

December 2010

Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

Coming Events

- Jan 8, 15 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the
Feb 12, 26 North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901
Mar 12, 26 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. This group meets
Apr 9, 23 every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.
For information contact Kayo Fisher
(707) 372-5843.
- Dec 18 & 19 **Suzuki Open Studio**; 2240 Grant St;
Berkeley, Ca 94703 (corner of Bancroft
Way and Grant St)
- Dec 31 **25th Annual New Year Bell Ringing
Ceremony**; Asian Art Museum,
11:00AM
- Jan 9 **Berkeley JACL Installation Luncheon**;
see attached flyer
- Ends Jan 9 **Japanesque: The Japanese Print in the
Era of Impressionism**; Legion of Honor
- Ends Jan 16 **Beyond Golden Clouds: Five Centuries
of Japanese Screens**; Asian Art
Museum
- Ends Jan 30 **Pat Steir: After Hokusai, After
Horoshige**; De Young Museum
- Feb 13 **J-Sei 20th Annual Crab Feed**; see article
inside

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

E-mail the Berkeley JACL at: Berkeley@JACL.org
Visit our Website at www.berkeleyjacl.org



Quality Blue Shield health plans since 1965
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2011 Berkeley Chapter Scholarship Applications

By Ron Tanaka, Scholarship Chair

Applications for the Berkeley Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Scholarship Program, are available for high school students, who are entering their freshman year in college, beginning in the Fall 2011.

Applications submitted to the Berkeley Chapter must be **postmarked by March 1, 2011**. Berkeley will review applications and award local Chapter scholarships up to \$1,800. In addition, by April 1, 2011, Berkeley will forward applications for further consideration to the JACL's National Scholarship and Awards Program (awards announced in 3rd Quarter 2011).

**DUE DATE ---- Applications must be postmarked
by March 1, 2011:**

Mail applications for the Berkeley JACL to:
Ron Tanaka
2960 Windtree Ct
Lafayette, CA 94549
Questions – Telephone – 925-932-7947

ELIGIBILITY:

- Every applicant must be a Berkeley Chapter JACL member (parent/grandparent membership **will not** meet this requirement). A student membership application is attached.
- Applicants must be planning to attend a college, university, trade school, business school, or any other institution of higher learning as an undergraduate in the fall of 2011. Students deferring enrollment will not qualify for the 2011 program. Prior JACL involvement not a prerequisite for applying for this scholarship.
- Applicants may apply under 1 scholarship category.

How Berkeley JACL can Recruit and Retain Members

By Jim Duff, Berkeley JACL Membership Chair

Several issues have surfaced during my recent membership conversations that I feel should be addressed. Some prospective and former members have shared concerns that they don't agree with JACL positions on certain issues, so will not join or renew their memberships. Two specifically mentioned were Lt. Watada and the Arizona Immigration Law, SB1070. Let me begin by stating that I personally believe that no political party or organization can please 100% of its members all the time, neither the Democrats, the GOP or the JACL can accomplish this feat.

So let's look at what the JACL does that everyone can support:

- JACL promotes community and cultural preservation by local chapters and the national organization. Preserving internment sites have helped accomplish this as well as our own chapter's involvement in helping to establish Daruma No Gakko. Berkeley JACL's early support and funding of NSU has helped them develop into a viable organization and develop their own internal leadership. Each year, the chapter's Issei fund makes available several thousand dollars in grants for the betterment of our local Japanese American community.
- JACL gives \$60,000 in National scholarships annually. They are awarded to promising undergrad and graduate students from the JA community. Many local JACL chapters also offer scholarships to deserving high school students. For instance, last year our local Berkeley chapter of the JACL gave out over \$4,000 in scholarships. These young people are the future of JACL.
- Providing placement in DC internships and providing opportunities for undergrad and graduate students to help develop leadership from within the JA community.
- JACL is building coalitions with other Asian American and API groups for the advancement of their shared goals (i.e., DREAM Act).
- JACL is an advocate for the advancement of Asian American and API individuals in government and the judiciary (i.e., Judge

Edward Chen and Professor Goodwin Liu have been moved out of the Judiciary Committee to await a full Senate vote have been strongly supported by JACL).

