



Scholarship Winners  
JACL nurtures the future.  
Which young JACLers made  
the cut this year?

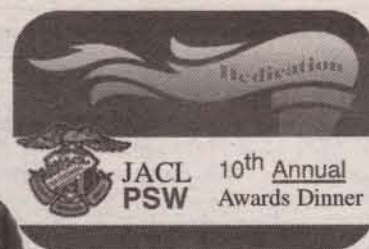
WINNERS' LIST PAGES 6-7



Fall Films Preview

Coming attractions include  
a father/son tear jerker &  
Jet Li's last stand.

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



Fete Dedication

JACL PSW honors  
its best. Join the  
festivities Sept. 16.

INFO PAGE 3

Since 1929

# PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



A Guy Named Hershey

His hometown honors their  
native son, Hiroshi  
'Hershey' Miyamura.

PAGE 3

#3064/ Vol. 143, No. 5 ISSN: 0030-8579

SEPT. 1-14, 2006

## AIIS Foundation Hopes to Tell Japanese Immigrants' Story

The Angel Island Immigration Station's history is often associated with the Chinese community but many Japanese immigrants also passed through here. The non-profit hopes to tell their story in an upcoming book.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

Even at the young age of 16, Hisayo Yoshino knew she wanted more from life than what her hometown of Hiroshima, Japan could offer her. Backing out of an arranged marriage, she convinced her parents to allow her to head to America to wed a farm laborer named Sahei Makimoto.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AIISF  
Japanese women at the registry in 1916.

During the summer of 1912, Hisayo packed up her belongings and boarded a ship headed for San Francisco to begin her new life in the United States.

Hisayo's introduction to her new country would be the Angel Island

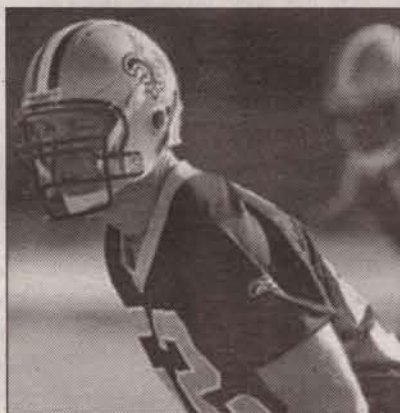
See ANGEL ISLAND IMMIGRATION/Page 5

## The Saint With Green Eyes, Community Ties

Scott Fujita, the five-year NFL veteran who once played for Parcells, wants to rekindle the spirits of the Gulf Coast one year after the hurricanes.

By LYNDALIN  
Assistant Editor

The name on the football jersey reads "Fujita," but by his own admission, he does not have one drop of Japanese blood. Instead New Orleans Saints linebacker number 55 has what he calls dual heritage — a chiseled jaw line and green Irish eyes that belie his other identity. Yes, Scott Fujita is Japanese American.



He's been telling everyone this simple fact for as long as he can remember; it's just that people don't tend to believe him.

"I'd get a lot of questions from

substitute teachers. They would ask me to provide ID," said Scott, 27, about his formative years growing up in Camarillo, Calif. Of course in Ventura County, with its large Hispanic population, he was also frequently called "Fajita," he added.

It comes with the territory of being a 6-foot-5 inch, 250-pound

See FUJITA/Page 12

## MID-YEAR CAMPAIGN Please Support JACL

By LARRY ODA  
JACL National President

Each year we ask for your support by way of a donation to our Mid-Year campaign. Generous donations we receive during this campaign make up to seven percent of funds necessary for JACL's day-to-day operations.



See CAMPAIGN/Page 7

## SEPT. 11 COMMEMORATION

### Remembering Betty: The Voice of Flight 11

She calmly relayed important details of the terrorist attacks, but her story remains in relative obscurity.

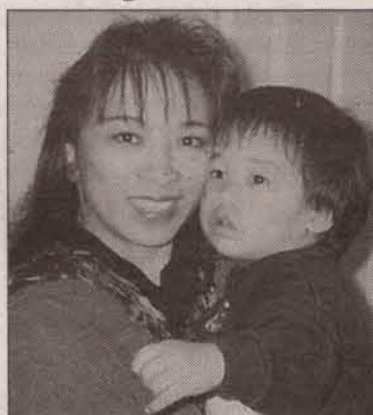
By LYNDALIN  
Assistant Editor

How do you heal a wound? Each time this year, the suture seems to bleed a bit and some commemorate the loss in the same way America has traditionally honored presidents: renaming streets, schools and public buildings. On the East Coast, a post office named Todd Beamer reminds its patrons of the exhortation, "Let's roll." And for the new school year in San Jose, Calif. students pass through the threshold of Capt. Jason M. Dahl Elementary School, the pilot of United Flight 93 whose untimely death has recently been immortalized in a Hollywood movie.

But who remembers the young woman with the calm voice telling American Airlines officials the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, about the hijackers' seat numbers and the choking presence of mace? In the recording of the telephone conversation, she says "Okay, my name is Betty Ong. I'm number three on Flight 11."

In pictures her smile is soft and haunting, but is she fading from our memory?

"I know the Asian community is aware of Betty. I can't gauge who Betty is to them," said Cathie Ong-



Herrera, Betty's older sister. Is she a hero or a person who just happened to be recorded on the phone?

On several occasions, Betty has been called an unsung hero for her



'Okay, my name is Betty Ong. I'm number three on Flight 11.'

Betty's passions were children and her job. Above she shows off her uniform.

23-minute phone conversation relaying vital information that later allowed the FBI to identify the terrorists including purported ring-

See BETTY ONG/Page 4

## Racial Profiling Rears Its Head Again

JAs know all too well racial profiling didn't work during WWII and it doesn't work today. Yet many people are again calling for its use with the Muslim/Arab and South Asian communities, especially after the recent terrorist threats.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM  
Executive Editor

After a somewhat leave of absence, that controversial phrase is rearing its ugly head again: racial profiling.

With the mid-August announcement by British authorities that they had managed to foil a terrorist plot to explode 10 planes from the United Kingdom bound for the U.S., tensions in both countries are still frayed. Increased security at major U.S. airports had travelers dispensing all liquids including bottled water and make-up.

Although some of the airport rules have relaxed since then, anger towards Muslim and Arab Americans have many politicians, commenta-

See PROFILING/Page 4

## Watada Controversy Continues to Divide JA Community

As 1st Lt. Ehren Watada headed to his pre-trial hearing Aug. 17 over his decision to refuse deployment to Iraq this past June, members of the Japanese American community continued to voice diverse opinions about the controversy (see below).

Members of the civil rights and religious communities along with JA Vietnam War vets expressed their support of the 28-year-old Honolulu native who believes the war in Iraq is not only immoral but illegal.

Simultaneously, JA World War II vets, Korean war vets, along with Vietnam War vets stated their strong opposition to Watada's actions, calling his decision to

refuse deployment a disgrace and a dishonor to the famed JA soldiers of WWII.

Watada is likely to face a court martial for his actions and could face a lengthy jail sentence. He currently faces three charges including missing a movement, contempt toward officials and conduct unbecoming an officer.

Whatever the outcome of Watada's situation, the controversy over the lieutenant's actions has brought the war in Iraq into sharp focus within the JA community.

— Caroline Aoyagi-Stom,  
P.C. Executive Editor

### NCCR, Religious Leaders, JA Vietnam War Vets Announce Support for Watada

In a statement released before 1st Lt. Ehren Watada's pre-trial hearing Aug. 17, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCCR), religious leaders in Los Angeles, and the Asian American Vietnam Veterans Organization announced their support of Watada who has refused to deploy to Iraq.

"As Japanese American veterans of the Vietnam War, we step forward today to support U.S. Army 1st Lt. Ehren Watada in his refusal to deploy to the war in Iraq," said Mike Nakayama, along with nine other JA Vietnam war veterans. "We were also called upon to fight in a war

### JA Veterans Groups Attack Watada

Nine veterans groups in California are criticizing 1st Lt. Ehren Watada for his decision to disobey deployment orders to Iraq.

Watada is trying to "make himself a martyr and a hero," said Robert M. Wada, a charter president of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans. He said Watada's actions disrespect a legacy of military service by JA soldiers dating back to World War II.

"No Japanese Americans did anything like that and that is why Japanese Americans are so upset," Wada said. "He is doing something that has never been done by Japanese



PHOTO: THANKYOU.ORG

See GROUPS SUPPORT WATADA/Page 2

See GROUPS ATTACK WATADA/Page 2

PACIFIC CITIZEN  
250 E. FIRST ST., STE. 301, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012





## PACIFIC CITIZEN

250 E. First Street, Ste. 301,  
Los Angeles, CA. 90012  
Tel: 213/620-1767,  
800/966-6157  
Fax: 213/620-1768  
E-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org  
www.pacificcitizen.org

### Executive Editor:

Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom

### Assistant Editor:

Lynda Lin

### Office Manager:

Brian Tanaka

Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

**Publisher:** Japanese American  
Citizens League (founded 1929)

1765 Sutter Street, San  
Francisco, CA 94115, tel:  
415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-  
4671, www.jacl.org

**JACL President:** Larry Oda

**Nat'l Director:** John Tateishi

**Pacific Citizen Board of**

**Directors:** Gil Asakawa, chair-  
person; Roger Ozaki, EDC;  
Casey China, MDC; Kathy  
Ishimoto, CCDC; Nelson Nagai,  
NCWNPDC; Sheldon Arakaki,  
PNWDC; Larry Grant, IDC;  
Sharon Kumagai, PSWDC;  
Maya Yamazaki, Youth.

### NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

Editorials, 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 Pacific Citizen do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles.

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly except once in December and January by the Japanese American Citizens League, 250 E. First Street, Ste. 301, Los Angeles, CA. 90012 OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time. ©2006.

**Annual subscription rates:**  
NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—\$40,  
payable in advance. Additional  
postage per year — Foreign peri-  
odical rate \$25; First Class for  
U.S., Canada, Mexico: \$30;  
Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60.  
(Subject to change without  
notice.) Periodicals postage paid  
at Los Angeles, Calif.

**Permission:** No part of this publi-  
cation may be reproduced with-  
out express permission of the  
publisher. Copying for other than  
personal or internal reference use  
without the express permission of  
P.C. is prohibited.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address  
changes to: Pacific Citizen, c/o  
JACL National Headquarters,  
1765 Sutter St., San Francisco,  
CA 94115.

## JACL MEMBERS

### Change of Address

If you have moved,  
please send information  
to:

**National JACL**  
1765 Sutter St.  
San Francisco, CA  
94115

Allow 6 weeks for address  
changes.

To avoid interruptions in receiving  
your P.C., please notify your post-  
master to include periodicals in  
your change of address (USPS  
Form 3575)

## GROUPS SUPPORT WATADA

(Continued from page 1)

that divided our communities and the nation."

Watada is the first commissioned officer to publicly refuse to deploy to Iraq and is currently stationed at Fort Lewis, Washington.

Watada supporters believe his case raises core Constitutional issues about the legality of the Iraq war, freedom of speech, and the limits of presidential power.

Rev. Mark M. Nakagawa of Centenary Methodist Church issued a statement on behalf of the National Japanese American United Methodist Caucus:

"The National Japanese American United Methodist Caucus stands with Lt. Ehren Watada in his public refusal to support the illegal and immoral Iraq war.

## GROUPS ATTACK WATADA

(Continued from page 1)

Americans."

"No one refused to go just because they didn't believe in the war," Watada said. "We went to Korea, and we didn't know what the hell we were there for. ... But nobody refused to go."

"The Veteran's of Foreign Wars, Department of California, believes it is an honor to serve our country in the military," said Henry Wadahara, former State Commander of the VFW and Vietnam War vet. "Refusing a deployment is a dishonor and a slap in the face to all who have served so bravely. Our 105,000 members stand behind me in saying we are not supporting Watada's deci-



Lt. Ehren Watada, father Bob Watada and stepmother Rosa at a Tacoma press conference following the Aug. 17 pre-trial hearing.

PHOTO:  
JEFF PATERSON

"As the nephew of an American veteran who was killed in action during the Korean War, Lt. Watada fully understands the price of loyalty and freedom. Through his refusal to be deployed to Iraq, Lt. Watada maintains the highest degree of loyalty and patriotism by challenging illegal, immoral and unjust ratio-

nales for waging war.

"We call on United Methodists and people of faith everywhere to recognize this moment as a teaching opportunity to speak truth in the face of power, and to walk the paths of justice and peace."

Captain George Aki, who served as chaplain to the 442nd Regimental

Americans of Japanese Ancestry WWII Memorial Alliance President Dr. Roy Machida said, "He can say and do as he pleases. That's the right we veterans fought for, but I believe his approach to his predicament is totally wrong."

The groups opposing Watada include the Japanese American Korean War Veterans, Americans of Japanese Ancestry WWII Memorial Alliance, five Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, and American Legion post and the Nisei Veterans Coordinating Council of Southern California.

"Watada not only refused to obey a military order to go to Iraq, but also is now engaged in inciting other soldiers to lay down arms and in effect, desert in order to stop the war. Can you imagine what the con-

Combat Team in WWII believes "Lt. Watada is a disciplined, courageous man who has thought about what's good for this country, far more than most of us."

Aki added, "He wants us to be strong, with a government we can trust. In a strength that's grounded in being morally and legally right. I don't know him personally, but he has become one of my heroes."

"As Japanese Americans we know too well the potential for massive violations of U.S. and international law, having experienced the internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans in World War II," said Michael Yanagita of NCRR. "Lieutenant Watada's act of conscience and courage reminds us that being a good soldier and citizen requires more than blindly following orders."

Lt. Watada has also received support from the Honolulu chapter of the JACL. ■

sequences of that will be? Do you think the enemy will also lay down their arms?" said Grant Ichikawa, MIS WWII veteran.

"Watada, a Japanese American soldier, is trampling on the excellent reputation of all Japanese Americans, earned through the sacrifices of the Japanese American soldiers of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War and the excellent reputation of the 100th/442nd unit that recently returned from Iraq," added Ichikawa.

"It is not for us to question why, but to do and die," said Ron Oba, the president of the 442nd Veteran's Club of Honolulu. "That addresses the entire Watada case." ■

Associated Press contributed to this article.

# Letters to the Editor

## Readers Continue to Debate Watada

I enjoyed reading the various comments in the July 7-20, 2006, P.C. regarding 1st Lt. Ehren Watada's refusal to deploy to Iraq. Here are my thoughts on the matter:

The war was entered ostensibly to remove the threat of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). It was only after destroying Saddam Hussein's government that it was confirmed that the threat did not exist. On this basis, Lt. Watada is justified in his protest, although it is somewhat of a Monday morning quarterbacking, since little or no protest was heard prior to the invasion. Would he still protest if WMDs were found?

