



Florin J.A.C.L. Newsletter

Florin Japanese American Citizens League

- Sacramento Valley

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)

2017 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Co-Presidents: Josh Kaizuka, Andy Noguchi

1st Vice President: Howard Shimada

2nd Vice President: Neil Nakatani

3rd Vice President for Marketing: Brandon Miyasaki

Treasurer: Titus Toyama

Recording Secretary: Judy Fukuman

Corresponding Secretary: Cindy Kakutani

Historian: Twila Tomita

Chapter Delegate: Howard Shimada, Andy Noguchi

Past President: Marielle Tsukamoto

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Chapter Chef: Fumie Shimada

Civil & Human Rights: Fumie Shimada, Josh Kaizuka, Andy Noguchi

Social Media: Breana Inoshita, Brandon Miyasaki

Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage: Andy Noguchi, Twila Tomita

Graphic Design: Jennifer Nishizaki

Hospitality: Sallie Hoshisaki, Tom Hoshisaki, Tatsuno Kusaba

Ice Cream Social: Howard Shimada

JAAC: Eileen Otsuji Namba

Legal Counsel: Paul Masuhara

Member Services: Jesse Okutsu

Mochi Madness: Neil Nakatani, Judy Fukuman

Newsletter Editor: Scott Matsumoto

Nikkei Dogs Scholarship / Youth Event:

Cindy Kakutani and Ernie Takahashi

Obon Workshop: Jennifer Kubo, Jenny Takahashi

Scholarship: Ruth Seo

Time of Remembrance: Christine Umeda

TOR Education Program: Marielle Tsukamoto,

Donna Komure-Toyama, Deanna Tsukamoto

Webmaster: Kevin Nobuo Nakano

Women's Forum: Makiko Yamashita, Dr. John Onate,

Debby Staley

Youth Advisors: Karen Kurasaki, Andy Noguchi

Youth Reps: Michelle Huey, John Kanemoto

2017 Fall/November Newsletter

President's Message

By Josh Kaizuka, Florin JACL Co-President

Can you believe that it is already Fall and the holidays are just around the corner? By the time you read this newsletter, Halloween will have passed and Thanksgiving will be just around the corner. Just as this year seems to be flying by, Florin JACL-SV has had a lot going on this year since the last issue of the newsletter.

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, a presidential order that was later determined to be based on "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." It was an order that imprisoned over 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry, most of whom were American citizens. In addition to participating in the Time of Remembrance event earlier this year, a very successful Manzanar Pilgrimage, a film premiere and other activities, we recently submitted a letter in support of New York City Resolution 792 establishing a Fred Korematsu Day similar to what we have had in California since 2011.

Why is remembering what happened to Japanese Americans seventy-five years ago so important today? Are there any parallels to today? Can it really happen again?

If you have been down in the dumps because you are disgusted with politics and the news, you are not alone. I won't talk about the uncivilized tone of political leaders, the bullying and misogynistic rhetoric, racism, discrimination, fear mongering, and the unhinged twitter craziness. I won't talk about how unhinged politics is now, the likes of which the world has never seen before!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

President's Message Continued

(FROM PAGE 1) Have we seen what is happening today happen before? Minus Twitter, it has right? There are many parallels and the world has seen it before, this country has seen it before, the Japanese American community, your grandparents, your parents, or maybe even you have seen it before.

Focusing on the Muslim Ban, there are undeniable parallels. No one needed Executive Order 9066 to include the word "Japanese" to know that it was meant for anyone who looked like "them" and had Japanese ancestry. Similarly, Executive Order 13780 doesn't have the word "Muslim" or "Islam" in it but everyone knows it is a Muslim travel ban. The "Renunciation Act" or Public Law 78-405 of 1944 designed to keep suspected "disloyal Japanese American Citizens" in custody after Executive Order 9066 was suspended, did not mention "Japanese Americans" but everyone knew who it applied to.

Are you depressed or fearful in these crazy political times? Don't be, never fear - the good news is that organizations like ours are uniting to stand up, speak out, and doing something about it.

Our mission is to promote civil rights, social justice, and cultural heritage for all through community education, alliances and leadership. The mantra - to make sure that the mistakes of the past are remembered so that it does not happen again.

Now more than ever, what we do makes a difference. Florin JAACL-SV has so many wonderful members who volunteer so much of their time to keep our mission a success. Many more members and friends contribute and make each of our events a success. Funds raised go towards educating the public and the next generation of leaders so that they can continue to be the shield against injustice, racism and discrimination.

If your membership has lapsed, get caught up. If know someone who should join, get them to join! If you want to get more involved helping with one or more of our many committees or want to really get involved with one of our many projects, let us know.

