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Founded in 1929, JACL is the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization with a 25,000 membership base. JACL has 112 chapters nationwide, four regional offices, a Washington, D.C., office and a national headquarters in San Francisco. JACL's mission is to secure and uphold the human and civil rights of Japanese Americans and all Americans while preserving our cultural heritage and values.

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'CONVENTION MEMORIES'

Next summer national JACL will hold its first annual convention in Los Angeles, breaking a 80-plus year tradition of biennial conventions. To mark this special occasion, the *Pacific Citizen* is dedicating this year's Holiday Issue to a look back at past conventions and a look forward to Los Angeles 2011.

The first JACL biennial convention was held in 1930 in San Francisco and even during the tumultuous war years in the 1940s the national council met to discuss policy, issues and concerns of the national Japanese American community.

Did you know that Mike Masaoka, then 23, demanded the council floor at the 1938 convention to rant about what's wrong with the JACL? He was eventually escorted off for not being credentialed as a delegate.

And did you know that President Bill Clinton, staying at the same hotel, met privately with JACL board members in the early morning before continuing his campaign trail during the 1996 JACL convention?

You'll read about these and other "Convention Memories" in the next 120 pages.

As always this special issue would not have been possible without all of our JACL chapters and districts who continue to support us year after year. Please take a look at our "*P.C.*'s People Who Count" on page 115 to see the names of those who helped solicit ads for us year after year. Also, a special thank you to our generous advertisers. Please solicit their businesses whenever possible.

And lastly, I would like to give a special thank you to the dedicated *P.C.* staff: Lynda Lin, assistant editor; Eva Lau-Ting, circulation; Nalea J. Ko, reporter; Staci Hisayasu, business manager; and Timon Lo, intern.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Caroline Aoyagi-Stom
Executive Editor



Thanks to our cover models Sen Sugano and Marissa Kitazawa!

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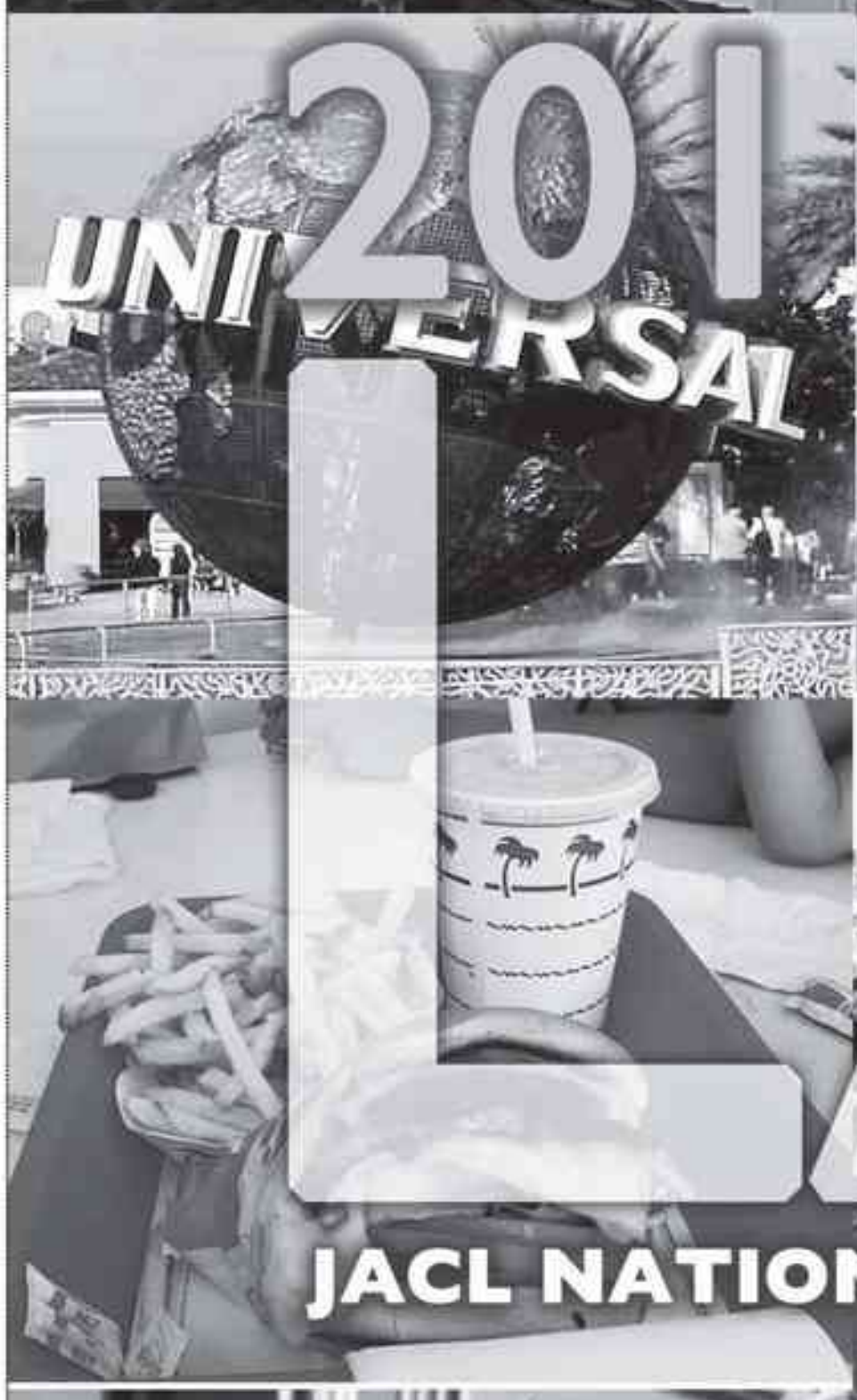
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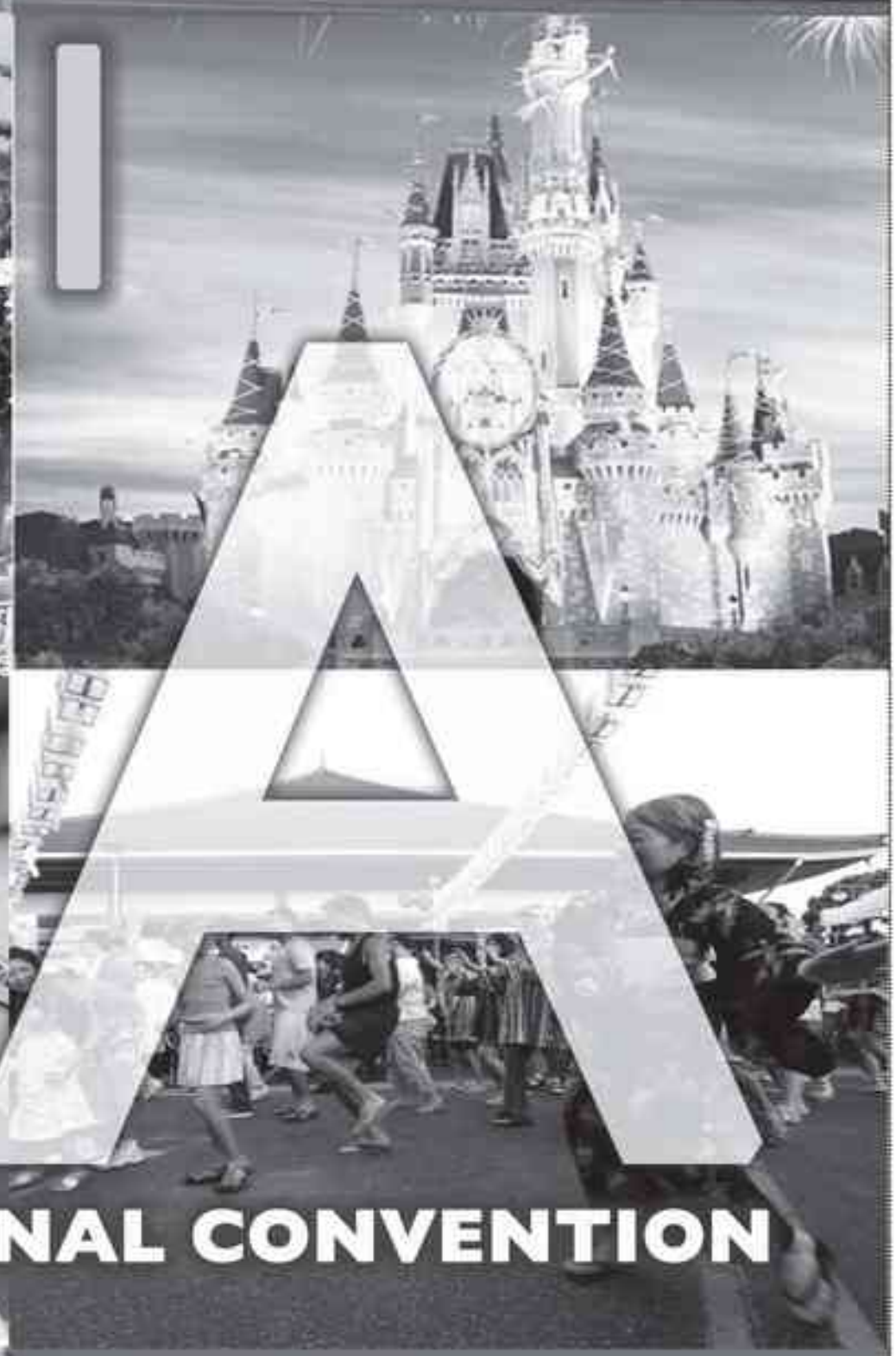
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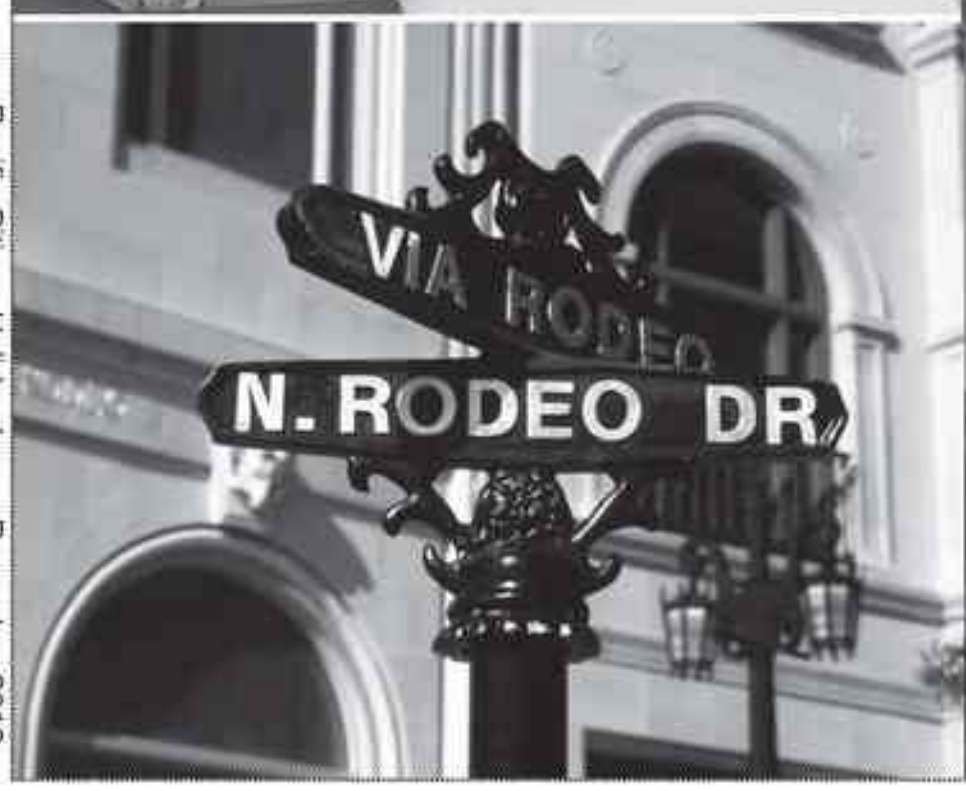




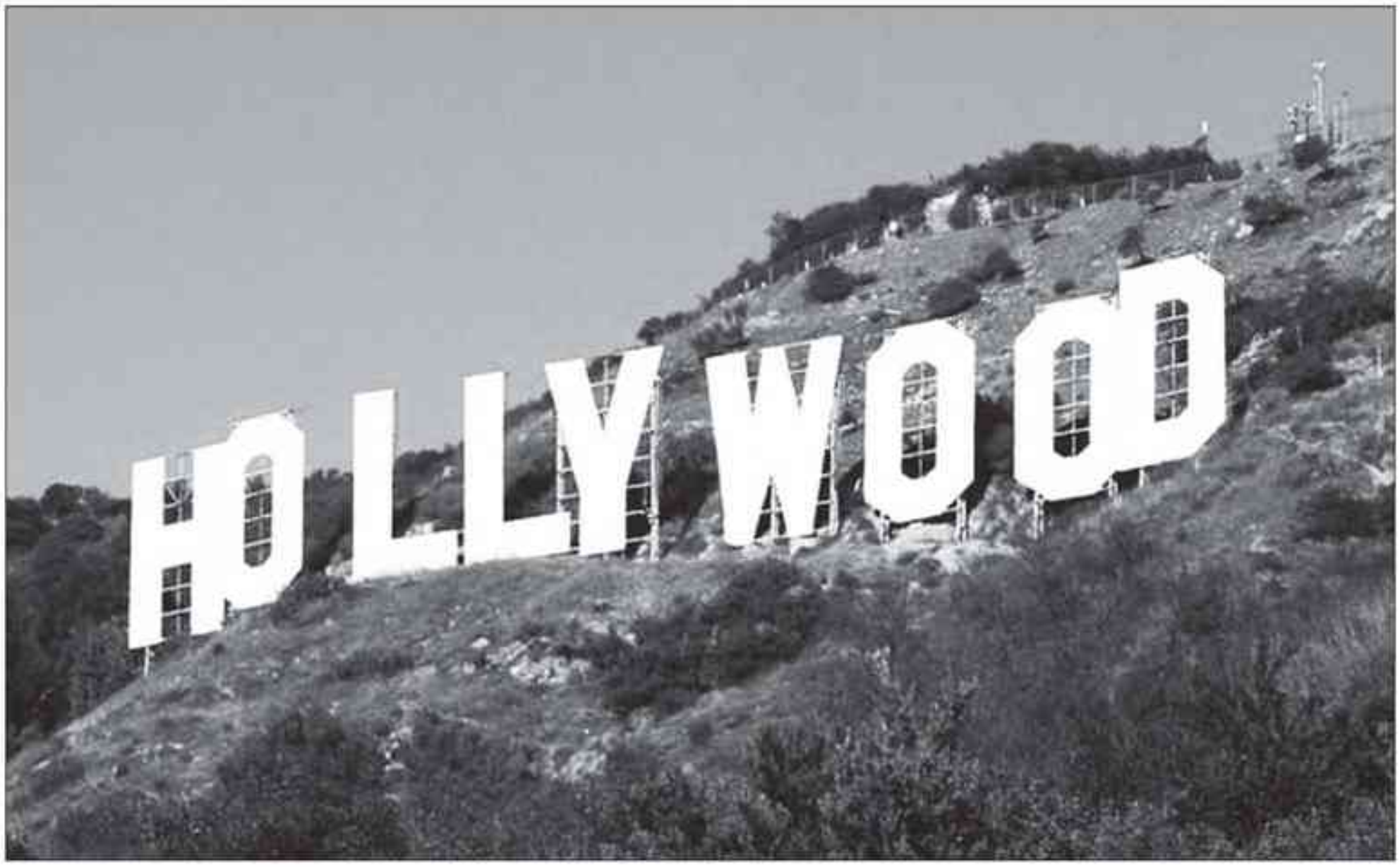




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In celebrating JACL's rich history of biennial conventions, we first have to take a look towards the future — Tinseltown. Next year, Los Angeles will welcome JACLers for their first annual national gathering with the Pacific Southwest JACL as their host. Exciting events are already planned, according to **Gary Mayeda**, 2011 convention chair, to help shape what's being called JACL 2.0.

Pacific Citizen: **Biennial conventions have been a JACL tradition for over 80 years. How will an annual convention honor JACL's traditions and advance its mission?**

Gary Mayeda: The JACL conventions always recognize and honor local and national civil rights and role-model champions every other year. Moving to an annual convention will give JACL the opportunity to recognize the civil rights achievements of more organizations and individuals every year while building closer relations with our community and corporate partners. Los Angeles has a wealth of cultural attractions that we would like to share with the rest of the JACL nation.

P.C.: **What is the biggest challenge of moving a biennial convention to an annual one?**

Mayeda: Yes, the first is always the hardest. I think that many chapters have experience in hosting large events. And given that JACL has had 80 years of conventions, the format is easy to follow. What is challenging is to make it different and give it more meaning to the individual delegates while cutting cost and making it easy to duplicate for other districts and chapters to follow. Coming up with new ideas to make it fun and not overwhelm the convention committee is also a challenge. Although any district or chapter could have hosted the first annual convention, PSW is very fortunate to have the financial and people resources that can help the national headquarters achieve its mission.



GARY MAYEDA, 2011 CONVENTION CHAIR

P.C.: **Why is Los Angeles the perfect place to hold the first annual JACL convention?**

Mayeda: There are many exciting cities in the U.S. that can be host to the first annual convention. Chicago was an exciting place and how can you resist the food! The diversity of people, cultures, businesses and Asian Pacific American community organizations in Los Angeles make it ideal to be a showcase for how collective networking can be a great benefit for all.

Los Angeles is also home to some of the most famous places on earth. You

LOS ANGELES
CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



IDC delegates, including Gail Ochi *(left)*, vote during council session.

JACL Makes a Historic Move to an Annual National Convention

The change to an annual convention, which takes place in 2011, took three tries to pass according to this article originally published **Aug. 1-14, 2008.**

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Highlights & Accomplishments
The National Youth/ Student Council pushes through a resolution for human rights in North Korea. Astronaut Dan Tani keynotes the Sayonara Banquet.

By Lynda Lin

SALT LAKE CITY — A national JACL convention every two years is now history. At its 40th biennial meeting, the national council voted to make the gathering of members and delegates an annual event.

PNW District Gov. Elaine Akagi, who also headed up the nine-member annual convention committee, called it a historic move.

"I just didn't realize [the vote] was going to be that close," she said.

The constitution/bylaw amendment or CBA 02, which requires a two-thirds vote to pass, squeaked through 57-24 with five split votes. CBA 02 was initially declared a failure because of a discrepancy in how to count split votes, but was clarified by the national council and Gary Mayeda, constitution and bylaw committee chair.

Fifty-nine "yes" votes were needed, and ultimately 59.5 votes pushed the amendment through.

"The annual convention is something that I have supported since my term as president," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who served as national president from 2000-04. "After two times being defeated in the past, the time has come for the JACL to move their deliberations into the modern world."

The JACL's change to an annual national convention was one of six proposed amendments taken up by the national council, including CBA 04, which sought to have the national board designate the national director's office.

'After two times being defeated in the past, the time has come for the JACL to move their deliberations into the modern world.'

— Floyd Mori, JACL national director

'The need is constant. The need is annual.'

The JACL's change to an annual convention, which is projected to have a fiscal impact on the next biennial budget, will take effect after the 2010 Chicago convention.

But the idea for an annual convention has been a long time in the making.

The idea was first brought to the national council at the 2004 Hawaii convention, said Akagi, but the measure lacked sufficient information. It was reintroduced at the 2006 Phoenix convention, but questions and concerns lingered.

So for the 2008 Salt Lake City con-



Floyd Mori said he has advocated for an annual convention since his JACL presidency.

vention, Akagi and the committee, comprised of representatives from all the JACL districts, spent the last biennium attending bi- and tri-district conferences and other JACL events spreading the word about the benefits of an annual convention.

"Since this was the third time, we thought it was either three strikes and you're out or three time's a charm," said Akagi.

The committee found that the benefits of an annual convention include: More opportunities for the JACL to address important timely issues.

More opportunities to build and enhance corporate and foundation partnerships.

Increased visibility of the JACL in all regions and cities.

Opportunities for smaller JACL chapters to raise funds and host these shorter national conventions.

Most conventions make a profit, said Akagi. "It's never been a money loser."

JACL literally falls off of the radars of many corporate funders that work an annual budgeting process, said Mori.

"Eventually, the move to an annual convention will help the organization conduct business on a more timely basis," said JACL National President Larry Oda.

JACL currently hosts a national convention every two years with smaller bi- and tri-district and youth conferences in the years in between. The move to an annual convention, proponents say, would be like combining those smaller conferences into one event.

"It would be just like having a larger tri-district," said Akagi, except with one day designated for a national council meeting. National elections and national awards ceremonies will continue to be held every two years. Once the change takes effect, the biennial budget will also continue to be set biennially, but the national council will be able to review the budget every year.

Several chapters have already expressed interest in hosting the JACL's first annual convention in 2011, including SELANOCO and the Las Vegas chapter.

'Meeting only once every two years doesn't really give [the youth leaders] the opportunity to develop and get to know the organization at the national level.'

— Frank Hiroyasu

An annual convention means that, "we don't have to reinvent the wheel every two years," said newly elected Vice President of Planning and Development David Kawamoto to the national council during the July 17 business session.

Supporters of the change said an annual convention would make it easier to attract more funders and sponsorships. It was a sentiment echoed at the same business session by Leslie Moe-Kaiser, State Farm's corporate relations manager for national Asian Pacific Islander organizations.

"The need is constant. The need is annual," said Moe-Kaiser.

Others including youth members said the change is needed to inject new life into the JACL.

"The future of the JACL lies in the hands of the youth," said Riverside Chapter Delegate Frank Hiroyasu to the Pacific Citizen. "Meeting only once every two years doesn't really give [the youth leaders] the opportunity to develop and get to know the organization at the national level.

"Unfortunately students and youth lose interest, do not have the time or can't even anticipate what they will be doing two years ahead, so by having this convention annually we can hopefully involve the youth more in the business and progress of this organization," he added.

But other JACLers say an annual convention may come at too high of a price. Don Delcollo, co-president of the Contra Costa chapter, expressed concern to the national council that the high cost of travel to an annual convention would be too much for some smaller chapters.

"I suspect that I'm just resistant to change," said Delcollo, who pointed out that it cost his chapter about $2,000 to send two delegates to Salt Lake City this year. The lower cost of local district conferences is a welcomed financial relief, but usually larger cities like Philadelphia and Chicago have hosted national conventions.

"How will we endure the expense annually? And yet, endure it we must ... a few years hence, we'll be asking ourselves why are we doing this every year when video conferencing can do just as well, and for much less cost," he added. ❋

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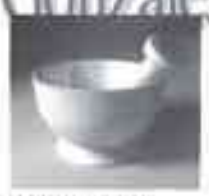
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PHOTO: GARY MAYEDA

'Arizona Senate Bill 1070 was written in a very clever, complex way. It's open to a great deal of interpretation, which makes it very confusing,' said Ted Namba, of the Arizona JACL before the national council.

JAs Stand Against Arizona's Immigration Law

Nalea J. Ko

At the 2010 JACL national convention a resolution passes to make opposing Arizona's immigration law its 'top priority.'

JACL delegates voted overwhelming to continue opposing Arizona's immigration enforcement law days before the federal government also sued the state.

Members passed a resolution to join future legal efforts to repeal the law before its effective date on July 29. A motion was made by Bryan Namba, Arizona JACL, to adopt the resolution, and was seconded by Chip Larouche, PNW governor.

The 80 to 1 vote at the JACL national convention came before the Department of Justice filed a July 6 lawsuit. That lawsuit indicates Arizona's immigration law "crossed a constitutional line."

Arizona's immigration law, or SB 1070, requires law enforcement to question the immigration status of suspects when there is reasonable suspicion.

The controversial law has sparked protests and lawsuits across the country from immigration advocates and critics.

Some Japanese Americans at the JACL convention compared Arizona's immigration law to Executive Order 9066, which ordered the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

"The issue with JACL is as it was in 1941, that is that innocent people can be reasonably suspected of being an illegal immigrant," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "In 1942 all Japanese Americans were suspected regardless of their citizenship, regardless of what they did, of being criminals, and they were sent to prison."

Mori added that SB 1070 has nothing to do with immigration reform, but due process and equal protection rights.

SB 1070 requires that Arizona law enforcement officials uphold federal immigration laws. The law does not specify what police officers should do if a suspect is determined to be an undocumented citizen.

'The issue with JACL is as it was in 1941 that is that innocent people can be reasonably suspected of being an illegal immigrant.'

– Floyd Mori, JACL national director

Immigration advocates say the law will only perpetuate racial profiling against people of color.

In addition to the Arizona SB 1070 resolution, JACL delegates also passed a resolution considering the power of words. The resolution called on JACL to substitute using terms like internment camps for "concentration camps."

Members voted down resolutions concerning calendar year membership and a commemorative stamp for the National Japanese American Memorial in Washington, D.C. Delegates passed, however, a proposal to build a Topaz museum.

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Council votes down a measure to endorse a commemorative stamp proposal for a national memorial over Nisei veterans.

Challenging Arizona's Law

Those who supported the resolution challenging SB 1070 agreed with the resolution's wording that, "JACL was founded during times of anti-Asian and anti-immigrant sentiment similar to the anti-Latino, anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, and anti-undocumented sentiment seen in the 21st century immigration debate."

Speaking at the national convention, Arizona JACL member Ted Namba told delegates and the national council the story of Jim Shee, who is of Chinese and Spanish decent.

Arizona JACL member Shee said he was pulled over by the police while driving his BMW with tinted windows. Shee was allegedly asked to produce his papers.

This law, Namba said, opens the door to further racial profiling. Legal counsel that is representing the JACL and other plaintiffs is actively collecting community feedback of similar stories, he said. Those Arizonans who believe SB 1070 has affected them are encouraged to contact the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles.

'Arizonans are understandably frustrated with illegal immigration ... But diverting federal resources away from dangerous aliens such as terrorism suspects and aliens with criminal records will impact the entire country's safety.'

The federal government also challenged SB 1070's constitutionality, requesting a preliminary injunction because the law will cause "irreparable harm."

"Arizonans are understandably frustrated with illegal immigration, and the federal government has a responsibility to comprehensively address those concerns," Attorney General Eric Holder said in a July 6 press release. "But diverting federal resources away from dangerous aliens such as terrorism suspects and aliens with criminal records will impact the entire country's safety."

In May, the JACL national board voted 8 to 6 to join a class action lawsuit in opposition to SB 1070.

Other plaintiffs in the lawsuit include Friendly House, Service Employees International United (SEIU), United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), Arizona South Asians For Safe Families, Southside Presbyterian Church, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Asian Chamber of Commerce of Arizona, Border Action Network, Tonatierra Community Development Institute, Muslim American Society, Valle del Sol, Inc. and Coalicion de Derechos Humanos, among individual plaintiffs.

Attorneys representing plaintiffs such as JACL are working pro bono.

"The attorneys are really trying to ask the plaintiffs to document as much as possible," Namba said. "There have been a couple of cases of Asian Pacific Islanders in Maricopa County that have commented. But it has been difficult to have them come forward and consult with our attorneys."



Arizona JACL member Jim Shee said he was pulled over by the police while driving his BMW with tinted windows. Shee was allegedly asked to produce his papers.

While JACLers overwhelming voted to support the resolution in opposition to Arizona's immigration law, many were concerned about the possibility of incurring legal fees in the future.

"We support this resolution wholeheartedly, but we are totally aware of JACL's rather delicate financial situation," said Judith Aono, who is with the Diablo Valley chapter. "And so we really want to make sure that this is absolutely understood that JACL national will not at any point incur expenses."

