

J A C L NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

MARCH 1988

VOLUME 25 NO. 3

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE: "ON OUR ROAD TO SUCCESS" -- Over 200 people attended the Day of Remembrance potluck dinner/program on February 19 at the Bush-Asia Center in the International District. The event, highlighted by Rep. Norman Mineta of California, also featured Rep. Mike Lowry and KIRO Newsradio reporter Frank Abe as master of ceremonies.

Abe gave a detailed history of the Day of Remembrance, which was started in Seattle and is now recognized in other West Coast cities. This Day of Remembrance marked the 12th anniversary of the elimination of Executive Order 9055 by President Ford. President Franklin D. Roosevelt first invoked the order 45 years ago, resulting in the forced removal of 110,000 Japanese Americans from the West Coast two weeks later.

Chizuko Omori spoke of her experiences in Washington, D.C. as one of 19 plaintiffs in the National Council on Japanese American Redress class action suit against the United States government which seeks \$25 billion in damages for more than 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry. The case is still pending.

Roger Shimizu and Rodney Kawakami, two of the many attorneys who were involved in Gordon Hirabayashi's legal appeals, summarized the successful conclusion of their case, which vacated the 57-year-old Seattle native's wartime convictions for failing to report to an internment camp and violating curfew orders. Shimizu and Kawakami unveiled plans for a victory celebration on March 25.

Mineta told the audience that the Day of Remembrance commemoration "reflects upon our own history." "Today is destined to stand out; this will be a banner year for Americans of Japanese ancestry," he said.

The "banner year" Mineta referred to is the pending vote on the redress bill, which has yet to be voted on by the U.S. Senate. The House version of the bill, H.R. 442, was passed on September 17, 1987. Mineta said he expects the Senate to act on the bill soon, but added that mixed signals have come from the White House over whether President Reagan will sign the bill.

Mineta reminded the audience that the message of redress is being heard all over the country. "Japanese Americans have had to sacrifice in order to find justice," he said. "All the work towards redress has not been done in vain."

"We want the redress bill to become law, and to reach into American consciousness, and that is a task," he said. He added that redress "was necessary so that no American would endure our tragedy" of internment during World War II.

"We are on our road to success," Mineta said. "Remember our sacrifices and victories past."

-- submitted by Ann Fujii

(Note: The victory party for Gordon Hirabayashi has been postponed until a more appropriate time in the future.)

REDRRESS UPDATE -- Senate redress bill S.1009 is expected to be introduced for a floor vote anytime now. Following expected passage, the differences between the Senate version and H.R. 442 will be resolved in a conference committee. It is anticipated that the Senate legislation will most likely be the bill which will go to the President.

Congressman Norman Mineta stated during his Day of Remembrance address that the one thing everyone could do is write to President Ronald Reagan to urge him to sign the bill.

Over 100 redress supporters have sent to the JACL office their letter to the President. They are ready to be forwarded as soon as the Senate bill is passed. At least 10 times as many letters need to be accumulated to make any impact.

Have you written your letter yet?

Chapter Focus

MARCH CHAPTER GENERAL/BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 15 WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS -- At the March Board meeting, the Seattle Chapter will launch a major membership drive. The goal is to increase membership to 1,000 individuals by June, 1988. The Chapter currently has 589 members. Dues for Regular Membership is \$40.00. To achieve the goal of 1,000 new members, the Board

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and committee chairs will be divided into five teams. Each team will develop and implement specific recruitment strategies. Prizes will be awarded to the team and individual that recruits the highest number of members.

The Membership Committee consists of Kazzie Katayama (co-chair), Bruce Echigoshima (co-chair), Ann Fujii and Marie Coon. Anyone interested in joining a team, contact Kazzie at 684-1965.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE MEETS WITH OTHER CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS -- On February 24, 1988, JACL Board members Cherry Kinoshita and Naomi Iwata-Sanchez met with members of the Seattle Urban League, American Jewish Committee, the Committee Against Malicious Harassment and the Hispanic Professional Association to learn how to network on civil rights issues. David Roth, a networking specialist, led the group in exercises to bring about better understanding of cultural issues.

The Anti-Discrimination Committee, led by President-Elect Naomi Iwata-Sanchez, will continue to network with these groups to make judicial and law enforcement officials more aware of the malicious harassment law, passed in 1984.

DONATIONS -- Appreciation is extended to Kikuko Graham and Frank Muramatsu for donating to the Seattle JACL Redress Fund.

