

**OCTOBER**  
2019

**October 1**  
Dental MBA

**October 2**  
Oktoberfest

**October 11**  
DPA/Infection Control

**October 12**  
Day at the Bay

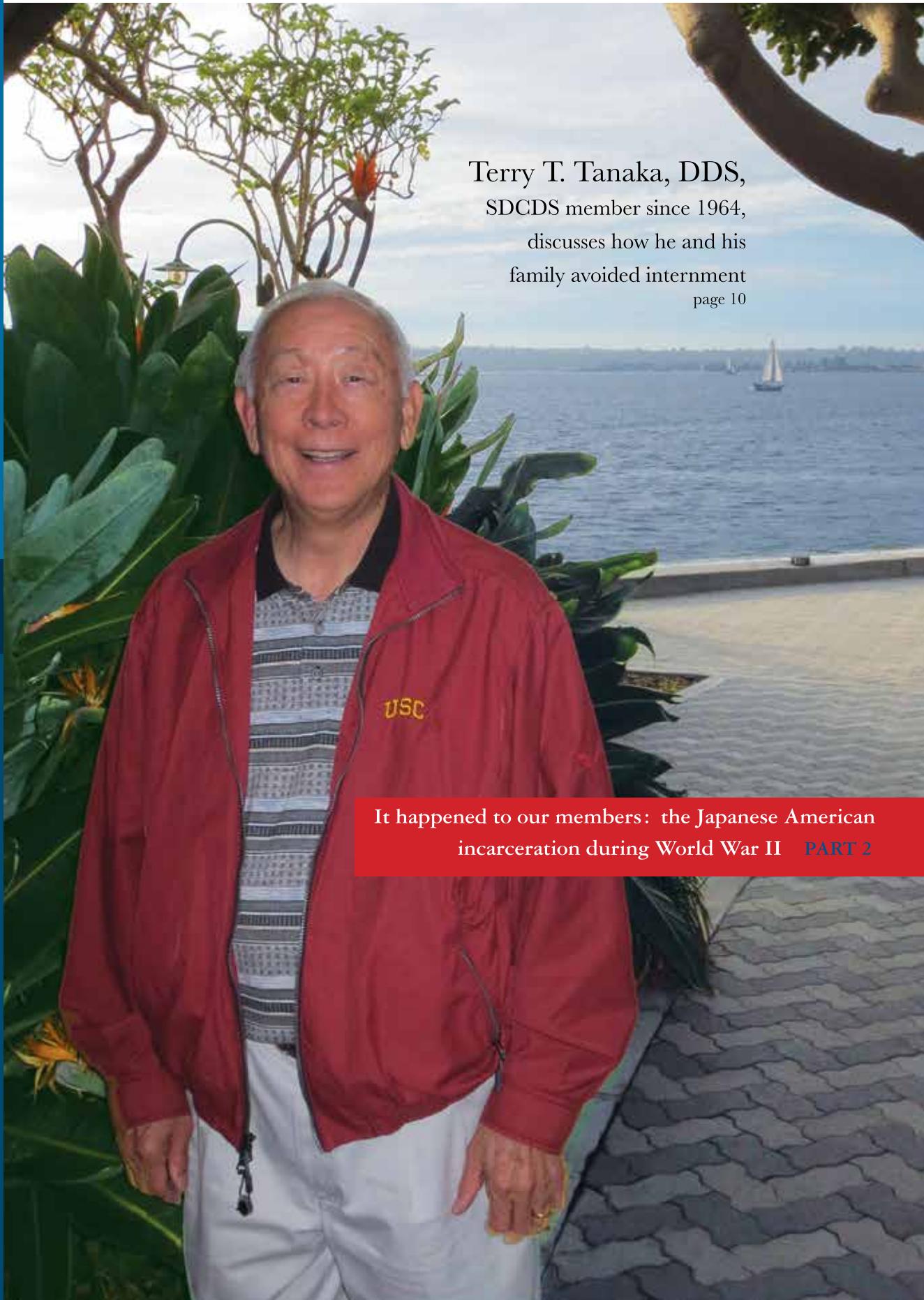
**October 16**  
Risk Management Seminar

**October 24**  
BLS Renewal

**October 26**  
Practice Ownership



**San Diego County**  
DENTAL SOCIETY



**Terry T. Tanaka, DDS,**  
SDCDS member since 1964,  
discusses how he and his  
family avoided internment

page 10

**It happened to our members: the Japanese American  
incarceration during World War II PART 2**

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## AWARD WINNING FACETS

The International College of Dentists — USA Section, awarded Facets these publication honors in Division 2:  
2018 Newsletter Award  
2017 Newsletter Award,  
Honorable Mention  
2016 Outstanding Cover



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Dentists, hygienists and assistants to volunteer as needed at community events.



### Adopt A Patient:

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### Health Fairs

### and School Screenings:

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### To Volunteer

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## FACETS NEWSLETTER

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# Thinking About Selling Your Dental Practice?



## Here Are Some Questions You May Be Asking Yourself?

- 1 Am I financially ready to retire or work less?
- 2 What is my practice worth?
- 3 How much will I net after paying off my practice debt, taxes, and transaction costs? Is that enough for me to retire?
- 4 How will I find a buyer that will take care of my patients and staff?
- 5 Should I keep the sale anonymous? If so, how can I do that?
- 6 Will I be able to continue practicing as an associate on a reduced schedule?



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## It takes a village

The statement, "it takes a village," comes from an African Proverb that means it takes a community of people to look out for children so that they may grow in a safe and healthy environment. SDCDS is this village for dentists. The proverb does not mean we raise each other's children, but we look out for one another so that we may all survive and live well. I always have liked this saying as it fosters a sharing and team culture, encouraging a pool of talents to harness knowledge for best application.

