

# SEATTLE CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

November 1995

VOLUME 32, NO. 11

## Guest columnist

### A successful symposium

*(President-elect Elaine Akagi is substituting for President Cal Takagi, who is recuperating from cardiovascular illness.)*

In 1994, the Seattle Chapter applied for a grant from the National JACL Legacy Fund with the purpose of helping young Asian Pacific Island adults learn more about careers and networking with the community. The chapter was awarded the grant and began planning the symposium.

On Saturday, November 4, the planners successfully realized their goal. Almost 50 young high school, university and graduate school students attended the symposium, "Your Career and the Community." Bob Santos, unofficial mayor of the International District, "Uncle Bob" to many, gave the lighthearted keynote address. He related how the Asian community united to be the voice of the ID. That voice was heard by the Mayor of Seattle, the Governor of the State, and even by the federal government.

## Banquet theme: 'For the Sake of the Community'

### Installation banquet committee announces award recipients

by Elaine Akagi

The Seattle chapter's 74th annual installation banquet will be held on Saturday, January 27, 1996. The keynote address will be given by Capt. Bruce Yamashita, an attorney in Washington, DC. More information about him will appear in the next issue of this newsletter.

Among the highlights of the evening will be the presentations of awards, based on the theme for this year's dinner, "For the Sake of the Community." Several people who have given unselfishly to the community will be honored: Kay Abe, who has been feeding the homeless for many



Bob Santos delivers the keynote address at "Your Career and the Community" symposium November 4.—Randy Aoyama photo

Issues, such as the Kingdome, the underground tunnel, and other projects affecting the people in the International District brought the community together. People net-

See "Symposium" on page 3

years; Russell Akiyama, former Administrator of Keiro Nursing Home; Judge Thomas Haven, who personally put together an exhibit on relocation in Kittitas Co.; and Fumiko Maeshiro, former principal of the Japanese Language School.

The Don Kazama award will be presented to Bob Shimabukuro, who has been active in our community for many years. Currently the executive director of the Asian Pacific AIDS Council and the editor of a few community organizational newsletters (including Seattle Chapter

See "Banquet" on page 3

## Polychrome Publishing authors read in Seattle

by Elaine Akagi

On October 25, a group of Asian American authors of children's books were in Seattle to do a reading and book signing. The event was co-sponsored by the Seattle JACL and the Asian Pacific Islanders Education Association and took place at Whitworth Elementary School.

Author **Marlene Shigekawa** read from her book "Blue Jay in the Desert," a story about a young boy who learns about freedom and displacement from his woodcarving grandfather in an internment camp.

**Tapes now on sale**

### Video Tribute to Japanese American Musicians completed

by Ed Suguro

A new video called "Music to Remember: A Tribute to Japanese American Musicians and Singers of the '40s" is now available for sale. The 2-hour video is a tape of the concert that was held at the Japan America Theatre in Los Angeles in February of this year. John Esaki of Visual Communications edited the tape.

Featured in the concert are Sue (Takimoto) Okabe, formerly of Seattle and now of Gardena, who sang here and at Minidoka camp, and Chickie (Ishihara) White, formerly of Enumclaw and Seattle, who sang in Minidoka and later with Nikkei bands and now living in Vancouver, Washington. They are two of the three female singers on the tape; the third singer is Mary Nomura, a Californian who was known as the "Songbird of Manzanar."

Seattle native George Yoshida is also featured. He plays the drums in a band and is interviewed about his forthcoming book he is writing on the Nisei musicians of the past. Marilyn Tokuda handles some of the MC chores while Kathy (Okuda) Ujiye, formerly of Sumner and now of Torrance, dances a few numbers with her partner, including a jitterbug.

The tape of the concert is \$25 postpaid. Order forms are available at the JACL Pacific Northwest District Regional Office (on the table outside the door), Higo Variety Store, Uwajimaya (2nd floor bulletin board), Northwest Nikkei and the Wing Luke Asian Museum (ask at desk).

Author **Elaine Hosozawa-Nagano** read portions of her book, "Chopsticks from America," a tale of two Japanese American children who move to Japan and learn about life in the land of their ancestors.

Author **Janet Mitsui Brown**, read her book, "Thanksgiving at Obaachan's," a cute story of a young girl who thinks Thanksgiving spent with her Obaachan is special. Not only does she get to eat the traditional Thanksgiving dishes, but a few special Japanese treats.

The authors all write for a company dedicated to publishing stories of and by Asian Americans. Sandra Yamate, founder of the company, Polychrome, was in town with the authors. She founded the company so that children can get a balance of stories that includes those of Asian American life. Although the audience was very small, Sandra is hopeful that a future trip to the Seattle area will generate a larger audience.

