

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: TWO EVENTS DEMONSTRATE "IMPORTANT PRIORITIES"

Two major events occurred recently and are worth mentioning here. The dedication of the Fort Vancouver Monument and the meeting with the Educational Service District (ESD) 121 board were events made possible by the leadership of two JACL Board members and the support of members at large.

These events demonstrate two important priorities for JACL: international relations with Japan and the protection of civil rights. Let me share with you how we have addressed these priorities recently.

About a, year ago, Ken Nakano, chair of our International Relations Committee, came over on a Sunday morning and discussed his dream of a monument commemorating three Japanese seamen who landed in our state in 1832, and the bond between the Japanese and Americans that aided them. Ken Nakano pursued his dream, and through many setbacks and long hours tackling the state bureaucracy, he was able to connect with the Japanese government and garner their financial support in the form of a beautiful monument which now stands at Fort Vancouver.

This monument is a gift from Hyogo Prefecture in Japan to Washington state citizens. Over 100 Nikkei were present at the opening ceremonies, including our national President Cressey Nakagawa. It was a momentous occasion in our state's history and an example of how one JACLer has contributed to the bridging of our community with the citizens of Japan. Many thanks to Ken Nakano for his historic contribution.

Last month, Ben Nakagawa spoke before the ESD 121 school board and expressed some principles that reflect of JACL. He stated that JACL will not tolerate racism--that we, as Nikkei, will not stand by and let it happen. He presented a cogent, hard-hitting account of ESD 121's lack of affirmative action and hiring practices. He was powerful in his insights and courageous to be so honest.

There were over 30 JACL members present at the meeting. Ben presented a list of actions necessary to remedy the situation, and a time frame for a response from the ESD 121 board. Our Executive Committee will be meeting with Ben to discuss their response which was received this past week.

I deeply appreciate the efforts of these two JACL members and their willingness to accept leadership and to follow through on their beliefs. It isn't an easy task, but both of these men will tell you that they just had to do it because it is important to make a contribution to our community. I believe the strength of JACL is in its members, particularly in their convictions and visions to see beyond today and to embark on action that will result in a better tomorrow. Thanks again to Ken and Ben, two men with commitment. Other notes: In August, I will be attending the JACL bidistrict council

Other notes: In August, I will be attending the JACL bidistrict council meeting in late August to discuss JACL issues. I also met recently with Cressey Nakagawa and JACL District Governor Denny Yasuhara. Over lunch, I learned of the historical civil rights battles JACL has experienced and the strategies used in them, and the efforts we must make to get funding for redress.

On August 2, I participated in the opening ceremony for the Hyogo Fair and was impressed to see over 600 citizens from Hyogo, Japan, as well as government officials here to greet state and local leaders. On behalf of the Japanese American Citizens League, I greeted many Japanese citizens to our city and enjoyed meeting people from a country from which we share a common bond.

-- Naomi Iwata Sanchez

JACL TAKES ACTION ON MINORITY AFFAIRS POSITION AT U.W.

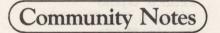
JACL wrote a letter to Dr. William Gerberding, joining other organizations to call for a fair and open process to select a new Vice President for Minority Affairs. JACL was pleased to hear recently that the university president did decide to conduct a search to find a replacement for Dr. Bob Pozos.

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WILL RETAIN MOST HIGH-RANKING ASIAN AMERICANS

Darrell Mihara, representing the Asian Pacific Directors Coalition and JACL, met with Seattle school Superintendent William Kendrick last month to discuss ways to retain the highest-ranking Asian Americans in the school district's central people in our 20s and 30s. Helping out with Keiro is just one of our many activities. For more information about us, please call Wayne Kimura at 827-0460 (day) or Lynne Uyehara at 643-8764 (day).

-- submitted by Wayne Kimura

Many thanks to the July mailout helpers: Joy Sakamoto Barker, Mary Uchida, Mits Katayama, Kazzie Katayama, Mako Nakagawa and spouse, Bob Sato, Rose Ogino, Janice Deguchi, Teresa Sato and Sam Shoji. Next mailout date is September 13.



