



OUTLOOK

2009 Scholarship Luncheon and Recipients *By Sharon Uyeda*

This year's luncheon was held on Saturday, May 23rd in the backyard of the Issei Memorial Building. Close to 50 persons attended the luncheon and program with Ali Kagawa, JACL/Nakayoshi Young Professionals Group and Tim Koide, JACL National Membership Coordinator, speaking on the topic of Youth Leadership. The presentation of scholarships followed with ten of the 14 recipients present to receive their award. The following are the 2009 scholarship recipients:

Leslie Hamachi, Mt. View H.S., \$2,500 Kenji & Shizu Sakauye Scholarship, renewable for 3 additional years for \$2,500 each year, totaling \$10,000. Her parents are Gordon & Amy.

James Nakamura, Palo Alto Senior H.S., \$3,000 Kenji Sakauye Memorial Scholarship. His parents are Karl Nakamura & Kathryn Hull.

Conrad Egan, Pioneer H.S., \$2,500 George Masunaga Endowment Scholarship. His parents are Mr. & Mrs. John Egan.

Kayla Nishimatsu, Ann Sobrato H.S., \$2,000 Phil Matsumura Community Scholarship. Her parents are Paul & Susan.

Andrew Knaack, Adrian Wilcox H.S., \$1,000 Masuo B. Nakamura Memorial Scholarship. His parents are Edward & Kim.

Matisse Yoshihara, Monta Vista H.S., \$750 Ray & Lucy Matsumoto Business Scholarship. Her parents are Carl & Janice.

Michael Pearce, Abraham Lincoln H.S., \$750 San Jose JACL Chapter Award. His parents are Ralph & Emelie.

Eric Beutler, Abraham Lincoln H.S., \$500 San Jose JACL Chapter Award. His parents are Brian & Laurie.

Keito Hoshi, Westmont H.S., \$500 Karl Kinaga Memorial Scholarship. Her parents are Katsuharu & Yoshiko.

Tyler King, Santa Teresa H.S., \$500 Lanette Yoneko Hayakawa Memorial Scholarship. His parents are DAve & Debi.

Allison Abad, Piedmont Hills H.S., \$500 Ninja Youth Foundation Scholarship. Her parents are Jerry & Karen.

Kevin Onishi, Del Mar H.S., \$500 Ninja Youth Foundation Scholarship. His parents are Steven & Linda.

Megan Matsumoto, Monta Vista H.S., \$500 San Jose CYS Scholarship. Her parents are Peter & Shirley.

Martin Iyoya, Jr., De La Salle H.S., \$500 San Jose CYS Scholarship. His parents are Martin & Pamela.

Members of the selection committee were Gary Jio, Mitsu Kumagai, Pat Nakashima, and Joyce Oyama. Sharon Uyeda served as committee chair.

The continued support of the following scholarship donors is greatly appreciated: Shizu Sakauye, Michi Masunaga, Matsumura/Ota Families, Jackie Nakamura, Ray & Lucy Matsumoto, John & Alice Hayakawa, Ninja Youth Foundation, Community Youth Service (CYS), and Rose Kinaga. The Chapter also provides scholarships.

(Additional photos on Page 7)



L to R: Conrad Egan, Andrew Knaack, Eric Beutler, Tyler King, Leslie Hamachi, Sharon Uyeda (scholarship chair), Matisse Yoshihara, Michael Pearce, James Nakamura, Leon Kimura (chapter president)

President's Message *By Leon Kimura*



The San Jose JACL has a rich history of community service and support. And in return, the Chapter has enjoyed a significant membership support base. In early days, when the JACL supported the JA's need for health insurance through its Blue Cross program, the Chapter's ranks swelled to over 1,000 members. Over time, membership has declined and in these trying economic times, it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain members in a support based non-profit organization.

The ability for a JACL Chapter to survive in the long-term is complicated by many external factors that impact the Chapter's health. But, in general, I believe the major factor to sustain a healthy organization is the need to remain relevant or "connected" to its membership. Over time, the community's needs have changed and more importantly, community support organizations have grown. The JACL is no longer the primary avenue for JA's receiving insurance coverage or other services. Many choices are out there, for all aspects of need by the JA community.