Watada's method of expressing his protest sadly defeats his efforts. The lieutenant fails to recognize that the offensive war he is protesting ended with the defeat of Saddam. The present phase of the war is one of defense, trying to establish a stable government, reconstruct the country, redress the mistake and to defend the Iraqi people from insurgents bent on blocking these efforts.

Lt. Watada does not seem to realize that a refusal to deploy at this time is a refusal to help redress the wrong he is protesting.

Advocating pulling out of Iraq without accomplishing the above goals and abandoning the Iraqi people is as unconscionable or even more so than starting the war based on faulty data.

O. James Inashima  
Woburn, MA

On "One on One with Ehren Watada," all wars are wrong killing innocent civilians — The war in

China, the war in Vietnam, and the Iraq war killing 20,000 innocent civilians, 20 percent women and children.

Also the use of the atomic bomb was wrong killing 500,000 innocent civilians mostly women and children in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

But as the proverb puts it, "Might is right."

Jiro Kobashigawa  
San Francisco, CA

Thank you JACL for not legally supporting 1st Lt. Ehren Watada in his refusal of a direct order from his commanding officer.

The charges regarding the lieutenant's refusing to accept an order is strained, because under the UCMJ (Uniform Code of Military Justice), the lieutenant can be charged with at least two to three other Articles for combat deployment refusal. The enemy can use this example as propaganda, which can also be aiding and abetting the enemy.

Since Lt. Watada feels he is morally justified and claims the war in Iraq is illegal, he should have sufficient conviction to face these UCMJ Articles to prove this is an unlawful war rather than request a resignation from the Army. Watada was quoted as having "no regrets," but a court marshal and dishonorable discharge on a personnel file is nothing to be proud of the rest of his life, even if he thinks his actions are "right."

P.C. readers, please refrain from comparing the lieutenant with other JAs such as WWII internment dissenters (Korematsu, Kobayashi etc) or even the Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara, because what Lt.

Watada has done tends to demean what these heroes have accomplished and done for all Japanese.

As a Vietnam veteran, I join Wayne Yamato (West L.A.) and hope the Lt. Watada issue is put to rest ASAP, and get this story out of the limelight and off the front page of the P.C.

JFK said "when the time comes to lay down my life for my country, I do not cower from this responsibility, I welcome it."

Freedom isn't Free.

Roy M. Takeuchi  
Stockton, CA

The news that "Army lays case with Watada's own words" sounds as though, "Aha! We got you incriminating yourself!"

Wonderful. We who support 1st Lt. Ehren Watada are glad that the military court is hearing — and seeing — Ehren defend his actions by the most patriotic act of obeying the Supreme Law of the land which is the U.S. Constitution! The military code is to defend and uphold the U.S. Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution states: "Treaties: Article VI, Sec. 2: This Constitution and the Laws of the U.S. ... AND ALL Treaties made ... under the Authority of the U.S. shall be the Supreme Law of the Land ..."

In 1946, our country signed on to the United Nations Charter which states: Article 25: "The Members of the U.N. agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council ..."

This makes ALL the decisions (Treaties) of the Security Council part of our U.S. Constitution.

Article 2, Sec. 4 of the U.N.

Charter: All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OR POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE of any state, or in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the U.N.

The U.N. Charter (Article 51) does say, "Nothing in the present Charter shall impair the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense if an armed attack occurs against a Member of the U.N. ... ." I ask, "When did Iraq attack us?" We were told Iraq had weapons of mass destruction.

Army Prosecutor Capt. Dan Kuecker said that the "legality of the war is not to be decided by a military court." Capt. Kuecker is right! The U.S. Constitution has already declared the war illegal. Therefore, it is wrong for the military to try Ehren on an illegal war.

Yoshie Tanabe  
Honolulu, HI

## PACIFIC CITIZEN

250 E. First Street, Ste 301  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
phone: 213/620-1767  
fax: 213/620-1768  
e-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org  
www.pacificcitizen.org

\* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the views expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

\* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

\* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgement. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.



# National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

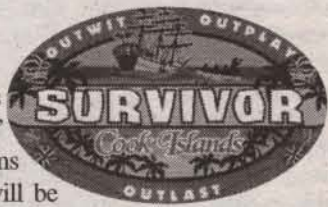
## Critics Outraged 'Survivor' Playing the Race Card

NEW YORK—A group of city officials blasted CBS and its hit series "Survivor" after the network announced that the teams on the new season of the reality show will be divided by race. Saying that the setup will promote divisiveness, the officials called on CBS to reconsider its plans.

For the first portion of the 13th season of "Survivor," which premieres Sept. 14, the contestants competing for the \$1 million prize while stranded on the Cook Islands in the South Pacific will be divided into four teams — blacks, Asians, Latinos and whites.

"The idea of having a battle of the races is preposterous," said City Councilman John Liu. "How could anybody be so desperate for ratings?"

Liu has launched a campaign urging CBS to pull the show because it could encourage racial division and promote negative typecasts.



## Wal-Mart Image-Builder Resigns

BENTONVILLE, Ark.—Andrew Young, who was hired by Wal-Mart to improve its public image, resigned Aug. 18 after telling an African American newspaper that Jewish, Arab and Korean shop owners had "ripped off" urban communities for years, "selling us stale bread, and bad meat and wilted vegetables."

"You see those are the people who have been overcharging us," he said of the owners of the small stores, "and they sold out and moved to Florida. I think they've ripped off our communities enough. First it was Jews, then it was Koreans and now it's Arabs."

Young, 74, a former mayor of Atlanta and a former U.S. representative to the United Nations, apologized for the comments, but less than an hour later, he resigned as chairman of Working Families for Wal-Mart.

## 20-Year-Old Center for Asian Immigrants to Close

LOWELL, Mass.—St. Julie Asian Center, where for the last two decades Asian immigrants could take English and citizenship classes, recently announced it would close its doors on Sept. 1.

The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, a Roman Catholic order that runs the center, just lost a two-year battle to save St. Julie. To keep the center open, the sisters have relied on donations and grants, held fundraisers and sacrificed their salaries. ■

# Gallup Honors Medal of Honor Winner Hiroshi Miyamura

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

GALLUP, N.M.—Gallup has honored native son and Medal of Honor winner Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura with a monument on the city's Veterans Memorial Plaza.

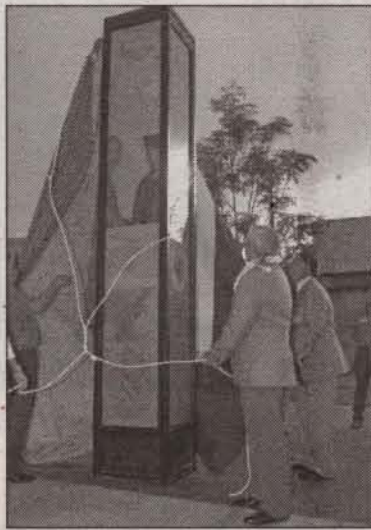
City, McKinley County and state officials, along with the assistance of the Japanese American Korean War Veterans, organized the Aug. 19 tribute for Miyamura.

According to his Medal of Honor citation, Miyamura, a corporal in the U.S. Army's Company H, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, displayed "indomitable heroism and consummate devotion to duty" during a battle with Chinese forces on April 24, 1951.

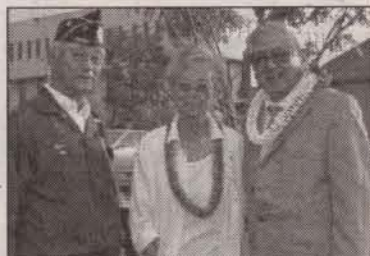
Miyamura, a machine-gun squad leader, killed at least 10 enemy soldiers in hand-to-hand combat and 50 others with machine-gun fire before he was severely wounded and taken prisoner. He remained a prisoner of war for 28 months.

Because of Miyamura's actions, other soldiers in his company were able to fall back to safety.

JA families in Gallup never ended up in the internment camps that other JAs were sent to, although the government confiscat-



*'[He's the] bravest of the brave.'*  
—Vince Okamoto  
L.A. County Superior Court judge



HOMETOWN HERO: Miyamura unveils his own tribute (left) and celebrates with Sam Shimoguchi of the JAKWV association and his wife (top).

ed their radios, cameras and firearms.

Miyamura, in his remarks at the ceremony, turned the attention from himself and instead talked about the contributions of other veterans who have never received any public recognition.

He named every JA veteran from Gallup who enlisted during WWII, and thanked a lengthy list of people who helped establish the Veterans Park.

"My family and I cannot thank you enough for making this day possible," he said, but added: "I would have preferred that you would have waited till I was gone."

One of those paying tribute to Miyamura was Vincent Okamoto, a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge and the most highly decorated JA veteran from the Vietnam War.

Okamoto, who called Miyamura one of the "bravest of the brave," said thoughts of Miyamura's courage and dedication pulled him through moments of despair during Vietnam.

The Veterans Park was dedicated during the Memorial Day holiday, but Miyamura was not able to attend then, so the Aug. 19 ceremony was organized to dedicate a pillar in the park that honors him. ■

# PSW District's 10th Annual Awards Dinner to Honor 'Dedication'

The JACL PSW will honor members of each chapter in the district at its 10th Annual Awards Dinner, which is themed "Dedication."

Chapters were asked to nominate one member who showed outstanding dedication and involvement to be honored at this year's awards dinner.

Some of the honorees include: Kaleigh and Kimberly Komatsu (East Los Angeles), May Doi (Gardena Valley), Janet Okubo (Greater Los Angeles Singles), Fred Fukutaki (Greater Pasadena), Michiko Yoshimura (Riverside), Vernon Yoshioka (San Diego), Tom Doi (San Fernando Valley), Deni Uejima (San Gabriel Valley), Jun Fukushima (SELANOCO), Hitoshi Shimizu (Venice Culver), and Anne Chilcott (Ventura County).



DEDICATED: Some PSW JACL honorees include (clockwise) May Doi, Vernon Yoshioka, Anne Chilcott and Michiko Yoshimura.

This list is still growing with outstanding members who help keep the JACL strong.

"We are proud to support the JACL PSW's awards dinner as a sponsor," said George Tanaka,

Japanese market segment manager of the Union Bank of California.

Proceeds from the dinner will support the JACL's efforts to recruit and train young Asian Pacific Americans to become future community leaders. ■

## 'Dedication' 10th Annual JACL PSW Awards Dinner

Sat., Sept. 16  
5 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner  
Torrance 'Gateway' Holiday Inn, 19800 S. Vermont Ave.

Tickets \$100 for the general public and \$35 for youth. Table sponsorships are also available.

Need more info?  
PSW District Office  
213/626-4471  
office@pswjac.org  
www.jaclpsw.org

## Blue Cross of California

Since 1947 the JACL HEALTH TRUST has offered Health Care coverage to JACL members

To protect you and your family from even common accidents and illnesses the JACL HEALTH TRUST provides Blue Cross of California health care coverage. Blue Cross of California has been providing health coverage to Californians for over 65 years. Blue Cross is committed to keeping you connected to quality health care services.

To learn more about the Blue Cross plan and how to become a member, please call the JACL Health Trust at 1-877-848-4875.

# Allen's 'Macaca' Comment Enrages APA Groups

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Critics are condemning Sen. George Allen's comments about a rival's campaign staffer as offensive and racist. The Virginia Republican called S.R. Sidarth, a volunteer on Democrat Jim Webb's campaign, a "Macaca" on two occasions during a recent GOP rally at Breaks, Va., near the Kentucky border.



"This fellow over here with the yellow shirt — Macaca or whatever his name is — he's with my opponent," Allen said. "He's following us around everywhere."

Sidarth, 20, was videotaping the event for Webb.

Macaca is a genus of monkeys

including macaques, but Allen said he just made up a word that sounds similar to "Mohawk," a nickname Allen staffers gave Sidarth because of his partially cropped hair. But critics are calling it a racist dig at someone of Indian descent.

Sen. Allen has since apologized to Sidarth personally after numerous news outlets ran the story.

Congressman Mike Honda, the Democratic National Committee vice chairman, called for an apology.

"The offensive and racially-tinged comments made by Sen. George Allen have no place in our political debate, and have even less of a place in this great country of ours," said Honda in a statement.

Allen, who is positioning himself for a possible presidential run in 2008, has said he apologizes to Sidarth if he took any offense and has met with Indian American polit-

ical leaders. Members of the U.S. Indian Political Action Committee (PAC) said they have received hundreds of e-mails about Allen's comments.

The furor also is a blow to Allen's recent efforts to repair the damage caused by previous accusations of racial insensitivity. He wore a Confederate flag pin in his high school yearbook photo and used to keep a Confederate flag in his living room and a noose in his law office.

Allen has said he has since grown. Last year, he co-sponsored a Senate resolution apologizing for the body's failure to pass anti-lynching legislation. ■

Online at  
www.pacificcitizen.org  
Video of George Allen's "Macaca" comments:  
http://youtube.com/watch?v=pL3Q9gUEvtA



## BETTY ONG

(Continued from page 1)

leader Mohammed Atta. Months after Betty's death at 45, memorial services were held in San Francisco's Chinatown where Betty was born and Mayor Willie Brown proclaimed Sept. 21 "Betty Ong Day." Since then the public has been fickle with Betty's memory.

Right now the only memorial bearing Betty's name is a Bakersfield, Calif. charitable foundation geared towards preventing childhood obesity, which Cathie heads herself. Over the years, Cathie has asked city officials to rename a school or a playground after her sister, but she has had no success.

"Flight attendants were first soldiers to fight this war on terror," said Cathie. "All the victims, survivors and rescue workers are heroes. I find it disheartening that Betty hasn't received the recognition that she deserves."

### 'Do you know where Betty is?'

Perhaps you heard Betty's story before.

Growing up in San Francisco's Chinatown, Betty was a second generation Chinese American and the youngest sibling in the Ong family, who enjoyed going to the Chinese opera and mimicking the performers' gestures. She played sports and whirled through alleyways on her skateboard.

Eventually, her love for travel pointed her in the direction of the aviation industry. She started at bag-



FULL HOUSE: The Ong family with Betty (standing, left) in happier times.

gage check then worked the Delta Airlines ticket counter. In 1987, she scored her dream job as an American Airlines flight attendant. For 14 years, Betty sported the midnight blue uniform and cared for thousands of travelers.

She was caring and giving, loved ones said.

On Sept. 11, Cathie received a phone call from her older brother Harry.

"I was just waking up and he said, 'Cathie do you have your TV turned on? There's something going on in New York and I think it's history in the making.'"

Cathie turned on the television — and along with the rest of the world — watched planes crashing into the World Trade Center towers. They watched together in disbelief. After a pause Harry asked, "Do you know where Betty is?"

Flight 11 left Boston for Los Angeles with Betty onboard and punctured the north tower, the first

attack of the day. Cathie and Betty were supposed to meet that day to go over the details of their planned trip to Hawaii.

