

Tenno No Tanjobi
December 23rd
Emperor's Birthday



DECEMBER 2012

JACL
Japanese American Citizens League
Mile High Chapter



THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- 1 A Message from the President
- 2 Upcoming Events
- 3 JACL Mourns the Passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye
- 4 2012 Scholarship Program with New US - Japan Scholarship
- 4 Nihongo-o Naraimashyou
- 5 Mile High JACL Board Member Receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays
- 6 Ain't No Way I'll Ever Forget Senator Inouye
- 7 Happy Holidays from Mile High JACL
- 8 Membership Application
- 9 Advertisements & Job Postings

A Message from the President

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year! I don't know about you, but Christmas is my favorite holiday of the year. I really enjoy listening to Christmas music, and I love buying gifts for all of my friends. I also like writing personalized messages on all of my holiday cards, but it does get tiresome to write so many messages on so many cards. Hopefully I can find a better and more efficient way to do this in the future.

2012 has been a very busy year for Mile High JACL.

- February 2012 - We started the year with our annual OCA/JACL Lunar New Year dinner and the Day of Remembrance program. We had a record breaking attendance (over 150 people) at the DOR event. We were fortunate to have Christian Heimburger, a doctoral candidate at University of Colorado, give a presentation regarding Japanese Americans who left concentration camps in Colorado, Utah, and Idaho to find temporary work in surrounding communities.
- March 2012 - One of our long-time board members, Frank Sakamoto, was named the March recipient of the Minoru Yasui Community Volunteer Award. The award was established in 1974 as a way to spotlight leaders in the Denver area who are unheralded for their community service.
- March 2012 - Two of our board members, Donna Hansen and Jessica Moy, were selected to attend the 2012 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit. Over three days, they were given extensive training in political advocacy and met with various AAPI advocates, community leaders, and government officials.
- April 2012 - Mile High JACL received a special recognition award at the 27th Asian Education Advisory Council Event. Mile High JACL was recognized for its long term support of the Asian American community and its long term support of AEAC.
- April 2012 - Mile High JACL organized a fundraiser to raise money for the Mile High JACL scholarship program. I want to thank all of you that attended this fundraiser. We raised over \$500!
- May 2012 - Mile High JACL participated in the annual Nisei Veterans Heritage Foundation Memorial Day Service. The service was dedicated to the legacy of the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mile High JAACL Board Meeting

January 3rd
6:30pm
Sakura Square, 2nd Fl.

OCA/JAACL

Lunar New Years Dinner
February 16, 2013

Day of Remembrance

February 17, 2013

- May 2012 - Mile High JAACL participated in the annual pilgrimage to Amache. In addition, several of our board members also participated in "Connecting the Pieces: Dialogues on the Amache Archaeology Collection." This is an exhibit of objects from archaeological research at Amache, and is produced by University of Denver students and community members.
- June 2012 - Mile High JAACL worked together with OCA Colorado, APA for Progress, and NAAPIMHA to organize a panel discussion regarding the Vincent Chin murder and the continuing discrimination facing the Asian American Pacific Islander community.
- June 2012 - Mile High JAACL unanimously voted to endorse the Colorado Civil Unions Bill. The bill would have provided committed gay and lesbian couples with critical legal protections, such as the ability to take family leave to care for a sick partner, to make medical decisions for a partner, to make end-of-life decisions for a partner, and to adopt children together. One of our board members volunteered to testify in favor of the bill, and I had the pleasure of attending one of the committee hearings and heard passionate arguments made by supporters and opponents of this bill.
- June 2012 - I had the pleasure of attending the 57th Annual Japanese American Community Graduation Program. I was there to present the Mile High JAACL scholarship to a very deserving high school senior. This scholarship has been awarded annually since 1961 to a stellar high school senior who will be continuing his/her education in college.
- July 2012 - Several of our board members attended the 43rd Annual JAACL National Convention. The delegates were hard at work tackling various issues, such as: growing our membership, developing new programs, securing funding sources, managing our budget, adapting our Constitution and By-laws to meet ever changing needs, and selecting the issues to support as an organization.
- August 2012 - Mile High JAACL rented a booth at the Boulder Asian Aloha Festival to promote our organization. We sold water, senbei, and hand-made greeting cards. We also gave away free fans with every purchase. The fans contain our contact information and a brief summary of our mission statement. Fortunately, our booth was positioned right in front of the performing stage, so we were able to watch a lot of the performances during down times.
- September 2012 - Mile High JAACL partnered up with Just Vote! Colorado Election Protection Program (JVCEP). They are a nonpartisan election protection program created to assist voters with elections activities and to monitor the electoral process across the state. Several of our board members volunteered to be poll monitors and election judges during Election Day.
- November 2012 - Mile High JAACL organized our first ever Fall Festival in order to raise money for our youth scholarship fund. We sold various delicious food and organized fun games for the whole family. Thank you to all of you that attended our festival. We raised over \$500 for our scholarship!

