



JACL
Japanese American Citizens League
Mile High Chapter



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A Message from the President

Congratulations to Frank Sakamoto for receiving the 2014 Asian American Heroes - Lifetime Achievement Award! Frank has been a wonderful supporter of JACL, both at the local and national level. He has served on the boards of several JACL chapters for more than 50 years, and for 40 of those years, in several leadership capacities with National JACL. We are very proud of Frank and are very grateful to him for all his years of service.



I was not able to attend the Amache pilgrimage this year, but I am very happy to hear that there were record numbers of people in attendance. The Consul General of Japan was there to confer his Commendation to John Hopper, the founder of Amache Preservation Society (APS). The Commendation is to recognize Mr. Hopper's tremendous contributions to the preservation of the Granada Relocation Center known as Camp Amache.

If you missed the pilgrimage, you can click the below link and watch the wonderful 9News report that was made by Adele Arakawa. (<http://www.9news.com/story/news/local/2014/05/22/camp-amache-hope-and-despair-on-a-daily-basis/9452329/>)

You can also go to USA Today and read the article written by Trevor Hughes regarding the pilgrimage this year (<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2014/05/17/camp-marks-terrible-mistake-in-us-history/9219701/>).

Mile High JACL will have a booth at the upcoming 19th Annual Philippine Festival on June 7th. Admission is free and it is a great opportunity for you to experience the Filipino culture. You can also purchase delicious Filipino traditional food and deserts at the festival. I hope that you can join us at the festival!

We love to hear your suggestions and feedback! Please e-mail us at President@MileHighJACL.org and let us know what you like (or dislike) about Mile High JACL.

Harry Budisidarta

Mile High JACL Chapter President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mile High JACL
Board Meeting
June 12th
6:30pm
Sakura Square, 2nd Fl.

Japanese American
Community Graduation
Program Banquet
June 14th
5:30pm - Happy Hour
6:30pm - Dinner

Tri-State / Denver
Buddhist Temple Cherry
Blossom Festival
June 28th & 29th
Sakura Square

Action Alert: JACL Demands Voting Rights

On June 25, 2013, in the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a critical part of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) that protected voters from racial and ethnic discrimination. A bipartisan group introduced the Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2014 (VRAA) to the House of Representatives. The bill's lead co-sponsors are Reps. Jim Sensenbrenner [R-Wisc.] and John Conyers [D-Mich.]. The VRAA will enact a modern, flexible, and forward looking set of protections to ensure an effective response to racial discrimination in voting nationally.

Take Action:

1. Send a [pre-written letter](#) to your member of Congress asking for their support of Voting Rights by clicking [here](#).
2. Attend a House Member event in your district and bring up Voting Rights! Go a step beyond and request an in-district meeting! View district events of key representatives [here](#).



Photo credit: VRA for Today

Nihongo-o Naraimashyou!

Let's Learn Japanese!



Bara (*Ba-ra*)
Translation: Rose

Kabin (*Ka-bi-n*)
Translation: Vase

Sakana (*Sa-ka-na*)
Translation: Fish

Hashiru (*Ha-shi-ru*)
Translation: Run

Kyousou (*Kyo-u-so-u*)
Translation: Race/Competition

Otera (*O-te-ra*)
Translation: Temple

For more upcoming events
please visit our website:
milehighjacl.org/events/

Do you have an event
or project that you
would like to share
with our community?
Please help us keep
our community informed
by submitting events,
notices, recognitions and
articles to include in future
newsletters. Information
can be submitted to
media@MileHighJACL.org

Community Archaeology at Amache

By Dr. Bonnie Clark

The University of Denver (DU), Department of Anthropology is involved in a long-term research project at the site of Amache, the former Japanese American incarceration camp in Colorado. The project involves research into the physical remains of Amache through archaeological techniques, but also through conversations with former internees and their families. This summer, the DU Amache project will return to Amache between mid-June and mid-July. Crews will continue searching for objects of daily life in the barracks blocks, as well as gardens and other landscaping features. The DU Amache project invites you to participate in this research.

The DU Amache project is looking for a high school or college student from the Japanese American community to serve as a paid intern for the 2014 Field season. Funds can be used as a stipend or partial tuition waiver.

If you or a family member were at Amache, we invite you to our special open house day on Friday, July 11, 2014. There will be activities all day, including a chance to see the archaeologists at work, individualized tours of your barracks block, activities at the museum, socializing with other Amacheans, and a group dinner.

If you are a member of the public, please come see us the next day, Saturday, July 12, 2014. There will be site tours in the morning and activities in the museum in the afternoon.

This year, we will be investigating what we think was a furo, or traditional Japanese bath. If you or a family member remember a furo at Amache or any of the other incarceration camps, we would love to hear from you!

