

**2021 San Fernando Japanese American Citizen League
EXECUTIVE BOARD INSTALLATION**

January 13, 2021

2020 and now 2021 has been a year full of surprises and SFV JACL FIRSTs. The Executive Board Members and guests gathered in front of computers, IPADS or phone screens to witness and participate in our first ZOOM Installation Ceremony.

Nancy Takayama welcomed **Andrew Gruhn** and **Ryan Yoshikawa** as guests to our SFV JACL EXECUTIVE BOARD Meeting.

SFV JACL was honored by **Ryan Yoshikawa**, Vice President from the **SOLANOCO JACL** who presided over our ZOOM installation Ceremony. He is a graduate of the University of California at Irvine with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He attended our previous 2020 Installation at the Knollwood Country Club.

Newly Installed were: President, **Nancy Takayama**; Recording Secretary, **Barbara Okita**; Corresponding Secretary, **Geri Shiraki**; Treasurer, **May Wood**; Coordinating Council Co-Chairs, **Mitzi Kushida** and **Al Kushida**; Programs Chair, **Linda Tanaka**, Civil Rights Chair, **Phil Shigekuni**; Membership Chair, **Kiyo Fukumoto**; Scholarship, **Jean Paul de Guzman**; Newsletter Co-Chairs, **Karen Yoshino** and **Nancy Gohata**; Cheer Committee, **Michiko Kus**; Carnival Chair and PSW Holiday Issue Chair, **Marcia Mahony**; Publicity Chair, **Nancy Oda**; and Recognition Chair, **Marion Shigekuni**. **Jon Yamaoka** was newly elected to the Executive Board but was unable to attend due to his responsibilities during the Co Vid 19 Crisis.

Congratulations to Nancy Gohata and her daughter, **Karen Yoshino** who were awarded for their tireless efforts as **Editors** of our **SFV JACL NEWSLETTER** by **Marion Shigekuni**, Recognition Chair. They were given Raku Stoneware from Rafu Bussan as symbols of their work. It is a much-deserved honor.

Article submitted by May Wood

SAVE THE DATE

Virtual Cherry Blossom Tour by Kimiaki Chiba

Sunday, April 18 at 7:00 pm

Registration: Nancy Takayama / nt.high.mtn@gmail.com

Questions: Linda Tanaka / lkitai@hotmail.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March 2020



Some of you are aware that Los Angeles County is vaccinating 65 years and older (Tier 1B) . The surrounding counties are still and Tier 1A. As of this past weekend the appointments were hard to get. Distribution has been slow and fewer first rounds appointments are unavailable due to the second round shots are being reserved.

Book your appointment using this link below. Check daily for appointment dates as additional dates are being added at each location.

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/hcwsignup/>

Please wear your mask, continue to socially distance and use hand sanitizers when out and about. Global news has reported a new strain that is deadlier and it has already reached California. Get your vaccine shot, protect yourself and protect your family.

Last year we were all introduced to virtual conferences or as we all know it as Zoom. We have had many Zoom meetings since the spring of 2020. I am on a minimum of six virtual meetings a month.

Zoom has been good for most of us. No driving, can participate from the comfort of your home, only need to dress from the waist up and if you choose not to comb your hair or wear no make-up you can turn your video off.

