



# DC NEWS NOTES

Publication of the Washington D.C. Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League

[www.jacl-dc.org](http://www.jacl-dc.org)

## CALENDAR

### KEIRO KAI/FAMILY DAY

September 15, 2012  
North Bethesda Middle School

### JACL GALA DINNER

September 27, 2012  
JW Marriot Hotel

### MOCHITSUKI

December 8, 2012  
North Bethesda Middle School

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Janice Nakano Faden,

301-320-4131 or e-mail: [jfaden1@verizon.net](mailto:jfaden1@verizon.net)



I hope that you have been able to live through the extreme heat, storms, and power outages that have challenged all of us this summer. In the midst of our severe weather conditions, Michelle Amano, Jeff Moy, and I traveled to Bellevue, Washington, outside of Seattle, to attend the 43<sup>rd</sup> JACL convention, where our DC Chapter played a prominent role in sponsoring an emergency resolution and running for offices on the National Board. The emergency resolution established a JACL award for acts of courage for protecting civil rights, in honor of Governor Ralph Carr. Governor Carr of Colorado was the only mountain state governor who welcomed the resettlement of Japanese Americans in his state after their incarceration in camps during World War II. In the words of Secretary Norman Mineta, who introduced the resolution at the convention, he knew the shame of race hatred; he saw us equal in dignity. His courageous stand behind the civil rights of Japanese and Japanese Americans cost him his bid for the US Senate. We owe him and each other nothing less than this award in his honor.

Congratulations are in order for two DC Chapter members who were elected to the National Board: John Moy, Vice President of Membership and Jeffrey Moy, National Youth/Student Council Chairperson. In addition, I was appointed co-chair of the Legacy Fund Grants Committee that will award grants for projects and activities that support the national JACL Program for Action. The 44<sup>th</sup> JACL national convention will be in Washington, DC next summer. The dates are July 24 – 26, 2013. I hope that many of you will attend. If you can volunteer to help, please let me know.

Our Chapter is sponsoring a historical multimedia senior research project by youth member Kima Hiraoka Sluchansky on individuals outside the Japanese American community who spoke out against the American concentration camps. We are proud to see Kima use her talents and take the initiative to add to this body of knowledge.

It was exciting to see many of you at our June picnic. A special thank you goes to Georgette Furukawa-Martinez for her expert event planning and to all of you for your contributions, not only in material goods but also in spirited participation. Note the article in this issue. Our next event is Keiro Kai/Family Day on Saturday, September 15. See the flyer at the end of these News Notes.

## JACL OBSERVES THE 64<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE WITH THREE ACCOMPLISHED FEMALE SPEAKERS

By Gordon Aoyagi



On May 27, 2012, the Japanese American Citizens League Washington DC (JACL—WDC) Chapter and the Japanese American Veteran Association (JAVA) jointly sponsored the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial Day service at the

Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium Courtyard. Turner Kobayashi coordinated the ceremony arrangements and served as the Master of Ceremonies. The featured speakers included Lieutenant Colonel Kay Wakatake, US Army Judge Advocate General Corp and Kendall Griffith and Lauren Penn, two fourth graders selected by their principal Ms. Judy Brubaker to represent Spark Matsunaga Elementary School, Germantown, Maryland in addressing the JACL/JAVA Memorial Service.

Janice Nakano Faden, President of JACL-WDC, and Gerald Yamada, President of JAVA provided welcoming and introductory remarks. Over 60 people were in attendance.

Kendall Griffith is 10 years old, has been playing soccer for many years, and has completed a couple 5K races with Girls on the Run. She is currently working on a school research project arguing that women should be allowed to have combat roles. Kendall wants to become a military lawyer, forensic scientist, and open up her own bake shop. Lauren Penn is also 10 years old, enjoys playing soccer and basketball and has been playing the piano and cello for many years. She is a Girl Scout and will be working on her Bronze Award to better the community. Lauren wants to become an artist, soccer player and veterinarian. They were asked to speak about what Memorial Day means to them.

