

SEATTLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

December 1995

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Yamashita to keynote Chapter Installation Dinner

Captain Bruce Yamashita, who was denied an officer's commission in the U.S. Marine Corps, successfully petitioned the U.S. Naval Discharge Review Board, gaining the rank of captain in early 1994 after a five-year court and media battle with the U.S. Marine Corps Officer Candidate School.

Currently, he is practicing law in Washington, D.C., and is representing minority officer candidates in a class action discrimination suit against the U.S. Navy. Yamashita was also part of the legal defense team representing Lt. Wang in the Persian Gulf "friendly fire" case.

Said Yamashita in late November, "I'm happy practicing law. Slowly paying off my debts and 'nobody boddah me



Captain Bruce Yamashita at his commissioning March 18, 1994

no mo'."

Yamashita will be the keynote speaker at the Seattle Chapter installation dinner, "For the Sake of the Community," January 27, 1996.

For information about tickets and purchasing tables, please call Ayako Hurd at 527-1464.

President's Report

Looking forward to a successful new year

by Cal Takagi

At the end of the year, it is customary for organizations such as ours to review activities and accomplishments. I will not do this here. Elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter are summaries of some of our year's highlights, the results of the hard work of a large number of dedicated individuals who have put in the necessary hours of tireless effort. No voluntary organization could ever survive without the commitment of its members, and, fortunately, we are blessed by the presence of many of these.

Having been out of commission for the last couple of months, I have been overwhelmed by the volume of cards, letters, gifts, and messages of support that have come in, and would like to thank everyone for their thoughtfulness and generosity. The organization's work was handled with-

out a hitch during my absence because people stepped up and assumed extra responsibility. In particular, I want to thank Elaine Akagi who, as President-Elect, really began her presidency three months ahead of time. She willingly, graciously, and competently took over most of the onerous duties of the job and, in the process, demonstrated that she will indeed provide us with first-rate leadership in the coming year. Thanks again, Elaine!

I am reminded that 1995 started with our fund-raising for the victims of the Kobe/Osaka earthquake, and although we started late and were only one of several fund-raising efforts in the city, we were able to bring in approximately \$13,000. Our membership is generous when

See "President's Report" on page 4

Chapter year-end summary

From 'earthshaking' installation banquet to membership drive, chapter committees prove their diligence

by Elaine Akagi

I have been asked to try to summarize the activities of the Seattle Chapter during 1995. Our chapter is always busy with many committees meeting throughout the year. Although not all committees have "events" that showcase their efforts, they work diligently on issues that affect our community. This article will not cover in detail all that the chapter has done this year, but will highlight our major projects.

The year began with our "earth shaking" installation banquet. Speaker George Takei addressed the 300+ attendees on being involved in the community. He thought the earthquake was just for him, to make him feel welcomed. It was a night we'll all remember.

The earthquake in Kobe, Japan, was the focus of a project we supported. Approximately \$13,000 was collected in a drive by the chapter. The money was sent to Kobe through the National JACL Office.

Activities leading to the Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival included a sushi making session, Awa Odori lessons, raffle ticket sales, and a booth at the Seattle Center.

The chapter participated in the planning of an Asian Jew-

ish Summit. On a beautiful, sunny day in May, about 100 interested Asian and Jewish participants met, dialogued and built bridges. Other joint ventures have developed from that first event.

Scholarships were awarded to deserving young Japanese Americans at the annual Scholarship Banquet. Akemi Tanemura, Jonathan Matsui and Dawn Hewett were the 1995 recipients.

In August, the Education Committee presented a workshop for teachers on the Japanese American Experience. A large audience attended and gave the workshop high ratings. Speakers included Gordon Hirabayashi, Ken Mochizuki and Cherry Kinoshita. Cathy Hirose and Teresa Maebori taught the class.

The youth symposium on Careers and Community was held in November. It was a National Legacy Grant project. It, too, was well attended. Speakers included Al Sugiyama, Guy Kurose, Kip Tokuda, Eileen Kato, Bob Santos, Deni Yamauchi Luna and many others.

Our year ended with a major membership drive. Almost 100 new members were recruited. All board members worked to increase our membership.

Many other committees meet and work hard during the year. The Anti-discrimination, Political Education, International Relations, Endowment, and the Redress committees have devoted many hours to research and report on issues relevant to our community.

