

# Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

## Coming Events

- Apr 9, 23 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. This group meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month. For information contact Terry Yamashita (510) 237-1131 or Tazuko White.
- Apr 24 **Berkeley JACL Scholarship Luncheon**, see articles and flyer inside
- May 10 **Manzanar: An American Story**, Kent Nagano & the Berkeley Symphony; Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, see article
- May 14 **Berkeley JACL Membership Mixer**, 2-4 PM, see article inside
- June 24-26 **2005 JACL National Youth/ Student Conference**, see article inside

**Making Noise** is a monthly means to exercise your right to express your views, humor, concerns, or anything else of interest. We will be happy to print it in our Newsletter. Please write to the JACL Berkeley Chapter newsletter, c/o Berkeley JACL, P.O. Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609, or e-mail Berkeley JACL at [Berkeley@JACL.ORG](mailto:Berkeley@JACL.ORG). **MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**

E-mail the Berkeley JACL at: [Berkeley@JACL.org](mailto:Berkeley@JACL.org)

Visit our Website at [www.berkeleyjacl.org](http://www.berkeleyjacl.org)



Quality Blue Shield health plans since 1965  
Call 1-800-400-6633



## April 24 Berkeley JACL Scholarship Awards Luncheon

The 2005 Scholarship Awards luncheon will be held on Sunday, April 24, starting at 12 noon, at the Berkeley Doubletree Hotel & Conference Center, 200 Marina Blvd, on the Berkeley Marina. The chapter will honor six scholarship recipients –

*Cory Hiraga, Christine Hironaka, Rya Inada, Derek Morishita, Jennifer Moriuchi, and Adam Ohashi.*

One of the recipients will be selected as the Chapter's second **Bea Kono** scholarship recipient.

In addition, the Chapter will recognize Goro Endo and Jordan Hiratzka (posthumously) as its Pioneer Award recipients. Established in 1996, the Pioneer Award is given to individuals to recognize them for their long history of dedicated service to the community and to the JACL.



Goro Endo



Jordan Hiratzka

Goro, a former President of the Berkeley JACL and active member, was born in Japan and came to United States with grandmother in 1923 just before the Exclusion Act prevented Asian immigration. When WWII started, he went to Salt Lake City where he attended Business School and started working in the restaurant because he figured it was a way of not starving. He learned to cook by watching, ending up as a chef. This was useful when he returned to California where he became head chef at Larry Blake Restaurant near Cal. In that capacity, he hired many Japanese American students. After about 20 years at Larry Blake Restaurant, he changed jobs and worked at Providence

Hospital until retirement. Goro is an active member of the Oakland Buddhist Church, a former President of the church

Jordon, also a former President of the Berkeley JACL, grew up in Los Angeles and was relocated to the Gila, Arizona internment camp when WWII broke out. He served with the MIS in the Philippines and Japan. After the war, Jordon married Maruko and they settled in the Bay Area so that he could attend the University of California, Berkeley where he received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Public Health. In 1963, Jordon joined the Golden Gate Insurance Agency where he worked until his untimely death in 2001. He actively served the community in the Boys Scouts, various City of Berkeley commissions, and many community service organizations. He served the JACL as a long time board member of the JACL-Blue Shield Trust.

Vera Kawamura, Assistant Attorney General for the State of California, will be the guest speaker. Vera, a Chapter member, will be talking about her background, and her current assignment to defend the State of California from employees' lawsuits.

**SEE ATTACHED FLYER. Please contact Ron Tanaka if any questions 925-932-7947**

### Why did I join the JACL

*By Bernie Lau*

As someone who is not of Japanese descent, I am often posed this question. Though many of JACL's functions are wonderful social events that strengthens and promotes the Japanese American community and culture, the JACL was founded as civil rights organization that worked to protect people of Japanese ancestry against discrimination in the United States. As such, some of their efforts indirectly and positively affected other Asians in the United States because many of the discriminatory laws were not specific to just the Japanese. Over time, the JACL grew to protect the civil rights of not just Japanese Americans and people of Japanese ancestry, but of all Asian Americans.

It is this philosophy that attracted me to the JACL. As a Chinese American, particularly growing up in an area with very few Asians, it was not uncommon to encounter racist behaviors or attitudes directed at my family or me. It is this personal history and a growing appreciation for the Asian American community and reverence for Asian American pioneers fostered my interest in working for and within the Asian American community. Though I do not have the cultural

experience or background of a Japanese American, I do share the commonality of growing up and living as an Asian American. The Asian American community is unique in that it is comprised of many different and occasionally conflicting peoples and cultures, but has found strength in working together for a common cause. The JACL embodies this philosophy in working on the behalf of the entire Asian American community as well as any other group that may have their civil rights compromised.

