



DC NEWS NOTES

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

www.jacl-dc.org

CALENDAR

MOCHITSUKI

December 14, 2013
12:00–2:00 p.m.
North Bethesda Middle School
8935 Broadmoor Drive
Bethesda, MD 20817

INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

January 25, 2014
Meiwah Restaurant
4457 Willard Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

FREEDOM WALK

April 5, 2014

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PRESIDENT'S 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

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we would like to thank all of you for being a part of our JACL DC Chapter community. Each year we have our traditional events, including Installation of the Board, Memorial Day Celebration, June Picnic, Keiro Kai/Family Day, and Mochitsuki.

It has been satisfying to see you at these various events, coming together to share and pass on our cultural traditions to families and friends, to engage in political activities to champion civil rights for underrepresented groups, to network with one another, and to develop mentoring relationships. We are fortunate that we live in an area where we can find rich resources in one another and experience opportunities that enrich our lives.

As members, you are welcome to be involved in planning and implementing these events. We also want to encourage you to use our quarterly News Notes as a means to communicate with each other. We like to include information about our members in each issue, and the section on Bits and Pieces is a place for everyone to share personal life events. Since we gather the content for News Notes in February, April, July, and October, send us your news the month before. Most of you receive the newsletter electronically, but we have a list of those who have asked for a hard copy. If you are not receiving the hard copies, please let us know.

We continue to look for ways to improve. As a result, we are modernizing our event registration process. For Mochitsuki, you will be able to register and pay online, but, if you prefer, you can still register the way you have done in the past by sending a check to the designated Board member. Details are on the Mochitsuki flier in this newsletter. We look forward to our time together on December 14.



Keiro Kai/Family Day

KEIRO KAI/FAMILY DAY

Issei, Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei, and Gosei swayed and rocked to the Japanese and American music of the Japan Commerce Association of Washington (JCAW) Band on September 14, at the annual DC Chapter Keiro Kai/Family Day event at North Bethesda Middle School. The band is composed of Mr. Isamu Akiyama, Mr. Shin Donowaki, and Mr. Terry Terasawa, who are all board members of the JCAW. The chapter deeply thanks them for making this a very special event. Joining the 120+ participants were JCAW President Tsuney Yanagihara, Minister Hideaki Mizukoshi from the Embassy of Japan, Floyd and Irene Mori, and longtime member and JAVA President Gerald Yamada and his wife Nancy. Special thanks go to board members Michelle Amano, Ron Mori, and David Inoue and the many volunteers for providing the delicious food and organizing a memorable event.



"HONORABLE JOURNEY: THE UNTOLD STORY OF JAPANESE AMERICANS DURING WWII," AIRS DECEMBER 19

Maryland Public Television (MPT) will premiere **"Honorable Journey: The Untold Story of Japanese Americans During WWII"** on Thursday, December 19 at 8 pm. The documentary, which covers the experiences of Japanese Americans incarcerated during the Second World War, as well as Nisei fighting in the 100th/442nd Battalion, runs just under half an hour and is narrated by actor George Takei, who was himself incarcerated as a child. Commissioned on the occasion of the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony for Japanese American veterans in November 2011, "Honorable Journey" supports the JACL's goal of educating the American public about the Japanese American experience during WWII, in the hopes that such mistakes will not be repeated.



NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION AWARDS GALA



The **National Japanese American Memorial Foundation** celebrated their Awards Dinner and Gala on November 2, 2013 at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C.

The following awards were given:

The Chairman’s Award: to an individual whose leadership has significantly raised the nation’s awareness of the Japanese American community’s contribution to the history and life of the nation, and whose actions have led to the increased recognition of the community’s intrinsic and vital role in the nation’s continuing legacy and future.



Craig Uchida, Ph.D.

Award for Constitutional Rights: to an individual whose contributions to constitutional rights have materially improved the treatment of, and opportunities made available to all Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or gender, and therefore has advanced the complementary principles of diversity and unity upon which our nation is founded.



