

Berkeley JACL Newsletter

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Coming Events

- Aug 27 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. This group meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. For information contact Terry Yamashita (510) 237-1131 or Tazuko White.
- Sep 10, 24
- Oct 8, 22
- Sep 6 **A's game with the Berkeley JACL**, see article inside
- Sep 10 **Yuri Kochiyama & Diana Fujino, author event**, See article inside.
- Oct 31 **Nikkei Singles Scholarship** deadline, contact Bill Sakai, 316 Creekside Drive, Palo alto, Ca. 94306 or by calling (650) 493-2406.

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. **MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**

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Asian Heritage Night at the A's September 6th

By Mark Fujikawa

It seems that every major league club has an Asian player on its roster these days. Some have more than one. You'll have the opportunity to see three of them when the Seattle Mariners come to town on Tuesday, September 6th. Keiichi Yabu, Shigetoshi Hasegawa, and of course Ichiro Suzuki will be on the field or in the bullpen when the A's play the Mariners.

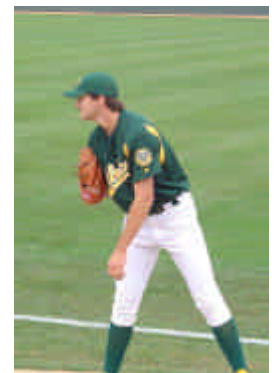
The Berkeley JACL has purchased a limited number of field level tickets for its members and friends and is offering them for \$25 each (regular price \$28). But that's not all. We are also including a *bento* dinner with the each ticket. And the first 15,000 fans that enter the stadium will be given a Mark Kotsay bobblehead doll.

For some baseball, *bento* and a bobblehead, join us as we cheer on the A's, or your favorite player(s), as the A's continue their run for the AL West title. For tickets call Mark Fujikawa at **510-232-0724**.

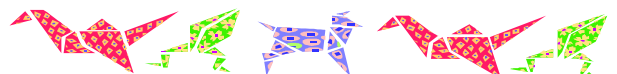
Want to come, but need a ride? Let us know and we'll arrange one for you.



Mark Kotsay Booblehead



Barry Zito



Christine Hironaka Awarded a National JACL Freshman Scholarship

By Ron Tanaka

Berkeley Chapter member, Christine Hironaka, has been selected by the National JACL scholarship committee as the recipient of the \$5,000 Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara National JACL scholarship. The estate of Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara established this memorial scholarship. Mr. Kuwahara, was a well-known investment and securities broker in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo. Christine, a June graduate from Piedmont High School, was selected for this prestigious award from numerous applications submitted by students from the National JACL. She was selected based upon her academic excellence, service to the community, personal statement, extracurricular activities, letter of recommendation, and JACL involvement. She will attend Stanford University in the fall where she will major in Pre-Med, Japanese Language, or History.

Christine is the daughter of two Sansei parents and was raised with Japanese American culture. She was a student in the Daruma-No-Gakko school, where she later became a teacher's aid. Christine was a member of the Youth Educator Program, where she prepared and taught lessons to 8th graders about drug abuse and making good decisions. She was also a "Reading Buddy" to elementary school children in Oakland, as well as a teacher's aid in the Summer Faith Adventure for 5 to 8 year old children at her Church.

Most recently, Christine worked with the librarian at Piedmont High School (PHS) to change the labeling of books labeled as "JAP." Christine wrote the head librarian at PHS, and soon thereafter, received a return letter informing her of the change in cataloging. Additionally, all future books are proposed to not use the J word catalogue. While attending a California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) Conference on the Internment of Japanese Americans in June, Christine also discussed the inappropriate labeling with State Librarian Susan Hildreth. Hildreth was surprised to learn that such cataloging had not yet been changed. Christine will correspond with her to provide the details of the incident and hopefully implement additional changes to other libraries. Christine has shown great courage to voice her opinion and correct a situation that is wrong.



Christine Hironaka

Berkeley JACL to Screen "The Most Unlikely Hero"

The Berkeley JACL Civil Rights Committee is planning to screen the film "The Most Unlikely Hero". The documentary, directed by Steve Okino, chronicles the story of Capt. Bruce Yamashita. The Japanese American Capt. Yamashita entered the Marine Corp officer training school with high hopes and a desire to serve his country only to experience racial discrimination. The film documents Capt. Yamashita's fight for his right to become a Marine Corp officer while uncovering evidence that showed minorities in the Marines had silently suffered from discrimination for years.

The Berkeley JACL will screen this film in the fall, date and time to be determined (likely in November). We are looking forward to having Mr. Okino join us to speak about the film. This screening will be an excellent opportunity to see the story of a true Asian American hero as well as meet and speak with an Asian American filmmaker.

We are currently looking for a place to screen the film, and we are looking for volunteers to help with the event as well as the planning. If you are interested in getting involved or have any suggestions, please email Bernie Lau at beonardo@cal.berkeley.edu.

