



Japanese American Citizens League Mile Hi Chapter Notes

Volume II, Issue XI

December 2011

President's Message



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! As 2011 comes to an end, I would like to thank all of you for another amazing year. Because of your help and contribution, Mile Hi JACL was able to accomplish a lot this year:

- We sent two of our officers to Washington, D.C., to attend the OCA / JACL Leadership Summit and learn about community advocacy.
- We voted to support SB 11-126, the bill that would allow Colorado high school graduates to pay in-state tuition rates regardless of their immigration status.
- We co-sponsored the "Power of Solidarity: A Benefit Concert for Japan" event, where 18 different community organizations came together to organize a benefit concert and raised over \$20,000 for the Japan disaster relief effort.
- We co-sponsored the annual Asian American Pacific Islander community picnic with 10 other community organizations.
- We organized two historical exhibits for the Dragon Boat festival. The first exhibit was about the history of the Amache concentration camp, and the second exhibit was about the history of Japanese American soldiers during World War II.
- We co-sponsored a screening of "Vincent Who" documentary at the University of Colorado-Auraria campus. This is a documentary of the 1982 murder of Vincent Chin by two Detroit autoworkers. The murderers never served a day in jail. They were allowed to get away with \$3,000 fine and 3 years probation. Outraged by this gross injustice, Asian Americans around the country united for the first time to start the Asian American civil rights movement.

As you can see, your help and contribution is critical to the success of Mile Hi JACL. Which is why I would like to invite you to our upcoming board meeting on January 5th at 6:30 pm. The meeting will take place at the office of Japanese Association of Colorado (second floor of Sakura Square). We are going to use this meeting to start planning events for 2012, and also to decide the future direction of Mile Hi JACL. I would love to hear your suggestions and ideas!

Sincerely,
Harry Budisidharta
Mile Hi JACL President

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Monthly Mile Hi JACL

Meeting

Thursday, January 5
6:30 p.m.
JAC Office
Sakura Square (2nd Floor)

OCA/JACL Lunar New Years Dinner

Saturday, February 4
The Palace

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
[Suzy.Shimasaki@
gmail.com](mailto:Suzy.Shimasaki@gmail.com)

NAAAP Colorado Holiday Party

On Tuesday, December 13, the Colorado chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals hosted their annual holiday party to recognize its five year anniversary, to introduce its new board members, to thank its sponsors, and to raise money for the Asian American community of Colorado. Through this event, the organization was able to raise over \$3,000 for the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival's AAPI Emerging Leaders Program and the Colorado Heritage Camps for Adoptive Families. The following six JACL board members attended the event to network with other community leaders and support NAAAP Colorado's efforts: Gil Asakawa, Harry Budisidharta, Jinny Kim, Suzy Shimasaki, Mark Shimoda, and Gary Yamashita.



J-Spot Holiday Party

Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate the holidays at the recent J-Spot party. We had a great turn out! Many of our younger members had the opportunity to connect with the members of the Japan America Society of Colorado's Kaiwa Club and practice their Japanese. Special thanks to Dilek Eccles for organizing this event!

Mile Hi JACL Seeks New Newsletter Chair

The Mile Hi JACL is seeking a new Newsletter Chair to compile the monthly chapter newsletter. Please help us circulate the job description below to anyone whom you think may be interested in helping us with our efforts to continue providing this valuable resource to our community. Applicants do not need to be a member of the JACL.

Newsletter Editor Job Description

Overview

The Mile Hi Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) was founded in 1938 and is an active social justice 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 while preserving the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community. The Mile Hi JACL produces a 6-10 page monthly newsletter that is distributed to its members as well as various other community organizations.

Qualification

- Computer software knowledge (e.g., Microsoft Word, Publisher, or InDesign)
- Experience designing layouts or willingness to learn
- Computer and internet access
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to work with a timeline and meet deadlines
- Ability to work as a team

Specific Tasks:

- Meet with previous Newsletter Chair to discuss procedure for producing monthly newsletters
- Collect articles written by Board of Directors and other community members
- Organize articles into newsletter template
- Modify newsletter based on recommendations made by Board Editor
- Complete newsletter in accordance to timeline
- Email newsletter to President for final approval and distribution

Benefits

- Journalism and editing experience
- Volunteer service credit
- Looks great on college and job applications
- Opportunity to connect with various community leaders

Payment Guide

- \$50 per issue that is produced through the procedure discussed above

To Apply

- Send cover letter and resume to suzy.shimasaki@gmail.com by **December 31, 2011**.

Action Alert: Tell Congress and the President to Stop Indefinite Detention

Washington, D.C.- Just over a week ago, the Senate passed the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which in its current form will allow the military to place American citizens suspected of terrorism in **indefinite detention without charge or trial**.

JACL is deeply concerned with the language of this bill because of our own experience with illegal indefinite detention during World War II. The United States has rightly condemned its decision to forcibly relocate and indefinitely detain individuals of Japanese descent, including American citizens, without due process, and efforts to redress this extraordinary wrongdoing continue to this day.

Senator Daniel Inouye, with the strong support of JACL leadership and chapters that made its enactment our priority, was the lead sponsor of the legislation that became the Non-Detention Act of 1971. We do not want to see the work of Senator Inouye in leading the way towards the Non-Detention Act of 1971--and our own work as an organization that worked for its enactment—rendered meaningless by NDAA provisions.

