



Seattle Hiroshima Club

シアトル広島県人会

Seattle Hiroshima Club, P. O. Box 94083, Seattle, WA 98124-9483
www.seahiro.org



Nami (Tsukasa) Namekata
President, 2022-2024
Seattle Hiroshima Club

President's Message

I hope that all club members and families are safe, well, and doing everything possible to fight back against this long-lasting vicious coronavirus. It is important to be fully vaccinated to protect yourself and others. When meeting or dining with friends, visitors, or a group of people, testing yourself with a COVID-19 At-Home Test Kit before and after your meeting can prevent spread of the virus. You can receive free test kits by ordering from [Washington State Coronavirus Response \(COVID-19\)](https://coronavirus.wa.gov/) <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>

Scholarship Committee Chair Ms. Andrea Mano reported three recipients of 2022 college scholarships: Miss Lauren Chin of Ingraham High School, Mr. Gabriel Shen of Nathan Hale High School, and Miss Sydney Shimizu of Seattle Preparatory School. They achieved outstanding standards in all aspects of their high school life. Congratulations! We are very proud of their accomplishments. Please enjoy reading their essays.

As we did last year, we would like to recognize and honor the 2022 high school and college graduates whose parents and/or grandparents are the club members. The club will present each graduate with a small gift. Please submit the application form included in this newsletter.

Recently our long-time friends and club members Mrs. Mieko Kano and Mr. George Mano passed away peacefully. Please see their life stories. We all miss Mieko and George.

Although the pandemic is not over yet, we decided to have our annual picnic at Seward Park in Seattle on Saturday, August 20th since COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have significantly declined and risk of its infection is significantly less. Please see a picnic announcement and register. We look forward to seeing you all!

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple notified me of conducting the annual atomic bomb victims' memorial service in person at 10:00 AM on Sunday, August 7th. Our club will cohost this service with the Betsuin Temple with our sincere wish for no more repeat of Hiroshima and Nagasaki catastrophes. Please attend this special service at the temple paying our respect to many A-bomb victims of relatives of our club members and cultivating peace in your heart (Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple, 1427 South Main Street, Seattle).

Do you know that Japan's prime minister Fumio Kishida (岸田文雄) is from Hiroshima Prefecture? "Many members of the Kishida family had died in the atomic bombing and Fumio grew up hearing stories from the atomic bomb survivors." (see his background at [Fumio Kishida - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fumio_Kishida) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fumio_Kishida). According to the recent news, Japan will host the 2023 G7 summit in Hiroshima to draw the attention of the world community to the significance of the issue of nuclear disarmament. We hope that Prime Minister Kishida can make a significant contribution to peace in the world.

Before my retirement, I had been comparing health status and risk factors between Japanese Americans living in the Seattle area and Japanese living in Japan to examine effects of environmental changes (lifestyle and

Continued on Page 2

President's Message Continued

diet) on cardiovascular disease and stomach cancer. Dr. Kunio Aoki at Nagoya University kindly copied my Japanese summary report and English research papers in DVDs as an educational material to be distributed among professors and students in public health and epidemiology fields. Its copy is now available in website: www.SeaNikkeiHlth.com for anyone who is interested in health issues and disease prevention. I'd like to express my sincere appreciation to our club members and others who participated in my study. Without their contributions, I could not have achieved my goal. Thank you.

My sincere hope is that we can resume our normal activities soon. Looking forward to connecting with you in person for friendly chats and enjoying meals together!

Scholarship Recipients

By Andrea Mano

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to introduce three talented and caring high school seniors as recipients of the club's scholarship. Each will be awarded a \$3,000 scholarship for their post-secondary education. All three students have achieved a 3.9 or higher GPA in rigorous coursework, while participating in many school and community activities. They have volunteered and shown leadership in many different ways. The three are Lauren Chin, Gabriel Shen, and Sydney Shimizu.

Please join us in congratulating these outstanding graduates! Following is information about each, along with their essay, and an acknowledgement from them.

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Lauren Chin



Lauren Chin is a 2022 graduate of Ingraham High School, and is daughter to Jenni and Ed Chin and granddaughter to Yoshio and Judith Nakamura. Lauren has participated in Family Career and Community Leaders (FCCLA) all four years of high school. She has also participated in National Honor Society. Lauren has a 4.0 GPA. Lauren's community volunteerism include helping with Food Lifeline, and raising food for food drives with her soccer club.