Michelle Yoshida, immediate former legal counsel, said JACL would only be fiscally responsible for the legal fees under two stipulations: if it falsifies facts to attorneys or refuses to reasonably cooperate with attorneys.

The Arizona immigration law resolution indicates that SB 1070 not only affects those in Arizona, "but jeopardizes the principles on which the United States was founded in all states."

Opponents to SB 1070 hope to delay it with a preliminary injunction. They say SB 1070 may invite racial profiling against Latinos and other people of color.

"Arizona Senate Bill 1070 was written in a very clever, complex way," Namba said, at the JACL national convention's business session, in support of the resolution. "It's open to a great deal of interpretation, which makes it very confusing." ❄

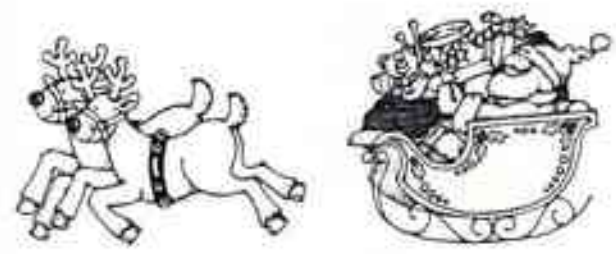
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In 2008, John Tateishi, Richard Foltin and Muzaffar Chishti discuss the legacy of Redress during the Salt Lake City national convention.

Coming Full Circle: A Celebration of Redress, 30 Years Later

In 1978, the national council in Salt Lake City passed a resolution to pursue Redress. Three decades later, members return to mark a historic accomplishment in this article originally published **Aug. 1-14, 2008.**

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

SALT LAKE CITY—It was 30 years ago that the first seeds of redress were planted here in the City of the Saints so it was a fitting celebration of a historic anniversary — the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act.

In 1978 JACL national council members had little idea of the impact a resolution to pursue monetary redress and an apology would have on the Japanese American community. Today, that impact has been felt in the furthering of the civil rights movement.

It was "unprecedented. I don't think it will happen again," said John Tateishi, former JACL redress chair and immediate past national director.

"As an organization you should feel good about yourselves, of having accomplished something that was phenomenal. It was something that was not supposed to happen," he said. "Without JACL, redress would not have happened."

Tateishi spoke at a redress plenary session held during the national JACL biennial convention in Utah July 17.

Although the national JA community is currently celebrating the 20th anniversary of the historic 1988 Civil Liberties Act, it took a while for the community to come on board.

In those early days, suggestions of monetary compensation for the forced removal and incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II was not an easy sell.

"When we started the campaign there was so much division within the community," said Tateishi. "There was a huge split among the delegates in 1978."

He noted that it was largely the Sansei who pushed for monetary compensation while many of the Nisei did not wish to dredge up painful memories. Many of the former internees also expressed a feeling of shame in asking for monetary redress.

"It was a difficult discussion among delegates … but we set a course for the entire Japanese American community," he said.

'Without JACL, redress would not have happened.'

— John Tateishi, immediate former JACL national director

AJC and a Commission Bill

Eventually that course would take the direction of a commission bill, an idea Tateishi credits Ernie Weiner, executive director of the American Jewish

Committee (AJC) of Northern California, with first introducing.

Weiner believed that the formation of a commission would help bring out details of the WWII internment — since many Americans had never heard about this period in history — and it helped shape the remainder of the campaign.

As a WWII veteran who had served in the occupation of Japan, Weiner first learned of the JA internment upon returning home, said Richard T. Foltin, legislative director and counsel in the AJC's Office of Government and International Affairs in Washington, D.C., who joined Tateishi on the redress panel.

'The internment was "a national disgrace ... a blatant violation of their constitutional rights."'

— Richard T. Foltin, American Jewish Committee

"His experience in the occupation taught him to be sensitive to the Japanese people," said Foltin. The internment of JAs "was always a matter that was very much on his mind."

By the summer of 1980 a commission bill had been passed and several national hearings with former internees were being held, getting national coverage. With the support of many organizations and individuals — including former Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta, Sens. Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, and Rep. Bob Matsui — the Civil Liberties Act was passed in 1988.

AJC's support of redress, the first national organization to throw its support behind the bill, "goes to the core of what AJC is about," said Foltin. The internment was "a national disgrace ... a blatant violation of their constitutional rights."

Although the Jewish experience is different from the internment of JAs, he sees important similarities between the two communities' experiences.

"Japanese Americans were not singled out for extermination ... but we need to point out the parallels," he said. Both communities were singled out for one specific reason: their ethnicity.





As the chairman of the JACL's National Redress Committee and JACL Redress director, John Tateishi *(top)* crafted the legislative and public affairs strategies that led to the creation of a federal commission and culminated in the successful passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 *(right)*.

Redress and 9/11

Today, the passage of the Civil Liberties Act continues to have an impact, especially after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

And if there is one community that truly understands what the Muslim and Arab American communities experienced after 9/11, it is the JA community, said Muzaffar Chishti, a lawyer and director of MPI's office at New York University School of Law.

One week after the horrific events of 9/11, four people were murdered in the U.S. by those who blamed them for the terrorist attacks. Two of the victims were mistakenly identified as Muslims. One year later, six people had been killed, victims of horrific hate crimes.

"Both communities felt they were double victims," said Chishti. Many Muslim Americans felt saddened by 9/11 but they were also targets of the backlash. JAs lived through a horrific war like all Americans but they were also interned.

In both cases, national origin and ethnicity were used as reasons to create fear and assign blame.

Lessons of History

But what has not happened to the Muslim American community since 9/11 also needs to be pointed out here, said Chishti.

"Despite the fear of massive round up, there was no roundup of Muslims," he said. "Lessons of history had meaning here."

And although the targets of anti-Japanese sentiment during WWII were both citizens and immigrants, the principal targets post-9/11 were immigrants and not citizens.

"We did not touch citizens as we did with Japanese Americans during WWII," said Chishti.

But he noted the increased surveillance and monitoring of the Muslim American community often feels like its own form of internment.

It may not be a physical confinement, he said, but "we have a different form of internment."

In 2008, the U.S. government would be foolish to attempt to round up Muslims, said Tateishi.

The JACL would be the first to come to the Muslim American community's defense, he noted.

"The constitutional breach in our history ... was an important lesson in our history," said Tateishi. "What we did had significant meaning in this country." ※



'My only regret tonight is that more of the deserving veterans are not here to join this celebration,' said Marvin Uratsu of MIS Northern California *(right)* pictured here receiving the presidential citation from Gen. Eric Shinseki.

Tribute Dinner Honors Japanese American Veterans of All Wars

JACL saluted the brave veterans who fought and sacrificed for their country and community at the 2000 national convention in Monterey, Calif., according to this article originally published **July 7, 2000**.

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

MONTEREY, Calif.—Just one week after 22 Asian Pacific Americans were honored with the nation's highest military honor, more than 500 people gathered at a tribute dinner to pay homage to the thousands of men and women of Japanese ancestry who courageously served and continue to serve in America's Armed Forces.

A chance to renew old acquaintances, share war stories, and educate the younger generations, veterans from all wars including World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, came from across the country to attend the event.

Keynoting the dinner was Gen. Eric Shinseki, a Sansei from Hawaii, who is the first APA to be appointed chief of staff of the U.S. Army.

"As I gaze out, the features are older and there is less hair and the hair has gone white, but the eyes don't change. The eyes that look back are the eyes of the young Americans who we sent off to war," said Shinseki. "And it reminds me of the tremendous gratitude we owe all of you for serving our nation and keeping it free."

Shinseki was humbled to be in a roomful of veterans of the heroic 442nd, 100th Battalion and the MIS, and of those who have served in more recent wars. The general spoke of the recent awarding of 22 Medals of Honor to WWII APA vets and pointedly read each of the soldiers' names.

"[You] proved a loyalty that needed no proving but in your doing so you allowed me and my generation and my children to live our lives without suspicion, to be able to have the opportunity to compete in our chosen professions," said the general.

'[You] proved a loyalty that needed no proving but in your doing so you allowed me and my generation and my children to live our lives without suspicion, to be able to have the opportunity to compete in our chosen professions.'

— Gen. Eric Shinseki

Former Congressman Norman Mineta, who was recently nominated by President Bill Clinton for the position of secretary of commerce, emceed the evening's dinner, which took place during the week of JACL's 36th biennial convention.

"Many of us today are in positions only because of the valor and the dedication and the vision of those in this room as well as those who have gone on who were in the service during World War II," said Mineta. "There's no doubt in my mind that it was your dedication and valor that proved to the nation the loyalty of those whose loy-



Sgt. Kazuo Komoto shows off his medal to his younger brother Susumu at Gila River.

alty was questioned.

"I will be eternally grateful to all of you for the records you set. So we say to you, job well done."

Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera sent a videotape greeting where he announced the awarding of a presidential unit citation, the highest distinction of the U.S. military, to the heroic Nisei MIS of WWII, a group whose activities were kept classified long after the end of the war.

"I hope with this award the MIS will at least begin to receive the recognition that they deserve," said Sec. Caldera.

Shinseki made the presentation of the presidential citation to Marvin Uratsu of MIS Northern California (MISNORCAL). "We are correcting history tonight," said Shinseki.

"It is with the greatest feeling of humility and honor that I accept this prestigious presidential unit citation for all of the men who served in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II," said Uratsu. "My only regret tonight is that more of the deserving veterans are not here to join this celebration."

Following the presentation of the presidential citation, a trailer of the movie, "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties," currently being produced by MISNORCAL, was shown. The target date for the film is Sept. 30 and a showing of the film will take place at the upcoming dedication of the Japanese American National Monument in Washington, D.C., this November.

Rudy Tokiwa, a 442nd vet and co-chair of the veteran's tribute dinner along with co-chair Col. Harry Fukuhara, said he thought of his WWII buddies who fought so courageously in France and Italy when he was first approached to help organize the event.

Tokiwa recalled how JA men and women being held in WWII American concentration camps, solely because of their ancestry, answered the call to serve their country, only to face a second assault of prejudice on the front lines.

"I think we paid a very high price to prove ourselves," said Tokiwa. "To prove to everyone that it doesn't make no difference what you look like, what the color of your skin is. You are an American and this should never be forgotten."

Assemblyman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, who is currently running for the 15th Congressional District, brought greetings from the California State Assembly, where he and George Nakano, D-Torrance, who was unable to attend, recently passed a resolution to honor JA vets by declaring June 30 "Japanese American Veterans' Day."

'Today, because of what the Nisei of World War II, Korean and Vietnam did for us, my generation and my son's generation are a lot better off.'

— John Tagami, assistant to secretary of the Army Louis Caldera

The tribute dinner also featured a slide presentation narrated by Stephanie Nishikawa of KOVR 13, with archival photos of the 100th, 442nd, MIS and their post-war activities in Japan, to the veterans of the Korean War, Vietnam War, and those who are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Following the slide show presentation a veteran from each of the wars was asked to speak to the audience.

Col. Toshio "Dusty" Aoyagi of the Korean War admitted that the scars of war still exists today. "The war left scars in our families that even today the pain and suffering still lingers."

But Aoyagi also celebrated the recent developments between North and South Korea and asked his fellow vets to actively support the reunification of the two Koreas.

Captain Gordon Nakagawa, a veteran of the Vietnam War and a former POW, believes that the veterans of this recent war have yet to receive acknowledgement from the United States.

"Unfortunately, with a few exceptions, America has not expressed a thank-you to these veterans of the Vietnam War that has long been overdue," said Nakagawa. "Vietnam was unique. The prolonged agony of that war taxed the limit of this nation's resources and patience but the men and women who answered this nation's call served with great honor, dedication and skill. I believe that they contributed significantly to the end of the Cold War."

"Today, because of what the Nisei of World War II, Korean and Vietnam did for us, my generation and my son's generation are a lot better off," said John Tagami, assistant to secretary of the Army Louis Caldera. "Thank you for being extraordinary so that we could just be ordinary." ❋



PHOTO: MICHAEL PALMA PHOTOGRAPHY

The 2011 convention will feature a tour of Los Angeles' Little Tokyo and its cultural attractions.

LOS ANGELES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

can visit Hollywood and the film industry, Universal Studios and see the backlot of where the TV show "Desperate Housewives" is filmed and maybe see a movie star or two. And of course you can visit the happiest place on earth, Disneyland.

Culinary delights abound in Los Angeles. Lawry's Prime Rib in Beverly Hills is where the football teams of the Rose Bowl will dine before the big game. Or for a more casual experience, you may never find a better burger than at In-N-Out throughout the city. Or for a more romantic experience there are many great restaurants to watch the sunset over the Pacific Ocean. This is a must in L.A. For the best people-watching experience you have to find a sidewalk dining place along Melrose Avenue. This is the definition of eclectic.

P.C.: JACLers have been meeting biennially for so long. What do you think are the benefits of meeting annually now?

Mayeda: Biennial conventions combined with tri- and bi-district conferences were a perfect fit for the members to reconnect with members within and outside of their districts to conduct business. As the need to develop strong relations with the corporate world increases to advance JACL's message there is a strong need to be in front of these partners. Every other year is not enough and going annual will be in step with others in competing for the attention of the corporate world.

P.C.: What can JACL members who have attended many biennial conventions expect to be different at this annual convention?

Mayeda: First we plan to have a reception at a major Hollywood studio for the kickoff night. This will be a first for JACL members, most of whom have never set foot into a production studio. We are also doing a concurrent conference with the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council (CJACLC). This is a major organization in California whose mission is very similar with JACL's and this synergy of ideas and resources can be of great mutual benefit to each other. We are also looking at tours of the Los Angeles Little Tokyo attractions such as the Japanese American National Museum, Japanese Village Plaza, where you can find the home of the mochi ice cream at Mikawaya and the freshest mochi at family owned Fugetsu-do founded in 1903.

P.C.: Conversely, what can convention goers expect to be traditionally done at the Los Angeles convention?

Mayeda: A national convention brings the greatest leaders from all over into one place. We conduct business and debate important issues facing our communities and focus for the future all for a common cause. This mid-term meeting will also give our members the opportunity to interact with our elected leaders to give them active input to what needs to be addressed. And of course we will have our grand banquet that will complete our convention.

'JACL is absolutely relevant to the community. We just need to know how to show it and to explain it to our members and corporate partners.'

P.C.: Are there any special workshops or conferences planned for convention attendees?

Mayeda: Membership workshops were popular and well attended in Chicago. We plan on giving that opportunity again for chapter delegates to learn how to better build membership. Advocacy is at the heart of our organization's mission and is difficult without funds. So perhaps fundraising will be of interest, too. More importantly we want to teach the delegates how to adjust and adapt our organization to not only survive but to thrive in this tight economy.

P.C.: What special organized community events or attractions can attendees look forward to seeing or participating in?

Mayeda: We mentioned the Hollywood studio reception and the joint conference with the CJACLC. In Los Angeles, there are many other APA community-based organizations that we network with. We want to bring as many of them so that we can all network and share resources.

P.C.: What do you hope the convention attendees will take away from the first annual JACL convention?

Mayeda: We hope that the members will take away new ideas of how to adapt to a different community environment. We are putting together different community groups with JACL so that different people can meet to share ideas. We are all working towards a common goal of building a better community but with different perspectives. Some are from the media arts and some are service providers. We all are advocates for people and we need to share those perspectives.

P.C.: With busy lives and an economy that's still struggling, why do you think it's important for individuals to attend JACL's first annual convention?

Mayeda: As members of the largest and oldest APA non-profit organization, it has become difficult to both retain and build new members. So finding resources both financial and human becomes more challenging than say 20 years ago. JACL is absolutely relevant to the community. We just need to know how to show it and to explain it to our members and corporate partners.

Coming to this convention to learn new ways to network with other organizations and to be better partners with others is what will give us the means to become successful. JACL's purpose may not be all too different from our founders, but the way we accomplish our goals is different and those are the skills that we need to become more proficient at. This is what we call JACL 2.0.



PHOTO: MARIO REYES

In 2002, JACL hosted a ceremony to recognize Nisei draft resisters of World War II.

JACL National Council Approves Apology to Resisters of Conscience

JACL voted to mend deep community wounds, according to this article originally published **July 7, 2000.**

JACL 36th Biennial National Convention June 27–July 2, 2000 MONTEREY, Calif. Highlights & Accomplishments

JACL adopts an emergency resolution to support National JA Memorial in Washington, D.C. and inclusion of Mike Masaoka's quote and holds a tribute dinner to honor veterans.

By Martha Nakagawa

Although JACL took a step towards healing a five decades old wound, it may have opened new ones when the national council voted to adopt a resolution recognizing and apologizing to the WWII Nisei resisters of conscience.

The debate, for the most part, split along generational lines with both sides giving impassioned arguments for and against the resolution. After using the full 20 minutes allotted to the issue, the national council passed the motion with 64 yeses, 32 nos and four split votes. The motion to adopt was made by David Masuo from the Alaska chapter and seconded by Steve Kono from the Puyallup Valley chapter.

Masuo, a Vietnam veteran, urged the national council to reconsider the negative image of the World War II resisters of conscience, saying he also fought alongside a medic, who was a resister of the draft.

"Many things have been said about their (resisters) loyalty based mostly on hearsay and rumor," said Masuo. Misinformation from the same government that claimed JAs were fifth columnists or spies, a government that interned families just because of their race cannot be one whose word we should take as gospel. Remember that it was the government that used the JACL to push their agenda and to make sure our elders were removed from the JACL and placed in prisons away from their families. The government has attempted to right its wrong. We must do the same."

'Many things have been said about their (resisters) loyalty based mostly on hearsay and rumor.'

— **David Masuo,** Alaska JACL

But Don Wakida, a Nisei member of VFW Post 8499 and a Fresno chapter member, said 13 Nisei VFW posts "vehemently oppose this resolution" and demanded an amendment if the resolution passed.

"My feeling is this: if you pass this resolution, I want you to put an amendment in there that you will apologize to every Nisei soldiers family who died for our country," said Wakida. "Remember now, they went to war for us, not only for America, but for the Japanese and for the JACL people."

Sansei Brian Niiya, a member of the Honolulu JACL chapter, acknowledged that as someone who did not live through the camp experience, he may not fully grasp the reasons for the depth of the bitterness but felt that an apology is the first

RESISTERS
CONTINUED ON PAGE 39

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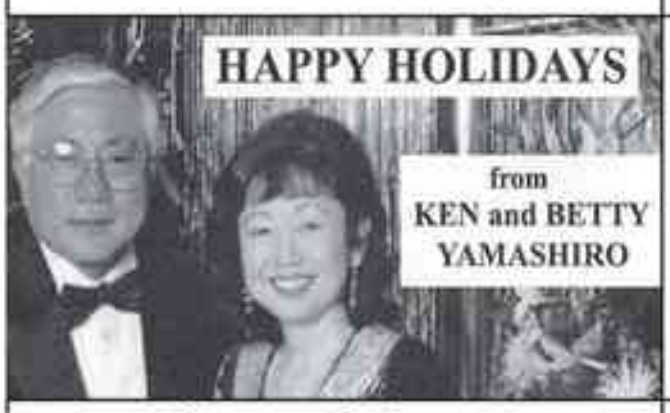
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Delegates celebrate the opening of the Philadelphia national convention.

10th Anniversary Celebration of the Civil Liberties Act

In Philadelphia, it was a celebration of the Redress movement, a decade removed.

By Caroline Aoyagi-Stom

PHILADELPHIA—For every American of Japanese ancestry 1998 marks a significant moment in United States history. For many it's a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, legislation that finally brought reparations to tens of thousands of Japanese Americans interned during World War II.

For others, including railroad and mine workers unjustly fired at the outset of the war, and Japanese Latin Americans kidnapped and interned by the U.S. government, 1998 marks the year in which they too were finally able to win their fight for Redress.

So it was fitting that as hundreds of JACLers from across the country gathered for the 35th biennial national convention in Philadelphia from June 30 to July 5, a celebration of the Redress movement, from its beginnings to current and future issues, took place. Even more fitting was the site of the celebration, the birthplace of democracy, 222 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

When the Civil Liberties Act was signed on Sept. 17, 1987, exactly 200 years after the U.S. Constitution was written, former Congressman Norman Mineta was one of the handful of individuals who stood over President Ronald Reagan as he signed the historic legislation; an act that would provide an apology and a $20,000 payment for more than 80,000 JAs who suffered through the American concentration camps of WWII.

"I've never been more proud to be an American than at that moment ... and I've never been more proud to be JA than during the fight up until then," said Mineta at the convention's Sayonara Banquet, where he and a number of



Frank Sakamoto, Ruth Hashimoto, Pat and Lily Okura.

A Look Back

JACL 35th Biennial National Convention July 1–5, 1998 PHILADELPHIA Sheraton Hotel Highlights & Accomplishments

Council approves JACL Redress History Project, expected to cost $323,000. Japanese Consul Chiune Sugihara in Lithuania is recognized for dispensing transit visas in 1940 to Jewish refugees fleeing from Poland. Urges Senate confirmation of Bill Lann Lee as assistant attorney general for civil rights.



Robert Bratt, former director of the Office of Redress Administration, with JACL's Grayce Uyehara.

individuals were honored for their role in Redress — including Rep. Robert Matsui, Sen. Daniel Inouye, the late Sen. Spark Matsunaga, and former Speaker of the House of Representatives Jim Wright.

Also honored were the American Friends Service Committee, the only organization to oppose the internment of JAs during WWII, and the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, a group that helped thousands of JA students further their education during the war.

There were many individuals who took part in the struggle to win reparations, said Mineta, but the true heroes are those JAs who had the courage to tell their stories of internment during the cross-country hearings held by the Commission of Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. The heroes are "those JAs from all walks of life throughout the country who spoke at the hearings to bring the matter to everyone's attention. To claim the justice promised by our Constitution."

For many in the JA community, said Matsui, the discussion on Redress has often focused on the issue of who should get credit for the historic movement. Should it be the 442nd Regimental Combat Team? The No-No Boys? Or should it be the JACL? But who or which groups did the most for Redress is not nearly as significant as the historic act of the U.S. government apologizing for a wrong committed against its citizens.

"[The question] diminishes the historic passage of the [redress] legislation," said Matsui. The fact is "many groups played a significant role. It was one of the few times our government apologized for a wrong committed against its people."

Many of the JACLers attending the Sayonara Banquet were touched by the presence of former speaker Wright, the lead signer of the historic Civil Liberties Act. During the 1980s Wright, a Congressman from Texas, was the Democratic majority leader in the House of Representatives and immediately agreed to support the act when approached by the various JA legislators.

"There are so many others who deserve this more than I," said Wright humbly as he was honored by the JACL. "They did the legwork," he said, as he gave credit to Matsui, Mineta, Inouye, and Matsunaga. "All I did was join as a co-sponsor."

While a member of the U.S. Air Force during the 1940s "I knew even then that it was constitutionally wrong to incarcerate U.S. citizens on only their ancestry." Said Wright, the Civil Liberties Act was "morally right."

Recent Developments

Even as many turned their thoughts towards the past during the five-day national JACL convention, equally as frequent were the discussions on the recent Redress developments and on future issues for the JA community.

The most recent chapter in the history of Redress was the settlement of the Japanese Latin American former internees' lawsuit against the U.S. government. The settlement provides an apology and $5,000 payment for every living JLA or their closest relative who suffered through the indignities of being kidnapped and forced into American concentration camps during WWII — much less than the $20,000 received by many JAs since the signing of the Civil Liberties Act. Many former JLA internees have expressed their disappointment with the low amount but acknowledge that the apology is what is most significant.

"The question had always been there about the amount [of $5,000], but it was there for the $20,000 too," said John Tateishi, JACL Redress consultant, who has been actively working to settle the remaining Redress cases before the Office of Redress Administration (ORA) closes its doors forever on Aug. 10. "The critical issue was to get [JLAs] included in the CLA."

Still, some JLA former internees have chosen to opt out of the recent settlement in order to continue pursuing a lawsuit for the full amount awarded to JA former internees. Lawyers agree, their fight for justice will be a difficult one.

"It makes me sad," said Tateishi, "because those who opt out may not even get an apology. To me an apology is extremely meaningful. Money is meaningful too. But I always felt that the apology is what began the healing process. The money helped get over the hump to deal with the past. I wish them all the best of luck trying to solve this through lawsuits," he said, "but I don't know if they can get better than the settlement."

"It was a good compromise," said Robert Bratt, former director of the ORA, of the JLA settlement. Bratt, who is currently an executive officer of the criminal division at the Department of Justice, was a speaker at the national convention. "We knew it was a difficult situation. In some ways the Peruvians' case was harsher ... not to slight any of it. I'm glad to see something was worked out."

Any payment, whether it be $20,000 or $5,000, is not enough for the suffering JAs and JLAs endured during WWII, said Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general for civil rights and keynote speaker at the national convention.

"The end of the [Redress] program resolves hard issues," said Lee who described the JLA situation as "heartbreaking and troubling." With the Civil Liberties Act, "Congress brought the internment full circle," he continued. As the Aug. 10 date comes closer, "I hope you feel that it's been a success.

"The experience of JAs in our nation ... belongs to everyone. It highlights the struggles of others ... of hope and vindication."

Currently, there is no guarantee that every JLA will receive the $5,000 payments, but Lee and the White House have already agreed to work to extend the Civil Liberties Act if the money runs out. Although the ORA is confident that enough funds exist, we don't feel as confident, said Tateishi. Thus, by mid-July if there is indication that there is not enough money in the Civil Liberties Fund the process of getting more money for the JLAs will be initiated.

"My concern is to make sure that funds are

TENTH ANNIVERSARY
CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



'I cannot think of any more dangerous precedent for this organization than to take a position on an issue of principle based solely on how it will directly affect those of Japanese ancestry,' said Norman Mineta about same-sex marriage on the floor of the 1994 convention.

Reversal of Same-Sex Resolution Defeated, Broader Version OKed

By Gwen Muranaka

In 1994, JACL became the first non-gay organization after the ACLU to support same-sex marriage.

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Council rejects resolution to withdraw national board's decision to support same-sex marriage and sustained the board's stand, leading into the most heated debate of the convention.

A resolution which would have withdrawn the national board's decision to support same-sex marriages was defeated Aug. 6 at the national council by a vote of 38 yes, 50 no, 11 abstentions and 4 split-votes.

Resolution 6, presented by the Mount Olympus chapter, the host chapter for the national convention would have withdrawn the May 21 national board same-sex decision and have JACL take a neutral position on the issue.

Speaking in support of Resolution 6, Tom Shimizu, Mount Olympus Chapter, said, "This issue we are addressing at this time is a divisive issue where both sides have very strong feelings. But I believe very strongly that the majority of the people that belong in JACL are not in support of the same-sex marriage issue. Therefore, I believe that the decision that the national board made was contrary to the wishes and desires of the majority of the members, therefore I would hope that we would stay neutral and rescind the decision that you made—not to support nor not to oppose."

Shimizu noted that in an earlier panel on same sex-marriage, there were two proponents to same-sex marriage and one opponent and that only one candidate was asked about same-sex marriages during the candidates' forum.

"I think that was very, very unfair. This issue has created a sharp division within our organization and I believe this will fracture our organization if we maintain that position. We can argue until we're blue in the face, but we're not going to change one or many on both sides, it would be prudent to remain neutral on this issue," said Shimizu.



In 2008, Helen Zia *(left)* married Lia Shigemura, a former JACL staff member.

Speaking against the resolution were a number of council members as well as a number of gay and lesbian JACL members.

Tak Yamamoto, San Fernando Valley chapter, who is homosexual, said, "I think my particular point, though is I was not asking for special treatment, I'm asking for equal rights. The thing about it is that marriage, not necessarily religious, is something that I would wish to have. Only because of all of the benefits that it would give me and my lover of 27 years."

