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JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION

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In celebrating JACL’s rich history of biennial conventions, we first have to take a look towards the future — Tinseltown. Next year, Los Angeles will welcome JACLers for their first annual national gathering with the Pacific Southwest JACL as their host. Exciting events are already planned, according to Gary Mayeda, 2011 convention chair, to help shape what’s being called JACL 2.0.

**Pacific Citizen:** Biennial conventions have been a JACL tradition for over 80 years. How will an annual convention honor JACL’s traditions and advance its mission?

**Gary Mayeda:** The JACL conventions always recognize and honor local and national civil rights and role-model champions every other year. Moving to an annual convention will give JACL the opportunity to recognize the civil rights achievements of more organizations and individuals every year while building closer relations with our community and corporate partners. Los Angeles has a wealth of cultural attractions that we would like to share with the rest of the JACL nation.

**P.C.:** What is the biggest challenge of moving a biennial convention to an annual one?

**Mayeda:** Yes, the first is always the hardest. I think that many chapters have experience in hosting large events. And given that JACL has had 80 years of conventions, the format is easy to follow. What is challenging is to make it different and give it more meaning to the individual delegates while cutting cost and making it easy to duplicate for other districts and chapters to follow. Coming up with new ideas to make it fun and not overwhelm the convention committee is also a challenge. Although any district or chapter could have hosted the first annual convention, PSW is very fortunate to have the financial and people resources that can help the national headquarters achieve its mission.

**P.C.:** Why is Los Angeles the perfect place to hold the first annual JACL convention?

**Mayeda:** There are many exciting cities in the U.S. that can host the first annual convention. Chicago was an exciting place and how can you resist the food! The diversity of people, cultures, businesses and Asian Pacific American community organizations in Los Angeles make it ideal to be a showcase for how collective networking can be a great benefit for all. Los Angeles is also home to some of the most famous places on earth. You...
JACL Makes a Historic Move to an Annual National Convention

By Lynda Lin

SALT LAKE CITY — A national JACL convention every two years is now history. At its 40th biennial meeting, the national council voted to make the gathering of members and delegates an annual event.

PNW District Gov. Elaine Akagi, who also headed up the nine-member annual convention committee, called it a historic move. “I just didn’t realize [the vote] was going to be that close,” she said.

The constitution/bylaw amendment or CBA 02, which requires a two-thirds vote to pass, squeaked through 57-24 with five split votes. CBA 02 was initially declared a failure because of a discrepancy in how to count split votes, but was clarified by the national council and Gary Mayeda, constitution and bylaw committee chair.

Fifty-nine “yes” votes were needed, and ultimately 59.5 votes pushed the amendment through.

“The annual convention is something that I have supported since my term as president,” said JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who served as national president from 2000-04. “After two times being defeated in the past, the time has come for the JACL to move their deliberations into the modern world.”

The JACL’s change to an annual national convention was one of six proposed amendments taken up by the national council, including CBA 04, which sought to have the national board designate the national director’s office.

“The need is constant. The need is annual.”

The JACL’s change to an annual convention, which is projected to have a fiscal impact on the next biennial budget, will take effect after the 2010 Chicago convention.

But the idea for an annual convention has been a long time in the making.

The idea was first brought to the national council at the 2004 Hawaii convention, said Akagi, but the measure lacked sufficient information. It was reintroduced at the 2006 Phoenix convention, but questions and concerns lingered.

So for the 2008 Salt Lake City con-
Floyd Mori said he has advocated for an annual convention since his JACL presidency.

The committee found that the benefits of an annual convention include: More opportunities for the JACL to address important timely issues.

The committee found that the benefits of an annual convention include: More opportunities to build and enhance corporate and foundation partnerships.

Increased visibility of the JACL in all regions and cities.

Opportunities for smaller JACL chapters to raise funds and host these shorter national conventions.

Most conventions make a profit, said Akagi. "It's never been a money loser."

JACL literally falls off of the radars of many corporate funders that work an annual budgeting process, said Mori.

"Eventually, the move to an annual convention will help the organization conduct business on a more timely basis," said JACL National President Larry Oda.

JACL currently hosts a national convention every two years with smaller bi- and tri-district and youth conferences in the years in between. The move to an annual convention, proponents say, would be like combining those smaller conferences into one event.

"It would be just like having a larger tri-district," said Akagi, except with one day designated for a national council meeting. National elections and national awards ceremonies will continue to be held every two years. Once the change takes effect, the biennial budget will also continue to be set biennially, but the national council will be able to review the budget every year.

Several chapters have already expressed interest in hosting the JACL's first annual convention in 2011, including SELANOCO and the Las Vegas chapter.

"Meeting only once every two years doesn't really give [the youth leaders] the opportunity to develop and get to know the organization at the national level."

-- Frank Hiroyasu

"I suspect that I'm just resistant to change," said Delcollo, who pointed out that it cost his chapter about $2,000 to send two delegates to Salt Lake City this year. The lower cost of local district conferences is a welcomed financial relief, but usually larger cities like Philadelphia and Chicago have hosted national conventions.

"How will we endure the expense annually? And yet, endure it we must ... a few years hence, we'll be asking ourselves why are we doing this every year when video conferencing can do just as well, and for much less cost," he added.
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JAs Stand Against Arizona’s Immigration Law

Nalea J. Ko

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 Washington, 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 encour-

aged 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 government 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 United (SEIU), United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), Arizona South Asians For Safe Families, Southside Presbyterian Church, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 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 stipulations: 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.

“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.”

Arizona JACL member Jim Shee said he was pulled over by the police while driving his BMW with tinted windows. Shee was allegedly asked to produce his papers.
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In 2008, John Tateishi, Richard Foltin and Muzaffar Chishti discuss the legacy of Redress during the Salt Lake City national convention.

Coming Full Circle: A Celebration of Redress, 30 Years Later

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

SALT LAKE CITY — It was 30 years ago that the first seeds of redress were planted here in the City of the Saints so it was a fitting celebration of a historic anniversary — the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act.

In 1978 JACL national council members had little idea of the impact a resolution to pursue monetary redress and an apology would have on the Japanese American community. Today, that impact has been felt in the furthering of the civil rights movement.

It was “unprecedented. I don’t think it will happen again,” said John Tateishi, former JACL redress chair and immediate past national director.

“As an organization you should feel good about yourselves, of having accomplished something that was phenomenal. It was something that was not supposed to happen,” he said. “Without JACL, redress would not have happened.”

Tateishi spoke at a redress plenary session held during the national JACL biennial convention in Utah July 17.

Although the national JA community is currently celebrating the 20th anniversary of the historic 1988 Civil Liberties Act, it took a while for the community to come on board.

In those early days, suggestions of monetary compensation for the forced removal and incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II was not an easy sell.

“When we started the campaign there was so much division within the community,” said Tateishi. “There was a huge split among the delegates in 1978.”

He noted that it was largely the Sansei who pushed for monetary compensation in this article originally published Aug. 1-14, 2008.

“Without JACL, redress would not have happened.’

— John Tateishi, immediate former JACL national director

AJC and a Commission Bill

Eventually that course would take the direction of a commission bill, an idea Tateishi credits Ernie Weiner, executive director of the American Jewish
Weiner believed that the formation of a commission would help bring out details of the WWII internment — since many Americans had never heard about this period in history — and it helped shape the remainder of the campaign.

As a WWII veteran who had served in the occupation of Japan, Weiner first learned of the JA internment upon returning home, said Richard T. Foltin, legislative director and counsel in the AJC’s Office of Government and International Affairs in Washington, D.C., who joined Tateishi on the redress panel.

"The internment was "a national disgrace ... a blatant violation of their constitutional rights.""

— Richard T. Foltin, American Jewish Committee

His experience in the occupation taught him to be sensitive to the Japanese people," said Foltin. The internment of JAs "was always a matter that was very much on his mind."

By the summer of 1980 a commission bill had been passed and several national hearings with former internees were being held, getting national coverage. With the support of many organizations and individuals — including former Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta, Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, and Rep. Bob Matsui — the Civil Liberties Act was passed in 1988.

AJC’s support of redress, the first national organization to throw its support behind the bill, “goes to the core of what AJC is about,” said Foltin. The internment was “a national disgrace ... a blatant violation of their constitutional rights.”

Although the Jewish experience is different from the internment of JAs, he sees important similarities between the two communities’ experiences.

"Japanese Americans were not singled out for extermination... but we need to point out the parallels,” he said. Both communities were singled out for one specific reason: their ethnicity.

Redress and 9/11

Today, the passage of the Civil Liberties Act continues to have an impact, especially after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

And if there is one community that truly understands what the Muslim and Arab American communities experienced after 9/11, it is the JA community, said Muzaffar Chishti, a lawyer and director of MPI’s office at New York University School of Law.

One week after the horrific events of 9/11, four people were murdered in the U.S. by those who blamed them for the terrorist attacks. Two of the victims were mistakenly identified as Muslims. One year later, six people had been killed, victims of horrific hate crimes.

"Both communities felt they were double victims," said Chishti. Many Muslim Americans felt saddened by 9/11 but they were also targets of the backlash. JAs lived through a horrific war like all Americans but they were also interred.

In both cases, national origin and ethnicity were used as reasons to create fear and assign blame.

Lessons of History

But what has not happened to the Muslim American community since 9/11 also needs to be pointed out here, said Chishti.

"Despite the fear of massive round up, there was no roundup of Muslims," he said. "Lessons of history had meaning here."

And although the targets of anti-Japanese sentiment during WWII were both citizens and immigrants, the principal targets post-9/11 were immigrants and not citizens.

"We did not touch citizens as we did with Japanese Americans during WWII," said Chishti. But he noted the increased surveillance and monitoring of the Muslim American community often feels like its own form of internment.

"It may not be a physical confinement, he said, but "we have a different form of internment."

In 2008, the U.S. government would be foolish to attempt to round up Muslims, said Tateishi.

The JACL would be the first to come to the Muslim American community’s defense, he noted.

"The constitutional breach in our history ... was an important lesson in our history," said Tateishi. "What we did had significant meaning in this country."
"My only regret tonight is that more of the deserving veterans are not here to join this celebration," said Marvin Uratsu of MIS Northern California (right) pictured here receiving the presidential citation from Gen. Eric Shinseki.

Tribute Dinner Honors Japanese American Veterans of All Wars

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

MONTEREY, Calif.—Just one week after 22 Asian Pacific Americans were honored with the nation’s highest military honor, more than 500 people gathered at a tribute dinner to pay homage to the thousands of men and women of Japanese ancestry who courageously served and continue to serve in America’s Armed Forces.

A chance to renew old acquaintances, share war stories, and educate the younger generations, veterans from all wars including World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, came from across the country to attend the event.

Keynoting the dinner was Gen. Eric Shinseki, a Sansei from Hawaii, who is the first APA to be appointed chief of staff of the U.S. Army.

"As I gaze out, the features are older and there is less hair and the hair has gone white, but the eyes don’t change. The eyes that look back are the eyes of the young Americans who we sent off to war," said Shinseki. "And it reminds me of the tremendous gratitude we owe all of you for serving our nation and keeping it free."

Shinseki was humbled to be in a roomful of veterans of the heroic 442nd, 100th Battalion and the MIS, and of those who have served in more recent wars. The general spoke of the recent awarding of 22 Medals of Honor to WWII APA vets and pointedly read each of the soldiers’ names.

"[You] proved a loyalty that needed no proving but in your doing so you allowed me and my generation and my children to live our lives without suspicion, to be able to have the opportunity to compete in our chosen professions," said the general.

Former Congressman Norman Mineta, who was recently nominated by President Bill Clinton for the position of secretary of commerce, emceed the evening’s dinner, which took place during the week of JACL’s 36th biennial convention.

"Many of us today are in positions only because of the valor and the dedication and the vision of those in this room as well as those who have gone on who were in the service during World War II," said Mineta. "There’s no doubt in my mind that it was your dedication and valor that proved to the nation the loyalty of those whose loy-

"[You] proved a loyalty that needed no proving but in your doing so you allowed me and my generation and my children to live our lives without suspicion, to be able to have the opportunity to compete in our chosen professions."

— Gen. Eric Shinseki
ally was questioned.
“...will be eternally grateful to all of you for the records you set. So we say to you, job well done.”

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera sent a videotape greeting where he announced the awarding of a presidential unit citation, the highest distinction of the U.S. military, to the heroic Nisei MIS of WWII, a group whose activities were kept classified long after the end of the war.

“I hope with this award the MIS will at least begin to receive the recognition that they deserve,” said Sec. Caldera.

Shinseki made the presentation of the presidential citation to Marvin Uratsu of MIS Northern California (MISNORCAL). “We are correcting history tonight,” said Shinseki.

“It is with the greatest feeling of humility and honor that I accept this prestigious presidential unit citation for all of the men who served in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II,” said Uratsu. “My only regret tonight is that more of the deserving veterans are not here to join this celebration.”

Following the presentation of the presidential citation, a trailer of the movie, “Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties,” currently being produced by MISNORCAL, was shown. The target date for the film is Sept. 30 and a showing of the film will take place at the upcoming dedication of the Japanese American National Monument in Washington, D.C., this November.

Rudy Tokiwa, a 442nd vet and co-chair of the veteran’s tribute dinner along with co-chair Col. Harry Fukuhara, said he thought of his WWII buddies who fought so courageously in France and Italy when he was first approached to help organize the event.

Tokiwa recalled how JA men and women being held in WWII American concentration camps, solely because of their ancestry, answered the call to serve their country, only to face a second assault of prejudice on the front lines.

“I think we paid a very high price to prove ourselves,” said Tokiwa. “To prove to everyone that it doesn’t make any difference what you look like, what the color of your skin is. You are an American and this should never be forgotten.”

Assemblyman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, who is currently running for the 15th Congressional District, brought greetings from the California State Assembly, where he and George Nakano, D-Torrance, who was unable to attend, recently passed a resolution to honor JA vets by declaring June 30 “Japanese American Veterans’ Day.”

The tribute dinner also featured a slide presentation narrated by Stephanie Nishikawa of KOVR 13, with archival photos of the 100th, 442nd, MIS and their post-war activities in Japan, to the veterans of the Korean War, Vietnam War, and those who are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Following the slide show presentation a veteran from each of the wars was asked to speak to the audience.

Col. Toshio “Dusty” Aoyagi of the Korean War admitted that the scars of war still exist today.

“The war left scars in our families that even today the pain and suffering still lingers.”

But Aoyagi also celebrated the recent developments between North and South Korea and asked his fellow vets to actively support the reunification of the two Koreas.

Captain Gordon Nakagawa, a veteran of the Vietnam War and a former POW, believes that the veterans of this recent war have yet to receive acknowledgement from the United States.

“Unfortunately, with a few exceptions, America has not expressed a thank-you to these veterans of the Vietnam War that has long been overdue,” said Nakagawa. “Vietnam was unique. The prolonged agony of that war taxed the limit of this nation’s resources and patience but the men and women who answered this nation’s call served with great honor, dedication and skill. I believe that they contributed significantly to the end of the Cold War.”

“Today, because of what the Nisei of World War II, Korean and Vietnam did for us, my generation and my son’s generation are a lot better off.”

— John Tagami, assistant to secretary of the Army Louis Caldera

Sgt. Kazuo Komoto shows off his medal to his younger brother Susumu at Gila River.
The 2011 convention will feature a tour of Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo and its cultural attractions.

LOS ANGELES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

can visit Hollywood and the film industry, Universal Studios and see the backlot of where the TV show “Desperate Housewives” is filmed and maybe see a movie star or two. And of course you can visit the happiest place on earth, Disneyland.

Ordinary delights abound in Los Angeles. Lawry’s Prime Rib in Beverly Hills is where the football teams of the Rose Bowl will dine before the big game. Or for a more casual experience, you may never find a better burger than at In-N-Out throughout the city. Or for a more romantic experience there are many great restaurants to watch the sunset over the Pacific Ocean. This is a must in L.A. For the best people-watching experience you have to find a sidewalk dining place along Melrose Avenue. This is the definition of eclectic.

P.C.: JACLers have been meeting biennially for so long. What do you think are the benefits of meeting annually now?

Mayeda: Biennial conventions combined with tri- and bi-district conferences were a perfect fit for the members to reconnect with members within and outside of their districts to conduct business. As the need to develop strong relations with the corporate world increases to advance JACL’s mission and focus for the future all for a common cause. This mid-term meeting will also give our members the opportunity to interact with our elected leaders to give them active input to what needs to be addressed. And of course we will have our grand banquet that will complete our convention.

P.C.: Conversely, what can convention goers expect to be traditionally done at the Los Angeles convention?

P.C.: What do you hope the convention attendees will take away from the first annual JACL convention?

Mayeda: We hope that the members will take away new ideas of how to adapt to a different environment. We are putting together different community groups with JACL so that different people can meet to share ideas. We are all working towards a common goal of building a better community but with different perspectives. Some are from the media arts and some are service providers. We all are advocates for people and we need to share those perspectives.

P.C.: What special organized community events or attractions can attendees look forward to seeing or participating in?

Mayeda: We mentioned the Hollywood studio reception and the joint conference with the CJA-CLC. In Los Angeles, there are many other APA non-profit organizations that we network with. We want to bring as many of them so that we can all network and share resources.

P.C.: With busy lives and an economy that’s still struggling, why do you think it’s important for individuals to attend JACL’s first annual convention?

Mayeda: As members of the largest and oldest APA non-profit organization, it has become difficult to both retain and build new members. So finding resources both financial and human becomes more challenging than say 20 years ago. JACL is absolutely relevant to the community. We just need to know how to show it and to explain it to our members and corporate partners.

P.C.: Are there any special workshops or conferences planned for convention attendees?

Mayeda: Membership workshops were popular and well attended in Chicago. We plan on giving that opportunity again for chapter delegates to learn how to better build membership. Advocacy is at the heart of our organization’s mission and is difficult without funds. So perhaps fundraising will be of interest, too. More importantly we want to teach the delegates how to adjust and adapt our organization to not only survive but to thrive in this tight economy.

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In 2002, JACL hosted a ceremony to recognize Nisei draft resisters of World War II.

JACL National Council Approves Apology to Resisters of Conscience

By Martha Nakagawa

Although JACL took a step towards healing a five decades old wound, it may have opened new ones when the national council voted to adopt a resolution recognizing and apologizing to the WWII Nisei resisters of conscience.

The debate, for the most part, split along generational lines with both sides giving impassioned arguments for and against the resolution. After using the full 20 minutes allotted to the issue, the national council passed the motion with 64 yeses, 32 nos and four split votes. The motion to adopt was made by David Masuo from the Alaska chapter and seconded by Steve Kono from the Puyallup Valley chapter.

Masuo, a Vietnam veteran, urged the national council to reconsider the negative image of the World War II resisters of conscience, saying he also fought alongside a medic, who was a resister of the draft.

"Many things have been said about their (resisters) loyalty based mostly on hearsay and rumor," said Masuo. Misinformation from the same government that claimed JAs were fifth columnists or spies, a government that interned families just because of their race cannot be one whose word we should take as gospel. Remember that it was the government that used the JACL to push their agenda and to make sure our elders were removed from the JACL and placed in prisons away from their families. The government has attempted to right its wrong. We must do the same."

But Don Wakida, a Nisei member of VFW Post 8499 and a Fresno chapter member, said 13 Nisei VFW posts "vehemently oppose this resolution" and demanded an amendment if the resolution passed.

"My feeling is this: if you pass this resolution, I want you to put an amendment in there that you will apologize to every Nisei soldiers family who died for our country," said Wakida. "Remember now, they went to war for us, not only for America, but for the Japanese and for the JACL people."

Sansei Brian Niiya, a member of the Honolulu JACL chapter, acknowledged that as someone who did not live through the camp experience, he may not fully grasp the reasons for the depth of the bitterness but felt that an apology is the first step.

"Many things have been said about their (resisters) loyalty based mostly on hearsay and rumor."

— David Masuo, Alaska JACL

RESISTERS CONTINUED ON PAGE 39
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From SELANOCO
South East Los Angeles North Orange County
Delegates celebrate the opening of the Philadelphia national convention.

10th Anniversary Celebration of the Civil Liberties Act

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

PHILADELPHIA—For every American of Japanese ancestry 1998 marks a significant moment in United States history. For many it’s a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, legislation that finally brought reparations to tens of thousands of Japanese Americans interned during World War II.

For others, including railroad and mine workers unjustly fired at the outset of the war, and Japanese Latin Americans kidnapped and interned by the U.S. government, 1998 marks the year in which they too were finally able to win their fight for Redress.

So it was fitting that as hundreds of JACLers from across the country gathered for the 35th biennial national convention in Philadelphia from June 30 to July 5, a celebration of the Redress movement, from its beginnings to current and future issues, took place. Even more fitting was the site of the celebration, the birthplace of democracy, 222 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

When the Civil Liberties Act was signed on Sept. 17, 1988, exactly 200 years after the U.S. Constitution was written, former Congressman Norman Mineta was one of the handful of individuals who stood over President Ronald Reagan as he signed the historic legislation; an act that would provide an apology and a $20,000 payment for more than 80,000 JAs who suffered through the American concentration camps of WWII.

