As you will read in greater detail in this edition of News Notes, the DC Chapter remains extremely busy and active. We had our largest ever Mochitsuki in December, and in January we sponsored an inspiring event at AARP where Todd Endo chronicled his personal experiences during the March on Washington and his efforts to register voters in Selma, Alabama over 50 years ago. We closed out January with our 69th annual installation lunch. In February, the chapter co-sponsored a Day of Remembrance Event at the Smithsonian and in March, we are co-sponsoring the Freedom Walk. If anyone is interested in volunteering at any of our events, feel free to reach out to me or any of the board members.

Speaking of the board, we want to thank and praise all the board members who served with distinction last year and congratulate those who will serve on the board this year. While often unseen and unrecognized, the board members are the ones who put in long hours and dedicate their time and effort to making our many events both fun and professional. We are fortunate to have them step up and be leaders in our community. As you will see from their bios, they come from all walks of life and they are all accomplished professionals in their fields and we are all grateful to them for their service. A special thank you goes out to Janice Faden for her years of service as co-president of the chapter. She is an inspiration and mentor to many of us and we are pleased that she will remain an active member of the board.

In closing, we encourage you to come out and join us at our various events throughout the year. If you have ideas or suggestions, please feel free to contact us.
On January 13, 2015, our chapter collaborated with the AARP and the Oberlin College Alumni Association to present a program featuring Todd Endo, veteran JACL member, educator, and community activist. Mr. Endo shared the lessons from his civil rights experiences 50 years ago during the 1963 March on Washington and voter rights activities in Selma, Alabama, that transformed his life from being a professor of history to a maker of history.

Mr. Endo humbly introduced himself as the last man standing, the last remaining Japanese American participant in the March on Washington. He shared with the multigenerational audience of over 100 participants how he became involved in the civil rights movement, motivated by his activist mother’s family, who were incarcerated in Rohwer and outraged after witnessing brutality in the South.

Mr. Endo was joined by Stuart Ishimaru, veteran civil rights attorney and former acting Equal Employment Opportunity Commission chair, in a panel discussion moderated by AARP’s Daphne Kwok. Together they imparted their wisdom and perspectives on the importance of continuing the struggle to ensure equal rights for all people. At the end of the evening, many participants lingered to talk to Mr. Endo and Mr. Ishimaru, anxious to dig deeper into their experiences to gain ideas for future actions.

On the first week-end in March, Mr. Endo returned to Selma, Alabama to revisit the town, the movement, the events where his journey for social change began.

**JAVA LUNCHEON HONORING CONGRESSMAN ADAM SCHIFF**

At its quarterly luncheon on March 14, 2015, JAVA President Wade Ishimoto presented JAVA’s highest award, the JAVA Courage, Honor, and Patriotism Award to Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Cal). Representative Schiff was honored for sponsoring and introducing the legislation that led to the award of the Congressional Gold Medal to members of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service who served during World War II.

Congressman Schiff commented that October 5, 2010 was a day he will never forget. In large part thanks to the leadership of JAVA and its partner organizations, the bill to award the CGM made its way to the Oval Office that day and he stood there with six Nisei veterans, including JAVA members Senator Daniel Inouye and Terry Shima as President Obama signed the legislation to award the CGM. He also stated that there was not a group more deserving of the CGM and that he was deeply honored to play a part in making it possible for our nation to pay tribute to their service and their courage.

This luncheon also constituted JAVA’s annual meeting. Wade Ishimoto and Bruce Hollywood provided the President’s Report and Executive Director’s Report. During the rest of the luncheon, the JAVA Nominating Committee Chair, Mike Yaguchi, presented the slate of candidates to become JAVA Officers. By acclamation, Mike Cardarelli was elected President; Mark Nakagawa as Vice President; Colonel Derek Hirohata as Secretary; and Colonel George Nishikata as Treasurer. They were sworn in by Al Goshi.