Kendall said, "This is the time and place to remember special people – those who volunteer to defend us, fight for our freedoms and protect our country." She also spoke of the movie, *The Avengers*, which features super people with super

powers who save the world. But the real heroes are those sitting in front of her and lying in graves of this cemetery. She



said she wanted to grow up to be just like them and thanked them for their service and loyalty. Lauren spoke of Terry Shima coming to their school to teach them about the Japanese American internment camps and answered many questions. She remembered his stories of Japanese American soldiers volunteering from camps. Lauren thanked the soldiers in the 442/100 and MIS for their sacrifices and love of country. She offered a haiku poem she wrote and entitled, America.

*So bright white stars  
Representing our country  
Freedom everyday*



Kay Wakatake was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in May 2012. Her current assignment is Budget Office for the Army JAG Corp. She graduated from Command and General Staff College and served in Iraq as the Brigade Judge

Advocate for the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Combat Team. Prior to that, she was Officer in Charge of the Mannheim Law Center, supervising the largest US Army Law Center in Europe. Since 2006, she has been the JAVA Advocate quarterly newsletter editor. LTC Wakatake is also the first female and youngest person to serve on the JAVA Board of Directors.

LTC Wakatake spoke of her experiences with the US Army JAG and her learning of her family members serving in MIS during WWII from other Nisei soldiers. Her relatives began to tell her of their experiences after many years of silence. About the importance of Memorial Day, Wakatake said, "So let us remember those who never came home. Let us remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for others, for their nation, and for the people of other nations. Let us remember, and let us be forever grateful." After the ceremony, floral arrangements were delivered by attendee teams to 75 gravesites of fallen Japanese American soldiers. JACL expresses their appreciation to Turner Kobayashi and his family for their unwavering support and continuous coordination of the annual Memorial Day service, including updating the gravesite list, having the floral tributes available for the service and ensuring decoration of the gravesites by teams or family members. JACL thanks everyone who assisted with the gravesite visits.

## REMEMBERING VINCENT CHIN

*White House Blog, June 22, 2012*

*Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice*



Thirty years ago this week, a 27 year-old Chinese-American named Vincent Chin was brutally murdered. Two assailants beat him with a baseball bat, matching their physical violence with a stream of racial epithets. He died four days later, shortly before what would have been his wedding day. Despite the heinous nature of the crime, the state court imposed lenient sentences, so the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice charged the assailants under the federal hate crimes law on the books at the time. One of the two was convicted, and although his conviction was overturned, the story of Vincent Chin serves as an important moment in the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community and civil rights history.

Hate crimes enforcement is among the earliest of our responsibilities in the Civil Rights Division. Regrettably, hate crimes remain all too prevalent in communities across the country today. Acts of bigotry can tear entire communities apart. Hate crimes are an unconscionable reminder that we have not yet achieved the ideal of equal justice for all.

In 2009, President Obama signed into law the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act. This landmark law was named in the memory of two men who, like Vincent Chin, were brutally murdered by assailants filled with hate. James Byrd, Jr. was a 49-year-old African-American man living in Jasper, Texas, who accepted a ride home from three men on June 7, 1998. They did not take him home. Instead, they drove him to the remote edge of town where they beat him severely, urinated on him, chained him by the ankles to the back of a pickup truck, and then drove the pickup truck for three miles, dragging him to his death. Matthew Shepard was a 21-year-old gay man studying at the University of Wyoming, when he went to a local bar and met two men who offered him a ride home on October 6, 1998. Instead of taking him home, they drove him to a remote area outside of town, where he was tortured, tied to a fence, and left to die.

In a diverse, democratic nation like ours, we all must be able to live and work in our communities without fear of being attacked because of how we look, what we believe, where we are from, or who we love. Despite our nation's great progress in advancing civil rights, brutal assaults made more vicious by racial epithets still occur in big cities and small towns. Incidents that belong only in our history books still appear in the pages of our newspapers.

