

J A C L NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

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Seattle chapter JACL honored by the Seattle-King County Bar Association

by Vicki Toyohara-Mukai

The Seattle JACL has been selected to receive the "Outstanding Contribution by a Non-lawyer" award by the Seattle-King County Bar Association (SKCBA). The Seattle chapter of the JACL is being recognized for its distinguished and meritorious service to the public and legal profession in the area of redress.

Of import is the fact that this will be the first time that an organization, rather than an individual, has been selected by the SKCBA for this award. The SKCBA noted that Seattle JACL's local and national leadership in the redress educational and legislative campaign have been exemplary.

Chapter President Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, an attorney, will attend the SKCBA Awards Banquet to receive the award on behalf of the chapter. The banquet will take place on June 21, 1990. The keynote speaker will be actor Richard Dysart of the television series, *L.A. Law*.

There will be a special table at the banquet for the Seattle JACL. For reservations and further information, contact Vicki Toyohara-Mukai at 723-8323 (evenings). All members are welcome and encouraged to attend; it is you who are being honored by the SKCBA.

Chapter resolutions submitted to National JACL Convention

reported by Holly Yasui

Three resolutions have been submitted by the Seattle Chapter for consideration at the National JACL Convention in June.

The first resolution proposes that the JACL create a Recommendation Committee for the Civil Liberties Public Education (Redress Trust) Fund. This fund was established when the redress bill was passed in 1988, and it is to be governed by a board of directors appointed by the President of the United States. The Redress Trust Fund board has not yet been appointed, but the Seattle Chapter board feels it is important to have recommendations ready when it is formed. The Recommendation Committee would consist of one representative from each of the eight JACL districts, appointed by the Governor of each district. The Committee would be responsible for submitting a list of recommendations to the 1992 National JACL Convention for approval by JACL chapters, and then to the board of the Redress Trust Fund.

The second resolution proposes that the JACL actively encourage state departments of education to develop and promote a model peace curriculum in the public schools, to be made available to teachers at all grade levels. This would include lesson plans, references, and resources for integrated coursework about creative and peaceful conflict resolution and problem-solving. The purpose of this curriculum would be to help students to gain an understanding of how attitudes are formed, how decisions are made, and how disputes arise between individuals, between cultures, and between nations.

The third resolution proposes that "the JACL recognize that Japanese American draft resisters of World War II, who declared their loyalty to their county, but who were also dedicated to the principle of defending their civil rights, were willing to make significant sacrifices to uphold their beliefs of patriotism in a

continued on next page

Chapter Focus

National Convention resolutions

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different form from those who sacrificed their lives on the battlefields; and that they, too, deserve a place of honor and respect..."

The resolution goes on to state that "JACL regrets any pain or bitterness caused by its failure to recognize this group of patriotic Americans and further resolves to educate our own community and the public that loyalty is not necessarily demonstrated in any singular form, but can be manifested in other praiseworthy and admirable acts, and that by this recognition the JACL strives to promote and nurture the healing process [for] an issue that has divided our community." The last paragraph notes that "...we were all victims of a shameful racist policy perpetrated by the U.S. government—a government which nearly 50 years later has acknowledged its grievous error and has pledged to make amends for the injustices which it caused."


This resolution, based on research by an informal committee studying the issue, replaces the so-called "No-No Boys" resolution that was tabled at the 1988 National JACL Convention. The motion to substitute this resolution was passed unanimously by the board, after consideration of two alternative versions, and discussion about procedural issues regarding the composition, responsibility, and purview of official and unofficial committees consisting of JACL members.

URGENT NOTICE!!

The 1978 Day of Remembrance scrapbook (about 24" x 30") and file folder of clippings is missing from the Seattle JACL Chapter office. If anyone has seen these items recently, or knows where they are now, please call Cherry Kinoshita at 623-5088 or 721-0717.

JACL chapter scholarships


The Seattle JACL scholarships will be awarded at a potluck dinner at the Kawabe House, 221 18th Ave. S., on May 16, 1990. The dinner will begin at 6pm, and will precede the regular board meeting. The recipients of the JACL chapter scholarships are: Grace Nakagawa, Joy Shigaki, Stacey Mizokawa, and Malia Kawaizuka. Congratulations to the scholarship winners, and good luck in your academic endeavors!