- Honoring past generations for their courage, fortitude and resilience such as MIS & 442, and other veterans from different conflicts (i.e., S1055 Gold Medal Bill, the highest civilian award in the USA, recently passed and was strongly supported by JACL).
- Sponsoring the Washington DC Leadership Conference, operated annually with the OCA to help develop leadership within the community.
- Ongoing civil rights efforts for all Asian and immigrant groups; most recently by aiding Vietnamese fisherman in the Gulf of Mexico who were heavily impacted by the BP oil spill.
- JACL provides group medical plans that its members can a part of. Some of the plans include dental and vision care.

Regarding the two other points mentioned in the first paragraph above which were brought to my attention, I can only offer my personal opinion about these contentious issues.

- (1) On the Lt. Watada matter, JACL took no official stance except to express concern that his civil rights be protected.
- (2) The Arizona Immigration Law, SB1070, has been condemned by virtually every civil rights group in the U.S. as well as the U.S. Dept. of Justice. It would seem hard for the JACL, who's founding members were so blatantly discriminated against by similar laws, to support a law stating anyone who doesn't "look like a citizen" can be stopped and asked to produce proof of citizenship. Many of our members could fall into this "category", since it seems to say if you're not white you may be here illegally. Many businesses, government agencies and other organizations are reducing their business dealings with, and canceling their conventions in, Arizona over this law. State universities have reported they are losing highly qualified students and faculty for the same reason.

California of the Past digital storytelling
Stories of Japanese American Internment

Share your story San Leandro Public Library

San Leandro Public Library wants to record your personal memories of internment during World War II. Staff will help you make a 3 to 5 minute video that will be posted on the *California of the Past* website (www.digitalstorystation.com) as well as archived by the California State Library.

To participate contact Mary Beth Barloga or Addie Silveira:
mbarloga@sanleandro.org # 510-577-3991



Topaz, Utah Japanese American Relocation Center

California of the Past project is funded in part by Federal Library Services and Technology funds.

San Leandro Public Library
300 Estudillo Avenue, San Leandro, California, 94577

SANLEANDRO PUBLIC LIBRARY

LEGACY of the NISEI VETERANS

WWII STORIES
of the 100th/442nd and MIS



FRED, IRA AND SAM SHIMASAKI 1945

Share your story

The library is interested in first-hand accounts of World War II Nisei soldiers who fought for the United States. Participants will share their experiences in the 100th/442nd, the most decorated military unit of its size in US history, and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) which served in the South Pacific and was key to the campaign against Japan, and the reconstruction of post-war Japan.

Staff will happily meet with you to discuss your story at the San Leandro History Museum or go to your home, whichever works best for you. We have portable equipment and can film in a variety of locations. Finished stories will be approximately 10 to 15 minutes long. The collection of final edited films will be made into a DVD for your personal use and educational purposes. The DVDs and lesson plans will be distributed to local schools.

If you would like to tell the story of a deceased Nisei veteran we would be happy to work with you. However, our first priority is getting first-hand stories of the Nisei veterans.

To get an idea of previous Japanese American Nisei interviews created by the library please look for the DVD "Stories of Japanese American Internment" at the San Leandro Public Library or view them online at <http://sanleandrostories.blip.tv>.

For more information please contact Mary Beth or Addie Silveira at:
mbarloga@sanleandro.org or 510-577-3991

Legacy of the Nisei Veterans is funded by a grant from the
California Civil Liberties Public Education Program administered by the California State Library.

