

# Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

## Coming Events

- Jan 13, 27 **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 Kayo Fisher (707) 372-5843.
- Feb 10, 24
- Mar 10, 24
- Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Jan 21<sup>st</sup> **Art of Gaman Exhibit** at the Musuem of Craft and Folk Art
- Dec 31 **Asian Art Museum Bell Ring Ceremony**; see article inside
- Dec 31 **Renewal of JACL Membership at 2006 Prices** - see article inside
- Jan 21 **Tri-Chapter Installation Lunch**; Yoshi's at Jack London Square, see flyer

**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!!!**

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## 21st Annual Japanese New Year Bell Ringing Ceremony

**Sunday, December 31, 2006**

**10:00 am–2:00 pm:** Art Activities

**11:00 am:** Shakuhachi Performance

**11:30 am–12:30 pm:** Bell Ringing Ceremony

@ Asian Art Museum

200 Larkin Street; San Francisco, CA 94102

Info: 415.581.3500

Say goodbye to 2006 with family and friends by taking a swing at a giant temple bell! Before you embark on your New Year's Eve plans, bring your loved ones to the Asian Art Museum and literally "ring in" the New Year. Everyone is invited to participate in the auspicious Japanese tradition of striking a temple bell. This popular event offers the community a memorable opportunity to reflect peacefully upon the passing year. It's fun, festive, and meaningful.

As in past observances, a 2100-lb., sixteenth-century Japanese bronze bell—originally from a temple in Tajima Province in Japan and now part of the Asian Art Museum's permanent collection—will be struck 108 times with a large custom-hewn log. According to Japanese custom, this symbolically welcomes the New Year and curbs the 108 *bonno* (mortal desires) which, according to Buddhist belief, torment humankind.

It is hoped that with each reverberation the bad experiences, wrong deeds, and ill luck of the past year will be wiped away. Thus, tolling heralds the start of a prosperous and joyous New Year. There will be a short *shakuhachi* (bamboo flute) performance preceding the ceremony. Then, Zen Buddhist priest Gengo Akiba Roshi will conduct a blessing and begin the bell ringing. Akiba Roshi is director of the Soto Zen Buddhism North American office. He is also Zen teacher at [Oakland's Kojin-an Zendo](#).

Numbered tickets to ring the bell are assigned to visitors on a first-come, first-serve basis in South Court beginning at 10:00 am, when the museum opens to the

public. No advance reservations are accepted. 108 groups of four to six people will be assembled to strike the bell.

### ***U.S. Commemorative Stamp Honoring JA Veterans***



There is a push that a commemorative stamp should be created soon honoring the significant contributions of American men and women of Japanese ancestry in the U.S. Army during World War II, Wayne Osako can be contacted for a copy of the petition. The wish is to honor the contributions of as many veterans as we can while they are still alive. Highlights of their contributions include:

- Famed rescue of the 36<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry “Lost Battalion” by the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team in October 1944. Over 800 casualties suffered to rescue 211 men from the Texas division. This is considered one of the great battles of U.S. Army history.
- Spearheaded the breaking of the German “Gothic Line” in Italy, considered key to the war effort.
- Military Intelligence Service’s key roles in the Pacific Front, estimated to have shortened the war at least two years, and saving countless lives.
- Served the U.S. with great honor as loyal Americans, despite harsh actions against the Japanese American community, including the government’s incarceration of over 110,000 individuals in detention camps. When the public and people in leadership doubted them and sometimes made racially-motivated attacks against them due to their ancestry, they served to prove their loyalty to America.
- Collectively, the contributions of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team have earned them the distinction

## **Berkeley JACL Newsletter**

as the most highly decorated unit for its size and length of service in American military history.