Admiral Mike Mullen,
USN (Ret)

JACL GALA DINNER

On October 10, 2013, the JACL hosted its annual **National JACL Gala: A Salute to Champions Awards Dinner** at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C. This year the JACL celebrated and recognized individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to promoting diversity in their respective field or industry.

The honorees this year were:



Terry Shima

Special Recognition Legacy Award: to an individual whose military or other contributions to the nation’s peace, security and welfare exemplify the spirit of patriotism in the face of prejudice as embodied by President Harry S. Truman’s statement to returning Nisei veterans of WWII: “You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice—and you won.”



The Honorable
Norman Y. Mineta

Lifetime Achievement Award: to an individual whose life work has demonstrated service of the highest nature for the Japanese American community. Norman Y. Mineta is a distinguished public servant who served in Cabinet positions under two presidents of different political parties and served over 40 years in elected positions from local government to the US Congress. While serving in Congress, Norman Mineta was instrumental in the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, which resulted in a formal apology and reparations by the US government to Japanese Americans unfairly imprisoned during WWII.



Jonathan B. Jarvis



Toyota



Congressman Mike Honda



Southwest Airlines

DANIEL K. INOUE FELLOW

Tara Naoko Ohrtman is very excited to have been selected as the new Daniel K. Inouye Fellow. Born in San Francisco, California, and raised in Sacramento, Tara grew up hearing about the Japanese-American internment from her maternal grandparents, but did not become involved with AAPI activism until college. At Princeton University, from which she graduated in June with a B.A. in Politics and Certificates in Vocal Performance and Theater, Tara was a leader in the Asian American Students Association's latest initiatives to create an AAPI studies program within the official curriculum. She hopes to remain connected to Princeton's AAPI community, even as this fellowship gives her the opportunity to focus her attention on the important work that the JACL does nationally, and to learn how to be an even more effective advocate for AAPI issues.



NATIONAL JACL 2014 SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

The **2014 National JACL Scholarship Program** informational brochure and applications are now posted on the National JACL website (www.jacl.org). The scholarship categories offered are Freshman, Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative Arts, Performing Arts, and Student Aid.

All Freshman applications must be submitted **directly to the applicant's chapter** and postmarked no later than **March 1, 2014**. Freshman applicants may contact JACL Membership Coordinator Annie Noguchi (anoguchi@jacl.org or 415-921-5225) to obtain the mailing address of one's chapter. Please put "Chapter Scholarship Chair Address Requested" in the subject line of your email.

Each chapter is to then review and rate the applications received and forward **only** the most outstanding ones, postmarked no later than **April 1, 2014**, to:

National JACL Freshman Scholarship Committee
c/o San Diego JACL
6917 Town View Lane
San Diego, CA 92120

There is no limit on the number of applications that each chapter may forward to the National Freshman Scholarship Committee, but the chapters are asked to review and screen the applications to ensure that only the truly "outstanding" applications are forwarded.

The Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative Arts, Performing Arts and Student Aid applications must be postmarked no later than **April 1, 2014** and mailed directly by the applicant to:

National JACL Scholarship Committee
c/o Washington, DC JACL
5406 Uppingham Street
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

All applications must be on the 2014 application forms that are posted on the JACL website (www.jacl.org). Click on "Education" on the menu bar. **Note:** the required Personal Statement essay question on the application form changes every year, so chapters and students must use the 2014 application for consideration by the National Scholarship Committees.

All applications must be complete at the time of submission and meet the stated deadlines in order to be considered. Applications and required materials must be submitted in one packet; materials may not be submitted separately.

MEMBERSHIP



New Members since September: Rosie Abriam, Amanda Buker, Mark Chiba, Mary Doi, Casey Etemad, Nicholas, Edson and Marilisa Mori, Mioko Nemec, Hana Rudolph, Yuuki Shinomiya

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

- Thousand Club: \$200 per year (change from \$100)
- Century Club: \$350 per year (change from \$175)
- Millennium Club: \$1,000 per year

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

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.