With great supporting members like each and every one of you and the coalition of organizations and friends in the community, we will not let it happen again! Have a happy and safe holiday season!

The Next Generation is Here

The Next Generation is led by a youth leadership committee of students and young professionals and is a great way for millennials to get involved and be able to volunteer and network with peers.

On December 7th, the Next Generation committee will be leading a group to see George Takei's Broadway Film Allegiance at the Regal Cinemas Natomas Marketplace. The film is inspired by true events and tells the story of the Kimura family and the 120,000 other Japanese-Americans who were forced to leave their homes following the events of Pearl Harbor. We invite our chapter youth and friends to join us for this event.

To learn more about the Allegiance film screening and how to get involved with the Next Generation group, make sure to follow us on Facebook @nextgenerationjacl. For any questions or inquiries, please contact Brandon Miyasaki at bmiyasak@gmail.com.

Florin JACL – Sacramento Valley 82nd Anniversary Luncheon

“Strength through Unity”

December 9, 2017 11am - 3pm

Valley Hi Country Club
9595 Franklin Blvd

(near Laguna Blvd), Elk Grove

\$40 per person,

\$350 table of 10



Honoring Outstanding Community Leaders:

Marion Kanemoto, Florin JACL Oral History Project

SALAM Islamic Center, Community Leadership

Breana Inoshita, Youth Leadership

For further information, please contact Marielle Tsukamoto, luncheon Chairperson, at (916) 685-6747 or Judy Fukuman at (916) 421-5253.

Join us for the 82nd Anniversary Luncheon!

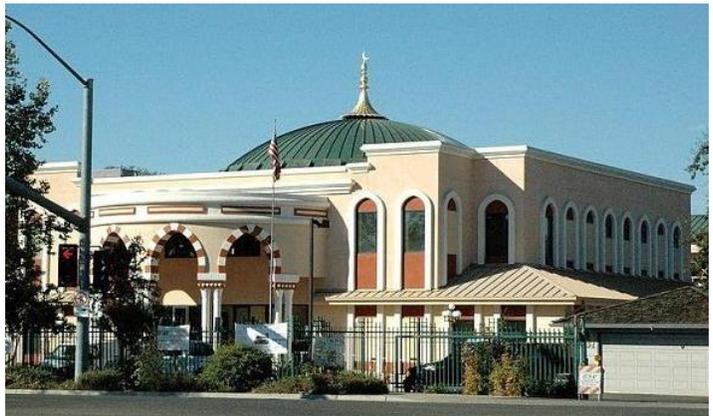
Saturday, December 9, 2017 11:00am - 3:00pm

Help Us Honor:



Marion Kanemoto for her leadership of the Oral History Team and contribution in recruiting subjects, training volunteers, and publishing the 100 volumes now housed at the California State University Sacramento Library Archives. These are treasured legacies telling the stories of the Japanese community before, during and after WWII, as well as many heroic non-Japanese community friends. Dozens of families are represented in those valuable stories. Please come to remember and honor them as well as Marion and the Oral History Team. These stories have recently been digitized and are available on line making them accessible world-wide. Florin JACL has made a lasting contribution to future generations of researchers seeking information about the lives and experiences of the community of Florin and Sacramento.

Salam Islamic Center for its exemplary community leadership in standing up for the rights of Muslim Americans, fostering fairer understanding of the Islamic religion, organizing vital interfaith unity, and actively engaging in positive civic affairs. Since its founding 30 years ago in 1987, SALAM has actively reached out to diverse people within the Muslim community as well as those from without like the Florin JACL. They have patiently explained their faith through public efforts like their Understanding Islam series, and Interfaith Iftar gatherings. SALAM leaders from early co-founder Dr. Metwalli Amer to current Board Chairman Waseem Bawa have stood up against hate and bigotry by joining in many community coalitions.



Breana Inoshita for her outstanding initiative, service, and commitment to encouraging youth leadership, supporting social justice, and promoting cultural heritage. As a student, Breana helped coordinate the U.C. Davis Manzanar Pilgrimage Ambassadors program, served as a Florin JACL intern, and is a founding member and first President of the Nikkei Student Union. During the 2015 Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage she stood up to the discrimination at a local bowling alley and helped lead the 2016 Cultural Exchange with the local

Native Americans. Breana also served as a 2016 Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival Princess, volunteering at over 30 Japanese American community events in the Bay Area.

Supporter Form for Florin JACL 82nd Anniversary

1. Sponsorship: Deadline is November 24

Platinum Sponsor – \$1,000

Platinum Sponsors receive verbal acknowledgement at the event, recognition in printed program, full- page ad, screen ad displayed at the event, listing on our website and 8 complimentary tickets.

