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<http://www.milehijacl.org/>

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 Webmaster: Aswin Waran
 Many thanks to former webmaster Les Imada

MONTHLY MEETINGS

FIRST THURSDAY/NEXT JUNE 4, 2009
 7:00 P.M., JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO (JAC) OFFICES ON THE MEZANNINE LEVEL, TAMAI TOWERS 19TH ST, BETWEEN LAWRENCE AND LARIMER STREETS, DENVER. SUZY SHIMASAKI 858-361-6691.

Installation of Mile High Board of Directors 2009 on April 5th at Regency Hotel, Denver



Tom Migaki, Richard Hamai (Treasurer), Jayne Yoshimura, Pat Hayashi (Secretary), Elyse Yamauchi, Aya Medrud (2nd VP), Suzy Shimasaki (President), Charmaine Palmer, Gladys Konishi (1st VP), Frank Sakamoto, Kimiko Side, Marge Taniwaki, Keita Moore

Photo by Theodore Lau
 Not pictured are Mark Shimoda, Kie Riedel and Brian Matsumoto.

FAREWELL FROM
CHARMAINE FURUKAWA PALMER

It has been both an honor and a privilege to represent the Mile-Hi Japanese American Citizens League as president for the past 15 months. We have accomplished much and hope you agree. Here are a few examples of the activities that I am most proud of.

During my tenure, we have held two Installation Banquets. I instigated the silent auction to raise funds for the scholarship that we give for the Japanese American Graduation Committee Program Banquet each June. I am pleased that we increased the amount by 35 percent this year. Now more than ever this scholarship money is needed for our youth when so much funding at universities is being cut back.

We held our first health screening in collaboration with the Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple and Colorado Asian Health, Education and Programs. It was deemed a success. We had about fifty people attend and many were delighted with the free flu shots and the free testing of cholesterol, diabetes and allergy testing to name a few. We also had speakers from Colie's Closet and Second Wind to talk about suicide prevention awareness. We hope that the next health screening will be bigger and better with some alternative health professionals as well.

Our move from the Midwest District Council to the Intermountain District Council (IDC) was approved at the National Convention that was held in Salt Lake City, Utah in July 2008. We are excited about the move and had the opportunity to host the IDC meeting in Colorado in November 2008. Three attended the meeting in Salt Lake City in March 2009. There were 30 people in attendance for the meeting in November with a potluck to welcome our new IDC associates.

Another milestone was a meeting at the University of Colorado at Boulder to begin a group on the campus. I have been working with

the Center for Multicultural Affairs, and together we hosted our first meeting last November with 50 people in attendance. We planned for 20, so we were pleasantly surprised with the turnout and had to order more food. We hope to work with some students who want to continue efforts to get this off the ground as a student organization.

Our Day of Remembrance event at the University of Denver was a huge success with 200 people attending. We collaborated with the Anthropology Department's Dr. Bonnie Clark and her work at Amache.

The Memorial Day Service at Fairmount Cemetery was well attended and really hits home when you see all the names and the new names added each year. We are saddened to lose beloved family members who have served our country.

The Mile-Hi JACL has participated in the Boulder Asian Pacific Alliance Festival for ten of its fifteen years each August. This past year a number of people came out, even in the pouring rain!

As you can see, we have accomplished much in the past year, but without all of the volunteers who serve Mile-Hi JACL, we couldn't have done it without you. It is truly the volunteers that help make this organization what it is. For that I thank you. I have enjoyed working with all of you and without your support and the many hours that you have volunteered; we would be hard pressed to have the events be the success they have been.

Congratulations to Suzy Shimasaki as our new president. I also want to wish all the best to the new officers and the board for the coming year. Again, thank you for your support; whether it is monetary or volunteer hours we need both and for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

MILE HI LOSES A VALUED
MEMBER - JIM TAGUCHI

On April 21, 2009, James T. Taguchi, M.D., 87 years of age, passed away in Lakewood, Colorado. He was the beloved husband (63 years) of Matilda (Til) Honda Taguchi, brother of Douglas Taguchi, Lucy Taguchi Seo and Mary Taguchi Tadano; and uncle to many nieces and nephews. Before retiring in Colorado, Jim, a cardiologist, headed a medical department at The VA Hospital in Dayton, Ohio. He was born in Rocky Ford, Colorado and graduated from University of Colorado School of Medicine. He was a long time member of the Dayton and Mile Hi chapters of JACL serving as president in both. Jim and Til are Thousand Club Life Long members. Memorial Services were held at Jefferson Unitarian Church on April 26, 2009, in Golden, Colorado, where Jim was a long time member. Those who may wish to remember Jim can send condolences c/o Elyse Yamauchi, 6803 W. 32nd Ave., Wheatridge, CO 80033

