

# SEATTLE CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

May 2000

VOLUME 37, NO. 4

## Make plans to attend JA Memorial dedication in D.C.

by *Frank Sato*

Mark your calendar and make your plans now to attend this key event! Many of you, your family, and friends were active in the Redress effort. Many of you also participated in our very successful fundraising effort in the Pacific NW to raise funds for the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. (If we somehow missed you, it's never too late. Call Sharon at 253-639-1682 or Frank Sato at 425-788-7856). Now you have an opportunity of a lifetime to participate in a key historical event for Japanese Americans when the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism is dedicated on November 9, 2000.

The dedication program includes:

- Nov. 9, 1:00 PM Dedication Ceremony
- Nov. 9, 3:00 PM Dedication Welcome Reception
- Nov. 10, 6:00 PM Gala Banquet
- Nov. 11, 3:00 PM Memorial Service, Arlington National Cemetery; reception at the Smithsonian exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," to follow the service.

Other events may be in the plans. Arrangements for attending the dedication ceremonies and ancillary events may be made by calling Eiko at Worldview Travel, 800-627-8726, ext. 26.

Having lived in the Washington DC area for thirty years, I can reasonably assure you that the weather at that time of year is normally nice, fall weather. Daytime temperatures in the 70-75 degrees range are the norm. Washington, D.C., is a wonderful place to visit, with many historic and interesting places one should see.

Among the many monuments and memorials visited by tourists from throughout the US and the world there will now be this unique Memorial to Patriotism. Is there a more fitting way to pay tribute to our Issei Parents/Grandparents, our people who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Country, and others who persevered in the face of adversity and violation of our constitutional rights?

Many from our local chapter and others from the Pacific NW plan to attend. Won't you join us for this Journey of a Lifetime?

## Scholarship recipients chosen for involvement and excellence

by *Mari Hirabayashi*

After reviewing the many applications sent in by members of the JACL community, six students were selected to receive scholarship awards to help further their education. Decision-making was difficult due to the outstanding applications received by the scholarship committee. After hours of review the committee chose the following, based on the students' motivation, community involvement and scholastic excellence.

**Stacey Asato** is a graduate of the University of Washington. She is currently enrolled in the Web Site Administration program at the Art Institute of Seattle. As she gains knowledge in the field of Web technology, Stacey stays involved in various community activities through St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival and Habitat for Humanity.

**Claire Abe** is a graduate of Franklin High School. She has been involved in school activities such as the Student Tutorial Enrichment Program, the Peer Mediator Program, and the Youth in Focus Photography program. Claire plans to attend Mills College.

**Kevin Yaguchi** is a graduate of Renton High School. Kevin plans to pursue a degree in computer science in a major college in California. He has remained involved in community activities such as volunteering at Keiro Nursing Home, assisting at Bon Odori annually, and tutoring at a local elementary school several times a week.

**Mari Hayman** is a graduate of Marysville-Pilchuck High School. Mari plans to pursue a degree in English or Sociology at Stanford University. She has participated in events supporting Special Olympics, Northwest AIDS Foundation and the American Cancer Society. Mari has also assisted in programs that help migrant Hispanic children in her area.

**Mia Yoshinara-Bradshaw** is a graduate of Inglemoor High School. Mia plans to earn a degree in graphic design at a local university such as Western Washington or Pacific Lutheran.

See "Scholarships" on page 3



*Kodomo no Hi — Children's Day: May 5*



## President's Message

by Sharon Sobie Seymour

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, at the Elliott Book Store in Pioneer Square, the Seattle JACL along with Organization of Chinese Americans, Asian Pacific American Coalition for Equality, Korean American Professional Society and Asian American Journalists Association co-sponsored a book signing and reception featuring author Helen Zia and her new book, "Asian American Dreams: The Emergence Of An American People".