A Mixture of New and Old Friends

By Alison Satake

Over 40 members of the Berkeley JACL gathered on Saturday, May 14th to meet and re-connect with friends at the Membership Mixer. Guests entered the festive community room at Sycamore Church and enjoyed a beautiful table of Japanese foods presented by volunteers Georgia Fujikawa and Noriko Teruya.

Emcees, Mark Fujikawa and Al Satake introduced guests to the hard working committees.

Thanks to donations from businesses in our community- Kirala Restaurant, Tokyo Fish Market, Berkeley Florist, Berkeley Bowl, K & S Co., Inc. and Musashi everyone who attended had a chance to take home a prize from the free drawing. From our surveys, we learned that 39% of those in attendance joined the Berkeley JACL for Community and socials and 23% joined for Civil Rights Leadership. We also learned that members are interested in joining activities such as going on a day hike or watching an A's game together. Thank you for your input! Stay tuned for future events and activities!



Membership Mixer Committee

Yuri Kochiyama and Diane Fujino Author Event
09/10/2005

Diane Fujino, author of Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama will discuss the newly published biography with her honored guest, Yuri Kochiyama. Yuri Kochiyama has also authored her memoirs, Passing It On. UC Berkeley Asian American Studies and Asian Pacific Student Development will host the free event to honor Yuri Kochiyama's life.

Date: September 10, 2005 Saturday 2:00 pm

Where: Heller Lounge, located in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union Building, UC Berkeley on Bancroft Ave. and Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. Public parking available in the MLK Student Union garage

For more information contact Eastwind Books of Berkeley (510)548-2350, books@ewbb.com

Yuri Kochiyama's life has inspired generations. Yuri Kochiyama recently was nominated for the "1,000

Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005" at the age of 84. Diane Fujino has written the first biography of this courageous champion of freedom and equality, titled Heartbeat of Struggle: The Revolutionary Life of Yuri Kochiyama, published by University of Minnesota Press.

On February 21, 1965, in the Audubon Ballroom, Yuri Kochiyama cradled Malcolm X in her arms as he died, but her role as a public servant and activist began much earlier than this pivotal public moment. *Heartbeat of Struggle* is the first biography of this courageous woman, the most prominent Asian American activist to emerge during the 1960s. Based on extensive archival research and interviews with Kochiyama's family, friends, and the subject herself, Diane C. Fujino traces Kochiyama's life from an "all-American" childhood to her accomplishments as a tireless defender of and fighter for human rights.

Growing up in a Japanese immigrant family in California during the 1920s and 1930s, Kochiyama was active in sports, school, and church. She was both unquestioningly patriotic and largely unconscious of race and racism in the United States. After Pearl Harbor, however, Kochiyama's family was among the thousands of Japanese Americans forcibly removed to internment camps for the duration of the war, a traumatic experience that opened her eyes to the existence of social injustice.

After the war, Kochiyama moved to New York. She began her activist career in the vibrant Black movement in Harlem in the 1960s, where she met Malcolm X, who inspired her radical political development and the ensuing four decades of incessant work for Black liberation, Asian American equality, Puerto Rican independence, and political prisoner defense. Kochiyama is widely respected for her work in forging unity among diverse communities, especially between Asian and African Americans.

Fujino, a scholar and activist, offers an in-depth examination of Kochiyama's political awakening, rich life, and impressive achievements with particular attention to how her public role so often defied gender, racial, and cultural norms. *Heartbeat of Struggle* is a source of inspiration and guidance for anyone committed to social change.

Diane C. Fujino is associate professor of Asian American studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Wanted: New Members

Do you know anyone who cares about civil rights? Japanese culture? Networking? Then that person can benefit by becoming a JACL member. Our district, the Northern California Western Nevada District, has a new membership campaign: for every two new members we recruit to our chapter, the district will give a one-year complimentary membership. Our deadline is December 31, 2005.

Please keep in mind that Berkeley JACL has money tucked away specifically for new members. We can also give a one-year complimentary membership to someone who promises to renew in the future. If you know of anyone who can benefit by being a JACL member, please contact Emily Teruya, membership chair, at membership@berkeleyjacl.org.

A simple way to promote JACL

By Emily Teruya

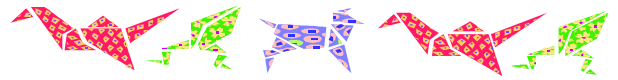
I found a very simple way to promote JACL. It's by increasing the circulation of the Pacific Citizen (PC), our national publication. The PC used to send complimentary issues to educational institutions, politicians, etc. to publicize itself and the JACL. That stopped due to budget cuts.

I discovered a way to revive the practice. You see, my family has two JACL memberships and \$12 from each membership (Youth memberships excluded) pays for our PC subscriptions. In other words, we're entitled to two copies, however, we only receive one. I chose to send our extra PC to the Ethnic Studies Library at my alma mater. Since my family is now "donating" a \$12 subscription to the library, our JACL memberships are fully tax deductible.