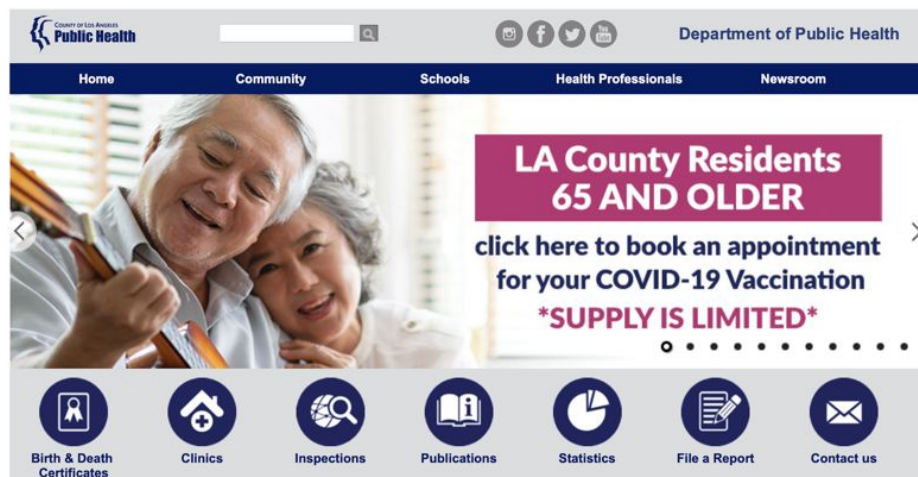
I think the best thing about Zoom is we are seeing and communicating with more people. I hear from more people from out of state that I normally wouldn't or couldn't. This past week I Zoomed in on Greater Los Angeles and Ventura County JACL board meetings. On the 23rd , I attended the SELANOCO JACL Installation & Scholarship Awards. I am looking forward to attending (via Zoom) the Ventura County JACL installation with Film Awardee, Tadashi Nakamura on January 31st.

Learn to enjoy the time visiting with friends virtually. IT'S THE NEW NORM!

Day of Remembrance Los Angeles will be held virtual this year.

Save Saturday, February 13, 2021, 2 PM. More details to follow on our website.

Nancy Takayama
President



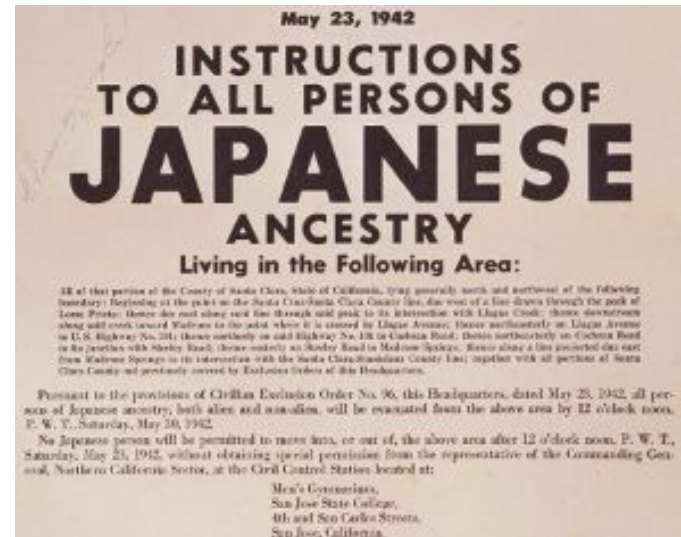
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

February 19th is a significant date for the Japanese American community. On this date in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which gave the U.S. Army the authority to remove civilians from the military zone established in Washington, Oregon, and California during WWII. This led to the forced removal and incarceration of some 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, who had to abandon their jobs, their homes, and their lives to be sent to one of ten concentration camps scattered in desolate, remote regions of the country.

No Japanese Americans were ever charged, much less convicted, of espionage or sabotage against the United States. Yet they were targeted, rounded up, and imprisoned for years, simply for having the “face of the enemy”.

Every February, the Japanese American community commemorates Executive Order 9066 as a reminder of the impact the incarceration experience has had on our families, our community, and our country. It is an opportunity to educate others on the fragility of civil liberties in times of crisis, and the importance of remaining vigilant in protecting the rights and freedoms of all.

For information on the 2021 Day of Remembrance events in Los Angeles, please check the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) or Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRR) websites.



MEMBERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO OUR ORGANIZATION

WHAT IS THE BIG PICTURE?

With the inauguration of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, the people of this nation have voted to rebuild and renew the direction of our country. The San Fernando Valley JACL Chapter is one of many JACL Chapters throughout the United States. As a national organization, we can voice our concerns and support efforts to build a better America for all of our citizens. The Japanese American Citizen League contributes in making sure that civil rights are assured to all citizens. We are a minority group and descendants of immigrants. We are small in number but we are a strong and vital part of this nation's fabric. Therefore, we need to support efforts to make sure our democracy survives and prospers.

Our Chapter will continue to solicit for membership to increase participation by concerned individuals. I will be encouraging past members to rejoin us.