“I’ve never been more proud to be an American than at that moment … and I’ve never been more proud to be JA than during the fight up until then,” said Mineta at the convention’s Sayonara Banquet, where he and a number of
individuals were honored for their role in Redress — including Rep. Robert Matsui, Sen. Daniel Inouye, the late Sen. Spark Matsunaga, and former Speaker of the House of Representatives Jim Wright.

Also honored were the American Friends Service Committee, the only organization to oppose the internment of JAs during WWII, and the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, a group that helped thousands of JA students further their education during the war.

There were many individuals who took part in the struggle to win reparations, said Mineta, but the true heroes are those JAs who had the courage to tell their stories of internment during the cross-country hearings held by the Commission of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. The heroes are "those JAs from all walks of life throughout the country who spoke at the hearings to bring the matter to everyone's attention. To claim the justice promised by our Constitution." For many in the JA community, said Matsui, the discussion on Redress has often focused on the issue of who should get credit for the historic movement. Should it be the 442nd Regimental Combat Team? The No-No Boys? Or should it be the JACL? But who or which groups did the most for Redress is not nearly as significant as the historic act of the U.S. government apologizing for a wrong committed against its citizens.

"The question diminishes the historic passage of the [redress] legislation," said Matsui. The fact is "many groups played a significant role. It was one of the few times our government apologized for a wrong committed against its people."

Many of the JACLers attending the Sayonara Banquet were touched by the presence of former speaker Wright, the lead signer of the historic Civil Liberties Act. During the 1980s Wright, a Congressman from Texas, was the Democratic majority leader in the House of Representatives and immediately agreed to support the act when approached by the various JA legislators.

"There are so many others who deserve this more than I," said Wright humbly as he was honored by the JACL. "They did the legwork," he said, as he gave credit to Matsui, Inouye, and Matsunaga. "All I did was join as a co-sponsor."

While a member of the U.S. Air Force during the 1940s "I knew even then that it was constitutionally wrong to incarcerate U.S. citizens on only their ancestry." Said Wright, the Civil Liberties Act was "morally right."

Recent Developments

Even as many turned their thoughts towards the past during the five-day national JACL convention, equally as frequent were the discussions on the recent Redress developments and on future issues for the JA community.

The most recent chapter in the history of Redress was the settlement of the Japanese Latin American former internees' lawsuit against the U.S. government. The settlement provides an apology and $5,000 payment for every living JLA or their closest relative who suffered through the indignities of being kidnapped and forced into American concentration camps during WWII — much less than the $20,000 received by many JAs since the signing of the Civil Liberties Act. Many former JLA internees have expressed their disappointment with the low amount but acknowledge that the apology is what is most significant.

"The question had always been there about the amount [of $5,000], but it was there for the $20,000 too," said John Tateishi, JACL Redress consultant, who has been actively working to settle the remaining Redress cases before the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) closes its doors forever on Aug. 10. "The critical issue was to get [JLAs] included in the CLA."

Still, some JLA former internees have chosen to opt out of the recent settlement in order to continue pursuing a lawsuit for the full amount awarded to JA former internees. Lawyers agree, their fight for justice will be a difficult one.

"It makes me sad," said Tateishi, "because those who opt out may not even get an apology. To me an apology is extremely meaningful. Money is meaningful too. But I always felt that the apology is what began the healing process. The money helped get over the hump to deal with the past. I wish them all the best of luck trying to solve this through lawsuits," he said, "but I don't know if they can get better than the settlement."

"It was a good compromise," said Robert Bratt, former director of the ORA, of the JLA settlement. Bratt, who is currently an executive officer of the criminal division at the Department of Justice, was a speaker at the national convention. "We knew it was a difficult situation. In some ways the Peruvians' case was harsher ... not to slight any of it. I'm glad to see something was worked out."

Any payment, whether it be $20,000 or $5,000, is not enough for the suffering JAs and JLAs endured during WWII, said Bill Laun Lee, acting assistant attorney general for civil rights and keynote speaker at the national convention.

"The end of the [Redress] program resolves hard issues," said Lee who described the JLA situation as "heartbreaking and troubling." With the Civil Liberties Act, "Congress brought the internment full circle," he continued. As the Aug. 10 date comes closer, "I hope you feel that it's been a success."

"The experience of JAs in our nation ... belongs to everyone. It highlights the struggles of others ... of hope and vindication."

Currently, there is no guarantee that every JLA will receive the $5,000 payments, but Lee and the White House have already agreed to work to extend the Civil Liberties Act if the money runs out. Although the ORA is confident that enough funds exist, we don't feel as confident, said Tateishi. Thus, by mid-July if there is indication that there is not enough money in the Civil Liberties Fund the process of getting more money for the JLAs will be initiated.

"My concern is to make sure that funds are
"I cannot think of any more dangerous precedent for this organization than to take a position on an issue of principle based solely on how it will directly affect those of Japanese ancestry," said Norman Mineta about same-sex marriage on the floor of the 1994 convention.

Reversal of Same-Sex Resolution Defeated, Broader Version OKed

By Gwen Muranaka

A resolution which would have withdrawn the national board’s decision to support same-sex marriages was defeated Aug. 6 at the national council by a vote of 38 yes, 50 no, 11 abstentions and 4 split-votes.

Resolution 6, presented by the Mount Olympus chapter, the host chapter for the national convention, would have withdrawn the May 21 national board same-sex decision and have JACL take a neutral position on the issue.

Speaking in support of Resolution 6, Tom Shimizu, Mount Olympus Chapter, said, "This issue we are addressing at this time is a divisive issue where both sides have very strong feelings. But I believe very strongly that the majority of the people that belong in JACL are not in support of the same-sex marriage issue. Therefore, I believe that the decision that the national board made was contrary to the wishes and desires of the majority of the members, therefore I would hope that we would stay neutral and rescind the decision that you made—not to support nor to oppose."

Shimizu noted that in an earlier panel on same-sex marriage, there were two proponents to same-sex marriage and one opponent and that only one candidate was asked about same-sex marriages during the candidates’ forum.

"I think that was very, very unfair. This issue has created a sharp division within our organization and I believe this will fracture our organization if we maintain that position. We can argue until we’re blue in the face, but we’re not going to change one or many on both sides, it would be prudent to remain neutral on this issue," said Shimizu.

Speaking against the resolution were a number of council members as well as a number of gay and lesbian JACL members.

Tak Yamamoto, San Fernando Valley chapter, who is homosexual, said, "I think my particular point, though is I was not asking for special treatment, I’m asking for equal rights. The thing about it is that marriage, not necessarily religious, is something that I would wish to have. Only because of all of the benefits that it would give me and my lover of 27 years."

In 2008, Helen Zia married Lia Shigemura, a former JACL staff member. May Yamamoto, formerly of APAN, now a member of the Progressive Westside chapter, said that a workshop on gay and lesbian issues at the 1992 Denver convention helped her reveal her homosexuality to her mother and another member of the APAN chapter.

In 2006, Helen Zia (left) married Lia Shigemura, a former JACL staff member.
available in a timely, efficient way," said Tateishi, noting that many of the JAs are elderly. But getting more money isn’t going to be easy, especially considering the current atmosphere in Washington, D.C., where trying to get any money out of Congress is next to impossible. "My concern is that it’s going to be extremely difficult."

Future Issues — AB 1915

Although the redress program is officially scheduled to finish next month, California State Assemblyman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, has recently presented a bill, AB 1915, whose objective is to continue to educate the American public about the JA internment experience. A speaker at the Philadelphia convention, Honda encouraged JACL members to support the proposed bill.

AB 1915, or the California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, will set aside $5 million, or $1 for every California student in grades K-12, to learn the lessons of the WWII internment. Using all forms of communication, including the arts, fine arts and mass media, to tell the internment story, AB 1915 is intended to last as long as the legislature is willing to fund it.

"The JA experience is invaluable ... for the entire community of this country," said Honda. "AB 1915 is not just for JAs, it is for all Americans."

There are still too many Americans who have never heard of the internment story. If the issue of the Japanese Latin American former WWII internees had not been brought before the California Senate, many of the politicians would have never heard of their story, said Honda. And some, even after hearing of their tragedies, refuse to acknowledge that it happened. "[AB 1915] will mean that we can use the funds to tell stories that haven’t been told yet," said Honda. "This kind of lesson never needs to be presented again."

The bill has already passed through the Senate and Assembly and Honda is guarded in his expectations that AB 1915 will win final approval.

He encouraged JACL members to call his office for more information and asked Republicans to write Gov. Pete Wilson to let him know that they support AB 1915 and to ask for his support.

"If there is anything more important to do, it is to pass this," said Honda.

In less than 30 days the historic Redress movement will become a permanent fixture in American history. For many JAs, Aug. 10 will be a time of reflection, of sadness, and a sense of hope for the future. Although Redress will now be referred to in the past tense, the historic movement will always have a place of significance in the JA community and JACL.

"It really is like a sunset, fading into the past," said Tateishi. "It’s a psychological milestone for everyone. It’s a way of putting the past into perspective. I’m happy to see the sunset date come. JAs have to start looking towards the future. We’re great at dealing with the past but we have to look towards the future. We can play a great role, but we have to decide to do it." *

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

"I understand what it is like to experience racism and similarly, I was wondering if you could understand what it is like to be gay and not be accepted in your own community. I am not asking for special privileges or protective status. I am just asking to be equal, to have the right to marry which all of you enjoy," said Yamamoto.

In addition, Lia Shigemura, former JACL national staff member, spoke about her own sexuality and urged the council to uphold the rights of all Americans regardless of their sexual orientation.

Jeff Irimo, a Salt Lake chapter member and governor of the Intermountain district, said the issue has had a negative effect on JACL’s financial status as members have quit the organization.

"I’m concerned because I feel that right at this point we’re talking about financial security, the stability of the organization. This is a very divisive issue. This divisiveness has already affected the financial status of this organization by members quitting, losing subscribers to the P.C. I do not want to see this organization fracture. I would like to plead for unity. I originally stated that I did not feel this is an issue that should come before the national board, I feel also that it could have been brought before national council and did not have to go before the board which is a much smaller body and I would have preferred for it to have been brought here originally," said Irimo.

A majority of the speakers on the resolution were in opposition to withholding the same-sex decision. The time for discussion was extended twice, with a long line forming of those who wanted to oppose Resolution 6. Towards the end of the discussion, Dale Ikeda, resolutions chair, had speakers limit their comments to their name, chapter and their position on the resolution.

One of the turning points in the discussion was when John Nakagawa, Washington, D.C. chapter, relinquished his time to Rep. Norman Mineta, who spoke against Resolution 6.

Mineta, who was greeted by applause from the council, said that it would be "disastrous" for the council to withdraw the national board’s decision.

"I cannot think of any more dangerous precedent for this organization than to take a position on an issue of principle based solely on how it will directly affect those of Japanese ancestry," said Mineta, from a prepared statement.

While all other speakers throughout the discussion of resolutions and amendments were limited to three minutes for statements, the San Jose Congressman spoke for over seven minutes against Resolution 6.

During his remarks, Mineta credited Rep. Barney Frank, the openly gay Congressman from Massachusetts, for moving Redress in the House of Representatives. The Congressman told the council that Redress would not have occurred without the support of a vast coalition of civil rights groups, including gay and lesbian groups.

"A gay congressman from Massachusetts, with only a very, very small Japanese American constituency and what did he do? He made Redress his top civil rights priority. Why? Because, he saw our civil rights as an issue of fundamental principle for this country."

"We can beat our chests all we want about it, but our success came from the willingness of countless Americans of all backgrounds to take the same position," said Mineta.

Speaking after Mineta, Edith Ichiju, Monterey Peninsula chapter, said it was difficult following immediately after the congressman’s address. As a Christian, Ichiju noted that the church opposed same-sex marriages as a moral issue and that pastors could not conduct same-sex marriages in her church, but that she would oppose withdrawing the same-sex marriage decision.

"What if it were your children? Would you throw them out of the house or just ignore them completely? You must love them and love them as your brother and sister. I know talking about this right after Norman is hard. But we must really love our brothers and sisters even though it is against your principles," said Ichiju. *
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30th Biennial Aug. 4–10, 1988 SEATTLE UW, of Washington Mahon Hall
JACL leaders flew to White House to witness President Reagan sign H.R. 442, the $1.2 billion Redress bill on Aug. 10. At the podium were Reps. Robert Matsui, Norman Mineta, House Speaker Tom Foley, Mike Lowry, Mike Masaoka, Grayce Uyehara, Harry Kajihara, Jerry Enomoto and Sen. Spark Matsunaga’s videotaped message aired focused on the successful Redress campaign.

Members of the JACL Legislative Education Committee included Jerry Enomoto (pictured, far left).

‘There were tears in many eyes as the realization dawned that the struggle that had begun years ago had finally been won’ — Redress.

Jerry Enomoto was there to recount those historic moments.

JAC L-LEC: Post Passage

By Jerry Enomoto

As I sat in the pressroom of the White House on Aug. 10, 1988, about 10 feet away from the president, I heard him acknowledge that the internment was wrong, and watched him sign the bill, the enormity of the occasion really sunk in. There were tears in many eyes as the realization dawned that the struggle that had begun years ago had finally been won.

I remembered Edison Uno who, long before the first bill was ever introduced in Congress, urged action to seek some meaningful redress for those who had suffered the injustice of internment. Sadly, Edison and many others are not with us to celebrate today. However, I am sure that True Yasui, who was at the signing, at that moment felt that Min was with her.

As we savor this victory and take stock, the significance of the whole thing looms ever larger. A small minority group, despised and treated as the enemy only 40 odd years ago, had succeeded in obtaining an apology and monetary redress from the U.S. government. Consider that this occurred in the face of a decision by the highest court in the land that the internment was constitutional — a decision that cries out for reversal.

How was this accomplished? By a belief in American democratic principles, and a stubborn and persistent utilization of the system. The decision to take the legislative path to Redress was supported by another decision to seek the appointment of a presidential commission, whose recommendations later served as the heart of H.R. 442. There is no doubt that the legislative battle could not have been won without the patient and determined leadership of Sens. Dan Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, and Reps. Matsui, Mineta and Saiki. We have heard repeated testimonials to that fact from their Congressional colleagues. Seldom has a bill of this kind gotten 74 co-sponsors in the Senate — a tribute to Sen. Matsunaga’s popularity.

We cannot discuss the victory without acknowledging the work of Grayce Uyehara who spent three hard years in Washington developing and guiding the grassroots lobbying effort. It is not an exaggeration to say that she did a million dollar lobbying job on a shoestring. We can better appreciate the significance of this when we note that many states do not have Japanese American populations of any consequence.

Passage of H.R. 442, significant in itself, would have been hollow had not the president signed it. Primary credit for that goes to a Wyoming Sansei, who never saw the inside of an internment center but was motivated to fight for Redress to right the wrong done to his parents and grandparents. Grant Ujifusa, using the prestige of his book, The Almanac of American Politics and his contacts in the Congress and the White House was, more than anyone else, responsible for the ultimate success of Redress.

The campaign, however, could not have succeeded if it were not for the magnificent war record written by those Japanese Americans who fought and died in Europe and Asia. We are also indebted to the many Nisei veterans like Mike Masaoka, and our own LEC board member, Art Morimitsu, for making sure that we had the support of the veterans organizations. I frequently refer to the comment of a colleague who likened the Redress campaign to a relay race. The baton was passed through many hands over the years, and it was truly a team effort. As a longtime JACLer, I am proud of the organization’s role in this achievement. Although many deserve credit, the record is clear that JACL’s contributions were essential to the success of Redress.

We now ask ourselves, “What now?” The answer is, in a sense, simple. We are now committed to getting the maxi-
Those are:

the lesser, but important, responsibilities. Some of the act needed to answer the many questions on eligibility period of time, so that the surviving recipients and found them to be very accommodating and, input in doing their jobs.

D.C. responsibility.

with key members of their staff in Washington, and renamed the Office of Redress Administration (ORA), has demonstrated a high degree of sensitivity and initiative in our initial contacts. An example is the decision to change the name of the unit at our request. I had the opportunity to meet in some California communities, and plan to visit other areas throughout the country. A form has been developed which claimants may complete and return to the ORA. It is our understanding that they intend to complete the identification of all who are eligible within the year called for in the act. Although an enormous task, judging from the results.

We have been encouraged by the ORA’s interest in soliciting any possible questions that potential claimants may have, as well as our sense that their interpretations will be based upon giving claimants the widest possible latitude in establishing eligibility.

Staff of the ORA has already met with people in some California communities, and plan to visit other areas throughout the country. A form has been developed which claimants may complete and return to the ORA. It is our understanding that they intend to complete the identification of all who are eligible within the year called for in the act. Although an enormous task, judging from their initial performance, we are optimistic about the results.

As we celebrate our success, I must point out an unfortunate reality. H.R. 442 was not embraced enthusiastically by all Americans. My experience during one television appearance, and some radio talk shows reminded me that some people still cannot distinguish us from Japanese nationals, and, worse yet, blame us for Japan’s acts in World War II. Such people ignore facts and insist upon perpetuating lies. At the root of all this is racism, and it reminds us once again that we live in an imperfect democracy, and that eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.

One of the reasons that we were interned was that we had no political muscle in 1942. Our Nikkei members of Congress and increased Asian American political presence in local and state arenas now give us that muscle. The Congressman Lungren episode may have helped us realize just how much influence we now may have. As a member of the Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, he was the only one to oppose individual payment to internees. He didn’t just oppose it, he lobbied and fought against it. Asian American anger and Japanese American led coalition activity was directly responsible for Lungren’s subsequent rejection for the post of California state treasurer.

In the state with the largest Nikkei population, there may now be increased respect for our political support. A significant point, considering the rapidly increasing Asian Pacific American population in California. Of course, the important point is that we use that muscle constructively.

JACL’s commitment to the enactment of just immigration laws, a Census policy which does not discriminate against Asians, and affirmative action policies which protect all minorities from discriminatory treatment in the workplace, is a commitment that is essential if we are to reach the ultimate objective of a truly just society.

America is a product of immigrants from East and West, but we remember that until only some 30 years ago, our parents were denied the right of naturalized citizenship. Today, the increasing number of newly arrived Asians has revived ever-present racist feelings, which in turn, have created a serious wave of anti-Asian violence. Recognizing that our status in American society is less shaky than that of these recently arrived immigrants, but aware that we are only 46 years removed from American concentration camps, the JACL has added its voice against this wave of violence.

Our fight for Redress has won us the respect of many Americans. We were given invaluable help in winning that fight by many Asians and fellow minorities.

It seems to me that we in turn have an obligation to build on that respect and achievement by making the JACL an integral part of an active and effective coalition, whose objective is to protect and ensure the rights of all Asian Pacific Americans as we enter the 21st century.

Enomoto (right) with Rep. Mike Honda.
Season’s Greetings!

Donna, Allison, Trent, and Sport Nishizu McFarland

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Mackenzie Walker-NPS Intern

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Irene Mori
Jean Shiraki
Leslie Toy-Mineta Fellow
Michael Tsukerman-Masaoka Fellow

MIDWEST DISTRICT
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Marissa Kitazawa
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Andrew Yick
Yuka Ogino-NPS Intern

PACIFIC CITIZEN
Caroline Aoyagi-Storn
Lynda Lin
Eva Lau-Ting
Nalea J. Ko
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The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 provided an apology and compensation to the thousands of Japanese Americans whose constitutional rights were violated during their World War II forced exclusion and mass incarceration.

The President Signs the Redress Bill

By Wayne D. Kimura

Aug. 10, 1988, was a very special day for the Japanese American community, a day that will be remembered for generations to come.

For myself, events began the day before at precisely 8 a.m. I know it was 8 a.m. because that is when I usually arrive to work.
"I was naturally very happy to hear the news that the president was about to sign the bill and excited that I would be able to see him do it — something that I and many others had worked so many years to see happen," said Wayne Kimura.

That morning, as soon as I walked into the office, the telephone receptionist said she had just received a call for me. So I ran up to my office and took the call. It was Cherry Kinoshita calling from the JACL national convention on the University of Washington campus. Her voice was very hurried. She said that the president planned to sign the Redress bill, H.R. 442, tomorrow and asked if I would be interested in going to the ceremony. I said, "Sure. I wouldn't miss it for anything." She said ok, took my social security number, and then hung up.

I was naturally very happy to hear the news that the president was about to sign the bill and excited that I would be able to see him do it — something that I and many others had worked so many years to see happen.

We were booked on two red-eye flights going to Washington, D.C. on Tuesday night and returning to Seattle on Wednesday night.

I would explain that I was the co-chair of the Seattle chapter Redress committee, but it got to be tiresome after a while. So, after one of the group members said that he thought I was Cherry's son, I said, like "Saturday Night Live's" pathological liar, "Yeah. Yeah, that's it. I'm Cherry's son." After that I had no problems with explaining my presence.

Arriving at the airport, some of the group wanted Jerry Enomoto, Harry Honda, Mollie Fujioka, Betty, Pat, and myself. Somehow we managed to all fit in. It is a good thing we developed this ability to pack ourselves into his car because we had to do it all day long!

At Pat's house we were able to relax a little, freshen up, and change into more formal attire. We also were able to look at Pat's impressive collection of memorabilia (the Okura house is full of wonderful things to look at, including a beautiful collection of dolls made by Pat's wife). Pat's memorabilia included pictures of his meeting with president Kennedy and Vice President Johnson.