No single person can go it alone. We are always better off as a tribe. Together we tackle policy changes, fight insurance companies, and keep each other accountable to high standards. None of us have all the answers, nor the ability to take things on completely alone.

I believe this is the theme of the new generation and face of dentistry. In my last article, discussing the ADA Chief Economist's findings and previous articles about the CDA New Dentist surveys, we found that dentists are gravitating towards community.

### It happened to our members, part II:

## The Japanese American incarceration during World War II

By Brian Shue, DDS

My intent is to focus on the history our fascinating members, both current and past, who lived through this dark period of

Over 110,000 Americans of Japanese Descent on the West Coast were imprisoned by the US government during World War II because of "race prejudice, war hysteria, and failure of political leadership."<sup>1</sup> It affected babies, children and adults, fieldworkers and professionals, physicians and dentists. This issue concludes our focus on our Japanese American San Diego County Dental Society members who were incarcerated, as dentists or as children.

In this issue, Terry T. Tanaka, DDS from Chula Vista — my friend and mentor since 1986 — describes childhood memories of how his family avoided internment by escaping California and hiding just beyond the established War Zone border deep in Arizona. Years removed from his experiences, he shared: "The words still don't come out easy." We also include the incredible journey of US Army Captain James T. Arikawa as told by his son, James T. Arikawa II. Finally, we take a detailed look at our three members who lost their dental practices when they were incarcerated.

Truly, our great country is the land of opportunity and freedom. However, our country's past isn't perfect and has been shaped by injustices during challenging times. My goal is to present the lives of these members with a perspective as seen through the profession of dentistry. Hopefully, this will shed light upon a dark past, and in turn, lead us into a brighter future. •

Reference: 1. United States. Personal Justice Denied: Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. 1983.

This is true for not just dentists, but also our society as a whole. We are seeing explosions in things like ride shares, walkable communities, beer gardens, and even vacation home sharing. We are inherently social animals. In my business experience, there is a trend towards industries recognizing this and adapting their business models to fit this movement.

So how else will dentistry adapt to these social cues? How long will it be before the concept of dental office sharing starts to grow? I've had more people ask me about it than ever before. Is it much of a stretch to imagine dentists renting operatories like stylists do for hair salons? Mobile dental visits are already a thing, but how long before people use their app to get a "Prime" cleaning delivered at their homes? Is this much different than the technology being developed to make an appointment at a participating group of offices for a prophylaxis? Yes, that exists.

Our tribe is banding together. The world is coming together. Because it DOES take a village. •

### Part II:

#### *My recollections*

Terry T. Tanaka, DDS  
SDCDS member 1964 — current

#### *My Father's story*

US Army Captain James T. Arikawa, DDS  
Biography (SDCDS member 1936-1942)

#### *Our Members*

The lives of San Diego and Imperial County's Japanese American dentists imprisoned during World War II



Poston dental team,  
with Yukiko Julia (Fukuda) Israel  
3rd from left. See story on page 14.

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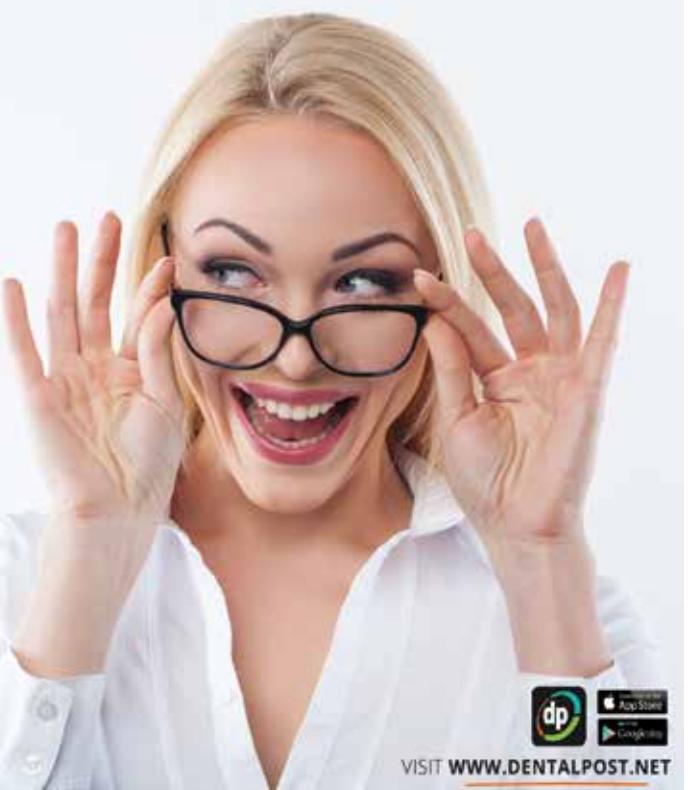
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## Harassment Prevention

Sexual harassment prevention training  
deadline extended to January 1, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom has signed a new bill, extending the deadline for sexual harassment prevention training. Under SB 778, employers with five or more employees now have until no later than Jan. 1, 2021 to complete the mandatory one- or two-hour trainings for employees to be compliant. Employees are required to complete the training within six months of hire or promotion and every two years after.

With the extension, employers who trained their employees in 2018 can provide subsequent training in 2020 while still complying with the deadline. Additionally, employers who train their employees in 2019 are not required to provide more training until 2021 and every two years thereafter.