May Yamamoto, formerly of APAN now a member of the Progressive Westside chapter, said that a workshop on gay and lesbian issues at the 1992 Denver convention helped her reveal her homosexuality to her mother and another member of the APAN chapter.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE
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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

available in a timely, efficient way," said Tateishi, noting that many of the JLAs are elderly. But getting more money isn't going to be easy, especially considering the current atmosphere in Washington, D.C., where trying to get any money out of Congress is next to impossible. "My concern is that it's going to be extremely difficult."

Future Issues — AB 1915

Although the redress program is officially scheduled to finish next month, California State Assemblyman Mike Honda, D-San Jose, has recently presented a bill, AB 1915, whose objective is to continue to educate the American public about the JA internment experience. A speaker at the Philadelphia convention, Honda encouraged JACL members to support the proposed bill.

AB 1915, or the California Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, will set aside $5 million, or $1 for every California student in grades K-12, to learn the lessons of the WWII internment. Using all forms of communication, including the arts, fine arts and mass media, to tell the internment story, AB 1915 is intended to last as long as the legislature is willing to fund it.

"The JA experience is invaluable ... for the entire community of this country.d Everybody cannot go untouched by our experience," said Honda. "AB 1915 is not just for JAs, it is for all Americans."

There are still too many Americans who have never heard of the internment story. If the issue of the Japanese Latin American former WWII internees had not been brought before the California Senate, many of the politicians would have never heard of their story, said Honda. And some, even after hearing of their tragedies, refuse to acknowledge that it happened. "[AB 1915] will mean that we can use the funds to tell stories that haven't been told yet," said Honda. "This kind of lesson never needs to be presented again."

The bill has already passed through the Senate and Assembly and Honda is guarded in his expectations that AB 1915 will win final approval.

He encouraged JACL members to call his office for more information and asked Republicans to write Gov. Pete Wilson to let him know that they support AB 1915 and to ask for his support.

"If there is anything more important to do, it is to pass this," said Honda.

In less than 30 days the historic Redress movement will become a permanent fixture in American history. For many JAs, Aug. 10 will be a time of reflection, of sadness, and a sense of hope for the future. Although Redress will now be referred to in the past tense, the historic movement will always have its place of significance in the JA community and JACL.

"It really is like a sunset, fading into the past," said Tateishi. "It's a psychological milestone for everyone. It's a way of putting the past into perspective. I'm happy to see the sunset date come. JAs have to start looking towards the future. We're great at dealing with the past but we have to look towards the future. We can play a great role, but we have to decide to do it." ※



Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, called the JLA situation 'heartbreaking.'

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

"I understand what it is like to experience racism and similarly, I was wondering if you could understand what it is like to be gay and not be accepted in your own community. I am not asking for special privileges or protective status. I am just asking to be equal, to have the right to marry which all of you enjoy," said Yamamoto.

In addition, Lia Shigemura, former JACL national staff member, spoke about her own sexuality and urged the council to uphold the rights of all Americans regardless of their sexual orientation.

Jeff Itami, a Salt Lake chapter member and governor of the Intermountain district, said the issue has had a negative effect on JACL's financial status as members have quit the organization.

"I'm concerned because I feel that right at this point we're talking about financial security, the stability of the organization. This is a very divisive issue. This divisiveness has already affected the financial status of this organization by members quitting, losing subscribers to the *P.C.* I do not want to see this organization fracture. I would like to plead for unity. I originally stated that I did not feel this is an issue that should come before the (national) board, I feel also that it could have been brought before national council and did not have to go before the board which is a much smaller body and I would have preferred for it to have been brought here originally," said Itami.

A majority of the speakers on the resolution were in opposition to withdrawing the same-sex decision. The time for discussion was extended twice, with a long line forming of those who wanted to oppose Resolution 6. Towards the end of the discussion, Dale Ikeda, resolutions chair, had speakers limit their comments to their name, chapter and their position on the resolution.

One of the turning points in the discussion was when John Nakahata, Washington, D.C. chapter, relinquished his time to Rep. Norman Mineta, who spoke against Resolution 6.

Mineta, who was greeted by applause from the council, said that it would be "disastrous" for the council to withdraw the national board's decision.

"I cannot think of any more dangerous precedent for this organization than to take a position on an issue of principle based solely on how it will directly affect those of Japanese ancestry," said Mineta, from a prepared statement.

While all other speakers throughout the discussion of resolutions and amendments were limited to three minutes for statements, the San Jose Congressman spoke for over seven minutes against Resolution 6.

During his remarks, Mineta credited Rep. Barney Frank, the openly gay Congressman from Massachusetts, for moving Redress in the House of Representatives. The Congressman told the council that Redress would not have occurred without the support of a vast coalition of civil rights groups, including gay and lesbian groups.

"A gay congressman from Massachusetts, with only a very, very small Japanese American constituency and what did he do? He made Redress his top civil rights priority. Why? Because, he saw our civil rights as an issue of fundamental principle for this country.

"We can beat our chests all we want about it, but our success came from the willingness of countless Americans of all backgrounds to take the same position," said Mineta.

Speaking after Mineta, Edith Ichiuji, Monterey Peninsula chapter, said it was difficult following immediately after the congressman's address. As a Christian, Ichiuji noted that the church opposed same-sex marriages as a moral issue and that pastors could not conduct same-sex marriages in her church, but that she would oppose withdrawing the same-sex marriage decision.

"What if it were your children? Would you throw them out of the house or just ignore them completely? You must love them and love them as your brother and sister. I know talking about this right after Norman is hard. But we must really love our brothers and sisters even though it is against your principles," said Ichiuji. ※



Activism continues to this day with JACLers participating in the San Francisco gay pride parade.

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Members of the JACL Legislative Education Committee included Jerry Enomoto (*pictured, far left*).

'There were tears in many eyes as the realization dawned that the struggle that had begun years ago had finally been won' — Redress. Jerry Enomoto was there to recount those historic moments.

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JACL leaders flew to White House to witness President Reagan sign H.R. 442, the $1.2 billion Redress bill on Aug. 10. At the podium were Reps. Robert Matsui, Norman Mineta, House Speaker Tom Foley, Mike Lowry, Mike Masaoka, Grayce Uyehara, Harry Kajihara, Jerry Enomoto and Sen. Spark Matsunaga's videotaped message all focused on the successful Redress campaign.

JACL-LEC: Post Passage

By Jerry Enomoto

As I sat in the pressroom of the White House on Aug. 10, 1988, about 10 feet away from the president, I heard him acknowledge that the internment was wrong, and watched him sign the bill, the enormity of the occasion really sunk in. There were tears in many eyes as the realization dawned that the struggle that had begun years ago had finally been won.

I remembered Edison Uno who, long before the first bill was every introduced in Congress, urged action to seek some meaningful redress for those who had suffered the injustice of internment. Sadly, Edison and many others are not with us to celebrate today. However, I am sure that True Yasui, who was at the signing, at that moment felt that Min was with her.

As we savor this victory and take stock, the significance of the whole thing looms ever larger. A small minority group, despised and treated as the enemy only 40 odd years ago, had succeeded in obtaining an apology and monetary redress from the U.S. government. Consider that this occurred in the face of a decision by the highest court in the land that the internment was constitutional — a decision that cries out for reversal.

How was this accomplished? By a belief in American democratic principles, and a stubborn and persistent utilization of the system. The decision to take the legislative path to Redress was supported by another decision to seek the appointment of a presidential commission, whose recommendations later served as the heart of H.R. 442. There is no doubt that the legislative battle could not have been won without the patient and determined leadership of Sens. Dan Inouye and Spark Matsunaga, and Reps. Matsui, Mineta and Saiki. We have heard repeated testimonials to that fact from their Congressional colleagues. Seldom has a bill of this kind gotten 74 co-sponsors in the Senate — a tribute to Sen. Matsunaga's popularity.

We cannot discuss the victory without acknowledging the work of Grayce Uyehara who spent three hard years in Washington developing and guiding the grassroots lobbying effort. It is not an exaggeration to say that she did a million dollar lobbying job on a shoestring. We can better appreciate the significance of this when we note that many states do not have Japanese American populations of any consequence.

Passage of H.R. 442, significant in itself, would have been hollow had not the president signed it. Primary credit for that goes to a Wyoming Sansei, who never saw the inside of an internment center but was motivated to fight for Redress to right the wrong done to his parents and grandparents. Grant Ujifusa, using the prestige of his book, *The Almanac of American Politics* and his contacts in the Congress and the White House was, more than anyone else, responsible for the ultimate success of Redress.

The campaign, however, could not have succeeded if it were not for the magnificent war record written by those Japanese Americans who fought and died in Europe and Asia. We are also indebted to the many Nisei veterans like Mike Masaoka, and our own LEC board member, Art Morimitsu, for making sure that we had the support of the veterans organizations. I frequently refer to the comment of a colleague who likened the Redress campaign to a relay race. The baton was passed through many hands over the years, and it was truly a team effort. As a longtime JACLer, I am proud of the organization's role in this achievement. Although many deserve credit, the record is clear that JACL's contributions were essential to the success of Redress.

We now ask ourselves, "What now?" The answer is, in a sense, simple. We are now committed to getting the maxi-



Enomoto (*right*) with Rep. Mike Honda.

mum amount of funds appropriated in the shortest period of time, so that the surviving recipients may be paid during their lifetimes. We are very aware that the clock is ticking.

Our lobbying efforts must, therefore, continue with the legislative strategy directed by Grant Ujifusa, and the staff support of our Washington, D.C. office.

The identification and location of all eligible recipients and the interpretation of language in the act needed to answer the many questions on eligibility, are the job of the Justice Department. The unit created to assume responsibility, formerly the Office of Reparations Administration, now renamed the Office of Redress Administration (ORA), has demonstrated a high degree of sensitivity and initiative in our initial contacts. An example is the decision to change the name of the unit at our request. I had the opportunity to meet with key members of their staff in Washington, and found them to be very accommodating and, most importantly, anxious to utilize community input in doing their jobs.

These are critical tasks still remaining that we of the JACL-LEC board feel are our continuing responsibility. It is for that reason that we have developed a work plan for the next biennium that is based upon those tasks but which include other lesser, but important, responsibilities. Some of those are:

- To have input into the appointment of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund board of directors so that we may exert some influence upon what kinds of educational projects are funded.
- To maintain an information center and "listening post" in Washington, D.C., as long as Redress remains a viable issue. We will consider Redress a viable issue until the first recipient is paid and a functioning payment process is established, including the appropriation of enough funds in the first several years so that the process does not draw on for 10 years.
- To begin to write the "Redress Story" so that a factual and human account of an accomplishment of major significance in American history will be available.
- To assist in protecting Redress payments from state taxes and recipients from the consequences of losing eligibility for social programs such as Medicaid, as California has already done through passage of appropriate legislation.

We of the JACL-LEC board have been gratified by the tremendous response to the post-H.R. 442 signing fund drive, which we feel reflects people's appreciation for what was accomplished, and a willingness to support what still needs to be done.

Those who read the *Pacific Citizen* are aware of the various questions that have been asked, which deal with eligibility for payment. We have been encouraged by the ORA's interest in soliciting any possible questions that potential claimants may have, as well as our sense that their interpretations will be based upon giving claimants the widest possible latitude in establishing eligibility.

Staff of the ORA has already met with people in some California communities, and plan to visit other areas throughout the country. A form has been developed which claimants may complete and return to the ORA. It is our understanding that they intend to complete the identification of all who are eligible within the year called for in the act. Although an enormous task, judging from their initial performance, we are optimistic about the results.

As we celebrate our success, I must point out an unfortunate reality. H.R. 442 was not embraced enthusiastically by all Americans. My experience during one television appearance, and some radio talk shows reminded me that some people still cannot distinguish us from Japanese nationals, and, worse yet, blame us for Japan's acts in World War II.

Such people ignore facts and insist upon perpetuating lies. At the root of all this is racism, and it reminds us once again that we live in an imperfect democracy, and that eternal vigilance *is* the price of liberty.

One of the reasons that we were interned was that we had no political muscle in 1942. Our Nikkei members of Congress and increased Asian American political presence in local and state arenas now give us that muscle. The Congressman Lungren episode may have helped us realize just how much influence we now may have. As a member of the Commission on the Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, he was the only one to oppose individual payment to internees. He didn't just oppose it, he lobbied and fought against it. Asian American anger and Japanese American led coalition activity was directly responsible for Lungren's subsequent rejection for the post of California state treasurer.

In the state with the largest Nikkei population, there may now be increased respect for our political support. A significant point, considering the rapidly increasing Asian Pacific American population in California. Of course, the important point is that we use that muscle constructively.

JACL's commitment to the enactment of just immigration laws, a Census policy that does not work against an accurate count of the different groups in the Asian Pacific American community which will, in turn, affect funding of vital services, educational policies which do not discriminate against Asians, and affirmative action policies which protect all minorities from discriminatory treatment in the workplace, is a commitment that is essential if we are to reach the ultimate objective of a truly just society.

America is a product of immigrants from East and West, but we remember that until only some 30 years ago, our parents were denied the right of naturalized citizenship. Today, the increasing number of newly arrived Asians has revived ever-present racist feelings, which in turn, have created a serious wave of anti-Asian violence. Recognizing that our status in American society is less shaky than that of these recently arrived immigrants, but aware that we are only 46 years removed from American concentration camps, the JACL has added its voice against this wave of violence.

Our fight for Redress has won us the respect of many Americans. We were given invaluable help in winning that fight by many Asians and fellow minorities.

It seems to me that we in turn have an obligation to build on that respect and achievement by making the JACL an integral part of an active and effective coalition, whose objective is to protect and ensure the rights of all Asian Pacific Americans as we enter the 21st century. ❄

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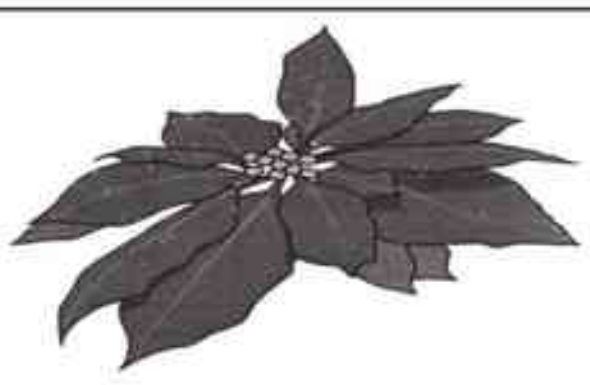
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The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 provided an apology and compensation to the thousands of Japanese Americans whose constitutional rights were violated during their World War II forced exclusion and mass incarceration.

The President Signs the Redress Bill

A young man's account of witnessing the historic signing.

By Wayne D. Kimura

Aug. 10, 1988, was a very special day for the Japanese American community, a day that will be remembered for generations to come.

For myself, events began the day before at precisely 8 a.m. I know it was 8 a.m. because that is when I usually arrive to work.



'I was naturally very happy to hear the news that the president was about to sign the bill and excited that I would be able to see him do it — something that I and many others had worked so many years to see happen,' said Wayne Kimura.

That morning, as soon as I walked into the office, the telephone receptionist said she had just received a call for me. So I ran up to my office and took the call. It was Cherry Kinoshita calling from the JACL national convention on the University of Washington campus. Her voice was very hurried. She said that the president planned to sign the Redress bill, H.R. 442, tomorrow and asked if I would be interested in going to the ceremony.

I said, "Sure. I wouldn't miss it for anything." She said ok, took my social security number, and then hung up.

I was naturally very happy to hear the news that the president was about to sign the bill and excited that I would be able to see him do it — something that I and many others had worked so many years to see happen.

We were booked on two red-eye flights going to Washington, D.C. on Tuesday night and returning to Seattle on Wednesday night.

There must have been about 40 people in our group, consisting of JACLers from all over the country, who were in town for the national convention. It turned out that Cherry and I were the only people actually from Seattle (other people from Washington state included Joe Kosai from Tacoma, John Kanda from Sumner, and Denny Yasuhara from Spokane).

I believe I was the youngest member in our group, which often led to questions such as "Gee, you're so young. What are you doing here?" (i.e. you're obviously too young to have been in camp). I would explain that I was the co-chair of the Seattle chapter Redress committee, but it got to be tiresome after a while. So, after one of the group members said that he thought I was Cherry's son, I said, like "Saturday Night Live's" pathological liar, "Yeah. Yeah, that's it. I'm Cherry's son." After that I had no problems with explaining my presence.

Arriving at the airport, some of the group wanted to change their clothes. Pat Okura, who is from the Washington, D.C. area, graciously offered his house for people to do so.



Some delegates left the 1988 convention to attend the president's signing.

Pat was met at the airport with his car by Betty, a good friend of the Okuras who was taking care of their house while they were at the JACL convention. Pat's car could hold five people comfortably, but there were seven of us: Cherry Kinoshita, Jerry Enomoto, Harry Honda, Mollie Fujioka, Betty, Pat, and myself. Somehow we managed to all fit in. It is a good thing we developed this ability to pack ourselves into his car because we had to do it all day long!

At Pat's house we were able to relax a little, freshen up, and change into more formal attire. We also were able to look at Pat's impressive collection of memorabilia (the Okura house is full of wonderful things to look at, including a beautiful collection of dolls made by Pat's wife). Pat's memorabilia included pictures of his meeting with president Kennedy and Vice President Johnson. I realized then that I was sharing the car with an impressive group of individuals — Pat Okura, a JACLer of the biennium; Cherry Kinoshita, a national JACL vice president; Jerry Enomoto, the JACL/LEC chair; Harry Honda, *Pacific Citizen* editor; and Mollie Fujioka, a recent candidate for national JACL president. And, of course, me, Cherry's fake son!

Leaving Pat's home to go to the luncheon, we entered into the oven called the D.C. weather. The temperature was already probably in the 80s with the forecast saying it would reach the upper 90s. The famous East Coast humidity caused one to sweat profusely and the thought of sitting in the Rose Garden under these conditions wearing a suit did not appeal to me, even if it was the first and probably only time I'd every get a chance to be in the Rose Garden. Fortunately, we

REDRESS
CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

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Reagan Signs Redress Bill

Nakagawa New JACL National President

By George Johnston

SEATTLE — His first reaction: "Fantastic! It's time for a change! We've got it!" Surrounded by his screaming, ecstatic supporters, Cressey Nakagawa exclaimed his delight upon hearing the announcement of his victory for the office of JACL National president for the 1988-90 biennium.

Only two days before, however, Nakagawa had nothing to say during his chance to address the JACL Convention. On that day, his nominators used up the available time, leaving him literally speechless. Aug. 9, however, afforded him plenty of time . . . his time, a time to celebrate and a time to talk with well-wishers for as long as he wanted.

Before any celebration could occur, however, secret ballots were needed to decide who would win the available positions. Winning uncontested races were Priscilla Ouchida, who received 109 of 115 available votes for vice president, General Operations; Cherry Kinoshita, 113, vice president, Public Affairs; Robert Sakaguchi, 115, vice president, Membership/1000 Club; and Alan Nishi, 114, secretary/treasurer.



The president's signing of the Redress bill was front page news in 1988.

REDRESS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

found out at the luncheon that the White House had moved the signing ceremony to the Old Executive Office Building because of the heat.

We had Pat as chauffeur, which was great because he knew all the best ways of getting around the D.C. area. We were never late to a single event on our agenda. Of course, Pat's driving technique helped a lot. I now know the difference between a California stop and a Washington, D.C. stop. In California, you slow down before going through the intersection; in Washington, D.C., you don't bother to even slow down.

At the Rayburn Building, where Congressmen such as Norman Mineta and Robert Matsui have their offices, we met other Nikkei who had come for the luncheon. There were approximately 60 of us, including Bert Nakano and other representatives from NCRR (National Coalition for Redress/Reparations). Congressmen Mineta was very busy and could not join us for lunch, but he did drop by to say hello and answer any questions. The clock on the wall would periodically make terrible buzzing sounds; Congressman Mineta explained that the buzzes were to alert congressmen in the room that action was occurring on the House floor that required their attention. In fact, Congressman Mineta showed us an electronic pager he carries that announces what is happening on the House floor.

The luncheon ended with people being instructed by Grayce Uyehara to meet in the Old Executive Building lobby at 1:45 p.m. Before leaving the Rayburn Building, the "Washington State Delegation" was interviewed over the telephone by a reporter from the *Tacoma Tribune*.

We gathered in the lobby of the Old Executive Office Building, which is next door to the White House. Apparently many of the White House administration offices are located in this building. The lobby reminded me of an old police station with guards sitting on elevated desks behind a wooden banister. On the wall behind them was a large photograph of the president and Mrs. Reagan.

After checking our IDs and receiving badges to wear (we were allowed to take our cameras), we were escorted to the pressroom where the signing ceremony would be held. The room was like a small theater with cushioned chairs (perhaps 10 rows) and a low-carpeted stage with a podium in the middle. On the podium was the presidential seal and to the right was a small wooden table and chair. On the table was the Redress bill ready for the president's signature. In the back of the room were perhaps 10 tripods for television cameras and a couple of them were being set up with cameras.

An 'Excellent' Seat

I was one of the first to get to the room, so I was very lucky to find an excellent seat. The seats in the very front row had "reserved" tags on them so I sat in the second row on the end chair nearest to the signing table. I had a great view of the president standing behind the podium and later sitting at the table and signing the bill.

The room was nearly filled up with Nikkei, which I thought was very fitting. During the Redress campaign, everyone worked very hard to fill the rooms with Nikkei during the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and Congressional hearings. How fitting that the Nikkei were the most prominent in this room during this climax of the Redress effort. The room unfortunately could not hold all the Nikkei who wanted to see the ceremony (one disadvantage of not having it in the Rose Garden); people ended up sitting or standing along the walls.

While waiting for the ceremony to begin, we noticed that on the floor of the stage were beige note cards with people's names on them. There were two rows of cards behind the podium. Congressman Barney Frank, a strong supporter of Redress, later explained that the cards told the Congressmen and Senators where they were supposed to stand. He showed us the card he had picked up from behind the podium after the ceremony. He said you would think at least this person would have known where he was suppose to stand — the card said, "Mr. President."

Shortly before the ceremony began, the press corps hit. It was like an invasion. There must have been 15 to 20 reporters racing down to the front of the signing table. One of them crowded right up next to me and partially blocked my view. "Great," I thought, "There goes my wonderful view." In the back, just about all the tripods now had cameras on them. I thought, "Hey, they're going all the way with publicity on this one."

Next, the congressmen and senators entered the stage area from a small room to the far side from me and took their positions. The air was charged with anticipation. Everyone had his or her cam-

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PHOTO: "CONSCIENCE AND THE CONSTITUTION"

The first day of the Heart Mountain draft resisters in Federal District Court on June 12, 1944.

RESISTERS

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step towards that reconciliation.

Niiya also felt that while this resolution dealt with events close to 60 years ago, it was really about the future of JACL.

"I think this resolution is being closely watched from the outside as an indication of the future direction of the organization," said Niiya. "I think whatever the outcome, it will come to symbolize the current state of JACL."

Upon the resolution's passage, a contingent of veterans stormed out and a heated debate ensued outside the conference room. Among the veterans was Tom Masamori, a longtime JACLer from Denver, who had ripped off his JACL nametag and stalked out of the room.

Later, during a break, Masamori, who had penned in "former JACL member" where his JACL name tag used to be, said he will most likely continue as a member.

"I was so angry that I took my tag off," said Masamori. "But well, I'm reconsidering it now. I've been with the JACL since 1946 so you don't just throw it away, but I just felt so angry that I did that just to show my immediate sentiments. But I will most likely remain a JACL member because I would have a voice then. If I vanish, then I will not have a voice."

Fred Hirasuna, 92, the oldest JACL member, was also disappointed that the resolution passed.

"They had the right to object to the draft for civil rights but if they were truly sincere for that reason, they should have come out at evacuation time and said, 'We won,'" said Hirasuna. "I think the timing was bad that they waited for the draft before coming out. They should have come out before. That's my objection to that."

'This is a good way to begin the millennium. I feel sympathy for those hurt by this, and I would offer a conciliatory hand to them as well. We should reconcile with one another and move forward.'

— Marvin Uratsu

George Yoshinaga, a columnist for the *Rafu Shimpo* newspaper, who referred to the resisters as "draft dodgers," felt the pro-resister camp had waged too strong of a campaign.

"I think the resolution was sort of, maybe conspiracy is too strong a word, but pre-ordained to pass," said Yoshinaga. "They campaigned and brainwashed people."

The emotional and divisive nature of the resolution was not lost on the JACL leadership, and reconciliation with the opposing side was a topic of discussion during the first meeting of the newly-elected national board members on July 2. President Floyd Mori asked each board member to make a concerted one-on-one effort to mend the rifts. John Tateishi, national director, said he expects some attrition in JACL membership in reaction to this resolution's passage, but his biggest concern was the emotional impact this may have on the aging veterans.

"They did some difficult things in difficult times, as everyone did, but they need the past, the past is very important to them, and God knows I would never want to take that from them," said Tateishi. "I grew up always honoring the Nisei and the veterans, and I just feel badly for them that they feel we may have let them down. As I've said, I'm hoping that over time, this heals and that they will understand why that decision was made. Right or wrong, it was a decision that was the will of the national council."

Marvin Uratsu, president of the Military Intelligence Service Association of Northern California, was pleased with the adoption of R3.

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RESISTERS
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"I'm glad this happened in the year 2000," said Uratsu, speaking from a personal perspective. This is a good way to begin the millennium. I feel sympathy for those hurt by this, and I would offer a conciliatory hand to them as well. We should reconcile with one another and move forward."

Within the last two years, the MIS of Northern California, which is the largest Nisei MIS organization on the continental United States, along with Club 100 of Hawaii and the Washington, D.C.–based Japanese American Veterans Association, had passed a resolution of reconciliation with the resisters of conscience. The Nikkei Faith Interseet group had also passed a resolution in April, asking for forgiveness from the resisters and urging JACL to do the same.

Gordon Hirabayashi, who was honored at the convention as one of three Nikkei of the Biennium, was also encouraged to hear that R3 passed. During WWII, Hirabayashi had spent prison time with Poston and Amache resisters at the Catalina Federal Honor Camp following his protest of evacuation, and prison time with the Heart Mountain resisters at McNeil Island Federal Penitentiary when he became a conscientious objector.

"I'm glad they did this," said Hirabayashi. "It's time they did this. We've all been educated that there are other ways to fight for your country, so I think we've all learned from this experience."



PHOTO: "CONSCIENCE AND THE CONSTITUTION"



(Top, right) **Frank Emi, leader of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee who recently passed away Dec. 1, with supporter Kozie Sakai, in a 1944 photo taken at the height of the draft resistance movement. Resisters from Heart Mountain *(left)* were tried and sentenced to prison terms.**

Frank Emi, one of the leaders of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee, said, "I think the step that JACL took is a step in the right direction as befits a civil rights organization," said Emi. "After all, they are in good company. The U.S. government did what they thought was right during the war and they apologized. And although JACL vilified the resisters for taking a principled and constitutional stand against injustice during the war, for them to acknowledge this now will not mar their image. It will only make the organization stronger." ❄

REDRESS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 38

eras poised and ready (I double-checked to make sure I had my film). Finally, the announcement came we all were waiting for, "Ladies and gentlemen, the president of the United States." The audience broke into a standing ovation as Mr. Reagan entered onto the stage from the small room. He waved and shook the hands of some of the people standing on the stage. He was wearing a tan suit, which gave a more casual appearance to the occasion. Standing behind the podium, he smiled as we continued to applaud very loudly. Then, without wasting anytime he began his speech.