If you have any questions about membership, please call me at 1 (626) 483-2578 or email me at kiyofukuoto@yahoo.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

Article submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto

San Fernando Valley
JACL
Civil Rights • Justice

JON YAMAOKA

The Chapter would like to introduce our new and 2nd generation Board member **JON YAMAOKA**. He is currently one of our hardworking essential workers. Jon is a Registered Nurse with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and is currently working as a Clinical Coordinator at the Ellison John Hospital.

His parents **Don and Betty Yamaoka** were long time active members of our Chapter. Betty served as our devoted and efficient JACL Scholarship chair for many, many years. On the other hand, Don guided and chaired the Youth programs. He supervised their outings on weekends to various locations. They were both dedicated and generously contributed time and energy to our Chapter.

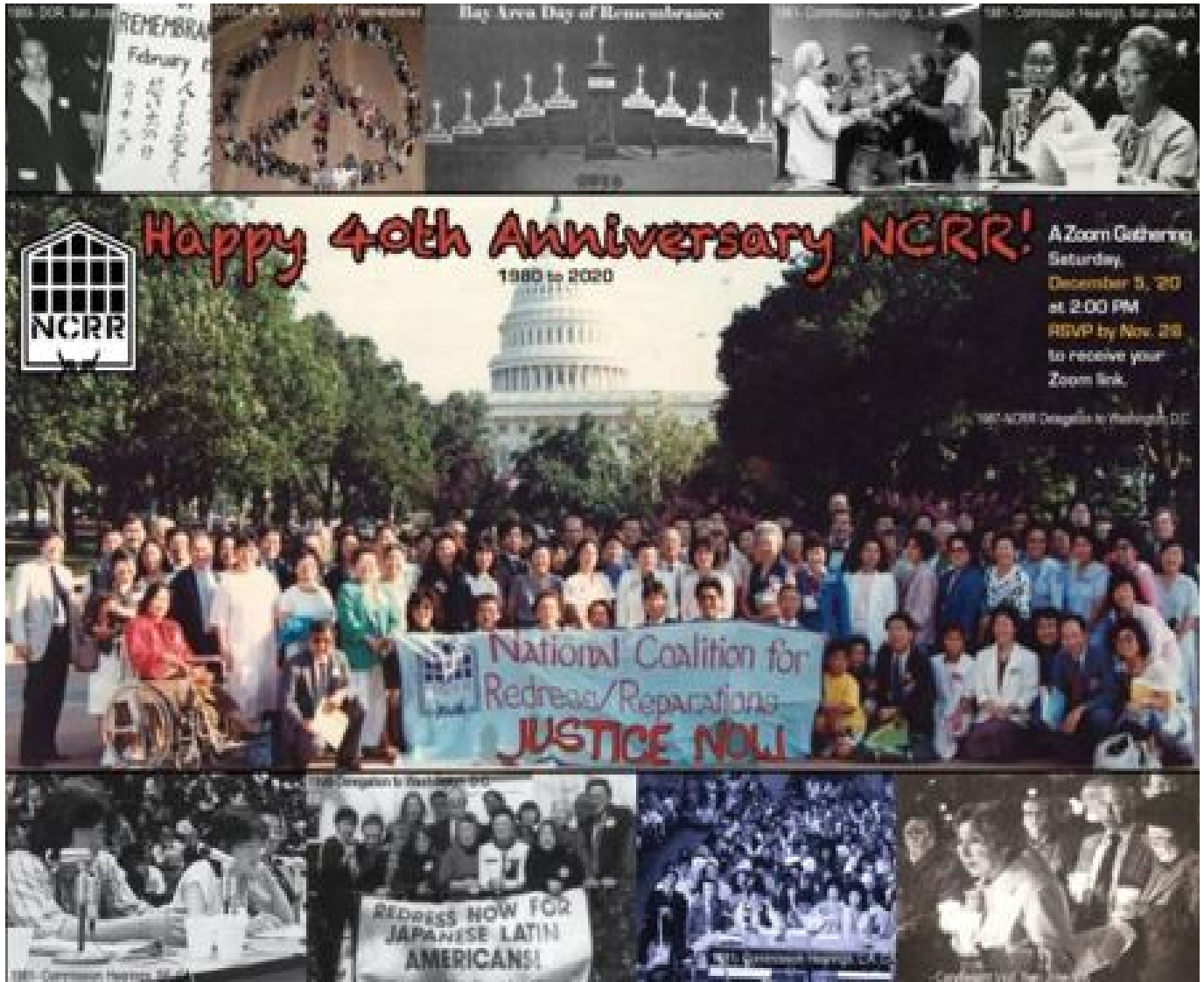
We are most proud and grateful of JON that he will carry the torch that was lit by his parents. Welcome JON YAMAOKA to our SFV JACL Board!