I am proud to be a part of this organization and plan to support it in its future efforts.

### *Giving to Berkeley JACL Youth, One Cart at a Time*

*By Emily Teruya*

A big thanks to Elizabeth Baldwin, Jean Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda, Donna Hiraga-Stephens, Ted Jitodai, Ichiko Jitosh, Osamu Jitosh, Kaneko-Jones Family, Kawamura Family, Nancy Ku and Thomas Wei, Malaga Family (Salinas JACL), Etsuko Miyouchi, Neal & KG Ouye, Tak & Maye Shirasawa, Teruya Family, Kenji Togami, Hitoshi Yamaguchi, Valerie Yasukochi and Jim Duff, Milo Yoshino (Diablo Valley JACL), and those who remain anonymous!

A special thanks to Myra Malaga of Salinas JACL for recruiting so many of her friends and family. Another warm thanks goes to Diablo JACL's Milo Yoshino for constantly supporting our efforts. Myra and Milo really believe in the concept that JACL is a "family" thing. We may come from different chapters, but we're all helping the organization.

We just started the program late last year, and we've already earned \$88.82 for Berkeley JACL youth!! We hope to earn \$500 by the end of 2005. In order to reach our goal, we need your support. If you haven't already registered, please do so. And, ask your friends and family to register, too.

You can register online: Go to [www.albertsons.com/cp/](http://www.albertsons.com/cp/) and log in as a shopper and follow the directions. Or, if you'd like Emily ([eteruya@berkeley.edu](mailto:eteruya@berkeley.edu)) to sign you up and/or renew for you, please e-mail her with your Albertsons Preferred Card number and the telephone number you registered with. Please pass this information to everyone you know. This program is an easy way for our chapter to raise money for our youth.



**Berkeley JACL Membership Mixer**

YOU ARE INVITED: to the

**Berkeley JACL Membership Mixer,  
"Meeting New Friends, Re-connecting with old  
Friends"**

**Saturday, May 14th, 2-4pm**

Sycamore Congregational Church, UCC  
1111 Navellier St.  
El Cerrito, CA

Hello, out there! You are one of the 400 members of the Berkeley JACL. Come out and have fun with other members on Saturday, May 14th 2-4pm at our Membership Mixer. Enjoy free sushi, a drawing to win a Sony I-Pod, and fun "Meeting New Friends, Re-connecting with old Friends."

This is your chance to tell us what activities you'd like to become involved in and what civil rights issues matter most to you. Come with ideas and the desire to meet new people in our community! Guests are welcome.

Questions? Call Alison at (510) 816-8161

Driving directions to Sycamore Congregational Church:

Take I-80 E toward VALLEJO/SACRAMENTO  
Take the CENTRAL AVENUE exit toward EL  
CERRITO

Turn RIGHT onto CENTRAL AVE.  
Turn LEFT onto SAN PABLO AVE.  
Turn RIGHT onto MOESER LN.  
Turn LEFT onto NAVELLIER ST.

Sycamore: 1111 Navellier St, El Cerrito, CA 94530

**Why I'm Active in JACL**

*By Carolyn Miyakawa Adams*

I have belonged to the JACL for several years, and my parents were members for many years before me, but it has been only recently that I began to fully appreciate the depth and scope of our organization. The

words "gratitude" and "pride" come to mind. Gratitude for all JACL has done for me, my family, and the Japanese-American community. Pride because JACL continues to do so.

**Gratitude:** I am grateful for the support offered us during the frightening and traumatic times preceding World War II, the internment, and the aftermath – return and resettlement. I am grateful for all the work that went into the Redress Movement and for the insistence and persistence of the JACL which finally culminated in the apology from our government. I am grateful for the part the JACL played, along with our Issei forbearers, in giving us the strength and vision to move forward as Americans, and at the same time preserve our precious Japanese cultural heritage and legacy. And as a teacher I really appreciate JACL's support of education through scholarships, fellowships, and endowments.