I realized then that I was sharing the car with an impressive group of individuals — Pat Okura, a JACLer of the biennium; Cherry Kinoshita, a national JACL vice president; Jerry Enomoto, the JACL/LEC chair; Harry Honda, Pacific Citizen editor; and Mollie Fujikawa, a recent candidate for national JACL president. And, of course, me, Cherry's fake son!

Leaving Pat's home to go to the luncheon, we entered into the oven called D.C. There must have been about 40 people in our group, consisting of JACLers from all over the country, who were in town for the national convention. It turned out that Cherry and I were the only people actually from Seattle (other people from Washington state included Joe Kosai from Tacoma, John Kanda from Sumner, and Denny Yasuhara from Spokane).

I believe I was the youngest member in our group, which often led to questions such as "Gee, you're so young. What are you doing here?" (i.e. you're obviously too young to have been in camp).
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Philatelic Holiday Issue December 2010

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

found out at the luncheon that the White House had moved the signing ceremony to the Old Executive Office Building because of the heat.

We had Pat as chauffeur, which was great because he knew all the best ways of getting around the D.C. area. We were never late to any single event on our agenda. Of course, Pat’s driving technique helped a lot. I now know the difference between a California stop and a Washington, D.C. stop. In California, you slow down before going through the intersection; in Washington, D.C., you don’t bother to even slow down.

At the Rayburn Building, where Congressmen such as Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui have their offices, we met other Nikkei who had come for the luncheon. There were approximately 60 of us, including Bert Nakano and other representatives from NCRR (National Coalition for Redress/Reparations). Congressmen Mineta was very busy and could not join us for lunch, but he did drop by to say hello and answer any questions. The clock on the wall would periodically make terrible buzzing sounds; Congressman Mineta explained that the buzzes were to alert congressmen in the room that action was occurring on the House floor. I was one of the first to get to the room, so I was very lucky to find an excellent seat. The room was like a small theater with cushioned chairs (perhaps 10 rows) and a low-carpeted stage with a podium in the middle. On the podium was the presidential seal and to the right was a small wooden table and chair. On the table was the Redress bill ready for the president’s signature. In the back of the room were perhaps 10 tripods for television cameras and a couple of them were being set up with cameras.

An ‘Excellent’ Seat

I was one of the first to get to the room, so I was very lucky to find an excellent seat. The seats in the very front row had “reserved” tags on them so I sat in the second row on the end chair nearest to the signing table. I had a great view of the president standing behind the podium and later sitting at the table and signing the bill.

The room was nearly filled up with Nikkei, which I thought was very fitting. During the Redress campaign, everyone worked very hard to fill the rooms with Nikkei during the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and Congressional hearings. How fitting that the Nikkei were the most prominent in this room during this climax of the Redress effort. The room unfortunately could not hold all the Nikkei who wanted to see the ceremony (one disadvantage of not having it in the Rose Garden); people ended up sitting or standing along the walls.

While waiting for the ceremony to begin, we noticed that on the floor of the stage were beige note cards with people’s names on them. There were two rows of cards behind the podium. Congressman Barney Frank, a strong supporter of Redress, later explained that the cards told the Congressmen and Senators where they were supposed to stand. He showed us the card he had picked up from behind the podium after the ceremony. He said you would think at least this person would have known where he was suppose to stand — the card said, “Mr. President.”

Shortly before the ceremony began, the press corps hit. It was like an invasion. There must have been 15 to 20 reporters racing down to the front of the signing table. One of them crowded right up next to me and partially blocked my view. “Great,” I thought, “There goes my wonderful view.” In the back, just about all the tripods now had cameras on them. I thought, “Hey, they’re going all the way with publicity on this one.”

Next, the congressmen and senators entered the stage area from a small room to the far side from me and took their positions. The air was charged with anticipation. Everyone had his or her cam-

The president’s signing of the Redress bill was front page news in 1988.

Nakagawa New JACL National President

By George Johnston

SEATTLE — His first reaction: “Fan­tas­tic! I’ll be a hero!” Surrounded by his screaming, ecstatic supporters, Grayce Nakagawa exclaimed his delight upon hearing the announcement of his victory for the office of JACL National President for the 1988-89 term.

Only two days before, however, Nakagawa had nothing to say during his chance to address the JACL Con­vention. On that day, his remarks were cut off by the available time, leaving him literally speechless. Aug. 9, however, afforded him plenty of time... his time, a time to stand out and a time to bask with well-wishers for as long as he wanted.

Before any celebration could occur, however, secret ballots were needed to decide who would win the available positions. Wearing borrowed rou­tine from NCRR, with a small wooden table and a low-carpeted stage with a podium in the middle. On the podium was the presidential seal and to the right was a small wooden table and chair. On the table was a small theater with cushioned chairs (perhaps 10 rows) and a low-carpeted stage with a podium in the middle. On the podium was the presidential seal and to the right was a small wooden table and chair. On the table was the Redress bill ready for the president’s signature. In the back of the room were perhaps 10 tripods for television cameras and a couple of them were being set up with cameras.

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The president’s signing of the Redress bill was front page news in 1988.
step towards that reconciliation.

Niiya also felt that while this resolution dealt with events close to 60 years ago, it was really about the future of JACL.

"I think this resolution is being closely watched from the outside as an indication of the future direction of the organization," said Niiya. "I think whatever the outcome, it will come to symbolize the current state of JACL."

Upon the resolution’s passage, a contingent of veterans stormed out and a heated debate ensued outside the conference room. Among the veterans was Tom Masamori, a longtime JACLer from Denver, who had ripped off his JACL nametag and stalked out of the room.

Later, during a break, Masamori, who had penned in "former JACL member" where his JACL name tag used to be, said he will most likely continue as a member.

"I was so angry that I took my tag off," said Masamori. "But well, I’m reconsidering it now. I’ve been with the JACL since 1946 so you don’t just throw it away, but I just felt so angry that I did that just to show my immediate sentiments. But I will most likely remain a JACL member because I would have a voice then. If I vanish, then I will not have a voice."

Fred Hirasuna, 92, the oldest JACL member, was also disappointed that the resolution passed.

"They had the right to object to the draft for civil rights but if they were truly sincere for that reason, they should have come out at evacuation time and said, ‘We won,’ said Hirasuna. "I think the timing was bad that they waited for the draft before coming out. They should have come out before. That’s my objection to that."

\[This is a good way to begin the millennium. I feel sympathy for those hurt by this, and I would offer a conciliatory hand to them as well. We should reconcile with one another and move forward.\]

— Marvin Uratsu

George Yoshinaga, a columnist for the Rausu Shimpo newspaper, who referred to the resisters as “draft dodgers,” felt the pro-resister camp had waged too strong of a campaign.

"I think the resolution was sort of, maybe conspiracy is too strong a word, but pre-ordained to pass," said Yoshinaga. "They campaigned and brainwashed people."

The emotional and divisive nature of the resolution was not lost on the JACL leadership, and reconciliation with the opposing side was a topic of discussion during the first meeting of the newly-elected national board members on July 2. President Floyd Mori asked each board member to make a concerted one-on-one effort to mend the rifts. John Tateishi, national director, said he expects some attrition in JACL membership in reaction to this resolution’s passage, but his biggest concern was the emotional impact this may have on the aging veterans.

"They did some difficult things in difficult times, as everyone did, but they need the past, the past is very important to them, and God knows I would never want to take that from them," said Tateishi. "I grew up always honoring the Nisei and the veterans, and I just feel badly for them that they feel we may have let them down. As I’ve said, I’m hoping that over time, this heals and that they will understand why that decision was made. Right or wrong, it was a decision that was the will of the national council."

Marvin Uratsu, president of the Military Intelligence Service Association of Northern California, was pleased with the adoption of R3.
RESISTERS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

“I’m glad this happened in the year 2000,” said Uratsu, speaking from a personal perspective. This is a good way to begin the millennium. I feel sympathy for those hurt by this, and I would offer a conciliatory hand to them as well. We should reconcile with one another and move forward.”

Within the last two years, the MIS of Northern California, which is the largest Nisei MIS organization on the continental United States, along with Club 100 of Hawaii and the Washington, D.C.-based Japanese American Veterans Association, had passed a resolution of reconciliation with the resisters of conscience. The Nihonka Faith Intersect group had also passed a resolution in April, asking for forgiveness from the resisters and urging JACL to do the same.

Gordon Hirabayashi, who was honored at the convention as one of three Nihonka of the Bimennium, was also encouraged to hear that R3 passed. During WWII, Hirabayashi had spent prison time with Poston and Amache resisters at the Catalina Federal Honor Camp following his protest of evacuation, and prison time with the Heart Mountain resisters at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary when he became a conscientious objector.

“I’m glad they did this,” said Hirabayashi. “It’s time they did this. We’ve all been educated that there are other ways to fight for your country, so I think we’ve all learned from this experience.”

REDRESS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

eras poised and ready (I double-checked to make sure I had my film). Finally, the announcement came we all were waiting for, “Ladies and gentlemen, the president of the United States.”’ The audience broke into a standing ovation as Mr. Reagan came we all were waiting for, continued to applaud very loudly. Then, without wave and shook the hands of some of the people standing on the stage. He was wearing a tan suit, which gave a more casual appearance to the occasion. Standing behind the podium, he smiled as we all waited for the president to leave the stage area. All during this time cameras were clicking furiously. I used up all the film in my camera, but kept on taking pictures just in case I could squeeze another frame out of my roll.

After the president left, the room became quite noisy and confused as people from the audience mingled with those on the stage, more pictures were being taken and the reporters tried to interview individuals. It appears most of the television interviews from stations across the nation (and I think from Japan) were held outside in front of the Old Executive Office Building. It was extremely hot outside, especially in the sun where the interviews were being held, so I stayed near the door of the building in the shade. While members from my “carpool” were being interviewed, I was asked to tell any Nihonka coming out of the building that there was a celebration party being held in the Capitol Building. Room H-130, at 3 p.m. I remember those numbers well because I was told to memorize them!

Frank Emi, one of the leaders of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee, said, “I think the step that JACL took is a step in the right direction as befits a civil rights organization,” said Emi. “After all, they are in good company. The U.S. government did what they thought was right during the war and they apologized. And although JACL viliﬁed the resisters for taking a principled and constitutional stand against injustice during the war, for them to acknowledge this now will not mar their image. It will only make the organization stronger.”

With that President Reagan ended his speech, sat down at the signing table and, with everyone on stage crowding around him, he signed H.R. 442. While the audience gave him another standing ovation, he shook the hands of those standing around him. Congressman Mineta introduced June Masada Goto — sister of the posthumously decorated soldier (Sgt. Kaz Masada) and then the president left the stage area. All during this time cameras were clicking furiously. I used up all the film in my camera, but kept on taking pictures just in case I could squeeze another frame out of my roll.

“I swore I would never ride a red-eye flight again, except maybe to see the president sign a bill.”

Matsui’s Celebration Party

After the interviews were done, our “carpool” left for the Capitol Building. In Room H-130 were cold drinks (thank goodness!), champagne (of course), and other goodies. People were mingling around talking about the signing ceremony. This celebration was also visited by Speaker of the House Jim Wright; House Majority Whip Tony Coelho; and Congressmen Barney Frank and Mike Lowry. In their brief speeches to us during the party, all the congressmen thanked us for helping them get the Redress bill passed and signed. I thought that was a nice gesture on the part of the congressmen since earlier that same week we had been thanking them for their hard work.

Our flight back to Seattle was departing at 7:45 p.m., so our “carpool” gathered up to return to Pat’s house and change our clothes. For one last time, seven of us piled up into his car and went off to the airport. In the boarding area it was easy to identify the people in our group (ignoring for the moment that we were the only Nikkei); our people were the only ones falling asleep in the waiting chairs.

I don’t remember much about the return flight, mainly because I was zonked out. I do remember that the flight, which would arrive in Seattle at 2 in the morning, was once again packed full. I thought, “What’s wrong with these people? Don’t they know they should be home in bed?” I swore I would never ride a red-eye flight again, except maybe to see the president sign a bill.

Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue, December 2010
‘Unification’ of Asians in U.S. is Urged

In 1972, JACL commissioned a panel on pan-Asianism and considered a more inclusive approach at its 22nd biennial convention in Washington, D.C., touching off a mission that continues today.

In this Pacific Citizen article, originally published June 30, 1972, Bill Marutani advocated for a JACL name change.

A JACL commission on pan-Asianism to study and recommend methods “to achieve unification” of all persons of Asian ancestry in the United States is expected to be given serious consideration by the Japanese American Citizens League assembled in national convention here this week at the Shoreham.

The resolution calling for creation of the commission was drafted by the Bay Area community JACL and has been endorsed by its Northern California-Western Nevada district council (NC-WNDC).

The national JACL planning commission, addressing the same issue, earlier recommended JACL continue and expand its contacts with other Asian American groups and assist them in their organization so as to become effective in the pursuit of common purposes.

“A liaison study group should be established to explore the feasibility of promoting a federation of Asian American organizations,” the planning commission urged.

‘Oracle’ Concept

The so-called Asian American focus within the organization goes back several years with Bill Marutani of Philadelphia JACL, writing in his “East Wind” column in the Pacific Citizen. He broached the subject of broadening the base and direction of JACL, “by affirmatively seeking membership among other Orientals such as Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Korean Americans, etc., coupled with full and unreserved participation” and further suggested the name for this “reconstituted organization: Oriental American Citizens League or ‘ORACLE’ for short”.

Marutani contended those who preferred “Asian” while objecting to his “Oriental” in the name were being timid and giving into fear of others in determining what the name shall be.

Among the reasons for a need to establish a pan-Asian studies commission as cited in the NC-WNDC-endorsed proposal were:

1. Historically the destiny and well being of persons of Asian ancestry in the U.S. have been intimately inter-related and that they all share a common heritage of anti-Oriental discrimination.

Distinctions Difficult

2. A majority of non-Asian Americans tends to categorize all persons of Asian ancestry as “Orientals”, failing to make any national origin, cultural or ethnic distinctions.

3. Time has come for various Asian Americans “to bury whatever animosity they may have for each other due to the Pacific War over 30 years ago”.

4. Young Asian Americans share a common identity rather than separate national origin identities and as their generations intermarry, the Asian American identity will predominate over separate national origin identities.

Name Change?

The resolution also referred to a 1970 California tri-district council planning commission observation that “in looking at youth today, JACL will eventually change its name to identify with the roles it would undertake and the people it would serve”.

However, the planning commission made no recommendation on this point, aware it would scuttle the effectiveness of the Washington representative.

The final clause in the resolution referred to the political influence and power that could be generated were persons of Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and other Asian ancestries unified and of sufficient strength to control their own destiny and well-being.

The 1970 U.S. Census shows some 2 million Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and others out of a total 200 million.

Commission members according to the resolution, would be persons who have had worked in the community not only with the Japanese but one other Asian community group. Chapters would nominate the members, supported by letters from Asian community groups.

The national president would appoint between 10 and 20 to sit on the commission. It will be instructed to submit its findings by the 1973 interim national board meeting.

Chapter Chairman Lai

Bay Area community chapter co-chairman Ron Lai, a first generation Chinese American and an insurance broker by profession at Berkeley, felt the combined numbers of various Asian Americans in a single national organization would be formidable in both the public and private sector. He cited the JACL motto, “Security Through Unity”.

He was impressed by the times JACL stood up for Chinese Americans when nobody else did. He recognized the JACL potential as a powerhouse for Asian American civil liberties. Lai was also fearful that JACL, as a “Nisei organization” had little appeal to the Sansei and in time would go the way of the Issei organizations. “And with the extinction of JACL, a lot of valuable machinery will go down the drain,” he said.

“JACL should cultivate its estate and create a legacy: an organization for the security of all Asian Americans”.

The Asian American movement gained momentum with the 1982 murder and trial of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American Detroit autoworker.
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Evelynn Okubo, 18, was discovered around 10:30 p.m. at the Palmer House. Most JACLers attended the Mike Masaoka testimonial dinner six blocks away.

**Murder Stuns Convention, Youth Maintains Calm**

In the darkness of the 1970 Chicago convention, JACL’s innocence was stolen by a gruesome murder of a Jr. JACLer.

Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura recount the events of the evening in this article, originally published July 24, 1970.


Senior JACLers not aware of tragedy as juniors organize to stem confusion.

*By Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura*

Total bedlam could have erupted among the many Junior JACLers who were in the Palmer House last week July 16 when the brutal murder of Evelynn Okubo, 18, was discovered around 10:30 p.m. However, the young people reacted in a calm manner and took immediate action to control the situation.

Young adult JACLers and Jr. JACLers on the scene immediately assessed the emergency, gave first-aid to the surviving victim, notified police and hotel security, sealed off the seventh floor, searched the hallways for the suspect, stationed guards at the murder room, and stationed guards at all of the entrances to the hotel.

Most of the senior JACLers were attending the Mike Masaoka testimonial dinner six blocks away and were not aware of the tragedy until they began coming back to the Palmer House at 11 p.m. Remaining at the Palmer House were a number of young adults and students who were busy preparing materials for the next day of the convention.

Youth Mobilizes

The youth took all precautions and mobilized their forces to care for the victims and conduct an intensive search of the building. “They acted like adults,” commented a national JACL officer who was one of the first to return to the Palmer House.

No one panicked under the emotional stress of the gruesome discovery. Within moments the situation at the Palmer House was under control. After the ambulance arrived to take the injured victim, Carol Ranko Yamada, 17, to the nearest Henrotin Hospital, the young adults went to the hospital to protect the only eyewitness to the murder. The JACL young adults maintained a rotating 24-hour guard until the Chicago police arrived to take over the guarding duties.

The senior JACL delegates upon returning to the Palmer House were notified of the tragedy by monitors stationed at all entrances to the hotel, and were asked to assemble on the sixth floor. The impact and emotional shock dampened the convention atmosphere, however, the senior JACLers took immediate steps to assist the youth who skillfully had the situation under control.

By 11:30 p.m., both the police and the senior JACL officers arrived and took over the investigation and arrangements. The officers, delegates and staff all helped make arrangements for the Jr. JACLers who were beginning to react with emotional outbursts upon realizing the magnitude of this tragic event.

All the Junior JACL delegates were removed from their seventh floor rooms and placed in a large conference room on the sixth floor where security, blankets and pillows were provided for the night.

The Junior JACL convention was cancelled, and the next day, arrangements were made to send the youth home. The JACL officers, Jr. JACL advisers, and conference officials worked with the hotel management and airlines to expedite the departure of Jr. JACLers to their homes.

Veteran police inspectors and news reporters, who swarmed into the hotel shortly after midnight, expressed their commendation for the mature and adult manner of all of the young people under very adverse emotional circumstances.

The tragic death of Evelynn Okubo was an incident that could have happened anywhere to anyone. But when it did happen, the young people displayed remarkable poise and the ability to move into action. *
Festivities at the 1970 Chicago convention were marred by an unthinkable tragedy — a murder of a young JACLer in her hotel room.

In this Pacific Citizen article, originally published July 24, 1970, famed journalist and author Bill Hosokawa artfully encapsulated the night's event in powerful words.

Triumphant Night Spoiled

By Bill Hosokawa

It had been a night of triumph, of nostalgia and sentiment and fulsome praise. The banquet to honor Mike Masaoka had stretched on a half hour longer than scheduled, which was entirely predictable.

And now many of those who had attended the testimonial at the Conrad Hilton began to drift back to the Palmer House, the main convention hotel a half-mile away.

We left the cab and strolled into the arcade on the way to the elevator. A handful of Nisei were standing at one side; just another informal caucus, we thought, or some old friends shooting the breeze before heading for their rooms.

Don Kazama of Seattle walked up. We hadn't seen each other since 1942, or maybe it was even longer ago. He demonstrated none of the exuberance of a friend of long ago greeting another friend.

"Something terrible has happened," he said. "We hear one of the junior JACLers has been killed and another badly hurt. A knife, right here in this hotel."

Disbelief

It couldn't be; it couldn't happen to the JACL, not to a junior JACLer, not even in Chicago of the gangsters and violence and big-city harshness and impersonality.

"They've called a meeting up in the convention room on the sixth floor," Kazama was saying. "But they have the area blocked off. We can't get up there."

That part of the report was wrong. The elevators were running, and perhaps a hundred JACLers had gathered in the main convention hall. Next door, in another room, perhaps an equal number of Sansei had gathered, some sitting on the floor, stricken, frightened, their fears and disbelief feeding on each other.

Jerry Enomoto was speaking. The leader had stepped to the fore. He had gathered as much information as he could, and now, in an effort to forestall rumors, he was making it known.

Police on the Scene

A girl — he wasn't sure of her name yet — had been found slain in her hotel room. A second girl had been badly knifed, but there was every assurance her wounds would not be fatal.

She had been taken to the hospital. The police were on the scene. Efforts were being made to get in touch with the girls' parents in Stockton, Calif.

"Shocked, disbelief, grief, fear, the emotions ran the gamut. Silence. Whispers.

