It is hard to believe that the summer is over, and a busy summer it was with the JACL focus on civil rights. The national convention in July commemorated the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and reminded us of the injustices that Japanese Americans suffered during World War II and the legacy of assuring that justice and civil liberties apply to all.

August marked the 50th anniversary of the march on Washington, when DC Chapter members marched together with other Asian Americans and recognized the progress made on equal rights and the need to continue the journey.

On September 14, at the Keiro Kai/Family Day, our DC Chapter provides another opportunity to honor our elders and recognize the legacy we have to follow their exemplary model of courage, endurance, and success. We look forward to seeing you there to enjoy each other’s company, eat chef David Inoue’s sushi and Michelle Amano’s chicken teriyaki, and hear the Japan Commerce Association of Washington DC band. Bingo is back, and so are door prizes.

We are recruiting people to be on our Board either as officers or committee members. Several Chapter members have called us the “fun bunch” or “extended family”, so others can attest to the enjoyment and experience of serving in leadership positions. We have the pleasure of adding two new JACL fellows, Michelle Honda and Rhianna Taniguchi. More information about them is on page 4.

Looking forward in time, we have the following upcoming events:

- The Salute to Champions of Diversity, JACL Gala, is October 10.
- The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) 2013 Awards Dinner Gala is November 2, 2013. Distinguished individuals being honored at the gala include: Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, Mr. Terry Shima, Admiral Mike Mullen, and Craig Uchida, Ph.D.
- Mochitsuki is scheduled for Saturday, December 14. noon to 2 p.m. at North Bethesda Middle School, Bethesda, MD.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these events as we continue our mission of sharing our culture for all to appreciate and understand.
On Saturday, August 24, the JACL joined marchers for the 50th Anniversary of the March on Washington and the continued fight for justice, jobs, peace and freedom. Speakers of the Saturday program on the National Mall included Attorney General Eric Holder Jr., Representative John Lewis (who was the youngest speaker in 1963), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Rev. Al Sharpton, and Martin Luther King III. Mee Moua, President of Asian Americans Advancing Justice, addressed the over 200,000 crowd, and recognized JACL’s participation and Todd Endo of Ammissville, Virginia, who held the JACL banner at the 1963 March on Washington, and marched with JACL again 50 years later.

The 2013 JACL contingent of 37 people from the National Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) to form a block of well over a hundred. JACL marchers included Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida, VP of Membership Toshi Abe, EDC Governor Michelle Amano, Amy Watanabe, Kelly Honda, Todd Endo, Paula Endo, Eri Endo, Aidan Endo, Nancy Hall, Jen Hanold, Austin Hanold, Neil Horikoshi, Janice Faden, Michael Faden, Paul Igasaki, Louann Igasaki, Paul Uyehara, Mary Yee, Brigham Walker, Mackenzie Walker, Rosie Abriam, Patrick Lee, Noriko Sanefuji, Marsha Johnson, Greg Johnson, and Lauren Yamagata. Todd Endo was a 21-year-old college student when he carried the JACL banner and led 35 JACLers in the historic 1963 March on Washington. With three generations of his family, Todd Endo again marched on August 24 as part of the 50th Anniversary March on Washington.

Endo concluded the day with his thoughts. “Fifty years later there’s still that dream that’s not realized. You never get there. But that sense of unity and working together and peacefulness has carried on and remains influential.”

By Amy Watanabe

On May 26, 2013, members of JACL-DC and the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) honored Japanese American and American veterans who served their country during World War II and other wars at a service at the Columbarium Courtyard of the Arlington National Cemetery. This year marked the 65th continuous observation by JACL-DC. The service began in 1948 by Key Kobayashi, a Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran. When he passed away in 1992, his family continued the tradition.

The keynote speech was delivered by Lieutenant General James L. Huggins, Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, a native of Hawaii, who led the 82nd Airborne Division in Afghanistan. Huggins, whose mother is Japanese, paid his respects to Americans, including Japanese Americans, who sacrificed their lives to keep America free.

Also delivering keynote remarks were Miss Kendall Griffith and Miss Lauren Penn, two fifth grade students from Spark M. Matsunaga Elementary School in Montgomery County, Md. The theme was “Duty, Honor, Country,” borrowing from General MacArthur’s famous speech. In her remarks, Penn said, “When the Matsunaga Elementary students sing at our annual Veteran’s Day concert, one song we perform states: ‘And I am proud to be an American where at least I know I am free, I won’t forget the ones who died to give that right to me!’ These are just song lyrics but when you really listen, the meaning of these words are so true. That is why we are here today – to celebrate those people who have given their lives for our country!” Griffith and Penn concluded their remarks by singing “America the Beautiful.” At the conclusion of the program, JACL-DC Co-Presidents Janice Faden and John Tobe recognized volunteer Gordon Aoyagi for his years of support to organize this program, in addition to the Kobayashi family.

