



# *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](http://www.florinjacl.com)

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

## **2019 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Co-Presidents: Josh Kaizuka, Andy Noguchi**

**1st Vice President: Howard Shimada**

**2nd VP 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**

**August Peace Event: Marielle Tsukamoto**

**Civil & Human Rights: Fumie Shimada, Josh Kaizuka**

**Andy Noguchi, Paul Masuhara, Kaitlin Toyama**

**Florin Manzanar Pilgrimage: Andy Noguchi,**

**Twila Tomita**

**Graphic Design: Jennifer Nishizaki**

**Hospitality: Sallie Hoshisaki, Tom Hoshisaki**

**Ice Cream Social: Howard Shimada**

**JAAC: Eileen Namba Otsuji**

**Legal Counsel: Paul Masuhara, Kaitlin Toyama**

**Member Services: Jesse Okutsu**

**Member Outreach: Kaitlin Toyama**

**Mochi Madness: Judy Fukuman**

**Newsletter Editor: Scott Matsumoto**

**Next Generation / Youth:**

**Michelle Huey, Brandon Miyasaki**

**Karen Kurasaki (advisor), Andy Noguchi (advisor)**

**Nikkei Dogs Scholarship / Youth Event:**

**Cindy Kakutani and Ernie Takahashi**

**Obon Workshop: Jennifer Kubo, Jenny Takahashi**

**Scholarship: Ruth Seo**

**Social Media: Scott Matsumoto, Brandon Miyasaki**

**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, Deanna Tsukamoto**

## **2018 Winter (End of 2018) Newsletter**

### **Table of Contents**

**Page 2: President's Message**

**Page 3: Recap of Anniversary  
Luncheon**

**Page 4: Nikkei Dogs Recap**

**Page 5: Mochi Madness**

**Page 6: Incident at Folsom  
Middle School**

**Page 7: Time of Remembrance**

**Page 8: Volunteers Needed**

**Page 8-9: "Never Again" in  
Natomas Unified School  
District**

**Page 10: Food by Fumie**

# President's Message

2018 was another successful year for our chapter would not have been possible without our dedicated volunteers. It also wouldn't have been as successful without our sponsors, donors, supporters, and friends.

Countless hours were spent by our various committee chairs organizing chapter events, recruiting volunteers, and making sure each of our events were successful. Volunteers at the events like Mochi Madness, Nikkei Dogs, Ice Cream Social/Scholarship Awards, and Women's Forum, helped with setup, check-in, the all-important food prep, and clean-up. I can personally attest to the fact that the ice cream and root beer at the Ice Cream Social was tasty and they had to hold me back from thirds. At Mochi Madness, everyone brought so many tasty types of dishes to the potluck, not only did we get a fully tummy, but some got to take home dinner! If you got out to Nikkei Dogs, not only did you get to try different types of dogs, different types of cupcakes, there were prizes, a senbei staking competition, and Bingo!!!!

On a more serious note, we have volunteer members who were ready at a moment's notice, prepared to get out to rallies, vigils, press conferences, radio shows, and TV news to represent our Chapter by standing up and speaking out for those whose rights are being infringed. Our members spoke about the Japanese American experience before, during, and after WWII. They spoke about, how today, there are far too many parallels including immigration bans, family incarcerations, lack of political leadership, and fear mongering. They speak because if they remain silent, the mistakes of the past will repeat.

Our member volunteers also work on events like the Manzanar Pilgrimage and Northern California Time of Remembrance focusing on an education experience for participants. We partner with other organizations and JACL chapters which has led to great ideas and to have a diversity of attendees from the community so that the lessons of the past will not be forgotten.

The Next Generation (NG) Youth continue to impress. Local youth members continue to volunteer for various events and projects. Some who left the Sacramento area for college have returned and re-engaged. NGs who are in local universities are volunteering their time not only with us, but also with campus organizations like the Nikkei Student Union at UC Davis putting on events such as an on-campus Day of Remembrance every year. We hear that some of our NGs who have relocated to the Bay Area are working with a JACL chapter to try and organize a Manzanar Pilgrimage like the one our chapter started almost 14 years ago.

For those of you who attended this year's 83<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary lunch event, you heard about how 30 years ago, the Civil Liberties Act was signed by President Reagan providing reparations to Japanese Americans who were incarcerated during WWII. The success in large part were the dedicated volunteers who worked over a 10 year period and gained support from those outside the Japanese American community. Seventy-seven years ago, there were few voices who spoke for our community. Today, we need to join with others to speak up for those who would otherwise remain silent because remaining silent is not an option.

