

Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai Newsletter



Volume IX, Issue 1

1st Quarter 2020

2020 New Year Luncheon Sunday, February 23, 2020

Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai's (NYK) 115th Anniversary was celebrated at the 2020 New Year Luncheon at the Quiet Cannon in Montebello. Over eighty guests enjoyed a fun day celebrating the Year of the Rat.

Before a brief NYK general meeting, emcee **Aki Fukuhara-Vaughn** asked for a moment of silence in memory of members **Peggy Mikuni** and **Roy Oban** who passed away in the previous 12 months.

President Arturo Yoshimoto opened the general meeting with the introduction of **Treasurer Naomi Suenaka** who gave the 2019 Year-End Financial Report. After the 2020 officers (below) were approved by the member body, Arturo expressed best wishes and good health to all for the coming year.

2020 NYK Board Officers

President	Arturo Yoshimoto
Vice President	Florence Ochi
Recording Secretary	Aki Fukuhara-Vaughn
Corresponding Secretary	Laura Lee
Treasurer	Naomi Suenaka



2020 NYK Board Officers

Arturo Yoshimoto, Florence Ochi, Naomi Suenaka, & Aki Vaughn. Not Pictured: Laura Lee.

Prior to lunch being served, the invocation and toast were given respectively by former presidents **Arlene Nakamura** and **Patrick Seki**.

A photo presentation featuring NYK's 2019 New Year luncheon and June 2019 picnic was shown during dessert.

After a delicious lunch, **Vice President Florence Ochi**, announced the good news that the **Aratani Foundation** awarded a \$5,000 grant to NYK's "Finding Your Roots" (FYR) project. Florence introduced FYR seminar host, **Chester Hashizume**, and asked members interested in attending future FYR seminars, to contact her at florenceochi19@gmail.com.

Naomi Suenaka, committee chair of the **2020 5th World Grand Meeting (WGM)**, presented details of the 3-day meeting in November. The meeting will be held in Iwakuni City and attendees will have a choice of tours (*please see page 4*).

Atsuko Kimoto and **Aki Vaughn** then read the names of our senior members 80 years and older. Gifts were presented to 19 seniors this year (*see photo on page 2*).

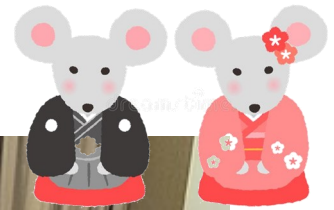
Scholarship Program Chair, **Arlene Nakamura**, announced that the 2020 applications are now available for download on our Facebook page and Website. Scholarships are open to graduating high school seniors who are descendants of Yamaguchi-Ken. Three past scholarship recipients from the audience were introduced: **Julia Fukuhara**, **Paige Fukuhara**, and **Allison Ohara**.

In celebration of our 115th Year, the NYK Board members recognized our Board Advisors for their invaluable support. **Arturo Yoshimoto**, **Remi Hayashi**, and **Naomi Suenaka** presented gifts of appreciation to the following honorees: **Victor Fukuhara**, **Rev. Kiyoshi Igawa** (not present), **Yoshiko Kishimoto**, **Arlene Nakamura**, **Patrick Seki**, **Hideaki Tanaka**, **Helen Yasuda**, and **Henry Yasuda**.

Naomi Suenaka then announced the always popular Bingo games. Many thanks to **Shogo Hayashi** (age 11) who did an excellent job calling the numbers and **Warren Fukuhara** (age 8) for his assistance.

(Continued on page 4)

2020 New Year Luncheon



2020 80 Years+ Seniors

Front row (l to r): Helen Yasuda, Tomiko Nakata, Yoshiko Monji, Carol Ford, Yoshiko Kishimoto, Mitsuko Yamamoto, Meriko Miyamoto, Reijin Fujita, Ayako Fujita, and Hideaki Tanaka.

Back row (l to r): Henry Yasuda, Fusaye Yamasaki, Yae Tanaka, Hideko Nagamine, Mitsuko Ono, Masaharu Yamada, Yoshie Ishigame, Tetsuo Ozawa, and Victor Miyamoto.