The prosecution of hate crimes must be one element in a broader effort of community engagement and empowerment. We need prevention, intervention and reporting strategies to move communities forward in a meaningful way. We have had to battle these acts of bigotry for too long, and in the 21st century, we must focus on eradicating hate from our communities altogether, stopping these acts before they occur.

So far, the Civil Rights Division has indicted 9 cases and convicted 34 defendants under the Shepard-Byrd law. Vincent Chin, James Byrd, Jr., and Matthew Shepard remain powerful reminders of why, in 2012, we continue to stand beside those in our nation who cannot make their voices heard alone. We will continue to enforce these essential laws to ensure that all individuals can realize the promise of equal justice under the law.

## THANK YOU S



### Memorial Day Donors honoring our Veterans:



Lianne Aoyagi	Paul & Lou Ann Igasaki	Fred & Yuri Murakami
Shirley Bertoni	Janice Ito	John Tobe
James & Margaret Brady	Chosei Kuge	Craig Uchida
Irene Enokida	Susan Morita	Martha Watanabe
Janice Faden	Thomas & Kathryn Mukai	Kiyo Yamada
Hanako Hirose	Ray & Mary Murakami	Fumie Yamamoto
Donna Hollingshead		

## JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION

By Janice Faden, Michelle Amano, and Jeff Moy



Over 300 JACL members attended the 43<sup>rd</sup> JACL national convention in Bellevue, Washington from July 5-8. In keeping with the theme, “Inform, Transform, Perform”, participants reconnected with each other and delegates passed resolutions and amendments to the JACL constitution and bylaws to further JACL’s mission. Perhaps most important, the convention adopted the National JACL Power of Words Resolution to promote accurate terminology in describing the Nikkei World War II incarceration experience, replacing misleading euphemisms and altering how the history of the Japanese American World War II experience is presented to mainstream American society.

From the youth perspective, the 2012 JACL Convention was a great success (youth members are defined as anyone 25 or younger). The National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) put together a number of activities that showcased the increasing interest and growing numbers of JACL youth nationwide.

The first NY/SC-sponsored event was the Thursday night youth reception and dinner. This allowed the youth at convention a chance to get together. Over 50 people attended, and it was a great opportunity for everyone to learn about the NY/SC and give feedback on what the NY/SC can do to better connect with JACL youth around the country. On Friday, an oratorical contest featured four high school or college student speakers, representing four different districts, who responded to a question on how JACL can stay relevant to the Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) community, given how small a percentage Japanese Americans are. The speakers were all well received and offered thought-provoking views on JACL’s future.

The Youth Luncheon on Saturday was one of the convention highlights as Gene Kim, Executive Director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), was honored. He gave an inspirational speech that combined his personal story with his ideas on how we need more young APIA leaders to step up into leadership roles in our community.

Overall, the 2012 JACL Convention was a great success for the youth. The NY/SC had a chance to organize a wide range of events over the course of the convention, network with youth from around the country, and receive first-hand feedback on its direction and programming. With the convention behind them, the NY/SC is excited to be planning their next Summit in Washington, DC this fall.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**JACL CONVENTION 2013!**  
**Washington DC**  
**July 24—26, 2013**  
 More details to come...



JACL-DC PICNIC

By Georgette Furukawa-Martinez



The sun was shining as Gordon Aoyagi diligently spent over an hour and a half scrubbing and cleaning the grills of Wheaton Regional Park. While Gordon was scrubbing away, Craig Uchida organized boxes of picnic supplies he took out of the storage unit. By 10:30 am, John Tobe, Jack Tobe, Michelle Amano, Janice Faden, and Georgette Furukawa-Martinez, set up tables and started grilling the kalbi. Soon after, Steve Shimoura, Erick Roberts, and Martha Watanabe joined the grilling festivities with 30 pounds of their famous teriyaki chicken. Grilling, however, was not the only preparation going on. Our official picnic photographer, Miya Hiraoka Sluchansky, and sister Kima, set up the raffle table while taking pictures! The behind the scenes activity in preparation for the annual picnic was definitely a symphonic dance, though perhaps less symphonic and more funky and groove-a-licious!



