

J A C L

NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

MARCH 1991

VOLUME 28, NO. 3

President's Message

by Tim Gojio

I was fortunate to be asked to participate in a panel discussion televised by KCTS Channel 9 on February 26. The topic was "The Color of Power," essentially a discussion of racial politics in America. This often freewheeling discussion was moderated by former Seattle mayor, Charles Royer. The panel included Roberto Maestas, of El Centro de la Raza; Martha Choe, Seattle City Councilmember; State Representative Jesse Wineberry; Nona Brazier, Republican party activist; and John Carlson, KIRO-TV commentator. The hour-long program included a twenty-minute documentary and a forty-minute discussion.

The show got off to a rocky start even before taping

began. Because of communications problems (a common theme this issue), members of the audience were upset that they would not be allowed to ask questions during the program. In previous programs, the audience had been able to participate. Several dozens of people walked out prior to the taping, and this created a confrontational atmosphere for the program.

The discussion, like the documentary, seemed to lack focus. Racial politics is a game played by both Republicans and Democrats. I only hope that politicians realize that protectionism and "America First" themes may sell in Peoria, but won't sell in Seattle.

February 19, an evening of remembrance

by Tim Otani, chair, organizing committee

On February 19, the Seattle Chapter hosted a private viewing of *Executive Order 9066: 50 Years Before and 50 Years After* for our members and friends. This new exhibit at the Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S., captures 100 years of Japanese American history with photographs, words, and artifacts.

Approximately 100 people attended this showing, which was held on the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066. I encourage everyone to take the time to see this exhibit, which is open to the public and will be displayed through August 30. (See Calendar for hours and ticket prices).

Special thanks need to be extended to former Congressman Mike Lowry, for taking time to participate as our featured guest speaker in this historic event, and to members of the organizing committee: Janice Yee, Arlene Oki, Shea Aoki, Ray Ishii, Vicki Asakura, and May Namba. Additional thanks to Eva Chikusa and Florence Tsuchida for their invaluable assistance at the event.

An apology

by Tim Gojio, President, Seattle Chapter

I wish to apologize for any harm caused during the Day of Remembrance activity on February 19 sponsored by the Seattle JAAC at the Wing Luke Museum. That event was designed to provide the chapter with a way to commemorate the dark days of fifty years ago, and to provide members of the chapter with an opportunity to enjoy the marvelous EO 9066 exhibit.

Both the chapter's organizing committee and I failed to communicate to key individuals about the agenda for the evening. We should have, but failed to, tell Jack and Aiko Herzig that they were to be introduced and recognized for their major contributions to Japanese American history, but were not to speak at the event. I also

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Apology, continued from page 1

failed to make clear that this decision was made solely by the organizing committee and myself. I was incorrect in stating during that evening that a former national JACL officer had a role in making that decision and I apologize for the wrong that was done to that individual, who was not in any way involved in the program planning for that evening. I also emphasize that neither the National JACL nor any of its current or former officers had any involvement in this Seattle Chapter program or its arrangements.

Contrary to some intimations, the agenda was not intended as a slight to the Herzigs or others in the community, nor the result of some sort of conspiracy of betrayal. The committee and I tried to conduct an event that was in keeping with the needs of the evening, and the need to conduct an event that would remind the community of the fragilities of civil and constitutional rights.

Yes, some mistakes were made, and will not be repeated. I have sent letters of apology to Jack and Aiko Herzig and others who have been harmed. The JACL is a remarkable organization but it is far from perfect since it is composed of individuals who occasionally make miscalculations and mistakes. But just because mistakes are made is no reason to indict the entire organization.

Despite allegations to the contrary, the JACL has benefitted the entire Japanese American community, and the broader community as well, with endeavors such as the efforts to obtain redress, an effort pioneered by the Seattle Chapter JACL. I regret that this well-intended commemorative event has instead caused hard feelings within the community, and I accept full responsibility for the mistakes that were made.

Chapter Focus

National JACL Legacy Fund

The national JACL Legacy Fund has climbed over the \$3 million mark, totally \$3,137,108 as of the period ending January 10, 1992, according to Clay Harada, Legacy Fund administrator. The Pacific Northwest District has reached 53.6% of its goal of \$700,000 with \$375,565 contributed. Of this total, Seattle has raised \$227,345 or 60% of the District's total.

Deepest appreciation is extended to the following donors whose contributions have been received as of the end of February:

\$1000+: Ted & Yaeko Imanaka, Ted & Florence Fujita, Yutako & Sue Fujikado, Mako & Margaret Yanagimachi (2nd year pledge)

\$500+: George & Laura Kaminishi, Arthur & Helen Yorozu.

Other: Fusako Yonemura, Joy St. Germain, Kazuo & Kiyo Ono.