If you are interested in helping on one or more of these committees, contact one of the board members listed on the back of this newsletter. Your help will always be appreciated.



**Have a happy, safe
and joyous holiday season**

from the Seattle Chapter Newsletter



The Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter

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Contributors: Elaine Akagi, May Namba, Calvin Takagi and Ed Suguro.

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Spirited membership drive nets 94 new members

by May Namba

The most outstanding two month membership drive has just concluded. With all the members hustling, as of November 27, 1995 a grand total of 94 new members were recruited. It was nice to see so many of our former members return to JACL. Of the 94, 71 are members of the National and Seattle Chapter, and 23 became Booster members of the Seattle Chapter. We are hoping to reach a total of 100 new members by the end of the year.

The membership committee would like to thank all who participated in this successful drive. The results were tremendously gratifying.

As promised the losing team served the winning team with a delicious meal at the November Board meeting. The losing team, headed by Jerry Shigaki, gave the WINNING team a valiant fight but had to concede to Captain Mako Nakagawa's team.

Shigaki's team, assisted by Kazzie Katayama, consisted of Calvin Takagi, Anne Uemura, Dave Hoekendorf, Ayako Hurd, Mike Kimura, Ray Ishii, Jeff Hattori, Eileen Kato, Sid Kuboi, Hugh Matsubayashi, Ken Nakano, Joby Shimomura, Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, May Namba and Grant Yamaguchi.

Congratulations to Captain Nakagawa who worked extremely hard to push her team members to a tremendous victory. The winners had a very enjoyable evening and left with full stomachs. Nakagawa's team, assisted by Kip Tokuda, consisted of 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, and Janice Yee.

THANK YOU ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

New Members

Welcome to Seattle Chapter, JACL. We are very happy to see so many of our former members return and renew their membership. A special welcome to the new members. We hope to see all of you next year at our meetings. Please make an effort to join us on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at 316 Maynard Ave So. Rm 111.

On Saturday, January 27, 1996 we cordially invite all

new and former members to join us at JACL's annual Installation Banquet at Doubletree Suites, Tukwilla, 7:00 pm. The keynote speaker will be Bruce Yamashita, and the Theme of the Banquet is "For the Sake of the Community." Come and join us and meet your Board members.

Please accept our apologies if we inadvertently missed your name. The following is a list of new and returning members.

Dorothy Akagi
Midori Akagi
Laura Akagi
Nellie Fujii Anderson
Karen Androvic
Russell Aoki
Bessie Asanuma
Vicki Asakura
Jo Ann Asato
Jeffrey A. Beaver
BiHoa Caldwell
J. Kiiko Fisk

Frank Fujii
Marie Fujii
Midori Garrison
Ken Higashi
Aimee Hirabayashi
Gil Hirabayashi
Tracy Asako Hirai
J. T. Hiraki
Makoto Hori
Yukio Imada
Diane Inouye
Ruby Shu Inouye

George & Marie Ishii
George H. Kakiuchi
Tsu Kanzaki
John & Esther Kashiwagi
Mits Katayama
Lori Kato
Ann Kawasaki
Frank R. Kiuchi
Joanne Kimura
Martha Kimura
Yuki Moore Laurenti
Amy Maki

Paul Matsuoka
R. Aaron Merz
Darrell Mihara
Ai Connie Handa Moore
Wash & Kathleen Murakami
Bradley Nakagawa
Daren Nakagawa
DeeAn Nakagawa
Marie Nakata
Shinako Noritake
Ann T. Norton

continued on following page

Emotional eyewitness testimony strengthens historical fact

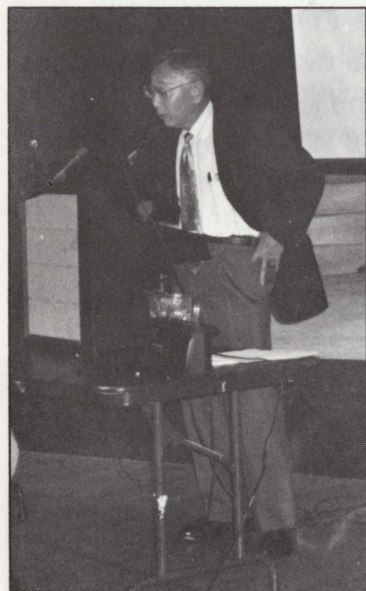
by Bob Shimabukuro

522nd Field Artillery World War II veteran Terry Kurimura spoke softly, his voice slightly wavering. "I saw a man, all skin and bones, no teeth. All the time we were fighting, losing men, I wondered about it. (But) I looked into his eyes and I knew all that fighting wasn't in vain. I got great satisfaction at that moment. People say it never happened. I tell you, I saw it. I was there."

