



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

**Page 8**

## REMEMBERING TULE LAKE

**Two Tule Lake restoration  
projects receive NPS  
grants to preserve JA  
history.**



PHOTO: TULE LAKE COMMITTEE



**Page 4**

**The JACL board  
reviews its  
financial state.**



**Page 10**

**Ventura County  
JACLers recount  
internment.**



**Page 13**

**Director Keo  
Woolford talks  
story.**



# >> SPRING CAMPAIGN

## Yours, Mine and Ours

By Roberta Barton



I love my *P.C.*! How about you? The *Pacific Citizen* belongs to all of us. It's yours, mine and ours — and it deserves our support. The Spring Campaign is a critical opportunity to show our support with meaningful financial contributions that will keep the *Pacific Citizen* going strong.

I have had the honor of meeting many detainees over the past few years who have become some of my most-treasured friends. One

of them shared a comment about the incarceration experience that has resonated with me ever since. "It's not just a Japanese story," he emphasized. "It's an AMERICAN story!"

The same can be said of the *P.C.* This publication was born at a time when millions of immigrants streamed into America in search of the American dream — life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

And as we all know, those precious American principles continue to need our protection today. The *Pacific Citizen* offers a loud and strong voice in the fight to protect civil liberties at home and abroad. It accomplishes this noble mission through its award-winning coverage of Asian American and Pacific Islander news, culture, entertainment, education and public policy. The excellent writing from Reporter Nalea J. Ko and outstanding editing from Allison Haramoto shed a national (and international)

spotlight on the faces, places and issues that represent a significant slice of our American pie.

One of the best ways to begin to turn the tide of bigotry and injustice is through educating as many people as possible about the culture and identity of their perceived "enemy." The stories shared in each and every issue of the *Pacific Citizen* open the world for many who probably haven't had opportunities to venture outside of their own communities or cultural roots. As an Asian American myself, I learn something new with each issue of my *Pacific Citizen*.

No entity is devoid of periodic upheaval or growing pains. This past year has been an especially challenging time for the *Pacific Citizen* and its small, but undeniably dedicated, staff. Undoubtedly there will be more changes around the corner as the publication continues to evolve at the crossroads of tradition and technology. Change is inevitable. However, one thing that must not change is your commitment to the *Pacific Citizen*.

So, here are a few action items for everyone who reads this column: First, make a contribution to the Spring Campaign; second, share this issue of the *Pacific Citizen* with your family or pass it on to a friend, neighbor, educator, colleague or community member and urge them to consider joining JACL or subscribing to the *Pacific Citizen* — even if he/she is not Japanese. And please, feel free to share my friend's enlightening and powerful words of wisdom: The *Pacific Citizen* tells an AMERICAN story, and that story is yours, mine and ours.

*Roberta Barton is a Pacific Citizen Editorial Board member and vice governor of the Central California District Council JACL.*

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## NIKKEI VOICE

### 'THE RED KIMONO'

## Captures the Tragedy of Internment and the Larger Context of Racial Injustice

By Gil Asakawa

For a long time, there were painfully few novels that were about the experience of Japanese Americans who were put into concentration camps during World War II. "Farewell to Manzanar," written by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston and published in 1973, stood alone, unless you counted the powerful post-war story of John Okada's 1957 classic "No-No Boy."

In recent years, there have been more fictional works set during

internment, most notably David Guterson's "Snow Falling on Cedars" but also Julie Otsuka's "When the Emperor Was Divine," Rahna Reiko Rizzuto's "Why She Left Us," K. P. Kollenborn's "Eyes Behind Belligerence" and the children's book "Baseball Saved Us" by Ken Mochizuki and Dom Lee.

And now, there's "The Red Kimono," a fine novel by Jan Morrill and published by the University of Arkansas Press.

&gt;&gt; See 'KIMONO' on page 16

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## A MOTHER'S TAKE

### A Mother's Love Redefined

By Marsha Aizumi

When I was young, I loved my parents so much that my friends often said I would never recover if they died. Today, my parents are gone, but they are still a part of my life. Love is enduring. I fell in love for the first time at the age of 16. I was rejected. I stayed in my room, listening to sad songs for days. Love sometimes hurts. At 24, I then met the man I would marry. And after 40 years together, he continues to be the one who nurtures both my heart and my dreams. All of these people and moments, I believe, taught me what true love really is. But, now I realize that love could be all those things and so much more.

In 2008, when my child announced that she wanted to transition to be a man, I was led on a journey to truly understand the meaning of this four-letter word. I searched within myself and asked if I could take a leap of faith to stand by my transgender son, Aiden. Could I let go of my daughter and all she meant to me? Could I embrace this new son and still keep the memory of my daughter alive? These were questions that I thought about late at night when the house was quiet and I lay in bed without answers. Eventually,

*'Without this amazing experience, I would not have recognized the different ways that love can be expressed.'*

I decided that my son would remain the same person on the inside. I embraced both parts of my son: the past and the present. I understood my commitment to my child was not just about those times of joy and laughter — it was also about moments where fear and uncertainty hung in the air. I stepped into the unknown, trusting that my heart would help me navigate this terrifying new path.

My decision brought even more into my life. Rather than

focusing on what others would think about me as a mother (possibly judging me harshly), I decided to concentrate on the gifts that would come my way. I saw my younger son, Stefen, stand by his older sister as she transitioned into his older brother. My respect for Stefen grew more and more as I saw the depth of his devotion and acceptance of Aiden.

Through his compassion and steadfast loyalty, Stefen, a young man of very few words, made a statement about his commitment to his brother. Love is sometimes quiet and without fanfare.

When Aiden transitioned to be male, he said, "I may never find a girl who will accept me as a transgender man, but I will risk living life alone to be the person who has always lived inside of me." It made me sad to hear those words because my dream was always that my children find someone that would adore them and end up being their life partner. Although Aiden was willing to give up on his dream

>> See LOVE on page 11



## FOR THE RECORD

### Just Whose America Is This?

By John Tateishi

Whenever I hear discussions about immigration reform — which is currently the case in Washington — it strikes me that it's as much about racial politics as it is about immigration policy. Nowadays, it's virtually impossible to separate racial politics from what immigration policy is really about because inevitably we get into undocumented immigrants and the myths and truths about their presence in this country.

And if you talk about what most people refer to as illegal immigrants, the focus always — and I mean *always* — shifts south of the border. And when we get into that discussion, we lead ourselves into a quagmire so complex and racially charged that it's impossible to separate the issue of race from the facts about immigration policy.

It wasn't always like this. There was a time when the country hardly took notice when Congress considered immigration reform because the issues were more economically based than focused on racial categories. Immigration reform used to be about adjusting the numbers from Europe to encourage immigration as a way to tweak our economic growth, for which immigrants have always been a driving force.

Nowadays, however, there is a preoccupation on so-called "illegal" immigrants whenever discussions about immigration take place, and that often distorts immigration policy issues. Something like the Dream Act evokes strong reactions because its opponents in the stingiest of ways don't

*'...As we become more aware of our diversity as a nation, it raises the question: What does it mean to be an American? And just whose America is this?'*

want children of undocumented workers to have the right of citizenship, even though many have spent their entire lives here in this country.

It used to be that the path to naturalization was always open to newcomers because it was viewed as accepting the responsibilities of citizenship in this country, which includes loyalty to the United States.

But it's no longer only about loyalty and wanting to belong. As we witness the browning of America, as we become more aware of our diversity as a nation, it raises the question:

What does it mean to be an American? And just whose America is this?

Does someone who's not white and who speaks English with an accent have the right to claim him- or herself an American? And if you're born and raised here, does that make you a better American?

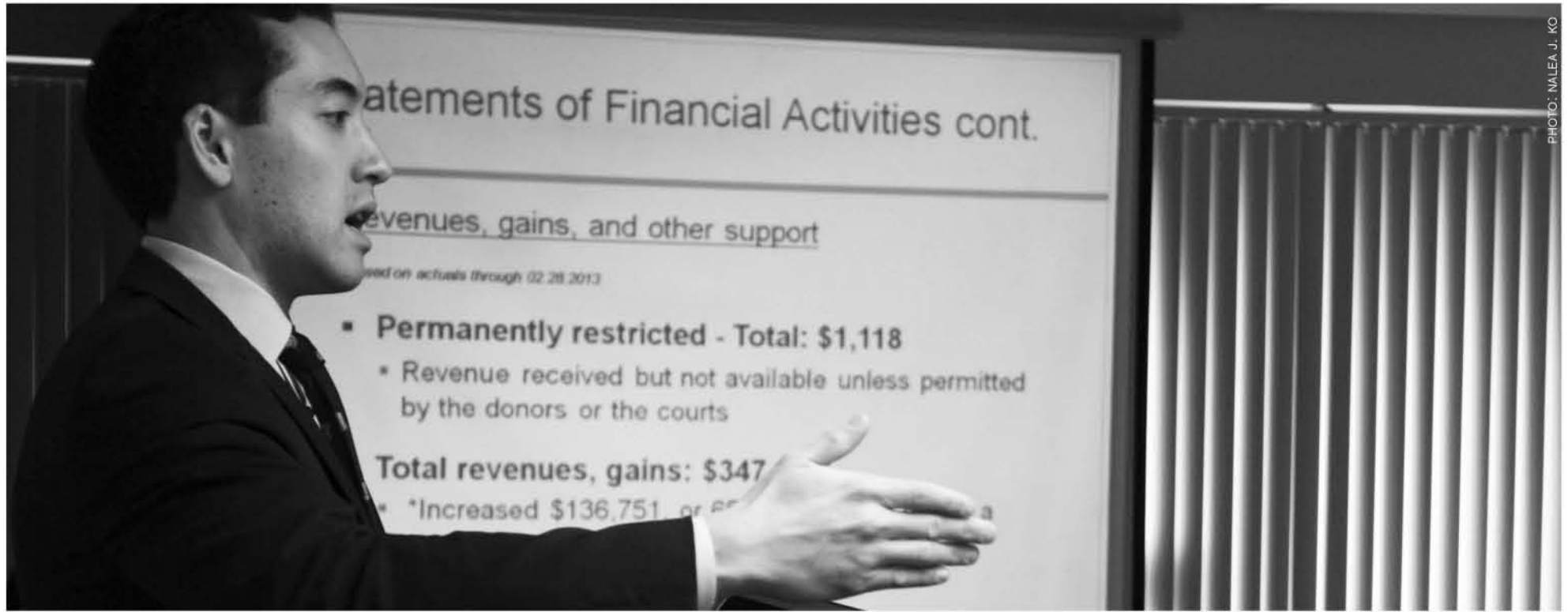
There's no easy answer, though the answer may seem obvious. When we criticize unfair policies, we are often told, "Go back to where you came from," something never directed at white social critics. It's obviously meant as an explicit rejection of anyone who's not white as being a legitimate American. The obvious point is that, to the person who tells us that, if you're not white, you're an assumed foreigner, and even if you *are* a citizen, you're not as good an American because you're not white like the speaker.