300 Estudillo Avenue, San Leandro, California, 94577
Telephone: 510-577-3970

100th, 442nd, MIS Receive Congressional Gold Medal

President Barack Obama signed into law a bill awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to Japanese American soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service (MIS). The Congressional Gold

Medal is Congress' highest civilian honor. Before it can be presented for vote, two-thirds of both the House and Senate are required to sign on as cosponsors. Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) initiated the legislation in the House as H.R. 347 and it was passed with approximately 300 cosponsors in May 2009. The bill was introduced into the Senate by Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA). Senator Boxer said, "I am so pleased that the Senate is honoring these courageous soldiers with a Congressional Gold Medal for their service to the United States during World War II. These brave Japanese Americans enlisted in the Army and fought for their country even as many of their family members and friends were sent to internment camps. This recognition of their service and patriotism is long overdue."

Commonly known as the Go For Broke regiments, the 100th/442nd is the most highly decorated unit for its size and length of service in U.S. military history. Among the many awards and distinctions earned through the bravery and sacrifice of soldiers of these units are: 7 Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars with 28 Oak Leaf Clusters, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medals, 4,000 Bronze Stars and more than 4,000 Purple Hearts. The contributions of the 6,000 Japanese American soldiers who served in the highly classified MIS were not known until passage of the Freedom of Information Act in 1974. Their work proved to be vital to U.S. military successes in the Pacific Theatre, from China to Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima to Leyte, and in occupied Japan. The MIS has been credited with shortening the war in the Pacific and saving countless Allied lives. President Bill Clinton honored the MIS with a Presidential Unit Citation in 2000.

Veteran Registration for Congressional Awards Ceremony

The National Veterans Network is an alliance of 22 World War II veterans' organizations and nonprofits from throughout the United States whose missions are to serve the interests of the Japanese American World War II veterans or to preserve the Japanese American WWII experience.

The National Veterans Network is currently seeking 100th, 442nd and MIS veterans who are interested in attending the Congressional Awards Ceremony and two-day celebration in Washington, DC. Congressional sources have informed us that priority

for seating will be given to living 100, 442, and MIS veterans. The National Veterans Network will request that widows or next of kin of Nisei killed in action or deceased veterans be included. However, please be advised that it will be the Speaker of the House who will ultimately determine who attends and how many will be invited. By registering with this database, it does not guarantee attendance to the Congressional Awards Ceremony. The first step in this endeavor is to take a headcount of those in the following categories who are planning to come to Washington, DC:

- 100th Infantry Battalion, 442 Regimental Combat Team and Nisei who served in MIS
- Next of kin of killed in action (KIA) of 100th, 442nd and MIS
- Widow or next of kin of 100th, 442nd and MIS deceased member

All registrants will receive an information packet about the two-day event in Washington DC in summer 2011. For more details go to:

<http://www.nationalveteransnetwork.com/ceremonyregistration.html>

National Japanese American Historical Society

The National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS), founded in 1980 in San Francisco, is a non-profit membership supported organization dedicated to the collection, preservation, authentic interpretation, and sharing of historical information of the Japanese American experience for the diverse broader national community. Originally named Go For Broke, NJAHS changed its name in 1986 to reflect its efforts to share the broader story of this community. Today, NJAHS is a core organization in SF's Japantown and its programs, which a recent NY Times article identified as a source of Japantown's dynamism, are a model for the preservation and interpretation of a community's history. NJAHS programming includes:

- **Exhibitions:** Since 1981, NJAHS has produced ground-breaking exhibitions both in its own Peace Gallery as well as in numerous larger venues such as the Oakland Museum of California, the Smithsonian Institution, the Bishop Museum, among others.
- **Public Education:** NJAHS also presents an annual series of community events in its Gallery and at community venues which

integrate public education with other interpretative activities including visual and performing arts.