So how can the JACL remain connected to the community? Most members realize that the JACL has always remained connected to the community. Day in and day out, the JACL remains watchful of the civil and human rights of our community. By networking and staying engaged in on-going civil and human rights issues, we strengthen our ability to protect you in any time of crisis. But we also remain selective in our involvement to preserve a need to be reasoned and deliberate versus being overly zealous and reactionary.

You may have wondered how issues such as hate crimes against the Vietnamese or LGBT community are connected to you. I hope you see that JACL involvement addresses the need to maintain the strength of the organization, remain connected to the greater community and thereby stay relevant to you, our membership.

Another aspect of the Chapter staying connected is through our support volunteering at community events. Many of you have memories of seeing the IKA Man at the Nikkei Matsuri! So, whether it be washing rice for Mochi Tsuki, lighting candles at the Day of Remembrance, or laying flowers for our veterans on Memorial Day, the San Jose JACL is there to support our community.

As a personal plea to you I would like to ask that when you look at the stack of bills to pay and see a renewal form from the San Jose JACL, please do stay connected with us and your community. And special thanks to those who have already renewed your membership which helps us continue our legacy of service and support!

Leon S. Kimura
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OUTLOOK is published on a quarterly basis by the San Jose JACL

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The San Jose JACL Board meets on the second Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Issei Memorial Building. Meetings are open to the public and everyone is welcome. Come and help shape San Jose JACL's future.

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Issei Memorial Building Donation *by Leon Kimura*



The San Jose JACL has been informed that a special donation is being made to the Issei Memorial Building fund to assist in the Capital Campaign to renovate this historic building. One of our community's favorite sons has donated \$1,700 to the cause! The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta has closed out his Appreciation Dinner fund and allocated these reserves to aid in the repair and restoration of this City and community landmark! Please join us in conveying a big **THANKS NORM!** for his latest act of support for the JACL and our community!

Stay at Home Fundraiser *by Sharon Uyeda*

Soon to come in the mail, will be tickets for our Stay at Home Fundraiser.

From the comfort of your home, you can fill out the tickets and return the stubs with the completed information and enclose a tax-deductible donation. The flyer will give details. By participating in this fundraiser, you are supporting the San Jose Chapter in its operations and maintenance of the historic Issei Memorial Building, which will be 100 years old next year! Additionally, you will assist the Chapter in providing educational and cultural programs. The winning tickets will be drawn on August 28th at the Volunteer Appreciation Barbecue.

Volunteers Again Turn Out for Issei Memorial Building Clean Up Day *By Tom Oshidari*

On a beautiful Saturday, May 9, while others were out enjoying their day, volunteers from San Jose JACL, JAMsj, CATS, and the San Jose Conservation Corps were busily spiffing up the venerable Issei Memorial Building (IMB).

Thanks to Leon Kimura, Tamon Norimoto, Tom Nishisaka, Steven Nose, Tom Oshidari, Sue Shigemasa, Tom Shigemasa, Neil Kozuma, Jeff Kuwano, Joyce Yamamoto, Ken Furukawa, Patti Maruyama, Terry Terakawa, Ladonna Kaku, Will Kaku, Reiko Iwanaga, Ruth Herrera, Marlen Rodriguez, and Rathy Phy for accomplishing the following:

- Stripped and refinished the bathroom and kitchen floors
- Cleaned the entry and hallway floors
- Cleaned the graffiti on the driveway wall
- Vacuumed couches and blinds
- Washed windows
- Power washed walkways, deck, and patio
- Cleaned the conference room tables, chairs, and cushions
- Cleaned toilets, bathroom, and kitchen
- Dusted cabinets, pictures, etc.
- Shaped backyard trees; trimmed shrubs
- Repaired the mats on the deck ramp



Whew!

While San Jose Taiko had other commitments on Clean Up Day, they later arranged to shampoo the rugs and install safety gates at the top of the two stairways. Thanks also to Tom and Sue Shigemasa for supplying pizza for lunch, and to Reiko for bringing manju.

