
SEATTLE CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

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Community volunteers start API 'non-traditional' leadership training institute

By Kip Tokuda

Why do we need a forum to develop community leaders? Why is it important to invest in leaders who embrace community values? The strength of a community, however one defines community, is dependent on the commitment and competency of its constituents. The purpose of our leadership institute is to develop individuals who are committed to the well-being of their communities. These individuals are not necessarily aspiring to be in the corporate boardroom or to run for public office, but they may aspire to lead a private non-profit board, or to take a leadership role in church. They may have ambitions but simply do not have access to more mainstream avenues. We believe we can develop leaders who can fill that niche.

I have been fortunate to learn and benefit from the knowledge of others in many ways. As a children's advocate, elected official, or civic activist, I have learned from others, sometimes through more traditional means such as workshops and schools, and other times more informally, such as through conversations with community activists, or through a community brainstorming session in response to a community need.

For me, admittedly not a traditional learner, such experiences have proven invaluable. I have long felt that we need a more non-traditional approach for young people to develop leadership skills. The leadership institute, scheduled to begin in early next year, will fill that void.

We have received our tax-exempt status. We have concluded our survey and are conducting focus groups. We are researching other similar endeavors nationally. We have a core group of highly motivated volunteers, including JACLers Akemi Matsumoto, Jeffrey Hattori, Anndi Kawamura, Mike Lattimer, Randy Aoyama and Jill Nishi. My hope is that you will become as enthusiastic about this community investment as I am and will choose to become involved. If you have questions or want to get involved, please leave a message at 206-622-4098 and we will respond ASAP.

PNWD schedules fashion show, raffle as fundraiser

by Elaine Akagi

Anne Namba, a young Sansei designer who has a line of men's and women's clothing with a Japanese theme, will be presenting a fashion show with her creations. Her designs can be seen on "the rich and the famous" women, such as Hillary Clinton and Mrs. Dan Inouye, and on us "ordinary" women, such as Tama Murotani, Elsie Taniguchi and me. Namba designs her clothes using old kimono fabric, which she finds in Japan. The clothes are exquisite and very eye-catching.

We will have an opportunity to view Anne Namba designs at a special show on Saturday, September 18, at the Asian Resource Center, 1025 S. King Street. The Pacific Northwest District JACL is hosting this event, as a part of their fund raising adventure. The fashion show will begin at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served prior to the show. Following the show, the Namba designs will be for sale. The cost of the event is \$20 per person.

This will be the third time Anne Namba Designs has visited the Seattle area. She has traveled across the country and around the world with her fashions. Namba's clothing includes dresses, jackets, skirts, pants, tops, vests and suits for women, and vests and ties for men. Each of her creations is unique, because each kimono she uses is unique. If you wear one of her creations, you will not see another person wearing the same outfit. The clothing is truly a designer line.

Along with the fashion show, the PNWDC is sponsoring a "Golfers Dream" raffle to raise funds for programs within the district. The "Golfers Dream" raffle includes prizes of rounds of golf at prestigious clubs in Oregon and Washington. The winners could find themselves playing at Rainier Club, Sahalee, or Newcastle in Washington or Pumpkin Ridge, the Reserve, or the Oregon Golf Club in Oregon.

Revenue generated by the fundraiser will be used to mentor, train and support our youth, the future leaders of this organization. We hope you will support this event with your attendance. Tickets will be available through board members in the Lake Washington, White River, Puyallup, Olympia and Seattle chapters, or by calling the District office at (206) 623-5088.

Looking for a good time? Two events to consider:

- *The PNWD fashion show on September 18 (buy a raffle ticket, too)*
- *The JACL Youth book and baked goods bazaar on August 28 (see page 3 for details)*

Beyond Resisters

by David Yamaguchi

Resisters

Several Nisei have called or written to share their views on the proposed national JACL resolution to apologize to the WW2 Nisei draft resisters for previously failing to recognize the validity of their stances. As things stand now, five of eight JACL districts, representing a majority of 108 chapters nationwide, have voted in favor of the resolution. Here in Seattle, our largely Sansei board has decided to let the resolution rest there because we lack a relative advantage in further debating it.

Before coming to this point, we evaluated the resolution and voted on it as best we could in the limited time we were given by the national office. Also, PNW chapter representatives Elaine Akagi, James Arima (Lake Washington Chapter), Steve Kono (Puyallup Valley), Bob Nakamura (Olympia), Arlene Oki, and myself lobbied unsuccessfully at the mid-July tri-District conference in Ogden to convince other Districts to revise its wording. Now, after two months of hearing and reading both sides, I can only say that the resisters issue remains a complex, divisive topic.

One problem is that many relevant historical details about the wartime activities of the JACL and the resisters remain poorly documented. Thus, I would encourage others with comments to send them to the Pacific Citizen (PC) as letters. There, new insights have the best chance of being heard broadly. What has emerged clearly is that we have more constructive things to do than to dwell on this resolution. We must keep our eyes "on the prize" of working on issues that will make positive differences in our community.

The Topaz Museum

As described in the July 23-29 PC, the struggling Topaz Museum in Delta, Utah, is leading a drive to save the Topaz internment site by purchasing former camp-land threatened by encroaching agriculture. In contrast to the Minidoka camp that housed most Seattle JAs, the Topaz site for Bay-Area JAs remains remarkably well preserved. Protective measures at Topaz are being led by a local teacher, Jane Beckwith, whose heart and commitment were evident to all present on a field trip from the tri-District meeting.



