

J A C L

NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

JULY 1990

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1990 National JACL Convention a success— Seattle Chapter's "Healing Resolution" passed unanimously

by Vicki Toyohara-Mukai

The 31st biennial JACL Convention in San Diego began on Sunday, June 17. The Seattle chapter and Pacific Northwest district were well-represented and a very visible delegation throughout the convention.

Five business sessions and numerous workshops took place during the full schedule of activities, starting at 8:30am and extending into the evening for banquets, a candidates' forum, and informal caucusing and lobbying.

The "Healing Resolution"

A total of twelve resolutions were approved by vote of the delegates, which comprised the National Council.

Among the approved resolutions, the Seattle Chapter's #13 was the most critical and sensitive. This was the "Healing Resolution," submitted as a substitute for Resolution #7 ("The No-No Boy Resolution") which was tabled at the 1988 National Convention for further study. Resolution #13 recognizes the the nisei draft resisters during World War II as loyal and dedicated to the defense of their civil rights, deserving of honor and respect within the Nikkei community. It states that "JACL regrets any pain or bitterness caused by its failure to recognize this group of patriotic Americans."

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Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community Picnic

by Holly Yasui

In 1942, Bainbridge Island, a verdant jewel set in the blue waters of the Puget Sound just across from the downtown Seattle waterfront, was home to a handful of Japanese immigrants and their children. By an accident of geography, this small community gained the dubious distinction of being the first to be forcibly evacuated by the U.S. Army. On the other side of the island lie the Bremerton Naval Shipyards.

Notices were posted on Bainbridge Island on March 24, 1942. Six days later, on March 30, the issei and nisei of Bainbridge Island, carrying the meager provisions authorized by the Army, boarded the ferry to Seattle. From there they were taken to Manzanar.

The community of Bainbridge Island today remembers and commemorates those fateful six days with an annual reunion and picnic. Though there were only 54 families in that first contingent of evacuees, their fate foreshadowed the diaspora of all Nikkei on the West Coast, so a reuniting of Nikkei in

the idyllic Strawberry Hill Park on Bainbridge Island seems appropriate. This year the reunion will be held on Sunday, August 12 from 11am until 4pm; there is no admission, and participants should bring a picnic lunch.

In addition to the usual picnic festivities, the Bainbridge Japanese American Community, a chartered nonprofit organization, is also sponsoring the return home of a photo exhibit that toured the state in 1989 as part of the centennial activities. The exhibit, called *Kodomo no tame ni*, "For the Sake of the Children," will be open to the public all day during the reunion/picnic at the Bainbridge Island Historical Society Museum, adjacent to the park. It will be shown at the Museum until Labor Day.

The Community is presently working toward publication of an interpretive catalogue with commentary for the exhibit, which represents more than 100 years of history of Nikkei on Bainbridge Island.

National JACL Convention

continued from front page

Tied to Resolution #13 was the *Report of the Presidential Select Committee on Resolution #7*, based on research by attorney Deborah Lim. National President Cressey Nakagawa summarized that report just prior to the motion by Seattle Chapter President, Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, to pass Resolution #13. Numerous delegates took the floor to make comments, all of which were favorable to the resolution. A unanimous vote by the delegates resulted in the adoption of Resolution #13, an emotional and historical moment for JACL and the Nikkei community as we continue to try to heal the wounds of war.

JACL Legacy Fund

The delegates also approved the creation of a national JACL Legacy Fund that will provide funds for national and chapter programs. The fund-raising goal is \$10 million over a three-year period beginning this September. Distribution of earnings will be: 65% to National, 20% to chapters, 10% to joint District-chapter programs, and 5% retained in the fund for growth.

Long-range planning

After discussion and vote by the delegates, six goals were identified and prioritized as follows: [1] secure and uphold civil and human rights, [2] create programs to address the needs of the JACL membership, [3] increase JACL's organizational capabilities to carry out its mission, [4] pursue to its conclusion the redress of injustices of wartime internment, [5] increase the number of Nikkei and other Asian Americans in leadership positions, and [6] preserve the

Nikkei cultural heritage and values.

Election of national officers

The national officers elected for the 1990-92 biennium are: President, Cressey Nakagawa; VP for General Operations, Priscilla Ouchida; VP for Public Affairs, Floyd Mori; VP for Planning and Development, William Kaneko; VP for Membership, Ted Matsumoto; Secretary-Treasurer, Tom Nakao; Youth Representatives, Kim Tachiki and Trisha Murakawa.

Women's Caucus Luncheon

On Thursday, June 21, a Women's Caucus Luncheon, well attended by women and men, featured a panel of speakers who discussed the topic "Seeing Ourselves: A personal discussion of the history and experience of the Japanese American woman." The moderator was Chisao Hata, and speakers were Cherry Kinoshita, Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, Mollie Fujioka, and Mei Nakano.

Awards Banquets

Three awards banquets were held at the convention. A special JACL-LEC program highlighted the Sayonara Banquet, celebrating the redress victory and honoring individuals who were instrumental in that victory. Among the honorees were the late Senator Spark Matsunaga and the late Minoru Yasui, Senator Daniel Akaka, Representative Norm Minet, Representative Bob Matsui, and CWRIC member William Marutani.

