

J A C L NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

APRIL 1987

VOLUME 24 NO. 4

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you probably know, 1987 is the year of the bicentennial celebration of the United States Constitution. Thus, it is appropriate that 1987 also become the year that redress legislation H.R. 442 gains passage.

JACL has spent much time, effort and money in pursuit of redress and now we find ourselves at what may be a very crucial moment in history. It is either now or never.

Therefore, we must renew our efforts in the final thrust for redress by talking with friends and relatives, sending letters to Congress, talking to groups and clubs, getting involved in local activities and donating to the redress fund. The eventual outcome will depend largely upon each and every one of our individual efforts.

In conjunction with the heightened redress activities, an important local event is scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 1987. A seminar entitled "Redress: An American Issue" will be held at the Nippon Kan Theatre and is cosponsored by the Seattle Chapter JACL and the Seattle School District, with endorsements by various other community organizations.

The morning session, beginning at 8:30 a.m., will be open to the general public. An afternoon session is limited to teachers, who will be developing curriculum on redress and Japanese American history.

Coinciding with this seminar will be the presentation of a memorial plaque commemorating the Seattle School Board's decision to award redress to former school district secretaries who lost their jobs during World War II due to their Japanese ancestry. This plaque will be placed in the lobby of the District's Central Administration Building.

We urge the community's attendance at this event to demonstrate visible support and advocacy for redress legislation and education.

-- May Sasaki, President
Seattle Chapter JACL

Special Reports

REDRESS BILL INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE

Senator Brock Adams of Washington and Senator Spark Matsunaga of Hawaii have cosponsored a Senate bill that would authorize redress payments of \$20,000 to each Japanese American interned during World War II. To date, 59 other Senators have agreed to cosponsor the bill.

In addition, the bill stipulates that Congress issue an official apology to those affected by the internment. It also authorizes the Attorney General to review all cases where citizens and resident aliens of Japanese ancestry were convicted of violating laws pertaining to the evacuation, relocation and internment. The President, acting on the Attorney General's recommendations, can grant pardons to those convicted during that time.

"I have basic moral and personal reasons for cosponsoring this legislation," Adams said. "I watched one-third of my classmates at Seattle's Broadway High School lose their freedom in 1942. U.S. Army troops pulled them and their families from their homes and transported them to relocation camps in our remote Western deserts. It is time we as a nation pay reparations to those who lost so much.

"The citizens of the state of Washington have done their part in attempting to right this wrong. They now look to their national representatives to follow suit."

Under this legislation, a Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board of Directors will be formed to locate individuals eligible to receive payment and will sponsor educational activities about the internment. The President will appoint nine members to the Board. At least five members will be of Japanese ancestry.

Chapter Focus

ACTIVITIES OF THE "YOUNG ADULT GROUP"

A new group, formed within Seattle Chapter JACL, consists of individuals between the ages of 25 to 40-years-old. The group recently helped work the JACL information table at the Cherry Blossom Festival. The group will meet on Wednesday, April 22, 7 p.m. at the JACL office to formulate new ideas and directions, including the development of a leadership program for future leaders of JACL. All interested people and their friends are invited to attend.

The group also plans to reserve a table at the Pacific Northwest District Council Dinner on April 25 at the Warwick Hotel. Guest speaker will be Dr. Frank Miyamoto, professor emeritus at the University of Washington, who will talk about Japanese American history in the Pacific Northwest.

Members of the group have also been cleaning and refurbishing the "Pride and Shame" exhibit, along with help from Eagle Scouts from the Seattle Buddhist Church. It will be displayed at the Sand Point Naval Station on May 9, and at the redress seminar held at Nippon Kan Theatre on May 16.

Also, the "Young Adult Group" is not an official name. The group is still in search of one and will finalize their decision soon. For more information about the group, contact Teresa Sato at 881-4533 (w), or 367-8710 (h).

JOURNALIST TO DISCUSS EXTENSIVE RESEARCH ON HIBAKUSHA

Joe Copeland of the Everett Herald will discuss his first-hand observation and research on atomic bomb survivors on April 13, 8 p.m. at the Seattle Chapter office.

Copeland, invited by the International Relations Committee, was the 1986 recipient of the Akiba Project Hiroshima Travel Grant. The grant is sponsored by Japanese newspapers and broadcasters to promote the understanding of conditions in post-war Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the people's desire for peace.