Outgoing President Wade Ishimoto presented commemorative coins to Chris DeRosa, Metta Tanikawa, Steve Kinder, Royce Nakatani, Meaghan Hollywood, and Carol Nakagawa for their many contributions behind the scenes on behalf of JAVA. A copy of the resolution honoring the 100th, 442nd, and MIS passed by the Commonwealth of Virginia were also presented to the four WW II members in attendance … Grant Ichikawa, Norman Ikari, Ray Murakami, and Terry Shima. The meeting was adjourned after comments from JAVA’s new President, Mike Cardarelli.
**JA CL SCHOLARSHIPS**

The National JACL announces its National Scholarship and Awards Program for the 2015 academic year. The JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, and those specializing in law and the creative/performing arts. There are also two student aid scholarships to address the challenge students face in meeting rising tuition costs.

JACL, in partnership with Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, also offers a U.S.-Japan Scholarship for an incoming college junior who wishes to study in Japan. Meiji Gakuin University, founded in 1863, is one of the oldest universities in Japan. This two-year scholarship will lead the recipient to a bachelor’s degree in International Studies. All classes are taught in English.

A scholarship program brochure and applications for 2015 can be found on the JACL website at www.jacl.org, and clicking “Education” on the menu bar. The National JACL Scholarship Program requires that all applicants be a student or individual member of the JACL. Membership under a parent will not fulfill this requirement.

Scholarship applications can be made for undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts, and student aid, and are to be sent directly by the applicant to: “National JACL Scholarship Committee,” c/o Washington, DC JACL, 5406 Uppingham Street, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Applications for these categories must be postmarked no later than April 1, 2015 to be considered.

The Meiji Gakuin-JACL Scholarship involves two completely different applications, which can be requested directly from Meiji Gakuin University via the JACL website.

For more information on the National JACL Scholarship Program, contact Regional Director Patty Wada at pwada@jacl.org, or National JACL Vice President for Planning & Development Chip Larouche at clarouche@jacl.org.

**LE G AC Y  F U N D  G R A N T S**

Grant money is available to chapter members through the JACL Legacy Fund Grants Program. Any member or team of members are encouraged to submit a proposal for a project or activity that supports JACL’s 2015-2016 Program for Action. Completed applications are due April 8, 2015. The maximum award for a single grant is $3,000.

Last year nine grants were awarded that included such activities and projects as a Japanese Culture Activity Book, an exhibit and events documenting Japanese American Farm Labor Camps, Development of a Support Group for API LGBTQ Youth and Their Families, and a Youth Delegate Campaign for the 2014 National Convention.

Criteria for awarding grants include: relationship to the Program for Action, potential impact of the project/activity, capacity to implement, clarity of the goals and objectives, budget and timeline, and the presence of a unique or specialized program.

Application and application instructions are on the JACL website. For further information, please contact Regional Director Patty Wada at pwada@jacl.org or Janice Faden atjfaden1@verizon.net or 301-320-4131. We hope you will submit a proposal.

**MEM O R I A L  D A Y  C E R E M O N Y**

To honor Japanese American and American veterans who served their country during World War II and in other wars, the JACL and the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) are sponsoring the annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Sunday, May 24, 2015.

As in past years we are asking for donations to help cover the cost of the gravestones 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.
**INSTALLATION LUNCHEON**

The Washington D.C. Chapter held their 69th Annual Installation Luncheon on Saturday, January 24th.

Hosted at Meiwhah restaurant in Chevy Chase, Maryland, emcee Jack Tobe welcomed the roughly 45 members in attendance and introduced keynote speaker Minister Tamaki Tsukada of the Embassy of Japan. Minister Tsukada spoke about his role as the Minister of Management and Coordination at the embassy and reiterated the importance of the relationship between the Japanese Embassy and the Japanese American community.

Following the keynote address, EDC District Governor Michelle Amano honored Janice Nakano Faden, who stepped down as Chapter Co-President but will be remaining on the Chapter board as the Outreach and Community Partnerships Chair. JACL National Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida formally installed 16 members to their new board positions before Chapter President John Tobe concluded the day's ceremonies.

Linda Sato Adams (News Notes) has been a board member since 2010. Linda is a sansei whose parents were interned in Minidoka (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.

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.

Janice Nakano Faden (outreach/community partnerships) 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.

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 Director of Development for the US-Japan Council, Georgette enjoys volunteering with the Japan-America Society of DC, and mentoring her little "sisters" and "brothers" on school, life, and their careers. Georgette is a graduate of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon.

Leona Hiraoka (vice president) is the vice president of communications for the non-profit Points of Light, and the CEO/partner of Integrated Media, a marketing and communications firm. She's a member of the U.S.-Japan Council, and was part of the 2014 Leadership Delegation to Japan.

