



A memorial to JA pioneers is resurrected. —PAGE 6

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



Closer to Victory

Filipino WWII veterans are a step closer to finally getting their benefits.

NATIONAL PAGE 3

#3102/ Vol. 146, No. 10 ISSN: 0030-8579

www.pacificcitizen.org

JUNE 6-19, 2008

Another Case of APA Amnesia?

The town hall was touted as an historic event where candidates would address APA issues. Their absences were resounding.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

IRVINE, Calif.—It was a presidential town hall meeting without any of the candidates, so Cindy Yang wondered if the May 17 event could even be described as a town hall.

Traditionally, a town hall involves a face-to-face meeting between community members and elected officials where opinions are voiced

and ideas are exchanged. Instead, the candidates for the United States' top elected post were either beamed in through satellite, telephone or not at all for the historic event presented by APIAVote.

For emphasis, no candidates showed up to the first ever presidential town hall put together by Asian Pacific American leaders during APA Heritage Month with the expressed purpose of having a dialogue about APA specific issues.

No Hillary Clinton. No Barack Obama. No John McCain. At least, not in person.

"Not having any of the candidates there defeats the purpose of a town hall," said Yang, who is leaning

towards voting for McCain. She has not been following the primaries, so she attended the event to learn something new about the candidates' positions on hot button issues.

Instead, she along with other attendees stared at large projection screens with rotating images of Obama while he answered questions by phone. Clinton, on the other hand, read and answered her own questions in a satellite video. And McCain sent a surrogate speaker because he was taping a cameo on "Saturday Night Live."

"It was disappointing and discour-

See APIA VOTE/Page 13



AN EMPTY PODIUM: The candidates for the top elected post in the U.S. beamed into the May 17 APA presidential town hall via satellite, over the phone or not at all.

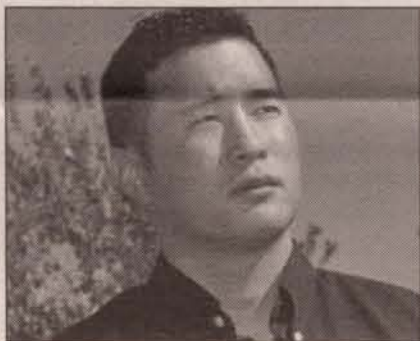
1st Lt. Watada's Future Still a Mystery

Seven months after a federal judge prevented the Army from a second court-martial, no new paperwork has been filed.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

In the past several months the name of 1st Lt. Ehren Watada has seen very little press time. That's a major change from last November when the JA officer's name was a frequent presence in both the mainstream and Japanese American press.

It was seven months ago that a federal judge blocked the U.S. Army from conducting a second court-martial of Watada for refusing to



deploy to Iraq with his unit in June of 2006.

U.S. District Judge Benjamin H. Settle ruled that a second trial would violate Watada's constitutional rights, essentially agreeing with the officer's attorneys who argued double jeopardy — that a person could not be tried twice for the same crime.

Although the Army had indicated its intention to file paperwork to prevent the federal judge's injunction from becoming permanent, no paperwork has been filed to date.

It's left the 30-year-old Hawaii officer in a state of limbo.

"I kind of think it's like

See WATADA/Page 10

From France to Texas: WWII Belly Tanks from 'Lost Battalion' Saga Discovered in Vosges Mountains, Donated to U.S. Museum



Gerome Villain (left) stands beside the JA WWII memorial. Above is one of the belly tanks.

With the help of a local French historian and FedEx, the artifacts will help tell the story of the 442nd/100th RCT and their role in helping rescue members of the 36th Texas Division.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

For as long as Gerome Villain, 34, can remember, the people of his hometown of Beaumenil, France have extolled the stories of their common heroes: the American soldiers who helped liberate their small village during World War II.

At family dinners with his grandfather or as elders gathered to reminisce, the stories of the 36th Texas Division and the Japanese American soldiers of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team became the stuff of legends.

"In the area of Bruyeres and Biffontaine, everybody here loves them! And I can tell you, there is

See BELLY TANKS/Page 11

Nat'l Bd. Passes Proposed 2009-10 Budget

The next biennial budget relies on everyone from the national board to the JACL members and staff to achieve revenue goals.

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

The JACL national board has passed a 2009-10 budget that requires full participation from the board, staff and the organization's members to help curb the negative membership trend.

The proposed next biennial budget, which was passed during a May 16 conference call with a dissenting vote from JACL Secretary/Treasurer Mark Kobayashi, includes:

- An elimination of the \$2 membership dues increase.
- A major drive with full participation from all members and staff to stop the loss in members.
- An increase of 151 and 448 new paid members (compared to end of year 2007 numbers) in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

See BUDGET/Page 10

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

Legacy of Leadership
2008 JACL National Convention in Salt Lake City

5 WEEKS
July 16-20

Registration form Page 7

INDEX

Letters.....2
 National.....3-5
 Community.....6-7
 Calendar.....14
 Obits.....15



YouTube Darling

Marié Digby used the popular video sharing Web site as her launch pad.

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



T-Shirt Lawsuit

Manufacturers sue the Chicago Cubs for the right to produce 'Horry Kow!' shirts.

NATIONAL PAGE 5



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-Storn

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: Floyd Mori

Pacific Citizen Board of Directors:

Gil Asakawa, chairperson; Margie
Yamamoto, EDC; Lisa Hanasono,
MDC; Kathy Ishimoto, CCDC; Judith
Aono, NCWNPDC; Justine Kondo,
PNWDC; Jeff Itami, IDC; Ted Namba,
PSWDC; Naomi Oren, 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. ©2008.

Annual subscription rates: NON-
MEMBERS: 1 year—\$40, payable in
advance. Additional foreign postage per
year (1st class) — Canada and Mexico
\$55, Japan and overseas \$60 (Subject
to change without notice.) Postage paid
at Los Angeles, Calif.

Permission: No part of this publication
may be reproduced without express per-
mission 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 postmas-
ter to include periodicals in your
change of address (USPS Form 3575)

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT
See You in Salt Lake City**

By FLOYD MORI

The 2008 National JACL Convention is just around the corner. This will be a special experience for all JACLers and friends who are able to attend the convention July 16-20 at the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. We hope YOU are planning to participate.



The Sayonara Banquet to be held on Saturday evening, July 19, is the final major event of the convention. After a few days of lively business sessions and informative plenary sessions, workshops, exhibits, elections and socializing, convention attendees and locals will come together for the culminating dinner and program, the Sayonara Banquet.

With the convention theme of "Legacy of Leadership," it is fitting to have a young Japanese American leader as a highlight of the convention. Dan Tani, a NASA astronaut whose family has a long history with the JACL, will be the keynote speaker for the Sayonara Banquet. He is a great role model for the youth of the JACL and an inspiration to all. Dan will participate in other aspects of the convention as well. We look forward to hearing from him and being able to walk and talk with this giant of a man.

The outgoing national JACL board members who have served well the past two years will be thanked at the Sayonara Banquet, and the newly elected board will be installed. Special thanks to those who have given their time freely to serve on the national board.

Thanks to the Utah JACL chapters, committee chairs and members, consultants, and general co-chairs of the convention Silvana Watanabe and Reid Tateoka, for all their hard work to put on this convention. The national JACL staff and board and volunteers are also to be commended for their efforts to make this convention a success.

This will be the third national JACL convention which I will have attended in Salt Lake City, a place where a major milestone for the JACL seems to take place each time. At the suggestion of Shake Ushio, who chaired the convention there in 1978, the Mount Olympus chapter bid for and hosted the national convention in 1994 in Salt Lake City with assistance from the other Utah chapters. I had the privilege of serving as convention chair.

With this year marking the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, Redress will be a focus of the convention. People who were involved with the Redress movement will be attend-

See MORI/Page 12

**SPRING CAMPAIGN
Good to the Last Drop**

By LISA HANASONO

As a graduate student on a tight budget, I usually try to limit my indulgences. However, there are some things that I cannot live without. One special indulgence is my "Monday Morning Routine." Each Monday morning, I ease into the work week by brewing a strong pot of Maxwell House coffee and connecting to the world through my trusty Toshiba laptop. While sipping on a cup of Joe, I drink the latest news on the *Pacific Citizen's* Web site (www.pacificcitizen.org).

With a few swift clicks of my mouse, I catch up on top stories about the Asian Pacific American community. In the time it takes to down a mug of coffee, I am able to digest the latest scoop of information from the *P.C.'s* Web site. Simply put: my "Monday Morning Routine" is good to the last drop.

Although your Monday morning routine may differ from mine, I hope that we both share an appreciation for the *P.C.* For nearly 80 years, this nationally recognized newspaper has been keeping the APA community connected through the dissemination of pertinent information and fascinating stories. Young professionals in California and retirees in Florida alike have been able to learn about important issues facing the APA community by reading the latest *P.C.* issue.

Each year, the *P.C.* holds its Spring Campaign to assist with the financial demands of publishing a top quality newspaper and maintaining a dynamic Web site (a site that is not currently being funded by the national JACL). I am writing to ask you to donate to the *P.C.'s* Spring Campaign. Your support is greatly needed and deeply appreciated!

Why should you donate to the Spring Campaign? Here are five reasons:

Reason #1: Addressing YOUR Needs

The *P.C.* works diligently to address the interests and needs of its readers. Unlike many mainstream media sources, the *P.C.* specifically focuses on news that pertains to the APA community. For example, the *P.C.* recently featured a fascinating article about the importance of APAs' voting power in the presidential elections.

In addition to shining a spotlight on pertinent issues to the APA community, the *P.C.* strives to address your needs by amplifying your voices. Whether you wish to share your opinion in the editorial section or you desire to pitch a story idea for publication, the *P.C.* listens to your ideas.

See HANASONO/Page 12



Letters to the Editor

An Organization at Risk

It will soon be national convention time and where do we stand as far as members running for national office? As of this time, official candidates include: Larry Oda, president (incumbent); Sheldon Arakaki, v.p. general operations (incumbent); David Kawamoto, v.p. planning and development; Kimberly Shintaku, chair, national youth/student council; and Brandon Mita, representative, NYSC.

What does this reveal to us at this point? The candidates do not have any opposition and there are no candidates for the offices of v.p. of membership, secretary/treasurer and v.p. of public affairs. Out of a 13,000-plus membership it shows only five members who are willing to run for office.

These numbers do not bode well for JACL. Does it mean that JACL is becoming a leaderless organization? There is hope, however, that members may run as late filers and become nominees from the national council floor at convention.

Your National Nominations Committee representatives are: NCWNP-Nikki Hikari and Sharon Uyeda; CCDC-Bob Taniguchi; PSW-Kent Kawai; PNW-Dawn Rego; IDC-Tina De Giuli; MDC-Sheri Uno; EDC: Stanley N. Kanzaki; and Youth-Blake Honda

For more information, contact Steve Okamoto at steveokamoto1@yahoo.com or Kanzaki at stanzakronin@aol.com. Members can also log onto the JACL Web site (www.jacl.org) to access the "Candidate Application Form for National JACL Office". Chapter presidents are encouraged to ask members to file for office.

Registration for office will remain open until July 16.

Are we an organization at risk? If not then let's have an exciting election at the convention with many nominees vying for office with some exciting campaigning.

STEVE OKAMOTO

Nominations Committee chair

STANLEY N. KANZAKI

Nominations Committee EDC rep.

Article Brings Reader to Tears

I have read maybe 50 news stories and articles about the recent California Supreme Court's decision to legalize same-sex marriages.

This was the only article ("APA Groups Applaud Calif. Supreme Court's Decision to Legalize Same-Sex Marriages," *P.C.* Web site) that I read that brought tears to my eyes. I guess I felt that the Asian community where I live (mainly Chinese origin) tend to be conservative and have negative attitudes towards gays.

I was disappointed with Associate Justice Ming W. Chin to be on the opposing side of the same-sex marriage issue. I guess I wanted better understanding from Justice Chin.

So, thank you APA community, JACL and all involved. This was a wonderful article.

ROBERT J. GREENE

Via e-mail

Events to Mark Anniversary of Interracial Marriage

©LovingDay



Loving Day celebrations are set to kick off across the nation this weekend to mark the anniversary of *Loving v. Virginia*, the 1967 landmark Supreme Court decision to legalize interracial marriage.

This year's celebrations will be held in memory of Mildred Loving, who died on May 2 at the age of 68.

Thousands of people are expected to gather at organized events all over the country and in their own private celebrations. Loving Day celebrations are held every year on or around June 12 to mark the *Loving* case a universally-recognized civil rights holiday.

The largest celebration this year will be on June 8 in New York City, organized by the Loving Day Project, a campaign dedicated to fighting prejudice through education and community.

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are nearly seven million Americans who identify as mixed race. This will be the fifth anniversary of the Loving Day celebrations.

The Loving Day Project uses digital media to encourage people to host their own celebrations on the Sunday closest to June 12th.

The project is also sponsoring its first annual Mixed Roots Film & Literary Festival being held from June 12-15 at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. The festival will provide a stage for emerging storytellers to share narratives on mixed identity.

In 1958, Mildred Jeter and Richard Loving were married in the District of Columbia, and then returned to their native Virginia. The couple was charged with violating Virginia's ban on interracial marriages. They fought and won a battle with the U.S. highest court to eliminate the last vestiges of anti-miscegenation laws.

Asian Pacific American groups liken this fight for equal marriage

rights to modern day same-sex marriages.

On May 15, the California Supreme Court made history by extending legal marriage rights to same-sex couples. ■

Loving Day Celebrations*

New York City

June 8, 3-7 p.m.
Solar 1 — East River Waterfront at East 23rd St.

Los Angeles

June 12-14
Japanese American National Museum
The Mixed Roots Film and Literary Festival

Chicago, IL

June 12, 6-10 p.m.
La Pomme Rouge — 108 W. Kinzie

Washington, D.C.

June 13, 7 p.m.
Cubano's - 1201 Fidler Lane (corner of Ramsey) Silver Spring, MD 20910

*For a complete listing: www.lovingday.org.

Filipino WWII Veterans Hope Congress Approves Long-sought Benefits



P.C. FILE PHOTO

Filipino veterans shared a moment with supporter Sen. Daniel Inouye at the 2004 JACL Hawaii Convention.

By MARK NIESSE
Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU—Soldiers from the Philippines who fought beside Americans during World War II hope their long wait for veteran benefits will soon be over.

"We deserve to get a benefit for our sacrifices," said 84-year-old Leon Tabanlag. "We are now in our twilight, and we want to get a benefit before we move on."

About 50 Filipino veterans met with U.S. Sen. Daniel Akaka on May 27 in hopes that Congress will finally treat them the same as American fighters for their wartime contributions.