"I waited to hear from her and she never called," said Cathie, her voice cracking with emotions. "I was out of my mind. I remember going through a lot of anxiety. Pacing up and down the hall and I kept saying, 'Betty don't do this to me.'"

That afternoon, Cathie was in her car headed to San Francisco when Harry called and confirmed Betty was on the flight.

"I pulled off the freeway ... looked up into the sky and started screaming, 'Why? Why?'"

### 'My heart hurts every day.'

Later that month at a remembrance ceremony for Betty, Cathie met Nydia Gonzalez, one of American Airlines employees who took Betty's last call.

I just wanted you to know that your sister was very, very brave,

Nydia told the Ong family. Then they found out about the tape — nearly four minutes of recorded conversation between Betty, Nydia and another airline official that was being held by the FBI. The Ong siblings wanted to hear their baby sister's last words.

With the help of Sen. Ed Kennedy from Massachusetts where Betty had lived, the Ong family was finally able to listen to the tape in January 2002 in a conference room at the San Francisco airport.

"I didn't know what to expect. When I heard her words, it was very comforting. We're very proud of her. She was sweet, she would give her heart to you ... but she also had an attitude of don't-mess-with-me. She showed this courage when called upon," said Cathie.

But some supporters say not enough is being done to keep Betty's memory alive.

"Betty Ong would probably be more well-known across the country if she [were] not a Chinese American," said Rev. Norman Fong.

Cathie had unsuccessfully asked officials from Jean Parker Elementary School, where Betty attended, to consider changing its name in honor of Betty. A spokesperson from Jean Parker told the P.C. they could not comment.

"There is absolutely no question that Betty and our other crew members aboard our flights that perished are heroes. They acted as true, and brave, professionals in a

way that continues to make all of us at American Airlines proud. That pride in their heroism helps to offset the sadness of that day which will never leave us," said Tim Smith, American Airlines director of corporate communications.

American Airlines has erected a small memorial for their Sept. 11 crewmembers near their flight academy. Each year, employees have a small, quiet ceremony, said Smith.

"My heart hurts every day," said Cathie who started a foundation in her sister's name because of Betty's love for children. "We know that there are certain children issues that have been underserved like childhood obesity."

The Betty Ong Foundation sponsors children to go to camp to learn about nutrition and physical fitness. Betty always wanted to instill a sense of self-confidence in children. At a young age Betty was really tall; she towered over classmates and at first she was awkward and shy, but through team sports she learned to embrace victory and overcome adversity.

This year, for Sept. 11 and "Betty Ong Day," the Ong family doesn't plan to travel. A part of Betty was returned, so they are going to visit her at Cypress Lawn.

"If she were alive, she would say let's march on and move forward in a positive light. In the spirit of our fallen heroes, let's cherish your purpose in life." ■

On the Web: [www.bettyong.org](http://www.bettyong.org)

## PROFILING

(Continued from page 1)

tors, and bloggers demanding the U.S. implementation of racial profiling of persons of Muslim and South Asian descent.

Inevitably, the Japanese American community is mentioned in these discussions, a group notable for being the recipients of racial profiling during World War II. And both sides are using the JA WWII internment to push for and against the use of profiling.

But JAs know all too well racial profiling wasn't the answer back then and it isn't the answer today.

"Racial profiling is not the answer," said Larry Oda, JAACL national president. "It is an activity that makes people feel they are doing something to protect themselves while it is really just a violation of civil rights under the guise of national security. The Japanese American experience in World War II is an example of illegal racial profiling."

"During times of crisis when national security is threatened, fear is a driving force. Japanese Americans were interned in 1942 under the guise of national security, though the pretext was racism based in unwarranted fears," said Bill Yoshino, JAACL Midwest director.

Yet the experiences of the JA community and the fact that history has repeatedly noted the internment as a phenomenal mistake by the U.S. government has not stopped many people from pushing for racial profiling today.

Shortly after the British foiled the terrorist plots recently, Paul Nelson, a Republican congressional candidate from northwestern Wisconsin, pushed for racial profiling of all Muslim males.

"Racial profiling is one way that we can cut down on security risks," Nelson said in an interview with WIXX Radio in New Richmond. "It's time to stop being politically correct here and be serious and tough on the war on terror."

House Homeland Security Chairman Peter King also pushed for people of "Middle Eastern and South Asian" descent to undergo additional security checks even if

they are U.S. citizens.

"If the threat is coming from a particular group, I can understand why it would make sense to single them out for further questioning," said King in a *Newsday* report.

Republican candidate Mark Flanagan pushed for the use of racial profiling of Muslim men at airports in an interview with Fox News Channel. He believes suspending civil liberties for security purposes is sometimes needed, pointing to the JA WWII internment as a successful example.

With the recent terrorist plot so close to the fifth anniversary of the horrific 9/11 terrorist attacks, it seems many Americans are finding it difficult to muster sympathy for the Muslim and Arab American communities.

Media reports about people taking action into their own hands are not uncommon with passengers demanding that suspicious-looking Muslims and Asians be taken off their flights before allowing the plane to take off.

In a recent USA TODAY/Gallup Poll, 39 percent said they felt at least some prejudice against Muslims and the same percentage said they want Muslims to carry special ID cards even if they are U.S. citizens as a means to thwart terrorist attacks.

Although the JA community joins the rest of America in condemning the 9/11 attacks and all acts of terrorism, they will not sway from reproaching any attempts to implement racial profiling.

"Profiling on the basis of ethnicity has proven not only discriminatory and unconstitutional but has not served the national security needs of the United States. As a Japanese American internee in World War II, I witnessed the irreparable harm that such policies can do to our country," said Rep. Mike Honda, CA-15, chair of CAPAC (Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus).

"America is the beacon of democracy to the rest of the world, and our enemies rejoice when we sink to their level. Rather than persecuting Americans of Muslim and South Asian descent, we should strengthen our relationship with these communities to more effectively work together towards our shared goal of protecting our nation."

"Racial profiling has plagued many of our nation's law enforcement authorities," said Rep. David Wu, executive board member of CAPAC. "Not only is this inappropriate practice a violation of civil rights, it takes away valuable and limited resources from protecting Americans from real threats to our safety."


Shortly after the 9/11 attacks, former Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta refused to cower to arguments pushing for the use of racial profiling and today this method of tracking potential terrorists is still not an official policy of the U.S. government and remains unconstitutional. Instead of racial profiling, observing a person's behavior is standard policy at the TSA (Transportation Security Administration).

"TSA is absolutely committed to not profiling," said Jennifer Marty-Peppin, TSA spokesperson. "SPOT (Screening Passengers by Observation Technique) is a program being used by the TSA in about a dozen airports currently and adheres to privacy and civil rights. SPOT looks at involuntary muscle reactions that will betray a terrorist's mission and does not stereotype what a terrorist looks like."

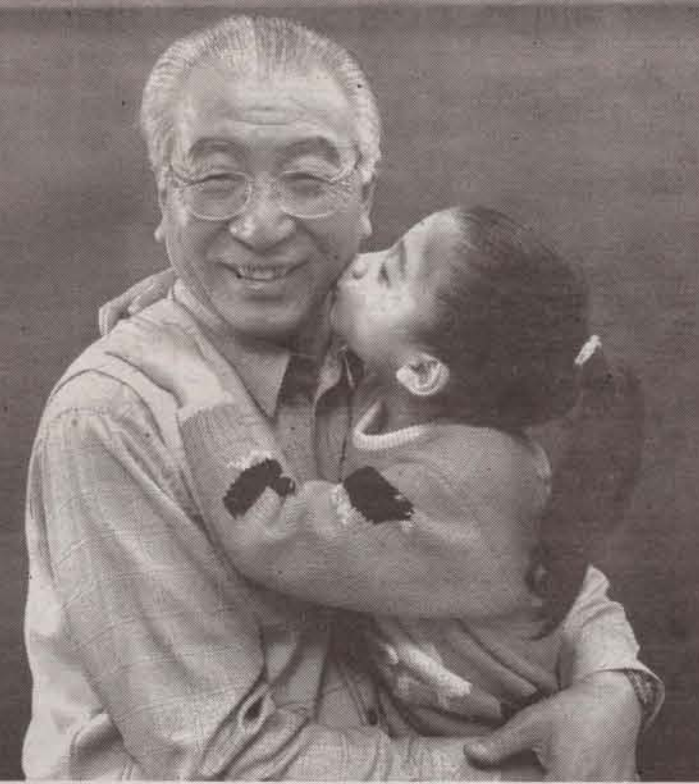
The ineffectiveness of racial profiling has been seen over and over in this country. Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh did not raise the alert of authorities since they were looking for Arab terrorists. And in the current war on terror, arrests of shoe bomber Richard Reid, a Britain, and Jose Padilla, an alleged Chicano gang member, seem to illustrate that al Qaeda has been recruiting a diverse following.

"As a country, we have to remember who we are and adhere to our important values," said Yoshino. "We treat people fairly in a non-selective manner — all people. If you rely on profiling, you're going to miss those who don't fit the profile and we've already seen stark examples of that."

"We want a scapegoat to focus our attention so we can be left alone to do as we wish, and the most convenient scapegoat is the person who looks like the enemy," added Oda. "It was wrong to do this to us in 1942 and it is wrong today." ■



**Blue Shield of California**  
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association




# Health Plans for California JAACL Members

Call the JAACL Health Benefits Administrators at

**1.800.400.6633**

or visit

[www.jaclhealth.org](http://www.jaclhealth.org)



Japanese American  
Citizen's League



## ANGEL ISLAND (Continued from page 1)

Immigration Station located in the San Francisco Bay. Her journey would mirror tens of thousands of Japanese immigrants, many of them picture brides like herself, who came to the U.S. in search of a better life.

"It took a lot of courage on my mom's part to make that decision ... but it was a different era," said Janice Muto, 73, Hisayo's daughter. "My mom told me at the beginning it was very difficult. There were no other women [on the farm] and she cried for three weeks."

The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AIISF) is hoping to tell the story of Japanese immigrants like Hisayo's who passed through the immigration station and is currently outreaching to members of the Japanese American community who may have had relatives processed at the facility.

Although much has been documented about the Chinese community's history here at Angel Island — largely because of their lengthy detentions and the discovery of Chinese calligraphy carved into the barracks' walls — very little has been documented about the Japanese immigrants' story.

"Angel Island is the only Pacific Coast immigration center still standing. It's important to highlight Pacific Coast immigration — who came through. We have case files but we want personal stories. We want to tell the story of everyday Americans," said Erika Gee, education director at AIISF.

The non-profit AIISF is working on a book about Pacific immigration at Angel Island from 1910-1940 which is scheduled to be released in 2010 along with the opening of the new immigration museum. The Japanese immigrants' story will be a key part of this new project.

"We're hoping people are more amenable to passing on their histories to us," said Judy Yung, professor emerita at UC Santa Cruz, who

is helping to write the narrative for the upcoming book. "It's going to be hard to find people but it's important that their history be recorded."

### Recalling Angel Island

Marvin Uratsu, 81, was a young boy of six when he and his older brother traveled from Kumamoto, Japan to be reunited with their parents in California in 1931. Arriving on the ship Taiyomaru, Marvin recalls bits and pieces of his two-day stay at Angel Island Immigration Station before his father picked them up.

Although he doesn't recall specifics about his stay, Marvin remembers the all-male barracks and seeing a lot of Asian men. He assumes these were the Chinese immigrants who endured lengthy stays at the facility.

"It was kind of a time for expectation for going back to where my parents were," said Marvin. "And so, nothing negative, and contrast to what the Chinese people experienced at Angel Island, our time was relatively simple and carefree."

Ken Ishibashi remembers his grandfather Shinobu Mashiko's tales of entering the U.S. via Angel Island as a young boy in 1919. Shinobu and his younger sister had been living in Japan when their father called for them to head to Los Angeles to come live with him.

From Yokohama the siblings boarded the Korea Maru ship and landed at the Angel Island Immigration Station. They ended up staying for a week since the telegram announcing their arrival date did not reach their father in time.

"As [my grandfather] was being called over by his father, he was asked many questions about him and the family make up," said Ken, who currently lives in Tokyo. "He told me that they all had a physical examination, and he recalls that there were a few people who were rejected and were scheduled to be sent on the first ship back to Japan."

### The Japanese Immigration

*'It's important to highlight Pacific Coast immigration — who came through. We have case files but we want personal stories. We want to tell the story of everyday Americans.'*

— Erika Gee, AIISF education director



PHOTO COURTESY OF AIISF

Many of the Japanese immigrants who passed through Angel Island entered during the facility's early years, mostly during the 1910s, before immigration laws became restrictive. Most found work in farming, railways, factories, nurseries, and fisheries. Of the 150,000 Japanese immigrants, the majority were picture brides and Kibei, those born in the U.S. but raised in Japan.

Efforts to curtail Japanese immigration resulted in the Gentleman's Agreement in 1907-08 which restricted Japanese laborers from entering the country but continued to allow non-laborers and the wives and children of those already in the U.S. But by 1924 Asian immigration was virtually halted with the enactment of the Immigration Act which prohibited all "aliens ineligible for citizenship" from entering the country.

Unlike the Chinese immigrants of Angel Island, many of the Japanese had government documents that helped expedite the process and often only remained at the immigration station for a few days. This is in stark contrast to the Chinese who often endured weeks of detention, sometimes for years, and intense interrogation sessions to prove a family relation to a U.S. resident.

But one thing all of the Asian immigrants had to endure was the humiliating medical examinations.

During Hisayo's exam, doctors discovered she had intestinal parasites and she was detained and treated at Angel Island for a few weeks before being released.

Although Marvin was only six during his short stay at Angel Island, one thing he clearly recalls is the humiliating medical exam.

"They stripped us than looked us over. I remember that part, it was embarrassing, for six years old to have to strip it's kind of humiliating to say the least," said Marvin.

Eventually both were released to their family members.

### A New American Life

Departing Angel Island, Hisayo met her husband-to-be for the first time and they wed on Sept. 13, 1912. The newlyweds lived in Loomis, Calif. where Sahei worked on a fruit orchard. Life was tough for the new bride but she adjusted, eventually having six children.

Like many of the JAs in the U.S. at this time, the onset of World War II would bring a second chapter of hardship with families forced to leave everything behind only to be incarcerated in internment camps.

Hisayo and her family were interned at Amache, Colorado during the war. Marvin's family would also eventually end up at Amache. His family had owned a fruit orchard prior to WWII and were

part of the lucky few who were able to come back to their property after their incarceration.

"It does irritate me when I think of the injustice of incarceration. That should not have been," said Marvin who noted that his older brother was already with the MIS when the rest of the family was incarcerated.

"Japanese immigrants moved two times. They immigrated from Japan and then they were detained by the U.S. government," said Gee.

