What is the Florin JACL- Sacramento Valley?

The Florin JACL is a grassroots Asian American social justice leader in the Sacramento region born in the 1935 Florin community. Historically, this was an area of 2,500 Japanese Americans, mostly strawberry & grape-farming families.

The World War II incarceration of 120,000 innocent Japanese Americans in concentration camps deprived them of their freedom, homes, farms and businesses. Although few Florin residents remain in their pre-war homes today, the community spirit and strength lives on within this common history.

Now in the 21st century, the Florin Chapter continues to lead through involving its members and supporters. Current efforts continue in civil and human rights, preservation of Japanese American culture, promoting public education about our history, social events, and many other activities.

People have recognized our Florin JACL Chapter with awards over the past 30 years including the Sacramento Human Rights Commission award, JACLer of the Biennium, JACL Chapter of the Biennium, and Interfaith Award from the Muslim community. These achievements are due to the tireless dedication of our members. We continue to encourage new members of all backgrounds and ages to join our active and friendly group.

Florin JACL Scholarship winners (2007)

Why Join?

- **LEADS ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES**: The Florin JACL has stood up for the rights of Japanese Americans and others over its 81 year history. It led efforts to desegregate the Florin East Elementary School in 1939, pass and fund redress from 1988 to 2000, campaign against hate crimes including the 1993 and 1999 Sacramento firebombing attacks and 2007 murder of gay Fijian American Satendar Singh, and organize support for Americans of Muslim, Arab, and Sikh backgrounds unfairly blamed for the 9/11 attacks.

- **PROMOTES NIKKEI HISTORY**: The Florin JACL sponsors education about the experiences of older generations and the vital lessons they provide for today's America. Projects include the 80 Florin Oral History Project books and helping to organize the CSU-Sacramento Japanese American Archival Collection. Also, 33 years of Time of Remembrance programs including the annual N. California "Uprooted" exhibit with other JACL Chapters at the California State Museum reaching thousands of students each year since 2003. Additionally, the Florin JACL sponsors the annual pilgrimage to the Manzanar WWII concentration camp with the local Muslim American community.

- **ORGANIZES SOCIAL-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES:** We strongly promote Japanese American heritage and community building. The annual scholarship and youth fundraising dinner / bingo night is ever popular as is the Ice Cream Social. The annual "Mochi Madness" traditional rice cake pounding and Obon Dance Workshop with the Buddhist church of Florin are real crowd-pleasers.

- **ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS**: Besides several fun cultural programs already mentioned, the Florin JACL provides Youth leadership activities. This includes a scholarship program for students, college campus visits, community tours, and youth conferences.

- **AND MUCH, MUCH MORE** . . . The Florin JACL also proudly sponsors annual programs on women's issues, multi-racial concerns, and world peace.

What Are Some of Our Activities? (partial list)

"Mochi Madness" Traditional Rice Cake Pounding (Jan)
N. Calif. Time of Remembrance Exhibit/Event (Jan-March)
Manzanar Pilgrimage (April)
Ice Cream Social (May)
Women's Health and Leadership Forum (June)
Obon Dance Workshop (July)
August Peace Event (Aug)
Scholarship / Youth Dinner & Bingo Night (Oct)
Florin JACL Anniversary Event (December)
Scholarship Program (December)

Annual Obon Festival and Dance Workshop (right).

Annual 3 day bus pilgrimage to Manzanar WWII concentration camp sponsored by Florin JACL & Muslim American community (below)

Florin JACL Membership Application

☐ **New Member** ☐ **Renewing Member**

$68 Individual; $113 Couple/family; $30 Youth/Student;
$25 Associate (member of another chapter);
(+$17 Hard Copy of the Pacific Citizen Newspaper)

Please make checks payable to **"Florin JACL"**

Mail to: **P.O. Box 292694, Sacramento, CA 95829-2634**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State / Zip: _____/_____

Phone #: (_____)_____-_____

Email: _____@_____.com

Age: _____

Occupation: _____

What are your interests? _____

_____

Questions?: Please contact 2017 Florin JACL Membership Chair Jessica Okutsu at (925) 250-5491 or E-mail: jessicaokutsu@gmail.com

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- **Supporting vital community needs.**
- **Joining a vibrant organization**
- **Florin JACL Chapter newsletter**
- **Florin JACL Email Bulletins**
- **Pacific Citizen bi-weekly newspaper**
- **Membership in National JACL Credit Union**
- **Invitations to many local Florin JACL events**
- **Student Scholarship Program**
- **Special youth leadership programs**
- **Discounts at several Florin JACL events**

" Promoting civil rights, social justice,

Award-winning N. Calif. "Time of Remembrance" WWII exhibit at California Museum toured by thousands of students each year.

Fun 2010 mochi (sweet rice cake) pounding workshop, a tasty way to celebrate a traditional New Year.

Florin JACL

(Sacramento Valley) Japanese American Citizens League

and cultural heritage for all Americans through community education, alliances and leadership"

After many years of work, the Florin JACL celebrates the Historic 1988 U.S. redress law apologizing for the unjust WWII incarceration of 120,000 innocent Japanese

Florin JACL P.O. Box 292634
Sacramento, CA 95829-2634
Federal ID# 94-6103626
Website: **www.FlorinJACL.com**
Facebook:**www.facebook.com/florinjacl**
Email: **FlorinJACL@outlook.com**