Copeland spent a month in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, interviewing many Japanese hibakusha. He also conducted an extensive interview in a Hiroshima hospital and in Seattle with Seattle resident Harue Toyoji. Copeland's articles were published on January 4 and 11 in the Everett Herald.

BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT

A Seattle Chapter Benefit Golf Tournament will be held on June 14, 1987 at the Jefferson Park Golf Course. The tournament will start at 11:00 a.m.

The first 25 Foursomes will be entered. Entry fee is \$20.00, with

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participants paying the green fees. Come for fun, prizes and a steak dinner cooked by JACL volunteers at the Nisei Veterans Hall. Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m.

Men, women, boys and girls are invited -- if you don't have a handicap, the Calloway System will be used to compute one for you. Fill out the entry form below, along with your check made out to JACL, and send to: JACL, Attn: Bob Sato, 316 Maynard Ave. S. Room 108, Seattle, WA 98104.

Starting times will be posted at Jefferson Park and in the May and June newsletters.

ENTRY FORM FOR JUNE 14, 1987 JACL BENEFIT GOLF TOURNEY

Name _____ Handicap _____ Check amount \$ _____

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DONATIONS

Arigato to the following for contributions to JACL for the month of March: Frank Ashida and Jim Nakamura in memory of their mother, Sumiyo Nakamura; Bush Garden restaurant for the '88 National Convention; and Jackson Furniture for the Tribute to Pioneer Businesses.

Thanks to Sam Shoji, Dale and Karen Kodama, George Abe, Marge Yanagimachi, Chuck Kato and Misi Kumakura for helping to mail the March newsletter.

Community Notes

NOTICE FROM COMMISSION ON ASIAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Several months ago, there was news coverage of a Vietnamese refugee whose automobile policy was not renewed by Pemco Insurance Co. because he could not

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speak fluent English. As a result, a suit was filed and a judgment made that discrimination had occurred.

In a follow-up discussion with Maura Quiggle of the Washington Human Rights Commission on March 23, 1987, we learned that any individuals who believe that within the last three years, they have had a cancellation or non-renewal of their policy based on language barriers, may be entitled to some compensation. If so, they must file a claim.

Anyone wishing to file a claim should contact Maura Quiggle at 464-6500 in Seattle or 753-0884 in Olympia.

-- Lois Hayasaka, Executive Director
Commission on Asian American Affairs

MESSAGE FROM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS OF "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

Have you ever asked yourself, "Why aren't more Asian Pacific/Islanders recognized for the volunteer work they do?"

We have, and as Advisory Board members of the "Making a Difference" program, we have noted that very few Asian/Pacific Islanders are nominated. The "Making a Difference" program is sponsored by KING TV, Metrocenter YMCA and Pacific Northwest Bell. Over the past four years, it has received over 1500 nominations and only 10 were Asian/Pacific Islanders. Out of the 10, seven have been chosen to receive an award. This past year, Harry Kadoshima, a volunteer with Keiro nursing home, was honored as our volunteer of the year. The award carried with it a \$1,000 donation to the agency of his choice, live presentation on KING TV and a plaque.

We need your help. We are not getting enough nominations! Please take the time to look within your community and organization to see who deserves to be nominated, fill out a nomination form and send it in.

Criteria for selecting volunteers:

- Is the volunteer making a visible difference within the community by helping people or improving the quality of life?
- Will the selection of the volunteer provide a model for others to follow?
- Has the individual been actively involved in volunteer work during the past year?
- The volunteer is receiving no financial compensation for his/her work.

We cannot guarantee that your nominee will be selected, but we can assure you that it will be given a thorough review.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to call either of us.

Sincerely,

Doug Chow (587-5979)
 Alan Sugiyama (723-2286)

SAN JOSE TAIKO COMING TO SEATTLE ON MAY 30

San Jose Taiko, often considered the best Sansei taiko group in North America, will perform two shows on May 30 at the Nippon Kan Theatre. Tickets for the afternoon matinee performance, at 2 p.m., are \$6.50 general admission and \$5.50 for seniors. Tickets for the evening performance, at 8 p.m., are \$7.50 general admission and \$6.50 for seniors.