Angel Island officially closed in 1940 and it became a WWII prisoner of war processing center. For several years after it lay abandoned, forgotten except for by a few. In 1963 Angel Island became a State Park and in 1997 it was given National Historic Landmark status.

### Recording Their Stories

Hisayo passed away at the age of 97 leaving behind 19 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

Marvin recently went back to visit Angel Island, his first since his stay in 1931.

"I remembered the barracks we were in," said Marvin. Seeing the Chinese calligraphy, something he did not recall from his childhood memories, he noted: "It was not easy to write on the walls but they were so emotionally upset, longing for their freedom. They wanted to leave something for posterity."

Hisayo and Marvin's stories of immigration and overcoming hardships are just some of the stories from the JA community AIISF hopes to tell in their upcoming project.

"There are so many questions, so much we want to know," said Daphne Kwok, AIISF executive director. "We are trying to capture their stories." ■

*The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation is hoping to interview members of the Japanese American community who may have themselves or had relatives who came through Angel Island. AIISF can be reached at: P.O. Box 29237, San Francisco, CA 94129-0237, 415/561-2160, info@aaisf.org.*



## KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2006 TOURS

**Oct. 9 Hokkaido & Tohoku "Fall Foliage" - 11 Days - 24 Meals - \$3795**  
Sapporo, Sounkyo Gorge-Sahoro-Shirai Aino Village-Lake Toya-Hakodate-Aomori-Lake Towada-Hachimantai Hot Springs-Sendai & Tokyo.

**Oct. 16 Uranihon "Otherside of Japan" - 11 Days - 25 Meals - \$3695**  
Tokyo, Sado Island, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Kinosaki, Tottori, Matsue, Izumo Taisha, Mt. Daizen Hot Springs & Kyoto.

**Oct. 29 Fall Japan Classic - 11 Days - 24 Meals - \$3450** Tokyo-Takayama-Nara-Kobe-Takahashi-Miyajima-Hiroshima-Inland Sea-Shodo Island-Kyoto.

**Nov. 9 Okinawa/Kyushu/Shikoku - 12 Days - 28 Meals - \$3795 - 3**  
Days Okinawa Karatsu, Nagasaki - Kumamoto - Beppu, Kyushu - Ashizuri - Kochi - Takamatsu - Shikoku - Osaka.

**Dec. 13 Deluxe Radisson Tahiti Christmas Cruise - 9 Days - From \$2694** - Papeete - Raiatea - Tahaa - Bora Bora - Moorea - Papeete.

### 2007 PREVIEW

Jan 20 - Panama Canal Cruise - Crystal Harmony  
Mar. 13 - Best of China - Mar. 26 - Spring Japan Classic  
Apr. 5 - Japan Panorama Tour - Apr. 16 - Japan - Off the Beaten Track  
Apr. 26 - Orient - Viet Nam, Cambodia & Malaysia  
June 6 - Music Cities Tour - July 19 - American Heritage  
July 2 - Summer Japan Classic - July 19 - National Parks Tour  
Aug. 12 - Best of Eastern Canada - Sept. 2 - Greece & Turkey Cruise  
Sept. 26 - Fall in New England - Oct. 8 Hokkaido/Tohoku  
Oct. 15 - Uranihon - Oct. 29 - Fall Japan Classic - Oct. 7 - Okinawa

"Early Bird savings - call for brochure"

INCLUDES - flights, portage, hotels, sightseeing & MOST MEALS.

KOKUSAI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.  
4911 Warner Ave., Suite 221, Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
714/840-0455 - FAX 714/840-0457 [1006444-10]

And all this time you thought  
you were saving for retirement.

寿

Don't let a serious accident or illness force you to dip into your savings to cover your medical bills. Enhance your current coverage with JAFL-endorsement Catastrophe Major Medical Insurance Plan. The plan strengthens your current coverage and includes convalescent home care, home health care, private duty nursing coverage and more.

For more information,\* call

1-800-503-9230

or visit [www.jaflinsurance.com](http://www.jaflinsurance.com)



Japanese American  
CITIZENS LEAGUE

Coverage may vary and may not be available in all states. \*Including features, costs, eligibility, renewability, limitations and exclusions.

MARSH

Affinity Group Services  
a service of Security & Smith

3124046 26388 (1/06)

AG3615

Underwritten by: The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, A member company of American International Group, Inc. This is a supplement to medical insurance and is not intended to be a Long Term Care Plan.



# JACL Announces 2006 Scholarship Winners

The National JACL recently announced its 2006 scholarship winners. The following are recipients from the Freshmen division with excerpts from their personal statements. This year JACL awarded 27 scholarships totaling \$57,000.

## FRESHMEN

### Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial #1



**Katherine C. Soe**  
Diablo Valley Chapter  
Pomona College  
Biology/PreMed

The Japanese American experience is characterized by the search for cultural identity, the defense of civil rights, and a commitment to the greater community.

Each of these issues is fundamental to understanding race relations in American society. As a child raised in the bosom of two distinct cultures, I believe that multiethnicity reflects the common JA experience. In a culture of increasing assimilation and intermarriage, the preservation of my JA identity has been a central struggle.

I learned about civil rights while researching a history project on Japanese internment. This historical event is the single most defining moment in the JA experience because it called into question whether we could survive as a community under the most adverse of circumstances. When stripped of our civil rights, few ethnic groups were willing to defend us; each rallied for its own self-preservation. As a community, cultural isolation was our worst enemy.

As I reflect on U.S. post September 11 policy today, familiar racial prejudices have resurfaced. Fueled by fear and hysteria, and in eerie repetition of the JA plight, the government has targeted and detained without charges, individuals of Middle Eastern descent. Internment has taught us how easily we can be robbed of our civil liberties. It is our turn to voice outrage at the treatment of our fellow citizens. We cannot separate ourselves from the concern of other racial or ethnic groups, because the rights of the few are so often subjugated to the wishes of the majority.

I hope to influence others with my passion for community service to benefit minorities, those in developing countries, and those facing adversity. My goal is to make public outreach a part of youth culture. In a society with diverse needs and attitudes, my heritage stresses the needs of the greater community, locally or globally. I hope to continue my commitment to humanitarian issues, demonstration that as a JA, I can be the voice of society's neediest members.

### Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial #2



**Jasmine Cho**  
Florin Chapter  
UC Berkeley  
Anthropology

The JA experience teaches American society that it must eradicate racial discrimination to become more functional.

The importance of eradicating racial discrimination has been especially applicable since Sept. 11, 2001. The precautionary tactics in the "war on terror" today disturbingly resemble the U.S. military measures taken against JAs in 1942. With inadequate reasoning and with overwhelming racial bias, President Roosevelt signed and others supported a presidential mandate that unconstitutionally weakened the rights of JAs. Former Supreme Court Justice Tom C. Clark said, "Despite the unequivocal language of the Constitution of the United States that the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, and despite the Fifth Amendment's command that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, both of these constitutional safeguards were denied by military action under Executive Order 9066." Similarly, the National Security Agency, created in 2001, has eavesdropped on the telephone conversations between suspected terrorists and U.S. residents and has monitored places of Muslim gatherings without warrants. Racial/ethnic profiling of Arab and Muslim Americans today should concern American society because of its startling similarity to the unconstitutional racial profiling of JAs in 1942. Through the JA experience, American society could learn to avoid the choices it made during WWII that eroded the purpose of the U.S. Constitution.

### Mr. & Mrs. Takahashi Moriuchi



**Kiyomi R. MacDonald**  
Mt. Olympus Chapter  
Brigham Young University  
English Education

This is a critical time for Americans to look back into history and find patterns before we repeat mistakes. Presently, overwhelming racial prejudices are rampant and the government in several instances has put due

process on hold. The JACL has offered to support minority groups suffering from similar injustices JAs endured, but the American society at large did not fight the policies. The nation needs to understand what grave mistakes are being repeated. If they study JA history they will see the unwarranted persecution glaring both past and present.

The effects of the Redress Movement are already manifest in the American society, but as the JACL fights against past wrongs and present threats, I believe that more people can grow more conscious of inequity sometimes allowed or encouraged by the government and help to fight against it.

The JAs received hard and dreadful blows, but the community has recovered — if not fully, at least enough to make strong efforts — and will continue to fight for the rights promised to American citizens of all races and creeds.

### Sam S. Kuwahara Memorial



**Nicholas K. Sugai**  
New England Chapter  
Amherst College  
Economics

The 442nd Regiment and 100th Battalion of WWII, two groups comprised predominantly of JAs, received little recognition or respect from other soldiers or the American people in general. The groups were often assigned the hardest and most dangerous missions, and prejudiced officers did not always treat the men justly. My grandfather, a JA from Hawaii, served in WWII as a member of the American occupation forces assigned to Europe. He was a sergeant in the U.S. Army for most of his life, and dedicated himself to fulfilling his moral beliefs, no matter the cost.

America was not always kind to my grandfather, but he truly believed in what our nation stands for, so much so that he was willing to sacrifice his life for it. I do not foresee myself joining the armed services, but I do hope to follow in my grandfather's footsteps in terms of doing what is right. I hope that I can stay true to my beliefs, no matter the pressure or attitudes of others. American society should also learn to live like the men of the decorated JA unit. If more people stand up for what they believe in, the country will become a much more tolerant and just nation. My grandfather and the men of the 442nd served as great role models for America. Now it is our job to learn from their actions and incorporate their strong wills in to our daily lives.

### Patricia & Gail Ishimoto Memorial



**Genevieve Y. Williams**  
South Bay Chapter  
Stanford University  
Chemistry/Chemical Engineering

The JA experience has gradually evolved from the racial prejudice the first immigrants experienced in the late 19th century, reaching a high point during WWII, when JAs were herded into internment camps, and even after the war, when they struggled with the dehumanizing effects of racism. Yet the Issei and Nisei persisted, survived, even thrived in the 60's and 70's, becoming professionals, and earning new respect from American society. Their dedication to the many outstanding values that distinguish the Japanese culture from that of the Americans made the difference in the lives of my sisters and me.

Lauren, my oldest sister, epitomizes the Japanese dedication to excellence in education ... Her excellence at Harvard propelled her to a graduate position under mathematician Richard Stanley of MIT. The deeply inculcated JA value in education as a way to better oneself and the society contrasts highly with the American focus on such things as popular culture and entertainment.

Eleanor, the next oldest, portrays the important aspect of the appreciation of nature. Like the Japanese whose appreciation of nature's beauty can be seen in their *bonsai*, *ikebana*, cherry blossom festivals, and Zen gardens. With America's bountiful natural resources, American society could learn important lessons in conservation and consideration of nature from the JAs.

My last sister, Elizabeth, understands the significance of teamwork. Working an entire summer in Japan as part of the Asian Technology Initiative at Stanford, she established special bonds she made with team workers over *kaiseki* dinners, *bunraku*, *kabuki*, and living in the company dorms. She saw that cooperation and camaraderie among workers added immeasurably to its efficiency and overall success.

### Masao & Sumako Itano Memorial



**Hana R. Ozaki**  
Southeast Chapter  
University of Georgia  
Economics

What I saw as a great opportunity to stand up for my rights and to express my pride as a JA came during my junior year of high school when a prominent

Republican author came to Emory University to give a speech concerning her views on the morality of our society ... She had published a controversial book in support of racial profiling in the United States, significant to current international issues, in which she defends and justifies the internment of JAs during WWII. Outraged to hear that this author would be in Atlanta promoting her book, several internees and members of my local chapter of JACL decided to attend the speech and voice their objections to her opinions.... We were clearly outnumbered, and I felt our cause had been trampled.

... But when I caught a glimpse of a tear rolling down the face of a fellow protestor I immediately saw what the JA struggle offers to American society: I realized the courage it took for all of my fellow JAs to stand up for their rights against such an intimidating crowd, the compassion and support they expressed for each other, and the determination in their eyes for making the future better. American society could also learn and benefit from JAs' appreciation for a nation of opportunity and equality and from their tolerance of different nationalities, backgrounds, ethnicities, and religions, which stems from an understanding of the hardships of racism and discrimination.

### Gongoro Nakamura Memorial



**Casey Ogata**  
Lodi Chapter  
UC Davis  
Economics

When it comes to the internment of thousands of JAs, American society has learned that it is never justified to detain an entire race of people with the assumption that they are in communication with an enemy. In reality most JAs during this time were quite loyal to the American government to the point where some even served in the military to fight in the war. Overall, this event was the worst case of violations of Constitutional rights in the history of this country. From this experience JA society can learn that it must never repeat its previous mistakes. Only from learning about such tragedies and how to prevent them can society progress. If it does not learn, we are doomed to repeat it. American society should learn never to repeat the JA experience.

If "the Japanese American experience" is meant to indicate the JA culture, then this experience carries a more positive connotation. American society, unlike other societies in the world, cannot be described in one homogeneous way. As the most diverse nation, there are many different types of people with a variety of cultural aspects. JAs are no different. We stress hard work, education, and dedication for a successful career. Many others in American society can learn that with this work ethic, most anyone can achieve a bright future.

### Shigeki "Shake" Ushio Memorial



**Kevin Tucker**  
Boise Valley Chapter  
University of Pennsylvania - Wharton  
Business/Marketing

The Japanese culture is one that has influenced my life and it has given me great values. There are many things that American society can learn from the JA experience.

I have always been taught that your elders are some of the wisest people you can learn from. Japanese culture sets a high value on the legacy of each generation of a family. In some families the Issei, Nisei, Sansei, and Yonsei can live symbiotically together, working to help each other learn new things. The Issei can show their children the art of *Odori* while the Yonsei can teach their elders how to send an e-mail from a computer.

But the most profound experience from the Japanese people came during WWII when innocent JAs were forced to relocate to internment camps under Executive Order 9066 signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. My grandmother can still remember her experiences in the Minidoka relocation camp in Minidoka, Idaho. Many Americans thought that any person of Japanese descent was their enemy but that was certainly not the case.

The JA experience is one that is filled with tradition, respect, and hardships. If nothing else, the JA experience shows us that America is a land full of diversity and culture where liberty and justice is for all.

### Mas & Majiu Uyesugi Memorial



**Natalie A. Nakasone**  
Twin Cities Chapter  
New York University  
Business/Fashion

In the years following the attack on Pearl Harbor, over 120,000 people of Japanese descent were placed in internment camps. As a result of the government's actions, the lives of many American citizens were changed for the worse. The relocation of the JAs into intern-



ment camps during WWII was not a morally justifiable action on the part of the United States.

Often times out of the worst situations arises the greatest display of courage. During their relocation to concentration camps, many JAs possessed an unshakeable foundation and a "gambare," or never give up, attitude. They endured through degrading and horrible conditions in order to preserve whatever dignity still remained within them. American society can learn many things from the JA experience. With hardship comes perseverance, and with perseverance comes pride. No dusty camp could ever take away the JAs' sense of pride for themselves and their families. Most importantly, American society will hopefully learn from their mistakes, and never allow such a tragedy to ever occur again.

