

## President's Report

by Ray Ishii

This month on July 2, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. As I read and learn more about the significance of this legislation, I am struck by how similar today's issues are to the issues of thirty years ago. Economic concerns continue to cut across all boundaries as unemployment and poverty (or the fear of those) has led to an increase in race related violence, xenophobia and a renewed tolerance of racism in our political system.

We are still striving for an educational system that is truly integrated, with a curriculum that teaches more than one history and respects all cultures. Violence still dominates the news—three decades ago it was the war in Southeast Asia, now it is the violence in our neighborhoods. Hate related crimes, including murder, are again on the rise.

Thirty years ago, television was changing our society by showing stark and horrifying footage of the war in Vietnam and the use of fire hoses and police dogs on peaceful demonstrators. The media is still the biggest influence on how we see and perceive each other. Today, more than ever, the agenda of our elected officials is shaped by the pictures and sound bits on CNN and the evening news.

I guess my point is that while there has been progress in the past thirty years, there is still much work that needs to be done. We can be proud of our work and achievements because there have been many. However, we cannot be satisfied with the gains of the past thirty years. We must look to the future and work for an even better community.

# SEATTLE JACL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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## Festival of Fashion: a Smash Hit!



June 25 crowd after the Kanojo, USA fashion show socialize on the bright sunny day while waiting for the clothes sale to begin.— Irene Kuniyuki photo

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Seattle JACL and Seattle Adult Buddhist Association-sponsored Festival of Fashion was a huge success. Exceeding all expectations, close to 1,000 women of all ages and a few brave men crowded into the main auditorium of Seattle Buddhist Church for the Kanojo Fashion Show and shopping both Saturday and Sunday.

The adjoining church chapel accommodated the overflow crowd with a video viewing of the stage presentation along with walk through appearances by all the models.

A commentary by Kanojo founder Eileen Tabata Fitzpatrick, highlighting the cultural heritage of Japanese Americans, preceded the presentation of the elegant heritage collection and the contemporary casual wear.

The exciting artistry of kimono designs was featured in simple shift dresses, loose jackets and sophisticated evening wear. The specialty pieces for men were colorful vests and cummerbunds decorated with unique obi and kimono patterns. With only a brief training session, community volunteers handled

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## Chapter Focus

### Fashion show, continued from front page

their modeling assignments with professional style and grace.

Following the hour-long fashion show on Saturday, hundreds of buyers took advantage of the open shopping period, which generously exceeded projected sales figures. Again, Sunday's participation by close to 200 shoppers brought the total participation count to almost 1,000.

The beautiful, sunny Saturday enabled friends who had not seen each other for years a chance to socialize, while waiting for sale doors to open. Along with door prizes, gift certificates and a fun-filled afternoon of shopping in a setting tailor-made for the Asian shopper, there could have been no better bargain for a modest \$3 donation.

Credit on the JACL side for the success for this fundraising project goes to JACL co-chairs May Namba and Elaine Akagi, along with committee members and volunteers.

The Fashion Show Committee would like to thank all members who generously bought and sold tickets and also

baked cookies. Hearty acknowledgments to the people who helped to make the event a tremendous success.

#### Fashion Show Committee Members

Co-chairs: Elaine Akagi, May Namba

Kazzie Katayama	Iris Miyahira
Arlene Oki	Jobie Shimomura
Takako Yoda	Marie Fujii
Karen Yoshitomi	Aiko Shojii
Cherry Kinoshita	Toshi Fukuhara
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Ray Ishii, Tom Ishii, Dan Ishii, Roby Ishii and Jim Sugai	Belle Nishioka
Kip Tokuda	Anne Uemura
Jeff Hattori	Mike Kimura
	Patricia Lee

## World Cup Soccer:

### Experiencing international friendship and cross-cultural learning

Commentary by  
Mayumi Tsutakawa, contributing editor

I succumbed to the World Soccer Cup Fever which took a considerable number of Americans as victims this past month. It was pretty hard to resist since I have a residential partner who grew up in Latin America where soccer ("football," they call it) takes the place of all amateur participatory and pro sports as we know them. I also have two children who play soccer and have been a sideline mother through every type of weather condition over many, many years.

But I don't think of the experience of viewing so many international level soccer games on TV, and even journeying to Palo Alto to cheer the U.S.A. at the historic U.S.-Brazil game (July 4th, Brazil 1 - U.S. 0), as mere jocksmanship. I like to think of the experience as one of international friendship and cross-cultural learning.

It's rather like watching the Olympic Games, except that all national pride and an extreme amount of excitement are swept into singular pivotal games during the World Cup, especially as teams which have trained for years for the opportunity to win the coveted Cup face elimination.

I watched with pride the only Asian team, South Korea, play with vigor and guts. I watched and supported the polite newcomers to the world soccer arena, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia. I watched the rowdy Irish and Dutch fans, painted green and orange.

But the most convincing evidence that cross-cultural understanding is possible came when we found ourselves sitting in the packed to overflowing Stanford Stadium soaking up the sun and listening to sounds of friendship, not aggression. We chanted "U.S.A., U.S.A.," while a huge crowd of Brazilian fans decked in yellow and green—their flag colors—not only chanted, but swayed, danced, rhythmically pounded drums and all kinds of percussion instruments and sang back "Brazil, Brazil" in ecstatic rivalry. It struck me that these fans of all ages and all walks

of life had saved their money to travel thousands of miles to cheer on their national team.

The fledgling U.S. team looked like a bunch of cute puppy dogs tumbling about the field as they bravely held off an extremely gifted Brazilian team which swooped, danced and passed with precision and flair to win the bout.