Employers should note that this extension did not extend the January 1, 2020 training requirement that employers provide training for seasonal, temporary, or other employees hired to work for less than six months within 30 calendar days after the hire date or within 100 hours worked, whichever occurs first. In lieu of training, employers may obtain a copy of a temporary employee's current certificate of prior training and track training from that date. •

*This article was published with the permission of CDA. SDCDS had scheduled courses to take place this fall to meet the earlier deadline. Now those courses will be rescheduled to the latter half of 2020.*

## Welcome New Members

New Member	Education
Dai Le, DDS	UOP, 2000
Charles Hoeg	Fairleigh Dickinson Univ, 1982
Abigail Jumoc, DDS	Indiana Univ., 2019
Cody Cohen, DDS	Univ. of Texas, Houston, 2019
Wendy Herrera, DDS	Univ. De La Salle, 2019
Peggy Ram, DDS	Loma Linda Univ, 2014
Erica Janik, DMD	Boston Univ, 2019
Jaesung Kim, DMD	Univ. of Alabama, 1993
Angeline Salvani, DDS	Univ. of san Francisco, 2016
Jeff Phan, DMD	Canada-McGill Univ., 2017
Juwani Rice, DDS	UCLA, 2019

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## My recollections of NOT going to camp...

By Terry T. Tanaka, DDS, SDCDS member

Terry and Naomi Tanaka. Unlike Terry, his wife Naomi did go to camp as a child. She was first interned with her family at the Santa Anita Race Track Center, then at the Jerome Relocation Center, Arkansas before finally being moved to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Wyoming. After the War, they lived in a trailer camp set up by the War Relocation Commission in San Fernando Valley.

*Terry T. Tanaka, DDS was born in Torrance, CA in 1938. After graduating from the USC School of Dentistry in 1962, he served two years in the U.S. Navy at the Naval Training Center in San Diego. He joined SDCDS in 1964 and has been a member for 55 years. He practiced in Chula Vista until 2015. He is a Clinical Professor, Advanced Education in Prosthodontics at the Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, where he has taught since 1965.*

*Dr. Tanaka has published numerous articles and is widely recognized as a research anatomist and for his teaching of advanced restorative procedures. His educational recordings are used in over 80 medical and dental schools and surgery programs throughout the world. He founded the Field Dental and Surgical Team, the largest comprehensive field mission team in the U.S. from 1983-2008, which treated dental and craniofacial deformities with over 160 regular professional volunteers at each clinic session to help the underserved in Mexico and Central America. He received the CDA Foundation Humanitarian Award in 2011. He submitted this article on December 7, 2017.*

**T**here were two very important reasons why my family was able to get out of California and avoid going to camp during the War.

**The first reason:** there was a close knit group of farmers in Glendale, Arizona who had all immigrated from their town in Kochi City, Japan.

My dad was born in Kochi City, Japan in 1901. After finishing high school, he came to the U.S. in 1918 and joined his father who had been living and farming in Arizona for years. After 1930, when his father returned to Japan, my dad moved to Lomita, California, near the Torrance airport and began farming.

I am the 6th of 7 children in our family and we were all born in California. We are citizens. But back then, it didn't matter. Everyone that looked like us was the enemy. Those were difficult times but our friends helped us and told us where to go and where not to go, **who would sell us groceries and who wouldn't**.

tremely helpful because my mother had to go to court and sue the War Relocation Commission when we returned to California after the War to get paid for our property in Lomita.

**The second reason:** when the Evacuation Order 9066 came out, my dad told us that he wouldn't go to camp. He wrote to his friends in Glendale, Arizona. My family still had many close friends living there and we would have the opportunity to blend in during the War and become a self-supporting family. They were kind enough to help find us a house to rent and land to lease and my father farmed during the War.

A question remained: what if the Government refused to let us leave California? I asked my father and mother years later and my father refused to talk about those times. Most of the following history was obtained from my mother and sisters.

Our friends found us a house in Glendale with land to farm on a street called "Lateral 16", which today is 43rd Street. We discovered that there were some Japanese friends who also moved from California, but across the street from us. One day, they were no longer there. In 2012, at a high school reunion, I found out that "Lateral 16" was the military zone boundary line and our friends across the street were picked up and sent to one of the camps.

Our family included my grandmother from my mother's side. We were told to speak Japanese only in the home because my grandmother didn't speak English, and not to speak Japanese in public. I spoke Spanish outside the house to the Mexican workers and English to everyone else.

Difficulties arose on many occasions when we went shopping or went to public places, as we were told: "we don't serve Japs." **My Mother told us to simply say that we were Chinese, which almost always worked.** That let us go out and buy groceries and ice cream as kids. Many of my friends at school thought I was Chinese throughout the War. But the usual name-calling, pushing, shoving and spitting went on throughout the War at school, recess, and even on the way to-and-from school. My older sister Betty, who married my brother-in-law Yoshindo Shibuya, DDS of Chula Vista, was our ever present bodyguard during those early years and kept us safe from the school bullies, but only when she was with us.

At school, we would often see a number of prisoners assigned to clean the Johnson grass from the canals next to the school grounds. I learned that they were captured from Germany. I asked my parents if Japanese Americans who were sent to camp had to do manual work like those German prisoners, but never received an answer.

I still remember that we drove to the Camp in Gila River to visit imprisoned friends and to take them fabric for making dresses and shirts. We were able to speak to them through the barbed wire fences. I was told later that we could not go inside, but my parents were able to give some items to our friends via the guards. They sent us back letters so we knew they received the packages.

Although it was a difficult time in my life, these memories were reinforced again when we returned to California. Thirteen years after the war, discrimination still existed. There was an unwritten entrance quota for Orientals at the University of

Southern California and at the other California dental schools. "Orientals" is what we were referred to at that time. Even dental school fraternities, who had tutors and extensive files of previous exams, excluded Orientals. In 1961, I was invited as the first Oriental after the War to join a dental fraternity at USC. I initially didn't want to accept the invitation, but the other "Orientals" insisted that I accept, because they had finally opened the door to us.

As a direct result of my War years, bullying has been a very sensitive topic to me. At USC, as one of the senior professors, I am known for calling dental faculty members aside and scolding them for berating students in front of their patients.