But my question is, does your skin color make you more American than I am? Or is it that you *feel* yourself a better American because you're white or because you don't speak with an accent? If so, is it fair then for me to call you a racist? Maybe. Ignorant yes, and definitely stupid, but in some cases, racist is perhaps a stretch. In others, it definitely is not.

I've met my share of racists in my days working for the JACL, but most who, in varying degrees, believe in their own superiority because of their skin color haven't been

>> See AMERICA on page 16

# JACL Board Forecasts Year-End Budget Deficit



JACL National Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Farrells presented an update on the organization's financial state.

## AT ITS APRIL 27 MEETING, THE JACL SECRETARY/TREASURER ANNOUNCED A NEW SYSTEM IN PLACE TO GENERATE MONTHLY FINANCIAL FORECASTS.

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

**SAN FRANCISCO** — As the *Pacific Citizen's* revenues and membership dollars continue to decline, the JACL national board's secretary/treasurer told board members at a recent meeting to expect a year-end budget deficit of \$17,000.

JACL National Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Farrells told the board at its April 27 meeting at the national headquarters in San Francisco, Calif., that the organization's membership revenues are decreasing and the *P.C.'s* fundraising and grants revenues are stagnant. But the national JACL's revenues from grants and fundraising, he says, are forecasted to exceed membership revenues.

The *P.C.* was projected to raise \$45,600 in revenues. As of Feb. 28, according to the unaudited financial statements, the *P.C.* generated \$32,876 in revenues, underperforming by about 28 percent.

"Since we have monthly forecasts through the year end, we're able to put in the actuals and then calculate the year-end outlook. So, I would say we're at green," Farrells said about the organization's overall financial state. "We're projecting both revenues and expenditures to come in slightly below budget for this year. We're forecasting a \$17,000 deficit at year-end, relative to a \$21,000 deficit within the approved budget, so we're actually closing that deficit at this point in time."

Membership income, as of Feb. 28, was \$128,994. The 2012 approved budget projected \$693,059 in membership revenues for the year. That's down from \$721,204 in membership revenues budgeted in 2012.

"The reason why membership revenue continues to

decline is based on certain factors, including the number of members each year, as well as the cost of each member, and the type of membership those members are at is all factored into this total revenue number," Farrells said.

JACL National Director David Lin said for the first time this year the organization is generating monthly financial forecasts to give a clearer understanding of the JACL's financial state.

"I think what I'd like to see is we get this organization into some sort of financial discipline," Lin said. "Hopefully, this provides an early warning system for us, right? In March and April, if we start seeing the trend going south, then we can react on that quickly as opposed

we want to focus on the revenue side of our operations versus expense side. So there's continued focus on those opportunities. Grants/fundraising is a key theme."

Lin echoed that sentiment.

"This is neither good or bad in a sense of the membership revenue continuing to decline," Lin said. "But I think the key take away is that if we think our strategy is to diversify the revenue base, I think it works in the sense that we see the uptick of funds from grants and fundraising."

The JACL National Board also discussed in executive session the status of hiring a permanent executive editor at the *P.C.*

The *P.C.* has been short-staffed since June 22 of last year when the former executive editor, Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, resigned. Former assistant editor Lynda Lin also resigned in 2012. Both positions have not been filled with permanent staff. Allison Haramoto was contracted on Sept. 25 as the *P.C.'s* interim executive editor. She is one of several candidates being considered for the executive editor position.

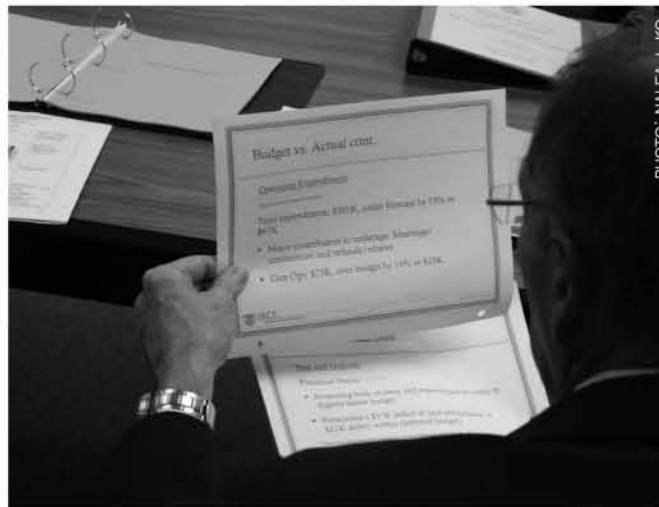
"We're recommending the approval to move forward to start the hiring process with our selected candidate. David (Lin), myself and Carol (Kawamoto) will be doing that," said Miko Sawamura, JACL vp of general operations, who did not elaborate on the selected candidate.

Chip Larouche, JACL vp of planning and development, made a motion to authorize the JACL personnel committee to continue "the *P.C.* editor search." Jeff Moy, the National Youth/Student Council chair, seconded that motion. The board voted to carry the motion.

National JACL funding for the assistant editor position was previously cut along with the JACL Pacific Southwest District regional director position. The assistant editor position remains vacant despite last year's delegate vote at the national convention to reinstate funding for that position. Candidates for that position have not been solicited.

In other business, Floyd Mori, JACL national director emeritus and convention committee chair, provided the board with an update on the July 24-26 national convention that will be held in Washington, D.C. Farrells said the convention is projected to profit \$80,000.

The next JACL national board meeting will be held at the convention on July 24 in Washington, D.C. ■



Chip Larouche, JACL vp of planning and development, reviewed the budget versus actual numbers to date.

to come in September [we] realize the revenues aren't coming in, expenses are over budget — it will be too late to do anything."

Expenditures to date have exceeded the budgeted amount by 18 percent. As of Feb. 28, the JACL's total actual revenues are \$260,553, with expenditures at \$301,333.

"I would consider our position to be stable. We had a strong balance sheet. Our budget comparisons are on track, and our year-end outlook is consistent with budget," Farrells said. "I think the board agrees that





## The JACL National Board Meeting

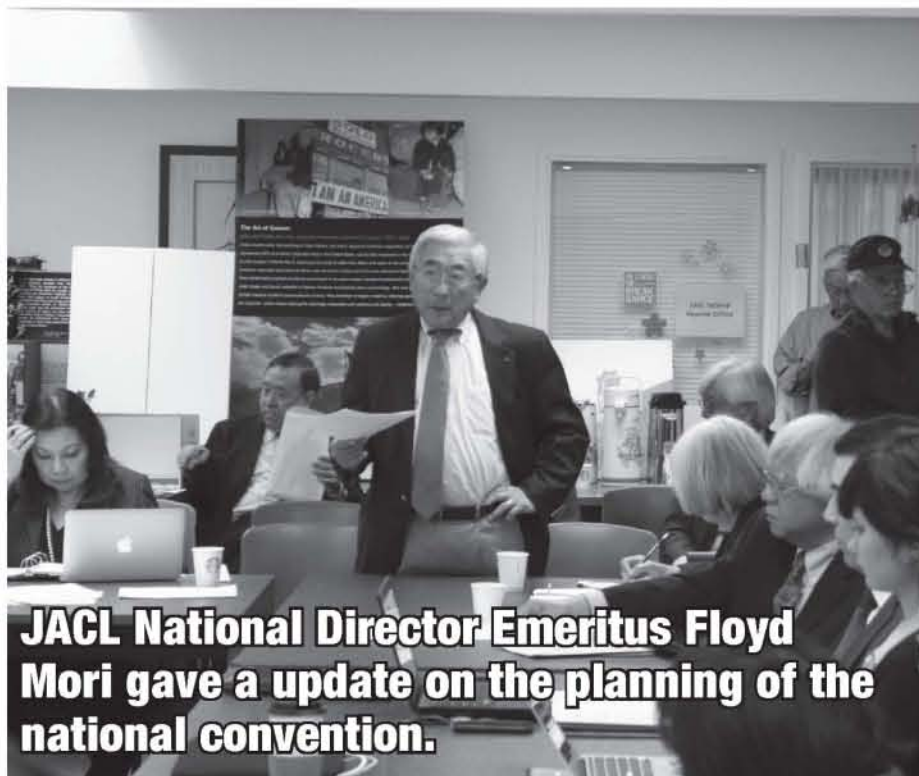
The JACL National Board met on April 27 at its headquarters in San Francisco, Calif.



JACL National President David Lin asks Secretary/Treasurer Matthew Farrells about the budget.



