

SPECIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION ISSUE

PACIFIC CITIZEN

July 16-August 5, 2010

www.pacificcitizen.org

The national newspaper of the JACL

National
council tackles
JACL budget,
issues.

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CHICAGO: JACL'S KIND OF TOWN

Business sessions, Windy City activities and awards
— exclusive coverage inside JACL's national
convention.



PHOTO: JASON STOM

HONOREES



Stuart
Ishimaru is
among the
many honored
with JACL
awards.

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SURVIVOR



Yul Kwon, of
'Survivor' fame
keynotes
Awards
Luncheon.

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National Council Elects New National Board



The JACL national council elected its new national board at the recent national convention in Chicago. All candidates ran unopposed.

Leading the new national board will be David Kawamoto, president-elect, pictured here (far left) with Gail Sueki, new v.p. of general operations and Jason Chang, new v.p. of planning and development.

Below are the detailed elections results.

Election Results

David Kawamoto
National President

Number of Votes Cast: 80.5
Necessary For Election: 41
Votes received: 76

Gail Sueki
V.P. for General Operations

Number of Votes Cast: 80.5
Necessary For Election: 41

Votes Received: 75.5

Ron Katsuyama
V.P. for Public Affairs

Number of Votes Cast: 80.5
Necessary For Election: 41
Votes Received: 66.5

Jason Chang
V.P. for Planning & Development

Number of Votes Cast: 80.5
Necessary For Election: 41
Votes Received: 79

David T. Lin,
V.P. for Membership

Number of Votes Cast: 80.5
Necessary For Election: 41
Votes Received: 79

Joshua Spry,
Secretary/Treasurer

No candidates ran for the position, but Spry has agreed to serve again.

Matthew Farrells, National
Youth/Student Chairperson

Number of Votes Cast: 6
Necessary For Election: 4
Votes Received: 6

Devin Yoshikawa, National
Youth/Student Representative

Number of Votes Cast: 6
Necessary For Election: 4
Votes Received: 6

** Information provided by the Nominations Committee*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Much Work Ahead of Us

By David H. Kawamoto



Due to the scheduling change in the 2010 National JACL Convention, the Sayonara Banquet was held on Friday, the night before the election of the new national JACL officers. Therefore, the new officers did not receive their customary introduction at the banquet and I did not have the opportunity to say a few words on behalf of your new national JACL board. I would like to take the opportunity to forward some of the comments I would have made if I had spoken

after our installation.

Please let me begin by expressing the appreciation of the entire JACL to outgoing National President Larry Oda. I know he worked diligently during his four years as our president, and he was our finest example of the selfless volunteerism in the JACL. Also, please join me in thanking the other outgoing members of our national board, Sheldon Arakaki, Kimberly Shintaku and Brandon Mita.

This biennium, JACL was fortunate to have many qualified applicants for the national officer positions. Though all candidates ran unopposed (somewhat of a JACL tradition), I was pleased to see that all of the candidates received over 80 percent of the votes, and most received over 90 percent. Obviously, our national council took note of the quality of the applicants and their strong commitment to the JACL. I know I was very impressed with all of the candidates and look forward to working with them during this biennium.

Your new national board reflects the geographic diversity of our organization. Gail Sueki of San Jose is your vice president, general operations. Ron Katsuyama of Dayton was reelected the vice president, public affairs.

See DAVID KAWAMOTO/Page 15

NAT'L DIRECTOR'S REPORT

41st Biennial Convention

By Floyd Mori



The JACL just concluded its 41st Biennial National Convention in Chicago. We are very grateful to Ron Yoshino, convention chair, and the Chicago JACL chapter members with chapter president, Megan Nakano, for hosting this historic convention. This was the last of the JACL conventions on the biennial schedule. In keeping with the convention theme of "Embracing Change," the JACL will go to an annual convention format starting with the next convention in Los Angeles in

2011 with Gary Mayeda as the convention chair.

It takes many hours of planning and hard work from the convention committee as well as the JACL staff and board to put on a national convention. Bill Yoshino, JACL's regional director in the Midwest office, Christine Munteanu, the JACL Ford fellow, and Jean Shiraki, the JACL Inouye fellow, were heavily involved in the convention planning and execution as were Carol and Joyce Yoshino, and many others within the Chicago chapter and all national JACL staff who had important duties.

Karen Yoshitomi, PNW regional director, is the staff person who oversees the conventions. Sheldon Arakaki, the outgoing vice president of general operations, was the board member overseeing the convention with Gail Sueki elected to that position. Many JACL members served as committee members and chairs. Thank you to all who helped to make the convention a success, including delegates, participants, speakers, volunteers, entertainers, sponsors, exhibitors and boosters. It was nice to see families with young children and babies in attendance. Thanks to the outgoing national board and congratulations to the newly elected national board.

The National Youth/Student Council with outgoing chair and rep.,

See FLOYD MORI/Page 13

PACIFIC CITIZEN

HOW TO REACH US

E-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org
Online: www.pacificcitizen.org
Tel: (800) 966-6157
Fax: (213) 620-1768
Mail: 250 E. First Street, Suite 301
Los Angeles, CA 90012

STAFF

Executive Editor
Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom

Assistant Editor
Lynda Lin

Reporter
Nalea J. Ko

Business Manager
Vacant

Circulation
Eva Lau-Ting

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JACL

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JACL President: David Kawamoto
National Director: Floyd Mori

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JACL Delegates Pass Biennial Budget, Voting Against Dues Increase and P.C. Move

The biennial budget was amended and approved to include a combination of the *Pacific Citizen* and PSW offices in an effort to balance the budget.

Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

The majority of the delegation approved amendments to the JACL national budget that prevented the *Pacific Citizen* from relocating to San Francisco and a membership dues increase.

At the JACL national convention on July 3 delegates voted in favor of the amendment to keep the *P.C.* in Los Angeles. They voted in support of the amendment 72 to 13, with four split votes.

Milo Yoshino, of the Diablo Valley chapter, presented Amendment A to the 2011-2012 budget, proposing to combine the Pacific Southwest District and *P.C.* offices under one roof.

He also presented Amendment B, which proposed eliminating a membership dues increase. Delegates voted 53 to 27 in favor of that amendment, with four split votes.

Some of those who opposed Amendment A said JACL needs to look to the future and make "important strategic decisions."

"We do need to become one organization," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "There needs to be an effort to look at the business aspect of running this organization. We can't be running this organization on sentimental, sentiments and emotions."

The amendment Yoshino presented created a surplus of about \$47,000, he said. In the 2011 proposed budget, \$217,403 of membership dues would fund the *P.C.* With the amended budget, \$167,955 in membership dues would contribute to the *P.C.'s* budget.

Membership dues distributed to the *P.C.* in 2012 would decrease to \$163,171 under the amendment.

The 2011-2012 biennial budget prepared by Treasurer/Secretary Josh Spry proposed spending \$2,341,218 in 2011 and \$2,401,541 in 2012. There were deficits of \$200,00 and \$60,000 in 2008 and 2009 respectively. The reserves are empty.

The biggest expenses in 2011 would be personnel (\$895,705), contract services (\$262,400), travel (\$134,000), maintenance (\$130,118) and circulation and mailing (\$129,000).

In order to balance the budget, excess revenue created from the amendments will be used to increase miscellaneous expenses in general operations, said Spry.

Supporters of the amendment urged delegates to consider that the *P.C.* is the only tangible outreach members receive from JACL.

"I tried to diligently represent what they [Contra Costa chapter members] want," said Judith Aono, from the Contra Costa chapter. "And they are, I would like to say, adamantly opposed to the *P.C.* move, to *P.C.* going digital."