This year's Annual Picnic was another great event full of delicious food, picnickers, raffle prizes complete with napa cabbage and rice keeping old traditions alive; according to one of our distinguished members, having Napa and rice is a tradition because during the concentration camps, supplies were rationed, and back then, one would look at rice, Napa and shoyu as prized possessions. We also had very special guests Priscilla Ouchida, the new National Executive Director of JACL who became a new member of the DC chapter at the picnic, and Floyd and Irene Mori in attendance. We are grateful for Priscilla, Floyd, and Irene for taking the time to attend the picnic despite the JACL Intercollegiate conference in DC.



The 2012 Annual Picnic was full of tradition, but with new additions of incorporating *suikawari* and inviting the Japanese community to attend. The traditional Japanese *suikawari* (literally "splitting/breaking the watermelon") is basically a piñata with a watermelon minus a tree and a long rope. *Suikawari* contestants were divided into two divisions: Under 18 and Adults. A special *omedetougozaimasu* to our inaugural *suikawari* winners, Jack Tobe who won the under 18 category and the Japanese Embassy's Minister Hideaki Mizukoshi who won with a single kendo-like stroke in the adult division! Both winners received a \$20 gift certificate to Hinata Sushi. Another welcoming addition to our picnic were Japanese nationals in the DC-metro area. Thanks to outreach and rides given by Michael Faden, several members of the Japanese community were able to join our picnic. Our hope is for our membership to include Japanese nationals and the growing number of new Nisei.



A special *arigato gozaimasu* to those who generously donated items for the raffle and purchased raffle tickets, thanks to your support we were able to raise over \$400 for future JACL-DC events! And, a very big thank you to Mr. Terry Segawa, of Tako Grill, and Mr. Larry La, of MeiWah, who continuously support the Chapter by donating gift certificates for the raffle.

We hope you enjoy pictures taken by our young and talented photographer, Miya Hiraoka Sluchansky, and look forward to seeing you at next year's picnic festivities!!!!



THANK YOU!

## JACL-WDC WELCOMES NEW NATIONAL JACL INTERNS

*By Gordon Aoyagi*

Our WDC Chapter welcomes Adam Kuranishi who has been selected as the new Mike M. Masaoka Fellow and Kenneth Lin who was recently appointed to the National JACL office staff. As the Masaoka Fellow, Adam will serve in the office of Congressman Mike Honda (CA-15).

### Adam Kuranishi

Stories told to him by his grandparents about their incarceration during World War II inspired him to focus on issues of illegal detainment in the name of national security, housing and public land rights, and immigrant employment law.

Adam says, "I am honored to have been selected as the 2012 Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellow, and I am very excited to work with Congressman Mike Honda and his staff."

Adam has a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Chicago. In 2011, he was awarded the Oberlin College Honorary Training Award for Civil Disobedience and Immigrants' Rights Movement. In 2010, he received the Kalamazoo College Honorarium for Community Organizing and Immigrant Rights and the Donald and Lea Riddle Prize for Campus Community Organizing. In 2009, Adam received a U.S. State Department Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic in Morocco, and organized a community education project, Project FOCUS, which used photography for critical reflection on socioeconomic differences and political change in India and multiple Middle Eastern countries. Adam has also collaborated on development efforts and vocational training at the Ainkawa Center for Employment in Irbil, Iraq.

### Kenneth Lin

Ken, a New Jersey native, is currently enrolled as a senior at the College of William and Mary where he is studying economics and government. He serves as the associate news editor for the official campus newspaper, and interned for the office of a municipal government. Lin will be responsible for compiling the organization's first annual report in over a decade.

"As someone who aspires to work in public policy, I am excited to be given the opportunity to work for the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization in the APA community," said Lin.