Former JACL national presidents pose with the current national president as JACL Vice President of General Operations Miko Sawamura snaps a photo.



JACL National Director Emeritus Floyd Mori gave a update on the planning of the national convention.



Norman Y. Mineta Fellow Jason Hata and Daniel K. Inouye Fellow Amy Watanabe address the board.



# Celebrate Redress at the JACL 2013 Convention

By Floyd Mori  
JACL 2013 Convention Chair

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The JACL Convention is an opportunity to celebrate the 25-year anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (the Redress bill). The convention will be held from Wednesday, July 24-Friday, July 26, at the Renaissance Hotel, located at 999 Ninth St. NW.

After the Imperial Navy of Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on Dec. 7, 1941, life changed dramatically for Japanese Americans who were immediately looked upon as the enemy and regarded as noncitizens.

Against the advice of some few leaders, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, which gave authority to the military commander to remove any people from a designated area. It was only executed against people of Japanese descent living on the West Coast. It was not implemented in Hawaii, where it was deemed by the military commander to be unnecessary.

Japanese Americans were not protected by the Constitution, and there was no justice, as men, women and children who had done no wrong were forced to leave their homes to be incarcerated in barbed wire-enclosed camps in desolate regions of the country. Before the 10 camps were ready, people were housed in temporary detention centers at fairgrounds and racetracks.

Allowed only to take what they could carry, families were required to abandon their homes, friends, pets, farms, businesses and most of their earthly possessions. Most

people remained in the camps until the war ended in 1945. They were given a train ride or bus ticket and \$25 as they left. Except for a fortunate few whose belongings were cared for by trusted friends, those who returned to the West Coast generally found that stored items had been stolen or ruined in their absence. Life was difficult.

The Japanese American Citizens League voted at its National Convention in Salt Lake City in 1978 to earnestly seek Redress for the victims who were incarcerated during World War II in what have been called "America's Concentration Camps."

Years earlier in 1970, Edison Uno, a longtime activist within the JACL and a lecturer at San Francisco State University, proposed a Redress resolution at the biennial convention of the JACL. The resolution passed, but not a lot of progress was seen, except for the rescinding of EO 9066 on Feb. 19, 1976, by President Gerald R. Ford. One of the main goals of the Redress issue was to ensure that no one would ever have to again suffer the shame and indignity of being rejected and locked up unjustly by their own government.

The Redress effort took a new focus in 1978. John Tateishi was appointed as the National JACL Redress Chair. JACL leaders met with Japanese American members of Congress. Sen. Daniel Inouye suggested the Commission route be taken because he said their colleagues in Congress needed to know the stories of the Japanese Americans before they would support Redress.

The Commission's findings indicated that the incarceration was caused by racial prejudice, war hysteria and a lack of competent political leadership at the time.

Although many found it difficult to talk about those years, Japanese Americans began to tell their stories after being silent on the matter for decades. Their children and grandchildren began to hear the stories, with most learning of the experiences for the first time.

Many people within the JACL, including the Legislative Education Committee, which was activated to lobby for Redress, and other groups worked diligently to bring about the passage of the Redress bill, which provided for a presidential apology and monetary reparations for the unjust evacuation and incarceration.

Bill Yoshino, JACL regional director for the Midwest District, was very much involved as he was with the JACL throughout the Redress process.

The 2013 Convention will bring together some, including the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta and Tateishi, who were at the forefront in the process to gain the passage of the Redress bill.

It is anticipated that others who were also involved in the Redress campaign will be able to participate in the Convention as well. Japanese American members of Congress who were important to securing Redress who have since passed on were Sen. Inouye, Sen. Spark Matsunaga and Congressman Robert Matsui.

All members and friends of the JACL are invited to celebrate Redress in Washington, D.C., by attending the JACL 2013 Convention.

**For more information on the JACL 2013 Convention, along with registration and sponsorship materials, visit the JACL website at [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org).**

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JACL Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
Delegate? ☐ YES

Vegetarian Meals: ☐ YES ☐ NO

Interested in Booster Activities? ☐ YES ☐ NO

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<b>Closing Reception</b>	\$75	\$90	
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There is no charge for Workshops. See details on Convention website.

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REGISTRATION



# 2013 JACL YOUTH DELEGATE CAMPAIGN: Engaging Young Leaders in Decision Making



By Mariko Newton

The JACL's National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) recently launched its 2013 Youth Delegate Campaign for the upcoming JACL National Convention in Washington, D.C. This campaign aims to increase the representation and involvement of young leaders at the annual convention by encouraging chapters across the nation to send youth members as their voting delegates.

Young leadership is critical for the future of JACL. Building the capacity of youth as agents of powerful social change will promote the growth and sustainability of the organization. Through this nationwide effort, the NY/SC calls for the full integration of young people into the decision-making process of JACL and is looking to all chapters for their support in this campaign.

"The future of the JACL depends on the decisions made in the present, but that future will be inherited by the young people in the organization," said Kazuo Uychara, youth representative for Eastern District Council. "Young people will not only be the next group of core members, they are also the most in touch with the changes and challenges ahead. It is therefore vital that the future leaders of JACL have a voice in the current direction of the organization."

The NY/SC expects that the Youth Delegate Campaign will serve as a catalyst to stimulate discussion between JACL youth and veteran members about youth engagement in decision making. Our seasoned leaders may be seen as the greatest untapped resource the JACL can offer to young people. With mentorship, guidance and exchange, JACL youth members will be able to help advance the mission and vision of JACL and continue the legacy of promoting social justice and equality for Asian Pacific Americans in our communities.

"The youth members of the JACL provide a unique and diverse perspective on all of the matters that the organization faces," said Lesli Hamamoto, co-youth representative for Central California District Council. "When the youth voice is heard and considered, the JACL becomes a more inclusive and relevant force in the larger cultural landscape."

The campaign was initially launched in 2011 at the JACL National Convention in Los Angeles. Our goal for the 2013 campaign is to help sponsor two youth delegates by offering the NY/SC National Convention Youth Travel Scholarships, as well as attract a total of 20 youth delegates to Washington, D.C., this year.

"This year's convention promises to be an exciting and celebratory event, which will allow all generations to come together and celebrate our heritage, history and accomplishments," said Kelly Honda, co-youth representative for CCDC. "By sending a youth delegate to convention, each participating district and chapter helps to ensure that youth are engaged, and the legacy of JACL and the spirit of the Japanese American community can persevere. I encourage all districts and chapters to make an investment and consider sending a youth delegate to the Washington, D.C., convention in July."

*Mariko Newton is the JACL National Youth Representative. She can be reached at [mnewton@jaccl.org](mailto:mnewton@jaccl.org). Individuals can also communicate with the NY/SC via its Facebook page at JACL Youth.*



JACL students and young professionals during the Youth Luncheon at the 2012 National Convention in Bellevue, Wash.



## Southwest Airlines Offers Flight Discount for 2013 JACL Convention Attendees

Southwest Airlines, the official airline of the JACL and the 2013 JACL National Convention in Washington, D.C., which is entitled "Justice for All" (set for July 24-26 at the Renaissance Hotel), is offering a 15% discount to those traveling to/from Baltimore/Washington (BWI), Washington D.C. Dulles (IAD) and Reagan (DCA) airports to/from all scheduled Southwest Airlines service between July 22 and July 30 (blackout date applies on July 28).

Use promotion code "JACL2013" to apply the discount.

Visit [www.southwest.com/jacl](http://www.southwest.com/jacl) to view the terms and conditions of this offer, and book your travel now.



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PHOTO: TULE LAKE COMMITTEE

The Tule Lake Committee received a \$192,467 grant from the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant program to stabilize and restore the Tule Lake Segregation Center jail (pictured). In all, nearly 18,000 people of Japanese descent were interned at the camp site during World War II.

## National Park Service Grants Support Education and Preservation on Tule Lake Segregation Center

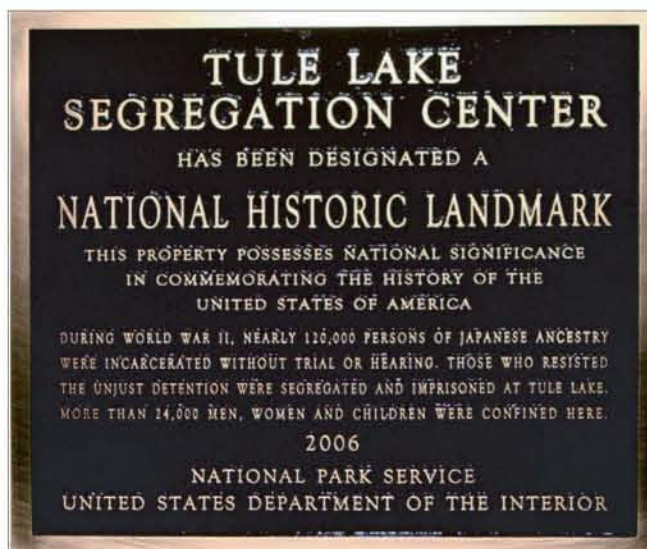
By Connie K. Ho

Iso Fujimoto was 7 years old when he and his family were interned at the Tule Lake Segregation Center in 1944. In recollecting some of his memories of his experience there, Fujimoto remembers how the land surrounding Tule Lake was later used to farm horseradish, becoming a major production area in the country — and how ironic that was since horseradish was used to make wasabi and then exported to Japan.

“What struck me about Tule Lake was that there were many ironies and contradictions,” said Fujimoto, who is a professor emeritus at the University of California, Davis, where he continues to teach a course on community development in Japan.