Donations large and small can be sent to: Topaz Museum, PO Box 241, Delta, UT 84624.

Issei Journeys

On the topic of our vanishing history, little is known of the travels of Issei leaders who were arrested and incarcerated separately from their families during WW2. As pointed out to me by James Arima, an incomplete list of about 400 of these men who were held at Ft. Missoula, Montana, appears in Carol Van Valkenburg's *An Alien Place* (1995, Pictorial Histories Publishing, 116 pp., \$10.95). I mention this because independently I've been compiling information about these and other Issei for use in a book-manuscript tracing my grandfather's (Tadashi Yamaguchi) WW2 journey, and the men he encountered along his way. But I'm lacking key information known to many Nisei: (1) On what dates were individual men arrested? (2) What were their occupations and main JA community activities? (3) At what camp(s) were they interned? (4) When and where did they rejoin their families? (5) Does correspondence exist documenting such recollections? All information can be left on my phone (on the back page); copies of correspondence can be mailed to me at the chapter address (no originals please). Your contributions might one day help grandchildren better understand their family histories, just as finding



PNWD representatives at the Topaz Internment camp (from left): Steve Kono, Bob Nakamura, Melissa Lin (PNWD JACL office), James Arima, and David Yamaguchi.

Jichan's name in *An Alien Place* has for me.

Community calendar [contact person in brackets]

NO August board meeting! (Whew!)

Sat, Aug. 28, 4-7 p.m., Seattle JACL "bizarre" youth bazaar. Curry, pies, and used books. Proceeds to benefit youth activities. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, tickets \$7 [Ryan Chin].

Thurs-Mon, Sept 17-20, Assn. for Asian Studies, western conference, Boise State U, including a Minidoka field trip led by Dr. Robert Sims [info/registration at www.lcsc.edu/mlevine/1999wcaas.htm]

Sat, Sept 18, 11:30, Anne Namba fashion show [Melissa Lin, PNW JACL office].

Attend the JACL Youth Bazaar

Ryan Chin

I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to attend this year's JACL Youth bazaar on August 28th at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4-7 p.m. All proceeds from the event will go toward our youth leadership training programs including, but not limited to, scholarships, leadership conferences, helping with Career Days (such as the University of Washington APA Career Day), and helping other APA leadership programs in the community.

A \$7 pre-paid ticket entitles you to a curry dinner and admission to the event which will contain a bake sale, used books sale, and silent auction. We are on our way

to making this a successful event with corporate sponsors Uwajimiyu, Pemco, and Tully's Coffee generously donating to the bazaar, but we still need you.

Please take part in this future investment in the APA community. Pre-bought tickets to the event cost \$7, while admission at the door will run \$10. Also, we are actively seeking donations for our bake sale, silent auction, and used books sale. If you would like to make a donation, purchase a ticket, or have a question, please feel free to contact me at: 206-527-5564 or <rchin@u.washington.edu>.



Arlene Oki (L), Elaine Akagi, and Melissa Lin take in the Great Salt Lake after the tri-District meeting.

Donations for directory

Sharon Aburano
Pauline Asaba
Harry & Sue Fujino
George & Toshi Fukeda
Arthur Gorai
Ken & Akiko Higashi
William & Kimi Hirata
Tad Kato
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Tom Sakai

Joe & May Sasaki
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Clara Stewart
Masako Tomita
Mary Jane Tsukamoto
Lilly Uyeno
Tad & Frances Wada
Sachi Watanabe
Fumiko Yamaguchi
Pearl Yanagimachi
Michihiro Yuasa

New Members & Renewals

Anne Arakaki-Locke Jonathan & Bobbe Bridge	Hiro Nishimura Dennis & Judy Nomura*
Frank Fujii	Chizuko Norton
Mark Fukeda	Arlene Oki
Penny Fukui	Jerry Shigaki
Amy Harasawa	Norman Suzuki
Chiyo Kamihara	Frieda Takamura
Ruth Ann Kataoka**	Ted & Lilly
Fran Kato	Yamamura*
Toshiko Katayama*	Diane Yoshihara
Yoshinori Kawahara	Etsuo Yoshitome
Karen Kawamoto*	
Sally Kitano	*New members
Masao Kojima	
Henry Matsubu	Boosters
Joyce Miyake	Anonymous (cash
Daren Nakagawa	donation with no
Fusae Nakashima	name of form)

Paid membership (as of December 1998): 623

Donations

Kaz & Kiku Tatsumi (in memory of Sadayoshi Bob Shiraiishi)

Aki Kurose Scholarship Fund

Francis & Patricia Fukuharo
Yoshiko Tanabe
Joe & Hideko Yada
Michi Osaka

Membership Categories

Individual	\$50
Couple	\$85
1000 Club/Century	\$70-\$140
Spouse	\$40
Lifetime	\$1,000-\$2,000
Student/Youth (up to 25 years of age)	\$20
Boosters (Seattle JACL only)	
Regular	\$20
Seniors	\$15

Membership payments and questions should be directed to May Namba, 2324 NW 94th St., Seattle, WA 98117 (206-784-3824).

Thank You!!!

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