

January- February 2007

# Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

## Coming Events

- Feb 24 **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.
- Mar 1st **Berkeley JACL Freshman Scholarship Applications due**, see article inside.
- Mar 15th **Berkeley JACL Grant Applications Due**, see article inside.
- Mar 16th **Bingo with the Berkeley JACL**, volunteers needed.
- Closing Feb 25<sup>th</sup> **Art of Gaman Exhibit** at the Musuem of Craft and Folk Art, see article inside
- Thru May 6th **Masters of Bamboo Exhibit at the Asian Art Museum**; see article inside
- May 6th **Berkeley JACL Scholarship Luncheon**; Save date, more information in future newsletters
- May 19th **JACL Honors John Takeishi**; see article inside
- Jun 29-Jul 1 **JACL Youth Conference**, at Santa Clara University,

**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)

## 2007 FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*by Ron Tanaka*

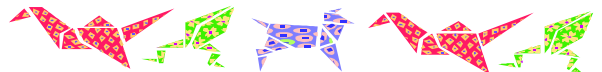
Applications for the Berkeley Chapter Scholarship Program are available for high school students, who are entering their freshman year in college, beginning in the Fall 2007. Please request the scholarship application form by calling Ron Tanaka at 925-932-7947. Applications submitted to the Berkeley Chapter must be **postmarked by March 1, 2007**. Berkeley will review applications and award local Chapter scholarships. In addition, applications will be forwarded to the National Scholarship and Awards Program for further consideration for National JACL scholarships (awards announced in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2007).

Completed applications for the Berkeley Chapter are to be mailed to: Ron Tanaka, 2960 Windtree Ct., Lafayette, CA 94549. If there are questions, contact Ron at 925-932-7947.

## Berkeley JACL Grant Awards

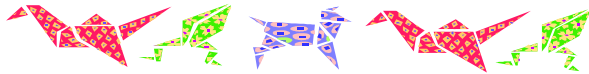
*By Nancy Ku*

For the second half of 2006, the UC Berkeley Nikkei Student Union (NSU) was awarded a Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund Grant. Colleen Oinuma, 2006-2007 Culture Show Chair, made a presentation about NSU's grant projects to the Board of Directors at the February 6 board meeting. The grant provided funding for the 4th Annual Culture Show "Visions" which was held at the Zellerbach Playhouse in November 2006, and also helped to facilitate the activities of NSU's first field studies course, "Empowering Youth: Studying Japanese American Incarceration through Cultural Production". The deadline for the next grant application period is March 15, 2007. Applications are available at <http://www.berkeleyjacl.org/programs.html>.





(L-R): NSU Intern Sarah Chamanara, NSU Intern Sally Roberts, Colleen Oinuma, Grant Committee Chair Nancy Ku, NSU Intern Eulanca Liu, and Grant Committee member Ted Jitodai



### Nikkei Senior Holiday Celebration

By Carolyn Adams

The annual Holiday Celebration sponsored jointly by the Nikkei Senior Center and the Berkeley JACL was held on Sat., Dec. 9th, 2006, at the North Berkeley Senior Center. This is an event held each year to honor and fete our Senior Citizens.

The day started with an hour of invigorating exercises led by George Yoshida followed by a music and dance program. Members of the Cal. Hawaii Club and KaVa Tuahine performed various styles of hula dance. Genyukai introduced us to Okinawan song and Malafemina performed a variety of Italian folk music. The skill, energy, beautiful costumes, dancing and music made this a wonderful cultural experience for all in the audience. A delicious bento lunch and a very tasty cake (a donation from NBC's Diane Dwyer) followed at 12:30. This was a time of fellowship and enjoyment of the food while being serenaded by Malafemina. The Mochitsuki followed lunch. It was such fun making and eating the treats we produced ourselves.

There were beautiful and original Senior created arts and crafts for sale and many of us did our Christmas shopping there. In addition the Health Fair featured Antioxidant checks and Shiatsu Massages. This was all capped off by the awarding of the raffle prizes--treasures donated by Berkeley and San Francisco businesses and individuals. This raffle benefited the

Senior Center, and many delighted guests won fabulous prizes.

The groups and individuals who donated their time, talents, gifts, and prizes should be thanked. We had a wonderful time! It was truly a heart-warming celebration. Special thanks to Harumi Quinones, Howard Fukuda, Kayo Fisher, and Phyllis Ogata for all the many hours of coordination and planning. My friend and neighbor, Jennifer, who attended with me, said it was one of the highlights of 2006 for her. I AGREE!!

