

# The New Year—a time for reflection and renewal

by Jeff Hattori

Happy New Year! On behalf of the Board, I would like to extend our heartfelt wishes that you and your families have the most prosperous and enjoyable year. As we celebrate the coming of a new year, it is a time for reflection as well as a time of renewal. This is a time of year when we dream and plan for a better life for our families and our community.

1997 is an especially significant year for the Seattle Chapter. It marks the 75th anniversary of an organization that has been a valuable and needed resource for our community. Organizations do not exist for this period of time without the ability to lead, evolve and respond to the needs of its community. JACL has been this kind of organization, addressing and fighting many issues on behalf of and with our community. Whether fighting for citizenship for our Issei, rebuilding a community after the war, pressing for the repeal of the Alien Land Law, or organizing for redress and education on internment, JACL has consistently been and continues to be at the forefront.

1997 is also a significant year for me. As your new president, it is my honor and privilege to continue the legacy and work of the Seattle Chapter and the many individuals who have created such a meaningful institution. Over the last four-and-a-half years on the Board, I have gained a much greater appreciation and understanding of what JACL represents and has done. During this time, I have also been very fortunate to meet and work with a number of individuals who have taught me what it means to make a meaningful contribution to our community. It is my goal and the goal of the Board to not only be mindful "custodians" but to also make a positive and lasting contribution.

I am very excited about the coming year on different levels. Building on the work of past president Elaine Akagi and board members, the Chapter has been developing and planning organizational themes, goals and strategies that will create a chapter that is "leaner and meaner." Our organizing principle is based on becoming a "leaderful" organization that actively plans, is responsive to and engages the membership and community. Our organization also builds on the skills and interests of the board members and volunteers. Our organizational themes focus primarily on our

# SEATTLE CHAPTER

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continuing work on civil rights issues and providing more resources and leadership training for our youth. Accordingly, we have shifted the roles of the Vice-Presidents and committees to support these themes: 1) General Operations - Cal Takagi; 2) Civil Rights/Coalition Building - Arlene Oki; 3) Leadership/Youth Development and Education - Jon Matsui and Vicki Yuki; and, 4) Public Relations/Fund Development - Kazzie Katayama.

Our Annual Board Retreat is on Saturday, January 18, 1997. We plan to develop more concrete goals and activities. I encourage everyone to share your input and participate.

At a regional level, to increase capacity and to create a "singular voice", we have worked more closely with our neighboring chapters (Lake Washington, Puyallup Valley, Olympia, and White River) forming what we collectively refer to as the "Puget Sound JACL." We had our first joint event, "Holiday with Lights" at Enchanted Village last month and are currently planning other events and activities including hosting the Bi-District meeting in July and hopefully creating a "Puget Sound JACL" newsletter.

At the national level, I attended last year's Biennial Convention, which gave me the opportunity to meet with all of our incoming national officers and gain a much broader perspective of our overall mission and goals. Since that time, I have met and talked with our new President, Helen Kawagoe, and her enthusiasm and vision is not only infectious but is consistent with I believe is important for JACL: be positive, inclusive, responsive and accountable.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge that without your support and commitment, the Seattle Chapter would not have been able to reach such a milestone! It is the 75th anniversary! I would like to thank all of you for all that you have done and I look forward to working for and with you in the coming year.

### Other Notes...

Please don't forget to send in your RSVP's for our 75th Anniversary Installation Banquet. Through the leadership of our Installation Banquet Chair Jerry Shigaki, committee members and countless of volunteers it promises to be a great event and celebration. I hope to see and meet you all at the banquet!

We are still in need of a Treasurer! If you or someone you know may be interested, please give me a call at 630-4854. Thank you!

.....  
**Seattle Chapter**  
**Diamond Anniversary Celebration**  
**Seattle Sheraton**  
**Saturday, January 25, 1997.**  
**Reception, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$50**  
.....



## National Day of Remembrance ceremony planned for 1997

### From the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund

Plans are being developed for a National Day of Remembrance (DOR) ceremony to be held in Washington, D.C., Wednesday, February 19, 1997, the 55th anniversary of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066.

"The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) Board has made this activity one of its major educational priorities," said Dale Minami, Civil Liberties Public Education Fund board chair.

Such an event would also help publicize and promote local DOR events throughout the country. Currently, many Japanese American communities sponsor local Day of Remembrance events.