Endowment Fund

The Seattle Chapter JACL would like to thank the generous donors to the Chapter Endowment Fund. \$500+: Rob & Mary Koura; Roy H. & Mitsuye Mihara, *in memory of Sei Uyeta*; Lillian Ogawa, *in memory of Thomas Ogawa*; Arthur & Helene Yorozu
Others: Rita Z. & Noboru Hara; Kazuo & Kiyo Ono; Pearl Yanagimachi

Newsletter mailout success!

We had a wonderful turnout for the February mailout. As a result, we finished in record-breaking time. Thanks so much to the volunteers: Kaz Tatsumi, Sam Shoji, Ayako Hurd, Lee Hurd, Shea Aoki, Chuck Kato, Herb Tsuchiya, Kiyoshi Fukano, Rose Ogino, Dale Watanabe, Mits Katayama, Kazzie Katayama, Ken Sato, Julianne Kumasaka, Shigeko Farhat, Jerome Roaché, Mari Maruyama, Kimiko Tazuma, May Sasaki, Mako Nakagawa, Gail Tanaka.

JACL scholarships

by Janice Yee

The Seattle Chapter JACL is soliciting applications for six \$1000 scholarship awards. High school seniors, college undergraduate and graduate students, and students attending post-secondary institutions are eligible. Applicants must be JACL members, a son or daughter of a JACL member, or an American of Japanese ancestry.

Funding for the Seattle chapter scholarships has been provided by the Minoru Tamesa Scholarship Fund, the Bunshiro Tazuma Scholarship Fund, and the Reverend Emery Andrews Scholarship Fund.

The Minoru Tamesa Fund

The Minoru Tamesa Fund was established by Uhachi Tamesa in honor of his son Minoru. Minoru Tamesa was accused of draft evasion and conspiring against the government by mobilizing other internees against the draft.

Minoru Tamesa was sentenced to three years in prison. During his trial, Tamesa felt he had "no country" as long as people of Japanese ancestry were imprisoned behind barbed wire. Minoru Tamesa died at a young age. After his death, Uhachi founded the Minoru Tamesa Fund to provide for persons in need of financial assistance for college.

The Bunshiro Tazuma Fund

The Bunshiro Tazuma Fund was established by the Tazuma family in honor of the family patriarch, Bunshiro Tazuma. Bunshiro Tazuma was at different times in the hotel, restaurant, and variety store business in Seattle.

During the depression years, Bunshiro Tazuma helped the Seattle Betsuin gain financial stability by motivating others to support the church. He made friends easily while working at the dime store that he owned on Jackson Street. He had a special kindness and fondness for people that was treasured by his friends and family.

The Reverend Emery Andrews Fund

The Reverend Emery Andrews Fund was established by the Japanese Baptist Church. Reverend Andrews pastored the Japanese Baptist Church and supported the Nikkei community all his life. For example, he would drive Nikkei children in the community to and from church.

When all the Nikkei families were evacuated during the war, Reverend Andrews moved to Twin Falls, Idaho so that he could minister to his congregation in Minidoka. The Japanese Baptist Church has generously donated the scholarship funds to the Seattle chapter JACL in his memory.

Thanks to the generosity of these three benefactors, financial assistance is available to Seattle area Nikkei college and post-secondary students.

National JACL scholarships are also available for high school seniors, undergraduates, graduate students, creative arts, law, and performing arts students. Applications for both National and Chapter scholarships can be obtained by calling Janice Yee at 723-3852 or by sending a note specifying which scholarship interests you, with a self-addressed stamped envelope addressed to: Janice Yee, 4814 S. Graham, Seattle, WA 98118.

Deadline for the Seattle Chapter scholarships:

April 30, 1992

Deadline for the National JACL high school scholarship:

April 10, 1992

Deadline for other National JACL scholarships:

April 1, 1992

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Community Notes

Tomio Moriguchi wins International Citizen Award

The International District Rotary Club has awarded Tomio Moriguchi, president of Uwajimaya, Inc., the 1992 International Citizen Award. Moriguchi has generously contributed service and support throughout the years to many business and community groups: the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, the Private Industry Council, Washington State Economic Development Board, Washington State Economic Development Board, Pacific Science Center, Nikkei Concerns, JACL, Seattle Community Colleges, and Washington Institute of Applied Technology. The award will be presented April 9 at a dinner in Moriguchi's honor at the Bush Garden Restaurant. For ticket information call Bruce Abe at 764-5341.

Reading of Nikkei play, *Unvanquished*

As part of ongoing World War II commemorations, Local Access and the Northwest Asian American Theatre are sponsoring a staged reading of *Unvanquished*, a play based on the story of Minoru Yasui. Yasui was a young attorney who challenged the evacuation in 1942. This play was the winner of the 1991 MultiCultural Playwright's Festival.