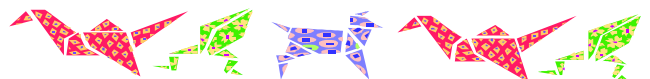


Harumi Quinones Demonstrating her Mochi-making Technique



Howard Fukuda Showing his Technique

**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!!!**



**The Art of Gaman: Final Days of Exhibit****Closing on February 25, 2007**

The Museum of Craft and Folk Art's unprecedented exhibition showcasing arts and crafts made by Japanese Americans while incarcerated in U.S. internment camps during World War II will be ending soon. Based on the book *The Art of Gaman* (Ten Speed Press) by San Francisco author Delphine Hirasuna, the exhibition features many objects never shown to the public. A large majority of the 100+ items on display are on loan from former internees and their families. The impressive craftsmanship and originality of the internees' handiwork plus the tremendous variety of objects make this exhibition amazing to experience. *The Art of Gaman* is on view at the Museum of Craft and Folk Art at 51 Yerba Buena Lane in downtown San Francisco through February 25, 2007.

Once locked behind barbed wire, the internees tried to gaman (bear the seemingly unbearable with dignity and patience). The internees used scraps and found materials to fashion furniture and beautify their surroundings. Arts and crafts became essential for simple creature comforts and emotional survival. In addition to chairs and tables, they created toys and games for amusement, musical instruments, pendants and pins, purses and ornamental displays. For decades, these objects have remained largely forgotten, not even valued by the individual who made them. Created by people who did not view themselves as artists but saw their effort as both an act of necessity and a way to pass the time, the objects were stored in garages once the war was over—and many things were simply thrown away.

In developing her book, Hirasuna contacted countless individuals in the Japanese American community on the West Coast to gather the items one by one. Many of the artifacts shown in her book is on display at the Museum, along with other objects gathered specifically for this show with the support of the Japanese American Citizens League, San Francisco Chapter. Several other organizations including the Special Collections Library at California State University in Sacramento, the National Japanese American Historical Society, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, and other entities have loaned artifacts. The exhibition is funded in part by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Project (CCLPEP), a program of the California State Library.

Hirasuna is co-curating the exhibition with Museum staff. Kit Hinrichs, a partner in the international design firm, Pentagram, who designed the

book *The Art of Gaman*, served as design director for the exhibition, and nationally known photographer Terry Heffernan, who photographed the objects for the book, contributed images to the show.

**The Museum of Craft and Folk Art and the Museum's Gallery Store are located at 51 Yerba Buena Lane, connecting Market and Mission Streets between 3rd and 4th Streets in San Francisco's Yerba Buena Gardens arts district. The Museum and Store are open Tuesdays through Fridays, from 11am to 6pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 11am to 5pm. Admission to the Museum's gallery is \$5; \$4 for seniors; children under 18 are free. Museum members enjoy free admission; the Museum's Gallery Store is always free for all visitors. For more information call (415) 227-4888 or visit [www.mocfa.org](http://www.mocfa.org).**

**Tri-Chapter JACL Installation Luncheon**

The Berkeley, Contra Costa, and Diablo Chapters of the JACL held their annual Tri-Chapter JACL Installation luncheon at Yoshi's Japanese Restaurant on January 21st. Approximately 100 people attended.

National JACL President Larry Oda swore in the three 2007 Chapter Board of Directors. San Francisco Chronicle columnist, David Lazarus, was the guest speaker. David spoke about identity theft and privacy issues.

The Berkeley JACL board thanks the Contra Costa for organizing this year's luncheon.



*Some of the 2007 Berkeley JACL Board (left to right):  
Alison Satake, Jim Duff, Doug Suda, Valerie Yasukochi;  
National JACL President Larry Oda, Neal Ouye,  
Carolyn Adams, Tak Shirasawa, Al Satake*

### **JACL to Honor John Tateishi**

The JACL will celebrate John Y. Tateishi's almost 30 years of tireless commitment to the Asian American community and his dedication to civil rights as the JACL's National Redress Director and its National Executive Director. This celebration will be held on Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 6:00 to 10:00 PM at the South San Francisco Conference Center, 255 South Airport Boulevard, South San Francisco, CA.

Join Berkeley JACL's reserved tables on Saturday May 19, 2007 for a dinner event honoring John Tateishi for his many years of service to JACL and the civil rights community. Cost is \$75 per individual seat, Berkeley JACL youth members pay \$25 (chapter will subsidize \$50). RSVP to Jim Duff (510-387-8335) or Valerie Yasukochi (510-387-8335).

