



SEPTEMBER 2012

JACL
Japanese American Citizens League
Mile High Chapter



THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- 1 A Message from the President
- 2 Upcoming Events
- 2 Board Member Spotlight
- 2 Recruiting New Board Members
- 2 Nihongo-o Naraimashyou
- 3 Haiku
- 3 Mile High JACL Membership
- 4 Denver Voters Have Choices of How and Where to Vote
- 5 Mile High JACL Fall Festival
- 6 Membership Application
- 7 Advertisements & Job Postings

A Message from the President

Do you want to be a part of history? Be a part of the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States? Now is your chance! It's time for our annual election, and Mile High JACL is currently recruiting new members for our Board of Directors. We would love it if you can join us!

Board members serve three-year terms and are required to attend monthly board meetings, help coordinate one event per year, and write two newsletter articles per year. Elections will be held in December and nominations will be accepted through November 15th. If you have any questions or would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please send us an e-mail at MileHighJACL@gmail.com

By joining the board, you will see how a civil rights organization operates at a national level, and you will be able to influence the direction of the organization! In addition, you will also be able to attend the National JACL convention and network with other influential community leaders.

I am excited to announce that Mile High JACL is partnering up with Just Vote! Colorado Election Protection (JVCEP), a nonpartisan election protection program created in collaboration with Colorado Common Cause, the League of Women Voters, Mi Familia Vota, the Colorado Lawyers' Committee, and the Legal Center for People with Disabilities and Older People. JVCEP was created to assist voters with election activities, expand access to information about the voting process, and to monitor the electoral process across the state.

We are looking for volunteers that can serve as Poll Monitors and Election Judges.

- As a poll monitor, you will observe what is happening at the polls, be a resource for voters to answer basic questions regarding their rights, and report any deceptive activities that may occur to the legal team.
- As an election judge, you will check in voters on Election Day, check voter IDs, hand out ballots, and prepare voting location. You will be inside the polls and working with your local county officials to ensure a fair and smooth election process. Furthermore, you will also receive a stipend from the county for your work!

If you are interested, please send us an e-mail at MileHighJACL@gmail.com

We would love to hear your suggestions and feedbacks. Please come to our next board meeting on October 4th at 6:30 pm. We meet at the Japanese American Association of Colorado's Office, located on the second floor of Sakura Square (19th and Lawrence, Denver, CO). If you have any questions or feedbacks, please do not hesitate to contact us at MileHighJACL@gmail.com



Harry Budisidarta
Mile High JACL Chapter President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mile High JACL
Board Meeting
October 4th
6:30pm
Sakura Square, 2nd Fl.

Mile High JACL
Fall Festival
November 10th
11am - 2pm
Simpson United
Methodist Church
Arvada, CO

OCA/JACL
Lunar New Years Dinner
February 16, 2013

Day of Remembrance
February 17, 2013

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
ngoco.dee@gmail.com

Board Member Spotlight

The Mile High JACL would like to recognize Mary Ann Amemiya for her hard work and strong leadership in advancing our chapter. Having only joined the Mile High JACL just one-year ago, Mary Ann has already contributed tremendously to our efforts by assisting with fundraisers such as our rummage sale and booth sales at festivals, helping coordinate events and programs such as our silent auction luncheon and IDC meeting, recruiting numerous new members, and being a strong champion for social justice efforts by representing our chapter at various community events. These are just a few of the many ways in which Mary Ann has quickly become involved as a committed leader in our community. Most recently, Mary Ann also attended the National JACL Convention as the chapter delegate and also demonstrated her commitment to JACL's efforts by becoming a Century Club member. We are grateful to have such an extraordinary addition to our Board and appreciate everything that she does for our community. Thank you, Mary Ann!

Recruiting New Board Members!

The Mile High JACL is currently recruiting new members for our Board of Directors. Joining the board is a great way to build leadership skills, network with local community members, engage in social justice efforts, and have fun! Board members serve three-year terms and are required to attend monthly board meetings, help coordinate one event per year, and write two newsletter articles per year. Officer positions including President, VP of Membership, and VP of Programs are also open. Elections will be held in December and nominations will be accepted through November 15th. If you have any questions or would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please email MileHiJACL@gmail.com.

Nihongo-o Naraimashyou!

Let's Learn Japanese!



Aji (A-ji)
Translation: Taste

Amai (A-ma-i)
Translation: Sweet

Supai (Su-pa-i)
Translation: Sour

Karai (Ka-ra-i)
Translation: Spicy

Nigai (Ni-ga-i)
Translation: Bitter

Haiku

Haiku is a poetic form and a type of poetry from the Japanese culture. Haiku combines form, content, and language in a meaningful, yet compact form. Haiku poets write about everyday things. Many themes include nature, feelings, or experiences. Usually they use simple words and grammar. The most common form for Haiku is three short lines. The first line usually contains five (5) syllables, the second line seven (7) syllables, and the third line contains five (5) syllables. Haiku doesn't rhyme. A Haiku must "paint" a mental image in the reader's mind. This is the challenge of Haiku - to put the poem's meaning and imagery in the reader's mind in ONLY 17 syllables over just three (3) lines of poetry!