Unvanquished will be read at the Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S., on Saturday March 21 at 2pm, Sunday March 22 and Monday March 23 at 7 pm. There will be post-play discussions after each reading, led by Nikkei scholars Cal Takagi, Jim Morishima, and Peggy Nagae Lum. Tickets are \$5, with group discounts and Wing Luke Museum EO 9066 exhibit/play packages available. For information or reservations, call Local Access at 329-4883.

Contemporary Japanese Cinema Night

In an attempt to convey modern Japan in a clearer light, the Hyogo Cultural Center (HCC) presents monthly films that mirror the sentiments of the

common people in Japan and reveal the variety of their characteristics. The March selection is *Nijuu-shi no Hitomi (Children on the Island)*, to be shown on March 25 & 27 at 5:45-7:30pm at the HCC, 2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1101. This is a story about the love and trust between a schoolteacher and her elementary school students who live on a small island, and the effect of the war upon their relationship. Please reserve seats by March 20, by calling 728-0610. If you wish to bring a group larger than 15 people, contact the HCC so that a private showing can be arranged.

Award-winning Japanese American book published

Talking to High Monks in the Snow: An Asian American Odyssey has just been released by Harper Collins Publishers. Seattle writer Lydia Minatoya won the 1991 PEN/Jerard award for this memoir describing the experience of growing up Japanese American. Both humorous and deeply moving, the book has been praised as "an arresting and affecting examination of the puzzle of identity and the elusiveness of belonging." (*Booklist*)

Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival

Enjoy culturally entertaining program of family fun at the 17th annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival, coming to the Seattle Center Flag Pavilion and Center House, April 24-26. Admission is free. Highlights will be professional dancers and musicians from Japan. Demonstrations will include traditional music and instruments, tea ceremony, ikebana, board games, calligraphy, and many other arts and crafts. A trade showcase of manufacturer's products will also be featured. A Japanese garden will be on display, along with many other exhibits. Visitors can enjoy a wide variety of exciting programs from taiko drums to martial arts demonstrations and a children's activity center.

Redress Update

The federal budget

The Bush Administration's proposed budget for 1993 submitted last month includes the final \$250 million of the \$1.25 billion authorized by the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. An additional \$250 million, needed to cover the increased total of eligible individuals anticipated, for a total of \$500 million, was also included.

However, the supplemental \$250 million is in a pay-as-you-go category. This means that other funds have to be found from another program to provide the discretionary funds. These additional funds are not yet assured.

Redress payments

By mid-April, all eligible cases for this fiscal year will have been paid, covering individuals whose birthdate is May 31, 1928 or earlier. Bob Bratt, ORA administrator, stated that 49,500 cases have been completed, for 52,300 individuals (including heirs).

The final total number of redress recipients is expected to reach 75,000, according to the ORA. This figure is roughly 15,000 more than the 60,000 survivors originally estimated, and thus the supplemental \$250 million will be needed to cover final redress payments.

In the FY 1991 group (age 70 and older), there were approximately 100 appeal cases. In the FY 1992 group (age 64 and older) there were over 200 appeals. To date, only 30 individuals have refused or returned their redress payment.

Approximately 16,000 pink letters have been mailed out from ORA to those whose birthdates fall in February 1940 or earlier. A list of approximately 11,000 has been cleared ready-to-pay.

Additional legislation

Special legislation is being proposed in Congress, according to the ORA, to include non-Nikkei spouses who were also interned. About 78 such spouses have been identified as still living.

Proposed legislation would also amend the sunset date of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, from August 10, 1998 to September 30, 1994, or when all appropriated funds are spent, whichever comes earlier. This legislation would also affect the educational trust fund.

Redress workshop

The ORA has tentatively scheduled a redress workshop in Seattle for April 15, and second one possibly in July to answer any questions and assist those in the final age group of 64 and younger. Those potentially eligible individuals who need special verification or who any kind of special situation are urged to attend the workshops.

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Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

Weekly ballroom dance — every Wed, 1-3 pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St.

Works in glass by Hiroshi Yamano — through March 29, William Traver Gallery, 110 Union St., Suite 200, Tues-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat-Sun noon-5pm. For information: 587-6501.

Ikebana porcelain pottery by Reid Ozaki — through March 31, Husted Gallery, 9776 Holman Rd NW, Suite 111, Mon-Wed 9am-6pm, Thurs-Sat 9am-8pm. For information: 782-3477.

Northwest Asian American Theatre presents *Yeb-Yang-Ab: Whose Kid Is That?* — World premiere of one of the only Korean American scripts ever written and produced, through April 5, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S, Thurs-Sat 7:30pm, Sun 2pm. Tickets: \$12 general, \$9 students/seniors, \$6 children under 13, \$8 groups of 10 or more. For reservations: 340-1049.