Sections 1031 and 1032, the provisions that authorize indefinite detention, were drafted behind closed doors by Senators Carl Levin and John McCain. These provisions will declare the entire country a war zone and allow the military to imprison American citizens based on nothing more than suspicion. Indefinite detention will not make us any safer from terrorism. Top security experts, including Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta, CIA Director David Petraeus, White House Advisor for Counterterrorism John Brennan and Department of Justice National Security Division Head Lisa Monaco have all expressed their opposition.

As of now, NDAA is in conference committee. The chairmen and ranking members of the House and Senate Armed Forces Committees—including Senators Levin and McCain- will decide on a final version of the bill. It is expected to go to the Senate and House floors for a final vote as early as this week. Supporters of the bill are determined to pass it quickly and quietly before Congress adjourns for winter recess.

In times of war, fear can lead to the unnecessary sacrifice of our basic constitutional rights. President Obama has said that he will veto NDAA, but it should not come down to that. Members of Congress must be reminded not to repeat the past mistakes of internment.

JACL requests your immediate action to prevent indefinite detention. If NDAA still contains the indefinite detention provision, we must:

Tell Congress to vote NO on NDAA.

Michael F. Bennet (D-CO)
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202.224.5852
www.bennet.senate.gov/contact/

Mark Udall (D-CO)
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202.224.5941
www.markudall.senate.gov/?p=contact

White House Internship Opportunities for AAPI Youth

Washington, D.C.- The White House is looking for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) interns for Summer 2012.

The White House Internship Program

This hands-on program is designed to mentor and cultivate today's young leaders, strengthen their understanding of the Executive Office and prepare them for future public service opportunities. Interns are placed in various offices throughout the White House, and are given varying tasks, such as conducting research, managing incoming inquiries, attending meetings, and writing memos. To apply, visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/internships/apply>.

The deadline for White House Internships is **January 22, 2012** for the Summer Term (5/29/12-8/10/12). Internships are available for undergraduate and graduate students, recent graduates and veterans. To learn more: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/internships>.

White House Initiative on AAPIs (WHIAAPI) Internship Program

The WHIAAPI Internship Program offers students the opportunity to work on a wide range of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) issues, including education, health, sustainable neighborhoods, economic development, civil rights, and labor and employment. In addition to assisting with research on those topics, interns will help write policy memos and proposals, coordinate events, and conduct outreach to national and local AAPI organizations, elected officials, and ethnic media outlets. To apply, visit: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/aapi/internships>.

Applications are due **March 15, 2012** for the Summer Term (June through August) and May 15, 2012 for the Fall 2012 Term (August through December). Internships are available for undergraduate and graduate students.

2012 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit

The 2012 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit is a joint program organized by JACL and OCA, the second largest Asian Pacific American civil rights organization in the United States. This four-day conference provides an opportunity for thirty emerging leaders of JACL and OCA to learn firsthand about current national public policy issues facing our communities.

To read more information and download the application, visit www.JACL.org.

National JACL 2012 Scholarship Program

The JACL offers over 30 awards, with an annual total of over \$70,000 in scholarships. Awards are available in the following categories: Freshman, Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative & Performing Arts, and Financial Aid.

The 2012 National JACL Scholarship Program informational brochure and applications were recently posted on the JACL website, and can be accessed at www.JACL.org.

OCA/JACL Lunar New Year Dinner

OCA Colorado and Mile Hi JACL will host their annual Lunar New Year Dinner at The Palace on Saturday, February 4th. Be sure to save the date and watch for more information to follow.



Introducing NAAAP Colorado LEAD ToastMasters

The National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) Colorado recognizes a need to develop our communication and public speaking skills of our community. They are forming a unique ToastMasters Club for Asian American Professionals that is the first of its kind in Colorado. Its mission is to provide a friendly and supportive environment for YOU to improve one of your critical professional skills.

This program is for anyone interested in:

- Improving your communication and leadership skills
- Increasing your effectiveness at meetings and interviews
- Thinking clearly when answering impromptu questions



Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 3PM
 Second Floor, Meeting Room of Sakura Square
 1905 Lawrence St., Denver, CO 80202
 (Look for NAAAP Colorado Banner)

ToastMasters@naaapcolorado.org

Nihongo-o Naraimashyou! (Let's Learn Japanese!)

Words of the Month:

December: Jyunigatsu (jyu-ni-ga-tsu)

Desk: Tsukue (tsu-ku-e)

Parking lot: Chyushajyou (chyu-shya-jyou)

Vegetable: Yasai (ya-sa-i)

Sibling: Kyoudai (kyo-u-da-i)

Candle: Rousoku (ro-u-so-ku)

If you're interested in practicing Japanese, join the free Kaiwa (Conversation) Club of Japan America Society of Colorado at Buzz Café (1229 E 6th Ave.) every Wednesday from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm.

“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.

Not a Member of JACL?

Joining the Mile Hi 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 Hi JACL Chapter and includes:

- Mile Hi Chapter 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 month 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"/> Thousand Club (\$100) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club (\$175) | <input type="checkbox"/> Millennium Club (\$1,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Youth (\$30) - PC excluded | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thousand Club Life (\$3,000) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Century Club Life (\$5,000) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of 1000 or Century Club member (\$37) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Millennium Club member (\$30) | |

Name: _____ Spouse (if applying): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Mile Hi JAACL

P.O. Box 13061
Denver, CO 80201

milehijACL@gmail.com

www.milehijACL.org

Member Name
Address
City, State Zip