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Board/officer profiles

by Ann Fujii

SAM SHOJI

Sam Shoji, a board member, was Seattle Chapter president in 1974 and has been involved in many other board activities throughout his 30 years in JACL. Sam was born in Seattle, attended Garfield High School and received his Masters in Social Work from the University of Washington. He is the father of two boys who both live in Seattle. Sam retired after 25 years with the Veterans Administration in community service. He has been working at Seattle Keiro for the past 3 years as a social worker.

Sam is a lifetime member of St. Peters Episcopal Church, and is also a member of the vestry, the church board. He has been actively involved in the Redress movement since 1976, both through JACL and the Washington Coalition for Redress. He is looking forward to retiring in a couple years and plans to remain active in the Seattle community.

BOB SATO

Bob Sato, a board member, was Seattle Chapter president in 1986, and he has been active in JACL since 1983. Bob was born in Firwood, a city between Fife and Puyallup, and he grew up in Sumner. He moved to Seattle to attend the University of Washington in 1948. Bob has three sisters and two brothers. He and his wife are the parents of seven children, with 5 still residing in Seattle. He's now a semi-retired engineering consultant, still working with RW Beck, a engineering consulting firm. He retired after 27

years with the Army Corps of Engineers before becoming a consultant.

Bob plays golf, and is a member of the Mill Creek Country Club. He also likes to play chess and travel. Bob and his will be going to Europe this fall, meeting up with the Methodist Church group in Italy. He looks forward to going back to the places where he fought during WWII, retracing his steps for the first time since the war.

TIM OTANI


Tim Otani, third vice president, was born in Seattle where he attended Ballard High School and studied Asian American Studies at the University of Washington. After six years as the Pacific Northwest Regional Director for JACL, Otani was named the executive director of the Institute for Global Security Studies (IGSS) in October 1989. He describes the IGSS as sort of a "think tank," a small research organization that examines human rights, arms control, and sustainable development, and how these issues affect people of the Pacific Basin.

Tim's hobbies include golfing, which he says he's played since grade school, and he also enjoys a good game of racquetball, although he admits having not played it for a while (probably because he got married September 10 — just kidding Tim)! Tim is actively involved in the community, serving on many boards in Asian American organizations, which he "enjoys the most."

Victor Kawasaki
Karen Kawasaki
Lisa Kawasaki





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Community Notes

Minority foster families sought

Rainbow Youth and Family Services, a new adoption agency in Tacoma, is now licensing ethnic minority families who wish to provide foster care to minority children. The children's expenses are paid by Washington State. Call 1-572-7741 for licensing materials or information.

Japanese Government offers scholarships

The Japanese Government is offering post-graduate scholarships to U.S. citizens who wish to study at a Japanese university. The field of study is open, but must be the same field as the applicant's degree. Applicants must be graduates of a 4-year college, under 35 years of age, and able to receive instruction and carry on research in the Japanese language.

The scholarship benefits include round-trip airfare, a monthly living stipend, and a tenure of scholarship from April through October 1991, or through March 1993. The deadline for scholarship applications is September 4, 1990. For more information, contact the Consulate General of Japan, 3110 Rainier Bank Tower, 1301 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101.

Cherry Blossom and Cultural Festival

The Seattle Center was alive with the flavors of Japan during the 15th annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival. As you entered the transformed Flag Pavilion, you were greeted by the authentic *nakamise* ("row of shops") featuring a delicious sampling of food as well as information booths. Further on were activities for children or the


young at heart. You could try your dexterity with origami, or try your luck at catching a fish in the pond. From the Children's Corner, you entered the beautiful ikebana exhibit, the calligraphy exhibit, the Japanese garden, and the Japanese tea room.

This year featured many talented performances including buyo, koto, taiko, excerpts from the play *Geisha*, and judo, kendo, and karate. The calligrapher Tatsuya Suzuki, inspired all. Born without the use of his arms and legs, he uses a special headgear to hold the brush which was designed by his mother.

If activities at the Seattle Center weren't enough, the Third Annual Seattle Japanese Film Festival opened on April 28 with the Toshiro Mifune Series. For those who were fortunate enough to attend the premiere of *Death of a Tea Master* at the Egyptian Theater, the appearance of the master himself, Toshiro Mifune, was a special treat. The other films presented in the series were *High and Low* and *Zatoichi Meets Yojimbo*.

