

Scholarship application forms now available

by Christine Shigaki, Scholarship Chair

Applications are now available for JACL National and Seattle Scholarship Awards and can be obtained by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to: The Seattle JACL Scholarship Chair PO Box 18558 Seattle, WA 98118.

Entering Freshman (high school senior) Scholarship applications must be mailed to The Seattle Chapter and postmarked by March 1, 1997. Chapters then select the top three applicants to be sent to the National Headquarters to be reviewed with other chapters' top three freshman applicants by the Freshman Scholarship Committee. Decisions for awards will be made by July 1, 1997.

The National JACL will also be awarding scholarships for Undergraduate, Graduate, Law, Creative Arts, Performing Arts and Hagiwara Student Aid. Applications for these scholarships must be mailed to the National Chapter by: April 1, 1997.

The Seattle JACL will be awarding local scholarships as well. Application deadline for local scholarships will be April 15, 1997.

All scholarships are available to those with JACL Membership (by the applicant or his/her parents). All qualified persons are encouraged to apply!

API groups urge participation in Legislative Day

Asian Pacific Islander Coalition (APIC) is organizing statewide for a Legislative Day in Olympia on February 25. APIC expects over 1,000 Asian and Pacific Islander participants from both western and eastern Washington to converge in Olympia that day to ask legislators to save the safety net for legal immigrants and refugees at risk of losing it from welfare legislation.

Participants leaving from Seattle will gather at 8 a.m. at the Kingdome Parking Lot C, on Royal Brougham Street, just south of the Kingdome, and will depart by 8:30 a.m.

Participants from other areas, such as Snohomish, Tacoma, Spokane, Yakima, Wenatchee, and Vancouver will determine their departure points separately. Over 40 Asian and Pacific Islander organizations (including JACL) throughout the state have endorsed the event.

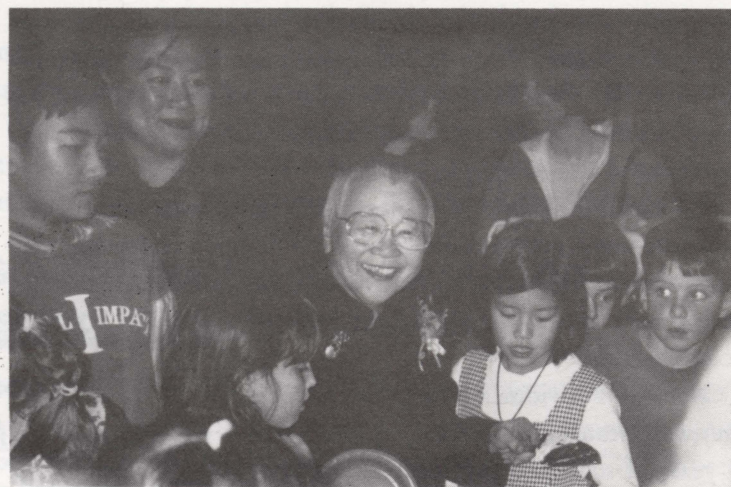
For more information, contact Janet SooHoo or Gary Tang at 461-3606.

SEATTLE CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

February 1997

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Seattle school teacher Aki Kurose at her retirement ceremony dedicating a peace garden in her honor.

Seattle school teacher honored for peace curriculum

by Ken Nakano

Peace activist and Seattle elementary school teacher Aki Kurose retired last December after 23 years (the last 17 years at Laurelhurst Elementary).

A retirement ceremony for Kurose was held January 30, in conjunction with the Laurelhurst Peace Garden Project dedication in her honor.

The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods awarded a \$32,000 grant to Laurelhurst Elementary for a peer counseling resolution program, which allows children to resolve conflicts with others in the playground. The grant also honors Kurose's commitment to a 20-year curriculum involving peace and the respect of others.

Ron Sims, King County Executive, thanked Kurose for her peace curriculum, saying, "The peace of the world begins in the hearts of the children."

Seattle Mayor Norm Rice honored Kurose as a First Citizen of Seattle and issued a proclamation declaring January 30, 1997 Aki Kurose Day, noting that she had received numerous teaching and peace awards during her career.

President's report, by Jeffrey Hattori

Recollecting, celebrating and creating a new foundation

A Defining Moment...

