



PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 93 YEARS

JACL held its first in-person National Convention since 2019 in Las Vegas at Ballys Hotel and Casino.

JACL National Convention

Together Again

» **INSIDE:**
JACL Elects
New National
Board

What's
Next for the
Organization?

» **PAGES 6 & 7**
SPECIAL
PHOTO SPREAD

The 2022 National JACL Convention Was Enjoyable and Memorable

By Floyd Mori,
National Convention Chair

I have worked on many JACL conventions in various capacities, including as chairman, a member of the JACL National Board and on the JACL staff. I was happy to help.

Thanks to everyone who attended the 2022 National Convention earlier this month either in person or virtually. Special thanks to the JACL staff, headed up by Executive Director David Inoue, the convention workers and volunteers, as well as everyone who participated in any way. Congratulations to all the awardees who were honored at the convention.

Thank you to the outgoing National Board — Jeff Moy as president, and board members Matthew Farrells, Marissa Kitazawa, Sarah Baker, David Lin, Saki Mori, Brandon Mita and Rob Buscher.

The incoming President is Larry Oda, who previously served four years as national president. There are other positions on the National Board

that are unfilled, so Larry will be making selections and appointments.

Any JACL members who are interested in serving on the National Board can contact Larry via email at loda@jACL.org. Be sure to also check out the JACL website to get additional information at www.jACL.org.

There were a number of JACL leaders and members who were recognized who have passed away since the last convention in 2019. The Hon. Norman Mineta was not present for probably the first time in decades. I have been attending JACL conventions for many years, and I always enjoyed seeing Norm and his wife, Deni, in attendance. He was one of the greatest leaders ever among Japanese Americans, as well as one of the greatest supporters of the JACL and other Asian American organizations. He was a friend to all.

In addition, two individuals who passed away after receiving awards in Salt Lake City at the last convention were Wat Misaka, the first nonwhite player in the NBA, and Greg Maru-

tani, a JACL leader who did so much for the education aspect of the organization.

Two past national presidents who passed away were Lillian Kimura and Helen Kawagoe. Another who was normally at every convention for years was Mas Hashimoto, who passed away on June 20.

It was nice to see old friends and make new friends at the convention, all while JACL also took care of official business and came together to honor individuals at the awards luncheons and Sayonara Banquet.

Jeff Moy was presented with the Past President's Pin. Other past National JACL presidents who were in attendance at convention were Kenneth Inouye, David Kawamoto,



Floyd Mori, who has served JACL as past national president and executive director, served as this year's National Convention Chair.

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

Larry Oda, Floyd Shimomura and myself.

Former Congressman Mike Honda was also present, plus other old-time JACLers such as Judge Dale Ikeda and Chip Larouche, who were both presented with Ruby Pin awards.

It was gratifying to see so many young people being willing to become involved JACL. They are our future and current leaders who will continue to guide the JACL as it nears its 100th anniversary and beyond. ■



HOW TO REACH US

Email: pc@pacificcitizen.org
Online: www.pacificcitizen.org
Tel: (213) 620-1767
Mail: 123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 313
Los Angeles, CA 90012

STAFF

Executive Editor Allison Haramoto	Business Manager Susan Yokoyama
Senior Editor Digital & Social Media George Johnston	Production Artist Marie Samonte
	Circulation Eva Ting

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League, *Pacific Citizen*, 123 Ellison S. Onizuka St., Suite 313, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Periodical postage paid at L.A., CA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL President: Jeffrey Moy
Executive Director: David Inoue

P.C. EDITORIAL BOARD

Rob Buscher, chairperson; Ron Kuramoto, MDC; Danielle Pierce, EDC; Marcia Chung, CCDC; Nancy Ukai, NCWNPDC; Sheldon Arakaki, PNWDC; Michaela Ishino, IDC; John Saito Jr., PSWDC; Marco Torrez, Youth Rep.

Subscribe

Get a one-year subscription of the *Pacific Citizen* newspaper at: www.pacificcitizen.org or call (213) 620-1767.


Advertise

To advertise in the *Pacific Citizen*, call (213) 620-1767 or e-mail: busmgr@pacificcitizen.org.

LEGAL

No part of this publication may be reproduced without the express permission of the *Pacific Citizen*. Editorials, letters, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the P.C. do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles. © 2022

Periodicals paid at Los Angeles, Calif. and mailing office.



STACI TOJI, ESQ.
TOJI LAW, APC
Estate Planning for the Generations

3655 Torrance Blvd., Suite 300 | Torrance, CA 90503
(424) 247-1123 | staci@tojilaw.com | www.tojilaw.com

LIVING TRUSTS | WILLS | POWERS OF ATTORNEY

PACIFICCITIZEN 2022 SPRING CAMPAIGN

JACL MEMBER? ☐ Y ☐ N ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$200 ☐ OTHER _____

Name : _____

Address 1 : _____

Phone Number : _____ E-mail : _____

The P.C.'s mission is to 'educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities.'

** Your donations will help build and preserve a cohesive library of the Pacific Citizen to educate future generations.**

'I'm glad to see the Pacific Citizen growing and evolving with its website, and especially LOVE the much easier-to-navigate digital archives. It's a treasure trove for JAs to learn about our community's history, and for scholars and journalists looking to connect the past with the present. Thanks for the improvements, P.C.!'

— Gil Asakawa



JACL MEMBERS

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you've moved, please send new information to: **National JACL**
1765 Sutter St.
San Francisco, CA 94115
(415) 921-5225 ext. 26
ALLOW 6 WEEKS FOR ADDRESS CHANGES.
TO AVOID INTERRUPTIONS IN DELIVERY, PLEASE
NOTIFY YOUR POSTMASTER TO INCLUDE
PERIODICALS IN YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS
(USPS Form 3575)

JACL Members Not Receiving Your Pacific Citizen?
Please contact Tomiko Ismail, JACL Membership/Database Administrator, at (415) 921-5225, ext. 26, or email tismail@jACL.org.





FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LOOKING AT THE MAN IN THE MIRROR

By David Inoue,
JACL Executive Director

Revelations that former President Donald Trump has been keeping classified documents at his Mar a Lago home was not so surprising but is especially troubling in light of his administration's highly publicized "China initiative."

Established in 2018 by FBI Director Christopher Wray, the purpose was to engage a "whole society" effort to target what was considered by the FBI to be a whole society threat from China that espionage could be expected from all possible points of contact.

Particularly highlighted by Wray was the naivete of academia, which relies heavily on students and researchers from China or with ties to China, if even only through ancestry. As a result, there was a chilling effect on students, professors and throughout academia.

The result of the initiative, and the incentivization of agents and prosecutors to pursue cases against potential Chinese collaborators, has resulted in nearly 60 cases listed on the FBI's China Initiative website.

A quick scan of those cases will reveal very little to do with espionage. The fruits of the China Initiative was the revelation that many researchers failed to disclose ties to

China in grant applications.

Given the anti-China rhetoric, one could hardly blame anyone had they intentionally not disclosed any ties to China lest it paint them as a traitor without any further cause.

In total, there are 77 known cases under the China Initiative that have resulted in 28 actual prosecutions of which there have been only eight convictions or admissions of guilt. Of those, zero have been on the basis of espionage or theft of technology.

None of this is to say that the threat of technology theft or transfer to China is not a concern. Recently there was the report of a Chinese scientist stealing autonomous driving technology from Apple; however, he was caught through the internal investigation of Apple, not through the work necessarily of the Department of Justice or the now-ended China Initiative. Thankfully, the program was formally ended in February of this year, perhaps not ironically three days after the 80th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066.

At the same time, then-President Trump was accompanying the

China Initiative with highly charged rhetoric about the enemy nation and the threat it posed. As we all know, the result was a wave of anti-Asian hate and violence that terrorized our communities.

All of this brings us to the former president and the recent news of over 180 classified documents held in an insecure manner, in defiance to inquiries from the National Archives and the Department of Justice to secure said documents.

Reports are that these documents potentially put our intelligence methodology and even operative identities at risk of being revealed. For someone so concerned about the espionage threat from China, Trump has a well-known reputation for his cavalier handling of our nation's most sensitive secrets.

This is playing out as the typical case of unequal treatment under the law depending on who you are. Citizenship can be meaningless if you are Japanese American during World War II or Chinese American in the current times of tension between China and the United States.