Gold Sponsor – \$500

Gold Sponsors receive verbal acknowledgement at the event, recognition in printed program, half- page ad, screen ad displayed at event, listing on our website and 4 complimentary tickets.

Silver Sponsor – \$250

Silver Sponsors receive verbal acknowledgement at the event, recognition in the printed program, quarter- page ad, listing on our website, mailed newsletter, and 2 complimentary tickets.

Bronze Sponsor - \$100

Bronze Sponsors receive acknowledgement at the event and recognition in the printed program.

Friend Sponsor –A donation of \$25 or more

Friend Sponsors receive recognition in the printed program.

Table Sponsor - \$350 for table of 10

Table Sponsors receive acknowledgement at the event and recognition in the printed program.

2. Printed Program Advertisement:

Full Page Ad \$500 Half Page Ad \$250 Quarter Page Ad \$150 Business Card Ad \$75

Deadline for ads is November 24th. E-mail Jennifer Nishizaki at jennifernish@gmail.com

3. Raffle Prize Donation:

Description of Items Donated and Estimated Fair Market Value:

_____ \$ _____

4. Ticket and Table Orders:

\$40 Per Person or \$350 for table of 10. **Deadline for luncheon reservations is December 1st**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

▪ Kindly list any guests' names here.

**Make checks payable to "Florin JACL" 6300 Longridge Way, Sacramento, CA 95831
For further info, call Marielle Tsukamoto (916-685-6747), Judy Fukuman (916-421-5253).**

Florin JACL-SV Helps Make the Sacramento Premiere of “And Then They Came For Us” a Success!

An incredible 800 people attended the Sacramento screening of the film!

The Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento Law Foundation spearheaded the Sacramento premiere screening of “And Then They Came for Us” on September 23 at the Crest Theatre as part of its Speaker Series. Florin JACL-SV was part of a diverse group of community organizations including CAIR-SV, Cruz Reynoso Bar Association of Sacramento, Northern California Time of Remembrance Committee, Restorative Schools Vision Project, SacLEGAL, Sacramento Asian Pacific Film Festival, and Sacramento JACL.



Haeli Miller and Jesse Okutsu at the Florin JACL-SV table

Florin JACL-SV as well as a dozen other organizations had representatives tabling at the event and getting the word out on what it does, to network, unite, stand up and protect civil and human rights.



Sharon Ito, Abby Ginzberg, Justice Reynoso, Mia Yamamoto, Basim Elkarra

The film explored the question of whether the Constitution protects individuals from government attempts at injustice by drawing parallels between a campaign of fear, racism, and lack of political leadership seventy-five years ago and what is happening today. The film chronicled stories of American citizens in disbelief that they could be ripped away from their homes, how they felt during the incarceration, how they survived, and how they felt when the government finally acknowledged the wrong doing forty-six years later. Adding to the powerful stories were some never before published photographs taken by Dorothea Lange

capturing the disbelief and suffering contrasting the government endorsed propagandized photographs staged to show happiness and submission. Finally, the film went into why we all need to unite, stand up, resist, speak out, and get involved to prevent anything like what happened to 120,000 citizens will never happen again. **(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)**

Film Premiere Continued

(FROM PAGE 6) After the film, former KXTV anchor Sharon Ito moderated a panel discussion with social justice filmmaker Abby Ginzberg, the film's producer-director; UCD law professor and former Justice Cruz Reynoso; Los Angeles criminal defender, Vietnam Veteran, and transgender activist Mia Frances Yamamoto; and Council on American-Islamic Relations - Sacramento Valley executive director Basim Elkarra. The panelists continued with thought provoking discussions of their experiences, how similar things have happened before to individuals because they looked Mexican and deported even though they were American citizens, how lack of political leadership, fear mongering, racism and a plethora of discrimination is rearing its ugly head now.

For those who missed the Sacramento Premiere or wish to see it again, the film will be presented at the Northern California Time of Remembrance event on February 10, 2018.

Convassing With Jewish Voice For Peace in Midtown

Jewish Voice for Peace has started a campaign to affirm Sacramento's beautiful diversity. We joined in on a campaign event on October 7 to ask businesses to display beautiful posters proclaiming - "Refugees are Welcome Here" and "We all Belong Here." Together, we affirm that our Muslim neighbors, our Jewish neighbors, our immigrant and refugee neighbors, and our neighbors of color - are central to the fabric of our Sacramento community. We say "no" to white supremacy, "no" to Islamophobia and "no" to anti-Semitism. We say "YES!" to building a community where the rights of all are recognized and respected.