Kago, the art of the Japanese basket — Japanese basketry from 1868-1926, through April 18, Marvel on Madison Asian Antiques, 69 Madison St., Tues-Sat 11:30am-5:30pm. For information: 624-4225.

Ceramics of the early periods — porcelain, stoneware, and ceramics from China Japan and Korea dating to the sixth century, through April 19, Ming's Gallery, 10240 Main St., Bellevue, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-5pm. For information: 462-4008.

Executive Order 9066: 50 Years Before and 50 Years After — a history of Japanese Americans of Washington state through photos, words, and art, through August 30, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S., Tues-Fri 11am-4:30pm, Sat-Sun noon-4pm. Admission: \$2.50 adults, \$1.50 seniors/students, 75¢ children under 12. For information: 623-5124.

Chapter board meeting — Wed, April 18, 7pm, Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St. Everyone welcome.

Kwansei Gakuin University Glee Club concert — Wed, March 18, Kane Hall, University of Washington, 7:30pm-9:30pm. Free. Reservations required: Mr. Katsuo Minami at 878-7750 or the Hyogo Cultural Center at 728-0610.

Staged reading of *Unvanquished* — a play based on the story of Minoru Yasui, a young attorney who challenged the evacuation, Sat March 21 at 2pm, Sun-Mon March 22-23 at 7pm, Theatre off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S. Tickets \$5, group discounts and EO 9066 exhibit/play packages available. Reservations: 329-4883.

Yayoi: Flowering of Spring — Nippon Kan Heritage Association presents a celebration of spring and

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the Girl's Day Festival, featuring Hanayaki Yohsono Ensemble, folk dance ensemble, Festival Taiko Drums and Kokon Taiko of Seattle, Sat, March 21, 7:30pm, Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. Complimentary tickets available at Uwajimaya and House of Rice. For information: 575-3650.

Wing Luke Museum's 25th anniversary dinner and mini-auction — Sat, March 21, Seattle Trade Center, 2601 Elliott Ave, 5pm no host cocktails and auction preview, 6:30pm dinner, 7:15 program and auction. Tickets: \$50 individual, \$100 patrons. For tickets and information: 623-5124.

Seattle Buddhist Church spring bazaar — Sun, March 22, 1427 S. Main St., 11am-4:30pm.

Flower arranging demonstration — Ohara School of Ikebana presents Professor Kazuhiko Kudo at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 1400 Sixth Ave., Sun, March 22, 2-4pm. Tickets: \$12. Information: Yoshiye Iwamura, 722-2613, or Joyce James, 348-8264.

Japan America Society's 1992 annual meeting — Fri, March 27, Stouffer Madison Hotel, 515 Madison St., 5:30pm reception, 6:30pm dinner, keynotespeaker:

Kazuo Nukazawa, Managing Director, Japan Federation of Economic Organizations. New officers and directors will be elected, winner of Society's President's Award will be announced. Tickets: \$50. For reservations: 623-7900 by March 25.

Doshi Kai meeting — Tues, April 7, 6:30pm. Call Wayne Kimura for name and address of restaurant, 827-0460 (days) or 869-5174 (eves/wknds).

Nikkei community dance — Sat, April 11, 8-11:30pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYO, ice provided, \$3 if live band, \$2 if recorded music. For information: 772-1160.

Seattle Japanese Bonsai Club annual exhibit and plant sale — Sat, April 18, 11am-5pm and Sun April 19 10am-4pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. Free. For information: 525-3242.

St. Peter's Church Sukiyaki Dinner — Sat, May 2, 4:30pm-7:30pm. St. Peter's Episcopal Parish, 1620 S. King St.

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REDRESS WORKSHOPS

The Office of Redress Administration (ORA) of the U.S. Department of Justice will be holding Redress Workshops at the following locations in **Spokane, Portland, and Seattle**. Work one-on-one with ORA staff who will be available to help you complete ORA forms and answer your questions about proof documentation.

LOCATION:	DATE:	TIME:
Spokane Buddhist Church 927 S. Perry Street Spokane	April 13	5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Epworth United Methodist Church 1333 S.E. 28th Avenue Portland	April 14	4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
St. Peter's Episcopal Church 1610 South King Street Seattle	April 15	3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

- ☞ If ORA has not yet requested documentation from you, and if you have not received a letter indicating that you will be receiving a redress payment, please bring the following to the workshop:
- a birth certificate
 - a document with your name and current address
 - If your name has changed since internment, bring evidence of your name change such as a marriage certificate.

If you have received a redress payment, or a letter indicating that you will be receiving payment, you do not need to attend a workshop.