A hotel security man entered the room. He reviewed what he knew, which was no more than Enomoto had reported. He said Chicago was a big city, and there were a lot of kooks running around loose in a big city. He said it was impossible to check every one of the Palmer House's hundreds of rooms.

And he did the unpardonable; he said there was a safe in the hotel offices and if anyone was afraid for his valuables, he should deposit them in the hotel vault.

A Callous Caution

No one protested this act of callousness. The kindest interpretation is that he, too, was stunned, and he was reacting by instinct. If you're worried about your valuables, put them in the safe. That's what he always told hysterical old ladies with more jewelry than was good for them to be carrying around.

Saying it was impossible to check every one of the Palmer House's hundreds of rooms, pretty soon, it was after one o'clock, and Jerry said there wasn't anything anybody could do, and suggested that everyone go to their rooms and try to get some sleep.

But for others it was a long, long night of grief and anger and wondering in the dark about the meaning of this violence and why it had happened, and when this sickness in the land would end.

The 1970 JACL convention booklet

Bill Hosokawa was a prolific journalist and author.
It took many arduous months, said Alan Kumamoto, then national youth director, but at the 1966 national convention in San Diego, the Jr. JACL was formally organized, according to this article published July 24, 1970.

By Alan Kumamoto

WHAT A WONDERFUL WEEK—To most of those who attended the 19th biennial San Diego national convention, it was a wonderful week, hectic, tiring, yet fruitful. Our only pastime now is to recover from the lack of sleep and the running around that we did.

For myself, the week was a long one. My agenda started with a national planning commission meeting on Sunday and a national board meeting Monday ... And the convention is still not over, since many conventioneers, young and old, were rerouted home via Disneyland. One can almost hold a post-convention rally at Disneyland, since half of the total number of people who were at the convention were there.

Tuesday after convention, remnants of Midwesterners, Portlanders, Seattleites and general leftover strays from the convention attended a cloud-covered pool party to wish one of the National Jr. JACL queen candidates, Pattie Ito, a happy birthday.

FINALLY—Would you believe that after four whole years and three national conventions, that finally a National Jr. JACL has become a reality with the formal establishment of the organization? Well, this is what happened at San Diego.

It took many arduous months of preparation by youth and seniors alike to make the National Jr. JACL a reality. The goal has been attained with ratification of the National Jr. JACL constitution. True, this constitution has minor errors in semantics and construction, but it retains in its basic intent the consensus of national youth organization members who have fostered the program to date. It contains rare ingredients, comments and opinions of the Jr. JACL totality.

Question now remaining before the National Jr. JACL Council is how to make the machinery function as ordained by the new constitution.

IT'S ONLY A MEMORY—One of the other fine accomplishments of the convention is the establishment of the national youth council, composed of eight district youth representatives, one being its chairman. Members are Russell Obana (NC-WNDYC) chairman; Paul Tamura, (PNWDYC) resource; Martin Koba, (PSWDYC) constitution; Misako Hasebe, (CCDC) newsletter; Bryon Morishita, (IDYC) budget and financial; David Misaki, (MPDC) credentials; Elaine Uchiyama, (MDYC) rec. sec.; and Norman Ishimoto, (EDC) project.

For these young, energetic councilors, the next two years of National Jr. JACL development rest in their ability and hands. We have to salute and commend national interim
youth council members, who have persevered and overcome many hardships of a program which has been groping for a future. We hope that all the lack of cohesion and lack of inability to comprehend concisely what was desired with the program will only be a memory.

THE LOUDEST CRY—There were approximately 40 to 50 young people who fell into the “twilight” age range from 21-30. It is quite a happy note to report that many seniors and juniors are thinking how these “twlighters” can fit into JACL’s total membership plan. In fact, some of the energetic 21-30 year oldsters met with me from 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. after the convention out to discuss the various regional differences, as well as ideological differences, which existed among them in their attitudes and opinions concerning the increasing and encouraging the number of 21-30 year oldsters into the JACL picture.

The only consensus, which was actually reached, was that nationally, nothing could be immediately done, but should be anticipated for the 1968 convention in San Jose. By then an even larger number of exhausted Jr. JACLers will swell a total number of 21-30 year olds. It was felt that if many of the people just over 21 left the jr. program, that much of the stability would be lost, consequently, the older juniors should filter into the senior organization, yet assure stability within youth groups.

One of the conclusions reached was to have the 21-30 group integrate within a chapter by taking out senior JACL membership and participating in the senior activities while yet maintaining their own separate young adults committee within a chapter structure to conduct activities of a social and recreational nature, more commensurate in meeting their own needs.

Further thoughts will have to be expanded on this 21-30 age group.

But now, at least, the eyes of the nation are conscious of the fact that the young people are coming of age. They are interested in JACL enough to know where we belong, and how do we fit in? *

----*

National Junior JACL Formally Organized

SAN DIEGO—Formal recognition by the parent body of a National Jr. JACL was extended to the youth assembled for its first biennial convention this past week at El Cortez Hotel.

The youths, some 300 from as many as 38 chapters, have been meeting concurrently since Tuesday to finalize its constitution, elect officers and establish programs and directions.

The parent JACL, national council Friday (July 29) adopted the recommendations from the youth assembly to be official entity within the parent body.

Eight-Member Board

Heading an eight-member board is Russell Obama of San Francisco as chairman. A successor to the post of NC-WNDYC chairman, which he held, will be made in the coming weeks.

Other board members elected were Paul Tamura of Oregon City, Ore. (PNW), resource; David Miki of Omaha (MPDC), credentials; Byron Morishita of Idaho Falls (IDYC), finance; Misako Hasebe of Yettem (CCDC), newsletter; Norman Ishimoto of Wheaton, MD (EDC), project; Martin Koba of Chula Vista (PSWDYC), constitution; and Elaine Uchiyama of St. Louis (MDYC), rec. sec.

Tamura and Koba are also relinquishing their DYC chairmanships to serve on the Jr. national board and successors are to be selected.

The National Jr. JACL will have district councils and its grass-roots organizations will be called chapters.

It had been recommended that terms distinct from the parent organization be adopted — federated youth clubs for the national body, interclub council for the district level, and clubs at the local level.

WHEREAS in Seattle, Wash., in 1962 the first youth assembly mandated the formation of a National Jr. JACL, such mandate being reaffirmed by youth and adult delegates at a special Youth Commission meeting in 1963 at Salt Lake City, Utah;

WHEREAS in Detroit, Mich., in 1964 the youth assembly, to further the above mandate, created a National Interim Youth Council to function until formation of a National Jr. JACL in San Diego in 1966.

WHEREAS in San Diego at this 19th Biennial National Convention, the youth assembly has ratified the establishment of a National Jr. JACL, Constitution and the same has been formally recognized by the National Council.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the national membership of the Japanese American Citizens League recognize and commend the Interim Youth Council officers, the National JACL Youth Commissioners and the office of the National Youth Director for significant and meritorious service to the JACL youth program.
Happy Holidays!
Richard, Helen &
Aeko Yoshikawa

STOCKTON

Season’s Greetings from
CHARTER WAY FLORIST
5520 N. Pershing Avenue
(209) 956-9087 (202) 466-5977
George Kaweddy

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Phone: (209) 451-0398
Stockton, CA 95204

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Happiest Holidays! Jim, Sally, Steven, Bradley & Nina, & Tyler
Season’s Greetings
Sam & Sachi Yoshikawa

Happy Holidays! Jim & Sumi Kochi
Season’s Greetings
Bernice Endow

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
THE SAKIS
Teddy & May Rodney, Heidi & Family
Season’s Greetings
Aiko Yagi

Season’s Greetings
KENJI TAKEUCHI
Enjoy the Holidays
Henry & Alice Hirata Stockton

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
THE MATSUMOTOS
Taiga, Trevor, Kimi, Paul, Kristina and Stephanie
Season’s Greetings
Joan Fukuhara

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FRANK MORITA

Season’s Greetings
KARYN & CARL MORITA

Peace on Earth
Bob & Gladys Ikeda
Season’s Greetings
From Frank & Betsy Shimoda

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
From the Inamasus

Season’s Greetings
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Ed Yoshikawa

Best Wishes for a Healthy and Happy 2011
Darlene & Alex Sakata

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
The Yagis
Frank & Hiro
Stockton, CA

Season’s Greetings
Dorothy Okura

Hawaii Kalikimaka!
Suellen L. & T Ted Yoneda & Family Wishing you the BEST the season has to offer
The Hoang Family

Happy Holidays
Hiroko Nitta
Stockton 95204

Season’s Greetings
Clark, Judy, Derek & Grant Mizuno

Happy Holidays
Alice Tsunekawa

Wishing you the best you the season has to offer

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
The Yagis
Frank & Hiro
Stockton, CA

Season’s Greetings
Dorothy Okura

Wishing you the best the season has to offer

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
From the Kimotos

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS
From the Kimoto
"You get just what you deserve in your own initiative," said famed World War II pilot Ben Kuroki, pictured here on leave at a WWII camp.

JACL Honors Americans Who Fought For Civil Rights of Nisei

These previously unsung heroes who stood up for justice were recognized at the 1964 national convention in Detroit, according to this article published July 10, 1964.

DETROIT—Honored at the 18th biennial national JACL convention testimonial banquet July 3 here were six distinguished Americans who, during the trying years of WWII, stood up and made heard their voices calling for fair play and dignity for their fellow Americans of Japanese ancestry.

A grateful people thus paid tribute to Dr. Clarence Pickett, representing the American Friends Service Committee and the religious faiths of America; Roger N. Baldwin, representing the American Civil Liberties Union and the "civil rights" of America; the Rev. John W. Thomas, representing the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council and the educators of America; Norman Thomas representing the Post War World Council and the private organizations of America; Mrs. Harry Kingman, representing the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play; and to Japanese Americans who served in the armed forces in WWII and to ex-Sgt. Ben Kuroki, U.S. Army Air Force.

Mike Masaoka, JACL Washington representative, who was the guest toastmaster said, "Yesterday, the president of the United States signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Tonight we honor these Americans who, 20 years ago, when there were no rights for those of Japanese ancestry behind barbed wires, stood up and were counted on the side of freedom and justice."

Honorees Respond

In their responses, the honored guests recounted some of the events of 20 years ago out of their close association with the JACL and persons of Japanese ancestry. They expressed their appreciation of the qualities of integrity and loyalty, which made them, in turn, recipients of a truly fulfilling association.

Dr. Pickett said that among his memories of these years was the fact that "you never seemed to be afraid."

"Events have carried you far but there are still parts of our country where native born Americans are still experiencing deep trials and are denied recognition of their sense of integrity and decency," Pickett said.

The first and only honorary consul general of Japan cited that "we have a unique part to play in East-West relations." He also stated, "we must all play a part in seeing that war, as an attempt to solve our disputes, is futile."

Wears Decoration

Roger Baldwin declared, "it is an honor to the United States that the JACL exists to help put into effect those principles to which the nation is committed by its very constitutional origin."

Baldwin, who, by request, wore the decoration, the Order of the Rising Sun presented by a grateful postwar Japanese government for his work in legal democratic processes states, "Ahead lies a great era of hope. We are participants in an effort for a
Fitting Climax to Convention: Wilkins’ Challenge to Nisei

At the 1964 national convention in Detroit, the theme was ‘Human Dignity.’

Roy Wilkins, of the NAACP, had just been to the White House to witness the historic signing of the Civil Rights Act by President Johnson July 2. He paused to add that the convention theme was perfect for this historic day.

“True brotherhood in action was demonstrated there as the coming days lay the challenge for compliance of this bill.”

Explaining the philosophy of law, Wilkins said they outline and determine human behavior, some prescribe and regulate but the duty for the living today is “to translate the Declaration of Independence off the parchment into our lives … and this must be done in our hearts.

“It is a matter of the heart—none is so poor that he does not have a heart: none is so rich that he can do without a heart,” Wilkins declared, in urging everyone to work in their state, community and heart to bring about justice and hope to this land.

“This is a monumental task and only through leadership of groups like the JACL can the successful implementation of civil rights legislation be enacted.”

He reminded in closing: “One year of hard work achieved victory but at the loss of a president.” (In front of the Sheraton Cadillac Hotel is a plaque marking the spot where President Kennedy made his last public appearance in Detroit on Oct. 4.

Jr. JACLers Recognized

A splendor of gigantic fireworks lit the skies over Detroit but the convention banquet sparkled with glitter with the unexpected presence of Rep. Spark Matsunaga, whose every endeavor has promoted “Human Dignity — Our Challenge.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 65
Persons Who Aided Japanese During Evacuation Period Honored by JACL

JACL thanks its WWII heroes and friends at the 1954 national convention in Los Angeles, according to this Pacific Citizen article originally published Sept. 10, 1954.

Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda of West Los Angeles presided at the first JACL convention luncheon held in the Pacific Ballroom, Hotel Statler, at noon Sept. 2, with about 200 delegates in attendance.

Father Clement of Maryknoll Mission delivered the invocation prayer, followed by greetings from Dr. Sonoda as master of ceremonies. Miss Janet Fukuda, national JACL queen for 1954, with her princesses, Janet Okimoto and Mary Enomoto, were introduced.

Official welcome to delegates was extended by Dr. Roy Nishikawa, convention chairman. He spoke on behalf of the six associate chairmen, 52 committees and 500 committee members who have been working during the past two years to stage a really worthwhile conclave for this national Nisei gathering.

Among honored guests introduced by the toastmaster was Sgt. Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, New Mexico, Nisei winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Miyamura was designated as guest of honor of the 13th national JACL convention. Mrs. Miyamura was unable to attend, since presenting the war hero with a six-pound baby boy recently.

The national JACL staff headed by national director Masao W. Satow, was presented, with introductions of: Mike M. Masaoka, Washington representative; Tad Masaoka, Washington office assistant; Tats Kushida, Southern California director; Haruo Ishimaru, Northern California-Nevada director; Min Yasui, Mountain Plains director; and Harry Honda, Pacific Citizen editor.

Hatsumi Mitsunaga leads Lagoon Night for Ogden, Salt Lake and Murray chapters in 1954.

Among delegates from distant cities included: Toshi Hasuike for Spokane; Ira Shimasaki of Seabrook; Dr. Mitsuo Nakata and John Hada from Portland, Oregon; Ruby Hirose from Dayton, Ohio; Sam Y. Matsumoto for the Mile-Hi JACL of Denver, Colo.; Mike Suzuki and Tomo Enochity of New York.

Abe Hagiwara, Shig Wakanatsu and Kume Yoshimaki of Chicago; Tom Kadomoto of Arizona; Hiroshi Miyamura of New Mexico; George Kashwagi and Miyoko Nakatsu of Seattle; Thos S. Takemura and Bob Mizukami of Payapull Valley, Wash.; Emiko Watanabe of Omaha; Jim Usilio of Mt. Olympus, Utah; H. Tom Tamaki of Philadelphia; Carol Tsada and John S. Katsu of Washington, D.C.; George Yoshino of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.; Kay Miyaya of Detroit; Hatsumi Mitsunaga of Salt Lake City.
'What inhibits the freedom of a Japanese American ultimately inhibits my freedom,' said Dore Schary, keynote at the 1954 convention.

Keynote Speaker Dore Schary Urges Nisei Not to Lose Diversity, Urges JACL to Act with Strength

The 13th national JACL convention was officially opened at the opening ceremonies held in the Pacific Ballroom of the Hotel Statler on Thursday evening, Sept. 2, with George E. Maruya, chairman, presiding.

Featured speaker of the evening was Dore Schary, director of productions and studio operations of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, who expressed a special interest in the Japanese Americans, as demonstrated by the filming of "Go For Broke". He expressed his strong belief that America has remained strong and triumphant because of the individuality of citizens and groups.

Schary said, "What inhibits the freedom of a Japanese American ultimately inhibits my freedom. What endangers the liberties of the American Negro will affect the well-being of the Japanese Americans."

Schary urged Nisei "do not lose your diversity, but lend your diversity to the American scene — bring all that is good; all that is bountiful of your Japanese inheritance to this our American scene, and take from the crucible that is America those things which are offered you."

Continue to Speak Out

In speaking of special pleadings, Dore Schary urged the JACL to continue to speak out for objectives in the interests of persons of Japanese ancestry. He stated "Mike Masaoka, as a Japanese American interested in your special problems, is an American as Ralph Bunche, who serves his nation and his people the same way as do Bernard Baruch and President Eisenhower, in their service and devotion to the common cause."

He urged the JACL to continue to speak out, "We must act with strength," he said, "to stop the clamor and restore order to our political and moral house. We cannot allow recklessness and irresponsibility to go unchallenged. We cannot become timid, because one voice speaks loudly."

Ex-Sgt. Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, New Mexico, the honor guest of the convention, led the audience of more than 500 people in a moment of silent tribute in memory of fallen comrades. Members of the VFW Nisei Memorial Post No. 9938 presented colors at the beginning of the ceremonies.

Councilman Ed Roybal of the city council of Los Angeles read a resolution passed by the council commending the Japanese Americans in Los Angeles, and extending official and warm welcome to the delegates.

National president George Inagaki accepted the engraved resolution on behalf of the organization.

George E. Maruya opened the ceremonies by introducing Rev. Ray Holder of the Episcopal Church, who delivered the invocation. The national JACL convention queen, Janet Fukuda, and her attendants, Janet Okimoto and Mary Enomoto...
Season’s Greetings

Yoshimi Nakamura
2212 Russell St., Berkeley

2010 Season’s Best

Peace
Tosh, Kenji, & Kaz Mori

Wishing you all a Prosperous New Year
Paul T. Nomura
Albany, California

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year
From a Happy "Old" Ear
Helen C. & Hiro Sato
Oakland, CA

Happy Holidays

Miyo Nakano
Berkeley, CA

Happy Holidays From the
TsuetaKi’s
Tracy, Jane, Alex, Amanda
and Bachan Hidiko

Happy Holidays
Vera, Eric & John Kawamura

Wishing you all a Prosperous New Year
Paul Nomura
A California Scond.
Kiyoshi & Emiko Katsumoto
2615 Brooks Ave.
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Season’s Greetings
to All!
from DENNIS MAGRI
Offering Warehouse Work-Shops & Storage for Business Located on Potrero Hill, SF (415) 640-7756

NOEL

Thank You JAC! From UC Berkeley Nikkei Student Union

Matt Cohen, MBA

Hiraga-Stephens Family

Peace and Joy
Fred & Rhoda Seiji

Happy New Year 2011

Scott K. Yokoi, OD

Season’s Best Wishes
Mark A. Fujikawa, OD
Stephen R. Chun, OD, FAAO
Allison Cho, OD
Berkeley Optometric Group
Since 1976
2414 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA 94704 (510) 843-1228

Season’s Greetings
Zarri’s Delicatessen

Lunch Meals, Cheese, Salads, Sandwiches & Wines
1244 Solano Ave., Albany, CA 94706 525-5405

Season’s Greetings

TOKYO FISH MARKET
1220 San Pablo Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709
510 524 7243

Season’s Greetings to All!
from Dennis Magri
Offering Warehouse Work-Shops & Storage for Business Located on Potrero Hill, SF (415) 640-7756

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Happy New Year 2011

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1244 Solano Ave., Albany, CA 94706 525-5405
JACL May Ask Lump Sum Indemnity for Evacuees

JACL fought for compensation for the World War II forced evacuation of Japanese Americans, according to this Pacific Citizen article originally published Oct. 7, 1950.

11th Biennial Sept. 28- Oct. 2, 1950 CHICAGO Stevens Hotel

Accomplishments Mike Masaoka is named first Nisei of Biennium. JACL Ruby Pini (approved by 1948 council for wartime contributions and sacrifices) to Ruby Yoshino Schaar, Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Pfc. Tom Higa and 17 former staff members. WRA director Dillon Myer addresses testimonial fete for officials and individuals who aided Japanese Americans during WWII. Council actions include proposing age-category lump sum evacuation claims payment: $500 for persons above age 18 as of Feb. 19, 1942; $100 for persons between 12-18.

Advance payment proposal also voted by delegates at evacuation claims session.

CHICAGO—Changes in the Evacuation Claims Act of 1948 to provide for an indemnity for evacuees and for a 25 percent advance payment on claims were proposed by the national council of the Japanese American Citizens League at its 11th biennial convention in the Hotel Stevens.

The council was informed that the Justice Department’s evacuation claims program was bogging down in a morass of red tape and restrictive adjudicative procedures.

The JACL’s committee on evacuation claims urged that the indemnity proposal and the recommendation for a system of advanced payment were inspired by the necessity for accelerating the government’s evacuation claims program. Delegates were told by Mike M. Masaoka, legislative director of JACL ADC (Anti-Discrimination Committee), that the program would take 10 years or more to complete under present procedures.

Under the indemnity proposal, all evacuees of Japanese ancestry who were 18 years of age or older as of Feb. 19, 1942, will receive $500, while persons who were between the ages of 12 and 18 years of age on that date will receive $100. Under this proposal all claims up to $500 will be withdrawn in lieu of the payment, while $50 will be subtracted from claims payments over that figure. Evacuees who did not file for evacuation claims will be eligible for the indemnity payments since, as the JACL’s claims committee noted, it is assumed that every evacuee suffered losses of at least $500 as a direct consequence of the mass evacuation.