The 31st biennial convention ended on Friday, June 22. The next National JACL Convention will be held in 1992 in Denver, Colorado.

Chapter Focus

New chapter office

The Seattle Chapter JACL has moved to its new office at the Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St. The new phone number is: 322-3589.

Doshi Kai retreat

The third annual Doshi Kai retreat will be Sept. 14-16 (Friday night to Sunday noon) at the Pilgrim Fir Camp and Conference Center in Port Orchard. The featured speaker and workshop leader will be J.D. Hokoyama, Executive Director of LEAP (Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics). The topic of the retreat will be "Ethnicity and Negotiation." Participants will be concentrating on how cultural upbringing and background affect one's ability to be effective negotiators both in the workplace and at home.

The retreat will be a great time to meet people and "get away from the city." The cost is \$50 and includes lodging and five meals. Space is limited, so make your reservations now by calling Wayne Kimura at 827-0460 (day) or 869-5174 (night).

—submitted by Wayne Kimura

Redress update

The Pacific Northwest District office has issued the following bulletin:

• Even if you have received a letter from the National Archives verifying your internment, this does not guarantee that you have been included on the Office of Redress Administration's (ORA) list. A separate form must be filled out and sent to the ORA. The ORA

is a separate agency from the National Archives.

• There are five different types of verification packets that the ORA sends out. The packet you receive may differ for each individual. The five types are: regular, child heir, spouse heir, military service, and voluntary evacuee.

• If you are 69 years or older, you should have received a verification packet by the end of August 1990. If you have not received a packet by then, contact the PNW District office.


• Make sure when you receive your verification packet, that BOX 1 is the only box checked (Declaration of Eligibility). All you need to send back is the completed declaration form. Please do not send any unrequested items listed in boxes that are not checked.

• Congress has appropriated \$500 million for 1990 redress payments. On October 1, 1990, there will be a Rose Garden ceremony at the White House. President Bush will personally present checks for \$20,000 to the five oldest persons eligible for redress.

• After the Rose Garden ceremony, reparations checks will be sent out *en masse* by Federal Express. All individuals 69 years and older should receive their checks by the next day.

• For those 68 years and younger, the ORA will not start sending verification packets to you until after October 1, 1990.

If you have any questions regarding redress please call the JACL District office at 623-5088 rather than the ORA.



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Community Notes

NWAAT auditions

Auditions for Northwest Asian American Theatre's first show for the 1990-91 season, *The Wash*, will be held at the Theatre Off Jackson on August 5 and 6, from 11am through 6pm. *The Wash*, by Phil Gotanda, will open October 17.

The first challenge for director Tammy Doyle and Artistic Director Bea Kiyohara will be to cast the three central Nisei characters:

- Nobu Matusmoto, 68, a retired produce man;
- Masi Matsumoto, 67, wife of Nobu who has separated from him, and lives in her own apartment; and
- Sadao Nakasato, 65, a retired pharmacist and widower seeing Masi.

No acting experience required for audition. For information, call Bea Kiyohara at 587-3860.

International District Summer Festival

The 15th Annual International District Summer Festival will take place on Sunday, July 15 at Hing Hay Park, at the intersection of South King Street and

Maynard Avenue South. There will be more than 90 food, arts, crafts, and information booths, and a full slate of Asian performances and children's activities.

At the Coors Beer entertainment stage will be taiko drummers, drill teams, kendo artists, and dancers. At the Chevron children's corner will be puppets, storytellers, jugglers, magicians, dancers and hands-on activities such as calligraphy, origami, mask-making, and games. Metro is having the grand opening of its ID tunnel station, and the Washington Centennial photo exhibit, *Shared Dreams: Images of Asian and Pacific American Experience in Washington State* will also be on display.

Japanese Renga Poetry Journal

A new quarterly journal entitled *Lynx*, devoted to renga (Japanese "linked verse" poetry) is being published out of Toutle, Washington. Renga was originated in 12th century Japan; the reknown haiku poet Basho was also a renga master.

The editor of the new publication is Terri Lee Grell, P.O. Box 169, Toutle, WA 98649, (206) 274-6661.

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Officer/board profiles

by Ann Fujii

HANA MASUDA

Hana Masuda, board member, was born in Seattle, and attended Broadway High School and the University of Washington, where she studied nursing for two years. After WWII, she attended the University of Minnesota and taught a special training course for soldiers for two years. When her husband Min was transferred to the West Coast, he decided to continue his degree at the UW and so they returned to Seattle. Hana has two children, a son and a daughter.

Before starting a family, Hana worked at the UW library and also at the Seattle Public Library. She became active in JACL in the 1970s, when husband Min became involved in the Japanese Heritage Program. This was an archival project, recording the history of the Japanese Americans. Now headed by Dolores Goto, and they are gathering oral histories of the issei and nisei in the Seattle area.