Fujimoto also expressed the importance of addressing specific historical issues and conservation needs related to the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

In April, National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced that 10 grants, totaling more than \$1.4 million, would be given to preserve and interpret World War II confinement sites of Japanese Americans. The funding from the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant program can be applied to programs that support the 10 War Relocation Authority Camps that were established in



1942 or to the more than 40 different assembly, isolation and relocation center sites that held internees.

Two projects focusing on the Tule Lake Segregation Center were chosen to receive grant funding from the JACS program, now in its fifth year. To date, more than \$11 million has been awarded since Congress created the program in 2006.

In particular, the program’s mission is to teach younger generations on the injustices of the World War II confinement history and to continue to inspire individuals to work toward equal justice under the law.

“The confinement of Japanese Americans during World War II is a dark chapter in our nation’s history,” said Jarvis in a prepared statement. “These grants ensure that their stories will never be forgotten.”

The Tule Lake Committee, a grassroots organization advocating for the site’s preservation, is one of the grant recipients. In the past, the group has organized pilgrimages, beginning in 1974, to the concentration camp site, located in Northern California, just south of the Oregon border.

The committee’s project is called “Restoring the Tule Lake Segregation Center NL Jail, Phase II,” and it received \$192,467 to complete the project. The organization will focus on planning and compliance activities needed to stabilize and restore the Tule Lake Segregation Center jail. Project activities include the development of design documents and cost estimates, an environmental assessment, historic preservation compliance and preparation of a construction bid.

Phase I of the project was an architecture study called the “Historic Structures Report” that is mandatory for all



*'What struck me about Tule Lake was that there were many ironies and contradictions.'*

— Isao Fujimoto

National Historic Landmark properties. It was completed in 2011 with support from the JACS Grant program and the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. In addition, the Tule Lake Committee is raising matching funds to preserve the structure (the federal grant requires a match of \$1 in nonfederal funds for every \$2 received).

"We are grateful for the support of the JACS grant program for helping us to preserve this significant part of Tule Lake's long-suppressed segregation history," said Hiroshi Shimizu, president of the board of directors of the Tule Lake Committee, in a prepared statement. Another project selected is a traveling exhibit that will demonstrate the history of the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

Proposed by the ORE-CAL Resource Conversation & Development Area Council in Klamath Falls, Ore., the project received \$123,890 for a traveling exhibit that will bring an educational component.

The organization plans to create an art-based traveling exhibit that will showcase fine art photographs of Tule Lake artifacts, interpretive panels on the camp and DVDs with oral histories from individuals who were formerly incarcerated at Tule Lake. A website will also be created to include details of the travels of the exhibit, titled "The Art of Survival: Tule Lake 1942-1946."

Individuals who had been formerly incarcerated at Tule Lake support the preservation and education effort. Fujimoto's family was interned there for two years.

"It's very important in terms of all the movements. All I see that is going on is very important," said Fujimoto, now 80. "These are very good people who are working on documenting the experiences, and I'm very confident that the projects will be quite meaningful."

Continued Fujimoto:  
"With Tule Lake, it is very important to explain



PHOTO: TULE LAKE COMMITTEE



PHOTO: CHRISTINA KOCI-HERNANDEZ, SF EXAMINER

Sakae Ikemoto, 78 years old at the 1996 Pilgrimage, holds her 1942 ID card from her incarceration at Tule Lake. (Left) An artifact from Tule Lake that will be part of the art-based traveling exhibit.

why people were sent there and why it was a segregation center. And I think there's a lot of confusion — and I think it needs to be dealt with in a very broad, honest way. To get a clear picture, it is also good to understand how people reacted to being imprisoned — there are people getting imprisoned without any kind of trial, and there were several ways that people reacted."

Several organizations are staunch supporters of the funding to provide for the preservation and education of the Japanese American confinement sites. The Japanese American Citizens League is one of these organizations. According to National Director Priscilla Ouchida, the JACL is working tirelessly to make sure that there is continued funding available for education and restoration.

"JACL is a strong supporter of the preservation of all of the confinement sites, and we annually seek funding," said Ouchida of the Washington, D.C.-based organization. "Every single year, we meet with congressional members and the appropriations committee in support of continued funding for the confinement sites grant program — this is our No. 1 priority every year."

For many Japanese Americans, the impact of Tule Lake is influenced by the eras of the pre- and post-loyalty

questionnaire, as well as how the loyalty questionnaire of Tule Lake intersects with individuals' constitutional rights. Regarding the loyalty questionnaire, the experience of those who signed "yes" was very different from those who signed "no" if an individual was originally from Sacramento. If an individual was originally from another area or another camp and signed "no," then that person was probably a "resister" and was then placed into Tule Lake when it became a segregation camp.

"I think there is real value to a traveling exhibit that provides information on the Tule Lake Segregation Center because it's really about the constitutional issue," said Ouchida, whose mother's family and father's family were incarcerated at Tule Lake. "The whole story has to be told, not just about the segregation center but also the sort of discrimination within the community against those who signed off as loyals."

The Tule Lake Segregation Center is based in Modoc County, Calif. Toward the end of 1944, this concentration camp jail was built with prisoner labor. The jail replaced the Army stockade and was used to imprison Japanese Americans who were stripped of their U.S. Citizenship in a government denaturalization program focused on getting rid of dissidents, turning them into "enemy aliens," and then deporting them to Japan.



PHOTO: HIROSHI SHIMIZU/  
TULE LAKE COMMITTEE

Tule Lake Committee Chair Hiroshi Shimizu (pictured as a young boy) and his father, Iwao Shimizu. In the background is Abalone Mountain.



## Ventura County JACLers Participate in University Conference

By Anne Chilcott

**CAMARILLO, CALIF.** — Several Ventura County JACL members took part in California State University Channel Islands' fifth annual Conference for Social Justice in Education on April 20, where they had the opportunity to share their internment camp experiences.

JACLers Lily Sugino, George Wakiji and Carol Asari participated in a discussion entitled "From Incarceration to Reparation: Learning Lessons From the Japanese American Experience."

Sugino recounted her vivid recollection of being sent to the Santa Anita racetrack in Arcadia, Calif., which served as a holding place for Japanese Americans and their families while barracks were being hastily built across the country — any place away from the West Coast — to house the more than 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry who were forcibly removed from their homes and interned in American concentration camps during World War II. Sugino's family stayed temporarily in a horse stable, and she remembered helping her family fill sacks with straw in order to make mattresses for their beds.

For George Wakiji, he shared with the audience his memory of finding out that his brother-in-law in San Diego, Calif., was rounded up quickly by the U.S. government because he was on the FBI's "A" list, which consisted of individuals who were deemed most likely to be consorting with the enemy during WWII. Wakiji's brother-in-law was

sent to a Department of Justice camp but was eventually reunited with Wakiji's family, who were all interned in Arizona at Gila River.

And Carol Asari described the arduous and nearly impossible task of getting reparations for all Japanese Americans who were interned during the war. On Aug. 10, 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed into law H.R. 442 (The Civil Liberties Act of 1988), which granted all living internees monetary reparation of \$20,000 each and a formal government apology. JACL did the bulk of the work to get this historic act on the president's desk.

During Asari's slide presentation, which showed a picture of President Reagan signing the historic bill, Asari pointed out to the audience that one of the people pictured in the photo was actually present in the room.

Harry Kajihara, Ventura County JACL member and former national JACL president, was taken by surprise as the audience turned around to get a look at history in the flesh.

For attendees, many of whom were students, the conference was the first time they had heard personal accounts from this period of American history.

The conference also hosted a lunch, and additional panel discussions were held that featured a variety of local nonprofit organizations in Ventura County that are working to improve the lives of minorities and the poor in the area.

Many thanks to Asari, who helped organize the breakout discussion on the Japanese American experience. ■



JACL Ventura County members (from left) Lily Sugino, George Wakiji and Carol Asari participated in Cal State University Channel Islands' Social Justice Conference.



Many JACL Ventura County members also attended the conference, including (from left) Aiko O. King and Harry and Janet Kajihara. Harry Kajihara, former national JACL president, witnessed the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 by President Ronald Reagan.

## The Jerome-Rohwer Interpretive and Visitor Center Is Dedicated in Arkansas



Actor George Takei speaks at the dedication ceremony for the Jerome-Rohwer Interpretive and Visitor Center.

**MCGEEHEE, ARK.** — Actor George Takei spoke quietly and thoughtfully as the Japanese American internment museum and the exhibit "Against Their Will: The Japanese American Experience in World War II Arkansas" were commemorated through two ceremonies in Desha County on April 16.

The museum is located at the McGehee's historic train depot at 100 S. Railroad St. and will serve as the Jerome-Rohwer Interpretive and Visitor Center. The dedication was sponsored by the McGehee Industrial Development Foundation, and the unveiling of outdoor exhibits developed through Arkansas State University at the Rohwer Relocation Center followed.

Both projects were initiated through grants from the Japanese American Confinement Sites Program at the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

"This is a very important time for America and this community," said Takei, who portrayed Hikaru Sulu on the original "Star Trek" TV series and motion pictures. "This museum was built as a place where people

could connect with each other. Today, it transports us in time and space to another time for America. It has resonances that are profoundly important."

In 1942, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the federal government forced Japanese American citizens to leave the West Coast and imprisoned them for the duration of the war at 10 "relocation centers," mostly in western states, with two in Arkansas — at Rohwer, just north of McGehee, and at Jerome, just south of McGehee. These were the temporary homes for more than 17,000 incarcerated Japanese Americans. Takei was interned as a young boy with his family at Rohwer.

"I was too innocent to understand what that experience meant," continued Takei. "To my parents, it was intimidating and infuriating. I could see the barbed-wire fence outside my tarpaper-barracked schoolhouse window, as I would say, 'with liberty and justice for all.' My father said, 'Our democracy is a people's democracy and can be as good as people are or as fallible as people are.'"