If you or someone you know has an extra subscription, you may want to consider having it sent directly to an educational institution, public library, community center, etc. All you need to do is contact the National Membership Department via phone (415-921-5225) or email (mbr@jacl.org) and place your request. Just give them the JACL member's name or ID as well as the name and address of the new PC recipient. Note: To continue this practice, a small note on the renewal notice will suffice.

Another way to donate the PC and, in turn, promote JACL is to stockpile them at home and donate them periodically to an organization of your choice.

My alma mater was appreciative of the gesture. It's also a great way to build a coalition or partnership with a nearby organization and show them what we do.

**2005 National JACL Student/Youth Conference**

By Yuki Jitoshō

I just returned from the 2005 National JACL Youth Conference held at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. It was my first conference and first involvement with JACL.

Since I've never been to Utah before, I didn't know what to expect, but the campus was absolutely beautiful. The streets were clean, the trees were rich and green, and even with the 90-degree weather I could see the snow-capped Rocky Mountains.

I was real glad to see how well informed and opinionated the youth were about current events and issues affecting the JA community. On the first night, after dinner, everyone went to the auditorium where we had a two-hour discussion on issues ranging from internment to stereotypes. We discussed how important youth are and how strong a role we play in the JA community. It was nice to see people sharing their viewpoints as well as listening respectfully to others.

On the second day, we had different traditional Japanese art workshops. I took the Japanese cooking course and made California rolls, and, I must say, they were delicious. We finished the second day with the Vision Award Banquet and a dance party. I had a great time.

One of the things I learned about the JA community is that California is the only state required to include Japanese internment in its curriculum. . . . what? Are you serious? Hearing that made me real upset and made me realize that the JACL still has a lot of work to do. There was a girl from New Jersey at the conference who admitted that she learned nothing about internment until college. But, it's not her fault. . . . something has to be done so ALL states are required to include that topic in basic U.S. history classes.

My favorite part of the conference was meeting new people. I myself am a hapa, Japanese and Creole, so I was glad to meet and connect with other hapa as well as all other JACL members. It made me feel like I have an important place in the JA community.

If you are between 13 and 26, I strongly encourage you to attend the next conference. Not only was it fun, but everyone was so friendly and nice. I made friends, learned to make sushi, and learned more about JACL and my culture. But, most importantly, I learned that I should get more involved. If I want to see change in the community, I must make my voice heard.

I'd like to thank my Auntie Ichiko, also a Berkeley JACL member, for being my chaperone. Finally, thank you to Berkeley chapter for sponsoring my attendance and being an organization that supports its youth.



L-R: Craig Ishii (Pacific Southwest District), Doug Sekimura, Doug Suda, Kim Nakamura, Kimberly Shintaku, Christine Hironaka, Katie Soe, Yuki Jitosh, Nick Reiter (Minn. Twin Peaks Chapter).

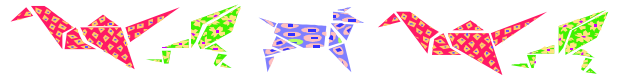


Top Row, L-R: Craig Ishii, Yuki Jitosh, Kimberly Shintaku, Katie Soe; Bottom Row, L-R: Erin Ochi (San Diego), Doug Suda, Christine Hironaka, Kim Nakamura, Doug Sekimura.

Berkeley JACL Newsletter



Conference Attendees



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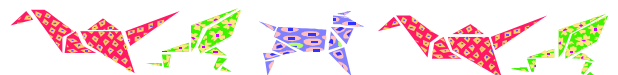
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Please pass this information to everyone you know. This program is an easy way for our chapter to raise money for our youth.





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How does it work?

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Please note: Berkeley JACL does not receive money from Safeway purchases.

We can potentially receive **hundreds** of dollars from your participation alone! Please see attached flyer for more details. For more information, please contact Emily Teruya at eteruya@berkeley.edu

West Nile Virus Serious Health Threat

West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne disease that can pose a grave threat to our health and safety. IN 2004, the virus killed 88 people nationwide, a fourth of whom were in California, and sickened nearly 2,400. As of mid-June, 25 counties in California had detected the virus. If bitten by a infected mosquito, people may experience mild, flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache and body ache. Individuals over 50 years of age are particularly susceptible.

Precautions to Take:

- **Avoid mosquito bites:** minimize outdoor activities at dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active; when outdoors wear long sleeve shirts and long pants; use insect repellent.
- **Mosquito-proof your home:** make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens; eliminate all sources of standing water.
- **Help our community:** Contact the Alameda County Mosquito Abatement District at 783-7744 if there is a significant mosquito problem where you live or work; report dead birds since

dead birds may be sign that West Nile virus is being transmitted in the area. Reporting can be done online at www.westnile.ca.gov or by calling (877) 968-2473.



2005 Berkeley JACL Scholarship winners: Jennifer Moriuchi (College Prep), Adam Ohashi (Bishop O'Dowd High), Rya Inada (College Park High), Cory Hiraga (Albany High), Christina Hironaka (Piedmont High), and Derek Morishita (Bishop O'Dowd High).

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Newsletter

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