Floyd Shimomura, past national JACL president, conducted a feasibility study in 1998 when it was first proposed that the *P.C.* relocate to San Francisco. It was determined then by Shimomura that the relocation of the *P.C.* from Los Angeles to the San Francisco JACL headquarters would have a net savings of \$10,000.

Shimomura concluded in 1998 that the *P.C.* could be "squeezed into the second floor" of the national headquarters, but the savings would be "too slight to justify losing our historic JACL 'presence' in Southern California."



Milo Yoshino of the Diablo Valley JACL (pictured, right) presents Amendment A for the 2011-2012 biennial budget during the national JACL convention in Chicago as EDC Governor Toshi Abe listens on.

Michelle M. Yoshida, former legal counsel, also conducted a feasibility study just prior to the recent Chicago convention. She found a one-time cost of at least \$32,400 to move the *P.C.*, which does not include remodeling costs at the headquarters. The savings would be about \$19,740 per year, the result of eliminating PSW's rental costs.

Those in support of opposing the amendment said JACL's financial situation warrants making "strategic decisions," such as relocating the *P.C.* office.

"There is no safety net left in the reserves," said Chip Larouche, PNW governor with the Gresham-Troutdale chapter. "And bringing the functions that are currently in Los Angeles to a facility that we already own in San Francisco is in my opinion the only safe alternative for a long-term success."

Mori agreed saying other JACL staffers have had to do "double and triple duty," due to financial constraints, but he said the *P.C.* continues to put out a semi-monthly publication.

"This is basically what's been happening over the last decade is that the *Pacific Citizen* and its costs continue to go up but as you heard over the past decade we continue to cut position, after position, after position," Mori explained. "So being one organization, my vision in the future is that yes we have to be one organization and one way is to be under the same, under one roof."

The *P.C.* reduced its operating expenses in 2009 by eight percent. Funding from JACL to the *P.C.* was reduced from \$241,873 to \$206,375 (equivalent to about \$14.77 per member), according to the *P.C.* Editorial Board's "New Media Approach."

The budget discussion escalated as delegates took to the floor to air their concerns about possibly displacing staff.

Yoshida explained that moving the *P.C.* under one roof in San Francisco would result in the loss of the entire staff because none are willing to relocate.

"You know I don't feel comfortable belonging to an organization that just dumps people like that," said Jeff Itami, a member the *P.C.* Editorial Board and the Salt Lake City chapter, after hearing that the *P.C.* staff would not receive severance pay. "I think that when you get your first pink slip I think you're going to find that's a very unhappy moment for you."

There was also concern that the *P.C.'s* office space could not

accommodate PSW's staff, which is estimated to increase.

Craig Ishii, PSW regional director, said with the new National Park Service grant recently received by JACL they would likely increase their staff of nine by about two employees.

"The current office space for the PSW district is 900 square feet of space," Ishii said. "When talking with Gary [Mayeda] and looking at the space that we might utilize in the *Pacific Citizen* office it's about 900 square feet of space as well with the meeting and conference room."

"So it's no smaller or larger than the current space that we currently have right now." The *P.C.'s* office in L.A. is 2,386 square feet.

P.C. signed a five-year lease extension for its office space location in L.A.'s Japantown. Some board members said combining program facilities is possible since PSW's office lease expires later this year.

The proposed move was intended to eliminate the *P.C.'s* occupancy fees (which includes maintenance and utilities) of about \$55,000 a year by moving the paper and staff to the JACL-owned headquarters in San Francisco.

Many in attendance also addressed the possible disruption in publication should the *P.C.* relocate to San Francisco.

"I'm very appreciative of the documentation of the cost impact that details out the different scenarios: to move or not to move," said Brian Morishita, IDC governor with the Idaho Falls chapter. "But there's a cost impact, a possible risk, that I'm terribly concerned about too. And what the cost and that risk is associated with is possible ... disruption of the service to the *Pacific Citizen*."

Morishita said for many of the members the *P.C.* is their only link to the JACL at the national level.

"So a disrupting of service to that, to the *Pacific Citizen*, I'm concerned about whether or not they would even continue to be members of the Japanese American Citizens League," he added.

Those in support of the amendment said an interruption in publication would also mean a loss in advertising revenues. Fifty percent of the *P.C.'s* budget is raised through non-member subscriptions, fundraising, advertising and the Holiday Issue, a fundraiser that grosses almost \$110,000.

The *P.C.'s* Holiday Issue could also possibly be impacted because the move coincides with the production in December. About \$30,000 in commissions is distributed from the publication to JACL chapters.

David Lin, vice president for membership and services, said JACL is at a critical point and needs to think from a business perspective. He urged the delegates to oppose Amendment A, saying if tough decisions are not made immediately, they will only surface again in the future.

Members in the end overwhelmingly voted to keep the *P.C.* in Los Angeles.

"Problems are created by people, they're solved by people," said Hugh Burleson, with the Lake Washington chapter. "A newspaper similarly is not just a mechanical structure, it is people."

"We can't just cast them aside because we want to save some money, we can find other ways to get the money to keep operating the *P.C.* semi-monthly publication." ■

JAs Stand Against Arizona's Immigration Law



'Arizona Senate Bill 1070 was written in a very clever, complex way. It's open to a great deal of interpretation, which makes it very confusing.'

Ted Namba (pictured, left)
Arizona JACL chapter

At the 2010 JACL national convention a resolution passes to make opposing Arizona's immigration law its "top priority."

Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

JACL delegates voted overwhelming to continue opposing Arizona's immigration enforcement law days before the federal government also sued the state.

Members passed a resolution to join future legal efforts to repeal the law before its effective date on July 29. A motion was made by Bryan Namba, Arizona JACL, to adopt the resolution, and was seconded by Chip Larouche, PNW governor.

The 80 to 1 vote at the JACL national convention came before the Department of Justice filed a July 6 lawsuit. That lawsuit indicates Arizona's immigration law "crossed a constitutional line."

Arizona's immigration law, or SB 1070, requires law enforcement to question the immigration status of suspects when there is reasonable suspicion.

The controversial law has sparked protests and lawsuits across the country from immigration advocates and critics.

Some Japanese Americans at the JACL convention compared Arizona's immigration law to Executive Order 9066, which ordered the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

"The issue with JACL is as it was in 1941 that is that innocent people can be reasonably suspected of being an illegal immigrant," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "In 1942 all Japanese Americans were suspected regardless of their citizenship, regardless of what they did, of being criminals, and they were sent to prison."

Mori added that SB 1070 has nothing to do with immigration reform, but due process and equal protection rights.

SB 1070 requires that Arizona law enforcement officials uphold federal immigration laws. The law does not specify what police

officers should do if a suspect is determined to be an undocumented citizen.

Immigration advocates say the law will only perpetuate racial profiling against people of color.

In addition to the Arizona SB 1070 resolution, JACL delegates also passed a resolution considering the power of words. The resolution called on JACL to substitute using terms like internment camps for "concentration camps."

Members voted down resolutions concerning calendar year membership and a commemorative stamp for the National Japanese American Memorial in Wash., D.C. Delegates passed, however, a proposal to build a Topaz museum.

Challenging Arizona's Law

Those who supported the resolution challenging SB 1070 agreed with the resolution's wording that, "JACL was founded during times of anti-Asian and anti-immigrant sentiment similar to the anti-Latino, anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, and anti-undocumented sentiment seen in the 21st Century immigration debate."

