



KEIZAI SILICON VALLEY

US - JAPAN BUSINESS FORUM

Newsletter – Issue No. 298 – June 2025

Hiking Day!

Join Keizai Silicon Valley for a fun morning of hiking at the wooded [Picchetti Ranch Open Space Preserve](#). Get your exercise and your networking all together in one event!



Date: Saturday, June 21, 2025

Time: 10am

Registration: Keizai.org

Ticket Cost: Free!

Location

- We will meet at the Picchetti Ranch Parking Lot (Picchetti Winery). The parking lot is good size, so there should not be a problem parking.
- The address is 13100 Montebello Rd, Cupertino, CA 95014
- Parking is free



Join us at our annual summer networking at Rengstorff Park, Mountain View, a vibrant community hub offering diverse recreational facilities and green spaces. Spanning over 50 acres, the park is centrally located, with ample parking, and near a Caltrain Station. This event is ideal for networking, catching up with old acquaintances, or making new friends. The park's green open field and the recently opened Magical Bridge Playground also offer your family, significant others, and friends a place to enjoy outdoor activities. Lunch will be served, featuring BBQ items cooked by the Silicon Valley BBQ Association. We will continue with our well-received Bingo game and Suika Wari.

Date: Saturday, July 26, 2025 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM (PDT)

Venue: Rengstorff Park, 1901-1925 Crisanto Ave, Mountain View, CA 94040

Registration: [Keizai.org](https://www.keizai.org)

Fees

- Early bird (until Thursday, Jul 10 11 PM PT): \$25 (or \$10 if 6-12 years old)
- Regular registration (until Tuesday, Jul 22 11 PM PT): \$35 (or \$10 if 6-12 years old)
- Late registration (until Thursday, July 24 noon): \$55 (or \$10 if 6-12 years old)
- Walk-in: \$75 (or \$30 if 6-12 years old) — Space is limited and may not be available
- All food and entertainment are subject to change without prior notice.

Hiking the Hills

By Joe Quinlan

Here in Silicon Valley, we are fortunate to live in an area surrounded on both sides by hills and mountains with plenty of hiking trails. Ever since our second child went off to college in 2017, my wife and I have been exploring these trails, and we have hiked the vast majority of them. We have found the app and website All Trails to be well worth the reasonable annual fee. Here are five of our favorite trails, places we find ourselves going back to repeatedly.

1. **Sanborn County Park** – This park is easily accessible from downtown Saratoga. In fact, you can have lunch in Saratoga and then go hike the park. We hike the loop that All Trails calls “San Andreas Trail to Peterson Trail”. At about 4.5 miles, the length is not that long, but the elevation gain will give you a healthy aerobic workout. The trail takes you far away from roads, up into a forest of second-growth redwoods mixed in with other trees.
2. **Portola Redwoods State Park** – We generally hike the loop part of what All Trails calls the “Slate Creek Loop” trail. This loop by itself is somewhat short (perhaps 3.5 miles), so there are several options for add-on hiking: (1) There is an out-and-back trail call the “Old Tree Trail” that takes you to a huge original-growth redwood tree that is over one thousand years old. (2) Stemming off from the loop is the continuation of the Slate Creek Trail, which will take you to the original site of the Page Mill for which Page Mill Road is named. (3) From the visitor center there is a short trail to a small waterfall called Tiptoe Falls. When the creeks are running high, you have to be somewhat adventurous in walking on rocks to ford several creeks along the way.
3. **Sam McDonald County Park** – If you want to hike among some towering redwoods, this is the place. The best trail here is what All Trails calls the “Heritage Grove Loop”. There is a large parking lot that usually does not fill up. Sam McDonald was an African American who was employed for decades as the grounds maintenance manager for Stanford University’s athletic teams. He was well loved by the Stanford athletes who he would have out for barbeque at his getaway cabin and property deep in the Santa Cruz mountains. When Sam died, he deeded his property to San Mateo County to be used as a park. Now we can all enjoy it.
4. **Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve** – The best thing about this park is that it has a large parking lot that virtually never fills up, unlike the nearby Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve. In fact, when the wildflowers are in bloom, the Russian Ridge parking lot overflows out onto the surrounding roads. But you can park at Skyline and hike over to Russian Ridge to view the wildflowers. The main trail to hike here is the out-and-back Ipiwa Trail. By itself, it is not very long, so you can lengthen this by doing a loop around horseshoe lake and/or hiking up to Borel Hill once you get to the Russian Ridge preserve. The views of deep valleys from the Ipiwa trail are majestic, showing the beauty of the Santa Cruz mountains. Watch for eagles, hawks, and condors soaring above.
5. **Joseph D. Grant County Park** – The trails here do not have much shade, so this is not a place to hike when the weather is hot, but conversely the trails here dry out faster than the shady parks when there has been recent rain. Pick a cool day (like in winter) when the trails at the other parks might be cold and muddy. There are good loops here on either side of Mount Hamilton Road; All Trails calls them “Dutch Flat and Dairy Trails” and “Yerba Buena to Halls Valley Trail Loop”. At the main parking lot is Joseph D. Grant’s country house. His San Francisco mansion is in Pacific Heights at 2200 Broadway, next to the larger Flood Mansion.