VOLUNTEERS RECOGNIZED FOR THE 1989 CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

The following letter was submitted by the co-chairpersons of the 1989 Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival held at the Seattle Center, April 14 through 16, 1989:

Dear Volunteers:

Thank you so much for your time and energy volunteering in the 1989 Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival.

We, the Committee of the Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival, cannot express our gratitude enough. We work a full year and sometimes two years ahead of time planning the Festival. We work out all the logistics as to who's coming, how they will get here--all the way down to where the lights are positioned. But, in the end, it is because of people like yourself, volunteers, that make the Festival possible for all of Seattle and the surrounding area.

Again, a belated thank you. Our apologies to anyone we may have omitted.

Sincerely yours,

David Kageyama Linda Kodama Co-chairpersons

Shea Shizuko Aoki Volunteers Chairperson

The volunteers included:

Mel Sato George Jitodai Dale Watanabe Steve Iwago Bruce Echigoshima Roger Shimizu George Yoshida Jon Genka Mike Murakami

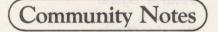
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Pat Terao Takeshi Oita Ruth Nomura Tama Murotani Mary Hirata Margaret Yanagimachi Massie Tomita Pauline Asaba Mary Uchida Hama Kato Chieko Sumimoto Connie Saito Marie Fujii Chuck & Lillian Kato Yae Yorozu Takako Yoda Chiz Hirahara Mikie Onishi Shuko Hara France Ogino Linda Kodama Mitsu & Tak Matsui Kimi Nakanishi Bessie Okada Janice Deguchi Kimi Nakamura Saki Shimizu Thelma Chikumura Jo Ann Asato Jennifer Asato Pam Tada Vickie Hirai Dina Kusakabe Leslie Takeda Utaka & Tazue Sasaki Shea Aoki Akira Tekeda Irene Nishimura Mrs. Sengo Shimizu Amy Hirai

Iky Yamada Margaret Gojio K.C. Sakura Yoshie Kanemori Terry Akada Tama Tokuda Fumi Kaseguma Hana Masuda Amy Beppu Rose Ogino Kenjiro Yamada Naomi Iwata Sanchez Ann Kumata Patty Egashira Jane Tsuboi Joy Miyamoto Lisa Ishikawa Connie Saito Yuki Nakamura

Ikebana International (Chairpersons Mr. & Mrs. Eigi Horikawa) Seattle Japanese Garden Association (Chairperson Toshi Tokunaga)

Donations were made by: Mutual Fish Company, Inc., Ikeda & Company, Bush Garden Restaurant, Uwajimaya, City Produce Company, Galaxy Specialty Company and Imperial Lanes.

Winners of the raffle drawing were:

Mr. M. Yanagihara -- Northwest Airlines trip to Japan Toshi Funai -- Continental Airlines trip to New York Kiku Matsuura -- AT&T gift certificate Kaz Nakata -- Imperial Lanes bowling ball Steve Smith -- Victoria Clipper trip A. Momohara -- Live Lobster from Mutual Fish Company Ron Granich -- Ohgiya Restaurant gift certificate Alan Russeau -- Bush Garden Restaurant gift certificate

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Honorary chairmen of the Festival were Seattle Mayor Charles Royer and Consul General Shigenobu Nagai. Maiyim Baron-Freudiger is the Festival Committee secretary and Marianne Paulhamous is the treasurer.

Festival Committee directors include: Shea Aoki, Rick Cocker, Frank Hattori, Tim Herlich, Taku Kasuya, Flora Belle Key, Chris Kirschner, Tak Kubota, Robert LaGuardia, Kathy Lusher, Tak Matsui, Kimi Nakanishi, Arlene Oki, Noriko Palmer, Tazue Kiyono Sasaki, Yutaka Sasaki, Joan Seko, Consul Yasuhisa Tani, Kenjiro Yamada, Yae Yorozu and Ruby Wilson, honorary director.