Through participating in Camp Fire Girls, she has earned the WoHeLo award, has made cloth masks for Youth Care and taught a younger Camp Fire group to make blankets to donate to Seattle Children's Hospital.

Lauren has played soccer for many years, including on her high school varsity team, where she was captain and received the MVP award. She has played club soccer and made ECNL All-conference 1st team. Lauren has signed a letter of intent to play Division I soccer at Gonzaga University, after verbally committing in 11th grade.

In a letter of recommendation, it was noted that Lauren is an "exceptionally positive person who builds meaningful relationships with all those around her." They further describe her as the "hardest working" member of the team, "who learns from challenges and grows through them." Lauren hopes to pursue a bachelor's and master's degree in Computer Science. She hopes to continue with her volunteerism.

A message from Lauren

I am deeply honored and grateful to have been selected to receive the 2022 Seattle Hiroshima Club Scholarship. Thank you very much for giving me this scholarship, as it will assist me as I head to Gonzaga University

Continued on Page 3

Message from Lauren Chin continued

to further my education in Computer Science. I want to thank the committee for reviewing my application and choosing me as one of the recipients. I really appreciate it.

Time has flown by, but I'm very excited to attend Gonzaga University in the fall. These past couple of years have been difficult with Covid-19, but I am fortunate to have been able to experience a relatively normal senior year. Never again will I take in person schooling or seeing my friends every day for granted. I look forward to continuing to learn more about my Hiroshima lineage, as well as staying involved in my Japanese American community. Thank you again for your generosity.

“What Hiroshima Means to Me” by Lauren Chin

To me, Hiroshima means resilience and strength. Hiroshima means taking a terrible situation and fighting through it. My grandfather, Yoshio Nakamura, was only 10 years old on August 6th, 1945, when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. Since then, he has become such a kind, generous, happy, wise, man that I have learned so many valuable things from. He teaches me so many priceless life lessons, and I appreciate every minute I get to spend with him. The most important lesson he has taught me is to never stop working to overcome anything in your path. That's what Hiroshima means to me.

My grandfather is such a happy, helpful, and generous man. He goes outside on his porch in the rain and cooks chicken for our family on New Years Day. He takes me and my family out to get sushi for dinner sometimes. He wakes up and drives to work every morning at 86 years old. He also has that smile that lights up the room. His laugh is quiet, but you can hear it anywhere in the house. Seeing him just brightens your day. You could find him sitting on the couch watching football games on the sofa with us. He gives us Seahawks tickets to go to games with him, with family, and with our friends. He does so much for me and my family. He is the best grandfather anyone could ask for. If you were to see my grandfather today, you wouldn't have any idea of his past.

You would have no idea that he lived through the Hiroshima bombing. You would have no idea about how his life was changed by it. He was living on a small island, now called Utsumi Island, about 100 miles away from Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was dropped. He was just a 10-year-old boy who knew his country was at war, but he had never experienced the effects of war until that day. About 1 year later, my grandfather went with his class to the location where the atomic bomb was dropped. He describes it as “total destruction”. He explained to me that when he saw with his own eyes the debris everywhere and the complete demolition of everything, he began to truly understand the effects of the bomb. Psychologically, that bomb changed him forever. What he remembers from this time in his life is something I can't even begin to imagine.

However, despite this traumatizing past, he has turned his life into something to be proud of. Anytime someone says the word “atomic” it brings back old memories, but he has still managed to move on and close that chapter of his life. He has found a way to surpass this suffering and pain and replace it with feelings of comfort and joy. He is living proof that we can overcome anything.

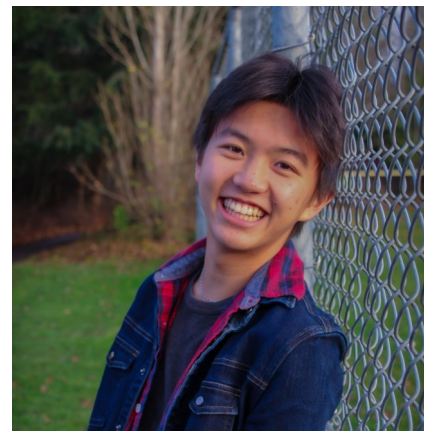
I volunteer at food banks and at Food Lifeline. I do service projects with Camp Fire, with Family Career and Community Leaders of America club, and with National Honors Society. I play club soccer almost every day of the week. I work at a bubble tea store during summer and during the school year. I won't shy away from hard work, because that's what my grandfather taught me. That's what Hiroshima means to me: hard work.