There can be no other path but for the Department of Justice to pursue the case against President Trump. Given the aggressive manner it has pursued so many cases against Chinese and Chinese Americans for far-lesser violations has painted itself into a corner on what must be done.

It would be a delicious irony for the former president to be indicted and eventually convicted on the basis of charges not dissimilar to those he inflicted upon Chinese and Chinese Americans in his own McCarthy-esque witch hunts.

The reality of the previous president is that he reflects his own misconduct upon others, whether it be charges of election fraud or engaging in behavior that might be interpreted as damaging to our national security. If we want to identify all the misbehavior of the previous administration, we need only look to what he accused others of doing.

David Inoue is executive director of the JACL. He is based in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.



LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

TIME TO THINK ABOUT MEDICARE

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

If you're nearing your 65th birthday, it's time to start thinking about enrolling in Medicare. Medicare is designed to give you access to affordable, credible health insurance from 65 and on. It's the federal health insurance program that helps older adults and younger people with disabilities pay for their health care.

However, understanding how to enroll in Medicare if you are turning 65 is the tricky part. If you're not receiving Social Security benefits, you'll need to take steps to enroll. Keep in mind, you can enroll only at certain times. If you sign up late, you could end up with gaps in coverage and costly penalties for the rest of your life.

I just turned 64 and thought it was time to start thinking about Medicare. But, after reading several articles on "How to Enroll in Medicare," I ended up totally confused. So, this article is to help you get familiar with Medicare's four different service types so that you're prepared and ready to receive coverage as soon as you become eligible (*source: AARP, Understanding Medicare's Options: Parts A, B, C and D, Nov. 15, 2021*).

Part A: Hospital Coverage

When you apply for Medicare, you will automatically be enrolled in Part A. It covers hospital stays, hospice care and some skilled nursing care that you may need after being hospitalized for a stroke or other episodes that require rehabilitation in a nursing home or other facility.

Most people don't have to pay a premium for Part A. You've already paid into the system in the form of the Medicare tax deductions on your paycheck. However, Part A isn't totally free. Medicare charges a hefty deductible each time you are admitted to the hospital. It changes every year, but for 2022, the deductible is \$1,556. You can buy a supplemental or Medigap policy to cover that deductible and some out-of-pocket costs for the other parts of Medicare.

Medicare pays for virtually all hospital services for the first 60 days you're in the hospital. There are some exceptions — it won't pay for a private room, for example. If you are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and have not worked long enough to qualify for Medicare, you may be able to buy into the program by paying a Part A premium.

Part B: Doctor and Outpatient Services

This part of Medicare covers doctor visits, lab tests, diagnostic screenings, medical equipment, ambulance transportation and other outpatient services. Unlike Part A, Part B involves more costs, and you may want to defer signing up for it if you are still working and have insurance through your job or are covered by your spouse's health plan. But, if you don't have other insurance and don't sign up for Part B when you first enroll in Medicare, you'll likely have to pay a higher monthly premium for as long as you're in the program.

The federal government sets the Part B monthly premium, which is \$170.10 for 2022. It may be higher if your income is more than \$91,000. You'll also be subject to an annual deductible, set at \$233 for 2022. You'll also have to pay 20 percent of the bills for doctor visits and other outpatient services. If you are collecting Social Security, the monthly premium will be deducted from your monthly benefit.

Part C: Medicare Advantage

Medicare Advantage is the private health insurance alternative to the federally run original Medicare. Think of Advantage as a kind of one-stop shopping choice that combines various parts of Medicare into one plan. If you decide on a Medicare Advantage ("MA") plan, you'll still have to enroll in parts A and B and pay the Part B premium. Then, in addition, you will have to choose a Medicare Advantage plan and sign up with a private insurer.

The federal government requires these plans to cover everything that

original Medicare covers, and some plans pay for services that original Medicare does not, including dental and vision care. In addition, the Medicare Advantage plan may cover such extras as wheelchair ramps and shower grips for your home, meal delivery and transportation to and from doctors' offices.

Medicare Advantage plans generally are either health maintenance organizations (HMOs) or preferred provider organizations (PPOs). In HMOs, you typically choose a primary care doctor who will then direct your care and usually will have to give you a referral to see a specialist. PPOs have networks of doctors that you can see and facilities you can use, often without the need of a referral. If you go to a provider who is not in the plan's network, you likely will pay more.

Part D — Prescription Drugs

This is the part of Medicare that pays for some of your prescription drugs. You buy a Part D plan through a private insurer. Each generally has premiums and other out-of-pocket costs, either flat co-pays for each medication or a percentage of the prescription costs. It also may have an annual deductible.

If your total drug costs — the amount you and your Part D insurance plan have paid — reach \$4,430 in 2022, you will be responsible for 25 percent of the price of the rest of the prescription drugs you buy during the year. If your drug costs continue to mount, you may reach the point of qualifying for catastrophic coverage.

Be sure to check at [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) whether the plan you're considering has the medicines you take on its covered list, called a formulary. Those lists change from year to year, so it's important to re-check your plan every year at open enrollment time.

In conclusion, if you're not receiving Social Security benefits yet, you'll need to enroll in Medicare. You can enroll as early as three months before your 65th birthday. When it comes to how to enroll in Medicare when you turn 65, you have three options: (1) simply visit the Social Security website ([ssa.gov](https://www.ssa.gov)) to apply online; (2) call Social Security Administration at (800) 772-1213; or (3) visit a local administration office.

One important tip is to make sure you keep proof of your attempt at enrollment in order to protect yourself from any late enrollment penalties should your application be lost. Print any confirmation information, note dates, times and representatives you spoke with, and request any receipts possible in person.

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@elderlawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.



A MOTHER'S TAKE

2022 JACL CONVENTION — VISION AND HOPE

By Marsha Aizumi

As we concluded our speeches and left the podium, Rino Kodama and I turned to see the room standing to applaud the work of Okaeri at the 2022 JACL National Convention. Okaeri had just received the Vision Award from the JACL's National Youth/Student Council, an honor that was raising up the visibility of LGBTQ+ acceptance and acknowledging the work of so many who, since 2013, have helped to lift up the voices on this subject.

Okaeri's vision is to create a world where all Nikkei LGBTQ+ individuals and their families are respected, embraced and celebrated. In that moment, all we envisioned felt present in the room . . . and we were so grateful.

Rino, a bisexual, nonbinary individual who uses they/them pronouns, shared in their acceptance speech,

"I grew up with frustration and resentment surrounding my family's silence about my queerness. And then my parents attended a Family Acceptance workshop facilitated in Japanese at the 2021 Okaeri virtual conference. During dinner that evening, my mom began to ask questions about how I identified as nonbinary and how she can change her usual vocabulary to support me."

This conversation with Rino and their mom was such a wonderful example of how Okaeri is creating a space for families to have open and honest conversations. And these conversations can lead to stronger family connections and opportunities for healing and greater understanding.

Other opportunities for connection and raising awareness on the LGBTQ+ topic were made available at the convention through a workshop that Okaeri and the Transgender Law Center presented called "Fight-

ing for Our Humanity: Transgender Lives, Laws and Allyship."

Led by Mariah Moore from TLC and Mia Barnett, an Okaeri co-chair, about 25 people were given a brief history about the transgender movement and ways that they could be even greater allies. The conversations and questions that followed were engaging and thought-provoking.

Tabling at the JACL National Convention was another way for Okaeri to lift up awareness and resources. We were thrilled that at least 12 chapters signed up to get more information about our work, and many expressed interest in working with Okaeri to bring programs to their area.

Okaeri is now in conversation with three of these chapters, and we hope to bring greater support and information into the homes of all Nikkei families who seek to find community and create moments of connection, just like Rino had with their family.

Finding ways to speak to our shared humanity has always been important to me. In the end, I walked away from the convention seeing the shared humanity in all of us. This definition really resonates with me: *Shared humanity means acknowledging that every human needs to be seen, heard, recognized for who*

they are, taken into account, valued and given the chance to live a life of hope, freedom and fairness.

So, whether we are Japanese, Japanese American, mixed race, LGBTQ+, an ally to these communities or have intersecting identities, don't we all want the same thing?

As Okaeri continues to lift up conversations about the Nikkei LGBTQ+ community, I invite all leaders to reach out to us with questions, concerns or requests to discuss how to bring LGBTQ+ support to their cities.