## COMING SOON...NIKKEI SUNDAYS

*By Georgette Furukawa-Martinez*

### The Purpose:

- Bridging Communities / Building Relationships — Bring Japanese American and Japanese families together in informal settings
- Nurturing the Future — nurture our children and youth for personal and academic success, and strengthen the future US-Japan relations

### The Program:

- Participants—children/youth/adults of all ages
- Building the Bridge
  - Children: book reading in English, play time, tutoring
  - Teenagers: tutoring, help with homework, resumes, college applications, team sports
  - Parents: opportunities to network, ask about American schools, doctors, American culture, etc.
  - Families: outings such as baseball games, picnics, movies, etc.
- Frequency: once or twice a month, may alternate between academic and recreational activities
- Location: Metro accessible
- Volunteers: Contact Georgette Furukawa-Martinez at [georgette.furukawamartinez@gmail.com](mailto:georgette.furukawamartinez@gmail.com)



## BITS AND PIECES

### Congratulations

**Emily Ihara** has received tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor in the Department of Social Work at George Mason University.

**Jean Shiraki**, Washington, DC JACL, recipient of the 2012 Chiyoko & Thomas Shimazaki Scholarship

**Hillary Nakano**, Berkeley JACL, recipient of the 2012 Grace Andow Memorial Scholarship

**Javier D. Martinez** who, most recently, became Deputy Director for Member Services and Outreach Advisor in the office of House Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer (MD). In his new capacity, Javier is responsible for maintaining and strengthening relationships for constituency groups throughout the country for House Democrats. Prior to this position, Javier was the Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs for the National Council of La Raza, Professional Staff Member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and Legislative Assistant to Congressman Silvestre Reyes of El Paso, TX. He is a proud veteran of the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserves. Javier is a new member of the JACL-DC Chapter and married to Georgette Furukawa-Martinez.

**Ayame Nagatani**, former JACL DC Chapter President. She tied the knot with Carling L. Dinkler IV on May 4... so add Dinkler to her last name! They both reside in New Orleans where Ayame works in the Health Department and Carling is the Account Manager for Laitram Machinery. They met while working on Capitol Hill when Ayame worked for Rep. Mike Honda...

**Col. Bruce Hollywood**, USAF (retired), vice president of the Japanese American Veterans Association, has been named as the new executive director of JAVA, effective July 1.

### Retirement



**Mr. Terry Shima**, Executive Director of JAVA, recently retired from his position. We thank him for his dedication and commitment to veterans world-wide but particularly those of the World War II generation. Terry was one of the many people who contributed his time and energy to JAVA. He stands out from the crowd, however, because he was instrumental in lobbying the Senate for their approval of the Congressional Gold Medal for the 100<sup>th</sup>,

442<sup>nd</sup>, and the MIS. His work on the CGM celebration dinner and events was exceptional. We thank him too for his participation in the Memorial Day ceremonies that we share with JAVA.

### Entertainment

**Tamaki Kawakubo** will be in town for a concert mid August

Date: Friday, August 17th

Time: 6:30 (cocktails and hors d'oeuvres both at 6:00 and after the concert)

Location: Evermay, Georgetown.

Website: <http://overturesseries.org/performances/bios/tamaki-kawakubo>

Parking: Valet parking

### Condolences



**Ty Herbert**, 82, of Gaithersburg, MD, formerly of Radcliff, KY died Friday, May 25, 2012 at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital.

She was retired from Army and Air Force Exchange Service with almost thirty years of service. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jesse L. Herbert.