**Mitsuyuki Yonemura Memorial**

**Edward Toyozaki**  
**Honolulu Chapter**  
**University of Hawaii**  
**Psychology/Business**

The JA experience is one from which much can be learnt. When Japanese immigrants emigrated from Japan to America, they brought many traditional Japanese values including the value of education, loyalty, and resilience.

Coming from a JA family, education has always been

stressed. My parents and grandparents before them have worked hard to provide my brother and me with the best education available ... By placing emphasis on education, America can lower poverty levels, which in turn will lower crime rates. More importantly, America must place more emphasis on education in order to create a new generation of thinkers and leaders who can take us into the 22nd century.

To this day, the Japanese classic story, *The 46 Ronin* (Chuushingura), exemplifies the traditional value of loyalty ... This unfaltering loyalty was seen in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during WWII .... In the end, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team became one of the most highly decorated units in American history and continues to this day to be a role model for us all.

The traditional New Year's decoration, the *kadomatsu*, is made up of branches of pine and bamboo. The bamboo is a symbol of resilience. It bends in the wind, but does not break. Of all the traditional values that the Japanese brought from Japan, the value of resilience in today's world is most crucial.

**Hanayagi Rokumie Memorial**

**Shelli A. Skinner**  
**San Diego Bay Chapter**  
**UC Berkeley**  
**Computer Science**

I think that it is embarrassing that Americans blatantly took away the rights of JAs during WWII, simply because they resembled the enemy. My grandfather told me that as a young boy, he was once chased out of a restaurant by an angry chef carrying a knife simply because he was a JA.



One important lesson that Americans should learn is that despite our cultural diversity, we need to unite. While we look different, we should think of ourselves as Americans. If we could think of ourselves as equals, there would not be so much hatred among ourselves during a war.

What America failed to recognize was that all JAs were loyal to America. Once we recognize ourselves as equals, and Americans, it will be less likely for an occurrence like the one in WWII to occur. While I see a need for Americans to treat and see each other as equals, I also believe that we should embrace our cultural differences, rather than fear them.

Having experienced the Japanese culture, I am eager to be exposed to new cultures. If Americans view each other as equals, but unique, we will learn more from each other. Most importantly, we will not have to face an incident like the one that occurred during WWII. ■

*The winners from the undergraduate, graduate, law and arts divisions will appear in the next issue.*

**CAMPAIGN**

(Continued from page 1)

Education and civil rights continue to be our mission as we conclude our 77th year. The work of the board of directors and staff goes beyond a normal work week, driven by dedication and passion for the organization's mission; we have much more to do than we are able. Funds from membership dues and corporate support of specific programs are not enough to accomplish all the work that comes before us and this is the reason for asking for support.

This issue of the *Pacific Citizen* focuses on our national scholarships program. As one of JACL's strong and enduring programs, our scholarships strengthen our community by providing financial encouragement to our future leaders. We nurture the bright minds in our community to become involved and contribute to our well-being.

If you have been a past recipient of a JACL scholar-

ship we hope that you will continue to support JACL's programs by also giving back to help your successors.

We rely on donations to support other national programs including: continued inclusion of the Japanese American experience in school curriculums in both history and constitutional subjects; conducting teacher training sessions; leadership and internship programs; scholarships and educational opportunities; and production of the award-winning *Pacific Citizen* which was recently honored.

The *P.C.* staff was recognized for their excellence in writing by the New California Media Awards, dubbed as "The Ethnic Pulitzers" by the Jim Lehrer News Hour.

Please visit the new Web site at [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org) for the latest news and resources, and our redesigned website at [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)

Please take a moment to make your tax-deductible contribution to help us carry our work into the next biennium. Thank you in advance for your continued support of JACL. ■

**JACL MID-YEAR CAMPAIGN**

*I want to help support JACL's mission to protect civil rights, education and promote cultural values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.*

Enclosed is my/our gift of:  \$100  \$150  \$200 Other \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER I.D.: \_\_\_\_\_

*I want to charge my contribution to my credit card.*

CARD TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD NO. \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

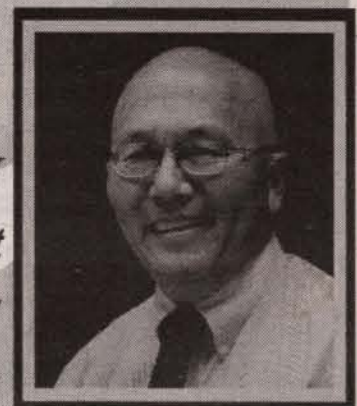
Please return this form with your check, payable to Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and mailed to: P.O. Box 45397, San Francisco, CA 94145-0397  
 Your donation is fully tax deductible.

**Start Saving Now!**

*Members have full access to a complete line of mortgage loan programs with exceptional rates. Let us help you save money and build equity through homeownership.*

- ◆ Need to consolidate your debt?
- ◆ Remodeling?
- ◆ Seeking to refinance?
- ◆ Need some cash?
- ◆ Want a new house?

**Gordon Yamagata**  
*National JACL CU*  
**Mortgage Consultant**  
**(800) 288-2017**  
**M-F 8:30AM - 5:30PM**



Loans may be processed in AZ, CA, OR, NM and UT. Void elsewhere. licensee #ML-2397, and in CA as real estate broker #01183856 by the Dept. of Real Estate.

Diablo Funding Group, Inc. ("#4") which is licensed in AZ as #0905547, in OR as

National JACL Credit Union membership requirements: The members or shareholders of this credit union shall be restricted to those persons who at the time of application are members of the National Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) or members living under the same household of the immediate families of members of this credit union and organizations of JACL with loans to such organizations not to exceed their shares and/or deposits.





• YUMI SAKUGAWA •

MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA

All-American Girl



One of my very close friends, a Pakistani American who has been studying at a university in Kuala Lumpur for the last five weeks, tried to describe to me the odd tingle of solidarity she felt every time she saw a Caucasian person riding a subway or walking through the shopping plazas in Malaysia's capital city.

"I want to run up to them and ask them where they're from, and find out if they're from the States, too," she said. "Like, you're an American,

there is something about the way you walk and carry yourself that is very American," she said.

I wonder what that is, exactly? The permutations of ethnic identity and nationality you find in an international university are nearly endless. In the last several weeks, I have met a Chinese girl who grew up speaking French and English in Tahiti, a Vietnamese boy born in Germany and of course, my friend who was born in China but moved to Japan. Not only have I met minorities born of other countries, I have also met for the first time people born in Malaysia, Thailand and Sri Lanka, to name just a few, who have all come to Singapore for their first time to receive their university education.

*'But then there is something about the way you walk and carry yourself that is very American.'*

Clearly, the world is a much bigger place than I thought. As an AA college student who has grown up in Southern Calif. her entire life, I realize how easy it is to ignore the fact that the minority experience is not only limited to the U.S., but is a universal social phenomena occurring in all parts of the world.

In the end, it's oddly comforting to know that other people in other countries juggle two separate cultures, languages and modes of thought as we do. Toubi and I have become rather close in the last several weeks. We have several parallels in our respective lives. In Japan, she eats Chinese food at home and speaks Chinese with her parents while in America, I eat Japanese food at home and speak Japanese with my parents. We somehow manage to communicate to each other with my mediocre command of Japanese and her so-so command of English.

She said that she would introduce me to her Japanese exchange friends after I told her my desire to hone my Japanese language skills. I find it amusing that it is in Singapore, out of all places, where a Chinese girl can teach an American girl to be more Japanese.

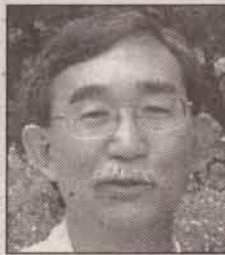
Yumi Sakugawa is currently an art major at UCLA.

COMMENTARY

Lt. Ehren Watada: Hero, Villain, or None of the Above?

By ANDY NOGUCHI

That Watada's a disgrace! No, Watada's courageous! Maybe he's just misguided. As these typical remarks show, Lt. Ehren Watada's June protest of the war has struck a nerve in the community, often mirroring the Japanese American divisions over loyalty and military service during World War II. As one who helped organize the 2000 and 2002 National JAACL effort to recognize the protest of Nisei draft resisters and reconcile the community, this is strikingly familiar.



Watada, a 28-year-old from Hawaii, is the first American officer to refuse deployment. He faces a possible court martial and up to seven years in federal prison. The Army has charged him with contempt, conduct unbecoming an officer and missing his troop movement.

Watada claims that the war is unconstitutional, overriding his military orders to Iraq and justifying his refusal. As alternatives, he's offered to fight in Afghanistan or to resign from the military.

Just as other Americans, Nikkei have taken part in the vital debate over the Iraq war and Watada's actions. Is this a just war against world terrorism and for democracy? Or is it a power grab by a neo-conservative U.S. administration for oil and Middle East political influence? How can the U.S. pull out after sacrificing so much? Why sacrifice more? Can the U.S. defend itself if soldiers don't follow orders? Should soldiers even obey orders that might be illegal or unconstitutional?

Clearly, the tide against the war in Iraq is turning. According to an Aug. 9 CNN poll, Americans oppose the war in Iraq by a 60-36 percent margin. The bill of goods that Bush used to "sell" the war to Americans — those ephemeral "weapons of mass destruction" and Iraqi ties to Sept. 11 — have proven myths at best.

This anti-war sentiment likely reflects the feelings of JAs and other Asian Americans. What especially strikes home to many people is that Watada is a JA! This raises many sensitive experiences and feelings about WWII loyalty, patriotism and duty that remain with us down through the generations.

Though the government had at first rejected JAs in the military, many men volunteered to fight against world fascism, to prove their loyalty and make a bet-

ter future for their families. Many more were drafted. Thousands of Nisei soldiers, those like my late father, served gallantly in the highly decorated 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Military Intelligence Service.

Over 300 other Nisei men, led by the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee, refused to be drafted. They demanded that their families be released from camp before they would join the Army. No shock in the government response to that one — 282 were convicted of draft resistance and locked up in federal prison.

An even larger group of 12,000 JAs — a tenth of the internees — dissented on the so-called loyalty oath. They answered "No," qualified their answers or refused to respond.

The government actively fanned up the divisions created between those it labeled "loyal" and "disloyal." Many JAs, including the JAACL, got swept up in the infighting, severely weakening any united community efforts for justice. The hard feelings and ostracism still haunt the Nisei resisters, the No-No Boys, and their families today.

It's no surprise that the same issues of loyalty and patriotism flared up so heatedly about Watada. It's scraped the scab off an old wound that had never completely healed. You can see it in the letters to Japanese American newspapers.

One of the lessons I've learned from the government created divisions over the WWII "loyalty oath" and the recent reconciliation efforts with the Nisei draft resisters is that there is no single, correct path to loyalty.

When I've talked to Nisei veterans and resisters, few would say they were heroes. Many have told me they were just doing what they believed was right — doing what was good for their families, the JA community and the country. We should respect them for their different choices — agree or disagree.

Watada: hero, villain, or none of the above? From what I've read about this young man, he's a principled individual with sincere beliefs and deserves our respect. To me, he's in the same tradition as the Nisei draft resisters and Nisei veterans — stuck in a no-win situation where he had to make a tough personal choice of conscience.

Guess my answer is, "None of the above." ■

Andy Noguchi is the Florin JAACL's civil rights/redress co-chair.  
On the Web: www.florinjac.com

GOT OPINIONS?

Why not get them published?



Send commentaries by e-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org

American Holiday Travel

2006 TOUR SCHEDULE

- HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU HOLIDAY TOUR .....OCT 3-15  
Lake Akan, Abashiri, Kitami, Sapporo, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Oirase Valley, Hirasaki, Akita, Kakunodate, Matsushima, Sendai, Nikko, Tokyo.
- TAHITI HOLIDAY CRUISE .....OCT 21-29  
Papeete, Raiatea, Taha'a, Bora Bora, Moorea. RADISSON'S PAUL GAUGUIN
- AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOUR .....NOV 1-18  
Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Sydney, Melbourne, Christchurch, Mt. Cook, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Rotorua, Auckland.
- NEW YORK CITY GETAWAY TOUR .....DEC 3-7  
City tour, Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, United Nations, South Street Seaport, Rockefeller Center, Broadway Show.

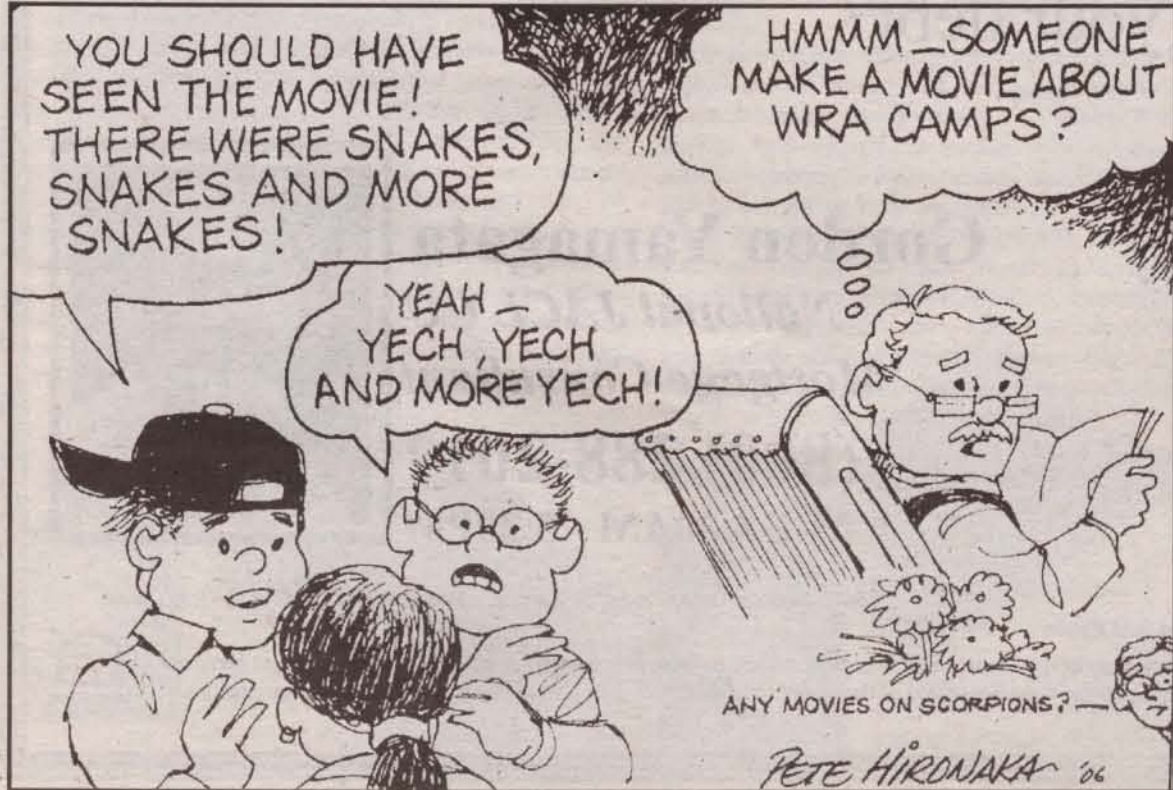
2007 Tour Program Preview

- PANAMA CANAL HOLIDAY CRUISE ..... JAN 31-FEB 16  
From Florida to Los Angeles. HOLLAND AMERICA CRUISE
- HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR .....FEB 4-12  
Abashiri, Soukyo, Asahikawa, Sapporo, Otaru, Noboribetsu. Ice floe cruise & 5 snow/ice festivals.
- INDIA HOLIDAY TOUR .....FEBRUARY  
New Delhi, Agra, Buddhist Triangle, Bombay, Aurangabad.
- COPPER CANYON ADVENTURE HOLIDAY TOUR ..... MAR 25-APR 2
- SOUTH AMERICA HOLIDAY TOUR ..... APR 26-MAY 11  
Buenos Aires, Iguassu, Rhode Janeiro, Sao Paulo. Extension to Lima, Machu Picchu. Meet Local Nikkeis.
- SAN FRANCISCO-NAPA VALLEY-LAKE TAHOE HOLIDAY TOUR ... APR 25-MAY 1
- JAPAN SPRING HOLIDAY TOUR ..... MAY 16-27  
Tokyo, Lake Kawaguchi, Matsumoto, Takayama, Kanazawa, Noto Peninsula, Amanohashidate, Tottori, Matsue, Kyoto.
- GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR ..... JUN 24-JUL 3  
Tokyo, Hakone, Lake Hamana, Hiroshima, Kyoto.
- ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE ..... JULY
- AFRICA WILDLIFE SAFARI HOLIDAY TOUR ..... AUG 1-13
- ICELAND HOLIDAY TOUR ..... AUGUST
- OKINAWA-KYUSHU HOLIDAY TOUR ..... OCTOBER
- SOUTH AMERICA PATAGONIA ADVENTURE TOUR .....NOVEMBER