Speaking at the national convention, Arizona JACL member Ted Namba told delegates and the national council the story of Jim Shee, who is of Chinese and Spanish descent.

Arizona JACL member Shee said he was pulled over by the police while driving his BMW with tinted windows. Shee was allegedly asked to produce his papers.

This law, Namba said, opens the door to further racial profiling. Legal counsel that is representing the JACL and other plaintiffs is actively collecting community feedback of similar stories, he said. Those Arizonans who believe SB 1070 has affected them are encouraged to contact the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles.

The federal government also challenged SB 1070's constitutionality, requesting a preliminary injunction because the law will cause "irreparable harm."

"Arizonans are understandably frustrated with illegal immigration, and the federal gov-

ernment has a responsibility to comprehensively address those concerns," Attorney General Eric Holder said in a July 6 press release. "But diverting federal resources away from dangerous aliens such as terrorism suspects and aliens with criminal records will impact the entire country's safety."

In May, the JACL national board voted 8 to 6 to join a class action lawsuit in opposition to SB 1070.

Other plaintiffs in the lawsuit include Friendly House, Service Employees International Union (SEIU), United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), Arizona South Asians For Safe Families, Southside Presbyterian Church, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Asian Chamber of Commerce of Arizona, Border Action Network, Tonatierra Community Development Institute, Muslim American Society, Valle del Sol, Inc. and Coalicion de Derechos Humanos, among individual plaintiffs.

Attorneys representing plaintiffs such as JACL are working pro bono.

"The attorneys are really trying to ask the plaintiffs to document as much as possible," Namba said. "There have been a couple of cases of Asian Pacific Islanders in Maricopa County that have commented. But it has been difficult to have them come forward and consult with our attorneys."

While JACLers overwhelmingly voted to support the resolution in opposition to Arizona's immigration law, many were concerned about the possibility of incurring legal fees in the future.

"We support this resolution wholeheartedly, but we are totally aware of JACL's rather delicate financial situation," said Judith Aono, who is with the Diablo Valley chapter. "And so we really want to make sure that this is absolutely understood that JACL national will not at any point incur expenses."

Michelle Yoshida, immediate former legal counsel, said JACL would only be fiscally responsible for the legal fees under two stipu-

See SB 1070/Page 15

SB 1070 Q & A

Prepared by Ron Katsuyama
JACL V.P. for Public Affairs



Q: What is the general nature of SB 1070?

A: AB 1070 establishes a system of state laws that represent a poli-

cy known as "attrition through enforcement." Its purpose is to prevent and punish "the unlawful entry and presence of aliens." One of the controversies regarding SB 1070 is that it directs Arizona police to determine the immigration status of a person (who is lawfully stopped, detained, or arrested) whenever "reasonable suspicion exists that the person is an alien and is unlawfully present."

Q: Why does JACL oppose SB 1070? Doesn't it just uphold federal laws?

A: No, SB 1070 goes beyond federal laws. Whereas a violation of a federal immigration law is a civil offense, SB 1070 criminalizes this offense and imposes punishments. Further, SB 1070 permits Arizona police to conduct warrantless arrests of individuals without probable cause that they have committed crimes. This is one of the grounds upon which JACL is challenging the constitutionality of SB 1070.

Q: Exactly how is JACL challenging SB 1070?

A: JACL is one of several plaintiffs in a class action suit referred to as "*Friendly House et al v Whiting, et al*" (Friendly House, a non-profit educational and social service agency, is the first-named plaintiff, and Whiting, an attorney general of Apache County, Arizona, is the first-named defendant.) Attorneys affiliated with the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) are the legal counsel representing JACL, and they do so without attorney fees or other costs associated with this case.

Q: What are the constitutional issues involved in *Friendly House, et al v Whiting, et al*?

A: There are several. First of all, under SB 1070 a police officer can develop a "reasonable suspicion" of a person's unauthorized status from his or her speech and other expressive behaviors. This violates protection of free speech under the First Amendment. Secondly, SB 1070 authorizes the warrantless search and arrest of an individual in any setting, including the individual's home, which is in violation of the Fourth Amendment's protection against

See Q&A-SB 1070/Page 12

JACLers Fight to Continue a Stamp Campaign Honoring Nisei Vets

Opponents of a NJAMP commemorative stamp resolution say its passage could have ended the fight to honor Nisei veterans.

Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

A JACL national council resolution that would have endorsed a commemorative stamp proposal for a national memorial failed, giving opponents an opportunity to specifically campaign to recognize Nisei veterans.

At the July 3 business session at the JACL national convention in Chicago a resolution for a commemorative stamp was presented, which would honor the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, D.C. By a vote of 41 to 37, the bill failed. There were four split votes.

Opponents to the resolution say they were against it because they believe efforts to honor Nisei vets with a special stamp have not been exhausted.

“Gerald Yamada who’s been working on the postage stamp with JAVA had e-mailed me, asking me to speak in opposition to the stamp because they don’t feel that all the avenues to getting the stamp for the Nisei soldiers have been explored,” said Michelle Amano, granddaughter of Mike Masaoka, a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Unit.

Amano said she spoke at the convention in opposition to the resolution on behalf of the Japanese American Veterans Association, or JAVA.

Gerald H. Yamada, the JAVA Nisei veteran stamp project liaison, said the resolution “accepts second-best in honoring the WWII Nisei soldiers.”

It also, he said in a May 7 letter to then-JACL National President Larry Oda, “undercuts” their efforts to overturn a policy with the U.S. Postal Service’s Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee.

That policy indicates that the committee will not honor separate military sub-branches, units or divisions with a commemorative stamp.

Over 30,000 JAs served in WWII, while their families were incarcerated behind barbed wire.

The Japanese American WWII Veterans Commemorative Stamp Campaign has for years worked to honor veterans who served despite discrimination with a commemorative stamp.

A proposal for a Nisei veterans stamp was rejected earlier this year. The committee, which works on behalf of the post-



Mas Hashimoto of the JACL Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter speaks in support of a NJAMP commemorative stamp resolution.

master general to evaluate stamp proposals, instead recommended creating a stamp honoring the memorial.

Some supporters of the JACL resolution said fighting for a stamp in honor of Nisei veterans is futile since officials will not change internal guidelines that bar honoring single military units.

“I’m a retired postal employee and I can speak to that part of the problem,” said Micki Kawakami, JACL Pocatello-Blackfoot member, at the convention. “Very few commemoratives at this point in time — with the postal service in the red for billions of dollars — are being accepted from the community.”

Kawakami said she sees a “very dismal prospect for its passage.” Instead she suggested that opponents to the resolution campaign for a special stamp cancellation, a postal marking applied on stamps or envelopes to prevent reuse.

Mas Hashimoto, who motioned to adopt the resolution, said the memorial stamp could be one of a series dedicated to the JA experience.

“What I envision in this stamp is not just one stamp, but I see five stamps,” Hashimoto explained.

He said there would be a stamp for the Issei who taught their children *gaman*. Another stamp would illustrate the incarceration of 120,000 people during WWII, Hashimoto said. The other three stamps in Hashimoto’s proposed series would honor

the Military Intelligence Service, the 442nd RCT/100th Battalion and those who supported JAs.

“And we can use this as an educational tool to teach all over the country about the experience of the Japanese Americans, but also the contributions of the Japanese and Japanese Americans to this country,” Hashimoto said. “I see such a great future here.”

Nearly 50,000 stamp proposals are submitted to the stamp committee annually. Opponents to the resolution said other separate units have also campaigned for commemorative stamps.

“You look at certain things like the Tuskegee Airmen and you look at the Navajo Code Talkers, those in a way were segregated units because that’s

how it was back then,” Amano said about other commemorative stamp campaigns.

