

J A C L NEWSLETTER

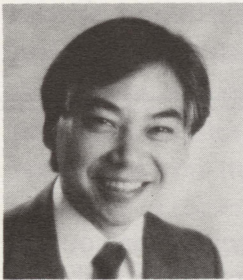
SEATTLE CHAPTER

MAY 1993

VOLUME 30, NO. 5

President's Report

by Kip Tokuda



I have addressed issues in this column that I have thought relevant to our community in hope that it would initiate organizational action. I recently attended a press conference organized by City Council member Martha

Choe in response to the tragic shooting death of an African American child, Loetta Coston, by an Asian American youth. The shooting was senseless and frightening. Asian and African American leaders expressed their collective concerns and discussed possible solutions, from gun control to gang prevention.

I applaud City Council members Martha Choe and Cheryl Chow for their committed efforts. I also applaud the work of others who are valiantly attempting to get a grasp on the pervasive problem of violence in our society. According to experts, there are growing numbers of Asian and Pacific Americans committing violent crimes, in battered women shelters, and an increasing rate of reported child abuse.

I have spoken to professionals in the field who

express frustration with the lack of data to support these observations. I have contacted agencies such as King County Rape Relief, Children's Protective Services (CPS), the Seattle Police Department, and Juvenile Court. All agree that for various reasons—whether community pressure, fear, or cultural factors—Asians are reluctant to acknowledge and report violence that occurs in our homes, schools, and community.

I feel that this violence touches us all in very personal ways. In a recent report published by the LEAP Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center (see report in *Community Notes*), projections indicate a growth in Asian Pacific population in the U.S. from 7.3 million to 20 million between 1990 and 2020. We face critical and profound needs in the areas of health care, education, workforce training, cultural relevance, trade and economy, and political influence. Violence is also, in part, a product of growth. I challenge each of us to become involved in this issue, so we can begin a dialogue and be a partner in the solution to violence.

Kip Tokuda is Executive Director of the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

From Seattle to Washington, D.C. The JAACL Leadership Conference

by Belle Nishioka

Boarding the plane headed for Washington, D.C. last March, it was hard to imagine the high-caliber, intense training I would participate in over the next six days. I had originally applied to attend the Leadership Conference because I was particularly interested in how, as a community, we could better address the issue of anti-Asian violence and also better build coalitions with other organizations and communities. I was also interested in participating in discussions

around the direction of JAACL, especially in light of the passage of redress.

In a packed schedule, the Conference covered these topics and many more, including education, health care, employment, media, fund raising, lobbying, and current civil rights legislation such as the Wards Cove Act. Our speakers were impressive and included Senator Akaka, and members of Congress Norm Mineta, Bob Matsui, and Patsy Mink as well as representatives from the NAACP and ACLU.

continued on next page

Leadership conference,
continued

included Senator Akaka, and members of Congress Norm Mineta, Bob Matsui, and Patsy Mink as well as representatives from the NAACP and ACLU.

One of the highlights of the conference for me was the opportunity to meet Grace Uyehara, who shared some of her experiences lobbying for redress. Her stories were inspiring and enthralling — I could have listened to her that whole first day — and for me she was yet another example of how one person can

positively impact a political system and community. Another highlight was our visit to the Office of Redress Administration, where I was able to look up my father's internment camp records.

Aside from gaining some concrete strategies to address issues confronting JACL, the Conference also validated my belief that our work in the community is important — and it reconfirmed my commitment to the organization.

Chapter Focus

Seattle Chapter/1000 Club
Golf Tournament

The 1993 Seattle Chapter JACL and 1000 Club Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, July 25, at Jefferson Golf Course at 1:30 pm. Tee-off times are limited to the first 40 golfers to sign up. Entry fee will be \$25, which includes dinner at South China Restaurants, where prizes will be awarded. The cost for dinner only is \$15. For more information, call Kiyoo at 526-5009 or Mas at 721-0717 by Sunday, June 20.

JACL Legacy Fund

For the current period up to March 31, 1993, the following donations to the National JACL Legacy Fund are acknowledged with deepest appreciation:

\$500+: Arthur H. Yoshioka, Kenso/Margaret Teramoto, and Chuck/Lillian Kato.

Other: Kip Tokuda.

Newsletter mailout

Thanks to the volunteers who helped mail out the April newsletter: Theresa Fujiwara, Belle Nishioka, Lorraine Bannai, Ray Ishii, Bruce Echigoshima, Mike Kimura, Haruo Fujino, Sam Shoji, Jerome Roaché, Kiyoshi G. Fukano, and Rose Ogino. The newsletter is mailed out on the second Wednesday of the month at the Japanese Language School.

