



DC NEWS NOTES

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

CALENDAR

JACL/OCA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

March 16–19, 2013

CHERRYBLOSSOM FESTIVAL

March 20–April 14, 2013

FREEDOM WALK

April 6, 2012

MEMORIAL DAY

May 26, 2013

JACL PICNIC

June , 2013

JACL CONVENTION

July 24–26, 2013
Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC

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PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Janice Nakano Faden

301-320-4131 or e-mail: jfaden1@verizon.net

John Tobe

202-390-5020 or e-mail: john.tobe@gmail.com



Last year ended with the loss of Senator Inouye, a legendary role model for our greater Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) community, and the new year began with renewed commitment to promote the civil liberties of the APIA community and preserve the Japanese American heritage and culture.

We launch 2013 with goals to broaden our Chapter's base and increase our visibility. We plan to accomplish this through involvement and leadership development of our young people, collaboration with other APIA organizations, and outreach to Japanese citizens living in the DC area.

Your enthusiastic participation and welcoming presence at our events attract new members who want to be a part of our dynamic Chapter. Installation of our Board is a recent example of such an event. We are grateful to the Crafty Ladies who donated the largest amount ever from the proceeds of the sales of their crafts. Our newest members have already written for our newsletter, volunteered for convention preparations, and offered to take a lead in Keiro Kai/Family Day.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of our events, including Memorial Day, the June picnic, Keiro Kai/Family Day, or Mochitsuki, please contact Janice Faden or John Tobe. Their phone numbers and e-mail addresses are listed above. We also need volunteers for our annual JACL convention during the planning stages now and at the convention this summer from July 24 through 26 at the downtown Renaissance Hotel.

We look forward to seeing you at our gatherings throughout the year. Sharing time together continues to enrich our lives.

SAVE THE DATE

JACL National Convention

July 24–26, 2013

Renaissance Hotel, Washington DC

THEME: JUSTICE FOR ALL

Register Today!

<http://jacl.org/2013/>



IN MEMORY OF SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE



Late-Senator Daniel K. Inouye's commemoration at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian started out with the Aloha Boys playing his favorite Hawaiian songs, allowing us to forget the frigid cold weather outside and transporting us to his native Hawaii. The audience could feel Senator Inouye's presence reminding us of his accomplishments in the name of all Americans and mankind. The panelists who gave their perspectives on the Senator's life included Mr. Terry Shima, Chair of the Outreach and Education Committee of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA); retired-Major General Tony Taguba, Chairman of Pan-Pacific American

Leaders and Mentors; Mr. Donald A. Ritchie, Historian of the U.S. Senate; and Ms. Tuyet Duong, Senior Advisor at the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The event was moderated by Ms. Kathy Park, news anchor of ABC 7.



Senator Inouye was the bridge between us and the Greatest Generation during World War II, coined in Tom Brokaw's book. His passing marks an end of an era. His life's work embodied the journey of a man whose rights were taken during World War II with the Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942 which called for the internment of Japanese Americans in ten camps throughout the Western United States. He was classified as an enemy alien code "4C," but he, along with many Japanese Americans, petitioned the government for the opportunity to serve and demonstrate the love and patriotism for the country.

Inouye was at Pearl Harbor during the attack in 1941, helping the wounded as an Army medic. Re-enlisting in the US Army, Inouye served in the European Theater participating in three campaigns in France and Italy, receiving a field commission following the rescue of the Texas battalion. During the Po Valley Campaign in April 1945, he lost his right arm in enemy action. In 2000, he received the Congressional Medal of Honor.



He was elected as Congressman of Hawaii Territorial House of Representatives serving as majority leader and to the Hawaii Territorial Senate in 1957. When Hawaii joined the Union in 1959, he became the first Congressman from the State of Hawaii and first Japanese American Congressman in the House of Representatives. He went on to be reelected six times and served nearly five decades as US Senator, culminating in his tenure as President Pro Tempore of the US Senate, third in line to succeed the President of the United States.

Senator Inouye is most known for his Chairmanship in the Watergate and Iran Contra Commissions in the 70s and 80s. He was chosen for his impeccable integrity to lead these commissions to search for the truth in some of America's darkest hours. He cautioned against a shadowy government free from law and not accountable to the American people. His intent in these Commissions was to define the underlying causes so we may never repeat these grievances again as citizens with the obligation to uphold the values of our country.



