

Obon  
August 13th - 15th in Japan  
The Festival of Souls

JACL  
Japanese American Citizens League  
Mile High Chapter



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### A Message from the President

I hope that all of you are enjoying summer right now. This is a great time for you and your family to get out and enjoy the great outdoors. This year, I had the pleasure of going to the Cherry Blossom Festival and Dragon Boat Festival. I swear that both festivals are getting better each year!

Mile High JACL is busy planning our annual Fall Festival! This year, our festival will take place on Saturday, November 8th. We will have delicious food and games for the whole family. Rumor has it that our famous wishing tree might make another appearance this year! Please let me know if you are interested in helping out with this festival. We want to make it even bigger than last year so that we can raise more money for our scholarship program.

By the time you read this newsletter, we would have held the candidate forum between Andrew Romanoff (challenger) and Congressman Mike Coffman (incumbent). I hope that you were able to attend the forum. This is the first time that we have ever had a forum co-sponsored by eight major Asian American groups in Colorado (JACL, APDC, Asian Chamber of Commerce, NAPAWF Colorado, AAJA, Asian Avenue Magazine, CACEN, and Asian Roundtable of Colorado). It was a lot of work putting this forum together. Since the election is only a few more months away, it is important for all of us to be educated about our candidates.

It is almost the end of the year, which means that it is time for our annual Board of Director election. I have served as the President of Mile High JACL for almost 4 years now and this will be my last year as the President. I wish that I can stay longer, but I am going to move to Washington, DC, early next year to pursue career opportunities. It has been a pleasure and honor serving as your President. I can honestly say that I learned a lot about leadership and made a lot of new friends ever since I joined Mile High JACL. I highly encourage all of you to run for a Board of Director position. It is a great way for you to be involved with our chapter and make some new friends!

Our next meeting is on Thursday, September 4th, at 6:30 pm. We meet at the office of Japanese American Association of Colorado, located on the second floor of Sakura Square (19th and Lawrence). Our meeting is open to all members, so please feel free to come! We love seeing new faces!

*Harry Budisidarta*

Mile High JACL Chapter President

AUGUST 2014



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mile High JAQL  
Board Meeting**  
September 4th  
6:30pm  
Sakura Square, 2nd Fl.

**Sam Mihara to Speak  
about his Heart  
Mountain Internment  
Experience**  
September 26th  
12:00pm - 1:30 pm  
Tivoli Student Union  
Multicultural Lounge at  
CU Denver

**Simpson United  
Methodist Church  
Arts & Craft Fair**  
October 19th  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

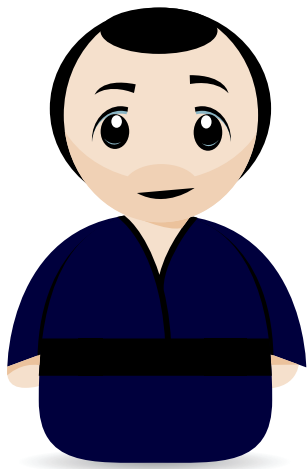
**Mile High JAQL  
Fall Festival**  
November 8th  
Simpson United  
Methodist Church

For more upcoming events  
please visit our website:  
[milehighjaql.org/events/](http://milehighjaql.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@MileHighJAQL.org](mailto:media@MileHighJAQL.org)

# Nihongo-o Naraimashyou!

Let's Learn Japanese!



Segaki (Se-ga-ki)  
Obon service held at the temple.

Hatsu-bon (Ha-tsu-bon)  
The initial Obon service at the temple in memory of loved ones  
who have passed away since the last Obon service

Oshoko (O-sho-ko)  
Burning of incense; an integral part of Buddhist ritual.

Obutsudan (O-bu-tsu-dan)  
Buddhist family altar kept in the home.

Chochin (Cho-chin)  
Lanterns made of paper and split bamboo used during festivals, like Obon.