Okaeri can be reached at okaeri.la@gmail.com. And I can be reached at maizumi8888@gmail.com. It only

takes one voice to start a movement.

I know that to be true because my son was only one voice, and because he had the courage to ask the questions, express his concerns and enter into discussion, he inspired me to start Okaeri.

What can you do in your area with just one voice? I believe more than you can imagine. Let's work together. . . .

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."



NY/SC Vision Award recipients Marsha Aizumi and Rino Kodama

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MARSHA AIZUMI



(From left) San Fernando Valley JACL President Nancy Takayama and members Marsha Aizumi and May Wood



REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

THE RETURN TO IN-PERSON CONVENTIONS

By Scott Tanaka

Earlier this month, I had the opportunity to represent AARP and the JACL Washington, D.C., chapter at the 2022 JACL National Convention in Las Vegas. It was the first time I was around this many people since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. I have to say that it was an adjustment at first, but I am grateful to the JACL staff for the precautions they took to help keep us safe.

This year's theme, "Strengthening Our Community Through Action," was exactly the right message we needed to keep us moving forward. OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, another one of AARP's community partners, also held its National Convention at the same location and time.

It was great to see that there was even some joint programming between the two organizations. I believe having the two conventions along with the organizations, like AARP, who

serve the Asian American Pacific Islander community, together, makes us stronger and positions us to have greater impact on our communities.

Convention season has always been a time for AARP to learn what is happening on the ground in cities throughout the country as community organizations bring in their members.

It's an opportunity for AARP to share our resources and hear the issues and needs from the communities directly. I appreciated those who came up to me and thanked me for our AARP column in the *Pacific Citizen* and let me know that they have found AARP's resources, articles, website and app helpful.

Please continue to share this kind of feedback with us. "What we do, we do for all" is a guiding principle articulated by our founder, distinguished educator Dr. Ethel Percy Andrus. We proudly carry that forward with our partner organizations like JACL and OCA.

I would like to share some additional resources and upcoming

events. One priority that has remained for AARP is supporting efforts to overcome the double pandemic of Covid and racism.

It's more important than ever to uplift, protect and advocate for older Americans in the AAPI community.

With the support of AARP, Stop AAPI Hate put together the Elder Report that shines a light on how Covid-19 and the rise in anti-Asian hate impacted the safety and well-being of Asian American elders ages 60 and up. It also outlines concrete steps we can take as a community to give them the resources they need.

You can read the report by visiting <https://www.aarp.org/home-family/friends-family/info-2022/older-aapi-adults-face-hate.html>.

Relatedly, on Sept. 21, AARP is convening our AAPI and Black communities to address the double pandemic of Covid and systemic racism.

This FREE online event continues the conversations of community building from the Vincent Chin 40th Remembrance and Rededication, which was also the same day as Juneteenth.

We will explore our overlooked history of working together for positive change and open up the conversation on empathy, healing and our shared vision of tomorrow.

Please join us and register here: [https://aarp.cventevents.com/event/dc9c24d8-7deb-4b8d-a29f-](https://aarp.cventevents.com/event/dc9c24d8-7deb-4b8d-a29f-930a6f6949b9/summary)

[930a6f6949b9/summary](https://aarp.cventevents.com/event/dc9c24d8-7deb-4b8d-a29f-930a6f6949b9/summary).

AARP Discount for JACL Members

Did you know that JACL members have access to a discounted AARP membership rate? Learn more and hear from millennial Zachary Abel on the benefits of having an AARP membership by going to <https://jacl.org/aarp-discount>.

You do not need to be a member to access our free resources or events, but joining does give you access to discounts on travel, dining, entertainment, phone plans and much more!

The good news is that if you've been planning that overdue vacation abroad, you are no longer required to have a negative Covid test to fly into the United States. Read about it here: <https://www.aarp.org/travel/travel-tips/safety/info-2022/us-to-drop-negative-covid-test-requirement.html>.

For the latest news, updates and upcoming events as we celebrate all things AAPI, visit the AARP AAPI Community Page at aarp.org/aapi. You'll also find an extensive library of free resources where you can learn more about financial security, health, wellness and caregiving.

Scott Tanaka is a member of the JACL Washington, D.C., chapter and is a policy, research and international affairs adviser at AARP.

P.C. Announces Convention Raffle Winner

SELANOCO chapter's Ken Inouye is the winner of the *Pacific Citizen's* convention raffle featuring a one-hour karate training session with U.S. Olympian and eight-time USA National Champion Sakura Kokumai. Thank you to all who entered to support the P.C., and congratulations Ken!





Executive Director David Inoue welcomes delegates.

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

Voting remained a top priority for chapter delegates during National Council sessions throughout convention.

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

TOGETHER AGAIN

After three years, JACLers unite in person to carry on the organization's rich heritage, promote its civil rights and education mission and, above all, plan its future.

By P.C. Staff

We're finally all here together!" welcomed JACL Executive Director David Inoue during the organization's welcome reception at the Bally's Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas to kick off its National Convention "Strengthening Our Community Through Action" from Aug. 3-7.

For the first time since 2019 because of the Covid-19 pandemic (and with Covid health protocols in place), JACLers from across the country united in person and virtually to discuss the organization's goals, hold National Council meetings, elect a new National Board, pass the biennial budget and take part in workshops and plenary sessions. JACL also partnered with OCA-Asian Pacific American

Advocates to hold special joint programming sessions.

"Welcome everybody, we're here. We made it!" said National President Jeffrey Moy in his opening remarks. "Thank you to all the staff for making this happen and to the National Board. It's been such a crazy time. I reflected this morning that those of us who have been serving on the board — we met in person today for our last National Board meeting. . . . Everyone made it happen. They dug in, pushed through, and I thank you all very much."

Echoed Convention Chair and past JACL National President/Executive Director Floyd Mori: "We have a very rich heritage here in JACL to carry on. We have many things to do today and in the future, and we can't do it without people like you who show interest in the issues. . . . [Let's] continue to be engaged



(From left) Honorees Vinicius Taguchi of the Twin Cities chapter and Dr. Katherine Tobin; 2022 Legacy Fund Grant recipients with co-chairs Toshi Abe and Roberta Barton; NY/SC's Sheera Tamura and Mika Chan with Vision Award recipients Marsha Aizumi and Rino Kodama

PHOTOS: DARRELL MIHO



Newly elected JACL National President Larry Oda (left) with his wife, Anne, and outgoing National President Jeffrey Moy and his wife, Monica

PHOTO: CINDY SIU

in the future and do what we can to help JACL."

The evening's opening reception featured guest speakers and video messages from Rep. Dina Titus (D-Nev.), Honorary Consul General of Japan in Las Vegas Kathleen Blakely and Sen. Jacky Rosen (D-Nev.), as well as entertainment provided by Las Vegas Kaminari Taiko and a karate kata demonstration by U.S. Olympian Sakura Kokumai. Kokumai also closed out the evening's festivities by playing the koto alongside a special odori dance performance by Kara Yokoyama, daughter of Pacific Citizen Business Manager Susan Yokoyama.

National Council Meetings

JACL convened several National Council meetings throughout the convention to take care of its business agenda.

In spite of the Covid obstacles, JACL continued to support and advance civil rights issues, as well as grow its national staff to better



Japanese Americans of the Biennium recipients Dianne Fukami and Sam Mihara with JACL National President Jeffrey Moy

PHOTOS: DARRELL MIHO

meet the growing challenges. In his summary report, Inoue announced that JACL continues to focus on anti-Asian hate, support the Norman Y. Mineta Japanese American Confinement Education Act, is working with its coalition partners on HR 40, held an in-person Leadership Summit and is working with the Japan International Cooperation Center to resume the Kakehashi program later this year.

David Lin, vp of planning and development, presented an update on JACL's Centennial Education Fund campaign's \$3 million goal. Launched last fall, the campaign aims to fund the organization's education mission and as of July has brought in \$1.3 million.

Among the convention's main order of business was approving the 2023-24 biennial budget. Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Farrells brought JACLers up to speed with the organization's current financial situation, stating that through May 31, year-to-date results were "impacted relative to prior years primarily driven by net

gains/losses on investments (unrealized losses)." Net assets declined by \$1.6 million resulting in total net assets of \$14.2 million.

"We have come a long way over the past two years," said Farrells. "Recent market volatility has impacted us, but . . . overall, we're in a good position."