“Maybe it’s my ignorance and I’m missing how the Nisei soldiers are different then the Tuskegee Airmen or the Navajo Code Talkers in terms of being a unit, a separate unit.”

Yamada echoes her sentiments, stating in a letter that the resolution for a commemorative stamp to the memorial dilutes America’s apology to JAs because the monument in Washington, D.C. is not a military monument.

Amano said her grandfather always talked about building a memorial in honor of the Nisei veterans’ service to the U.S.

On a visit to the Arlington National Cemetery one Memorial Day, Amano recalled her grandfather saying “wow, wouldn’t it be nice to have a memorial to the soldiers.” He died at age 75 in 1991, never seeing the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism.

Despite his wish to have a memorial, Amano said it is important to specifically honor Nisei vets like her grandfather with a stamp.

“It would be a nice tribute to them to say, ‘Thank you for all that you’ve done,’” Amano explained.

“And without them and without their sacrifices we wouldn’t have things like our different memorials, especially the one in D.C., the memorial to patriotism.” ■

Civil Rights Leader, Biochemistry Professor Received JA of Biennium

Both Stuart Ishimaru and Dr. Richard Morimoto can boast groundbreaking achievements in their fields.

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

Two community leaders were honored with JACL’s Japanese American of the Biennium Awards at the national convention in Chicago.

The recipients were Stuart Ishimaru, of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and Dr. Richard Morimoto, professor of biochemistry, molecular biology and cell biology at Northwestern University.

The Japanese American of the Biennium Awards, the JACL’s highest public award, were presented July 2 at the JACL National Convention’s Sayonara Banquet.

“Each of these individuals has made significant contributions in their respective fields,”



Dr. Richard Morimoto (above), along with Stuart Ishimaru, were named this year’s JAs of the Biennium.

said Larry Oda, immediate past JACL president.

Ishimaru was recognized for his commitment to protecting the civil rights of all Americans.

President Barack Obama appointed Ishimaru, a long-time JACLer, to serve as acting chair of the EEOC in 2009. Prior to this, he served as research assistant on the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and as a deputy assistant attorney general in the civil rights division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

“I must say that this is quite an honor and something totally unexpected,” said Ishimaru who remembered the 1968 JACL national convention in San

Jose where then vice-mayor Norman Mineta received the same award.

Ishimaru’s mother once worked as Mineta’s office manager in his San Jose district office.

“For my mother and father this is really a

treat,” said Ishimaru.

Morimoto was honored for his groundbreaking work on neurodegenerative diseases including Huntington’s Disease and Lou Gehrig’s Disease. He is internationally renowned for his work on how misfolded proteins are corrected through the heat shock response.

“The use of genetics and molecular biology are the tools I used to discover the genes to protect us from the diseases like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s ... and in the development of new cures,” said Morimoto.

While receiving his award, Morimoto recognized a past JA of the Biennium recipient, Dr. Harvey Itano, who in 1949 published a study on sickle cell anemia that is widely considered to be the founding paper in the field of molecular medicine. Itano died May 8.

In addition to his contributions to the field of science, Morimoto is well-known at the Midwest Buddhist Temple where he serves as chair of its board of directors. ■

Yul Kwon Tackles Lack of APA Representation in the Media

Growing up, Kwon said he internalized a lot of negative ethnic stereotypes, so he went on national TV to redefine being APA.

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor



At 35, Yul Kwon has held many prestigious titles: Yale law school graduate, deputy chief of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau for the Federal Communications Commission, and of course *People Magazine's* "Sexiest Man Alive" for his often shirtless role on a popular reality television show.

"I was the Asian guy on 'Survivor,'" Kwon said July 1 to JACL members in Chicago where he held another title—keynote speaker of the JACL National Convention Awards Luncheon.

"Now that I'm wearing a suit again, people don't recognize me as much."

In 2006, Kwon emerged as the winner of "Survivor: Cook Islands", a controversial season that snagged national headlines for its racially segregated cast. Since then, he has spent much of his time talking about the importance of positive Asian Pacific American representation on television, in boardrooms and beyond.

"We have to learn to walk the walk and talk the talk," said Kwon. "Our community has made some enormous strides especially through the leadership of organizations like JACL. But overall, we're still behind the curve."

He cited sobering statistics: even though APAs make up 9 percent of all professionals in the U.S. they still make up less than 1 percent of senior executives.

"It's called hitting the bamboo ceiling."

But for Kwon, who grew up in Northern California, the absence of APAs in the media had a profound effect.

"Ever since I was a kid it bothered me that I didn't see many people on TV that looked like me. And if I did see Asian American actors they were portrayed according to these negative stereotypes," he said.

"Asian women were usually shown as submissive sexual servants or exotic dragon ladies. When I saw an Asian American man on television he was inevitably a computer geek who couldn't get a date or a kung fu master who could kick butt but couldn't speak English."

Kwon, who is Korean American, started internalizing these images. It affected how he looked at himself.

"I did all the typical Asian guy stuff. I wrote computer programs. I wouldn't talk to girls because I was too scared to talk to them," said Kwon. "One day I took a hard look at myself and I decided that I didn't want to be the stereotypical Asian geek."

In high school he joined the varsity water polo team, and graduated as the valedictorian

of his class before moving on to Stanford University to build the foundation for his career, which included Google and several prestigious law firms.

Even then, he said, it took a long time to develop his self-confidence.

"I think the lack of positive images in the media had a lot to do with that."

Then "Survivor" casting agents came knocking.

Kwon grew up in a traditional APA family that pushed education above anything else, so the idea of going on television was strange at first. It didn't help that his family had misconceptions about the CBS reality show. His dad, who had never watched an episode of "Survivor" before, thought the show was really about survival—meaning 20 people would compete and 19 would die, he said with a laugh.

Despite his misgivings, Kwon also saw opportunity.

"Maybe I could become the kind of role model that I didn't have when I was young. Maybe I can help the next generation of kids from my community avoid the self-doubt that I struggled with when I was their age."

But when he went to his casting interview, it became obvious that Kwon was being cast as the stereotypical overachieving APA. He was told to wear glasses and a suit.

Becky Lee, an APA attorney and "Survivor: Cook Islands" second runner-up, was cast because the show's producer searched for "hot Asian chicks" on MySpace, said Kwon.

Above everything else, Kwon wants to dispel APA stereotypes.

He did it as the hero of a national reality show speaking English and not practicing martial arts.

Lee used her "Survivor" winning to establish Becky's Fund, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit with a mission to foster awareness of domestic violence issues.

"You have to make sure your presence is visible and your voice is heard," said Kwon.

"It's an incredibly exciting time to be Asian American," he told JACLers. "Each of you has the talent and opportunity to live an extraordinary life. Each you has the ability to go beyond other people's expectations to make a difference in our community and become leaders beyond the borders of our ethnicities."

"The best part is you don't have to go on a stupid reality show to do it." ■

JACL NY/SC Celebrates Young Leaders With Vision, Voice

Intercollegiate Nikkei Council receives Vision Award and Nicole Horiuchi Gaddie wins oratorical competition.

The Intercollegiate Nikkei Council (INC), a coalition of Southern California Nikkei collegiate organizations, was honored with the Vision Award for its dedication to community outreach and activism.

The award, which is presented every biennium by the JACL National Youth/Student Council, recognizes an Asian Pacific American individual or organization that has shown a commitment to historical and cultural activism.

Lauren Gima, of the University of California, San Diego, and Kristen Wong, of the University of California, Irvine, accepted the Vision Award on behalf of INC.

