



Florin J.A.C.L. Newsletter

Florin Japanese American Citizens League

Andy Noguchi and Josh Kaizuka, Co-Presidents

P.O. Box 292634, Sacramento, CA 95829

Website: www.florinjacl.com

Facebook: [Facebook.com/florinjacl](https://www.facebook.com/florinjacl)

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Scholarship: Ruth Seo**

Time of Remembrance: Christine Umeda

TOR Education Program: Marielle Tsukamoto,

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Winter 2016 Newsletter

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President's Message

I am humbled and honored to have been recruited and become Co-President of the Florin JACL with Andy Noguchi. Florin is one of the oldest JACL chapters and was commemorated with a wonderful 81st Anniversary event that honored well-deserved awardees. The work of the awardees included decades of hard work so that past mistakes are remembered so it doesn't happen again. This included fighting for equal rights for all regardless of sexual orientation, rescinding a city resolution adopted at a time of prejudice and fearmongering, and working to keep Florin JACL relevant and viable for the next generation and generations to come.

As for me, I was recruited to join Florin JACL's civil rights committee. As a side note, when I asked what type of things the committee was working on, I was told that there wasn't much going on. It wasn't "not much" for long. Fumie Shimada keeps implying that since I joined the committee, civil rights issues have increased. She is sort of right and sort of wrong.

While there have many advancements, civil and human rights issues never went away. Bullying, discriminating against an entire group due to race or religious belief, building a wall instead of a bridge, race biases in police enforcement, misogyny and attacks on women's rights are but a few examples of things going on today.

With the uncertain political climate, it is incumbent on us that we continue watch carefully and when warranted take action, lead and join others to speak out. Why? Because mistakes of the past are knocking on the door of the present. Executive Order 9066 is being cited as authority for Muslim registration, deportation of millions of individuals is promised, bigots and racists have been emboldened to spew hate speech and act out. These disappointing and dangerous types of things should not be happening in a civilized society.

On the other hand, the work and dedication of past presidents, boards, committees, and general members is incredible. What Florin JACL has accomplished throughout its history is amazing. I am extremely encouraged by the continued active involvement of so many members and the next generation youths who will continue the legacy of Florin JACL as a relevant force for civil and human rights into the future.

Robert F. Kennedy said once "each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope." If each of us stand together, the tiny ripples join, keep growing and becomes a tidal wave of hope.

I look forward to working with and for the membership to continue the legacy of Florin JACL as more than a group of members, rather a group of interested and devoted people who support the protection of civil and human rights. We are a group that will speak out so that the mistakes of the past will not happen again.

Sincerely,
Josh Kaizuka

Florin JACL's 81st Anniversary Luncheon a Success

By Marielle Tsukamoto

On December 3, 2016, the Florin JACL 81st Anniversary and Installation Luncheon exceeded our expectations. We filled the Mayflower Restaurant with over 130 friends, family, sponsors, and supporters.

Sacramento City Councilmember Steve Hansen was honored for his leadership for his effort to repeal a resolution adopted in 1943 by the city of Sacramento which labeled Japanese Americans as a pagan, treacherous, faithless, and untrustworthy people. Thank you to Georgette Imura and Michelle Huey for presenting the Community Service Award.



Community Service Award presented to Sacramento Councilmember Steve Hansen. Left to right Steve Hansen, partner Michael McNulty, Georgette Imura, and Michelle Huey.

Our own Christine Fumiko Asoo Umeda, longtime Florin JACL member, received the Carol Hisatomi API Women's Leadership Award. Donna Komure, close friend of Christine, and Andy Noguchi presented this award for her work in community organizations and involvement.



Carol Hisatomi Leadership and Next Generation Leadership Awards presented to Christine Umeda and Brandon Miyasaki. Left to right: Brandon Miyasaki, Marielle Tsukamoto, MC Sharon Ito, and Christine Umeda.

Christine and her husband Stan helped found the Jan Ken Po Gakko, a parent cooperative Japanese cultural school for children. Christine also chaired the Florin JACL Time of Remembrance program for 20 years and the Northern California Time of Remembrance for 14 years with the California Museum. She also serves on the CSUS Japanese American Archival Collection Advisory Committee, the State Department of Mental Health Cultural Competency Advisory Committee, and is an elder of Parkview Presbyterian Church. Thank you to Donna Komure and Andy Noguchi for presenting the award. We are grateful for her dedication and vision in preserving a lasting legacy important for all Americans.

Thank you to Scott Matsumoto for presenting Brandon Miyaski with the Next Generation Leadership Award. Brandon became involved in middle school through his grandparents, Jim and Marion Kanemoto. **(SEE NEXT PAGE)**

Florin JACL's 81st Anniversary Luncheon a Success Continued...

(CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE) He learned of his grandmother's contribution in preserving stories about the Japanese community experience before and during WWII. Brandon uses his knowledge and abilities to establish the chapter's social media outlets to promote Florin JACL's activities, purpose, and mission.

Finally, thank you to the Platinum donors: Delegata, Sharif Jewelers and Mark Merin plus our Gold sponsor SMUD. Silver sponsors include CSU Sacramento; Jill Yamada and Matthew Nishio, Optometrists; Kenneth Hashimoto, DDS; Parkview Presbyterian Church; Council on American Islamic Relations – Sacramento Valley (CAIR-SV); Yoshinori Himei & Barbara Takei; Black Oak Animal Hospital; and Sacramento City Council Member Steve Hansen. Thank you to the other members and friends for their generous donations.

Thank you to Fumie Shimada for the great Atlantis Casino prize. Congratulations to Janice Sakata for winning the pearl and diamond Sharif Jeweler's ring and to Georgette Imura for winning the Atlantis package. Thank you to Debby Staley for handling the raffle table. Thank you to Judy Fukuman for getting so many of her friends and family to buy ads and donate. Thanks to Titus Toyama and Terry Nishizaki for bringing the large screen and sound system from Parkview and setting up. In addition, thanks and congratulations to Jennifer Nishizaki and Judith Ryan for creating beautiful, informative program booklet. Finally, we are also fortunate to have Sharon Ito serve as our MC - always able to handle last minute changes in the program with professional skill.

Thanks and congratulations to Jennifer Nishizaki for creating the beautiful, informative program booklet and Judith Ryan for the printing coordination. It takes many of us to make a successful event.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!



FLORIN JACL

Mochi Hand-Pounding, Tasting & New Year's Potluck

Florin's "Mochi Madness Workshop!" Sun. Jan 8th

A fun, tasty Japanese American New Year's tradition awaits friends and families at Florin's "Mochi Madness IX" Hand-Pounding Workshop, Treat Tasting, and New Year's Potluck. Come rain or shine **Sunday, January 8th from 11am to 1pm (potluck following 1-2pm) at the Buddhist Church of Florin at 7235 Pritchard Road (off Florin Rd near the railroad tracks).**

Check out Brandon Miyasaki's video of last year's Mochi Madness: www.facebook.com/florinjac1

Sponsored by the Buddhist Church of Florin and Florin JACL. It's free to members and for ages 5 and under. It's \$5 for non-members to help cover supplies. **Please RSVP by January 5th by email to: florinjac15@outlook.com**

Mochi (sweet rice cake) Treats: Popular in Asian countries, mochi symbolizes strength and a prosperous New Year. Check out New Year's treats - hot ozoni and zenzai sweet red bean soup! How about "an," kinako, shoyu sugar, or daikon oroshi? (Plenty of tasting samples, but no mochi sales.)

We'll be making it "old school" like families on the farm - pounding with huge wooden mallets (kine) in a stone mortar (usu) after cooking in wooden steamers (seiro). Learn how to make mochi, traditional dishes, and get some scrumptious Asian mochi recipes.



Potluck Social: People should bring a dish to share based on last name:

Letters A – U: Salads, veggies, cold side dishes, nigiri rice, etc.

Letters V - Z: Desserts (besides mochi), snacks, etc.

Main Dishes: Committee members and Volunteers are invited to bring main dishes. Ovens are available to heat items. Please let us know what you're bringing.

Volunteer Helpers Needed: This is hands-on so **please let us know if you can volunteer:**

If you are an experienced mochi-pounder, turner, cutter, or maker, we need your help!

1. 9:30am: Setup of tables, chairs, condiments, drinks, tasting areas, and registration table.
2. 11:00am – 1:00pm (approx) Dozens of mochi pounders, cutters, makers, and tasting helpers.
3. 1:00 – 2pm Potluck Social: Catch up with friends and enjoy the food.
4. 2:00 – 3pm: Clean up mochi equipment and facility (All helpers). (Bring warm clothes & apron)

9th Annual Florin 'Mochi Madness'



Mochi Pounding Demonstration & Tasting

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (No Sales)

New Year's Potluck

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

(Bring a potluck dish to share)

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Buddhist Church of Florin

7235 Pritchard Rd, Sacramento (off Florin Rd. east of Power Inn Rd.)

Free for members and ages 5 and under.

\$5 each for non-members **(Donations Welcome)**

Sponsored by Buddhist Church of Florin

Florin JAACL (Sacramento – Region)

Please RSVP by January 5th by email to: florinjacl5@outlook.com

Coordinators: Judy Fukuman judyfukuman@comcast.net (916-524-2783) and Neil Nakatani neil.nakatani@gmail.com

“Resistance at Tule Lake”

Saturday, February 11, 2017

1:00 -4:00 p.m.