Not only that, but I have overcome some challenges in my life. All of those times when I feel like giving up, I remember that my situation isn't nearly as bad as what others had to experience. Specifically, it's nothing compared to what my grandfather experienced. I have to remember that I am so fortunate, and that I can't shy away from anything. From the smallest challenges to the biggest challenges in my life, I will forever remember what Hiroshima means to me: resilience, strength, and hard work.

Scholarship Recipients Continued

Gabriel Shen

Gabriel Shen is a 2022 graduate of Nathan Hale High School, and is son to Charlene Mano Shen and Eugene Shen, and grandson to Irene Mano. In high school, Gabriel participated in leadership activities such as Senate (as a junior and senior) in which he worked with staff, students and families. He also participated in leadership roles with Coalition of Asian and Pacific Students. Gabriel has been awarded “Writer of the Month” in his newspaper class as well as created and participated in a student-led podcast. Gabriel has a 4.0 GPA.



Gabriel has also participated in both school and community theatre programs, school ultimate frisbee and cross country. Through Boy Scouts of America, he has earned the Eagle Scout award. For his Eagle Scout project, he created a mentorship program for incoming freshman at his high school. Through Boy Scouts and Junior Youth Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA), he has volunteered helping younger youth, collecting for food drives, and helping other's with their Eagle Scout projects.

In a letter of recommendation, Gabriel was described as “well-liked by his peers, and very inclusive of all.” Gabriel was noted to be a “stalwart advocate for marginalized groups and a welcomed and respected voice amongst his peers and educators.” Gabriel hopes to pursue a degree in Psychology or an Environmental field, with a minor in Music. He would like to participate in choir, other cultural affinity groups and take a Japanese language class.

A Message from Gabriel:

I am very honored to be receiving this scholarship from the Seattle Hiroshima Club. The money I receive will go towards my education at the University of Washington, Seattle campus. Although I am undecided on my specific major, my interests are of a broad variety, including psychology, environmental studies, music, and theatre.

Working on various teams throughout my high school career, whether it be for theatre, sports or student leadership, has reaffirmed for me, time and time again, the extreme importance of community. With this in mind, I am grateful towards the Seattle Hiroshima Club for always emphasizing and celebrating community; from the club's foundational years bringing together immigrant families, to extending community support towards the younger generation with awarding this scholarship.

“What Hiroshima Means to Me,” by Gabriel Shen

Though I have never been to Hiroshima, Japan, my ancestors immigrated from this city to America. When I think of Hiroshima, I think of the positive impacts these ancestors have left on my life and the gratitude I feel towards them. To me, Hiroshima is not only the basis of my Japanese heritage but also the embodiment of my ancestors' legacy, which in many ways is responsible for the opportunities I receive today.

My Japanese heritage traces back to Hiroshima. When my grandmother's grandparents immigrated from Hiroshima, to the “land of opportunity”, they brought with them their values. I am a hard working, responsible scholar because these were values they passed on to me through the generations. I also value the closeness and affinity of the Japanese American community, similar to how my ancestors depended on their small group of Japanese immigrants in order to survive in America.

Hiroshima also represents the legacy that my immigrant ancestors created. This legacy includes their resilience to start a new life for themselves in America and to endure the hardship of incarceration camps during World War II, but also the hard work they put into building the Seattle that we know today. As a surviving descend-

Continued on Page 5

Scholarship Recipients Continued

Gabriel Shen continued

ant, I carry this legacy with me and I am grateful for the opportunities that their successes have given me. I am able to live a life with much privilege because of the sacrifices they made.

While the physical location does not resonate much with me, Hiroshima is significant to me because of my ancestors from there and the impacts they had on my life. I will take on the responsibility of passing on my ancestors' legacy and by doing so, return the favor of the road they helped pave for me.