On behalf of the Seattle Chapter JACL Board Members and Installation Banquet Committee, I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of you who attended the 75th Anniversary Installation Banquet, "Our Legacy, Our Future", at the downtown Sheraton Seattle. As for myself, I would personally like to thank each of our "Diamond" Co-Sponsors, "Gold" Corporate sponsors, advertisers, donors, membership, all of the past presidents and board members, and the "Dream Team" Installation Banquet Committee/Volunteers, chaired by Jerry Shigaki. If not for all of you, we would not have reached such a significant milestone and had such a meaningful and energizing event.

The vision for this evening was not only to recollect and celebrate the many accomplishments of JACL, but to serve as a new foundation for us to reaffirm and act on our collective beliefs in what is right and just for the future. Mission accomplished!

Over 420 individuals were in attendance. They were treated to a slide show that reflected 75 years of successes and challenges of our community and the many individuals (some sure looked different back then!) who fought

valiantly on behalf of our community. What also made this such a special evening was the speakers, including keynote speaker Dale Minami, Chair of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board, Mayor Norm Rice, County Executive Ron Sims, Consul General Sugiuchi, Dr. Christine Shigaki, and our past Governor Mike Lowry, who each shared poignant messages and a "call to action" on one common theme: "We have much to celebrate... We still have much to do... Our youth is our future... We will do it together".

Saturday, January 25, 1997 was most definitely a defining moment for the Seattle Chapter JACL and, in a broader context, for all groups and communities who have fought so hard to ensure equality and fairness for all.

The Message is Clear...

Throughout the event and, in particular, after the event, there was "electricity" in the air—an energy of renewed enthusiasm and

commitment. I certainly felt it! I also felt this same energy at our annual board retreat. The retreat was designed to create a supportive environment which culminated in all of us answering two questions: 1) "What would you like to see JACL accomplish while you, as a board member, are on the board? and, 2) What can you contribute to make this happen?"

The message was clear. We are an organization that will continue our efforts on civil/rights and coalition building, we will increase resources and leadership development opportunities for our youth, we will create forums and activities that engage our membership. I am very excited about the possibilities for this year and years to come and invite you to join us.

The Installation Banquet also had one other very important benefit. We were able to raise funds through the generosity of our corporate sponsors, advertisers and donors that will allow your

Throughout the event and, in particular, after the event, there was "electricity" in the air...

Chapter to plan much more meaningful activities and events. As an example, through the drawing, we raised over \$3000.00 which will go directly to our Youth Development Fund. These funds will be used to increase our scholarship awards, cover costs of our APIA Youth/Student Conference (to be held at the July Bi-District meeting) and to sponsor other workshops and activities for our youth. January has certainly been a wonderful month!

A Reminder Call...

Despite all of this, a "reminder call" was placed on February 4, 1997. On this day, Representative Kip Tokuda, PNW Regional Director Karen Yoshitomi and other community leaders went to testify in front of the State Senate Education Committee our vehement opposition to Senate Joint Resolution 8201... "English Only". The battles we have fought and won continue to crop up today. The message is clear: "We have much to celebrate, we still have much to do."

The Seattle JACL Board Members are committed to doing our part!



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Nikkei Korean War Veterans to dedicate Memorial Wall in Los Angeles

by Ken Nakano

Nation-wide Nikkei Korean War Veterans have formed the Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial Committee (JAKWV) to erect the Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall in Little Tokyo in Los Angeles and to promote the welfare of Nikkei Korean War era veterans and their families.

Korean War Veterans are men and women who served in the U.S. Armed Services between June 25, 1950 and January

31, 1955. While most of the public has forgotten about the war, 254 Nikkei soldiers were killed during the War, including three from Washington State: Sgt. Isaac Furukawa from Sunnyside; Elmer Yoshihara from Olympia; and Yeichi Nakasato.

JAKWV is looking for relatives and friends of Yeichi Nakasato in order to notify them about the dedication ceremonies. The committee only knows that Nakasato is from Washington State.

State Rep. Tokuda to introduce Day of Remembrance resolution

by Jeffrey Hattori

As you know, February 19 is a very significant day in the history of the Nikkei community. On this day, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which challenged the basic tenets of being an "American." Our community and the lives of families and relatives were forever changed.

