
JACL Newsletter

SEATTLE CHAPTER

JACL Office M-W-F, 1-4 p.m. 623-5088 Seattle Chapter December 1983

Ann M. Fujii, Editor

Mako Nakagawa, Pres. Vol. XX, No. 11

1983 JACL last board meeting/dinner!!!!!!

All board members and friends are welcome to the "end of the year" board meeting-dinner, Wednesday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hunan Restaurant. There will be a cocktail hour before the dinner-meeting, so please come early and meet everyone. Reservations are required. Please call May Sasaki at 762-9146. Cost for dinner is \$9.

1984 INSTALLATION DINNER/DANCE

It's that time of the year again...the annual JACL Installation dinner, to be held Saturday, January 21 at the Southcenter Doubletree Plaza. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., with dinner following at 7, program at 8 p.m. and a fashion show and dance from 9:30 to 1 a.m. Please plan to come early, especially since we're having it at a new location. It should be a lot of fun, so please plan on coming help install the new officers for 1984, and meeting some new people!

Cost for the dinner is \$16. Please call either Ayako Hurd at 527-1464 or Kimi Nakanishi at 523-5937 for reservations. Hope you can make it!!

BILINGUAL EDUCATION FACING LEGISLATIVE DEBATE

The maintenance of transitional bilingual education programs in Washington State will be a crucial issue facing debate in the upcoming January 1984 legislative session.

The legislature will be faced with the task of establishing in law program standards and a funding mechanism to ensure that bilingual programs are funded at a 100% level.

Looking back, on September 7, Thurston County Superior Court Judge Robert Doran entered a declaratory judgment in a lawsuit brought against the state by 24 public school districts and a few parents and organizations. According to Howard C. Powers, an attorney representing one of the organizations, the ruling has the potential of having a significant impact on the funding of bilingual education in this state.

Prior to the Doran decision, bilingual programs were not explicitly defined to be included within the meaning of basic education and thus received only as much state funding support as determined by the legislature. However, the court has now determined that it was within the legislature's intent in enacting the Transitional Bilingual Instruction Act of 1979 that a bilingual program be established to meet the needs of limited English-speaking students and that such a program be a part of the basic education program.

So presently, Judge Doran ordered that the legislature define and provide full funding necessary to meet the requirements of the 1979 Act by July 1984. It was found that the state had failed in its duty to do this during the past 1981-83 biennium. In addition, he ruled that a block grant system was no longer valid in funding bilingual programs.

It is within this framework that the Commission on Asian American Affairs in conjunction with the Commission on Mexican American Affairs has once again reactivated the Bilingual Education Legislative Information Network. It is the purpose of this network to coordinate, research and disseminate information relating to state bilingual education concerns to those educators, administrators, community persons and all other interested parties who share such concerns.

BILINGUAL EDUCATION, continued.

Proponents of bilingual education must be vigilant to ensure that a minimum state bilingual education programs be maintained and not eliminated. The Commission on Asian American Affairs would urge your support, participation and action by contacting us if you are interested in being part of the Bilingual Education Legislative Information Network at (206)753-7053 in Olympia.

We would also urge you to contact your legislators now both individually and collectively by letter, phone and personal visits to let your concerns be known about the importance of keeping our state bilingual education programs intact.

MATSUNAGA REDRESS BILL

Calling the incarceration in detention camps of 120,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry "one of America's worse World War II errors, U.S. Sen. Spark Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) has recently introduced legislation to implement the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

"I have had nearly five months to review the Commission's recommendations and I am convinced that its findings are accurate, fair and equitable," Matsunaga said. "I therefore have introduced legislation which reflects exactly the Commission's recommendations with respect to Japanese Americans and Alaskan Aleuts.

The Matsunaga bill would:

1. Establish a \$1.5 billion fund which would be used, first, to provide a one-time, per capita payment of \$20,000 to each of the approximately 60,000 surviving persons of Japanese ancestry who were excluded from their homes pursuant to Executive Order 9066.
2. From the remaining money in the \$1.5 billion fund, establish a fund for humanitarian and public education purposes related to wartime events.
3. Enact legislation which officially recognizes that a grave injustice was done and offer the apologies of the nation for the wartime acts of exclusion, removal and detention.
4. Grant presidential pardons to individuals who were convicted of violating the wartime statutes imposing curfews at the assembly centers of the internment camps.
5. Institute the "liberal review" by appropriate executive branch agencies of Japanese Americans of status or entitlements lost because of acts or events between December 1941 and 1945.