The most thrilling moments for me came after the 90 minute game (played with only one 15-minute break). The Brazilian fans with all their flags, percussion instruments, banners and feather headdresses continued to party in the stadium—and it dawned on me that the Brazilians chanting and dancing in such unison were of absolutely every color and race. They were Black, White, Indian, Latino and Asian! And they were all dancing together, not missing a single samba beat. They were happy, not hostile, and proud, not vindictive.

And before any of the mostly White American crowd could admit it, they were also nodding their heads, tapping their feet, then getting up to sway to the infectious music.

The sum total of it all: the Brazilians were teaching Americans not only how to enjoy soccer, but how to do it multiculturally. I watched the few African American and Chicano fans look on in appreciation. And I was truly grateful to have been able to get those three tickets to the most important ethnic cultural event I could have witnessed this year.

Now all I have to do is get some tickets to the next World Cup in France in 1998. That is, unless all the darn tickets are claimed by all the other Americans who have caught the fever too.

#### CREDITS

The Seattle JACL Newsletter is edited by Bob Shimabukuro and Mayumi Tsutakawa. Contributors: May Namba, Ray Ishii, Cherry Kinoshita and Ed Suguro.

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# Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

## Meetings

**Seattle JACL Board meeting**, everyone invited, July 20, 7 P.M., Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St., everyone welcome.

**Doshi Kai meeting**, August 3, 7 P.M. Call Wayne Kimura for location. 827-0460 day, 869-5174, eve./weekend.

## Community and Social Events

**Committee to Elect Eileen Kato as Judge**, auction to benefit Kato's election campaign, July 13, 5:30 P.M., Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St. Info: 587-7164.

**Potluck reception for Ed and Betty Burke**, restorers of the Nippon Kan, on the occasion of his retirement, July 16, noon to 2 P.M., Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St. Bring your favorite dish. Info: Tama at 711-6211 or Joe at 946-0833.

**Seattle JACL/1000 Club Golf Tournament**, Sunday July 24, 1:30 P.M., Jefferson Park Golf Course. Entry fee \$25, includes awards dinner at South China Restaurant following tournament. Dinner-only guests are \$15. Info: 282-8978 or 721-0717.

**Seafair Chinatown Parade**, July 31, 7 P.M., starts at 8th Ave. S., west on S. Jackson St., south on 6th Ave. S., east

on S. King St., to freeway overpass. Info: 711-0661.

**Hiroshima-Nagasaki Day Commemoration**, August 6, Green Lake just south of the Bathhouse Theatre. 5:30 P.M. picknicking and lantern preparation, 6:30 P.M. children's program, 8 P.M. adult program with speaker Harriet Walden, music and lantern floatng. Info: 547-2630.

**Nikkei Community Dance**, August 13, 8 to 11:30 P.M., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, live band, \$3 per person. Info: 772-1160.

**Tomo no Kai picnic**, August 15, 10:30 A.M., Woodland Park shelter #3, tables 38, 39, 43 and 44. Bring your own lunch and food to share. Info: Seiji, 824-0683.

**Courier League Reunion**, August 20, SeaTac Red Lion Inn. Info: Jugs Hata, 722-8481 or Popo Yorozu, 722-0721.

**Weekly Ballroom dance class**, every Wednesday from 1 to 3 P.M., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St.

## Arts and Cultural Events

**The Annual Seattle Buddhist Church Bon Odori**, July 16-17, Saturday 4 to 10 P.M., Sunday 4 to 9 P.M., 1427 S. Main St. Info: 329-0800

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**The Annual White River Buddhist Church Bon Odori**, July 23, 5 to 10 P.M., 3625 Auburn Way N. Info: 833-1442.

**Tea Ceremony Demonstration**, July 24 and August 14, 2:30 P.M., Japanese Art Gallery, third floor, Seattle Art Museum, 100 University St. Tickets: \$4 members, \$10 non-members. Info: 654-3100.

**Grand Opening of Seattle Asian Art Museum**, open to the public, August 13, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., Volunteer Park, 15th Ave. E. and E. Prospect St. Seattle Kokon Taiko will perform. Free admission, Info: 654-3100.

**Paintings and drawings by Masami Teraoka** (internationally known artist who lives in Hawaii), through July 23, Fuel Gallery, 318-2nd Ave. S., Tuesday through Saturday 11 A.M. to 5 P.M., Sunday 1 to 5 P.M. Info: 625-0890.

**Fine Japanese prints**, through July 28, Carolyn Staley Fine Prints, 313-1st Ave. S., Tuesday through Saturday, 11 A.M. to 5 P.M. Info 621-1888.

**Art Sabbath**, artwork associated with the Fourth of July including works by artist Yasuyo Folks, through July 31, Apt Art, 905 E. Pike St., Tuesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 6 P.M., Sunday, noon to 5 P.M. Info: 322-8488.

**Oil paintings by Koji Kubota**, through July 31, Heart to Art Gallery, upper level, Broadway Market, 425 Broadway E., daily 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Info: 328-9160.


**"Topophilia V, 100 Gates,"** an exhibition of the works of Keiko Hara, Whitman College art professor, through August 14, Tacoma Art Museum, 12th St. and Pacific Ave., Tuesday through Saturday 10 A.M. to 5 P.M., Thursday till 7 P.M. Sunday noon to 5 P.M. Admission \$3, \$2 seniors/students, \$1 children 6 to 12, free on Tuesdays. Info: 272-4258.



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