So, on behalf of the Florin JACL-SV Board, thank you all for your support and on to next year for a better and brighter future for all!

# Sold-Out Florin JACL-SV's 83<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Installation and Awards Event



For its 83<sup>rd</sup> anniversary installation and awards luncheon, the Florin JACL-SV's theme was the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Redress. This sold out event not only celebrated 83 years of our chapter's civil and human rights work, but also honored those in the community who have helped make things better for all.

Consistent with the theme, Andy Noguchi welcomed the sold out crowd and spoke about how it took a coalition of people and communities to work on Redress. Marielle Tsukamoto talked about how people outside of the Japanese American community helped even though, for some, it was to their detriment but ultimately the right thing to do. Sharon Ito did an outstanding job as emcee. Sharon flawlessly transitioned from the start to the program to the closing remarks.



There was also an unbelievable group of volunteers who helped plan, organize, and assist with the event. Everything from assigning seats, checking in people, setting up the auction and raffle prizes, showcasing this year's unique fresh water pendant, and working audio-visual presentations was successful thanks to each of the committeemember's hard work.

For those who attended, wasn't it a wonderful group of honorees? The Honorable Anne Rudin, Marielle Tsukamoto, and Michelle Huey were all so deserving. Not only were each one of them deserving, but all had standing ovations.



Finally, we had so much support this year with over 40 sponsors, donors, and organizations. It really spoke to how today, in these times, we can all come together to speak up. This unity provides those who do not have a voice with a coalition that stands against racists, bullies, and those trying to sow division.

# Nikkei Hot Dog/Bingo Scholarship Fundraiser

By Deborah Staley

Photos courtesy of Judy Fukuman

On October 13, 2018, the Florin JACL-SV held a successful annual Nikkei Dog fundraiser. There was face painting and pumpkin decorating for the kids.

We had 127 attendees and a good time was had by all. We had a total sponsorship of \$1,300.

The hot dogs and accompanying salads, rice, chili, and others condiments made the meal very tasty.

We also had a number of donations for Bingo and raffle prizes. Tom Nakashima was our Bingo caller as usual.



A big thanks to the many volunteers that helped with all of the activities to make this event a success!!!

Cindy Kakutani did a great job as our coordinator and coordinated this event from Pasadena!



## 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](#).



# 11th 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)

**Saturday, January 26, 2019**

### 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, Buddhist Women's Association, Florin  
JACL—Sacramento Valley

Please RSVP by January 23<sup>rd</sup> by email to:

[judyfukuman@comcast.net](mailto:judyfukuman@comcast.net) or call 916-524-2783—Judy Fukuman, Chair

# Another Bullying Incident at Folsom Middle School

By Florin JACL-SV Civil Rights Committee

The Florin JACL-Sacramento Valley is appalled by another bullying incident that occurred under the supervision of Folsom Middle School. Titus White, aged 12, on a field trip to Sacramento State, was bullied verbally by another Folsom Middle School student including being called the "N" word and was physically assaulted resulting in a brain bleed requiring hospitalization. This is not Folsom Middle School's first serious bullying incident. Four years ago, Ronin Shimizu, also 12 years old, was a student at the same school who tragically took his own life. Even though the school district was made aware of the situation over several years, Ronin was bullied and ridiculed verbally as well as physically by others because of his perceived sexual orientation.

We supported the Shimizu family through the tragedy and supported the fight to make sure what happened to Ronin would never happen again. With the assistance of civil rights lawyer Mark Merin, we and the Shimizu family thought that changes would be made so that no child would be subjected to bullying and afraid to attend school.

We are saddened and angered that the district is failing to uphold their promise to create a safe school experience for all students. Despite the changes promised by the district, Titus was still harassed and ultimately assaulted on November 2, 2018. The school and district continues to show a pattern of not taking student and parent concerns about bullying seriously despite recent efforts and promised changes. Parents, students, alumni, and community members must stand up and speak out so no other students will be harmed by bullying and the negligence of the school and district.

## Recent Donations

The Florin-SV JACL Chapter truly appreciates all the donations that are generously made to the Chapter's general and scholarship funds. Below are donations recently received:

### **Heidi Sakazaki (Scholarship Fund)**

Donations to the Florin JACL general fund directly support the Chapter's programs that serve our mission to promote civil rights, social justice, and cultural heritage for all Americans through community education, alliances, and leadership. Donations to our Scholarship Fund help our Chapter provide scholarships to graduating high school seniors and college students to continue their education at institution of higher learning. Thank you!