Board Advisors Honorees

Front row (left to right): Patrick Seki, Arlene Nakamura, Yoshiko Kishimoto, Victor Fukuhara, Hide Tanaka, Helen Yasuda, & Henry Yasuda. Not pictured: Rev. Kiyoshi Igawa. Back row: Board Treasurer Naomi Suenaka, and Board President Arturo Yoshimoto.



New Year Luncheon—(Cont'd from p1)

Closing out the day was the distribution of door prizes and the traditional singing of "Sukiyaki" led by **Patrick Seki** and **Larry Fukuhara**. Special thanks to **Arturo Yoshimoto** and **Lea Hayashi** for their generous donation of Girl Scout cookies!

Arturo delivered closing remarks and reminded everyone to attend our annual picnic on June 14 and join us at the 2020 World Grand Meeting in Yamaguchi Prefecture.

The luncheon ended with smiling faces and promises to meet again next year!



All New Year Photos by Bruce Thompson

Download photos from our website:
<http://www.yamaguchi-usa.org>

World Grand Meeting in Yamaguchi

Date: November 9 (Mon.) ~ 13 (Fri.), 2020

Duration: 5 days, 4 nights

Itinerary:

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 11/9 (Mon) | Arrive in Iwakuni |
| 11/10 (Tues) | Iwakuni sightseeing
WGM Ceremony |
| 11/11 (Wed) | Course 1 Tour - Yanai and Suo Oshima
Course 2 Tour - Yamaguchi and Akiyoshidai |
| 11/12 (Thurs) | Course 1 Tour - Hofu and Yamaguchi
Course 2 Tour - Shimonoseki and Nagato |
| | Youth Exchange Program in Yamaguchi |
| 11/13 (Fri) | Leave Yamaguchi |

Attendees have a choice of taking Course 1 or Course 2. Breakfast on all days will be provided by the hotel; lunches on 11/10, 11, & 12 and dinner on 11/10 will be provided. All other meals, roundtrip airfare and hotel rooms will be the responsibility of the attendees. For more information, please contact us via our NYK gmail address to the attention of Naomi Suenaka.

Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook Yamaguchi-Kenjinkai-Los Angeles

Instagram Username: Nanka.Yamaguchi.Kenjinkai
 If you have any pictures you would like uploaded onto the Instagram account, please send them to nanka.yamaguchi.kenjinkai@gmail.com with the subject "Yamaguchi Instagram Picture." In the email, please give us your name and caption to go along with the picture.



Website <http://yamaguchi-usa.org>

Email Nanka.Yamaguchi.Kenjinkai@gmail.com

New Year Luncheon Special Acknowledgements

JK Yamamoto, Rafu Shimpō

Floral centerpieces from San Gabriel Nursery

ありがとう

Trace Fukuhara	Atsuko Kimoto	Naomi Suenaka
Larry Fukuhara	Yoshiko Kishimoto	Bruce Thompson
Warren Fukuhara	Laura Lee	Aki Vaughn
Lea Hayashi	Arlene Nakamura	Mike Vaughn
Manami Hayashi	Florence Ochi	Helen Yasuda
Remi Hayashi	Michiko Otaga	Henry Yasuda
Shogo Hayashi	Patrick Seki	Arturo Yoshimoto

Save the Date!

NYK Picnic June 14, 2020

George Elder Park, Monterey Park



Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai

2020 Board Officers

Arturo Yoshimoto.....President
 Florence Ochi.....Vice President
 Aki Fukuhara-Vaughn.....Recording Secretary
 Laura Lee.....Corresponding Secretary
 Naomi Suenaka.....Treasurer

2020 Board Members: Atsuko Kimoto, Michiko Otaga, and Mike Vaughn.

2020 Board Advisors: Victor Fukuhara, Arlene Nakamura, Rev. Kiyoshi Igawa, Patrick Seki, Hide Tanaka, Helen and Henry Yasuda.

Facebook Administrator:.....Laura Lee

Instagram:.....Laura Lee

Webmaster:.....Bruce Thompson

Newsletter Editor:.....Arlene Nakamura

Newsletter Creator & Publisher:.....Aki Fukuhara-Vaughn