The President Speaks

It is hard to remember all the details of his speech. I remember that he delivered it very clearly with a minimal amount of pauses. He mentioned that what had happened to the Japanese Americans was indeed a tragic mistake that had to be corrected. He made special mention of the bravery of the 442nd and how these men fought for America, knowing that their families were imprisoned in camps. I was impressed with the confidence of his voice when he pronounced the Japanese American names in his speech, but perhaps he had been practicing. Because at the end of his speech he quoted from an article published in the *Pacific Citizen* during the war about a decoration being bestowed upon a family for their son in the 442nd who had died in battle. One of the actors who was paying tribute at the ceremony said that the blood soaked into the sands of a beach is all of one color. "The name of that young actor," Mr. Reagan said, "— I hope I pronounce this right — was Ronald Reagan."

With that President Reagan ended his speech, sat down at the signing table and, with everyone on stage crowding around him, he signed H.R. 442. While the audience gave him another standing ovation, he shook the hands of those standing around him. Congressman Mineta introduced June Masuda Goto — sister of the posthumously decorated soldier (Sgt. Kaz Masuda) and then the president left the stage area. All during this time cameras were clicking furiously. I used up all the film in my camera, but kept on taking pictures just in case I could squeeze another frame out of my roll.

'I swore I would never ride a red-eye flight again, except maybe to see the president sign a bill.'

After the president left, the room became quite noisy and confused as people from the audience mingled with those on the stage, more pictures were being taken and the reporters tried to interview individuals. It appears most of the television interviews from stations across the nation (and I think from Japan) were held outside in front of the Old Executive Office Building. It was extremely hot outside, especially in the sun where the interviews were being held, so I stayed near the door of the building in the shade. While members from my "carpool" were being interviewed, I was asked to tell any Nikkei coming out of the building that there was a celebration party being held in the Capitol Building, Room H-130, at 3 p.m. I remember those numbers well because I was told to memorize them!

Matsui's Celebration Party

After the interviews were done, our "carpool" left for the Capitol Building.

In Room H-130 were cold drinks (thank goodness), champagne (of course), and other goodies. People were mingling around talking about the signing ceremony. This celebration was also visited by Speaker of the House Jim Wright; House Majority Whip Tony Coelho; and Congressmen Barney Frank and Mike Lowry. In their brief speeches to us during the party, all the congressmen thanked us for helping them get the Redress bill passed and signed. I thought that was a nice gesture on the part of the congressmen since earlier that same week we had been thanking them for their hard work.

Our flight back to Seattle was departing at 7:45 p.m., so our "carpool" gathered up to return to Pat's house and change our clothes. For one last time, seven of us piled up into his car and went off to the airport. In the boarding area it was easy to identify the people in our group (ignoring for the moment that we were the only Nikkei); our people were the only ones falling asleep in the waiting chairs.

I don't remember much about the return flight, mainly because I was zonked out. I do remember that the flight, which would arrive in Seattle at 2 in the morning, was once again packed full. I thought, "What's wrong with these people? Don't they know they should be home in bed?" I swore I would never ride a red-eye flight again, except maybe to see the president sign a bill. ❄



The Asian American movement gained momentum with the 1982 murder and trial of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American Detroit autoworker.

'Unification' of Asians in U.S. is Urged

In 1972, JACL commissioned a panel on pan-Asianism and considered a more inclusive approach at its 22nd biennial convention in **Washington, D.C.** touching off a mission that continues today.

In this ***Pacific Citizen*** article, originally published **June 30, 1972, Bill Marutani** advocated for a JACL name change.

JACL 22nd Biennial National Convention
June 28–July 1, 1972
WASHINGTON, D.C.
Shoreham Hotel
Highlights & Accomplishments
Proposal for new name of JACL is forwarded to national board; Rep. Spark Matsunaga's bill to establish Department of Peace is endorsed.

A JACL commission on pan-Asianism to study and recommend methods "to achieve unification" of all persons of Asian ancestry in the United States is expected to be given serious consideration by the Japanese American Citizens League assembled in national convention here this week at the Shoreham.

The resolution calling for creation of the commission was drafted by the Bay Area community JACL and has been endorsed by its Northern California-Western Nevada district council (NC-WNDC).

The national JACL planning commission, addressing the same issue, earlier recommended JACL continue and expand its contacts with other Asian American groups and assist them in their organization so as to become effective in the pursuit of common purposes.

"A liaison study group should be established to explore the feasibility of promoting a federation of Asian American organizations," the planning commission urged.

'Oracle' Concept

The so-called Asian American focus within the organization goes back several years with Bill Marutani of Philadelphia JACL, writing in his "East Wind" column in the *Pacific Citizen*. He broached the subject of broadening the base and direction of JACL, "by affirmatively seeking membership among other Orientals such as Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Korean Americans, etc., coupled with full and unreserved participation" and further suggested the name for this "reconstituted organization: Oriental American Citizens League or 'ORACLE' for short".

Marutani contended those who preferred "Asian" while objecting to his "Oriental" in the name were being timid and giving into fear of others in determining what the name shall be.

Among the reasons for a need to establish a pan-Asian studies commission as cited in the NC-WNDC-endorsed proposal were:

1. Historically the destiny and well being of persons of Asian ancestry in the U.S. have been intimately inter-related and that they all share a common heritage of anti-Oriental discrimination.

Distinctions Difficult

2. A majority of non-Asian Americans tends to categorize all persons of Asian ancestry as "Orientals", failing to make any national origin, cultural or ethnic distinctions.
3. Time has come for various Asian Americans "to bury whatever animosity they may have for each other due to the Pacific War over 30 years ago".
4. Young Asian Americans share a common identity rather than separate national origin identities and as their generations intermarry, the Asian American identity will predominate over separate national origin identities.

Name Change?

The resolution also referred to a 1970 California tri-district council planning commission observation that "in looking at youth today, JACL will eventually change its name to identify with the roles it would undertake and the people it would serve". However, the planning commission made no recommendation on this point, aware it would scuttle the effectiveness of the Washington representative.



MARUTANI

The final clause in the resolution referred to the political influence and power that could be generated were persons of Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and other Asian ancestries unified and of sufficient strength to control their own destiny and well-being.

The 1970 U.S. Census shows some 2 million Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and others out of a total 200 million.

Commission members according to the resolution, would be persons who have had worked in the community not only with the Japanese but one other Asian community group. Chapters would nominate the members, supported by letters from Asian community groups.

The national president would appoint between 10 and 20 to sit on the commission. It will be instructed to submit its findings by the 1973 interim national board meeting.

Chapter Chairman Lai

Bay Area community chapter co-chairman Ron Lai, a first generation Chinese American and an insurance broker by profession at Berkeley, felt the combined numbers of various Asian Americans in a single national organization would be formidable in both the public and private sector. He cited the JACL motto, "Security Through Unity".

He was impressed by the times JACL stood up for Chinese Americans when nobody else did. He recognized the JACL potential as a powerhouse for Asian American civil liberties.

Lai was also fearful that JACL as a "Nisei organization" had little appeal to the Sansei and in time would go the way of the Issei organizations. "And with the extinction of JACL, a lot of valuable machinery will go down the drain," he said. "JACL should cultivate its estate and create a legacy: an organization for the security of all Asian Americans". ❋

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Evelynn Okubo, 18, was discovered around 10:30 p.m. at the Palmer House. Most JACLers attended the Mike Masaoka testimonial dinner six blocks away.

Murder Stuns Convention, Youth Maintains Calm

In the darkness of the **1970 Chicago convention,** JACL's innocence was stolen by a gruesome murder of a Jr. JACLer.

Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura recount the events of the evening in this article, originally published **July 24, 1970.**

JACL 21st Biennial National Convention
July 15-18, 1970
CHICAGO
Palmer House
Conrad Hilton Hotel
Highlights & Accomplishments
JACL calls U.S. actions in Vietnam morally wrong and condemns U.S. entry into Cambodia. Protocol is established for National JACL Endowment Fund.

Senior JACLers not aware of tragedy as juniors organize to stem confusion.

By Edison Uno and Raymond Okamura

Total bedlam could have erupted among the many Junior JACLers who were in the Palmer House last week July 16 when the brutal murder of Evelynn Okubo, 18, was discovered around 10:30 p.m. However, the young people reacted in a calm manner and took immediate action to control the situation.

Young adult JACLers and Jr. JACLers on the scene immediately assessed the emergency, gave first-aid to the surviving victim, notified police and hotel security, sealed off the seventh floor, searched the hallways for the suspect, stationed guards at the murder room, and stationed guards at all of the entrances to the hotel.

Most of the senior JACLers were attending the Mike Masaoka testimonial dinner six blocks away and were not aware of the tragedy until they began coming back to the Palmer House at 11 p.m. Remaining at the Palmer House were a number of young adults and students who were busy preparing materials for the next day of the convention.

Youth Mobilizes

The youth took all precautions and mobilized their forces to care for the victims and conduct an intensive search of the building. "They acted like adults," commented a national JACL officer who was one of the first to return to the Palmer House.

No one panicked under the emotional stress of the gruesome discovery. Within moments the situation at the Palmer House was under control. After the ambulance arrived to take the injured victim, Carol Ranko Yamada, 17, to the nearest Henrotin Hospital, the young adults went to the hospital to protect the only eyewitness to the murder. The JACL young adults maintained a rotating 24-hour guard until the Chicago police arrived to take over the guarding duties.

The senior JACL delegates upon returning to the Palmer House were notified of the tragedy by monitors stationed at all entrances to the hotel, and were asked to assemble on the sixth floor. The impact and emotional shock dampened the convention atmosphere, however, the senior JACLers took immediate steps to assist the youth who skillfully had the situation under control.

By 11:30 p.m. both the police and the senior JACL officers arrived and took over the investigation and arrangements. The officers, delegates and staff all helped make arrangements for the Jr. JACLers who were beginning to react with emotional outbursts upon realizing the magnitude of this tragic event.

All the Junior JACL delegates were removed from their seventh floor rooms and placed in a large conference room on the sixth floor where security, blankets and pillows were provided for the night.

The Junior JACL convention was cancelled, and the next day, arrangements were made to send the youth home. The JACL officers, Jr. JACL advisers, and conference officials worked with the hotel management and airlines to expedite the departure of Jr. JACLers to their homes.

Veteran police inspectors and news reporters, who swarmed into the hotel shortly after midnight, expressed their commendation for the mature and adult manner of all of the young people under very adverse emotional circumstances.

The tragic death of Evelynn Okubo was an incident that could have happened anywhere to anyone. But when it did happen, the young people displayed remarkable poise and the ability to move into action. ❋



The 1970 JACL convention booklet



Tragedy struck while JACLers were attending a banquet in honor of Mike Masaoka at a Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

Triumphant Night Spoiled

Festivities at the 1970 Chicago convention were marred by an unthinkable tragedy — a murder of a young JACLer in her hotel room.

In this ***Pacific Citizen*** article, originally published **July 24, 1970,** famed journalist and author **Bill Hosokawa** artfully encapsulated the night's event in powerful words.



The 1970 JACL convention booklet

By Bill Hosokawa

It had been a night of triumph, of nostalgia and sentiment and fulsome praise. The banquet to honor Mike Masaoka had stretched on a half hour longer than scheduled, which was entirely predictable.

And now many of those who had attended the testimonial at the Conrad Hilton began to drift back to the Palmer House, the main convention hotel a half-mile away.

We left the cab and strolled into the arcade on the way to the elevator. A handful of Nisei were standing at one side; just another informal caucus, we thought, or some old friends shooting the breeze before heading for their rooms.

Don Kazama of Seattle walked up. We hadn't seen each other since 1942, or maybe it was even longer ago. He demonstrated none of the exuberance of a friend of long ago greeting another friend.

"Something terrible has happened," he said. "We hear one of the junior JACLers has been killed and another badly hurt. A knifing, right here in this hotel."

Disbelief

It couldn't be; it couldn't happen to the JACL, not to a junior JACLer, not even in Chicago of the gangsters and violence and big-city harshness and impersonality.

"They've called a meeting up in the convention room on the sixth floor," Kazama was saying. "But they have the area blocked off. We can't get up there."

That part of the report was wrong. The elevators were running, and perhaps a hundred JACLers had gathered in the main convention hall. Next door, in another room, perhaps an equal number of Sansei had gathered, some sitting on the floor, stricken, frightened, their fears and disbelief feeding on each other.

Jerry Enomoto was speaking. The leader had stepped to the fore. He had gathered as much information as he could, and now, in an effort to forestall rumors, he was making it known.

Police on the Scene

A girl — he wasn't sure of her name yet — had been found slain in her hotel room. A second girl had been badly knifed, but there was every assurance her wounds would not be fatal. She had been taken to the hospital. The police were on the scene. Efforts were being made to get in touch with the girls' parents in Stockton, Calif.

Shock, disbelief, grief, fear, the emotions ran the gamut. Silence. Whispers.

A hotel security man entered the room. He reviewed what he knew, which was no more than Enomoto had reported. He said Chicago was a big city, and there were a lot of kooks running around loose in a big city. He said it was impossible to check every one of the Palmer House's hundreds of rooms.

And he did the unpardonable; he said there was a safe in the hotel offices and if anyone was afraid for his valuables, he should deposit them in the hotel vault.

A Callous Caution

No one protested this act of callousness. The kindest interpretation is that he, too, was stunned, and he was reacting by instinct. If you're worried about your valuables, put them in the safe. That's what he always told hysterical old ladies with more jewelry than was good for them to be carrying around, and so under the pressure of the moment he sought to reassure the stricken with an inane remark about valuables.

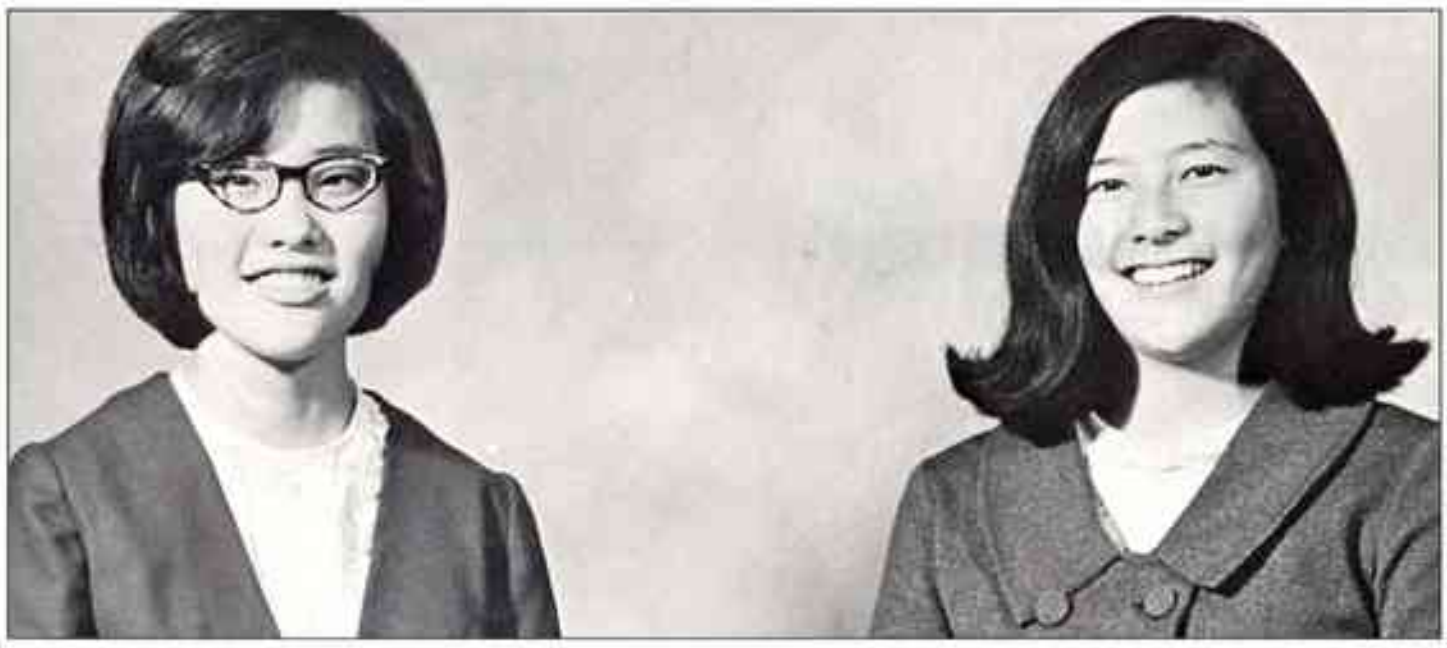
Pretty soon, it was after one o'clock, and Jerry said there wasn't anything anybody could do, and suggested that everyone go to their rooms and try to get some sleep. And most of them did go back to their rooms, opening their doors cautiously and looking in the bathroom and the closet and even under the bed to make sure no rapist with a razor was lurking in wait as he apparently had done in the death room.

But for others it was a long, long night of grief and anger that such a thing could have happened, and wondering in the dark of night about the meaning of this violence and why it had happened, and when this sickness in the land would end. ※



Bill Hosokawa was a prolific journalist and author.





SAN DIEGO JR. JACL BOARD IN 1966: ***(top, seated, l-r)*** **Naomi Matsumoto, Ruby Uyeji, Donna Kowase, Martin Koba (chair), Donna Hashiguchi (vice chair), Jean Tani, Karen Tani and Joyce Owashi.** ***(Standing, l-r)*** **Akira Takeshita (youth advisor), Connie Yamaguchi, Virginia Owashi, Kiichi Hayashi, Becky Urata, Karen Sugiyama, David Takashima, Carrie Furuya, David Uda, Emory Hoshi and Joe Yoshioka, Jr.**

(Left) **Jr. JACL opening mixer committee members Joyce Owashi (glasses) and Karen Tani.**

Accent on Youth

It took many arduous months, said **Alan Kumamoto**, then national youth director, but at the **1966 national convention in San Diego**, the Jr. JACL was formally organized, according to this article published **July 24, 1970.**

19th Biennial
July 26-30, 1966
SAN DIEGO
El Cortez Hotel
Highlights & Accomplishments
Council adopts $147,000 basic budget; dues raised from $4 to $5; chapter quotas determined at district level. Reviews 1962–65 JACL Civil Rights Committee report as basis for own $30,000 budget.

By Alan Kumamoto

WHAT A WONDERFUL WEEK—To most of those who attended the 19th biennial San Diego national convention, it was a wonderful week, hectic, tiring, yet fruitful. Our only pastime now is to recover from the lack of sleep and the running around that we did.

For myself, the week was a long one. My agenda started with a national planning commission meeting on Sunday and a national board meeting Monday ... And the convention is still not over, since many conventioneers, young and old, were rerouted home via Disneyland. One can almost hold a post-convention rally at Disneyland, since half of the total number of people who were at the convention were there.

Tuesday after convention, remnants of Midwesterners, Portlanders, Seattleittes and general leftover strays from the convention attended a cloud-covered pool party to wish one of the National Jr. JACL queen candidates, Patti Ito, a happy birthday.



Alan Kumamoto in 1966.

FINALLY—Would you believe that after four whole years and three national conventions, that finally a National Jr. JACL has become a reality with the formal establishment of the organization? Well, this is what happened at San Diego.

It took many arduous months of preparation by youth and seniors alike to make the National Jr. JACL a reality. The goal has been attained with ratification of the National Jr. JACL constitution. True, this constitution has minor errors in semantics and construction, but it retains in its basic intent the consensus of national youth organization members who have fostered the program to date. It contains rare ingredients, comments and opinions of the Jr. JACL totality.

Question now remaining before the National Jr. JACL Council is how to make the machinery function as ordained by the new constitution.

IT'S ONLY A MEMORY—One of the other fine accomplishments of the convention is the establishment of the national youth council, composed of eight district youth representatives, one being its chairman. Members are Russell Obana (NC-WNDYC) chairman; Paul Tamura, (PNWDYC) resource; Martin Koba, (PSWDYC) constitution; Misako Hasebe, (CCDC) newsletter; Bryon Morishita, (IDYC) budget and financial; David Misaki, (MPDC) credentials; Elaine Uchiyama, (MDYC) rec. sec.; and Norman Ishimoto, (EDC) project.

For these young, energetic councilors, the next two years of National Jr. JACL development rest in their ability and hands. We have to salute and commend national interim

youth council members, who have persevered and overcome many hardships of a program which has been groping for a future. We hope that all the lack of cohesion and lack of inability to comprehend concisely what was desired with the program will only be a memory.

THE LOUDEST CRY—There were approximately 40 to 50 young people who fell into the "twilight" age range from 21-30. It is quite a happy note to report that many seniors and juniors are thinking how these "twilighters" can fit into JACL's total membership plan. In fact, some of the energetic 21-30 year oldsters met with me from 11:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. after the convention outing to discuss the various regional differences, as well as ideological differences, which existed among them in their attitudes and opinions concerning the increasing and encouraging the number of 21-30 year oldsters into the JACL picture.

The only consensus, which was actually reached, was that nationally, nothing could be immediately done, but should be anticipated for the 1968 convention in San Jose. By then an even larger number of exhausted Jr. JACLers will swell a total number of 21-30 year olds. It was felt that if many of the people just over 21 left the jr. program, that much of the stability would be lost, consequently, the older juniors should filter into the senior organization, yet assure stability within youth groups.

One of the conclusions reached was to have the 21-30 group integrate within a chapter by taking out senior JACL membership and participating in the senior activities while yet maintaining their own separate young adults committee within a chapter structure to conduct activities of a social and recreational nature, more commensurate in meeting their own needs.



JR. JACL PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE OF 1966: ***(L-r)*** **Gloria Koba, youth delegate luncheon chair; David Takashima, DYC queen contest chair; and Donna Hashiguchi, youth banquet chair.**

Further thoughts will have to be expanded on this 21-30 age group.

But now, at least, the eyes of the nation are conscious of the fact that the young people are coming of age. They are interested in JACL enough to know to ask where do we belong, and how do we fit in? ❋

National Junior JACL Formally Organized



PSW DISTRICT YOUTH COUNCIL OF 1966: ***(Back row, l-r)*** **Patti Dohzen, Jimmy Hamano, Sue Shiraki, Merilynne Hamano and Kay Kamikihara.** ***(Front row, l-r)*** **Larry Matsumoto, LaDene Otsuki, Martin Koba, Rod Nakamura and Ted Tsukahara.**

SAN DIEGO—Formal recognition by the parent body of a National Jr. JACL was extended to the youth assembled for its first biennial convention this past week at El Cortez Hotel.

The youths, some 300 from as many as 38 chapters, have been meeting concurrently since Tuesday to finalize its constitution, elect officers and establish programs and directions.

The parent JACL national council Friday (July 29) adopted the recommendations from the youth assembly to be official entity within the parent body.

Eight-Member Board

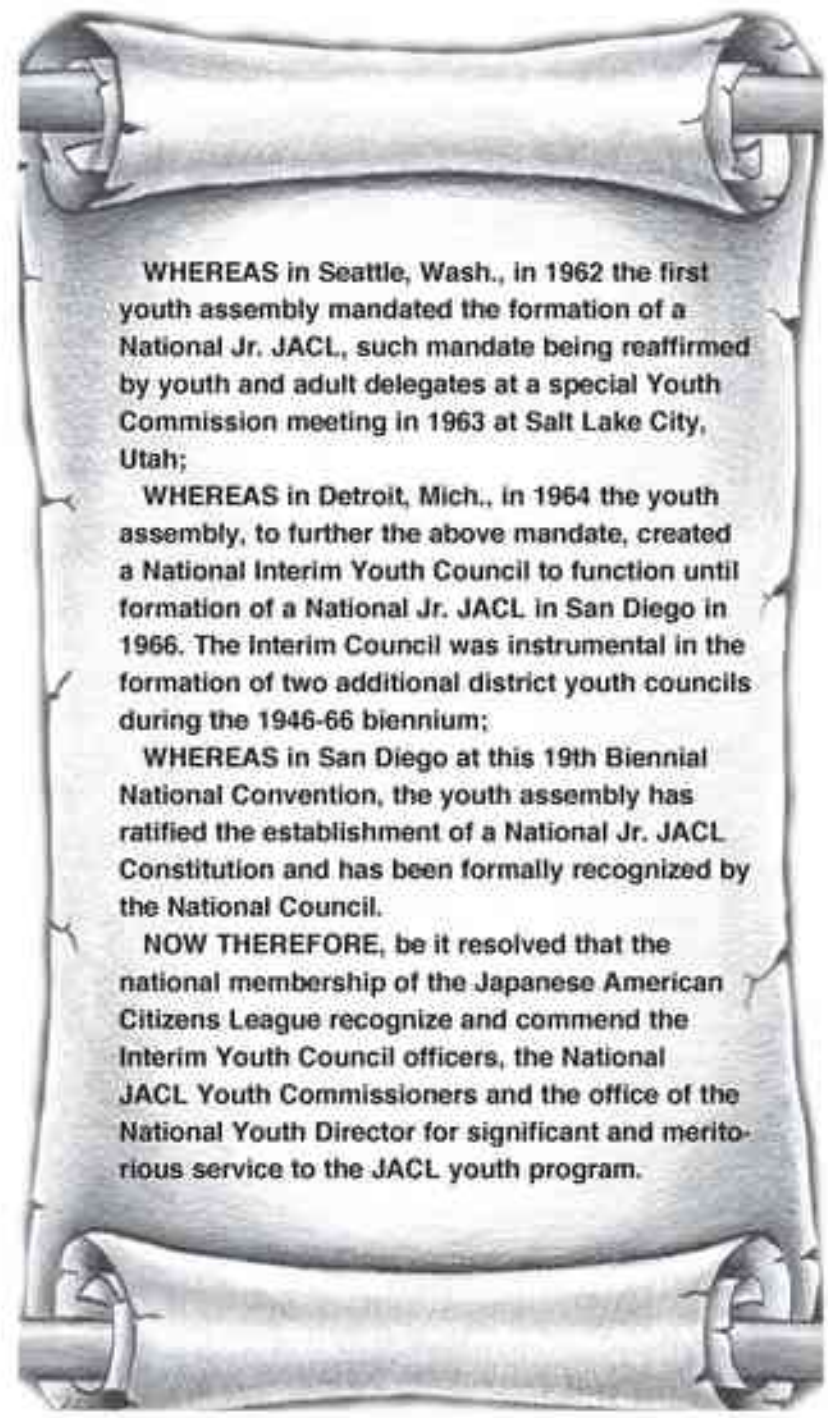
Heading an eight-member board is Russell Obana of San Francisco as chairman. A successor to the post of NC-WNDYC chairman, which he held, will be made in the coming weeks.

Other board members elected were Paul Tamura of Oregon City, Ore. (PNW), resource; David Misaki of Omaha (MPDC), credentials; Bryon Morishita of Idaho Falls (IDYC), finance; Misako Hasebe of Yettem (CCDC), newsletter; Norman Ishimoto of Wheaton, MD (EDC), project; Martin Koba of Chula Vista (PSWDYC), constitution; and Elaine Uchiyama of St. Louis (MDYC), rec. sec.

Tamura and Koba are also relinquishing their DYC chairmanships to serve on the Jr. national board and successors are to be selected.

The National Jr. JACL will have district councils and its grass-roots organizations will be called chapters.

It had been recommended that terms distinct from the parent organization be adopted — federated youth clubs for the national body, interclub council for the district level, and clubs at the local level. ❋



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From the
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'You get just what you deserve in your own initiative,' said famed World War II pilot Ben Kuroki, pictured here on leave at a WWII camp.

JACL Honors Americans Who Fought For Civil Rights of Nisei

These previously unsung heroes who stood up for justice were recognized at the **1964 national convention in Detroit**, according to this article published **July 10, 1964**.