A vote on the proposal is pending in the U.S. House after the U.S. Senate passed it in April. The House is expected to take action on it this year.

"It's more honorable to be receiving a pension than to be receiving no help from the government," said 83-year-old Feliciano Barroga Jr.

Filipinos fought against Japan during WWII as part of the U.S. Army Forces in the Far East. The U.S. controlled the Philippines as a commonwealth during WWII and was responsible for the islands' foreign affairs and national defense.

When the Philippines became an independent country in 1946, Congress took away the pension benefit.

The cheering veterans gathered at a federal government building in Honolulu to thank Akaka, himself a WWII veteran, for helping to get the measure approved in the Senate.

"They're getting what they deserve," said Akaka, a Democrat, who sponsored the bill. "To me, that's so powerful to restore their status as U.S. veterans."

Military pension benefits in the U.S. provide about \$900 per month to veterans in 2008, with more money given depending on the number of dependents and medical support needed. WWII veterans living in the Philippines would only receive about \$300 per month.

The pension provision is part of a broader bill called the Veterans Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007. The bill does not provide any back pay for the last 62 years Filipinos have gone without veteran benefits.

Salome Calderon, a widow whose husband fought for the U.S. during the war, said Filipinos should be treated with respect and dignity, just like other veterans.

"In the United States, they're only receiving Social Security income. Please help us because we are old already, and we want something done," she said.

She urged Filipinos to write letters to their congressional representatives asking them to pass the bill. If approved, it would need President George W. Bush's signature to go into effect in May 2009.

Opponents of the measure have said money could be better spent on housing, education and burial assistance for American veterans.

But Akaka said both Democratic and Republican leaders in the House have signaled their support for the proposal, which passed the Senate 96-1.

"I am very happy because the U.S. has finally decided to give the veterans our benefits," 87-year-old Lodovico Guanzon said. ■

Former Internees Get Their Delayed UW Degrees

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho—Norman Sato doesn't harbor bitterness about what happened to him and his family in 1942.

He doesn't complain about being forced to leave college and his home in Seattle during World War II.

It was February of that year when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 that gave the U.S. military authority to remove all Japanese Americans from the West Coast.

Sato, a second-year University of Washington student at the time, was one of them. He would spend six months at the Minidoka internment camp in south central Idaho.

"It was a forsaken place — sagebrush and all you had was a piece of wood stuck together to make a house and tar paper on the outside," he said. "That was it. It was cold. But we survived."

In April, the 86-year-old received an invitation back to the University of Washington.

"Someone told me I should check it out," he said. "I don't know what check it out means."

But he did look into it and was one of several hundred JAs who received honorary degrees from the Seattle-based university on May 17.

"The university has decided to honor all those people who were forced to leave the university," said Karen Johnson, Sato's daughter and



Takako Yoda (left) gives her tassel a flip while waiting to enter the University of Washington's May 18 ceremony.

PHOTO: POST INTELLIGENCER/PAUL JOSEPH BROWN

Spokane, Wash., resident. "There were quite a few of them at the university at that time."

Johnson remains dismayed by what her father endured.

"People my age know very little about what they went through. It was as if they took a pact not to say anything, so that none of us grew up with any animosities or any chips," she said.

Sato was a sophomore when he had to leave the UW and was sent with his family to Minidoka.

"We could only take what we could carry," Sato said. "We had to sell it or give it away. So you're down to nothing."

Minidoka was, by anyone's standards, a concentration camp. When they arrived, there was no hot running water. No sewer system. No housing ready.

Despite being forced into internment camps, Sato and other men volunteered to enlist in the U.S. mil-

itary. He would become a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Unit that distinguished itself in battle.

After the war, Sato never returned to college. He and his wife moved to Coeur d'Alene 17 years ago.

Johnson said she's glad the UW honored her father and others who suffered through what is considered one of the worst violations of constitutional rights in American history.

"It's fabulous the UW has taken time to find these people and award them a degree," she said. "My father has always talked about that because he never finished his studies."

Sato, who was born in Seattle, said America was supposed to be a place for people of all races. The land of opportunity for anyone.

"This country is based on people from other countries making up this country," he said. "We were all supposed to be equal. It didn't work out that way." ■

"We are now in our twilight, and we want to get a benefit before we move on."

— Leon Tabanlag, 84, Filipino veteran

APA Groups Mark National HIV and AIDS Awareness Day

HIV rates are increasing among APAs in the U.S. faster than any other ethnic group.

Asian Pacific American groups commemorated the fourth annual National Asian Pacific Islanders HIV/AIDS Awareness Day with events and public service announcements to help raise awareness on the devastating disease.

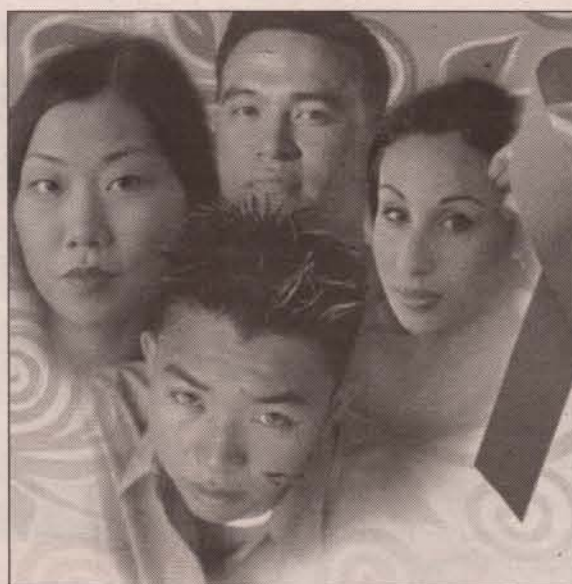
The need for HIV/AIDS services in APA communities is increasingly urgent, experts say. Incidences of HIV/AIDS among APAs have increased by more than 10 percent in each of the last five years, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It's a trend facilitated by cultural barriers, a lack of culturally competent health care providers, and a low overall rate of testing.

"We need to meet people where they are culturally when it comes to HIV/AIDS prevention," said Ravinia Hayes-Cozier, the director of government relations and public policy with the National Minority AIDS Council. "Education is necessary to ensure that people have the tools they need to protect themselves. Our communities' very futures are depending upon it."

National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day — May 19 — was established in 2005 by the Banyan Tree Project and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to honor the memory of APAs who have lost the battle to the AIDS epidemic.

The day also raises awareness of the fact that HIV rates are increasing among APAs in the U.S. faster than any other ethnic group. An estimated 4,356 APAs are living with AIDS, a 54 percent increase since 2000. While these statistics illustrate the need for HIV/AIDS information and services in APA communities, there continues to be a lack of data and research.

The Banyan Tree Project, a national movement to reduce discrimination and the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS in the APA communities, recently launched a public service announcement, entitled "Join Me," that calls for families and communities to break the circle of silence and shame that exists around HIV and



National APA HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is May 19.

AIDS.

The PSA features James Kyson Lee from NBC's hit show "Heroes" and screen legend Joan Chen.

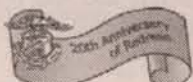
Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) also joined with community health advocates around the country in recognizing National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

"The number of HIV/AIDS cases continues to rise among Asians and Pacific Islanders," said Rep. Madeleine Z. Bordallo, chair of the CAPAC Health Task Force. "We are working to eliminate the disparities in health care coverage and treatment by improving data collection and breaking down cultural and language barriers for our communities." ■

On the Web:

www.banyantreeproject.org, www.hhs.gov/aid-sawarenessdays/days/asian, www.nmac.org

A Redress Timeline



By **HEIDI TANAKATSUBO**
Nat'l V.P. of Public Affairs

The JACL's Redress "profiles in courage" series provides very personal accounts of the grassroots efforts integral to the success of Redress. But as we know, the whole is often greater than the sum of its parts, and it's truly the combined efforts of our whole community that changed history.

Taking a step back to view the process leading up to Redress, below is an abbreviated timeline of the concerted efforts of the Japanese American community in the years leading up to the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act.

The dates and descriptions have been excerpted from "The Japanese American Incarceration: The Journey to Redress" by Bill Yoshino and John Tateishi. The article, which originally ran in the spring of 2000, can be found in its entirety on the American Bar Association Web site: <http://www.abanet.org/irr/hr/spring00human-rights/tateishi.html>.

- Feb. 19, 1942: President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066.
- Spring of 1942: Japanese Americans began boarding buses and trains for the government detention camps.
- 1978: The JACL launched a campaign for redress.

- 1979: Redress legislation introduced in Congress.
- 1980: The JACL and the Japanese American community celebrated the successful passage of a bill to create the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC).

- 1981: The first of eight CWRIC hearings was held in Washington, D.C., followed by hearings in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, New York, Boston, and a final hearing in Washington, D.C.

- December 1982: The Commission issued its findings to Congress and the president. Titled "Personal Justice Denied," the report concluded that JAs were unjustly forced from their homes and incarcerated, and the underlying causes of this action were racial prejudice and a failure of political leadership.

- June 1983: The CWRIC recommended as remedies an apology by Congress and the president, monetary compensation of \$20,000 to each surviving victim of the government's 1942 orders, and the creation of an educational trust fund.

- 1983: The first appropriations bill was introduced (it wasn't until 1987 that the way was cleared for Congress to finally act on the measure).

- 1983: The federal court vacated Fred Korematsu's wartime conviction (followed in the next three years with the vacation of Minoru Yasui's conviction in 1985 and Gordon Hirabayashi's in 1986).

- September 1987: In a 243-141 vote, the House of Representatives approved the redress legislation.

- April 1988: The U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passed a similar measure.

- Aug. 10, 1988: President Ronald Reagan signed the bill authorizing redress payments for JAs. ■

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

Bush Mulling Designating Pearl Harbor as a National Monument



HONOLULU—President George W. Bush has asked his defense and interior secretaries to look into designating Pearl Harbor and other historic World War II sites in the Pacific a national monument.

A May 29 presidential memo to Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Interior Secretary Dirk Kempthorne said such status could offer the sites additional protection. The letter, posted on the White House Web site, does not say what specific

places Bush has in mind aside from Pearl Harbor.

Parts of the naval base are already under some form of protection or have historic designation.

Pro-internment Letter Spurs JACL Action

PORTLAND, Ore.—A letter to the editor printed in the May issue of *Brainstorm Magazine* has spurred the Portland JACL to respond to its pro-internment message.

The letter, written by Richard F. Lamountain, was in response to the University of Oregon awarding honorary degrees to former JA internees.

"[President Roosevelt] faced down what he regarded, justifiably, as a mortal threat to his nation. For this, he deserves better than to be second-guessed by ivory-tower academics at the University of Oregon," wrote Lamountain.

Marleen Wallingford, of the Portland JACL, wrote a letter to *Brainstorm* countering Lamountain's position. Editor Bridget Barton told Wallingford in an e-mail that the magazine is a firm believer of freedom of speech.

Aoyama Tree Gets Historic Designation



LOS ANGELES—The city council has approved the first living "historic-cultural monument" status for Little Tokyo's Aoyama Tree, a 50-foot-tall rubber tree planted in 1920 by members of the Koyasan Buddhist Temple.

The city-owned tree is located in the parking lot near the Japanese American National Museum. It marks the area where the Koyasan Temple once stood up until the early 1950s, when the building was razed by the city for a parking lot. The tree is

the last standing reminder of the cultural and historical development of Buddhism and the JA community in Los Angeles.

Community Center Breaks Ground

The **East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center** broke ground on May 25 for its new \$1.5 million multi-purpose Social Hall.

The new development, which is scheduled for completion in October, will allow for additional space to expand existing programs. The new 3,520-square-foot Social Hall will house a new library and resource center.

The original Social Hall, which was built in the 1950s, suffered from severe structural damage and was closed last summer. Since the campaign to rebuild the Social Hall began, the community center has raised 50 percent of their fundraising goal of \$1.5 million.

Another Little Tokyo Landmark Sale Stirs Preservation Fear



LOS ANGELES—New development plans to convert the Little Tokyo Shopping Center into a Korean-themed center has reignited fear of gentrification in one of the last three major Japantowns in California.

The shopping center, dubbed the largest indoor Japanese shopping mall in the country, is located at 333 South Alameda Street. Korean American investors bought the mall for \$35.5 million, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. The develop-

ers are still deciding whether to convert the three-story structure into a Korean-themed center or a more mainstream grocery store such as Ralphs.

Last year, the JA community protested the sale of the former New Otani Hotel and Weller Court to 3D Investments, the same Beverly Hills-based investment company that bought a majority of San Francisco's Japantown. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Yamaguchi Wins 'Dancing With the Stars'



PHOTO: ABC

Yamaguchi and her dance partner Mark Ballas.

After four consecutive male winners on "Dancing With the Stars," **Kristi Yamaguchi** was named the new champ on the show's season finale.

The figure skater went into the final contest with a perfect score and beat out fan favorites Jason Taylor and Cristian de la Fuente to claim the mirrorball trophy.

Yamaguchi's athletic background helped make her a winner, said judge **Carrie Ann Inaba**, because athletes know how to channel criticism into competition.

Inouye Marries in Beverly Hills Ceremony

Sen. **Daniel Inouye**, the third most senior member of the U.S. Senate, has married **Irene Hirano** in a small Beverly Hills ceremony.

The 83-year-old Hawaii Democrat was dressed in a dark suit while Hirano wore a white suit in a ceremony at the All Saints' Episcopal Church. They left for Carmel, Calif. for their honeymoon, according to a news release issued by the senator's office.

Inouye's son, **Ken**, was best man and **Jennifer Hirano** served as her mother's maid of honor. The wedding ceremony was limited to members of the immediate families.

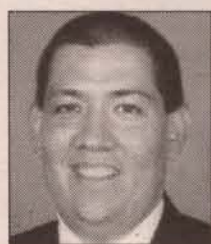
Japanese Ambassador Receives Highest JAVA Award

Ambassador Ryoza Kato has received the Japanese American Veterans Association's Courage, Honor, Patriotism Award for building a strong Japan-U.S. alliance.

Former Sec. of Transportation **Norman Mineta** presented the award to the ambassador.

Kato is the longest serving Japanese ambassador in America. JAVA President **Robert Nakamoto** presented several JAVA souvenirs to the ambassador, including an inscribed JAVA coin and baseball cap.

Schwarzenegger Appoints JACler to Key Position



Calif. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger recently announced the appointment of **Jason Jackson** to the Mid-Winter Fair and Fiesta board of directors.

Jackson, a JACler, has served as general manager for Desert Security Services since 2000. From 1996 to 2000, Jackson was an armed ATM technician for Loomis Fargo Armored. He is an Eagle Scout and a member of the El Centro Kiwanis.