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida



HAPPY 40TH ANNIVERSARY NCRR

NCRR (National Coalition for Redress/Reparations) celebrated their 40th Anniversary event on Zoom on December 5, 2020.



Help Us Reduce Postage and Visit Us Online

You can greatly help our chapter by getting the Chapter newsletter via email.

Please go to kyoshino@verizon.net and register your e-mail address

Visit us online at: <http://sfvjacl.weebly.com/> or jacl.sfv@gmail.com

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sfvjacl>



THANK YOU TO THE BOARD

A heartfelt thank you to the Board for the beautiful Japanese plate that was presented to Nancy Gohata and Karen Yoshino for their work on our newsletter. Nancy and Karen were both very surprised with their gifts and very grateful to the Board for their thoughtfulness and generosity.

Karen has been working on our newsletter ever since Nancy became Newsletter Chair. For those of you who don't know, Karen is Nancy's daughter. So, when Nancy approached her to take over the job, it was more of a demand, than a request.



National Scholarship Program 2021 Scholarships Available Now!

Program Background

The JACL has been helping students achieve their educational dreams with the National Scholarship and Awards Program since 1946. The program currently offers over 30 awards, with an annual total of over \$70,000 in scholarships to qualified students nationwide.

The National Scholarship and Awards Program offer scholarships to students who are entering freshman, undergraduate, graduate, law, in the creative & performing arts, and those with financial need. All scholarships are one-time awards.

As of the new 2021 scholarship cycle, the National JACL Scholarship Program will now be totally online! This means all of the applications can be done on your computer/tablet through the online application form and submitted online. NO MAILING REQUIRED! As such there will be some new guidelines and changes which you can find listed below in the 2021 Scholarship Guidelines document and on the applications themselves. Also note, the applications will NOT save if you close or reload your window, so please fill them out in one sitting!

GO TO JACL.ORG FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT OUR CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR, MAY WOOD AT: may.wood66@yahoo.com.



Virtual Winter Holiday Party

Our first ever virtual winter holiday party was held on Saturday, December 5, 2020. The first games were rounds of Holiday Bingo, where Holiday game cards listed a New Years or Christmas-related item in the squares. **Linda Tanaka** was the Bingo caller. The three game winners: **Connor Fukumoto, Nancy Oda** and **Barbara Okita** competed in the Jan Ken Po play-off to see who the ultimate winner would be. The gift card winner was, **Nancy Oda**. Subsequently, we received two gift card donations, so both **Barbara** and **Connor** received a gift card as well. **Connor** shared his gift card with sister, **Hailey Fukumoto**.

Team games followed with such events as Scavenger Hunt and Scattergories. The team with the most combined points won the competition. The winning team members were: **Tracy and Marcia Mahony** and **Lily Ann Tamai Welty**. Each team member won a Pandemic Emergency Kit containing: a face shield, masks, hand sanitizer, wipes and a roll of toilet paper.

Also attending the event from: the Greater L.A. JACL Chapter was, **Kanji Sahara**, President of the Ventura JACL chapter, Lily Tamai Welty and former SFV JACL Chapter president **Harold Kameya**, who joined in Holiday Bingo and **Kiyo Fukumoto's** grandchildren **Connor** and **Hailey** with whose assistance, kept his team in the running for the Scavenger Hunt.

Also participating in the competitive events were: **Mitzi and Al Kushida, Barbara Okita, Marion and Phil Shigekuni, Nancy Gohata, and May Wood and Linda Tanaka**.

