



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- Class meets for 1-hour
- Exercises can be done sitting or standing
- Classes are at no cost, we will provide exercise equipment
- Bring a water bottle & towel
- Wear loose comfortable clothing & closed toed tennis shoes
- **Must call or email to register to save a spot, space is limited!**

Venice Japanese Community Center
 33 class series starts Thursday, January 23rd 2025
 Time: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
 Class held on Thursdays



Must be registered to participate in class

To RSVP Call VJCC Office at: (310) 822-8885 or email to office@vjcc.com



Program created by Healthy Aging Association in Modesto, CA

Movie "Breakfast at Tiffany's"

Thursday, January 16th at 10am (Please RSVP)

"Breakfast at Tiffany's" is about a young aspiring author (George Peppard) who's just moved into a New York City apartment during World War II. This unnamed narrator is reserved, indifferent to the happenings around him. Eventually he befriends his upstairs neighbor (Audrey Hepburn) who has lots of secrets and lots of suitors.

Upcoming presentation: Memory and Aging

Mary S. Easton Center for Alzheimer's Disease Research and Care at UCLA

Monday, February 24, 2025 @11:15am

All classes and activities are FREE to all VJCC members 60 years and older. Our number one priority is the safety of our participants. All classes and activities still follow strict CDC protocols. e.g., face covering. Participants must be fully vaccinated and had taken first booster shot. Scheduled events can change without notice. Any questions or to RSVP please call the VJCC office at 310. 822.8885 or email at office@vjcc.com

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The Twenty-Fourth Annual VJCC Scholarship Award (2025)

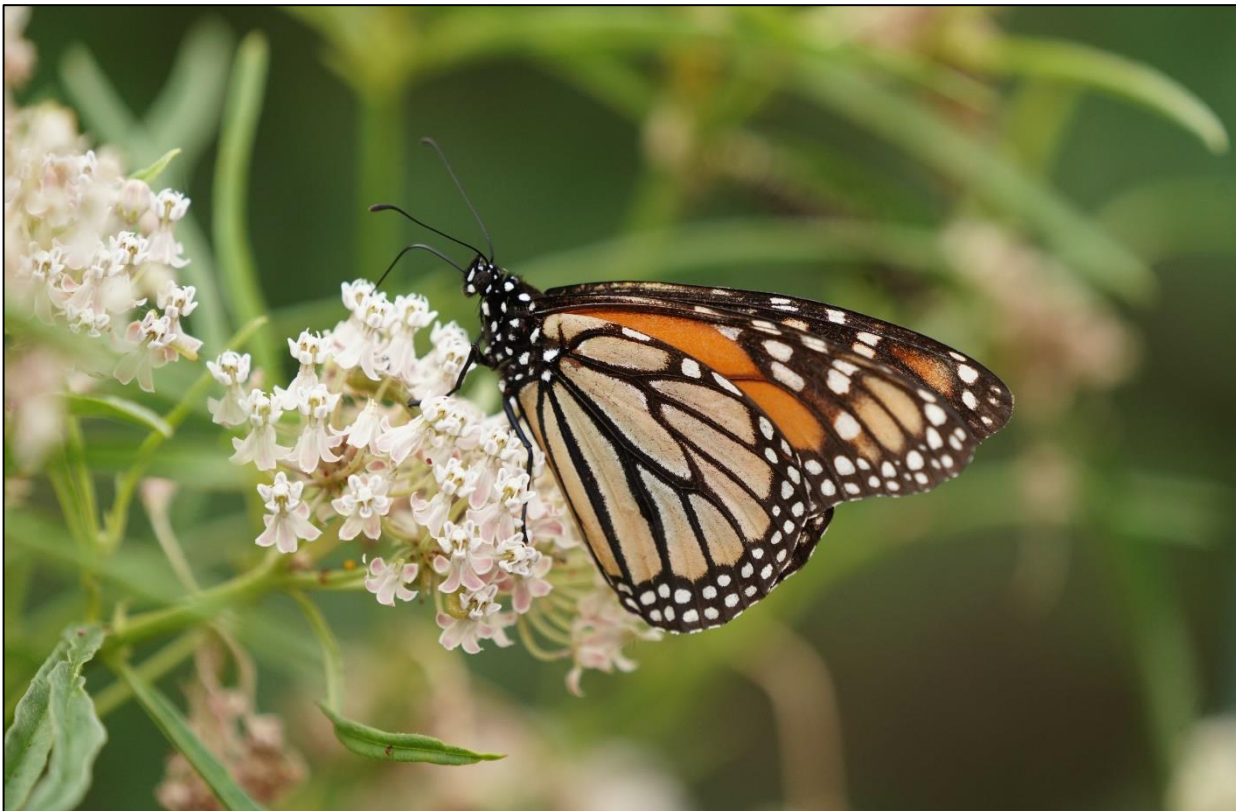
Eligibility: Applicants must be high school seniors graduating by June 2025 and must be planning to attend an accredited college or university in the academic year 2025-26. Applicants must also be a member of the VJCC or a dependent of a member of the VJCC.