I have always felt a deep appreciation for those Nisei soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 100th Battalion who served on the battlefields of Europe and the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific. Their patriotism to our country, even though their family members remained inside the camps, helped open the doors of professional schools for me and others after the war.

I felt it was my duty to serve and joined the U.S. Naval Reserve as an Ensign in 1956. I also served two years of active duty at the U.S. Naval Training Center in San Diego as a dentist (1962-1964), and another 8 years in the U.S. Naval Reserve and U.S. Army Reserve presenting continuing education classes for military dentists and physicians.

**TERRY T. TANAKA**  
Artesia, California  
Pepperdine College  
Xi Psi Phi

Terry came to the land of the round eyes from the rice paddies of Artesia. He came here professing to be wide eyed, uncomplicated farm boy. We saw through his ruse immediately . . . wide eyed indeed. Not only this but he speaks Spanish, Italian, French, German, Russian and a little primitive English.

Dr. Mobile once asked him how to say "Have Y'll evah had heart trouble?" in Japanese. Terry obliged with "Ha bu had ort tra bo ru?" The good doctor repeated at least half of this wonderful Japanese translation before he realized that he had been suckered in.

The big fisherman will never be forgotten for his yellowtail episode with Dr. Murphy.

Terry's big smile and sense of humor coupled with his natural talent will insure a bright future in dentistry.



1962 USC yearbook (courtesy of USC Digital Library, USC History Collection)

My parents were Buddhists and only attended special services before the War, like most Buddhists, such as attending a marriage or a funeral and maybe three or more services a year. Sunday school wasn't a tradition. Growing up in a farming family, we didn't have time to attend the other services because we had to work on the farm 7 days a week and the closest Temple was an hour away in downtown Los Angeles. Because Buddhist Temples were closed during the War, we attended a United Free Methodist church, which was made up of mostly Japanese



SDCDS member

## My father's story: the life of US Army Captain James T. Arikawa, DDS (1909-2002)

By James T. Arikawa II,  
US Army Retired

Dr. James Takeo Arikawa  
in NYC in uniform  
wearing a raincoat

**M**y father, James Takeo Arikawa, was born in New York City on January 29, 1909. It was a time when Republican President Theodore Roosevelt had called Japanese the "Yellow Peril" and had a strict quota on their immigration to America. Japanese families were viewed as "rabbits" invading America. Yet, in 1906, to the dismay of the NYC Democratic politicians that arm-twisted the immigrants, his father (my grandfather), Takeyoshi Arikawa, chose to follow the Republican platform. He was beaten up twice for not paying "protection money" to a mafia don. Later, he also got into trouble for conducting business without a license, of which he paid a \$4,500 legal fine. After that, my grandfather moved the family to Los Angeles.

In 1927, my father easily met the entrance examination criteria and was accepted to the University of California at Los Angeles for their civil engineering program. He worried about the dramatic cost of college (as he was the oldest of five brothers and sisters), so he spent his own money earned through numerous jobs and took a steam ship back to Japan to ask for college funds. Both my grandfather and grandmother's families refused any financial help.

Back at UCLA, a US Army recruiter offered him financial assistance for his college education in exchange for becoming a US Army Reserve Officer. My father and his family would pay for the first two years of UCLA. Upon attaining an associate degree, he had to meet the following criteria: pass a security clearance (both student and parents be established and of outstanding character); sign a loyalty pledge to the United States; pass a US Army physical fitness test and medical doctor examination; and pass the US Army Reserve Officer Training Course (ROTC) Basic and Advanced Camp programs at Fort Lewis, WA.

My father had a photographic memory and was a quick learner. He earned an Associate of Science degree in Biology (including numerous military science courses as an ROTC cadet), Magna Cum Laude and became a 2nd Lieutenant (1LT) in the US Army Reserve. He also worked part-time at a bookstore in North Hollywood, traveled with the UCLA football team in the band, and tutored less academically inclined students between classes.

## USC School of Dentistry, Class of 1935

In 1931, James T. Arikawa earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, Magna Cum Laude from UCLA and became a 1st lieutenant (1LT). My grandmother told him it would be better to be a dentist than a medical doctor. Keep in mind that back in those times, many people would settle a disagreement with their fists (a single night in county jail) rather than with firearms (instant jail stay over 90 days and sometimes also creative punishment on "work farms"). People often showed several missing teeth when they smiled. A person of means would have a mouth full of either gold or silver work to cover up the damaged or missing teeth.

James' family urged him to attend the University of Southern California Dental School. He passed the USC Dentist Entrance Exam, and the US Army would pay for both his masters and doctorate education. In 1935, he graduated from the USC Dental School, Magna Cum Laude, passed his military arts courses and became a Captain (CPT) in the US Army Reserve, Dental Corps.

On January 2, 1936, my father set up his dental practice in Brawley, a farming community in Imperial County, CA. Unfortunately, he failed to perform the research necessary that his parents had impressed upon him. Since it was during the Great Depression, after several months of practicing dentistry on patients, he often only received produce and live animals in lieu of payment. He borrowed a trailer to haul everything (produce and live animals) to LA to sell and get reimbursed for his work. Some wealthy Mexican patients would even pay him in Mexican currency. He networked with other young people and on weekends everyone would pal around in nearby Calexico or Mexicali, Mexico and go to activities like bull fights.

For two weekends a month, 1LT (and later CPT) Arikawa's US Army reserve military unit was the co-located medical detachment associated with the US Navy hospital in Long Beach, CA, where he would fulfill his US Army military reserve commitment for five (5) years to pay for his masters and doctorate degree.

Every year in September, my father served active duty for two weeks and reported to Ft. Irwin, CA. It was at the Ft. Irwin Officers' Club, after the conclusion of war games in September 1940, that my father met General George S. Patton. As fellow Californians, he and General Patton had a friendly "off line" discussion for several hours, and developed a close friendship. General Patton sent a letter to his superiors and expressed a personal interest in my father's military career, so the capital letters "PI" (Political Influence) was stamped in bold red 75-point font on the front of his hard copy service record.