Sydney Shimizu



Sydney is a 2022 graduate of Seattle Preparatory School, is the daughter of Eric & Marci Shimizu, and the granddaughter to George Shimizu. In high school, Sydney participated in National Honors Society and has been a peer mentor (for all four years of high school). She has also been a Prep Ambassador and Peer notetaker. As a senior, she participated as a Freshmen Retreat Leader, helping to integrate Freshmen into the Seattle Prep community. Sydney has a 3.91 GPA.

Sydney has been a member of Asian Pacific Islanders club and manager for the School's Track Team. Sydney also has participated in school athletics including the Swim & Dive team and is a varsity bowler. School awards include receiving the Santa award three times, which is the nicest student in the grade and receiving the Loving award as a Senior. Sydney has also participated in the Ignatian Solidarity

Network Convention for two years and volunteered with the Josephinum Homeless Shelter.

Sydney works part time and her employer notes that she is "always more than happy to help those around her." In a letter of recommendation, Sydney was described as "an amazing young woman" who is "strong, intelligent and courageous." It was noted that she "has a strong friend community," while showing "persistence and dedication to her studies." Sydney would like to pursue a degree in Public Health.

A message from Sydney:

I am beyond grateful to have been the Seattle Hiroshima Club Scholarship recipient for 2022. With the help of this scholarship, I will further my studies at Loyola University Chicago where I plan to major in Public Health and minor in Sociology. At Loyola Chicago, I will additionally use my talents to advocate for social justice through being a Gannon Scholar. Hiroshima has always been a place in my heart that I glance back to when in need of perseverance. It is a true honor to be awarded this scholarship and I am blessed to be a member of the Seattle Hiroshima Club.

"What Hiroshima Means to Me", by Sydney Shimizu

Hiroshima is a beautiful example of virtuous peace overcoming chaotic destruction. My tie to Hiroshima dates back to 1945 when my grandmother, who was a child living in the suburbs of Hiroshima, was one of the fortunate few to survive the intense bombing. Although I have never met my grandma, my dad recalls her vivid descriptions about the brutal attack and the ripple effect it had on her future. The bombing had left her with PTSD and tainted her view of the world for the worse. But, through that pain and suffering she eventually grew up to be a wonderful mother to my father and his siblings. Though the bombing is a tragic component of Japanese history, I am proud of how Japan has prospered since. In 1955, the building that was once detonated had been transformed into a peace memorial site for the victims of the nuclear attack. In my eyes, my grandmother reflects the strength of Japan and how even through the rubble, beautiful cherry blossoms grew. Hiroshima represents perseverance through difficult times and seeking out the light at the end of the tunnel.

Zoom Meeting with Seattle Hiroshima Club Scholarship Awardees

By Andrea Mano

The Seattle Hiroshima Club Board suggested finding out about the relevancy of the Club to younger people. With many of our members in their 70's and 80's, "younger" members can encompass a large group. However, we decided to start with a discussion with our scholarship awardees from 2016 to present.

A meeting was held over Zoom in April with President Dr. Tsukasa Namekata, Treasurer Dale Kaku, Scholarship Committee (Curt Nakayama, Beth Kawahara, Andrea Mano) and scholarship awardees. Five scholarship awardees attended. These included the three recipients who graduated from high school in June 2021, (Lea Hidaka, Kaylee Yokoyama and Miki Kusunose.) This was an opportunity for some Board members to meet these recipients, as there was no Annual meeting in 2021 to welcome them to the club. Two other scholarship recipients attended and helped with the technical support for the Zoom call (Josh Otake, 2020 high school graduate and Aaron Ramos, 2017 high school graduate.)

Board members introduced themselves and gave a summary of their college and careers. The scholarship recipients introduced themselves and described their current college careers. The group discussed the relevancy of Seattle Hiroshima Club. Discussion included some ideas for SHC activities and where to advertise SHC events.

Some Ideas for SHC activities:

- Mentoring program.
- Help a high school senior to transition to college, by pairing with past scholarship award-ees who were in their 3rd or 4th years. Chat 1 time per month; help find your place on campus; study together.
- Career fair – have resources available on careers; canvas the members and create a list of members and what they used to do or where they are currently working. Have SHC members who are professionals to talk to people:
- Intergenerational guidance, share stories of growing up in Japan or Seattle.
- Sharing Japanese recipes.
- Where to advertise SHC events: Japanese Student Club (UW Nikkei Students Club, Japanese Student Association). One of the scholarship recipients is a member of JSA's PR team.
- SHC website: include short bios of SHC Board members on the SHC website.
- Continue the discussion (about SHC relevancy, activities, advertising of activities and updates to the SHC website).

