

# J A C L NEWSLETTER

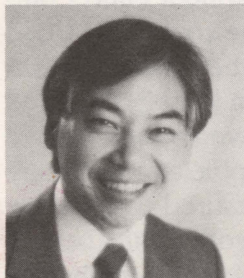
SEATTLE CHAPTER

OCTOBER 1993

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## President's Report

by Kip Tokuda



Recently I've been in a "what have we done lately and why are we here?" mode, as usually happens to me near year's end. You might ask what my thinking has to do with JACL Well, the Nominations Committee is recruiting officer and board candidates for next year.

The question is relevant to me personally because I'm one of those folks who likes to have some idea, some control over what I'll be doing next year ... that is, how I will invest my time, energy, and resources. My criteria is quite simple. Is JACL's mission consistent with my values and is JACL accomplishing its goals?

Social justice and the fight for civil rights has always been the principal mission of JACL, which is consistent with my beliefs. Progress comes slow and there is much work to do. The blatant acts of discrimination where Asian hotel owners were referred to as "Chinks" by local Democratic Party leaders, the Rodney King trials, and the anti-Gay and Lesbian movements are clear examples. And JACL has actively responded.

My sense is that JACL is making progress. We have taken positions on national and local issues, such as

## Redress Update

by Cherry Kinoshita

Upon approval of the appropriations bill in Congress, approximately 4,000 redress checks are ready to be disbursed in early October for FY 1994, according to a recent report from ORA Administrator Paul Suddes. This final group of recipients includes those born after December 31, 1943, together with any additional pending appeal cases that might be reversed. With this payment, the grand total covered by the redress program will be nearly 80,000 individuals.

ORA also made public the dollar amount of total

the "Hands Off Washington," which we support. We have held successful forums to raise public awareness on negative media stereotyping and interracial marriages. New partnerships have been formed, as with the League of Women's Voters. We have, indeed, begun to cross some of those traditional boundaries.

It is beginning to sound like a pitch, you're right. In order for JACL to sustain its efforts to prevent and combat discrimination and to preserve cultural traditions and values, committed people are needed. If you're considering ways to become involved, I encourage you to consider JACL, as an active member, officer or board director.

Nominations for the 1994 Seattle JACL officers and board of directors will be on the agenda for the October JACL meeting. A slate of candidates will be presented to the full board for consideration. Nominations from the floor are welcome. All JACL members are encouraged to attend.

### NEW JACL NEWSLETTER EDITOR

As of October 1993, Please send your items for inclusion in the JACL Newsletter by the first of the month to Bob Shimabukuro, 6621 S. Bangor, Seattle, 98178 or to P.O. Box 18558, Seattle, WA 98118-0558.

redress disbursements to each state as of July 1993. Not surprisingly, California residents received the majority of redress monies, totalling well over \$1 billion, or 72.34% for the first three years. Second was the state of Washington, where over \$102 million, or 6.86% was disbursed. ORA also made payments of over \$25 million to individuals residing in Japan and Canada, as well as in such diverse locations as Germany, Italy, Brazil, Peru, the United Kingdom, and the Netherlands.

## Chapter Focus

### Board opposes 601 and 602

Seattle Chapter JACL has voted to oppose initiatives 601 and 602. Initiative 601 would limit annual increases in revenue (i.e. taxes) to the average rate of inflation and population growth for the three previous years. A supermajority vote of the legislature could increase taxes beyond limits set by the initiative. Initiative 602 would roll back tax increases to 1992 levels, which would translate to a \$1 billion shortfall in the 1993-95 state budget. Many believe that the new initiatives would force drastic cuts in the areas of health care and higher education. Human services for the elderly, children, and poor would also be vulnerable. While the board agreed that waste in government exists, it believes that such measures would have devastating effects upon those who are most in need.

