

June 2010

# Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

## Coming Events

- Jun 12, 26 **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 Kayo Fisher (707) 372-5843.
- Jul 10,24
- Aug 14, 28
- Thru Nov 21 **Japan's Early Ambassadors to San Francisco, 1860-1927 at Asian Art Museum;** Details inside
- Thru Aug 1 **Miné Okubo: Citizen 13660 at Oakland Museum of California;** Details inside
- Jun 30-Jul 3 **National JACL Convention; Chicago, IL;** see details inside
- Jun 24-26 **Preserving Asian Pacific Islander America;** See attached flyer
- Jun 24 **Screening of "Valor with Honor";** see details inside
- Jun 27 **NAAAP Picnic;** see details inside
- Aug 7 **Baseball and Bento with the Berkeley JACL;** Details 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!!!**

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## Berkeley JACL Awards 3 Scholarships & Honors Drs Ann and Ken Yabusaki as 2010 Berkeley Pioneers

*By Ron Tanaka*

The Berkeley JACL Chapter recently awarded scholarships to high school seniors Zoe Tamaki, Chloe Tagawa, and Kevin Terusaki.

Zoe Tamaki, currently a senior at Berkeley High School, will enter the University of California at Berkeley in the fall, majoring in Biology. She was awarded the Chapter's largest scholarship amount ever, and was also presented with the Chapter's Bea Kono scholarship award. At Berkeley High, Zoe is very active in the sports program including basketball, golf, and established the "Athletes Tutoring Athletes" Program focused on peer tutoring for athletes who are on the verge of ineligibility. She is also active in several community programs including "The Future Leaders Institute" that guides and mentors youth across the greater bay area to develop individual initiatives and use social entrepreneurship.

Chloe Tagawa, Rodriguez High School (Fairfield), will enter UCLA in the Fall, as a Communications major. Chloe is exceptionally active at her high school and is on the Swim Team, the Color Guard, the Interact Club, the Key Club, as well as the National Honor Society. She is also assuming leadership positions in the Asian American community and currently serves as the Co-President of the Bay District Jr. Young Buddhists Association.

Kevin Terusaki, Albany High School, will attend Swarthmore College (near Philadelphia) in the fall, as an undeclared major. Kevin was very active in his school's athletic program and played on Albany's varsity basketball team, serving as Captain his senior year. He was awarded the North Coast Section, CIF Scholar Athlete award from 2007 thru 2010. Active in community service, Kevin serves as Co-President of the Junior Youth Buddhist Association.

Keynote speaker, Margaret Fujioka, provided an inspiration talk about her journey to become the first Asian Pacific American woman elected to City of Piedmont City Council. In her first run for elected office, Margaret was the top vote getter, sweeping all six precincts in a very competitive race. An active community member, Margaret served as VP of the Wildwood Elementary School Parents Board, active with the League of Women Voters of Piedmont, and the National Woman's Political Caucus, Alameda North. A former President of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Margaret received her J.D. from the Hastings College of Law.

Major contributors to the Chapter's scholarship program were recognized including Wells Fargo Bank (Jonathan Shindo), Union Bank (Kelley Kim), Dan Date (former Berkeley JACL Pioneer Award recipient), the Bea Kono Memorial Scholarship Fund (Gary, George, and Gordy Kono), and various other contributors.

The chapter also honored Drs. Ann and Ken Yabusaki as recipients of the Chapter's Pioneer Award. Established in 1996, the Pioneer Award is designed to honor individuals for contributions to the JACL and to the community. Long time members of the Berkeley Chapter, Ann and Ken revitalized and chaired the Civil Rights Committee, as well as serving as Co-Presidents in the late 1990s. Ann and Ken moved to Hawaii in 2002 to care for aging parents. Ken continues his service as Treasurer of the Chapter's investment portfolio.

The scholarship committee members are Mark Fujikawa, KG Ouye, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Sharron Sue, Alexandra Tagawa, Ron Tanaka (chair), and Derrek Tomine.



Ken Yabusaki, Ann Yabusaki, Kevin Terusaki, Chloe Tagawa, , Margaret Fujioka, Mrs. Tamaki (Zoe's Mom), Jonathan Shindo



Zoe Tamaki

### **Bento and Baseball 2010**

*By Mark Fujikawa*

Fireworks on the field in and in the sky will again be featured at this year's Berkeley JACL *Bento and Baseball* event to be held on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy a delicious *bento* dinner while the A's place host to division rival Texas Rangers. The game starts a 6 pm and a fireworks show immediately follows.