BITS & PIECES

Congratulations

Ron Mori was honored with a National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Award from Asian Pacific American Advocates, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs). This is the first national program of its kind to recognize corporate achievement and service by honoring the dedication and leadership of APA corporate employees. Ron is being honored for his service and community work with AARP and engaging APIAs.

Smithsonian National Museum on American History hosted **Dr. Franklin Odo**, who presented on his new book, *Voices from the Canefields: Folksongs from Japanese Immigrant Workers in Hawai'i* (Oxford University Press, 2013). He discussed *holehole bushi*, songs that express the experiences of people caught in the global movements of capital, empire, and labor during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

About Friends

Shirley Bertoni is going to Hawaii over the holidays to visit her daughter.

Jean Kariya moved in September to Bethesda MD. She likes her new home,

which is housed in a large building, and says it is like joining a big family.

Ellie Minami, granddaughter of **Wayne** and **Arlene Minami**, was born on June 29. She weighed 7 lbs., 13 oz., and her parents, Lynne Minami Johnson and Nick, and siblings, Kendall, Taylor, and Ian, welcomed her.

Sachi Mukai and **Yoko Morita** just returned from Las Vegas. Sachi shared her winnings with various DC Chapter members.

Social Events

The **Ladies Lunch Buddies** began in 2009 because although our Japanese American group of ladies enjoy getting together very much, as they get older, it was becoming harder for them to get together as they had in the past. Barbara Nekoba started this idea simply to get together for quarterly (now 3-times-a-year) lunches, alternating between MD and VA. Ladies who drive are invited to pick up those who can no longer drive themselves. Many daughters drive their mothers to the luncheons. Others meet with friends to travel together or offer to pick up ladies and drive. If there are others in our community who would like to join this group, please call Barbara Nekoba 703-780-9124; or send an e-mail to bnekoba@verizon.net.

Do you like to play bridge?

Our **Ladies Duplicate Bridge** group is looking for substitutes to play with us. We meet on the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 2 - 2:30 p.m. Ladies (who currently live in either Maryland or Virginia) take turns hosting; everyone brings their own lunches.

Our **Couples Bridge** group is also looking for interested substitutes to play social bridge. We play on the first Sunday of each month from 4:00 pm to early evening. Each couple brings a dish to share (potluck dinners) at each others' homes in Maryland or Virginia.

You do not need to be an expert to join us. If you like to play bridge for fun and like to eat - you will fit right in! If you interested or have any questions, please contact Barbara Nekoba at bnekoba@verizon.net or 703-780-9124.

From our Community

Suzuki Farms will visit to Ekoji on December 1, 2013, 10am – 1pm. with their fresh Japanese vegetables.

Ekoji Buddhist Temple
6500 Lake Haven Lane
Fairfax Station, VA 22039
(703) 239-0500

Suzuki Farms next visit will be March 2, 2014. They will not be at Ekoji In January or February 2014.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS IN THE PACIFIC CITIZEN



Every year the Pacific Citizen asks the local chapters to extend Holiday Greetings in the December edition. If you would like your name included this year with the JACL-Washington DC chapter, the cost is \$30 per individual/family. Please fill

out the attached form and send to Craig Uchida .

Yes, I would like my name included with the JACL-DC chapter for Holiday Greetings in the Pacific Citizen. Make \$30 check payable to JACL DC Chapter and send it to: Craig Uchida, Treasurer, P.O. Box 6188, Silver Spring, MD 20916.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

ROBERT NAKAMOTO RECEIVES JAVA AWARD AT QUARTERLY LUNCHEON

By Terry Shima, Reprinted with permission from JAVA



JAVA Luncheon October 12, 2013. Reuben Yoshikawa, Bob Nakamoto, Terry Shima and Gerald Yamada. Photo by Setsy Larouche