It has been a pleasure and an honor serving as your President. I had the privilege of working with so many great board members, and I learned so much about the JA community here in Colorado. I want to thank all of you for your support, and I look forward to working with all of you again in the future.

We love to hear your suggestions and feedbacks. Please come to our next board meeting on January 3, 2013, 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 MileHighJAACL@gmail.com

Harry Budisidharta

Mile High JAACL Chapter President

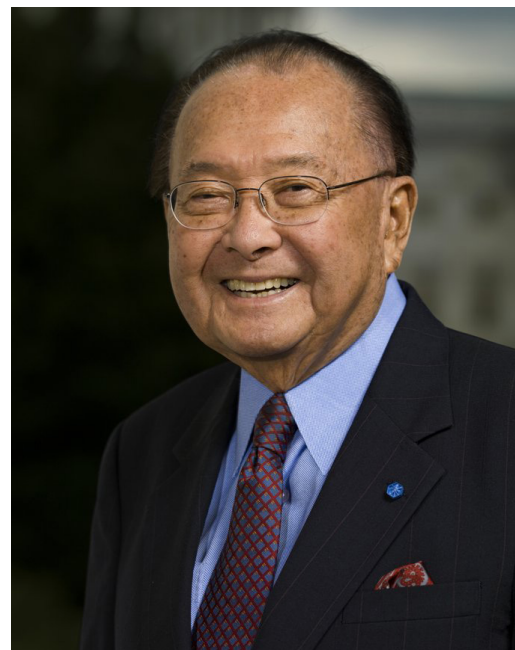
Do you have an event or project that you would like to share with our community? Please help us keep our community informed by submitting events, notices, recognitions and articles to include in future newsletters. Information can be submitted to ngoco.dee@gmail.com

JACL Mourns the Passing of Senator Daniel K. Inouye

United States Senator Daniel K. Inouye, World War II veteran, Medal of Honor recipient and Hawaii's senior Senator, passed away at the age of 88 from respiratory complications.

During his six decades of public service, Inouye helped build and shape Hawaii. He began his career in public service at the age of 17 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army shortly after Imperial Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. He served with 'E' company of the 442 Regimental Combat Team, a group consisting entirely of Americans of Japanese ancestry. Inouye lost his arm charging a series of machine gun nests on a hill in San Terenzo, Italy on April 21, 1945. His actions during that battle earned him the Medal of Honor.

After receiving his law degree, Inouye, returned to Hawaii and worked as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for the City and County of Honolulu. He recognized the social and racial inequities of post-war Hawaii, and in 1954 was part of a Democratic revolution that took control of the Territorial Legislature. Following statehood in 1959, he was privileged to serve as Hawaii's first Congressman and ran for the Senate in 1962 where he served for nearly nine consecutive terms.



Senator Daniel K. Inouye

Senator Inouye was always among the first to speak out against injustice whether interned Japanese Americans, Filipino World War II veterans, Native Americans and Native Hawaiians.

A prominent player on the national stage, Senator Inouye served as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Commerce Committee and was the first Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

When asked in recent days how he wanted to be remembered, Dan said, very simply, "I represented the people of Hawaii and this nation honestly and to the best of my ability. I think I did OK." His last words were, "Aloha."

JACL mourns the passing of Senator Inouye and sends its deepest condolences to his family: his wife, Irene Hirano Inouye, his son Daniel Ken Inouye Jr., daughter-in-law Jessica, and granddaughter Maggie and step-daughter Jennifer Hirano.

"Senator Inouye has been an irreplaceable voice for the Japanese American community and his contributions to the nation are incalculable. The loss has sent shockwaves throughout the community and he will be sorely missed," says Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida.