Doctor to be Honored for Lifelong Work on the Effects of Radiation

Dr. James Yamazaki is the winner of the 2008 Socially Responsible Medicine Award for his lifelong pioneering work on the effects of radiation on public health.

Yamazaki served as a combat surgeon in the Battle of the Bulge where he was captured by the Germans and held as a prisoner of war. After the war, he became a member of the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission.

He started his career as a pediatrician and professor at the University of California, Los Angeles' Children's Hospital in 1951.

Cleared Ex-Chaplain Yee Now Obama Delegate



A former Army chaplain at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, who was cleared of spy accusations is now a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Former Capt. James J. Yee, was among the delegates pledged to Sen. Barack Obama. He's representing the state's Ninth Congressional District at the party's convention in Denver in August.

The West Point graduate was accused in 2003 of being part of a spy ring at Guantanamo Bay. He was eventually exonerated, and resigned from the Army with an honorable discharge. ■

Tulare County Students Win First Ever Chance to Represent Calif. at National History Day Competition

Without financial help for travel expenses, they may not be able to present their project on JA WWII history.

Five elementary school students from Tulare County have won the chance to represent California in the prestigious National History Day Competition.

But without financial help, these seventh and eighth graders may not get to go to the June 15-19 competition at the University of Maryland. They will not make it to the competition if they can't find a way to cover their travel expenses.

Holly Wilson and Amanda Jost, who are seventh graders at Kings River Elementary School, took top honors in the "Junior Group Exhibits" category at the California State History Competition with their three-dimensional display entitled, "Exposing Manzanar from the Inside and Out: Ansel Adams and Toyo Miyatake."

Using images from these renowned photographers, the students presented a look at one of the darkest times in American history when Japanese Americans were forced into internment camps.

"After interviewing countless Japanese internees and Adams and Miyatake families, Holly and Amanda wanted to honor the remarkable Japanese Americans who spent World War II behind barbed wire," said Janet Kelly, their coach.

"They also wanted to honor those two photographers who risked so much to create the most thorough body of photographic documentation of life in the internment camps that exists today."

Kings River Elementary School, located in the northwest corner of Tulare County near Kingsburg, serves a large under-privileged community. Many of its students deal with gangs, violence and poverty on a daily basis.

"You might look at us as 'The Little School That Could,'" said Patrick Delgado, Kings River History Day teacher.

Eighth graders Crystal Pacheco, Kimberly Saesee, and Amanda Smith also took first place in the "Junior Group Performance" category for their historical theatrical presentation on the Holocaust.

History Day is a national competition for elementary



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK DELGADO

Holly Wilson (left) and Amanda Jost hope to showcase their project at the national competition.

and secondary school students. This year's theme was "Conflict and Compromise in History."

The students' win marks the first time that any student from Tulare County will represent the state at this national competition.

"These students have put in hundreds of hours researching and preparing their award-winning presentations and now they need the help of the community to realize their dreams," said Delgado. ■

Donate

Help the students represent JA history at the National History Day Competition by sending donations to:
Kings River History Day Fund
3961 Avenue 400,
Kingsburg, CA. 93631
Info: 559/897-7209

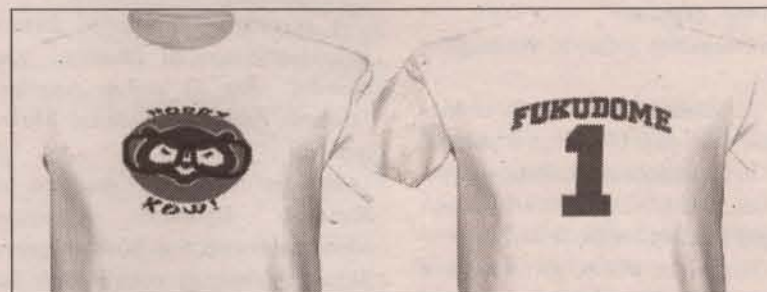
Makers of 'Horry Kow' T-shirt Plan to Sue

Manufacturers of the racially offensive Kosuke Fukudome T-shirt, which are still being sold around Wrigley Field, are reportedly planning to sue the Chicago Cubs for infringing on their First Amendment rights.

The "Horry Kow" T-shirt features a cartoon of a bear with slanted eyes and oversized glasses made famous by the Cubs' iconic announcer Harry Caray. Fukudome's name and team number are emblazoned on the back. But Asian Pacific American groups, including the JACL, condemned the T-shirt as racist and demanded the baseball team ban its sale.

Even though the merchandise is unlicensed and unaffiliated with the Cubs, officials investigated the vendors and said they had put a stop to the sale of the T-shirt. But vendors continue to be spotted selling the same T-shirt outside of Wrigley Field.

The manufacturers originally agreed not to sell the shirt, but recently told local media that they now plan to sue the Cubs to allow them to continue selling the shirts on the streets outside the park.



RACISM?: The T-shirt is still being sold by independent vendors outside of Wrigley Field even though Cubs' officials banned them. Fukudome (right) was not amused.



The Cubs say they plan to fight a lawsuit.

"Their contention is basically, 'First Amendment. We can say anything we want on the T-shirts,'" said Cubs Chairman Crane Kenney to the *Chicago Tribune*. "We're going to do what we can, and we hope we get a little help [from the city] because that's not what we're about here, and I don't like people profiting off something like that. None of us do."

Fukudome, a right fielder for the Cubs, has called the T-shirts offensive. ■

Restoration of Cemetery Memorial a Symbol for Righting a WWII Injustice

By Pacific Citizen Staff

At last, a monument to honor Antelope Valley, California's Japanese American pioneers has risen again.

Nearly 70 years ago, a tall monument once stood at the Lancaster Cemetery, located at 111 East Lancaster Boulevard. It was a symbol of the JA farming community. Many of the families arrived in the Antelope Valley before 1920 to grow alfalfa, pears and asparagus.

They built a community hall and a Japanese language school. And when loved ones passed away, the JA families took them to Lancaster Cemetery, where in 1938 they pooled their money together to erect a monument in honor of their dead. It was a white granite obelisk monument atop a black granite stone.

But during the height of World War II hysteria, Lancaster's JA families were uprooted and incarcerated at the Poston internment camp. And in 1942, the once proud monument

was desecrated and toppled over by vandals. The original memorial stood over 10 feet tall, but was reduced to less than four-feet in height.

Now the monument has been restored to its new glory.

"After researching the history of the Japanese families in the Antelope Valley and learning what an integral part of the community they were in the early 1900s through the start of World War II, I felt they needed to have their history returned to them," said Dayle DeBry, director of marketing and historical research at the Lancaster Cemetery.

The restored monument with the new obelisk was rededicated May 17.

"We wanted to let the Japanese American community know that we understood what was done to the



PHOTO: DAYLE DEBRY



WHOLE AGAIN: The memorial (far left) stood tall at the May 17 rededication. The original memorial was built and used by the local JA community since 1938.

monument was not right and we are truly sorry that it took nearly 70 years to try and fix what was done wrong to our own Antelope Valley citizens," said DeBry.

The restoration project began last summer after DeBry came across an old letter from Tom Shiokari about the monument. DeBry worked with Shiokari to contact the descendants about the renewed effort.

With help from the community and middle school

students, \$4,000 was raised to right a WWII injustice.

"We have tried to right something that was done wrong to Japanese Americans, to their heritage, and their community. Restoring the monument was, in part, symbolic of that," said DeBry. "I only wish their parents could see the monument restored to its original beauty. We can only hope they would have been as forgiving as their children have been to this community." ■

For more information:
www.lancastercemetery.com

There's Still Time to Become the Next Masaoka Fellow

The JACL has extended its deadline for the Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship, a program that places students in Congressional offices to learn about public policy.

The new deadline is June 15.

The fellow will serve in the office of a U.S. senator or a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. A stipend will be given to cover living expenses and roundtrip airfare to Washington, D.C.

All students who are in at least their third year of college or currently in a graduate or professional program, and U.S. citizens are encouraged to apply for the fellowship.

Preference will be given to those who have demonstrated a commitment to Asian Pacific American issues — particularly those affecting the Japanese American community. JACL membership is also required.

The JACL established the fellowship fund in 1988 to honor Mike M. Masaoka (1915-1991) for a lifetime of outstanding public service in promoting justice, civil rights and human dignity.

The purpose of the fund is to develop leaders for public service by providing opportunities for college seniors or students in graduate or professional programs to work for a member of Congress.



Nina Fallenbaum is the current Masaoka Fellow.

The fellow will be exposed to all facets of the work of their representative or senator and his/her staff.

The fellow will also maintain contact with the Washington, D.C. JACL office and become involved with the local JACL chapter. ■

Apply Now

JACL Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship

New deadline — June 15

A monthly stipend will range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 depending on qualifications. The fellow-

ship period may begin in September 2008 or February 2009, and will range from five to nine months depending on the successful candidate's availability. Final details will be arranged in consultation with the Congressional office and the selected Masaoka fellow.

For an application form, go to www.jacl.org or contact the JACL Washington, D.C. office at 202/223-1240 or by e-mail at dc@jacl.org.

From D.C. to L.A., Tribute to Internees is Unveiled

A permanent tribute to former Japanese American internees was unveiled May 31 at Los Angeles' Japanese American National Museum.

The donor wall was designed by National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Board Member Sidney Mukai, to complement the national memorial in Washington, D.C. A replica of the sculpture of a pair of cranes entangled in barbed wire is also included in the Los Angeles memorial.

The donor wall pays tribute to the original veterans in the Go For Broke National Veterans Association who organized the effort to secure the federal legislation to build the Memorial and later founded NJAMF.

"It is a reminder of one historic tragedy in American history, but also that our nation is strengthened by its diversity, and that our citizens' constitutional rights must be guarded and upheld regardless of their race, religion or ethnicity," said Craig D. Uchida, NJAMF chairman of the board.

In 1992, the Washington D.C.-based Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II was authorized to be constructed as a national memorial. It was dedicated in 2000. Ownership of the memorial was transferred to the U.S. government in 2002. The National Park Service is responsible for the maintenance of the original memorial today. ■

For more information: www.njamf.com



The D.C. crane is replicated in the Los Angeles memorial.

Mentorship Sessions and Workshops to Highlight Nat'l JACL Youth Convention

As part of the national JACL convention in Salt Lake City, the youth convention will introduce students to JACL's most anticipated event of the biennium

By CRAIG ISHII
PSW Regional Director

The National JACL Youth Convention set for July 16 to 20 in Salt Lake City, Utah will feature a multitude of events, activities, speakers and workshops for the youth. Youth attendees will also learn about decision-making during the JACL convention as well as have a chance to meet the chapter delegates and JACL leadership.

The JACL Youth Convention is part of the larger National JACL Convention which takes place the odd year of every biennium. The national convention is the pivotal time for the JACL to establish its budget, elect new national leadership and vote on resolutions which establish the organization's policy. This year's national convention takes place July 16 to 20 in Salt Lake City with the theme: "Legacy of Leadership."

The youth convention was created to provide youth a space at convention to learn, get involved and have fun. Although the JACL today remains an effective advocacy body in the political, civil rights and community spheres, there is a strong need to pass this advocacy onto the next generation.

The youth convention will consist of a number of workshops as well as a mentorship session to introduce participants to the decision-making process that occurs for the delegates at the national convention. The mentorship session will pair youth convention participants with convention delegates during one of the convention business sessions providing a one-on-one space for delegates to meet and introduce what the resolutions are, how they are voted on, and why they are important.

Other activities that youth convention participants will take part in are trips to Historical Olympic Park as well as the Park City Outlets. There will be a number of social night activities including a Youth Mixer and the play "Nihonmachi: The Place to Be."

Workshops and activities will be included in the convention package. Transportation will be provided to and from the hotel. Deadline for early bird registration is June 30. Registration for the youth convention is \$150. Youth who register individually will be placed with two roommates for a total housing cost of \$120/three nights and \$160/four nights. ■

Please visit the youth convention Web site at:
www.jacl.org/youth/youth.htm

For questions, e-mail: psw@jacl.org or call 213/626-4471.



Jon Shindo (Wells Fargo Bank), Stephanie Hironaka, Janet Kenmotsu, Ted Jitodai (Pioneer Recipient), Lauren Ashizawa, Kelley Kim (Union Bank) and Gene Nakamura (guest speaker).

Berkeley JACL Awards Grants, Scholarships

In May, the Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund awarded grants to three community organizations to help fund Nikkei events this summer.

The three recipient organizations are:

- The Oakland-Fukuoka Sister City Association — The association will host the 37th Annual High School Exchange between the two cities. During the 10-day homestay with host families in the Bay Area this summer, students will participate in cross-cultural exchanges.

- The Northern California Ki Society — The funding for the Ki-Aikido dojo will support chief instructor Pietro Yuji Maida's upcoming trip to Japan for further training at an annual world camp in summer 2008.

- The California Japanese American Community Leadership Council — The funding will support the 8th annual Nikkei Community Internship program. The eight-week

program matches college students with community non-profit groups to expose the students to Nikkei community issues while developing leadership skills.

The Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund is administered by the trustees and the board of directors to support community oriented projects or programs that further the aims and purposes of the JACL.

On May 4, the Berkeley chapter also awarded over \$5,300 in scholarships to five high school seniors who have demonstrated extraordinary

accomplishments in academics, the arts, sports and community service.

Sachi Siegelman was awarded the Bea Kono Memorial scholarship. Other scholarship recipients included: Stephanie Hironaka, Lauren Ashizawa, Janet Kenmotsu and Tiffany Hamasaki.

The chapter also honored Ted Jitodai with its 2008 Pioneer Award. Jitodai is a retired sociology professor at San Francisco State University and is known for his inspirational teaching and enthusiasm for education. ■

The Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund

The Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund is pleased to lend support to the three recipient organizations, but each needs additional funds to implement their important activities.

The community is invited to support with donations made payable to the organizations or to the Berkeley JACL and sent to Berkeley JACL at P.O. Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609.

Applications for funding are accepted from organizations, their representatives and individuals for the semi-annual funding cycles. Applications received by Sept. 15 will be eligible for funds to be disbursed by Dec. 15.

Applications and information are available at www.berkeleyjacl.org.

Portland JA Community Honors Its High School Students

The Portland Japanese American community recently celebrated its 60th High School Graduation Banquet by awarding over \$20,000 in scholarships to 17 seniors.

The recent graduation event was sponsored by 11 Nikkei organizations including the Gresham-Troutdale JACL and the Portland JACL.

