

BRUSH STROKES

October 2012

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION, CIVIL RIGHTS, AND JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURE

Harada House book launch, History Symposium and Walking Tours

Friday, October 19
Symposium at the Art Museum and Center for Social Justice 9– 6:30 pm \$69 , \$29 students. Includes walking tour of Japanese American sites in Riverside.

Saturday, October 20
Noon–5 p.m. *The House on Lemon Street* by Mark Rawitsch at the RMM. Panel discussion, book signing and walking tour.

Sunday, October 21
Barnes & Noble at the Galleria at Tyler. Book sale and signing 1-3 p.m.
Docent lecture at the Mission Inn by Mark Rawitsch. Open to the public.
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President's Message

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When someone asks why I am a member of Riverside JACL, I usually answer because of my pride in my cultural heritage and the work of JACL in the area of Civil Rights. But I really think that I have gained the most from the many people that I have met that I truly respect for their dedication and service to the community.

We have had so many people in our organization that have volunteered their time and effort.

This year Riverside JACL honored Meiko Inaba at the October 6th PSWD Awards Dinner. She is one of those special people in our chapter that we depend on to continue our programs and one of our strongest supporters. Meiko truly deserves this award. Congratulations.

I also want to congratulate Anthony Lombardo as the winner of this year's scholarship from the RCCD Aiko Dora Katano Scholarship.

Michiko

PC Holiday Issue is coming!

Would you like your name (s) (\$10.00) and/or business card (\$88.00) featured in our Riverside JACL Chapter Ad for the 2012 Holiday Issue of the Pacific Citizen?



If so, please send a check made payable to:

RIVERSIDE JACL

c/o Ms. Jennifer Okabayashi

75 Via Abruzzi

Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Please include the name (s) and address or a business card along with a check to Jennifer

Okabayashi,

Youth Representative, by October

25, 2012.



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Meiko Inaba JACL Riverside Chapter Honoree at Pacific Southwest District annual dinner

We know Meiko as the hardworking member who is always ready to lend a helping hand, give someone a ride, lend out her personal belongings to make an event complete, pick up food, host chapter meetings, participate in events and the list goes on and on. It is this energy and goodwill that made her deserving of the recent award presented at the PSW awards night. The dinner was held at The Center at Cathedral Plaza in downtown L.A. and it was ably emceed in part by our own Doug Urata, and of course led by the newly elected district governor, Kenneth K. Inouye.

Meiko was in good company on this special night as she was accompanied by her sister Carol Matsuura and husband Vern, her sister Shirley Mikami, daughter Laurie Oshiro, and niece Julie Matsuura, along with members of the Riverside JACL Board.

The executive director of JACL, Patricia Ouchida, was also present to contribute words of inspiration and perspective on the value of the organization.



Doug and Meiko take a break during the dinner program.

Blast from the past: Press Enterprise, January 21, 1968

New Japanese-American group will install officers

Riverside's newly-formed chapter of the Japanese-American Citizens League will install its officers at a dinner in the Jade Palace, 4620 Holt boulevard, Montclair, on Feb. 3 at 6:30 p.m.

The Riverside chapter has about 30 members, representing about 180 families of Japanese descent in the Riverside-San Bernardino area.

GEN OGATA, a soil scientist at the U.S. Salinity Laboratory in Riverside, elected the chapter's first president, said the chapter has proposed a four-point program as a starter: youth activities; education; community relations — including programs to increase civic participation and service by citizens of Japanese descent; and fellowship, the social aspect of the organization.

Ogata said the organization of a youth activities program "seems to be the area of greatest need." He said many JACL members have teen-aged children, and they note a lack of dances or other social activities at

which they can get together with others of their age group.

Ogata indicated a JACL chapter would fill a need for a community-wide organization representing people of Japanese ancestry.

"We have a church and a woman's club," he said, "but this — the JACL — has a little wider interest."

TWO LEADERS in organizing the chapter were William and Nancy Takano. Takano holds the office of hospitality chairman.

Another leader helpful in organizing, Ogata said, was Edwin Mitoma, vice president, who is a past president of the Washington, D.C., chapter of JACL. Mitoma is an electronics engineer with Aerospace in San Bernardino.

Other officers are: Miss Michiko Yoshimura, secretary; Mrs. Richard Higa, treasurer; Junji Kumamoto, program chairman; and Miss Sumi Harada, historian.

Reservations for the installation dinner in Montclair may be made by calling any of the officers.

Thanks to Riverside JACL Historian Dolly Ogata for this memorabilia from the chapter's past. Of the many who helped found the chapter, Ed Mitoma, who recently passed away, is noted.

In support of JANM



The Japanese American National Museum presents *Giant Robot Biennale 3*, its third show in conjunction with Eric Nakamura, owner of Asian American pop culture juggernaut Giant Robot. The expansive show features a gallery of eight emerging artists along with a customized vinyl figure collection. September 23, 2012 through January 20, 2013

Holiday shopping is so much fun at JANM.