The first Day of Remembrance event in the nation was sponsored by community leaders in the Seattle area on November 25, 1978, during Thanksgiving weekend. It was originally conceived as an event to help publicize the redress campaign.

**PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING  
YOUR SEATTLE CHAPTER JACL'S  
75TH ANNIVERSARY  
& INSTALLATION BANQUET!**  
Saturday, January 25, 1997

"Our Legacy, Our Future"  
Sheraton Seattle Hotel & Towers  
5:30pm Reception 6:30pm Dinner/Program

"Diamond" Co-Sponsors  
Anheuser Busch Companies, Inc.  
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Uwajimaya

Please join us in celebrating your Seattle Chapter's 75th Anniversary. This event will be one of our best ever! Meet your new Board Members, listen to our special guests and speakers, and see old friends and acquaintances. We will also have a special drawing of a variety of wonderful donated items to support the Chapter's Youth Fund.

Don't miss this gala event! Bring your family and friends! Please remember to send in your RSVP's by January 15, 1997. If you need more information or would like to receive an invitation, please call Ayako Hurd at (206) 527-1464. See you on the 25th!

Recently, CLPEF held a meeting to seek input from a cross section of Japanese American communities throughout the country which sponsor local DOR activities. Individuals who attended the meeting included Yuri Kochiyama (New York), Frank Abe (Seattle), Marlene Tonai (Oakland), Sox Kitashima (San Francisco), Bob Sakaniwa (D.C.), Richard Katsuda (Los Angeles), Burt Takeuchi (San Jose), Cynthia Sakoda Acott (Chicago), Gary Jio (San Jose), Julie Hatta (San Francisco) and Herb Yamanishi (San Francisco).

CLPEF staff in attendance were executive director Dale Shimasaki, deputy executive director Martha Watanabe and intern Dina Shek.

The CLPEF staff is working on a detailed plan for a 1997 National Day of Remembrance event. Details of the plan will be announced in the near future. Communities planning DOR activities for 1997 can have their activities publicized through the CLPEF by contacting the East Coast Office of CLPEF at (202) 653-2811 or via fax at (202) 653-2815. CLPEF address is 1730 K Street, NW, Suite 410, Washington, D.C. 20006.

### Chapter applies for grants; projects to educate the public about internment

by Elaine Akagi

The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 provided for redress payments to those Japanese Americans interned during World War II and funding for the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, which has been used to print the proceedings of the hearings that preceded the passage of the Civil Liberties Act and will finance projects designed to educate the public about the internment. The Seattle Chapter has applied for a grant and is a key organization in two consortiums who have applied for grants.

The Chapter grant application is to document and record for publication the events that led to the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. This chapter was key in pushing for the redress movement, and little has been documented of the people and events leading up to August 1988 when the Act was signed.

The chapter education committee, in consort with Seattle University and the Washington Education Association, has applied for a one-year grant to teach a cadre of 26 teachers about the internment. The ultimate effect of the project will be to educate thousands of our youngsters, not only about the injustice of the internment, but to look at other injustices, such as slavery and the Holocaust.

The third application submitted proposes to solicit artists to design a mural or other public art, commemorating the Japanese American farmers who grew and sold produce in the Pike Place Market prior to their evacuation. The project is a joint project of

See "Proposals" on next page

## 1997 Membership Dues Structure

At its November board meeting, the board approved a new dues structure, effective January 1, 1997. The National dues were increased, an action approved at the 1996 National JACL Convention in San Jose. Our new dues are reflective of the National and District dues increases.

Category	New	National	District	Chapter Keeps
Regular	\$50	\$43	\$4	\$3
Couple/Family	85	75	8	2
Student/Youth	20	14	4	2
Spouse 1000 Club/Century	40	32	4	2
Booster	20			20
Sr. booster	12			12

Please note, the subscription rate to Pacific Citizen is \$30. For a regular member, more than 2/3 of the money sent to national is applied to your Pacific Citizen subscription. National JACL is mailing membership cards to every member upon receipt of their membership dues.

Cards are sent within four-six weeks after National's receipt of dues, which means that members should receive their cards within seven-eight weeks of sending their dues. National sends these cards through bulk mail, so any member not receiving their card should contact National Headquarters at 415-921-5225. In order to ensure that every member has their membership number and information about membership benefits on hand, every member will receive a card. —May Namba

## Proposals, continued from page 2

the Wing Luke Asian Museum, the Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority and the Seattle Arts Commission,

All three projects are worthwhile endeavors. Keep looking for announcements regarding these grants.



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