



Riverside JACL



June 2011

President's Message

Dear Riverside JACL Members and Friends,

I always enjoy our annual Scholarship Dinner because I have the opportunity to meet the outstanding students who are receiving Riverside JACL Scholarships. We awarded a total of \$2,700 to seven students. Thank you to the members of the Board for helping to organize the event. A special thank you goes to Meiko Inaba who came with all the supplies, including the cake while hobbling around on her crutches, nursing her broken foot.

On June 7th I will be at Riverside Community College to award the Aiko Dora Katano Memorial Scholarship of \$300 to David Yuen, majoring in biology/nursing. This scholarship was established by Chiyo Sasaki in memory of her sister. Since Chiyo was one of the original nursing teachers at RCC, I know that she would have been pleased that David is enrolled in the nursing program. Speaking of graduations, I want to congratulate Michelle Sugi and Mark Sugi who will be receiving degrees of Doctor of Medicine from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA on June 3rd. Proud father Ron Sugi says

that Michelle will be doing her residency at USC and Mark at UCLA in orthopedic surgery. Both Michelle and Mark were youth representatives on the Riverside JACL Board.

Jennifer Okabayashi has been the youth representative for the last three years. She's graduating from UCR with a bachelor degree in multidisciplinary studies with a concentration in business administration and sociology.

I want to thank Jennifer for being such an enthusiastic addition to the Board. We'll miss her youthful energy.

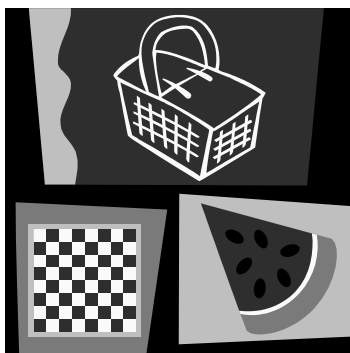
Michiko Yoshimura
President

JACL 42nd National Convention

- July 7-10, 2011 Los Angeles. Go to the website:

www.jacl.org/convention

Doug Urata and Jennifer Okabayashi will be representing Riverside JACL as the official delegates at the 42nd National Convention, to be held at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel. On Saturday July 9th JACL will also be hosting the 2011 Nikkei Conference in conjunction with the Convention. Everyone is welcome to attend the Nikkei Conference. For further information visit the JACL website. www.jacl.org



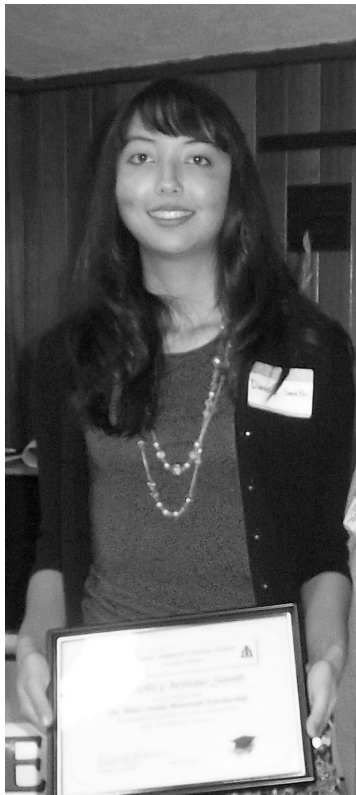
Coming Soon!

JACL Annual Picnic: June 26, 2011, Sylvan Park, Redlands. **Raffle Prizes for the Annual Picnic at Sylvan Park are needed.** Please contact Meiko Inaba at

951.682.8116 or just bring them to the picnic. To get to Sylvan Park, take the 10 Freeway east to Redlands and exit at University Street. Go north on University and turn left just beyond the railroad tracks. Look for and follow the "JACL PICNIC" signs. We look forward to seeing you at the picnic with your family and friends.



Photos by
Akio
Yoshikawa



Group picture above: left to right, Nicholas Takano, Nicholas Jackson Murray, Samantha Lewis, Kristen Lee Anne Hwang, Ayah K. Belazi, Danielle Christine Smith. Not pictured is Kyle Brandon Sugimura of Riverside Poly High.