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Executive proclamations: Asian Pacific
Heritage Month and 442nd Anniversary

Governor Mike Lowry has issued two state proclamations: one in honor of Asian Pacific Heritage Month and another in honor the 50th anniversary of the founding of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

The Asian Pacific Heritage Month proclamation cites the 150-year history of in Washington State, a diverse population of over 200,000 Asian Pacific Americans, and the Wing Luke Asian Museum's "One Song Many Voices" exhibit. The 442nd Anniversary proclamation cites the history of the 442nd, including volunteers from the internment camps, its legendary record of heroism in its campaigns in France, Italy, and central Europe.

LEAP Asian Pacific American Policy
Institute Report

In January 1992, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) established the Asian Pacific American Policy Institute and undertook as its first project a major public policy report on the status of Asian Pacific Americans.

The report was released in book form in February, 1993. Entitled *The State of Asian Pacific America: A Public Policy Report — Policy Issues to the Year 2020*, it features a demographic analysis of Asian Pacific American communities in the United States and a collection of seventeen monographs that examine critical issues in light of significant Asian Pacific American population growth.

Dr. Paul Ong, of the UCLA School of Architecture and Urban Planning, made the demographic projections, and Asian Pacific American scholars and community leaders used these projections to discuss policy

implications in the areas of education, health care, politics, labor, immigration, the legal system, affirmative action, civil rights, Asian Pacific American women, the economic status of Asian Pacific Americans at risk new and emerging Asian Pacific American communities, arts and culture, race and inter-ethnic relations, language rights, and the media.

The 300+ page report is available for purchase, and a complimentary copy of the executive summary is available from the LEAP Asian Pacific American Public Policy Institute: 327 East Second Street, Suite 226, Los Angeles, CA 90012-1422; phone (213) 485-1422.

National Asian Pacific American Legal
Consortium

"The First Legal Voice for Asian Pacific Americans in the Nation's Capitol" — this is how the newly formed National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium bills itself as it opens its doors in Washington D.C. on May 13 with a gala celebration.

The Consortium is a non-for-profit, nonpartisan organization whose mission is to advance the legal and civil rights of Asian Pacific Americans through a collaborative structure that pursues litigation, advocacy, public education, and public policy development. The initial focus of the consortium will be on voting rights and anti-Asian violence, but is exploring the areas of immigration, language rights, census reform and other issues.

The Consortium was founded by three regional organizations: the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund based in New York, the Asian Law Caucus, based in San Francisco, and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center based in Los Angeles. The Executive Director is Phil Tajitsu Nash.

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Special Report

JACL Scholarship winners

by Jeffrey Hattori

Three outstanding and energetic Japanese Americans have been named scholarship recipients for 1993. They are Christina Hirayama, Brent Kawahara, and Ann Uemura.

Christina Hirayama will be senior at the University of Washington majoring in Psychology and Foreign Languages. Her volunteer activities include work at the Seattle Keiro Nursing Home, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and the Greater Seattle Japanese Community Queen Committee. Christina was the 1990-91 Queen. After graduation, she is planning to work abroad.

Brent Kawahara is a graduating senior from Mercer Island High School. He has been involved in a variety of school activities: Natural Helpers, the Marching and Symphonic Bands, Junior Achievement, and the National Honor Society. Reflecting upon his volunteer work at the Wing Luke Asian Museum 9066 exhibit, Brent stated: "Working on this exhibit brought me closer to my sense of culture and my ethnic identity." He plans to attend Princeton University this fall and to major in Public Policy.

Ann Uemura will be completing her studies in Social Welfare at the University of Washington. She has volunteered with numerous community organizations: the International District Community Health Center, YMCA Teen Hotline, the Seattle Chinese Athletic Association, and was a member of the Seattle Japanese Community Queen's court. Currently she is a member of the board of directors of the Seattle chapter JACL. After graduation, she plans to pursue a career in public affairs.



An awards ceremony and potluck dinner will be held at the Kawabe House, 221 18th Avenue South on May 19 at 5:30 pm. Family and guests are invited to attend. The monthly chapter meeting will be held after the presentations.

For more information call Jeffrey Hattori, Scholarship Committee Chairperson at 723-2286 (days).

Seattle JACL — Join us today!

The JACL is the only national Japanese American nonprofit civil rights organization. Our most recent success was the 18-year effort to win redress for Nikkei who were evacuated from their homes and relocated into concentration camps during World War II. We are also involved in cultural events, providing scholarships, and dealing with issues of concern in many areas, including education, affirmative action, leadership training, and more.