Both Gima and Wong stressed the importance of INC's dedication to the community while accepting the award at the July 3 Youth Luncheon. INC offers opportunities for young adults to participate in the greater Japanese American community, including volunteering for the annual Little Tokyo Children's Day and coordinating the ReVISIONS Nikkei Youth Conference.

Past Vision Award recipients include Judge Lance Ito, Olympian Kristi Yamaguchi and former NFL star Dat Nguyen.

Great Debater



Kristen Wong (left) and Lauren Gima of INC.

The winner of the Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition was also announced at the Youth Luncheon.

Nicole Horiuchi Gaddie, a senior at Skyline High School in Salt Lake City, was awarded prizes for her winning speech.

Prizes include two round trip tickets to Japan and three-nights complimentary stay at the Hyatt Regency Tokyo, among others.

In the fall, Gaddie will attend Seattle University to major in broadcast journalism and communications.

The competition is named in honor of Yasui, an attorney and civil rights activist who never wavered in his pursuit of social justice. During World War II, Yasui tested the constitutionality of the curfew orders imposed against JAs after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

During the 1980s, Yasui also served as an articulate voice in the JACL's successful Redress campaign. ■



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Civil Rights Advocate Michael Lieberman Wins Edison Uno Award

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

There are many similarities between Michael Lieberman and the late JACL civil rights icon Edison Uno.

According to JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who has worked with both men in his career as a politician and a community leader, both are “unrelenting, yet advocates of civil rights.”

There is one difference. Lieberman, the Washington Counsel for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), is gentle but not quiet about the issues he’s passionate about.

“His voice is heard throughout the halls of Congress on our behalf,” said Mori before presenting Lieberman with the Edison Uno Memorial Civil Rights Award at the July 1 JACL Awards Luncheon.

The award, which was established in 1985, recognizes an organization or individual dedicated to outstanding leadership in the field of civil rights.

For Lieberman, his leadership is exemplified in the over decade-long fight for the passage of the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which was signed into law in October 2009. The act expands the coverage of existing hate crime



laws to include actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender and disability.

Over the years, the bill has had many names. It was called the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act and the Local Law Enforcement Hate

Crimes Prevention Act.

“We never got around to a snappy acronym,” said Lieberman, who over the years has briefed many classes of the JACL/OCA D.C. Leadership Conference about the status of the hate crimes bill.

Before picking up the award, Lieberman said he spent some time learning about Uno, who was one of the first to call for Redress for the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans.

“He is an excellent role model as an activist as someone impatient for change who channeled the scars of his past to something positive — social justice and the movement towards Redress,” said Lieberman.

For 12 years Lieberman and the JACL have worked together to secure the passage of the hate crimes bill. In Chicago, he celebrated the “titanic victory” with the organization that was with him every step of the way. ■

Civil Rights Leaders Examine Evolution of Civil Rights Movement

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

The Civil Rights Movement is at a crossroads that transcends history and labels, according to panelists at the July 1 “Reframing Civil Rights” plenary session held during the JACL national convention in Chicago.

The panel of experts examined the evolution of the Civil Rights Movement from its 1960s heyday to the present-day challenges of what many call a post-racial era.

“The 1960s model is broken,” said Laura S. Washington, a DePaul University professor and *Chicago Sun-Times* columnist. “It feels out of touch.”

Significant progress has been made including the growing presence of Asian Pacific Americans in elected offices and in the White House. But according to the panelists the more things change, the more things stay the same.

“Yes, we’re making progress in the laws and in diversity, but we still face obstacles in changing people’s hearts,” said Karen Narasaki, president and executive director of the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC).

Ground-zero, she said, is in Arizona where state and federal officials are embroiled in a battle with community activists over a controversial immigration law that criminalizes being undocumented. While supporters say the law, SB 1070, is needed because of the federal government’s failure to secure the borders, opponents say it will lead to racial profiling.

Panelist Michael Lieberman, Washington counsel for the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), has been working to expose bigotry and words of hate in the immigration debate.

He called it an “atmosphere of demonization,” and cited the 2008 murder of José Sucuzhailay, an Ecuadorean immigrant who was attacked in New York while walking home with his brother because of his ethnicity and perceived sexual orientation. Keith Phoenix, 30, was convicted June 28 of a hate crime.

Since 1997 the ADL and the JACL have been working to pass a hate crimes bill that includes a provision barring discrimination based on sexual orientation. Last year, President Barack Obama signed the bill into law.

But with Obama’s election as the first African American U.S. president came debate about the rise of a post-racial nation, which panelists said has posed new challenges in the fight for civil rights.

The biggest challenge is that there are still civil rights issues, said Washington.

“When people talk about post racial America ... it drives me crazy,” said Stuart Ishimaru, of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which



Stuart Ishimaru of the EEOC speaks at the “Reframing Civil Rights” plenary session during the JACL national convention.

enforces federal legislation prohibiting discrimination in the workplace.

With the EEOC, Ishimaru said he has heard many complaints of employment discrimination that involve the use of racial epithets.

“Things that would curl your hair,” he said.

“Civil rights issues are here to stay,” said Paul Igasaki, plenary session moderator and chair and chief judge of the Administrative Review Board at the U.S. Department of Labor. “There will always be issues for us. Issues in labor, immigration, hate crimes, marriage. It’s a changing dynamic.”

Even things we think that are settled like the World War II internment of Japanese Americans has been rewritten, said Lieberman, about the Texas Board of Education’s recent adoption of a social studies and history curriculum that critics say waters down the teaching of the Civil Rights Movement and the history of the internment.

The Texas Board of Education has since announced that it would include information about the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in its fifth grade textbooks.

Some people throw up their hands when faced with challenges, others roll up their sleeves like the JACL, said Lieberman.

Panelists said the challenge in the next decade is to push past misconceptions that civil rights battles have all been won.

“We still need to remind people what the truth is while we move forward,” said Narasaki. ■

Plenary Session 2 ‘Responding to Diversity Within the Asian American Community’ July 3

Larry Shinagawa, Tom Kendzierski and Dana Nakano tackled issues about diversity within the Japanese American community, the JACL and the U.S. Armed Forces.

Shinagawa, associate professor and director of Asian American Studies at the University of Maryland, discussed the results of his ethnographic study on JAs, while PhD student Nakano presented statistics from his survey of the JACL membership. Kendzierski, a Navy rear admiral, discussed diversity while Robert Tagalicod, of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services talked about health disparities.

George Wu, executive director of OCA National, moderated.

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EMBRACING CHANGE IN CHICAGO



ROLL OUT: JACLers mobilized their Segways, two-wheeled, self-balancing electric vehicles, for a tour of Chicago — a part of the many activities available to convention attendees.

Two years of planning culminated in a busy, fun-filled national convention in the Windy City, the last biennial convention for the JACL. Members, delegates and boosters will have the opportunity to meet annually starting next year. Until then, thanks for the memories, Chicago.

1. Craig Ishii, PSW regional director, is flanked by Devin Yoshikawa (left), JACL youth rep and Matthew Farrells, JACL youth chair.

2. Berkeley JACler Valerie Yasukochi ran into Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Miami Heat's Juwan Howard.

3. JACL National President David Kawamoto shares a moment with his wife Carol and Chicago JACler Lary Schectman.





YES, WE CAN: Central California District Council delegates take part in the democratic process during a business session. Each biennium, the national council votes on key JACL issues.