Farrells also presented the organization's proposed budget for 2023-24, which was then voted on and approved by the National Council following an amendment to adjust the budget to match the newly approved Legacy Fund Grant investment policy (see Dale Ikeda's article in this issue) voted on by the National Council on Aug. 6.

Spirited discussions were held about JACL's Legacy Fund Grant policy, the purpose of which is to "establish the management standards and practices for the JACL Legacy Fund, including, without limitation, distribution and spending policies of the fund."

» See TOGETHER on page 8



Larry Oda and his wife, Anne. Larry begins another tenure with JACL as its national president after having served previously in the role in the early 2000s.

PHOTO: CINDY SIU

LARRY ODA Back in the Saddle — AGAIN

With no candidates for JACL's presidency, the 2006-10 prexy retakes the reins.

By P.C. Staff

(Editor's Note: This article was written after the Aug. 3-7 JACL National Convention, at which Larry Oda was elected to serve a two-year term as JACL national president. Oda held the same position in consecutive terms from 2006-10; a member of the Monterey Peninsula chapter of JACL, he also served JACL nationally in other capacities, including vp of general operations and national secretary-treasurer. Oda, 77, served the city of Salinas, Calif., as its maintenance superintendent until he retired in 2017. He also served as chairman of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation from 2015-19.)

At its 2022 National Convention in Las Vegas earlier this month, the Japanese American Citizens League entered uncharted waters: For the first time in anyone's memory, JACL had zero candidates in the running to replace incumbent Jeffrey Moy, who served two back-to-back terms as national president, beginning in 2018.

Fortunately, the organization did not have to implement a contin-

gency plan in the event no one was elected. That's because Larry Oda, who served as JACL's national president in the first decade of the 2000s, agreed to run again.

Asked what compelled him to interrupt his retirement and take on this task, Oda told the Pacific Citizen that prior to the convention, he had heard that there was no one running for the office, which left him "surprised and concerned."

» See LARRY ODA on page 8

Making Memories



NCWNP District



EDC District

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF CINDY SIU



Floyd Mori and Irene Mori

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



President Jeff Moy

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



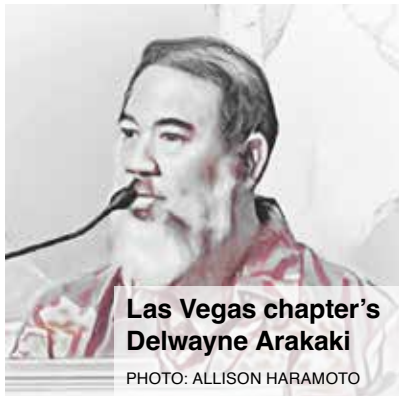
Executive Director David Inoue

PHOTO: DARRELL MIHO



IDC District

PHOTO: COURTESY OF CATHY YASUDA



Las Vegas chapter's Delwayne Arakaki

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



Las Vegas taiko group performs for JACLers

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



MDC District

PHOTO: CINDY SIU

Sakura Kokumai (left) and Kara Yokoyama

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



IDC delegates Larry and Sandra Grant

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



PNW District

PHOTO: COURTESY OF EILEEN LAMPHERE

(From left) Robbin Kawabata, Terri Nakashima, Sharon Uyeda, Arleen Mataga and Janice Luszcak

PHOTOS: CINDY SIU



(From left) Hon. Kathleen Blakeley, Cecilia Shimizu, Carol Kawase, David Kawamoto, Carol Kawamoto and Dale Ikeda



(From left) Haruka Roudebush, Jeffrey Chin and Nicholas Hori



PSW District

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



Olympian Sakura Kokumai

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

JACL National Convention attendees took full advantage of being reunited again while adhering to Covid health protocols, as members participated in various organizational activities and enjoyed all the fun Las Vegas has to offer. Memories were made, new friendships developed, business completed, information shared and future plans were set in motion. In memory of longtime Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACler Mas Hashimoto, ‘Onward’!



(From left) Eric Langowski, Rob Buscher, Brandon Mita, Sarah Baker and Paul Uyehara
PHOTOS: CINDY SIU



JACL thanks its convention sponsors.

NY/SC in Vegas
PHOTO: NY/SC



(From left) Mariko Fujimoto, Ayako Tischler, Ron Kuramoto, Vinicius Taguchi and Ryan Sudo
PHOTO: CINDY SIU

New JACL Millennium Club members Mark and Lisa Kobayashi with Paul Uyehara (right)

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



(From left) Roberta Barton, Toshi Abe and Stanley Shikuma

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



Eileen and Mark Lamphere

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



Phyllis Tajii and Meg Mizutani

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



Photo Contest Winner Akira Inoue

PHOTO: PATTY WADA



David and Akira Inoue with Maya and Alex Shibutani

PHOTO: DARRELL MIHO



Seattle JACL display

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



NY/SC and JACL staff at "Advocacy Through Art Workshop"

PHOTO: CINDY SIU

(From left) Congressman Mike Honda, Florence Koga, Carrie Huie-Pascua and Sen. Bob Hasegawa

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



NCWNP JACLers enjoy some downtime.

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



SELANOCO chapter

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



Staffers Ashley Bucher and Phillip Ozaki

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



Yoko Olsgaard (left) and Mia Furuichi Fong

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

Sarah Baker (left) and Patty Wada

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



(From left) Austin Eng, Naoko Fujii, Mike Honda, Alex Shinkawa, Bridget Keaveney and Florence Koga

PHOTO: CINDY SIU



Rob Buscher, Susan Yokoyama and Gil Asakawa

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO

TOGETHER » continued from page 5

Volunteers played a huge role in the success of this year's convention. Pictured with David Inoue (right) and JACL fellow Alex Shinkawa (second from left) are Nicole Inouye, Nancy Takayama, Jana Katsuyama and Delwayne Arakaki.

PHOTOS: DARRELL MIHO



Former U.S. Congressman Mike Honda swears in the new JACL National Board. Pictured (from left) are Larry Oda, president; Dominique Mashburn, vp for 1,000 club, membership and services; Mika Chan, NY/SC chairperson; and Sheera Tamura, NY/SC representative. Not pictured is Seia Watanabe, vp for public affairs.

PHOTO: DARRELL MIHO



Ruby Pin recipients Dale Ikeda (left) and Chip Larouche



JACL also recognized the work of the outgoing National Board. Pictured (from left) are Brandon Mita, Jeffrey Moy, Matthew Farrells, Saki Mori, Sarah Baker and Rob Buscher.

one's race, creed, sexual orientation or place of

origin.

The Twin Cities chapter, represented by President Vinicius Taguchi, received the George J. Inagaki Chapter Citizenship Award.

Among its chapter highlights, Twin Cities is celebrating its 75th anniversary as a chapter and created a four-part virtual program that was designed in response to the murder of George Floyd, as well as tirelessly works to improve community safety in Minneapolis.

Roberta Barton and Toshi Abe, co-chairs of the JACL's Legacy Fund Grant Committee, announced that six Legacy Fund Grant awards would be given this year:

- Portland JACL "Oregon Nisei Veterans World War II Memorial Highway"

- Portland JACL "Portland Public Schools: Japanese American Social Studies Third Grade Curriculum"
- Puyallup Valley JACL "Names Etched in a Horse Stall"
- Seattle JACL "Conversations on Activism and Advocacy"
- Ventura County JACL "Building Unity in the Community: Outreach and Education in Ventura County"
- Washington, D.C., JACL "Inquiry Through Graphic Novel Narratives"

The NY/SC Awards Luncheon honored Vision Award recipient Okaeri, which was accepted by Marsha Aizumi, who founded Okaeri to connect individuals and families with LGBTQ+ Japanese/Japanese Americans and allies, and Rino Kodama. "Today, more Japanese parents are not struggling alone. More families are having honest conversations with their LGBTQ+ loved ones," said Aizumi. "Okaeri has become a place to come together and learn, grow and courageously share feelings. ... Okaeri's vision is to create a world where all LGBTQ+ families are respected, embraced and celebrated."

And at its Sayonara Gala on Aug. 6, Moy awarded Congresswoman Grace Meng of New York with the

President's Award, and Sam Mihara and Dianne Fukami were named Japanese Americans of the Biennium.

Mihara, an award-winning educator, activist and leader, has given presentations on his personal incarceration experience at Heart Mountain during World War II to more than 90,000 individuals.

