

NEWSLETTER

SEATTLE CHAPTER

JUNE 1993

VOLUME 30, NO.6

Editor's Comments

Job Discrimination and Immigrant Rights in the 90s

Our Issei forbearers struggled long and hard against many forms of discrimination, including jobs discrimination, because they were immigrants and non-citizens. Xenophobic forces that kept the Issei from fully participating in American society are still alive, and on the rise in these precarious economic times.

While many of us nowadays worry about losing our jobs, for some of us, the problem of unemployment is magnified by discrimination against immigrants. Employers often cite concerns about laws that penalize the hiring of undocumented workers when they turn away qualified immigrants who desperately need the jobs they have to offer. Job-seekers may be refused available work because he or she speaks English with an accent, is not a citizen, or simply appears "foreign."

Employers may be unaware that these discriminatory practices are also illegal. Immigrants have the right to compete fairly for employment without regard to nationality, citizenship status, or lack of docu-

ments beyond the requirements set by law (e.g., a driver's license and social security card are adequate documentation for employment authorization).

Often victims of discrimination do not report it, perhaps feeling ashamed of having not gotten a job, or not knowing where to find help. Lack of reporting can and does lead to more discrimination.

The Northwest Immigrant Rights Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to defending the rights of immigrants. NWIRP is the only program in the region that offers comprehensive legal assistance and advocacy for low-income persons of all nationalities.

These are hard times, especially for the most recent newcomers to America. In remembrance of our own history, Japanese Americans have an important role to play in supporting organizations like the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. For more information, call 587-4009, or write to Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, 909 Eighth Ave, Seattle 98104.

News-notes from the JACL National Board

by Joy St. Germain

• **Welcome aboard to new staffers:** Joy Y. Nakamura was hired as assistant to Washington D.C. JACL Representative Karen Narasaki in January. She is former staff assistant to Congressman Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) and a former U.S. Bail investigator for the federal court system in Hawaii.

Nobuko Sugai (Nobie) was also hired in January as a part-time administrative assistant for the Pacific Northwest regional office to work with Karen Yoshitomi. Nobie was born in the Seattle area and lived here until World War II, when she relocated to the Midwest. She raised a family of four in Chicago and was employed by the Chicago Board of Education for 21

years. In 1991, Nobie and her husband returned to the Pacific Northwest to spend their retirement years.

• **National Reunion of MIS Vets:** The Japanese American Veterans Association of Washington D.C. will sponsor a national reunion of U.S. Military Intelligence Service veterans who served during World War II. The reunion will be held October 21-23 in Arlington, Virginia. The schedule of events will feature panel presentations highlighting little-known war experiences of Japanese Language specialists, an oral history workshop, a Congressional luncheon, a reception at the Japanese embassy, and memorial

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Chapter Focus

Just For Fun: report of the FUN committee

by Jerry Shigaki

President Kip Tokuda decided that along with all our good projects and worthy community efforts, JACL needed to have some just plain old fashioned fun and events during which we could enjoy the friendship of fellow JACLers. He therefore created the Fun Committee, headed up by intrepid Jerry Shigaki and Mako Nakagawa, who in turn, recruited a great committee.

- The turnout for the first Fun Committee event on April 4 was super. Over a dozen JACLers enjoyed the theatre/dinner night headed up by Patricia Lee, with dinner at the House of Hong and the NWAAT play "Please Choose One." A little modern-day culture is also good for the soul.

- The second Fun Committee idea is helping board members to get to know each other better. In the Tomodachi Project, each board member is asked to get together with another member whom they are not well acquainted, for a social occasion not related to JACL business.

- Patricia Lee also headed up the May 15 event to get a work party to help landscape the grounds of the Refugee Women's Alliance. Some of the "volunteers" *monku*-ed the whole time but privately admitted that they had a lot of fun. Aching muscles and sunburns reminded us of the hardships that our predecessors stoically endured, but that did not stop the *monkus*.

- We're now planning a giant RENO event ... check out the flyer included in this newsletter for details.

There's room for only 30 people on this trip, and reservations will be on a "first-come" basis. This is the only event that may prove financially profitable as well as fun for participants. It was announced at the last board meeting that each participant will receive a Five Dollar Lucky Frog to help the money *kaeru*.