### Donations for JACL Office

Within the first week of celebrating our 72nd birthday, generous donors have contributed \$1,794 toward a home for the Seattle Chapter JACL. Many thanks are extended from the Seattle JACL Endowment Fund and the Seattle Chapter to the following: Dr. Ruby Inouye, Miye Ishikawa, Cherry Kinoshita, Mitsuo & Yasuko Matsushita, Fred Nakagawa, Karen & Michael Saito, Joe & May Sasaki, and Jack Tsuchiya. Seven other donors who requested that their names not be published were also donors. The fund drive for the "homeless" JACL will continue through this 72nd anniversary year, although donations to the Endowment Fund are always welcome!

### Endowment Fund investments

The Seattle Chapter Endowment Fund was established in 1985 under the presidency of Dave Okimoto. The purpose was to generate enough interest income to enable the Chapter to spend less time fundraising and more on civil rights, redress, and other issues. However, as interest rates fell, the Endowment Fund did not earn enough to beat inflation (only those earnings over and above the rate of inflation could be withdrawn). This year, the Endowment Fund Committee, again under Dave, with the counsel of Lloyd Hara and with the agreement of the Board, has embarked on an investment program to help the Fund achieve its original purpose. As we embark on our new challenge, we continue to appreciate your many generous donations. Please be assured that we are doing our utmost to put them to work for the benefit of the Seattle Chapter JACL and thus for the betterment of the larger community.

### Newsletter News

Thanks to the trusty volunteers who helped with the September JACL Newsletter mailout: Iris Miyahira, Eileen Kato, Kiyoshi G. Fukano, Haruo Fujino, May Namba, Rose Ogino, Jerry Shigaki, Arlene Oki, Barbara Burdick, Mike Kimura, and Sam Shoji.

This is the last edition of the JACL newsletter to be edited by Holly Yasui, who is on her way to Mexico even as you read this. The new co-editors, Bob Shimabukuro and Mayumi Tsutakawa, will be taking over the November newsletter. JACL is lucky to have these two seasoned journalists on board. Welcome!

## Community Notes

### Arlene Oki honored by Nordstroms

Seattle Chapter JACL Vice-President Arlene Oki is a recipient of the 1993 Nordstrom Community Service Award. She will be honored, along with the other recipients, Ralph Grossman, Herman McKinney, Susan Morgan, and Millie Russell, at the Union Station on October 15. Proceeds from the event will benefit the "Cities in Schools" program.

### Kokoro Kai needs volunteers

Kokoro Kai, an adult day care social center associated with Seattle Keiro and service Japanese elderly, is seeking patient, caring volunteers. No previous experience necessary, but must be willing to learn. Japanese language skills not required. Kokoro Kai particularly needs help on Wednesdays. If interested, please call Celia Brown at 323-7100.

### Sixth Annual Japanese Film Festival

Four Japanese films with English subtitles will be shown in November at the King Performance Center, 6th and Blanchard, in downtown Seattle. The films include *My Sons*, a family drama, November 7 at 2:15 p.m.; *Beijing Watermelon*, a comedy about a middle-class Japanese who befriends neighboring Chinese students, November 14 at 2:15 p.m.; and a double feature, *Pineapple Tours* an Okinawan trilogy and *Tora-San, my Uncle*, from the ever-popular series, screening at 1:15 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. on November 21. Tickets are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door, \$15 for the whole series, and \$9 at the door for the double-feature. For more information, call 626-4140.

### Japanese American classic at NWAAT

The Northwest Asian American Theatre presents *And the Soul Shall Dance*, by Wakako Yamauchi, winner of the 1977 American Theatre Critics first regional play award. The story, set in the 1930s, focuses on a young Nisei girl in an immigrant agricultural community in California's Imperial Valley. Judith Nihei, NWAAT's new Artistic Director, directs the play which opens October 14 and runs through November 7. For more information, see Calendar of Events, or call 340-1445.

### Hyogo Cultural Center Classes

HCC offers a new round of cultural classes this fall. Upcoming ikebana classes include Ohara school on Nov. 2 & 9 and Sogetsu school on Nov. 16 & 23 (reserve one week in advance, \$10 fee for each school); card-making will be held on Wed., Oct. 25 (reserve one week in advance, \$5 fee); video discussions on October 27 with chef Takeyuki Suetsugu on Japanese cooking and on October 29 with graphic designer Yutaka Sasaki on Japanese festivities and landscapes (reserve by Oct. 22, no fee); Autumn in Japan, a concert based on haiku, tanka, and improvisation (reserve by Nov. 1); and Contemporary Japanese Cinema Night, *Kiki's Delivery Service*, a charming animation film suitable for young children (reserve by Nov. 12, no fee). For reservations/more information: 728-0610.