Sharon Sobie Seymour

This book combines Zia's memories growing up in New Jersey in the '50s and '60s and a collection of stories from a variety of Asian Americans (AA's) from across the country. This groundbreaking body of work describes the impact AA's have had on this country, from the first Chinese immigrants up until the recent influx of Southeast Asians. Zia also gives detailed ac-

## Board Meeting Minutes Highlights ( 3/15 meeting)

### President's Report

- Sharon announced that Linda Tanouye has agreed to take on the office of 4th Vice President. On a motion by Jeff Hattori, seconded by May Namba, the board approved the appointment.
- A phone tree has been established so that all members can comment on issues requiring a quick and timely response. A phone or e-mail vote will be taken when time is of the essence.
- Requests for donations of \$200 or more from other organizations will have to be approved by the executive board.
- A motion by Jeff Hattori, seconded by Mari Hirabayashi, to empower the executive board to make decisions on behalf of the chapter when a time sensitive issue requires immediate action, as long as the issue(s) follow the chapter goals or mission statement, carried.
- The People's Memorial Association, Inc. sent a letter with the offensive abbreviation JAP. Sharon called and explained our position on the abbreviation. They apologized.
- Solomon Christian School is looking for families to host Japanese exchange students.
- The University of Washington College of Arts and Sciences is hosting a 2000 Celebration honoring Gordon Hirabayashi. The event will take place on May 9 at the UW Hub. Tickets are \$100. JACL hopes to get a table.
- Rokka Ski Club asked for a donation for their 20th Anniversary dinner. A glass tile with a JACL inscription could be made if our chapter has donated \$1000. Jeff stated that the \$1000 is a cumulative amount. Sharon will check on our total donations with Mark. If we need up to \$200 to reach the \$1000 total, the chapter could make a donation after the approval by the executive board.

## Two Thumbs Up!

counts of situations and occurrences, which she refers to as M.I. (Missing In History) that brought together our community.

The audience enjoyed hearing excerpts from her book that highlighted the transformation of AA's from small, segmented ethnic groups, into a community that has banded together using their voices to speak out against racial stereotyping and social injustices. This daughter of Chinese immigrant parents stressed the importance of defining our own identity and not allowing mainstream society to dictate who we are.

It is important that the JACL support individuals and projects that raise public awareness to our personal stories and history. I found Zia's comments and insights thought provoking, enlightening and at times humorous. I encourage all of you to pick up a copy of the book. You will not be disappointed, a definite must-read.

- A motion by David Yamaguchi, seconded by Kazzie Katayama, to donate \$500 to the International Examiner's Paul Horiuchi Document Project was passed.

### 2nd Vice President (Arlene Oki) Report

- The Washington Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Bill (HB 1572) still needs support in getting money into the budget. The House budget allows \$251,000, while the Senate allows \$49,000. Tom and Janet Kometani, Arlene Oki, David Yamaguchi and Elaine Akagi went to Olympia to testify at the Senate Education Committee hearing on HR 1572.

### 3rd Vice President (Mari Hirabayashi) Report

- A motion by Mari, seconded by Shea Aoki, and passed by the board, authorized the chapter to donate \$300 to the Seattle Community Queens Committee. In return, we will ask the queens to attend three chapter events and contribute to the newsletter.
- Cherry Blossom Festival will be held at the Seattle Center on April 21-23. Kisaragi Kai will join us in preparing food to be sold at a booth on Saturday the 22nd. Help is needed to accomplish this huge project. The board is asked to help.

### 4th Vice President Report

- Co-chairs of the Installation banquet will be JoAnn Kimura and Ryan Chin. Ann Fujii-Lindwall will replace Ryan on the committee, while he pursues a national JACL office.
- On a motion by Janice Yee, seconded by Joy Shigaki, the Historical Booklet project was approved.
- Joy Shigaki will gather information for the Japanese American of the Biennium Award.