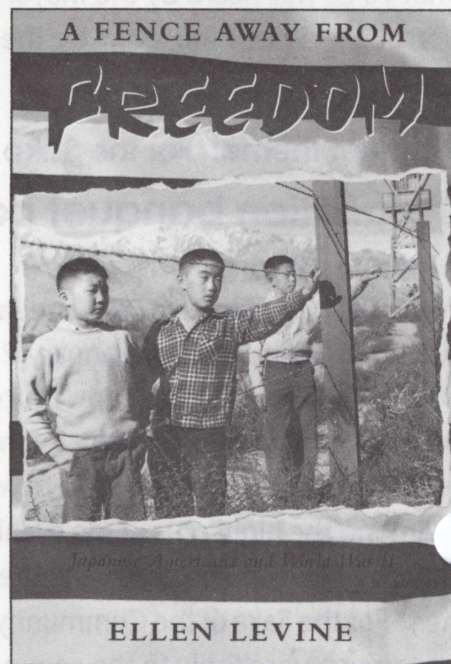
### Internment through the eyes of children focus of new book

by Chizuko Omori

"A Fence Away From Freedom" (Putnam, 1995), by Ellen Levine, is the story of the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II as seen through the eyes of children or young people who lived through that experience.

As an introduction to those who are not overly familiar with that history, this is one of the best books to come along.

Ellen Levine will be reading excerpts from "A Fence Away From Freedom" on Wednesday, November 15, 7-8 p.m., at City Books, 1305 Madison. Info: 682-4334.



## Symposium, continued from front page

worked. People no longer saw themselves as individual Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese or Japanese, but people who had an investment in the section of Seattle with a great deal of Asian history. That, Uncle Bob says, is what a community is and does.

Several concurrent workshop sessions allowed the young attendees to meet with and ask questions of prominent Asian leaders in the fields of law, education, media, business, politics, the arts, government, and social services. Our thanks go to Sharon Chew, Judge Eileen Kato, Bea Kiyohara, Guy Kurose, Dr. Barry Mar, Al Sugiyama, Kip Tokuda and Deni Yamauchi-Luna who all gave time from their busy schedules to speak with our young leaders of tomorrow.

Symposiums such as this are important in encouraging our young adults to get active in our community. JACL is one of the organizations that benefits from it. Our board is recruiting more young, fresh minds. A balance of these young adults and our more experienced JACLers is essential in keeping the JACL a vital organization in our community.

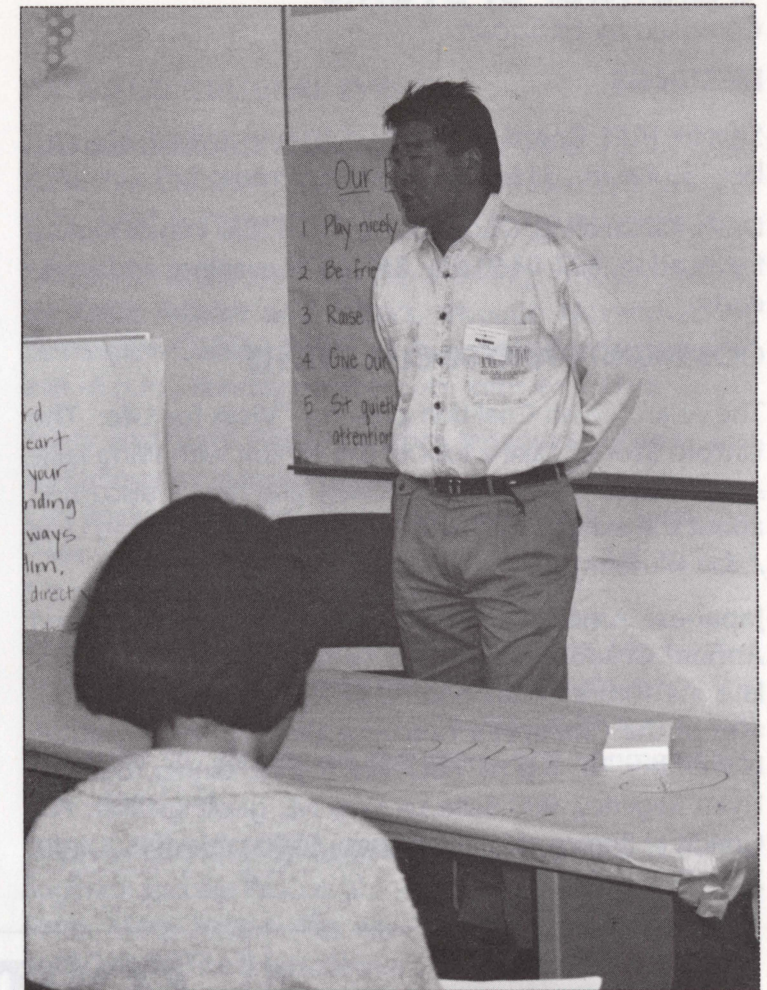
Congratulations to the organizing committee: Randy Aoyama, Jeff Hattori, Hugh Matsubayashi, Jonathan Matsui, Joy Shigaki and Anne Uemura. Thank you also to the sponsors: the International District Rotary Club and JAE Awards, and the co-sponsors; Lake Washington JACL, Olympia JACL, JAYS/ U of W, Northwest Nikkei, International Examiner, Northwest Asian Weekly, Asian Bar Association of Wash., and Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