### Reserve Captain Arikawa activated, then revoked of his rank

On December 7, 1941, the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, my father was on reserve duty and provided dental services as



*Graduating  
Class  
Dentistry*

1935 USC yearbook (courtesy of USC Digital Library, USC History Collection)

usual at the Long Beach Naval Hospital. After the attack and without prior planning, Congress in hysteria made a blanket authorization activating all US Army Reserve Officers to active duty. However, it was discovered the week after that numerous Japanese American US Army officers were now on active duty in California, the Hawaiian Territories and across America. Since Congress had approved my father to be a US Army 2LT back in 1929, it would take Congress (not President Franklin D. Roosevelt) to specifically create a law singling him out to revoke his US Army rank. In other words, CPT Arikawa would have to have a "trial" where the US Government would have to show cause (Note: Today, FISA Court convicts the defendant in absentia), even though on the 6th and 7th of December 1941, my father proved that he was not a problem, not an immediate threat, and not a security risk to the US Army joint mission with the US Navy. At that time, there were several other Japanese American US military officers who served on active duty as interpreters and cryptologists (and several were killed in action during the bombing of Pearl Harbor and Wake Island).

In September 1941, my father and his entire family had just passed a required FBI background secret security clearance check, in order for his brother, PVT Frank (passing locomotive school), to work on the Panama Canal boat locks. But by May 1942, all of his family, who lived in Los Angeles, went to the Manzanar "Assembly Center" for internment, as ordered by Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. As a proud American citizen, my father served in the US Army honorably as an

SDCDS members

# The Japanese American dentists of San Diego and Imperial Counties incarcerated during World War II

By Brian Shue, DDS, CDE



Poston dental clinic, with Yukiko Julia (Fukuda) Israel seated in the chair. Poston dental photos are courtesy of the family of Yukiko Julia (Fukuda) Israel (page 5 and 14)

About 100 Japanese American dentists lost their practices when they were incarcerated during World War II. The U.S. Government conducted pre-war research of 1940 U.S. Census data by state and county and found California had 75 dentists who were Americans of Japanese Descent (35 in Los Angeles County alone and also found there was one woman dentist), 13 in Washington, 5 in Oregon, and none in Arizona.

These incarcerated dentists provided the dental care to the population inside the concentration camps and lived in the same conditions behind barbed wire. The dental clinics opened with no instruments and with little to no supplies. The dentists provided emergency services at the beginning and eventually became fully functioning clinics with an expanded range of services.

Eventually, thousands of incarcerated men were given the opportunity to leave the camps and enlist in the U.S. Army. They became the all Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which included the 100th Battalion from Hawaii. These thousands of combat troops would prove their loyalty to their country in fierce battles against Nazi Germany, while their

family and friends remained incarcerated without due process back home. It became the most decorated fighting group in U.S. history; at the cost of many casualties and deaths. Japanese American dentists were also given the opportunity to join and enlisted as dental officers of the 442nd. They were stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi and provided care to their fellow Japanese American soldiers.

Only five Japanese and Japanese American dentists practiced in San Diego and Imperial County up until WWII. These men were also members of SDCDS: Keitoku Watanabe, DDS, Isamu Takeda, DDS, Frank Kazuichi Taniguchi, DDS, James T. Arikawa, DDS, and George Hara, DDS. Only Dr. Hara returned after the war.

## Keitoku Watanabe, DDS

It began with Keitoku Watanabe, DDS, the first Japanese dentist to establish a practice in San Diego County. He graduated from the dental college of the University of Pennsylvania in 1905 as the only Japanese student in a class of 150.<sup>1</sup> He received his California dental license in 1915 and practiced at 506 Fifth St., which was in the heart of San Diego's Japantown.

Watanabe was unanimously elected to membership in SDCDS at the December 4, 1916 meeting and attended three meetings in 1917. He moved to Los Angeles the following year, but passed away in 1930 at the age of 45.

## Isamu Takeda, DDS (1882-1945)

Western Reserve University School of Dentistry, Cleveland '17  
SDCDS member 1922-1945

Practice address: 506 Fifth Ave., San Diego

Imprisoned at Poston III, Block 329 with wife and 4 daughters

**Prisoner number 04212A**

In 1911, Dr. Takeda graduated from Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan. He attended University of Iowa from 1914-1916 and graduated from Western Reserve University in Cleveland in 1917 as one of 43 seniors. His dental school education cost \$200, which paid for tuition, anatomy lab, exams, and diploma.<sup>2</sup>

Dr. Takeda was elected to SDCDS membership in April 4, 1922. He practiced in the Pacific Hotel, 506 Fifth Ave, the former address of Dr. Watanabe. He advertised to African Americans in the "Colored Directory". It was a time when African Americans were not allowed to live anywhere — even in San Diego — but were welcomed at the Pacific Hotel. Residents included a clinic worker and a prize fighter. The FBI closed the building due to Executive Order 9066. It exists today as the Callan Hotel and is historic building #21 in the Gaslamp Quarter.<sup>3</sup>

Dr. Isamu and his wife Fukuko Takeda had four daughters and were all born in California: Viola (born in 1922), Rosary (1925), Sophia (1927), and Violet (1929). Viola wanted to work at her father's office as a dental hygienist, but her second year at SDSU was interrupted when she was imprisoned with the entire Takeda family in the Poston, Arizona Concentration Camp.<sup>4</sup> Japanese American students across the West Coast had to withdraw from their college studies. No one was exempt from President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066. This even included SDSU Aztec football starting quarterback, George Kita from Calexico.<sup>5</sup> And dental students, too. There were approximately 22 in California that were removed from schools of dentistry for incarceration in the camps. Many tried to transfer to different dental schools across the country, such as the dental college of Kansas City, which wanted these students. The government initially did not allow any students to leave the internment centers, but would eventually relax this policy and worked with not-for-profit organizations to make this happen.