The outdoor interpretive exhibits at the

Rohwer site include a series of kiosks and wayside panels, with audio components narrated by Takei. The exhibits provide a glimpse into the lives of Japanese Americans once interned there. The exhibits will be maintained by Desha County.

A National Historic Landmark, the Rohwer site today includes only the Japanese American cemetery and the remains of the camp's hospital smokestack. Preservation work at the cemetery is expected to begin later this spring under the leadership of the University of Arkansas-Little Rock.

"This is a painful chapter in our nation's history that must not be forgotten," said Dr. Ruth Hawkins, director of Arkansas Heritage Sites at ASU.

Added Takei: "To be an American citizen is something very important that too many people take too lightly. We must know what it means to be an American citizen and how precious our rights are. I value my citizenship profoundly. That is represented by the stories told by this museum. It tells the story of American democracy and it is profoundly important . . . gravely important." ■



# First Confirmed Japanese Tsunami Debris Found in California

**CRESCENT CITY, CALIF.** — A barnacle-covered fishing boat that washed ashore this month in Crescent City, Calif., has been confirmed as the first debris from the 2011 tsunami in Japan to reach California's shores.

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration confirmed the boat's origin on April 25 with help from the Japanese consulate in San Francisco, the *Del Norte Triplicate* reported.

In total, 27 items from among more than 1,600 reports of debris have now been firmly traced back to the tsunami, NOAA spokesperson Keeley Belva said. The confirmed items include a small boat found in Hawaii waters, large docks that have washed ashore in Washington state and Oregon and a motorcycle that washed ashore off the coast of British Columbia.

The 20-foot (6.1 meter) vessel that landed in Crescent City on April 7 belongs to the marine sciences program at Takata High School in the city of Rikuzentakata.

Lori Dengler, a geologist with Humboldt State University, posted photos of the boat to Rikuzentakata's Facebook page after translating the vessel's handwritten characters with the help of a Humboldt State librarian, according to the *Triplicate*.

The boat was marked "Takata High School" and also had characters for "Rikuzentakata."

Dengler, who had traveled to Rikuzentakata immediately after the 2011 tsunami, said the city's global public relations officer, Amya Miller, tracked

down the school and found a teacher who recognized the boat within hours of the photos being posted.

"Everything that was lost, we just never expected to find again," Miller told the *Triplicate* earlier this month. Hundred's of the city's residents died in the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and only a handful of buildings were left standing. "That something made it across the Pacific and landed practically on your doorstep is one of those 'you can't make this up' moments. Right now, everyone is in sort of a giddy state of shock."

A soccer ball found on an Alaska island with a student's name on it has also been traced to Rikuzentakata.

But distinguishing everyday trash from tsunami debris has proved difficult in most other cases. The Japanese government estimated that 1.5 million tons of debris was floating in the ocean immediately after the disaster.

Items that are confirmed as having come from the tsunami, like the soccer ball and boat, tend to have unique markings.

What's next for the boat is not clear. Miller told the *Triplicate* that the high school would like to have it back.

"Having it back I know would be incredibly meaningful only because the school lost so much — the city lost so much," she said.

— Associated Press

# Takuma Sato Becomes First Japanese Driver to Win an IndyCar Race

**LONG BEACH, CALIF.** — Takuma Sato became the first Japanese driver to win an IndyCar race in the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach on April 19.

The win came in Sato's 52nd career start and was the first for A. J. Foyt Racing since Ayrton Senna won Kansas in 2002. The victory on the temporary street course through Long Beach was a huge accomplishment for the organization.

"It was an easy win," said Sato, who leapt into the arms of his crew members in Victory Lane. He said one of his first post-race duties was to call Foyt.

"I hate it [that] Dad is not here," team manager Larry Foyt said. "But I don't think I've ever seen a perfect drive, and (Sato) drove a perfect race."

The win pushed Sato to second in the IndyCar standings and was redemption for the Honda driver. Probably best known for crashing on the final lap of last year's Indianapolis 500 while driving for Bobby Rahal, Sato also had disappointment two races earlier when he was headed to a podium finish at Long Beach, and Ryan Hunter-Reay spun him on the final lap.

But at the Toyota Grand Prix, Sato held off Graham Rahal for the win.

— Associated Press

## LOVE >> continued from page 3

of a wife and family, he never stopped believing in the possibility. On Nov. 8, he will marry his best friend, Mary. Love can be courageous and frightening at the same time.

And finally this journey has brought gifts to my husband, Tad, showing me how far love could reach.

I watched him as he grieved for the loss of his daughter. I felt his sadness when he struggled to find how he could transform his relationship with the little girl he adored to a new relationship with a son.

He had no clue how to begin.

For a time, he was so lost. Through tears in his eyes, he has shared with others that he loved his daughter so much. But he loves, and is proud of, his son even more. Letting go of his daughter has allowed Tad to connect more authentically with his son.

Today, Aiden says he is closer to his dad than ever before. Love has manifested to this higher level.

I look back on how I used to define love. Without this amazing experience, I would not have recognized the different ways that love can be expressed. Risking



Aiden (left) and Marsha Aizumi spoke about their journey on March 16 at the Japanese American National Museum.

the unknown, our family has been able to create a richer life and a greater appreciation for the diversity that now exists in our lives.

We have been welcomed into the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community. A community that has not only supported us but also has vulnerably shared its stories so we did not feel alone. We have met people from different backgrounds, expanding our understanding and deepening our empathy for others. We have grown in our capacity to be kind, giving and daring human beings. So, today if you asked

me what love looks like, I would say it looks like standing with our son, so he would not have to stand alone.

And in that decision, we discovered how much more love could be.

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

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Sep. 09 ~ Sep. 20	Tohoku & Hokkaido: "Simplicity & Natural Beauty"
Sep. 20 ~ Oct. 02	England & Wales & Scotland
Oct. 04 ~ Oct. 08	Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta
Oct. 09 ~ Oct. 18	Treasures of Tuscany & Provence: "France & Italy, Plus Monaco"
Oct. 19 ~ Oct. 31	Chilean Fjords & Patagonia & Easter Island
Oct. 21 ~ Oct. 30	Autumn Japan: "Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Takayama, Tokyo"
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## Smithsonian Commemorates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In commemoration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May, "I Want the Wide American Earth: An Asian Pacific American Story" will open with a special six-week showing at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History beginning May 4.

Asian and Pacific Americans account for more than five percent of the U.S. population — more than 17 million people — and those numbers are growing. Their ancestral roots represent more than 50 percent of the world, extending from East Asia to Southeast Asia and from South Asia to the Pacific Islands and Polynesia.

The exhibition will next open at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles in September, before continuing on a 13-city national tour. "I Want the Wide American Earth" was created by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center and the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service; it is supported by a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

"I Want the Wide American Earth" tells the rich and complex stories of the very first Asian immigrants, including their participation in key moments in American history: Asian immigrants panned in the Gold

Rush, hammered ties in the Transcontinental Railroad, fought on both sides of the Civil War and helped build the nation's agricultural system.

Through the decades, Asian immigrants have struggled against legal exclusion, civil rights violations and unlawful detention — including 120,000 individuals of Japanese descent who were interned during World War II. Since the 1960s, new communities — pan-Asian, Pacific Islander and cross-cultural in makeup — have blossomed.

The exhibition is complemented by an e-book and also features a mobile tour app, which includes interviews with authors Maxine Hong Kingston and Monique Truong, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center Director Conrad Ng, activist Deepa Iyer and U.S. retired Major Gen. Antonio Taguba.

The National Museum of American History collects, preserves and displays American heritage in the areas of social, political, cultural, scientific and military history. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

*For additional information on the exhibition, visit [www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/asianPacificAmericans/index.htm](http://www.sites.si.edu/exhibitions/exhibits/asianPacificAmericans/index.htm).*



The exhibition commemorates Asian Pacific American Pacific Heritage Month.

## APAS IN THE NEWS

### Senate Confirms Derrick Kahala Watson to the U.S. District Court in Hawaii



WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Senate on April 18 confirmed the appointment of Derrick Kahala Watson to the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii.

Watson is now the sole person of Native Hawaiian descent serving as an Article III judge and only the fourth in U.S. history.

Rep. Judy Chu (D-Pasadena), chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, released the following statement: "This

decision continues a significant trend of working to ensure that our federal judiciary reflects the diversity of the American people. Judge Watson is a strong addition to the federal bench and will surely be a great public servant for the people of Hawaii."

Watson most recently served as the chief of the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Hawaii.

### Farmer/author David Mas Masumoto Appointed to National Council on the Arts



WASHINGTON, D.C. — Noted farmer/author David Mas Masumoto has been appointed to the National Council on the Arts.

Masumoto, who resides in Del Rey, Calif., is an organic peach and grape farmer, as well as the author of several books; his latest offering, "The Perfect Peach: Recipes and Stories From the Masumoto Family Farm" will be published in June.

Masumoto was nominated by President Barack Obama in June 2012, took the oath of office in February and attended his first meeting in March. His six-year term expires in September 2018.

The National Council on the Arts, the advisory body to the National Endowment for the Arts, convenes three times a year to vote on funding recommendations for grants and recommends to the president nominees for the National Medal of Arts.

### Jenny Yang Confirmed to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission



WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Senate has confirmed President Obama's nomination of Jenny Yang as a member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Yang is a partner in the class-action law firm Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll. Yang also is the vice chair of the board of directors for the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center.

In a statement, Yang said, "I am honored that President Obama nominated me and the Senate confirmed me to serve as a commissioner of the EEOC. It will be a privilege to work with my colleagues at the EEOC to ensure equal opportunity for all."

The EEOC is responsible for enforcing federal laws that make it illegal to discriminate against a job applicant or an employee because of the person's race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetic information.