David Inouye (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.

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.

Craig Shimizu is a fourth-generation Japanese American and member of the San Jose, California Chapter of JACL. After spending his formative years at basketball tournaments, church lock-ins, and Obon festivals throughout the Bay Area, he moved to Los Angeles to attend the University of Southern California where he graduated with a degree in Business Administration and was a Vice President in the USC Nikkei Association. During this time, he also interned with the Japanese American Museum of San Jose and the Go For Broke National Education Center. Most recently, Craig served as an Armor Officer in the United States Army and was deployed to Afghanistan for 9 months in 2013 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Miya Hiraoka Sluchansky, a sophomore at Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda, is the new youth member of the DC Chapter board. Her extracurricular interests include photography, and she has served as the chapter photographer at events for the past two years.

Korinne Sugasawara, originally started her career in education as an undergraduate mentor of University of California freshmen from underprivileged backgrounds, encouraging them to connect the dots between their lives and the college theme of social justice. Her applied social and community psychology coursework culminated in interviewing inmates and parolees from the California state prison system, from whom she learned the importance of striving to provide everyone with basic opportunities.

John Tobe (president) is originally from Los Angeles and despite having lived in the Washington region for almost 30 years, John is still a diehard Dodgers and Lakers fan. John works at the Embassy of Japan focusing on political, foreign policy and security issues. John is the proud father of Jack, a former board member who remains active at many of the chapter events.

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.

Craig Nakano (vice chair) is a DC native. Craig graduated from Corcoran College of the Arts and has a career in the entertainment industry. He is currently the President and CEO of Creative Partnerships (creative and corporate partnerships). Craig has worked on countless TV shows and movies, and has enjoyed directing Obon, supporting the fire service.

John Tobe (vice chair) has been an active member of the chapter since 1998. John is the proud father of Mika, and son Akira. He is the Administrative Director at Christ House, a medical shelter for homeless men and women in Washington, DC.
Amy Watanabe is the Program Director at Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), dedicated to building the pipeline for Asian American and Pacific Islander political leaders. Prior to APAICS she was the 2012 Daniel K. Inouye Fellow at JACL National, and served as President of Venice Culver JACL chapter. Amy is a DC transplant, born and raised in Los Angeles and a proud UCLA Bruin.

Lauren Yamagata (membership) is a sansei, originally from Los Angeles, CA. Before moving to DC, she spent 3 years teaching English on the JET Program. She is a Program Associate at Plan International USA, a non-profit organization that works in communities in 50 developing countries to improve the lives of children.

Nikki Yamashiro, a Southern California native, is currently the director of research at the Afterschool Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensure that all children have access to affordable, quality afterschool programs. She has served in a variety of research capacities, including as a policy advisor at Third Way, a D.C. think tank, and as a legislative assistant to former Rep. Hilda L. Solis, where she handled education and youth issues. She received a B.A. in Political Science and Sociology from the University of California, San Diego, and a Masters in Public Policy from University of Southern California's Sol Price School of Public Policy.

Congratulations to these officers, and may they lead the chapter through an engaging and prosperous 2015.

MIKE M. MASAOKA FELLOWSHIP

JACL National is now accepting applications for the 2015 Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellowship. Sponsored by Southwest Airlines, the Masaoka Fellowship is designed to develop leaders for public service, particularly at the national level, and provides Fellows the unique opportunity to be placed in a Congressional office where they gain firsthand knowledge of policy creation.

The Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship Fund was established in 1988 to honor Mike M. Masaoka for a lifetime of public service to the JACL and the nation. Masaoka served as JACL's national secretary, field executive, national legislative director of the JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the JACL Washington, D.C. Representative, working tirelessly to advance the cause of Japanese Americans during difficult times in our history. He was instrumental in the formation of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and in abolishing many discriminatory laws against Asian Americans. Masaoka passed away in 1991.