JACL 18th Biennial National Convention
June 30-July 4, 1964
DETROIT
Sheraton Cadillac
Highlights & Accomplishments
Council devises national JACL civil rights fund in wake of President Lyndon B. Johnson's signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
JACL supports two statewide issues: Calif. Prop. 14 to defeat initiative against fair housing and Washington's campaign to repeal Anti-Alien Law.

DETROIT—Honored at the 18th biennial national JACL convention testimonial banquet July 3 here were six distinguished Americans who, during the trying years of WWII, stood up and made heard their voices calling for fair play and dignity for their fellow Americans of Japanese ancestry.

A grateful people thus paid tribute to Dr. Clarence Pickett, representing the American Friends Service Committee and the religious faiths of America; Roger N. Baldwin, representing the American Civil Liberties Union and the "civil righters" of America; the Rev. John W. Thomas, representing the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council and the educators of America; Norman Thomas representing the Post War World Council and the private organizations of America; Mrs. Harry Kingman, representing the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play and Americans of goodwill; and to Japanese Americans who served in the armed forces in WWII and to ex-Sgt. Ben Kuroki, U.S. Army Air Force.

Mike Masaoka, JACL Washington representative, who was the guest toastmaster said, "Yesterday, the president of the United States signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Tonight we honor these Americans who, 20 years ago, when there were no rights for those of Japanese ancestry behind barbed wires, stood up and were counted on the side of freedom and justice."

Honorees Respond

In their responses, the honored guests recounted some of the events of 20 years ago out of their close association with the JACL and persons of Japanese ancestry. They expressed their appreciation of the qualities of integrity and loyalty, which made them, in turn, recipients of a truly fulfilling association.

Dr. Pickett said that among his memories of these years was the fact that "you never seemed to be afraid."

"Events have carried you far but there are still parts of our country where native born Americans are still experiencing deep trials and are denied recognition of their sense of integrity and decency," Pickett said.

The first and only honorary consul general of Japan cited that "we have a unique part to play in East-West relations." He also stated, "we must all play a part in seeing that war, as an attempt to solve our disputes, is futile."



Dr. Clarence Pickett, of the American Friends Service Committee, was among the honorees.

Wears Decoration

Roger Baldwin declared, "it is an honor to the United States that the JACL exists to help put into effect those principles to which the nation is committed by its very constitutional origin."

Baldwin, who, by request, wore the decoration, the Order of the Rising Sun presented by a grateful postwar Japanese government for his work in legal democratic processes states, "Ahead lies a great era of hope. We are participants in an effort for a

CIVIL RIGHTS
CONTINUED ON PAGE 65



In 1963, JACLers joined the march on Washington to demand jobs and freedom.

Fitting Climax to Convention: Wilkins' Challenge to Nisei

At the **1964 national convention in Detroit,** the theme was 'Human Dignity.' Roy Wilkins, of the NAACP, had just been to the White House to witness the historic signing of the Civil Rights Act before speaking to JACLers about the 'heart' of civil rights in this ***Pacific Citizen*** article, originally published **July 10, 1964.**

DETROIT—It seemed made to order. It was the Fourth of July, the last day of the 18th biennial national JACL convention in a city that was celebrating International Freedom Days with its Canadian neighbors. The president had just signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, was the principal speaker. The eloquent spokesman for civil rights for all Americans addressed some 500 persons at the Sheraton Cadillac's Grand Ballroom on the convention theme: "Human Dignity — Our Challenge."

After quoting from the Declaration of Independence, Wilkins said:

"Our forefathers proclaimed a democratic process to bring 'life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness' to the people … We have met our challenge by the passing of the Civil Rights Bill. It brings the Negro under the umbrella of Constitutional citizenship because for many years he lived in a no man's land legally.

"The value of Civil Rights — 1964 is its reaffirmation of the citizenship status of the Negro in making him once more able to compete on the same plateau with others."

Witnessed Signing

Wilkins was among those invited by the White House to witness the historic signing of the Civil Rights Act by President Johnson July 2. He paused to add that the convention theme was perfect for this historic day.

True brotherhood in action was demonstrated there as the coming days lay the challenge for compliance of this bill.

Explaining the philosophy of law, Wilkins said they outline and determine human behavior, some prescribe and regulate but the duty for the living today is "to translate the Declaration of Independence off the parchment into our lives … and this must be done in our hearts.

"It is a matter of the heart—none is so poor that he does not have a heart: none is so rich that he can do without a heart," Wilkins declared, in urging everyone to work in their state, community and heart to bring about justice and hope to this land.

"This is a monumental task and only through leadership of groups like the JACL can the successful implementation of civil rights legislation be enacted."

He reminded in closing: "One year of hard work achieved victory but at the loss of a president." (In front of the Sheraton Cadillac Hotel is a plaque marking the spot where President Kennedy made his last public appearance in Detroit on Oct. 4.



Roy Wilkins, NAACP exec. secretary, was the principal speaker at the 1964 convention.

Jr. JACLers Recognized

A splendor of gigantic fireworks lit the skies over Detroit but the convention banquet sparkled with glitter with the unexpected presence of Rep. Spark Matsunaga, whose every endeavor has promoted "Human Dignity — Our Challenge."

WILKINS
CONTINUED ON PAGE 65



Hiroshi H. Miyamura, here with President Dwight D. Eisenhower, was the guest of honor at the 13th biennial national convention.

Persons Who Aided Japanese During Evacuation Period Honored by JACL

JACL thanks its WWII heroes and friends at the **1954 national convention in Los Angeles,** according to this ***Pacific Citizen*** article originally published **Sept. 10, 1954.**

JACL 13th Biennial National Convention
Sept. 1-6, 1954
LOS ANGELES
Statler Hotel
Highlights & Accomplishments
At the 1000 Club whing-ding, animation artist Sam Kai, of NY was the 1000th member. Council establishes JACL civil rights study commission.

Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda of West Los Angeles presided at the first JACL convention luncheon held in the Pacific Ballroom, Hotel Statler, at noon Sept. 2, with about 200 delegates in attendance.

Father Clement of Maryknoll Mission delivered the invocation prayer, followed by greetings from Dr. Sonoda as master of ceremonies. Miss Janet Fukuda, national JACL queen for 1954, with her princesses, Janet Okimoto and Mary Enomoto, were introduced.

Official welcome to delegates was extended by Dr. Roy M. Nishikawa, convention chairman. He spoke on behalf of the six associate chairmen, 52 committees and 500 committee members who have been working during the past two years to stage a really worthwhile conclave for this national Nisei gathering.

Among honored guests introduced by the toastmaster was Sgt. Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, New Mexico, Nisei winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor. Miyamura was designated as guest of honor of the 13th national JACL convention. Mrs. Miyamura was unable to attend, since presenting the war hero with a six-pound baby boy recently.

The national JACL staff headed by national director Masao W. Satow, was presented, with introductions of: Mike M. Masaoka, Washington representative; Tad Masaoka, Washington office assistant; Tats Kushida, Southern California director; Haruo Ishimaru, Northern California-Nevada director; Min Yasui, Mountain Plains director; and Harry Honda, *Pacific Citizen* editor.

71 Chapters

Masao W. Satow, national director, introduced official delegates present at the luncheon. It was noted that on this first day of the convention, 71 chapters of the total 87 chapters of the national organization were presented and present.

Among delegates from distant cities included: Toshi Hasuike for Spokane; Ira Shimasaki of Seabrook; Dr. Mitsuo Nakata and John Hada from Portland, Oregon; Ruby Hirose from Dayton, Ohio; Sam Y. Matsumoto for the Mile-Hi JACL of Denver, Colo.; Mike Suzuki and Tomo Enochty of New York.



Hatsumi Mitsunaga leads Lagoon Night for Ogden, Salt Lake and Murray chapters in 1954.

Abe Hagiwara, Shig Wakamatsu and Kumeo Yoshinari of Chicago; Tom Kadomoto of Arizona; Hiroshi Miyamura of New Mexico; George Kashiwagi and Miyoko Nakatsu of Seattle; Thos S. Takemura and Bob Mizukami of Puyallup Valley, Wash.; Emiko Watanabe of Omaha; Jim Ushio of Mt. Olympus, Utah; H. Tom Tamaki of Philadelphia; Carol Tsuda and John S. Katsu of Washington, D.C.; George Yoshino of the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.; Kay Miyaya of Detroit; Hatsumi Mitsunaga of Salt Lake City.

EVACUATION
CONTINUED ON PAGE 73



'What inhibits the freedom of a Japanese American ultimately inhibits my freedom,' said Dore Schary, keynoter at the 1954 convention.

Keynote Speaker Dore Schary Urges Nisei Not to Lose Diversity, Urges JACL to Act with Strength

At the **1954 national convention in Los Angeles,** Hollywood came to the JACL with MGM executive Schary as the keynote speaker. He urged Nisei to 'not lose your diversity.'

This ***Pacific Citizen*** article was originally published **September 10, 1964.**

The 13th national JACL convention was officially opened at the opening ceremonies held in the Pacific Ballroom of the Hotel Statler on Thursday evening, Sept. 2, with George E. Maruya, chairman, presiding.

Featured speaker of the evening was Dore Schary, director of productions and studio operations of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, who expressed a special interest in the Japanese Americans, as demonstrated by the filming of "Go For Broke". He expressed his strong belief that America has remained strong and triumphant because of the individuality of citizens and groups.

Schary said, "What inhibits the freedom of a Japanese American ultimately inhibits my freedom. What endangers the liberties of the American Negro will affect the well-being of the Japanese Americans."

Schary urged Nisei "do not lose your diversity, but lend your diversity to the American scene — bring all that is good; all that is bountiful of your Japanese inheritance to this our American scene, and take from the crucible that is America those things which are offered you."



MGM's Dore Schary produced the film 'Go For Broke' about WWII Nisei soldiers.

Continue to Speak Out

In speaking of special pleadings, Dore Schary urged the JACL to continue to speak out for objectives in the interests of persons of Japanese ancestry. He stated "Mike Masaoka, as a Japanese American interested in your special problems, is an American as Ralph Bunche, who serves his nation and his people the same way as do Bernard Baruch and President Eisenhower, in their service and devotion to the common cause."

He urged the JACL to continue to speak out, "We must act with strength," he said, "to stop the clamor and restore order to our political and moral house. We cannot allow recklessness and irresponsibility to go unchallenged. We cannot become timid, because one voice speaks loudly."

Ex-Sgt. Hiroshi Miyamura of Gallup, New Mexico, the honor guest of the convention, led the audience of more than 500 people in a moment of silent tribute in memory of fallen comrades. Members of the VFW Nisei Memorial Post No. 9938 presented colors at the beginning of the ceremonies.

Councilman Ed Roybal of the city council of Los Angeles read a resolution passed by the council commending the Japanese Americans in Los Angeles, and extending official and warm welcome to the delegates. National president George Inagaki accepted the engraved resolution on behalf of the organization.

George E. Maruya opened the ceremonies by introducing Rev. Ray Holder of the Episcopal Church, who delivered the invocation. The national JACL convention queen, Janet Fukuda, and her attendants, Janet Okimoto and Mary Enomoto

SCHARY
CONTINUED ON PAGE 73

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Under the indemnity proposal, all evacuees of Japanese ancestry who were 18 years of age or older as of Feb. 19, 1942, would have received $500.

JACL May Ask Lump Sum Indemnity for Evacuees

JACL fought for compensation for the World War II forced evacuation of Japanese Americans, according to this ***Pacific Citizen*** article originally published **Oct. 7, 1950**.

11th Biennial
Sept. 28–Oct. 2, 1950
CHICAGO
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Highlights & Accomplishments

Mike Masaoka is named first Nisei of Biennium; JACL Ruby Pins (approved by 1948 council for wartime contributions and sacrifices to JACL) to Ruby Yoshino Schaar, Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Pfc. Tom Higa and 17 former staff members. WRA director Dillon Myer addresses testimonial fete for officials and individuals who aided Japanese Americans during WWII. Council actions include proposing age-category lump sum evacuation claims payment: $500 for persons above age 18 as of Feb. 19, 1942, $100 for persons between 12–18.

Advance payment proposal also voted by delegates at evacuation claims session.

CHICAGO—Changes in the Evacuation Claims Act of 1948 to provide for an indemnity for evacuees and for a 25 percent advance payment on claims were proposed by the national council of the Japanese American Citizens League at its 11th biennial convention in the Hotel Stevens.

The council was informed that the Justice Department's evacuation claims program was bogging down in a morass of red tape and restrictive adjudicative procedures.

The JACL's committee on evacuation claims urged that the indemnity proposal and the recommendation for a system of advanced payment were inspired by the necessity for accelerating the government's evacuation claims program. Delegates were told by Mike M. Masaoka, legislative director of JACL ADC (Anti-Discrimination Committee), that the program would take 10 years or more to complete under present procedures.



JACL delegates at the 1950 convention.

Under the indemnity proposal, all evacuees of Japanese ancestry who were 18 years of age or older as of Feb. 19, 1942, will receive $500, while persons who were between the ages of 12 and 18 years of age on that date will receive $100. Under this proposal all claims up to $500 will be withdrawn in lieu of the payment, while $500 will be subtracted from claims payments over that figure. Evacuees who did not file for evacuation claims will be eligible for the indemnity payments since, as the JACL's claims committee noted, it is assumed that every evacuee suffered losses of at least $500 as a direct consequence of the mass evacuation.

The proposal for 25 percent advance payment provides that the evacuees may receive 25 percent of their claim before adjudication if the Department of Justice is satisfied that the claim is legitimate. When the adjudication is completed, the advance payment may be subtracted from the final award. If the award is smaller than the advance payment the claimant will return the difference to the government.

In passing the two proposals for amendments to the Evacuation Claims Act, the council granted discretionary power to the Washington office of the JACL ADC to work for the introduction of the amendments except under circumstances in which the office felt that such action would jeopardize the whole evacuation claims program.

The council was informed that approximately $131,000,000 in claims have been filed by 24,000 wartime evacuees of Japanese ancestry under the Evacuation Claims Act. The claimants are residents of 44 states, the District of Columbia and the territories of Hawaii and Alaska. Nearly 17,000 of the claimants are now living in California. Although there are nearly 600 claims less than $1,000, the average claim is for $5,000 and 77 are for more than $100,000.

The JACL committee also favored an effort to broaden the coverage of the present Evacuation Claims Act to include persons of Japanese ancestry who were forced to evacuate from Terminal Island before the mass evacuation.

Among the speakers on the evacuation claims program were Edward Ennis, special counsel for JACL ADC, Mike M. Masaoka, Saburo Kido and Frank Chuman.

Chuman stressed the necessity for the Department of Justice to provide "guideposts for adjudication" in order to clarify provision in the Evacuation Claims Act which need interpretation.

Ennis noted that although the claims act was passed by Congress as a remedial act, proceedings under the act under the policy of adjudication now in practice were comparable to litigation against the government. He expressed the hope that Congress might amend the law in order to restore it to the original intent of remedial action.

The council also heard a firsthand report of adjudicative proceedings under the claims act from Kido who also stressed that the examination of claims approached judicial proceedings.

George Tanaka, executive secretary of the Japanese Canadian Citizens Association, described the Canadian government's evacuation claims program. ❄

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Lane Ryo Hirabyashi is is the George and Sakaye Aratani Professor of the Japanese American Redress, Internment, and Community at UCLA. Both he and Carl Iwasaki are available for combined speaking engagments. Please contact Beth Svinarich at beth@upcolorado.com or 720-406-8849 x.3 for more information.

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Seabrook JACL President John Fuyuume *(right)* congratulates an Issei couple from Seabrook Farms for becoming U.S. citizens in 1953.

JACL National Convention Urges Citizenship for Issei

In the **Mile-Hi city** for its **1946** national convention, JACL vowed to seek justice for Issei with outstanding war records who were denied the privilege of naturalization, according to this **March 9, 1946, *Pacific Citizen*** article.

9th Biennial
Feb. 28–March 4, 1946
DENVER
Highlights & Accomplishments
Cosmopolitan Hotel President Harry Truman's tribute to the convention cites Nisei who served the United States so valiantly in WWII. Ex-Sgt. Ben Kuroki volunteers for JACL service in New York to speak for Issei naturalization.

Delegates vote to retain headquarters in Salt Lake City, seek evacuation compensation.

The ninth biennial convention of the Japanese American Citizens League, meeting in Denver from Feb. 28 to March 4, adopted a forward-looking program designed to carry out its general objective of promoting "the interests and welfare of all Americans in general and those of Japanese ancestry in particular."

Electing Hito Okada as national president, the convention voted to carry on a program to win naturalization and citizenship rights for all persons of demonstrated loyalty to the United States, "without regard to national origin, race or creed."

In his advocacy of the JACL's basic program, which was approved by the convention, National Secretary Mike M. Masaoka declared:

"We believe that the enactment of the foregoing legislation would strike at the heart of most discriminatory acts and thinking against persons of Japanese descent, for these are based upon the fact that, by law, Japanese nationals are 'inadmissible' to citizenship."



JACLers enjoy social hour at the 1946 convention.

It was stressed that the JACL was concerned with the status of resident aliens of Japanese ancestry who had made an outstanding war record but who were denied the privileges of naturalization.

The convention voted to retain the national headquarters of the organization in Salt Lake City for two more years. The headquarters has been moved from San Francisco to Salt Lake City in March 1942.

The JACL delegates unanimously supported a resolution to Congress urging the enactment of legislation for the creation of a claims commission in order to compensate legitimate claimants for losses sustained as a result of discriminatory treatment during the war.

The convention asked for federal affirmation of responsibility for the relocation and rehabilitation of the West Coast evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

JACL delegates also supported a program, which will call for organizational action in support of equal rights and opportunities for all in employment and in housing and in the business and professional fields. It was announced that the JACL would oppose all forms of "discrimination based upon arbitrary distinctions in any field of human relationships."

The organization's support of FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Commission) legislation and local civil rights code was affirmed.

"We believe in equal rights equal opportunities and equal pay in employment. We condemn all restrictive practices which tend to keep certain racial groups in lower wages and employment levels and

CITIZENSHIP
CONTINUED ON PAGE 61

Wartime, Post-War Problems of Japanese American Group Discussed at JACL Confab

Approximately 100 register at opening of national conference.

Close to 100 delegates from chapters of the Japanese American Citizens League throughout the nation and from relocation centers registered on Friday, Dec. 1, at the Japanese Christian Church at Salt Lake City for the first national conference held since 1942.

The theme of the conference, "Your Place in America Tomorrow Will Be What You Make It Today," will be carried out throughout the three-day meet in discussions and talks on topics of vital importance to Japanese Americans in present-day America.

Special subjects to be discussed include farm problems, evacuee resettlement and the return to the West Coast prohibited areas.

Speakers for the conference will include Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Chicago office representative; Joe G. Masaoka, Denver office representative; A. L. Wirin, of the American Civil Liberties Union; Mrs. Ruth Kingman, Committee for American Principles and Fair Play; William C. Carr, Friends of the American Way; Royal H. Fisher, Denver, chairman of the West Coast Protestant Commission; and Togo Tanaka, American Friends Service.

The conference opened Friday at 2 p.m. with a steering meeting, followed by reports from delegates and regional representatives.

Discussions on agriculture were held, led by Clark Allred of the Farm Security Administration. Professor D.A. Broadbent of the Utah State Agricultural college addressed the group on "The Agricultural Situation of the West."

Allred described the work of his agency in facilitating the acquiring of equipment, seed and farm loans, and in aiding the formation of cooperatives.

Saturday meetings will include reports by national officers; discussions on the JACL constitution and budget, and discussions on civil rights, farm problems and evacuee reestablishment.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE AND MARY MASUNAGA AND RICHARD HAMAI

JACLers gather at a national convention.

A special public meeting will be held Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Japanese Christian Church. Mrs. Ruth Kingman, A.L. Wirin and William C. Carr will be guest speakers.

On Sunday morning delegates will breakfast at the Golden Pheasant, 147 South State street, at 10 a.m.

The YWCA Friendship and Service committee will hold a remembrance closing dinner on Sunday from 6:30 p.m. at the YWCA, 322 East Third South Street.

JACL 8th Biennial
National Convention
Dec. 1-3, 1944
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
243 W. First Street

CITIZENSHIP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 60

brackets, or which grant lower wage scales for the same work to certain groups as compared to others," the convention declared.

The convention opposed the segregation of soldiers in military units and called for the elimination of discrimination from municipal, state and federal civil service.

Supporting the right of Americans to live in homes and districts of their own choosing, the convention declared its opposition to racially restrictive covenants.

It backed the present test cases to determine the legality of anti-alien property legislation and urged judicial reconsideration of legal issues raised by the evacuation.

It proposed the survey of losses suffered by the evacuees in the evacuation and relocation, including damage sustained to stored goods.

Constitutional changes to democratize the organization and to give associated members' representation in the national council were approved.

All official sessions were held in the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Delegates from 19 chapters were present at the convention.

At the opening session on March 1 delegates approved a record budget of $64,000 for the coming year, $37,300 for 1947 and $26,100 for 1948.

The following committees were active during the JACL convention:

Constitution: Mits Kaneko, Denver, chairman; Etsu Masaoka, San Jose; and Yuri Yamashita, Salt Lake City.



Mike Masaoka *(third from left)* was the JACL's national secretary.

Finance and Budget: Jay Terashima, Salt Lake City, chairman; George Furuta, Denver; Dorothy Wada, North Platte; Scotty Tsuchiya, Los Angeles; and Stymie Hanami, Yellowstone.

Membership: Masao Satow, chairman; Eli Kobayashi, Idaho Falls; Dr. M. M. Hori, Ogden; and, George Makabe, Auburn.

Nominations: Taki Domoto, Denver, chairman; Shigeki Ushio, Mount Olympus, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Chicago; Haruo Yamasaki, Yellowstone; and, Tom Takatori, Boise Valley.

Program & Activities: Dr. Randolph M. Sakada, Chicago, chairman; Minoru Yasui, Denver; George Fuji, Mount Olympus; Peter Aoki, New York City; and, George Minato, Seattle.

Pacific Citizen Committee: Fred Ochi, Idaho Falls, chairman; Jack Noda, Denver; Noboru Honda, Chicago; George Kuroki, North Platte; and Kaye Uyeda, San Francisco.

Credentials: George Shiozawa, Pocatello, chairman; Mrs. Merijane Yoke, Denver; and Toyse Kato, Ogden.

Resolutions: Joe Asoka, San Francisco, chairman; Toshio Ando, Denver; Yukio Inouye, Idaho Falls; Mrs. Alice Kasai, Salt Lake City; and Yurino Takayoshi, New York City.

Credit Union: Hito Okada, Salt Lake City, chairman; Charles Kamayatsu, Denver; and, Paul Okumura, Pocatello.

Nisei Veterans: George Inagaki, Venice, Calif.; chairman; Ben Kuroki, North Platte, Neb.; and Tom Matsumori, Mount Olympus.

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PHOTO: THEY CALL ME MOSES MASAOKA

Masaoka family: *(standing, l-r)* **Ike, Mike, Tad, Joe and Hank.** *(Seated, L-r)* **Kyoko, Haruye, grandmother Tsuru Goto and Shinko.**

Improvement of West Coast Attitudes Toward Evacuees Told at JACL Conference

During World War II JACL conventions took on a more muted tone. The **1944 convention** took place in Salt Lake City where business included a constitutional amendment to allow all Americans to participate in the JACL.

This article was originally published on **Dec. 9, 1944.**

JACL 8th Biennial National Convention
Dec. 1-3, 1944
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
243 W. First Street

Improvement of West Coast attitudes toward evacuees told at JACL conference.

By Joe Grant Masaoka

For the first time since evacuation JACL delegates to the national conference held in Salt Lake City, Dec. 1-3, heard first hand of the democratic fight for their rights as it has been waged in their absence by West Coast organizations. Reporting at this meeting were William C. Carr, Friends of the Way; Mrs. Ruth Kingman, executive secretary of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, and A.L. Wirin, special JACL counsel and representative of the American Civil Liberties Union.

This struggle for recognition and acceptance along the West Coast was indicated as a three front challenge of public relations, direct action on the neighborhood level and civil liberties. That resentment toward Japanese is fading, except in Oregon, was the general opinion of the speakers.



Four of the five Masaoka brothers who served in the U.S. Army: *(from left)* **Ben, killed in action, Mike, Tad, Ike and Hank.**

Aspects of farming as they pertain to Japanese were among topics discussed by a federal and state expert. It was suggested that regional farm conferences for Issei and Nisei be held.

Spurred by an appeal for American citizenship by Miss Helen Eto, resolutions asking for government recognition of the aid which Issei are making in dispensable capacities and naturalization for Japanese aliens were adopted. Opening up of all wartime services, irrespective of race, was also urged. The national conference conveyed its reiteration of JACL recommendations to Gen. Bonesteel for:

1. Automatic clearance for Nisei soldier's families to the West Coast.
2. Revocation of the edict denoting certain articles as "contraband."
3. Issuance of a statement by the Western Defense Command that disloyalty was not the basis for evacuation
4. Declaration of policy by civilian authorities to protect evacuees on their return.

Passed unanimously was an amendment to the JACL constitution to allow for participation as active members by all Americans, irrespective of race. The amendment will be brought up before local chapters for ratification by majority vote.

Recommended by the national staff of the JACL, a proposal to issue a monthly league publication was adopted unanimously by delegates at the conference.

Participating in conference discussions were Masao Satow, YWCA national board field representative; Roy H. Fisher, chairman of the West Coast Protestant Commission; and Togo Tanaka, Amer-Friends Service committee.

Finale of the three-day sessions came with a banquet held Sunday evening at the YWCA. Impromptu guests of honor were nine Nisei soldiers of the original 100th Infantry Battalion. Still in battledress, they were on their first furlough after 15 months on the front.

Group members made a final pledge to "dedicate ourselves and our communities to building up a democratic environment of a kind which our returning soldiers will be proud to have fought for." ❋

WILKINS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 51

Alert to every situation and easily recognizing the many Jr. JACLers seated in the mezzanine, Matsunaga aimed his remarks at them:

"Prejudice cannot be fought on the battleground alone, but must be done through education and by overcoming the hatred some Americans harbor today." He reminded them that, "The greatest concept of living handed to us by our parents is — *On wo Wasurenu* (Never forget your gratitude to others)."

Outgoing National JACL President K. Patrick Okura of Omaha summarized the convention as "stimulating and fruitful."

"Though we have matured and attained national stature as an organization, we must awaken our conscience to the civil rights effort," he added. "Our foregoing programs will be directed toward improving the positive image we have established through the years."

Okura received the gratitude of the membership for his leadership and guidance during the dynamic fight for civil rights legislation. As toastmaster Roy Kaneko was moved to say, "We are indeed fortunate to have had the right person at the right time at the right place."



At the 1964 convention, outgoing national president K. Patrick Okura called the convention 'fruitful.'

Installation

Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe, first constitutionally elected national JACL president in 1934, swore in the newly elected national JACL board headed by Kumeo Yoshinari, 53, of Chicago.

Yoshinari expressed confidence in the progress anticipated by JACL in the next two years.

Then came the announcement of the "JACLer of the Biennium" with Father. Clement of Maryknoll, Downtown L.A. JACL, named; and the "Nisei of the Biennium" winners — the gold medallion going to Henry Y. Kasai of Salt Lake City, the silver medallions to Rep. Spark Matsunaga and Dr. Tom Omori, Aerojet general executive now in Tokyo. All were on hand to personally receive the awards.

Father Clement was a little tongue-tied in accepting the award. Kasai reminisced at length for which he had come as a young lad of 13 from Japan in 1904 at San Francisco. A naturalized citizen, he declared he was "not physically a Nisei but was in spirit."