Other activities tied in with the Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival include a raffle—to win a trip for two to Japan—and the Japanese Community Queen coronation and Scholarship Pageant on Saturday, May 26 at the Bellevue Red Lion Hotel. If you haven't yet bought your raffle ticket, don't delay and buy it today. The drawing will be held on May 26. It costs only a dollar per ticket, and proceeds benefit the Festival. For further information, call Terry at 325-7888, or Jane at 624-1114 (days) or 722-2375 (evenings).

—submitted by Dale Watanabe



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Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

Free weekly ballroom dance sessions—every Wednesday, 1–3pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. Info: Mike, 772-1160.

Tomo no kai meeting — Monday, May 14, 7pm, Seattle Keiro. Guest speakers will be Sharon Sakamoto, attorney, who will speak on "Testamentary Documents—Power of Attorney" and Joi Murotani, medical social worker, whose topic will be "Directive to the Physician—Decision-making for treatment at the end of life."

Scholarship Awards and Chapter Board Meeting — Wednesday, May 16, 6pm, Kawabe House, 221 18th Avenue S. Everyone welcome.

Senke School of Japanese Flower Arrangement Exhibit — Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20, St. Peter's Episcopal Parish Hall, 1610 S. King St. 1pm–6pm on Saturday, noon–5pm on Sunday. No charge.

Ayame Kai Rummage Sale — Saturday, May 19, 10am–4pm, Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Drop-off dates: May 16, 17, 18, 10am–9pm, Seattle

Buddhist Church. Benefit for Seattle Keiro Nursing Home. Info: 882-6284.

Nippon Kan Heritage Association's Children's Spring Festival — Saturday, May 19, 7:30pm, Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. Tickets: \$8 adults, 2 for \$15, \$5 seniors/students, half price for groups of 8 or more, free for age 75 and over. Tickets at Uwajimaya, or at the door. Info: 624-8801.

Japanese Community Queen Coronation and Scholarship Pageant — Saturday, May 26, Bellevue Red Lion Inn, Evergreen Ballroom, 300 112th Ave. SE. Cocktails 5:30pm, dinner 6pm, coronation 8pm, dance 10:30pm. Tickets: \$35 for Dinner and coronation, \$10 for coronation only with bid, \$12 without bid. Tickets/reservations: Terry at 325-7888, or Jane at 624-1114 (days) or 722-2375 (evenings/weekends).

Camp Minidoka Historical Site Dedication Ceremony — Saturday, May 26, 11am. Chartered bus will leave Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. on Friday, May 25, 6am. Fare: \$60. Reservations:

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Calendar, *continued from previous page*

Gary Maehara, 525-8164 (Seattle) or Del Tanabe 922-5524 (Puyallup).

Doshi Kai dinner meeting — Wednesday, June 6, 6:30pm. Call Wayne Kimura, 869-5174 for name and address of restaurant.

Nikkei Community Monthly Ballroom Dance — Saturday, June 9, 8–11:30pm, Nisei Vets Memorial Hall, 1212 S. King St. Bring refreshments, ice provided. Cost: \$2 per person. For more information call Mike, 722-1160.

Executive Board Meeting — Monday, June 11, 6pm, chapter office.

Newsletter mailout — Wednesday, June 13, 6pm, chapter office.

Grand Kabuki Theatre of Japan — Thursday through Saturday, July 12–14, 8pm, Seattle Center Opera House. Presented in Japanese with headset translation available. Tickets: \$15–\$60 available at Ticketmaster Northwest, 628-0888.

Tomo no kai Cruise, "Spirit of Puget Sound" — Thursday, July 26, 11:30am, Pier 70, 2819 Elliott Ave. A 2-hour cruise on Elliott Bay with lunch included. Cost: \$16.90 (tax and tip included). Send checks by June 23 to: Mel Sato, 5321 24th Ave. S., Seattle 98108 or Pauline Asaba, 11226 57th Ave. S., Seattle 98178.

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The JACL newsletter is published the 2nd Wednesday of each month by the Seattle Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. Send items for inclusion by the first Wednesday of the month to Holly Yasui, PO Box 75272, Seattle, WA 98125.

Japanese American Citizens League

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