State representative Kip Tokuda will introduce a resolution that will "recognize the effects and accomplishments of Japanese Americans affected by the signing of Executive Order 9066." In commemoration of this "Day of Remembrance," we are asking all to join us and support Representative Tokuda in Olympia as he introduces this resolution. This resolution will begin a week-long series of events commemorating the internment.

Those interested should meet in the South Seating Area of the House of Representatives Chamber in Olympia at 9:45 a.m., Wednesday, February 19, 1997. Questions should be directed to Rep. Tokuda's legislative aide Diana, at (360) 786-7838.

Japanese Government seeks American teachers wishing to study in Japan

The Consulate-General of Japan announces that the Japanese Government offers scholarships to American teachers who wish to study Japanese language at a Japanese university for professional improvement, under the Monbusho Scholarship Program for 1997. Those who also hold Japanese citizenship are not eligible unless it is renounced before the application time.

The applicants must be under 35 years of age as of October 1, 1997; university or teacher training college graduates; and primary or secondary school teachers in active service, or on the staff at teacher training institutions for at least 5 years. (University academic staff may not apply.)

The scholarship benefits include round-

trip air transportation; a monthly stipend of 185,500 Japanese yen; tuition exemption; and assistance in housing. The tenure of scholarship is from October 1997 to March 1999.

The deadline for application is Wednesday, March 19, 1997. Those who pass the initial screening of documents will be given a Japanese language test and an interview tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 27, at the offices of the Consulate-General of Japan, 601 Union Street, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101.

For further details and the application forms, please contact the Information and Cultural Center, at (206)224-4373.

February book readings feature Asian Pacific North American writers

Novelist and creator of the first Asian American detective series Dale Furutani introduces us to wanna-be detective Ken Tanaka in *Death in Little Tokyo* during his book reading February 13 at the Nippon Kan Theatre, 7 to 8:30 p.m. This reading is sponsored by the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Northwest Nikkei, and the Seattle

and Lake Washington chapters of the JACL. Other WLAM readings in the "Smoke on the Horizon" series are February 19 (with Rahul Gupta, Cathy Lowenberg and Elizabeth Aoki) and February 24 (with Lydia Minatoya).

For information, call Alina Hua at the WLAM, 623-5124.



This photo, taken in September 1930, arrived too late for the installation banquet but it came from Robert Yamamoto of Bellflower, California, (via Harry Honda of the Pacific Citizen) with a hope that people around here could identify some of the folks in the photo. Yamamoto found this photo while sorting through some family memorabilia. According to Honda (Pacific Citizen, 1/24 -2/6, p.8), Yamamoto's eldest brother Manabu from Firwood, Washington, is seated to the left of Jimmie Sakamoto (with his cane,

12th from the right in the second row). Anyone able to identify individuals in this photo should call Harry Honda at the Pacific Citizen, 1-800-966-6157.

Banquet raffle raises funds for youth programs

by Elaine Akagi

The raffle to benefit chapter youth programs, held in conjunction with the Seattle chapter's 75th Anniversary Installation Banquet, raised over \$3,000 for scholarships and other youth leadership programs. Below is a list of winners:

Lillian Kato Kajimura
Elsie Taniguchi
M. Kato
Cynthia Imanaka
Kyle Okada
Miyuki Yoshida
Mark Fukeda
Frank Kiuchi
Teresa Sato
Jessica Nguyen
Fumi Beppu
Tomiko Platnick
Jim Terada
T. Kasuya
Charlene Mano

Etsuko Hirayama
Bill Ishii
Skip Yotusye
Mary Coon
Mari Hirabayashi
David Kobayashi
Jerry Shigaki
Margaret Teramoto
Jay Yuki
Olen Takagi
Gretchen
Faustos

John Shigaki
Masako Kubo
Fumi Beppu
Jim Kern
Karen Yoshitomi
Mich Yamagiwa
Lori Kato
Haru Ishikawa

The Frank Fujii mixed media original, donated by the artist, was won by Yuri Matsuzawa and the diamond, donated by Ben Bridge Jeweler, was won by Karen Kodama. Congratulations to all!

Our deepest appreciation for the many other donations made by the following supporters:

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