Fukami, whose career spans decades in the TV news industry and now includes producing documentary films, including one about the life and legacy of the late-Hon. Norman Mineta, thanked the JACL community for its support of her work throughout the years and Mineta himself.

"Strengthening our community through actions aligns with the way I have tried to lead my life. ... Over the years, I've learned much from Norm, but there are two things I want to share tonight [that he told me]: 1) Be involved; 2) Just go out there and do it," said Fukami.

JACL also awarded two Ruby Pins, the organization's highest service pin, to Chip Larouche and the Hon. Dale Ikeda.

Following installation of the new National Board officers by the Hon. Mike Honda, guest performer Phero Hill livened up the crowd with original songs dedicated in memory of his grandparents. ■

LARRY ODA » continued from page 5

But before he, as he put it, "was drafted" to run, his chapter board first asked his wife, Anne Oda, who also serves on the board, what she thought.

"Usually, she'd be a little more reserved and say, 'Well, you know, we should ask him' or something like that," said Oda. "But she said, 'Yes, he needs to do this.'"

This was the week before the convention, and several formalities needed to be checked off and attended to first. Once, however, that had been accomplished, Oda had a clear path to the JACL's presidency.

Asked if the circumstances that, in 2022, compelled him to retake the role he held more than 10 years previously constituted a crisis for JACL, Oda answered, "We may be hiding our head in the sand, but, yeah, I think it is a crisis. I mean, for the whole slate to be empty?

"I think that we're in unprecedented times," Oda continued. "We haven't had this happen, and we need to look at what are we doing. Why aren't we generating the kind of leaders that will step up and take responsibility, make decisions for the group?"

Oda recalled his days as the maintenance supervisor for the city of Salinas, Calif., and compared it to JACL's status quo.

"Regardless of if we were sick or whatever, we had to make sure that things were done," he said. "I was in a position where, if there was an earthquake, if there was a fire, if there was a flood, a plane crash, we had to be there to help out to take care of things — stop the fire, divert the flood. ... That's my training."

If 2022's dearth of would-be leaders was an indication that JACL is in fact facing a crisis, Oda has some ideas on what he needs to

prioritize between now and 2024. One of those priorities is setting up a succession plan to preclude what happened in 2022 from recurring.

"I don't want to disparage the young board, but there was no thought of succession," he said.

Oda also told *Pacific Citizen* that he wants to look at the results of the actions JACL has taken. Using the escalation in anti-Asian violence as an example, he said, "We've issued press releases saying this is wrong and whatever, but what we've done hasn't really had much effect.

"These incidences are still occurring, they haven't subsided at all," he continued. "What we've been doing has not been effective to me. You know, if we're looking at the metric of our actions, you know, what we're doing isn't causing any effect.

"If you keep beating your head against the wall, and the wall doesn't move — and if we're trying to move the wall — we got to do

something else."

Oda said JACL needs to emphasize educational programs that "encourage the youth to become involved in the community" and discern what needs to be done to "encourage folks to become (JACL) members."

Considering his game-time decision to throw his hat into the ring, Oda admitted that he is still "trying to formulate some coherent goals and objectives" under his presidency.

On JACL's perennial problem of finance, he said, "What I'm hoping to do is to utilize some fundraising targets that we haven't really gone after.

"We talk about diversifying our funding sources," he continued. "That's a bunch of bull----. It's words ... there's a whole lot more that goes into it to get to that point."

As for growing the JACL's membership, Oda said, "We need to do a better job of promoting

ourselves to the population. ... I think [there are] 850,000 JA's — and we have 7,000 members, you know, less than 1 percent. What's going on there? What can we offer that would encourage them to be members?"

As someone who has held the position of JACL national president before, Oda was sanguine about what he brings to JACL in 2022.

"I don't consider myself one of the best presidents that JACL has ever had. But I think that I'm better than some of them. ... I don't see myself as equal to a lot of them, like Floyd Shimomura, or any of the early guys that really put their heart and soul into the organization," he said.

Referring to a post-Larry Oda succession plan, he said, "I need to find someone that's better than me."

For now, however, Oda's priority is simple: "I'm gonna do the best I can." ■

JACL NATIONAL COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW LEGACY FUND MANAGEMENT POLICY

The unanimous decision successfully maintains the viability and sustainability of JACL.

By Dale Ikeda,
Legacy Fund Review
Committee Chair

I am pleased to report that the JACL National Council adopted a new Legacy Fund Management Policy ("Policy") during its morning session on Aug. 6 during the recent JACL National Convention in Las Vegas.

The Policy was developed by the Legacy Fund Review Committee ("Committee"), which began its work in February 2021. Many thanks to the Committee's voting members, including David Lin (vice chair), Matthew Farrells (treasurer), Floyd Mori, Paul Uyehara, Ken Inouye and Kendal Takeshita, as well as ex-officio members Jeffrey Moy (national president), David Inoue (national director) and Brandon Mita (national legal counsel).

The last time the National Council adopted a formal Legacy Fund Policy was in 2000. That policy expired two years later without the National Council adopting a new policy. The Policy conforms to and incorporates provisions of the 2009 Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA).

The impetus for UPMIFA arose out of the financial crisis of 2008-09 when many non-profits could not access endowment funds during the stock market slump due to implied restrictions on invading the corpus based on their solicitation materials.

The new law permits "prudent" spending even in years when the endowment portfolio loses money or involves spending a portion of the corpus considered restricted funds under the prior law. For JACL, the corpus has included donations, including return of the chapter rebates from chapters with separate corporate status, and 5 percent of earnings reinvested for growth as represented in its solicitation materials. In some years, the reinvestment rate was increased to 10 percent.

The Policy has a spending rate between 0 percent-7 percent of the Legacy Fund's value averaged over the 36-months trailing Fund values. The 36-month look back will help level out the swings in the Fund's value, which consists mainly of stocks and bonds and mutual funds composed of the same.

The normal or "default" spending rate is set at 4 percent. (This is more conservative than the 5 percent proposed by the Committee and past practice since 2017.) The spending rate can be adjusted based on seven factors specified in UPMIFA, including general economic conditions, the effects of inflation or deflation and other resources available to JACL.

This year's JACL budget, which originally proposed a distribution of 5 percent of the Fund's 24-months trailing average, was approved under the new Policy using 4 percent of the 36-month trailing Fund value of \$334,770 out of a total budget of approximately \$2.4 million.

The Policy has two safeguards or guardrails to protect, preserve and grow the Fund. The first is an aspirational threshold called the "Inflation Adjusted Corpus" (IAC). This is defined as the "value of the Corpus taking into account the impact of inflation and deflation on its purchasing power" as adjusted by the Consumer Price Index as reported by the U. S. Bureau of Labor statistics. The Policy endeavors to avoid spending that reduces the Legacy Fund balance below the IAC and follow spending below the IAC with "steps to restore the Legacy Fund value to the level of the IAC."

The second safeguard is to protect the corpus by requiring a two-thirds vote of the National Council to budget any withdrawal that would reduce the Legacy Fund value below the corpus and "take vigorous steps to restore the Corpus thereafter when conditions permit."

The overall effect of these two policies is to provide a more predictable and steady income stream while protecting the original and inflation-adjusted value of the corpus, including funds reinvested in the corpus.

» See POLICY on page 12



Legacy Fund Review Committee Chair Dale Ikeda addresses the JACL National Council on a proposed amendment, effective immediately, to the Legacy Fund Management Policy during the organization's National Convention.

PHOTO: ALLISON HARAMOTO



Emily Murase and Ron Kuramoto led a discussion centered around the importance of highlighting education as part of JACL's overall mission during the organization's National Council session on Aug. 6.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF EMILY MURASE

EXPLORING JACL'S MISSION OF EDUCATION AT CONVENTION

By P.C. Staff

What happens when school leaders misunderstand history? According to Ron Kuramoto, president of the Wisconsin JACL chapter, that is exactly what happened recently when the Muskego-Norway School Board failed to approve Julie Otsuka's award-winning historical fiction novel "When the Emperor Was Divine" for inclusion in its high school curriculum.

Already in use in dozens of school districts across the country, the 2002 novel follows a Japanese American family's struggles during the wartime incarceration. And yet, members of the Muskego-Norway School Board rejected Otsuka's book because it lacked the U.S. government perspective on the incarceration.