— Pacific Citizen and Associated Press



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Aug. 17-24	<b>Yamato Canadian Rockies &amp; Glacier National Park with Collette Vacations</b> — 8 days/7 nights visiting Calgary, Waterton Lakes National Park, Glacier National Park, Banff & Columbia Icefield.	Sharon Seto
Postponed	<b>Yamato Cultural and Korean Drama Tour</b> — Will be rescheduled	Grace Sakamoto
Sep. 8-16	<b>Yamato Dubrovnik, the Dalmatian Coast &amp; Montenegro</b> — 9 days/7 nights visiting Croatia and Dalmatian Coast.	Philippe Theriault
Sep. 16-26	<b>Yamato Eastern Europe Tour</b> (including Oktoberfest) — 11 days/9 nights visiting Munich, cute German villages, The Alps, Vienna, Salzburg and Prague.	Philippe Theriault
Oct. 1-10	<b>Yamato Best Fall Foliage/Eastern Canada Tour</b> — 10 days/9 nights visiting Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and Cape Breton.	Philippe Theriault
Oct. 11 - 18	<b>Yamato AMA Waterways Seine River Cruise — Paris &amp; Normandy</b> — 9 days/7 nights visiting Paris, Vernon, Giverny, Rouen, Normandy Beaches, Honfleur, Les Andelys & Conflans. Optional post tour offered to Northern France & Chateau Country featuring Versailles, Saint Malo, Mont-St-Michael, Rennes, Amboise, Blois, & Chartres	Sharon Seto
Oct. 14 - 28	<b>Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour</b> — 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Hakone, & Tokyo	Peggy Mikuni
Oct. 18-23	<b>Yamato Northern France &amp; Chateau Country Tour</b> — 6 days/5 nights beginning in Paris for an off the beaten path adventure visiting Versailles, Chambord, Chenonceau, Mont St. Michel and Saint Malo.	Philippe Theriault
Oct. 28-Nov. 7	<b>Yamato Best of Paris, London &amp; Rome Tour</b> — 11 days/9 nights visiting three of Europe's most impressive cities.	Philippe Theriault
Nov. 12-22	<b>Yamato Best of India Tour</b> — 12 days/10 nights visiting Delhi, Jaipur, Fatehpur Sikri, Varanasi, Jhansi and Khajuraho.	Philippe Theriault
Dec. 1-20	<b>Yamato American Queen Steamboat Mississippi River Cruise — Memphis to New Orleans</b> — 9 days/8 nights visiting Memphis, Helena, Vicksburg, Natchez, St. Francisville, Baton Rouge, Houmas House & New Orleans	Sharon Seto

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# Keo 'Talks Story'

IN HIS DIRECTORIAL DEBUT, MULTITALENTED WOOLFORD'S 'THE HAUMANA' PREMIERES AT THE LOS ANGELES ASIAN PACIFIC FILM FESTIVAL.

By Allison Haramoto

**K**eo Woolford is a man of many talents. As a successful actor/singer/writer/producer/director and hula dancer, the Hawaii-born performer's next stop is Los Angeles, where his directorial debut, "The Haumana," will make its world premiere at the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival, which runs through May 12.

"The Haumana" chronicles the challenges of an unlikely candidate who is appointed as the new "kumu" (master teacher) of a high school boys' hula class. The film is also nominated for a Grand Jury Award in the Narrative Award category.

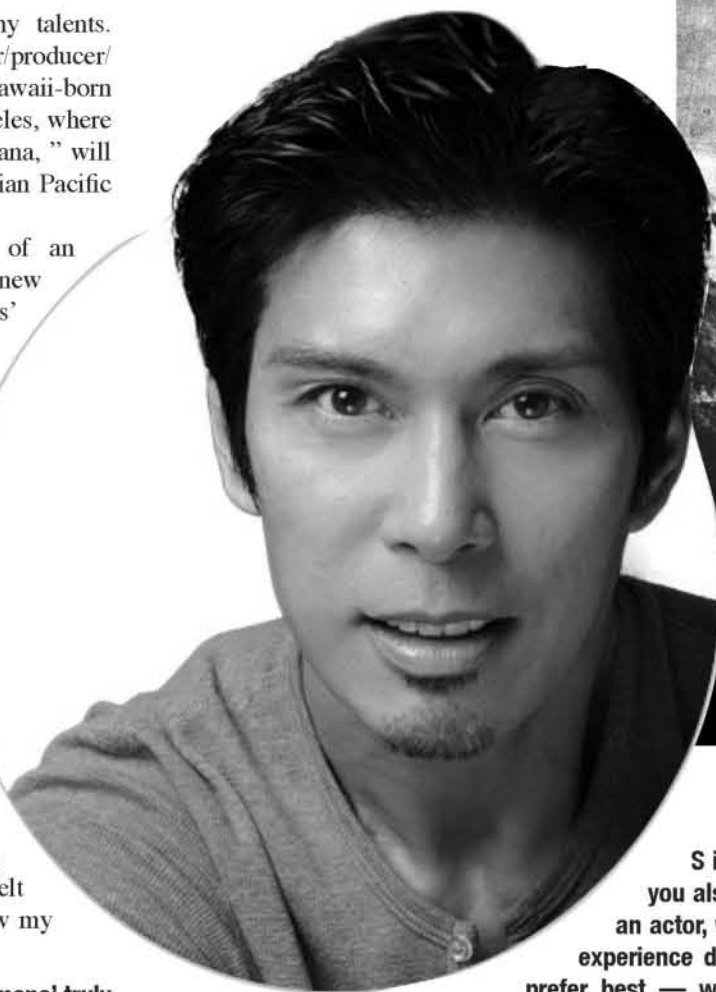
While in Los Angeles, Woolford took the time to speak with the *Pacific Citizen* on his career accomplishments.

**Congratulations on 'The Haumana.' As your directorial debut, how did this project come about?**

**Keo Woolford:** The idea for the film stems from my one-man show, "I Land," about a man who finds his identity through traditional hula. I lived in London and New York for awhile, and I was surprised to find that the general view and knowledge of hula and the Hawaiian culture was limited to coconut bras and arbitrary hand-flapping. As a hula dancer, I wanted to expose people to a culture that I felt so proud to be a part of. My solo show, and now my feature film, was a way for me to do that.

**You also wrote and produced this film. 'The Haumana' truly sounds like a labor of love for you.**

**Woolford:** "The Haumana" is a true independent film, a microbudget, community-backed film. I took on many hats during its development and creation. Though I originally wrote the script for me to play the lead, the massive amount of work required my attention on many different levels. I chose to stay in the director's chair because it was a new and exciting venture for me. It was more important for me to make sure that the project stayed in line with my original vision. It was one of the most challenging and one of the most fulfilling times of my life. Through it all, I had a blast!



**Since you also are an actor, which experience do you prefer best — writing, directing or acting?**

**Woolford:** I get asked this question quite often. I feel so blessed to be able to do them all. To me, they are all related. I feel whichever is the most appropriate for me at the time is where I will fit myself in. I love them all. And my hope is to continue to do them all.

**How many years have you been in the entertainment business?**

**Woolford:** It's been about 15 years since I started making a living as an entertainer. I actually wanted to be a professional baseball player, but once I started to perform, I was hooked.



**Who are your biggest influences?**

**Woolford:** My gosh, there are so many for so many different reasons. I tend to be drawn to and inspired by people who chose to take risks, commit to excellence and strive to grow and evolve. I also admire people whose work inspires humanity and promotes universal truths in positive ways. This is not a judgment on anything or anyone. It's just where I am at in my life and what I am attracted to. I believe all things are valid and have their place.

**What do you hope audiences take away from your new film?**

**Woolford:** More than anything, I would love people to be entertained. And through watching the film, perhaps they will learn a little bit about our culture and about themselves. I would love for people to see that hula is more than just a dance, that Hawaii is more than just a tourist destination and that people are people no matter what they look like or where they are from. Compassion, acceptance, understanding, respect, love. These are some of the values that we learn in hula. These values have no cultural or geographic boundaries. I hope that in a subtle way, this story conveys that as well.

**What other projects do you have down the pipeline? Where will audiences see Keo next?**

**Woolford:** I will be doing my best to promote "The Haumana," but I also have a couple of projects I'm collaborating on as well as a new screenplay I would love to direct myself. Other than that, I have a little recurring role on (CBS') "Hawaii Five-O," and as long as they keep me alive, I'll hopefully be doing more of that as well.

**How do you define success?**

**Woolford:** Doing what you love and loving what you do. To be happy with who you are, grateful for what you have yet to continue to grow and evolve.

**For more information on 'The Haumana' and the L.A. Asian Pacific Film Fest, visit [laapff.festpro.com/films/detail/the\\_haumana\\_2013](http://laapff.festpro.com/films/detail/the_haumana_2013).**



'The Haumana' chronicles the challenges of an unlikely candidate who is appointed as the new "kumu" (master teacher) of a high school boys' hula class.





# CALENDAR

## Congressional Gold Medal Traveling Exhibit

LOS ANGELES, CA

May 4-June 9

**Japanese American National Museum**  
100 N. Central Ave.

The traveling exhibit 'American Heroes: Japanese American World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal' honors veterans who served in the 442nd RCT, the 100th Battalion and the MIS during WWII. The L.A. exhibit was organized thanks to the Southern California Community Committee for the American Heroes, the 100/442nd Veterans Assn., Go for Broke, JACL, JANM, the Military Intelligence Service Veterans Association of Southern California and the Veterans Memorial Court Alliance.