Dr. Takeda's daughter didn't finish college. Through the CSU Nisei Diploma project of 2000, Viola Takeda, along with other interned Japanese Americans, received California State University degrees. But she died just before the ceremony. Viola did tell her daughter that she had fun in Poston and always hung out with her friends, but rarely mentioned anything else about her experience.<sup>6</sup>

Dr. Takeda worked at the dental clinic in Poston III until the relocation centers closed. He had help towards the end from Dr. Ruby Imoto (Ruby S. Uyesugi).<sup>7</sup> Dr. Imoto was a senior dental student at USC when her studies were interrupted and

she was incarcerated with her family. She eventually left Poston for additional dental training in Boston at the Forsythe Institute, and returned to live in Poston until the end. The Dental Board of California record shows she received her dental license on January 1, 1942, but the year may be an error, since she was still a dental student on that date. She appears in the 1941 USC yearbook "El Rodeo" as a junior dental student of the class of 1942. She was secretary-treasurer of her class.

Dr. Takeda died of an aneurysm upon release from camp. He would have been eligible for ADA life membership status in 1946.



**Captain Kazuichi  
'Frank' Taniguchi, DDS  
(1908-1990)**

USC School of Dentistry, '31  
SDCDS member 1935-1942  
Practice address: 5th & Main St.,  
El Centro

Imprisoned at Poston I, Block 11,  
Barrack 8, #C with his wife

**Prisoner number 21271A**

Left camp and served as a Captain  
in the US Army and served in the  
European Theatre

Dr. Taniguchi was Imperial County's first Japanese American dentist and practiced in El Centro's "Japantown" in a professional building at the NE corner of 5th and Main St. He was born in California and married Masako (Ann), who was a "musician/teacher of music" according to her Poston records. Dr. Taniguchi's occupation is listed as "dentist", but the government said he could work as a "semi-skilled mechanic and repairmen of motor vehicles", or possibly a "hunter and trapper". They had no children at the time.

He was active in the local Japanese American Citizens League, a civil rights organization. In October 1940, he organized a peaceful gathering of over 300 (another source said 600) Americans of Japanese Descent at the El Centro Courthouse steps, where they recited the Pledge of Allegiance, sang "God Bless America" and pledged their loyalty to the United States to local officials. "We Americans have the highest standard of living in the world," said Dr. Kazuichi Taniguchi.<sup>8</sup> But after Executive Order 9066, the District Attorney of Imperial County had a fervent passion to prosecute and eagerly destroy the Japanese community, as evident from the many letters he wrote to California's Attorney General and other government officials.

While at Poston, Dr. Taniguchi served as the Chairman of the three Dental Clinics. In 1943, he reported that 15 dentists worked at the three Poston camps and served 20,000.<sup>9</sup>

Although he was a SDCDS member since 1935, Board minutes from September 1942 stated:

Dr. K. Taniguchi, whose application was published in March

Bulletin and his application for membership withdrawn before being voted on, at his own request, was brought up for consideration. In as much as Dr. Taniguchi is at a concentration Camp for the duration, his application was generally discussed. Dr. Emeis moved that Our Councilor ask for ruling as to whether this application should properly come before the SDCDS and whether his eligibility should be decided by this Society. Seconded by Dr. Brockett. Carried.

SDCDS didn't know what to do with his application status as a member living in a concentration camp. It was resolved, as Dr. Taniguchi received "interim" membership in Southern California State Dental Association, according to the April 1943 Board minutes. He would be shifted to the "member-at-large" category. Note that before 1973, the California Dental Association existed as two separate organizations. As of the end of 1942, ADA reported the California State Dental Association (which represented the north) had 1,878 members and the Southern California State Dental Association had even more members at 2,104. SDCDS had 156 members. The incarcerated members still paid dues, but at a reduced rate.

Dr. Taniguchi enlisted and joined sixteen other dentists, including SDCDS member Dr. James T. Arikawa, in the 442nd RCT at Camp Shelby, MI. By July 21, 1943, he was a Lieutenant and his home address was Chicago. He was transferred to the 369th Medical Battalion, Company D, 69th Division at Camp Shelby, MI and was the only dentist to serve the 442nd in the European Theatre. He separated from the U.S. Army in 1947, with the rank of Captain and had a Detroit address. He returned to California, practiced in Santa Ana, and retired to north of Temecula, CA.

### George Hara, DDS (1915-1952)

UCSF School of Dentistry, '40  
SDCDS member 1942 (estimated) -1952  
Practice addresses: 539 8th Ave and later 1536 Market St., San Diego

Imprisoned at Poston III, block 322 with his wife  
**Prisoner number 04028A**

Dr. Hara was born in California and lived in Sacramento. His UCSF School of Dentistry class of 1940 had 45 students. The 1940 UCSF yearbook states he was president of the "Jap. student club". It is unknown if this slur was intentional.

Dr. Hara and his wife Miyeko Hara were first interned at the Santa Anita Assembly Center and then at Poston. He worked as a dentist at the Santa Anita Assembly Center, which was converted from the horse racetracks and filthy horse stables to house the imprisoned Japanese Americans. He and Dr. Takeda joined the Poston dental clinics on the same day in November 1942.<sup>10</sup> While incarcerated, he sought an early release from Poston and asked SDCDS to tell the government that San Diego had a shortage of dentists. The SDCDS Board decided to do nothing. Nevertheless, Hara received governmental

approval and returned to San Diego before the War was over. He was the only SDCDS member to return to San Diego and practice.