My apologies if I have failed to acknowledge any volunteers, tasks done, or refreshments shared.

There remain a number of repair tasks at the IMB. If anyone is handy and has some time to spend on the IMB, we would love to hear from you.

Assembly Constitutional Amendment 42 – Apology to the Chinese *by Leon Kimura*

On June 11th, the San Jose JACL stood with Assemblymember Paul Fong (D-Cupertino) and a dozen other API organizations on the front steps of the Ng Shing Gung temple at the San Jose Historical Museum, the setting for the ACR 42 press conference. We stood for an apology by the State legislature to the Chinese in California for the travesty of discriminatory laws and Constitutional provisions that our past legislature enacted to target, rather than protect the Chinese in our great State. ACR 42 is a tribute to those early Chinese in California who worked on the Transcontinental Railroad completed in 1869 and suffered the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, the first federal law ever passed denying a group of immigrants solely on the basis of race or nationality.

Thank you Assemblymember Fong for your purpose to educate and dedication to justice in bringing this issue to the public forum after all these long years.



SAVE THE DATE!

Oct 17, 2009

San Jose JACL 8th Annual Community Recognition Dinner *by Tom Oshidari*

Mark your calendars to reserve Saturday evening, October 17, 2009, for San Jose JACL's 8th Annual Community Recognition Dinner. Once again we will recognize deserving community honorees who have served the community in so many ways. As we go to press, the confirmation process is still in progress; so the honorees will be announced at a later date.

Tickets are \$80 (tables of 10, \$800) for the dinner to be held at the Holiday Inn in San Jose. No host cocktails will begin at 5:30 pm with dinner scheduled to be served at 7:00 pm.

Along with dinner we again will have our popular silent auction of items donated by community vendors and individuals. Additionally, there will be a benefit drawing for a substantial grand prize. This event is the San Jose Chapter's major fundraiser of the year.

Stay tuned for more information to be communicated to you in the coming weeks. Hope to see you on October 17!

Asian Pacific Islander Policy Summit *By Leon Kimura*

A two day policy summit was held on May 26th and 27th in our State Capitol co-convened by the Asian Pacific Islander Joint Legislative Caucus, California Commission on Asian Pacific Islander Affairs, Asian Pacific Islander California Action Network, Asian American Education Institute, Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality, and the Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Institute. The summit entitled "Connecting the Dots – the Catalyst for a Stronger Community Voice" was an opportunity to participate in civic engagement at the legislative level.

The summit included inspirational speakers lead by State Controller, John Chiang followed by speakers addressing the four major workshop tracks of Civil Rights, Education, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Community Development. It was of special interest to note that the Japanese American community is seen to be largely assimilated into the mainstream of American society. Therefore, in order to remain relevant and strong, the JA's need to unify with other API communities and lend support. So, as the JACL continues its progress in advocating for the civil and human rights for all, the JA community is further strengthened as a direct result of these efforts.

Actual legislative visits were then orchestrated for each of the four tracks focused on during the summit and 28 teams with between 4 to 7 members each were unleashed to lobby for selected bills currently on the legislators desks. I chose Civil Rights as my focus and was fortunate enough to meet with Assembly Member Warren Furutani (D) Los Angeles, during one of my team's legislative visits. Although a very powerful and influential man, he was very personable and engaging. And to tell you the truth, his staff was scarier than him!

After we ended the summit on the Capitol steps with lunch and a rally where we were addressed by Assembly Members Paul Fong and Warren Furutani, I walked back to my car thinking that the API community has amazing and dedicated participants at all levels of the civic engagement process. I met so many persons in so many different capacities and organizations, that I felt comforted in being a part of a community who proactively seeks unity and works towards our collective best interests.

Memorial Day Service *by Leon Kimura*

May 25th was a beautiful day for a memorial service to honor our veterans at Oak Hill Cemetery. A large but respectful gathering came to the Japanese section of the grounds where the service was opened by Ms. Sumiye Tanabe from the Oak Hill Japanese Cemetery Trust Committee. A special memorial message was delivered by the Honorable Zoe Lofgren who also extended the regrets of colleague, the Honorable Michael Honda who unfortunately was unable to attend.