The proposal for 25 percent advance payment provides that the evacuees may receive 25 percent of their claim before adjudication if the Department of Justice is satisfied that the claim is legitimate. When the adjudication is completed, the advance payment may be subtracted from the final award. If the award is smaller than the advance payment the claimant will return the difference to the government.

In passing the two proposals for amendments to the Evacuation Claims Act, the council granted discretionary power to the Washington office of the JACL ADC to work for the introduction of the amendments except under circumstances in which the office felt that such action would jeopardize the whole evacuation claims program.

The council was informed that approximately $131,000,000 in claims have been filed by 24,000 wartime evacuees of Japanese ancestry under the Evacuation Claims Act. The claimants are residents of 44 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of Hawaii and Alaska. Nearly 17,000 of the claimants are now living in California. Although there are nearly 600 claims less than $1,000, the average claim is for $5,000 and 77 are for more than $100,000.

The JACL committee also favored an effort to broaden the coverage of the present Evacuation Claims Act to include persons of Japanese ancestry who were forced to evacuate from Terminal Island before the mass evacuation.

Among the speakers on the evacuation claims program were Edward Emms, special counsel for JACL ADC, Mike M. Masaoka, Saburo Kido and Frank Chuman.

Chuman stressed the necessity for the Department of Justice to provide “guideposts for adjudication” in order to clarify provision in the Evacuation Claims Act which need interpretation.

Emms noted that although the claims act was passed by Congress as a remedial act, proceedings under the act under the policy of adjudication now in practice were comparable to litigation against the government. He expressed the hope that Congress might amend the law in order to restore it to the original intent of remedial action.

The council also heard a firsthand report of adjudicative proceedings under the claims act from Kido who also stressed that the examination of claims approached judicial proceedings.

George Tanaka, executive secretary of the Japanese Canadian Citizens Association, described the Canadian government’s evacuation claims program.
Best Wishes for the Holiday Season!

Honoring Issei and Nisei American soldiers who proudly served in the United States armed forces in the following wars:

- Spanish – American World Wars I & II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War

Judy Niizawa, President
San Jose JACL 1980 & 1981

Season’s Greetings

From the Wine Country

Sonoma County JACL

COTATI, CA 94931
SHIMIZU, Martin & Dorothy
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
KAWASE, Carol
PETALUMA, CA 94952
KASHIWAGI, George & Alice
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95477
KASHIWAGI, George & Alice

SEASON’S GREETINGS

From the Wine Country

Sonoma County JACL

COTATI, CA 94931
SHIMIZU, Martin & Dorothy
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
KAWASE, Carol
PETALUMA, CA 94952
KASHIWAGI, George & Alice
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95477
KASHIWAGI, George & Alice

Japanese American Resettlement through the Lens

by Lane Ryo Hirabayashi,
with Kenichiro Shimada

Photographs by Hikaru Carl Iwasaki

Asian Pacific American Librarians Association Literature Award: 2010 Honor Title
Southwest Book Design & Production Awards: Winner of Best of Show and Best Illustrated Trade Book

This unique collection of photographs by WRA photographer Hikaru Iwasaki focuses on resettlement. Showing photos of Japanese Americans following their release from WRA camps from 1943 to 1945, author Lane Hirabayashi explores the use of photography in the WRA mission to encourage “loyal” Japanese Americans to return to society at large, and convince Euro-Americans this was safe. Hirabayashi also assesses the success of the WRA project, and the multiple uses of the photographs over time.

Lane Ryo Hirabayashi is the George and Sakaye Aratani Professor of the Japanese American Redress, Internment, and Community at UCLA. Both he and Carl Iwasaki are available for combined speaking engagements. Please contact Beth Svinarich at beth@upcolorado.com or 720-406-8849 x.3 for more information.

Available at your local bookstore, www.upcolorado.com, or 800.627.7377

Founded in 1965, the University Press of Colorado is a cooperative publishing enterprise supported, in part, by Adams State College, Colorado State University, Fort Lewis College, Mesa State College, Metropolitan State College of Denver, University of Colorado, University of Northern Colorado, & Western State College of Colorado.
JACL National Convention Urges Citizenship for Issei

In the Mile-Hi city for its 1946 national convention, JACL vowed to seek justice for Issei with outstanding war records who were denied the privilege of naturalization, according to this March 9, 1946, Pacific Citizen article.

Delegates vote to retain headquarters in Salt Lake City, seek evacuation compensation.

The ninth biennial convention of the Japanese American Citizens League, meeting in Denver from Feb. 28 to March 4, adopted a forward-looking program designed to carry out its general objective of promoting "the interests and welfare of all Americans in general and those of Japanese ancestry in particular."

E lecting Hito Okada as national president, the convention voted to carry on a program to win naturalization and citizenship rights for all persons of demonstrated loyalty to the United States, "without regard to national origin, race or creed."

In his advocacy of the JACL's basic program, which was approved by the convention, National Secretary Mike M. Masaoka declared: "We believe that the enactment of the foregoing legislation would strike at the heart of most discriminatory acts and thinking against persons of Japanese descent, for these are based upon the fact that, by law, Japanese nationals are 'inadmissible' to citizenship."

It was stressed that the JACL was concerned with the status of resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who had made an outstanding war record but who were denied the privileges of naturalization.

The convention voted to retain the national headquarters of the organization in Salt Lake City for two more years. The headquarters has been moved from San Francisco to Salt Lake City in March 1942.

The JACL delegates unanimously supported a resolution to Congress urging the enactment of legislation for the creation of a claims commission in order to compensate legitimate claimants for losses sustained as a result of discriminatory treatment during the war.

The convention asked for federal affirmation of responsibility for the relocation and rehabilitation of the West Coast evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

JACL delegates also supported a program, which will call for organizational action in support of equal rights and opportunities for all in employment and in housing and in the business and professional fields. It was announced that the JACL would oppose all forms of "discrimination based upon arbitrary distinctions in any field of human relationships."

The organization's support of FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Commission) legislation and local civil rights code was affirmed.

"We believe in equal rights, equal opportunities and equal pay in employment. We condemn all restrictive practices which tend to keep certain racial groups in lower wages and employment levels and
Wartime, Post-War Problems of Japanese American Group Discussed at JACL Confab

Approximately 100 register at opening of national conference.

Close to 100 delegates from chapters of the Japanese American Citizens League throughout the nation and from relocation centers registered on Friday, Dec. 1, at the Japanese Christian Church at Salt Lake City for the first national conference held since 1942.

The theme of the conference, “Your Place in America Tomorrow Will Be What You Make It Today,” will be carried out throughout the three-day meet in discussions and talks on topics of vital importance to Japanese Americans in present-day America.

Special subjects to be discussed include farm problems, evacuee resettlement and the return to the West Coast prohibited areas.

Speakers for the conference will include Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Chicago office representative; Joe G. Masaoka, Denver office representative; A. L. Wirin, the American Civil Liberties Union; Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Committee for American Principles and Fair Play; William C. Carr, Friends of the American Way; Royal H. Fisher, Denver, chairman of the West Coast Protestant Commission; and Togo Tanaka, American Friends Service.

The conference opened Friday at 2 p.m. with a steering meeting, followed by reports from delegations and regional representatives.

Discussions on agriculture were held, led by Clark Alfred of the Farm Security Administration. Professor D.A. Broadbent of the Utah State Agricultural college addressed the group on “The Agricultural Situation of the West.”

Allied described the work of his agency in facilitating the acquiring of equipment, seed and farm loans, and in aiding the formation of cooperatives.

Saturday meetings will include reports by national officers; discussions on the JACL constitution and budget, and discussions on civil rights, farm problems and evacuee reestablishment.

A special public meeting will be held Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Japanese Christian Church. Mrs. Ruth Kingman, A.L. Wirin and William C. Carr will be guest speakers.

On Sunday morning delegates will breakfast at the Golden Pheasant, 147 South State street, at 10 a.m.

The YWCA Friendship and Service committee will hold a remembrance closing dinner on Sunday from 6:30 p.m. at the YWCA, 322 East Third South Street.

**CITIZENSHIP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 60**

brackets, or which grant lower wage scales for the same work to certain groups as compared to others, the convention declared.

The convention opposed the segregation of soldiers in military units and called for the elimination of discrimination from municipal, state and federal civil service.

Supporting the rights of Americans to live in homes and districts of their own choosing, the convention declared its opposition to racially restrictive covenants.

It backed the present test cases to determine the legality of anti-alien property legislation and urged judicial reconsideration of legal issues raised by the evacuation.

It proposed the survey of losses suffered by the evacuees in the evacuation and relocation, including damage sustained to stored goods.

Constitutional changes to democratize the organization and to give associated members’ representation in the national council were approved.

All official sessions were held in the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Delegates from 19 chapters were present at the convention.

At the opening session on March 1 delegates approved a record budget of $64,000 for the coming year, $37,200 for 1947 and $26,100 for 1948.

The following committees were active during the JACL convention:

- Constitution: Mits Kaneko, Denver, chairman;
- Finance and Budget: Jay Terashima, Salt Lake City, chairman; George Furuta, Denver; Dorothy Wada, North Platte; Scotty Tsuchiya, Los Angeles; and Stymie Hanami, Yellowstone.
- Membership: Masao Satow, chairman; Eli Kobayashi, Idaho Falls; Dr. M. M. Hori, Ogden; and, George Makabe, Auburn.
- Nominations: Taki Domoto, Denver, chairman; Shigeki Ushio, Mount Olympus, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Chicago; Haruo Yamasaki, Yellowstone; and, Tom Takatori, Boise Valley.
- Program & Activities: Dr. Randolph M. Sakada, Chicago, chairman; Minoru Yasui, Denver; George Fuji, Mount Olympus; Peter Asaki, New York City; and, George Minato, Seattle.
- Resolutions: Joe Asoka, San Francisco, chairman; Toshio Ando, Denver; Yukio Inouye, Idaho Falls; Mrs. Alice Kasi, Salt Lake City; and, Yurino Takayoshi, New York City.
- Credit Union: Hito Okada, Salt Lake City, chairman; Charles Kamayatsu, Denver; and, Paul Okamura, Pocatello.
- Nisei Veterans: George Inagaki, Venice, Calif.; chairman; Ben Kuroki, North Platte, Neb.; and, Tom Matsumori, Mount Olympus.

Pacific Citizen Committee: Fred Ochi, Idaho Falls, chairman; Jack Noda, Denver; Noboru Honda, Chicago; George Kuroki, North Platte; and Kaye Uyeda, San Francisco.

Credtentials: George Shizawa, Pocatello, chairman; Mrs. Merijane Yoke, Denver; and, Toye Kato, Ogden.

**JACL 8th Biennial National Convention Dec. 1-3, 1944 SALT LAKE CITY Japanese Church of Christ 243 W. First Street**

Mike Masaoka (third from left) was the JACL’s national secretary.
In August 2010, APAS added a new undergraduate major and minor option.

The Asian Pacific American Studies (APAS) program at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program that examines the experiences of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders within the southwest and the U.S. The APAS program at ASU is the only program of its kind offered by the three Arizona universities.

Contact: 480.965.9711 • apas@asu.edu • apas.clas.asu.edu

Wishing All A Blessed Christmas & A Wonderful New Year!
Yonei & Doris Asano

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Warren, Diane, Michelle, & Lauren Komatsu

Wishing You A Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!
Masako Takiguchi & Family

Warm Wishes For A Wonderful Holiday Season!
Cindi & Alex Kishiymama-Harbottle

Happy Holidays & Akemashite Omedetoo Gozaimasu!
The Kishiymama Family

In Loving Memory of Leroy Sakata!
Madeline Ong-Sakata & Family

Seasons Greetings!
Ted, Michelle, Lauren, & Bryan Namba

Happy Holidays
Derdra, Lesley, Allison, and Evan Fuwa

Wishing You Happiness, Blessings, Peace & Prosperity!
Luke, Michelle, Stephen, & Joji Keoons

We Hope You Have A Wonderful Holiday Season!
Dick & Peggy Matsuishi

Peace & Joy in the New Year
The Nakagawa & Eigo Family

The Arizona Chapter Wishes You A Healthy, Happy, and Prosperous 2011!
Improvement of West Coast Attitudes Toward Evacuees Told at JACL Conference

During World War II JACL conventions took on a more muted tone. The 1944 convention took place in Salt Lake City where business included a constitutional amendment to allow all Americans to participate in the JACL.

This article was originally published on Dec. 9, 1944.

Improvement of West Coast attitudes toward evacuees told at JACL conference.

By Joe Grant Masaoka

For the first time since evacuation JACL delegates to the national conference held in Salt Lake City, Dec. 1-3, heard first hand of the democratic fight for their rights as it has been waged in their absence by West Coast organizations. Reporting at this meeting were William C. Carr, Friends of the Way; Mrs. Ruth Kingman, executive secretary of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play; and A.L. Wrin, special JACL counsel and representative of the American Civil Liberties Union.

This struggle for recognition and acceptance along the West Coast was indicated as a three front challenge of public relations, direct action on the neighborhood level and civil liberties.

That resentment toward Japanese is fading, except in Oregon, was the general opinion of the speakers.

Aspects of farming as they pertain to Japanese were among topics discussed by a federal and state expert. It was suggested that regional farm conferences for Issei and Nisei be held.

Spurred by an appeal for American citizenship by Miss Helen Eto, resolutions asking for government recognition of the aid which Issei are making in dispensable capacities and naturalization for Japanese aliens were adopted. Opening up of all wartime services, irrespective of race, was also urged.

The national conference conveyed its reiteration of JACL recommendations to Gen. Bonesteel for:
1. Automatic clearance for Nisei soldier's families to the West Coast.
2. Revocation of the edict denoting certain articles as "contraband."
3. Issuance of a statement by the Western Defense Command that disloyalty was not the basis for evacuation.
4. Declaration of policy by civilian authorities to protect evacuees on their return.

Passed unanimously was an amendment to the JACL constitution to allow for participation as active members by all Americans, irrespective of race.

This amendment will be brought up before local chapters for ratification by majority vote.

Recommended by the national staff of the JACL, a proposal to issue a monthly league publication was adopted unanimously by delegates at the conference.

Participating in conference discussions were Masao Satow, YWCA national board field representative; Roy H. Fisher, chairman of the West Coast Protestant Commission; and Togo Tanaka, Amer-Friends Service committee.

Finale of the three-day sessions came with a banquet held Sunday evening at the YWCA. Impromptu guests of honor were nine Nisei soldiers of the original 100th Infantry Battalion. Still in battledress, they were on their first furlough after 15 months on the front.

Group members made a final pledge to "dedicate ourselves and our communities to building up a democratic environment of a kind which our returning soldiers will be proud to have fought for."

Masaoka family: (standing, l-r) Ike, Mike, Tad, Joe and Hank. (Seated, L-r) Kyoko, Haruye, grandmother Tsuru Goto and Shinko.

Four of the five Masaoka brothers who served in the U.S. Army: (from left) Ben, killed in action, Mike, Tad, Ike and Hank.
Alert to every situation and easily recognizing the many Jr. JACLers seated in the mezzanine, Matsunaga aimed his remarks at them: “Prejudice cannot be fought on the battleground alone, but must be done through education and by overcoming the hatred some Americans harbor today.” He reminded them that, “The greatest concept of living handed to us by our parents is — On wo Wasurenu (Never forget your gratitude to others).”

Outgoing National JACL President K. Patrick Okura of Omaha summarized the convention as “stimulating and fruitful.”

“Though we have matured and attained national stature as an organization, we must awaken our conscience to the civil rights effort,” he added. “Our foregoing programs will be directed toward improving the positive image we have established through the years.”

Okura received the gratitude of the membership for his leadership and guidance during the dynamic fight for civil rights legislation. As toastmaster Roy Kaneko was moved to say, “We are indeed fortunate to have had the right person at the right time at the right place.”

Installation

Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, first constitutionally elected national JACL president in 1934, swore in Matsunaga to the membership of that organization. The Rev. John W. Thomas recalled the many lessons he learned out of the experiences of those years. “Because we remained silent too long, there was nothing we could do but pass out donuts — if human dignity is to be experienced by a minority group, the leadership must be assumed by the membership of that group.”

From the beauty and life which he saw spring from the desolate desert camps, the Baptist minister said, “We learned that there is something in the human spirit that cannot be defeated.” Quoting Browning, he said, “The worst turns the best for the brave.”

“Because of your courage, dignity and respect in American society has been won by you,” he concluded.

Mixed Up World

Norman Thomas reiterated what the other guests said, “It’s you who won the victory and it’s we who ought to be grateful to you.”

“In this mixed-up world, the gains we made through your efforts are not too substantial if we are going to live in fear of everlasting war.”

Mrs. Ruth Kingman noted, “We were trying to put into practice what others were trying to do in principle.” She helped organize communities up and down the coast of persons from the fields or education, religion, labor and management in an effort to change their thinking in regards to the evacuees, if and when they returned to their original homes on the West Coast. Mrs. Kingman and her husband to this day are carrying on a citizen’s lobby for fair play in Washington.

Kuroki’s Slant

The dramatic turning point in the attitude, as exhibited in California in particular, was the appearance in 1944 of Ben Kuroki before the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, which was arranged by Mrs. Kingman. The apparent hostility and indifference of much of the audience ended with a standing ovation for the much decorated war hero, the “Boy from Nebraska” who spent his 59th mission on the home front fighting prejudice and hostility. Since 1955, Kuroki has been owner and publisher of a weekly, Williamston Enterprise and Meridian News.

“Human dignity and opportunity are open commodities in the American market. You get just what you deserve in your own initiative,” he concluded. The testimonial banquet, attended by some 450 delegates, was encased by Peter Fujioka.
Democracy in Action: JACL Leaders Discuss Problems

Problems born of wartime dislocation were under vigorous discussion this week in Salt Lake City as 50 representative delegates of the Japanese American Citizens League from nine war relocation centers and from “free zone” chapters met in an eight-day conference to develop an over-all policy for the JACL.

The discussions explored the present status of Americans of Japanese ancestry, inside and outside the relocation centers, particularly in reference to the civil rights and liberties of the Nisei as affected by wartime restrictions.

Delegates from the WRA centers reported on various policies and practices including community management, health and medical care, student relocation, education, community activities and enterprises, public welfare, internal security, agricultural and industrial development, project newspapers and reports and inside and outside employment.

On Wednesday afternoon the delegates heard Dr. Galen Fisher, executive secretary of the Northern California Committee of Christ of the Japanese Church of Fair Play and a member of the West Coast Protestant Commission, discussed the relationship of religion to the morale of the evacuees in the relocation centers.

A. L. Wright, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, main speaker at the Thursday afternoon session reviewed the civil liberties as affected by evacuation and relocation and discussed the various test cases now pending on exclusion and subsequent military orders as affecting citizens of the United States.

‘In his report, the national secretary described the JACL as being the “only real outlet those in the relocation centers have to the outside world.”’

Mike M. Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, presented a lengthy report on the work of the Washington office of the JACL and told of the interest of various religious, liberal and social work organizations on the problems raised by evacuation and on the people affected by it. Masaoka told of the JACL’s part in representing Nisei Americans in fighting discriminatory legislation and told of the common problems faced by Negro Americans and other minority groups in the United States.

In his report, the national secretary described the JACL as being the “only real outlet those in the relocation centers have to the outside world.”

“Just as our country (the United States) is engaged in a life and death struggle, so we Americans of Japanese ancestry are battling for our very destiny,” Masaoka said. “A cooperative attitude on your part toward the War Relocation Authority and other agencies will do much toward having Japanese Americans become an integral part of American society.”

He pointed out that the philosophy of the league is to assist the welfare of the United States’ war effort first of all, and to do injustice to the American citizens of Japanese descent who want to contribute to the winning of the war by the United Nations.

Delegates to the conference also hoped to develop a basic policy to be followed on the resettlement of the evacuees in communities outside war relocation centers.
Masaoka pointed out that the conference must lay plans first to determine how Americans of Japanese descent can best contribute to the war effort.

The delegates looked forward to a closed conference Saturday with Dillon Myers, national director of the War Relocation Authority, and with Leland Barrows, special administrative officer of the WRA.

Dean Robert O'Brien, national director of the Japanese American Student Relocation Council, was scheduled to discuss the achievements and future outlook of the student relocation. Arriving in Salt Lake City Thursday from the East, Dean O'Brien indicated that nearly three hundred colleges and universities had now been cleared for evacuee students of Japanese ancestry and expressed a hope that the program of student relocation would be accelerated. He stated that more than 300 students had been relocated at colleges and universities outside the West Coast combat zone.

The conference discussed means of combating unfounded rumors of Nisei disloyalty, of fabrications of sabotage by residents of Japanese extraction in Hawaii on Dec. 7, of misleading magazine articles, motion pictures and newspaper stories. "Millions have read the unfounded rumors about the Hawaiian Japanese on Dec. 7, but only a few have seen the Tolan Congressional Committee reports, which prove these rumors had no basis in fact," Masaoka said.

Employment and housing discrimination encountered by Japanese Americans were considered. Masaoka reported that the JACL was cooperating with the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee in striving to overcome unjust discrimination against Nisei Americans in industry.

The conference noted the "public relations" work being carried out by evacuee workers who had helped save the sugar beet crop of the inland West.