He was speaking about Dachau, one of the most infamous of the Nazi concentration camps, and was telling the story of the 522nd, a unit of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which was the first of the Allied units to reach Dachau. The occasion was a program about Dachau organized by the Wing Luke Asian

Museum and the American Jewish Committee, at the Stroum Jewish Community Center Auditorium on Mercer Island.

Kurimura's words, which followed a slide presentation by Rachel Weisman and Aaron Uhrmacher about the Nazi death camps, an account of life in these camps by Holocaust survivor Klaus Stern, and a re-counting of Nisei veterans role in the liberation of Dachau, seemed to sum up the contents of the very emotionally powerful evening program.



Shiro Kashino, 522nd Artillery vet



Minoru Tsubota (442nd RCT vet) and 522nd vets George Abe and Terry Kurimura listen as Shiro Kashino answers questions.

Don't forget January 27, 1996!

That's when "For the Sake of the Community," the 74th Annual Seattle JACL Installation Banquet takes place at Doubletree Suites in Tukwila, with keynote speaker, Marine Reserve Capt. Bruce Yamashita. Honored guests: Kay Abe, volunteer to the homeless; Russ Akiyama, former administrator of Keiro Nursing Home, Judge Thomas Haven, who personally put together an exhibit on the relocation in Kittitas County; and Fumiko Maeshiro, former principal of the Seattle Japanese Language School. The Don Kazama Award will go to Bob Shimabukuro, and a special award will go to Sam Shoji, long time JACL activist, retired social worker at Keiro and member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church.



President's Report, continued from front page

the cause is clear. But the year also began with a financial and personnel crisis in the JACL's national office. For the most part, fortunately, these problems seem to have been resolved. We appear to have achieved stability once more. On the local level, our membership drive headed by May Namba, Mako Nakagawa, and Jerry Shigaki was successful in signing up more than 90 new members. These are positive signs of rejuvenation, and I look forward to a successful new year for our organization.

Let me wish everyone a happy holiday season. And please help us celebrate the new year by attending our annual installation dinner.

New members, continued from page three

George Oba	Paul Tanaka
Tak Oba	Jacqueline Toma
Dan Okada	Joyce Tsai
Susan & Dennis Okamoto	Jane Tsuboi
Sharon Tomiko Santos	Jackie Uyeji
Ned Sato	Yvonne G. Ward
Yuki Sato	Richard Yokota
Joy R. Shigaki	Kevin T. Yokoyama
Nori Suguro	Arthur Yorozu
Nobie Takahashi	Tak & Kate Yoshihara
Keiko Ann Taki	Harry Yoshimura
Crystal Tanabe	

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
Couple membership	\$76
1000 Club membership	
Fifty Club (annual)	\$60
Century Club (annual)	\$120
Spouse (annual)	\$35
Thousand Club Life	\$1,000
Century Club Life	\$2,000
Youth/Student membership	
(25 years or younger)	\$14
Seattle JACL only	
Booster Club regular	\$20
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
Seattle Chapter JACL
2324 NW 94th St.
Seattle, WA 98117

What you receive for your membership dollars ...

Regular, Couple, 1000 Club (annual) and Youth/Student memberships

- Membership to National JACL and Seattle Chapter JACL
- One-year subscription to Pacific Citizen, publication of National JACL
- Seattle Chapter monthly newsletter
- Eligible for JACL group health insurance
- Eligible to join JACL credit union

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (indicate whether day or eves/weekend): _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

Please return to:

May Namba, Membership chair
2324 NW 94th St., Seattle, WA 98117

Thank you for your support!

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

MEETINGS

Seattle JAACL Board Meeting, Mailout and Potluck, December 13, 6 p.m., 316 Maynard Ave. S., room 111.