After the War, Dr. Hara reestablished the San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League and held meetings in his dental office. He served as president in 1946 and 1947.<sup>11</sup>

His wife killed him in 1952. It was midnight and he told his wife to get his .32 caliber handgun. He placed it in her hands and showed her how to hold it. He put her finger on the trigger, turned the gun onto himself and squeezed his finger over hers, which fired the weapon. Dr. Hara died instantly. His wife spent 3 days in the San Diego County jail during the investigation before being released. The San Diego Union newspaper printed salacious details of his possible affair with his "attractive" secretary Louise Garcia, including long phone calls between them and being seen together in public, but she denied any wrongdoing. His wife fired her earlier on the night he was killed. Miyeko told the investigator her husband "hated dentistry. He hated San Diego. And he was terribly upset over receiving notice he was about to be called into the armed forces."<sup>12</sup> Two weeks after he died, it took just ten minutes to acquit Miyeko Hara, with the conclusion of accidental death."

### Captain James Takeo Arikawa, DDS

(1909-2002):

special circumstances — he avoided incarceration  
USC School of Dentistry, '35  
SDCDS member 1936-1942??  
Practice address : 117 N. 8th St, Brawley, CA

#### Avoided incarceration

See his biography on page 12 •

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- 10 New dentists added to staff. Poston Press Bulletin. Image 5, Library of Congress. September 8, 1942.
- 11 <http://www.jaclsdiego.org/chapter-history>
- 12 Police hold dentist's wife in mate's death. San Diego Union. December 28, 1952. Section 1, page 1-2.

officer with distinction from September 30, 1929 to March 21, 1942. But on March 22, 1942, he was stripped of his US Army rank by Congress. On March 23, 1942, my father followed the "instructions" pasted on the door of his Brawley business/heard on the radio/or read in the newspaper. He rode a special public bus as ordered, along with other prior service Japanese Americans to Terminal Island, CA for internment processing. Two FBI agents waited at Terminal Island for each of them. To avoid internment, he accepted the US Army contract offer to enlist himself into the California National Guard with immediate activation into the US Army as an active duty private.

### Private James T. Arikawa and General George S. Patton

Moving forward to September 1980, I met General George S. Patton's son (a Major General (MG) at Rhein Main AB, Germany) at the annual US Army war games called Return of Forces to Germany (REFORGER). MG Patton asked me if my father was in the US Army and I stated: "Yes, General!" In fact, I told him about my father's story and how his father mentioned that he would help my father (in the future).

Note: My father never publicly mentioned the rest of this story because he was deeply embarrassed, as you will read. After March 23, 1942, considered prior service, my father was assigned menial work at the horse stables in Fort Polk, LA. As customary, GEN George S. Patton would have his personal conveniences sent to certain locations. This included having his horse sent from FT Hood, TX, where he was Commandant, to FT Polk, LA where there was a polo match, involving several officers.

When my father, now a PVT, saw GEN Patton at the horse stables, he was really embarrassed and tried to hide his face or act busy. My father stated that GEN George S. Patton's first words to him were: "James, is that you?" Followed by: "By God, what the \$#%^ are you doing here?" GEN Patton dismissed everyone from the horse stables. By the end of the week, in April 1942, my father was reassigned to the US Army medical detachment, Camp Shelby, MS. In all the WWII pep talks to the troops overseas, GEN Patton related the same story: "Thirty years from now, when you're sitting around your fireside with your grandson on your knee, and he asks you 'What did you do in the great WWII?', You won't have to say, 'Well, I shoveled shit in Louisiana.'" Little do people know, the soldier shoveling was my father!

On February 1, 1943, the Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) was activated at Camp Shelby, MS. Seventeen Japanese American dentists completed basic combat training with the 442nd RCT, including my father. But the unit needed only one dentist to serve overseas in Europe. Among themselves, the dentists used a lottery of picking the smallest broom straw to see who would go to Europe. My father chose a long straw; his friend, Frank Taniguchi, DDS of El Centro chose the smallest straw.

#### Postscript

Due to the "PI" stamped on my father's service jacket and a letter from GEN Patton, his reassignment to a medical detachment allowed him to become Tech Sergeant in one year. By September 1944, my father returned to the rank of CPT. Holding CPT Arikawa to his California National Guard obligation of six months after the end of WWII, his active federal service ended on February 6, 1946. Dr. James T. Arikawa, DDS, didn't return to his former practice in Brawley, but moved to West Los Angeles and joined the Los Angeles County Dental Society (Fifth District).

My father's brothers served in Europe in the 442nd RCT during World War II. PFC Frank Arikawa (Company F) was killed in Italy. Staff Sergeant (SSG) Burns Arikawa (Company M) served in the 442nd from Anzio Beach (Italy) through France and Germany, and earned the Distinguished Unit Badge (DUB) and Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) and survived combat without injury. •

Americans from the Glendale area. We attended a Baptist church from time to time for services when we returned to California. We resumed attending the Buddhist Temple, Higashi Hongwanji, in Los Angeles later.

In spite of the hardship, I can honestly say my memories of the war years and the years immediately following are almost all good ones —growing up on a farm with a close knit family and now taking care of each other. I am saddened to see that many in our society still have not accepted the reality of life that we are all equals, regardless of religion or the color of our skin. Unfortunately, Muslims are the current recipient of this lack of understanding.

The Quakers, Jehovah Witnesses and Salvation Army members were especially good to us in Arizona and offered us much support and kindness even after we were permitted to return to California. Today, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego, the Buddhist Temple of San Diego and the Christian churches are hard at work trying to lessen the discrimination of different ethnic groups in San Diego.