This incident was the topic of a special session at the 2022 JACL National Convention on Aug. 6. Executive Director David Inoue opened the session with remarks on the national importance of JACL's education efforts, including the recently concluded Teacher Training Workshop, held in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo in partnership with the National Endowment of the Humanities.

The special session on education issues featured two speakers, Kuramoto and Dr. Emily Murase of the San Francisco JACL chapter who, in 2010, became the first Japanese American to serve on the San Francisco Board of Education.

Murase recounted the sordid history of the San Francisco School Board which, in 1906, excluded Japanese, Korean and Chinese students from attending regular public schools, segregating them, instead, to a single "Oriental School." This patently racist policy caused an international crisis in U.S.-Japan relations.

As School Board president, Murase authored a successful resolution to officially remove the 1906 policy from the agency's books. However, the fight continues still to this day, this time in Wisconsin. Kuramoto explained that the 77-year-old Wisconsin JACL chapter is a part of the AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin,



Julie Otsuka's book "When the Emperor Was Divine" was among the topics discussed during the special panel.

PHOTO: ROBERT BESSOIR

which held a teach-in immediately before a July 18 school board meeting.

The teach-in featured keynote remarks by Kabby Hong, a California native born to Korean immigrants, who has had a distinguished teaching career for more than 20 years and was named 2022 Wisconsin Teacher of the Year. He urged that the school board respect the judgment of its teachers, reverse its position, and include the book in its curriculum.

At the teach-in, Hong explained: "I never saw myself as a hero in any book that I ever read [growing up]. Never saw anyone that looked like me achieve anything in history. And when I looked at the TV shows and movies when I grew up, I saw nothing but cringe-worthy stereotypes. It wasn't until I was a 40-year-old man . . . that I realized that Asian Americans have deep roots in this country, that Asian Americans have a record of achievements in every aspect of our society. Let's not do that to our future generations!"

To emphasize its point, the AAPI Coalition distributed 100 copies of Otsuka's book, purchased at local booksellers, at the teach-in and plans to do much more to challenge, and reverse, the school board's decision.


In closing her remarks, Murase acknowledged the work of late-legendary JACL National Education Committee member Greg Marutani of the San Francisco chapter: "When I was on the school board, Greg would regularly propose new ways to expand education about the Japanese American experience in San Francisco public schools. As chapter president, Greg raised funds to donate copies of Kathryn Otsuka's anti-bullying picture books to every elementary school."

Murase continued, "I also want to acknowledge the work of the National JACL Education Committee, members past and present, including my late-father-in-law, Izumi Taniguchi of the Fresno chapter, longtime committee member and past chair Carol Kawamoto, as well as Dr. Sharon Ishii-Jordan, who worked closely with Greg to deliver workshops across the country. This is what the JACL budget is funding, and I personally consider investing in the JACL education program and, in particular, the Teacher Training Program, as among the most impactful ways we influence the broader communities."

» See MISSION on page 12

JACL AVOIDS UN-PRESIDENTED TIMES


Analysis: Was dearth of national president candidates a mere blip — or something more concerning?



Dr. Clifford Uyeda
for National JACL President

- San Francisco JACL Chapter, Board Member, 1960s
- Chairman, National JACL International Relations Committee
- Chairman, National JACL Whale Issue Committee
- Chairman, National JACL Committee for Iva Toguri
- Chairman, National JACL Reparation Committee
- Co-founder, San Francisco Center for Japanese American
- Board Member, Westside Community Mental Health
- Founder, Japanese Cultural and Community Center of
- Japanese American Anthology Committee
- Member, Japanese Historical Society of San Francisco

JACLer of the Biennium 1976




Vernon T. YOSHIOKA
for Nat'l V.P.: Membership Services

PERSONAL
Born Feb. 21, 1938, Hayward, Calif. . . . A fourth-generation Californian . . . MIT graduate, 1960, in aeronautical and astronautical engineering . . . Married: wife Shinobu, four children.

JACL / COMMUNITY
San Diego JACL president, three terms . . . PSWOC Executive Board 1977 . . . Union of Pan Asian Communities, founding chairman . . . Manpower Area Planning Council of S.D., exec bd (1973-74) . . . Calif State Advisory Committee of U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (since 1974) . . . United Way of San Diego, bd of dir.

RECOGNITIONS
1974—Comm Sv Award, San Diego County Human Relations
1976—Achievement Award: UPAC
1976—Community Service Award: San Diego AIAA

OTHER AFFILIATIONS
National Rifle Assn . . . San Diego-Yokohama Sister City . . . Music Masters of El Cajon, SPEBSQSA . . . Republican Business and Professional Club . . . MIT Alumni . . . American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics . . . Active member & officer, Oceanview United Church of Christ



S. Stephen Nakashima
for Nat'l JACL-Vice President, Membership Services

JACL PLATFORM

- "An organization is only as strong as its members. Membership strength comes not in numbers, but in participation."
- "The future of JACL depends upon . . . developing programs which are not only enjoyable but meaningful."


Personal Background:
Date: January 29, 1932, Fresno, Calif.
Married to: Sally Sato, Fresno, Calif.
Children: 3 daughters, 1 son.

JACL Activities:
Member of JACL since 1955.
One Thousand Club Member from 1955
California Club Member, 1970 to 1972

Professional Qualifications:
Attorney at Law
Certified Public Accountant

NORTHERN CAL-WESTERN NEVADA SAYS:
"Let's Develop New Sansei Leadership!"

FLOYD SHIMOMURA



V.P. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mark, Ruth (wife), Lisa, Floyd

JACL ACTIVITIES

- ★ Sacramento Chapter President (2 terms)
- ★ Secretary, NC-WN District Council
- ★ Chairman, National Committee

PROFESSIONAL

- ★ Deputy Attorney General, State of California
- ★ State Bar of California

By P.C. Staff

At its 2018 National Convention in Philadelphia, the Japanese American Citizens League was still shy of its 90th birthday, but it appeared that a youthful wave had arrived with new energy, diversity and reinvigoration for the nation's oldest Asian American civil rights organization.

At that event's Sayonara Banquet, newly elected JACL National President Jeffrey Moy said, "You may have noticed something a little bit odd about tonight's swearing in. I'm here to confirm that your worst nightmare is coming true: Young people are taking over."

The tongue-in-cheek comment elicited laughs in the moment, but it did reflect the reality that JACL, which was for most of those nearly 90 years an organization led by its second-generation Japanese American founders (bolstered, eventually, by Sansei and others), had finally entered a new era as the Nisei waned

in numbers, power and influence three decades following the JACL-led success of the Redress Movement.

Fast-forwarding to 2022, things were definitely different, and the "nightmare" of young people taking over had devolved into a different nightmare scenario: No one had committed to run to become JACL's national president.

Fortunately for the organization, Larry Oda — who, at 77, represents someone from a previous generation of JACL leadership, having served in the position of JACL national president from 2006-10 — stepped up before contingency plans for how JACL would get a new president would have had to be implemented.

In the collective memories of the longtime active JACLers contacted for this think piece, none could recall a time when there was a complete absence of anyone interested in leading the organization as its national president. Yes, there were occasions where a presidential candidate ran unopposed — but a JACL National

Convention without a presidential candidate? It was without precedent.

Some of the words used included "sad" and "embarrassing."

All of those who spoke anonymously recalled when there were hotly contested campaigns not just for the position of JACL national president, but other national offices, too.

In a nod to author S. E. Hinton, that was then, this is now.

Without a doubt, the Covid-19 pandemic can get some blame for the status quo. After all, what didn't the virus and all its mutations affect? Because of Covid-19, the 2020 JACL National Convention was canceled and 2021's was a virtual affair, both unprecedented events. That the 2022 National Convention was a success as an in-person affair, with only one person reported to have tested positive for Covid, was a minor miracle.

But none of the longtime JACL observers were willing to put all the blame on Covid.

» See TIMES on page 12

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Dear Travelers,

We thank you very much for your patience these past 2 ½ years and your past patronage. It has been a very challenging period, and we are slowly recovering and starting to operate our tours again. Japan has re-opened on a limited basis, starting with organized group tours and individual travels will be allowed later. We look forward to traveling with you again. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy until we meet again. Thank you very much.