**Info:** Visit [www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org).

## >>EDC

### The Fourth Annual AAPI Mental Health Forum

BOSTON, MA  
May 17, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Simmons College  
300 Fenway

The Fourth Annual AAPI Mental Health Forum will focus on the theme: "Making the Invisible Visible: How Do We Educate, Engage, Empower and Enable Consumers and Their Families?" To register, visit [www.surveymonkey.com/s/AAPI2013](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AAPI2013).

**Info:** Call Lisa Colozzo at (617) 626-8335 or email [COStaffDev@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:COStaffDev@massmail.state.ma.us).

### Brazilian Jazz Performance by Emy Tseng

MCLEAN, VA  
June 29, 5-7 p.m.  
Civic Place Green at the Palladium  
1450 Emerson Ave.

Washington, D.C.-based singer Emy Tseng will present a collection of Brazilian songs spanning four decades and eclectic arrangements of standards. **Info:** Call (703) 288-9505 or visit [www.emytseng.com](http://www.emytseng.com).

## >>NCWNP

### The Wakamatsu Farm Festival

PLACERVILLE, CA  
May 18, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm  
941 Cold Springs Road

**Cost: \$20/Adults; \$10/Children under 10**

Tickets are on sale for the third annual Wakamatsu Farm Festival, which benefits the historic Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony Farm. There will be a petting zoo, organic farm tours, exhibits on bonsai and origami and performances by Native American dancers and artists, taiko performers and more.

**Info:** Call (530) 621-1224 or visit [www.arconservancy.org/wakamatsu](http://www.arconservancy.org/wakamatsu).

### Santa Cruz Japanese Cultural Fair

SANTA CRUZ, CA  
June 8, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Mission Plaza Park  
103 Emmett St.  
The organizers of the Santa Cruz Japanese Cultural Fair are asking for donations after not receiving one of its main foundation grants. The fair is organized to increase awareness and understanding of the Japanese community. **Info:** Visit [www.jcsantacruz.org](http://www.jcsantacruz.org) or call (831) 462-4589.

### The Eden Township Annual Bazaar Fundraiser

SAN LORENZO, CA  
June 8 & 9  
Eden Japanese Community Center  
710 Elgin St.  
The Eden Township Annual Bazaar Fundraiser will feature taiko, bingo, games for children and game prizes. There will be chicken and rib dinners, udon, curry rice yakisoba and spam musubi.

The event also includes a silent auction and raffle prize. **Info:** Contact Ron Sakaue at (510) 276-0752 or Ed Oda at (510) 538-6380.

### AAWAA's Exhibit 'Undercurrents and the Quest for Space'

SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
May 2-25  
SOMArts Cultural Center  
934 Brannan St.  
The Asian American Women Artists Assn. and Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Center are teaming up to present the exhibit "Undercurrents and the Quest for Space." The opening reception will be held May 2 from 5-8 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free. **Info:** Call (415) 863-1414 or visit [www.somarts.org](http://www.somarts.org).

### Contra Costa JACL Casino Trip

BROOKS, CA  
May 22  
Cache Creek Casino  
14455 California 16  
The Contra Costa JACL casino excursion registration is full. But they are accepting waitlist applicants. **Info:** Call Mary Ann Furuichi or Sam Uchiyama at (510) 526-8020.

### Author Naomi Hirahara to Give Book Talk

Author Naomi Hirahara will be onhand to talk about her newest book, "Strawberry Yellow," the fourth novel in her series on Japanese American gardener and unwitting detective Mas Arai. **Info:** Call (408) 294-3138 or email [publicprograms@jamsj.org](mailto:publicprograms@jamsj.org).

## >>PSW

### Tanoshii Fun Camp

GARDENA, CA  
July 15-19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute  
1964 W. 162nd St.  
The Tanoshii Fun Camp's mission is to promote the legacy of Japanese American culture. Enrollment is open to students ages 7-10. There are 50 enrollment spots. **Info:** Visit [www.tanoshiifuncamp.org](http://www.tanoshiifuncamp.org) or contact camp director Ray Shibata at [Tanoshiifuncamp@gmail.com](mailto:Tanoshiifuncamp@gmail.com).

### Children's Day Festival

GARDENA, CA  
May 19, 1-4 p.m.  
Japanese Cultural Institute  
1964 W. 162nd St.  
This year's Children's Day festival, or Chibi-Matsuri, is being organized by the UCLA Nikkei Student Union. There will be activity booths, live performances and a chance to win prizes. **Info:** Call Erina Tashiro at (310) 291-0199.

### The 2013 Camp Musubi

### July 15-19 Los Angeles' Little Tokyo

**Cost: \$265**  
Camp Musubi, a project of the Ties That Bind, is a day camp that exposes middle school youth (students entering the 6th-8th grade) to Japanese American history, heritage and culture. **Info:** Call (213) 973-4465 or visit [www.campmusubi.org](http://www.campmusubi.org).

## >>IDC

### Heart Mountain Pilgrimage

CODY & POWELL, WY  
July 19-21  
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation  
1539 Road 19  
The 2013 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage will celebrate the acquisition of the root cellar and the restoration of the hospital chimney. There will also be a dedication ceremony of the James Ito Victory garden. Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta will give the opening remarks. **Info:** Visit [www.heartmountain.org](http://www.heartmountain.org).

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Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

## FOR MORE INFO:

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(800) 966-6157



# In Memoriam

**Akutagawa, Pearl Tomoko, 98,** Torrance, CA; April 3; predeceased by husband, James Susumu; daughters, Joyce Yukiko and Nancy Sumiko Phy; survived by daughter, Marilynne (John) McCall; sisters-in-law, Chiyeko and Fumie Furushima, Kiyo Yoshioka, Itsu Yamada, Jackie (George) Masaki and Fumi; 5 gc; 12 ggc.

**Chinen, Betty Kiyoka, 84,** Gardena, CA; May 4; survived by husband, Yoshio; children, Christine (Chris) Richard and Craig; siblings, Judy (Joseph) Hennessey of Florida and James (Shirley) Nishida; 2 gc.

**Chrisp, Kenneth Ray, 65,** Alta Loma, CA; April 23; survived by wife, Michelle; daughter, Susan Michelle Ishii; son, John Michael; and sister Jane (John) Balgavy; 2 gc.

**Furukawa, Fumiko, 92,** North Hollywood, CA; April 20; survived by her daughters, Eileen and Karen (Adolfo) Suarez; son, Larry (Cecelia); sister, Kiyoko (Hideo) Hikida; sister-in-law, Hisano Kudo; 3 gc.

**Furuta, Kiyoko, 81,** Long Beach, CA; April 21; survived by nephew, Hideo (Fusayo) Yamauchi; close friend, Hatsumi Bullard.

**Hasegawa, Hisaya Joe, 94,** L.A., CA; April 15; he served in 442nd RCT; predeceased by wife, Setsuko; child, Kyu; survived by daughters, Kayoko Inohara (the late Nobuo Inohara) and Chiemi (Bob) Watanabe; brother-in-law, Tsuyoshi Okamoto (the late Tazuko); 2 gc.

**Horita, Kazuo, 91,** Wheaton, IL; March 10; a WWII Army vet; survived by wife, Grace; children, Katherine (Steven) Novy, Steven and Scott; siblings, Shiz (the late George) Honda, the late Thom and the late Shoji (Harriet); 1 gc.

**Kamada, Aiko, 94,** Torrance, CA;



April 12; predeceased by husband, Frank Koji; brother, Sho Takahashi; sister, Nancy Doi; survived by children, Curtis (JoAnn), Carey and Dr. Jon Kent (Janice) and Patricia (Dan) Sasahara; 4 gc; 4 ggc.

**Kinoshita, Edna, 98,** Torrance, CA; April 5; survived by children, Roy (Keiko), George (Jane

Harumi), Jean (Dennis) Higley and Dan; sister, Minnie Saito; 5 gc; 4 ggc.

**Kuroda, Satoru, 93,** L.A., CA;



April 14; interned at Amachi during WWII; survived by wife, Mary; daughter, Bonnie (Paul) Nakasuji; son, Lee (Trish); 5 gc; 2 ggc.

**Lee, Richard, 65,** L.A., CA; April 14; survived by wife, Fumiko Jane; children, David Gai (Teresa) and Melissa Fumiko; in-laws, Eddie (Thelma) Nakamoto, Beverly Sato and Danny Sato; 1 gc.

**Miyaji, Nina Junko, 48,** Monterey



Park, CA; April 9; survived by sister, Tina Atsuko (Ramir) Tranilla; aunt of David and Meliisa Tranilla; aunt, Fumiko; cousin, Sachiko.

**Nakagawa, Mary Harumi, 99,** Chicago, IL; April 16; predeceased by husband, Jack Yoshino, and brother, George (Tomi) Shimojima; survived by children, Carol (Bill) Yoshino, Terry (Karen); sister, Rae (Bell M.) Shimada; brother, Henry (Haru) Shimojima; 2 gc.

**Nakamura, Nobuko, 88,** L.A., CA; April 11; survived by sister, Tokiko (Hiro) Hayata; aunt of Stanley (Mari) Shirai, Wesley (Doris) Hayata, Kathy (Jim) Matsuura, Patti (Hiro) Shiozawa and Donna (Robert) Quon.

**Oikawa, Kiyoshi, 74,** Glendale, CA; April 14; survived by wife, Hiroko; daughter, Chise Sally; siblings, Masaji Kobayashi and Noriko Itagaki.

**Saruwatari, Thomas Tamotsu, 89,** Harbor City, CA; April 18; survived by wife, Mary; children, Tommy (Donna), Ken (Darcie), Glenn (Carolyn) and Lin-Marie (Terry) Heath; brother, Ray (Mitsuko); 6 gc.

**Shimoura, Gerald R., 58,** Farmington, MI; April 8; son of Toshiko and the late James; brother of

James W., Steven and Susan (Gerald Hane); uncle of Michael, Robert and Elizabeth, Carolyn and Evan Hane.