The Red Rose

The red blossom bends

and drips its dew to the ground.

Like a tear it falls

Mile High JACL Membership

By Gary Yamashita, Membership Chairperson

Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The organization's 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 JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

As a member of the Mile High JACL chapter, you have already demonstrated that the mission and goals of JACL are important to you. We sincerely thank you for your membership. We are proud of the fact that our Mile High JACL chapter is currently 165 members strong and is the fastest growing JACL chapter in the entire United States. We have recently elected several new members to the Board of Directors who have energized the group and infused new enthusiasm into the chapter. An organization is only as strong as the involvement of its members. One of the more active chapters in our district is Idaho Falls JACL which only has 35 members, but most are very engaged in the chapter activities. We encourage you to become more involved in our chapter by joining us at any of our various workshops, educational programs, cultural events or by attending a monthly Board meeting. For more information about our chapter activities, feel free to contact us at MileHiJACL@gmail.com. We are currently working on enhancing our website which will soon allow you to keep track of all of our chapter information and upcoming events.

Again, we appreciate your support by your continued membership in our chapter. I encourage you to tell others about our mission and have them check us out. Please make a commitment to join us at one chapter activity or meeting within the next three months to see what all the excitement is about. You won't be disappointed.

Denver Voters Have Choices of How and Where to Vote

By Denver Elections Division

The November 6 General Election will have three choices of how to vote: by mail, at an early voting site, or on Election Day at an assigned polling place.

Voters who prefer to vote by mail can apply to be a permanent mail-in voter or choose to vote by mail only for this election. Mail ballots can be returned by affixing 65 cents postage, or they can be dropped off at any Voter Service Center, any of ten 24-hour drop-off boxes, or at any Election Day polling place.

Early voting gets underway on Monday, October 22. There will be 13 Voter Service Centers serving as early voting sites.

The Voter Service Centers below will be open Monday, October 22 to Friday, November 2, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will also be early voting on Saturday, October 27; but not on Saturday, November 3. All locations will have a drive-through ballot drop-off lane, except the Tivoli Student Union location. There is at least one service center location within each Denver City Council district.

- Barnum Recreation Center, 360 Hooker St.
- Blair-Caldwell Library: 2401 Welton St.
- Christ Church United Methodist: 690 N. Colorado Blvd.
- Christ Community Church, 8085 E. Hampden Ave.
- Denver Elections Division (Main Office), 200 W. 14th Ave.
- Denver Police Dept. Dist. 3 Station, 1625 S. University Blvd.
- Harvard Gulch Recreation Center, 550 E. Iliff Ave.
- Harvey Park Recreation Center, 2120 S. Tennyson Way
- Hiawatha Davis Recreation Center, 3334 Holly St.
- Highlands Recreation Center, 2880 N. Osceola St.
- Montbello Recreation Center, 15555 E. 53rd Ave.
- Montclair Recreation Center, 729 Ulster Way
- ** Tivoli Student Union at Auraria, 900 Auraria Pkwy, Rm. 261

There are also ten 24-hour ballot drop-off boxes located around Denver that voters can use beginning Monday, October 22 until 7 p.m. on General Election night.

Those voting in person will fill out a paper ballot in a privacy voting booth and then insert the ballot into a secured ballot box.

For voters who prefer voting in person on Election Day, there will be 149 assigned polling places located throughout the City and County of Denver. Voters must vote at their assigned polling place if voting in person on Election Day. Voter Information cards will be mailed to voters the week of October 12. These cards will state a voter's polling place location and also list all districts for the voter's address.

All early voting and voter locations will also have electronic voting machines available to any voter who wishes to use them.

More information is available by visiting: www.DenverVotes.org, or by calling 311 inside Denver.



Photo taken by the Denver Elections Division



Photo taken by the Denver Elections Division



Mile High Japanese American Citizens League

FALL FESTIVAL

(Aki Matsuri)

A wonderful event filled with food and fun for the whole family!

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, November 10

11 am – 2 pm

Simpson United Methodist Church
6001 Wolff Street
Arvada, CO 80003

For questions or to volunteer
Contact Suzy Shimasaki at Suzy.Shimasaki@gmail.com

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



Get Winning!

BLACK HAWK

Downtown commercial space for lease
at Sakura Square. 518 square feet
of office or retail space located on
second level available for
immediate occupancy.



Please contact:
Gary Yamashita, General Manager
Sakura Square Management
Cell: 303-204-8039
Email: gary.yamashita@comcast.net

NOW HIRING!

Sakura Square has immediate
job openings for parking
attendants to work Friday
and Saturday evenings
from 5:00 PM to midnight.
Interested parties please
contact Sakura Square Facility
Supervisor, Gary Matsuda
at 303- 525-5920.

Mile High JACL | P.O. Box 13061 | Denver, CO 80201 | milehiJACL@gmail.com | www.milehiJACL.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 Suzy.Shimasaki at suzy.shimasaki@gmail.com 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!