Keep up with our research by joining our newsletter mailing list. To do so, send an email to: bclark@du.edu or call the number below.

For more information about the DU Amache project and these opportunities, go to: <https://portfolio.du.edu/amache> or call Dr. Bonnie Clark at 303-871-2875.



JACL Celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with “Marching Forward” Reception

On Wednesday, March 14, JACL National celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with its “Marching Forward 2014” reception, held at the sponsoring National Association of Broadcasters (NAB). Focused on activism surrounding the Voting Rights Act (VRA) in the 1960s and today, the event honored Todd Endo, one of the few Asian Americans who participated in the pivotal Selma marches that helped lead to the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965.

Welcoming speeches were given by JACL National President David Lin and Marcellus Alexander of the NAB. Wade Henderson, President and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, then spoke about the bipartisan effort between Congress and the White House that pushed through the original VRA, as well as about the current attempts to force Congress to bring to a vote the bipartisan Voting Rights Amendment Act (VRAA) that would restore some of the crucial provisions removed from the VRA by the Supreme Court’s 2013 decision in *Shelby County v. Holder*.

Mr. Endo then spoke about his engagement in the Civil Rights Movement, which began when he heard that Unitarian Universalist minister James Reeb, whom Endo had met in Boston, had been beaten and killed by Ku Klux Klan members while attending the first of the Selma marches. He credited the experience of attending the march with turning him from an historian into an activist, and honored the unspoken heroes of the Civil Rights Movement, such as the two women who marched on either side of him to protect him. He ended by speaking about how constant re-evaluation of his goals - “I ask myself every decade, What do I really want to be, when I grow up?” - has led him to his current work with immigrants, which he feels is his true passion.



Honoree Todd Endo addresses the audience on the need to safeguard civil rights and on re-evaluating life/career goals every decade.



JACL President David Lin presents Todd Endo with a calligraphy painting reading “courage”

Legal Column

By Harry Budisidharta

It is an exciting time to be a voter in Colorado. I will highlight two highly contested races that could determine which political party controls the US House and Senate.

US Senate Race - Mark Udall vs Cory Gardner

Republican Congressman Cory Gardner is running for the senate seat that is currently being held by Democratic Senator Mark Udall. This race is being closely watched by everybody.

According to the Quinnipiac University poll released on April 24, 2014, Senator Udall has 45% of the votes, while Congressman Gardner has 44% of the votes. Interestingly enough, the poll also showed that Senator Udall leads 52-35 percent among women while Congressman Gardner leads 53-38 percent among men.

Right now, the Republicans hold 30 seats in the Senate that are not up for election in 2014. Out of the 36 seats up for election this year, the Republicans need to win 21 seats in order to get control of the US Senate. Colorado is one of the swing states that could potentially be won by the Republicans.

Senator Udall is the son of former US Representative Morris "Mo" Udall and has been a US Senator since 2009. In the US Senate, he serves on the Armed Services Committee, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Select Committee on Intelligence. Previously, he was a member of the US House of Representative from 1999 until 2009. His campaign website is located at www.MarkUdall.com

Prior to running for the US Senate, Congressman Gardner was the representative for the 4th District of Colorado. He also served on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, which has jurisdiction over national energy policy. His campaign website is located at www.CoryGardnerForSenate.com

US House of Representative - Colorado's 6th Congressional District

Colorado's 6th Congressional District is one of the most diverse districts in Colorado. According to the latest census, the district contains 60% white people, 20% Latinos, 9% black people, and 5.5% Asian people. The district is also evenly divided among Democrats, Republicans, and unaffiliated voters, which means that this race is among the closest House races in the country.

In 2012, Congressman Coffman narrowly beat his Democrat challenger by about 2 percentage points. This year, the race is expected to be even closer because the district was recently redistricted from a safe Republican seat into a competitive centrist seat.

Republican Congressman Mike Coffman was elected to the US House of Representative back in 2008. He is the only Member of Congress that has served in both the first Gulf War and the Iraq War. He serves on the Armed Services Committee, the Veteran's Affairs Committee, and on the House Committee on Small Business. His campaign website can be located at www.CoffmanForCongress.com

Democrat Andrew Romanoff was a member of the Colorado House of Representatives from 2000 to 2008, and he served as Speaker of the House from 2005 to 2008. In 2008, he was named "Public Official of the Year" by Governing Magazine. His campaign website can be located at www.AndrewRomanoff.com

Election Date

The general election will take place on November 4, 2014. Regardless of your political affiliation, I encourage you to vote because your vote could determine which party controls the US House and Senate. You can go to the Colorado Secretary of State's website (www.sos.state.co.us) to register to vote and make sure that your information is updated.