Since its formation in the early 1970s, San Jose Taiko has become the role model for combining the traditional Japanese art of taiko drumming with Western music. The group's performances combine music, choreography and athletic ability (running is a requirement for their members).

In a visit to Seattle last year, Den Tagayasu, leader of the legendary Ondekoza taiko group from Japan, said, "I want to bring San Jose Taiko to Japan to wake up the taiko players in Japan."

This event is sponsored by the International Examiner newspaper.

Calendar of Events

VIGNETTES OF KING COUNTY PARKS -- Continuous through May 24, Public Art Space (Fountain Level of Seattle Center House). Photograph exhibit of noted Korean American nature photographer Johsel Namkung. Regular hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

A THOUSAND CRANES: A TREASURE OF JAPANESE ART FROM THE SEATTLE ART MUSEUM -- Continuous through July 12, Seattle Art Museum Pavilion, Seattle Center.

MEETING WITH HIBAKUSHA JOURNALIST JOE COPELAND -- Monday, April 13, 8 p.m., JACL office.

CHAPTER BOARD MEETING -- Wednesday, April 15, 7:30 p.m., Chapter office. Everyone welcome.


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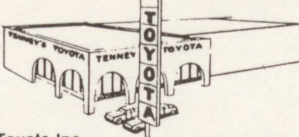
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TEARS OF JOY PUPPET THEATRE -- Saturday, April 18, 2 p.m., Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. In a program for adults and children alike, the Vancouver, WA troupe presents folk tales from Japan. Tickets available at Uwajimaya and House of Rice. Admission: \$6 general, seniors and students \$4.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP MEETING -- Wednesday, April 22, 7 p.m., JACL office.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DISTRICT COUNCIL DINNER/CONFERENCE -- Saturday & Sunday, April 25 & 26, Warwick Hotel, Fourth and Lenora. Saturday night dinner at 6:45 p.m., cocktails at 5:30. Sunday meeting/lunch from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reservations: Bob Sato (325-9243) or Tim Otani (623-5088).

NICHIREN BUDDHIST CHURCH BAZAAR -- Sunday, April 26, 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., 1042 S. Weller St. Tickets may be purchased from church members or at the church.

ST. PETER'S SUKIYAKI DINNER -- Saturday, May 2, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m., St. Peter's Parish, 1610 S. King St. Adults \$5, children \$3. To reserve tickets, call the parish office (323-5250) or any parishioner.

JAYS MONTHLY MEETING -- Tuesday, May 5, 7 p.m., JACL office.

"REDRESS: AN AMERICAN ISSUE" -- Saturday, May 16, 8:30 a.m., Nippon Kan Theatre. Seminar on the redress issue.

TOMO-NO-KAI MEETING -- Monday, May 18, 7:30 p.m. Kawabe House. Presentation by JACL President May Sasaki.

"AN EVENING WITH ARNOLD MUKAI" -- Sunday, May 24, 7:30 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S. Admission \$7, students and seniors \$5.

SAN JOSE TAIKO CONCERT -- Saturday, May 30, Nippon Kan Theatre. Matinee at 2 p.m., evening performance at 8 p.m. Matinee tickets: \$6.50 adults, \$5.50 seniors. Evening performance: \$7.50 adults, \$6.50 seniors. Tickets available at Uwajimaya.

"BORN TOO SOON ...IT'S NEVER TOO LATE" -- Saturday, May 30, 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 31, 2 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S. Tales of a spirited 74-year-old Nisei woman in the Pacific Northwest. Performed and written by Tomo Shoji. Admission: \$7, students and seniors \$4.

SEATTLE CHAPTER BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT -- Sunday, June 14, 11 a.m., Jefferson Park Golf Course. Dinner later at 7 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW SEATTLE KEIRO NURSING HOME -- Sunday, June 14, 1 p.m., 16th & Yesler. "Keiro Okagesama" ("Keiro thanks to you") celebration with song, music, taiko, refreshments and memories. Open house from 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. Gov. Booth has been invited.

-- compiled by Ed Suguro

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The JACL Newsletter is published each month by the Seattle Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. Send items for inclusion by the first of the month to JACL, 316 Maynard Avenue South Room 108, Seattle, Washington 98104. To advertise, send \$40 (for 12 issues) and a camera-ready ad the size of a business card or smaller. — Editor Ken Mochizuki

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