

SEATTLE JACL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

September 1999

VOLUME 36, NO. 9

Nominations sought

by Vicki Toyohara

The Seattle Chapter JACL Nominations Committee is accepting nominations for chapter officer and board positions for the year 2000. Persons interested in serving as an officer or board member or wishing to submit the name of someone to serve must submit their name or names of others either to the:

(1) Nominations Committee chairperson, Vicki J. Toyohara, who can be reached at (206) 464-6771 (days) or (425) 865-0272 (evenings); or

(2) Chapter board at its October 1999 board meeting, which will take place on Wednesday, October 20, 1999, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Seattle JACL office located at 316 Maynard Avenue South, Room 111, Seattle, Washington.

No additional nominations for officer or board positions will be accepted after the adjournment of the October 20, 1999, board meeting. If you have any questions or require information, please contact committee chairperson Vicki Toyohara.



Four generations of Seattle JACL: Sam Shoji (left), Ryan Chin, Mike Latimer, and Josh Latimer.

A spot is open for you!

by David Yamaguchi

As autumn approaches, it becomes time to start thinking about the new board that will help incoming president Sharon Sobie-Seymour run the chapter for the coming year. As with any community group, our board's effectiveness rests in part on the degree to which it reflects a revolving cross section of our membership. In this context, we can use a few new faces to replace those of others who will be leaving. We can use many talents, but the main things are an interest in the future of the Seattle JA community and a willingness to lend your thoughts to issues large and small that

come before the board each month. You will receive no compensation for your services other than a greater understanding of the community, opportunities to get to know a remarkable group of fellow volunteers, and the satisfaction of a year spent making a difference. Inter-

ested individuals should contact Vicki Toyohara. (See accompanying article on nominations).

While on the topic, one board member who will be stepping aside is **Sam Shoji**, a community pillar and all-around good guy who has been on the board for some 40 years. Please join me in thanking Sam for his many years of service to the chapter and community.

Letter from State Representative Kip Tokuda

Seattle Chapter JACL

August 17, 1999

I am writing to inform you of my plan to re-submit the Washington State Civil Liberties Public Education Act during the 2000 legislative session. As you already know, the primary purpose of this bill will be to educate students and the public about the gross civil rights violations that occurred during World War II when 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were taken from their homes and placed in desolate concentration camps. The bill will create a state grant program that will provide resources for new educational materials such as videos, plays, speaker's bureaus, and exhibitions for elementary, secondary and college audiences.

The Seattle Chapter JACL was instrumental last session, and I feel confident that if we all work together again next session, we will succeed in passing the bill. I know that our Chapter has been very supportive and active, but I thought it would be helpful if

there were one or two people who were designated "point people" to work on the bill next session. For example, if a hearing is coming up or we need some constituent letters, **Anndi Kawamura**, my legislative aide, could contact the designated chapter person, who could in turn mobilize the chapter. Because it will be a short session, we will have to be organized and focused on achieving our goal of passing this bill.

Please join me in fighting for this bill. It is personally very important to me that we work together to make a strong statement about civil rights through support for such bills as the Washington State Civil Liberties Public Education Act. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Our district office number is (206) 720-3510. My e-mail address is tokuda_ki@leg.wa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

Kip Tokuda, State Representative, 37th Legislative District

President's message

by David Yamaguchi

A Chapter in Motion

Great curry!

On August 28th, I was greatly pleased to walk into the gym at St. Peter's Episcopal Church and find our chapter's youth fundraiser bazaar in full swing. The event was especially charming because it was conceived and organized by Ryan Chin, our youth representative who is only a few months out of college. Besides printing and selling tickets, Ryan got a half dozen of his buddies to help (pictured), lined up Gil Hirabayashi as chief cook, and hustled corporate and small-business product donations for a side auction (see p. 3). He also got chapter members to donate baked goods and used books (p. 3), and to lend hands including Mike & Hoyoung Latimer, Arlene Oki, Sharon Sobie-Seymour, and Sam Shoji. Many others took the time to show up and buy something, or demonstrated their support by buying tickets (I noted a particularly large check from Tama Tokuda, Ryan's grandmother). While the final tally is still out, the net profit was about \$1,460.