In Memory of Mits Inaba

Gayle and Francis Fujioka	\$50
Jack and Carolyn Nukaya	\$50
James and Gary Tsubota	\$30
Yasuko and Henry Kajiyama	\$20
Riverside Museum Associates	\$100
Lola Czahara	\$100
Donna and James Quinn	\$50
Donna and Robert Oshiro	\$25

Mitsuru Inaba Memorial Scholarship Fund

Meiko Inaba	\$5,000
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General Scholarship

Eiko Mitoma and Carolyn Mishima	\$500
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Dr. Gen Ogata Memorial Scholarship Fund

Eiko Mitoma and Carolyn Mishima	\$500
Evelyn and Kenneth Ogata	\$200

Saturday, October 20, 2012 | 12 - 5 pm | Free | Riverside Metropolitan Museum

In celebration of Mark Rawitsch's new book, *The House on Lemon Street: Japanese Pioneers and the American Dream*, this event will feature:

Panel Discussion: Dr. Art Hansen, Dr. Anthea Hartig, Dr. Lane Hirabayashi, Naomi Harada, and Mark Rawitsch

Book signing by author Mark Rawitsch

Historic Walking Tour: "Reading the Sites: The Japanese American Community in Riverside"

Riverside Museum Associates Book Sale | 1 - 3 pm | Barnes & Noble | Free

Introduction to the RMM and booksigning with Mark Rawitsch, author of *The House on Lemon Street: Japanese Pioneers and the American Dream* at Barnes & Noble. When you make purchase at Barnes & Noble on this day, give the voucher # 10863793 and the Riverside Museum Associates will receive a percentage of the sales.

"Harada House, Frank Miller, and the Mission Inn" Docent Lecture | 4 - 5 pm | Mission Inn Museum | Free

"Harada House, Frank Miller and the Mission Inn" docent talk by Mark Rawitsch. Open to the public

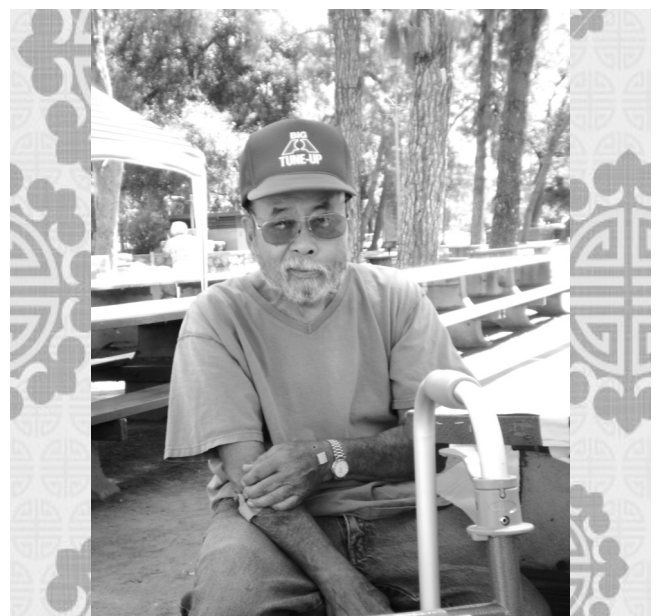
Our Condolences to the Family of Mitsuru Inaba

MITSURU INABA, age 77, passed away on August 14, 2012. He was born on April 9, 1935 in Riverside, CA and had been a resident for 73 years. He served in the U.S. Army for 2 years. He was interned during World War II with his family at Manzanar War Relocation Center and Crystal City Internment Camp. He retired after 33 years with Caltrans (Structures). Mitsuru is survived by his wife, Meiko Inaba; son, Douglas Inaba (wife Resa); daughter, Laurie Oshiro (husband Gary); sisters Midori (husband Paul) Fujii, Haru Kuromiya, Setsu Hata and Lola

Czahara; brothers Akira (wife Eva) Inaba and Anthony (wife Beverly) Inaba, and 5 grandchildren.

Mits will be greatly missed by the Riverside JAACL family who benefited from his skills, his energy, and his sense of responsibility throughout the many years of his and Meiko's membership in the JAACL. Mits was always in the background giving continuity and reliability to the many projects and activities that were undertaken through the years.

Rest in Peace, Mits.



RIVERSIDE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE



Zen

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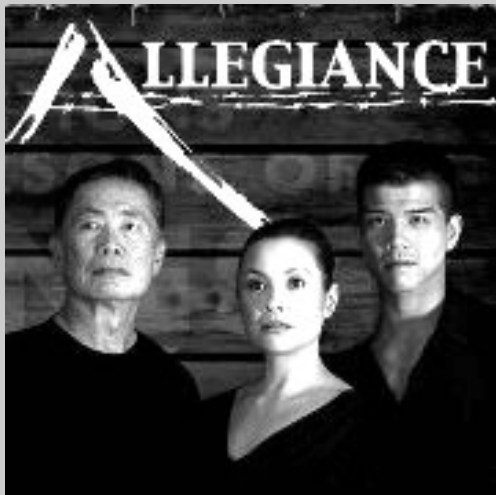
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www.riversidejacl.org

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ALLEGIANCE brings attention to internment experience

It's much talked about in the media, possibly because of its star George Takei. JACL (national office) commends the producers and writers of *Allegiance*, a new American musical that premiered on September 19, for promoting an increased awareness and interest in the Japanese American experi-



ence during World War II. Their full statement can be read at www.jacl.org. Additional documents regarding JACL and the Japanese American experience are also available on their website.

JACL goes Social

According to Executive Director, Patricia Ouchida, there is power in social networking and enormous opportunities to let the world know about the work being done by this organization. She is embracing social media with enthusiasm and has begun to post regularly. She sites prolific bloggers such as *Angry Asian Man* as a way to create synergy with the organization's message.

Check out the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/JACLNational>, and follow the tweets at http://twitter.com/jacl_dc

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.