Tom Yego of Tule Lake who has been doing furlough work in Idaho noted that in the spring when evacuee workers first went into the fields of the inland West, they encountered considerable community resistance. However, the contributions of the evacuee workers toward meeting the manpower shortage, which had threatened the thinning and harvesting of the vital crop had created a "much better" situation in these communities. "The outlook looks good for next spring," Yego said.

The conference was scheduled to discuss the problems faced by the evacuee beet sugar workers, especially regarding community acceptance, contractual differences and difficulties faced in housing and working conditions.

All sessions are being held at the Japanese Church of Christ.

Masaoka pointed out that the conference must lay plans first to determine how Americans of Japanese descent can best contribute to the war effort, and second, to enable loyal American Japanese to take an active part in helping the nation to victory.

"Our future as people born and raised in this country is with the United States," Masaoka declared. "American people want to do right and in my contact with various people in the East I have found a general desire to see justice done to this American minority."

Masaoka asserted that the cooperative spirit with which some 110,000 American-born Japanese and their resident parents have met this great problem of dislocation has done to convince people of the loyalty of the group. Many Caucasian Americans, Masaoka pointed out, are aware of the dangers facing our war aim if a small American minority is treated differently from others purely on a basis of racial characteristics.

At Thursday's session Masaoka urged that the session draft a resolution to President Roosevelt and to military authorities asking that Americans of Japanese ancestry be accepted, without prejudice and discrimination into the armed forces under the selective service system.

In asking for this vote, Mike Masaoka declared: "Through this baptism of fire, on some battlefront, we can show for all time to come where our loyalty lies. We call upon Franklin Roosevelt to reinstitute Selective Service for all Nisei ...." He pointed out the necessity for active Nisei participation in the nation's armed forces as a basis for postwar rehabilitation and the postwar fight for the preservation of civil liberties.
Season's Greetings

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Jeff, Aline, Ryan & Michelle
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Kaz Matsuyama
Aiko Matsuyama
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God bless you in 2011!!
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Wayne, Nora, Philip & Jeff

Happy Holidays
Walt & Marilyn
Carolyn & Kimberly
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Thank You for your support of the
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Larry Oda
National President 2006-2010

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Tad - Stolla - Justin
Melissa & James

Happy New Year
Hiromi, Yae, & Sachi

GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD AND MEMBERS OF THE LODI CHAPTER JACL
P.O. Box 2454
Lodi, CA 95241

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season and Happiness Throughout the New Year!
Galen, Melba, Kenny & Minda
Miyamoto

Happy Holidays from the Board and Members of the Lodi Chapter JACL

OLYMPIA
FROM THE BOARD MEMBERS OF OLYMPIA CHAPTER -
Bob Nakamura - President
Reiko Callner - Vice President
Jan Yoshiwara - Secretary
Pat Ward - Treasurer
Hisami Yoshida - Past President/Delegate
Yoshiko Tokita-Schroder - Board Member

Seasons Greetings!
were also presented.

Special Guests
Tatsuo Yata, past chairman of the Pacific Southwest district council, took over the meeting as master of ceremonies, introducing honored guests, which included: John Allen of the Los Angeles Evacuation Claims Office; George Eastman, president of the Japan-America Society; Hon. McIntyre Faries, judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court; Hon. Shinisaku Hogen, Consul General of Japan; Commander Nagy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; Robert Persh of RKO; Col. George F. Herbert, executive assistant to the mayor of Los Angeles; and Giichi Takata, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

The national JACL board and staff members were introduced, and past presidents of the national JACL including Dr. Randolph Sakada, Dr. T.T. Yatabe, and Hito Okada. Legal counsels Frank F. Chuman of Los Angeles and Edward J. Ettis of New York were also presented.

Greetings from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, to extend greetings to the 13th biennial national convention, and expressing best wishes for a most successful convention were read, as were greetings from Gov. Goodwin J. Knight of California, who commented on the "courage and patriotism of thousands of Americans of Japanese ancestry in the defense of our nation’s freedom and security have earned for them the thanks of all the people in our nation."

‘New Horizons’
Dr. Roy M. Nishikawa, convention chairman, extended welcome to delegates and guest assembly, speaking of the "New Horizons" theme of the convention, seriously stating that the future of the JACL lies ahead.

"Although legal and legislative goals have been achieved," stated Dr. Nishikawa, "we need to translate these into realities on a practical level." Dr. Nishikawa, extended welcome on behalf of more than 500 committee workers who worked for more than two years to stage the best-ever convention of the JACL.

Greetings were extended also by Ken Dyo, chairman of the PSW district council, and Mack Hamaguchi, chairman of the Los Angeles JACL, coordinating council. Response was given by George Inagaki, national president of the JACL. The National JACL Hymn, written by Marion Tajiri, now of Denver, was sung by Miss Uta Shimotsuka, accompanied by Mrs. Haru Hokama.

Benediction was delivered by Dr. Cleveland Kleihauer, of the Hollywood Beverly Christian Church.

EVACUATION
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 52
Every major region of California was represented by official and booster delegates.
National JACL board members were presented to the convention: President George Inagaki, vice presidents Tom Hayashi of New York, Patrick Okura of Omaha, Bob Takahashi of Stockton, Calif., treasurer Dr. Roy Nishikawa, secretary Alon Community Relations; Homer D. Crotty, former president of the California Bar Association; Father Hugh Lavery of the Maryknoll Mission, Bishop C.S. Tajiri, now of Denver, was sung by Miss Uta Shimotsuka, accompanied by Mrs. Haru Hokama.

The National JACL Hymn, written by Marion Tajiri, now of Denver, was sung by Miss Uta Shimotsuka, accompanied by Mrs. Haru Hokama.

Benediction was delivered by Dr. Cleveland Kleihauer, of the Hollywood Beverly Christian Church.

The 1951 war film ‘Go For Broke’ starred, among others, Lane Nakano and Henry Nakamura.

The final presentation of an engraved scroll was made to Loren Miller of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), who responded on behalf of the recipients of awards.

Miller spoke of the national JACL’s fight to win equal rights under the law, and stated, "The JACL helped every American to become a freer man" in its fight for equality. He stated that those honored were acting under the profound belief that those who fight for equality for others are too helping themselves. In concluding, Miller, speaking of the hope of achieving full democracy for everyone, pleaded, “Let us walk together, let us work together, until we reach that goal.”

Following an announcement of a hospitality committee in the Mission Room to entertain and make social arrangements for delegates, the luncheon was concluded by benediction by Father Clement of Maryknoll Mission.
**San Fernando Valley**

---

**Happy Holidays**

**The Tsutsui Family**

Dr. Arthur & Mrs. Jean
Allen & Karen, Sean & Meme, Diane, Megan, Myles & Maddox, Neil, Kelly, Ocean & Reef
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**Season’s Greetings, Happy Holidays**

Paul & Nobuko Jonokuchi

Melek Kalikimaka
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Bob and Ruth Fukuhara

---

**Season’s Greetings**

Miyu

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---

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**Happy Holidays**

**Bryce, Rosie, Kawamoto**

Happy Holidays from
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**Happy Holidays**

**Remi, Paul, Cameron & Sofia Scolari**

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**Happy Holidays**

**Lizdoomey@yahoo.com**

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**Peace on Earth**

**Good Will to All**

**Susan Okumoto DeGracia**

---

**Best Wishes**

**Drs. David & Donna Uyehara**

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**Happy Holidays**

**San Fernando Valley Meiji Senior Citizens Club**

---

**Happy Holidays**

**From Frank & Emi Hino**

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apiplflag@yahoo.com

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**Happy Holidays**

**Jack & Rose Yamashiro**

---

**Warmest Holiday Greetings**

**Sam & Terry Uyehara**

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**Happy Holidays**

**Linda Tanaka**

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**Happy Holidays**

**San Fernando Valley Meiji Senior Citizens Club**

---

**Happy Holidays**

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**Happy Holidays**

**San Fernando Valley Meiji Senior Citizens Club**

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Bob and Setsuko Sato

Happy Holidays
Chiyoko K. Goka
Pat Donato
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Happy Holidays
Bob & Setsuko Sato

San Fernando Valley
Japanese American Community Center

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Chieko Merz

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8850 Lankershim Blvd.
Sun Valley, CA 91352

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Valley Kendo Dojo Mon, Wed 7:30 PM
Valley Karate Dojo Tues 5 PM, Thurs 7:30 PM
Valley Buddhist Temple monthly TBD Sun 10 AM
Kinyu Ginshiki-ai, Valley Shibu Thurs 9 PM
Computer Class Sun 10 AM
Karaoke 1st Sat 6:30 PM
Shido Sat 12:30 PM
Shiatsu Sat 9 AM
Tea Ceremony Wed 6:30 PM
Hoshunki Minyo Odori

Valentine’s Day Events
Nikkei Village Tea
Nikkei Village Catering
Nikkei Village JACF Luncheon

Cultural Events
Tea Ceremony Sat 9:30 AM
Shojo Sat 12:30 PM
Shiatsu Sat 9 AM
Tea Ceremony Wed 6:30 PM
Hoshunki Minyo Odori

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Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue, December 2010

76
Happy New Year!

Dennis, Barbara & Kyle Okita

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

GARY & AKEMI YANO

Happy New Year

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Nikkei Village Inc., is a non-profit venture by the San Fernando Valley Community Center, providing federally subsidized low income housing. Your inquiries are invited. Further information may be obtained by contacting Ms. Chico Iida, Manager, Nikkei Village Housing Inc., 9551 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Pacoima, CA 91331. (818) 897-7571. And, for information on Nikkei Senior Gardens, an assisted living facility for the elderly, contact Harry Nakada, (818) 892-7522.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Sumi Yamaguchi
Los Angeles, CA

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Wally & May Arakawa

Happy Holidays

Henry & May Hashioka

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Season’s Greetings

FUYO & KATS ARIMOTO and the 9 grandchildren
SEASON'S GREETINGS

Ronald and Leah Shibasaki
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Wanda S. Higaki, CMC
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from
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Yuki Fujiita
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Happy Holidays
MIYO FUJIKAWA

Best Wishes for
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The Doi Family
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Ronald Marion Trisha
Justin Kevin Sheri

Season’s Greetings
Robert N. Yamasaki
Jon, Kristi and Mark

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Mas Dobashi and Family

Peace, Love, Hope, Joy...

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Alec Schartner, Alyssa & Kristen

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CRAGD D. OKA, AIA
PRI
President James Y. Sakamoto declared that citizenship was first an obligation and then a privilege at the 1938 convention in Los Angeles.

Keynote Convention
President Sakamoto declared that citizenship was first an obligation and then a privilege. In line with this policy, the convention reaffirmed a resolution of a former convention in a more definite manner, placing the League squarely on record as cooperating with the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other patriotic organizations in the battle against all subversive efforts of alien agitators.

Loyalty to American institutions is keynote; revising constitution one step for progress; endowment backed.

LOS ANGELES—With the greatest convention in history behind them, and with a strong staff of national officers elected, headed by Walter T. Tsukamoto as president, and an ambitious program laid out, members of the Japanese American Citizens League closed the fifth biennial national convention here September 5, and departed for their homes.

Following the keynote sounded at the opening session by President James Y. Sakamoto of Americanism, loyalty to American institutions and the further development of patriotic citizenship, the convention built its program along these lines.

Seven Important Points
Seven of the outstanding actions of the convention were:
1. Revising the constitution of the League
2. Placing the endowment fund project on a more definite and substantial basis, and making preparations to accelerate it.
3. Improving the machinery of the League by creating a national board.
4. Voted to continue the Pacific Citizen as the organ of the League, and make certain changes.
5. Approved the Second Generation Development Project.
6. Approved a general program of vocational guidance.
7. Adopted a resolution to the effect that the League should keep in touch with international trends and be prepared rightly to interpret such affairs as they affect the young. These resolutions are more fully detailed elsewhere.

A new pin was approved, a hymn and a “pep” song adopted, the plan for a census of all young people in the United States was approved, and also it was agreed that a directory of the League members should be compiled.

Two other resolutions were adopted, approving plans for two petitions to the United States Congress seeking to ameliorate conditions for certain classes for Japanese.

These resolutions are more fully detailed elsewhere.

A strong stand against Communism is taken.

The public relations committee is renewed to educate Americans about Nisei Americans.
FRESNO

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Jared, Julie and
Jordynn

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HOO! HOO! HOO!

Season’s Greetings!
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and Family
Fresno, CA

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The Chung Family
Marcia, Robert
Ryan, Madison,
Jared, Julie and
Jordynn

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Carolyn Sakauye, M.D.

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Hope
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Moto, Masaaki
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Season’s Greetings
CLOVIS JACL
Tsukamoto Named as League Leader

At the 1938 national convention in Los Angeles, Tsukamoto — the first Nisei to be offered an appointment in the Judge Advocate General’s Department of the U.S. Army — became the JACL’s leader.

This article was originally published Sept. 1938.

Popular past secretary will be president; appeals for cooperation of members.

LOS ANGELES — Walter T. Tsukamoto, Sacramento attorney, was chosen to head the officers of the Japanese American Citizens league at the national convention held there early in September.

Portland, Oregon was designated as the convention city for 1940. Portland had been intending to wait for the 1942 session, but changed conditions made it desirable to bid for the next meeting.

Other Officers Named

Other officers of the national body are; vice president Ken Matsumoto, Los Angeles chapter president; executive secretary Ken Utsunomiya, Santa Maria; treasurer Hito Okada, Portland.

These officers, together with the three district council chairmen, and certain past presidents, will constitute the national board, which is provided for in the new constitution. The chairmen are: Southern California District, Henry Tsurutani, Los Angeles; Northern California District, Dr. Harry Kita, Salinas, and Northwest District, Mamro Wakasugi, Portland.

Two Past Presidents

The past presidents now eligible are James Y. Sakamoto, Seattle, and Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Fresno. The constitution provides that only those presidents who were elected by the national council shall be ex-officio members of the national board.

The list of candidates was submitted by the national council, and were installed at a Sayonara dinner given by the Los Angeles chapter, and also were honor guests at the farewell ball.

The retiring officers are: president, James Y. Sakamoto, Seattle; vice presidents, Mamoru Wakasugi, Portland; Dr. Harry Kita, Salinas, and Henry Tsurutani, Los Angeles; treasurer, Susumu Togasaki, Alameda; secretary, Walter Tsukamoto, Sacramento; assistant secretary, Masao Setlow, Los Angeles. ♦
The Constitution

Following is the revised constitution of the Japanese American Citizens League, as adopted by the fifth biennial convention of the organization assembled in Los Angeles, Calif. September 5, 1938.

PREAMBLE

We, the American Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, in order to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States, to foster and spread the true spirit of Americanism, to build the character of our people morally and spiritually on American Ideals, and to promote the welfare and aid in the development of the Americans of Japanese ancestry as an integral part of the national life, establish this Constitution for the Japanese American Citizens League of the United States of America.

ARTICLE I

Policy

Section 1. This organization shall be non-partisan and non-religious and shall not be used for purposes of official endorsement of candidates for public office or of other political issues.

Section 2. This organization shall encourage every member to perform his full duty as an American citizen.

ARTICLE II

Incorporation

This organization shall be incorporated under the laws of the state of California.

Section 2: The seal of this organization shall bear the words "Japanese American Citizens League, incorporated under the laws of the state of California, June 21, 1937.

Section 3. The seal shall be affixed to all instruments and documents issued by or under the authority of this organization.

ARTICLE III

National Headquarters

The national headquarters of this organization shall be located in the city designated by the national council.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

Section 1. The membership of this organization shall be composed of American Citizens of Japanese ancestry and shall be 18 years or older.

Section 2. Each member of this organization shall be a member of a local chapter, holding a charter, and shall receive a national membership card signed by the president, executive secretary, and president or chairman of the local chapter.

Section 3. Any member departing for residence to another chapter in another locale may be privileged to transfer this membership upon presentation of a certificate of transfer executed by his chapter president and treasurer.

ARTICLE V

Elective Officers

Section 1. Officers of this organization shall be the president, vice president, executive secretary and treasurer.

Section 2. Officers of this organization shall be members at least 25 years old, except the president who shall be at least 30 years old. They shall be elected at the national convention.

Section 3. Officers of this organization shall hold office until the next biennial convention and shall be ex-officio members of the various district councils.

ARTICLE VI

Duties of Elective Officers

Section 1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the national council, national board, and national conventions, and shall superintend the affairs of this organization subject to the national board.

Section 2. The vice president shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the national council or national board.

Section 3. The executive secretary shall generally aid in directing the affairs of this organization and keep a record of the minutes of its meetings, this organization, conventions, and of the national council and national board, as well as to have custody of all books, records and papers of this organization, except such as shall be in charge of the treasurer, or of

some other persons or persons authorized to have custody and possession of the national council or national board.

Section 4. The treasurer shall keep account of all monies of this organization received or disbursed and shall make payments with the approval of the national council or national board.

Section 5. The executive secretary and the treasurer shall each have the power to appoint one or more assistants.

Section 6. In case there is a vacancy in the office of the president, the vice president shall assume the duties of said office for the balance of the unexpired term.

(b) In case there is a vacancy in any other office, the national board shall have the authority to fill such vacancy.

ARTICLE VII

Voting

Section 1. Each chartered chapter shall have one vote on the national council.

Section 2. There shall be no proxy voting.

Section 3. In case of emergency, telegraphic votes shall be taken by the executive secretary, and a majority of votes cast shall settle the issue upon confirmation by the president.

Section 4. A majority vote of the chartered chapters present at any and all meetings of the organization shall be necessary to determine all issues and elections, unless otherwise provided.

ARTICLE VIII

National Board

Section 1. The national board shall be the executive and administrative body of this organization and shall consist of the president, vice president, executive secretary, treasurer and the chairman of the districts.

Section 2. Past presidents elected by the national council and who shall have served his full term shall be ex-officio members of the national board.

Section 3. The president shall have the right to call special meetings of the national board whenever he deems it necessary.

Section 3. The executive secretary shall call a special meeting of the national board whenever requested in writing by three or more members thereof.

Section 4. Quorum of any and all meetings of the national board shall be the presence of a majority of members thereof.

ARTICLE IX

National Council

Section 1. The national council shall be the legislative body of this organization and shall consist of two delegates from each chartered chapter and the national board.

Section 2. The national council shall meet in general session biennially during the national convention.

Section 3. Special session of the national council shall be called by the president or the national board whenever necessary.

Section 4. Special sessions of the national council shall be called by the president or the national board whenever necessary.

Section 5. Quorum of any and all meetings of the national council shall be the presence of a majority of chartered chapters in good standing.

ARTICLE X

Chapters

Section 1. Each chapter shall choose its own name to conform with the purposes of this organization as set forth in the preamble and shall adopt its own constitution and bylaws which shall not conflict with the provisions of this constitution and bylaws.

Section 2. New chapters shall be admitted into this organization by filing application with and upon formal recommendation of the district council and upon approval of the national board.

Section 3. Each chapter, in order to be in good standing in this organization, must qualify as provided by the bylaws.

Section 4. Officers of each chapter shall take office within the month of January of each year.

Section 5. The duly elected officers of all chartered chapters shall be registered with the executive secretary. Such reports shall be made within thirty (30) days of the election thereof.

ARTICLE XI

Charters

Section 1. Each chapter shall be granted a charter by the national board upon admittance into this organization as provided by Section 2 of Article X.

Section 2. The national board, with approval of the district council, shall have the discretionary power to suspend or revoke the charter of any chapter for failure to pay national dues or district council obligations for one year or more, or for failure to carry out in good faith the provisions of this constitution and the bylaws or for failure to cooperate with the national council, national board, and the district council to which it belongs.

Section 2. Any chapter given a notice of suspension may appeal for reinstatement upon a signed petition to be filed with the national council and the national board.

Section 3. The nonprofit corporation bylaws of said organization may be amended at any time by the president or the national board.

Section 4. Any officer of this organization may be removed from office for misfeasance or malfeasance or neglect of duty following a hearing by the national board, and shall judge whether or not the case shall be presented to the special session of the national council for a vote.

Section 5. Upon presentation to the special session of the national council of a resolution that all the chartered chapters shall be necessary for the removal of any officer.

ARTICLE XIV

District Councils

Section 1. The national council shall be divided into as many district councils as the bylaws shall provide.

Section 2. Each district council shall act upon all district matters concerning the bylaws not in conflict herewith and shall be composed of the chairman, duly elected officers and delegates at large from each chartered chapter within said district.

ARTICLE XV

Conventions

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution or bylaws hereof shall be made at the national council meetings.

Section 2. To introduce an amendment to this constitution or the bylaws hereof, the district council shall petition the executive secretary who shall send a copy of the proposed amendment or amendments to each chapter at least 30 days preceding the national council meeting.

Section 3. Three-fourths vote of the chartered chapters present shall be necessary to pass any amendment to the bylaws hereof.

The bylaws as adopted were not available, but will be presented in a later issue of The Citizen.
A Brief History of the New American Citizens League


Eight days later, on Oct. 27, the inaugural banquet was held at Clift Hotel. Over 50 second-generation citizens were on hand and the first speaker for the evening was Saburo Kido, who had been elected president of the organization at a preliminary meeting.