It was all fun and games, and a special opportunity to enjoy the company of new and old friends in a festive holiday setting and a chance to laugh and feel a sense of camaraderie that we were all missing during this holiday season. Special thanks to our planning committee: **Linda Tanaka, May Wood, Kiyo Fukumoto, Nancy Takayama and Patty Takayama**.

Article submitted by Patty Takayama



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DONATIONS



For the past several years, **FLORA TERAMURA** has donated to enable our Chapter to continue with our never ending struggle to support civil rights causes in our community and country. We deeply appreciate her part in helping us achieve our JACL goals. Thank you **FLORA** for your continued annual donation.

We would like to acknowledge **Garry Monji and Family** for their generous monetary donation. They were most grateful that both of their daughters were recipients of the JACL Scholarships. Your gift will help our Chapter to perpetuate the scholarship fund. Thank you for thinking of us.

Article submitted by Mitzi Kushida

IN REMEMBRANCE

Our Chapter sends condolences to former Board Member, **Naomi Suenaka** whose mother **Haruyo Suenaka** passed away on January 4, 2021. Her death came four days shy of her 99th birthday. Mrs. Suenaka was an active member of the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center and the San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. She was a resident of Nikkei Senior Gardens.



Additional Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue Messages

Our hearts go out to those who have lost spouses and loved ones during this pandemic. We all feel so inadequate in not being able to personally express our condolences as well as to express words on how our lives were touched by them. The hearts of all of us in the community reach out to you.

~ *Harold and Ellen Kameya*

Let's do it! Gambarimasho. May 2021 Bring Good Health and Happiness to All. Minasan, Nisen Nijuichinen ni Kenko to Koufuku wo oinori itashimasu.

~*The Tokunaga – Wood – Kus Families*

Thank you for your faithful service to our community. We cherish greatly your friendship with us over the years. May God bless you and keep you healthy during this Holiday Season.

~*Pastors Paul and James Iwata*



MOTION TO PASS RESOLUTION

The following is a resolution by the members of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition to state our outrage at the violence done in the Capitol, at the urging of certain public officials.

Whereas, the Coalition believes public officials must uphold the Constitutional oath they take when they are sworn in to public office. They must faithfully execute their duties, and, to the best of their ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. On January 6, 2021, we saw the results of violation of these Constitutional duties by those willfully inciting and supporting that inciting of violence against the Government of the United States; and,

Whereas, the Coalition believes that even as Japanese, German and Italian men and women were being taken away from their families, without due process, and imprisoned behind barbed wire in the Tuna Canyon Detention Station, during WWII, under Proclamation 2525, 2526 and 2527, the men and women continued to exhort their sons and families to remain loyal to the United States, and to fight the enemies of the United States; and,

Whereas, throughout their lives, those who were imprisoned never violated or called for violence to right these wrongs, but always honored the laws of these United States; and,

Whereas, the Coalition, some who are descendants of those men imprisoned in Tuna Canyon, are now committed to the education of the harmful effects of lawless actions that led to the widespread prejudice of so-called “enemy aliens” during World War II, and would never dishonor or threaten the integrity of the democratic system, and would always defend the right to peaceful protests; and,

Whereas, we as a Coalition remain committed to justice and equality and will always remain vigilant that no person or persons dishonor, or threaten the integrity of the democratic system, or imperil any branch of our government, or endanger the lives of our citizens; be it

Resolved, that the members of the Coalition disavow any racist group or organization that espouses hate of any kind against any community; and be it further

Resolved, that the members of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition Board of Directors urge the Administration and Congress, to take appropriate action against those who criminally attacked our form of government and those who failed in their Constitutional duty as set forth in their oaths of office; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Burbank), and our respective Congressmembers and Senators.