It was wonderful to meet the three scholarship awardees from 2021. SHC has a positive future with so many impressive and thoughtful young members. We look forward to continued discussion, input from our younger members and future SHC events.

Life of Mr. George Mano

By Mrs. Irene Mano

George Mano was born in 1930 in Seattle to Kikujiro and Riki (Goto) Mano, the youngest of three children. He attended Bryn Mawr and Henry Ford elementary schools, and in the sixth grade, his family was forcefully sent to Pinedale (Fresno) Assembly Center and then Tule Lake and Minidoka incarceration camps during World War II. After the war, George returned to Seattle where he helped out in the family business, Earlington Greenhouse. He enjoyed playing basketball with the Seattle Betsuin Lotus Lancers. In 1951, he was drafted into the US Army, and served in Korea. Upon completing his military service, he used the GI Bill to obtain his electrical engineering degree at the University of Washington. In 1955, George married Irene Fujii, and accepted a job at Boeing, where he worked for 32 years.



George with most of the family at his 88th birthday party in February 2018.

A highlight of George's career at Boeing was his work on the lunar orbiter, which sent back the first ever pictures of the earth and the moon, and helped find a landing site for the Apollo moon missions.

An active member of the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Church, George served on the board, and was instrumental in the planning and construction of the Wisteria View Manor. He was heavily involved in his childrens' church-sponsored activities—Camp Fire Girls, Boy Scouts, and Betsuin drum and bugle corps.

George liked fishing, razor clam digging, matsutake (mushroom) hunting, and relaxing at the family retreat on Hood Canal. He and Irene loved cruises,

traveling with friends to the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, and throughout Europe in 2009. He enjoyed bowling, pickle ball and as an avid sports fan, spent many hours following the UW Huskies, Seahawks, Mariners and Sonics.



George on the 3 Rivers Cruise from Amsterdam on the Rhine, Main and ending on the Danube in Budapest. Pictured are Kats and Terrie Tanino, Roy and Kazumi Shimizu, Al and Fran Shintaku, Jim and Hiroko Hasegawa, George and Irene Mano.

When his grandchildren began arriving in 1994, George enjoyed going to all their sporting events, performances and graduations. As a proud grandpa, he never seemed to get tired of watching his grandchildren grow and flourish.

George is survived by his wife Irene, daughters Stephanie, Charlene, Leslie, and Andrea, and son Mark, and six grandchildren.

George passed away peacefully on Feb. 11, 2022, 12 days short of his 92nd birthday, and was fortunate to have his immediate family beside him during the last days of his life.

Memories of Miyeko Kano

By her daughter Ms. Julie Shoji

Miyeko Kano was born on December 5, 1936 in Rocky Ford, Colorado to Kumaichi (Frank) and Nobuku Tanabe. She had an older brother Harry and two younger siblings, sister, Kimiko and brother, Tom.

Her grandparents were from Shobara City, Hiroshima but she never lived there.

She grew up on a farm and graduated from Crowley High School in 1954. She demonstrated her

Continued on Page 8

Memories of Miyeko Kano Continued



independence by moving to Denver, Colorado after she graduated to attend business technical school.

In 1957 she moved to Seattle to live with her grandmother at the Abbotts Ford apartments. It was here she met her husband, Yoshio Kano. Conveniently, his dad lived in same apartment building so proximity allowed them to meet. They were married on November 9, 1958, in Seattle.

Miyeko started a long career working at Boeing in 1957 and worked there for over 20 years. She was a modern working woman, always balancing work and family life.

Miyeko and Yoshio had three children, David, Julie and Jill. They were loving parents and spending time together as a family was always most important. Family dinners and road trip adventures were a normal part of the Kano family. Miyeko's pride and joy were her five grandchildren. She helped to babysit all of the grandchildren as they were growing up. Kenji, Christopher, Alec, Kaitlyn and Ella were all shaped by her love and influence. She played a role in all of them growing up into the amazing people they are today.