The message of the day was poignant, to honor those who gave their full measure for our country and brethren. Especially from a community that had suffered extreme duress in history, all of our veterans rose to the challenge and answered the call to serve the greater good.

Throughout the service nine Reverends from seven area churches lead in respectful meditations. And I was honored and privileged to participate in the flower offerings as a representative of one of twelve organizations and churches.

The beautiful service matched the day and a truly humbling experience was closed out by Ted Hasegawa's solitary bugle playing the strains of taps...

Record Crowd Participates in 3rd Annual Sake San Jose

by Tom Oshidari

Buoyed by a late surge of ticket buyers responding to an on-line FACEBOOK appeal, Yu-Ai Kai's Sake San Jose tasting stations welcomed a crowd of 1,000+ sake tasters throughout Japantown during a warm May 21st evening. As it was for each of the previous two events, the Issei Memorial Building's expansive rear patio and garden area hosted two tasting stations and with about eight different varieties of sake available, was again the "happening" sake tasting stop. Crowds ebbed and flowed, keeping both hosts, SJ JACL and JAMsj, pourers and snack preparers busy throughout the event hours from 5:30 until the last drop tasted at 8:30 pm.

This is such a worthwhile and fun event that brings so many new faces to the streets and shops in J-town while supporting senior programs in our community. Truly a win-win event for all!

Thanks to Kenzo Kimura for pouring, Sharon Uyeda for making the arare run to Costco and along with our JAMsj co-hosts, helping to fill nearly 800 cups with arare.

IMPACT! The Final National Youth Conference

by Carrie Kimura

I was a little nervous before arriving at the welcome desk for the JACL National Youth Conference on June 26th. Neither my travel companion, Kristen Shiraki, or I had much experience with JACL events or had ever attended one of the previous youth conventions. We knew the theme of the conference, 'IMPACT! Your Community, Your Generation, Your JACL'. We knew it was going to be held at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota, far from our hometown of San Jose, California. We had no idea how many participants were registered or where they were from. We figured it would be an experience, but we had no clue what to expect. I am pleased to say that we were shocked at what we found waiting in Minnesota under that welcome banner at the registration desk...

(Editor's note: Carrie and Kristen were San Jose JACL youth representatives at the conference and due to space constraints, Carrie's full article can be viewed online at www.sanjosejacl.org. or give us a call for a hard copy.)

Vacancies on City of San Jose Commissions

SAN JOSE BOARDS and COMMISSIONS

City boards and commissions were established for the purpose of advising the City Council and providing ongoing input into policies and issues affecting the future of the San José community. All persons seeking membership on a board or commission must be San José residents and some commissions have additional membership requirements. Most applications will be reviewed and applicants interviewed by the [Project Diversity Screening Committee](#). Applicants are appointed by the City Council.

Notice of Vacancies

Advisory Commission on Rents	Friday, August 28, 2009
Human Rights Commission	Friday, August 28, 2009
Disability Commission	Friday, August 28, 2009
Early Care and Education Commission	Friday, August 28, 2009
Historic Landmarks Commission	Friday, August 28, 2009
Mobilehome Advisory Commission	Open Until Filled
Senior Citizens Commission	Friday, August 28, 2009

Applying Information:

Deadline to apply: 5:00 P.M., indicated closing date. Unless otherwise stated, applicants must live within the City limits of San José and cannot be City employees. Terms are for two years, unless the vacancy is due to an incumbent resigning mid-term. In that case, appointment is to the remainder of the unexpired term.