AL SUGIYAMA WILL SEEK POSITION ON SEATTLE SCHOOL BOARD

Al Sugiyama, Seattle Chapter JACl vice president, longtime community activist and life-long resident of Seattle, is running for Position #7 on the Seattle School Board. The seat is currently filled by Board President T.J. Vassar, who is not seeking re-election. If elected, Al will become the first Asian American to serve on the Board.

Al is currently the executive director of the Center for Career Alternatives, an award-winning, nationally recognized non-profit employment and training agency located in the Rainier Valley. Prior to founding this agency in 1979, Al worked with youth and adults at the Employment Opportunities Center, Seattle OIC, the City of Seattle and Seattle Public Schools. A graduate of Garfield High School in 1968, Al currently lives on Beacon Hill with his wife Kathy and two daughters.

CO-ED CAMPFIRE GROUP TO START

A co-ed Camp Fire group for children in kindergarten through the 2nd grade will be formed this fall. For more information about this new activity, contact Akemi Matsumoto at 937-2013.

COMMISSION ON ASIAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS LOOKING FOR COMMISSIONERS

The State of Washington Commission on Asian American Affairs is seeking energetic individuals to become a member of the Commission who are aware of Asian-Pacific American community needs and who enjoy getting involved with community issues. Call the Commission office at 464-5820.

The public is also welcome to visit the Commission office and look through listings of available city, state and federal jobs.



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<u>Correction</u>: The June, 1989 issue of the Chapter Newsletter incorrectly reported that Washington State Representative Dennis Braddock helped defeat legislation being considered by the Senate Children and Family Services Committee which would exempt redress payments from being a factor when determining if a person was eligible for federal public assistance programs.

Representative Braddock, in fact, provided key support for the legislation written by Representative Gary Locke, which was eventually amended onto Senate Bill 6152 and passed.

(Calendar of Events)

CHAPTER BOARD MEETING -- Wednesday, August 16, 7 p.m., Chapter office. Everyone welcome. (Note: <u>All Chapter Board meetings begin at 7 p.m.</u>)

TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY FURUSATO REUNION -- August 18, 19 and 20 at various sites around Tacoma. Golf tournament, dinners, picnic, baseball. Info.: 1-922-5524.

PUYALLUP MEMORIAL PLAQUE REDEDICATION -- Saturday, August 19, 10 a.m., Puyallup Fairgrounds. Program, held in conjunction with the Tacoma-Pierce County Furusato Reunion, will include a taiko performance and lunch.

TATEYAMA SHIRAYURI GAKUEN ORCHESTRA and SANDA-DAIKO -- August 25 through September 4, Evergreen State Fair in Monroe. Performances part of the Boeing Chautauqua touring showcase.

KEIRO BENEFIT BOWLING -- Sunday, August 27, Imperial Lanes, 2101 22nd Ave. S., 9 a.m. - midnight, \$5 for four lines, all proceeds to Keiro Nursing Home. Info.: 323-7100.

JAPANESE OPERA "ASHI" -- Saturday, September 2, Seattle Center Opera House. Presented by Hyogo Prefecture as part of the Bumbershoot Festival.

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

DOSHI KAI MEETING -- Wednesday, September 6, 7 p.m., JACL office.

OFFICERS

Naomi Iwata Sanchez, President 587-4155 Vicki Toyohara, President-elect 684-7768 Teresa Sato, 1st Vice president 545-6098 Ann Fujii, 2nd Vice president 464-8247 Bruce Echigoshima, 3rd Vice president 881-4957 Al Sugiyama, 4th Vice president 723-2286 Marie Coon, Corresponding secretary 587-4189 Sharon Harada, Recording secretary 226-1881 Ray Ishii, Treasurer 623-3790 May Sasaki, Historian 762-9146 Roger Shimizu, Board delegate 682-9932 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Darrell Mihara Ben Nakagawa Mako Nakagawa Kimi Nakanishi Ken Nakano May Namba Belle Nishioka Bob Sato Sam Shoji Gail Tanaka Massie Tomita Lynne Uyehara Dale Watanabe

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 \$45 (for 12 issues) and a camera-ready ad the size of a business card or smaller. –Editor Ken Mochizuki

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