## Northern California Time of Remembrance

*Presented by Florin, Lodi, Placer County and Sacramento JACL Chapters*

### Revisiting vital civil rights lessons of the 1988 redress victory for today's divided country *with* **Dr. Mitchell T. Maki**

**Saturday, February 9, 2019**

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

California Museum

1020 O Street, Sacramento

Join Dr. Mitchell T. Maki as he provides an insider's view of the long road to redress - how it took grassroots lobbying, class action lawsuits, Congressional alliances, and the mobilization of diverse constituencies inside & outside the Japanese American communities to achieve the impossible dream of redress.

***Tools and strategies we need today!***

#### **Mitchell T. Maki, PH.D.**

Dr. Mitchell T. Maki is the President and CEO of Go For Broke National Education Center, a non-profit organization committed to maintaining and contemporarily applying the legacy of the World War II Nisei Veterans. Dr. Maki is the lead author of the award-winning book, *Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress*, a detailed case study of the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, and is recognized as one of the leading scholars on the Japanese American redress movement.



#### **Donation:**

\$20.00 general

\$15.00 college students  
Free for ages 18 and under

Includes admission to event, reception and all current Museum exhibits including "Uprooted" and the JANM traveling exhibit.

*All tickets will be  
at WILL CALL.*

To purchase tickets, use form below; or to reserve tickets, go to [NCTOR.org](http://NCTOR.org).

For questions, contact Nancy Whiteside at 916-508-6587 or

[nwhitesi@hotmail.com](mailto:nwhitesi@hotmail.com) or 916-427-2841.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Adult Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$20.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Student: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 ea. \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax deductible donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

*Enclose check payable to Placer Co. JACL and remit by FEBRUARY 2, 2019 to:*

Nancy Whiteside, 5333 Primrose Drive, #45A, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

# Volunteers Needed

We are looking forward to another successful Time of Remembrance program in 2019! Please mark your calendars for the 2019 TOR orientation and training on Saturday, January 19, 2018. This year we have some new staff and some new announcements to make so we hope that all volunteers will be able to attend the orientation. Please read through and let me know if you have any questions.



**When:** Saturday, January 19, 2019

**Schedule:** New Volunteer Introduction (*for new volunteers only*): 9:30 - 10:00 am

- History of TOR program
- Program logistics
- Introduction to volunteer positions
- Introduction to “Uprooted!” exhibit and classroom presentation

Orientation: 10:00 – 11:00 am

- Introduction of new Education Staff
- Logistics for 2019, including some small changes
- Review Volunteer Handbook
- Program dates are from Monday, January 28 – Friday, March 22

Gallery Guide training: 11:00 – 12:00 pm

**Where:** California Museum 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

For planning purposes, please RSVP no later than Monday, December 31, 2018. For more information, please contact Eileen at [eotsuji@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eotsuji@sbcglobal.net).

## “Never Again” in Natomas Unified School District

By John Kanemoto, Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA), past Florin-Sacramento Valley & National JACL Scholarship Recipient

According to a 2016 *New York Times* study, Natomas Unified School District (NUSD) is the second most diverse school district in the nation. Diversity is celebrated and supported. During a statewide English Language Learner (ELL) conference, NUSD was featured for its ELL supports. Curriculum is rooted in the English Language Development standards, Thinking Maps are used to guide thinking, and sentence frames are incorporated to encourage academic discourse for all students. **(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**





## Food by Fumie

This is a new section where Fumie Shimada provides a recipe for members to try. This newsletter's featured recipe is Taco Chili.

### Taco Chili

1 lb. leanest ground turkey (97% fat free)

1 onion chopped

2-3 cloves minced garlic (you can't use too much!)

1 1/2 cups celery (not too finely chopped--you can use more if you want)

1 15oz. can tomato sauce

1 small can chopped green chili

1 15oz can chopped or stewed tomatoes (I sometime use 2 cans)

4 16oz cans of beans (Mix or match: pinto, kidney black, etc.)

1 package taco seasoning

1 package Hidden Valley Ranch Salad Dressing Mix

2 teaspoons cumin (I use 3 or 4)

16oz bag of frozen white corn

1 1/2 cups of water



Brown turkey, adding onions, garlic and celery about halfway through. One by one add the remaining ingredients. Drain and rinse the 4 cans of beans to remove all the gas from the beans. Heat through. Simmer for a while if you like.\

Note: This makes a huge pot. I sometimes add another 1/2 envelope of the taco seasoning and the Hidden Valley stuff. I even add chili seasoning on occasion. As you can see, there are a number of variations. Just dump the stuff in--I guarantee that it will be one of the best things you ever ate.



**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