

July 20, 2022

Via email

Dear Topaz Museum Board members,

The Wakasa Memorial Committee is planning a community-organized observance on Sat. July 23 at Topaz to mark the one-year anniversary of the removal of the Wakasa Monument from the Topaz concentration camp site.

After the ceremony, we will come to view the Monument at the Museum courtyard before the Museum closes at 5 p.m.

We will have several Topaz Yonsei (fourth generation) and Gosei (fifth generation) members traveling with us, their first time to visit the Topaz site. Additionally, half of our group has not seen the Memorial stone yet.

Sincerely, Wakasa Memorial Committee

Att: Wakasa memorial graphic

Akemi Yamane Ina, Topaz Survivor, born at Topaz the day after Wakasa was killed Kiyoshi Ina, Topaz Survivor

Hiroshi Shimizu, Topaz, Tule Lake, Crystal City Survivor; father, Iwao Shimizu, member of 1943 Wakasa Committee

Lauren Araki, Topaz Descendant

Sarah Julia Escobido Brandenstein, Topaz Descendant

Cheryl Ann Escobideo, Topaz Descendant

Midori Hogg, Topaz Descendant

Patti Iiyama, Topaz Descendant

Claudia Katayanagi, Topaz Descendant

Mari Matsumoto, Topaz and Poston Descendant

Martha Nakagawa, Topaz, Tule Lake and Leupp Descendant

Gail Nanbu, Topaz Descendant

Barbara Suyehiro, Topaz Descendant

Diana Emiko Tsuchida, Topaz Descendant

Nancy Ukai, Topaz Descendant

Ruth Wakabayashi Kondo, Topaz Descendant

Bif Brigman, historian, Minidoka Pilgrimage former co-chair

Karen Kiyo Lowhurst, Heart Mountain Descendant

Chizu Omori, Poston Survivor

Emiko Omori, Poston Survivor

John Ota, Descendant of so-called "voluntary evacuees"

Barbara Takei, Tule Lake Descendant

Paul Tomita, Minidoka Survivor

Advisory Council

Tetsuden Kashima, Topaz Survivor, Professor Emeritus, American Ethnic Studies Department and Sociology, University of Washington

Masako Takahashi, Topaz Survivor, Takahashi Family Foundation

Satsuki Ina, Topaz Descendant; Tule Lake, Crystal City Survivor

Dr. Karen Korematsu, Topaz Descendant, Founder & Executive Director Fred T. Korematsu Institute

Stacey Camp, Archaeologist, Director of the Campus Archaeology Program, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Michigan State University

Roger Daniels, Charles Phelps Taft Professor Emeritus of History, University of Cincinnati

Bruce Embrey, Manzanar Descendant, Co-chair Manzanar Committee

Art Hansen, Professor Emeritus History, Asian American Studies, California State University, Fullerton

Donald Teruo Hata, Gila River Survivor, Professor Emeritus of History, CSU Dominguez Hills

Tom Ikeda, Minidoka Descendant, Densho Founding Executive Director Japanese American Citizens League, Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District

Michelle G. Magalong, University of Maryland Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow in Historic Preservation, President of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation

Roger Shimomura, Minidoka Survivor, Distinguished Professor Emeritus Renee Tajima-Peña, Heart Mountain, Tule Lake, Gila River Descendant, UCLA Professor of Asian American Studies, filmmaker

Karen Umemoto, Manzanar Descendant, UCLA Professor of Asian American Studies and Urban Planning

Mary Urashima, Historian, author, Historic Wintersburg

Duncan Ryūken Williams, Buddhist priest and Professor of Religion/American Studies & Ethnicity, University of Southern California

Jay Xu, Director and CEO, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco

CC:

Mike Reynolds, Regional Director, Interior Regions 6,7,8, National Park Service
Lisa P. Davidson, Acting Program Manager, National Historic Landmarks Program,
National Park Service
Justin Henderson, Heritage Partnerships Program, Intermountain Region, NPS
Robert Nieweg, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Jennifer Ortiz, Director, Utah Division of State History
Chris Merritt, Utah State Historic Preservation Office
Carol Kawase, district governor NCWNP, JACL
David Inoue, Executive Director, JACL
Jani Iwamoto, Utah State Senator, 4th District