**Date:** Saturday, May 19, 2007

Time: 6 pm - 10 -pm

Location: South San Francisco Conference Center  
255 South Airport Boulevard  
South San Francisco, CA

Black tie optional

6 pm Cocktails

7 pm Dinner

(please specify Chicken Florentine, New York Steak or  
Vegetarian En Croute)

8:30pm Program begins



### **"Beyond Craft": Up Coming Exhibit at the Museum of Craft and Folk Art**

**May 3 - July 22, 2007**

Along the peak of a mountain range in Shikoku, Japan, Mr. Nakamura, aided by family members and fellow villagers, creates handmade paper in a process that follows the time-honored traditions of five hundred years of paper production. To create his beautiful paper without manufacturing equipment, elaborate technology, and chemicals, Mr. Nakamura uses the fiber of the kozo plant, the hinoki tree, keyaki wood, and river water, all natural elements of this remote mountainside. *Beyond Craft* includes a photographic essay detailing the process, along with an extensive collection of the paper itself installed in the Museum to create a "forest." Curated by Misako Mitsui, the exhibition tells the story of a craft that has remained as pure as the snow-peaked mountains from which it comes.

### **Masters of Bamboo: Asian Art Museum Exhibit**

**Japanese Baskets and Sculpture from the  
Cotsen Collection**

**February 2–May 6, 2007**

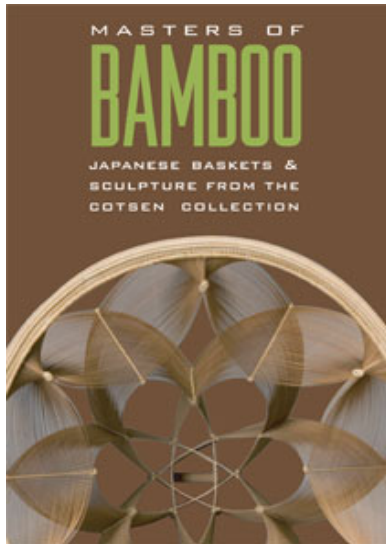
In comparison with Japan's other decorative and applied arts, such as ceramics or textiles, bamboo basketry is a relatively small-scale art form that requires decades to learn. A unique aspect of this form of decorative art is that almost every step of production is accomplished by a single person.

However, it is difficult to achieve technical mastery of the bamboo medium without spending the initial years of one's training under the guidance of a skilled artist. For this reason, at some time in their careers most major bamboo artists have been associated with one of a handful of artistic lineages that have served as the centers of artistic bamboo training for generations.

*Masters of Bamboo: Japanese Baskets and Sculpture in the Cotsen Collection* is an exhibition that draws on the richness and breadth of the approximately nine hundred works Mr. Lloyd E. Cotsen generously donated to the museum in 2002.

The exhibition is organized around the network of master-disciple relationships through which makers of these baskets are interconnected. The exhibition features one artwork each by 76 bamboo artists representing most of the major lineages in the three key

geographic regions—Western Japan, Eastern Japan, and Kyushu—over the past 150 years. Many of the artworks in the exhibition are on view publicly for the first time.



**“Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment”**

*Excerpts from article by Linda Gordon*

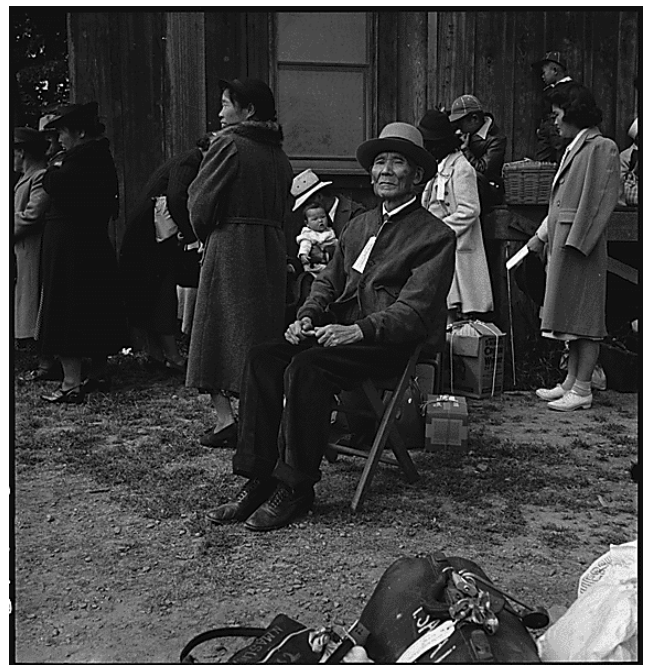
Between February and July 1942 Lange worked assiduously to cover the internment throughout California. She made more than 800 photographs. But some military authority found them so evidently critical that the photographs were impounded for the duration of the war. Afterwards they were quietly placed in the U.S. National Archives. A selection of these photographs, approximately one-eighth of the total, are now published for the first time in [\*Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment\*](#) (Norton, 2006), edited by Linda Gordon and Gary Y. Okihiro.