National JACL Announces 2013 Scholarship Program with New United States - Japan Scholarship

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) announces its National Scholarship and Awards Program for the 2013 academic year. The JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, and those specializing in law or the creative/performing arts. There is also a scholarship for those in need of financial aid in this time of rising tuition costs.

Making its debut in 2013 is the newly-created Meiji Gakuin University - JACL Scholarship for a graduating high school senior who wishes to study in Japan. Meiji Gakuin University, founded in 1863, is located in Tokyo and is one of the oldest universities in Japan. This four-year scholarship will lead the recipient to a bachelor's degree in International Studies. All classes are taught in English.

Freshman applications must be submitted directly by the applicant to his/her local JACL chapter by March 1. Applications for the "other" scholarship categories (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts, and student aid) are to be sent directly by the applicant to the "National JACL Scholarship Committee" by April 1.

The application process for the Meiji Gakuin University - JACL Scholarship involves two completely different applications, which can be requested directly from Meiji Gakuin University. The deadline for this U.S.-Japan Scholarship is March 1.

Detailed scholarship program information and applications can be found on the JACL website at www.jacl.org, and clicking "Education" on the menu bar. The National JACL Scholarship Program requires that all applicants be a student or individual member of the JACL.

For more information on the National JACL Scholarship Program, contact Regional Director Patty Wada at: jacl-ncwnpro@msn.com, or National JACL Vice President for Planning & Development Jason Chang at vpp-d@jacl.org.

Nihongo-o Naraimashyou!

Let's Learn Japanese!



Zou (Zo-u)
Translation: Elephant

Laion (La-i-on)
Translation: Lion

Kirin (Ki-ri-n)
Translation: Giraffe

Tora (to-ra)
Translation: Tiger

Ku-gi-ra (Ku-gi-ra)
Translation: Whale

Kame (Ka-me)
Translation: Turtle

Mile High JAACL Board Member Receives the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays

By Donna Hansen

Mrs. Kimiko Side has been a prominent leader in the Japanese American community in Colorado for decades and is a beloved board member of Mile High JAACL. Her dedication and hard work of enhancing the community has been recognized across Colorado and the globe. The Emperor of Japan has decorated her with The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, recognizing her efforts to build friendship and understanding between Japan and the United States. Mrs. Side continues to work to strengthen the community and inspire others to build community.

Q: What do you feel has been your proudest achievement to date?

A: Prior to my becoming Chairperson of the Denver-Takayama Sister Cities in 1994, the organization would send three High School students to Japan every other year for home stay for a period of two weeks. When I became Chairperson I was determined to increase the amount of persons going to Japan for Home Stay and we started a policy of supplying scholarships for 10 High School Students plus paying for complete travel for two Chaperones. This was started in 1994 for every other year for a period of 18 years. We were able to accomplish this by raising money through various methods in fundraising. This has continued since 1994 and we send our Students to Japan every other year as Takayama sends students to us every other year as well.

In 2003, I approached Bill Hosokawa to write a history of the Colorado Japanese Americans in the US and the Japanese Association of Colorado, which I was President at that time, would pay for the undertaking. He agreed and completed the work, Colorado's Japanese Americans from 1886 to the present, in 2005. The book is a chronological history of the Japanese in Colorado from 1886. It is a contribution to history.

I really feel both of these contribute to opening bridges between Japan and the United States by allowing a better understanding of each country. I believe these were the best accomplishments over the years while being the Chairperson of the Denver Takayama Sister Cities and President of the Japanese Association of Colorado.

Q: How have you been able to meet the Emperor of Japan so many times?

A: In 1994 the Emperor and Empress Michiko came to Colorado and I was chosen as one of ten representatives to talk with Emperor Hirohito. In 2009 in Tokyo, Japan at the 50th Anniversary of the Nikkei & Japanese Association Abroad, I was one of ten persons chosen to speak with Emperor Hirohito. Upon receiving the medal and certificate of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Ray on Nov. 9, 2012 from the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, I had the pleasure of speaking with Emperor Hirohito at the Japanese Imperial Palace.

Q: What do you think the community needs to do to continue to improve?

A: This covers many facets. However, we have lost many of our values but we can start with our youths. We have to improve our education system for them. We have to instill the values which we had many years ago. That is respect for our teachers, elders and respect for flag and country. As President Kennedy so rightly said, "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country".