Dated: January 11, 2021

Signed by: (see page 2)

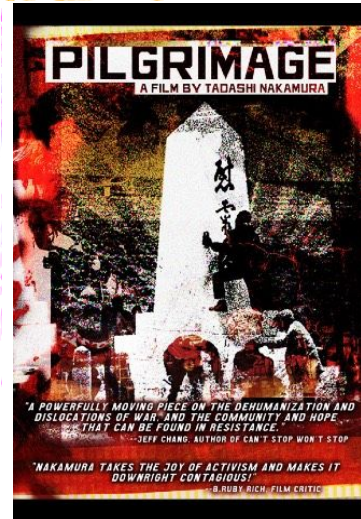
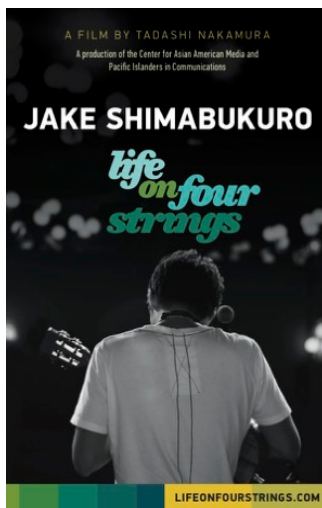
JANUARY

31



1-2:30p
via
Zoom

2021 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS LUNCHEON



Guest Speaker, Tadashi Nakamura

Emmy-winning filmmaker Tadashi Nakamura was named one of CNN's "Young People Who Rock" for being the youngest filmmaker at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and listed as one of the "Top Rising Asian American Directors" on IMDb. The fourth-generation Japanese American recently completed Mele Murals, a documentary on the transformative power of modern graffiti art and ancient Hawaiian culture for a new generation of Native Hawaiians. Mele Murals was broadcasted on PBS and Al Jazeera, and was nominated for an Emmy in 2018. His previous film Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings was broadcasted nationally on PBS and went on to win the 2013 Gotham Independent Film Audience Award, which was in competition with 12 Years a Slave and Fruitvale Station.

Nakamura's trilogy of documentary films on the Japanese American experience, Yellow Brotherhood (2003), Pilgrimage (2007) and A Song for Ourselves (2009) have garnered over 20 awards. Nakamura has a M.A. in Social Documentation from UC Santa Cruz, a B.A. in Asian American Studies from UCLA where he graduated Summa Cum Laude.

Please RSVP to VenturaCountyJACL@gmail.com Use the Zoom link here to join: <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/91797221400?pwd=WlVlUnZ2Zmp5RHVyaU5FWVcvbVM2UT09>

Meeting ID: 917 9722 1400

Passcode: VCJACL

COVID LEVITY

"you left the toilet seat up"



The Very Rare And Elusive Hummingbear.



Pro Tip:

How to avoid hitting your thumb with a hammer





San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League

Membership Application

Membership Categories

Regular/Individual - \$67

Regular sustaining members of the organization

Couple/Family - \$110

Membership for an individual, their spouse/partner and any children under 25 years of age.

Youth/Student - \$25

Members 25 years of age or younger or students currently enrolled in a college, trade school, or university.

Thousand Club - \$200

A membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Century Club - \$350

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Thousand Club Spouse or Century Club Spouse - \$32

Spouse or partner of a JACL Thousand Club or Century Club member

Millennium Club - \$1000

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Life Membership Categories

Thousand Club Life - \$3000

Members who pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

Century Club Life - \$5000

An exclusive membership category where members pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

Pacific Citizen Newspaper

The 2016 JACL National Council approved a resolution and budget amendment assessing a \$17 surcharge on memberships receiving the print edition of the Pacific Citizens beginning January 1, 2017. Digital subscriptions do not incur additional fees.

☐ **Yes**, I would like to receive the Pacific Citizen newspaper. Please add \$17 to my purchase.

☐ **No**, I will not pay an additional surcharge and will receive the digital version via email.

☐ **New Member**

☐ **Renewing Membership**

☐ **Gift Membership**

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Member Information

First Name _____ **Last Name** _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Payment Method ☐ **Check enclosed**, make checks payable to "JACL"

Please charge my Credit Card ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Card Number: _____ **Expiration Date:** ____/____/____ **Security Code:** _____
(Month / Year)

Name (as it appears on card): _____

Please send this form to:

Japanese American Citizens League

P.O. Box 45397

San Francisco, CA 94145-0397

Membership Dues \$ _____

Pacific Citizen Newspaper (\$17) \$ _____

Additional donation to JACL (optional) \$ _____

Additional donation to SFV JACL (optional) \$ _____

TOTAL enclosed \$ _____

JOIN or RENEW Online: <http://www.jacl.org/member>



14229 Carl Street
Arleta, CA 91331