This year's scholarship awardees were: Yusuke Akahoshi, Mary Birkett, Emi Hijikuro, Jordan Hongo, Eric Furuya, Megan Irinaga, Cally Kamiya, Sari Matisoff, Christine McFadden, Rachel Nishida, Rachel Onishi, Chizumi Rojas, Alix Sakai, Mai Yanigida, Sasagu "Sammy" Yoshida, Ken Yuzuriha and Kelsy Wahl.

This community event began in 1949 at Epworth United Methodist Church. Misao Hayashi, the wife of Rev. Francis Hayashi, decided along with others that the high school graduates should be honored. No scholarships were given, but outstanding high school athletes were recognized.

Later, JA community groups offered scholarships to deserving high school graduates. Each organization awarded its own scholarship.



PHOTO: RICH IWASAKI

Christine McFadden gives the senior's address at the banquet.

It wasn't until Howard Henjyoji, a Harvard bound student from Cleveland High School, who later went on to medical school, was given all of the scholarships in one year that the community saw the need to work together.

From this small beginning, the event has grown to an annual banquet and celebration attended by more than 250 people.

Loen Dozono was selected as this year's master of ceremonies. Loen said her husband Sho Dozono's bid for mayor was a first for the JA local community. This year's keynote speaker was Jane Komeiji, a historian and educator from Hawaii. ■

SELANOCO JACL Announces New Scholarship in Honor of Hiromi Ueha

Ueha served as PSW governor and a member of the national JACL board.

The SELANOCO (South East Los Angeles North Orange County) chapter of JACL, in conjunction with the Ueha family, recently announced the release of a new memorial scholarship in honor of Hiromi Ueha, an active leader in the Japanese American community, and former national board member.

The scholarship will be awarded to one individual during the academic year 2008-09.

Hiromi dedicated her life to the betterment of others. While raising her son Chandler, attending the University of California, Irvine full-time, and working part-time, this instinctive leader became very involved in the JA community through her ties to Tomo No Kai (a JA cultural club at UCI) and through the SELANOCO chapter.

After graduating, she continued to actively serve her community through the JACL as a chapter president, district governor and National JACL Youth/Student chair while

raising her son.

Hiromi passed away suddenly in April, 2006. The Ueha family, with the assistance of the SELANOCO chapter, are offering a \$1,000 scholarship in her memory to assist an individual who is facing similar challenges (such as single parenting) while attending school.

Eligibility for the scholarship is limited to full- or part-time students currently attending a two- or four-year college/university, trade school, business school, or any institution of higher learning. They must be active in the JA community, and special consideration will be given to single parents or those facing significant hardships. A minimum GPA or test scores are not required. The applicant must live and attend school in Southern California, Arizona or Nevada.

To apply for the scholarship, interested students must send a completed application and a one-page essay to the review committee by June 30. The recipient will be notified by Aug. 12 — in honor of Hiromi's birthday. ■

For more information or to receive a copy of the application and essay questions, send an e-mail to: hiromi_ueha.scholarship@yahoo.com.



Name _____
(Please print) Last First MI
Nickname _____
(Name for your badge)
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone _____
E-mail _____
Chapter _____
Category ☐ Delegate ☐ Booster ☐ Millennium Club
☐ Alternate ☐ 1000 Club ☐ National Board/Staff
☐ Youth ☐ 1000 Club Life ☐ Masaoka Fellow
☐ Other (Specify) _____

Make check payable to: MWT Tours & Events

or to pay by credit card

Cardholder's Name _____
☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express
Account Number _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____

NOTE: Registrations will not be processed without payment (check or credit card). This form is strictly for registration only and **NOT** for hotel accommodations. You must call the Marriott Downtown. Submit additional forms for additional registrants.

Registration Fees

CONVENTION PACKAGE REGISTRATION
(Includes individual events listed below)

	Before 6/30	After 6/30	
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Package	\$225	\$250	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Package	\$150	\$175	\$ _____
<small>(Youth Package are for Youth/Students who are 25 years of age or younger or currently enrolled in a college, trade school or university. Youth package includes all of the events in the Reg. package.)</small>			

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (all included in package registration)

<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Mixer	\$50	\$60	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops (2)*	\$25	\$35	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards Luncheon	\$50	\$60	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sayonara Banquet	\$100	\$110	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Luncheon	\$50	\$60	\$ _____

* For a listing of all Workshops go to www.utjaci.org.

OPTIONAL EVENTS (not included in package registration)

<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament	\$65	\$70	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Nihonmachi Show	\$25	\$30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth 18 and under	\$10	\$15	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club Wing Ding	\$25	\$30	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 1000 Club + Nihonmachi	\$40	\$45	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> JACL Credit Union Luncheon	\$20	\$25	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth 5 - 18 years	\$10	\$15	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-members	\$25	\$30	\$ _____

Convention Package	\$ _____
Individual Events	\$ _____
Special Events	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

Mail Check and this form together to:

2008 JACL Convention, c/o MWT Tours & Events
2984 E. Russell Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89120



[JOHN TATEISHI]

FOR THE RECORD

Quo Vadis?

The report of the national board meeting in the recent *Pacific Citizen* issue focuses on two matters: the proposed budget for the next biennium and the location of the national director. Both issues were discussed at length but left unresolved according to the *P.C.* report, so let me comment on one and maybe both.

During my seven years as national director, we were in a state of financial crisis almost the entire time because of the collapse of the investment market and the subsequent loss of our reserves, which we depend on. That, coupled with the accelerated decline of our membership because of Nisei attrition, brought us to the crisis even before we had gotten through the year 2000.

Had our financial situation been different, I would have traveled much, much more than I ever did during my seven years at the helm of the organization. As I see it, one of the important functions of the director is to be an ambassador for the JACL. It's the director who's the public face of the organization, the one who needs to become a familiar face to funders and to directors of other major organizations and to national leaders.

I live in the San Francisco area, so my being at the headquarters was easy enough. But if we had had a normal budget and a HQ support staff, I would easily have been on the road perhaps two or three days a week, and no doubt a good deal of the time in Washington, D.C.

I should say here that I've long been in favor of having the national director in D.C. for the simple reason that this is where the action is, this is where you stay in the loop with important issues and maintain a more effective organization. This is why most of the major civil rights organizations as well as many of the major APA organizations are headquartered there.

For me, it was a distinct disadvantage not being able to be in D.C. while I was director, especially after 9/11 when it was important to talk with the Administration and to members of Congress. But just in general, so much goes on in D.C. and in the past, we've not really been a part of any of it.

This is not to minimize the value of having a Washington, D.C. representative in our office. Debee Yamamoto, JACL's current representative, is a tremendous addition and brings the kind of background experience and savvy needed for that position. As the policy director (the other title of the position), Debee brings a lot of talent and skill in focusing on legislation and policy. But when it comes to decision-makers, the director's presence is important, especially when deals are cut. And since so many major funders frequent D.C. nowadays to network with APA organizations there, this is an important consideration if you want to get corporate funding.

I brought corporate funding to the JACL for our educational programs as a way to expand our financial base and ensure the development of programs. But we don't get anywhere near the lion's share of funding among civil rights groups, and one reason is that we haven't been where we can compete for the dollars.

If the JACL insists that the director physically be stationed in San Francisco at HQ, I'm curious to know why. Because the bylaws say so? The bylaws can always be amended to fit the more pragmatic goal of having the director where it does the JACL the most good. Because the HQ staff needs supervising? We have two very capable and experienced staff in the business manager and membership support person. Plus, we now have an administrative assistant with whom the director can stay in contact daily, as well as finally a membership coordinator who has viable and innovative ideas for bolstering membership.

If the director's to be at HQ, then I strongly suggest that a substantial travel budget be established to provide for his/her ability to be in D.C. often and to travel to the East Coast to visit with funders regularly. It's all about building relationships, whether it's influencing policy or seeking funding or simply having the JACL's presence where it matters most.

The more important issue for the board is the budget, which wasn't resolved at the board meeting. It's a statutory requirement that the budget be in the hands of chapters 60 days before the convention, which was May 17 this year. When it comes to the budget vs. the location of the director, one is a survival issue and the other is, well, I'm not quite sure what, but certainly not worth occupying so much board time when the board is having difficulty just producing a budget. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



[YUMI SAKUGAWA]

MEMOIRS OF A NON-GEISHA

The Peace and Quiet of Yasukuni Shrine

Last Sunday, I visited the Yasukuni Shrine for the first time.

Yasukuni Shrine is located in the heart of Tokyo, a five-minute walk from the Kudanshita Metro Station. Established more than 130 years ago in the second year of the Meiji Era, Yasukuni Shrine presents itself as a peace memorial commemorating the spirits of those who sacrificed their lives for the enduring peace of Japan.

According to an English-language pamphlet handed to me by a woman dressed in a white Shinto robe, more than 2,460,000 spirits are currently worshipped as divinities in this shrine, which includes not only soldiers, but the spirits of military nurses, high school students and other civilians who gave their lives for their country.

This English-language pamphlet, decorated with cartoon mascots of the white doves that live on the grounds of Yasukuni Shrine, describe the other architectures found within vicinity. A smaller shrine located behind the main shrine is dedicated to the souls of all individuals who have died in all wars occurring everywhere in the world. A traditional Japanese garden with stone pathways circumscribing a waterfall and a koi pond is located on the northwest corner of the shrine grounds. On the way to the shrine museum, visitors pass a statue of a grieving war widow and her children.

The museum, called the Yushukan, is a sleek, two-story building with clear glass walls. In chronological order of Japan's military past from the Meiji era to the end of World War II, paintings, armors, weapons, letters, photographs and other articles of historical interest are exhibited behind glass displays.

In the first exhibition room, samurai swords are accompanied by eloquent haikus of past emperors and military leaders. This is followed by more wartime memorabilia of the ensuing years. Swords turn into rifles, which turn into warheads. Paintings of brave samurai warriors engaged in battle eventually turn into black-and-white photographs of young men who served as kamikaze pilots during WWII. Photographs of mourning families are shown bowing before the Shinto rituals that deified the souls of their deceased fathers, brothers and sons.

A 50-minute documentary plays every hour in a small theater on the second story of the Yushukan, urg-

ing viewers to never forget the sacrifices made by those who have died in the war. Elderly people with tears in their eyes lament that today's young people lack the bravery to die for their country. No matter what century it is, the main narrative is always the same: Japan is a country that must always defend its own independence and prosperity as a peaceful nation, even if it means war.

After being bombarded by room after room of wartime memorabilia, I was anxious to leave. I eventually left Yasukuni Shrine feeling frustrated, confused and — as strange as it sounds — dissatisfied.

What was the reason for my dissatisfaction? Secretly and childishly, I think I wanted my experience to fully embody the drama and controversy that surrounded Yasukuni Shrine every time it was mentioned in the media, usually about how the prime ministers' visits to this place angered neighboring Asian countries.

I wanted to see a row of ultranationalist conservatives in their black vans and mega-speakers on the shrine grounds bellowing their ridiculous, revisionist accounts of Japanese history to random visitors, like how the Nanking Massacre was a lie, or that the use of the comfort women was exaggerated, or how the Class A War Criminals deified within the shrine were true heroes who did absolutely nothing wrong.

Essentially, I wanted to witness something so distasteful and blatantly wrong that it fully justified my preemptive bias against everything that the Yasukuni Shrine stood for.

Instead, all I found was peace and quiet. I witnessed an ordinary Shinto shrine on an ordinarily beautiful day, where families bowed obediently before the altars, and a local Boy Scouts troop hosted an outdoor fair in the museum courtyard. I found a wonderful alternative universe where all soldiers were heroes and all grieving families selflessly accepted the sacrifice of their family members.

There was no need to besmirch this wonderful narrative with arguments of how the death toll of the Nanking Massacre was a lie; or whether or not Japanese soldiers used comfort women during WWII.

It was much easier to pretend that it all didn't exist in the first place. ■

Yumi Sakugawa teaches English in Japan.





Fame, By Way of YouTube

'I feel like I'm a part of a new generation of musicians ... we're letting people choose what they want to hear.'

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

PHOTO: LAUREN DUKOFF

You can call Marié Digby many things — talented songstress, marketing genius or YouTube darling. Just don't call her lazy.

The 25-year-old singer/songwriter just got back from promoting her new debut album, "Unfold" in Singapore and Malaysia where she spent a whirlwind few days signing autographs, posing for photos and performing in packed venues.

Now she's back in the U.S., calling from her Minneapolis hotel room fresh out of the shower and juggling a phone in a haze of lotion.

"I've been so busy that my body hasn't even had a chance to be jet lagged," said Marié (pronounced Mar-ee-ay) about her first time traveling abroad for work. She got to see all the sights that are associated with a work trip.

"I saw the inside of my hotel room. I saw the inside of my truck."

Literally, her life was planned out in 10-minute increments. That's okay, she doesn't mind working now. Vacations can wait until after she completes the U.S. leg of her 33-city tour. Right now, her career is white-hot after her album debuted at an impressive 29th spot on the *Billboard* 200 chart.

Not bad for a girl who just a year ago, recorded herself crooning Rihanna's hit single "Umbrella" while sitting on her living room floor with a guitar. Like many other emerging artists, Marié uploaded her videos to YouTube and became a leader of an online revolution.

But aside from her crazy schedule, Marié insists her life has not changed much.

"I travel more and sometimes people come up to me on the

streets and say, 'I know you!'"

Going Viral

If Marié looks familiar, chances are you've seen one or all of her over 30 self-made YouTube videos where she is usually singing acoustic versions of the latest Linkin Park or Britney Spears songs in that pristine voice.

In the online world, Marié is the queen of viral. And it only takes watching a few videos to see why. She is mesmerizing even when all she is doing is wishing her fans a happy Halloween dressed in a Snow White costume and coyly complaining about the loneliness of life on the road.

But the singer/songwriter, who is of Japanese and Irish descent, insists she is not comfortable in front of the camera.

"With YouTube and a Web cam, you can pretend that no one is watching," she said. "In a way, it was perfect training ground to get used to being watched."

And boy, do people watch. Marié is one of the most subscribed musicians of all time — alongside other heavyweights like Justin Timberlake and Michael Jackson — with over 25 million total views on the popular video sharing Web site. Still, it's too early in her career to look back, said Marié. But she is most proud of her global fan base.

Her YouTube videos have received glowing comments — and the occasional marriage proposal — from fans from Hungary to the Philippines.

Cultural Lessons

Marié is really excited about performing in her native Los Angeles where she grew up in the Pacific Palisades area as one of three musically talented sisters.

Marié's mom Emiko met her future husband Matt while he was traveling in Japan as a college student. In a crowd, the couple locked eyes and they met again by chance later at a club, where he asked her to dance.

"It took four or five tries," said Marié.

Emiko, who came to the U.S. from Kumamoto, always stressed the importance of culture. Growing up, Marié and her siblings were forced to go to Japanese school.