Matsunaga admitted the honor topped his own feelings when asked to deliver the Washington farewell address in the House. Dr. Omori said the award recognizes the eminence of Nisei in the fields of science and engineering.

Frank Watanabe, convention chairman, introduced Mas Hironaka, 1966 convention chairman. In his closing remarks, Watanabe charged the delegates and members to resolve, here and now, to meet again in San Diego in 1966.

"We hope the success of our convention will be a continuing one."

The Rev. Henry Fukui, of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Ypsilanti, gave the invocation. The Rev. James W. Wadsworth, Jr., of St. Mark's Community Church and Detroit NAACP president, recited the benediction. Mrs. Kimiko Matsumoto entertained with a koto selection. ❄

CIVIL RIGHTS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 50

world citizenship in which men and women will be recognized for what they are and accorded their merits regardless of race, religion, sex or national origin."

The Rev. John W. Thomas recalled the many lessons he learned out of the experiences of those years. "Because we remained silent too long, there was nothing we could do but pass out donuts—if human dignity is to be experienced by a minority group, the leadership must be assumed by the membership of that group."

From the beauty and life which he saw spring from the desolate desert camps, the Baptist minister said, "We learned that there is something in the human spirit that cannot be defeated." Quoting Browning, he said, "The worst turns the best for the brave."

"Because of your courage, dignity and respect in American society has been won by you," he concluded.

Mixed Up World

Norman Thomas reiterated what the other guests said, "It's you who won the victory and it's we who ought to be grateful to you."

"In this mixed-up world, the gains we made through your efforts are not too substantial if we are going to live in fear of everlasting war."

Mrs. Ruth Kingman noted, "We were trying to put into practice what others were trying to do in principle." She helped organize communities up and down the coast of persons from the fields or education, religion, labor and management in an effort to change their thinking in regards to the evacuees, if and when they returned to their original homes on the West Coast. Mrs. Kingman and her husband to this day are carrying on a citizen's lobby for fair play in Washington.



Lawmakers and leaders witness President Lyndon B. Johnson's signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Kuroki's Slant

The dramatic turning point in the attitude, as exhibited in California in particular, was the appearance in 1944 of Ben Kuroki before the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, which was arranged by Mrs. Kingman. The apparent hostility and indifference of much of the audience ended with a standing ovation for the much decorated war hero. The "Boy from Nebraska" spent his 59th mission on the home front fighting prejudice and hostility.

Since 1955, Kuroki has been owner and publisher of a weekly, *Williamston Enterprise and Meridian News*.

"Human dignity and opportunity are open commodities in the American market. You get just what you deserve in your own initiative," he concluded.

The testimonial banquet, attended by some 450 delegates, was emceed by Peter Fujioka. ❄

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National conventions gave JACLers the opportunity to execute important civil rights work and socialize with like-minded friends.

Democracy in Action: JACL Leaders Discuss Problems

Delegates from War Relocation Centers discuss policies at the meeting in Salt Lake City, according to this *Pacific Citizen* article originally published **Nov. 19, 1942.**

JACL 7th Biennial National Convention
Nov. 17-24, 1942
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
Highlights & Accomplishments

JACL's budget is expanded by $50,000 to increase personnel and facilities for resettlement, in particular. The Allied war effort is reinforced and Axis power is denounced. Votes to promote JACL organization within the camps.

Problems born of wartime dislocation were under vigorous discussion this week in Salt Lake City as 50 representative delegates of the Japanese American Citizens League from nine war relocation centers and from "free zone" chapters met in an eight-day conference to develop an over-all policy for the JACL.

The discussions explored the present status of Americans of Japanese ancestry, inside and outside the relocation centers, particularly in reference to the civil rights and liberties of the Nisei as affected by wartime restrictions.

Delegates from the WRA centers reported on various policies and practices including community management, health and medical care, student relocation, education, community activities and enterprises, public welfare, internal security, agricultural and industrial development, project newspapers and reports and inside and outside employment.

On Wednesday afternoon the delegates heard Dr. Galen Fisher, executive secretary of the Northern California Committee for Fair Play and a member of the West Coast Protestant Commission, discussed the relationship of religion to the morale of the evacuees in the relocation centers.

A. L. zWirin, general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, main speaker at the Thursday afternoon session reviewed the civil liberties as affected by evacuation and relocation and discussed the various test cases now pending on exclusion and subsequent military orders as affecting citizens of the United States.

Mike M. Masaoka, national secretary of the JACL, presented a lengthy report on the work of the Washington office of the JACL and told of the interest of various religious, liberal and social work organizations on the problems raised by evacuation and on the people affected by it. Masaoka told of the JACL's part in representing Nisei Americans in fighting discriminatory legislation and told of the common problems faced by Negro Americans and other minority groups in the United States.

'In his report, the national secretary described the JACL as being the "only real outlet those in the relocation centers have to the outside world."'

In his report, the national secretary described the JACL as being the "only real outlet those in the relocation centers have to the outside world."

"Just as our country (the United States) is engaged in a life and death struggle, so we Americans of Japanese ancestry are battling for our very destiny," Masaoka said. "A cooperative attitude on your part toward the War Relocation Authority and other agencies will do much toward having Japanese Americans become an integral part of American society."

He pointed out that the philosophy of the league is to assist the welfare of the United States' war effort first of all, and to do injustice to the American citizens of Japanese descent who want to contribute to the winning of the war by the United Nations.

Delegates to the conference also hoped to develop a basic policy to be followed on the resettlement of the evacuees in communities outside war relocation centers.



Masaoka pointed out that the conference must lay plans first to determine how Americans of Japanese descent can best contribute to the war effort.

The delegates looked forward to a closed conference Saturday with Dillon Myers, national director of the War Relocation Authority, and with Leland Barrows, special administrative officer of the WRA.

Dean Robert O'Brien, national director of the Japanese American Student Relocation Council, was scheduled to discuss the achievements and future outlook of the student relocation. Arriving in Salt Lake City Thursday from the East, Dean O'Brien indicated that nearly three hundred colleges and universities had now been cleared for evacuee students of Japanese ancestry and expressed a hope that the program of student relocation would be accelerated. He stated that more than 300 students had been relocated at colleges and universities outside the West Coast combat zone.

The conference discussed means of combating unfound rumors of Nisei disloyalty, of fabrications of sabotage by residents of Japanese extraction in Hawaii on Dec. 7, of misleading magazine articles, motion pictures and newspaper stories.

"Millions have read the unfounded rumors about the Hawaiian Japanese on Dec. 7, but only a few have seen the Tolan Congressional Committee reports, which prove these rumors had no basis in fact," Masaoka said.

Employment and housing discrimination encountered by Japanese Americans were considered. Masaoka reported that the JACL was cooperating with the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee in striving to overcome unjust discrimination against Nisei Americans in industry.

The conference noted the "public relations" work being carried out by evacuee workers who had helped save the sugar beet crop of the inland West.

Tom Yego of Tule Lake who has been doing furlough work in Idaho noted that in the spring when evacuee workers first went into the fields of the inland West, they encountered considerable community resistance. However, the contributions of the evacuee workers toward meeting the manpower shortage, which had threatened the thinning and harvesting of the vital crop had created a "much better" situation in these communities.

'American people want to do right and in my contact with various people in the East I have found a general desire to see justice done to this American minority.'

"The outlook looks good for next spring," Yego said.

The conference was scheduled to discuss the problems faced by the evacuee beet sugar workers, especially regarding community acceptance, contractual differences and difficulties faced in housing and working conditions.

All sessions are being held at the Japanese Church of Christ.

Masaoka pointed out that the conference must lay plans first to determine how Americans of Japanese descent can best contribute to the war effort, and second, to enable loyal American Japanese to take an active part in helping the nation to victory.

"Our future as people born and raised in this country is with the United States," Masaoka declared. "American people want to do right and in my contact with various people in the East I have found a general desire to see justice done to this American minority."

Masaoka asserted that the cooperative spirit with which some 110,000 American-born Japanese and their resident parents have met this great problem of dislocation has done to convince people of the loyalty of the group. Many Caucasian Americans, Masaoka pointed out, are aware of the dangers facing our war aim if a small American minority is treated differently from others purely on a basis of racial characteristics.

At Thursday's session Masaoka urged that the session draft a resolution to President Roosevelt and to military authorities asking that Americans of Japanese ancestry be accepted, without prejudice and discrimination into the armed forces under the selective service system.

In asking for this vote, Mike Masaoka declared: "Through this baptism of fire, on some battlefront, we can show for all time to come where our loyalties lie. We call upon Franklin Roosevelt to reinstitute Selective Service for all Nisei ..."

He pointed out the necessity for active Nisei participation in the nation's armed forces as a basis for postwar rehabilitation and the postwar fight for the preservation of civil liberties. ❋

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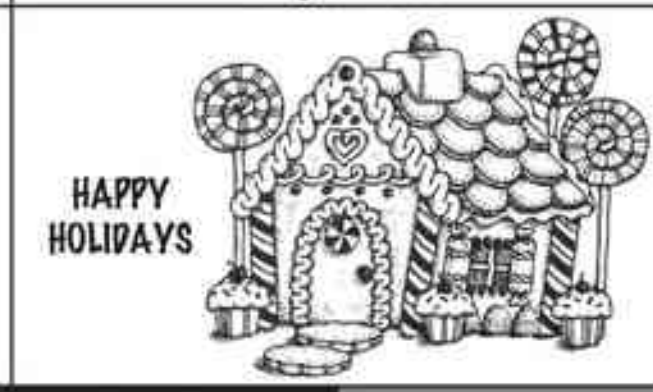
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Seasons Greetings!

SCHARY
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53

were also presented.

Special Guests

Tatsuo Yata, past chairman of the Pacific Southwest district council, took over the meeting as master of ceremonies, introducing honored guests, which included: John Allen of the Los Angeles Evacuation Claims Office; George Eastman, president of the Japan-America Society; Hon. McIntyre Faries, judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court; Hon. Shinsaku Hogen, Consul General of Japan; Commander Nagy of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; Robert Pirosh of RKO; Col. George F. Herbert, executive assistant to the mayor of Los Angeles; and Giichi Takata, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

The national JACL board and staff members were introduced, and past presidents of the national JACL including Dr. Randolph Sakada, Dr. T.T. Yatabe, and Hito Okada. Legal counsels Frank F. Chuman of Los Angeles and Edward J. Ennis of New York were also presented.

Greetings from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, to extend greetings to the 13th biennial national convention, and expressing best wishes for a most successful convention were read, as were greetings from Gov. Goodwin J. Knight of California, who commented on the "courage and patriotism of thousands of Americans of Japanese ancestry in the defense of our nation's freedom and security have earned for them the thanks of all the people in our nation."

'New Horizons'

Dr. Roy M. Nishikawa, convention chairman, extended welcome to delegates and guest assembly, speaking of the "New Horizons" theme of the convention, seriously stating that the future of the JACL lies ahead.

"Although legal and legislative goals have been achieved," stated Dr. Nishikawa, "we need to translate these into realities on a practical level." Dr. Nishikawa, extended welcome on behalf of more than 500 committee workers who worked for more than two years to stage the best-ever convention of the JACL.



The 1951 war film 'Go For Broke' starred, among others, Lane Nakano and Henry Nakamura.

Greetings were extended also by Ken Dyo, chairman of the PSW district council, and Mack Hamaguchi, chairman of the Los Angeles JACL coordinating council. Response was given by George Inagaki, national president of the JACL.

The National JACL Hymn, written by Marion Tajiri, now of Denver, was sung by Miss Uta Shimotsuka, accompanied by Mrs. Haru Hokama.

Benediction was delivered by Dr. Cleveland Kleihauer, of the Hollywood Beverly Christian Church. ❋

EVACUATION
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 52

Every major region of California was represented by official and booster delegates.

National JACL board members were presented to the convention: President George Inagaki, vice presidents Tom Hayashi of New York, Patrick Okura of Omaha, Bob Takahashi of Stockton, Calif., treasurer Dr. Roy Nishikawa, secretary Alice Kasai of Salt Lake City, 1000 Club chairman Harold "Tokuzo" Gordon of Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Randolph Sakada of Chicago, Illinois, and Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe of Chicago, Illinois.

Miss Uta Shimotsuka favored the luncheon with vocal selections, accompanied by Mrs. Haru Hokama.

Frank F. Chuman, national JACL legal counsel, who is handling witnesses for the Jonas special sub-committee on the judiciary of the House of Representatives, announced that the Congressmen that morning paid special tribute to Mike M. Masaoka, Washington representative of the JACL, and to the national JACL organization and officers.

'The JACL helped every American to become a freer man ...'

Inagaki introduced special guests and friends of the JACL, who aided persons of Japanese ancestry during the difficult years of the war, and presented special "Certificates of Appreciation" to: Miss Esther D. Bartlett of the Los Angeles International Institute; George Thomas of the Los Angeles County Conference on Community Relations; Homer D. Crotty, former president of the California Bar Association; A.L. Wirin, legal counsel for the Southern California American Civil Liberties Union and participant in many cases involving interests of Japanese Americans; William Kent of Hollywood, Calif., who fought the American Legion which discriminated against persons of Japanese ancestry; Father Hugh Lavery of the Maryknoll Mission; Rev. Aaron A. Heist, of Huntington Park, who headed the ACLU in that area; Bishop C.S. Reifsnider and William Carr.

A posthumous award was made to G. Raymond Booth.

Engraved Certificates

The final presentation of an engraved scroll was made to Loren Miller of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), who responded on behalf of the recipients of awards.

Miller spoke of the national JACL's fight to win equal rights under the law, and stated, "The JACL helped every American to become a freer man" in its fight for equality. He stated that those honored were acting under the profound belief that those who fight for equality for others are too helping themselves. In concluding, Miller, speaking of the hope of achieving full democracy for everyone, pleaded, "Let us walk together, let us work together, until we reach that goal."

Following an announcement of a hospitality committee in the Mission Room to entertain and make social arrangements for delegates, the luncheon was concluded by benediction by Father Clement of Maryknoll Mission. ❋



Homer D. Crotty, former president of the California Bar Association, was among the JACL honorees.

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Wishing You Peace this Holiday Season!

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JACLers at the 1938 national convention in Los Angeles.

League Delegates at Session Adopt Concrete Program

President James Y. Sakamoto declared that citizenship was first an obligation and then a privilege at the **1938 convention in Los Angeles.**



Loyalty to American institutions is keynote; revising constitution one step for progress; endowment backed.

LOS ANGELES—With the greatest convention in history behind them, and with a strong staff of national officers elected, headed by Walter T. Tsukamoto as president, and an ambitious program laid out, members of the Japanese American Citizens League closed the fifth biennial national convention here September 5, and departed for their homes.

Following the keynote sounded at the opening session by President James Y. Sakamoto of Americanism, loyalty to American institutions and the further development of patriotic citizenship, the convention built its program along those lines.

Keynote Convention

President Sakamoto declared that citizenship was first an obligation and then a privilege. In line with this policy, the convention reaffirmed a resolution of a former convention in a more definite manner, placing the League squarely on record as cooperating with the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other patriotic organizations in the battle against all subversive efforts of alien agitators.

Seven Important Points

Seven of the outstanding actions of the convention were:

1. Revising the constitution of the League
2. Placing the endowment fund project on a more definite and substantial basis, and making preparations to accelerate it.
3. Improving the machinery of the League by creating a national board.
4. Voted to continue the *Pacific Citizen* as the organ of the League, and make certain changes.
5. Approved the Second Generation Development Project.
6. Approved a general program of vocational guidance.
7. Adopted a resolution to the effect that the League should keep in touch with international trends and be prepared rightly to interpret such affairs as they affect the young. These resolutions are more fully detailed elsewhere.

A new pin was approved, a hymn and a "pep" song adopted, the plan for a census of all young people in the United States was approved, and also it was agreed that a directory of the League members should be compiled.

Two other resolutions were adopted, approving plans for two petitions to the United States Congress seeking to ameliorate conditions for certain classes for Japanese. ❋

JACL 5th Biennial National Convention
Aug. 28-Sept. 5, 1938
LOS ANGELES
City Hall Council Chamber

Highlights & Accomplishments

Mike Masaoka, 23, from Salt Lake City, is escorted off the national council floor for not being credentialed as a chapter delegate. He had demanded the floor to rant about what was wrong with JACL.

A strong stand against Communism is taken.

The public relations committee is renewed to educate Americans about Nisei Americans.

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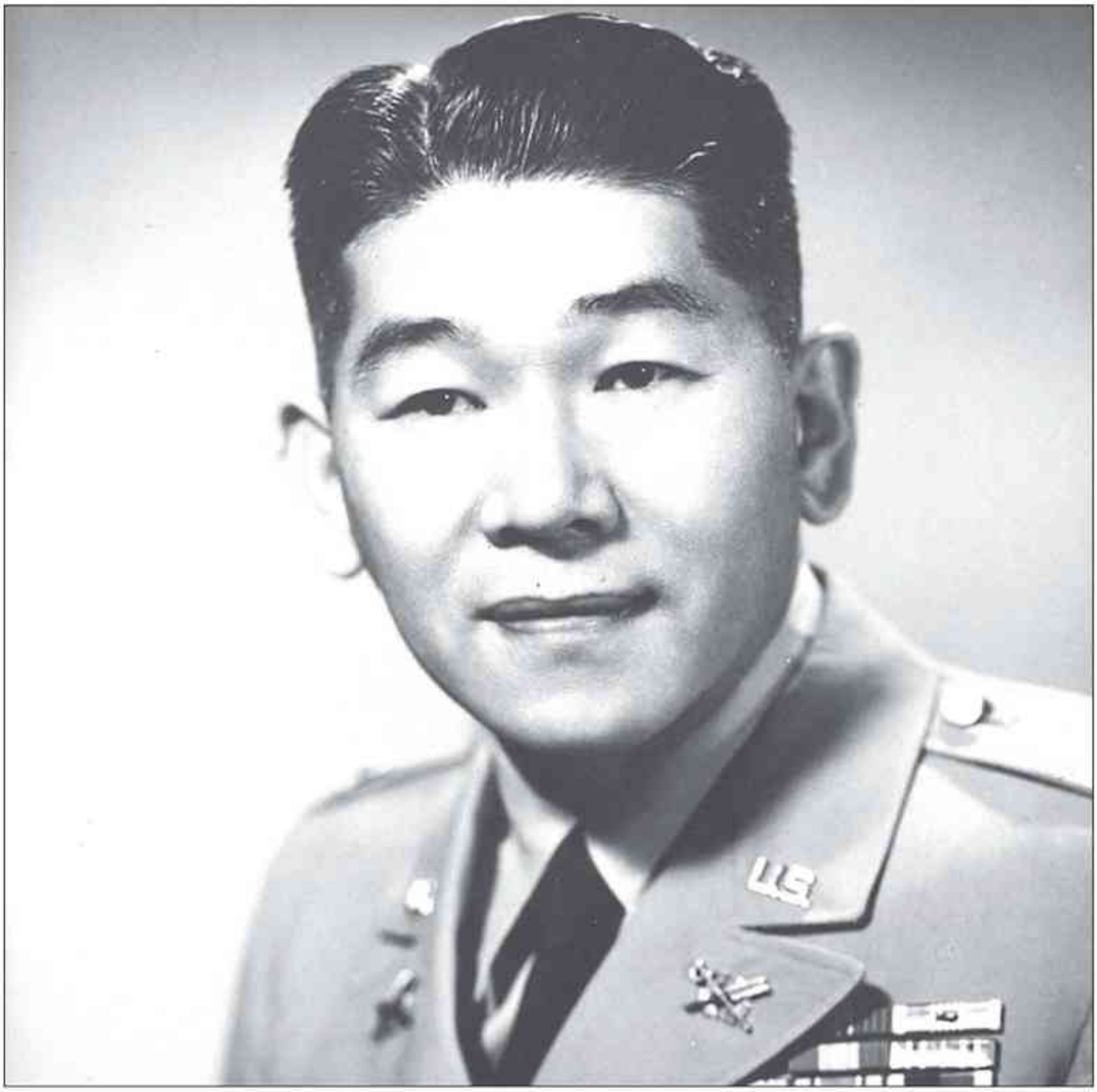
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Walter Tsukamoto became the first president of the Sacramento JACL and was re-elected five more times until 1936.

Tsukamoto Named as League Leader

At the 1938 national convention in Los Angeles, Tsukamoto — the first Nisei to be offered an appointment in the Judge Advocate General's Department of the U.S. Army — became the JACL's leader. This article was originally published **Sept. 1938.**

Popular past secretary will be president; appeals for cooperation of members.

LOS ANGELES—Walter T. Tsukamoto, Sacramento attorney, was chosen to head the officers of the Japanese American Citizens league at the national convention held there early in September.

Portland, Oregon was designated as the convention city for 1940. Portland had been intending to wait for the 1942 session, but changed conditions made it desirable to bid for the next meeting.

Other Officers Named

Other officers of the national body are; vice president Ken Matsumoto, Los Angeles chapter president; executive secretary Ken Utsunomiya, Santa Maria; treasurer Hito Okada, Portland.

These officers, together with the three district council chairmen, and certain past presidents, will constitute the national board, which is provided for in the new constitution. The chairmen are: Southern California District, Henry Tsurutani, Los Angeles; Northern California District, Dr. Harry Kita, Salinas, and Northwest District, Mamro Wakasugi, Portland.

Two Past Presidents

The past presidents now eligible are James Y. Sakamoto, Seattle, and Dr. T. T. Yatabe, Fresno. The constitution provides that only those presidents who were elected by the national council shall be ex-officio members of the national board.

The list of candidates was submitted by the national council, and were installed at a Sayonara dinner given by the Los Angeles chapter, and also were honor guests at the farewell ball.

The retiring officers are: president, James Y. Sakamoto, Seattle; vice presidents, Mamoru Wakasugi, Portland; Dr. Harry Kita, Salinas, and Henry Tsurutani, Los Angeles; treasurer, Susumu Togasaki, Alameda; secretary, Walter Tsukamoto, Sacramento; assistant secretary, Masao Satow, Los Angeles. ※

The Constitution

Following is the revised constitution of the Japanese American Citizens League, as adopted by the fifth biennial convention of the organization assembled in Los Angeles, Calif. September 5, 1938.



PREAMBLE

We, the American Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, in order to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States, to foster and spread the true spirit of Americanism, to build the character of our people morally and spiritually on American Ideals, and to promote the welfare and aid in the development of the Americans of Japanese ancestry as an integral part of the national life, establish this Constitution for the Japanese American Citizens league of the United States of America.

ARTICLE I
Policy

Section 1. This organization shall be non-partisan and non-religious and shall not be used for purposes of official endorsement of candidates for public office or of other political issues.

Section 2. This organization shall encourage every member to perform his full duty as an American citizen.

ARTICLE II
Incorporation

Section 1. This organization shall be incorporated under the laws of the state of California.

Section 2: The seal of this organization shall bear the words "Japanese American Citizens League, incorporated under the laws of the state of California, June 21, 1937."

Section 3. The seal shall be affixed to all instruments and documents issued by or under the authority of this organization.

ARTICLE III
National Headquarters

The national headquarters of this organization shall be located in the city designated by the national council.

ARTICLE IV
Membership

Section 1. The membership of this organization shall be composed of American Citizens of Japanese ancestry and shall be 18 years or older.

Section 2. Each member of this organization shall be a member of a local chapter, holding a charter, and shall receive a national membership card signed by the president, executive secretary, and president or chairman of the local chapter.

Section 3. Any member departing for residence to another chapter locality may be privileged to transfer his membership upon presentation of a certificate of transfer executed by his chapter president and treasurer.

ARTICLE V
Elective Officers

Section 1. Officers of this organization shall be the president, vice president, executive secretary and treasurer.

Section 2. Officers of this organization shall be members at least 25 years old, except the president who shall be at least 30 years old. They shall be elected at the national convention.

Section 3. Officers of this organization shall hold office until the next biennial convention and shall be ex-officio members of the various district councils.

ARTICLE VI
Duties of Elective Officers

Section 1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the national council, national board, and national conventions, and shall supervise the affairs of this organization subject to the national board.

Section 2. The vice president shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the national council or national board.

Section 3. The executive secretary shall generally aid in directing the affairs of this organization and shall keep a record of the minutes of meetings of this organization, conventions, and of the national council and national board, as well as to have custody of all books, records and papers of this organization, except such as shall be in charge of the treasurer, or of some other persons or persons authorized to have custody and possession by the national council or national board.

Section 4. The treasurer shall keep account of all monies of this organization received or disbursed and shall make payments with the approval of the national board or national council.

Section 5. The executive secretary and the treasurer shall each have the power to appoint one or more assistants.

Section 6. (a.) In case there is a vacancy in the office of the president, the vice president shall assume the duties of said office for the balance of the unexpired term.

(b.) In case there is a vacancy in any other office, the national board shall have the authority to fill such vacancy.

ARTICLE VII
Voting

Section 1. Each chartered chapter shall have one vote in the national council.

Section 2. There shall be no proxy voting.

Section 3. In case of emergency measures, telegraphic votes shall be taken by the executive secretary, and a majority of votes cast shall settle the issue upon confirmation by the president.

Section 4. A majority vote of the chartered chapters present at any and all meetings of this organization shall be necessary to determine all issues and elections, unless otherwise provided.

ARTICLE VIII
National Board

Section 1. The national board shall be the executive and administrative body of this organization and shall consist of the president, vice president, executive secretary, treasurer and the chairmen of the district councils. Past presidents elected by the national council and who shall have served his full term shall be ex-officio members of the national board.

Section 2. The president shall have the right to call special meetings of the national board whenever he deems it necessary.

Section 3. The executive secretary shall call a special meeting of the national board whenever requested in writing by three or more members thereof.

Section 4. Quorum of any and all meetings of the national board shall be the presence of a majority of members thereof.

ARTICLE IX
National Council

Section 1. The national council shall be the legislative body of this organization and shall consist of two delegates from each chartered chapter and the national board.

Section 2. The national council shall meet in general session biennially during the national convention.

Section 3. Special session of the national council shall be held in the district at the sites selected for the next district council meetings, and the majority of the collective votes thereat shall determine the issues or questions presented.

Section 4. Special sessions of the national council shall be called by the president or the national board whenever necessary.

Section 5. Quorum of any and all meetings of the national council shall be the presence of a majority of chartered chapters in good standing.

ARTICLE X
Chapters

Section 1. Each chapter shall choose its own name to conform with the purposes of this organization as set forth in the preamble and shall adopt its own constitution and bylaws which shall not conflict with the provisions of this constitution and bylaws.

Section 2. New chapters shall be admitted into this organization by filing application with and upon favorable recommendation of the district council and upon approval of the national board.

Section 3. Each chapter, in order to be in good standing in this organization, must qualify as provided by the bylaws.

Section 4. Officers of each chapter shall take office within the month of January of each year.

Section 5. The duly elected officers of all chartered chapters shall be registered with the executive secretary. Such reports shall be made within thirty (30) days of the election thereof.

ARTICLE XI
Charters

Section 1. Each chapter shall be granted a charter by the national board upon admittance into this organization as provided by Section 2 of Article X.

Section 2. The national board, with approval of the district council, shall have the discretionary power to suspend or revoke the charter of any chapter for failure to pay national dues or district council obligations for one year or more, or for failure to carry out in good faith the provisions of this constitution and the bylaws or for failure to cooperate with the national council, national board and or the district council to which it belongs.

Section 2. Any chapter given a notice of suspension may appeal for reinstatement upon a signed petition to abide by the provisions of the constitution and bylaws and to cooperate in all respects. In case there is any arrearage, all such obligations must be discharged before the reinstatement becomes effective.

ARTICLE XII
Conventions

Section 1. National conventions of this organization shall be held every two years at some designated place; said place to be decided by a vote of the national council delegates at the preceding national convention.