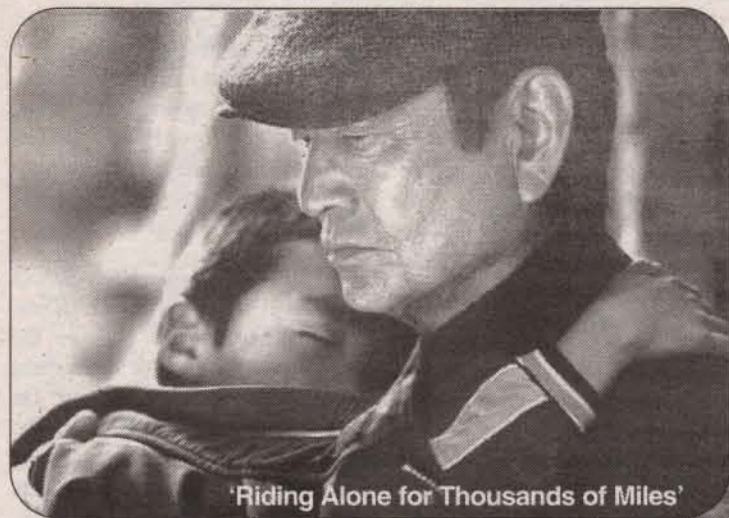
We can also assist you with:  
Low-cost airfares to Japan, Japan Individual Tour arrangements, Japan Railpass, Hotels, Cars, Cruises, Hawaii arrangements, Individual Tour Packages, Organizations/Clubs/Family group tours and cruises.

For information and reservations, please write or call to:

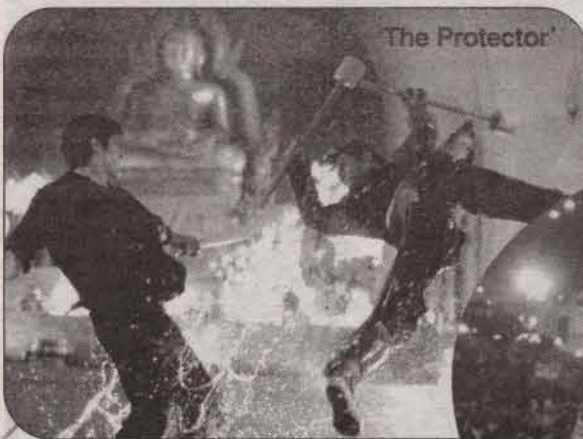
AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL  
312 E. 1ST ST., #510, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Tel: (213) 625-2232; Fax: (213) 625-4347  
Ernest & Carol Hida  
CST #2000326-10







'Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles'



'The Protector'



'The Fall of Fujimori'



'Fearless'

# Fall Flicks to Keep Your Eyes Peeled On

The crop includes a vengeful kick boxer and a disgraced world leader.

**Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles**  
 Sony Pictures Classic  
 Directed by Zhang Yimou  
 Starring: Ken Takakura, Shinobu Terajima, Li Jiamin  
 Sept. 1 in limited release



Zhang Yimou's film may contribute to the world's high divorce rate. His lyrical films show us how we want to be loved and inspire real-life feelings of disaffection. Here, the filmmaker plumbs the depths of a father/son relationship and reveals there is no limit to this kind of love.

Gouichi Takata (Ken Takakura) gets a videotape to help him get to know his estranged son, and Takata learns that Kenichi had traveled all the way to Yunnan Province in Southern China to see the famous opera singer Li Jiamin perform the legendary song "Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles."

Takata then embarks on an odyssey to find Li Jiamin and videotapes his performance for the dying Kenichi. Along the way, he befriends a little boy who helps him rediscover the sense of family he thought he had lost long ago. Though Takata speaks only Japanese to the little boy from a rural Chinese village, they understand each other perfectly.

Zhang said he made this movie just to work with Takahara, a Japanese actor who made the leap to Hollywood in the 1970 film "Too Late the Hero." In 1989, Takakura appeared in Ridley Scott's Oscar-nominated "Black Rain" with Michael Douglas and Andy Garcia.

"I started writing this script five years ago. It is tailor-made for him. If Takakura didn't like the story," said Zhang, "I would have started

again from scratch."

The final scene is a tearjerker. Watch it and then call your father.

**The Protector**  
 Golden Network Asia Limited  
 Directed by Prachya Pinkaew  
 Starring: Tony Jaa, Petchthai Wongkamlae  
 Sept. 8



"Ong Bak," last year's successful kickboxing flick has won Tony Jaa the title of "the next Bruce Lee." But then again, isn't every Asian guy nailed with that title in Hollywood? Jaa's latest action flick revolves around the rescue of two elephants (the Thai equivalent of a Maserati).

When the precious elephants are stolen and sold to Australia by a Thai gang boss, Jaa takes on the gang.

**Fearless**  
 Rogue Pictures  
 Directed by Ronny Yu  
 Starring: Jet Li  
 Sept. 22



Don't you hate it when actors threaten retirement, but stay on for

three more years? Jet Li is promising "Fearless" will be his last martial arts film.

The actor, now 43, built his career on breathtaking martial arts scenes and in "Fearless" he goes out with a bang. Based on a true story about Huo Yuanjia, a revered Chinese martial arts master who founded Jing Wu Athletic Association and brought together the many styles of wushu, the film is in every sense of the word — epic.

**The Fall of Fujimori**  
 Stardust Pictures  
 Directed by Ellen Perry  
 Starring: Alberto Fujimori  
 Purchase DVD at:  
[www.falloffujimori.com](http://www.falloffujimori.com)



After fleeing Peru in disgrace, Alberto Fujimori broke the silence about his presidency last year when he granted his first in-depth interview to filmmaker Ellen Perry. The result is an up close look at the banished king.

At the center of Fujimori's presidency are his controversial tactics in the war on terror: hooded judges ruling from behind one-way mirrors, secret military tribunals, and the alleged use of torture.

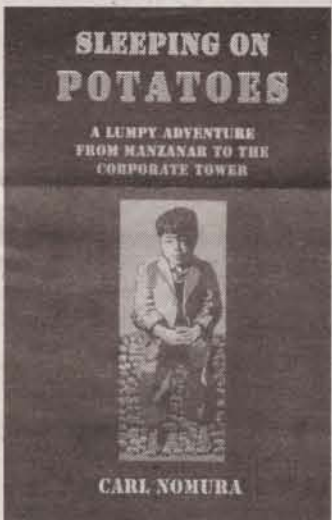
Perry, who calls Fujimori's life story a Shakespearean drama, includes intimate interviews and never seen before footage from the regime to weave a fascinating story about the controversial leader. ■

—Compiled by Lynda Lin

## Sleeping on Potatoes

A Lumpy Adventure from Manzanar to the Corporate Tower

by Carl Nomura



By George Katagiri, Portland, OR  
 "Early in the book, Nomura tells about being born in a boxcar in Montana. Later, he retires as a Corporate Senior Vice-President of Honeywell, Inc. In between these two events are going to college, achieving his goals, rearing children, learning to get along in marriage and the joy of loving and being loved. His writings reveal insights which many of us miss as we go through life. The best example is his description of surviving the depression years. Readers will find that what was actually a tragedy, ends up as interesting and often humorous experiences. There are many parallels with what many nisei families experienced. If you are looking for some enjoyable reading, read about one of the most successful nisei in America."

Some recognitions: Rebecca Brown Award: Best Memoir of 2004, Amazon readerships' rating: 5-stars. The Virtual Readers' vote: 5-books. Check out [www.sleepingonpotatoes.com](http://www.sleepingonpotatoes.com) and [www.yuricareport.com](http://www.yuricareport.com). Book available through all bookstores, e.g., Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

## Kosakura Tours & Travel Presents:

Escorted Tours & Cruises for 2006

- Oct. 5 New England - Fall Foliage
- Oct. 16 Autumn Highlights of Japan
- Oct. 28 Greek Isles Cruise on the Golden Princess
- Nov. 9 Southern Japan - Shikoku & Kyushu
- Nov. 29 Tropical Costa Rica
- Dec. 1 Egypt & Jordan - Land of the Pharaohs Nile River Cruise

Look Forward 2007:

- Jan. 19 South Africa
- Feb. 3 Hawaii Island Cruise - Norwegian Cruise Line
- Mar. 1 Australia & New Zealand
- Mar. 29 Spring Japan "Cherry Blossom"
- Apr. 20 China - Shanghai, Yangtze Cruise, Xian, Beijing, Guilin, Hong Kong
- May 7 Bikkuri Japan #2 "Hidden Surprises of Japan"
- May 17 Charleston & Savannah
- May 30 Heritage America: Niagara Falls, Washington, D.C.
- June 13 Alaska Cruise - Regent Seven Seas Cruise "Mariner"
- June 25 Las Vegas - 3 Day Fling!!!

We will be glad to send you a detailed brochure!

We also sell:

International & Domestic Air Tickets including ANA, JAL, UAL  
 Japan & Euro Rail Pass, Hotels, Car Rental, and Cruises  
 Packages to any destination around the world!



Kosakura Tours and Travel  
 4415 Cowell Road, Suite 110, Concord, CA 94518  
 Tel: (925) 687-4995, Calif. Toll Free 1-800-858-2882

## SECRET ASIAN MAN By Tak

secretasianman@weekdydig.com • www.BlackLava.net/sam • ©2006 Tak Toyoshima





# Calendar

## National

### SAN FRANCISCO

**Mon., Oct. 2**—3rd Annual National JACL Golf Tournament, "Swing for Justice"; Harding Park Golf Course, 99 Harding Road; \$200 Early Bird registration, deadline extended to Sept. 1, and \$250 after; entry fee includes golf cart, bento lunch, tee prizes and dinner; sponsorships are available; field is limited to 144 spots; committee is also looking for golf stories from camp, email to Mas Hashimoto at [hashi79@earthlink.net](mailto:hashi79@earthlink.net). Info: co-chairs, Jason Higashi, 707/837-9932, [jltjh@comcast.net](mailto:jltjh@comcast.net) or Jim Craig, 916/652-0093, [thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net).

## Midwest

### ALBUQUERQUE

**Sun., Oct. 1**—Annual Aki Matsuri Fall Festival; 10:30-4 p.m.; Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, SW corner of Menaul and 12 Street NW; \$1 admission, free entertainment, raffle prizes, taiko drumming. Info: Esther Churchwell, 505/883-5230 or [6kalani4@comcast.net](mailto:6kalani4@comcast.net).

### CHICAGO

**Fri., Sept. 22**—36th Annual Fuji Festival, Japanese American Service Committee Benefit Dinner Dance and silent auction; reception begins at 5 p.m., dinner and program is at 7:30 p.m.; Union League Club of Chicago, 65 W Jackson; featuring entertainment by Bradford Newquist and the Bill Underwood Quartet; \$150 per person, \$130 for JASC members. Tickets and info: [www.jasc-chicago.org](http://www.jasc-chicago.org) or 773/275-0097.

### EVANSTON, ILL.

**Nov. 3-5**—Second National Asian American Student Conference; Northwestern University, Evanston; NAASCon 2006 theme is "Building Bridges, Connecting Movements" and seeks to explore the diverse issues that the APA community faces. Info: [www.naascon.org](http://www.naascon.org).

### ST. LOUIS

**Sept. 2-4**—2006 Japanese Festival;



Bradford Newquist and the Bill Underwood Quartet will perform at the Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago's 36th Annual Benefit Dinner Dance. Visit [www.jasc-chicago.org](http://www.jasc-chicago.org) for details.

Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd., St. Louis; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Mon., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; \$10 adults, \$7 seniors, \$3 Garden members, \$3 children ages 3-12; extra charge for tea ceremonies, Chihuly's "Glass in the Garden" inside the Climatron, and Children's Garden (under age 12). Info: 800/642-8842 or [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org).

## Pacific Northwest

**BELLEVUE**  
**Sat.-Sun., Sept. 9-10**—Aki Matsuri Fall Festival; Bellevue Community College, 3000 Landerholm Circle SE, Bellevue, WA; Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; free admission and parking; a Japanese cultural arts event featuring JACL Lake Washington chapter displaying "Eastside History Panels" and a Power Point presentation from writer, David Neiwert. Info: [www.enma.org](http://www.enma.org) or call 425/861-7865.

## Northern California

### OAKLAND

**Sun., Oct. 1**—Moon Viewing festival,

"Otsukimi"; 5:30-9 p.m.; Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave; event will feature martial arts and koto performances, moon viewing and bento box dinner; RSVP a dinner for \$15 to OFSCA, P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, CA 94661-3022; deadline is Sept. 25. Info: [www.oakland-fukuoka.org](http://www.oakland-fukuoka.org) or 510/482-5896.