Criteria: Criteria for awards include academic excellence, community service, and extra curricular activities.

Application: Applications will be available on or before December 20, 2024 at the VJCC office, from your VJCC affiliated club, and the VJCC website (vjcc.com).

Application Deadline: Applications and supporting documents must be emailed to scholarship@vjcc.com no later than March 14, 2025. Please read the application for submittal instructions.

Award Date: Applications will be evaluated by the VJCC Scholarship committee and recipients notified no later than May 16, 2025.



Frank and Elaine's Back Yard

Photo by Frank Koyama

PHOTO CLUB -- 01.2025

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VJCC™
Community News

VENICE KARATE CLUB

January 2025

Happy New Year, or Akemashite Omedetō Gozaimasu to the Venice Karate Club students and families! 2024 was a year of learning for the club's members, from its newest students, newly promoted brown belts, instructors, and competitors. 2025 is the Year of the Snake. With the snake being known to represent creativity and diligence, we hope all of our students train and learn creatively and diligently throughout this year! With that in mind, please hear from Vladimyr Dubuche, JKA instructor, reflecting on visiting, training, and participating in competition in Japan last November.

Endeavor to Excel

By Vladimyr Dubuche

From my recent trip to Japan, I had the privilege to train at JKA headquarter and Hoitsugan Dojo; from that experience the first thing that comes to mind is a deep sense of discipline and respect that goes beyond the dojo. The dedication of practitioners, the attention to perfection behind every movement or technique shows the deep martial art's roots and philosophy of karate as a way of life. This sense of respect is also palpable in many aspects of daily life and societal behavior in Japan.

At the 16th Gichin Funakoshi Shotokan Karate World Cup 2024 in the Takasaki Arena, (Gunma Prefecture in Japan) it's no surprise that team Japan demonstrated dominance at this prestigious competition. Living and training in Japan even for a short time is a transformative experience that offers extensive mental clarity and profound appreciation for evolution in karate roots.

For 2025, I wish that everyone at VKC will level to the same standard observed and practiced at JKA HQ, one technique at a time with the same precision, discipline, and resilience.

November 2024 Exam Results

8 Kyu - Shunsuke Ito, Rakuto Ito, Pin Ng (B), Kitora Diadhou (B)

7 Kyu - Mare Ito, Jackson Lee, Mike Lee, Brielle Nakasuji (B), Indira Laksmana (B)

6 Kyu - Tristan Horton, Tim Horton, Akemi Hayashibara, Liam Mac, Justin Castillo (B), Juliana Castillo (B), Felix Campe (B)

5 Kyu - Myles Thadani, Ririka Lopez, Noah Uehara (B), Tyler Ido Portillo (B)

4 Kyu - Kai Knox, Lauren Sasaki

2 Kyu - Eric Swanson, Ami Swanson

3 Dan JKA Recertification and JKA Instructor D License - Taiyo Yamaguchi

Congratulations to all students for their promotions!

The Venice Karate Club meets every Monday and Thursday from 7:00-9:15pm.

Whether you are continuing your training or are interested in starting something new, our Club will always welcome you.

If interested, please contact the Venice Japanese Community Center office for details.

空手クラブでは、毎週月曜日と木曜日午後7時から9時15分、空手の稽古をしています。何か新しいことや運動を始めたかと思っっている方は、是非一度見学にいらしてください。

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2025

Miss Western Los Angeles Queen Contest

Qualifications

- *Must be between 20 & 26 years of age on August 9, 2025, by Nisei Week Coronation Ball*
- *Must be single (not divorced or separated)*
- *Candidate must be 50 percent Japanese ancestry*
- *Application deadline – March 15, 2025*



Morgan Mayuko Gee
2024 Miss Western Los Angeles
2024 Nisei Week Queen

Applications and/or information:

Delcene Kuwata	kuwatadelcene@gmail.com
Irene Osako	ireneyosako@yahoo.com
Kazie Kame	kamemom@aol.com

Sponsored by: Venice Japanese Community Center & West LA JACL

VENICE PIONEER PROJECT

January 2025

PIONEER PROJECT 2025 SCHEDULE

Jan 22, Wed. PALA CASINO TRIP – Space available, contact Debi 821-0015

Departure – Be at the Center parking lot by 8:30 for check in.