For more information please contact  
Nisei WWII Veterans Stamp Campaign  
Assistant: Wayne Osako (714) 534-5139  
Email: [stampnow.wayne@gmail.com](mailto:stampnow.wayne@gmail.com)

Or

**Citizens’ Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC)**  
Stamp Development - United States Postal Service  
1735 North Lynn Street, Room 5013  
Arlington, Virginia 22209-6435

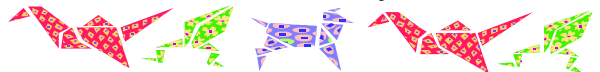
### ***Berkeley JACL Grant***

*By Nancy Ku*

Cal Taiko and the UC Berkeley Nikkei Student Union were awarded Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund Grants for the second half of 2006. Andrew Rowland and Inga Lin of Cal Taiko made a short presentation about their project to the Board of Directors at the December 5 board meeting. Grants Committee Co-Chair Nancy Ku presented Cal Taiko with their check.



*(L-R): Grant Committee Co-Chair Nancy Ku, Andrew Rowland, Inga Lin, Grant Committee members Ted Jitodai and Mark Fujikawa*



### ***HR 1492 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY***

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) lauded the passage of HR 1492, the Camp Preservation Bill, which passed by unanimous consent in the House of Representatives. Speaking in favor of the bill was Congressman Bill Thomas (R-CA), who authored the bill and represented for many years the

area where the Manzanar Camp is located. The vote today paved the way for the bill to go to the President for signing into law. This legislation is important as a means to prevent a repeat of such a dark period in our nation's history.

Also speaking on behalf of the bill were Congressman Mike Honda (D- CA) and Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-CA), both of whom were born in the camps. Congressman Honda commended Gerald Yamada and Floyd Mori, who were instrumental in bringing the issue to the attention of Congressman Thomas and others. He also wished John Tateishi, JACL National Director who recently took ill, well in his recovery and thanked him for his part in this effort. Madeline Bordallo from Guam made mention of two important Japanese Americans who were interned in the camps during World War II, the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta and the late Congressman Robert Matsui.

Floyd Mori, interim JACL National Director and a personal friend of Congressman Thomas, stated, "This bill in some ways is more significant than the Redress bill in that it allows for permanent educational opportunities for our nation to understand the value of civil rights and the rights provided by the Constitution. We are especially grateful to Congressman Bill Thomas for his leadership and passion in bringing this bill to passage. Having a powerful member of the majority party author and carry the bill did much to assure this victory."

### **Membership Dues Increase 1/1/07 – Renew early before year end!**

- **JACL membership dues increase** – Effective January 1, 2007 increase in membership dues for the following categories:
  - Individual – from \$60 to **\$65** (includes Berkeley chapter dues)
  - Couple/Family – from \$105 to **\$110** (includes Berkeley chapter dues)
  - Student/Youth – from \$25 to **\$30** (includes Berkeley chapter dues)
  - You can renew early (by 12/31) and pay the 2006 dues amount. No need to wait until your membership expires in 2007.

**Life memberships increase** – Effective January 1, 2007 The one-time payment for Life Membership status will increase:

- Thousand Club Life Trust – from \$1,000 to **\$3,000**
- Century Club Life Trust – from \$2,000 to **\$5,000**

**Lapsed members** – If your newsletter label says "lapsed", please send in your renewal information to P.O. Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609, postmarked by 12/31/06 and pay the 2006 membership rates.

### **"Making Noise"- Member Commentary**

*by Tom Nishi-*

*Member, Berkeley JACL Board*

Aloha folks, I am writing to express my observations regarding Lt. Watada, the army officer who has refused to deploy to Iraq and is being prosecuted in military court. When this was brought to the chapter board and to other JACL chapters and the national board, many folks expressed agreement with Lt. Watada, but would not support him. This still seems to be the case, and although people say that they agree with Lt. Watada, organizations have mostly been unwilling to support him for many reasons, from narrowing the scope of JACL activities to a strictly defined civil rights agenda, to the loss of non-profit status.

I have several thoughts about Lt. Watada and his plight. What if the nation were in a state of war, declared by Congress? Would this make a difference to JACL and the chapters? What if Lt. Watada was Lt. Wallace, not a Japanese American guy, would this make a difference to JACL and the chapters? I guess the "what if" thoughts are endless, and so because time is critical for Lt. Watada, and he is a Japanese American man who is acting on his beliefs regarding the death and destruction being implemented in Iraq by the USA, I feel very strongly that it could not be wrong in any way to support this single individual with JACL's organizational stamp of approval.