Section 2. A national convention shall not be held in succession at one place.

Section 3. The tentative convention agenda and program shall be submitted to all the chapters of this organization at least 60 days prior to the opening of the convention by the national board.

Section 4. The chapter awarded the national convention shall be in charge of making all necessary arrangements under the supervision of the national board and shall be assisted by the district council to which it belongs.

Section 5. District council conventions shall not be held during national convention years.

ARTICLE XIII
Removal of Officers

Section 1. Any officer of this organization may be removed from office for misfeasance or malfeasance or neglect of duty following a hearing by the national board, which shall judge whether or not the case shall be presented to the special session of the national council for a vote.

Section 2. Upon presentation to the special session of the national council, three-fourths vote of all the chartered chapters shall be necessary for the removal of any officer.

ARTICLE XIV
District Councils

Section 1. The national council shall be divided into as many district councils as the bylaws shall provide.

Section 2. Each district council shall act upon all district matters concerning this organization and shall act on all national matters as directed by the national board.

Section 3. Each district council shall have its own officers and shall be governed by its own constitution and bylaws not in conflict herewith and shall be composed of the chairman, duly elected officers and delegates at large from each chartered chapter within said district.

ARTICLE XV

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution or bylaws hereof shall be made at the national council meetings.

Section 2. To introduce an amendment to this constitution or the bylaws hereof, the district council shall petition the executive secretary who shall send a copy of the proposed amendment or amendments to each chapter at least 30 days preceding the national council meeting.

Section 3. Three-fourths vote of the chartered chapters present shall be necessary to pass an amendment to the bylaws hereof.

The bylaws as adopted were not available, but will be presented in a later issue of *The Citizen*.



The first national convention took place April 5-6, 1929, in San Francisco.

A Brief History of the New American Citizens League

The New American Citizens' League was started in San Francisco on Oct. 19, 1928, by a group of American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

The New American Citizens' League in 1928 tackled the challenges of starting a new group. Clarence T. Arai of Seattle was called upon to present his plan to unite all the leagues. His plan was to organize a national body and to group the various chapters into districts.

Eight days later, on Oct. 27, the inaugural banquet was held at Clift Hotel. Over 50 second-generation citizens were on hand and the first speaker for the evening was Saburo Kido, who had been elected president of the organization at a preliminary meeting.

Mr. Kido emphasized the fact that the citizens of Japanese ancestry had many difficult problems confronting them, which must be solved sooner or later. To rely on the first generation was inevitable to a certain degree, but ultimately, the real solution would have to be made by the second-generation members, and this can be done only by cooperation.

The principal speaker of the evening, Frederick J. Koster of the Industrial Association of San Francisco, declared the necessity of citizens, regardless of race identity, to vote and become identified with the political institutions of the country. It is also essential, he said, that Japanese American citizens should work in the industrial life of the nation and bring with them the patience and industrious qualities of their parents.

Speaking on behalf of the Japanese consul general, M. Iino extended congratulations on the establishment of the new organization. T. Takimoto, secretary of the Japanese Association of America, also extended his congratulations, saying that he looked for greater progress of Japanese in America in the future.

The biggest undertaking of the league was the first Citizens League Convention, which took place April 5-6, 1929, in San Francisco.

The convention was formally opened with a luncheon at the Sho Wa Low. Besides the delegates from the various localities, there were several American social workers that were invited to all the meetings. In order to become acquainted with each other, self-introductions were made. A short message of welcome was delivered by the president Saburo Kido.

After the luncheon, the group gathered at the Community House, and at 2 p.m. the business meeting began.

The first problem to be taken up was that of the federation. Mr. Clarence T. Arai of Seattle was called upon to present his plan whereby all the leagues could be united. His plan was to organize a national body and to group the various chapters into districts.



Saburo Kido was the first speaker for the evening.

Internal problems were then presented. Reports from the various delegates were made on the progress they were making and also the difficulties they had to overcome. The meet-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE AND MARY MASUNAGA AND RICHARD HEMM

JACLers gather at the Cosmospolitan Hotel in Denver in 1937.

ing closed with the discussion of the next convention city. Seattle requested that the Northwest be given the honor to hold the next meeting. Seattle was awarded the next convention unanimously.

Through the generosity of the Japanese Association of America, the convention delegates were invited to a delightful Japanese dinner. Mr. T. Takimoto, who deserves much credit for bringing about the organization of the San Francisco chapter, gave a short talk. He impressed the members with the great responsibility they have as second-generation people and that much was expected of them.

The evening was devoted to a meeting called "Delegates' Night." The meeting was opened with addresses from Miss Miya Sannomiya and Clarence Arai. Miss Sannomiya gave a "pep" talk. She encouraged those present to show the first generation what the young people could do. Mr. Clarence Arai urged the members to exercise their citizenship rights. He gave examples of the work being done in Seattle along political lines.

Mr. Kenneth Fung who is the secretary of the Chinese-American Citizens Alliance gave a message of congratulation. He asked for the cooperation of the Japanese American citizens. His keynote message was: "The success of this convention means our success because we have so much in common."

The principal speaker of the evening was Mr. Victor Kwong of the *San Francisco Bulletin*. He talked about his dream, a dream of sincere Sino-Japanese understanding with the end in view of securing for Asia a political unity that may be a great pillar for peace of the world.

Following the speeches, a delightful social hour was observed by the delegates, through the efforts of Mrs. C. Yonezu, reception chair, who acted as the hostess and entertained the guests with refreshments. About 60 delegates were present.

On Saturday afternoon, Dr. H. Guy gave his message. It was one of the most inspiring and practical addresses ever delivered before a second generation group and some of the members who knew Dr. Guy well stated later that it was the best speech they had heard from him. Probably, the importance of the gathering as well as the quality

'The name "Japanese American Citizens League" was the one recommended and it was accepted.'

of the delegates inspired Dr. Guy. The following is a brief summary of his message:

1. Get means of publicity.
2. Have definite aim of character.
3. Cultivate the SPIRIT to render public service.

After his talk, discussion groups were held under the following leaders:

Membership rights: Clarence T. Arai
Finance Problems: Saburo Kido
Vocation Problems: Miya Sannomiya
Better Relations: Hisashi Arie

A recess was then taken in order to attend Consul General Ida's reception at his home. Vice Consul Toyogi Kaneko welcomed the delegates and gave a short message. A brief response was made by Saburo Kido, and refreshments were served. A program of entertainment, organized by Mr. Minoru Iino, then followed.

The final business meeting was opened at 4 p.m. The organization committee's report was presented for adoption. The name "Japanese American Citizens League" was the one recommended and it was accepted.

Following this meeting, the delegates were invited to a dance in the Berkeley U.C. YWCA sponsored by the Triple O Society and J.U.C. Club. Thus the curtain of *finis* was rung down on this convention.

In the succeeding months, the activities of the league were confined to monthly dinners; but this was broken by a delightful social given by Mr. and Mrs. K. Abiko at their home. Over 80 members of the league and friends were present, including Consul General Ida and members of the Lowell High School Party going to Japan. Interesting games planned out by Yuki Kuwahara and Henry Takahashi added merriment to the occasion. The consensus of opinion was that all had one swell time.

The latest activities of the league have been the boat ride and picnic at Paradise Cove Park on Sept. 8 and the starting of our publication.

The officers who carried on the work of the league for the first year were: President, Saburo Kido; Vice-Presidents: Henry Takahashi, Kay Tsukamoto, Toshi Takao, Shizu Sakai, Dr. Tokutaro Hayashi, Mrs. Charles Yonezu, Kay Nishida; Recording Secretary, Hide Sasaki; Corresponding Secretary, Eiko Enomoto; Treasurer, Henry Uyeda. ❋

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JACL National CONVENTION AWARDS

It's a beautiful tradition – honoring community leaders who have moved mountains and shaped our future. Through the years, JACL's various awards have honored chapter movers and shakers and national icons like **Bob Matsui** *(left)*. These awards celebrate courage, honor and dedication.

JA OF THE BIENNIUM Awards

The **Japanese American of the Biennium Award**, JACL's highest public honor, recognizes individuals whose achievements have enhanced the quality of life in our society.

Established in 1950 as 'Nisei of the Biennium', the award initially recognized leaders for their wartime and immediate postwar contributions.



1950



MIKE M. MASAOKA

1952



MINORU YASUI

1954



SGT. HIROSHI MIYAMURA

1956



GEORGE J. INAGAKI

1958



BILL K. HOSOKAWA

1960



SEN. DANIEL K. INOUYE

1962
MINORU YAMASAKI

1964
HENRY Y. KASAI

1966



REP. PATSY MINK

1968
NORMAN Y. MINETA

1970
PAUL I. TERASAKI, PH.D.

1972



REP. SPARK M. MATSUNAGA

1974
RAYMOND S. UNO

1976
MICHI NISHIURA WEGLYN

1978
K. PATRICK OKURA

1980
MINORU MASUDA, PH.D. (POSTHUMOUS)
GEORGE K. NAKASHIMA
HARVEY A. ITANO, MD, PH.D.

1982
HARRY H. L. KITANO, PH.D.

1984
GEORGE RYOICHI ARIYOSHI
ISAMU NOGUCHI
YORITADA WADA

1986



LT. COL. ELLISON ONIZUKA (POSTHUMOUS)

1988
SUE KUNITOMI EMBREY
YOSHIKO UCHIDA
GRAYCE UYEHARA

1990
REP. ROBERT MATSUI
STEVEN OKAZAKI
RONALD TAKAKI, PH.D.

1992
TOMIO MORIGUCHI
KRISTI YAMAGUCHI

1994
JERRY J. ENOMOTO
DR. EVELYN NAKANO GLENN
YOSHIHIRO UCHIDA

1996
YURI KOCHIYAMA
GEORGE TAKEI
GEORGE TSUTAKAWA

1998
PETER WESTBROOK
AKI KUROSE (POSTHUMOUS)
SHIGEKI "SHAKE" USHIO

2000
GORDON HIRABAYASHI
MIKE HONDA
PAUL AKIO KAWATA

2002
DANIEL TANI
LINDSEY YAMASAKI

2004
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2006
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2008
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2010



STUART ISHIMARU (PICTURED)
RICHARD MORIMOTO



Emily Teruya *(right)* receives her JACLer of the Biennium award in 2008 from Larry Oda, then national president.

JACLER OF THE BIENNIUM Awards

One of the most coveted honors in the organization, the JACLer of the Biennium Award recognizes a member who has worked to strengthen and grow the national organization during the immediate biennium.

The program was initiated in 1956 in memory of Dr. Randolph M. Sakata, 1950-52 national JACL president. Candidates are nominated by their chapters.

In 1994, Matthew K. Fong, of the California Board of Equalization, realized a $1,000 contribution from Burger King to recognize 'volunteer organizations with longstanding commitment to improving communities' for JACLer of the Biennium as well as cash prizes to bolster the Venice-Culver Inagaki Memorial Fund. The awardees are as follows:

1956



Jerry J. Enomoto (PICTURED)
Abe Hagiwara

JACLER OF THE BIENNIUM Awards CONTINUED

1958

Mrs. Sue Takimoto Joe

Kumeo Yoshinari

1960

Joe Kadowaki

1962

Frank F. Oda

1964

Father Clement Boesflug

1966



William Marutani

1968

Takeshi Kubota

1970



Dr. Roy Nishikawa

1972



Helen S. Kawagoe

1974



Dr. James Tsujimura

1976



Dr. Clifford Uyeda

1978

Edward M. Yamamoto

1980



John Tateishi

1982



Minoru Yasui

1984



Cherry Kinoshita

James Shimomura

1986

Mary D. Tsukamoto

1988

Henry T. Tanaka

1990

Art Morimitsu

1992

No Award

1994



Bruce I. Yamashita

1996

Tom T. Masamori

Dr. Mae Takahashi

1998

Allan Hida

2000



Ken Inouye

2002

Carol Kawamoto

Andy Noguchi

2004



Mas Hashimoto

2006

David Kawamoto

2008

Emily Teruya

2010

Frank Sakamoto

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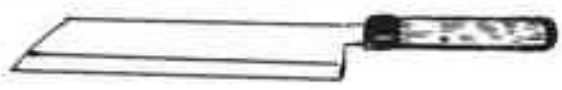
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We gratefully acknowledge the splendid response to our request for advertisements in this Holiday Issue. May we earnestly encourage our members to reciprocate by supporting these friends of our chapter.

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Established in 1968 as a testimony of George Inagaki's dedication to the JACL, the Chapter of the Biennium Award recognizes chapters whose activities better society.

Venice-Culver JACL, the administrators of the Inagaki Memorial Fund, provides cash prizes to the winning chapters.



Marcia Hashimoto, 1st vice president of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL, reviews the award received at the 2010 national convention with Kerry Kaneichi, of the Venice-Culver JACL.

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Contra Costa JACL (gold)
Seattle JACL (silver)
West Los Angeles JACL (silver)

1972
Seattle JACL (gold)
Contra Costa JACL (silver)
Puyallup Valley JACL (silver)

1974
West Valley JACL (gold)
Salt Lake JACL (silver)
Seattle JACL (silver)

1976
Salt Lake JACL (gold)
San Mateo JACL (silver)

1978
Seattle JACL (gold)
Sacramento JACL (silver)
San Mateo JACL (silver)
St. Louis JACL (silver)

1980
Spokane JACL (gold)
Contra Costa JACL (silver)
Detroit JACL (silver)
West Valley JACL (silver)

1982
San Mateo JACL (gold)

1984
Seattle JACL (gold)
San Diego JACL (silver)

1986
Portland JACL (gold)
Seattle JACL (silver)

1988
Seattle JACL (gold)
New York JACL (silver)

1990
San Francisco JACL (gold)
Diablo Valley JACL (silver)

1992
Honolulu JACL (gold)
San Jose JACL (silver)

1994
Honolulu JACL (gold)
Houston JACL (silver)
Sacramento JACL (silver)
San Jose JACL (silver)
Seattle JACL (silver)

1996
Florin JACL (gold)

1998
Selanoco JACL (gold)

2000
Seattle JACL (gold)
Florin JACL (silver)

2002
Arizona JACL (gold)

2004
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

2006
Portland JACL

2008
Portland JACL

2010
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL

EDISON UNO MEMORIAL CIVIL RIGHTS *Awards*

The JACL award, in memory of the late civil rights activist Edison Uno, was established in 1985 to honor outstanding leadership in the field of civil rights.



Walt Woodward, editor and publisher of the *Bainbridge Island Review* during World War II, and his wife Mildred were the first recipients of the award.

1986
Walt and Mildred Woodward

1988
Henry Der
James Purcell

1990
Ralph Neas

1992
Mayor Rosalie Gould
Rep. George Miller

1994
Glenda K. Joe
State Sen. Patrick Johnston

1996
No Award

1998
Susan Faye Strauss

2000
Ross Hopkins

2002
Morris Dees

2004
Ishmael Ahmed

2006
Sandra Tanamachi

2008
Ernest Weiner

2010
Michael Lieberman

RUBY YOSHINO SCHARR PLAYWRIGHT *Awards*

Established by the New York JACL in 1984 in memory of longtime JACLer Ruby Yoshino Schaar, the award encourages talented writers to tell the Nikkei story. The award was initially funded by Schaar. The award, first made in 1986, includes a cash prize.

1986 — Akemi Kikumura for "Gambling Den"

1988 — Philip Kan Domoto for "Yankee Dawg You Die"

1990 — Rick A. Shiomi for "Uncle Tadashi"

1992 — No Award

1994 — Lane Nishikawa for "The Gate of Heaven"

2004 — Stanley Nakazono for "buddhaheadz.com"

2006 — Soji Kashiwagi for "Camp Dance: Music and Memories"

2008 — Timothy Toyama for "Yuri and Malcolm X"

2010 — Timothy Toyama for "Memorial Day"

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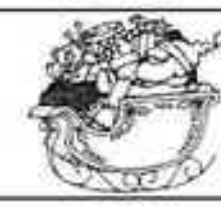
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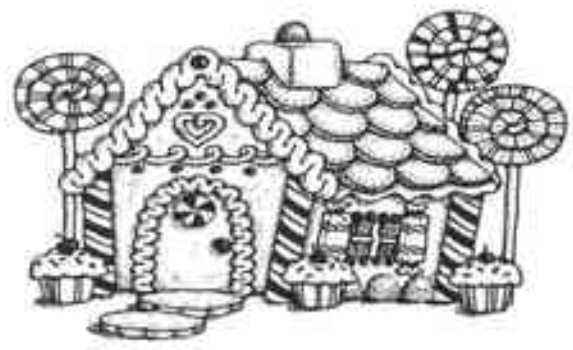
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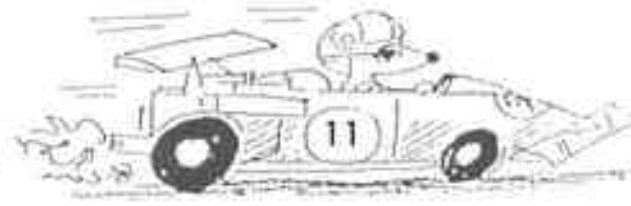
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Speaker of the House



Mas Satow learns the Hukilau from Daisy Uyeda at the 1956 national convention in San Francisco.

JACL National CONVENTION *Timeline*

The JACL is officially formed April 5-6, 1929, as a national organization to foster good citizenship and civic participation. Its biennial tradition of a national convention begins the year after.

1st Biennial
Aug. 29–Sept. 1, 1930
SEATTLE
Japanese Chamber of Commerce
316 Maynard Ave.
The JACL name, an idea of Clarence Arai, constitution, pin and logo are adopted. JACL urges Congress to give Asian American women equal rights with other women citizens. According to the Cable Act, Nisei women who married Issei men would lose their U.S. citizenship. Completely funded by the Los Angeles JACL, Suma Sugi, a Los Angeles schoolteacher, helped lobby the bill to amend the Cable Act. President Herbert Hoover signed it March 3, 1931.

2nd Biennial
July 27–29, 1932
LOS ANGELES
City Hall Council Room
International Institute
1817 E. 4th St. (near Boyle)
Keynoter and prominent Los Angeles attorney Joseph Scott, nominator of President Hoover at the 1928 Republican convention, encourages Nisei to nurture their cultural heritage but not infringe upon duties to the American flag. A campaign for citizenship of Issei World War I veterans is renewed with JACL's Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum, of New York, lobbying. President Roosevelt signed the bill June 25, 1935. The monthly publication, *Pacific Citizen*, is adopted as JACL's national organ.

3rd Biennial
Aug. 31–Sept. 3, 1934
SAN FRANCISCO
Polk Hall Civic Auditorium
Palace Hotel
JACL introduces first Sayonara banquet–ball. Keynote speaker Chester Rowell, managing editor of the *San Francisco Chronicle* spoke; the first half of his speech is broadcasted on NBC radio KPO. Chapter delegates elect national officers: president Dr. T.T. Yatabe, 37, of Fresno, and Saburo Kido, executive secretary. A 16-year-old Goro Suzuki, of Oakland, wins the first national JACL oratorical contest. Later, Suzuki goes on to star in the film "Flower Drum Song" and in the "Barney Miller" TV series under the stage name Jack Soo.

4th Biennial
Sept. 4–7, 1936
SEATTLE
Seattle Chamber of Commerce Building
520 Main Street
JACL filed its Articles of Incorporation June 21, 1937, co–signed by James Y. Sakamoto and Walter T. Tsukamoto, as a non–profit organization under California law. The organization also launches its $100,000 JACL Endowment Fund. JACL urges recognition of Passport by Immigration Service. Until this was adopted, APAs were required to have a witness at the time of birth or to verify their passports at the immigration station at Angel Island.

5th Biennial
Aug. 28–Sept. 5, 1938
LOS ANGELES
City Hall Council Chamber
Mike Masaoka, 23, of Salt Lake City, demands the council floor to rant about what's wrong with the JACL. He is escorted off for not being credentialed as a chapter delegate. Main focus is placed on job opportunities for Nisei high school and college graduates in the face of racial discrimination. JACL takes a strong stand against communism.

6th Biennial
Aug. 28–Sept. 2, 1940
PORTLAND
Multnomah Hotel
First petition to Congress is made for naturalization of permanent resident Issei. The Intermountain District Council with four chapters (Boise Val-

ley, Pocatello, Ogden, Salt Lake City) is admitted with Mike Masaoka now credentialed. Eden Township JACL's plan for proportional assessment quotas upon an algebraic rate factoring size of chapter, community support and number of members is accepted.

7th Biennial
1942
OAKLAND
Canceled because of WWII.

Emergency National Council
March 8–10, 1942
SAN FRANCISCO
San Francisco JACL office (national headquarters)
2031 Bush St.
With Executive Order 9066 circulated on Feb. 19, the emergency meeting drew 64 of 66 chapters with national president Saburo Kido presiding. JACL officials met with Western Defense Command's Col. W.F. McGill, alien coordinator Tom C. Clark and Federal Reserve Bank officer Herbert Armstrong to discuss evacuation plans. Delegates were presented with three alternatives: some form of compromise, all–out opposition, or constructive cooperation without conceding the constitutionality of the unprecedented action. The national council unanimously chose the third option. JACL moves its headquarters to Salt Lake City and publishes the *Pacific Citizen* weekly.

7th Biennial
Nov. 17–24, 1942
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
Newhouse Hotel
Fifty delegates from all War Relocation Authority (WRA) centers, free zone JACL chapters and staff meet to develop an overall policy for JACL. Having been tagged 4–C enemy aliens after the Pearl Harbor attack, JACL urges Selective Service be reinstated for Nisei.

8th Biennial
Dec. 1–3, 1944
SALT LAKE CITY
Japanese Church of Christ
243 W. First St.
Sixteen JACL chapters are represented and a banquet is held at YWCA to honor Pfc. Tom Higa and nine original 100th Infantry Nisei soldiers from Italy on furlough in Utah. Major discussions centered on regional conferences for Issei and Nisei farmers, postwar planning and evacuee resettlement in the Pacific Coast. On Dec. 18, 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court rules loyal citizens cannot be detained (ex parte Endo). The Army restores right of evacuees to return home after Jan. 2, 1945, to West Coast. JACL offices open in San Francisco and Los Angeles.



JACLers gather for a dance at the 1936 Seattle national convention.

9th Biennial
Feb. 28–March 4, 1946
DENVER
Cosmopolitan Hotel
President Harry Truman's tribute to the convention cites Nisei who served the United States so valiantly in WWII. Ex–Sgt. Ben Kuroki volunteers for JACL service in New York to speak for Issei naturalization.

10th Biennial
Sept. 4–8, 1948
SALT LAKE CITY
Hotel Utah



The first 1000 Club Whing–Ding is held at Dawn Noodle House where the tradition of cutting off men's long ties starts. Women without garters are fined. June Yoshimoto, 20, of Los Angeles, is crowned the first national JACL queen from field of eight candidates. Convention speaker Col. Charles Pence, 442nd commander, praises the Nisei GI. National council votes to assist in filing of evacuee claims and initiate annual memorial holiday for Nisei war veterans on the last Sunday in October to commemorate the rescue of the Lost Battalion in 1944. The Mountain Plains district council is admitted (Denver, Ft. Lupton, Omaha, Rio Grande Valley) with Bessie Matsuda as chair.

11th Biennial
Sept. 28–Oct. 2, 1950
CHICAGO
Stevens Hotel
Mike Masaoka is named first Nisei of Biennium; JACL Ruby Pins (approved by 1948 council for wartime contributions and sacrifices to JACL) to Ruby Yoshino Schaar, Sgt. Ben Kuroki, Pfc. Tom Higa and 17 former staff members. WRA director Dillon Myer addresses testimonial fete for officials and individuals who aided Japanese Americans during WWII. Council actions include proposing age–category lump sum evacuation claims payment: $500 for persons above age 18 as of Feb. 19, 1942, $100 for persons between 12–18.

12th Biennial
June 26–30, 1952
SAN FRANCISCO
St. Francis Hotel



The mood of the opening session is somber as President Truman had just vetoed the Walter–McCarran Omnibus Bill to allow resident Japanese aliens citizenship by naturalization. National Council wires senators of 23 states where JACL's 84 chapters are located to help override the veto. On June 27, Congress overrode the veto by the required two–thirds, recharging the convention atmosphere with shouts of "Victory! Well Done, Mike (Masaoka)."

13th Biennial
Sept. 1–6, 1954
LOS ANGELES
Statler Hotel



Nisei women prepare to participate in the JACL fashion show.

Dore Schary, producer of MGM film, "Go for Broke", spoke on his favorite subjects: minority groups and exploring the diversity of America. Council favors best possible compromise settlement to remaining evacuation claims and adopts two policy statements: denouncing Communism, first enunciated in 1936 at Seattle, and barring anyone who is a Communist Party member from the JACL.

TIMELINE
CONTINUED ON PAGE 110

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HARRINGTON, Howard	825 W 385 N
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KONISHI, Alice	175 W 100 North
MATSUURA, Mrs. Emi	362 N 200 W
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SHIOSAKI, Hero	PO Box 1131
SHIOSAKI, Jim & Vickie	PO Box 743
SHIOSAKI, Misako S	PO Box 5
TOMINAGA, Frank & Kimi	1448 W 100 South
TOMINAGA, Jack & Betty	826 Hiway 39 West
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YODEN, William	8W Rich Ln

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Mike Masaoka learns the hula from instructor Vi Nakano at the 1956 national convention in San Francisco.

TIMELINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 107

14th Biennial
Aug, 31–Sept. 3, 1956
SAN FRANCISCO
Sheraton Palace Hotel
Over 800 registered attendees representing 74 of 88 chapters unfurl embroidered silk flag with JACL emblem and national motto, "For Better Americans in a Greater America," from Issei pioneer Yaemon Minami of Guadalupe, Calif., at opening session. Council adopts JACL statement on civil rights and forms legal committee to ascertain reversal of Korematsu, Hirabayashi and Yasui cases.

15th Biennial
Aug. 22–25, 1958
SALT LAKE CITY
Hotel Utah
Over 400 registered, 63 of 84 chapters represented, year–end 1956 membership of 16,865 is an all–time high. Rep. Dalip Saund, D–Calif., first Asian–born congressman, urges Nisei to help U.S. win Cold War in Asia. JACL arranges with American Federation of International Institutes that chapters may refer so–called Japanese soldier brides for care and promotes youth/Jr. JACL as an ongoing program.

16th Biennial
June 29–July 2, 1960
SACRAMENTO
El Dorado Hotel
Delegates forego convention awards luncheon (sandwiches were ordered) and Sayonara ball to complete agenda junking the 14–year–old district assessment system (chapter quotas) for modified membership formula and increase dues from $1 to $3. Council amends mechanics of 1958 JACL policy on U.S.–Japan affairs, referring long range concern to the international relations committee for review and adopts guidelines presented by youth commissioner Dr. John Kashiwabara to form Jr. JACL. Jerry Enomoto is appointed JACL youth commissioner.

17th Biennial
July 26–30, 1962
SEATTLE
Olympic Hotel
In his opening remarks, Dillon S. Myer, WRA director (1943–46), lauds calm attitudes of Issei and the heroism of 442nd Regimental Combat Team to boost Niseidom; National council, in opposition to 1959 IRS decision to federally tax evacuation claim awards, reminds IRS that 1948 law as amended considered awards as bounty and not taxable. Council also urges President John F. Kennedy to issue executive order for fair housing and urges federal endorsement of Japanese as a modern language to be taught in high schools.

18th Biennial
June 30–July 4, 1964
DETROIT
Sheraton Cadillac Hotel
NAACP executive secretary Roy Wilkins urges everyone to work in the community and to bring justice. National council devises national JACL civil rights fund in wake of President Lyndon B. Johnson signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and supports Washington campaign to repeal anti–alien law.