Following the program, attendees laid flowers at 70 gravesites for fallen soldiers of the 44nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, the Military Intelligence Service, and Japanese American veterans who served in other conflicts. Representatives from JACL-DC and JAVA also laid a wreath in a formal ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns, honoring American service members “known but to God.”

By Janelle Kuroda
Over three hundred JACLers traveled to the Nation’s Capital on July 24-26, 2013 to attend the 44th JACL National Convention and to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The theme "Justice for All" was echoed throughout the 2013 JACL National Convention, and was kicked off with the opening "25th Commemorative Banquet: Civil Liberties Act of 1988" where the JACL President's Award was presented to Wade Henderson and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye, the late Senator Spark M. Matsunaga, the late Congressman Robert T. Matsui, and Secretary Norman Y. Mineta.

Members of the JACL National Committee for Redress and the JACL Legislative Education Committee, were recognized for their dedication and commitment to gain redress. Individuals that were in attendance and recognized were Mrs. Mollie Fujioka, Mr. Tom Kometani, Mr. Phil Shigekuni and Mr. John Tateishi.

On Thursday, JACL delegates and attendees made visits to Capitol Hill and met with members of both the House and Senate discussing comprehensive immigration reform. The night ended with a private reception at the National Archives. The "Words That Changed a Nation: National Archives Display of Executive Order 9066 and the Civil Liberties Act of 1988" gave guests the opportunity to view these five pages that changed and transformed our community. During the program, the JACL honored AJC for its role in the successful campaign to achieve redress for the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans.

The 2013 JACL National Convention culminated with a Closing Reception graciously hosted by the Ambassador and Mrs. Kenichiro Sasae at their Residence. The "Governor Ralph L. Carr Award for Courage" was presented to President Ronald Reagan (accepting the award on behalf of the Reagan family was James Kuhn), Speaker Jim Wright and Mr. Glenn Roberts.

Thank you to all of our DC chapter members who made this Convention a success and showing the JACL community what Washington, D.C. has to offer. A special thanks to Michelle Amano, Shirley Bertoni, Jean Kariya, Claire Lavoie, Jane Lynch, Jean Marumoto, Sonia Misawa, Yoko Morita, Ellyn Sachi Mukai, Barbara Nekoba, Eloise Stinger for the beautiful centerpieces at the Opening Banquet.

NPR All Things Considered - JACL 25th Anniversary Civil Liberties Act, aired a great piece about 25th anniversary of the redress including tape and interviews from the National Archives Event. Thanks to JACL and Floyd Mori for facilitating interviews. Follow the link below to hear the audio and read the web summary.

JACL-DC PICNIC

On Saturday, June 8, the DC Chapter held another successful potluck picnic for the DC Chapter members, their families and friends. Despite a last minute change of venue due to construction, the picnic at Cabin John Park in Bethesda was well attended. This year, several members of the Japan Commerce Association of Washington (JCAW) also joined in the fun, including their President, Mr. Tsuney Yanagihara and his family.

There was plenty of delicious Japanese and Hawaiian food supplied by the chapter and the membership. Once again the picnic featured the always popular raffle and the suika-wari contest which was won by Miya Sluchansky (kid division) and Lauren Yamagata (big kid division).

Special thanks to Craig Uchida for helping with logistics; Georgette Furukawa-Martinez for not only coordinating the activities but preparing all the entrees (kalua pork, kalbi BBQ, burgers, hot dogs, etc.); Linda Adams for helping with the flyer, signs, and the raffle; the always helpful Crafty Ladies for donating their time, effort and goodies; the membership for supplying the delicious potluck dishes; and Tako Grill and Meiwah for donating gift cards.

We all look forward to doing it again next year!

JACL-DC WELCOMES NEW NATIONAL JACL FELLOWS

By Amy Watanabe

Kelly Honda has been named the Mike K. Masaoka Congressional Fellow and will be placed in Congressman Mike Honda’s office.

Kelly currently works at the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) as the Lead Coordinator in the California office where she is responsible for supporting grassroots advocacy, lobbying, and campaign efforts. Prior to working at ACS CAN, Kelly worked as an intern for the American Cancer Society, participated in the University of California Sacramento Center Public Policy program and interned at the California Department of Education.

Kelly is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego and currently lives in Sacramento, California. Kelly is active in the Sacramento JACL Chapter and serves as the co-president and secretary. She also serves as the co-youth Central California District Council representative on the National Youth Student Council and most recently co-chaired the San Francisco Youth Summit in this role. Kelly also served on the Northern California Time of Remembrance planning committee and volunteers for JACL events in both the Sacramento and Fresno areas.

Rhianna Taniguchi will be the Norman Y. Mineta Fellow placed in the JACL DC office.