Yet there seems to be another agenda being followed by some members, and I have not been able to understand or discern what it is. In our chapter the problem did not seem to be supporting Lt. Watada, but the way in which it was presented. This being the case, I apologize to everyone because I did not detect this, and therefore did not address it. I don't feel that I have adequately fulfilled my duties as a board member, and I want to rectify this.

I would like to implement a procedure for dealing with how issues are presented to the chapter,

and get on with supporting Lt. Watada. Should the chapter decide not to support Lt. Watada, I would like to find a way to support him personally and make public JACL's inability to support Lt. Watada, and the reasons for the situation. This would help to keep my conscience clear, and allow me to continue to follow my beliefs and act on them. I think this would also define JACL more clearly, and allow further recruitment of members and continuing activities in the most principled manner. This is of course, my opinion, based on my personal experiences as a Sansei male growing up in this country. My challenge to the chapter is to heal ourselves so that we can continue to move forward. I certainly don't know how to do this, and so ask for everyone's assistance in finding a way to do this.

*Making Noise is a 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!!!*



### **OFSCA Announces Three Cultural Exchange Programs for 2007**

The Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association (OFSCA) is a 44 year-old non-profit 501(c) (3) organization composed completely of volunteers. OFSCA is affiliated with Sister Cities International, an organization that has assisted more than 700 U.S. cities in establishing links with over 1,400 communities in 121 countries around the world.

Their purpose is to foster and promote cultural awareness, understanding and friendship between the people and cities of Oakland and Fukuoka. **In 2007, three cultural exchange programs to Oakland's sister city in Fukuoka, Japan will be offered.**

#### **1. 19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN-PACIFIC CHILDREN'S CONVENTION (APCC) for OAKLAND 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS- Tentative Dates: July 13 – July 25, 2007**

The Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) in Fukuoka, Japan will be hosting its annual international children's exchange in the summer of 2007. The Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association will be assisting in the selection of six Oakland 5<sup>th</sup> graders that will spend 2 weeks next summer in Fukuoka, Japan. Their expenses will be paid trip by the Asian Pacific Children's Convention.

For more information about the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention please visit [www.apcc.gr.jp](http://www.apcc.gr.jp) and/or the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association at [www.oakland-fukuoka.org](http://www.oakland-fukuoka.org). Deadline for applications is January 12, 2007 and may be downloaded from our website. Questions – email [info@oakland-fukuoka.org](mailto:info@oakland-fukuoka.org) or contact OFSCA member, Hazlyn Fortune 510-568-7154.

#### **2. 36<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL OAKLAND FUKUOKA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM- Tentative Dates: July 26 - August 6, 2007**

To be eligible to participate in the student exchange, you must be either in high school, entering high school in the fall of 2007, or have just graduated in the summer of 2007. Applications are now available. Participants will be selected from a pool of applicants based upon the applications (including as essay and a short interview).

The Annual Oakland Fukuoka High School Student Exchange Program is a 10-12 day Program in Fukuoka, Japan. Space for this program will be limited to 15 students. The estimated Program Cost may be up to \$2,000.00 (depends on airfare cost) which includes airfare, room & board (home-stays), organized activities while in Fukuoka, and travel insurance. Students will be responsible for any personal expenses (purchases, gifts, snacks, etc.).

The students will be under adult supervision. A representative from the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association will chaperon the students during the trip. The City of Fukuoka will organize the home-stay accommodations and daily activities for the group. Each student will stay with a host family to experience Japanese family life. The Fukuoka International Association organized activities introduces students to the culture of Japan. The focus of the Program is education with the activities designed to introduce the Oakland students to the life and culture of the people in Fukuoka, Oakland's Sister City. The student or their family will be required to join the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association. We encourage each family to home-stay a student from Japan the following summer.

