

JACL Office, M-W-F 1-4 p.m. 623-5088 Seattle Chapter February 1984  
Ann M. Fujii, Editor Jerry Shigaki, President Vol. XXI, No. 2

Wednesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m.,

General Board Meeting, at JACL office,

There will be an important discussion by representatives by the Democratic and Republican parties, to talk about the selection process for presidential nominations for the respective parties. Please plan to attend.

Also important is the Seattle City Council's current consideration of a redress bill that would allow employees of the city, of Japanese ancestry, financial compensation if they lost their jobs do to the evacuation. A public hearing will be held before the general board meeting, at 5 p.m., on the 11th floor of the Municipal Building, 600 - 4th Avenue South. It is important that you and members of the chapter support this effort by attending this hearing. We are trying to get 250 to fill the council chambers.

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SIBONGA INTRODUCES CITY EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS

Seattle City Council member Dolores Sibonga has introduced an ordinance authorizing payment of \$5,000 to each of four Japanese American city employees who lost their jobs when a federal evacuation order forced Japanese Americans into internment camps during World War II.

Sibonga's proposed ordinance would enable eligible claimants to receive \$2,500 each year for two years, the same pay-out formula as the one used by the Washington state legislature to compensate Japanese American state employees.

"This legislation represents only token compensation for what was actually lost by our local citizens of Japanese ancestry," Sibonga said. "However, it is both morally and legally correct that we take this action. Other municipal and state governments have enacted similar legislation. The City of Seattle should do what is fair and just."

Tim Otani, regional director of the Pacific Northwest District Council of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), said, "The bill to compensate Japanese American City employees is a positive step towards correcting the wrongs committed under the guise of military necessity."

And Alan Kurimura, assistant to Mayor Charles Royer, said, "How I look at it is that countries and people remember instances of wrongdoing if there's a cost involved; it makes an impression on them. The \$5,000 is miniscule in comparison with the losses suffered by Japanese Americans--in terms of real and personal property. The compensation makes a clear point to elected officials that if something like this happens again, next time there will be a price to pay."

Kurimura and Royer will encourage support for redress at meetings of the Conference of Mayors in June and the League of Cities in November.

Under Sibonga's proposed ordinance, compensation for the four Japanese American employees terminated during World War II would come from the City's Emergency Fund.

A public hearing (mentioned above) will be held on this proposed ordinance in the City Council chambers, Wednesday, February 15 at 5 p.m. Please plan to attend. For more information, call the JACL at 623-5088.

JACL HOLDS INSTALLATION AND AWARDS BANQUET

Approximately 250 members and supporters of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) attended the 62nd Annual JACL Installation Banquet late last month at the Doubletree Plaza at Southcenter.

JACL BANQUET, continued...

State Sen. George Fleming, who played a key role in winning compensation for Japanese American state employees who lost their jobs during World War II, was the keynote speaker at the banquet. KOMO-TV reporter Marcus Mukai was the master of ceremonies.

"This turnout shows solidarity that flows through your community," Fleming said. "We have all made progress but much progress is yet to be made. In the struggle for full civil rights and liberties, you can be proud."

But even though Japanese Americans have come this far, Fleming said, they still have not made their presence known in many places, such as in state government.

"There is still a lot to do," he said, citing President Reagan's recent attack on affirmative action and the Civil Rights Commission.

"Complete miscarriage of justice is still possible," Fleming said. "Not all of our opponents are bigots, but all bigots are our opponents."

Fourteen awards were given out at the banquet. The recipients were: Sen. George Fleming, Sen. John Jones, Ron Sims, Tim Gojo, Ruth Woo, Redress Committee, Puyallup Monument Committee, Dr. Dennis Short, Aki Kurose, and Dr. Ben Uyeno.

Cherry Kinoshita received the Dr. Min Masuda Community Service Award, and Silver Pins were given to Lloyd Hara, Bill Ishii and Mako Nakagawa.

The 1984 JACL officers are: Jerry Shigaki, president; David Okimoto, president-elect; Wayne Kimura, 1st vice-president; Sam Shoji, 2nd vice-president; Roger Shimizu, 3rd vice-president; Kathy Kozu, 4th vice-president; Ayako Hurd, corresponding secretary; Janice Nishimori, treasurer; Jiro and Shea Aoki, historians; and Mako Nakagawa, board delegate.

The 1984 JACL Board of Directors are: Ann Fujii, Frank Fujii, James Hattori, David Hoekendorf, Dev Kashino, Rod Kaseguma, Diana Kato, Dough Kinoshita, Jan Kumasaka, Al Kurimura, Ron Mamiya, Hana Masuda, Ellen Miyasato, Ken Nakano, Arlene Oki, May Sasaki, Robert Sato, Cal Takagi, Theresa Takayoshi, Ted Taniguchi, Masako Tomita, Vicki Toyohara and Joan Yoshitomi.

FROM THE PRESIDENT....