**Pride:** I view with pride JACL's commitment to justice for all. I am proud of the way JACL has reached out beyond the Japanese-American community to defend the social and civil rights of others – opposing the Patriot Act, deploring racial profiling, exposing and opposing hate crimes (currently supporting the passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act in Congress, not accepting racial epitaphs such as "Jap Rock," "Jap Lane," "Jap Road," and "Chink's Steakhouse") speaking out for accurate information and fair treatment of Dr. Wen Ho Lee, and standing firm in its support of same-sex marriages (the JACL has signed on as an "amicus curiae" to an ACLU lawsuit that is currently before the Oregon Supreme Court).

Finally, more and more Asian Americans are running for (and winning) public offices, often supported and encouraged by the JACL and the API community. It is crucial that laws be introduced, enacted, and changed if necessary. We must support API politicians and they must support us.

On all these and others, I feel that the JACL has been a potent force in promoting awareness of human, social, and civil rights issues. JACL National President Ken Inouye said, "Our members must know that JACL will always stand up for justice even when it may not be popular to do so." I will continue to be a proud and grateful member as long as we continue to do this!

**Join the Berkeley JACL at the Berkeley Symphony,  
May 10, 8:00 PM; Zellerbach Hall; Call Val  
Yasukochi (510) 387-8335 for tickets & rides**

## 2005 JACL/OCA Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference

By Emily Teruya



*Norm Mineta w/ Larry Oda (Monterey), Emily Teruya (Berkeley),  
And Sheldon Arakai (Lake Washington)*

It's been more than three weeks since I got back from the 2005 JACL/OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans) Washington, D.C. Leadership Conference, but I'm still suffering from information overload! I must've brought home at least 10 lbs. worth of reading materials.

The four-day conference held March 5-8 was filled with workshops from 8AM to 9PM (and that's not including the "after-hours" activities – like Karaoke Night with Mike Honda). Yes, the East Coast organizers showed little sympathy for the jetlagged West Coasters.

There were many significant panelists, workshops, speakers, and sightseeing adventures. One highlight was "putting ourselves in the context of history" during Phil Nash's "History of APAs" workshop on the first day. We went around the room trying to determine where our ancestors were in the years 1849, 1882, 1924, 1942, and 1967 – all important dates in APA history.

After our first official day of workshops, we dined with Washington DC chapter officers and met Lily Okura, a paragon for up-and-coming women leaders in JACL. We also watched "A Most Unlikely Hero: The Bruce Yamashita Story" with Bruce Yamashita in the room! I've heard his story but never understood the depth of discrimination and degradation he suffered during his time with the Marine Corps. As we watched the movie in silence, I learned that he had no choice but to stand alone in his fight. During his five-year struggle, he stood up for equal opportunity, fairness, and justice and, like the title, he emerged a most unlikely hero. His story was definitely an inspiration for all of us. He emphasized the power and

potential each of us has as individuals in effecting change. He also reminded us that, in our own way, we were already leaders.

On a trip to the Smithsonian, we perused the "Brown v. Board of Education" exhibit. Kristine Minami, one of the conference organizers, pointed out JACL's logo within the exhibit. She emphasized JACL's participation in the Civil Rights Movement – something many of us did not know.

Our Media and Message Training workshop (which started promptly at 8AM on the third day) was surprisingly an uplifting experience. Toby Chaduri, Campaign for America's Future's Communications Director, was energetic, charismatic, and wanted to teach us everything he knew. He informed us that in order to gain any one's attention, we need to get in front of that person at least 13 times. Yes, 13 times! He clearly outlined a plan-for-action which we could all implement and bring back to our respective JACL or OCA chapters. He gave us tips on how to write press releases, when to distribute them, and how to get other types of media coverage.

Later that night, we had a wonderful dinner. The food was great but the company was better! We dined with Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta and were all ecstatic that he "made the rounds" going from table to table to chat with everyone. The OCA participant next to me was practically delirious because she got to sit right next to him -- she jokingly admitted that she was, essentially, a "Mineta groupie."

On the morning of our final day, we met several politicians at the Capitol. It was incredible. Kristine Minami, JACL Director of Public Affairs, and Christine Chen, OCA Executive Director, could not emphasize this rare opportunity to meet so many people in one day. We heard from Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA), Rep. Neil Abercrombie (D-HI), Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-CA), Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA), and Rep. Christopher Van Hollen (D-MD). The most lively speaker was, by far, Neil Abercrombie. His hands were flying through the air as he discussed politics and current events. I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

By participating in the program, I have a newfound respect for our organization and OCA. I also know that we, as JACL members, must be on the constant lookout for potential leaders within our community. Who knows, our next leader may be staring you in the mirror! Several panelists hinted that

we, as APAs, need to aggressively take leadership roles because we need representation in our government and our community.