**Tahauri, Janeen, 78,** Covina, CA; April 14; predeceased by 2 brothers and 4 sisters; survived by husband, Arthur; daughter, Roti (Henry); son, Jeffrey (Carolyn); daughter, Becky (Tim); son, Teina (Monique); daughter, Turia; 14 gc.

**Takakuwa, Ishiko Lucy, 91,** L.A.,



CA; April 13; mother of James (Cindy), Bill (Donna) and Amy (Mark) Miyamoto; Tiffany Underwood, Courtney, Joey and Katie Miyamoto.

**Tanimura, Katsumi Sam, 82,** L.A., CA; April 18; survived by wife, Itsumi; children, Leslie Kyoko, Brian Hiroshi (Gina Hsu), Joseph Kiyoshi (Bich Ly); brother, Shiro (Kimiko); 5 gc.

**Tatsumi, Chiye, 91,** Long Beach,



CA; April 23; predeceased by daughter, Sachiko Jeannie Nakashima; survived by husband, Yukio; son, Mel; son-in-law, Jerry Nakashima; sister, Hana Shintani; 2 gc.

**Uchida, Wallace Hidefumi, 62,** L.A., CA; April 8; survived by sister, Mildred (William) Yamada; aunt of Alysia and James Yamada.

**Watanabe, Chiyoko, 94,** L.A., CA; April 13; survived by sons, Jun (Charlotte), Osamu, Shigeru, Kay (Lori) and Walter; 4 gc; 3 ggc.

**Yamashiro, Tamotsu, 84,** L.A., CA; April 14; predeceased by wife, Sophie; survived by daughters, Lori, Joy and Sandy (Roger) Tanaka; siblings, Mieko Nakata and Mac; 1 gc.

**Yoshinaga, Robin Joji, 52,** Gardena, CA; April 10; survived by parents, George and Susie; brothers, Paul (Carey), Mark (Suh) and Tim (Mifumi).

## TRIBUTES

### YONEO KARIYA



KARIYA, YONEO (88) passed away at his Pauma Valley, Calif., home on April 16, 2013. He was born on Oct. 26, 1924, in Buena Park, Calif., and worked on his family's farm while attending Fullerton High School until the outbreak of World War II. At the age of 17, he and his family were relocated to the Poston internment camp. After the war, he returned to the family's farming business, and on Dec. 3, 1955, Yoneo married Mary Takayama in

Los Angeles, Calif. In 1960, they moved to Pauma Valley, where Yoneo and his brothers purchased Pauma Vista Ranch.

Yoneo was generous, multitalented, athletic, a devoted family man and active in his community. He participated in all of his children's sporting events as a coach, teammate or spectator, served on the Pauma Valley Municipal Water Board and was a distinguished member of the Pauma Valley Lions Club for nearly 52 years. He was also a member of the Farm Bureau, a grower for both Sunkist and Calavo and a benefactor of the Zoological Society of San Diego.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of Pauma Valley; sons, Brian Kariya of Los Gatos, Calif., Alan (Colleen) Kariya of San Jose, Calif., and Rick Kariya of Pauma Valley; daughter, Suzanne (Roland Ramos) Kariya-Ramos of Honolulu; brother, Hiromi (Kate) Kariya of Murrieta, Calif.; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, at Pauma Valley Community Church, 32077 Community Church Drive, Pauma Valley. The funeral service will follow at 11 a.m., with a reception afterwards. Private internment will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery in San Diego. In lieu of flowers or gifts to the family, contributions in Yoneo Kariya's memory may be made to the Pauma Valley Community Church (P.O. Box 345, Pauma Valley, CA 92061) or the Pauma Valley Lions Club (P.O. Box 802, Pauma Valley, CA 92061). Arrangements are by Alhiser-Comer Mortuary.

### MARY HARUMI NAKAGAWA

Mary Harumi Nakagawa (nee Shimojima), March 10, 1914-April 16, 2013. Beloved wife of the late Jack Yoshio. Loving mother of Carol (Bill) Yoshino and Terry (Karen) Nakagawa. Dear sister of the late George (Tomi) Shimojima, Rae (Bell M.) Shimada and Henry (Haru) Shimojima. Devoted grandmother of Taylor and Riley Nakagawa.

Visitation will be on Thursday, May 23, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Chicago, from 5-7 p.m., followed by a memorial service at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1500 W. Elmdale Ave., Chicago, IL 60660. Visit [www.immanuelchicago.org](http://www.immanuelchicago.org).

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to Immanuel Lutheran Church or the JACL KANSHA Project, 5415 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640. For more information, contact the Lakeview Funeral Home at (773) 472-6300 or go to [www.lakeviewfuneralhome.com](http://www.lakeviewfuneralhome.com).

### PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.

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## 'KIMONO' >> continued from page 2

Morrill, who is Hapa (her mother was interned during the war) and lives in Arkansas, writes, as they say, about what she knows. "The Red Kimono" is chock-full of finely observed details that draw the reader into the world of a Japanese American family living in Berkeley, Calif., during World War II. Through thorough historical research and her own knowledge and family experiences, Morrill captures what life was like during that era, and she also accurately captures the values that informed Japanese Americans as their lives were so tragically disrupted.

The story is told through the experiences of three young people whose lives become shaped by the events that followed the bombing of Pearl Harbor: Nine-year-old Sachiko Kimura and her 17-year-old brother, Nobu, as well as Nobu's friend, Terrence Harris, a young African American schoolmate.

The power of "The Red Kimono" is in its interweaving of racial issues that run deeper than the unjust imprisonment of 120,000 people of Japanese descent. Morrill sets the internment narrative on its edge by exploring the complex relationships of white/black/Asian/Southern values clashing amidst the chaotic social backdrop of the war.

In the days of fury after Pearl Harbor,

Sachi and Nobu witness Terrence and two black friends assaulting their father, and they're later told that their father died on the way to a Justice Department camp. Sachi and Nobu don't know that Terrence had just learned that his father was killed at Pearl Harbor, and he joined two of his friends in a blind fury to attack the first Japanese person they came across. Terrence, who didn't know the man was his friend Nobu's father, is convicted and goes to prison.

Sachi, Nobu and their Mama are left to parallel Terrence's imprisonment as they're rounded up and sent first to a temporary "assembly center" at Tanforan Racetrack, located south of San Francisco, and forced to live together in a hastily painted horse stall. Morrill's writing is so evocative — it's as if the photos we've seen of life in these camps have come to life. The prose is vivid and breathes with immediacy as well as historical accuracy.

"The Red Kimono" eventually follows the Kimuras on to Rohwer Relocation Center in Arkansas, where Sachi befriends Jubie, an African American girl who peers at her through the fence from outside the camp. Mama can't overcome her prejudice about African Americans because of the death of her husband, so Sachi keeps her

friendship with Jubie a secret; Sachi also comes to know Jubie's family during her adventures outside the camp.

The book is an intriguing study of racial enmity and the need for forgiveness. By the unexpected conclusion, readers will feel as if the characters are part of their own family.

Morrill has written an elegant book that vividly portrays the injustice of the Japanese American incarceration experience that is rich with both Japanese American and Southern idioms and values, as well as includes the subtext of African American racial relationships.

Sachi reminds me of Scout Finch, the young girl in Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird," which also explores issues of racial injustice and loss of innocence. And "The Red Kimono" stands up to the comparison with the literary classic. This is a fine addition to the canon, alongside "Farewell to Manzanar" and the others.

For more information on "The Red Kimono" and to read Morrill's blogs, visit [www.theredkimono.com](http://www.theredkimono.com).

Gil Asakawa blogs at [www.nikkeiview.com](http://www.nikkeiview.com) and is a former Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Chair, as well as author of "Being Japanese American" (Stone Bridge Press 2004).

## AMERICA >> continued from page 3

skinheads or white supremacist types. One of the meanest and most frightening racists I've ever encountered was a Catholic priest who looked like he wanted to rip the skin off my face with his bare teeth.

In today's world, the one thing many anti-immigration advocates share with racists and supremacists is their belief that they're better Americans than someone who has been naturalized as a citizen, and better than you and me.

So, just who IS a better American? And how do we define that? That's the point, isn't it? You can't define what being a better American is. It's not necessarily someone who puts a flag out in front of his or her house every national holiday or someone born and raised here. It's not about declaring one's self as loyal, and it's certainly not about the color of one's skin.

It can't be defined because the concept of democracy — the basis for what America is all about — is an idea that was borne from a belief in the inherent rights of liberty. Men have died in wars for two centuries to defend the idea because it's worth dying for. It's what Abraham Lincoln described as the last full measure of devotion, and I can't think of a more powerful idea than that.

There was a Japanese national who was in my outfit in the Army who had been drafted. We weren't friends, and we never talked much, but I asked him one day why he didn't just go back home when he got his draft notice.

"Home?" he asked, and by the look he gave me, I knew the word *baka* was probably rattling around in his head. "This is my home," he said, "I love America."

Several years later, I heard from an old Army friend that that Japanese guy had died in Vietnam. You can't get any more American than that.

John Tateishi is a former JACL national director.



Floyd Mori

From the fields of Utah to California's State Capitol, Floyd Mori continues to drive social change by being a mentor for his community. Former National President of the Japanese American Citizens League, he speaks out on policy issues that affect millions of Asian Pacific Americans. A proud 23-year AARP member, Floyd dotes on his 11 grandchildren and helps displaced Vietnamese fishermen on the Gulf Coast find ways to make a living. Join Floyd today and enjoy the support and resources for life at 50+ by becoming an AARP member. Visit us at [aarp.org/asiancommunity](http://aarp.org/asiancommunity)

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