- A bowling night and a karaoke night are possible events for future Fun Committee activities. Keep in touch with Board meetings to get in on the fun!

JACL Picnic

Don't forget — mark it on your calendars! The 1993 Seattle JACL Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 14 at Lincoln Park. We've changed the location so that it will be more convenient for more people. There will be lots of great food, games, and beautiful scenery overlooking the Puget Sound. Let's bring back the good ole' tradition of the community picnics that we remember from our younger days. If you are interested in helping plan the picnic, call Ann Fujii-Lindwall at 367-8749. Hope you can make it!

— Ann Fujii-Lindwall

Newsletter mailout

Thanks to the steady volunteers who mailed out the May newsletter: Joby Shimomura, Anne Uemura, Belle Nishioka, Chuck Kato, Kiyoshi G. Fukano, David Hoekendorf, Eileen Kato, Lorraine Bannai, Rose Ogino, Scott Oki, Mike Kimura, and Kip Tokuda. Please help out with the next newsletter mailout at the Japanese Language School at 1414 S. Weller on Wednesday, July 14. *Arigato gozaimasu!*

Community Notes

Cherry Blossom Festival

The Seattle Chapter JACL once again co-sponsored the Seattle Cherry Blossom and Cultural Festival this year, held April 23-25 at the Seattle Center.

We wish to thank the volunteers who helped make the Festival a great success: Terie Akada, Pauline Asaba, Eva Chikusa, Marie Fujii, Margaret Gojio, Dee Goto, Hats Higa, Shuko Hara, Mitsui Kumitsugu, Bill Kumitsugu, Sue Kitasaka, Yoshi Kanemori, Hana Kato, Kimi Nakanishi, Lois Nakanishi, Kim Nakamura, Bessie Okada, Fujiye Yamasaki, Mrs. Tsukamaki, Jane Tsuboi, Mrs. Hidaka, Mitzi Matsui, Kiku Huckles, Lauren Johnson, Rose Ogino, France Ogino, Gloria Yasunaga, Connie Tagami, Margaret Yamaguchi, Tama Murotani, Flo Teshima, Ruby Inoue, Pat Terao, Josephine Tanabe, Betty Slee.

We are also grateful to the following individuals who contributed food to the Cherry Blossom Festival: Mary Hirata, Pauline Asaba, Yoshi Kanemori, Rose Ogino, Mitzi Matsui, Linda Akagi, Pat Terao, Kimi Nakanishi, Mutual Fish Company, City Produce, Shea Lee, the Buddhist Church, Margaret Gojio, Hats Higa, and Matsuo Kumitsugu.

Nikkei Health Fair

"Living Well into the 21st Century" is the theme of this year's Nikkei Health Fair, featuring speakers, question and answer stations, and screening tests. Find out why one out of five Nisei are diabetic, and what Sansei baby boomers may face as they age. There will be information on disease, diet, fitness, medication, assisted living, and end-of-life decisions, plus cholesterol, blood sugar screening tests.

The fair, is sponsored by the Japanese American Community Diabetes Study, the University of Washington Kame Project, and Nikkei Concerns, will be held on Saturday, June 19 from 8:30 am to 12 noon at the Conference Center of Providence Medical Center. Admission is free. For more information, call Greta Hoshibata, 326-2409 or Jennifer Stephens, 543-5597.

Nikkei Horizons Summer Quarter 1993

This summer, Nikkei Horizons is offering a variety of day tours and outings including a historic tour of Bainbridge Island, blueberry picking, cherry picking, a class on walking and fitness (plus an opportunity to participate in the walkathon fundraiser for the Asian Counseling and Referral Service), and excursions to the Pacific Science Center, the Seattle Art Museum and Pike Place Market, to the Woodland Park Zoo, and to the Renton Civic Theatre to see the musical *Carousel*.

For more details, call 323-7100 to request an information flyer and summer registration form.

Hyogo Cultural Center Summer Programs and Events

July 1993 marks the 30th anniversary of the Washington State-Hyogo Prefecture sister relationship. A variety of special events to celebrate this anniversary will be held throughout the state.