We met mid-morning at First United Methodist on J Street, of course had a cup of coffee, talked about why each of us were there, loaded up with posters, paired up and then off we went!

We visited 70 businesses and over 35 businesses put up a poster helping to beautify Sacramento! If you are interested in a future Jewish Voice for Peace event, go to their Facebook page and "like" it!

Follow Us on Facebook

The Florin JACL-SV is proud to be recognized as a leading JACL chapter on Facebook! We are dedicated to providing the most current chapter news, list of upcoming events, and resources to help you stay informed on local and international news. Follow us on Facebook [@florinjacl](#) and our Next Generation youth group [@nextgenerationjacl](#).

Tons of Fun at Nikkei Hot Dogs Event October 7th!

By Cindy Kakutani

The Nikkei Dogs Scholarship and Youth Fundraiser was a well-attended, fun-filled, and successful community event! It was only possible because of our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, and community support. This year's event drew over 200 guests and the funds raised will support high school and college scholarships plus youth programs.

Everyone enjoyed delicious Nikkei dogs & cupcakes and won lots of BINGO prizes. Pumpkins and children faces were artistically painted, competition was intense to stack senbei, and there was great anticipation to win a raffle prize or two.

Thank you to the Nikkei Dogs team: Andy, Brandon, Ernie, Howard, Judy, Ruth, Aileen, Marielle, Fumi, Twila, and Debby. And thank you to the many volunteers who prepared setup, during the event and after with dish washing and clean up.



Hundreds of bingo and raffle prizes made fun for all.

A shout out to... Ken and Kenny kept cool grilling while the hot dogs cooked. Michelle and Margie welcoming guests. Aileen received and organized the donated raffle and BINGO prizes. Debby and Kayla sold the winning raffle tickets. Fumie and her cooking crew coordinated a full dinner menu. Twila, Cupcake Queen, kept the variety of cupcakes replenished. And Kayla, Paris, and Naomi served cold beverages. Breana, Blythe, Haeli, Lindsey, and Nick dished up the dogs. Karen beautifully painted the children faces. Tom Nakashima made the event lively and entertaining with his humor and ensuring BINGO prizes were being won or taken home. Brandon announced the senbei stacking contest play by play and Kaitlin and Audry ensured the pumpkin decorating awards were given.



Next generation Nikkei Hot Dog servers: Nick Takeda, Breana Inoshita, Blythe Nishi, Lindsey Maseba, and Haeli Miller. Photos by Brandon Miyasaki

Thank you all for supporting and attending the Nikkei Scholarship and Youth Fundraiser. We look forward to seeing you at our future events.

Florin's "Mochi Madness Workshop!" Sun. Jan 7, 2018

A fun, taste-tempting Japanese American New Year's tradition awaits friends and families at Florin's "Mochi Madness X" Hand-Pounding Workshop, Treat Tasting, and New Year's Potluck. Come rain or shine **Sunday, January 7th** from 11 am to 1pm (**potluck following 1-2pm**) at the **Buddhist Church of Florin** at 7235 Pritchard Road (off of Florin Rd near the railroad tracks).

Check out Brandon Miyasaki's fun YouTube video of 2016 Florin Mochi Madness: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEALEHVlykk>

Sponsored by the **Buddhist Church of Florin and Florin JACL**. It's free to members plus ages 5 and under. \$5 for non-members to help cover supplies. **Please RSVP by January 4th by email to: florinjacl5@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). Be ready to pound, shape, make, and taste! 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. 9:30 am: Setup of tables, chairs, condiments, drinks, mochi treat tasting areas, and registration table.
2. 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (approx) Dozens of mochi pounders, cutters, makers, and treat tasting helpers.
3. 1:00 – 2 pm Potluck Social: Catch up with friends and enjoy the food.
4. 2:00 – 3 pm: Clean up mochi equipment and facility (All helpers). (Bring warm clothes & apron)

Co-Chairs: **Judy Fukuman** (judyfukuman@comcast.net), **Neil Nakatani** (Neil.nakatani@gmail.com)

Florin JACL Website: www.florinjacl.com **Facebook Page:** [Facebook.com/FlorinJACL](https://www.facebook.com/FlorinJACL)

Buddhist Church of Florin Facebook: [Facebook.com/florinbuddhist](https://www.facebook.com/florinbuddhist) **Website:** www.florinbuddhist.org

Buddhists and Florin JACL-SV at Rohingya Human Rights Vigil

The September 22nd Rohingya Human Rights Vigil drew 150 people from Muslim, Jewish, interfaith, and Buddhist communities to the downtown Sacramento Federal Court House, all concerned about what many see as “ethnic cleansing” in Burma. The Council on American Islamic Relations – Sacramento Valley, plus several Islamic temples organized the event.