NEWS ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The JACL Directory is in its final stages and will be mailed out soon, said Don Kazama, co-chairperson of the committee along with Janice Nishimori. About 7,000 directories will be mailed out to those listed in the directory. There are approximately 8,000 listings. "The purpose of the directory is to help preserve the identity of the Nikkei community," said Kazama. Through this project, JACL is seeking donations to help carry out activities throughout the year and is also looking for help for next year's directory.

Cherry Kinoshita, long-time JACL member and Chairperson of the Seattle Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League for Redress, was recently honored for her service in human rights in recognition of the 35th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in conjunction with the United Nations Association of America.

The Washington State University Asian American Studies Program is currently working on a bibliography of historical and literary resources of Washington's Asian/Pacific Americans. The program is also welcoming inquiries about WSU's Admissions and financial aid. Scholarships are available to Asian/Pacific American undergraduates and teaching or research assistantships to Asian/Pacific American graduate students in any WSU graduate departments.

Contact Gail Nomura or Steve Sumida if you can provide information on history and literature resources, or if you want to know about WSU Admissions. They may be contacted at the Asian American Studies Office, 302 Bryan Hall, WSU, Pullman, WA 99164-5130, or (509)335-1966.

Nikkei Aging and Retirement Committee is interested in finding Niseis who are willing to form a group to discuss pre-retirement. The committee is interested in those couples who are within five years of retirement. Couples is underlined because both "retire." Those interested call Don Kazama, 722-4361.

Gene Dogen of the Lake Washington JACL Chapter has been named as a recipient of the 1983 Outstanding Young Men of America Award, which recognizes young men throughout the nation for their professional achievements, leadership abilities and community service.

Dogen has taught ten years in the public schools and is an elementary physical education teacher in the Lake Washington School District. He received his BA from Washington State University and his Master's Degree from Western Washington and is currently in the doctoral program at the University of Oregon.

The newest publication from OSPI, a curriculum unit, has available "The Japanese American Internment, 1942-45/ A Lesson From Recent History. Call A. Barretto Ogilvie, (206)753-2560.

Tim Otani has been selected new regional director of the Pacific Northwest District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL). Otani, who has worked for the past three years as coordinator of the Job Club at the Employment Opportunities Center, will begin his new position December 12.

Otani said that among the issues he will tackle in the JACL job are: redress for internment victims, U.S.-Japan relations, atomic bomb survivors, the Vincent Chin murder case in Detroit and the case of Gordon Hirabayashi who is challenging the constitutionality of the World War II evacuation order.

The Seattle-Chinatown-International District Preservation and Development Authority (PDA), the public development agency in the District, will hold its quarterly constituency meeting on December 21, at 7 p.m. in the Bush-Asia Center. This year-end meeting will include election of a new constituent representative to the PDA Council. Everyone is invited to come and participate. It only costs one dollar to become a constituent. Food and drinks will be served. For more information, call 624-8929.

Begin the New Year off Japanese-style with the Nippon Kan's series entitled "Hajime," including shishi mai to chase away the evil spirits, poetry readings, calligraphy demonstration, tea ceremony, hago ita (battledore), koto, and dance. Call the theater for more information.

The International District Housing Alliance (IDHA) is holding its annual membership meeting and Christmas Party on Thursday, December 22 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Bush-Asia Center, 409 Maynard Ave. S. Everyone is welcome to come. Dinner will be served and there will be a raffle for Christmas Gifts.

Election of 1984 Board of Directors will also take place. If you would like to serve on the IDHA Board of Directors, please call 623-5132. You may be a resident of the International District or just an enthusiastic person interested in housing issues who enjoys working with elderly and low-income people.

»» PUYALLUP FAIRGROUNDS MONUMENT ««

The Puyallup Fairgrounds Monument Project grew out of the Day of Remembrance held on November 28, 1978. The day's ceremonies were a highly memorable and emotional experience for the approximately 3,000 Nikkei and friends who attended. Many who suffered the trauma of the internment felt that an appropriate memorial should be erected at the fairgrounds to remind us all to protect and respect our Constitution.