As president of the Seattle Chapter, JACL, I look forward to working with all of you in 1984. Although Japanese-Americans have been competitive in obtaining high educational standards and financial security, we still have barrier to overcome before we are totally equal in this society.

With this in mind, I hope to work towards the following goals this year. First, we need to continue taking an active role in the civil rights of Japanese Americans, with redress at the local and national levels being a priority. Further, we need to work on the affirmative action hiring processes in the public and private sectors. Specifically, we anticipate having an Asian-American department head within the City of Seattle who will be sensitive to the needs of our community. Finally, our chapter will work closely with other civil rights groups and organizations to achieve our common goals.

It is imperative that the members of our organization be informed about the relevant issues affecting Japanese-Americans, including, United States-Japan relations, international relations, Nikkei aging, mental health, anti-discrimination, and political education. As this is an election year, a major concern is that our members be informed of the platforms of all candidates seeking public office at the local, state, and national level.

Such information will be disseminated through meetings, forums, and our newsletter. As a result, we will be able to take a proactive posture instead of a reactionary stance on all issues.

For the past five years, the membership of our chapter has been steadily declining. We need to increase the membership by at least 25 percent. By strengthening our membership, we will build a stronger foundation, which is necessary to make changes in our society. In addition, more individuals will become aware of the struggles, concerns and issues affecting all Japanese Americans.

With your support and assistance we can take some positive steps in achieving our goals!

Also, along with the Education Committee, will be meeting with the newly selected Seattle Community College District Chancellor, Don Phelps, to encourage him to appoint an Asian as president of Seattle Central Community College. We will discuss the hiring process with him sometime this month.

MORE

INTERPRETER BILL DIES IN COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

House Bill 1621, sponsored by Representative Jennifer Belcher of Olympia's 22nd District, died in the Judiciary committee recently. The bill would have improved the current state statute that requires interpreter assistance in certain judicial proceedings involving hearing impaired and/or non-English speaking persons.

Strong opposition to the bill came from the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, and from lobbyist of counties and cities. Concerns from them were because of the costs involved (which were difficult to ascertain) and because of a perception that the bill represented barriers to law enforcement and extended the scope of current law.

Negotiations will continue and it is possible that an interpreter bill can be passed in the 1985 legislature.

The Senate Education Committee approved a comprehensive education excellence package. This is a result of a cooperative effort between the Senate Education Committee and a number of organizations.

Some of the highlights of this package are: Encourages local school districts to establish an annual process which identifies goals emphasizing local educational excellence; establishes minimum course requirements for the State Board of Education to use when developing graduation requirements for graduates in 1988-89; annual assessment and testing of all 8th grade students for the purpose of high school planning and test comparisons; to promote teacher excellence; authorizes districts to use local unencumbered cash reserves and up to 30 percent of excess levy capacity for locally-bargained teacher excellence plans; Basic Ed Honors Programs--would be a partial or total tuition waiver at a Washington state institution and could be renewable up to four consecutive years; Vocational Ed Honors--recognizes exceptional vocational ed students at both secondary and postsecondary levels.

BRIEF NOTES

As part of this year's membership drive, JACL is offering a trip to Japan, with possible extended sidetrips to Singapore and Hong Kong. You must be a JACL member to qualify, scheduled from October 6 through October 23/ For more information, contact Hana Masuda or Pat Terao at 283-0200.

Thanks to the following people for putting together last month's newsletter: Roger Shimizu, Jerry Shigaki, Dave Okimoto, Mako Nakagawa, Massie Tomita, Janice Nishimori, Kathy Kozu, Gail Tanaka and Ken Katayama.

Copies of Personal Justice Denied (Part I), which is the report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), is now available from the Washington Coalition on Redress. The report is now available in limited quantities. You can contact WCR through the JACL Pacific Northwest District Office at (206)623-5088 to make arrangements to pick up a copy for \$8.50, or a copy can be mailed to you for \$10. Please allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery.

Part II of Personal Justice Denied, which covers the recommendations of the Commission, is also available for \$3.00 (or \$3.75 if mailed). Part II, 13 pages, has provided the basis for several of the redress bills now being considered in the House and Senate. If you would like to order a copy (or copies) by mail, please send a check or money order to: "Personal Justice Denied", Washington Coalition on Redress, 316 Maynard Avenue South, Rm. 108, Seattle, WA 98104. Make all checks or money orders payable to: Seattle Redress Committee. Mail order prices: Part 1, \$10/copy; Part 2, \$3.75 copy; Both Part 1 and 2, \$13.75.

The following is a list of recent minority promotions and hirings in the Department of Construction and Land Use for the City of Seattle: Bank Evans, Ken Swanigan, Alan Oiyee, Sik Wong, Bill Sakaguchi, Ikuno Masterson, Robby Liem, Mario Shavnette, John Chou, James Chen, Jonathan Siu, and Paul Chang, and Juan Moncada. Of the 23 new hires, 12 were minorities (35%); out of 10 promotions, 4 were minorities (40%).