Application forms and information sheets that describe Commission duties and time commitments are available from the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113 or on the City's Web site at:

www.sanjoseca.gov/clerk/vacancy.asp

If you would like additional information about a particular Commission, Board or Committee, please log onto:

www.sanjoseca.gov/Clerk/commissionboard/boardscommissions.asp or call the City Clerk's Office (408) 535-1252. **You are encouraged to attend meetings of the commissions in which you are interested.**

Children's Day Event *By Kari Dobashi-Barton*

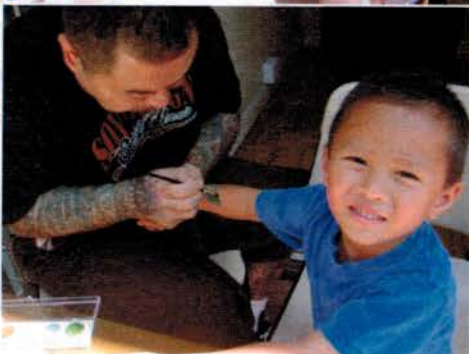
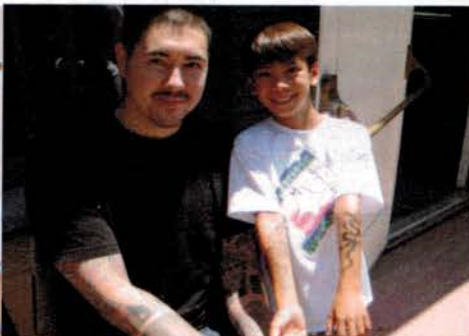


Children's Day was celebrated on Friday, June 26 at the IMB. We had a fabulous turn out with close to 200 people—115 of them being children! Most of the families were connected with Suzume no Gakko, which meets for three weeks during the summer; we did have a "preview" party with the students and teachers from Lotus Preschool, who were able to join in the fun too!

Lunch was simply hot dogs, nachos (yes, we had 2 machines!), chili, salad and fruit. Jamba Juice also came out to sell refreshing smoothies as a fundraiser to our event! Kids were able to make and decorate pinwheels and visors and play some games. The real "hit" of the afternoon goes to Taki Kitamura and the tattoo artists (Shige and Colin) at State of Grace Tattoo for their incredible face painting/tattooing of the kids! These incredible artists spent over 3 hours doing intricate drawings on all of the kids (and adults) who wanted one. A very special THANK YOU to Taki, Shige and Colin!

We also supported a "green" theme and the kids were encouraged to bring aluminum cans for recycling. Neil Kozuma and the San Jose Conservation Corps provided two locking recycle bins to collect cans for the next month or so. So, drop off your cans in the blue bins and the recycle money will be divided between Suzume, Lotus and the JACL!

Also deserving of THANKS are Ron and Tilly Mayeda, Lorne and Lori Mayeda, and Leon Kimura for all of their help and support through out the day..



Additional Photos of the 2009 Scholarship Luncheon



Screening of the Wat Misaka Story *by Alan Takeda*

On May 9, San Jose CYS hosted a screening of *Transcending*, the Wat Misaka story about the first person of color to play in the NBA. Basketball is such a big part of our community as many were surprised they had never heard of Wat's story and how important it is. The screening was a huge success attended by almost 300 people of all ages. After the movie was a question and answer session with Wat, film producers Bruce and Christine Johnston. Getting to know Wat and his wife Katie was most inspiring to many of us as we quickly saw what a truly special person he is.

Many are seeing the importance of Wat's story, Alexander Wolff, Sr. writer for Sports Illustrated was in attendance as he is currently working on a story to be published.

CYS would like to thank JACL and all Japan Town organizations that helped us, without your support we could not have done it. Our hope is this will lead to many other community events in which all of us work together, help each other.

San Jose Japanese CYS is proud to present
TRANSCENDING
the
Wat Misaka
story

Meet Wat in person
and join us for a Q/A

It's the 1940s in America
and the nation is testing itself.
Can a young Japanese American
basketball star overcome the odds?

Saturday May 9, 2009
7pm, doors open at 6:30
Oak Grove High School Amphitheater
285 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose 95123
Admission is Free

a documentary film by
Bruce Alan Johnson
and
Christine Toy Johnson

Please contact
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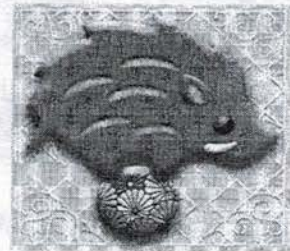
Seating is limited, so act fast
www.watmisaka.com