Helping with the February Newsletter mailout were Lucy Sato, George Abe, Lillian Kato, Shea Aoki, Sam Shoji, Ken Nakano, Margaret Yasuda, Tom Nakao, Shigeiko Uno, Chuck Kato, Katashi Oita, Dale Watanabe, Kimi Nakanishi, Hazel Calhoun and Chizu Omori.

Please feel free to join us for Newsletter mailouts, 9 a.m. to noon. Next mailouts will be on **Saturday, March 12** and **Saturday, April 15**.

TIME AGAIN FOR SEATTLE CHERRY BLOSSOM & JAPANESE CULTURAL FESTIVAL -- The Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival will be held at the Seattle Center Center House and Flag Pavilion from Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17. Admission is free.

This year will feature a retrospective of past exhibits and a modern calligraphy exhibition. A special added treat this year is the addition of a Japanese film festival, which will run on three consecutive Thursdays beginning April 14. The films, which include animation, feature and commercial films, will be shown at Kane Hall on the U.W. campus.

This year, the JACL Cherry Blossom committee would like to extend an invitation to all interested persons who would like to volunteer their services. We will need help at the information booth, setting up exhibits, and general security. Traditionally, this has only been available to Board members. If you are interested, or have questions, please contact Mr. Dale Watanabe at 722-2275.

Volunteer shifts are Friday evening; Saturday and Sunday: noon to 2:45 p.m. (lunch included), 2:30 to 5:15 p.m. (snack provided), and 5 to 7 p.m. (dinner furnished). Free parking will also be available to those who contact Dale by March 30.

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WHAT'S NEW WITH THE JAYS? -- March has been named our "Canned Food Drive Month." Under the direction of Andrea Mano, the JAYS are collecting non-perishable food for donation to the Asian Counseling & Referral Service. Drop-off sites for food include the International District branch of SeaFirst Bank, Imperial Lanes, Nisei Veterans Committee Hall, Seattle Buddhist Church, St. Peter's Episcopal Church and the JA CL Chapter office.

Donations needed include canned foods, especially fruits and vegetables; instant noodles and soup; bar soap and other small household needs. All food donations will be welcome. Boxes for collection were donated by City Produce and S.K. Produce. If everybody pitches in, we can really make this a truly successful community event.

The JAYS annual spring dance, "Beach Break," is currently in the planning stages and tentatively set for March 25. Watch for more information soon. Other upcoming events include our Spring Car Wash on April 10 at the Burger King Restaurant on Rainier Ave. S., and our annual Bowl-a-thon at Imperial Lanes on April 17.

For those of you unfamiliar with the JAYS, we are an active group of high school and college age youths always excited to have new faces join us. We've got a full slate of activities for the upcoming summer, including the National JA CL Youth Convention to be held at the U.W. campus in August.

For more information about the JAYS, contact President Denise Tsuji at 284-4383 or bring yourself and a friend to our monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of each month at the JA CL office. Our next meeting will be April 5, 7 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Also: Congratulations to Andrea Mano for being selected as the new Pacific Northwest District Youth Representative. Good luck, Andrea, we know you'll do a great job!

NATIONAL JA CL SCHOLARSHIPS -- The 1988 National Scholarship and Student Aid Program is offering these scholarships. JA CL members, their dependents, or any American of Japanese ancestry may apply. Deadline is April 1, 1988.

1) Graduating High School Senior Scholarship Application -- Scholarship applicants must be graduating high school in 1988, who are planning to attend a trade school, business school, college or university, or any institution of higher learning in the academic year of Fall, 1988.

2) Undergraduate/Graduate -- Undergraduate applicants must be currently enrolled or planning to re-enter a trade school, business college, college, university or other institution of higher learning at the undergraduate level. Applicants for graduate awards must be either currently enrolled or planning to enter an accredited graduate school.

3) Community College/Vocational School -- Freshman scholarship applicants must be graduating from high school in 1988, and planning to attend a trade school, business school, college or university, or any institution of higher learning in the academic year of 1988.

4) Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Creative Arts Scholarship -- Creative Arts

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Scholarships are to encourage promising artists who are involved with projects that reflect the Japanese American experience. Technical level of the applicant's work should be of "college level." Professional artists are not eligible.