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Regular membership	\$42
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Century Club (annual)	\$120
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Lifetime (one-time payment)	\$500
Student membership (College to 23 years)	\$14
Youth membership (High school and younger)	\$4
Seattle JACL only	
Booster Club regular	\$15
Booster Club seniors	\$10

Your membership allows you to attend any or all JACL meetings at your option.

To join JACL, complete the form below, make your check payable to SEATTLE CHAPTER, JACL and return it to:

May Namba, Membership chair
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Seattle Chapter JACL

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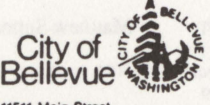
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Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

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

Wing Luke Asian Museum presents "One Song Many Voices" — a permanent exhibit chronicling the history of Asian Americans in Washington State, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S., Tues-Fri 11 am – 4:30 pm, Sat-Sun noon – 4 pm, open till 7 pm Thursdays in June. Admission: \$2.50 adults, \$1.50 seniors/students, 75¢ children under 12. For information: 623-5124.

Adrift in a Floating World — Tacoma Art Museum's display of woodblock prints, through May 30, Tacoma Art Museum, 1123 Pacific Ave., Tues-Wed-Fri-Sat 10 am - 5 pm, Thurs 10 am - 7 pm, Sun noon - 5 pm. Admission: adults \$3, seniors/students \$2, children 6 - 12, \$1, under 6 free. For information: 272-4258.

Fifth Avenue Theatre Company presents Sayonora — an East/West love story based on the novel by James Michener, May 25 through June 13. For tickets and information: 292-2787 or at the box office or any Ticketmaster Ticket Center.

Hyogo Cultural Center Ikebana class, Ohara style — Tues, May 18 and May 25, Hyogo Cultural Center, 2001 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1101. Fee: \$10. For information: 728-0610.

JACL scholarship awards ceremony and potluck — Wed, May 19 at 5:30 pm, the Kawabe House, 221 18th Avenue South. Families and guests invited. For information: Jeffrey Hattori, 723-2286 (days).

Chapter Board Meeting — Wed, May 19 at 5:30 pm, the Kawabe House, 221 18th Avenue South (after the Scholarship dinner). Everyone welcome.

Nikkei Horizons day tour: West Coast Printing — see the recently refurbished business that suffered arson last year. Thurs, May 20, 10 am - 1 pm. Cost: \$10. For information: 323-7100.

Boy Scout troop 252 and Cub Scout pack salmon bake dinner — Sat, May 22, 4:30 - 7 pm at Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 Main St. Takeout available. Cost \$7.50.

International Examiner benefit reading — Lonny Kaneko, Lydia Minatoya, Ken Mochizuki, Traise Yamamoto, and others will read from their works. Sat, May 22, 7:30 pm, Elliot Bay Books, 101 S. Main St. Donation: \$5. Tickets and information: 624-6600.

Kurashi to asobi — an exhibit of traditional Japanese toys, items for daily living, photographs of a

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Calendar of events

continued

Japanese garden, Fri-Mon, May 28-31, Seattle Center Pavilion, 11 am - 5 pm daily. Free. For information: 626-4140.

Nisei Vets memorial day service — Mon, May 31, 10 am, Lake View Cemetery, 1554 15th Avenue E. Guest speaker: State Rep. Gary Locke. For information: Roy, 868-7935.

Doshi Kai meeting — Tues, June 1st, 7 pm. Call Wayne Kimura for name and address of restaurant, 927-0460 (days) or 869-5174 (eves/wknds).

Al Sugiyama Re-election kickoff party — Tues, June 8, 1993, 5:30-7:30 pm, Franklin High School commons, 3013 S. Mount Baker Blvd. Bring family and friends. For more information: 723-2286 (days).

Nikkei Horizons day tour: Weyerhaeuser Bonsai Collection and Rhododendron Garden — enjoy a guided tour of the company's corporate headquarters, Tues, June 8, 10 am – 3 pm. Cost: \$12. For information: 323-7100.

Nikkei community dance — Sat, June 12, 8:00-11:30pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, ice provided, live band. Tickets: \$3 per person. For information: 772-106

Nikkei Horizons theatre outing: Sayonora — See the musical at the Fifth Avenue Theatre with your Nikkei Horizons friends. Sunday, June 13, 6:45 pm. Cost: \$38 per ticket. For information: 323-7100.

Tomo no kai outing, trip to Mt. St. Helens — Tues, June 22, 8 am departure from Jefferson Community Center, 3801 Beacon Ave S. Return at 6 pm, bring snacks and drinks, bento provided. Send check for \$25.50 to Yoshi Kanemori, 4454 54th Avenue SW, Seattle 98116. Deadline June 14. For information: Hana Kato, 323-0570 or Yoshi Kanemori 935-8488.

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Japanese American Citizens League

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