2023 TOUR SCHEDULE

- HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVALS HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Feb 4-15
Abashiri, Sounkyo, Sapporo, Otaru, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Tokyo.
Hyobaku Ice Festival, Asahikawa Snow Festival, Sapporo Snow Festival, Hyoto Winter Festival.
- GRAND CANYON-ROUTE 66-LAS VEGAS HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) . . Mar 5-10
Phoenix, Sedona, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Route 66, Las Vegas.
- JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Mar 28-Apr 7
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Tamatsukuri Onsen, Hiroshima.
- JAPAN HOLIDAY CRUISE** (Carol Hida) **WAITLIST**. Apr 7-24
Tokyo, Shimizu, Osaka, Kochi, Fukuoka, Kanazawa, Busan-So. Korea, Otaru, Aomori, Hakodate, Tokyo/Yokohama. Holland America Cruise Line.
- MT RUSHMORE-YELLOWSTONE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Jun 7-15
Rapid City, Mt Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Sheridan, Devil's Tower National Monument, Cody, Yellowstone National Park, Jackson, Grand Tetons National Park, Salt Lake City.
- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Jun 18-28
Tokyo, Hakone/Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto. Craftmaking hands-on experiences.
- HOKKAIDO SUMMER HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Jul 17-29
Chitose, Furano, Asahikawa, Wakkanai, Rishiri Island, Sapporo, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Tokyo.
- EASTERN CANADIAN CAPITALS HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Sep 6-14
Montreal, Quebec, Ottawa, Toronto, Niagara Falls.
- CHICAGO HIGHLIGHTS HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Sep 25-29
- KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Oct
Nairobi, Amboseli-Nakuru Lake-Masai Mara National Parks, Mt. Kenya Safari Club, Sweetwaters Camp, Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary.
- JAPAN AUTUMN COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Oct 22-Nov 3
Narita, Mito, Iwaki Hawaiian Show, Yamagata, Sakata/Shonai, Akita, Morioka, Sanriku Railway coastal train ride, Hanamaki Onsen, Matsushima, Aizu Wakamatsu, Tokyo.
- CLASSICAL JAPAN HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Nov 9-20
Tokyo, Mt Fuji, Yamanashi, Shizuoka, Nagoya, Hiroshima, Kyoto.

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL
312 E. 1st Street, Suite 240 * Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213)625-2232 * Email: americanholiday@att.net
Ernest or Carol Hida

NOTE: During this pandemic until further notice, our office will be closed periodically, therefore, please contact us by email only

Candidates running for JACL national office advertised in the *Pacific Citizen* to gain voter support.

PHOTOS: THE PACIFIC CITIZEN.

In MEMORIAM



Archibald, Kyoko, 71, Madison, WI, March 11; she is survived by her husband, George; mother, Shizue; sisters, Yuko and Setsuko.

Chiba, Mitsuko, 88, Los Angeles, CA, July 20; she is survived by her children, Shigekazu (Mika) Chiba and Kimiaki (Sayoko) Chiba; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.



Doi, David Isamu, 76, Los Angeles, CA, July 6; he was born during WWII while his family was incarcerated in an American concentration camp; B.A., CSULA; J.D., LMU; he is survived by his wife, Sanaye; children, Dana (Glenn) Doi-Rollolazo and Gena (Long) Doi-Nguyen; siblings, Kathryn Doi Todd, Melinda Manchester and Stanley (Alice) Doi; he is also survived by many nephews and nieces; gc: 4.

Enkoji, Renso Y., 94, Los Angeles, CA, May 27; during WWII, his family and he were incarcerated at the Minidoka WRA Center in ID; senior year class president, Minidoka High School; veteran, Army; B.A., M.A., Univ. of Utah; he was predeceased by his wife, Mabel; he is survived by his daughters, Ann Enkoji, Nancy Enkoji and Peggy Nishio (David); he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Fujikawa, Teruko, 95, Parker, CO, June 10; she is survived by her daughters, Eva (Norman) Noda and Karen (Barry Koepke) Fujikawa; sister, Mitsuko Fuchigami; she is also survived by a nephew, nieces, grandnieces, grandnephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Fujimoto, Lillian Sadako, 93, Hilo, HI, July 17; she is survived by JoAnn (Craig) Shiroma and Laura (Lance Yamada) Fujimoto; she is also survived by many nephews, nieces and cousins; gc: 1.

Hashimoto, May Ayame, 95, Los Angeles, CA, June 28; she was predeceased by her husband, John; daughter, Diane Hashimoto; she is survived by her children, Harvey (Yuko) Hashimoto, Dr. Lawrence (Stacy) Hashimoto and Michael (Erica) Hashimoto and Bernice Diatalevi; gc: 5.

Hirano, Sally Mitsuko, 83, La Palma, CA, June 15; she was predeceased by her husband, Kenneth Tamio Hirano; sister, Shirley Matsumoto; she is survived by her son, Kelly Saburo Hirano; siblings, Harriet Dunn, Janet Terri (Paul) Ogasawara, Wilfred (Jean) and Earl Kuroyama; she is also survived by grandnieces, grandnephews and other relatives.

Hirokawa, Roy 'Sam' Kiyoshi, 82, Honolulu, HI, July 22; veteran, Army Reserve; he was predeceased by his daughter, Joni; brother, Howard; he is survived by his wife, Jeanne S. Dickson; children, Richele (Kenny), Marti Ann (Craig), Micah (Liza), Sarah (Nate), Jeremy (Jennifer), Benjamin (Kealohapauole), Rachel (Michael), Timothy (Cara) and John (Katie); sisters, Myrtle Kaneshiro and Dorothy Kometani; gc: 28.



Iba, Toshi, 97, Torrance, CA, July 22; activities: Faith UMC, the Go for Broke National Education Center and JANM; she was predeceased by her husband, Shigeru; she is survived by her sons, Gary, Glenn (Gloria) and Alan (Patty); gc: 4.

Ichinotsubo, Roger, 95, Torrance, CA; June 25; veteran, Army; he was predeceased by his wife, Mildred; son, Van Ichinotsubo; he is survived by his daughters, Della (Dane) Matsumura and Tammy (Justin Ezzi) Ichinotsubo-Ezzi; daughter-in-law, Cathy Ichinotsubo; gc: 1.

Inouye, Katsue Jon, 78, Torrance, CA, July 20; he is survived by his wife, Hatsumi; children, Shaun (Noriko) Inouye and Eryn (Kevin) Tanaka; siblings, Mari (Stanley) Shirai, Keiko (Daniel) Matsuoka and Judy (Neal) Tomita; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Kawata, Shigetaka, 93, Garden Grove, CA, June 18; he is survived by his wife, Dorothy; daughters, Valerie (Bruce) Wakai, Joanne (Michael) Niebla and Pamela (Randy) Amuro; he is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.



Kimura, Roy Asao, 74, Sacramento, CA, April 5; veteran, Army (Vietnam War); he was predeceased by his brother, Stanley T. Kimura; he is survived by his wife, Linda; children, Jami and Paul; son-in-law, Chris; sisters, Pat (Griffith), Aiko and Sandi (Dick); brother-in-law, Richard; sister-in-law, Patsy; gc: 2.



Matsumoto, Lucy, 94, Los Gatos, CA, June 24; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ and the Crystal City internment camp in TX; she was predeceased by her siblings, Allyn Okasaki, Ada (Henry) Uyeda, Tom (Mitzie) Okasaki and Harry Okasaki; she is survived by her husband, Ray; daughter, Vera (David Hioki); gc: 2; ggc: 2.

Nakao, Mitsuye, 83, San Ramon, CA, April 7; she was predeceased by her siblings, Ruriko (Yosh) Nakano, Tadami Nakao, Masakazu Nakao, Hideto Nakao and Roger Nakao; she is survived by her sisters, Tsuyaye Nakao and Iyoko Katsuyoshi; sisters-in-law, Shizuko Nakao and Julie Nakao; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Nakasone, Carl Yoshio, 65, Ewa Beach, HI, May 27; he is survived by his son, Justin Nakasone; siblings, Ronald Nakasone and Karen Nakasone; gc: 2.

Nonaka, Terry, 66, Sacramento, CA, March 25; he was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Alan Inouye; he is survived by his wife, Linda; sisters, Susan Nonaka (Glenn Sapaden) and Judy Inouye, brother-in-law, Brian Shimada; a nephew and 3 nieces.