Why did the WRA want photographic documentation of the internment? Paul Taylor thought that making a photographic documentary record was by then simply “the thing to do” in government. Another factor: “government” was by no means of one mind—if the Army’s Western Command, which ran the evacuation and the camps, had been in charge, there might not have been any photographs. A photographic record could protect against false allegations of mistreatment and violations of international law, but it carried the risk, of course, of documenting actual mistreatment.

Lange was already opposed to the internment when offered the job documenting it. She had several Japanese American acquaintances, mainly through

Taylor, a maverick progressive economics professor at U.C. Berkeley who mentored several Japanese American graduate students. Both Lange and Taylor had been active in the struggles of migrant farmworkers, who were primarily Mexican.

Every stage she observed—the peremptory directives to Japanese Americans to “report,” the registration, the evacuation, the temporary assembly centers and the long-term internment camps—deepened her outrage. This in turn increased her determination to finish the job and capture the actual conditions, and doing so required withstanding considerable adversity. She worked nonstop 16-hour days for half a year, driving north, south and east many miles through California’s agricultural valleys where most Japanese Americans lived. She traveled on roads that were far from superhighways in cars not air-conditioned despite the scorching heat that prevailed toward the end of her undertaking. She did this as a disabled woman already beginning to feel the pain of bleeding ulcers and the muscular weakness we now know as post-polio syndrome. She patiently faced down continual harassment from army officers and guards who threw at her any regulation or security claim they could think of to prevent, slow, or censor her work. She undertook to photograph something she considered odious in order to create this record.



537566: Centerville, California. A grandfather awaits evacuation bus. Evacuees of Japanese ancestry will be housed in War Relocation Authority centers for the duration.

**NCWNP District is now back online**

After a long hiatus, the NCWNP District is now back online! We are pleased to announce the official launch of the new district website. Designed and programmed the team at Rasteroids Design, the site features a beautiful new look powered with the latest in information deployment technology. The design paradigm merges a pleasing new aesthetic with a functionality that makes the website easier to use and find relevant information.

<http://www.jacl-ncwnp.org/>

**Biennial National Youth Conference**

The National Student Youth Council is sponsoring their biennial National Youth Conference this summer.

Where: **Santa Clara University**

When: **June 29th (Friday) - July 1st (Sunday)**

Theme: **Cultivating Leaders by Defining Our Roots**

This year, we would like to definitely encourage you to take a part in the planning process of the conference. If you are interested in helping out, such as **joining our 5 committees** (Hospitality, Programming, Events, Outreach & Publicity, and Activities) and learning more about what they do, please let our district youth representatives Megumi Kaminaga or Jason Shimozaki know. They would love to have your input and help in planning a great empowering and engaging youth conference. Don't let this opportunity pass you by, make this conference what you want and get something out of it.

For questions or more information, please contact Megumi Kaminaga, JACL NCWNP (Northern California Western Nevada Pacific) Co-Youth Rep at [jaclyouth@gmail.com](mailto:jaclyouth@gmail.com) or cell# (916) 801-2104.

**Senator Boxer Withdraws Award to Muslim American**

*By Jim Duff*

Several weeks ago we were surprised to hear that a recognition award from Senator Boxer to Basim El-Karra, Executive Director of the Council on American Islamic Relations – Sacramento Valley Chapter (CAIR) had been withdrawn. Many of us in the Sacramento area, including Elaine Yamaguchi (Sacramento) have worked with Basim, CAIR, and those who founded the local chapter for many years. Our NCWNP District has invited CAIR speakers to

speaking before us and many of our Chapters have worked with CAIR, the largest Muslim American civil rights group in America and a vital line of defense for their community. "Guilt by association" with some former CAIR members or associates suspected or convicted of some crimes seems to be a big part of this controversy. The District is polling Chapters by February 24<sup>th</sup> on a support resolution.