### Banquet, continued from front page

JACL), Shimabukuro is a former editor of the International Examiner (IE) and the Pacific Citizen. He is currently a columnist for the IE and has donated many of his writing and woodworking talents to community based organizations in Portland, Los Angeles and Seattle.

A special award will be presented to Sam Shoji, who has worked tirelessly for the Seattle chapter and the community. He worked as a social worker at Keiro Nursing Home and is active at St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

Make plans now to attend the banquet. Invitations will be in the mail in early December. Reserve January 27, 1996 for the JACL Installation Banquet.



Guy Kurose speaks to a young gathering at "Your Career and the Community" November 4 —Bob Shimabukuro photo

### The Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter

The Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter is published on the second Wednesday of the month by the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League.

Seattle Chapter JACL mailing address: P.O. Box 18558, Seattle, Washington, 98118-0558.

Seattle Chapter JACL office address: 316 Maynard Ave. South, Seattle, Washington, 98104.

Issue no: Volume 32, no. 9

Seattle Chapter Newsletter Editor: Bob Shimabukuro.

Contributors: Elaine Akagi, Chizu Omori and Ed Suguro.

Bylined articles represent the views of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of Seattle Chapter JACL or the National JACL.

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# Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

## MEETINGS

**Seattle JACL Board Meeting**, everyone invited, November 15, 7 p.m., 316 Maynard Ave. S., room 111.

Doshi Kai meeting, December 6, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for location, 827-0460 day, 869-5174 evenings and weekends.

## COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL EVENTS

The Asian/Jewish Coalition presents **"Visas for Life: The Untold Story,"** take a tour of the exhibit with Wing Luke Asian Museum Director Ron Chew and hear a discussion about the exhibit, November 14, 7-8:30 p.m., Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 7th Ave. S. Info: 623-5124.

**Japanese American Chamber of Commerce's Second Annual Graduation Dinner**, come meet and congratulate our future Nikkei and Asian leaders who are graduates of the Chamber's Executive Development Institute, November 16, 6 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner, Bellevue Hyatt Regency, 900 Bellevue Way NE, guest speaker: Phil Condit of Boeing, \$50 per person, \$500 table of ten. Info: 233-9292.

**Asian Management Business Association Roundtable Lunch**, November 17, 11:45 a.m., Holiday Inn Crown Plaza Yellowstone Ballroom, 6th & Seneca, speakers: representatives from the Asia Society of New York. Cost: \$18 members, \$22 nonmembers. Info: Judy Yu, 621-9506 (work).

**Heart Mountain All School Reunion**, November 17-19, Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas. Everyone who attended school in Heart Mountain from elementary to high school is invited, plus any other interested parties. The high school class of 1945 will host. Info: Bacon Sakatani (818) 338-8310, Keiichi Ikeda (213) 293-6887, Tom Hide (714) 826-2211, Betty (Fujimoto) Fujiwara (818) 240-6677, Ellen Fujiwara (818) 768-4046.

**14th Annual Ayame Kai Holiday Craft Fair**, November 18, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Over 60 premier Asian craft designers will offer their wares in addition to a bakery and food sale. All proceeds will benefit Keiro Nursing Home. Info: 323-7100.

**1st Hill Lions Club Annual Las Vegas Night**, November 22, 5 p.m.-1 a.m., Bush Garden Restaurant, 614 Maynard Ave. S. Blackjack, dice and wheel games will be offered. Info: Gary, 325-6555.

**Reception for Hiroki Sugihara**. Meet the eldest son of the Japanese consul who saved countless Jewish lives. A "Sugihara survivor" will also be meeting the son for the first time, November 29, 7-8:30 p.m., Temple DeHirsch Sinai, 1511 E. Pike St. Info: 623-5124.

**Seattle Keiro Benefit Dance "New Horizon XIII,"** sponsored by the Seattle Japanese Gardeners Association, December 2, 8-12 midnight, Seattle Buddhist Church gym, 1427 S. Main St., BYOL (mixers and ice available), music by Dennis & Eddy. Donation: \$10 per person.

"For the Sake of the Community," **The 74th Annual Seattle JACL Installation Banquet**, January 27, 1996, Doubletree Suites, Tukwila, keynote speaker: Marine Reserve Capt. Bruce Yamashita. Mark the date on your calendar and watch for future information.