Yukata (Yu-ka-ta)  
A light Japanese cotton garment worn with undergarments and a simple obi (cloth sash)

Happi (Ha-ppi)  
A short work coat

Geta (Ge-ta)  
Wooden clogs worn with bare feet, appropriate footwear for the yukata

Kachi-kachi (Ka-chi-ka-chi)  
Two pairs of sections of bamboo held in each hand by Obon Odori dancers

Tenugui (Te-nu-gu-i)  
A rectangular cotton cloth used as a towel or head-covering

Uchiwa (U-chi-wa)  
Round fan made of split bamboo and covered with paper

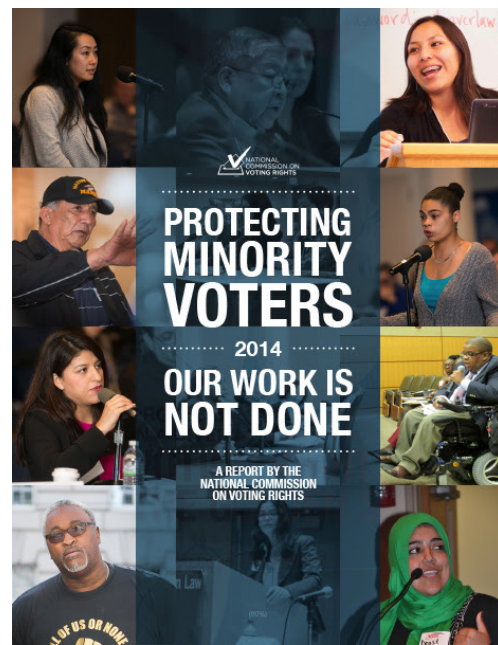
# National Commission on Voting Rights Report Reveals Patterns of Voting Rights Discrimination

This report is adapted from an August 6 press release from the National Commission on Voting Rights (NCVR).

Washington, D.C. - A year after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Shelby County vs. Holder* decision gutted a vital protection of the Voting Rights Act (VRA), the National Commission on the Voting Rights (NCVR), led by the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, released a groundbreaking national report, "Protecting Minority Voters: Our Work is Not Done."

Without the key protections of the VRA, minority voters will be more vulnerable to discrimination as they head to the polls for the upcoming mid-year general elections than at any time in recent decades.

The report reveals where and how minorities continue to experience discrimination in the U.S. It challenges the Court's rationale that improvements in minority citizens' rates of voter registration and turnout, and the success of minority candidates, indicated that the coverage formula reauthorized by Congress in 2006 was unconstitutionally outdated. Four states formerly covered by Section 5 of the VRA - Texas, Louisiana, South Carolina and Georgia - rank as the worst offenders, and discrimination levels are particularly high in the South and Southwest. The findings show that contrary to the Court's assertion, voting discrimination is still rampant and that the states and localities previously covered by Section 4 (the VRA provision struck down by the Court) continue to implement voting laws and procedures (including discriminatory redistricting) that disproportionately affect African American, Latino, Asian American and Native American voters.



activists interested in advancing voting rights. For more information about the National Commission on Voting Rights, please visit [ncvr.lawyerscommittee.org](http://ncvr.lawyerscommittee.org).

JACL, in collaboration with partners such as the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights (LCCR), has been actively involved in promoting awareness of voting rights. Most recently, JACL submitted a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee in response to the committee's hearings on the Voting Rights Amendment Act (VRAA).

Please also take the time to sign the LCCR's petition and make sure Congress knows that voting rights for all are important to you!

## Japanese Embassy Promoting Twitter Account

The following is a press release from the Embassy of Japan:



Did you know that the Embassy of Japan has a Twitter account?

Twitter is the best way to stay up-to-date on current Japanese political, economic, and cultural news from both Japan and here in the United States.

Our Twitter can be located here: <https://twitter.com/JapanEmbDC>

Thank you for your interest, and we look forward to seeing you online.



## 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](mailto:info@MileHighJACL.org) | [www.MileHighJACL.org](http://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

\$25 - Quarter page advertisement

\$50 - Half 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](mailto: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!

# FAIRMOUNT

*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](http://www.fairmount-mortuary.com) - 303-399-0692, x 216**