If you have any questions regarding the Program, please email [info@oakland-fukuoka.org](mailto:info@oakland-fukuoka.org) or contact Cheryl Stevens at 510.914.3724. Applications can be downloaded from the website [www.oakland-fukuoka.org](http://www.oakland-fukuoka.org). **APPLICATIONS ARE DUE JANUARY 12, 2007. INTERVIEWS WITH THE SELECTION COMMITTEE WILL BE SCHEDULED IN THE**

WEEKS FOLLOWING THE APPLICATION DEADLINE.

**3. 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE – CPS HIGH SCHOOL - Tentative time – Spring Break 2007**

OFSCA have assisted in obtaining an airfare sponsorship from ANA (All Nippon Airlines) for one student in the Japanese language class at CPS High School in Oakland to visit Fukuoka, Japan during Spring Break. The student that is selected will home-stay with a Japanese family experience cultural and everyday life activities as well as have the opportunity to practice their Japanese. ANA, Japan will also sponsor airfare for the winner of an English speaking contest for a Japanese student to visit Oakland and home-stay with a CPS family during their Spring Break. We are delighted that this additional exchange will further link our two cities.

**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL JACL “SWING FOR JUSTICE,” GOFT TOURNAMENT**

Playing under perfect conditions—a warm sun, slight ocean breeze, and a championship course-- nearly 100 golfers from around the country enjoyed the camaraderie and the good spirit associated with the 3<sup>rd</sup> National JACL Golf Tournament, held on October 2, 2006, at Harding Park Golf Course, San Francisco. All the golfers were certainly “swinging for justice” as they completed 18 challenging holes of golf. The funds raised will further our National JACL’s education, community service, anti-hate, and civil rights programs.

We are sincerely grateful to the major sponsors for their generous support which made the tournament possible. Many companies, organizations, and individuals contributed donations for tee and raffle prizes including the following JACL chapters: Berkeley, Eden Township, Florin, Gilroy, Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, San Francisco, San Mateo, Sonoma County, Tri-Valley, and three JACL districts: Central California, Pacific Southwest, and Northern California Western Nevada Pacific. Kudos to the volunteers who handled the registration table, gift bags, longest drive hole, straightest drive hole, putting contest, raffles, lunch, and banquet. Finally, congratulations to co-chairs Jason Higashi and Jim Craig for organizing this outstanding tournament. They were ably assisted by NCWNPD JACLers Patty Wada (regional director), Dean Suzuki, Thaya Mune-Craig, Nikki Hikari, Pat Nakashima, Ron Sakaue, Mas and Marcia Hashimoto and our Washington, D. C. representative, Floyd Mori.

Thank you to all the golfers for your donation and participation, and congratulations to all the winners.

#1: George Aratani Championship Flight (net scores) - 66 John Kawamoto, 67 Ray Jew, 68 Mike McFarland;

#2: Mike M. Masaoka Flight - 66 John Ichiuji, 68 Fredo Cervantes, 73 Jim Kosinski;

#3: Judge Kathleen Akao Flight - 75 Carol Tsukimura, 81 Caroline Yao\* won on tie breaker, 81 Pat Nakashima;

#4 Yamagata Foundation (Callaway) Flight Tie breakers decided **74 Wayne Meade (Berkeley JACL) first**; 74 Chris Anderson, second; 74 Gabe Bravo, third.

<b>Co-Presidents</b>	Emily Teruya, James Duff, Jr.
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Al Satake, Alison Satake
<b>Secretary</b>	Gordon Kono
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tak Shirasawa
<b>Directors:</b>	
	Carolyn Adams, Mark Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda; Ted Jitodai; John Kawamura; Thomas Nishi, Neal Ouye; Doug Suda, Ron Tanaka; Gordon Yamamoto; Valerie Yasukochi

**Newsletter**

**Editor** Neal Ouye

**Contributors** Nancy Ku, Tom Nishi, Alison Satake, Valerie Yasukochi

**Production and Circulation**

Jim Duff, Valerie Yasukochi.