Mr. Kido emphasized the fact that the citizens of Japanese ancestry had many difficult problems confronting them, which must be solved sooner or later. To rely on the first generation was inevitable to a certain degree, but ultimately, the real solution would have to be made by the second-generation members, and this can be done only by cooperation.

The principal speaker of the evening, Frederick J. Koster of the Industrial Association of San Francisco, declared the necessity of citizens, regardless of race identity, to vote and become identified with the political institutions of the country. It is also essential, he said, that Japanese American citizens should work in the industrial life of the nation and bring with them the patience and industrious qualities of their parents.

Speaking on behalf of the Japanese consul general, M. Iino extended congratulations on the establishment of the new organization. T. Takimoto, secretary of the Japanese Association of America, also extended his congratulations, saying that he looked for greater progress of Japanese in America in the future.

The biggest undertaking of the league was the first Citizens League Convention, which took place April 5-6, 1929, in San Francisco.

The convention was formally opened with a luncheon at the Sho Wa Low. Besides the delegates from the various localities, there were several American social workers that were invited to all the meetings. In order to become acquainted with each other, self-introductions were made. A short message of welcome was delivered by the president Saburo Kido.

After the luncheon, the group gathered at the Community House, and at 2 p.m. the business meeting began.

The first problem to be taken up was that of the federation. Mr. Clarence T. Arai of Seattle was called upon to present his plan whereby all the leagues could be united. His plan was to organize a national body and to group the various chapters into districts.

Internal problems were then presented. Reports from the various delegates were made on the progress they were making and also the difficulties they had to overcome. The meet-
T. Takimoto, who deserves much credit for bringing Japanese understanding with the end in view of cooperation of the Japanese American citizens. Chapter, gave a short talk. He impressed the convention means our success because we have so much was expected of them.

The evening was devoted to a meeting called “Delegates’ Night.” The meeting was opened with addresses from Miss Miya Sannomiya and Clarence Arai. She encouraged those present to show the first generation what the young people could do. Mr. Clarence Arai urged the members to exercise their citizenship rights. He gave examples of the work being done in Seattle along political lines.

Mr. Kenneth Fung, who is the secretary of the Chinese-American Citizens Alliance, gave a message of congratulation. He asked for the cooperation of the Japanese American citizens. His keynote message was: “The success of this convention means our success because we have so much in common.”

The principal speaker of the evening was Mr. Victor Kwong of the San Francisco Bulletin. He talked about his dream, a dream of sincere Sino-Japanese understanding with the end in view of securing for Asia a political unity that may be a great pillar for peace of the world.

Following the speeches, a delightful social hour was observed by the delegates, through the efforts of Mrs. C. Yonezu, reception chair, who acted as the hostess and entertained the guests with refreshments. About 60 delegates were present.

On Saturday afternoon, Dr. H. Guy gave his message. It was one of the most inspiring and practical addresses ever delivered before a second generation group and some of the members who knew Dr. Guy well stated later that it was the best speech they had heard from him. Probably, the importance of the gathering as well as the quality of the delegates inspired Dr. Guy. The following is a brief summary of his message:

1. Get means of publicity.
2. Have definite aim of character.
3. Cultivate the SPIRIT to render public service.

After his talk, discussion groups were held under the following leaders:
- Membership rights: Clarence T. Arai
- Finance Problems: Saburo Kido
- Vocation Problems: Miya Sannomiya
- Better Relations: Hisashi Arie

A recess was then taken in order to attend the Consul General Ida’s reception at his home. Vice Consul Toyogi Kaneko welcomed the delegates and gave a short message. A brief response was made by Saburo Kido, and refreshments were served. A program of entertainment, organized by Mr. Minoru lino, then followed.

The final business meeting was opened at 4 p.m. The organization committee’s report was presented for adoption. The name “Japanese American Citizens League” was the one recommended and it was accepted.

Following this meeting, the delegates were invited to a dance in the Berkeley U.C. YWCA sponsored by the Triple O Society and J.U.C. Club. Thus the curtain of finis was rung down on this convention.

In the succeeding months, the activities of the league have been confined to monthly dinners; but this was broken by a delightful social given by Mr. and Mrs. K. Abiko at their home. Over 80 members of the league and friends were present, including Consul General Ida and members of the Lowell High School Party going to Japan. Interests games planned out by Yuki Kuwahara and Henry Takahashi added merriment to the occasion. The consensus of opinion was that all had one swell time.

The latest activities of the league have been the boat ride and picnic at Paradise Cove Park on Sept. 8 and the starting of our publication.

The officers who carried on the work of the league for the first year were: President, Saburo Kido; Vice-Presidents: Henry Takahashi, Kay Tsukamoto, Toshi Takao, Shizu Sakai, Dr. Tokutaro Hayashi, Mrs. Charles Yonezu, Kay Nishida; Recording Secretary, Hide Sasaki; Corresponding Secretary, Eiko Enomoto; Treasurer, Henry Uyeda.
Season’s Greetings

Ventura County Chapter Members & Friends

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Bob and Margaret Arimura
John and Julie Hiroshi
Alko O. King
Scott & Yoko Kujiraeok
Dorene & Jim Tsukido
Benny & George Yokiji

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Susie Hogan
Sumiko Kato
Gladys Kihata
Yoko & Gene Matsuhashi
Kelly McCormick
Tome Okana
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Donna Nakashima and Family
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Happy Holidays!

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Enjoy the joy of the new year

Nate Hamimoto

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Nate Hamimoto

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Happy Holidays from

Frank and Betty S. Hiji

HAPPY NEW YEAR
Ventura County
JACL web site
www.vcjacl.org

Season’s Greetings

Noriyoshi & Mae MORI WAKI

Happy Holidays from

Aiko O. King

Season’s Greetings

Noriyoshi & Mae MORI WAKI

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Happy Holidays from

Nobu Reidel

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Ventura County Chapter

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VENTURA COUNTY J A C L

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Chelsea Anderson
Jessica Ryugo
Karen Sujata
Alyssa Tanaka

HIDEO AKIYOMO SCHOLARSHIP

Kelly Akashi
Colin Mayemura
Dr. Tom Takeda
Memorial Scholarship
Michael Kunisaki

OUTSTANDING SCHOLARS

Kimrey Koga
Jakob Lindsey

MASASHI AKAHOSHI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Cory LeRoy
Kassandra Oka

RUBY SUMINO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Amanda Burch

Happy Holidays from

Nathan, Tanya, Abby, and Mika Inouye

Hiram and Rae Williams

Happy Holidays from

Julie Hiroshi

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SECOND SEASON’S GREETINGS

Happy Holidays from

John, Carol, David and Lisa Aoyagi

SEASON’S GREETINGS

KATHY KANAMORI YORI KANAMORI

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1450 Ranch Rd., Suite 108
Camarillo, CA 93010

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The Japanese American of the Biennium Award, JACL’s highest public honor, recognizes individuals whose achievements have enhanced the quality of life in our society.

Established in 1950 as ‘Nisei of the Biennium’, the award initially recognized leaders for their wartime and immediate postwar contributions.

It’s a beautiful tradition — honoring community leaders who have moved mountains and shaped our future. Through the years, JACL’s various awards have honored chapter movers and shakers and national icons like Bob Matsui (left). These awards celebrate courage, honor and dedication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1950</th>
<th>1956</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIKE M. MASAOKA</td>
<td>GEORGE J. INAGAKI</td>
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<th>1952</th>
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<td>MINORU YASUI</td>
<td>BILL K. HOSOKAWA</td>
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<td>SGT. HIROSHI MIYAMURA</td>
<td>SEN. DANIEL K. INOUYE</td>
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<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>MINORU YAMASAKI</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>HENRY Y. KASAI</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>REP. PATSY MINK</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>NORMAN Y. MINETA</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>PAUL I. TERASAKI, PH.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>REP. SPARK M. MATSUNAGA</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>RAYMOND S. UNO</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>K. PATRICK OKLYA</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>MINORU MASUDA, PH.D.</td>
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<td>(POSTHUMOUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GEORGE K. NAKASHIMA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>HARVEY A. ITANO, MD, PH.D.</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>HARRY H. L. KITANO, PH.D.</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>GEORGE RYOICHI ARIYOSHI</td>
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<td>ISAMU NOGUCHI</td>
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<td>YORITADA WADA</td>
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<td>1988</td>
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<td>YOSHIKO UCHIDA</td>
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<td>GRAYCE UYEHARA</td>
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<td>REP. ROBERT MATSUI</td>
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<td>STEVEN OKAZAKI, PH.D.</td>
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<td>DR. EVELYN NAKANO GLENN</td>
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<td>YOSHIHIRO UCHIDA</td>
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<td>YURI KOCHIYAMA</td>
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<td>GEORGE TAKEI</td>
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<td>GEORGE TSUTAKAWA</td>
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<td>PETER WESTBROOK</td>
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<td>AKI KUROSE (POSTHUMOUS)</td>
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<td>SHIGEKI &quot;SHAKE&quot; USHIO</td>
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<td>MIKE HONDA</td>
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<td>PAUL AKIO KAWATA</td>
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<td>DANIEL TANI</td>
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<td>LINDSEY YAMASAKI</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>JEANNE WAKATSUKI</td>
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<td>HOUSTON</td>
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<td>PAUL IGASAKI</td>
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<td>TOM IKEDA</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>CHRIS TASHIMA</td>
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<td>TIM TOYAMA</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>DR. TETSUDEN KASHIMA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>DALE IOKDA</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>LT. COL. ELLISON ONIZUKA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(POSTHUMOUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>STUART ISHIMARU (PICTURED)</td>
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<td>RICHARD MORIMOTO</td>
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Emily Teruya (right) receives her JACLer of the Biennium award in 2008 from Larry Oda, then national president.

**JACLER OF THE BIENNIUM Awards**

One of the most coveted honors in the organization, the JACLER of the Biennium Award recognizes a member who has worked to strengthen and grow the national organization during the immediate biennium.

The program was initiated in 1956 in memory of Dr. Randolph M. Sakata, 1950-52 national JACL president. Candidates are nominated by their chapters.

In 1994, Matthew K. Fong, of the California Board of Equalization, realized a $1,000 contribution from Burger King to recognize volunteer organizations with longstanding commitment to improving communities for JACLER of the Biennium as well as cash prizes to bolster the Venice-Culver Inagaki Memorial Fund. The awardees are as follows:

- **1956**
  - Jerry J. Enomoto (PICTURED)
  - Abe Hagiwara

- **1956**
  - Stuart Ishimaru (PICTURED)
  - Richard Morimoto

- **1956**
  - LT. COL. ELLISON ONIZUKA (POSTHUMOUS)

- **1956**
  - Rep. Robert Matsui
  - Steven Okazaki
  - Ronald Takaki, PH.D.

- **1956**
  - Rep. Patsy Mink

- **1956**
  - Norman Y. Mineta

- **1956**
  - Paul I. Terasaki, PH.D.

- **1956**
  - Rep. Spark M. Matsunaga

- **1956**
  - Raymond S. Uno

- **1956**
  - Michi Nishiura Weglyn

- **1956**
  - K. Patrick Oklyan

- **1956**
  - Minoru Masuda, PH.D. (POSTHUMOUS)
  - George K. Nakashima
  - Harvey A. Itano, MD, PH.D.

- **1956**
  - Harry H. L. Kitano, PH.D.

- **1956**
  - George Ryoichi Ariyoshi
  - Isamu Noguchi
  - Yoritada Wada

- **1956**
  - Lt. Col. Ellison Onizuka (POSTHUMOUS)
1958
Mrs. Sue Takimoto Joe Kumeo Yoshinari

1960
Joe Kadowaki

1962
Frank F. Oda

1964
Father Clement Boesflug

1966
William Marutani

1968
Takeshi Kubota

1970
Dr. Roy Nishikawa

1972
Helen S. Kawagoe

1974
Dr. James Tsujimura

1976
Dr. Clifford Uyeda

1978
Edward M. Yamamoto

1980
John Tateishi

1982
Minoru Yasui

1984
Cherry Kinoshita
James Shimomura

1986
Mary D. Tsukamoto

1988

1990
Art Morimitsu

1992
No Award

1994

1996
Bruce I. Yamashita

1998
Tom T. Masamori
Dr. Mae Takahashi

2000
Ken Inouye

2002
Carol Kawamoto
Andy Noguchi

2004
Mas Hashimoto

2006
David Kawamoto

2008
Emily Teruya

2010
Frank Sakamoto
Season’s Greetings
Wishing you the best this holiday season

Venice-Culver Chapter
12448 Braddock Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90066
veniceculver@jacl.org

VENICE-CULVER
Happy Holidays
Kerry, Nwane & Caitlyn Kaneichi
Lakewood, CA

Season’s Greetings from the Eastern District Council

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Paul Niwa, PC Editorial Board Rep

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A Hiroshi Nishikawa, Philadelphia
John Fuyuume, Seabrook
David Furukawa, Southeast
David Inoue, Washington, D.C.

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Aileen Yamaguchi, New York
Cliff Akiyama, Philadelphia
Sharon Yoshida & Lenore Wurtzel, Seabrook
David Furukawa, Southeast
Michelle Amano, Washington, D.C.

Happy Holidays from Houston JACL

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V. Pres: Kayomi Wada
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225 SW 197th Place
Normandy Park, WA 98166-4031
e-mail: taniguchie@comcast.net

Holiday Greetings from the Twin Cities JACL

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Scholarship Committee
(Carol Dean, Sylvia Ferrells, Pam Dagobert, Connie Tsuchiya, Fred Tsuchiya)
www.twincitiesjacl.org

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LOVE
JOY
HOPE
FAITH

PUYALLUP VALLEY JACL

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PEACE
LOVE
JOY
FAITH
CONTRA COSTA

Holiday Greetings
Jimmy Kihara
Richmond, CA 94804

Happy Holidays
Bill & Sachii Yamasaki

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
Jewel
OKAWACHI
Albany, Calif.

Happy holidays
Susan Nishizaka
130 Scotts Cutte Court
El Sobrante, CA 94803

Season’s Greetings
William SHIMAMOTO
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Holiday Greetings
to all our friends...
Eiko Matsuoka
El Cerrito, CA

Happy Holidays from
Daisy Tsujimoto and Family
El Cerrito, CA

Happy Holidays
JOAN AOKI, CURT KAWABA
& STACEY
606 Hines Terrace
Sunrisle, CA 94807

Harvey, Barbara,
Scott, Kiyomi & Brett
Hayashida
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Season’s Greetings
Yas, Margaret and Kathy
AOKI
El Cerrito, CA 94530

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
Merrito Maida
Sacramento, CA 95835

Holiday Greetings
Mary Ann Furushichi
Berkeley, CA

Season’s Greetings
Marie Sase
El Cerrito, CA 94530

SEASON’S GREETINGS
TO ALL
ELSIE OGATA
El Cerrito, Calif.

Season’s Greetings
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El Cerrito, California

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El Cerrito, CA 94530

Season’s Greetings
George H.
YOKOYAMA
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Happy New Year

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from
The Takeuchi Family
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We gratefully acknowledge the splendid response to our request for
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members to reciprocate by supporting these friends of our chapter.

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The South Bay JACL Chapter
Wishes Everyone A
Happy Holidays
and
A Happy New Year

Please visit us at:
http://southbayjacl.org/
Established in 1968 as a testimony of George Inagaki’s dedication to the JACL, the Chapter of the Biennium Award recognizes chapters whose activities better society.

Venice-Culver JACL, the administrators of the Inagaki Memorial Fund, provides cash prizes to the winning chapters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Gold Award</th>
<th>Silver Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Contra Costa JACL</td>
<td>West Valley JACL</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
<td>Contra Costa JACL, Puyallup Valley JACL</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>West Valley JACL</td>
<td>Salt Lake JACL, Seattle JACL</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>Salt Lake JACL</td>
<td>San Mateo JACL</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
<td>Sacramento JACL, San Mateo JACL, St. Louis JACL</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Spokane JACL</td>
<td>Contra Costa JACL</td>
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<td>1982</td>
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<td>1984</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
<td>San Diego JACL</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Portland JACL</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
<td>New York JACL</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>San Francisco JACL</td>
<td>Diablo Valley JACL</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Honolulu JACL</td>
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<td>Florin JACL</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Selanoco JACL</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Seattle JACL</td>
<td>Florin JACL</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Arizona JACL</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Portland JACL</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL</td>
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</table>
The JACL award, in memory of the late civil rights activist Edison Uno, was established in 1985 to honor outstanding leadership in the field of civil rights.

1986: Walt and Mildred Woodward
1988: Henry Der, James Purcell
1990: Ralph Neas

1996: No Award
1998: Susan Faye Strauss
2000: Ross Hopkins

The Ruby Yoshino Schaar Playwright Awards were established by the New York JACL in 1984 in memory of longtime JACLer Ruby Yoshino Schaar, the award encourages talented writers to tell the Nikkei story. The award was initially funded by Schaar. The award, first made in 1986, includes a cash prize.

1986 — Akemi Kikumura for “Gambling Den”
1988 — Philip Kan Domoto for “Yankee Dawg You Die”
1990 — Rick A. Shiomi for “Uncle Tadashi”
1992 — No Award
1994 — Lane Nishikawa for “The Gate of Heaven”
2004 — Stanley Nakazono for “buddhaheadz.com”
2006 — Soji Kashiwagi for “Camp Dance: Music and Memories”
2008 — Timothy Toyama for “Yuri and Malcolm X”
2010 — Timothy Toyama for “Memorial Day”
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Happy New Year

Happy Holidays!

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From

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Friday, December 24, 2010
5 pm (Japanese) & 8:30 pm (English)
Saturday, December 25, 2010
9:00 am (Japanese) & 10:00 am (English)

New Year Masses
Friday, December 31, 2010
5:00 pm (English)
Saturday, January 1, 2011
9:00 am (Japanese) & 10:00 am (English)

*Our regular weekend Schedule stays the same at
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Sunday at 8:30 am (Japanese) & 10:00 am (English)

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Season’s Greetings and Happy Holidays

Wishing All Our Friends and Relatives a Joyous Holiday Season

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Season’s Greetings from Nebraska

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Secretary…………………………………Sharon Ishii-Jordan

Season’s Greetings from

THE OMAHA JACL

Chapter Board 2009-2010

New Year

Holiday Greetings for 2010

Hoosier JACL, Indianapolis, Indiana

Cleveland Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), Chapter Members and JA Community Members

The Columbus Chapter and the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) extend their warmest wishes to all of our members and their families for a prosperous New Year.

— Secretary: Steven Mitori

Youth Council Chair: Stephanie Nishitani

Youth Council Representative: Matthew Farnell

PC Editorial Board Representative: Lisa Hanasono
Happy New Year!

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* JACL Redress Committee *
* JACL-Legislative Education Committee *

JANL is seeking items printed in internment camps and local Japanese American community publications

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Best wishes for a joyful 2010 Holiday Season

NANCY PELOSI
Speaker of the House
Mas Satow learns the Hukilau from Daisy Uyeda at the 1956 national convention in San Francisco.

The JACL is officially formed April 5-6, 1929, as a national organization to foster good citizenship and civic participation. Its biennial tradition of a national convention begins the year after.

1st Biennial
Aug. 29–Sept. 1, 1930
SEATTLE
Japanese Chamber of Commerce
316 Maynard Ave.
The JACL name, an idea of Clarence Arai, constitution, pin and logo are adopted. JACL urges Congress to give Asian American women equal rights with other women citizens. According to the Cable Act, Nisei women who married Issei men would lose their U.S. citizenship. Completely funded by the Los Angeles JACL, Suma Sugi, a Los Angeles schoolteacher, helped lobby the bill to amend the Cable Act. President Herbert Hoover signed it March 3, 1931.

2nd Biennial
July 27–29, 1932
LOS ANGELES
City Hall Council Room
International Institute
1817 E. 4th St. (near Boyle)
Keynoter and prominent Los Angeles attorney Joseph Scott, nominator of President Hoover at the 1928 Republican convention, encourages Nisei to nurture their cultural heritage but not infringe upon duties to the American flag. A campaign for citizenship of Issei World War I veterans is renewed with JACL’s Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum, of New York, lobbying. President Roosevelt signed the bill June 25, 1938. The monthly publication, Pacific Citizen, is adopted as JACL’s national organ.

3rd Biennial
Aug. 31–Sept. 3, 1934
SAN FRANCISCO
Polk Hall Civic Auditorium
Palace Hotel
JACL introduces first Sayonara banquet-ball. Keynote speaker Chester Rowell, managing editor of the San Francisco Chronicle, spoke, the first half of his speech is broadcasted on NBC radio KPO. Chapter delegates elect national officers: president Dr. T.T. Yatabe, 37, of Fresno, and Saburo Kido, executive secretary. A 16-year-old Goro Suzuki, of Oakland, wins the first national JACL oratorical contest. Later, Suzuki goes on to star in the film “Flower Drum Song” and in the “Barney Miller” TV series under the stage name Jack Soo.

4th Biennial
Sept. 4–7, 1936
SEATTLE
Seattle Chamber of Commerce Building
520 Main Street
JACL filed its Articles of Incorporation June 21, 1937, co-signed by James Y. Sakamoto and Walter T. Tsukamoto, as a non-profit organization under California law. The organization also launches its $100,000 JACL Endowment Fund. JACL urges recognition of Passport by Immigration Service. Until this was adopted, APAs were required to have a witness at the time of birth or to verify their passports at the immigration station at Angel Island.