I'd like to encourage everyone to apply for the conference, which is ideal for those who are already leaders or community activists, those who want to learn more about politics, those who want to meet people from different parts of the country, and/or those who'd like to help mobilize the APA community. Trust me, it's worth the time to fill out the application and it's a wonderful opportunity available to all JACL members.

### **The Diverse Face of APIs in California**

*By Bernie Lau*

The Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC) recently published *The Diverse Face of Asians and Pacific Islanders in California*. The publication provides a demographic profile of the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) population in California.

Several important findings were reported. APIs are among the fastest growing racial and ethnic groups in the state; Asian communities experience language barriers at alarmingly high rates; APIs, as a whole, fall below average on a number of indicators of well-being; and disaggregated data for API ethnic groups reveal great disparities in socioeconomic status, with many groups among the most poverty-stricken and least educated.

One of the main themes is that policy makers and others working with the API community need to keep in mind that there is tremendous diversity within the "community". The API community suffers the burden of being considered the "model minority". While in some respect, this is rather flattering; it has been detrimental to the community on the whole. If the mainstream continues to think of us as the model minority, they will not understand the struggles that exist within our community. As members of the API community, we need to advocate for others in need of help and representation.

Though many people may be previously aware of many of the findings, this publication is important in that it provides a organized piece of literature that can be easily distributed to people who should know about the issues within the API community.

APALC, ALC and NAPALC are reportedly beginning compilation of a national profile of the API

community. For more information, please visit their website [www.apalc.org](http://www.apalc.org).

### **2005 JACL National Youth/Student Conference**

**Who:** Berkeley JACL Youth

**When:** June 24-26, 2005

**Where:** University of Utah; Salt Lake City, UT

**What:** The JACL National Youth/Student Conference is held every two years to provide APIAs an opportunity to enhance leadership skills and encourage and strengthen civic participation. Registration for the conference is open to anyone between the ages of 13 and 26.

*Berkeley JACL youth attendees will be partially subsidized for airfare. If you'd like to learn more about the subsidy, please contact [Berkeley@jacl.org](mailto:Berkeley@jacl.org).*

### **Early Registration**

*Postmarked by May 14, 2005; JACL Member Package \$40 (2 nights stay, meals and conference fees)*

*For More information and a registration application, contact: Joshua Mizutani Spry, NY/SC Chairperson, [youthchair@jacl.org](mailto:youthchair@jacl.org) or Todd Sato NY/SC Representative, [youthrep@jacl.org](mailto:youthrep@jacl.org), or go to the Website [www.jacl.org/youth](http://www.jacl.org/youth)*

### **NCWNP 76<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner**

*By Emily Teruya*

On Saturday April 2, 2005, hundreds of JACL members and supporters celebrated JACL's 76<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Blackhawk Auto Museum in Danville, CA. Over 40 people represented the Berkeley Chapter. George Yasukochi was posthumously honored as Berkeley's 2005 "unsung hero" and "legacy honoree." It was a great privilege for our chapter to recognize George who as a role model and leader demonstrated commitment to the principles and ideals for which JACL stands.

In addition, Cal's Professor Takahashi and former Berkeley JACL scholarship recipients Lindsay Nakano and Amanda Wake were presented with "Hikari" awards that recognize high school students, college students, young professionals, and adult allies for their contributions and service as community leaders.

**Help Support Berkeley Youth-**

**We are participating in a powerful fundraising opportunity powered by eScrip.**

**What is eScrip?-** eScrip is a hassle-free way for Berkeley JACL to raise funds through everyday purchases made at eScrip merchants. All money earned goes to our chapter's youth!

**How does it work?-** eScrip and over 150 merchant partners have created a system that rewards customer loyalty by contributing a percentage of purchases to your chosen group. You shop the way you like to shop for groceries, clothing, travel and entertainment. It's simple and convenient, all you need to do is register your debit and/or credit card(s).

**Simple Registration-Register Today!**

- Log on to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and go to "sign up", or see our fundraising coordinator for details.
- Designate our group to receive contributions.  
**Our Group ID is # 500000928**
- Register your debit, ATM and credit cards.

**That's it!** Visit eScrip merchants to shop. It's automatic! We can potentially receive **hundreds** of dollars from your participation alone!