Michael Yoshihara, CFS

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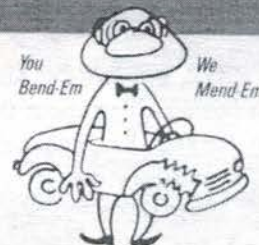
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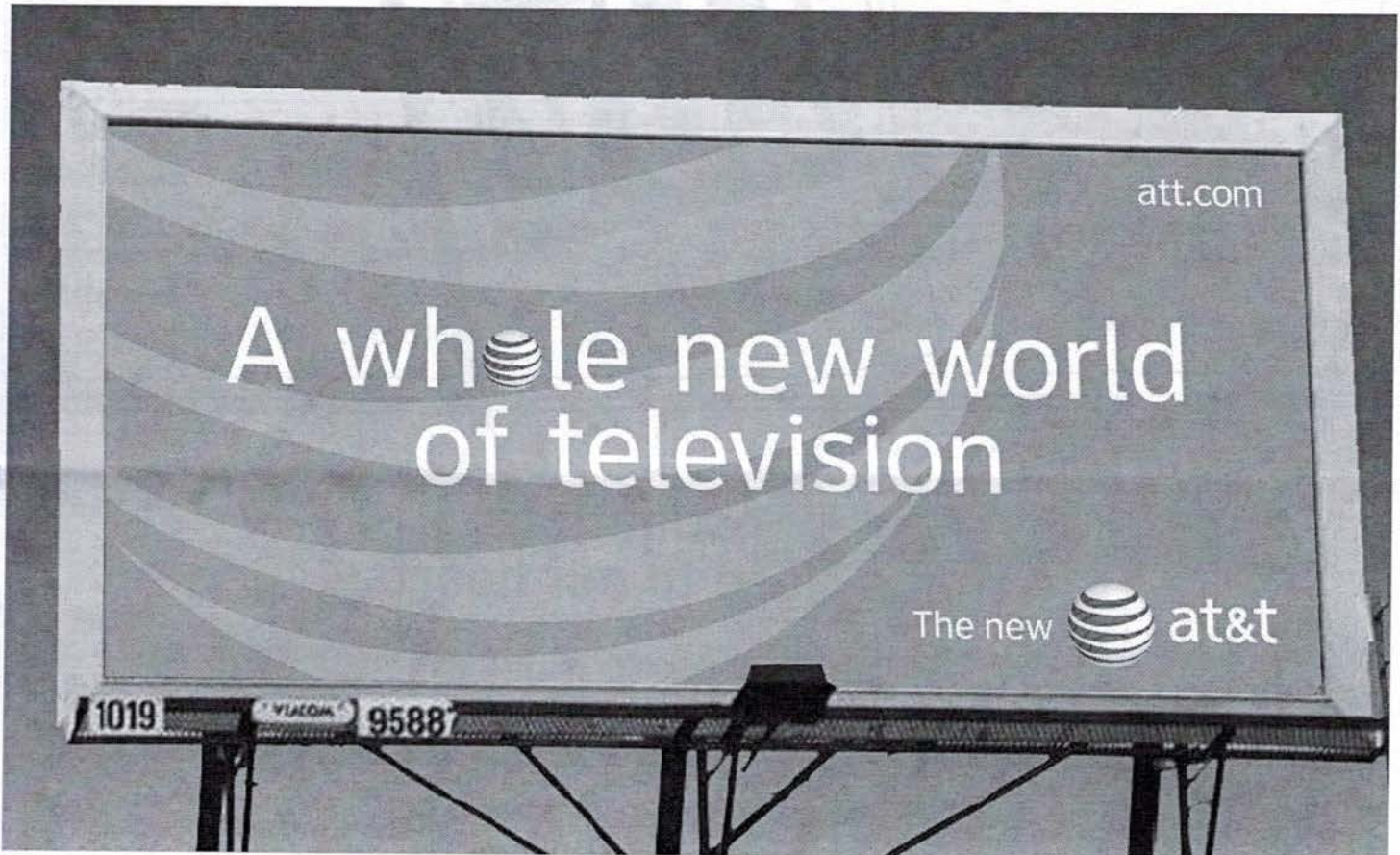
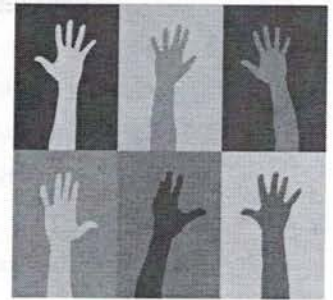
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Call for Volunteers!