5th Biennial
Aug. 28–Sept. 5, 1938
LOS ANGELES
City Hall Council Chamber
Mike Masaoka, 23, of Salt Lake City, demands the council floor to rant about what’s wrong with the JACL. He is escorted off for not being credentialed as a chapter delegate. Main focus is placed on job opportunities for Nisei high school and college graduates in the face of racial discrimination. JACL takes a strong stand against communism.

6th Biennial
Aug. 28–Sept. 2, 1940
PORTLAND
Multnomah Hotel
First petition to Congress is made for naturalization of permanent resident Issei. The Intermountain District Council with four chapters (Boise Val-
ley, Pocatello, Ogden, Salt Lake City) is admitted with Mike Masaoka now credentialed. Eden Township JACL’s plan for proportional assessment quotas upon an algebraic rate factoring size of chapter, community support and number of members is accepted.

7th Biennial 1942
OAKLAND
Canceled because of WWII.

Emergency National Council March 8–10, 1942
SAN FRANCISCO
San Francisco JACL office (national headquarters)
2031 Bush St.
With Executive Order 9066 circulated on Feb. 19, the emergency meeting drew 64 of 66 chapters with national president Saburo Kido presiding. JACL officials met with Western Defense Command’s Col. W.F. McGill, alien coordinator Tom C. Clark and Federal Reserve Bank officer Herbert Armstrong to discuss evacuation plans. Delegates were presented with three alternatives: some form of constitutional action, the unprecedented action. The national council unanimously chose the third option. JACL moves its headquarters to Salt Lake City and publishes the Pacific Citizen weekly.

7th Biennial
Nov. 17–24, 1942
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
Newhouse Hotel
Fifty delegates from all War Relocation Authority (WRA) centers, free zone JACL chapters and staff meet to develop an overall policy for JACL. Having been tagged 4–C enemy aliens after the Pearl Harbor attack, JACL urges Selective Service be reinstated for Nisei.

8th Biennial
Dec. 1–3, 1944
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
243 W. First St.
Sixteen JACL chapters are represented and a banquet is held at YWCA to honor Plc. Tom Higa and nine original 100th Infantry Nisei soldiers from Italy on furlough in Utah. Major discussions centered on regional conventions for Issei and Nisei farmers, postwar planning and evacuee resettlement in the Pacific Coast. On Dec. 18, 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court rules loyal citizens cannot be detained (ex parte Endo). The Army restores right of evacuees to return home after Jan. 2, 1945, to West Coast. JACL offices open in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

9th Biennial
Feb. 28–March 4, 1946
DENVER
Cosmopolitan Hotel
President Harry Truman’s tribute to the convention cites Nisei who served the United States so valiantly in WWII. Ex-Sgt. Ben Kuroki volunteers for JACL service in New York to speak for Issei naturalization.

10th Biennial
Sept. 4–8, 1948
SALT LAKE CITY
Hotel Utah
The first 1000 Club Winging—Ding is held at Dawn Noodle House where the tradition of cutting off men’s long ties starts. Women without garters are fined. June Yoshimoto, 20, of Los Angeles, is crowned the first national JACL queen from field of eight candidates. Convention speaker Col. Charles Pence, 442nd commander, praises the Nisei GI. National council votes to assist in filing of evacuee claims and initiate annual memorial holiday for Nisei war veterans on the last Sunday in October to commemorate the rescue of the Lost Battalion in 1944. The Mountain Plains district council is admitted (Denver, Ft. Lupton, Omaha, Rio Grande Valley) with Besse Matsuda as chair.

11th Biennial
Sept. 28–Oct. 2, 1950
CHICAGO
Stevens Hotel
Mike Masaoka is named first Nisei of Biennium; JACL Ruby Pins (approved by 1948 council for wartime contributions and sacrifices to JACL) to Ruby Yoshino Schaar, Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Plc. Tom Higa and 17 former staff members. WRA director Dillon Myer addresses testimonial fete for officials and individuals who aided Japanese Americans during WWII. Council actions include proposing age-category lump sum evacuation claims payment: $500 for persons above age 18 as of Feb. 19, 1942; $100 for persons between 12–18.

12th Biennial
June 26–30, 1952
SAN FRANCISCO
St. Francis Hotel
The mood of the opening session is somber as President Truman had just vetoed the Walter–McCarell Omnibus Bill to allow resident Japanese aliens citizenship by naturalization. National Council wires senators of 23 states where JACL’s 84 chapters are located to help override the veto. On June 27, Congress overrode the veto by the required two-thirds, recharging the convention atmosphere with shouts of “Victory! Well Done, Mike (Masaoka).”

13th Biennial
Sept. 1–6, 1954
LOS ANGELES
Statler Hotel
Nisei women prepare to participate in the JACL fashion show.

Dore Schary, producer of MGM film, “Go for Broke,” spoke on his favorite subjects: minority groups and exploring the diversity of America. Council favors best possible compromise settlement to remaining evacuation claims and adopts two policy statements: denouncing Communism, first enunciated in 1936 at Seattle, and barring anyone who is a Communist Party member from the JACL.

TIMELINE
CONTINUUED ON PAGE 110
SEASONS GREETINGS
From
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Second Vice Gov. - Janet Komoto
Secretary - Brittni Harada
Treasurer - Marion Hiro

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All Addresses: Pocatello, ID

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POCATELLO/BLACKFOOT JACL

All Addresses: Pocatello, ID

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POCATELLO/BLACKFOOT JACL

All Addresses: Pocatello, ID
TIMELINE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 107

14th Biennial
Aug. 31–Sept. 3, 1956
SAN FRANCISCO
Sheraton Palace Hotel
Over 600 registered attendees representing 74 of 88 chapters unfurl embroidered silk flag with JACL emblem and national motto, “For Better Americans in a Greater America,” from Issei pioneers. Minami of Guadalupe, Calif., at opening session. Council adopts JACL statement on civil rights and forms legal committee to ascertain reversal of Korematsu, Hirabayashi and Yasui cases.

15th Biennial
Aug. 22–25, 1958
SALT LAKE CITY
Hotel Utah
Over 400 registered, 63 of 84 chapters represented, year-end 1956 membership of 16,865 is an all-time high. Rep. Dalip Saund, D–Calif., first Asian–born congressman, urges Nisei to help U.S. win Cold War in Asia. JACL arranges with American Federation of International Institutes that chapters may refer so-called Japanese soldier brides for care and promotes youth/Jr. JACL as an ongoing program.

16th Biennial
June 29–July 2, 1960
SACRAMENTO
El Dorado Hotel
Delegates forego convention awards luncheon (sandwiches were ordered) and Sayonara ball to complete agenda junking the 14-year-old district assessment system (chapter quotas) for modified membership formula and increase dues from $1 to $3. Council amends mechanics of 1956 JACL policy on U.S.–Japan affairs, referring long range concern to the international relations committee for review and adopts guidelines presented by youth commissioner Dr. John Kashiwabara to form Jr. JACL. Jerry Enomoto is appointed JACL youth commissioner.

17th Biennial
July 26–30, 1962
SEATTLE
Olympic Hotel
In his opening remarks, Dillon S. Myer, WPA director (1943–46), lauds calm attitudes of Issei and the heroism of 442nd Regimental Combat Team to boost Niseidom. National council, in opposition to 1969 IRS decision to federally tax evacuation claim awards, reminds IRS that 1948 law as amended considered awards as bounty and not taxable. Council also urges President John F. Kennedy to issue executive order for fair housing and urges federal endorsement of Japanese as a modern language to be taught in high schools.

18th Biennial
June 30–July 4, 1964
DETROIT
Sheraton Cadillac Hotel

19th Biennial
July 26–30, 1966
SAN DIEGO
El Cortez Hotel
Unable to fly to San Diego, Rep. Pat_sy Takemoto Mink, D-Hawaii, telephones her talk to convention, praising JACL for defending the rights of many. Council receives board recommendation for first national JACL-sponsored tour of Japan, reviews 1962–65 JACL civil rights committee report as basis for own $30,000 budget and amends by-laws to call district council chair governor.

20th Biennial
Aug. 21–24, 1968
SAN JOSE
Hyatt House
Whitney M. Young, Jr., executive director of the Urban League, challenges JACLs to really show how great America is. Parent JACL chapters and Jr. JACL confront each other on the floor as familiarity and frustrations of both generations expressed. Council affirms campaign to repeal Title II, 1950 Internal Security Act, which allows the federal government to re-establish concentration camps and votes for affirmative action programs.

21st Biennial
July 15–18, 1970
CHICAGO
Palmer House
Conrad Hilton Hotel
On July 16, Evelynn Okubo, 18, Stockton Jr. JACLer, is slain in her Palmer House room by an apparent rapist. Roommate Ranko Yamada, 17, whose throat is slashed is hospitalized and survives. National JACL offers $10,000 reward, but the tragedy
is yet to be resolved by Chicago police. National council calls U.S. actions in Vietnam morally wrong and condemns U.S. entry into Cambodia.

22nd Biennial
June 28-July 1, 1972
Washington, D.C.
Sheraton Hotel
Masao Satow testimonial lasts over three hours — the longest sit-down luncheon in JACL convention history. Council endorses Rep. Spark Matsunaga's bill to establish department of peace and applauds cultural affairs committee chair George Takei's work with media and promotion of APAs in fine arts.

23rd Biennial
July 24-27, 1974
PORTLAND, ORE.
Sheraton Motor Inn

24th Biennial
June 21-26, 1976
SACRAMENTO
Sacramento Inn
Sacramento Community Center En route from Washington to her desk at CBS—Los Angeles, Connie Chung, CBS News, discussed the role of minorities on TV and biases and stereotypes in the advertising and media industries. Council supports H.R. 8152 to assist U.S. citizen hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) with federal government paying reasonable charges for medical treatment of their radiation illness/injury.

25th Biennial
July 17-22, 1978
SALT LAKE CITY
Little America Hotel
Council approves hard-fighting campaign budget to seek $25,000 redress to compensate each person disrupted by WWII internment and an apology. The 501(c)(4) political lobby is launched with JACL Legal Defense Fund. John Tateishi is named redress chair. The next day, guest speaker Sen. S.I. Hayakawa told the media day that JACL had no right to ask the U.S. government for reparations.

26th Biennial
July 27—Aug. 1, 1980
SAN FRANCISCO
Plaza Airport Inn
Because of a major hotel workers' strike, the venue was switched one week prior from Jack Tar Hotel to the Plaza Airport Inn. Speaker Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii, moved by President Jimmy Carter's signing of Commission Bill S. 1647 the previous day, declares, "You, victims of E.O. 9066, have a special responsibility, not only to yourselves but to this great democracy." JACL constitutional convention approves membership to permanent resident Issei and approves establishment of JACL employment discrimination committee.

27th Biennial
Aug. 10-13, 1982
GARDENA BIENNIAL
Hyatt Airport Hotel
JACL redress committee receives $300,000 campaign funding from JACL Endowment Fund principle as a three-year loan. National council revises 1978 redress guidelines to include monetary compensation to all individuals who suffered injuries or losses due to E.O. 9066 and that Congress admits that the forced evacuation of Aleuts and Japanese people during WWII was wrong.

28th Biennial
Aug. 14-17, 1984
HONOLULU
Pacific Beach Hotel
Council adopts its first million-dollar-plus budget, transfers JACL funds and staff to JACL—Legislative Education Committee to pursue Redress and urges Congress to acknowledge U.S. participation in the 1893 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii as illegal, immoral and to grant restitution to Native Hawaiians for losses and damages.

29th Biennial
Aug. 22-26, 1986
CHICAGO
Hyatt Regency
Council reaffirms Redress campaign as JACL's first priority until we have either won or lost and supports Congressional imposition of economic sanctions on South Africa due to apartheid. It also rejects constitutional amendment to proclaim English the official U.S. language.

30th Biennial
Aug. 4—10, 1988
SEATTLE
Univ. of Washington
Mahan Hall
JACL leaders flew to White House to witness President Reagan sign H.R. 442, the $1.2 billion Redress bill on Aug. 10. At the podium were Reps. Robert Matsui, D-Calif., Norman Mineta, D-Calif., House Speaker Tom Foley, D-Wash., Mike Lowry, D—Wash., Mike Masaoka, Gracey Uyehara, Harry Kajihara and Jerry Enomoto. Sen. Spark Matsunaga's videotaped message focused on the Redress campaign.

31st Biennial
June 19-22, 1990
SAN DIEGO
Princess Resort

32nd Biennial
Aug. 3-9, 1992
DENVER
Sheraton—Denver Tech Center
At the opening session, presidential candidate Bill Clinton telephone—patched his best wishes at Sayonara banquet while greetings from President George Bush were read to JAC-Ler. At the Sayonara Banquet, last up on the program including remarks by six local and state politicians and noticing the band on stage, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye decided against his original speech and spoke of his experiences as a 442nd trainee at Camp Shelby and visiting an internment camp for a Rohwer USO dance hosted by internees, felt kinship with Kotoks for the first time.

33rd Biennial
Aug. 2-7, 1994
SALT LAKE CITY
Marriott Hotel
Council rejects resolution to withdraw national board's decision to support same-sex marriage and sustained the board's stand, leading into the most heated debate of the convention.

34th Biennial
Aug. 6-11, 1996
SAN JOSE
The Fairmont Hotel
President Bill Clinton, staying at the same hotel, met privately with JACL board members in the early morning before continuing his campaign trail. National council reaffirms Redress support for Japanese Latin Americans, endorses construction of Nikkei war monuments in Little Tokyo Go For Broke, Washington Memorial to Patriotism, Korean War veterans and calls for feasibility study on moving P.C. from Monterey Park to headquarters.

35th Biennial
July 1-5, 1998
PHILADELPHIA
Sheraton Society Hill Hotel
Tenth anniversary of Civil Lib- eration Act celebrated by over 80,000 survivors who suffered through WWII concentration camps received government's apology and $20,000 Redress check.

36th Biennial
June 27—July 2, 2000
MONTEREY, CALIF.
JACL adopts an emergency reso- lution to support the National JA Memorial in Washington, D.C. and the inclusion of Mike Masaoka's quote. National council approves apology to WWII resisters.

37th Biennial
June 25—30, 2002
LAS VEGAS
Rivera Hotel & Casino
Lawyer Morris Dees keynotes Sayonara Banquet. Longtime Pacific Citizen editor Harry Honda retires after 50 years of service.

38th Biennial
Aug. 10-14, 2004
HONOLULU, HAWAII

39th Biennial
June 21-24, 2006
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
JACL passes an emergency res- olution to support legislation and education on Hepatitis B. JACL national director John Tateishi announces that he is stepping down at the June 25 national board meeting.

40th Biennial
July 16-20, 2008
SALT LAKE CITY
Council approves annual conventions and celebrates 30th anniversary of Redress. The National Youth/Student Council passes a resolution to support human rights in North Korea.

41st Biennial
June 30—July 4, 2010
CHICAGO
Swissotel
National council passes biennial budget without dues increase and votes down a proposed P.C. move to San Francisco. Council also takes a stand against Arizona's anti-immigration law, SB 1070.

SOURCE: HARRY K. HONDA, PACIFIC CITIZEN EDITOR EMERITUS
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Harry Hiroyuki Shibata
May 22, 1926 - November 4, 2010

Born on May 22, 1926 in Los Angeles, Ca., passed away unexpectedly on November 4, 2010 in San Francisco.

Harry was an engineer at Lockheed Aerospace for over twenty-five years. He had a pilot’s license and loved flying, whether airplanes or model airplanes led him upon retirement, to return to school to get an airplane mechanics certificate and go to work for United Airlines.

Harry grew up in the Boyle Heights section of Los Angeles. During WW II he and his family moved to the relocation camp at Poston, Arizona. He left camp to attend college and after the war, received a BS in Engineering from the University of Minnesota and an MS in Aeronautical Engineering from Cal Tech.


Throughout his life, Harry enjoyed flying, classical music, concerts and theater. In their lives together, Harry and Yuri traveled all over the world attending Elder Hostel programs.

Harry is survived by his wife, Yuri of San Francisco, his sister, Midori of Redwood City and many nieces, nephews, cousins, stepchildren and grandchildren. A private family service was held in Redwood City on November, 12, 2010.

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Tribute
Osamu “Sam” Honda
November 24, 2010

Age 83, of White Bear Lake, MN passed away Nov. 24, 2010 after a 6-month fight with cancer. Preceded in death by parents and sister, Sue Bungo. Survived by wife Lily, daughters Patti (Gary) Nakai and Nancy Honda; son, Mark (Andrea); six grandchildren (Ben, Nick, Alex, Maddie, Theo, Dan); brothers Ben (Yoshi) of Fresno, CA and Harry (Charlotte) of Federal Way, WA and several nieces and nephews. Sam was active in JACL as a past president of the Twin Cities chapter and was heavily involved in organizing local events to honor Japanese American veterans and seniors.

American Holiday Travel

2011 Tour Schedule

EGYPT-NILE RIVER HOLIDAY TOUR
Cairo, Giza, Luxor, Nile River Cruises, Kom Ombo, Aswan, Abu Simbel
JAN 15-25

HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVAL TOUR
Sapporo, Lake Shikotsu, Shiretoko, Otaru, Asahikawa, Abashiri. See 6 Snow Festivals. Ride snowmobiles (Tours). FEB 6-13

AMERICA’S CANYONLANDS HOLIDAY TOUR
Scotsdale, Grand Canyon, Zion & Bryce Canyons, Monument Valley. Lake Powell, Las Vegas. MAR 31-APR 7

JAPAN CHERRY BLOSSOM TOUR
Tokyo, Kyoto, Mt Fuji, Lake Kawaguchi, Shirakawago, Nara. MAR 29-APR 7

GRANDPARENTS/GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Miyajima, Nara, Kyoto. JUN 28-JUL 5

ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE
Francisco, Sanger Glacier, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan. JUL 16-23

SOUTH AFRICA HOLIDAY TOUR
AUG 4-15

REFLECTIONS OF ITALY HOLIDAY TOUR
Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice, Lugano-Switzerland, Lake Como, Milan. SEP 5-14

HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU HOLIDAY TOUR
Lake Akan, Abashiri, Sapporo, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Daisetsu Valley, Otaru, Hiranuma, Tsuruoka, Lake Tazawa. OCT 9-20

OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR
NOVEMBER

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PROPOSED ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES SCHEDULED FOR 2011

Feb. 13-17 Canard Valentine’s Day Mexico Getaway aboard the Queen Victoria 4 days/5 nights, roundtrip from the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach visiting Ensenada.

Feb. 21-Mar. 2 Yamato Discover Egypt Tour 11 days/12 nights, visiting Cairo, Luxor, Nile cruises visiting Aswan and Abu Simbel.


Apr. 7-21 Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour in Japan 15 days/16 nights, visiting Tokyo, Nikko, Nara, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Kanazawa, Kanazawa Hotel, Kyoto, Kanazawa/Miyajima.


May Yamato Essential Spain Tour 10 days/11 nights, visiting Madrid, Barcelona, Toledo, Segovia, Avila, Cadiz, Valencia, Barcelona, Madrid.

May Yamato Boston & New York by Rail Tour 6 days/7 nights, visiting highlights in Boston as well as visiting Concord & Lexington and New York City.

Sept. 26-Oct. 5 Yamato Eastern Canada Tour 10 days/11 nights, visiting Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City, Toronto, Quebec City, Ottawa, Montreal.

Oct. 1-13 Route 66 with Balloon Fiesta at Albuquerque Tours 12 days visiting Chicago, St. Louis, Branson, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Albuquerque (Motel Rooms), Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Hollywood, Los Angeles.

Oct. 17-23 Yamato Korean Drama Tour 10 days/11 nights, visiting Busan, Gyeongju, Jeju Island.

Oct. 17-31 Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan 13 days/14 nights, visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kumamoto Hotel, Kumamoto, Yamagata, Tokyo.

Oct. 21-Nov. 4 Yamato South Pacific Wonderland with Castles & Countryside 15 days/16 nights, visiting Cairns (Great Barrier Reef) & Sydney, Australia; Christchurch, Mt. Cook National Park, Queenstown; A Mitford Sound, New Zealand.

November Yamato Christmas Markets of Europe Tour 10 days/11 nights, visiting Prague, Innsbruck, Rotterdam, Romantic Road from Dinkelsbühl to Munich, Vienna, Bratislava, Warsaw, Budapest, Sofia, Athens.

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Our tour outline itineraries will be ready by the end of the year.

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After 41 Biennial National Conventions, the Pacific Southwest District of the Japanese American Citizens League is proud to host the JACL 2011 convention.

The 1st Annual JACL National Convention will bring the National JACL community together to the Pacific Southwest District to conduct business, debate issues, and share the Pacific Southwest District’s accomplishments, vision, and energy.

In conjunction with Convention, the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council (CJAACL) will host the 2011 Nikkei Conference to bring the National JACL and the Japanese American community together to dialogue, envision, and plan for the future of an active and cohesive Japanese American community.

We’ll see you in LA.

WHEN: July 7-July 10, 2011
FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.jaclpsw.org
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