MAY 25 MEMORIAL DAY
FAIRMOUNT CEMETERY

The annual joint Memorial Day services hosted by Nisei Heritage Foundation (formerly Nisei American Legion Post) and Mile Hi JACL is scheduled for 11:00 A.M., Monday, May 25, 2009, at the Rocky Mountain Nisei War Dead Memorial Monument, Fairmount Cemetery, Denver, Colorado. One of the speakers will be Rose Tanaka, (widow of architect Floyd Tanaka, 442 RCT veteran who designed the granite monument dedicated in 1963). Floyd's name was added to the memorialized names at the 2008 Memorial Day, he passed away on January 29, 2008.

Memorial Day at the Nisei War Dead remembers and honors those whose names have been entered and acknowledge those who died this past year, to honor and remember veterans from the Rocky

Mountain Japanese American community.

Info: Brian Matsumoto 303-917-9998

SALT LAKE CITY MEETING OF JACL INTERMOUNTAIN DISTRICT

By Charmaine Furukawa Palmer

The Intermountain District Council (IDC) meeting was held on March 28, 2009 in Salt Lake City, Utah at the JACL Credit Union Building. Suzy Shimasaki, Aya Medrud and Charmaine Palmer represented Mile-Hi JACL.

On Friday evening, the potluck dinner was hosted by three

Brian Morishita, the IDC Governor, called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday. Brian had the chapters report on activities for the past 4 months. In Salt Lake City, they have a week of Day of Remembrance activities, with movies, bento lunches, lectures and presentations. It inspired me to do same in Colorado by collaborating with all the different Japanese American organizations.

Another topic of discussion was the Pacific Citizen and how it needs funding. Last year their operation took a loss of \$29,000. This is truly a lifeline for the Japanese American community across the

RESPONSE TO ARREST OF TWO THIRTEEN YEAR BOYS FOR THREATENING TWELVE YEAR OLD ASIAN GIRL IN BOULDER

The headline, (Boulder) Daily Camera, May 1, 2009, was a surreal experience.

Two thirteen year old boys were arrested for threatening to rape and kill a twelve year old Asian girl. The description is beyond comprehension. I am an Asian woman who has lived in Boulder for more than forty two years. I taught in Boulder Valley Schools for twenty years, retiring in 1990, thirteen of my teaching years were in middle schools. I do not know the details of the accusation, but I am left with several questions:

The police and BVSD have been described in the article as following up on accusations and taking steps. What is being done to assure safety and support for the young girl and her parents?

Objectification of women, especially women of color, appears to be alive and well. Is this a cultural norm? How and where is this learned?

Of the social awareness of issues of war, climate, environment and economics, etc. Boulder is a leader. Is there leadership and responsibility for teaching our young how we humans should treat each other?

This should be a wakeup call.

Aya Mariagnes Medrud

REQUEST OF MILE HI JACL NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS

We would like to send you chapter news; you get the biweekly issues of the national Pacific Citizen. If you would like to continue to receive Mile Hi chapter news and updates, would you please send me your email address?.

WE WILL NOT USE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE THAN SENDING MILE HI CHAPTER NEWS.

Aya Medrud.

Interim Newsletter Editor
aya@medrud.com



Pictured above (back row): Suzy Shimasaki, Janet Komodo, Karl Endo, Ray Nishikawa, Marion Hori, Suzanne Yoshimura, Jaclyn Hori, Greg Stillman, Paul Fisk, Jeanette Misaka, Silvana Watanabe, Jeff Itami.

Front Row: Jodi Tokita, Brian Morishita, Charmaine Palmer, Aya Medrud.

chapters from the Salt Lake City area. Wasatch Front, Salt Lake City and Mount Olympus chapters put on a dinner that was out of this world! I don't think a single person went home hungry and in the usual Japanese tradition, we all went home with a little bit of food just in case we got hungry later. About 45 people were there enjoying the food and conversation. It was nice to meet some of the members from that area and learn about their different activities and events.

nation. There is a fundraising campaign going on at this time. If you donate \$150, your name will be entered in a Grand Prize drawing for a 5 day cruise on Carnival.

The Bi-District meeting will be held with the Pacific Northwest District from July 30 to August 2 in Ontario, Oregon. Workshops that are being considered: the 2010 Census, Home computer security, Kite Making, Hana Fuda, Densho and TaiChi/Yoga.

The National Youth Conference will be held June 26-28 at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. Registration for the conference is up and running online. The Youth Rep's goal from IDC is to have 30 attendees.