Harry received his law degree from the University of Colorado Law School. He has his own law firm and is the current president of the Mile High Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. You can contact him at harry@denverfirm.com

Applications Open for JAACL Inouye and Mineta Fellowships

By Harry Budisidharta

The Japanese American Citizens League is now accepting application for the Daniel K. Inouye and Norman Y. Mineta Fellowships in Washington, D.C. These two fellowships are based in the JAACL D.C. office and include the following program:

- Opportunity to staff and monitor key legislative initiatives and issues relevant to the AAPI community.
- Work on a wide variety of projects, issues and programs.
- Conduct research and study topics assigned.
- Interact with other national AAPI and civil rights organizations in the DC area.
- Work with JAACL and other organizations to organize programs and events.
- Serve on various civil rights and AAPI committees.
- Perform a wide variety of duties, and work directly with the Executive Director.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens, graduating college seniors or students in graduate or professional programs, and a member of the JAACL. Preference will be given to those who have demonstrated a commitment to Asian American issues, particularly those affecting the Japanese American community. Communication skills, especially in writing, are important.

Time Period & Stipend

The term of the fellowship will be for a time period of one year and will begin as early as Fall 2014. A \$2,250 monthly stipend will be provided. Air travel is provided by Southwest Airlines.

Application Process

Interested applicants should submit a resume, a sample of writing, and names and contact information for two (2) references to the Washington, D.C. office of the JAACL at policy@jacl.org with "Fellowship" in the subject line. Applications for the Inouye Fellowship can be found [here](#). Applications for the Mineta Fellowship can be found [here](#).

Please refer to the JAACL website for application deadlines.

If you have any questions, please contact the D.C. office at 202-223-1240 or at policy@jacl.org.

JACL Mission Statement

"What cannot be achieved in one lifetime will happen when one lifetime is joined to another."

The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

Become a Member of JACL Today!

Joining the Mile High Chapter JACL is a great way to get involved with the community and to help support our programs that educate our youth, develop leaders and pass on our legacy from generation to generation.

Membership benefits include (subject to change):

Associate Memberships are available for two years to individuals who are new to the Mile High Chapter JACL and includes:

- Mile High Chapter JACL Newsletter
- Discounts to local chapter events (when applicable)

All other memberships include the above in addition to:

- Pacific Citizen, The JACL Newspaper
- Scholarship Program
- JACL Credit Union Services
- VISA Affinity Card
- Hertz Rental Car Discounts
- Long Distance Calling Discounts
- Major Medical Insurance Program *
- Long Term Care Insurance *
- Catastrophic Major Medical Insurance*
- Medicare Supplement Insurance*

* Membership does not guarantee acceptance. The insurers have their own acceptance criteria.

If you would like to join, please complete the information below:

Membership Application

(12 months membership from the date of application)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (\$25) | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$65) | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family (\$110) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Youth (\$30) - PC Excluded |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club (\$175) | <input type="checkbox"/> Millennium Club (\$1000) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club Life (\$3,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club Life (\$5,000) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Thousand or Century Club member (\$37) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Millennium Club Member (\$30) | | |

Name: _____ Spouse (if applying): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Please send applications to: Mile High JACL, P.O. Box 13061, Denver, CO 80201

Mile High JACL | P.O. Box 13061 | Denver, CO 80201 | info@MileHighJACL.org | www.MileHighJACL.org

Would you like to place an ad in our newsletter?

Individuals and organizations are invited to place advertisement in the Mile High JACL Newsletter to help us sustain this important publication that informs our community about various activities and issues. Advertisements may include marketing for your company, job postings and/or messages to friends and family. However, the Mile High JACL Board of Directors will use its discretion about printing advertisements that may go against the mission of the organization. The sponsorship categories are as follows for each issue of the newsletter (printing on 8.5" x 11"):


- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| \$100 - Full page advertisement | \$50 - Half page advertisement |
| \$25 - Quarter page advertisement | \$10 - Business card size advertisement |

Discounts are available for bulk purchases: 5% off for three issues or 10% off for six issues. Members are also eligible for an additional 10% off.

If you are interested in submitting an advertisement, please email your graphic and/or text to info@milehighjacl.org and mail payments to: Mile High JACL, P.O. Box 13061, Denver, CO 80201


Payment and advertisements both need to be received by the 15th of each month in order for your information to be included in that month's issue.

Thank you for your support of the Mile High JACL and its monthly newsletter!



A Denver tradition since 1890

**Honored to serve the Japanese American community
for all your pre-planning needs. Property still available
near the Nisei War Memorial in Block 35.**



Mortuary, Cemetery & Cremation Services
 430 South Quebec Street Denver CO 80247
www.fairmount-mortuary.com - 303-399-0692, x 216