"It was torturous!" laughed Marié, who identifies as Asian Pacific American. "Every weekend, it was what leg I can break? What sickness can I come down with to keep from going?"

Since then, the singer has learned to appreciate the effort spent on learning her mother's native tongue. Marié even recorded the Japanese ballad "Korewa" exclusively for the Aug. 6 release of her album in Japan.

Growing up, all the Digby girls were expected to take up music and a sport, so Marié started piano lessons as a toddler. She also chose tennis, which won her scholarships to many colleges

except the University of California, Berkeley, where she attended to avoid the pressure of being a tennis star.

But she dropped out after her freshman year as a philosophy major to make music her life.

'Unfold'

In 2004, Marié won a national songwriting contest sponsored by Pantene and began knocking on the doors of major record labels with her guitar. Then Hollywood Records signed her. But dreams are often punctuated with reality. Almost a year after Marié had finished recording her album, her career languished. As far as she knew, there was no tour slated, no music video.

So in 2007, she asked her label for a loan to buy the laptop that became her springboard. Marié recorded herself singing in the living room, in the stairway and even in the bathroom.

"I waited until I was alone in the house of course."

After awhile, if Marié walked into a room with her guitar and laptop, her family knew she was working. Her self-made videos snagged the attention of her label and the world.

"Unfold" is Marié's I-told-you-so. It's where soul melts into pop and rock.

"Better Off Alone," is the second oldest song on the album. She wrote it when she was 19 about a mythical relationship with someone too busy and famous.

A little ironic, isn't it?

"My excuse for dating these days is that I'm too busy. I'd be a terrible girlfriend."

"Voice on the Radio" was inspired by a short-lived crush during college when her roommate took her to see a punk band. Marié took one look at the lead singer and fell madly in love.

"I needed to meet him," she said. So after the show, she decided to wait outside. She rounded the corner and fell into a throng of prepubescent screaming girls with their bras out.

"I felt stupid."

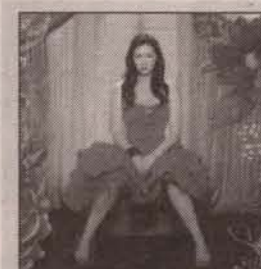
Her fleeting romance has never been revealed.

"It's too embarrassing because he's so uncool!" she laughed, but reveals that somewhere in her room, a giant poster of her punk flame still hangs on the wall. ■

On the Web:

www.myspace.com/Mariedigby

www.youtube.com/user/Mariedigby

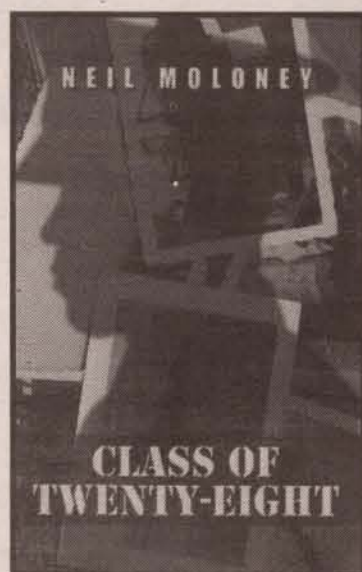


Marié Digby
Genre: Pop/rock
Debut Album: 'Unfold'

Catch Her Live*:

June 11 — Workplay Theater in Birmingham, AL
June 12 — Parish at House of Blues New Orleans
June 18 — Martini Ranch in Scottsdale, AZ
June 19 — Soma in San Diego, Calif.
June 20 — El Rey in Los Angeles, Calif.

*For more info and a complete, up-to-date listing of tour dates.



CLASS OF TWENTY-EIGHT

Author: Neil Moloney,
Publish America 2007,
paperback 370 pages;
available online and local
bookstores.

This story ranks as one of the best historical novels to come out of the Prohibition and World War II eras. The writer does an exceptional job of allowing the reader to identify with the principal protagonists, a group of young men and woman with close ties to

Seattle's Asian community and Japan Town, before many residents disappear into the internment camps of 1942. **Rated four stars by Amazon.com; B&N; & Midwest Book Review—**as "A superb novel—an excellent read."

BUDGET

(Continued from page 1)

• A national board fundraiser for \$50,000 each year.

At its April 19 meeting in San Francisco, the national board called the original proposed budget — which contained a \$5 dues increase and higher membership goals — too risky and sent it back to program owners and managers to cut about \$180,000 and \$280,000 in expenditures in 2009 and 2010, respectively.

During the conference call, the revised budget underwent some more changes, including an increase in the JACL Washington, D.C. Gala Dinner's fund raising goal in order to balance the budget.

"In general, I'm optimistically worried about the current budget. There are several revenue items that are ambitious and will require us to really put some effort to realize

them," said Kobayashi. "My optimism comes into the possibility for the whole organization to realize that we all need to work diligently to increase our membership by being active and becoming a meaningful part of people's lives."

"The aggressive membership goals require the board to be active in reaching those goals, and vigilant to ensure that the milestones are met so we do not get into a deficit situation," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.

Over the years, JACL's membership numbers have been steadily decreasing. In 2007 membership was down 12 percent, a stark contrast to the organization's norm of a 4 to 5 percent decrease. Board members have attributed this sharp drop to a shake-up in staff and board membership positions.

As of May 23, membership was already down 13 percent. If this

trend continues, membership revenue — often called the lifeblood of the organization — could be down \$126,000 by the end of the year.

Board members say now is the time to turn the negative trend around.

"It is good to have goals but we all have to match those goals with action," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

The membership drive in the next proposed biennial budget requires any losses in 2008 to be recovered, any potential losses in 2009 to be overcome, and on top of that about 151 new paid members need to be recruited. Based on that, about 448 new members need to be added in 2010.

"The proposed budget is a sound working document that will give the JACL a guide in moving programs forward in the next biennium. While some feel the membership goals are lofty, I feel that with the national board, staff, and JACL members working together as a team, we can surpass the membership goals of the proposed budget," said Mori.

"If we disaggregate the total membership numbers, the membership increases per chapter are very modest," he added.

Others are concerned with a \$50,000 annual fund raising goal set for national board members.

"If evenly distributed among the 16 members of the national board, each board member would be responsible for \$3,125 each. In the



Overall membership trends

❖ Note black lines represent implication for proposed budgets 2009-2010

❖ Membership trends based on backing out to 2001 and 2006 plotted with membership plan goals

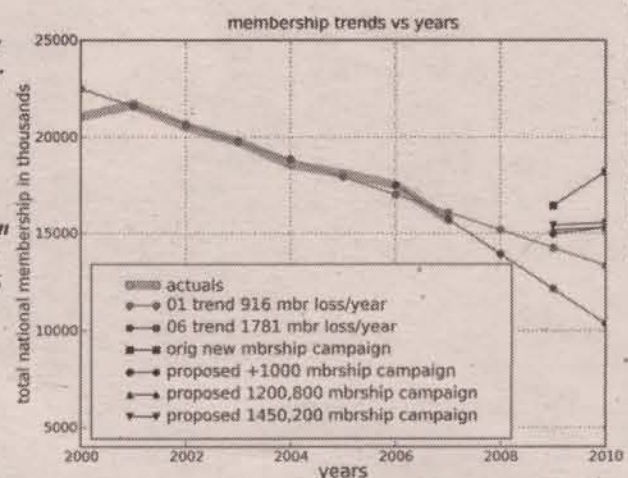


CHART COURTESY MARK KOBAYASHI

WATADA

(Continued from page 1)

Guantanamo — just hold him," said the officer's father Bob Watada in an interview with the *Honolulu Advertiser*.

Ehren Watada — the first commissioned officer to refuse deployment to Iraq — continues to work in an administrative position at Fort Lewis in Washington.

Watada, a 1996 graduate of Kalani High, announced his decision to refuse deployment to Iraq with his Stryker Brigade in June of 2006, setting off a firestorm of controversy in the Japanese American community.

Some argued that his refusal was a stain on the legacy of the heroic World War II JA veterans and that as an officer he took an oath to serve his country. Others have argued that Watada's stance is an honorable one for his refusal is based on his belief

that the Iraq War is not only immoral but illegal.

In interviews with the *Pacific Citizen*, Watada has said that he is willing to serve in other areas of the world, including Afghanistan. In addition, prior to his refusal to deploy to Iraq he had offered to submit his resignation which was refused by his superiors.

Watada was tried in military court in February 2007 for charges of conduct unbecoming an officer and of missing troop movement.

If he is convicted, he could face up to six years in prison.

The officer's first court martial ended in a mistrial.

"The attorneys are talking to the Army. They aren't telling me what they are saying, but they are talking to them," said Bob Watada to the *Advertiser*.

He hopes his son's attorneys will be able to bring the issue to a conclusion soon. ■

PACIFIC

Special Offer

Send a gift subscription to a friend and save \$5 off the regular price of \$40!

GIVE A GIFT TODAY

WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG

(800) 966-6157

CITIZEN

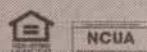


Think it's expensive and tough to get a home loan?
Think again!

We have mortgage loans with zero fees*

Don't believe everything you read! In fact, now is a fantastic time to buy or refinance. Interest rates are low and there are hundreds of homes for sale at reduced prices, making your negotiating power stronger than ever. Plus, pay no origination fee! Getting a home loan is easier than you think and we're here to help. Hurry, this is a limited-time offer!

800-544-8828 • www.jaclcu.com



*Origination fee, tax search fee, processing fee. Based on approved credit. Eligibility and membership required.

BELLY TANKS

(Continued from page 1)

something special between our veterans and the people of Bruyeres," writes Gerome in an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*.

In the nearby Vosges Mountains, Gerome often walks in the path of history, leading reenactment groups in the battles of the "Lost Battalion." This is the site where soldiers of the 36th Infantry Division struggled to fight off the Germans, eventually becoming trapped in October 1944. No one was able to rescue them until the famed 100th/442nd RCT was called in.

Last November with map and coordinates in hand, Gerome set off for the Vosges Mountains on a mission to find a bit of that history. After hours of seemingly endless miles, he finally discovered a P-47 belly tank that was used to help provide supplies for the trapped soldiers of the "Lost Battalion."

Now with the help of French officials, FedEx, and friends in the U.S., two belly tanks have been delivered to the Texas Military Forces Museum (TXMFM) in Austin and are set to be unveiled in a new exhibit this July.

"And now, these two belly tanks

are at their new home," said Gerome. "I hope the new generation will learn what happened to the Texans and I hope too, they will never forget who and how they were rescued."

Homecoming

Elated with his discovery of not one but eventually five belly tanks, one of Gerome's first calls to the U.S. was to his friend Michael Higgins, son of Lt. Marty Higgins, commander of the "Lost Battalion."

"He tread his way to the forest and located them. To retrieve them is absolutely amazing. This artifact played such a critical role in the survival of the 'Lost Battalion,'" said Michael, 57, from his home in Richmond Hill, Georgia.

Although the discovery of the belly tanks was an incredible find, moving them safely seemed to be an insurmountable task. Already rusted and decaying from years of exposure to sun and snow in the mountains, the two discussed how to get the belly tanks to the U.S.

Michael decided to call Jeff Hunt, director of the Texas Military Forces Museum.

"You expect to find things on the battlefield but to find a piece this large and in this good of a condition,

an actual link to an historical moment in World War II. That's a remarkable thing," said Jeff.

Soon Jeff wrote a letter on behalf of the museum asking the French government for permission to remove the belly tanks. Once permission was granted, Gerome and his father brought the belly tanks to their home. Getting them out of France would not be so easy.

With few U.S. Army bases currently in Europe, FedEx graciously stepped in to help deliver the belly tanks to Texas, donating the entire cost of shipping of \$10,000.

"The FedEx employees at Charles De Gaulle Airport did a fantastic job. They treated the belly tanks with the greatest reverence," said Jeff. "It was their way to express their gratitude for what the American soldiers did for them during World War II."

The belly tanks — along with other artifacts discovered by Gerome, including M1 Garand clips, spent shell casings, and fragments of 81mm mortar shells — will be unveiled July 18 and 19 at TXMFM. Soldiers from the 36th Texas Division and the 100th/442nd RCT are scheduled to attend.

Liberators

In Gerome's hometown nestled in the Vosges Mountains a monument honoring the American liberators has been erected. On a recent day, local school children placed flowers on the graves of these soldiers.

Today, the stories of the 36th Texas Division and the 100th/442nd RCT are part of the school curriculum ensuring that future generations continue to pass on their legacy.

"In the Vosges, we don't forget our liberators and we continue to honor them," said Gerome. "Please tell them MERCI for all they have done, for all these sacrifices ... we mustn't forget."

"To know that even the next gen-



Hachiro Mukai Pfc. of the 442nd from California is buried in France (left). He died on Oct. 22, 1944, as part of the 'Lost Battalion' rescue.

eration will be made mindful of the sacrifices of the American soldiers is just touching, that they haven't been forgotten," said Michael, whose father will be inducted into the Texas Military Forces Hall of Honor during the July TXMFM ceremonies.

The battles of the "Lost Battalion" and the Japanese American rescuers were often Michael's bedtime stories. His father would also tell him about the 405th Fighter Squadron, the fighter pilots who risked dangerous conditions to drop the belly tanks to the desperate soldiers.

Although the belly tanks were used to carry extra fuel, they were modified so that needed supplies like food, medical supplies, ammunition, and radio batteries could be dropped down to the American soldiers who had been isolated for days.

With the unveiling of the belly tanks exhibit, museum organizers hope to tell the full story of the "Lost Battalion," a saga that includes the 36th Division, the 100th/442nd RCT, and the 405th Fighter Squadron.

"It was their perseverance and courage, that they were not going to leave their fellow GIs to the Germans," said Jeff. On the battlefield you "stop being white, or black or Japanese American, they are all GIs and all GIs are brothers. They would lay down their lives for each

other."

JA Legacy

Terry Shima, a 442nd veteran and executive director of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) will head to Texas this July to witness the unveiling of the belly tanks.

It was last November that he first heard from Gerome about his discoveries.

"When I saw the photo of the belly tank ... I felt a tingle in my spine," said Terry. "It immediately connected me with the elation of the trapped men who now had something to eat, medical supplies to care for their wounded, and ammunition to repel the repeated German attacks."

"These belly tanks, the lifeline, is a sobering sight to see."

Terry will be joined by Bob Nakamoto, JAVA president, and Yeiichi Kelly Kuwayama, a 442nd RCT combat medic who is scheduled to speak at the event.

They hope to tell the stories from the Vosges Mountains but to also remind people that many of these JA soldiers fought to prove their loyalty to a country imprisoning family members.