- **Publications:** NJAHS publishes the journal Nikkei Heritage as well as special publications including the upcoming First Class, which tells the story of the first class the Military Intelligence Service Language at Building 640 in the Presidio of San Francisco.
- **The Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center:** This project in collaboration with the National Park Service and The Presidio Trust, which has received \$3.58 Million in federal appropriations to date, will rehabilitate for reuse Building 640 in the Presidio of San Francisco as an interpretive center that will advance the legacy of the Japanese Americans of the Military Intelligence Service as well as the 442nd/100th Battalion Nisei soldiers in the context of Japanese American history. Building 640 is the site of the first Military Intelligence Service Language School where the MIS soldier linguists began their historic journey in World War II.

Emily Murase Elected to SF Board of Education

This past November, Emily Murase secured a seat on the San Francisco Board of Education. Following her swearing-in ceremony in early January, she will become the first Japanese American school board commissioner as well as the first Japanese American woman ever to be elected in San Francisco.

Emily serves as Executive Director of the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women who promotes the human rights of the women and girls of San Francisco. Previously, she served in the first Clinton White House as Director for International Economic Affairs, after working for AT&T Japan in Tokyo, and later worked in the International Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission.

Emily has served on the boards of the Fort Mason Foundation, the Japanese American Citizens League (San Francisco, Tokyo, Washington, DC Chapters), and the Bryn Mawr Alumnae Association.

In 2009, Emily was named Woman of the Year by California State Senator Leland Yee and recognized

for her contributions to the women's community by the Democratic Women's Forum. Emily holds an AB in modern Japanese history from Bryn Mawr College, a master's from the Graduate School of International Relations & Pacific Studies at UC San Diego, and a PhD in communication from Stanford. Her husband, Neal Taniguchi, was a former Board member and President of the Berkeley JACL.

In Memory of Maye Shirasawa

The Berkeley JACL Board wished to recognize those who have made donations to the Berkeley JACL Issei Fund in memory of Maye Shirasawa. Thanks for your contributions and good thoughts for a long time active member of our chapter:

Frank & Amy Eto; Lillian Nakazato; Roger & Sue Caputi; Masato & Miyeko Tanabe; Henry & Mary Hidekawa; Stephen Amano; John & Virginia Lai; Sydney & Kimberly Leung; Arthur & Aster Yamagata; Kiyoko & Jean Fujii; Albert & Scott Mamiya; Judy Hruska; Narissa & Celso Riray; Elsie Lum; Aiko Takita; Naomi Hofacket; William & May Hirose; Marvin Carson; David & Muriel Kears; Kathleen & Gregory Ahern; Barbara Hedani-Morishita; Thomas & Pamela Orloff; Louise & Derrick Lue; Laura Takeuchi; Alice Lai-Bitker; Neal & KG Ouye

J-Sei 20th Annual Crab Feed with an Asian Flair

Get ready for a Valentine's Celebration with family and friends! J-Sei will hold the 20th Annual Crab Feed on February 13, 2010 at the El Cerrito Community Center at 7007 Moeser Lane. For the first time ever, they will feature Asian side dishes such as Asian salads and Garlic Noodles along with the always fresh and delicious Dungeness crab, rolls and desserts. Gather for the first seating from 4-5:30pm or the second seating from 5:30-7pm. As usual, take-out meals will be available from 4-6pm. And don't forget to try your luck at J-Sei's opportunity drawing with one grand prize of a two-night stay at the luxurious Huntington Hotel & Nob Hill Spa in San Francisco, complete with a complimentary bottle of champagne upon arrival and massages for two **OR** dinner for two at the Big 4 Restaurant. Advance purchase price per meal is \$40 and drawing tickets are \$2 each or \$10 for 6 tickets. Dinner and drawing tickets are on sale through the J-Sei office so be sure to order your tickets today! Mail checks payable to "J-Sei" to 2126 Channing Way, Berkeley CA 94704 or call 510-848-3560 for more information.