Oku, Miyoko, 93, Los Angeles, CA, July 6; she was predeceased by her husband, Robert; sisters, Kiyoko and Ayako; she is survived by her sons, Robert K. Oku and Ronald F. Oku; sister, Nancy Nishi; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews.



Perry, Setsuko Takechi, 93, Los Angeles, CA, June 20; she is survived by her children, George, Rika and Velina; gc: 5.

Saika, David, 70, Los Angeles, CA, July 15; he is survived by his wife, Sandra; daughter, Kristy (Kevin) Severson; brothers, Walter (June) and Glenn (Susan Rubin) Saika; gc: 2.

Sakuda, Eiko, 89, Los Angeles, CA, June 21; she is survived by her children, Jeffrey (Marianne), Caryn (Mark) Aizawa, Edward (Linda) and Kenneth (Alice); siblings, Adeline (Woody) Manzo, Keiichi (Jane) Sakita and John Mits Sakita; gc: 4.

Takahashi, Hannah Okamoto, 96, Los Altos, CA, March 12; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, Frank, oldest son, James and siblings Thomas, George, Frank, Vincent and Taye; she is survived by her children, Frances, Joan Powers (Chuck), Robert (Lisa) and Mary (Karl); siblings, Roy, Ben, Paul and Dorothy Nambu; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 7; ggc: 6.

Toyotome, Joie Meiko, 71, Capistrano Beach, CA, July 2; B.S., UC Berkeley; she is survived by her siblings, Faith Toyotome Chapel, Dr. Alphos Nobusumi Toyotome and Philip Kasumi Toyotome; she is also survived by nieces and nephews.

Wakiji, Takeko 'Tachy,' 102, Pasadena, CA, June 24; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her siblings, Masako Shima, Hajime Wakiji, Kaoru Wakiji, George Wakiji and Mari Wakiji; she is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Yamamoto, Rick, 62, Huntington Beach, CA, June 14; he is survived by his wife, Margaret; mother, Sumiko Yamamoto; siblings, Lynn (Jim) and Craig (Doris) Yamamoto; he is also survived by many other relatives.

Yano, Ukie, 97, Alhambra, CA, May 3; she is survived by her children, Christine Gunther (Harry Lewis) and Leslie Maeda (Elie); daughter-in-law, Susan Yano; siblings, Yo (Yasu), Ichiro (Mitzi) and Joe Takehara, Aiko Kida and Fumi Nakamoto; gc: 5; ggc: 3.



Yoshida, Yutaka, 101, Los Angeles, CA, May 16; he is survived by his wife, Sachi; children, Glenn (Mariko) and Carol (Mark) Amico; gc: 4; ggc: 2.

KUBOTA
Sharing. Community. Legacy.
久保田葬儀社
T 213-749-1449
F 213-749-0265
911 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90015
www.kubotamortuary.com

福井 FUKUI MORTUARY
Five Generations of Experience
FD #808
707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213/626-0441
Gerald Fukui
President

PLACE A TRIBUTE
'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/ column inch.
CONTACT:
Editorial@pacificcitizen.org or
call (213) 620-1767 ext. 104

POLICY » continued from page 9

In the Committee's draft report, the inflation adjustment figure was based on the IAC. However, the recommendation was revised when it became apparent that the data to calculate the IAC would not be available in time for the 2022 National Convention and might never be ascertainable given the state of JACL's records.

A majority of the Committee voted to change the recommendation to an Inflation Adjusted Principal (IAP) using the amount of the donations made to the Legacy Fund of \$4,758,081 as the base and applying the Bureau of Labor Statistics' CPI calculator from June 1997, a year after the conclusion of the Legacy Fund Campaign, to the current date.

Since the IAP would be less than the IAC, it would also provide the National Council with greater flexibility in determining an appropriate spending rate. Paul Uyehara submitted a minority report urging the adoption of the original IAC followed by a Supplement Memorandum, which was joined by Ken Inouye.

At the National Council session on Aug. 6, I recommended the adoption of the IAP with the

possible consideration at a future convention of converting to the IAC if and when the data points could be determined to make the calculations.

Applying the Policy to the current budget would suggest a spending rate of less than the approved 4 percent of the Legacy Fund value, which was \$8,747,066 as of Aug. 3. Mr. Uyehara's estimate of the IAC as of Dec. 31, 2021, was in excess of \$9.3 million. Due to the high rate of inflation through July, the IAC grew to over \$9.9 million, over \$1.1 million more than the IAP for the same time period.

The National Council approved the amendment to substitute the IAC for the IAP. The amended Policy was then adopted unanimously. Congratulations to the delegates for updating the Legacy Fund Policy. The Committee has successfully fulfilled its mission to propose reforms to maintain the viability and sustainability of JACL and conform to current law.

Thank you to all the members of the Committee, both voting and ex-officio members, and advisers David Kawamoto, Cressey Nakagawa and Floyd Shimomura. ■

MISSION » continued from page 9

Following the presentations, JACL chapter members shared their experiences in their home communities. New Mexico chapter members conducted a symposium with teachers in Santa Fe. The Twin Cities chapter worked to bring the Smithsonian

exhibit on the Japanese American experience to the Minnesota History Museum. JACLers from Illinois and Colorado also shared their efforts.

Inoue closed the session by emphasizing the importance of local chapter efforts to advocate for inclusive

TIMES » continued from page 10

Even with the virus-inspired rise in anti-Asian violence, was it possible JACL had done too good of a job of breaking down societal and legal barriers that kept previous generations of Japanese Americans and Asian Americans from enjoying all the rights, responsibilities and privileges that came with U.S. citizenship?

That notion didn't fly, either.

One observer thought that it was possible that the organization had veered "a little too far left" with some of its positions, possibly turning off those members who were more middle of the road.

There was also the observation that Moy had in his four years failed as national president to use his bully pulpit, via vehicles such as this newspaper, to communicate to the membership what was he was doing to steer the organization during the

rise in anti-Asian violence and the challenges the organization faced during a global pandemic.

Now, it must be said that desiring to be the elected leader of JACL — or any such organization — requires many things. Although it can be a thankless task at times, serving as JACL national president can truly be like a second job in terms of time and energy required — but minus a paycheck.

Also, one needs to be at the right place in life where kids and career aren't paramount concerns. Furthermore, a healthy (emphasis on healthy!) ego is required, as well as a grounding in reality that one has the right stuff to be that leader.

Many of the problems facing JACL in 2022 are the same ones that confronted JACL of yesteryear: declining membership, relevance, fiscal woes.

But JACL also offers avenues to

curriculum and cultivate working relationships with school board members and other local officials. He explained that the goal of the JACL's Centennial Education Fund, launched in part by the late-Sec. Norman Mineta to raise \$3 million by 2024, is to sustain JACL's mission of education. To date, it has raised \$1.3 million. ■

getting real-world leadership experience, not to mention educational and career opportunities. JACL, as one of the few organizations to take on the federal government on civil and constitutional rights and win, also has something to offer with regard to the long-simmering issue of reparations for slavery.

In other words, it's not over yet for JACL, which was fortunate that Oda, as someone with experience and institutional knowledge, was able to step into the breach.

The answer to the question of whether dearth of candidates for JACL national president at a JACL National Convention — the theme for which, unironically, was "Strengthening Our Community Through Action" — was an anomaly or the new normal will be answered in 2024, when we find out at that event's Sayonara Banquet whether the "sayonara" is figurative or literal. ■

ELS

Judd Matsunaga's
ELDER LAW SERVICES OF CALIFORNIA
A Professional Law Corporation

- Medi-Cal Planning
- Asset Protection for Long-Term Care
- Living Trusts & Wills
- Powers of Attorney
- Trust Administration
- Probate

**Home & Hospital
Appointments Available!**



JUDD MATSUNAGA
Attorney at Law

Multiple Office Locations

Torrance • Los Angeles (LAX) • Pasadena
Enicno • Fountain Valley • Westlake Village
Valencia • Palm Springs • San Diego • San Jose

www.elderlawcalifornia.com
800-403-6078

2% Cash Back for ALL of 2022!!!

**Don't have a JACL
Premier VISA Credit
Card? We've got some
incentives you won't
want to miss.
Check them out at
jacu.com/visa!**

**9.9% APR Fixed Rate
No Annual Fees
25 Day Courtesy Pay
More reward points
per purchase**



**National JACL
Credit Union**



800-544-8828 www.jacu.com