On October 12, 2013, Robert Nakamoto, immediate past president of JAVA, and past president of JAACL-DC, was awarded the Terry Shima Leadership Award for 2013 for his leadership and diplomacy in further establishing the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) as a premier nationwide Asian American veterans organization. The presentation was made at the JAVA quarterly luncheon attended by 70 JAVA members and friends at the Harvest Moon Restaurant. Nakamoto was also recognized for “his sustained service” and “unselfish contribution of his energy, vision, expertise and resources” to JAVA. Having served as President of JAVA from 2007 – 2011 and as a member of the Executive Council prior to and since that time, he is presently the Chair of the JAVA Finance Committee. Nakamoto is a long time supporter of various Asian American organizations, including JAVA. Among his many interests in the Japanese American community, Nakamoto has been instrumental in the printing of the JAVA quarterly newsletter, “The JAVA Advocate.”

Nakamoto is currently Chairman of Amour, LLC, and Chairman of InterAmerica Global, both involved in international exports. He was former Chairman and principal owner of Base Technologies Inc., McLean, Va., a long time information

technology company. Prior to that he was Director of Corporate System, MCI, Deputy Commissioner for Planning for the state of Texas (Honorary Texas Citizen), Director for Planning of Medicare and Medicaid Programs in the Federal Government, and positions in California state and local governments. He has served on Presidential Task Forces for both parties. He received the coveted Japan’s Foreign Minister Award in recognition of his efforts to enhance Japan-US relations. He was born in California, graduated from California State University and is a veteran of the Korean War.

Guests at the luncheon included the Honorable Norman Mineta, a Korean War Military Intelligence Service veteran, former Secretary of Transportation, and Honorary Chair of JAVA, Brigadier General and Mrs. Anthony J. Cotton, U.S. Air Force, Deputy Director of the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO).

Save the Date

2014 JAACL-DC Installation Luncheon

Saturday, January 25, 2014

Keynote Speaker: Jason Osuga, Lt. Commander, select

Meiwah Restaurant, Bethesda, MD

CHECK US OUT AT JAACL-DC.ORG AND FACEBOOK

The JAACL-DC chapter website (www.jaACL-dc.org) posts the latest news and resources for our members. On the JAACL-DC website, you’ll also find a photo gallery of our members at events like Keiro Kai, JAACL Picnic, and our Mochitsuki. And you can post comments after every news item – even if it’s to say hi or “job well done” to friends in the chapter. Another way to keep up to date is to connect to the chapter on Facebook. Search for “JAACLWDC” and friend us! Then you’ll get the latest information from us as posts to your wall.



Let’s stay in touch in the New Year!

MOCHITSUKI

Sponsored by the Japanese American Citizens League, Washington, DC Chapter

- WHEN:** Saturday, December 14, 2013, 12:00 – 2:00 PM
- WHERE:** North Bethesda Middle School, 8935 Bradmoor Drive Bethesda, MD 20817
- WHO:** Adults and Children
- WHAT:** Please join your JAACL friends for:
Mochitsuki / Mochi-Making Demonstrations
Arts and Crafts Sale
Conversation and FUN with old and new friends
- COST:** \$19 for Adult Bento Box Lunch; \$7 for Children's Special Lunch



Bento Boxes: Includes California roll, seaweed salad, chicken gyoza, udon noodle side dish, edamame, rice, and green tea. Please choose from one of the following:

Chicken Teriyaki and Ozoni

Salmon Teriyaki and Ozoni

Vegetarian Lunch

Children's Special Lunch: Includes Ozoni, chicken gyoza, edamame, rice, and green tea

****There will be a limited number of bentos available on a walk-in basis at the price of \$26. Payment can be made by cash, check, or charge.*

ORDER DEADLINE: Monday, December 9. Please preorder and prepay now using Eventbrite at <https://2013mochitsuki-jaclwdc.eventbrite.com>

If you still prefer to order by mail and send in a check for your order, please make your check payable to JAACL-DC Chapter and send it c/o:

Jack Tobe
4101 Albemarle Street NW #645
Washington, DC 20016

Questions? Please e-mail jack.tobe5020@gmail.com

DC NEWS NOTES

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



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