DIM SUM LUNCHEON DATE CHANGED CANCELLED FEBRUARY 16, moved to MARCH

March 4-6, Tues-Thur LAS VEGAS TRIP

Departure – check in by 9:30 Tues, parking space is limited, please carpool. Reservation by mail-in flyer.

MARCH 16, Sun DIM SUM LUNCHEON – Begins **12:30 p.m.**

Free luncheon with the Chinese luncheon delicacies. Reservations by mail in flyer.

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Keiro Caregiver Conference



Caregiver Conference

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Saturday, March 15, 2025

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10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Registration Closes: Friday, February 28, 2025
For more information, visit keiro.org/CC25

Caregiver Conference South Bay - Coming Fall 2025

Keiro 



Venice Pioneer Project 2024

Season's Greetings and Happy New Year!

The Venice Pioneer Project wishes everyone a safe and joyous Holiday Season. We would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Holiday Luncheon. Have a happy and healthy 2025!

2024 In-Kind and Monetary Donations

The Venice Pioneer Project truly appreciates your generosity. Thank you for your contributions!

Anonymous	Ruby Kita	Randolph & Barbara Sato
Anonymous	Shinobu Koda	Mariko Sekine
Anonymous	Rachel Koza	Seiko & Ayako Shimabukuro
Anonymous	Marian Kubota	Toshiko Shimizu
Angel Maid Bakery	Kazuko Kurahashi	Wesley & Amy Shimoda
Feast From the East	Thomas & Delcene Kuwata	Yuki Shiraki
June Fujioka	Joseph & Naomi Lui	Kinu Shishido
Darlene Fujita	Kimiko Maeda	Larry & Annamaria Stevenson
Kei & Tomoko Fukuda	Irene Matsumura	Teruyo Sugamura
Jeannette Gamachi	Ayako Masada	June Sumida
Ellen Harada	Jane Matsuoka	Gordon & Joan Tani –
Diane Imori	Kanji Miyao	<i>In Memory of Ruth Horibe</i>
Ron & Shirley Inada	Jean Nakamoto	Lori Terada
Robert & Lucy Ito	Roy & Micki Nishiyama	Itsuye Teshiba
Pauline Itow –	Kenji & Alice Ogawa	Harriet Woo –
<i>In Memory of Ruth Horibe</i>	Virginia Okawauchi	<i>In Memory of Ruth Horibe</i>
Yoneko Joyce Itow	Tatsumi Omote	Yama Sushi Marketplace
Henry & Joy Iwamoto	Kenji & Lynn Onishi	Carol Yokoyama
Betty Jew	Mitsuko Ota	Roseann Yoshida
Kazie Kame	Jun & Sachiko Oyama	Ann Young
Tomiko Kasai	Richard Saiki	<i>Bold indicates donations of \$100 or more.</i>

2024 Holiday Party Volunteers

Thank you all for your help in making this year's luncheon a success!

John Amis	Hank Iwamoto	David Nishina	Norman Tachiki
Tomoko Fukuda	Steve Izuhara	Doris Noda	Yoshie Tachiki
Jenny Gamachi	Victor Kobayashi	Alice Ogawa	Gordon Tani
Debi Horibe-Robbins	Ayako Masada	Michael Okamura	Joan Tani
James Ido	Jane Matsuzaki	Jun Oyama	Clifford Tanigawa
Elizabeth Inouye	Donna Mayeda	Cris Pineda	Linda Tanigawa
Eric Inouye	David Morioka	Evelyn Pineda	Harriet Woo
Pauline Itow	John Nawa	Barbara Sato	Beverly Yahata
	Judy Nawa	Randy Sato	

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COMPASS

VJCC SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAM

January 2025

Come join us not only for nutritious meals, but also for fun activities in a warm and welcoming environment to enhance your overall health and well-being.