—Elaine Akagi

## Pacific Northwest Nikkei focus of conference at UW (May 4-6)

On May 9, 2000, the University of Washington College of Arts and Science will recognize Gordon Hirabayashi as its Distinguished Alumnus for the year 2000. In conjunction with this award, the Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest is hosting a conference on the experiences of Nikkei (people of Japanese descent) in the American and Canadian Pacific Northwest.

The goal of the conference is to present and examine the wide variety of Nikkei stories, thereby extending our knowledge of people's experiences beyond the oft-told sto-

ries of war and internment. Many noted scholars of the Nikkei experience will join us to present and comment on papers that treat migration and settlement, agriculture, arts and literature, education, ethnic identity, World War II, internment, redress, and more. Selected papers will later be published in a special issue of Pacific Northwest Quarterly and in an anthology from University of Washington Press. Special keynote speakers include Gary Okihiko of Columbia University and Peter Irons of University of California, San Diego. We also welcome as a spe-

cial guest Gordon Hirabayashi. Also on the agenda is a screening of "Conscience and the Constitution," Frank Abe's documentary of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee. A panel discussion will follow the movie.

Most of the conference will take place at the UW HUB, May 4-6. For registration and information, contact the Center for the Study of the Pacific Northwest at 206-543-8656, <cspn@u.washington.edu> or at its website — <http://www.washington.edu/uwired/outreach/cspn/html/nikkei-program.htm>

## Free long term health care workshop scheduled

by Ray Gupta

Are you prepared for the cost of long term health care? Come to a complimentary workshop sponsored by the JACL at Seattle Chapter JACL Offices, 316 Maynard Avenue S. (room 111) on Monday, May 22, 2000, 2-3 PM or 7-8 PM.

The workshops will be conducted by Raj Gupta (LTC Specialist) and limited to 14 people on a "first come, first serve, basis."

The topics discussed in the workshops include:

- Long term care and the insurance that will help pay for you care when you need it
- Quality Nursing Home and Assisted

Living options available in the Puget Sound area.

- What Medicare and Medicaid currently cover and how they are changing. What the future looks like. Long term care myths are debunked!

- Insurance: Why it is important, who can qualify, what to consider, what to watch out for!

- Answers to nagging questions and much, much more!

We hope you will join us! For reservations, please leave a name and phone number for Kazzie Katayama at (206) 722-2266.



## Scholarships, continued from page 1

She involves herself in community activities through Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church and the Nisei Veterans Committee.

Melissa Slaker is a graduate of Garfield High School. She has founded school programs, such as the Asa Mercer Tutoring Program that helped students achieve passing grades in their core classes. Also, she volunteers her time with organizations such as First Place, the Greater Seattle King County Youth Hall of Fame, Junior State of America and the Seattle Young People's Project.

A scholarship reception will take place in

early June, location and date to be announced in next newsletter. Also, through out the upcoming year, each scholarship recipient will volunteer and participate in various JACL events and programs through out the community. The Seattle Chapter of JACL is very excited to honor each of these students and work with them in the next year.

## Membership

### New members

Josh and Carol Suehiro.

### 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 Jill Beppu: <membership@jacleattle.com>

## Thank You!!!

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## Notice

Do you look forward to our newsletter every month? Do you want to know about our chapter? Check out our website, featuring the earliest distribution of our monthly newsletter, plus other items that Jill Beppu has included on our site. Bookmark (add the site to your favorites file) it!

[www.scn.org/civic/jacl](http://www.scn.org/civic/jacl)

## Seattle Chapter JAACL Newsletter

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Board members should submit materials to the editor ([shimaito@foxinternet.net](mailto:shimaito@foxinternet.net), fax 206-722-2044, 6621 S. Bangor St., Seattle, WA 98178) by the Friday after the monthly board meeting.

Calendar items emphasize chapter or community events not likely to be covered by community newspapers or by other newsletters.

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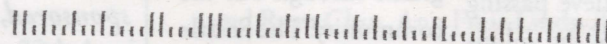
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