Hana has been busy moving into her daughter's home on Mercer Island, and says she misses Japanese flower arranging,, which she had to give up because of her arthritis. She started taking lessons in high school and learned from her mother and was a member of the Senke School. Hana says she was asked to get involved in some of the seniors programs in her new neighborhood of Mercer Island. Hana's leisure activities include going to the opera and the Seattle Art Museum, of which she is a member. For the Goodwill Games Arts Festival, she plans to attend the opera, "War and Peace," and the Bolshoi Ballet

GARY MAEHARA

Gary Maehara, board member, was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. He has lived in Seattle for five years, coming here for his job as a trial attorney for Safeco Insurance Co. His family, which include a brother and sister, still resides in Portland.

Gary has been involved in the Seattle chapter of the JACL for about a year, and before that, he was active in Portland chapter of the JACL. Gary is the proud father of a 4-year old boy and a 1-year old girl. This year he and his wife Cheryl Kitashima, visited

Disneyland with their children.

When Gary's not busy with his family, he pursues his interests in the craft of stained glass, gardening, and winter skiing. His goal in life is to become famous ... but not necessarily as a lawyer, he says!

SHARON HARADA

Sharon Harada, board member, was born and raised in Ontario, Oregon. She moved to Seattle after she graduated from the University of Oregon in Eugene with a degree in Business. Her family and two sisters still live in Oregon.

Sharon is a financial planner for IDS Financial Services, a subsidiary of American Express, and she has worked there for eleven years. She has been involved in JACL for about seven or eight years.

In her spare time, Sharon enjoys running, and attending the Seattle Symphony, something she has done for the past five years. She also helps with

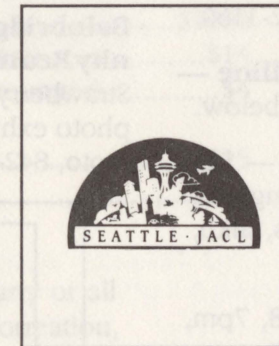
vegetable gardening at her aunt and uncle's place in Puyallup (but not for fun, she says!) Down the road, Sharon says she would like to travel if and when she gets the time and the means.

JANICE YEE

Janice Yee, recording secretary, was born and raised in Seattle. She attended Rainier Beach High School and received her bachelor's degree in business from the University of Washington. She is the youngest of three children; her parents and brother and sister reside in Seattle.

Janice works for the Washington Institute of Applied Technology as a Program Manager for Student Services. Before she took that job, she worked for the U. S. Internal Revenue Service.

This is Janice's second year with JACL. Janice was married last September, and now she's busy moving into a new home in Seward Park. Looking ahead, Janice says that she would like to travel, return to school to get her Master's degree, then start a family. And next fall, she will be doing one of those things — traveling for three weeks to Japan and Hong Kong with her husband.



Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

Sculptural works by Gerard Tsutakawa—through Aug. 26, Wing Luke Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S., Tues-Fri, 11am-4:30pm, Sat and Sun noon-4pm. Info: 623-5124.

Views and Visions in the Pacific Northwest—through Sept. 2, works by Northwest artists including Paul Horiuchi, Kenjiro Nomura, Roger Shimomura, Kamekichi Tokita, and Patti Sarashina. Seattle Art Museum, Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Thurs till 9pm. Tickets: \$2 adults, \$1 seniors/students. Info: 625-8901.

Weekly Ballroom Dances—every Wed, 1-3pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. Info: Mike, 772-1160.

1000 Club Golf Tournament entry deadline—Sun, July 15, for the July 29 Tournament. See below.

International District Summer Festival—Sun, July 15, 11am-6pm, Hing Hay Park, So. King and Maynard Ave. S. Food, arts and crafts, exhibits, taiko, drill teams, kendo, dances. Info: 725-1842.

Chapter Board Meeting—Wed, July 18, 7pm, Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St.

Seattle Bon Odori—Sat, July 21, 6-10:30pm, Sun, July 22, 5-9pm. Food bazaar and exhibits open at 4:30pm. Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Info: 329-0800.

1000 Club Golf Tournament—Sun, July 29. West Seattle Golf Course: 12 noon. Jefferson Park Golf Course, 1:30pm. Prizes and dinner at Bush Garden, 6pm. Tourney & dinner-\$25; dinner only-\$16. Info:

Bob Sato (742-0784) or Kiyo Sakahara (526-5009).

NWAAT Auditions, for *The Wash*—Sat and Sun, Aug 5 and 6, 11am-6pm, Theatre Off Jackson. Info: Bea Kiyohara, 587-3860 or 340-1445.

Doshi Kai dinner meeting—Tues, Aug. 7, 6:30pm. Call Wayne Kimura, 869-5174 for name and address of restaurant.

Nikkei Community Monthly Dance—Sat, Aug. 11, 8-11:30pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. \$2 per person. Info: Mike, 772-1160.

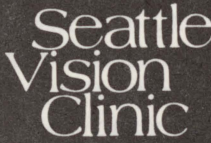
Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community Reunion Picnic—Sun, Aug. 12, 11am-4:00pm, Strawberry Hill Park, Bainbridge Island. Games, photo exhibit. Bring picnic lunch. Info: Frank Kitamoto, 842-4774 or Lucille Galbraith, 842-5914.



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