"The sacrifices made by those men who fell in making the rescue ... I hope the new museum exhibit will show that we were fellow Americans rescuing other fellow Americans," said Kelly.

Susan Uyemura, a Sansei who founded the organization JA Living Legacy, plans to head to Texas this July. The chance to see the belly tanks and to meet the heroic soldiers firsthand is something she can't pass up.

"I know in my heart, I am one of the lucky ones because I know that in 20 years, people will ask about these brave men and I can say I had the chance to meet and talk with them." ■

The July 18-19 event at the Texas Military Forces Museum is open to the public. There is a \$10 registration fee and pre-registration is required. To register, contact Lisa Sharik at 512/782-5394 or e-mail: lisa.sharik@ng.army.mil. For more information, www.texasmilitary-forcesmuseum.org.



KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2008/9 TOURS

- July 19 Normandy to Paris River Cruise 8 Days - From \$3653.
- Aug. 6 Great Pacific Northwest - 8 Days - \$2195 - Seattle-Victoria - Butchart Garden-Vancouver-Whistler Mt. Train.
- Sept. 3 Scandinavia & Russia Cruise - 15 Days - London-Copenhagen-Tallinn-St. Pete-Helsinki-Stockholm-Oslo-NCL. **SOLD OUT**
- Sept. 27 New England & Canada Cruise - 12 Days - New York-Boston-Halifax-Quebec-Prince Edward Island-Sydney-New York-NCL. **SOLD OUT**
- Oct. 13 Hokkaido & Tohoku "Fall Foliage Time" 11 Days \$3895 Sapporo-Sounkyo Gorge-Sahoro-Ainu Village-Lake Toya - Hako date-Aomori-Lake Towada-Hachimantai-Matsushima-Sendai-Tokyo.
- Oct. 20 Uranihon "Otherside of Japan" 11 Days-\$3795-Tokyo-Sado Island-Kanazawa-Amanohashidate-Kinosaki-Matsue-Izumo-Daizen-Osaka.
- Nov. 3 Fall Japan Classic "Intro to Japan" 11 Days-\$3695-Tokyo-Takayama-Nara-Kobe-Okayama-Takahashi-Hiroshima-Miyajima-Shodo-Kyoto.
- Nov. 12 Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku 11 Days-\$3995-3 Days in Okinawa-Kyushu-Fukuoka-Karatsu-Nagasaki-Kumamoto-Beppu-Shikoku-Cape Ashizuri-Kochi-Takamatsu-Osaka.
- Mar. 02 Splendors of Croatia 11 Days - \$2599 - Zagreb-Zadar-Dubrovnik - Split - Plitvice National Park - Zagreb.
- 2009 Mar. 16 Best of China - 11 Days - \$2795 - Beijing/Great Wall-Xian & Terra Cotta Warriors-Guilin/Li River Cruise & Shanghai.

More in 2009

- April - Japan Cherry Blossom Tours
- May - British Isles Cruise "Britain & Ireland"
- June - Summer Japan "Family Tour"
- July - Trains of Colorado Rockies - Return to Heart Mt. + National Parks
- August - Scandinavia & Russia Cruise - Western Mediterranean Cruise "Italy, Spain & Portugal"
- September - Deluxe Egypt with "Nile Cruise"
- October/November - 4 Tours to Japan

"Early Bird savings - call for 2008 brochure"

INCLUDES - flights, portage, hotels, sightseeing & MOST MEALS.
"Fuel Surcharges Additional"

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

Kosakura Tours & Travel Presents:

2008 Escorted Tours & Cruises

- June 12-24 National Parks & Canyons of Western USA
- July 14-24 Summer Highlights of Japan
- Aug. 10-23 Moscow to St. Petersburg - "Waterways of the Czars"
- Aug. 15-21 Canadian Rockies - a Tauck Tour
- Aug. 25- Alaska Cruise & Land Tour - Island Princess
- Sept. 5
- Sept. 18-30 Spectacular Hokkaido
- Oct. 3-16 Korea Sparkling Highlights & Drama/Movie Tour
- Oct. 16-28 Autumn Highlights of Japan
- Oct. 30- Best of Kyushu & Shikoku
- Nov. 12
- Dec. 5-18 Ancient Egypt & Jordan

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

HANASONO

(Continued from page 2)

Reason #2: Supporting Youths and Young Professionals

The P.C.'s firm commitment to APA youths and young professionals is admirable. In order to adapt to younger generations of readers, the P.C. has used Facebook, YouTube, and RSS feeds. Recent P.C. Holiday Issues have showcased the personal stories and perspectives of aspiring APA youths and young professionals.

From anti-hate protests on college campuses to rising sports stars, the P.C. writes stories that resonate with a rising generation of youth. Last semester, Purdue University established an AA Studies program and minor. The P.C. was the first national news source to discuss the establish-

ment of this unique program.

Reason #3: Surf AND Turf — Gotta Love It!

Where do you get your news fix? Whether you prefer to surf headlines on the Web or review articles on a newspaper (turf), the P.C. will take care of you. In addition to mailing thousands of newspapers to its readers, the P.C. has developed a sleek and dynamic Web site. Saturated with pictures, current stories, and some archived articles, the Web site allows readers to access the P.C. 24/7. Donations to the Spring Campaign will allow the staff to maintain and expand their Web site.

Reason #4: Supporting Our Staff

Did you know that there are only three full-time employees and one part-time employee at the P.C.? Each month, Caroline, Lynda, Brian, and Eva produce dozens of first-rate arti-

cles in semi-monthly issues, update the P.C.'s Web site and design, solicit advertisements, boost their subscriptions, and brainstorm new story ideas.

Although these folks consistently crank out a variety of superlative stories, they are severely understaffed. Your contributions to the Spring Campaign could help the P.C. alleviate this pressing need.

Reason #5: Strengthening the Thread

Above all, the P.C. acts as a thread that connects and strengthens the APA community. As a graduate student in rural Indiana, the P.C. helps me stay informed about the latest issues in our community. The P.C. transcends the barriers of geographical distance and serves as a commu-

nication touchstone for individuals who are interested in APA issues.

Making It Count

I hope you will show your support of the P.C. by donating to its Spring Campaign. In doing so, you will help the staff continue to produce impressive news stories that keep the APA community connected around the world. In addition, your contributions will help the P.C. expand its Web site in creative and innovative ways.

Donations can be made by mail or through PayPal on the P.C.'s Web site. Please "indulge" in the Spring Campaign — every contribution counts! ■

Lisa Hanasono currently serves as the Midwest representative on the Pacific Citizen editorial board.

MORI

(Continued from page 2)

ing and participating, some as speakers.

National JACL conventions provide a great opportunity for local people to participate in the workings of the JACL. Boosters are always encouraged. Members of the Intermountain District should especially take advantage of this chance to have a convention so close.

See you in Salt Lake City. ■

What JACL is Working On

The following are some of the major projects, issues, and programs which your national JACL staff is currently working:

- Membership
- Fund Development
- Education
- Youth Programs
- Fellowships
- Leadership Development
- Health Issues
- Legislative Issues
- Camp Preservation
- Hate Crimes
- Veterans Matters
- Civic Engagement
- Voting and Town Halls
- Coalition Building
- Chapter Involvement
- National JACL Convention
- National JACL Gala Dinner

New Wing Luke Museum Opens

SEATTLE—The Wing Luke Asian Museum recently opened its new permanent home at 719 South King Street in Seattle's Chinatown/International District after rehabilitating its historic East Kong Yick Building.

The new 60,000-square-foot building was rehabbed with a \$23.2 million capital campaign with hopes that it would become both a tourist destination and a place for locals to connect with the area's APA heritage.



Spaces include the George Tsutakawa Art Gallery, the Tateuchi Story Theatre and the Frank Fujii Youth Space.

The museum is named after the first APA to hold elected office in the Northwest. Luke was elected to the Seattle City Council in 1962. ■

5th ANNIVERSARY

SPRING CAMPAIGN

PACIFIC CITIZEN

Benefiting www.pacificcitizen.org.
Take the Web Site to the next step.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100
☐ \$150 ☐ Other

Be a WALL OF FAMER!
Donate \$150 or more

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

CHAPTER: _____

MAIL TO: PACIFIC CITIZEN, 250 E. FIRST STREET, SUITE 301, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

American Holiday Travel**2008 Tour Schedule**

GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOURSOLD OUT
Tokyo, Lake Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Kyoto, Nara.

GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR IIJULY 8-17
Kyoto, Nara, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Atami, Lake Hakone, Tokyo.

ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISEJULY 20-27
Seattle, Glacier Bay, Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan, Victoria City.
HOLLAND AMERICA Westerdam Ship.

CANADIAN ROCKIES HOLIDAY TOURAUG 7-14
Calgary, Banff, Lake Louise, Kamloops, Vancouver, Victoria City. Rocky Mountaineer Train.

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN HOLIDAY CRUISESEPT 11-24
Rome, Florence/Pisa, Monte Carlo, Barcelona, Palma de Majorca, Tunisia, Palermo, Naples. HOLLAND AMERICA Noordam Ship.

HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU HOLIDAY TOUR "WAITLIST ONLY"OCT 5-17
Lake Akan, Shiretoko, Abashiri, Kitami, Sounkyo, Sapporo, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Morioka, Matsushima, Kinugawa Onsen, Nikko, Tokyo.

CARIBBEAN HOLIDAY CRUISEOCT 13-24
Ft. Lauderdale, St. Maarten, St. Lucia, Barbados, Martinique, Tortola, Half Moon Cay.
HOLLAND AMERICA Maasdam Ship.

AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOURNOV 8-23
Sydney, Melbourne, Cairns, Great Barrier Reef, Auckland, Rotorua, Christchurch, Mt. Cook, Queenstown, Milford Sound.

COMING FOR 2009: EGYPT-NILE RIVER TOURJAN 16-26
HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOURFEB
NEW ORLEANS GETAWAY TOURMAR
KOREA SPRING HOLIDAY TOURMAR
JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE TOURAPR
EASTERN CANADA HOLIDAY TOURMAY
GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR JUN

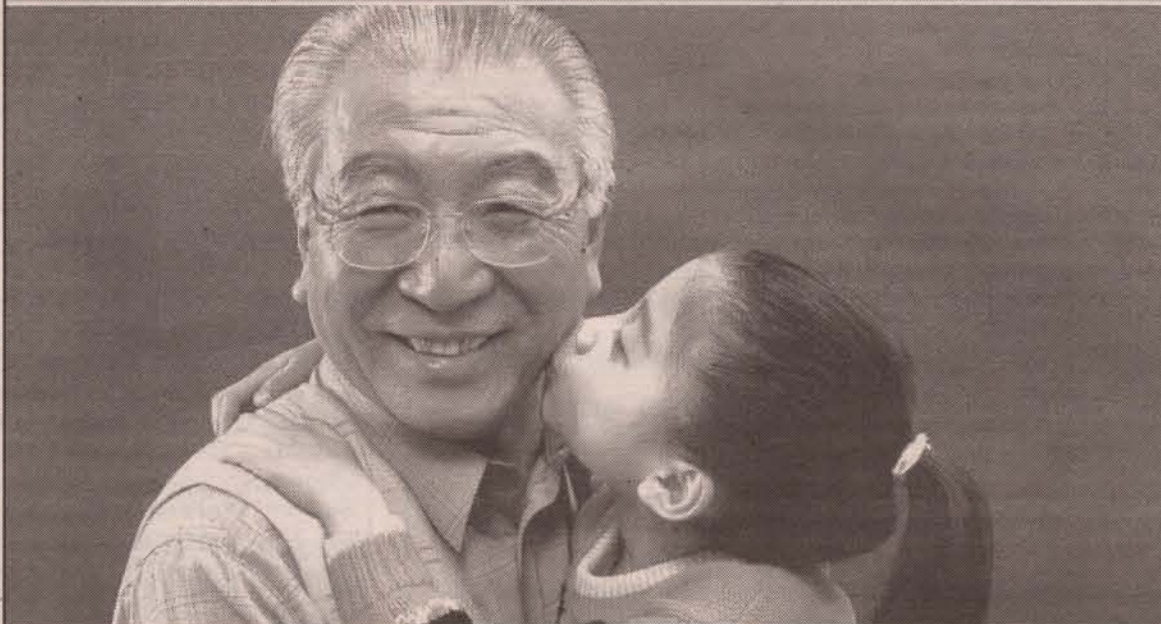
We can also assist you with:
Low-cost airfares to Japan, Japan Individual Tour arrangements,
Japan Railpass, Hotels, Cars, Cruises, Hawaii arrangements,
Individual Tour Packages, Organizations/Clubs/Family
group tours and cruises.

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



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



Health Plans for California JACL Members

Call the JACL Health Benefits Administrators at

1.800.400.6633

or visit www.jaclhealth.org



APIA VOTE

(Continued from page 1)

aging," said Yang. "It was the ideal forum to show that we do matter as a group."

In a primary season already marred with controversy over the community's exclusion from the election process, was the candidate-less town hall another example of APA amnesia?

Disappointment

"In the past, we as Asian Americans thought the candidates overlooked us," said Jhemon Lee, a Los Angeles resident.

In this primary season and past elections, presidential candidates have reached out to other ethnic groups like African Americans and Latinos — why not APAs? Americans are taught the squeaky wheels — or the most vocal group — get the most grease, said Yang. Maybe it's time for the community to squeak a little louder?

Many say the town hall was an ambitious first step to fill the void.

"There is no track record. I thought it was important," said Lee, who volunteered at the town hall. But he has mixed feelings too. There's less magic behind it when there is no interplay between the candidates and the audience, he said.

"I'm happy with the event, but I'm disappointed that candidates didn't take us more seriously by showing up and making it more of an interactive session."

And for the record, it wasn't from a lack of trying.

For the last decade and a half, there have always been attempts to have presidential candidates be more accountable to the APA community, said Vida Benavides, APIAVote interim executive director.

"We wanted to connect with the candidates to show we matter [and] we can impact the vote," she added. So the month of May was chosen because of APA Heritage Month, despite the fact that Democratic primaries were slated to take place in Oregon and Kentucky a few days after the Southern California town hall.

A Two-Way Road

In February, APIAVote sent out invitations to the presidential candidates, but it was really a community effort — everyone from voters to donors to members of Congress got involved in making the event happen and encouraging the candidates to show up.

But who knew the primaries were going to last to June?

"The race is so drawn out there were circumstances that were beyond [the candidates'] control," said Naomi Tacuyan, an APIAVote staff member. Negotiations with the candidates' campaign staffers went down to the wire. Once it was determined that they all could not make it to the event, it was about what communication vehicle they could use.