Website: [www.cair.com](http://www.cair.com) – see *Fact Sheets & Testimonials About CAIR*

**Lt. Watada & Peace Events**

*By Jim Duff*

Our earlier NCWNP District resolution supporting Lt. Watada's right to free speech, though not accepted by the National Board, has largely been vindicated. The Army recently dropped two counts against Lt. Watada's speech. These concerned statements critical of the war he had made to two journalists. Previously, the Army had also dropped charges related to Watada's criticism of President Bush. At Sunday's meeting, I was mistaken that all free speech charges had been dropped. The Army is still proceeding with two counts for public speeches criticizing the war.

**Some Dates You May Want to Save:**

**January 16 – March 16, 2007:** Japanese American Internment Exhibit, Award-winning exhibit visited by over 6,000 N. California students. Co-sponsored by Lodi, Marysville, Placer County, Sacramento, & Florin JACL. California State Museum 10<sup>th</sup> & O. Streets, Sacramento.

**February 24, 2007** – Stockton JACL DOR, Stockton Buddhist Church, 2820 Shimizu Drive, Stockton: Keynote speaker Shizue Siegal speaking on those who assisted JAs during WW II. Lunch provided. Free admission.

**March 18, 2007** – Cats of Mirikitani Premier – An award-winning film of 81 year old artist Jimmy Mirikitani's journey from Tule Lake, to Hiroshima, to homelessness, and to 9/11. (N. Calif. Time of Remembrance – Placer, Sacramento, Marysville, Lodi, and Florin JACL Chapters), 2 pm Crest Theatre, 1013 K Street, Sacramento, \$15 Gen Admission, \$10 Students under 18. 12 noon buffet reception with Mirikitani & producer Linda Hattendorf. (150 people limit) \$50.  
[www.nctor.org](http://www.nctor.org) [www.thecatsofmirikitani.com](http://www.thecatsofmirikitani.com)

**Message from John Tateishi- January 3, 2007**

As I sit and write this in the first week of 2007, it's nice to be able to say that I'm doing fine. As you know, I was hospitalized back in November with what was believed initially to be a heart attack but was discovered to be something quite different. Without getting into the boring details, I have what's called an aortic dissection, which is essentially a tear in the inner lining of the aorta, with, I was told by my vascular specialist, is a life-threatening condition that needs to be treated properly, either by surgery or other options.

Proper treatment in my case is rest and no stress, no long hours of work, no travel, no pressures of trying to run an organization, raise funds, carrying on the work of too many vacant positions, no giving up weekends, etc. In other words, on JACL! I suppose trying to do too much without any staff support for too many years finally caught up with me. So now I have to work at doing nothing. And that in itself is going to be a real challenge!

I'm feeling good, have been doing a lot of long walks along a very scenic canal very near my home. I don't know if you know this, but I love to go backpacking in the backcountry of the high Sierras. I'm hoping that by the Spring I'll be up in the Sierras again, enjoying one of those solitary, stunning beautiful Sierra lakes far from the madding crowd. I yearn for those solitary moments: just me, the silence, the beauty of the surroundings.

My days with the JACL are over, although I doubt that I'll be able to stay away very long from all the social challenges that face us in this country. I don't know how at this point, but I'm sure I'll find my way back into the middle of the civil rights arena. There's still a lot of unfinished business, things that keep me awake in the middle of the night.

Until our paths cross, be well. And again, thank you for your kind thoughts and good wishes.

**Warm regards- John Tateishi**

**Berkeley JACL activities, if you are interested and want to help just let us know!**

Activities Committee Mtg. to begin planning our fun socials for 2007. Ideas so far:

- Group tickets for Phillip Gotanda's "After the War" play at ACT in SF
- Cal Taiko workshop
- Aikido demo workshop led by Tom Nishi

- Annual Bento & Oakland A's Baseball
- Veteran's event to Honor WWII and Korea era veterans (those Veterans are admitted free)
- Bingo

<b>Co-Presidents</b>	Al Satake, James Duff, Jr.
<b>Co-Vice President</b>	Alison Satake, Doug Suda
<b>Secretary</b>	Thomas Nishi
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tak Shirasawa
<b>Directors:</b>	

Carolyn Adams, Mark Fujikawa, Ted Jitodai,  
John Kawamura, Ruth Okimoto, Neal Ouye,  
Ron Tanaka, Gordon Yamamoto,  
Valerie Yasukochi

**Newsletter**

**Editor** Neal Ouye

**Contributors** Carolyn Adams, Jim Duff, Nancy Ku, Ron Tanaka, Valerie Yasukochi

**Production and Circulation**

Jim Duff, Valerie Yasukochi.



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

**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

# 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	

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

**Happy New Year from the Berkeley JACL**