San Jose JACL is looking for volunteers to help the chapter with our 2009 activities or with new ideas you may have that benefit our community. If you would like to participate, call the JACL office at (408) 295-1250 or contact Leon Kimura at elskay@aol.com.



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Proud to Support the San Jose Japanese American Citizens League

Thank you for your Support! *Apologies to anyone left off the list*

Donations:

Norman Y Mineta	Building Renovation Fund
John and Alice Hayakawa	Scholarship Donation
Todd Hanamoto	Donation - Microsoft Giving Campaign
Silicon Valley Community Foundation	Scholarship Donation
West Valley JACL tsuri assistance	Donation - Nikkei Ma-
Donation Jar collections	Cash Donations
George Masunaga Family	Scholarship Donation
Smiley Kai	Donation
Yoshimi Maruyama	Donation



Volunteers (continued)

Jeff Kuwano	CU
Patti Maruyama	CU
Lorne & Lori Mayeda	CD
Ron & Tilly Mayeda	CD
Tom Nishisaka	CU
Tamon Norimoto	S, CU
Kay Ono	S
Tom Oshidari	S, OM, SSJ, CU
Shige	CD
Sue Shigemasa	OM, CU
Tom Shigemasa	CU
Kimberly Shintaku	S

Volunteers:

Colin Boon	CD	Jemma Jio	S
Kari Dobashi-Barton	CD	Ladonna & Will Kaku	CU
Ken Furukawa	CU	Kenzo Kimura	SSJ
John Hayakawa	S	Leon Kimura	S, OM, CD, SSJ, CU, NM
Ruth Herrera	CU	Taki Kitamura	CD

Legend:

CD - Children's Day	OM - Outlook Mailer
CU - IMB Cleanup Day	S - Scholarship Lunch

Calendar of Events

July

- 21 Learn about Social Security Benefits Program
Yu-Ai Kai

August

- 14 JACL Board of Directors Meeting
Issei Memorial Building
- 28 Summer Appreciation BBQ
Issei Memorial Building

September

- 11 JACL Board of Directors Meeting
Issei Memorial Building
- 11-12 San Jose Taiko Rhythm Spirit Concert Series
Campbell Heritage Theatre
- 17 JACL Gala
Washington DC
- 19 Aki Matsuri
Wesley United Methodist Church
- 26 Spirit of Japantown Festival
San Jose Japantown, Jackson & N. Fifth Streets

October

- 9 JACL Board of Directors Meeting
Issei Memorial Building

JULY 2009

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AUGUST 2009

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San Jose Chapter**

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SPRIT OF JAPANTOWN festival 

Japantown Community Congress
of San Jose

SATURDAY SEPT. 26, 2009 10am - 5pm
San Jose Japantown (5th & Jackson Streets)

SHARING the SPIRIT

Food, Wine, Sake
Anime All Day
Martial Arts
Arts & Crafts
Woodblock Demos
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Kids Activity Zone
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Flowers & Plants
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and Much More...

Donation Drawing
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SPECIAL PERFORMANCE San Jose Taiko

"Ride the VTA Light Rail to the Japantown/Ayer Station!"



**Come Join Us!
Spirit of Japantown Festival
Saturday, September 26, 2009**

San Jose JACL will be participating in the Festival by leading the Antiques and Fine Arts section. Help the Chapter recruit vendors you may know or visit at other festivals. For more information or for the signup forms go to www.spiritofjapantownfestival.com.



San Jose Taiko will be performing three heart-pounding shows celebrating its trailblazing history, vibrant present, and boundless future. Join Bay Area fans as they enjoy the power and beauty of the taiko drum that has captivated international and national audiences for over 35 years. Performances are scheduled Friday, September 11th, 2009 and Saturday, September 12th at the Campbell Heritage Theatre.