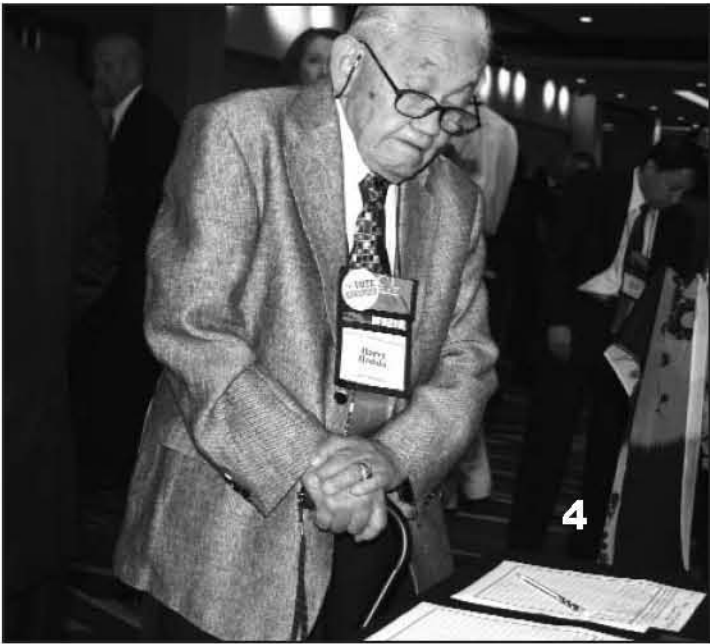


1. Puyallup JACler Elsie Leilani Taniguchi cut a rug at the Welcome Mixer.
2. Midwest District Gov. Sharon Ishii Jordan addresses the national council during a business session.
3. Lillian Kimura, New York JACler and former JACL national president, takes in a workshop with Judge Dale Ikeda.
4. Ron Katsuyama, JACL vice president of public affairs, picks up his convention registration package.
5. Ted Namba, Arizona JACL civil rights chair and Millennium Club member, stresses the importance of the resolution to call on the repeal of SB 1070.



PHOTO: JASON STOMI

JACLers got a chance to explore downtown Chicago in-between the workshops, business sessions, board meeting and dinners during the 2010 JACL National Convention.



- 1. Japanese Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki accepted the President's Recognition Award.
- 2. Megan Nakano, JACL national convention chair, was recognized by former President Larry Oda for her efforts.
- 3. Chicago JACler May Nakano danced with dog "Bean" at the Welcome Mixer while others munched on Chicago's famous deep-dish pizza.
- 4. Former *Pacific Citizen* editor Harry Honda views the silent auction items at the Sayonara Banquet.



Photos by:
Gary Mayeda
Nalea J. Ko
Lynda Lin
Beth Uno



1. Nicole Gaddie is named the winner of the Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition.

2. Singer Cynthia Lin performs at the Youth Concert.

3. Youth members Jennifer Okabayashi (*right*) and Mariko Newton enjoy youth performances.

4. Tom Nishikawa casts his vote for national offices.

5. Timothy Toyama wins the Ruby Yoshino Schaar Award.

6. Floyd Mori, JACL national director, speaks at the Awards Banquet.

7. Chicago JACler Ron Yoshino thanks attendees.

8. Craig Ishii (*left*) and Gary Mayeda talk about the Los Angeles convention next year.



Japanese Ambassador Discusses Health of U.S.-Relations



Former National JACL President Floyd Shimomura (left) and Japanese Ambassador to the U.S. Ichiro Fujisaki both took part in the U.S.-Japan Relations workshop.

Despite increased opportunity for Japanese Americans to learn more about Japan, barriers remain for the Yonsei and Gosei generations, according to panelists at the July 2 "U.S.-Japan Relations" workshop during the JACL national convention.

The panel, which included the Ambassador of Japan to the U.S. Ichiro Fujisaki and Chicago-area lawyer Calvin Manshio, examined the role of JAs in strengthening relations between the two countries.

"The younger generation now has much greater opportunities," said Floyd Shimomura, past JACL national president and workshop moderator. "The world is a lot smaller. Japan, which used to be a distant country, is now a current everyday presence."

But after the World War II internment, many JAs who were forced to prove their American patriotism became indifferent to their ancestral country.

"There was a sense that our history began when our grandparents came to the U.S. and not what happened before that," said Irene Hirano Inouye, president of the U.S.-Japan Council. "We need to break down some of those barriers."

More JAs should learn to speak Japanese, said Hirano Inouye.

Ten years ago, the Japanese American Leadership Delegation was established as a program to help break down these barriers by introducing JAs to leaders in Japan. Many community leaders are represented among the program's alumni, including Shimomura and Larry Oda, immediate past JACL national president.

For Yonsei and Gosei, unlike previous generations, interest in building relations with Japan is increasingly being encouraged by their parents, said panelist Glen Fukushima,

president and CEO of Airbus Japan and long-time JACL member.

It's an opportune time, according to Fujisaki who said 80 percent of people both in Japan and America hold favorable views of each other.

"I don't think you could find too many countries like that," said Fujisaki, who also received the JACL President's Recognition Award at the Sayonara Banquet. "I think in that sense we have special relations." ■

Other Workshops* Hidden Memory

Presenter and renowned storyteller Anne Shimojima demonstrated the art of telling stories about family history through photo albums and digital slideshows.

Asian Americans in Politics

Three APA leaders discussed their own experiences in the political arena. Panelists included Floyd Mori, JACL national director; Nathan Shinagawa, who represents the 4th district of Tompkins County, New York; and Raja Krishnamoorthi, former deputy Illinois state treasurer. The workshop was moderated by Brandon Mita, immediate past JACL youth chair.

Pan-Asian Alliance and Community Building

APAs in the Midwest face challenges building cohesive communities and strong alliances. Presenters Amee Xiong, Inhe Choi and Ron Katsuyama shared their stories about the struggle to strengthen their communities.

* List does not reflect entire slate of workshops at the 2010 JACL national convention

Q&A-SB 1070

(Continued from page 4)

"unreasonable searches and seizures" as well as federal regulations that restrict circumstances under which warrantless arrests may be made. Further, SB 1070 creates opportunities for police officers to determine who should be investigated as to their immigration status before stopping, detaining, and arresting them for some other violation of a state or local law. This racial profiling violates the Fourteenth Amendment's "due process" and "equal protection of the laws."

Q: Wouldn't it be better just to wait until racial profiling occurs, and then litigate on behalf of those unjustly affected?

A: Racial profiling is already occurring. According to Amnesty International, the majority of U.S. states do not have laws that ban racial profiling. Arizona is one of these. Despite the difficulty in documenting racial profiling, a March 2010 Department of Homeland Security inspector general's report describes questionable practices under a federal-local law enforcement (LLE) partnership immigration enforcement program. It states, "Claims of civil rights violations have surfaced in connection with several LEAs participating in the program," and reveals that three of 29 local law enforcement agencies were charged with racial profiling. Two settled out of court and a case against the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in Arizona is pending. ■

Mineta: Growing APA Political Capital is Testament of Positive Change

Patsy Mink, Bob Matsui and Daniel K. Inouye are among the many icons that created a foundation for future leaders to take reign.

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

When Norman Mineta first arrived in Washington, D.C. in 1975 as a newly minted member of the House of Representatives, veteran politician Patsy Mink was there to show him the ropes.

The Congresswoman from Hawaii already had a decade of experience of building political capital in Washington and she was willing to share with the next generation of Asian Pacific American leaders just like Rep. Bob Matsui did and Sen. Daniel K. Inouye continues to do.

"All of those stories are part of an ongoing American story of people, who were formerly excluded, finally achieving inclusion," said Mineta, the former U.S. secretary of transportation and keynote speaker of the JACL 2010 convention's Sayonara Banquet.