More than the money, I find Ryan's "take charge" attitude refreshing. Many other community and chapter members *monku* [complain] left and right, but are simply not around when things need to get done such as compiling directories, casting votes, or writing newsletter columns. Ryan saw a need he could fill,

Carpool, Anyone?

by Sharon Sobie-Seymour

It's that time of the year for all of us to start thinking about the installation banquet for the year 2000. The Seattle Chapter would like to usher in the next century with a majority of our membership in attendance. We realize that some of our members are unable to, or would rather not, drive at night. I would like to organize a carpool system that will serve those people who are interested. What I need to know from our readers is how many people would attend our banquet if there is carpooling available. This gala event will be held on Saturday, January 29th, 1999 at The Doubletree Suites in Tukwila. Please let me know by phone, 253-639-1682, or e-mail, < david.j.seymour@gte.net > by October 31st, 1999.

followed through, and delivered with style. We can all learn from his example.

Aki Kurose Middle School?

As I write, numerous chapter and community members are pitching a proposal to the staff and principal at Sharples Middle School to change the school's name to Aki Kurose Middle School. Those at the presentation, or generally involved in the project, include Elaine Akagi, Jeffrey Hattori, Kazzie Katayama, Cherry Kinoshita, school board member Jan Kumasaka, Fran North, Chizuko Norton, Ruth-Ann Kurose-Rothman, May Namba, Sharon Santos, Al Sugiyama (past school board member), and Kip Tokuda. They have been joined in their efforts by community giants Ron Sims (King Co. Executive) and Larry Gosset (County Council), as well as by long-time educator Leahe "Mom" Wilson, who recognized the opportunity and mentioned it to Kazzie, her long-time friend and colleague. From there, Kazzie mobilized our pre-existing Aki Kurose scholarship committee to the task.

University Village Truck Farms.

We have been informally approached to develop a small exhibit for the University Village that will recognize the JA truck farms that formerly occupied the site of this shopping center. To make the project work, we first need to gather facts and photos. Does anyone know anything about the JA families that worked these fields before WWII? Any information would be useful; call me (see back page). Not incidentally, this opportunity came to us by way of past chapter president Ted Taniguchi.

Directories still available

If you have not received a copy of the 1999 directory, please send your request for a copy to: May Namba, 2324 NW 94th, Seattle, WA 98117.

We apologize if your name was not in the directory or for any other errors that may have occurred during the printing process. If you have an unlisted telephone number, your name will not have been included in the directory.

For copies of the directory, please send a self-addressed label your name and address on a piece of paper so it can be affixed onto the directory for mailing to you.



Youth bazaar helpers (from left): Ryan Minato, Davis Yee, Ryan Chin, Keau Katsunuma, and Jane Otaki.

Community Calendar [contact person in brackets]

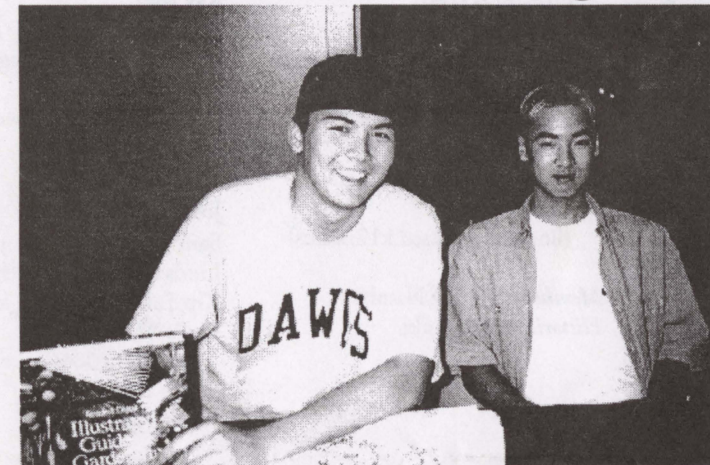
Aug. 19-Feb. 13, 2000, Modern masters of Kyoto, Nihonga (Japanese-style painting) from the Griffith and Patricia Way Collection, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Volunteer Park [Melissa Lin, PNW district office, 206-623-5088]