California Museum

1020 O Street, Sacramento

**Free parking in surface street lot
corner 10th and O Streets**



Resistance at Tule Lake tells the long-suppressed story of 12,000 Japanese Americans who dared to resist the U.S. government's program of mass incarceration during World War II. Branded as “disloyals” and re-imprisoned at Tule Lake Segregation Center, they continued to protest in the face of militarized violence, and thousands renounced their U.S. citizenship. Giving voice to experiences that have been marginalized for over 70 years.

This documentary challenges the nationalist, one-sided ideal of wartime “loyalty.” Konrad Aderer’s independent documentaries have focused on resistance to policies targeting immigrant communities in the US.

Donation: \$20.00 general, \$15.00 college students 18-25. Free for students under 18.
Includes admission, reception and “Uprooted” and “Kokoro” exhibits in the CA Museum.

Additional information: www.nctor.org or call Nancy Whiteside at 916-508-6587 or
nwhites@hotmail.com or 916-427-2841. All tickets will be at WILL CALL.

Northern California Time of Remembrance
Florin, Lodi, Placer County and Sacramento JACLs

Name: _____ Adult Tickets: _____ @ \$20.00 ea. _____
Address: _____ Student: _____ @ \$15.00 ea. _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____ Tax deductible donation: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____ Total enclosed: _____
Additional Guests: _____

Enclose check payable to Placer Co. JACL and remit by FEBRUARY 4, 2017 to:
Nancy Whiteside, 5333 Primrose Drive, #45A, Fair Oaks, CA 95628



Northern California Time of Remembrance Committee

Florin – Lodi - Placer County - Sacramento Japanese American Citizens League Chapters

Contact: Christine Umeda, NCTOR Chairperson (cfumeda@gmail.com)

The Northern California Time of Remembrance committee (Florin, Lodi, Placer County, and Sacramento JACL chapters) announces two inspiring events that commemorate the 75th signing of Executive Order 9066. The event will take place on **Saturday, February 11, 2017** from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the California Museum (1020 O Street in Sacramento). Free parking in surface street lot corner 10th and O Streets.

“RESISTANCE AT TULE LAKE” tells the long-suppressed story of 12,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who dared to resist the U.S. government’s program of mass incarceration during World War II. Branded as “disloyals” and re-imprisoned at the Tule Lake Segregation Center, they continued to protest in the face of militarized violence, and thousands renounced their U.S. citizenship. Giving voice to experiences that have been marginalized for over 70 years, this documentary challenges the nationalist, one-sided ideal of wartime “loyalty.”

See this shorter version of *RESISTANCE* and interact with filmmaker Konrad Aderer. Konrad's independent documentaries (lifeorliberty.org) have focused on resistance to policies targeting immigrant communities in the U.S. Featured at the 2011 NCTOR event, his 2011 feature documentary *ENEMY ALIEN*, on the fight to free a post-9/11 detainee, won a Courage in Media Award from the Council for American Islamic Relations (CAIR).

Tickets are \$20.00 per adult, \$15.00 for students, and free for students 17 and under. Tickets include complimentary refreshments, museum admission, and free parking for Museum visitors in surface street lot at the corner of 10th and O Streets. Proceeds will benefit all the “Time of Remembrance” activities including the discovery program (see below).

For additional information contact Nancy Whiteside at (916) 508-6587 or nwhiteside@hotmail.com or visit: www.nctor.org or (916) 427-2841.

Discovery Program: The Japanese American Experience – January 23 – March 17, 2017. The California Museum, 10th and O Streets, Sacramento, CA

A multi-media educational program where students learn about the Japanese American experience during World War II from those who lived it. Aligning with State Content Standards on social science and language arts for 3rd through 8th grades, this learning program provides students the opportunity to experience life in a WWII incarceration center through the first-hand experiences of formerly-incarcerated docents and volunteers. This powerful program includes a walk through a re-creation of an incarceration center barrack, and sees the replica guard tower. For eight weeks, students from throughout Northern California explore concepts such as citizenship, constitutionality, and redress.

The NCTOR presents these commemorative activities with its educational partners: the California Museum, the Elk Grove Unified School District, and the Library Special Collections at California State University, Sacramento. For information or to schedule student groups, please visit: californiamuseum.org or email reservations@californiamuseum.org.

2017 Florin JACL Scholarships Available!

The **Scholarship Committee of the Florin JACL Chapter** is seeking qualified local high school seniors and college students for scholarships usually totaling \$2,000 to \$5,000. Applications are available in January 2017 with a **March 1, 2017 deadline**.

Scholarship Criteria:

The Florin JACL Scholarships recognize students based on:

1. Community & student activity, including with the Florin JACL.
2. Leadership experience.
3. Academic achievement.

Scholarships are possible due to our **successful Florin JACL Nikkei Hot Dogs and Cupcakes Dinner/Bingo Night, Mark Merin (in memory of Ronin Shimizu) Scholarship Fund, and donations**. Donations are always welcome to “Florin JACL” P.O. Box 292634, Sacramento 95829.