On June 22, his son David was confirmed by the Senate as deputy director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, a fitting example of the APA community's expanding sense of inclusion into leadership roles.

It also stands as a testament to the American ideal of *e pluribus unum* — out of many, one,

said Mineta, who has attended every JACL national convention since the late 1950s.

He has been instilled with the founding father's intentions for the JACL through his sister Etsu Mineta Masaoka and her late husband, JACL icon Mike Masaoka.

For this national convention's theme of "Embracing Change," a fitting subhead could be "a place at the table," said Mineta.

From 1975 to 1995, Mineta represented the heart of California's Silicon Valley in the House of Representatives. He co-founded the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) and served as its first chair.

When he first arrived in Washington, there were only three APA House members and now there are nine. CAPAC now boasts over 30 members with Rep. Mike Honda as its chair.

And of course there are all political appointees who "have walked through the doors that so many have fought to open."

As a testament to the progress of the APA community, Mineta cited Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, Rep. Joseph Cao and Nikki Haley, North Carolina Republican candidate for governor.

"Think about this: Louisiana? South Carolina?" said Mineta. "We have no single place at the table. We are qualified to sit in any one of them. We just have to make sure that we never forget to bring who we are to whatever chair we occupy and not be shy in talking about who we are when we're sitting in it." ■



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Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL Receives Chapter Award



Marcia Hashimoto of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz chapter accepts the Inagakai award on behalf of her chapter from PSW Governor Kerry Kaneichi.

For its active role in fighting hate, advocating for cultural preservation and taking a stand for same-sex marriage, the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL has won the George J. Inagakai Chapter Citizenship Award.

Each biennium, the award is presented to an outstanding JACL chapter that has worked toward the promotion of better citizenship through social, civic, educational, environmental or legislative activities.

Marcia and Mas Hashimoto, first and second chapter vice presidents, respectively, accepted the award at the July 1 JACL Awards Luncheon.

"The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL is as strong and active as our board and our membership," said Marcia Hashimoto.

The chapter, which celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2009, has in past years assisted in the building of the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, D.C. and reenacted the 1942 forced evacuation of Japanese Americans with their presentation, "Liberty Lost ... Lessons in Loyalty."

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL was also the first in the nation to provide diplomas to the Nisei graduates of Watsonville High School's class of 1942.

As a tribute to George Inagakai, past national JACL president, the Venice-Culver JACL established the award in 1968. ■

For more information or to join the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL: www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org

Sakamoto Wins JACLER of the Biennium

Dr. Frank Sakamoto, a longtime Thousand Club chair and co-chair of the Millennium Club, has been named the JACLER of the Biennium.

The JACLER of the Biennium Award recognizes a JACL member who has contributed to the strength and growth of the JACL during the past biennium.

"He always finds time to share stories about the history of the JACL," said Larry Oda, immediate former JACL national president, who presented Sakamoto with the award at the July 1 JACL Awards Luncheon.



Luncheon.

"Thank you I humbly accept this award for all those who work so hard for JACL," said Sakamoto, a longtime Mile-Hi JACL member and current adviser of the chapter board.

In the Mile-Hi chapter, he has become affectionately known as

"Mr. JACL", the "cheerleader extraordinaire" and the "barker" who recruits at least one new member at every event he attends. Sakamoto has been 1000 Club chair for the last 40 years.

He has also been an integral part of the Mile Hi JACL Memorial Day program, the Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance Festival and the Kansha No Hi Award Ceremony, among many other achievements.

The award is presented in memory of Randolph Sakada, past JACL national president from 1950-52. ■

FLOYD MORI

(Continued from page 2)

Kimberly Shintaku and Brandon Mita, did a great job with the younger generation. They are being replaced by Matthew Farrells and Devin Yoshikawa. It was gratifying to see so many of this age group attend and participate in this convention. The Youth Luncheon and Oratorical Contest were great indications of the future leadership of the JACL. These young people need to be cultivated within the chapters and districts to become the next leaders within this organization.

We owe a special debt of gratitude to our corporate partners and all who

contributed financially to the convention. Among those are State Farm, AT&T, Ford Motor, Eli Lilly, the Nat'l JACL Credit Union, CMS (Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services), JACL Health Benefits Trust, Masuda Funai, Comcast, Paramount Pictures, Pierce Family, and Union Bank. Prizes for the Oratorical were donated by All Nippon Airways (ANA), Hyatt Hotel (Tokyo), and Sony. Other cash donors were: Arakaki, Shiro and Catherine Shiraga, Misao Shiratsuki, Ron and Joyce Yoshino, Jack Rubin and Pat Yuzawa-Rubin, Elaine Akagi, Lillian Kimura, Helen Kawagoe, and Hank Sakai. We are also grateful to all the exhibitors at the convention. (We apologize if this

list is incomplete or inaccurate.)

This convention was not without controversy and debate. In the end, the national council made their decisions and voted. The JACL staff will work to implement the resolutions and budget as passed.

It was a pleasure for me personally to have our daughter and two young granddaughters (members of the San Diego chapter) join us at this convention. It is always good to see old timers like Etsu Masaoka, Shea Aoki, Harry Honda, and Frank Sakamoto in attendance.

If you did not make it to this convention, plan to attend in 2011 in Los Angeles for another great National JACL Convention. Thanks for your support of the JACL. ■

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Angel Island's 100th Anniversary

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Angel Island is a symbol of Pacific immigration. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants, mostly from Asia, were detained on the island for days, weeks and sometimes months in the three decades before World War II. Now the Angel Island Station Foundation plans to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Angel Island Immigration Station.

Info: Call 415/262-4429, or visit www.aiisf.org

Midwest

JACL Community Picnic
SUMMIT COUNTY, OH
Aug. 22, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Summit County Metro Park
 Bring your family and friends to enjoy the outdoors for a fun day at a picnic. There will be games, relays, prizes for children, food, hiking and more!
Cost: Make donations onsite to CJAF scholarship and community

service activities.
Info: Call 216/556-2277 or e-mail cleveland@jacj.org

Chicago JACL Day Camp
CHICAGO, IL
July 20-22, 27-29,
10 a.m. to 12 noon
JACL Chicago Office
5415 N. Clark St.
 The JACL Chicago chapter will be hosting a new, free summer camp

program for 7- to 9-year-olds. For six half-day sessions over two weeks, participants will explore their identity; learn about Japanese American culture and history, and more.

Info: Christine Munteanu at 773/728.7171 or jacl.fellow@gmail.com

Intermountain

Topaz Pilgrimage

DELTA, UT
Aug. 5 to 9
 Join a tour group and hop on the "Topaz Bus 2010" that is leaving from Berkeley, Calif. and traveling to Topaz. The first stop on the tour is the Springville Museum of Art. After the pilgrimage the group will also head to Las Vegas.
Info: Call Toru at 510/526-8432

GO!

N Calif. W Nev. Pac

Asian American Photographers' Panel
BERKELEY, CA
Aug. 5, 7 p.m.
Eastwind Books of Berkeley
2066 University Ave.
 Join us for this photographers' panel where the works of Charles Wong, Irene Poon, Lora Jo Foo and Liz Del Sol will be shared. Each of the panelists will introduce their work and interests, share thoughts on how they began and where their work is at now.
Info: Call 510/548-2350 or visit www.asiabookcenter.com

SEE!

History and Commemoration: Legacies of the Pacific War
HONOLULU, HI
July 25 to 30 and Aug. 1 to 6
East West Center and University of Hawaii
 As a part of the NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture program, the goal of these workshops is

to provide community college teachers with opportunities for research and curriculum.