The Fellowship lasts for a minimum of six months and is housed in the D.C. office of a member of the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives. The length of the Fellowship is decided upon by the selected Fellow and by the Congressional office. Specific duties in the office vary depending on the Congressional office and on the Fellow's experience and knowledge of Congressional functions. The Masaoka Fellow will receive a stipend of $3,000 per month.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens, graduating college seniors or students in graduate or professional programs, and JACL members. Preference will be given to those who have demonstrated a commitment to Asian American issues, particularly those affecting the Japanese American community. Communication skills, particularly in writing, are important. A completed application form and one letter of reference must be submitted to the National JACL at policy@jacl.org by 11:59pm EST on Sunday, April 5th, 2015. Once applications have been reviewed, finalists will be notified for an interview date. Those selected will begin their fellowship in May or June 2015. Please contact policy@jacl.org with any questions.
Nearly 300 people attended Day of Remembrance at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. The event, supported by JACL, featured a screening of David Ono’s Emmy Award winning documentary, The Legacy of Heart Mountain. Through the stories of those incarcerated in Heart Mountain, the documentary examines the Japanese American experience during WWII.

A panel discussion followed with such notables as former U.S. Commerce and Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta; David Ono, film producer and ABC7 news anchor; Shirley Higuchi, chairperson of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation; and Alice Takemoto, who was incarcerated in Jerome, AR, and her son Paul Takemoto, an author. The event concluded with a spoken word performance by G. Yamazawa, 2014 National Poetry Slam Champion.

**B I T S & P I E C E S**

**Congratulations**

Maria Uchida and her husband Ted Pleiman upon giving birth to Cora Mizuho Pleiman on February 26, 2015 at 9:31 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds 2 ounces and was 19 and ¼ inches long. Cora shares her birthday with her grand uncle Alan.

Luke Barrett Johnson was delivered on March 9, 2015 and weighed in at 8 pounds 1oz. And 20”. Parents, Ashley and Matt, appreciated that brother Ryan agreed to let him in the house (originally asked that Luke be left in the car). Grandparents, Dale and Tony Horos, are thrilled!

On February 25, the League of Educators for Asian American Progress (LEAAP) held their annual Lunar New Year Banquet at the New Fortune Restaurant in Gaithersburg, MD. Over 500 people attended a sold out multi-course dinner event and were entertained by Hoover MS student string quartet, Matsunaga ES student Korean drummers, and a traditional lion dance. The banquet raises scholarship funds for Montgomery County Asian American high school students interested in majoring in education. Each year two to five students receive scholarships of $1,000 to $2,000. LEAAP’s co-president is Dale Shimoda Horos and members of the board include Linda Sato Adams and Donna Shimoda Hollingshead. All three are long time DC Chapter members and supporters. Congrats to Dale, Donna, and Linda on a great event!

**FREEDOM WALK** will be held on Saturday, March 28 at the National Japanese American Memorial. This year’s theme is "Honoring the Past, Moving Forward" featuring a multi-generational program. Registration begins at 9:00 AM. The program will start at 10:00 AM featuring Ms. Catherin Mitrano, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Dispute Resolution at the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Master of Ceremonies will be Jack Tobe. Terry Shima will reflect on the 70th anniversary of the ending of World War II and entertainment will be provided by Nen Daiko. For more information, visit the website: www.njamf.com
JACL-DC & OCA-DC JOINT PICNIC

Wheaton Regional Park

Shelter G

Shorefield Road, Wheaton, MD
Saturday, June 20, 2015
12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Chicken Teriyaki  Kalua Pig  Kalbi  Hot Dogs  Pot Luck  Raffle

Pot Luck Assignments
(last name begins with — brings…)

A—K  Fruit or Dessert  
L—P  Sushi, Rice, or Noodle Dish  
Q—Z  Salads (potato, pasta, greens)

Raffle Items NEEDED!!!
Contact Georgette Furukawa-Martinez for more information at 202-365-6845 or e-mail:
JACLDC.Events@gmail.com

Non-members: Please kindly bring a Pot Luck dish and RSVP to Georgette via the above number or e-mail address. Thank you!

Please contact Georgette if you have any questions or need transportation.

At the picnic, nonmembers are encouraged to join or make a donation of $5 or more per person to help defray costs.
ABOUT THE JACL-DC CHAPTER

Located in the nation’s Capitol, the Washington, D.C. Chapter partners with local, regional, national, and international organizations to build a network of support that maintains the proud history of the Japanese Americans and promotes the values and concerns of the APIA community.

www.jacl-dc.org

Photo by Joe Shymanski