A parcel of property inside the main entry of the fairgrounds (at Ninth and Meridian Streets) was agreed upon as the site of the monument. Seed money was committed to pursue the project. During the past four years, an ever-increasing volunteer effort has been expended. All the necessary elements are now in place to assure successful completion of this project pending local support.

The Puyallup Fairgrounds Monument will be dedicated to the protection of civil and human rights specified by the Constitution of the United States and will simply state the violations experienced by local and Alaskan Nikkei during their internment at the fairgrounds from April to September 1942.

Internationally renowned artist George Tsutakawa has agreed to design and construct a silicon-bronze sculpture approximately 8 feet in height and 2½ feet in width. The sculpture will be placed on a reinforced concrete base with electrical lighting and provisions for an inscription and a state historical plaque.

Seattle Chapter JACL, Puyallup Valley JACL, and Western Washington Fair Association are sponsoring organizations. Each committed one-third of the \$5,000 seed money that initiated the project. With strong sponsorship of Puget Sound-area and Puyallup legislators, a Washington State bill was passed that appropriated state funds to match funds the community could raise. The Washington State Historical Society is the authorizing and approving agency for the funds.

Washington State appropriated \$26,700, of which \$13,700 was obtained from Governor Spellman's contingency fund. The state money will be released as soon as community funds are raised. With state finances in their current condition, it will be most prudent to raise the community funds as soon as possible.

The monument will be a significant contribution to our community and will mark an important chapter in Washington State history. It is the only monument authorized by the state to memorialize the Nikkei experience.

For every dollar contributed by the community, the state will give \$1.34. This provides a usable total of \$2.34 for every dollar donated. All donations are tax deductible.

Checks should be made payable to: JACL - Puyallup Fairgrounds Monument and mailed before May 28, 1983, to JACL, 316 Maynard Avenue South, Room 108, Seattle, WA 98104.

Your generous and timely contribution will be greatly appreciated.

Karen Serigance

For the Puyallup Fairgrounds Monument Project

In the event that donors' names or memorials are permanently affixed to the base of the plaque, please indicate your preference below and submit with your donation. Inscriptions will be made for donations of \$50 or more, subject to monument completion schedules, budget limitations, and space availability.

Please affix name or memorial as shown:

DO NOT inscribe my name.

Japanese American Citizens League

Seattle Chapter

316 MAYNARD AVE. SO. • SEATTLE, WA 98104

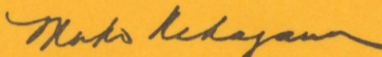
Dear JAACL'er and Friends,

1983 will be a critical year for JAACL. Key issues we face include:

- REDRESS: A final report and plan of action by the Commission on Redress is due this year. JAACL must be prepared to respond.
- Nikkei Aging and Retirement: Progressively Nisei have reached and are reaching retirement age. How will Nikkei face these issues of aging and retirement and how will JAACL meet these needs?
- U.S./Japan Relations: As the economy worsens, there are increasing incidents of backlash against Japanese Americans. JAACL must be prepared to meet the challenge.

These are but three of the many issues faced by JAACL this year. Please help us by joining JAACL now!

Thank you,



Mako Nakagawa
President

JOIN JAACL . . . HELP US TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE

Please complete this form and mail it with your check to:

AKI KUROSE
JAACL Membership Chairperson

Seattle, WA 98122
Phone: 325-0863 (Evening)

_____ Single _____ Renewal
_____ Couple _____ New

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership Categories:

Booster/Sr. Citizen _____ (\$10) Seattle Chapter only (No Pacific Citizen)
Regular _____ (\$32) National, District, Seattle Chapter - Pacific Citizen
Couple _____ (\$57) National, District, Seattle Chapter - Pacific Citizen
Youth (18 and younger) _____ (\$4) National and Seattle Chapter (No Pacific Citizen)
College Student _____ (\$13) National and Seattle Chapter (No Pacific Citizen)
Seattle Chapter dues for Life Members _____ (\$3) Single (\$6) Couple
National JAACL 1000 Club (Includes Pacific Citizen)
Fifty _____ (\$55) Century _____ (\$100) Spouse of 1000/Century _____ (\$27)

TOTAL _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO SEATTLE CHAPTER JAACL