Last year over 75 JACL'ers and their friends enjoyed the festivities. This year we have reserved 100 second level seats between home plate and third base. Cost is still only \$28 for the game ticket, bento dinner and a bottle of water.

Send your check to: Mark Fujikawa, 1402 Navellier St, El Cerrito, CA 94530. **Questions?** Call 232-0724. Tickets will be mailed about 1 week prior to the event to the address on the check unless otherwise noted.



Handing out Bento to Last Year's Attendees

### Japan's Early Ambassadors to San Francisco, 1860-1927

May 4 – November 21, 2010

Asian Art Museum

200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102

Timed to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the ship *Kanrin Maru* and the first Japanese embassy to the United States, *Japan's Early Ambassadors to San Francisco, 1860-1927* focuses on some of the first Japanese diplomats and cultural emissaries in San Francisco, and how they responded to the experience of being in America. It highlights more than 40 artworks and other visual media associated with the first mission, with travel to the U.S., and with Japanese artists and cultural leaders active in San Francisco between 1880 and 1927. The thematic exhibit—on view in the museum's Japan galleries—addresses the personal and artistic challenges faced by these artists, which included discriminatory practices and attitudes, and an anti-Japanese movement tied directly to the 1924 Exclusion Act prohibiting further immigration from Japan. The exhibit culminates with a presentation of two of the Friendship Dolls sent to San Francisco as “goodwill ambassadors” from Japan in 1927, part of an orchestrated response to this law. Together, the artworks on view demonstrate both San Francisco's significance in the early years of Japan-U.S. relations as well as its role as a destination and as a gateway to the West for Japanese coming to America.

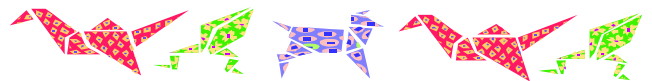
*Japan's Early Ambassadors* is divided into three sections: 1) Arrival of the *Kanrin Maru* and the First Japanese Embassy, 1860; 2) Early Japanese Cultural Ambassadors and Artists in San Francisco; and 3) Ambassadors of Goodwill: The Friendship Dolls of 1927.

The first section focuses on the 1860 diplomatic delegation that arrived in San Francisco on two ships, the *Kanrin Maru* and the *USS Powhatan*, as well as circumstances that led up to the mission and its aftermath. The featured artwork on view in this section is a rare, handwritten diary manuscript by one of the samurai retainers on the mission, illustrated with sketches of San Francisco in 1860. Also featured are paintings from the *Black Ship Scroll* documenting Commodore Perry's opening of Japan six years earlier, and some of the diplomatic gifts the delegation brought to San Francisco.

The second section spotlights on artists and cultural ambassadors who came to San Francisco in the earliest years of Japanese emigration and made the Bay

Area their temporary or permanent home. Cultural ambassadors highlighted in this section are: Makoto Hagiwara, who served as the caretaker of the Japanese Tea Garden in Golden Gate Park for over 25 years; artist Henry Yoshitaka Kiyama (1885-1951), who studied at the San Francisco Art Institute and produced America's first graphic novel entitled *The Four Immigrants Manga*; painter Toshio Aoki (also known as Aoki Hyosai, 1853-1912), and painter Chiura Obata (1885-1975). Obata went on to become a renowned and beloved teacher of painting at U.C. Berkeley. Competing with non-Asian residents in public and civic spheres of activity, they participated in a discourse full of both trials and triumphs on what it meant to be Japanese in America.

The third and final section highlights the Friendship Dolls, sent to the United States in November 1927 as a return gift for American dolls sent to Japan earlier that year. The 58 handmade, near life-size dolls, each representing a Japanese prefecture, territory, or major city of Japan, came complete with their own passports, letters of goodwill, and full trousseaus of accessories. San Francisco was the only place all 58 dolls were displayed together. Today only 45 of the original 58 dolls are known to exist. Two of the dolls—Miss Osaka Prefecture and Miss Fukushima—and their accoutrements will be on view in this exhibit.



### JACL Active Choice PPO

On behalf of the JACL and JACL Health Benefits, we would like to introduce an exciting new health insurance plan created specifically for young adults ages 18-29- the JACL Active Choice PPO! This health insurance plan was created out of a partnership between the JACL Health Benefits Trust and Blue Shield of California. So who should seriously consider looking into the JACL Active Choice PPO, a Blue Shield of California PPO?

**Small Business Owners-** If you own a small business and are unable to afford Do you own a small business? Are you unable to afford health coverage for all of your employees because it's too expensive? Then the Active Choice PPO is a solid solution because it's really affordable; your employees can see any doctor, will have no medical deductibles, and have the option of using language services in both Japanese and Chinese.