2016 Scholarship Honorees Breana Inoshita, Brian Ishisaka, Kevin Louie, Kenji Lo, and Alexis Louie.

The Florin JACL recipients are also eligible for **National JACL Scholarships**. In addition, students not awarded a Florin scholarship before receive a preference. To provide opportunities for more students, candidates may not also apply to other Chapters.

Scholarship Guidelines:

1. Student membership in the Florin JACL. Florin JACL Student membership is \$25 a year. Please contact Jesse Okutsu at email jessicaokutsu@gmail.com or visit www.florinjacl.com
2. A grade point average of at least 3.0 for high school and 2.5 for college students.
3. Residency requirements:
 - a. Be a local Sacramento, Davis, & Elk Grove area high school student.
 - b. College students whose parents live in Sacramento, Davis, & Elk Grove areas or
 - c. Students who have provided strong service to the Florin JACL.
4. A personal interview held in Sacramento on **Sunday, March 12, 2017** – In hardship cases, an interview may be scheduled at a different date.

Recent Past Florin JACL Scholarship Winners:

2012 – Lauren Chan, Leesa Kakutani, and Colette Masunaga.

2013 – Mika Ishisaka and Esumi Fujimoto

2014 – Leesa Kakutani (CS-Long Beach) and Beth Uno (UC Davis Graduate School of Education).

2015 – Justin “J.T.” Matsumoto

2016 – Breana Inoshita (UC Davis), Brian Ishisaka (McClatchy High), Kevin Louie (Kennedy High), Kenji Lo (Kennedy), and Alexis Louie (Kennedy High).

Applications are available in January from Florin JACL Scholarship Chairperson Ruth Seo (916) 443-7746 or via email at rseo@att.net.

Florin JACL Members and Our Invited Friends

12th Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage April 28–30, 2017!

A rare chance to see, hear, and experience the Japanese American community's World War II incarceration at Manzanar National Historic Park, the best preserved of the 10 major concentration camps, awaits you from April 28 – 30, 2017. This event is sponsored by the **Florin Japanese American Citizens League (Florin JACL)** and **Council on American Islamic Relations – Sacramento Valley (CAIR-SV)**.



PHOTO: 2016 Florin Manzanar pilgrims gather at the camp monument. Eight former incarcerated, Muslim Americans, 17 youth, and diverse others shared their experiences with our group.

Pilgrimage Costs: Registration to cover costs for 2017 are estimated to be around \$300 each (double occupancy) for 3 days and 2 nights, 3 days bus transport, BBQ, and a t-shirt. There are discounts for **1st time** Florin JACL member travelers, former WWII detainees, and youth 25 years and younger. Final 2017 plans and costs are set in January. This year is again expected to book up early. **For Additional Info:** Please contact Andy Noguchi or Twila Tomita at (916) 393-5007 or FlorinJACL@outlook.com.

The 3-day Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage: We recruit a diverse group of 60 people from among former camp detainees, Japanese-American family members, Muslim-Americans, youth, educators, and those interested in civil and human rights issues. Our interactive tour includes interesting bus activities, discussion groups, a BBQ, a visit to the camp museum, a short walking tour to the barracks/mess hall, a program / interfaith ceremony with 1,500 others from Los Angeles, and an evening program run by college students.

If you are up for a truly meaningful 3-day adventure as well as meeting and sharing experiences with others, then this pilgrimage is for you. **Don't miss this unique opportunity!**

Hospitality Report

The Florin JACL expresses its concern for the health and welfare of our members and their families. Sallie and Tom Hoshisaki, plus Tatsuno Kusaba, serve as our Hospitality Co-Chairs.

November - December:

- Sent flowers to the family of the late June John Sunahara, father of Florin JACL members Cindy Kakutani and Margie Sunahara.

Welcome New Members!

What's the best part about being a member of Florin JACL? It's all the wonderful people you have an opportunity to interact with at our many events and activities. We welcome the following new members the last few months and thank them for their participation and commitment to the Florin JACL. This is a partial list only and we apologize if we missed anybody.

Theresa Chavez

Brandon Ishikata

Paul Hironaka

Yoshiko Kage

Paul Masuhara

Derek Imai

Ellen Griggs

Glen Tamaki

Lynn Franklin

Diane Yuen

Katie Uemura

Matt Nishio

For more information about membership, please contact Jesse Okutsu, Florin JACL Membership Services, at jessicaokutsu@gmail.com or (925) 250-5491. A membership application is on our website at: www.florinjacl.com under the About / Membership link. Thank you!

Florin Japanese American Citizens League
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