His legacy will be his peerless work ethic to defend those who could not fend for themselves. He served as Chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee, and tirelessly promoted the cause of all American Indians. He elevated the profile of Asian Americans as a key member of the Asian Pacific American Caucus. Senator Inouye championed the cause of the American Veterans and the disabled through various legislation. As Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, he defended Veterans' rights and Department of Defense budget against drastic austerity cuts. Most importantly, following the horrific attacks of 9/11, Inouye cautioned Americans from repeating the same mistakes— protected the civil liberties of Arab Americans so that we may never again see the likes of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The legacy he leaves is a foundation of civil rights achievements for all human kind. Ninth-grader Carolyn Reiko Hoover made the closing remarks, "We are all here today thanks to Senator Inouye's work. He embodied selfless public service to give and continue to give, and expect nothing back in return. Senator Dan Inouye will be missed, but the torch will be passed on to future generations of leaders who will pave the path that he helped to blaze."

Written by Jason Yuki Osuga

TERRY T. SHIMA AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL CITIZENS MEDAL



At a ceremony in the East Room of the White House on February 15, 2013, President Obama awarded World War II veteran Terry T. Shima the 2012 Presidential Citizens Medal, the nation's second-highest civilian award. Shima was one of 18 recipients of the medal, hand-selected by the President from over 6,000 candidates for "strengthening the sacred trust between America and its veterans."

In his remarks, President Obama recognized recipients "for the shining example that you set every single day and the inspiration that you give each of us as fellow citizens, including your President."

Shima, 90, of Gaithersburg, Md., was born and raised in Laupahoehoe, Hawaii and served in the Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a segregated unit comprised of Japanese Americans, which became one of the most decorated units of its size in American history. Shima "ensured returning heroes received a welcome befitting their service and sacrifice." Shima's award citation recognized his work "as the Executive Director of the Japanese American Veterans Association, where he committed himself to preserving the stories of service members who fought and bled overseas, even while many of their families were relocated to internment camps at home."

When asked what his reactions were in receiving this award, Shima said, "In a word, awesome." He said, "There are others far more deserving to receive this Medal than I, however, having been designated, I accept this award on behalf of my family who has given me their total support."

"I accept this medal on behalf of the volunteers at the Japanese American Veterans Association and for the men who fought in Europe and the Pacific, including my older brother, Hideichi Shimabukuro, to settle the question of loyalty once and for all and to help level the playing field for minorities," said Shima. "I also accept this medal for the over 800 men we left on the battlefields of Europe and the Pacific, and for the post-World War II Japanese American men and women who competed with the best-of-the-best to build America's greatness."

Gerald Yamada, President of the Japanese American Veterans Association, praised Shima's service. "This award recognizes Terry's tireless efforts as a 442nd Regimental Combat Team veteran, as Executive Director, and now as the chairperson of our Education and Public Outreach Committee to preserve the legacy of the contributions of the World War II Nisei soldiers. Terry brings honor to all of us."

"Given all the work, time, dedication and effort that Terry has expended over all these years on behalf of the veterans and the total community, there is no one who is more deserving of this recognition," said former Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of Commerce Norman Mineta. "I know that the thousands of Japanese American veterans who served in World War II and those who ultimately made the supreme sacrifice on behalf of all of us are really smiling and saying 'Well done, Terry, and thanks a million!'"

Written by Janelle Kuroda for the Japanese American Veterans Association

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

To honor Japanese American and American veterans who served their country during World War II and in other wars, the JAACL and the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) are sponsoring the annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Sunday, May 26, 2013.

As in past years we are asking for donations to help cover the cost of the graveside flowers and the wreath that we lay at the Tomb of the Unknowns. The cost of the bouquets of flowers placed on the graves has been covered by our chapter and JAVA and through donations from other chapters as well as individuals. Anyone interested in making a donation to help cover the cost of flowers may do so by sending a check to the DC Chapter.

Yes, I will donate \$ _____ to the Memorial Day event. Make check to: JAACL DC Chapter and send it to: Craig Uchida, Treasurer, P.O. Box 6188, Silver Spring, MD 20916. Donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

2013 Board Members Look to the Future

The DC chapter board members for 2013 were sworn in at the Installation Lunch held January 26 at Meiwah Restaurant in Chevy Chase.