Sendai Relief Contributors

\$100—\$199

James and Atsuko Hagihara
Kikuyoshi, Toshiko and Susan
Komura
Debbie and Geoffrey
Whitaker Meneses

Up to \$99

Linda Austin
Anthony and Beverly Inaba

To date donations: \$8,065



*Day
Of the
Child
2011*

Additional Donations since February 2011

Edwin Mitoma — \$100 Dr. Gen Ogata Scholarship

Debbie & Geoffrey Whitaker Meneses— \$50 Scholarship

Dolly Ogata — \$100 Dr. Gen Ogata Scholarship

Wayne Hayashibara—Tree planted in the name of the JACL to the National Arbor Foundation

In Memoriam

George Fujimoto, 1921-2011

George Fujimoto passed away May 9, 2011, the result of pulmonary fibrosis. A native Riversider, he was the fourth of six children. He attended Fremont Elementary, Central Junior High, and Poly High School. Following Executive Order 9066, he and his family were interned at Poston, Arizona.

He subsequently served in the US Army in military intelligence as an interpreter in

Japan. Upon returning to California, he graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. George held a variety of occupations -- chicken rancher, insurance agent, and proprietor of a donut shop. In 1989 he and his wife Masako moved to Ferndale, Washington. Masako preceded him in death in 2005. He is survived by four sisters— Lily Taka, Doris Aoki, Mable Zink, Betty Jean Ogawa; and one brother, Charles Fujimoto. George was fiercely independent to the end and will be remembered for his ever-ready jokes and gentle spirit.



The annual Corona-Norco Day of the Child celebration took place Saturday, April 16th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at City Park, located on 6th Street in Corona. Over a thousand children and family members from the area participated in a FREE day of fun activities, entertainment, and information about community resources. Since 1992, the Corona-Norco Day of the Child Committee, along with other non-profit organizations, community agencies, businesses, and civic minded groups have been pooling their resources to provide a truly memorable day which recognizes and celebrates the importance of children and families.

During these difficult economic times, it is especially uplifting to see concerned citizens and local resources come together to make a positive difference and provide children and their families with a day of enriching experiences that they might not otherwise be able to afford.

Helen Yoshikawa

Riverside JACL was a proud sponsor of this community event.

Riverside JACL

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Check out our website
www.riversidejacl.org

From the National office of the JACL, May 26, 2011

The JACL applauds **Acting Solicitor General Neal Katyal** for his admission of misconduct by his predecessor, **Charles Fahy**, an appointee of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, regarding Japanese Americans during World War II. Katyal stated that Fahy had deliberately hidden a report from the Office of Naval Intelligence which concluded that the Japanese Americans did not pose a military threat and there was no evidence that they were disloyal. [Reported in a Los Angeles Times article.] Katyal said that Fahy deceived the Supreme Court in two of the major cases in its history: the **Gordon Hirabayashi** and **Fred Korematsu** cases in which the World War II rulings causing the removal of more than 110,000 Japanese Americans from the West Coast were upheld.

Fahy defended Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066, issued on February 19, 1942, which authorized the forced removal of Japanese Americans from "military areas." Katyal said that Fahy, as the solicitor general, the U.S. government's top courtroom attorney, was viewed as the most important and trusted lawyer to appear before the Supreme Court and had a "duty of absolute candor in our representations to the court." Fahy told the justices the government and the military agreed that the roundup of Japanese Americans was required as a matter of "military necessity."

National Executive Director of the JACL, **Floyd Mori**, stated: "While the fact that Japanese Americans were not a

military threat has been well documented, war hysteria fed the bigoted sentiment that called for the forced removal of Japanese Americans from the West Coast. Most scholars have trumpeted the injustice of this illegal removal. This admission of misrepresentation by the government should quiet the naysayers who have used this false information to proclaim the justification of the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans. The justification has all been based on a lie which today is exposed as a senseless act."

The World War II rulings have been considered as among the worst in the court's history. However neither the high court nor the Justice Department had formally admitted any wrong doing. Federal court hearings later reversed the convictions of Korematsu and Hirabayashi, largely due to the work of **Peter Irons**, a professor at U.C. San Diego and a team of Japanese American lawyers who utilized old government documents that showed that the Japanese Americans were not a threat in 1942. Later Congress voted to have the nation apologize and pay reparations to those who were wrongly held, which was contained in a bill for which the JACL heavily advocated and supported.

As further reported in the LA Times: *It matters. Even a great democracy with a firm commitment to protecting human rights can succumb to prejudice and fear in times of danger. When government officials charged with presenting the truth intentionally shirk their responsibility, the values that make the United States exceptional are endangered, not just once but over and over again. As the U.S. commission that recommended reparations noted in 1982: "Our nation's ability to honor democratic values even in times of stress depends largely upon our collective memory of lapses in our constitutional commitment to liberty and due process. Nations that forget or ignore injustices are more likely to repeat them."*