Weds., Sept. 15, 7 p.m., Chapter (board) meeting, chapter office, all welcome [David Y.]

Sat., Sept. 18, 11:30, Anne Namba fashion show and lunch, a PNW-district JACL fund-raiser, Asian Cultural Resource Center, 1025 S. King St., Seattle, tickets \$20 from any board member or at the door [Melissa Lin, PNW district office, 206-623-5088]

Sat., Jan. 29, 2000, SAVE THE DATE! Seattle JACL annual installation dinner featuring city councilperson Martha Choe as speaker and Lori Matsukawa as MC, Doubletree Suites, Tukwila, tickets \$50 (available in December)

Youth Bazaar Acknowledgements



Keau Katsunuma and Rick Ohashi sell books at the youth bazaar.

New Members & Renewals

Membership	Dennis & Judy
Grant Beppu	Nomura*
Kenneth Ebihara	Kenbo Nomura
Thomas & Sara	David Seno
Haven	Dr. Laurie Tazuma
Phil Hayasaka	Louis Watanabe
Henry & Minnie itoi	Alan & Chiye Yabuki
Michael Latimer	Diane Yoshihara
Kenneth Nakatsu	

*new (couple) member

Paid membership (as of December 1998): 623

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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- Elaine Akagi
- Art Chin
- Doug Chin
- Jeffrey Hattori
- Gil Hirabayashi
- Ayako Hurd
- Kazzie Katayama
- Keau Katsunuma
- Anndi Kawamura
- Mike Latimer
- Ann Fujii-Lindwall
- Barbara Lui
- Ryan Minato
- May Namba
- Rick Ohashi
- Arlene Oki
- Jane Otaki
- Sharon Sobie-Seymour
- Sam Shoji
- Christine Shigaki
- Kip Tokuda
- Tama Tokuda
- Shigeko Uno
- Ruth Woo
- David Yamaguchi
- Davis Yee

Donations for directory

- Ray Egashira
- Kiyoshi Fukano
- Alice Hayashida
- Paul & Mary Hosoda
- Ed & Teru Kiyohara
- Anna Kurata
- Yutaka Onedera
- Ed Suguro

General Fund Donations

- Louis Watanabe
- Alan & Chiye Yabuki

Seattle Chapter JAACL is a non-profit, grassroots civil rights organization dedicated to empowering our local community through high-quality programs and strategic partnerships focusing on activism, education, and youth leadership development. As a chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, we strive to be a leading Asian American advocacy group for civil and human rights while promoting and preserving the values and cultural heritage of Japanese Americans.

Our primary means of carrying out our mission is a monthly meeting, held at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the chapter office (316 Maynard Ave. S., Seattle) except August. All are welcome. (Those wishing to make presentations or be added to the meeting agenda should contact David Yamaguchi.)

Seattle Chapter JAACL Newsletter

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Board members should submit materials to the editor (shimaito@foxinternet.net, fax 206-722-2044, 6621 S. Bangor St., Seattle, WA 98178) by the first Thursday of the month.

Non-board members and readers should send items for inclusion to David Yamaguchi, preferably in electronic format, by the last Thursday of the preceding month.

Calendar items emphasize chapter or community events not likely to be covered by community newspapers or by other newsletters. Business-card advertising space is available at a rate of \$10/issue or \$120/yr (circulation is about 1000).

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Please let us know your concerns.

Japanese American Citizens League

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