Rhianna currently works as a Specialist in the United States Army National Guard. After graduating as the Distinguished Honor Graduate from Ft. Lee, Virginia, she went on to receive the Army Achievement Medal and is now serving as a Military Intelligence analyst.

This past year she served as a Senator for Oregon State University’s student government and wrote multiple pieces of legislation that addressed the needs of low-income, multicultural, and other underrepresented communities. She also authored legislation calling for the review of a contract with the Department of Defense to ensure that over 119 students at OSU receive their Federal Tuition Assistance; which amounted to $535,500 annually for military students.

Last spring Rhianna reestablished the Japanese American Student Association at OSU. As President, she has worked to build partnerships and to ensure the financial stability and relevancy of the organization. This year her team put on the first ever JA culture night, which had more than 100 students, faculty, and community leaders in attendance as well as many other events that promoted activism and awareness.

She also serves on the National Youth Student Council for the JACL. Rhianna will begin her Fellowship in mid-September.
Congratulations

Craig Uchida will be honored at the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation gala on November 2, 2013 at the Marriott Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Rd. NW, Washington, DC. He will receive the Chairman's award for significantly raising the nation's awareness of the contributions of Japanese Americans to our country's past, present, and future. If you wish to attend, please contact John Tobe, 202-390-5020 or e-mail john.tobe@gmail.com or Janice Faden, 301-320-4131 or e-mailjfaden1@verizon.net

Michelle Amano, was elected district governor for the Eastern District Council (EDC). She is a lifelong member of JACL who has served on the DC Chapter Board as president, EDC representative, and convention delegate. As governor, she plans to visit all the chapters in the district, provide assistance to ones that are experiencing difficulties, facilitate sharing of ideas, and serve on the national board. We are so proud to have our own DC board member as governor.

DANIEL K. INOUYE 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. Application can be downloaded at www.jacl.org. Interested applicants should submit completed application with personal statement to the Washington, D.C. office of the JACL at policy@jacl.org with "Inouye Fellowship" in the subject line.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members since June: Grace & John Collins, Tom Hayashi, Kim Hirose, Harumi Ishii, Bao Lor, True Vang, Kaitlyn Yano, Chris DeRosa, Kathleen Spurlock, Connor Yu

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 for membership information or go online at http://www.jacl.org/member/index.php to join or renew today.
JACL GALA: A SALUTE TO CHAMPIONS OF DIVERSITY


This year we celebrate "Champions of Diversity," and recognize individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to promoting diversity in their respective field or industry. The JACL is pleased present the "Salute to Champions" Award to Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director, National Park Services; Daphne Kwok; and Toyota. We will also recognize the leadership of Congressman Mike Honda (CA-17) and present Southwest Airlines with our Corporate Partner Award.

There will be a reception at 6:00pm and the dinner and program will begin at 7:00pm. Individual tickets are available for $200 ($150 for non-profits) and Tables of Tens can be reserved at $2,000 ($1,500 for non-profits). To purchase tickets online, please go to: https://2013jaclgala.eventbrite.com.

There are also sponsorship and advertising opportunities. For more information, please contact the JACL DC office at gala@jacl.org or (202) 223-1240.

NJAMF TO HONOR SECRETARY NORMAN Y. MINETA WITH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) will host its 2013 Gala on Saturday, November 2, 2013 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, to honor four distinguished individuals who have served to preserve the constitutional rights of all Americans during their careers.

NJAMF will present a Lifetime Achievement Award to Secretary Norman Y. Mineta. Admiral Mike Mullen (USN, Ret) will receive the Award for Constitutional Rights. Mr. Terry Shima will be honored with the Special Recognition Legacy Award. Craig Uchida, Ph.D., also a member of the JACL DC Chapter, will be awarded NJAMF's Chairman's Award.

Tables for 10 are $2500 and can be purchased by calling (202) 643-8204 or visiting www.njamf.com.

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and public awareness about the Japanese American experience during World War II. NJAMF raised the private funds to build the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. The Memorial is not only a monument to the Japanese American experience, but also a reminder that we must not allow anything like this to happen to any minority community again.
Keiro Kai & Family Day

Saturday, September 14, 2013
12:00—2:30 p.m.

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

FEATURING:
“The JCAW Band”
The Japan Commerce Association of Washington Band
JCAW is comprised of Japanese and American members of the business, academic, government, and cultural communities
&
JACL - DC Top Chef:  David Inoue

Sushi, Chicken/Beef Teriyaki, Rice, Drinks, Games, and Entertainment for all ages!

JACL members come free
(become a member today at http://www.jacl.org/member/index.php)

Non-members $10 per person or $20 for family of four

Please RSVP by September 10, 2013 for planning purposes to:
Michelle Amano, 301-656-4739 or Michelle_amano@me.com
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

Joe Shymanski