Leslie Hamachi- NSU Representative to the Berkeley JACL Board

Leslie Hamachi is a second year chemistry major at U.C. Berkeley. She is a Yonsei, the daughter of Gordon and Amy Hamachi, from Mountain View, in the South Bay. Leslie has been active in the JACL ever since winning the Kenji and Shizu Sakauye Scholarship and the Harry and Elsie Yoshida Memorial Scholarship as a senior in high school. She hopes to provide a younger perspective to the Berkeley JACL board, and help recruit more college aged members. Leslie is the Nikkei Student Union's (NSU) representative to the Berkeley JACL Board.

Nikkei Student Union is the up and coming Japanese-American interest organization on the UC Berkeley campus. They are melding their interests in their Japanese American heritage with social and community events. And no, you don't have to be Japanese to join! They put on events such as our annual Culture Show, the Day of Remembrance, and volunteer opportunities at the Cherry Blossom Festival.



Co-Presidents	Ted Jitodai, Laura Takeuchi
Secretary	Thomas Nishi
Treasurer	Tak Shirasawa
Directors:	Carolyn Adams, Jim Duff, Mark Fujikawa, Leslie Hamachi, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, Meredith Satake, Ron Tanaka, Alex Tagawa, Gordon Yamamoto

Newsletter

Editor	Neal Ouye
Contributors	Jim Duff, Leslie Hamachi, Ron Tanaka
Production and Circulation	Jim Duff, Wayne Meade, Valerie Yasukochi.

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 Board 2011 Installation



Sunday, Jan. 9, 2010 12: 00Noon-2:00 PM

**Cost: \$18.00 per person
(\$15.00 for students)**

**For Reservations call,
Al Satake @ 510- 528-1900
al.satake@yahoo.com**

***Neal Ouye @ 510-524-3901*
kgnealo@sbcglobal.net**

**LOCATION:
Edoko Japanese Restaurant
1722 University Ave
Berkeley, CA
510-841-9300**

**JACL, Berkeley Chapter
2011 Officers and Directors
Official Ballot**

Instructions:

The following individuals have agreed to serve as Officers and/or Directors for the 2011 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 December 31, 2010 to:

**JACL, Berkeley Chapter
2011 Election
P.O. Box 7609
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609**

Co-Presidents: Vote for Two:

Laura Takeuchi Mark Fujikawa Write In: _____

Treasurer: Vote for One:

Tak Shirasawa Write In: _____

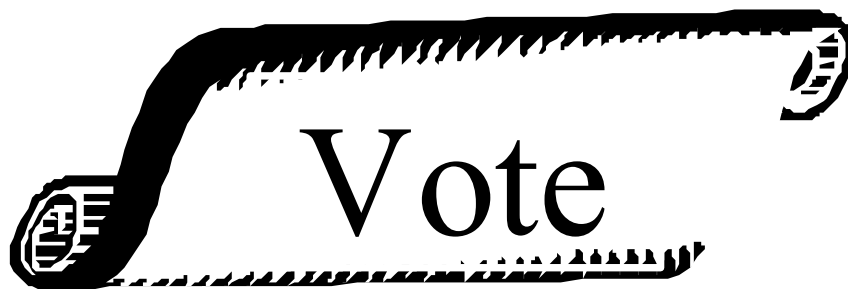
Secretary: Vote for One:

Tom Nishi Write In: _____

Directors: Vote for Nine:

<input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Adams	<input type="checkbox"/> Jim Duff	<input type="checkbox"/> Leslie Hamachi
<input type="checkbox"/> Ted Jitodai	<input type="checkbox"/> Neal Ouye	<input type="checkbox"/> Al Satake
<input type="checkbox"/> Alex Tagawa	<input type="checkbox"/> Ron Tanaka	<input type="checkbox"/> Gordon Yamamoto
<input type="checkbox"/> Write In: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Write In: _____	

We appreciate your show of support by participating in this 2011 Election.



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

Happy Holidays! Join us at our Installation Lunch January 9th