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**JACL, Berkeley Chapter  
2007 Officers and Directors  
Official Ballot**

**Instructions:**

The following individuals have agreed to serve as Officers and/or Directors for the 2007 term. Officers are also Directors. Put an "X" in the space provided. If you wish to nominate another individual, print the person's name in the "Write-in" space. Please return your ballot by January 12, 2007 to:

**JACL, Berkeley Chapter  
2007 Election  
P.O. Box 7609  
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609**

**Co-Presidents: Vote for Two:**

Jim Duff                      Al Satake                      Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice Presidents: Vote for Two:**

Doug Suda                      Alison Satake                      Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer: Vote for One:**

Tak Shirasawa                      Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

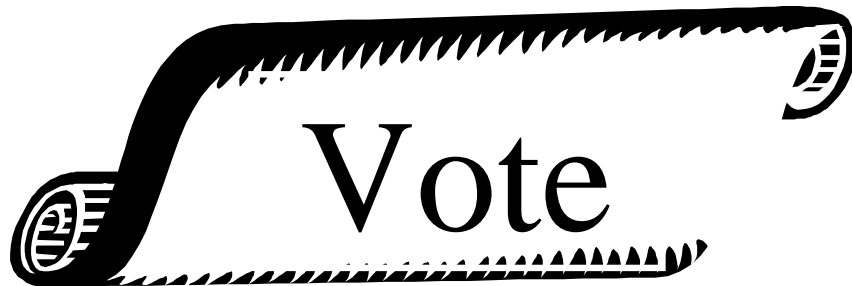
**Secretary: Vote for One:**

Tom Nishi                      Write In: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directors: Vote for Nine:**

Carolyn Adams	Mark Fujikawa	Ted Jitodai
John Kawamura	Ruth Okimoto	Neal Ouye
Ron Tanaka	Gordon Yamamoto	Valerie Yasukochi
Write In: _____	Write In: _____	
Write In: _____	Write In: _____	

We appreciate your show of support by participating in this 2007 Election.



# 2007 Tri-Chapter Installation Luncheon

Japanese American Citizens League  
Berkeley – Contra Costa – Diablo Valley

**Sunday, January 21, 2007**

**12 noon – 3:00 PM**

Registration: 11:30AM – 12:00 PM

**Guest Speaker: David Lazarus, SF Chronicle**  
**“Identify Theft and Privacy Issues”**

*Installing Officer: Larry Oda, National JACL President*

**Location: Yoshi’s Japanese Restaurant**

5100 Embarcadero West

Oakland, CA

Cost: \$25.00 per person / \$ 15.00 for Students/Youth 25 & under

♣ Door Prizes ♣

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## 2007 Tri-Chapter Installation Luncheon

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I will attend. I am enclosing my check made payable to Berkeley JACL  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s)
- I am unable to attend, but enclosed is a donation to the Berkeley JACL of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please return completed form by Friday, January 12, 2007 to  
Japanese American Citizens League  
Berkeley Chapter  
P.O. Box 7609  
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609

Questions and Late RSVPs – Call Al Satake (510-528-1900) or Neal Ouye (510-614-6293)

# BERKELEY JACL GIFT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Gift Membership from: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First MI Last Name

Spouse's Name, if family membership \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing*

Age (optional):

- under 18
- 18-30
- 31-40
- 41-50
- 51-65
- over 65

**Membership Category\* (please check box)**

<u>Categories</u>	<u>National Dues</u>	+ <u>Chapter Dues</u>	= <u>Total</u>	Send completed application and check to:
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	\$25	\$5	\$30	Berkeley JACL
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular/Individual	\$60	\$5	\$65	Attn: Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family	\$105	\$5	\$110	P.O. Box 7609
<input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000	Berkeley, CA 94707-0609
<input type="checkbox"/> Century Club	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	

*Youth, Regular and Family Memberships at 2006 prices prior to Dec 1, 2006*

Please make check payable to the JACL or pay by credit card.

VISA \_\_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_\_ CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_/\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*For membership upgrades to Thousand Club, Century Club, Thousand Club Life, Century Club Life, or Millennium Club, please call National JACL membership office at (415) 921-5225

*Thank you for supporting the Japanese American Citizens League!*

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

**Join us at Tri-chapter Installation Luncheon**