Our VJCC SNP-sponsored programs continue to be popular with our seniors. The VJCC Senior Nutrition Program's mission is to have our seniors get up, get dressed, and get going...to look forward to spending time with old friends, making new ones in a place that is welcoming and fun, and to encourage them to join in other VJCC activities, classes, and clubs (Senior Wellness Programs, The Pioneer Project, Pickle Ball, Ikebana, Bonsai, and many more). **The following VJCC Senior Nutrition Program-sponsored activities support the Senior Meals Program (WLCAC):**

- ◆ Celebrating Monthly Birthdays (3rd Friday)*
- ◆ Monthly Bento Program (last Friday)*
- ◆ The Puzzle Center (1000+ piece puzzles)
- ◆ Ever-popular weekly Bingo *
- ◆ Annual Holiday Party.*

➤ Come in to sign up with Tina Grammatico, WLCAC Meal Service Coordinator of the **Senior Meals Program** and to pick up a menu (monthly menus are also posted on the VJCC website). Tina is an employee of the WLCAC and with the help of the VJCC volunteers stands ready to package up nutritious meals (grab 'n' go) Monday through Friday. **You are encouraged to try out the warm and nutritious meals whenever you wish. You also might want to "Buy one and share one" with other seniors to help them with an extra meal for dinner or for over the weekend.**

***Note: You must be a VJCC AND Senior Meals Program member to attend the Annual Holiday Party.**

2024 Annual Holiday Party

Senior Nutrition's Annual Holiday Party was a roaring success. Lots of food, desserts, prizes, gifts, and acknowledgements galore were handed out to all who attended. Ninety-plus year olds were celebrated and of course, our "treasures" 107 year old Yoneko Itow and soon to be 104 year old Otome Nagano of whom we can't celebrate enough. **A big thank you to Kats Nishimoto, Melissa Lee, and all of the VJCC Senior Nutrition volunteers who made this a special day for all those who attended.**



Donations

We are so fortunate to have donations, in addition to our semi-annual fundraisers, to fund the programs the VJCC Senior Nutrition Program sponsors.

Donations:

Gayle Hiram & Rod Freed
Otome Nagano
Galen & Phyllis Murakawa
Melissa Lee
Mickey & Nadine Shintaku
Ted & Sharon Okimoto

Winya Akiyama
Carolyn Komoto
Daniel & Joy Hong
June Fujioka
Debi Horibe-Robbins
Susan Tritt

Carol Yokayama
Pauline Itow
Linda Takahashi
Denise Morita
Norm & Yoshie Tachiki
Harold and Jackie Kittaka

In Memory of:

Vivienne Douglas, IMO Martyn Sun

Anonymous, IMO Jimmy & Magee Otoide

And of course...there are donations made to the weekly Bingo, people who donate toward the cake on their birth month, all the baked goods sweet & savory made by our volunteers (and others). The list goes on and on. **Thank you everyone, particularly our volunteers, for making the VJCC Senior Nutrition Program such a hit each and every year!**



VJCC ANNUAL BINGO NIGHT



APRIL 5, 2025
SATURDAY

1st Game Begins @ 5:00 pm, 20 Games To Be Played

Bingo Packet Includes:



- 1 Book of 20 Games (#1-#20), 3 Cards per Game
- 1 Raffle Ticket for mini prizes
- 1 Ink Dauber

LIMITED SEATING

- Pre-sale online or at VJCC office (by April 2, 2025) - \$30
- On day of event - \$40
- Bingo Packets will be distributed at the event.
- After purchase of Bingo Packet, additional game books will be available to buy at the event.
- Be sure to arrive on-time!

Troop 764 will be pre-selling karaage chicken & salmon bentos for \$15.00 until *March 26th*.

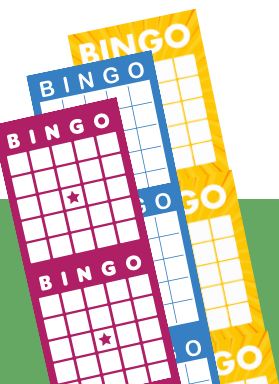
Limited bentos will be sold that night, starting at 4:30 pm. Desserts and Refreshments will also be available for sale.

To purchase online, scan here:



Or click here:

www.vjcc.com



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Office (310) 822-8885

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Must be 18 years or older Bingo License # R1024

BINGO SPONSORSHIPS

GOLD: \$1,000

- Name/Logo on VJCC banner displayed as "Gold Sponsor"
- Name displayed as "Gold Sponsor" throughout the event night
- Acknowledgement in the May edition of the newsletter
- 8 Bingo Packets, 8 Blackout Game Cards, 16 Raffle Tickets and 1 Reserved Gold Sponsor Table
- 8 Complimentary Bentos
- 8 Complimentary Refreshments