### SACRAMENTO

**Sun.-Mon., Sept. 17-18**—Multi Camp "Get Together"; DoubleTree Hotel; registration for the event at 3 p.m., mixer-Dinner at 6 p.m.; activities may include golfing, dinner, etc.; space is limited; recommend hotel reservations be made by Aug. 17; Info: 866/421-4744, or write to Multi-Camp Get Together, P.O. Box 22877, Sacramento, CA 95822.

### SAN JOSE

**Sat., Sept. 30**—Fifth Annual Community Recognition Dinner, "Today's Community Volunteers Inspiring Tomorrow's"; San Jose, Hyatt, 1740 North 1st Street, San Jose; 5 p.m.; Tickets are \$75 per person, \$750 for a table of 10; JACL San Jose chapter recognizes honorees that were selected for their dedication to uphold the mission of the San Jose JACL. Info: call 408/295-1250 or e-mail [sanjosejaci@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sanjosejaci@sbcglobal.net).

### STOCKTON

**Fri., Oct. 6**—Stockton JACL's monthly mixer "The Linc: Leaders

Involved in the Nikkei Community"; 856 Restaurant & Lounge, 856 W. Ben Holt Dr.; 6-7:30 p.m.; connecting young Asian American professionals in the Central Valley. Info: Chiyo Mayai, 209/478-0800, ext. 201 or email [ckmiyai@hotmail.com](mailto:ckmiyai@hotmail.com).

## Southern California

**CULVER CITY**  
**Sat., Sept. 16**—Benefit concert, "In Grateful Remembrance" featuring Hiroshima and Carry On; 5:30 p.m.; Culver City Veterans Auditorium; sponsorships available, reserved tables of 10 are \$1,250, general admission before Aug. 26 is \$100 per person, \$110 per person after; tickets will not be sold at the door; there will be raffle prizes, a commemorative booklet and photos by Toyo Miyatake Studio. Info: Laraine Miyata, [laraine\\_virgo@yahoo.com](mailto:laraine_virgo@yahoo.com) or Julia Tominaga, 310/328-0907.

### LOS ANGELES

**Oct. 7-8**—Teacher Training Workshop; San Gabriel Valley workshop will focus on the segregated fighting forces of WWII through personal experiences of the 100/442 RCT and the MIS; \$25 for two days and provides an optional Continuing Education Unit through CSU Dominguez Hills for an additional \$40; more workshops are scheduled for: Long Beach, Oct. 21-22; LAUSD specific Manual Arts High School, Oct. 14-15; and LAUSD specific Peary DELTA Prof. Development Center, Nov. 5-6. Info: [www.GoForBroke.org](http://www.GoForBroke.org) or Wayne Osako, 310/222-5702.

**Thurs., Sept. 7**—JANM's First and Central Summer Concert Series; 6 p.m.; featuring: Sept. 7, Dengue Fever. Info: [www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org).

**Sun., Sept. 10**—West Los Angeles JACL Auxiliary's "Aki Matsuri Boutique"; Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Drive; 9:30-3:30 p.m.; free admission, cash or check only; featuring designer clothing, jackets, original jewelry and more. Info: Jean, 310/390-6914 or Eiko, 310/820-1875.

### TORRANCE

**Sat., Sept. 16**—PSW JACL Annual

Awards Dinner; 5 p.m. registration, 6 p.m. dinner; Torrance Holiday Inn, 19800 S. Vermont Ave; honoring dedicated chapter members; \$100/person, \$35/youth. Info: PSW Office, 213/626-4471 or office@jacpsw.org.

## Nevada

### LAS VEGAS

**Oct. 17-19**—Manzanar High School Reunion; California Hotel; Tues. Welcome Mixer 6:30 p.m. in the Ohana Room; Wed. slot tournament and buffet dinner and program; Dr. Glenn Kageyama will talk about the achievements of the researchers who developed an alternate source of latex from the guayule plant. Info and applications: Henry Nakano, 714/871-8179, Sam Ono, 310/327-5568, Cabby Iwasaki, 714/637-1412, Shig Kuwahara, 626/289-7892 or Victor Muraoka, 818/368-4113.

**Oct. 27-29**—JACL Singles Convention; Plaza Hotel, downtown; events include: Fri.: Welcome reception; Sat.: workshops, luncheon and dinner dance; Sun.: brunch; Room rates at the Plaza Hotel are Fri. and Sat. \$76/night for single and double occupancy, Thurs. and Sun. is \$54; open to everyone; hosted by the Las Vegas JACL. Info: [www.mwt.com/jaclsingles](http://www.mwt.com/jaclsingles) or Yas Tokita, 702/866-2345 or Muriel Scrivner, 702/790-9547.

## Hawaii

### HONOLULU

**Through Sept. 13**—Exhibit, Japanese Design Today 100; gallery hours are Tues.-Sat. 10-4 p.m.; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii; exhibit features everyday objects that show the lifestyles of Japanese today; sponsored by the Japan Foundation. Info: 808/945-7633 or [www.jcch.com](http://www.jcch.com).

**Sat., Sept. 30**—JCCH "Celebration of Leadership and Achievement Dinner"; Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Room; 5:30 p.m.; individual seats \$150 each, table sponsorships available; events include silent auction and dinner program honoring Masao Koike, Leslie S. Murakami, Wally Yonamine and more. Info: JCCH 800/945-7633 or email [info@jcch.com](mailto:info@jcch.com).

Avoid the Terri Schiavo Mess  
Download an Advance Health Care Directive.  
**Free of Charge on legalbridge.com**  
日本語でどうぞ  
Thomas N. Shigekuni and Associates  
Attorneys at Law (310) 540-9266

(562) 598-9523  
Established 1965  
**Imperial Jewelry Mfg. Co.**  
Fine Jewelry • Custom Designing • Repair  
11072 Los Alamitos Blvd.  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

**Harvest Land** T-Shirts • Logo  
screen print & design Business Card  
(Japanese & English)  
Calligraphic Design  
510.540.4815  
Berkeley, CA Since 1990  
[www.harvestland.net](http://www.harvestland.net)

## NATIONAL JACL GOLF TOURNAMENT

### "Swing for Justice"

Come golf the championship course where **Tiger Woods** won the World Cup Championship!

**Harding Park Golf Course**  
99 Harding Road, San Francisco  
**Monday, October 2, 2006**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE HAS PASSED!**

Golfer Information: \$250 per golfer

Name: _____	Hdcp: _____	Phone # _____
Name: _____	Hdcp: _____	Phone # _____
Name: _____	Hdcp: _____	Phone # _____
Name: _____	Hdcp: _____	Phone # _____

**REGISTER NOW!**  
Includes: \$125 green fee, cart fees, range balls, tournament golf shirt, obento lunch, snacks and one Award Dinner reservation.  
The tournament will be "individual net" in three flights (including Callaway) and a women's flight.

Make checks payable to **National JACL** and mail with completed form to:  
Jim Craig, 5340 King Road, Loomis, CA 95650.  
E-mail: [thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thayajoyce@sbcglobal.net).

**WANT TO BE A SPONSOR?**  
Proceeds benefit National JACL programs. Hole sponsorships are appreciated. If you are interested in being a sponsor for the tournament, please contact Dean Suzuki at (925) 212-1137 or e-mail at [dean.suzuki@ubs.com](mailto:dean.suzuki@ubs.com).

For more information, visit the National JACL Website:  
[www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org) and click on the National JACL Golf logo.

DON'T BE FOOLED BY WALL STREET MYTHS

LEARN HOW CURRENT WALL STREET MYTHOLOGY AFFECTS YOUR PORTFOLIO, AND HOW TO INVEST WITHOUT RELYING ON MARKET TIMING OR STOCK SELECTION WHEN YOU HAVE AN INVESTMENT OVER \$100,000.

ATTEND ONE OF THESE FREE SEMINARS

LITTLE TOKYO

Saturday, Sept. 23  
9AM to 11AM  
JACCC  
244 S. San Pedro St.

GARDENA

Saturday, Sept. 30  
9AM to 11AM  
Ken Nakaoka Center  
1670 W. 162nd St.

SEATING IS LIMITED. MAKE RESERVATIONS AT 626-449-7783 (24 HRS), OR FAX 626-449-7785. RESERVE ONLINE AT [WWW.ALANKONDO.COM](http://WWW.ALANKONDO.COM)

**FREEbook** Alan Kondo's "Path to Antei"  
- A Japanese American Guide to Financial Success -

ALAN KONDO, CFP, CLU

## REVERSE MORTGAGE

Call for a free information package

**If you are 62 or older and own your house, a Reverse Mortgage may benefit you!**

- Turn Home Equity into Tax Free Cash
- Pay off Bills & Credit Cards
- No Monthly Mortgage Payments
- SAFE Govt. Program Designed for Seniors

"I pledge to provide excellent customer service with the highest standard of ethics"

25+ Years Experience as a Financial Professional

**David C. Miyagawa Chee**  
Certified Public Accountant  
Equal Housing Lender • CA DEPT. RE#01391106

**(510) 436-3100**  
or toll free  
**(800) 967-3575**



**KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY**


F.D.L. #929  
**911 VENICE BLVD.**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA 90015**  
 (213) 749-1449  
 FAX (213) 749-0265  
 R. Hayamizu, President  
 H. Suzuki, V.P./Gen. Mgr.

**福井 FUKUI MORTUARY**  
 Four Generations of Experience  
 FD #808

707 East Temple Street  
 Los Angeles, CA 90012  
 Ph. 213/626-0441  
 Fax 213/617-2781

Gerald Fukui  
 President

John Yoshima, Pres., American Kal Ent., Inc.  
 (Handtools Manufacturer)



**John's Bank**

has been a handy banking partner for over 35 years

financed a new plier factory without squeezing capital

has a special financing program for woman and minority-owned businesses

offers helpful online banking tools

never loosens its grip on a relationship.

Invest in you<sup>®</sup>


**UNION BANK OF CALIFORNIA**

With over 300 branches on the West Coast, call us to find a branch nearest you.  
 Please contact Teleservices: 1-800-532-7976 (Japanese) from Monday to Friday, 8am-5pm (PST);  
 1-800-238-4486 (English) from Monday to Sunday, 6am-11pm (PST) or visit us at uboc.com.  
 This is not a commitment to lend. Financing subject to credit and appropriate collateral approval. Other restrictions may apply.  
 Eligible borrowers must meet all criteria for the Business Diversity lending program. Financing available to businesses located in California, Oregon, and Washington. Terms and conditions subject to change.

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFB Group  
 ©2006 Union Bank of California, N.A. Member FDIC

**PACIFIC CITIZEN**  
 National business and Professional Directory

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. P.C. has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

<p><b>Sacramento, Calif.</b></p> <p><b>NAMBA LAW OFFICES</b>  <b>Curtis R. Namba</b>                  Personal Injury                  Small Business                  NambaLaw@aol.com                  (916) 922-6300</p>	<p><b>Oakland, Calif.</b></p> <p><b>KITAZAWA SEED CO.</b>                  SINCE 1917                  The Asian Vegetable Seed Source for                  Gardeners, Retailers, Growers                  Request a Catalog                  P.O. Box 13220 Oakland, CA 94661-3220                  ph: 510/595-1188 fx: 510/595-1860                  kitaseed@pacbell.net kitazawaseed.com</p>
<p><b>Greater Los Angeles</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto,</b>  <b>Optometrist &amp; Associates</b>                  A Professional Corporation                  11420 E. South St, Cerritos, CA 90703                  (562) 860-1339</p>	<p><b>Phoenix, Ariz.</b></p> <p><b>Kaoru Ono</b>                  COLDWELL BANKER                  EXITO REALTY                  Dir: (623) 521-5800                  Fx: (623) 877-2225                  kono@cbsuccess.com                  2400 W. Dunlap Ave., Suite 100                  Phoenix, AZ 85021</p>
<p><b>Cambridge Dental Care</b>  <b>Scott Nishizaka D.D.S.</b>                  Family Dentistry &amp; Orthodontics                  900 E. Katella, Suite A                  Orange, CA 92667 • (714) 538-2811                  www.cambridgedentalcare.com</p>	<p><b>Seattle, Wash.</b></p> <p><b>UWAJIMAYA</b>                  ...Always in good taste.</p>  <p>For the Best of                  Everything Asian                  Fresh Produce, Meat,                  Seafood and Groceries                  A vast selection of                  Gift Ware</p> <p>Seattle, WA • (206) 624-6248                  Bellevue, WA • (425) 747-9012                  Beaverton, OR • (503) 643-4512</p>
<p><b>LAW OFFICES OF</b>  <b>SEI SHIMOGUCHI</b>                  General Civil Practice                  Estate Planning, Personal Injury                  So. Cal. (310) 862-4024                  No. Cal. (415) 462-0428                  shimoguchi@sbcglobal.net</p>	
<p><b>DAVID W. EGAWA, Lawyer</b>                  Immigration, Criminal                  &amp; Regulatory Law                  30 N. Raymond Ave, Suite #409, Pasadena, CA 91103                  (626) 792-8417                  6003 Seashore Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92663                  (949) 646-2138                  c: (949) 903-4142</p>	

**IN MEMORIUM**

**Masumi Hayashi, Photographic Artist Created Collages About the Loss of the American Dream**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Masumi Hayashi, a world-renowned photographic artist who often focused her work on internment camps, has died. She was 60.



A longtime professor of photography at Cleveland State University, Hayashi was found Aug. 17 night near her third-floor apartment in Cleveland. She was shot to death. According to local reports, police arrested Hayashi's neighbor, Jacob Cifelli, 29, in connection with the killing and recovered a handgun at the scene.

Hayashi had complained for several months about loud music coming from Cifelli's apartment and had recently called his mother at her workplace, according to sources.

John Jackson, 51, an artist and sculptor who worked as a maintenance man in the apartment complex, was also found shot to death near the ground floor of the building.

Cifelli, who has not been officially charged with the killings, had an outstanding warrant for failing to pay a fine on a weapons conviction.

Hayashi, a former Gila River internee, gained fame through photographic series that generally reflected on the decay and loss of parts of the American dream. Her most familiar work to Southern California audiences was

"American Concentration Camps." Her work has been on display at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Little Tokyo.

"Masumi was an intensely committed and hard working artist who moved gracefully through many different milieu, from photographing the American landscape to documenting sacred sites of India and Southeast Asia," said Karin Higa, JANM senior curator of art.

"Masumi was an accomplished and well-recognized photographer, but one got the sense that her best work was still to come," added Higa.

Hayashi is survived by her son Dean Keesey of Oakland and daughter Lisa Takata, whom she had recently been reunited with. ■

**IN MEMORIUM**

**John Takeji Ushijima, Early Statehood Lawmaker, Dies at 82**

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Takeji Ushijima, former president of the state Senate who helped craft key health care and anti-discrimination laws in the early years of statehood, died Aug. 13. He was 82.