They Represent You, the League of Women Voters 1984 directory of elected officials, is now available. The directory lists names, addresses and telephone numbers of elected officials who represent the residents of King County. Individual copies may be obtained at any Seattle or King County public library or by sending a request with a stamped self-addressed envelope to the League of Women Voters of Seattle, 1402 - 18th Ave, Seattle, Washington, 98122. Bulk orders for schools, churches, unions and clubs, may be obtained by calling the League of Women Voters of Seattle office, 329-4848, 9 to 3 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 5 p.m., Public hearing on Seattle City Council redress bill that would allow employees of Seattle, of Japanese ancestry, financial compensation, 11th floor, Municipal Building, 600 - 4th Ave. S.

WEDNESDAY, February 15, 7:30 p.m., General board meeting, JAACL Office, president Jerry Shigaki, presiding.

SATURDAY, February 25, "Grassroots 84", workshop sponsored by the Washington State Democratic Party, at KingCounty Labor Temple, 2800 - 1st Ave., Seattle. Lunch fee \$4.50 or bring sack lunch. A \$10 fundraiser and no-host bar following. Call 583-0664.

WEDNESDAY, February 29, 8 p.m., Non-fiction Television: The Invisible Citizens, a program about Japanese Americans in detention camps during World Warr II, channel 9. Please consult listings for correct time.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, March 3 and 4, "The Fall of the International Hotel," a premiere, at Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center, 2 and 7 p.m., both days. Also showing will be a return by popular demand, the full-length film "Hito Hata: Raise the Banner. This is a benefit for the International District Housing Alliance, 623-5132. General Admission \$5, \$3.50 under 12 and senior citizens, \$4 matinee, \$3, 12 and under, senior citizens.

SATURDAY, March 10, 7:30 p.m., Nippon Kan Theatre, Performances by three Japanese-classical/traditional dance instructors-- Fujimine, Hanayagi Namisato and Hanayagi Yosono/ Fujima

MONDAY, March 12, Executive Board meeting, 7 p.m., JAACL Office.

WEDNESDAY, March 14, newsletter mailout, 7 p.m., JAACL Office, Bring your friends and relatives. We need your help!

WEDNESDAY, March 21, general board meeting, 7:30 p.m., JAACL office.

SATURDAY, March 31, Casino Night!!! Bush HOTEL, more information in March newsletter.

SUNDAY, April 1, Pacific Northwest District Council Meeting, 9 a.m., at JAACL Office.

SUNDAY, July 29, Mark this date on your calendar, the 1000 Club Annual Golf Tournament, at Jefferson Park Golf Course; Chairpersons are Mary and Chuck Furuta. More information in upcoming newsletters.

Japanese American Citizens League  
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# THE PACIFIC: PARADISE LOST

A CONFERENCE ON THE NUCLEAR FREE  
AND INDEPENDENT PACIFIC MOVEMENT



**Giff Johnson**

Journalist and former resource coordinator for Pacific Concerns Resource Center.

**Darlene Keju**

Marshall Islander and victim of nuclear testing, currently organizing independent health survey.

**SAT. MARCH 31st**

**9 AM TO 5 PM**

University Unitarian Church  
6556 35th Ave. NE



workshops will provide an overview of militarism and independence issues in pacific and asia.

**NW FILM PREMIERE**

NARRATED BY JOANNE WOODWARD

**FREE**

~~2.00 at Conference \$6.00 at Door~~

**"STRATEGIC TRUST: THE MAKING OF A NUCLEAR FREE PALAU"**

UNIVERSITY OF WASH.

SAT.

KANE HALL ROOM 110

7pm

ORGANIZED BY THE NORTHWEST NETWORK FOR A NFIP

Co-Sponsors Includes: American Friends Service Committee, Japanese American Citizens League, United Methodist Women Asian-Pacific Women's Caucus, Coalition Against the Marcos Dictatorship/Philippine Solidarity Network, ILWU Local 37, Union for Democratic Filipinos, United Ministries, Church Council of Greater Seattle/SERPAC, Unitarians for Social Justice, Washington Freeze Campaign, Washington State Korean Human Rights Council, Seattle East Wind Magazine, A.S.I.A.N.

A combination plate lunch representing foods of the Pacific will be available for \$3.00

CONFERENCE PRE-REGISTRATION

Deadline: March 23, 1984

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Workshops(check two):  Hawaii  Marshall Is.  W. Micronesia  So. Pacific  Phiippines  Korea  Japan

Conference Fee: \$5.00 general or \$3.00 low-income/student/senior citizens (\$6/\$4 day of conference)  
Make checks payable to **AFSC**. Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Will you need child care?  Yes  No

Return to: NORTHWEST NETWORK FOR A NFIP, 814 NE 40TH ST., SEATTLE, WA 98105