SILVER: \$500

- Name/Logo on VJCC banner
- Name displayed as "Silver Sponsor" throughout the event night
- Acknowledgement in the May edition of the newsletter
- 4 Bingo Packets and 8 Raffle Tickets
- 4 Complimentary Bentos
- 4 Complimentary Refreshments

BRONZE: \$250

- Name listed on VJCC banner
- Name displayed as "Bronze Sponsor" throughout the event night
- Acknowledgement in the May edition of the newsletter
- 2 Bingo Packets and 4 Raffle Tickets
- 2 Complimentary Bentos
- 2 Complimentary Refreshments

GAME SPONSOR: \$100

- Name displayed throughout the event night and announced at beginning of one game
- 1 Bingo Packet
- 1 Complimentary Refreshment

Sponsorship Registration

Due no later than March 14, 2025

Gold Sponsor \$1,000 = ____
• Email Logo to office@vjcc.com

Bronze Sponsor \$250 = ____

Silver Sponsor \$500 = ____
• Email Logo to office@vjcc.com

Game Sponsor \$100 = ____

Please make checks payable and mailed to:

Venice Japanese Community Center
Attn: Bingo Committee
12448 Braddock Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90066
Phone: (310) 822-8885

Please scan here for credit card payments:



Or click on this link:
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Carol Yokoyama Family

Gayle Hirami & Rod Freed



Parents Club

Frances & Thomas Oshima

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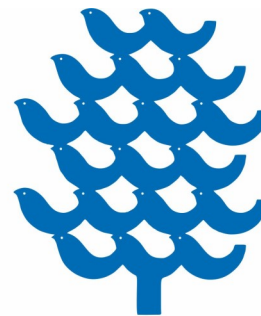


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Venice Pioneer Project

VJCC Pickleball Club

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR YEAR _____

Information is for VJCC use only

Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> NEW <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL <input type="checkbox"/> LIFE <input type="checkbox"/> ADDRESS CHANGE	Check One: <input type="checkbox"/> ADULT MEMBER <input type="checkbox"/> PARENT OF MINOR PARTICIPANT
---	--

PLEASE PRINT

Primary Member _____	Birth Date _____	Club _____
Spouse (if applicable) _____	Birth Date _____	Club _____
Minor Participant _____	Birth Date _____	Club _____
Minor Participant _____	Birth Date _____	Club _____
Minor Participant _____	Birth Date _____	Club _____

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CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____ **PHONE ()** _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

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VJCC information and messages will be sent via email. To unsubscribe, please do so in the sent email.

EMERGENCY CONTACT: Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

LIABILITY RELEASE AND WAIVER

For and in consideration of my being permitted to use the facilities and equipment of the VENICE JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC., and any class I attend, at 12448 Braddock Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90066, and further to be allowed to enter, remain, and be on the premises owned, operated, supervised, or managed by the above-stated organizations, or any other place in the course of the activities of the above-stated organizations.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO HEREBY EXPRESSLY WAIVE AND RELEASE all and any rights, claims, demands, actions, or judgments which I, the undersigned, ever had, now has, may have, or claimed to have, against the above-stated organizations, their officers, members, agents or employees of any and all personal injuries and damages and any and all injuries to property, real or personal, which might be caused by the, arise out of, or result in connection with my presence on the premises of the above-stated organizations or otherwise by my participation in any activity organized, supervised, or conducted by the above-stated organizations or wherever located.

- I HAVE READ THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER AND UNDERSTAND ALL ITS TERMS.
- I EXECUTE THIS RELEASE AND WAIVER VOLUNTARILY WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE.
- I AGREE TO HAVE MEDICAL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR EACH PARTICIPANT.
- I HEREBY CONSENT TO THE USE OF MY NAME, PHOTOGRAPH AND/OR IMAGE BY THE VJCC FOR ITS PROMOTIONAL PURPOSES.
- I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE VJCC RULES AND REGULATIONS AS PRINTED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PAGE.