**Students-** Although California mandates health coverage for all full-time students, school plans can be

costly and are limited often to the students' duration of registration in classes. The Active Choice PPO is competitive with most undergraduate student health insurance plans and far less expensive than many graduate student health insurance plans. One catastrophic emergency can leave you devastated financially. It can take years to recover from and may ruin your credit history. In fact, lack of medical insurance is the No.1 reason cited by people who file for personal bankruptcy (Ben Martin, interview on CBS Early Show).

**Parents**-Do you have a child who is about to graduate from college? According to a study by the Commonwealth Fund, "young adults are disproportionately represented among people who lack health insurance, accounting for nearly 30 percent of the 45 million uninsured people under age 65, even though they compromise just 15 percent of the population." Those numbers are outrageous and can only be corrected if young adults see the value in having health insurance. Your son or daughter should look into the Active Choice PPO to decrease their risk of financial devastation due to a catastrophic emergency.

**Young Professionals**-If you're a young professional, you are part of the highest risk demographic; the jobs that are currently available to young adults are typically of lower wage or temporary work-the type of jobs that generally do not come with health benefits (Commonwealth Fund Report, p.1). The Active Choice PPO is really affordable and will allow you to take positions that might be more aligned with your interests even though they don't offer benefits like insurance.

**Japanese and Chinese Native Speakers**-There are approximately 23 million Americans who do not speak English proficiently. 選択が自由な医療機関, 免責無し, 使い易い, 申し込みが簡単, 無預繳費, 無醫生限制, 容易使用, 申請簡單. The Active Choice Plan offers service in both Japanese and Chinese; the staff at the Health Benefits office are determined to provide a broad range of quality services, and this includes language assistance.

Again, the **Active Choice PPO** is an extremely **AFFORDABLE** option created specifically to fit the needs of students and young professionals ages 18-29, and it includes: prescription coverage, medical coverage, accidental death coverage, national coverage, worldwide coverage, and personalized service. It's only: \$108/month in Southern California and \$110/month in Northern California. To find out more information

please visit us at [www.jaclhealth.org](http://www.jaclhealth.org) or call the Trust office at 1-800-400-6633.

### Hatsue Ouye

Long time Oakland resident and Berkeley JACL member, Hatsue Ouye, passed away peacefully, on April 25, 2010, at her residence at the Carlton Plaza. Born on Feb. 8, 1923, in Centerville, CA, she was 87. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Seigo and daughter, Vicki. She is survived by her children, Dorinne Tsuchiya (Ken Paris), Russell (Janice) Ouye and Tami (John) Hammerton; grandchildren, Nathan, Matthew, Casey, Jeffrey and Lisa; great-granddaughter, Kiyomi. A memorial service was held on May 2 at the Berkeley Higashi Honganji Temple, 1524 Oregon St. Berkeley, CA. A donation can be made to the Carleton Plaza or Berkeley Higashi Honanji.

### Cherry Blossom Comrades

*"Cherry Blossom Comrades: A Story of Japanese Immigrants in Colorado Coalfields"* (Xlibris 2008) is historical fiction based on the immigration of Japanese workers in the early years of the 20th century. The story was inspired by the author's discovery of the graves of ten Japanese men buried in the Masonic Cemetery in Trinidad, Colorado. All we know about these men is that they were all born in Japan and all died in Colorado between the years of 1910 and 1918. The story focuses on four young men from different backgrounds who meet aboard ship on their way to work in the USA. Nakamichi is from the farm; Suiji is the son of a fisherman; Kikuchi's father was a supervisor at the port of Yokohama and Ogami comes from a lineage of samurai. They quickly form a tight camaraderie and pledge a never-dying loyalty to one another. After working in the strawberry fields of California for one season, they are assigned to different coal mines in southeastern Colorado. Each man forges his own peculiar adjustment to his new environment, where death is a daily occurrence and racial tensions are everywhere.

The author, Dr. George E. Ogle, is a native of Pitcairn, Pennsylvania. After graduating from Maryville College and Duke Seminary he spent twenty years (1954-1974) as a United Methodist missionary in South Korea. From 1961 to 1971 he was assigned to a ministry among Korea's industrial workers in the city of Inchon. After completing his PhD in Industrial Relations at the University of Wisconsin he returned to South Korea to teach at Seoul National University.

Because of work with Urban Industrial Mission and because of his stand in support of eight men unjustly accused of being Communists, he was deported by Korea's military dictatorship in 1974. From 1975 to 1981 he taught at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. From 1981 to 1991 he served as director of the Department of Social and Economic Justice for the General Board of Church and Society of the United Methodist Church in Washington DC. After retirement he worked as the Director of Illinois Impact for The Illinois Conference of Churches where part of his focus related to justice for farm and poultry workers in the United States.