Obama was campaigning in Oregon where there was no satellite feed, so he answered questions from a panel of APA community leaders via phone. He apologized for his absence, took questions, and talked

about his Hapa niece. Clinton was in Kentucky where they had satellite access, but no two-way feed, so she read and answered questions.

McCain was scheduled to participate by phone, but pulled out at the last minute, said Tacuyan. Van Tran, a Republican member of the California State Assembly, representing portions of Orange County, spoke on McCain's behalf.

Still, it's a two-way road, said Benavides.

APA leaders provided a venue and an audience of about 2,000 for the candidates — some who were either already there or planning to be in Orange County close to the town hall day. Clinton was fundraising in neighboring Newport Beach two days before — it was dubbed her "last stop" in California during the primaries.

Despite her physical absence, Clinton is committed to working with the APA community, said spokesperson Jin Chon, who pointed out that the senator has hosted several events with the community and voted on the Filipino veterans legislation "when the other candidates were out campaigning."

McCain attended a finance reception in Irvine four days later. A McCain staffer who worked with the APA community to schedule the senator's possible appearance at the town hall did not comment on record, but spokesperson Crystal Benton said it was a scheduling conflict.

"Unfortunately, a scheduling conflict prevented Senator McCain from attending the APIAVote Town Hall.



The presidential candidates were expected to attend the town hall ...



Instead, they sent (l-r) Xavier Becerra, John Chiang and Van Tran.

Senator McCain is grateful that Assemblyman Van Tran, the highest ranking Vietnamese American elected official in the nation, was able to address Asian and Pacific American voters on his behalf," said Benton.

Some have even pointed out that with Oregon's 100 percent vote-by-mail balloting system, Obama could have made it to the town hall because thousands of Oregonians had already mailed in their votes. Obama's camp did not respond to the *Pacific Citizen's* requests for comment, but supporter Oiyen Poon said the senator was the only candidate to engage in-depth with the audience.

"I think Senator Obama's interactive phone call was a good compromise, and really made the event a success for me. He saw this as an important event to participate in, but we also all know that the nomination process [was] not done and he needed to be working hard in Oregon and Kentucky, not in a state that voted three months ago," said Poon.

President Forum has been a tradition for Democratic candidates since 1984. Their first event took place at a Des Moines childcare center, said co-founder Mary Campos. But they managed to attract many of the candidates, who were in Iowa campaigning during the primaries anyway.

"Timing is everything," said Campos. "Don't give up. Do it again."

Many JACLers are driving new efforts to increase the voices of the APA community in the upcoming elections. The PSW district has launched a Get Out the Vote Committee to create awareness of political and social issues that concern all minority groups.

"JACL is the oldest APA organization. It was so important that we stood with the other organizations in a commitment of political involvement," said PSW District Gov. Alayne Yonemoto, who attended the town hall along with many other JACLers.

"Some of the speeches talked about being at the table or having a seat at the table. JACL has worked many years to have that seat. And it is important that we continue to participate and be relevant to the younger generations to inspire them to participate. If we don't, we'll lose that seat at the table," added Yonemoto. ■

On the Web: www.apivote.org,
www.jaclpsw.org,
www.bbpresforum.org

Do It Again

Despite statistics that say APAs are the fastest growing minority group in the U.S., events like the town hall remind Yang that "it's still at a very beginning stage of our movement."

In January, Nevada was also the backdrop for controversy when APAs were excluded from a live national Democratic presidential debate on minority issues.

The Iowa Brown and Black

Fill Up On Savings!

Rates as low as
4.50% APR*
at National JACL Credit Union

Beginning February 1st, National JACL Credit Union is offering free gas** to members who are approved for auto loans! Not only will you save big on your loan with rates as low as **4.50% APR***, but we're filling up your tank too!

Hurry! This offer is for a limited time only and may be discontinued at any time without notice.

Fill Up On Us!

Loan Amount	Gas Gift Card
\$5,000-14,999.99***	\$25.00
\$15,000-29,999.99	\$50.00
\$30,000-44,999.99	\$100.00
\$45,000-59,999.99	\$150.00
\$60,000+	\$200.00

*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. **Members may choose gas gift card for one of five different merchants: Chevron, Exxon/Mobil, Shell Gas, Sinclair Gas, and Tesoro. Gas gift cards will be mailed to members 45-60 days after the loan is closed. ***Chevron and Exxon/Mobil not available.

Membership and eligibility required.



National JACL
CREDIT UNION

3776 S. Highland Dr.
SLC, UT 84106
www.jaclcu.com

Calling All Interns!

Wanted: summer intern for the *Pacific Citizen*. Reward: working with an enthusiastic staff and gaining experience in a workplace environment.

The *Pacific Citizen* newspaper, the national publication of the Japanese American Citizens League, is currently looking for someone to work at its Los Angeles office, including some evenings and weekends.

Various duties include reporting, researching, rewriting of press releases and production duties. Knowledge of the Asian American community and the JACL is a plus.

College or grad students currently majoring in English or Journalism preferred, but not required. Applicants should also have a California driver's license.

The application deadline is now June 23.

If interested, please send a resume and a writing sample to the *Pacific Citizen*, 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or e-mail: editor@pacificcitizen.org, attention: Caroline Aoyagi-Stom. ■

Calendar

National

SALT LAKE CITY

July 16-20—2008 JACL National Convention; Salt Lake City Marriott Downtown, 75 South West Temple; \$225/regular, \$150/youth; early bird registration through June 30; events include, welcome mixer, youth luncheon, awards luncheon, sayonara banquet, workshop, optional tours and a golf tournament; hotel rate \$119/night plus tax (reserve by June 24); Info: www.utjac.org or www.jacl.org.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs., Sept. 25—National JACL Gala Dinner, "Celebrating Champions of Redress"; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St. NW; \$200/person, \$150/non-profits, \$100/JACL members; sponsorships available. Info: 202/223-1240.

East

NEW YORK

Through June 28—Minidoka on my Mind, paintings by Roger Shimomura; Tues.-Sat. 10:30-5 p.m.; Flomenhaft Gallery, 547 W. 27th St., Suite 308; featuring recent paintings by Roger Shimomura. Info: www.flomenhaftgallery.com or 212/268-4952.

Midwest

DENVER

July 3-6—Conference, "Whose America? Who's American? Diversity, Civil Liberties and Social Justice"; commemorating the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the conference will examine the connections between the WWII JA experience and the historical and contemporary issue surrounding democracy and civil rights. Info: www.janm.org.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Wed., June 11—3rd Annual Portland Taiko Benefit Banquet; 7 p.m. dinner; Wong's King Seafood Restaurant, 8733 SE Division St.; \$50/ticket; tickets must be purchased by June 6. Tickets: www.portland-taiko.org, the Hollywood Theater or call 503/205-0715.

Wed., June 18—Shohei Kikuchi Studio Performance; 6:30 p.m.; Moriarty Arts and Humanities Auditorium, PCC Cascade Campus, 705 N. Killingsworth St.; \$7/admission; Kikuchi, a folk dance teacher and choreographer, will perform with the Portland Taiko. Tickets available through the Portland PDX

Ticket Network, Hollywood Theater Box Office, www.portlandtaiko.org or 503/205-0715.

Through Aug. 31—Exhibit, "Go For Broke: Photographs by Motoya Nakamura"; Tues.-Sat. 11-3 p.m., Sun. noon-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW Second Ave.; exhibit features portraits of JA veterans from the 442nd RCT. Info: www.oregonnikkei.org.

Intermountain

MINIDOKA

June 20-22—2008 Minidoka Pilgrimage; registration, \$95; pilgrimage includes guided tour of Minidoka, visit to an original barrack, bbq dinner and commemorative ceremony; in conjunction with the Third Annual Civil Liberties Symposium at the College of Southern Idaho.

Northern California

EL CERRITO

Sat., June 14—Sakura Kai Festival; 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Fairmont School Auditorium (next to El Cerrito Library); featuring performances, silent auction, crafts and food. For tickets: ecsakurakai@hotmail.com.

SACRAMENTO

Sat., June 7—Film screening, "Only the Brave"; 3 p.m.; Crest Theatre; \$10/general admission, free for veterans of WWII and Korean Conflict; proceeds benefit the Sacramento Nisei Memorial Hall.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sat., June 21—4th Annual Japantown Craft Fair and Island Jam hosted by the JCYC; 10-4 p.m.; JCCCNC, 1840 Sutter St. (craft fair), Buchanan Mall (Island Jam). Info: www.jcyc.org or 415/202-7909.

TULE LAKE

July 3-6—2008 Tule Lake Pilgrimage; four-day program includes: bus tour of former campsite, cultural performances in Klamath Falls, Ore., speeches from survivors of Tule Lake, discussion groups and a memorial service; \$395/person, \$325/seniors and students; free for former Tule Lake internees who are 80 or older and children under 6 (registration includes bus transportation, housing, and all meals and activities. Info and to download registration forms, www.tulelake.org.

WATSONVILLE

Sat., June 28—Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Community Picnic; 11-4:30 p.m.; Aptos Village Park, 100 Aptos Creek Rd.; food, races, games, raffle prizes and entertainment by Watsonville Taiko; \$7/teens and adults to 69 years, \$4/seniors 70+ and children 6-12, under 6 are free.

Southern California

GARDENA
Sat., Aug. 2—GLAS JACL Hana Uno Shepard Scholarship and Fundraiser Dance; 7-11 p.m.; Ken Nakaoka Center, 1670 W. 162nd St.; \$20/donation; featuring DJ David Shinjo.

LONG BEACH

Sat.-Sun., June 28-29—Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center's Annual Summer Carnival and Cultural Festival; Sat. 3-9 p.m., Sun. 1-8 p.m.; 1766 Seabright Ave.; enjoy games, food, exhibits and demonstrations. Info: Agnes Hikida, 714/236-0335.

Sat., Sept. 13—PSW District Awards Dinner, "PSW Heroes from Redress: 20 Years of a Living Legacy"; The Grand Long Beach Event Center; \$100/person, \$1,000/table of 10; sponsorship and advertising available. Info: psw@jacl.org.

LOS ANGELES

Through June 22—(Extended dates) Performance, "Pippin"; David Henry Hwang Theater at the Union Center for the Arts, 120 Judge John Aiso St.; director Tim Dang brings anime and hip-hop into this production; previews May 8-11, \$25/any seat; opening night, \$75/any seat; general tickets, \$50/orchestra, \$45/balcony. For tickets or info: www.eastwestplayers.org or 213/625-7000.

Wed., June 25—Japan America Society of Southern California's 99th Anniversary Dinner and Gala Celebration; 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner; Pavilion for Japanese Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art,



Attendees place emas on a symbolic torii gate during the closing ceremonies of the 2007 Minidoka Pilgrimage.

5905 Wilshire Blvd.; featuring The Age of Imagination: Japanese Art from the Price Collection. Info: 213/627-6217 x205 or jas-socal.org.
July 12-13—Nishi Hongwanji Obon; 3-9 p.m.; 815 E. 1st St.; enjoy food, games, entertainment and Bon Odori. Info: 213/680-9130.

RIVERSIDE

Sat., June 28—2nd Annual Asian American Health Conference; 8:30-1:30 p.m.; Riverside Community Health Foundation, 4445-A Magnolia Ave.; conference is free and includes a light breakfast, lunch and free screenings.

Arizona

PHOENIX

Sat., June 21—Obon Festival; dinner 5-7 p.m., taiko 7 p.m., bon odori

7:30 p.m.; Arizona Buddhist Temple; tickets \$8; Bon service on June 22 at 10 a.m. Tickets: 602/278-0036.

Hawaii

HONOLULU

Through July 11—Exhibit, "More of Mo: Sculpture by Mamoru Sato"; gallery hours Tues.-Sat. 11-4 p.m.; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii; Mamoru Sato shares his most recent sculptures. Info: www.jcch.com.

Sat., July 12—Honolulu JACL Annual Membership and Awards Luncheon; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's Manoa Grand Ballroom; honoring Bob Bratt, Jane Kurahara and Betsy Young. Info: Shawn Benton, 808/523-8464 or slmbenton@gmail.com.



JAPANESE AMERICAN
CITIZENS LEAGUE

With so many places to shop for long-term care coverage, how do you decide what's best for you?

Shopping for Long-Term Care Insurance?

Don't know who to trust?



Start shopping from the source you can trust.

Call toll-free
1-800-358-3795 today.
Or visit
www.jaclinsurance.com

As a JACL member, you don't have to worry. That's because you can trust JACL and JACL's Long-Term Care Call Center. It's available to you, your spouse, your parents and your parents-in-law.

When you call the JACL Long-Term Care Call Center at **1-800-358-3795**, you'll get the first-rate service you deserve from salaried, licensed agents.

Your Long-Term Care Agent will ...

- ✓ Provide personalized one-on-one service
- ✓ Offer needs-based analysis based on your personal situation and budget
- ✓ Help guide you through the Long-Term care buying process
- ✓ Custom-tailor a plan for you

What's more, you'll never be pressured to buy, and you're never under any obligation.

Administered by:
MARSH
Affinity Group Services
a service of Sun Life of Canada



Executive Director

Japanese American Services of the East Bay (JASEB), a Berkeley-based agency which has been serving the senior community for over 35 years, is seeking an Executive Director. JASEB works with the community to continue a tradition of caring for and honoring our elders.

JASEB is seeking an individual who can lead the agency to meet the ever changing needs of the East Bay Japanese American community. We seek an individual who will have passion for JASEB's work and who will relish the opportunity to have a major impact on the effectiveness and the future direction of the agency.

The position description can be found at www.jaseb.org. Please send an email with a cover letter, resume and salary history to edsearch_jaseb@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam - 2008

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Abe, Sadaichi, 85, Honolulu, May 16; WWII veteran, 442nd; survived by wife, Aiko; sons, Gregg and Curtis; daughter, Adriane Abe-Nishimura; 5 gc.; and sisters, Florence Sakae, Lillian Ito, Frances and Claire Matsumoto.

Araki, Kenso, 79, Selma, May 13; Korean War veteran; survived by wife, Grace; sisters, Hiroko Ikeda and Yoshiko (Jack) Sakaguchi; and brothers, Tad (Sachiko), Sat (Lily) and Nob (Terrie).

Azuma, Paul Satoru, Honolulu, April 24; WWII veteran, 100th; survived by sons, Vernon, Steven and Eugene; 8 gc.; brothers, Noboru and Akira; and sister, Edith Leong.

Furuno, Fumiko, 84, Culver City, May 12; survived by husband, Arata; sons, Roger (Wendy) and Gary (Wendy); 4 gc.; sister, Kathy (Tadashi) Katayama; and brother, George Fukuda.