Info: Call the East-West Center at 808/944-7111

Pacific Southwest

TN Party: Annual Benefit

LOS ANGELES, CA
July 31, 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.
JACCC Plaza
244 S. San Pedro St.
 The hidden gem of Los Angeles' Tuesday Night Project celebrates its 12th year of free multidisciplinary arts programming in downtown Los Angeles. Since 1999, their flagship series Tuesday Night Cafe, has presented a variety of artists.
Cost: \$15/ presale tickets
Info: Visit www.tuesdaynightproject.org

Nisei Week Japanese Festival

LOS ANGELES, CA
Aug. 14 to 22
Los Angeles' Little Tokyo
 Come share in the Japanese American community spirit and attend the nation's longest running ethnic festival of its kind. There will be Japanese cultural events, activities and exhibits!
Info: Visit www.niseiweek.org

DO!

'Armed With a Camera' Fellowship
LOS ANGELES, CA
Until Oct. 1
 Visual Communications begun accepting applications for its 2010-2011 Armed With a Camera fellowship, which offers emerging Asian

Pacific American filmmakers an opportunity to compete for \$500 to make a five-minute film. Ten hopeful filmmakers will be chosen.
Info: Visit www.vconline.org

Pacific Northwest

'Behind the Shoji Art'

PORTLAND, OR
July 31 to Sept. 6 (10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and opens at 12 noon on Mondays)
Portland Japanese Garden
611 Southwest Kingston Ave.
 A dazzling collection of pottery, glass, jewelry and more will be on display at the Portland Japanese Garden's "Behind the Shoji" art show and sale.
Info: Call 503/328-0050 or visit www.japanesegarden.com

'ECHOES of Struggle and Hope'

PORTLAND, OR
July 30 to Nov. 14.
Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
121 NW 2nd Ave.
 Oregon Nikkei Endowment continues to celebrate its 20th anniversary with the exhibit "ECHOES of Struggle and Hope: 20 Years of the Japanese American Historical Plaza."
Info: Call 503/224-1458 or visit www.oregonnikkei.org

Advertise

'Go-SEE-Do' is a free limited listing for P.C. readers. Not all submissions are listed. Find out how to get a guaranteed SPOTLIGHT listing. Contact the P.C.: (800) 966-6157 or busmgr@pacificcitizen.org

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TRIBUTE

FLOYD OKUBO
February 8, 1924 - June 22, 2010

Floyd Okubo passed away on June 22, 2010. He was 86 years old. Cause of death, complications due to congestive heart failure. He was bom February 8, 1924, in Salt Lake City, Utah, the fifth child of Kiyotaro Okubo and Riyo Enomoto. He is survived by his wife, Yukie (Nishimura) of 61 years, five children, 9 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, siblings Stella Sako, Harold Okubo, Kim Kumagai, Ida kato and Mary Shiozaki. He was preceded in death by his parents and older brothers, Harry and George.

Floyd supported his family as the owner and operator of Bountiful Dental Laboratory for 30 years. All his life he was true to his farmer roots, sharing his vegetables, fruit and flowers with family, friends and neighbors. A private memorial service was held July 3, 2010.

Joe Ichiuji, 552nd Vet and Community Stalwart, Passes



Joseph “Joe” Ichiuji, a 442nd Regimental Combat Team veteran and active community leader, passed away peacefully at his home in Washington, D.C. on July 3. He was 91.

Born in Salinas, California to Japanese immigrant parents, Ichiuji was inducted into the United States Army in 1941 when World War II

broke out.

He was soon discharged because of his racial ancestry and was sent to the Poston, Arizona, internment center with his family. While interned, he volunteered for the Japanese American 442nd RCT serving in combat with Battery A, 552nd Field Artillery Battalion in Europe.

Unlike many Japanese families who lost their businesses and farms, Ichiuji has expressed appreciation to their Caucasian neighbor who, despite threats and abuse slung against them, cared for the Ichiuji shoe repair business while they were in camp.

Following the war, Ichiuji earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Benjamin Franklin University in Washington, D.C.

In 1979, he retired after 37 years

of Federal Service, most of which was spent at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Although he enjoyed the leisure of retirement, he dedicated countless hours to his passion of supporting the causes of organizations such as the JACL, National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Go For Broke National Education Center and Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA).

Ichiuji loved to speak of his wartime military experience especially to students.

Ichiuji is survived by his wife of 62 years, Asako “Susie” Ichiuji, daughter Karen Ichiuji (Phil) Ramone, son Douglas (Melissa) Ichiuji, four grandchildren, sister Kazume Ichiuji Oinishi and three brothers, Jimmy, Paul and Harry and numerous nieces and nephews. ■

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National council members deliberate a resolution on SB 1070.

Resolution 4: Calendar Year Membership

The resolution addresses JACL's membership program, regarding incorporating procedures to allow members to have a "calendar year membership."

Resolution failed. Yes = 22; No = 58; Split = 3.

Resolution 5: Topaz Museum

This resolution relates to the construction of a Topaz museum and civil liberties learning center in Utah.

Resolution was adopted. Yes = 80; No = 0; Split = 2.

SB 1070
(Continued from page 4)

lations: if it falsifies facts to attorneys or refuses to reasonably cooperate with attorneys.

The Arizona immigration law resolution indicates that SB 1070 not only affects those in Arizona, "but jeopardizes the principles on which the United States was founded in all states."

Opponents to SB 1070 hope to delay it with a preliminary injunction. They say SB 1070 may invite racial profiling against Latinos and other people of color.

"Arizona Senate Bill 1070 was written in a very clever, complex way," Namba said, at the JACL national convention's business session, in support of the resolution. "It's open to a great deal of interpretation, which makes it very confusing." ■

Patriotism.

Resolution Failed. Yes = 37, No = 41, Split = 4

Resolution 2: "Power of Words"

Called on JACL to collectively substitute words such as "internment" for terms like "forced removal" and "evacuation."

Resolution was adopted. Yes = 80; No = 2; Split = 0.

Resolution 3: Arizona State Immigration Law, SB 1070

The resolution required JACL to continue opposing Arizona's immigration law.

Resolution was adopted. Yes = 80; No = 1; Split = 0.

Emergency Resolution 1: Opposing Arizona law HB 2281

A resolution called on JACL to oppose Arizona's ethnic studies law, or HB 2281.

Resolution was adopted. Y = 80; N = 0; Split = 1.

A Chicago Courtesy Resolution

This resolution thanks the Chicago Convention Committee for organizing the 2010 JACL convention.

* Information provided by the Resolutions Committee

JACL National Convention Resolution Results

Resolution 1: Commemorative Stamp

The resolution called on the JACL to endorse a commemorative stamp resolution in honor of the National Japanese American Memorial to

KAWAMOTO
(Continued from page 2)

Jason Chang of Fresno is your vice president, planning & development. David Lin of the New York chapter is your vice president, membership. Matthew Farrells of the Twin Cities chapter is your National Youth/Student Council chair, and Devin Yoshikawa of Stockton is your NY/SC representative. I would also like to announce that Josh Spry of Seattle has accepted my appoint-

ment to continue his service as our national JACL secretary/treasurer.

I truly appreciate all of the chapter delegates who took time from their busy schedules to spend a week in Chicago, conducting the business of the JACL. The budget, Program for Action, resolutions and other matters from the convention were just the beginning for this biennium. We all have much work ahead for us. Let me thank all of you in advance for all your concerns and help, and for your efforts on all things JACL. ■

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