### Completed Paris Marathon

*By Nancy Ku*

WE DID IT!! On April 11, I completed the Paris Marathon just shy of 5 hours, with a final time of 4 hours and 55 minutes. It was an amazing feeling to cross that finish line. The past 6 months of training really paid off. This race was probably my best long run, no knee pain! And the best part was that I was only sore for 2 days after the race and was able to enjoy the rest of my vacation.

And a big THANK YOU to all of you for your generous support throughout my endeavor. I exceeded my fundraising minimum by over \$1000. Through the 200+ TNT runners from across the US and Canada who participated in this event, over \$1.2M was raised to further cancer research and provide patient services through the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. One day, we will find a cure.

After the marathon, Thomas and I traveled to London for the rest of our vacation. Unfortunately, the vacation was extended for several days due to the volcanic eruption in Iceland. We were able to rebook a flight 5 days after our original departure. Needless to say, it's GREAT to be home!



*Nancy at mid race*

### Miné Okubo: Citizen 13660

***Oakland Museum of California  
1000 Oak Street, Oakland, CA  
May 1 - August 1, 2010***

Miné Okubo (1912–2001) was working in Oakland as an artist for the federal government when Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941. Because of the resulting war hysteria, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. With this mandate, Okubo and thousands of other Japanese American citizens were put into internment camps and forced to abandon their belongings, homes, and businesses. Okubo's identity was reduced simply to a number.



Curated by Karen Tsujimoto, Senior Curator of Art, this small exhibition of Okubo's poignant works on paper from the Museum's collection charts Okubo's odyssey. First bused to San Bruno's Tanforan Racetrack, she lived in a horse stall for six months before being relocated to Topaz Relocation Center, Utah. There she endured another sixteen months of internment. In 1944, Okubo left the camp and headed for New York, reclaiming her life as an artist.



# PRESERVING ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICA

MOBILIZING OUR COMMUNITIES



## The 2010 National Asian Pacific Islander American Historic Preservation Forum

*An initial gathering of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders  
concerned with preserving their historic community resources.*

**Date: June 24-26, 2010**

**Location: Hotel Kabuki**

1625 Post Street, San Francisco, 94115

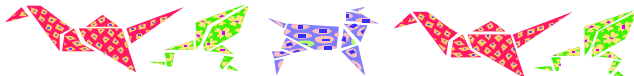
For more information and to register,  
please visit our website  
[www.apinhpforum.org](http://www.apinhpforum.org)

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### JACL Convention Workshops Set to Address a Variety of Issues

The 2010 JACL Convention workshops will cover a wide array of subjects with an equally interesting lineup of guest panelists and presenters. **Sen. Mee Moua**, the first Hmong elected to the state legislature in Minnesota, will appear on a panel on Building Asian Pacific Islander Political Power. **Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki's** presentation will connect the convention theme of "Embracing Change"

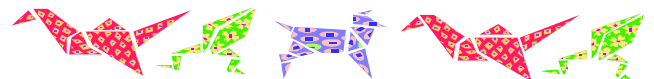
to the content that will be discussed in the workshop on U.S.-Japan Relations.

In addition to Ambassador Fujisaki, the U.S.-Japan Relations workshop will include **Glen Fukushima**, CEO of Airbus, Japan and the former deputy assistant U.S. Trade Representative in the Clinton Administration; **Irene Hirano**, president of the Japanese American Leadership Delegation; and **Calvin Manshio**, a Chicago attorney. The remaining participants on the political empowerment panel are **Nathan Shinagawa**, a state representative from Ithaca, New York and **Raja Krishnamoorthi**, a former policy director for Barack Obama's senate campaign.

The challenges facing Asian American communities related to infrastructure, capacities and alliances will be discussed in a workshop titled Greater Than the Sum of Its Parts: Pan-Asian Alliance and Community Building, which will be led by **Josina Morita**, executive coordinator of the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations. Professional storyteller **Anne Shimojima** will teach participants how to preserve their family's legacies in a Hidden Memory: Find Your Family's Story. **Erica Lee**, director of the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Minnesota, will present a workshop on Angel Island Immigration Station focusing on the Japanese immigrants who were detained there on their way into or out of the country.

A workshop exploring Multiracial Identity focusing on the formation of racial identity will be conducted by JACL Ford Fellow, **Christine Munteanu**. Representatives from **State Farm Insurance** will present a workshop on "Life Events and How to prepare for Them" where financial experts will provide advice. The **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** workshop will focus on the Baby Boomers and their future health needs. Finally, JACL membership director **Tim Koide** and **Brian Morishita** will conduct a JACL membership workshop.