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## Calendar of events

compiled by Ed Suguro

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

**Paintings by Mark Takamichi Miller** — through Oct. 29, King County Arts Commission Gallery, 506 Second Ave., 11th Floor Smith Tower, Mon. - Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., for information: 296-7580. Through Oct. 30 at AG 47 Studio Gallery, 163 S. Jackson St., Tues. - Sat. noon - 5 p.m. For information: 623-3812.

**Mezzotint prints by Katsunori Hamanishi** — through Oct. 30, Azuma Gallery, 530 First Ave. S., Tues. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sun. noon - 5 p.m. For information: 622-5599.

**NWAAT presents Wakako Yamauchi's And the Soul Shall Dance** — through Nov. 7, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 Seventh Ave. S., Thurs. - Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 4 p.m. Tickets \$6-\$12; discounts for students, seniors, and actors; group rates available. For tickets and information: 340-1049.

**First Hill Lions Club sukiyaki dinner** — Sat., Oct. 16, 1 - 6 p.m., Blaine Memorial Methodist Church,

3001 24th Ave. S., \$7 adults, \$5 seniors and children under 10. Proceeds to the Scholarship Fund.

**White River Buddhist Church fall bazaar** — Sun., Oct. 17, 3625 Auburn Wy. N., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., teriyaki chicken, curried rice, fresh vegetables, mochi, and pastries on sale. For information: 833-1442.

**Al Sugiyama's Annual Luau** — Sun., Oct. 17, Bailey Gatzert Elementary School, 4 - 6 p.m., food and entertainment, suggested donation, \$25 adults, \$15 high-school students, \$5 children. Benefits aid Al's re-election campaign for Seattle School Board President. For information: 235-4795.

**Tomo No Kai dine-out** — Sun., Oct. 17, Tai Tung Restaurant, 659 S. King St., \$15. Send check to Hana Kato, 1700 12th Ave. S., #106, Seattle 98144. For information: Kim, 324-0862.

**Chapter Board Meeting** — Wed., Oct. 20, 7 p.m., Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St. Nominations. Everyone welcome.

## Calendar, continued from page 4

**Greater Seattle Japanese Queen rummage sale** — Sat., Oct. 23, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Book of Dreams: AMBA's Fourth Annual Charity Raffle, Auction, and Awards Dinner** — the Asian Management Business Association honors Al Sugiyama, Executive Director of the Center for Career Alternatives and Seattle School Board President; Paull Shin, State Representative; Liz Stroup, Seattle Public Librarian; and Washington Mutual Bank. Sat., Oct. 23, Bellevue Red Lion Inn, 300 112th Ave. SE, cocktails and silent auction 5:30 p.m.; dinner 7 p.m.; awards, entertainment and live auction 8 p.m. Tickets \$45 per person, \$450 for table of 10, \$600-\$1000 for corporate tables. For information: Judy Yu, 621-9506.

**Doshi Kai meeting** — Tues., Nov. 2, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for name and address of restaurant, 827-0460 (days) or 869-5174 (eves/wknds).

**Nisei Vets chow mein dinner** — Sun., Nov. 7, Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., 1 - 3 p.m. and 4 - 6 p.m., \$6 per person, take-out available, baked goods, hot dogs and hamburgers on sale, Seattle Sansei will have a games booth.

**Tomo no Kai meeting** — Sat., Nov. 8, 7 p.m., Seattle Keiro, 1601 E. Yesler Wy., guest speaker: Dr. Donna Leonetti on the Japanese American diabetes study. For information: Kim, 324-0862.

**Nikkei community dance** — Sat., Nov. 13, 8 - 11:30 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, ice provided, live band. Admission: \$3 per person. For information: 772-1160.

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## Japanese American Citizens League

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