Doshi Kai meeting, January 3, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for location, 827-0460 day, 869-5174 evening and weekend.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Nisei Vets New Year's Eve Dance, December 31, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, music by Dennis & Eddy. Cost: \$15 per couple members in good standing, \$20 non-member couples, \$10 singles. Info: Ben, 772-4261.

Bainbridge Island Potluck, Mochitsuki and Sale, see mochi made the old-fashioned way, January 7, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., potluck at 3:30, bring a favorite dish, Island Center Hall. The award-winning exhibit "Kodomo No Tame Ni" (For the sake of the children) will be on display. Directions: From the Winslow ferry terminal, go straight to the second traffic light and turn left (High School Road). Go to the end of

High School Rd. (about 2 miles), then turn right (Middle Road) and go about 1/3 of a mile and Island Center Hall, a blue-gray building with white trim, will be on your left. Info: Michi, 842-2054 or Frank, 842-4774.

Nikkei Community Dance, January 13, 8-11:30 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, live band, \$3 per person.

Center for Career Alternatives 16th Annual Dinner, February 9, Seattle Sheraton Hotel and Towers, 1400 6th Ave., \$50. Call Ellen at 322-9080 for community tables and more information.

Wing Luke Asian Museum's 29th Annual Art Auction, celebrating the lifetime achievement of Andrew Chinn, February 17, Westin Hotel, 1900 5th Avenue, 5 p.m. cocktails, mystery balloons, raffle and auction preview, 6:15 p.m. dinner and program, followed by the auction. Cost: \$70, \$100 patron, \$200 benefactor, \$700 table of 10. Deadline for reservations: January 17. Info: 623-5124.

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

Calendar, continued from previous page

ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

"11:07," Northwest Asian American Theatre's late night series of music, comedy and improvisation, guest host: comedian Arnold Mukai, musical guest: Lester Iwana, December 16, 11:07 p.m., Nippon Kan Theatre, 628 S. Washington St., \$5, \$4 seniors/students. Info: 726-8987.

19th and 20th Century Japanese Prints, through December 30, Carolyn Staley Fine Prints, 313 1st Ave. S., Tuesday-Saturday 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: 621-1888.

"From the Floating World to the Street," woodblock prints by Ando Hiroshige and street photography by contemporary Northwest photographers, from December 31 through March 24, Seattle Art Museum Photo and Prints Gallery, 100 University St., Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday till 9 p.m. Admission: \$6 adults, \$4 seniors/students, children under 12 free. Info: 654-3100.

Sumi Paintings, Calligraphy Paintings and Mixed Media Collages by Fumiko Kimura, through December 31, Stillwater Gallery, 1900 N. Northlake Way, Sunday-Wednesday noon-6 p.m., Thursday-Saturday noon-9 p.m. Info: 634-1900.

Group art show by Seattle artists including Carl Kishida, through December 31, Northwest Craft Center, Seattle Center, daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: 728-1555.

New Year Traditions in Japan, lecture by William J. Rathburn, curator of Asian art at the Seattle Art Museum, January 7, 1 p.m., Seattle Asian Art Museum Auditorium and Kado Tea Garden, Volunteer Park, 1400 E. Prospect St. Info: 654-3100.

"Out of Focus: Media Stereotypes of Asian Pacific Americans" will be the new exhibit at the Wing Luke Asian Museum opening on January 18 in addition to the permanent exhibit on display, "One Song, Many Voices: The Asian Pacific American Experience" and "The International District: Portrait of a Community," 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.

Japanese Popular Painting of the 17th to the 19th Centuries, screens and scrolls from the Seattle Art Museum's collections showing popular painting in Japan, through June 16, Seattle Asian Art Museum Gould Gallery, Volunteer Park, 1400 E. Prospect St., Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., till 9 p.m. Thursday. Admission: \$6 adults, \$4 seniors/students, children under 12 free. Info: 654-3100.

Ikebana Demonstrations, Saturdays 11 a.m., Thursdays 7 p.m., followed by an introductory course, cost: \$12 at the door, all materials provided, Seattle Asian Art Museum Kado Tea Garden at Volunteer Park, 1400 E. Prospect St. Info: 344-5265.

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Japanese American Citizens League

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