The Dalai Lama has clearly spoken out against the mistreatment, saying that Buddha would have helped the persecuted Rohingya refugees. Bishop Desmond Tutu, the United Nations, and every major human rights organization including Amnesty International have also joined this call.

Three local Buddhist groups contacted by the Florin JACL also participated in the vigil: The Buddhist Church of Florin (Jennifer Kubo, Buddhist Education Committee), Tendaisyu School of Buddhism (Rev. Ryoei Tyler and Tatsuno Kusaba), and Lion’s Roar Dharma Center (Susan Farrar and others).



150 people attended the Rohingya human rights vigil. Representatives of the Council on American Islamic Relations, Buddhist Church of Florin, Tendaisyu School of Buddhism, and Florin JACL shown.

Those at the vigil were very appreciative of the Buddhist participation. Burma has an 85% Buddhist population and the atrocities, destruction of villages, and 300,000 refugees among the largely Muslim Rohingya minority reflect badly on Burma and spread misconceptions about Buddhism.

The three Buddhist representatives shared the Buddhist respect for life, compassion, and peace. In her remarks, Jennifer Kubo explained the Buddhist Golden Chain with its focus on kindness to every living thing and standing up for those who are in need. Photo by Brandon Miyasaki. Other photos of the vigil can be seen by scrolling down the Florin JACL Facebook page to the September 22nd posting on: <https://www.facebook.com/florinjac/>

JACL Florin-SV Hospitality Report

Our Florin JACL-SV is concerned about the health and welfare of our members. Our Hospitality representatives Sallie and Tom Hoshisaki and Tatsuno Kusaba report the following update: **September 2017:** Condolences and koden sent to member Ruth Ogawa on the passing of her sister May Yaye Takeuchi.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 19th – Introduction to Islam: Parkview Presbyterian Church at 727 T. Street, Sacramento featuring Basim El-Karra of the Council on American Islamic Relations and Josh Kaizuka of the Florin JACL at 11:30 am. Free.

December 2nd - SALAM Islamic Center Banquet: New Frontiers for Peace. 4541 College Oak Drive, Sacramento across from American River College. 5:30 pm. Tickets \$30. 916-979-1933

December 9th - Florin JACL 82nd Anniversary Luncheon: Valley High Country Club. Marielle Tsukamoto Chairperson. 11 am – 3 pm. \$40 (See Flyer, Honorees, and Support Form in this newsletter).

January 1st - Florin JACL Scholarship Applications Available: Scholarship Chair Ruth Seo Email: rseo@att.net



January 7th - 10th Annual Mochi Madness Pounding Workshop and New Year's Potluck: Buddhist Church of Florin 7235 Pritchard Road off Florin Rd., Sacramento. 11am – 2pm. Judy Fukuman and Neil Nakatani Chairpersons. Members free. \$5 non-members. (See flyer).

*****January 18th – Florin JACL General Membership Meeting and Dessert:** Florin History Center 7245 Fletcher Farm Drive, Sacramento (off of Florin Road). 7:30 – 9:00 pm.

January 29th – March 23rd – California Museum School Tours: “Uprooted, the Japanese American Experience” Exhibit: 1020 O. Street, Sacramento.

February 10th - Northern California Time of Remembrance and Reception: New showing of award-winning film “Then They Came for Us” featuring actor George Takei. Q&A with filmmaker Abby Ginzberg. California Museum 1020 O. Street, Sacramento. 1pm – 4 pm. NCTOR Chair Christine Umeda. \$20 general, \$15 college students 18-25, free for under 18.

Florin Japanese American Citizens League
P. O. Box 292634
Sacramento, CA 95829-2634

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION US POSTAGE PAID Sacramento, CA Permit No. 161

Stop the Fence

For the past few years Modoc County has been attempting to build a fence around an airport strip in the middle of the Tule Lake incarceration camp. The fence would cut off access to 2/3rds of the camp. Last month the Tule Lake Committee mobilized our community into writing letters during the public comment period that ended on October 10th.

Over 5,000 letters were sent and hopefully it will be enough to convince Modoc County officials that an alternative should be found for the fence.

According to the Tule Lake committee's Facebook page, the proposed fence will now go through the scoping process. Those comments will be sent to the environmental consultant hired by Modoc County. They will begin reviewing the comments for the draft Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Assessment, which will cover topics such as the fence's geological, biological, and historical environment. The these draft reports will likely go through another comment period around late 2017 or early 2018, so keep your eye out as there might be another need to mobilize our community to stop the fence at Tule Lake.