Mrs. Kimiko Side received the Japan Imperial Decoration The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays

Ain't No Way I'll Ever Forget Senator Inouye

By Mary Ann Amemiya

When I heard last Monday that we had lost Senator Daniel Ken Inouye, I wept. And then, I waited for what always happens after such a loss; memories come rushing up from wherever they were stored. The most powerful ones that presented themselves this time were of the Senator's service on the Senate Watergate Committee in 1973. These were personal.

In January of 1972, I turned 18 and immediately registered to vote; it was the first year 18 year olds could do so, and it was an election year. That fall, I headed off to college and spent much of those first months canvassing for George McGovern, the Democratic candidate for President. I remembered the excitement of standing on the roof of a car gridlocked in the middle of a street in downtown Philadelphia, cheering with the huge crowd that had gathered to hear Senators McGovern and Ted Kennedy speak. And I remembered the enormous disappointment when Nixon won a second term in a landslide victory. But mostly, I remembered the national shame of the Watergate scandal just months after the inauguration, and the few lights that shone brightly during those endless dark days of hearings as truth and blame slowly emerged. One of these lights was Senator Sam Ervin of North Carolina whose self-deprecating wit ("I'm just an old country lawyer") was a charming foil for his incisive leadership over the proceedings. The other was Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, "Danny" to his friends on both sides of the aisle that today looks like the Grand Canyon.

By now the press has made us all familiar with the major events of Senator Inouye's long career as first a highly decorated WWII combat veteran (442nd Regimental Combat Team) and then hardworking legislator (representing Hawaii since achieving statehood in 1959, and second-longest-serving senator in history). And we've read many touching stories about his decades-long friendship with Senator Bob Dole. However, the coverage has glossed over his role in the now infamous Watergate hearings. Let me fix that oversight, or at least a small part of it.

"Watergate" has come to be synonymous with criminal misbehavior at the highest levels of our government. Even more startling than the break-in itself was the cover-up by the President and his top aides. In February of 1973, the guilty began preparing for the hearings, assessing the threat posed by each member of the Committee. In a rare playful moment John Ehrlichman was recorded as saying that Senator Inouye should be called "Ain't No Way" because "there ain't no way he's going to give us anything but problems." Ehrlichman was right, and as the proceedings intensified, a reporter caught defense attorney John Wilson on tape referring to Senator Inouye as "that little Jap." Defending his comment, Wilson said that he wouldn't be offended if Senator Inouye had referred to him as "that little American." Wilson was then pressured to offer a full apology, which Daniel Inouye graciously accepted.

This "small" incident rocked my world as an 18 year old JA who could barely mouth the word "Jap" for the weight of pain and humiliation it carried for me. But there it was, for the entire world to see and talk about. And talk about it they did. The public outcry after Wilson's slur stunned me. One legislator (it may have been Senator Dole) leaped to Inouye's defense and said that the Senator should punch Wilson in the nose, but he couldn't because he had "left his right arm on a hill in Italy." Good stuff. But what stayed with me over the years were two things: Wilson's response to the public reaction and Senator Inouye's.

Wilson's comment that he wouldn't mind being called a "little American" compounded his offense by implying that "Jap" simply defined Inouye's identity, and that a citizen of Japanese ancestry is not a real American. It reinforced an unspoken fear that I would always be the "other;" in this land of freedom and equality, I would never be quite as "equal" as my White friends.

And then there was Senator Daniel Inouye. He accepted Wilson's apology, this fierce warrior who had suffered life-threatening injuries to single-handedly take an enemy position, with quiet dignity. So JA! In fact, publicly accepting Wilson's apology he told us that he may have provoked the attack by muttering "what a liar," into a mike that he believed was turned off, after Ehrlichman's testimony. The difference between Wilson's and Inouye's responses to this incident came to symbolize for me the battle that every JA must fight against the subtler forms of racism, and the way that battle must be fought—with the courage, dignity, and sense of fairness Senator Daniel Ken Inouye exemplified throughout his life.

As Senator Dole paid his last respects to his friend, he rose from his wheelchair to walk to the catafalque to place his hand on Senator Inouye's flag-draped casket. He told the witnesses to his farewell, "I wouldn't want Danny to see me in a wheelchair." Senator Inouye always expected the best from all of us, and in so doing we rose up and we gave it. Aloha, Senator. Ain't no way this little Jap-A will ever forget you.



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

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!