In Seattle, the Washington State Convention & Trade Center will host an exhibit from June 1 through July 31 of three craft arts from Hyogo, *oshi-e* (raised pictures created by cutting and gluing pieces of silk on thin, elegant boards), *chigiri-e* (paper "paintings" created by bits of torn rice paper applied in a collage technique), and *Farmer dolls* (of rural folks, using old family clothes). Contemporary Japanese Cinema, Sumi-e brush painting. On July 30, the Hyogo Cultural Center will hold a hands-on workshop on Japanese craft arts.

Regular summer programs at the Hyogo Cultural Center include Contemporary Japanese Cinema night, and sumi-e painting. For more information about programs and events, call 728-0610.

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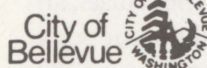
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compiled by Carol Kamiyama

Endowment donations

We appreciate the donations made during the past year to the JACL Seattle Chapter Endowment Fund. Proceeds/earnings from this fund goes into the General Fund of the Chapter to help with ongoing activities of the Chapter.

\$1000+ Akiko and Ken Higashi

\$500+ Kenso/Margaret Teramoto; Donell and Hide Tekawa; Y. and Kimi Tazuma in memory of Sawano Tazuma; June Kumasaka; Charles T. and Lillian Kato; S. B. and Eva Chikusa in memory of S. Bo Chikusa;

Other: S. Earl and Janet S. Aoki; Anne A. Arakaki-Lock and Stephen S. Lock; Shiro and Teruko Fujihira; Rita Z. and Noboru Hara in memory of Mitsuko Hara; Hannah Hirabayashi; Mitsuhiro and Lilly Y. Kodama; Yoshiye O. Mayeda, in memory of her husband, Tom U. Mayeda; Yoshie Mori, in memory of K. Mori; Chizuko M. Nagoaka, in memory of Eira; Teijiro and Chiyoko Namatame; Kikuyo and Henry S. Takayoshi; Sachi Takeuchi; Kaz and Kiku Tatsumi; Kip Tokuda; Joe and Fudge Tokunaga; Grace S. Uyeda; Nobuo/Rose Amato.

General Fund/Scholarship donations

We appreciate the following donations that were made to the Seattle Chapter General Fund and to the Scholarship funds (where designated):

\$1000+: George and Ai Koshi ("thank you for your good work.") Tak and Alice R. Shibuya (redress efforts); Tomokiyo and Miye Yamada (of Oakland, CA).

500+: Yoshio Akada; Mark and Terry Fugami; Clifton M. Goon (in memory of Kashi K. Goon); Tomio and Jane Hamatani (redress donation); Heart Mountain Reunion IV Committee; Hiromu and Masue Heyamoto ("appreciation of redress and directory"); Misao and Howard Minato, donation in January of 1992 toward the Rev. Andrews Scholarship Fund; Howard Minato, donation in October of 1992 to the Rev. Andrews Scholarship Fund in memory of Misao Minato; Wash and Kathleen Murakami.

Other: Marion R. and Bert M. Iwai ("thanks for JACL's redress"); Terry T. and Shirley Kameda; Anna Y. Kurata ("Appreciate all your efforts in obtaining our redress"); Emi Mayeda ("in appreciation for redress money"); Nobuko Miyazaki ("in appreciation of reparation program"); Eddie and Jean Nagai, "in appreciation of redress"; Hitoshi and Carole M. Nagamatsu and family; Hamano Nogami; Ray and Mineko Okamura; Masaru and Anna Tahara, donation to Scholarship Fund; Kiyoko Takashima; Joe and Fudge Tokunaga; Toshio Uyeji; Shea Shizuji Aoki; Acar A. and Kazuko Bill; Yoshito and Chifune Iwamoto (past commander of NV, NVC orei); Isamu Kaneshige (of Aiea, HI); Frank and Michiko Miyamoto; George and Misusu Tanonaka; Alfred Yamaguchi.

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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.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Regular membership	\$42
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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 monthly newsletter

Seattle Chapter JACL

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Thank you for your support!

Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

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

Hyogo Art Exhibition — in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Hyogo/Washington state sister relationship, three craft arts, oshi-e, chigiri-e, and Tamba farmer dolls. Tues June 1 – Sat July 31, Washington State Convention & Trade Center, Level 2. For more information, call Hyogo Cultural Center, 728-0610. See story in **Community Events**.

Northwest Asian American Theatre presents Fifth of July — Lanford Wilson's play explores the theme of friendship and commitment as it brings to life the nuances of human relationship and diversity in our society. Tues-Sun, through June 27, 8 pm; Sun matinee 4 pm, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave S. Tickets: \$12 general, \$9 seniors/students/disabled (\$6 on Thursdays), \$6 actors/children. Groups of 10 or more \$8 general and \$6 others. For reservations, call 340-1049.

Chapter board meeting — Wed, June 16, 7 pm, Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St. Everyone welcome.

The Brides, by Harry Kondoleon — performed by Hypnotica, a multicultural performance group, featuring Tiffany Saito, Dierdre de la Cruz, Sonia Joseph, and Annmarie Hehir, Fir-Sat, June 18-19 and 25-26, 11pm, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S. Tickets: \$5. For reservations and information: 781-3259.

Nikkei Health Fair — Sat June 19, 8:30 am-noon, Providence Medical Center, 18th and Cherry, free admission. For information, Kame Project office, 326-4154 or Japanese Community Diabetes Study office, 543-5597. See story in **Community Events**.

Staged reading of Divine Wind — Stanford Yukinaga's play about an old man caught in a time warp 40 years after the bombing of Hiroshima. Sat

continued on next page

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Calendar *continued from page 6*

June 19 & 26, 5 pm, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S. Tickets: \$3, \$2 for subscribers, students, seniors, disabled, actors. For reservations: 340-1049.

Nippon Kan Heritage Association Summer Festival Concert — a program of Nihon Buyo (Japanese classical dances) and the music of the koto, shamisen, and shakuhachi. Sat, June 19, 7:30 pm, Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. Tickets: \$8 general, \$5 seniors/students, available at Uwajimaya, House of Rice, Elliott Bay Books, Wall of Sound, and John's Music Center. For information: 633-2017.

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

Nikkei community dance — Sat, July 10, 8-11:30 pm, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. BYOB, ice

provided, live band, Admission: \$3 per person. For information: 772-1160.

International District Summer Festival — Sat-Sun, July 10-11, International Station Metro Plaza, 11 am - 6 pm. For information: 624-2151.

13th Annual Nikkei Concerns/Seattle Keiro benefit dinner — Mon, July 12, 4-9 pm, South China Restaurant, 2714 Beacon Ave. S. Tickets: \$8.50. For information: 323-7100.

Seattle Betsuin Bon Odori — Sat-Sun, July 17-18, Sat 5-10 pm, Sun 5-9 pm, Seattle Buddhist Temple, 1427 S. Main St. For information: 329-0800.

Hunt High School Reunion — activities will include reception-dinner, dinner-dance, and cruise-brunch, Fri-Sun, July 23-25. For reservations and information: Hunt High School Reunion, 11329 82nd Ave. S., Seattle, 98178, phone 772-4876.

National News *continued from page 1*

services at Arlington National Cemetery. For more information and registration write to the Japanese American Veterans Association of Washington D.C., P.O. Box 391, Vienna, VA 22183-0391.

• **Second edition of the anti-Asian violence handbook:** *Walk with Pride*, authored by Leslie Hatamiya in 1991, will be updated and reprinted in the coming months. The revised book will be drafted by Helen Zia, former executive director of Ms. Magazine and one of the founders of the national move-

ment against anti-Asian violence. Philip Morris Co., Inc. will be underwriting the printing and distribution of the book.

• **JACL Annual Report:** National JACL is currently developing and compiling our first organizational annual report for 1992. The report will serve the organization by providing a record of 1992 activities and programs; informing other organizations, public officials, and media about the work of JACL; help in fundraising and membership drive efforts by JACL; and inform JACL members of the goals and accomplishments of their organization.

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The Seattle Chapter 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 of the month to JACL Newsletter, c/o Holly Yasui, 3626 Evanston Ave N., Seattle, WA 98103.

Japanese American Citizens League

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Each person will be responsible to find their own replacement person if unable to attend.

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