She is survived by four daughters, Dr. Teresa Unseld of Philadelphia, PA, Jessica Stephens of Gaithersburg, MD, Susan Herbert Peacock of Orlando, FL and Audrey Lee of Gaithersburg, MD; a son, LTC (ret.) Martin Herbert of Alexandria, VA; two sisters, Takeko Nishida of Seaside, CA and Keiko Takahashi of Gifu, Japan; eight grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

**Akira Paul Nose**, passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 27, 2012 at The Home at Village of Rockville, MD after a long illness of Alzheimer's. He was born November 26, 1917 in Berkeley, CA; son of Kameo and Fumi Nose. During World War II he and his family were interned at Topaz, Utah, one of 10 camps where 120,000 other Japanese Americans were incarcerated. Towards the end of the War he served briefly in the U.S. Army. He then worked for the U.S. Army Quartermaster General. He married Yulie Kiyasu in San Francisco, November 1954. He was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church of North Bethesda, the Japanese American Citizens League and the International Netsuke Kenkyukai Society. His only sibling Marguerite Stock, died in 1977. He is survived by his wife, Yulie of 57½ years; four children, Peter, Ellen, Steven and Nancy; two daughters-in-law, Karen Nose and Maria Nose; two sons-in-law, Alex Bodien and Tom Murphy; and six grandchildren, Brent, Andrew and Kelly Nose, Sean and Kevin Murphy and Trevor Nose.

## DANIEL K. INOUE FELLOWSHIP

### Application Due on August 17, 2012 for Daniel K. Inouye Fellowship

The Daniel K. Inouye fellowship, named for the Hawaiian Senator and President Pro Tempore of the Senate, is focused on public policy advocacy in the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. The term of the fellowship will be for a time period of six to ten months and will begin as soon as the recipient is available. A \$2,200 monthly stipend will be provided, along with a round-trip flight courtesy of Southwest Airlines.

Interested applicants should submit a resume, a sample of writing, and names and contact information for two references to the Washington, D.C. office of the JACL at [policy@jacl.org](mailto:policy@jacl.org) with "Inouye Fellowship" in the subject line.

**Application materials will be accepted until August 17, 2012.**

For more information, visit [the JACL website](http://the JACL website).



## WW2 Japanese American Relocation Camp Internee Search

### Japanese Relocation Camps Records

Last Names by Alpha (click on letter to search) :

[A](#) . [B](#) . [C](#) . [D](#) . [E](#) . [F](#) . [G](#) . [H](#) . [I](#) . [J](#) . [K](#) . [L](#) . [M](#) . [N](#) . [O](#) . [P](#) . [Q](#) . [R](#) . [S](#) . [T](#) . [U](#) . [V](#) . [W](#) . [X](#) . [Y](#) . [Z](#)

## MEMBERSHIP



New Members since June: Nicole Jackson, Jun Kaminishikawara, Javier Martinez, Lauren Ohata, Pricilla Ouchida, Nikki Yamashiro

### Increase your support to the JACL by increasing your membership option:

- Thousand Club: \$100 per year
- Century Club: \$175 per year
- Millennium Club: \$1,000 per year

**Please consider supporting JACL-DC with employer matching donations or in-kind donations**

*Let's make 2012 a banner year for membership! E-mail Linda Adams at [Linda\\_adams@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Linda_adams@mcpsmd.org) for membership information.*



# ***Keiro Kai and Family Day***

**Saturday, September 15, 2012**  
12:00—2:30 p.m.

**North Bethesda Middle School**  
8935 Broadmoor Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20817

**Washington Toho Koto Society & JACL-DC Top Chef David Inoue**

**Food, games, and entertainment for all ages!**

JACL members come free  
Non-members \$10 per person or \$20 for family of four

**Please RSVP now for planning purposes: Janice Faden**

301-320-4131 or e-mail: [jfaden1@verizon.net](mailto:jfaden1@verizon.net)



**Save the Date**

**2012 JACL Gala and Awards Dinner**

**September 27, 2012**

JW Marriott in Washington D.C.

For ticket information contact John Tobe at [john.tobe@gmail.com](mailto:john.tobe@gmail.com)

## DC NEWS NOTES

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Business—Half Page: \$50  
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### ABOUT THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Founded in 1929, the JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL monitors and responds to issues that enhance or threaten the civil and human rights of all Americans and implements strategies to effect positive social change, particularly to the Asian Pacific American community.

<http://www.jacl.org/about/about.htm>



Photo by Joe Shymanski