Event Summary: 35th Anniversary Shinnenkai

On Friday, January 31, Keizai Silicon Valley held its annual Shinnenkai at the Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club. Unlike in several years previous which had good weather, this year started out with drizzling rain (much needed in California). But this rain did not dampen the evening events, as much lively networking took place, followed by the agenda for the evening. The program started off with greetings by Keizai Silicon Valley president Chimmy Shioya and San Francisco Consul General Yo Osumi. In past years, Consuls General had simply wished everyone a happy new year, but this year Consul General Osumi proactively gave a brief overview of some main activities of the San Francisco Consulate General. In particular, he highlighted his support of the upcoming exhibition at the de Young museum on the Art of Manga, which will open in September.

The honorees for this evening were Glen and Sakie Fukushima, a power couple in US-Japan relations. Glen has served in various senior government, academic, and business roles, and Sakie has been in the vanguard of women in Japanese business. As a child, Glen grew up partly in Monterey and San Francisco, so he has a local connection to the area. Additionally, Glen met Sakie when he was a student



at Stanford University, and she was visiting from Japan as part of the Japan-America Student Conference, which has a long history dating back to 1934. Sakie led off by commenting that two of the biggest changes she has seen recently in Japan are labor mobility (the end of lifetime employment) and labor force diversity, especially more women in the work force. Glen remarked that Japanese companies always used to be quite similar to each other, but starting in the 1990's he began to see more diversity, so that each Japanese company developed its own personality.

Glen believes that digital modernization is crucial for Japan, along with the welcoming of more women and non-Japanese to the workforce. Glen and Sakie both commented that Japanese companies in particular have a lot to learn from Silicon Valley companies. While Sakie believes that Japan is changing, Glen is concerned that it is not changing fast enough, especially compared to Korea, Taiwan, China, and India. Glen stated that the Japanese government wants highly skilled workers to come to Japan. In this line, Sakie recommended that Americans who want to be successful in Japan should first learn Japanese and try working for a Japanese company.

The evening program wrapped up with the traditional kagamibiraki led by the honored guests and the always exciting raffle drawing. The enthusiasm for the evening was evidenced by the networking that continued after the evening program concluded. As the attendees headed home, the rain had cleared, and the twinkling lights of Silicon Valley were once again beautifully visible from the entrance of the country club perched high above the valley. See more photos on the following page.



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KEIZAI SILICON VALLEY LINKEDIN GROUP DISCUSSION AND JOB POSTING

Please join the LinkedIn Keizai Silicon Valley Group and participate in group discussions. You can also share and discuss jobs with the members by clicking the Jobs tab after creating a Keizai Silicon Valley Group account. If you have any questions, please contact jobs@keizai.org.

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1768007>