For more information, please contact Emily Teruya at [eteruya@berkeley.edu](mailto:eteruya@berkeley.edu)

**Limited Time Bonus!  
Earn up to \$50 for Berkeley JACL youth!**

Your eScrip group receives \$25.00 for each new account activated\* between April 1, 2005 and June 30, 2005. In addition, your eScrip group will receive a BONUS \$25.00 after your account has accumulated \$1,500 of net purchases.

DOUBLE DIP — Use your eScrip VISA Platinum card when shopping at eScrip merchants and our group can "double dip" due to contributions made by these merchants!

**Apply NOW!... Call Toll-Free**

**1-800-559-8917**

**or online at: [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com)**

**\*Your card must be activated by making a purchase to qualify for rebate**

**May 10, 2005 8pm Zellerbach Hall**

**Kent Nagano and Berkeley Symphony**

Music, history and politics meet at the much-anticipated world premiere of **Manzanar: An American Story**. The experiences, setbacks and sacrifices of Japanese-Americans interned at the Manzanar will be used as a touchstone for reflection on the advances of American freedom. You don't want to miss this moving, reflective, contemporary exploration of our common humanity.

**Sit with the Berkeley JACL members. Contact Val Yasukochi at (510) 387-8335 for tickets& rides**



*Bingo Night Volunteers and Membership Mixer Committee Members with President Jim Duff (far left) Mark Fujikawa, Al Satake, Alison Satake, Emily Teruya, and Carolyn Adams.*

<b>President</b>	James Duff, Jr.
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Al Satake
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Emily Teruya
<b>Secretary</b>	Gordon Kona
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tak Shirasawa
<b>Directors:</b>	Carolyn Adams, Mark Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda; Ted Jitodai; John Kawamura; Bernie Lau, Neal Ouye; Sarah Sasaki, Alison Satake, Ron Tanaka; Gordon Yamamoto; Valerie Yasukochi, Kim Yoshihara

<b>Editor</b>	Neal Ouye
<b>Contributors</b>	Emily Teruya; Valerie Yasukochi, Jim Duff, Neal Ouye, Ron Tanaka, Bernie Lau, Carolyn Adams, Al Satake, Alison Satake

<b>Production and Circulation</b>	Emily Teruya; Noriko Teruya; Valerie Yasukochi, Jim Duff.
-----------------------------------	---

**Moving and changing your address?  
Send us a *Change of Address* card at:**

Japanese American Citizens League  
Berkeley Chapter  
Membership  
PO Box 7609  
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609

**2005 Berkeley JAACL**  
**Scholarship Awards Luncheon**

**Honoring our 2005 Scholarship Recipients:**

**Cory T. Hiraga (Albany HS)**  
**Christine K. Hironaka (Piedmont HS)**  
**Rya K. Inada (College Park HS)**  
**Derek T. Morishita (Bishop O'Dowd HS)**  
**Jennifer M. Moriuchi (The College Prep School)**  
**Adam Ohashi (Bishop O'Dowd HS)**

**And Honoring our 2005 Pioneer Award Recipients:**

**Goro Endo, Jordan Hiratzka (posthumously)**

**Where: Berkeley Doubletree Hotel & Conference Center**

200 Marina Blvd., Berkeley Marina (ample free parking)

**When: Sunday, April 24, 2005**

12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Cost:** \$28.00 per person - students 18 years and younger \$18.00

**SPEAKER: Vera Kawamura**  
Assistant Attorney General, State of California

-----  
Please RSVP by April 19 to  
Ron Tanaka, 2960 Windtree Ct., Lafayette CA. 94549 (Questions - 925-932-7947)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, we will attend, enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for #\_\_\_\_\_ lunches - Salmon(S) Chicken(C) Vegetarian(V)  
Name(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* If possible, please seat us with \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ No, unable to attend, but would like to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Scholarship Program  
Please make check payable to: JAACL, Berkeley Chapter

# YOU ARE INVITED

Please join Berkeley JACL in

"Meeting New Friends, Re-connecting with Old Friends"

- *Come meet other Berkeley JACL Members*
- *Be part of the Berkeley JACL Community*

**Saturday, May 14, 2005**

**2PM – 4PM**

**Membership Mixer**

Sycamore Church  
1111 Navellier Street  
El Cerrito, CA 94530

*Casual Dress · Light Refreshments · Free Sushi  
Drawing to win IPOD and other prizes*

**Japanese American Citizens League  
Berkeley Chapter  
P.O Box 7609  
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609**

**Come join us at both the scholarship luncheon and membership mixer**