Attendees heard National JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida, in her keynote speech, lay out her vision for greater youth involvement in the organization. This course, Ouchida pointed out, included offering younger people roles of true leadership and responsibility. Historical icons such as Martin Luther King, Jr. earned leadership roles while in their 20s, she noted, and the same path has to be opened within JACL.

Jeff Moy, chair of JACL's youth program and emcee for the event, reminded attendees that younger members may approach issues from a different perspective, but that approach can produce results as powerful as their predecessors'. Moy added that just because people are young does not mean they should automatically get relegated to the technology-related tasks, especially at the expense of gaining more comprehensive roles.

Board members below were inducted for 2013 and bring a wide range of backgrounds and perspectives:

Janice Nakano Faden (co-president) grew up in South Bend, Indiana, played the violin in various orchestras, and graduated from Oberlin College and Harvard Graduate School of Education. She has lived in the DC area since 1980 and "retired" from Montgomery County Public Schools after serving as elementary principal and director of elementary instruction. Mother of two and grandmother of three, she strives to pass on the family history about their journey from Hiroshima to California, incarceration at Tule Lake, and settlement in the Midwest.

John Tobe (co-president) is originally from Los Angeles and has lived in the DC area since 1986. He has worked for the Embassy of Japan for over 20 years advising the embassy on political, foreign policy, and security issues. A lifelong Dodgers and Lakers fan, he is slowly warming up to the Nationals and Wizards.

Leona Hiraoka (vice president) is CEO of Integrated Media, Inc., which creates cross-platform communications solutions for companies, and is Vice President, Communications, for Points of Light, the world's largest organization dedicated to volunteer service. Her



two daughters, Kima and Miya, are active chapter members who often are working the cameras at chapter events.

Georgette Furukawa-Martinez (secretary) is a Nisei from Hawaii and, thanks to her strict immigrant parents, is fluent in Japanese and English. She is currently the External Relations Specialist at Sony Corporation of America. When she is not working, Georgette enjoys volunteering with the Japan-America Society of DC and US-Japan Council, and mentoring her little "sisters" and "brothers" on school, life, and their careers. Georgette is a graduate of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon. She resides in Montgomery County with her husband, two cats, and a turtle.

Linda Sato Adams (membership chair) has been a board member since 2010. Linda is a sansei whose parents were interned in Minadoka (father) and Tule Lake (mother). Her father served in the 442nd in Italy and France. Linda grew up in Rochelle, Illinois (think cornfields), and moved to the DC area in 1987. She is currently the fine arts supervisor for the Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland.

Jack Tobe (scholarship chair) has been a board member since 2010 when he joined the board as a 7th grader. Jack is a yonsei whose grandfather was interned in Minadoka and his great grandfather was held at a detention camp in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Jack has a keen interest in Japanese culture and food (especially, soba, musubi, and mochi).

Jeffrey Moy (youth chair/advisor) is the Senior Program Manager for Professional Leadership Development at OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans. He has served as a JACL DC chapter board member since 2010, served on the JACL Eastern District Council from 2010-2012, and was elected to the JACL National Board in 2012 as the National Youth/Student Council Chairperson. Originally from Maryland, he graduated from the University of Southern California in 2008, where he majored in Philosophy and Psychology.

David Inoue (anti-hate liaison) has been on the JACL board since 2002. He lives in the Shepherd Park neighborhood of DC with his wife Kaori, daughter Mika, and son Akira. He is the Administrative Director at Christ House, a medical shelter for homeless men and women in Washington, DC.

Kaitlin Inamasu (communication liaison) is a sophomore at the George Washington University majoring in Political Science and minoring in Communication and Journalism. She is the Administrative Assistant at the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies and serves as treasurer of the GW Hawai'i Club. A fourth generation Japanese American, Katie was born and raised in Wailuku, Hawaii.

INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

Michelle Amano (district council delegate) has been an active member of the chapter since moving to the area in 1985. She has attended almost all of the conventions over the last 20 years.