**Wing Luke Asian Museum's 29th Annual Art Auction**, celebrating the lifetime achievement of Andrew Chinn, February 17, 1996, Westin Hotel, 1900 5th Ave. Save that date so you won't miss out on this exciting annual event. Those wishing to donate artwork to the auction should call the museum at 623-5124.

**Weekly ballroom dance class**, every Wednesday, from 1-3 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St.

## ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

**Ikebana Demonstrations**, November 18 & 25, 11 a.m., Kado Tea Garden, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Volunteer Park, 1400 E. Prospect St. Free with museum admission.

"Creatures of the Sea," a group showing, including works by Yukie Adams and others, through November 19, Stonington Gallery, 2030 1st Ave., Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday noon-5 p.m. Info: 443-1108.

Prints and Sumi Paintings from Japanese Folklore and Mythology by Haruko Nishimura, through December 1, City Books Loft Cafe Gallery, 1305 Madison St., Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday till 9 p.m., Saturday till 5 p.m., closed Sunday. Info: 682-4334.

**Tea Ceremony Demonstration**, December 14, 6 p.m., presented by the Urasenke Foundation, Teahouse in the Japanese Art Gallery, third floor, Seattle Art Museum, 100 University St. Tickets: \$4 members, \$10 nonmembers. Info: 654-3121.

"Visas for Life: The Remarkable Story of Chiune and Yukiko Sugihara and the Rescue of more than 6,000 Jews," "One Song, Many Voices: The Asian Pacific American Experience," and "The International District: Portrait of a Community," are the **three exhibits currently on display at the Wing Luke Asian Museum**, 407 7th Ave. S., Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday-Sunday noon-4 p.m., \$2.50 adults, \$1.50 seniors/students, 75¢ children 5 to 12. Info: 623-5124.

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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 1st of the month to: JACL Newsletter, c/o Bob Shimabukuro, 6621 S. Bangor St., Seattle, WA 98178.*

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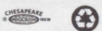
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# Membership Bulletin

(Membership form on back)

## Membership Drive deadline extended; *Shigaki/Nakagawa race too close to call*

by May Namba

The membership drive is in full swing and everyone is really hustling to get new members. It seems that neither Jerry Shigaki's or Mako Nakagawa's group wants to serve dinner to the winning team. The lead changes daily, but as of the last meeting Mako and Jerry were tied with 19 new members a piece. Today Jerry is pulling ahead slightly, but this may change tomorrow.

Since we did not meet our goal of 50 Regular new members, the membership drive has been extended to November 16, at the commencement of the next board meeting. More membership application forms may be obtained by contacting May Namba (784 3824).

Captain Shigaki and assistant Kazzie Katayama lead a team consisting of the following members: Calvin Takagi, Anne

Uemura, Dave Hoekendorf, Ayako Hurd, Mike Kimura, Ray Ishii, Jeff Hattori, Kazzie Katayama, Eileen Kato, Sid Kuboi, Hugh Matsubayashi, Ken Nakano, Joby Shimomura, Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, May Namba and Grant Yamaguchi.

Captain Nakagawa, assisted by Kip Tokuda, leads a team with the following members: Elaine Akagi, Arlene Oki, Sharon Klostermann, Iris Miyahira, Shea Aoki, Randy Aoyama, Tracy Hirai, Tony Ishisaka, Chuck Kato, Cherry Kinoshita, Michelle Kumata, Gary Maehara, Jonathan Matsui, Chizuko Norton, Sam Shoji, Virginia Thomas, Kip Tokuda, and Janice Yee,

Please get out and recruit all the members you can. Let's surpass our goal!

## Newsletter Notice

by Bob Shimabukuro

I will be going to Hawaii from December 4 until December 14. This means that all copy for the December newsletter should be turned in by December 1st, the absolute latest. Your cooperation is very much appreciated. Thanks! Have a safe, happy and enlightening holiday season.

# 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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<b>Century Club</b> (annual) .....	\$120
<b>Spouse</b> (annual) .....	\$35
<b>Thousand Club Life</b> .....	\$1,000
<b>Century Club Life</b> .....	\$2,000
<b>Youth/Student membership</b>	
<b>(25 years or younger)</b> .....	\$14
<b>Seattle JACL only</b>	
<b>Booster Club regular</b> .....	\$20
<b>Booster Club seniors</b> .....	\$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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- Eligible for JACL group health insurance
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### 1000 Club life membership

- Member receives benefits listed above for his/her families

### Booster Club membership

- Membership to Seattle Chapter JACL
- Seattle Chapter monthly newsletter

## Seattle Chapter JACL Membership application

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PHONE (indicate whether day or eves/weekend): \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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