The 2010 JACL National Convention will be held from June 30-July 3 at the Swissotel, 323 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL. For information about the Convention, call 773.728.7171, email [chicago2010@jacl.org](mailto:chicago2010@jacl.org) or visit the 2010 JACL Convention website.



**JACL Film Premiere**

On Thursday, June 24, The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) chapters of Placer County, Sacramento and Florin will present a premiere screening of the documentary "Valor with Honor" at the historic State Theater in downtown Auburn.

Two showings are scheduled for 4PM and 7PM. Tickets cost \$45, 2 for \$80, or 10 for \$350. Admission includes a reception in Central Square, featuring introduction of the film's creator Burt Takeuchi and Bob Nakamoto, President of JAVA (Japanese American Veterans Assoc.) from Washington D.C. will be the key note speaker. There will be refreshments provided by Auburn restaurants. A no-host bar of beer and wine will be available.

At the reception, the group will unveil a bronze scale model of the monument designed by Placer County artist France Borka. The sculpture, "Rescue of the Lost Battalion," depicts a member of the 442nd helping rescue a wounded soldier of the 36th Texas Division, who were trapped by Nazi troops for days. The 442nd was the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. Military.

This event is part of a fundraising drive to install a permanent bronze monument at the Placer County memorial honoring World War II heroes of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT), the 100th Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS). The memorial site was dedicated in December 2009 by Placer County at the Bill Santucci Justice Center in Roseville.

The JACL's goal is to raise enough to complete the memorial and provide funding for educational materials to enhance the curriculum of schools in this region. Their campaign has already attracted more than \$45,000 in donations. Organizations supporting this project include the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), the JACL Northern California/Western Nevada/Pacific (NCWNP) District, Nisei Post 8985 VFW in Sacramento, Placer Buddhist Church, and the Go for Broke National Education Center in Torrance, Calif.

Donations made to Placer County JACL are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law. Ticket requests can be mail to Placer Co. JACL, 11850 Kemper Road #D, Auburn, CA 95603. For detailed information, to purchase tickets on our secure on-line website, and updates visit [www.placerjacl.org](http://www.placerjacl.org) or contact Ken Tokutomi; 11850 Kemper Road, Suite D;

Auburn, CA 95603. Phone: 530-888-1303 and Fax 530-888-6457.

**NAAAP Picnic**

*The NAAAP – San Francisco is the Bay Area Chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals focuses on empowering professionals in the SF Bay Area to develop and achieve their full potential as community and business leaders of tomorrow. Over the years, NAAAP – SF Bay Area has established strategic, diverse, and collaborative relationships that further our commitment that 'We Make Leaders!' Founded in 1982, NAAAP has since expanded to over 25 cities in North America. Join the thousands of members who have taken advantage of NAAAP's leadership development programs, professional networking, and cultural events. They invite you to attend their Summer Picnic on Sunday, 6/27/10, from 10:30AM to 4:30 PM at Rengstorff Park, Mountain View, CA to embrace the diverse Asian-focused organizations and like-minded professionals from all over the SF Bay Area for a great day of food, friends, and fun! Regular (Online only): \$17 Members / \$22 Non-members; On-Site: \$22 Members / \$27 Non-members. For more information go to [www.naaapsf.org](http://www.naaapsf.org)*

**Co-Presidents** Ted Jitodai, Laura Takeuchi

**Secretary** Thomas Nishi

**Treasurer** Tak Shirasawa

**Directors:**

Carolyn Adams, Jim Duff, Mark Fujikawa, Annie Noguchi,  
Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Meridith Satake, Ron Tanaka,  
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**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 - Renewal or Gift Membership Application

If gift, membership is from: \_\_\_\_\_

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

First MI Last Name

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

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

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

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

Age (optional):

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

*Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing*

## Membership Category\* (please check box)

<u>Categories</u>	<u>National Dues</u>	+ <u>Chapter Dues</u>	=	<u>Total</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	\$25	\$5		\$30
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular/Individual	\$60	\$5		\$65
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family	\$105	\$5		\$110
<input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club	\$100	\$0		\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Century Club	\$175	\$0		\$175
<input type="checkbox"/> Millennium Club	\$1,000	\$0		\$1,000

Send completed application and check to:

Berkeley JACL  
Attn: Membership  
P.O. Box 7609  
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609

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

VISA \_\_ MASTERCARD \_\_ CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ Exp 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

**Baseball, Bento and Fireworks with the Berkeley JACL**