Jason Hata (program chair) is originally from Southern California and recently graduated from the University of Southern California with a bachelor's degree in business. He was involved in the Southern California JA community as a student, and later became the President of the Japanese American student organization at USC and the Finance Chair of the Intercollegiate Nikkei Council. Before moving to DC to become the Mineta Fellow, he was involved in the Pacific Southwest District JACL.

Ron Mori (program chair) grew up in Chicago, and graduated from Purdue University. In 2011, Ron relocated to Washington, DC to join AARP as an advisor in the Multicultural Markets and Engagement Department. Prior to joining AARP, Ron was director of brand for Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, where he played an integral role in overseeing the company's external role in supporting the fire service. He has also served as the Executive Director of The Allstate Foundation and Director of Corporate Contributions for SBC Ameritech. Ron and Teresa, have settled in Fairfax and have two teenage daughters.

Amy Watanabe (program chair) was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. She received her bachelor's degree in Communication Studies and minored in Asian American Studies at UCLA. She is the current Daniel K. Inouye Fellow working in the DC office of National JACL.

Craig Uchida (treasurer ex officio) is the President of Justice & Security Strategies, Inc. (JSS), where he consults with police, prosecutors and corrections officials. He is from Pasadena (CA) and like John is a life-long Dodgers fan. He has served on the board since 1998 and was the former chairman of the NJAMF.

Congratulations to these officers, and may they lead the chapter through an engaging and prosperous 2013.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN



FLY ON THE WALL PRODUCTIONS is producing a documentary entitled, "For the Sake of the Children", a 20-minute film that looks at the impact that the WWII Japanese-American internment had on mothers and how they raised their children during their incarceration and after.

Additionally, this film will examine the impact that the internees' parenting had on their children and on the generations that followed - in particular the challenges, struggles, and circumstances that individuals from each subsequent generation have faced in shaping, integrating and reconciling their identities as Japanese-Americans.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH US

In particular...

- 1) Nisei women who gave birth to children while at camp or who raised children up to the age of 12 while at camp
- 2) Sansei women and men who were born while at camp or who were children up to the age of 12 while at camp
- 3) Yonsei women and men whose grandmothers were internees
- 4) Gosei women and men whose great grandmothers were internees

(PLEASE NOTE: Yonsei and Gosei do not need to be descendants from Poston. Their grandmothers could be from any of the other internment camps.)

Those that are interested in participating or would like more information about our project can contact the director, Joe Fox at jfox@flywall.com To view a trailer of the film go to: <http://www.flywall.com/for-the-sake-of-the-children/>

MEET AMBASSADOR KENICHIRO SASAE



Newly appointed Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae arrived in Washington D.C. on November 15, 2012, after most recently serving as the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan in Tokyo from 2010-2012. A graduate of Tokyo University, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1974 and received his first overseas assignment to Washington D.C. in 1984. He has subsequently served in the United Kingdom and Switzerland, and upon his return to Tokyo, he was appointed Executive Assistant to the Prime Minister of Japan in 2000. He has also served as Director-General of the Economic Affairs Bureau (2002-2005), Director-General of the Asian & Oceania Affairs Bureau (2005-2008) as well as Chief Japanese Negotiator to the Six-Party Talks. In his youth, Ambassador Sasae did a home stay in Chillicothe, Missouri and also attended graduate school at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania.

Ambassador Sasae is accompanied by his wife Nobuko. She is a graduate of Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo and also has a Masters in Education from the University of Pennsylvania. She has been a long-time professional interpreter and has worked at many prestigious international conferences. She is an avid hiker and looks forward to hiking around the metropolitan Washington area. She and Ambassador Sasae have two sons.

As Ambassador, he looks forward to enhancing U.S.-Japan relations and continuing a close relationship with the Japanese-American community. He visited the National Japanese American Memorial and met with JACL and Japanese American Veterans Association members within a week of his arrival to D.C.

PEARL PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURAL GALA

The Asian American and Pacific Islander community celebrated the inauguration of President Barack Obama on January 20 at the Pearl Presidential Inaugural Gala. More than a thousand gathered at the Mandarin Oriental, Washington, D.C. to enjoy speakers, international cuisine, and entertainment.

The gala brought together a plethora of community leaders, celebrities, policymakers, and non-profit groups. MSNBC anchor Richard Lui led a touching tribute to the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye. Several JACL-DC members partook in the festivities and were able to meet many dignitaries, including Members of Congress and Japanese Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae.