19th Biennial
July 26–30, 1966
SAN DIEGO
El Cortez Hotel
Unable to fly to San Diego, Rep. Patsy Takemoto Mink, D-Hawaii, telephones her talk to convention, praising JACL for defending the rights of many. Council receives board recommendation for first national JACL–sponsored tour of Japan, reviews 1962–65 JACL civil rights committee report as basis for own $30,000 budget and amends bylaws to call district council chair governor.

20th Biennial
Aug. 21-24, 1968
SAN JOSE
Hyatt House
Whitney M. Young, Jr., executive director of the Urban League, challenges JAs to really show how great America is. Parent JACL chapters and Jr. JACL confront each other on the floor as familiarity and frustrations of both generations expressed. Council affirms campaign to repeal Title II, 1950 Internal Security Act, which allows the federal government to re-establish concentration camps and votes for affirmative action programs.

21st Biennial
July 15-18, 1970
CHICAGO
Palmer House
Conrad Hilton Hotel
On July 16, Evelynn Okubo, 18, Stockton Jr. JACLer, is slain in her Palmer House room by an apparent rapist. Roommate Ranko Yamada, 17, whose throat is slashed is hospitalized and survives. National JACL offers $10,000 reward, but the tragedy

is yet to be resolved by Chicago police. National council calls U.S. actions in Vietnam morally wrong and condemns U.S. entry into Cambodia.

22nd Biennial
June 28-July 1, 1972
Washington, D.C.
Shoreham Hotel
Masao Satow testimonial lasts over three hours — the longest sit–down luncheon in JACL convention history. Council endorses Rep. Spark Matsunaga's bill to establish department of peace and applauds cultural affairs committee chair George Takei's work with media and promotion of APAs in fine arts.

23rd Biennial
July 24-27, 1974
PORTLAND, ORE.
Sheraton Motor Inn
Dr. Arthur Flemming, U.S. Civil Rights Commission chair, combines spiritual values and deep commitment by senior citizens and involvement on issues affecting the nation at–large. Council abolishes president-elect position, as of July 1976 and retains citizenship requirement to become JACL member. Over 2,700 contribute $266,000 to headquarters, building fund goal of $375,000.

24th Biennial
June 21-26, 1976
SACRAMENTO
Sacramento Inn
Sacramento Community Center
En route from Washington to her desk at CBS–Los Angeles, Connie Chung, CBS News, discussed the role of minorities on TV and biases and stereotypes in the advertising and media industries. Council supports H.R. 8152 to assist U.S. citizen hibakusha (atomic bomb survivors) with federal government paying reasonable charges for medical treatment of their radiation illness/injury.

25th Biennial
July 17–22, 1978
SALT LAKE CITY
Little America Hotel
Council approves hard–hitting campaign budget to seek $25,000 redress to compensate each person disrupted by WWII internment and an apology. The 501(c)(4) political lobby is launched with JACL Legal Defense Fund. John Tateishi is named redress chair. The next day, guest speaker Sen. S.I. Hayakawa told the media day that JACL had no right to ask the U.S. government for reparations.

26th Biennial
July 27–Aug. 1, 1980
SAN FRANCISCO
Plaza Airport Inn
Because of a major hotel workers' strike, the venue was switched one week prior from Jack Tar Hotel to the Plaza Airport Inn. Speaker Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D–Hawaii, moved by President Jimmy Carter's signing of Commission Bill S. 1647 the previous day, declares, "You, victims of E.O. 9066, have a special responsibility, not only to yourselves but to this great democracy." JACL constitutional convention approves membership to permanent resident Issei and approves establishment of JACL employment discrimination committee.

27th Biennial
Aug. 10-13, 1982
GARDENA VALLEY
Hyatt Airport Hotel
JACL redress committee receives $300,000 campaign funding from JACL Endowment Fund principle as a three-year loan. National council revises 1978 redress guidelines to include monetary compensation to all individuals who suffered injuries or losses due to E.O. 9066 and that Congress admits that the forced evacuation of Aleuts and Japanese people during WWII was wrong.

28th Biennial
Aug. 14-17, 1984
HONOLULU
Pacific Beach Hotel
Council adopts its first million dollar-plus budget, transfers JACL funds and staff to JACL–Legislative Education Committee to pursue Redress and urges Congress to acknowledge U.S. participation in the 1893 overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii as illegal, immoral and to grant restitution to Native Hawaiians for losses and damages.

29th Biennial
Aug. 22-26, 1986
CHICAGO
Hyatt Regency
Council reaffirms Redress campaign as JACL's first priority until we have either won or lost and supports Congressional imposition of economic sanctions on South Africa due to apartheid. It also rejects constitutional amendment to proclaim English the official U.S. language.

30th Biennial
Aug. 4–10, 1988
SEATTLE
Univ. of Washington
Mahon Hall
JACL leaders flew to White House to witness President Reagan sign H.R. 442, the $1.2 billion Redress bill on Aug. 10. At the podium were Reps. Robert Matsui, D–Calif., Norman Mineta, D–Calif., House Speaker Tom Foley, D–Wash., Mike Lowry, D–Wash., Mike Masaoka, Grayce Uyehara, Harry Kajihara and Jerry Enomoto. Sen. Spark Matsunaga's videotaped message focused on the Redress campaign.

31st Biennial
June 19-22, 1990
SAN DIEGO
Princess Resort
National council honors 12 JACL–LEC stalwarts Sens. Daniel Inouye, Spark Matsunaga, Daniel Akaka, Reps. Norman Mineta, Robert Matsui, Barney Frank, ex–Gov. Thomas H. Kean, R–N.J., William Marutani, CWRIC counsel Angus Macbeth, 442nd veteran Rudy Tokiwa, Jerry Enomoto, and the late Minoru Yasui. Council also establishes National JACL Legacy Fund with $10 million goal and condemns 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

32nd Biennial
Aug. 3-8, 1992
DENVER
Sheraton–Denver Tech Center
At the opening session, presidential candidate Bill Clinton telephone–patched his best wishes at Sayonara banquet while greetings from President George Bush was read to JACLers. At the Sayonara Banquet, last up on the program including remarks by six local and state politicians and noticing the band on stage, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye decided against his original speech and spoke of his experiences as a 442nd trainee at Camp Shelby and visiting an internment camp for a Rohwer USO dance hosted by internees, felt kinship with Kotonks for the first time.

33rd Biennial
Aug. 2-7, 1994
SALT LAKE CITY
Marriott Hotel
Council rejects resolution to withdraw national board's decision to support same-sex marriage and sustained the board's stand, leading into the most heated debate of the convention.

34th Biennial
Aug. 6-11, 1996
SAN JOSE
The Fairmount Hotel
President Bill Clinton, staying at the same hotel, met privately with JACL board members in the early morning before continuing his campaign trail. National council reaffirms Redress support for Japanese Latin Americans, endorses construction of Nikkei war monuments in Little Tokyo Go For Broke, Washington Memorial to Patriotism, Korean War veterans and calls for feasibility study on moving *P.C.* from Monterey Park to headquarters.

35th Biennial
July 1-5, 1998
PHILADELPHIA
Sheraton Society Hill Hotel
Tenth anniversary of Civil Liberties Act celebrated as over 80,000 survivors who suffered through WWII concentration camps received government's apology and $20,000 Redress check.

36th Biennial
June 27-July 2, 2000
MONTEREY, CALIF.
JACL adopts an emergency resolution to support the National JA Memorial in Washington, D.C. and the inclusion of Mike Masaoka's quote. National council approves apology to WWII resisters.

37th Biennial
June 25-30, 2002
LAS VEGAS
Riviera Hotel & Casino
Lawyer Morris Dees keynotes Sayonara Banquet. Longtime *Pacific Citizen* editor Harry Honda retires after 50 years of service.

38th Biennial
Aug. 10-14, 2004
HONOLULU, HAWAII
JACL honors Japanese American veterans, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, and celebrates its 75th anniversary.

39th Biennial
June 21-24, 2006
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
JACL passes an emergency resolution to support legislation and education on Hepatitis B. JACL national director John Tateishi announces that he is stepping down at the June 25 national board meeting.

40th Biennial
July 16-20, 2008
SALT LAKE CITY
Council approves annual conventions and celebrates 30th anniversary of Redress. The National Youth/Student Council passes a resolution to support human rights in North Korea.

41st Biennial
June 30-July 4, 2010
CHICAGO
Swissotel
National council passes biennial budget without dues increase and votes down a proposed *P.C.* move to San Francisco. Council also takes a stand against Arizona's anti-immigration law, SB 1070.

SOURCE: HARRY K. HONDA, *PACIFIC CITIZEN* EDITOR EMERITUS

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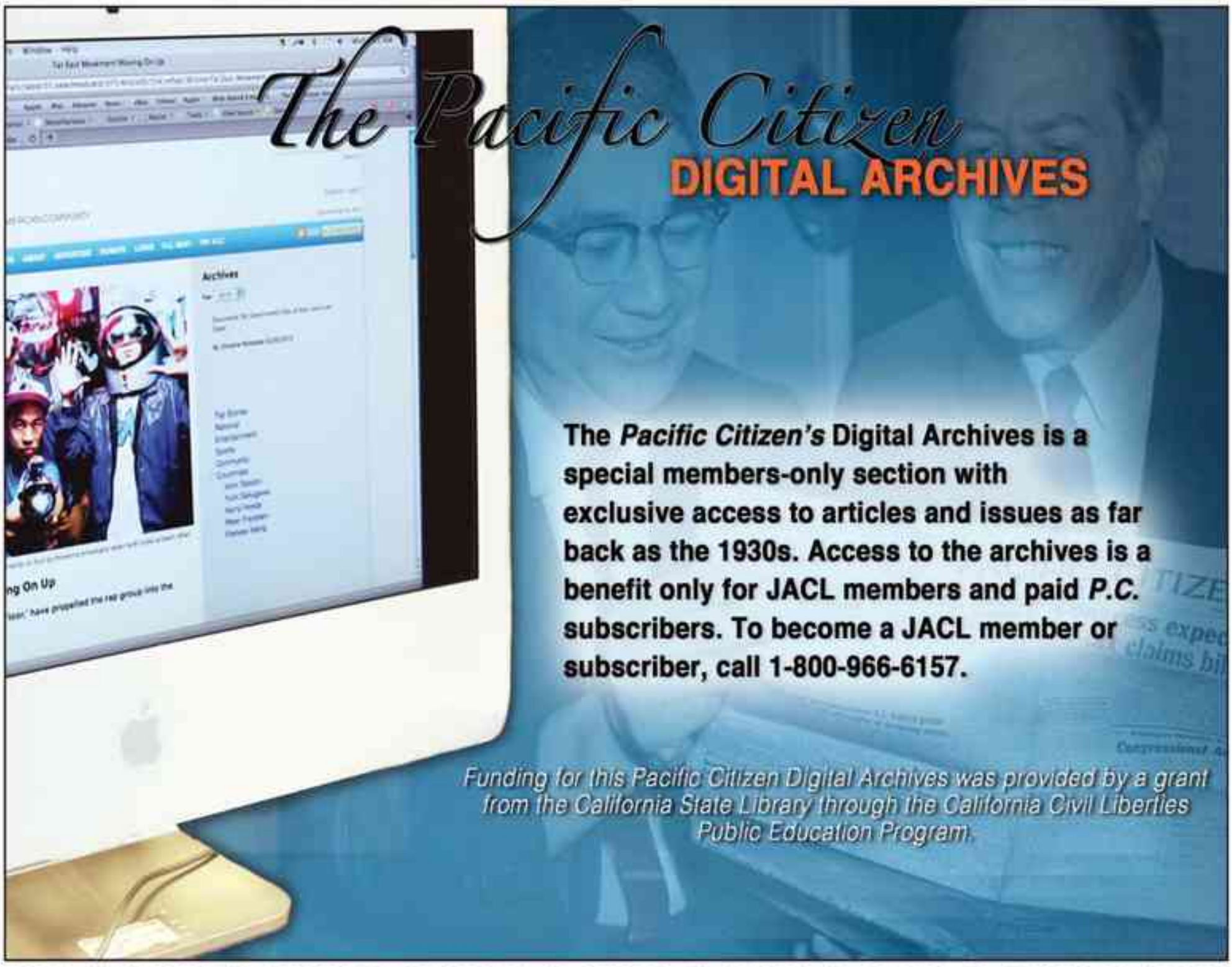
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TRIBUTE

Harry Hiroyuki Shibata

May 22, 1926 - November 4, 2010

Born on May, 22, 1926 in Los Angeles, Ca., passed away unexpectedly on November 4, 2010 in San Francisco.

Harry was an engineer at Lockheed Aerospace for over twenty five years. He was also a pilot and his lifelong love of flying, whether airplanes or model airplanes led him upon retirement, to return to school to get an airplane mechanics certificate and go to work for United Airlines.

Harry grew up in the Boyle Heights section of Los Angeles. During WW II he and his family were moved to the relocaton camp at Poston, Arizona. He left camp to attend college and after the war, received a BS in Engineering from the University of Minnesota and an MS in Aeronautical Engineering from Cal Tech.

Harry married Masako Takano in 1963. They lived in Southern California and in the Bay Area until her death in 1993. Harry remarried in 1995 to Yuriko Sakurai Moriwaki.

Throughout his life, Harry enjoyed flying, classical music, concerts and theater. In their lives together, Harry and Yuri traveled all over the world attending Elder Hostel programs.

Harry is survived by his wife, Yuri of San Francisco, his sister, Midori of Redwood City and many nieces, nephews, cousins, stepchildren and grandchildren. A private family service was held in Redwood City on November, 12, 2010.

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TRIBUTE

Osamu "Sam" Honda

November 24, 2010



Age 83, of White Bear Lake, MN passed away Nov. 24, 2010 after a 6-month fight with cancer. Preceded in death by parents and sister, Sue Bungo. Survived by wife Lily; daughters Patti (Gary) Nakai and Nancy Honda; son, Mark (Andrea); six grandchildren (Ben, Nick, Alix, Maddy, Theo, Dani); brothers Ben (Yoshi) of Fresno, CA and Harry (Charlene) of Federal Way, WA and several nephews and nieces. Sam was active in JACL as a past president of the Twin Cities chapter and treasurer of the Midwest District, and was heavily involved in organizing local events to honor Japanese American veterans and seniors.

TRIBUTE

Yoshiye Nishioki Osaka

August 31, 2010



Yoshi, 82, the youngest of 8 children raised in Sanger, CA., was a retired middle school special ed. teacher, survived by loving husband Walter, daughter, Barbara Okazaki (Ken), grandchildren, Carolyn, Rachel, & Danny; daughter Juli Tachibana (Gil), preceded in death by daughter Mary Reiko Osaka.





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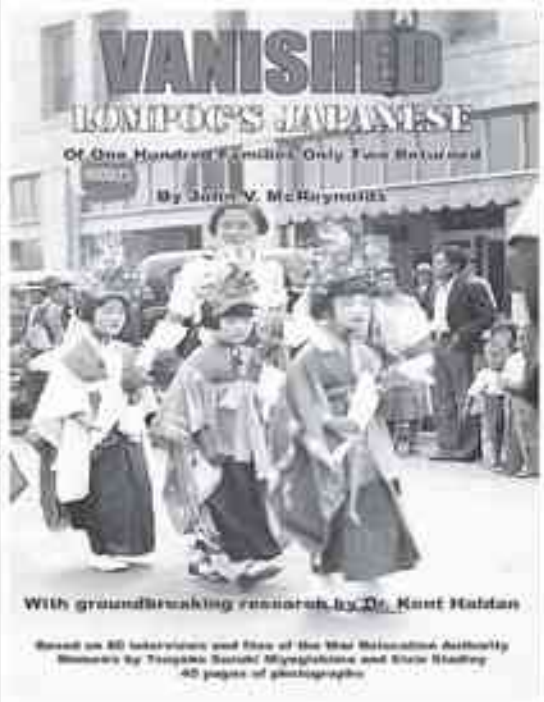
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PROPOSED ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES SCHEDULED FOR 2011

Feb. 13-17	**Cunard Valentine's Day Mexico Getaway aboard the Queen Victoria** 4 days/3 nights, roundtrip from the Port of Los Angeles/San Pedro visiting Ensenada.	
Feb. 21-Mar. 2	**Yamato Discover Egypt Tour** 11 days/9 nights, visiting Cairo, Giza, Luxor, Nile cruise visiting Aswan and Abu Simbel	Philippe Theriault
Apr. 4-10	**Yamato's Washington D.C. Cherry Blossom Tour** 7 days/6 nights, visiting Philadelphia, Lancaster, Washington D.C., Mt. Vernon	Philippe Theriault / Lilly Nomura
Apr. 7-21	**Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan** 15 days/13 nights, visiting Tokyo, Sendai, Niigata, Takayama, Kanazawa, Amanohashidate, Kyoto, Hiroshima/Miyajima	Peggy Mikuni
April	**Yamato Britain & Ireland Tour with Collette Vacations** 14 days/12 nights, visiting London, Stonehenge, Bath, Cardiff, Blarney, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Dublin, Wales, Gretna Green, Edinburgh, York, Coventry & Stratford-Upon-Avon	Sharon Seto
May	**Yamato Essential Spain Tour** 11 days/9 nights, visiting Bilbao, San Sebastian, Barcelona, Cordoba, Seville, Andalusia, Gibraltar, Costa del Sol/Marbella, Granada, Madrid	Philippe Theriault
July	**Yamato Boston & New York by Rail Tour** 6 days/5 nights, visiting highlights in Boston as well as visiting Concord & Lexington and New York City	Philippe Theriault
Sept. 26-Oct. 5	**Yamato Eastern Canada Tour** 10 days/9 nights, visiting Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City, overnight train to Moncton, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton and Halifax	Philippe Theriault
Oct. 1-13	**Route 66 with Balloon Fiesta with Trafalgar Tours** 13 days visiting Chicago, St. Louis, Branson, Oklahoma City, Amarillo, Albuquerque (Balloon Fiesta), Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, Hollywood, Los Angeles	Sharon Seto
Oct. 17-26	**Yamato Korean Drama Tour** 10 days/9 nights, visiting Seoul, Mt. Seoraksan, Gyeongju, Jeju Island, DMZ	Grace Sakamoto
Oct. 17-31	**Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan** 15 days/13 nights, visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima/Miyajima, Kyoto, Tokyo	Peggy Mikuni
Oct. 31-Nov. 14	**Yamato South Pacific Wonders with Collette Vacations** 15 days/12 nights, visiting Cairns (Great Barrier Reef) & Sydney, Australia; Christchurch, Mt. Cook Nat'l Park, Queenstown, & Milford Sound, New Zealand	
November	**Yamato Christmas Markets of Europe Tour** 10 days/8 nights, visiting Prague, Rothenburg, Romantic Road from Dinkelbuehl to Ulm, Neuschwanstein, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Salzburg, Vienna	Philippe Theriault

* * * * *

Our tour outline itineraries will be ready by the end of the year.

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Holiday Greetings to Our Friends in JACL
Harry & Misako HONDA
19417 E. Greenwillow Ln
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

Happy Holidays
Eleanor & Tio Fujiwara

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Cheers
Homer & Miyuki Yasui
1525 SE 107th Ave. Apt. 207
Portland, OR 97216-2467

Holiday Greetings
Toshi Kadowaki
5519 Hidden Ct.
Sylvania, OH 43560

Holiday Greetings to Our JACL Friends
Naomi & Emi KASHIWABARA
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San Diego, CA 92117

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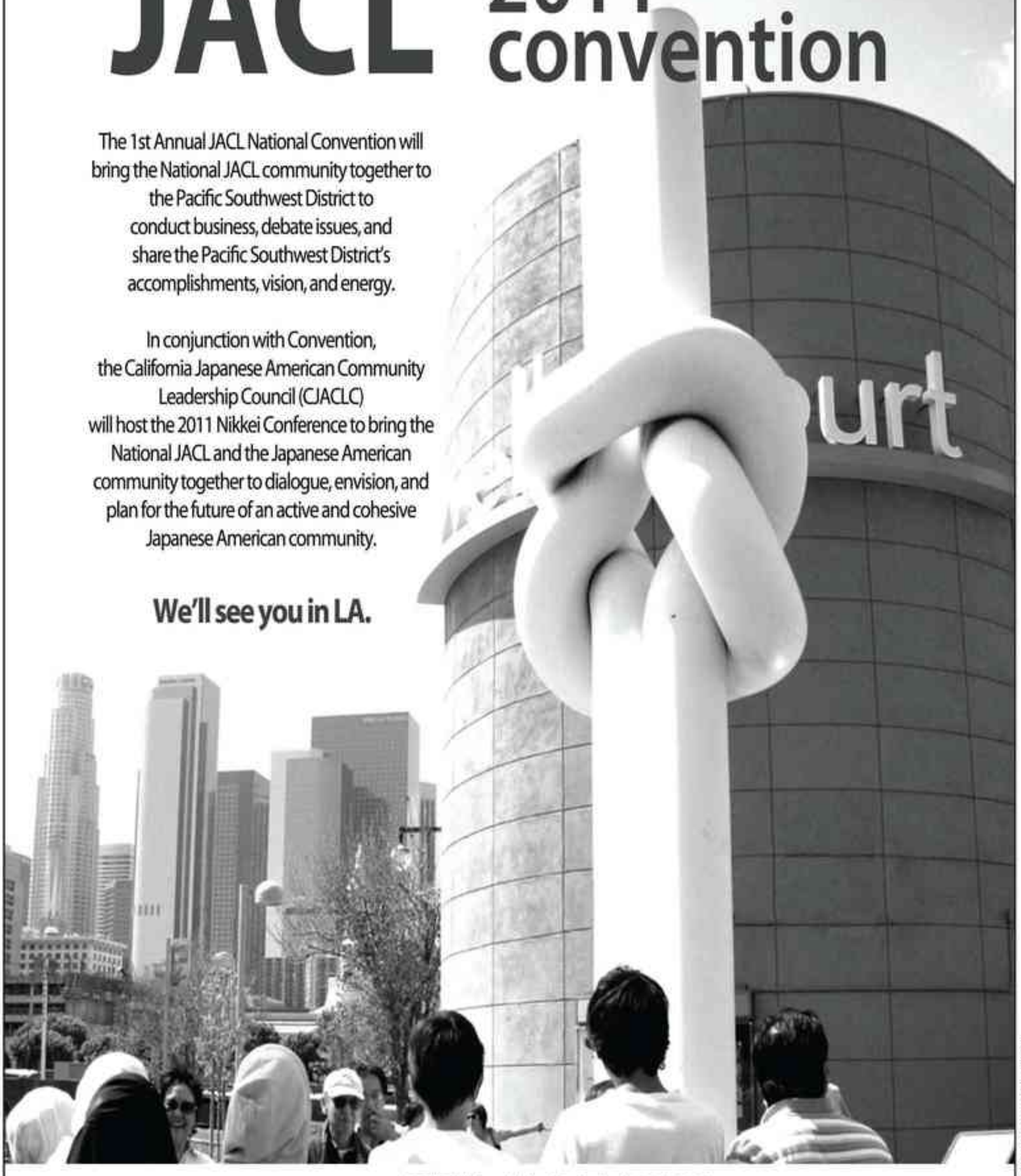
After 41 Biennial National Conventions,
the Pacific Southwest District of the Japanese American Citizens League is proud to host the

JACL 2011 convention

The 1st Annual JACL National Convention will bring the National JACL community together to the Pacific Southwest District to conduct business, debate issues, and share the Pacific Southwest District's accomplishments, vision, and energy.

In conjunction with Convention, the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council (CJACLC) will host the 2011 Nikkei Conference to bring the National JACL and the Japanese American community together to dialogue, envision, and plan for the future of an active and cohesive Japanese American community.

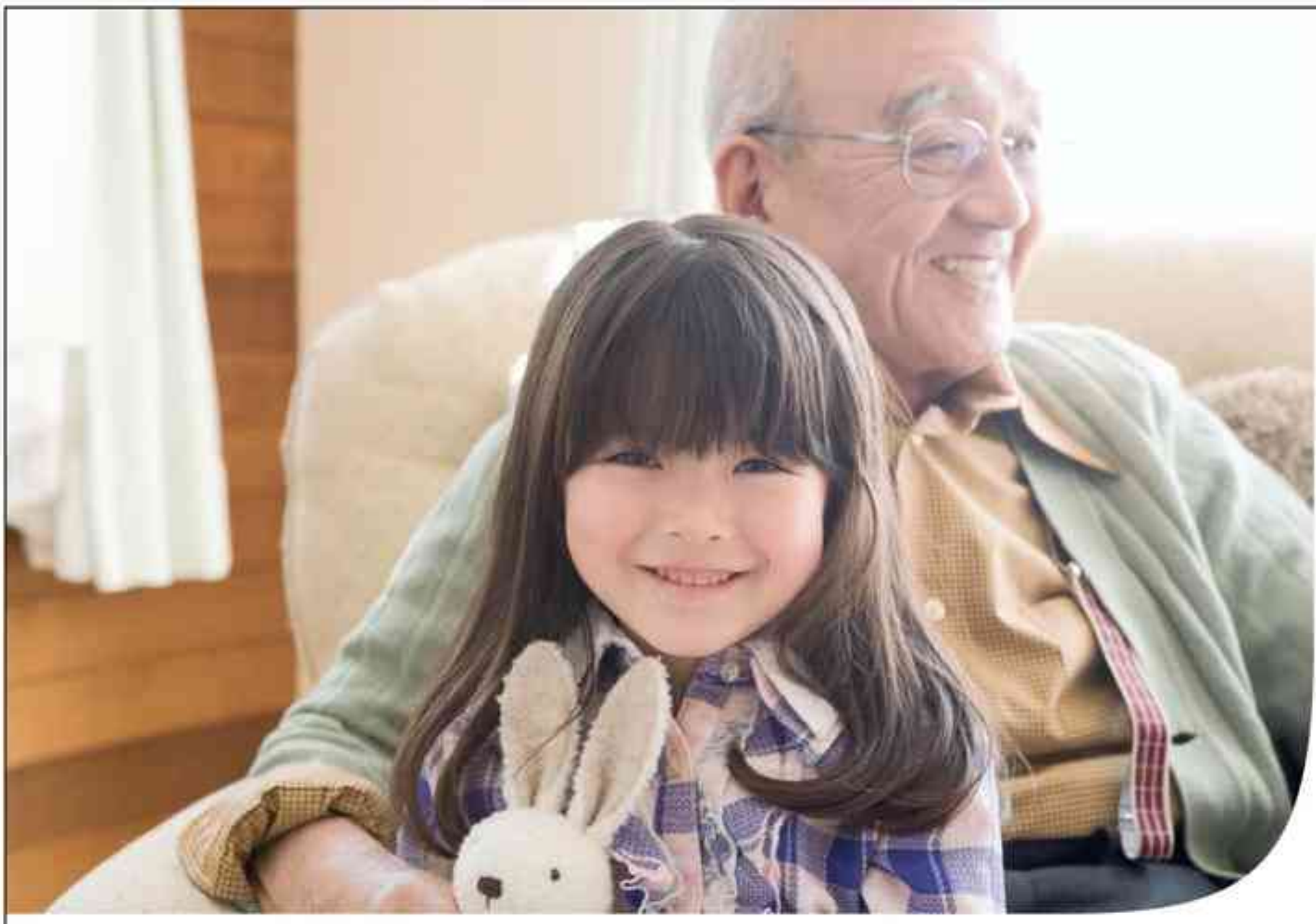
We'll see you in LA.



WHEN: July 7-July 10, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION: www.jaclpsw.org





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