I owe my brighter outlook and appreciation for seeing all that is good in others to my parents and especially my older sister Betty who helped raise us, as my mother worked in the fields with my father. But the one individual who has had the greatest influence on me has been my wife Naomi, who has helped me to see all of the good that has come from those years. I realize how fortunate we really were and are today. •

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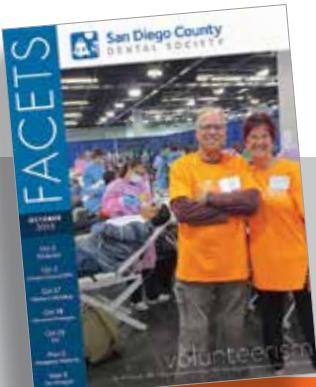
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pictured above, L-R: Ryan, Pam, Hoa, Todd, Shirley and Susan



## Why I Give

For San Diego County Dental Foundation friend Dr. Sussi Yamaguchi, support for the organization and giving back to the community runs deep in her blood. Her passion runs deep as she has a detailed history of community involvement through her work with the UCSD Student-Run Free Dental Clinics and now, serves as the Clinic Director at the John Geis DDS Dental Clinic. With 13 years of active involvement with both the dental society and dental foundation, Dr. Yamaguchi reflects on giving back and helping shape the dental landscape here in San Diego, "I donate to inspire. I know SDCDF provides funding for different projects that increase access and awareness to dental care and promotes volunteerism."

By investing her time, talent and giving back to SDCDF, Dr. Yamaguchi is proud of her involvement and looks forward to exciting new opportunities. "The Foundation is doing great work! They're serving kids, adults, women, veterans and the homeless and inspiring volunteerism among dental professionals to give back to their community. I would love to see the foundation partner up with senior centers and give back to the geriatric population."

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**OCT 02****Oktoberfest****Summary:** Come mix, mingle and be social! Members and 1 guest welcome.**Time:** 5:30-8:00pm**Location:** AleSmith Brewing Co. 9990 AleSmith Court, San Diego 92126**Register:** 619-275-7188 or [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [membership@sdcds.org](mailto:membership@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** Free**Sponsored by:** Law Offices of Cecilia Chen

## TUESDAY

**OCT 01****Dental MBA***Busting Loose from Insurance Dependency***Summary:** Practice overhead is rising out of control for many Dentists. One of the most significant reasons why overhead is so high is the low contracted fee schedules in Dental Insurance PPO Plans. In this fast paced course Gary will show you exactly what you need to do to successfully reduce Insurance Dependency in your practice.**Time:** 6-9pm (check-in 5:30pm)**Includes:** Light dinner and soft drinks (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).**Location:** SDCDS Office**Register:** 619-275-7188, [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** members: free, non-members: \$50, (Refunds available by Sept. 27)**Hosted:** Legacy Practice Advisors**Speaker:**

Gary Takacs



## WEDNESDAY

**OCT 16****Income Protection and Risk Management****Summary:** You've spent many years achieving your degree, accumulated student loan debt and may have earned the title business owner. This session will present you with ideas on not only how to build wealth but also ways to protect the wealth/ value of your business.**Time:** 6-9pm (check-in 5:30pm)**Includes:** Light dinner and soft drinks. (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).**Location:** SDCDS Office**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org), 619-275-7188, [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** member free nonmember \$50**Hosted:** Westpac Wealth Partners**Speaker:**

Rod Crews and Dr. Jonathan Rudin

**Speaker:**

Dr. Jonathan Rudin



## TUESDAY

**OCT 24****BLS Renewal for Healthcare Providers (FREE CE\*)****Summary:** Register early if your CPR card is expiring.**Time:** 6-9pm**Includes:** Pizza and salad, (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).**Location:** SDCDS Office**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org), 619-275-7188, [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** member \$40 or free member benefit CE for 2019. nonmember \$60 | staff \$50**Sponsored by:** Westpac Wealth Partners**Instructor:**

Karen Connor



## SATURDAY

**OCT 12****SDCDS Day at the Bay****Summary:** Join us for this free social event for dentists and their families. Pack up the kids, toys, sunscreen, and play clothes. There will be a variety of games organized for kids of all ages and adults. Non members and friends welcome.**Time:** 12-4pm**Includes:** Great Food, a Jumpee house for the kids and plenty of games.**Register:** 619-275-7188 or [membership@sdcds.org](mailto:membership@sdcds.org)**Location:** At Crown Point Picnic Shelter, 700 Corona Oriente Road on Mission Bay, 92109

## SATURDAY

**OCT 26****Starting or Buying a Dental Practice****Summary:** Come prepared to learn about the many factors that go into the decision of starting or buying your own dental practice. This advisory team will help you navigate this incredibly important dental life decision.**Time:** 9:30am-2pm (check-in 9am)**Includes:** Breakfast and Lunch, (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).**Location:** SDCDS Office**Register:** [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org), 619-275-7188, [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** members free non-member \$50**Hosted:** Bank of America

## FRIDAY

**OCT 11****Dental Practice Act & Infection Control (FREE CE\*)****Summary:** Review CDC Guidelines and State regulations for Infection Control. Recognize and manage bloodborne, contact, droplet and airborne diseases. Strategies to minimize the risk of transmitting diseases.**Time:** 8am-12:30pm (check-in 7am)**Includes:** Cont. Breakfast (please indicate special dietary needs when registering).**Location:** Admiral Baker Golf Course Clubhouse**Register:** 619-275-7188, [sdcds.org](http://sdcds.org) or [admin@sdcds.org](mailto:admin@sdcds.org)**Pricing:** members: \$75 or free, Member staff: \$75. non-members: \$99, (Refunds available by Oct. 8)**Sponsored by:** Citibank, Dental Hygiene Therapy and Consulting, Fortune Mgmt, Garfield Refining.

## FRIDAY

**OCT 11****Dental Practice Act & Infection Control (FREE CE\*)****Speaker:**  
Nancy Dewhurst



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