Gima, Shinyu David, 92, Los Angeles, May 20; survived by wife,

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcomed. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Vickie; son, Paul (Joyce); daughter, Yvonne (Fred) Liu; 6 gc.; 8 ggc.; brothers, Daniel (Toshiko) and Lawrence (Gladys); sisters, Edith (Charles) Fukuji, Rachel Nagahisa, and Fumie Morizata; and sisters-in-law, Mary and Vivian Gima.

Hashimoto, Marie Ogawa, May 4; survived by husband, Saburo; son, Steven (Amy); daughter, Susan; brothers, Kenneth and Wilson (Rosie) Ogawa; sister, Mary Kiuchi; sisters-in-law, Kiyoko Ogawa, Haruko Yamada and Shizuko Hashimoto; and brother-in-law, Leon (Esther) Hashimoto.

Ishioka, Yaeko Mae, 95, Culver City, May 7; survived by son, Tatsuo (Mikie); daughter, Peggy (Albert)

Saiki; 4 gc.; 2 ggc.; sisters, Masaye Kato, Margie Morikawa, Jane Shintani and June (Jim) Akioka; brothers, Shig (Donna), Jim (Mary) and Bob Nakagiri; and sister-in-law, Florence Nakagiri.

Ito, Ayame, 97, May 13; survived by sister, Ryuko Arai; and sister-in-law, Mary Moori.

Ito, Toshio, Bellevue, Wash., May 21; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife, Aki; daughters Alice (Robert Shimabukuro), Janice (Dean Wong) and Elaine; 1 gc.; brother, Hiroshi (Fukiko) Ito; and sister, Chiyeko (Alan) Yabuki.

Kadonaga, Yoshiko, 92, May 18; survived by sons, Shoichi (Dale) and Takeshi (Masaye); 3 gc.; and 3 ggc.

Kakiuchi, Dahlia Yoshiko, 76, May 17; survived by children, Chris, Deena (Mitchell) and Steve (Ann); and 6 gc.

Kato, Eiko, 94, Gardena, April 27; survived by sons, Arthur (Irene) and Kenneth; 5 gc.; and 4 ggc.

Kawano, Michiaki, Torrance, May 18; survived by wife, Masako; daughter, Machiko Teshirogi; sons, Hirofumi and Max; 4 gc.; brothers, Masamichi and Masatoshi; and sisters, Toshi Kawano and Taki Shinohara.

Kikuta, Harry, 81, Monterey Park, May 16; veteran; survived by wife, Judy; son, Joey (Tricia) Sakata; daughters, Janielle Sakata and Julie and Lorraine Kikuta; and 7 gc.

Koga, Albert Shunsei, 86, Honolulu, May 10; WWII veteran; survived by wife, Meriko; son, Michael; daughter, Debra Go; 4 gc.; brother, George; and sisters, Emma Miyabara and Annie Yoshimoto.

Kuwata, James Seiho, 77, April 3; survived by son, Glenn (Terry); 3 gc.; brother, Makoto (Patsy); and sisters, Teruko (Bill) Tsubota and Aiko

(George) Uchimiya.

Masuda, Frank Mamoru, 89, Fullerton, May 23; survived by wife, Toshiko; sons, David (Carolyn), Eric (Hiroko), and Richard; and 4 gc.

Matsui, Josie Yoshiko, 77, May 11; survived by husband, Mitsuyo; daughter, Nanette Watts; son, Shane; and 4 gc.

Miyamoto, Doris Sumie, 81, Pasadena, May 12; survived by sons, Gary (Susie) and Ken; 3 gc.; brother, Peter Soraoka; and sisters, Mitzi Nagatani and Lucy Yee.

Murakami, Gary Masami, 62, La Palma, May 16; survived by wife, Wendy; sons, Tyler and Wade; mother, Setsuko; brother, Richard (Chico); and sister, JoAnne (Dick) Asari.

Murakami, Teruko, 81, Los Angeles, May 23; survived by son, Gary (Liz); and brother, Yoshi (Yoko) Kanda.

Murakami, Tsui, 103, Long Beach, May 20; survived by sons, Mark and Yoshinobu (Kayko); daughters, Hanako (Rey) Nakagi and Aiko (Chris) Watanabe; brothers, Kenji (Hideko), Takashi and Atsumi (Yoko) Yamamoto.

Nakamura, Isami, 90, Torrance, May 14; survived by son, Michael (Khrys); brother, Yutaka (Chieko); sisters, Kay (Skip) Sato and Sakaye Gota; and sisters-in-law, Marian Fujimoto and Mary Nakamura.

Okawa, Martha, 82, Salt Lake City, April 1; survived by daughter, Karen; son, Alan (Allison Oki); 2 gc.; brother, Ken (Dawn) and Tom Nodzu; and sister, May (Mas) Akiyama, Gay (Paul) Higashi, Yoshiko (Tom) Guzman, Yayoi (Oscar) Misaka, and Reiko (Byron) Watanabe.

Okimura, Joyce Mitsuko, 56, Arcadia, May 13; survived by father,

Tom; brother, Ken (Cheryl) Okimura; and sisters, Arlene and Judy (Jeff Heckler).

Sakahara, Toru, 91, Seattle, Wash., April 26; survived by wife, Kiyo; son, David; daughters, Julie and April; 4 gc.; 2 ggc.; and brother, Hiroshi.

Tanaka, Fumiko, 88, La Palma, May 16; survived by son, Lee; 2 gc.; and 3 ggc.

Teraoka, Wesley K., 89, Hacienda Heights, May 12; survived by wife, Kay; daughters, Toni O'Farrell and Emiko (Ronald) Ono; sons, Ricky and Randy (Joy); 1 gc.; 2 ggc.; and sister, Joyce Tajiri.

Toda, Kenji James, 87, San Francisco, May 6; survived by daughter, Kathy (Bruce) Lange; son, Reid (Ana); 5 gc.; sister, Mary Toda; brother, George; sister-in-law, Tazu Kanda and Sally Oka; and brother-in-law, Casey Kawamoto.

Yamagata, Valerie Masaye, 80, Los Angeles, May 17; survived by brothers, Toshio and Takeshi Ishii; and sister, Chizuko Minami. ■

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
- You keep title to your home
- No Monthly Mortgage Payments
- Safe FHA 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

CA Dept. of Real Estate - Real Estate Broker #01391106

1-800-967-3575



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.

Oakland, Calif.	Greater Los Angeles	Seattle, Wash.
KITAZAWA SEED CO. 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: 510/595-1880 kitaseed@pacbell.net kitazawaseed.com	Cambridge Dental Care Scott Nishizaka D.D.S. Family Dentistry & Orthodontics 900 E. Katella, Suite A Orange, CA 92867 • (714) 538-2811 www.cambridgedentalcare.com	UWAJIMAYA ...Always in good taste.
Greater Los Angeles Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto, Optometrist & Associates A Professional Corporation 11420 E. South St, Cerritos, CA 90703 (562) 860-1339	Paul Jay Fukushima ATTORNEY AT LAW Wills & Trusts Probate & Conservatorships paul@fukushimalaw.com 12749 Norwalk Blvd. Suite 111 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-2575	
HOWARD IGASAKI, D.D.S., INC. ALAN IGASAKI, D.D.S. Dental Implants / General 22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102 Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 534-8282	Phoenix, Ariz. YUKI TADANO REALTOR®, GRI Phoenix/Scottsdale real estate 1st USA Realty Professionals, Inc. (602) 565-1630 ytadano@cox.net www.yukitadano.com	<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>

DEATH NOTICE

FUMI KITA

SALINAS, Calif.—Fumi Kita, 92, passed away. The widow of the late Dr. Harry Y. Kita, she is survived by daughters, Patricia (Mits) Fukumura and Christina (Roger) Kageyama, five grandchildren, two great grandchildren and sister, Kiyio Yoshida.

DEATH NOTICE

GEORGE H. KIDO

After a brief illness, George H. Kido, 83, passed away May 22 surrounded by his family. George was a World War II veteran serving with the MIS in Japan. Beloved husband for 55 years of Grace nee Doi. Fond and loving cousin of Norman and Herbert Inoue. Loyal and devoted brother-in-law of Paul (Tonko) Doi, Irene (late Mas) Okuda, Julia (Bill) Shaw, Hank (late Carrots) Okamura. Dear and supportive uncle of many nieces and nephews. Sat. June 14 visitation is from 2-3 p.m. with a memorial service at 3 p.m. at Church of Christ Presbyterian, 5846 N. Spaulding, Chicago, IL. (773) 267-6290.

Whereabouts

This section runs on a space available basis at no charge.

MATSUICHI KOMOTO

Del Johnson is looking for his friend who served in the 442nd. Komoto was born in Hawaii and worked for Douglas Aircraft in Los Angeles. Please send any information to slo1004@ace web.com.

TATS ISHIDA

Kiyo Hattori is looking for Tats Ishida who was originally from Reedley, Calif. The two were part of a Nisei group diverted to non-442 units after heavy casualties. They haven't seen each other since being discharged in 1946. Please send information to kiyoh@earthlinknet.



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

Gerald Fukui
President



911 VENICE BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015
TEL (213) 749-1449
FAX (213) 749-0265
日本語でも親切にお世話させていただきます。
www.kubotanikkeimortuary.com

Exploring JA Heritage in Calif.'s Greater Monterey Region

California's Monterey Coast is best known for its picturesque coastline and historic Cannery Row, but it is also rooted in a little known Japanese American history.

Japanese immigrants helped establish the region's fishing industry, filled the canneries, and toiled in the fields and woods of the Greater Monterey Bay. But during World War II, these residents were uprooted and forced into internment camps by their own government.

"None of the Japantowns regained their prewar vitality," said Donna Graves, project director of Preserving California's Japantowns, a statewide project working to raise awareness about the history of these ethnic enclaves.

Preserving California's Japantowns is hosting a June 7 public forum on the preservation of sites associated with JA heritage in the Greater Monterey Region at Monterey's historic JACL Hall.

"People did return from camp and laboriously reclaimed their churches and some businesses. But much was lost and the history of these communities is largely unknown," said Graves.

The forum will include highlights on the historic Japantowns of Monterey, Salinas and Watsonville.

"My grandfather's Sea Pride Company was located on the row and employed many Japanese immigrants in the fishing industry in the early years," said JACL National President Larry Oda, a Monterey native. "Later, my father established Del Monte Fishing and Packing on the wharf in the 1930s. There were many other businesses and farms run by Japanese throughout the region."

The Castroville Japanese Schoolhouse, which was built in 1935, was nearly forgotten until Kunio Sumida placed it on the Registry of Historic Places in the 1990s. The Monterey County Housing and Redevelopment Agency has been working with former Japanese language school students, the local JA community, and current residents to restore the site into a Cultural Enrichment Center and neighborhood park.

The Monterey JACL Hall, built in 1926, transferred title in 1941 from the "Japanese Association" to the JACL to retain the property for the community.

"To protect its important legacy, we designated the community hall as a historic site with the city in 2003. Many of the same



PHOTO COURTESY OF LARRY ODA

Japanese Americans at Point Lobos circa 1909.

Japanese cultural activities, meetings, and events held in the building serve the community in the same way it had over 80 years ago," said Oda.

The Redman-Hirahara House, which was built in 1887 by architect William Weeks for sugar beet farmer James Redman, was sold in the 1930s to the Hirahara family. Currently, there are plans to develop this historic site off Highway 1 into a visitor and cultural center that would include a wine tasting room, a working agricultural farm, historic interpretation, and an educational center.

Another highlight is the Gilroy Yamato Hot Springs, which was purchased in 1938 by H.K. Sakata and served as a commercial recreational and spiritual center for JAs and a resort and retreat site until the 1970s. Under the conservancy of the California State Parks, the site is currently closed to the public due to its condition; however plans for its restoration are being discussed. ■

Public Forum

Preserving sites associated with Japanese American heritage in the Greater Monterey Region.

Free, Sat., June 7, 2-5 p.m.

Monterey JACL Hall, 424 Adams Street in Monterey, Calif.

Info: 510/277-2164 or www.californiajapantowns.org

JAVA Awards Inaugural Scholarships

Four high school seniors were recently named winners of the first Japanese American Veterans Association memorial scholarships competition.

The winners of the \$1,000 scholarships, who beat out 37 other applicants, were recognized at a May 17 luncheon in Falls Church, Virginia.

The scholarship in the memory of Major Orville C. Shirey was awarded to Daniel E. Minamide of Escondido, Calif., who will attend Harvard University in the fall. Shirey was the S-2 (intelligence) officer with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team from its formation until the end of World War II. He is also the author of, "Americans: The Story of the 442nd Combat Team," which is considered to be the main historical reference of the unit to this day.

The Douglas Ishio Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Kelly A. Osajima of Yorba Linda, Calif., who will be attending the University of California at Los Angeles.

The Jack Tashiro Scholarship was presented to Chelsea M. Nagata, who will begin her doctoral studies in counseling psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Tashiro served in the U.S. Military Intelligence Service in Japan and Germany and held the position of JAVA treasurer for several years until his death.

The Gene Takahashi Scholarship was awarded to Sara K. Trowbridge, who will be entering her senior year at Harvard majoring in neurobiology. Takahashi was a Korean War hero and JAVA member.

The competition was stiff. Many of the applicants had grade point averages above B-plus, said Calvin Ninomiya, JAVA scholarship chair. ■

For more information: www.javadc.org

Join us for an unforgettable experience...

Whose America? Who's American?

Diversity, Civil Liberties, and Social Justice

July 3-6, 2008

Denver, Colorado

This National Conference is presented by the National Museum to examine the Japanese American experience within the historical and contemporary issues surrounding democracy and social justice.

Visit janm.org/projects/ec/conference for more information, or call Nancy Araki at 213.830.5649.

Major support for this project has been generously provided, in part, by Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc., the Institute of Museum and Library Services, Aratani Foundation, and Dr. Paul I. & Hisako Terasaki.

Additional support has also been provided by American Airlines, The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation, Manabi & Sumi Hirasaki, and Knapp Foundation.

Images credits: From the Japanese American National Museum permanent collections. Bottom left: courtesy of The Rafu Shimpo.

Conference Highlights

Featured Speakers

- U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye
- George Takei
- Dale Minami
- John Tateishi
- Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga
- Adam Schrager, Reporter 9News and author of *The Principled Politician: The Ralph Carr Story*

Trip to Amache Camp Site

Rockies Baseball Game & Fireworks—July 4th

Youth Expo

Community Marketplace

Mini Media Festival

Registration after June 5th is on-site only. Individual tickets still available for the Conference Luncheon and Dinner.



JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street, Los Angeles, California 90012
Tel 213.625.0414 • janm.org • janmstore.com