Ushijima, who fought with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II, was elected to the state Senate in 1959 when Hawaii entered the union as the 50th state.

In his 23 years in elected office,

Ushijima helped draft landmark legislation including the Prepaid Health Care Act requiring employers to provide health insurance for their full-time employees. He also helped write laws that prohibited gender discrimination and crafted the state's landlord-tenant code.

He completed his service in the U.S. Army as a sergeant in 1946 and worked delivering vegetables in Hilo for a time before using his GI Bill benefits to enroll in Grinnell College in Iowa.

He finished law school at George Washington University in 1952 with fellow 442nd veteran Daniel K. Inouye and returned to Hilo to prac-

tice law. On June 12, 1954, he married Margaret S. Kunishige, who survives him.

Ushijima was Senate president from 1974 to 1978, after several years as chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. When Ushijima announced his retirement from elected politics in 1982, he told reporters the issues had changed since he was first elected, and "I belong to the past."

In addition to his wife Margaret, Ushijima is survived by a brother, Shigeru Ushijima, a sister, Shizue Akiyama of Hilo, and a sister, Toshiko Shigeokane of Virginia Beach, Va. ■

**IN MEMORIUM**

**Founder of Vietnamese Language Newspaper in U.S. Dies at 65**

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yen Ngoc Do, a journalist who covered the Vietnam War and later founded the first and largest Vietnamese language newspaper in the United States, has died. He was 65.



Do died at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center Aug. 17 of complications of diabetes and kidney dis-

ease. Do started *Nguoi Viet*, which means "Vietnamese people," in 1978 from his home in Garden Grove, Calif. In the paper, he chronicled the lives of Vietnamese war refugees as they resettled in the U.S. Initially a four-page weekly, it grew to a nearly 18,000-circulation daily and helped define the Vietnamese American experience.

Do started his journalism career in Saigon, where he was born, working for his high school newspaper. He would eventually settle in Southern California's Orange County as it was becoming home to the nation's

largest Vietnamese population. Do used \$4,000 he had saved and, with the help of friends, published 2,000 copies of the first edition of *Nguoi Viet*. It featured articles written and edited by Do, who even inked the Vietnamese accent marks by hand. He delivered the copies door-to-door and sold ads himself.

"I wanted to help resettle and educate the newcomers and to continue the collective memory of our group of refugees," Do once said.

Do also launched a magazine, a radio station, an English-language weekly section and a Vietnamese Yellow Pages.

Do is survived by his wife of 43 years, Loan, and his four children: Anh, Dao, Tung and Lin. ■

**In Memoriam - 2006**

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Carson, Alan Hamilton, 79,** Benicia, June 9; survived by wife, Ada; and brothers-in law, Bill (Wilna) and Tom (Elva) Hoke.

**Fukumitsu, Kiyoshi, 85,** Rowland Heights, July 6; survived by wife, Terri; daughter, Lillian (Bruce) Hata; 2 gc.; and sister, Yukie Kawase.

**Hirose, Rev. George M., 85,** San Francisco, Aug. 23; survived by wife, Toshiye; daughters, Elizabeth Hirose and Laura Olson; sons, Peter (Deborah) and John; 1 gc.; sister, Motoko Kanazawa; and brothers, Jack (Kiyu), Dr. Frank and William (May) Hirose.

**Nakashima, Mary, 73,** Chula Vista, July 28; survived by husband, George; sister, Kay Miyamura; brother, George Kitagawa; 2 step-children; and 3 gc.

**Yates, Mary Masako, 67,** Las Vegas, Nev., Aug. 10; survived by son, Mark Tagawa; daughters, Noreen and April Tagawa; brothers, Gary (Helen) George (Judy), Koji and Mitsuo (Patty) Matsuoka; sisters, Hideko (Kenzo) Matsuoka, Toshiko (Joe) Inami and Emy (Chris) Paizo; and brother-in-law, Shinobu Shimomaye. ■

**DEATH NOTICE**

**RICHARD SHUNICHIRO OKINAGA**

A funeral service for the late Richard Shunichiro Okinaga, 91 year-old Stockton, born resident of West Los Angeles who passed away on July 23 at his residence were held on Saturday, July 29, 10:30 a.m. at West Los Angeles United Methodist Church 1913 Purdue Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 with Rev. Gail Messner officiating under the direction of Fukui Mortuary. He is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Janice F. Okinaga; daughter, Elaine H. Okinaga; sister, Lily Okamoto; sister-in-law, Yuki Sato; brother-in-law, Yuzy (Toy) Sato; also nieces, nephews and other relatives.



## FUJITA

(Continued from page 1)

National Football League player who is defined as being "not Japanese" as often as he is lauded for being a consistent ball player. Scott, who was adopted as a baby by Ventura County JACLers Rod and Helen Fujita, has learned to handle the quizzical looks and the double takes with humor and an unwavering determination towards achieving every set goal.

Challenge is a motif in Scott's life; it follows him and he inevitably conquers it. Now he's about to embark on a new football season and his fifth year in the NFL playing for an underdog team that was decimated by hurricanes one year ago.

He's again ready for the challenge — it's in his blood.

### Nurturing a Real Identity

"I'm not delusional. I'm not a person trying to be someone I'm not. I don't have a single drop of Japanese blood in me," said Scott to the *Pacific Citizen* from Jackson, Mississippi where he is stationed during the preseason.

His identity and sense of self was hewed out of his relationship with his family, whose lineage is also deeply rooted in strength. Scott's grandfather, Nagao Fujita, was a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II who fought for a country that forced his family into an internment camp. In the desert sands of Gila River, Rod was born. Nagao, who was the first English-speaking JA attorney at the time, regaled young Scott and older brother Jason (who is also adopted) with heroic war stories.

"There's something about the Japanese culture where the first grandson is spoiled rotten, so my brother Jason got everything — he got war swords, you name it," said Scott. From his grandmother he heard about the desolation of his father's birthplace.

"I grew up with a lot of interest in the subject [of internment]," he added.

Growing up, Scott visited Obon festivals and introduced Caucasian friends to Japanese comfort food. Recently he found a sushi restaurant near his home in New Orleans for a taste of home cooking.

"We don't know how old he was when he realized he wasn't Japanese!" said Rod.

And while many young Asian Pacific Americans still struggle with their own identities, Scott wears his on his sleeve.

"I feel privileged to have dual heritage."

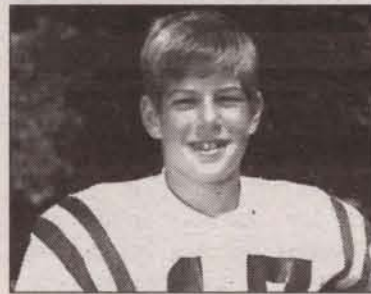
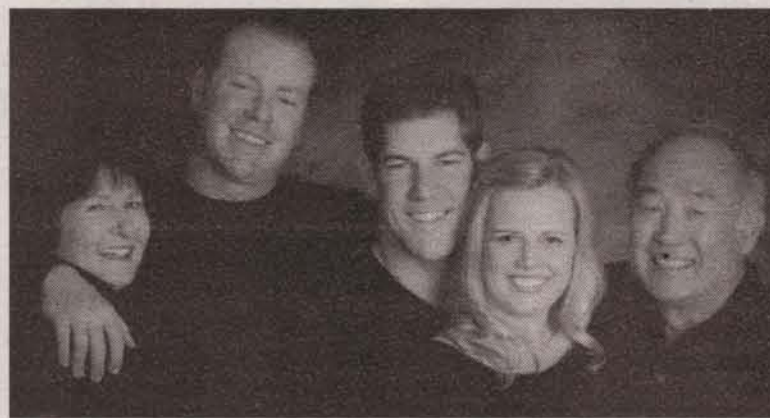
Scott plans to impart the same cultural lessons on his future kids.

"My wife [Jaclyn] is blonde too," said Scott, who jokes that they'll have some more explaining to do when they have little Fujitas.

### Fifth Round Pick

At five, Scott decided he wanted to be like Michael Jordan, so he asked his dad to teach him how to dribble. At that time, the Fujita's basketball hoop did not have a rim, so with permission Scott spent hours just practicing to dribble on their neighbor's driveway. Then in high school Scott decided he wanted to learn how to throw a football.

"I knew he had talent. I never realized where he could go with it," said Rod, 63, a retired high school



*'I feel privileged to have dual heritage.'* — Scott Fujita

**FAMILY:** The Fujitas (top) in a recent family photo and Scott at age nine (left) when his football talent was still burgeoning.

teacher.

Rod enrolled Scott in Pop Warner football where he played the running back position.

Desi Sandlin, a former coach of the Road Runner's Pop Warner team, remembers a scrappy seven-year-old Scott running on the field for the first time.

"He was all skin and bones!" said Sandlin with a laugh. "He was so determined. Everything he did was 100 percent. You know when kids hit for the first time they're kind of shy? When Scott hit we knew it was something special."

Seeing his talent, Sandlin snuck Scott into the linebacker position. Now Sandlin jokes "See. I knew where he had to be."

In high school, Scott decided he wanted to play Division I football. His options weren't limited — he graduated with a 4.3 grade point

average from Rio Mesa High School. He was a walk-on for Cal's football team, but finished off with a scholarship and a degree in political science. He also earned a master's degree in education in one year.

Despite his charmed life, his father says things usually don't come easy for Scott — his son just works hard.

The NFL came calling and Scott was drafted out of college in the fifth round to the Kansas City Royals. In his first year, he was honored with the club's Mack Lee Hill Award, an honor presented annually to the team's top rookie or first-year performer. In his second season as a full-time starter, Scott led the defense with 112 tackles.

Then he injured his ankle and rumors swirled about whether he would get back in the game. When he was ready, the team had spent the

money elsewhere and Scott asked to be traded.

A week before the 2005 season started, the JA headed to Texas to become a Cowboy.

### Playing for Parcels

The Dallas Cowboys can best be remembered for its coach's 2004 gaffe. While talking to reporters about his quarterbacks coach Sean Payton, Coach Bill Parcells said the team had a few "Jap plays," adding "Surprise things."

"I don't take things like that lightly," said Fujita about racial slurs. He had not heard about Parcell's ethnic slur. "Like I said, I feel privileged to have dual heritage, and I didn't face much personal ridicule, but you hear comments here and there. People grow up in different places ... I have called people out before and they've apologized." If he knew about the comment, Scott said he would've confronted Parcells about that and he's confident that the coach would've apologized.

Ironically, Payton is now head coach of the Saints, where Scott in March signed a four-year, \$12 million contract.

He arrived in New Orleans after the storms.

"When you see it in person, it's a lot worse." He was in town looking for a place to live and they drove through the 9th Ward. "It just blew me away."

One year after the hurricanes tore the Gulf Coast apart, Scott along with teammate Reggie Bush expect to restore some hope in the region.

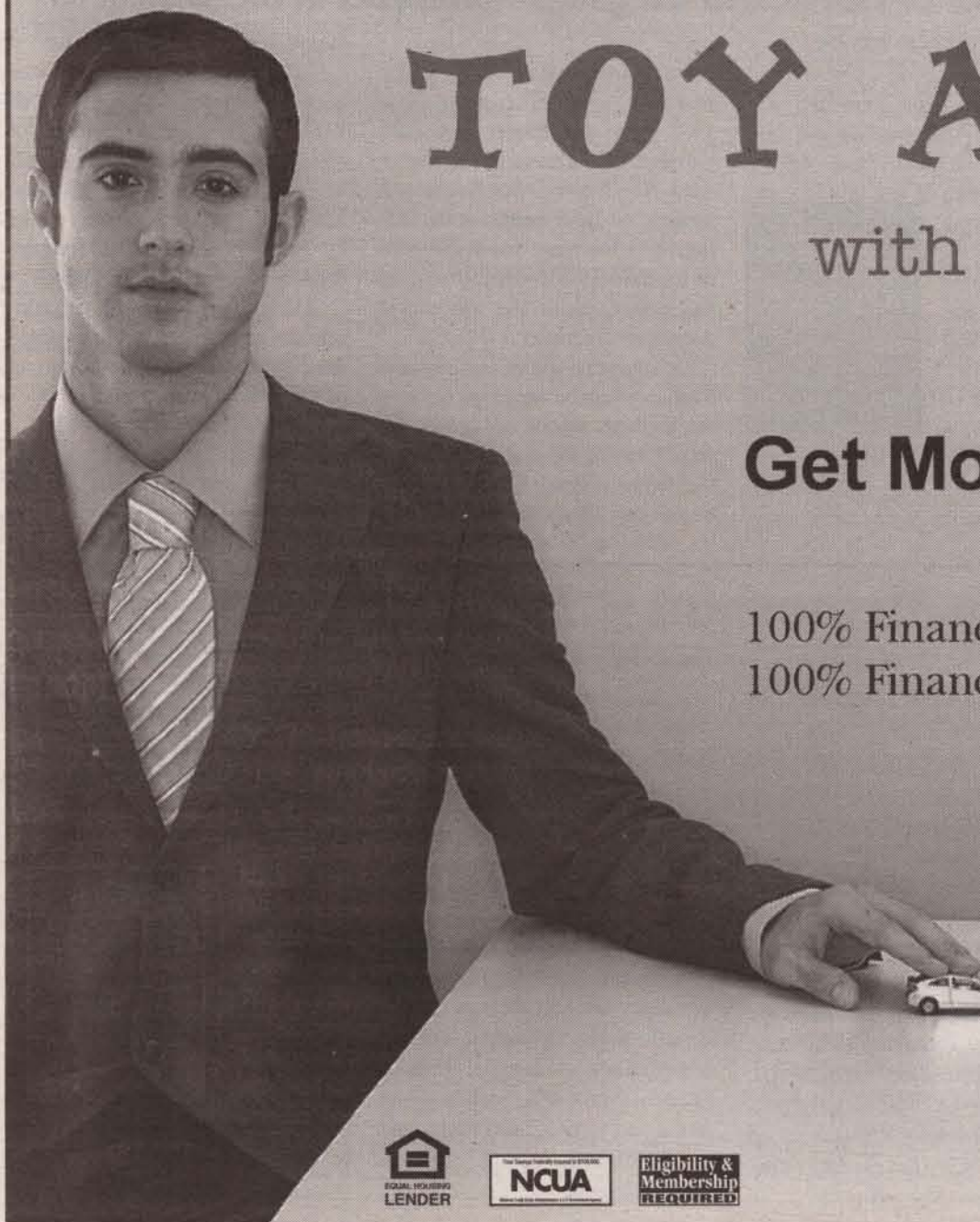
Help change one person at a time, said Scott. "I know who I am." ■

Don't

**TOY AROUND**  
with Dealer Rates!

Get Movin' at **6.50%APR**

100% Financing on New Cars  
100% Financing on Used Cars



imageworks



National JACL Credit Union  
(800) 544-8828