Ruby Yoshino Scharr Biennium Playwright Award -- The New York JACL chapter established the Ruby Yoshino Scharr Biennium Playwright Award to encourage talented playwrights to tell the story of the Japanese American or Japanese Canadian in North America. The 1938 Award is \$2,000. The applicant must (1) be a playwright of Japanese descent with American or Canadian citizenship; (2) sponsored by an active member of JACL or a chapter of JACL; (3) have had at least one of her or his plays presented in a public forum, such as an established theatre, workshop or formal reading. Deadline: April 1, 1988.

Washington State University Summer Challenge '83 -- The Department of Communications at WSU is offering full scholarships to minority students who would like to write, report, edit, and use computers on a university campus next summer, June 25 to July 1, 1988. No experience in journalism is necessary. Scholarship includes tuition, room and board. For more information and application materials, please contact Thomas H. Heuterman, Department of Communications, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-2520. Deadline is April 20, 1988.

The Seattle Chapter JACL is offering four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors and university students of Japanese ancestry. The awards are made possible by the Minoru Tamesa Scholarship Fund, the Rev. Emery Andrews Scholarship Fund, Seattle Baptist Church and Seattle Chapter JACL. Deadline is April 20, 1987.

Scholarship applicants will be judged according to their academic record (2.5 GPA or better), community service, their personal statement, financial need, and extracurricular activities including work.

Unless otherwise noted, for more information and application material on the aforementioned scholarships, please send 1) a stamped, legal size, self-addressed envelope; 2) telephone number; and 3) a note specifying which scholarship you are interested in to: Belle Nishioka, Seattle JACL Scholarship Chair, 315 Maynard Ave. S. Room 108, Seattle, WA 98104.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE RALLY/BREAKFAST -- The Convention Committee will hold a breakfast meeting at the University of Washington on March 19 at 9 a.m. for an update on all convention activities. At 10 a.m., all those at the meeting will be served a breakfast that will basically be the same food convention attendees will be eating during the convention.

The meeting will be held in the northeast side dining room in Haggett Hall and last to approximately noon. During this meeting, a picture of the Convention Committee will be taken for use in the convention program. Contact Ben Nakagawa, Tomio Moriguchi or Tim Otani at 523-5038 if you have any questions.

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Registration Form -- National JACL Golf Tournament
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(National Convention, August 7-11, 1988)

Headquarters -- University of Washington Husky Union Building (HUB)

- * Golfer Reception, August 3, U of W HUB -- 5 p.m.
- * Two 18 hole Rounds on Seattle Municipal Courses -- August 4 & 5
- * Sports award dinner, August 5, U of W HUB -- 5:30 p.m.

Please send your name, address and approximate handicap with check for entry fee to Bob Sato, 1501 E. Lynn, Seattle, WA 98112.

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Please bring evidence of USGA Club handicap at the end of June to the August 3 reception. Golfers without established USGA handicap will compete in the "Calloway" Flight.


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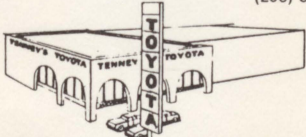
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Also: This is in response to the "Duffer who pays his membership dues." The low net winner in each flight will be awarded a \$150 cash equivalent prize. The National Champion, low gross, JACL member will be awarded the \$350 cash equivalent prize.

-- Bob Sato, committee chair

Calendar of Events

CHAPTER GENERAL/BOARD MEETING -- Wednesday, March 15, 7 p.m., Chapter office.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE BREAKFAST MEETING -- Saturday, March 19, 9 a.m., University of Washington Haggett Hall, northeast side dining room.

FUNDRAISER FOR DENNIS HECK -- Monday, March 21, 7 - 9:30 p.m., Prima Vera Gallery Cafe, 112 5th Ave. N. Heck, currently a State Representative, is a candidate for state Superintendent of Public Instruction. Requested donation: \$25. Info.: Jerry Shigaki, 723-2285.

ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES FIFTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE -- Thursday, March 24 through Sunday, March 27, Washington State University. Information: Asian/Pacific American Studies Program, WSU, Pullman, WA 99154-5130, (509)335-1955 or 335-5275.

JAYs MONTHLY MEETING -- Tuesday, April 5, 7 p.m., JACL office.

DOSHI KAI MEETING -- Wednesday, April 5, 7 p.m., JACL office.

JAYs SPRING CAR WASH -- Sunday, April 10, Burger King Restaurant on Rainier Ave. S.

JAYs ANNUAL BOWL-A-TYON -- Sunday, April 17, Imperial Lanes. Details forthcoming.

-- compiled by Ed Suguro

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