Some of Miyeko's favorite things to do were cooking, baking, traveling, going out to eat, attending Mariner games, watching the Seahawks play, hula dancing, and making crafts with the Tuesday Ladies Club at Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church.

She also loved to travel. Honolulu, Hawaii was one of her favorite places to visit and she enjoyed shopping and the liveliness of the city. She loved going to Colorado in the summer to spend time with family, sight-seeing and enjoying the Rocky Ford cantaloupe. She loved her family so much and cherished the time she was able to spend with her siblings and her many nieces and nephews.

In 1995, she lost her husband. There was never a moment that she did not think of him or miss him. We are glad they can finally be together again.

Board of Directors Elected

By Curtis Nakayama, membership committee chair

The membership has elected the entire slate of Board Members presented to the membership. They will be serving until 2024.

Seattle Hiroshima Club Board of Directors 2022 - 2024

Karen Akira	Kinue Kuwahara
Russell Akiyama	Andrea Mano
Aiko Fujii	Irene Mano
Linda Ishii	Lynn Miyauchi
Dale Kaku	Terry Nakano
Shiz Kaku	Curtis Nakayama
Beth Kawahara	Tsukasa Namekata
Ritsuko Kawahara	Frances Palmer
Tina Ko	George Shimizu
Sharon Kosai	Naomi Takemura
Raymond Kusumi	Elsie Taniguchi
Kimie Kuramoto	Midori Kono Thiel

Return of the Summer Picnic

By Curtis Nakayama

On August 20, 2022 the Seattle Hiroshima Club will be holding the first summer picnic post-pandemic. The location will be at Seattle's Seward Park, shelter #3. It will be starting at 10:00 AM and go until 2:00 PM. Please let Curt (curtn@comcast.net or 206-892-8890) know if you will be attending and how many will be in your party.

As in the past, the Club will be serving Hamburgers and Hot Dogs, and will have tea and other beverages available. Please bring a side dish to share with the other attendees. We will be having lunch at noon and starting the social activities at 10:30 am.



Seattle Hiroshima Club

Honorarium Grant Application

For High School or College graduates in 2022

The Seattle Hiroshima Club Board has voted to provide an honorarium to 2022 high school and college graduates to congratulate on their accomplishment and honor them for the hardships they have endured during this covid-19 pandemic. All 2022 graduates that are members or children or grandchildren of current members will be eligible to receive the honorarium. The amount of the honorarium will depend upon the number of applications received. Please complete the form and mail to our P.O. Box.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone # : _____ email : _____

School attended: _____

☐ Please add me to the SHC email list (newsletter is sent approximately 2 times per year; other emails are sent approximately 1 time per month)

Name of SHC members of your family: _____

Relationship to Honorarium applicant: _____

Please share about your future plans: _____

Please return this application to:

Seattle Hiroshima Club

P. O. Box 94083

Seattle, WA 98124-9483

Seattle Hiroshima Club Donation Form

(シアトル広島県人会献金依頼フォーム)

Seattle Hiroshima Club is a non-profit organization and operates based on annual membership fees and donations. Please remit membership dues for 2022. We appreciate any additional donations to help cover our club's activities. Thank you!

Check your amount:

☐ Membership Dues \$10 per person x _____ = _____

☐ Donation

_____ \$20 _____ \$30 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$200 _____ \$500 \$ _____

List all members: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone _____

Comments:

Please send a check to:

Seattle Hiroshima Club Treasurer

PO Box 94083

Seattle, WA 98124-9483



Seattle Hiroshima Club 2022 - 2024 Officers

Tsukasa Namekata namekata@comcast.net	President	To be named in the near future	Japanese Recording Secretary
Curtis Nakayama curtn@comcast.net	1 st Vice President	Dale Kaku dandskaku@comcast.net	Treasurer
Beth Kawahara beth@kawaharas.com	2 nd Vice President	Dale Kaku	Investments
Russell Akiyama akiyamarj@aol.com	Recording Secretary	Raymond Kusumi rkusumi6806@msn.com	1st Auditor
Shizu Kaku shizkaku@icloud.com	Corresponding Secretary	Andrea Mano aaaramos@mindspring.com	2nd Auditor

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