JACL-DC was a Supporting Organization of the Pearl Gala. The night served as a unique opportunity to celebrate President Obama's re-election and the record number of AAPIs elected to Congress in 2012.



MOCHITSUKI

More than 200 JACL members and guests celebrated at the December 2012 Mochitsuki. Young and old alike enjoyed bento plates and cheered during traditional rice pounding and mochi making at North Bethesda Middle School. The Crafty Ladies provided a wide assortment of handmade crafts for holiday shoppers to choose from, and again we are grateful for their beautiful crafts and their kind donation to the JACL-DC chapter. A special treat this year was a book signing by Jean Kariya of her recently published autobiography, *Papa Said BE STRONG*.





The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), as the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization, has been holding conventions for over eighty years. The 2013 National JACL Convention will be the second off year convention since the JACL went to a yearly convention schedule.

The 2013 JACL Convention will be held in Washington, D.C. from Wednesday, July 24, through Friday, July 26, at the Renaissance Hotel located at 999 Ninth Street NW in the nation's capital. As this year is the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (The Redress Bill), the convention will be centered around the theme, "Justice For All."

The format of this convention will be somewhat different than previous conventions. Some of the highlights of the convention will be: Opening banquet (in order to allow for participation from members of Congress), Awards Luncheon, Reception at the National Archives where the original Redress Bill will be on display, Advocacy Hill Visits with members of Congress, Youth Activities, Workshops with timely topics, and Exhibits. Among the speakers and plenary session participants will be high level government personnel. A special closing reception is being planned. The convention website should be available soon.

The convention committee encourages families to attend the convention, perhaps in conjunction with a vacation. This is an excellent opportunity to visit historic places and experience all the beauty and majesty that is Washington, D.C. The hotel rate may be extended for a few days before and/or after the convention

dates to accommodate sightseeing trips. The amazing Smithsonian museums have free admission. The National Zoo and the National Aquarium are worthy of a visit. The monuments are spectacular. There is a lot to do and see for all ages. Booster activities will be planned, and suggestions will be provided.

The 2013 National JACL Convention Committee consists of several family units and some very prominent people. Floyd Mori is the convention chairman with his wife Irene on the committee. Relative newlyweds, Brig Walker, and his wife, Sian Singh O'Faolain, are heading up workshops for the convention. John Tobe and his son Jack, a high school student who is a member of the Washington D.C. JACL chapter board, are working on the closing reception as well as other areas. Former JACL Washington D.C. Representative, Kristine Minami, will be heading up the Awards Luncheon, and her uncle, Denny Minami, will be working on fundraising. Jeff Moy, Youth/Student Chair, and his father, John Moy, Vice President of Membership on the JACL National Board, are both on the committee. Former JACL Washington, D.C. Reps, Paul Igasaki and Bob Sakaniwa, both important government attorneys, are on the committee as is former Executive Director of OCA National, Christine Chen. Other DC Chapter members on the committee are Janice Nakano Faden, Jason Hata, Kaitlin Inamasu, Linda Adams, Leona Hiraoka, and Georgette Furukawa-Martinez.



Back: Jack Tobe, John Tobe, Irene Mori
Front: Brig Walker, Sian Singh O'Faolain, Floyd Mori

MEMBERSHIP



New Members since December: Marisa Kataoka, Bonnie Moy, Susan Peacock, Ian & Julie Shifrin, Howard Yamataki

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

- Thousand Club: \$200 per year
- Century Club: \$350 per year
- Millennium Club: \$1,000 per year

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

Let's make 2013 a banner year for membership! E-mail Linda Adams at Linda_adams@mcpsmd.org

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6 Stevens Court
Rockville, MD 20850
Telephone: 301-320-4131
E-mail: jfaden1@verizon.net

Contributors: Janice Faden,
John Tobe, Jason Osuga,
Janelle Kuroda, Leona Hiraoka,
Kaitlin Inamasu, Floyd Mori,
Linda Adams

Photo credits: Kaitlin Inamasu,
Jason Osuga, John Tobe, Miya
and Kima Hiraoka Sluchansky,

Logo Design: Janelle Kuroda
Graphics & Layout: Linda
Adams



News Notes Annual Advertising Rates

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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