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New York Chapter,  
Japanese American  
Citizens League

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# THE NEW YORK SCENE

## NY CHAPTER JACL SCHOLARSHIP BRUNCH

The annual NY (Big Apple) Chapter JACL scholarships were presented to six outstanding Nikkei students. Instead of a dinner, a brunch was held at the Ho Ho Restaurant on June 5, 1988 where the guests were treated to a delicious dim sum menu. This year six one thousand dollar scholarships were awarded due in most part to the generosity of an anonymous benefactor.

The program began with a welcome address by Marc Iyeki and the benediction by the Rev. Mas Kawashima. Presentation of the awards were made by Lillian Kimura, Chapt President and Osamu Watanabe, Scholarship Committee Chairman. Other Committee members were Vi Takahasi and Stanley Kanzaki. The following paragraphs give the names of the awardees and a brief background of their achievements.

The Lucille Nakamura Memorial Scholarship was presented to Shiho Kawanishi of Hunter College HS who is headed for Brown University to pursue a course in international relations. She is a National Merit finalist and a Regent Scholar. An intern at the Japanese American Social Services, Inc. she will be on staff during the summer.

A classmate is Yoko Irie who has been designated a Presidential Scholar from NY State and with her parents Dr. and Mrs. Shinazo P. Irie will be guests of Pres. Reagan at the White House. She is headed

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## GARDEN TOUR A SUCCESS!

The New York Chapter sponsored Garden Tour on May 14 was deemed a success when over \$9,000 was grossed for the day-long viewing of six gardens in the Westchester area created by Kan Domoto.

May 14 turned out to be a beautiful day to make the rounds of the gardens which were in their full glory. Wonderful publicity in the local press helped to bring out residents in the area to participate.

Thanks go to Sarah Sogi, chair of the event, Kan Domoto who made all of it possible, the great crew of volunteers who worked on the committee and the owners of the houses and gardens for opening their hospitality to us.

The funds made it possible for the New York Chapter to increase the scholarship awards and to give an additional award this year.

## ASIANET

For the second year, a coalition of Asian American organizations got together to socialize and network on July 21 at the New York University Club, 123 West 43rd St. from 6 to 9 pm.

In addition to JACL, other sponsors included Nat'l Assn of Asian Professionals, Pan Asian Rep. Org. of Chinese Americans, AALDEF and Asian American Professional Women.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS (continued)

for Harvard University to study medicine. Among her academic honors are National Merit Scholar, first place National Spanish Examination with an all expense paid trip to Spain. She is tri-lingual in English, Japanese and Spanish.

Becky Kawashima, a student at Stuyvesant HS will head for Cornell University to study nutritional bio-chemistry. An all-around student, she lettered in soccer and track, symphonic band, choir and Epicurean Club. She is also active with the Japanese American United Church and worked as a Research Assistant at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Sarah Endo of Lawrence HS, Lawrenceville NJ will be studying at Swarthmore but has not decided a major. Among her academic achievements are Summa Cum Laude in Latin, National Honor Society and Top Ten for Rotary Club Honor Student Award. She is founder and President of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) Chapter, VP of Student Council, Band and Varsity Diving Team.

James J. Kumpel, Cornell University '90, is studying Industrial Labor Management. A National Honor Society Scholar and a JACL member active in the redress movement, he served as an aide to NY State Senator John R. Dunne and Congressman Raymond McGrath. For the summer he had received a stipend to work for the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition in Washington DC. Accepting his award was his mother, Doris Obata Kumpel.

A scholar among scholar, is Edward K. Onuma who already has a PhD and now is studying for an MD degree at State University of New York Health Science Graduate School in Syracuse. An all around student, he is a University Fellow, active in Asian American Coalition, President of Japanese Student Association and Instructor of Judo and Shorinji Kempo.

The finale of the program was the guest speaker, Tadao Fujimatsu, VP and Director of Public Relations of Japan Air Lines. He is an author of several books and based his

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THIS 'N THAT

June was the month of weddings with former New York Chapter Vice President Fae Minabe tying the knot with attorney Russell Fujiwara in Fae's home town in northern Cal.

Chapter treasurer Michi Nakagama was married to Steven Magee in Princeton New Jersey. Members of the New York JACL wish both couples much happiness.

Appearing in Momoko Iko's "Boutique Living and Disposable Icons" was Chapter member Michi Kobi. Michi played the mother in this play about a Japanese American family.

Headed toward Seattle for the 30th biennial Convention of JACL are official Chapter delegates Lillian Kimura and Janet Kometani. Tom Kometani is the Governor of the Eastern District Council and attends in that capacity. Others planning to attend are Viola Sugahara, Stanley Kanzaki the Kariyas, Woody and Hisayo Asai. It will be old home week for many New Yorkers and others who originate from the Pacific Northwest.

Scholarship Awards (continued)

speech mostly from his book, "America Wa Kachi Nokoru" (American Will Remain the Victor). The speech gave an overview of past and present relationships between Japan and America and their peoples with his own prognosis of the future. The current economic power of Japan and how it has affected individual attitudes and relationships between nations were also discussed. Although the subject is polemic, the speaker got his points across in a comprehensive manner mixed from time to time with a sense of humor.

A question and answer period followed which concluded a very enjoyable afternoon.

Stanley Kanzaki



Garden Tour

THE LAST WORD

With the redress program almost within our grasp, JACL is at a crossroads and must look to the future. What should be our thrust now and into the 21st century? What are the issues that a civil and human rights organization such as JACL must address? Or should we change our mission and be a more social and cultural group?

These are the issues that the delegates to the Seattle convention should be discussing. We need to articulate a vision of the world as we would like it to be and then determine how we are going to make it happen. As chair of the National Convention's Resolutions Committee, I have been disappointed by the quality and substance of the resolutions which have been submitted. Many are procedural issues than direction-giving.

Just as the National organization needs a boost so does the New York Chapter. We must have more involvement of the members in the work of JACL. After the Convention is over, the delegates will bring back what was decided for the total organization and we will call a meeting to discuss what our part should be.

Have a happy rest-of-the summer!

Lillian Kimura, President



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