DATE: _____ ADULT'S SIGNATURE _____

RELATIONSHIP TO MINOR PARTICIPANT _____

.....
CHECK APPROPRIATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY & MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "VJCC" CHECK # _____

- Individual** Membership (18 or older)...\$30 **Dues collected by** _____
- Family** Membership (including minors under 18 & full-time students under 24)...\$50 (class or organization)
- Senior** (age 80 & paid member for past 5 consecutive years) Birth date (required) _____ **(dues waived)**

.....
VJCC RECORD: Treasurer _____

DB POSTED _____ **DUES** POSTED _____

VENICE JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER

2025 ONGOING PROGRAMS & CLASSES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
▼ 12:30 Taiko 3:30 Virtual Sunday Yoga 5:30 Volleyball Adult 8:00 Basketball Adult	9:00 Pickleball 10:00 Tai Chi (60+) (Senior Wellness Program) 10:30 Sr. Nutrition ▼ 1:00 Craft Workshop 4:30 Basketball VYC 6:30 Aikido 7:00 Del Rey H/O (1 st Mon,Zoom) 7:00 Karate	09:00 Adult Zumba 10:30 Sr. Nutrition 10:00 Sr. Wellness ▼ 4:00 Basketball VYC 7:00 Taiko 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Judo	9:00 Pickleball 10:00 Roeikai-Shigin 10:30 Sr. Nutrition ▼ 4:30 Basketball VYC 7:30 JAACL (1 st Wed) 7:00 Kendo	10:30 Sr. Nutrition ▼ 12:30 Ballroom Dance * 4:00 Basketball VYC 6:00 Aikido 7:00 Ikebana 5:30 Japanese as Sec. Lang. (Before Beginner, Beginner) 7:00 Karate	9:30 Sumi-e 10:30 Sr. Nutrition ▼ 4:00 Basketball VYC 6:00 Hula 7:00 Japanese as Second Language (Intermediate) 7:00 Judo 7:00 Kendo	7:15 Aikido 9:00 Japanese Language (Children's) 9:30 Japanese Dance* 9:30 Basketball VYC ▼ 1:00 Koto* 2:00 Bunka Shodo 1:00 Iaido
Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 10:00 Watercolor ▼	Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:30 VYC Mtg (2 nd Wed)	Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 Bonsai (2 nd Fri)	Same as Week 1 1:00 Iaido ▼
Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 Boy Scout Parents	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 CBO (3 rd Wed) 7:30 VJCC Exec Council	Same as Week 1 ▼ 5:30 Japanese as Sec. Lang. (Before Beginner, Beginner)	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 Japanese as Second Language (Intermediate)	Same as Week 1
Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 10:00 Watercolor	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 Photo Club (4 th Tues) 7:00 Bonsai (4 th Tues)	Same as Week 1 ▼ 7:00 RAP (4 th Wed)	Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1	Same as Week 1 1:00 Iaido ▼

Revised 10/4/2024

* class has not yet resumed

2025 REPRESENTATIVES

Arts & Crafts

Craft Workshop..... Ruby Kita
 Photo Club..... June Inai
 Watercolor..... Ko Yoshida

BSA Troop 764

Scoutmaster.....Dan Regan
 Parents' Club..... Elton Doi

Exercise

Yoga.....Leslie Masuda
 Zumba.....Leonore Miller

Dance

Ballroom Dance*..... Gayle Hiram
 Hula..... Wen-Chia Parker
 Japanese Odori*..... Dianne Fukuwa

JAACL (Venice/WLA).....John Saito

Japanese Culture

Bonsai..... Shig Miya, Shinya Miyakoshi
 Ikebana.....Satsuki Palter
 Calligraphy (Japanese Brush Writing)
 Shodo.....Fusako Ogasawara
 Sumi-e..... Jane Shibata

Japanese Language

Gakuen (Youth)..... Shizuki Yamashita
 Adults (as a 2nd language).....Fusako Ogasawara

Martial Arts

Aikido..... Tom Scheir
 Iaido..... Harry Mott
 Judo..... Trace Nishiyama
 Karate..... Ron Sugano
 Kendo..... Kevin Fujikami

Music

Koto*..... Eiko Idota
 Shigin (Roeikai)..... Kosei Yamamura
 Taiko (Koshin)..... Lori Miyakawa

RAP..... Carolyn Komoto

Seniors

VJCC Sr. Nutrition..... Kats Nishimoto
 - Senior Meal Service (M-F) .. Tina Grammatico
 Pioneer Project.....Eric Inouye
 Senior Wellness Program.....Gayle Hiram

Sports

Basketball (Adult).....Chuan Michael Chang, George Johnston
 Basketball (VYC).....Kathy Yamashita/Kazie Kame
 Pickleball (Adult)..... Mil Kurashige/Ken Rosengrant
 Volleyball (Adult)..... Todd Nakamoto

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FOR CLASS INFO, CALL VJCC OFFICE (310) 822-8885 OR EMAIL OFFICE@VJCC.COM
 MESSAGES WILL BE RELAYED TO APPROPRIATE PARTIES



Venice Japanese Community Center, Inc.
COMMUNITY NEWS

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