

# Cherry Blossom Festival a 'resounding success'

*Bill Tashima*

The 26th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival was held at the Seattle Center on April 20-22. This year's festivity was a resounding success. Thousands of folks flocked to three Seattle Center venues to take part in a wonderful exhibition of Japanese culture and arts.

It would be impossible to pinpoint the Festival's highpoint. The special exhibition of Japanese ceramic masters was simply breathtaking. The ongoing entertainment was top notch. The art and craft demonstrations were awesome. The presentations by the chefs from the Japanese Restaurant Association were so skillful that it was hard to know if you were viewing a culinary presentation or a beautiful art demonstration.

The Festival also showcased aspects of the Japanese American experience with photo displays and informational tables set up by groups such as the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, the Lake Washington JACL, Nikkei Concerns and others. A unique virtual reality presentation titled, "Beyond Manzanar" offered a nonlinear look at the concentration camps from various times and different perspectives, eventually weaving in the feelings of mistrust towards Iranian Americans during the hostage crisis. It was a thoughtful reminder of the vigilance needed to protect civil liberties.

The Seattle JACL sold sushi bento boxes at the Festival and also set up an informational chapter display. Thanks to the help of many

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## Six National Youth/Student Conference scholarships available

*by Matthew Nakata*

JACL National Youth/Student Council Chair

A generous anonymous donor has recently agreed to offer three commuter package scholarships for the upcoming JACL National Youth/ Student Conference in Seattle. The commuter package scholarships cover all expenses for meals, conference fees, and parking.

The generosity of this donor will go really far in helping the JACL get new young people involved. It is my hope that this opportunity to attend the upcoming national conference free of charge will allow some new young people or even young people who are already members to come and see all of the programs that JACL has to offer. The conference itself will be a really exciting event to be a part of.

This is the first time in several years that the JACL National Youth/ Student Conference is being held in Seattle. The previous two biennial National Youth/ Student Conferences were held in Los Angeles in 1999 and 1997.

In addition to the above mentioned scholarships, the Seattle Chapter Board recently agreed to match the anonymous donor's generous gift, announcing that the Seattle Chapter would award three full package scholarships for the conference. The full pack-

Seattle Chapter

# JACL

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(From left:) Bev Kashino, Suzanne Hamada and Kazzie Katayama serve strawberry shortcake at the Mukai Farm and Garden during the Children's Day celebration last month. (See President's Message on page 2.)

age scholarships cover all expenses for the conference, including two-night stay, meals, and conference fees.

The JACL National Youth/ Student Conference will be taking place July 13-15, at Seattle University with the theme, "Transforming Leadership in the Asian Pacific American Community through Unity, Identity, and Diversity." The conference will provide workshops, forums for discussion, and exciting speakers from the Asian Pacific American community. It will be geared toward the needs and interests of youth and students between the ages of 16-25. Some of the workshop topics that the conference will cover include: Taiko as a Japanese Art Form, The Gaps in Our Generations, Hapa Issues, Getting Involved in College Organizations, the Importance of Graduate School, and Political Empowerment.

Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The Seattle Chapter requests that recipients of conference scholarships become JACL members. JACL is open to all people who are interested in protecting the civil rights of others. Individuals need not be Japanese American to become a part of JACL.

To receive registration materials, or to get further information about the new scholarships or the upcoming conference, please contact Matthew Tatsuo Nakata at 206-726-8257 or <nakata\_ma@hotmail.com>.

## Like a Nikkei Community Picnic

Children's Day at the Mukai Farm and Garden  
by Akemi Matsumoto

Over 250 people came to Mukai Farm and Garden on Vashon Island for the Children's Day Celebration on May 6th. Generations of families came. Grandparents, parents and kids visited the displays of Boys' Day dolls, viewed the Mukai Farm slide presentation, sat in the sun, and walked in the garden eating strawberry shortcake. Some brought bento to eat. It felt like the Nikkei community picnics we used to go to every summer.

Co-sponsoring the event with Seattle JACL were Seattle Sansei, the Wing Luke Asian Museum, Densho, the Nisei Veterans Committee and Island Landmarks. This partnership brought many new faces to the event and gave us an opportunity to showcase our history booklets and our Aki Sogabe fund raising cards. This year

## Cherry Blossom Festival, continued from page 1

volunteers who helped make sushi, donated in-kind items, and staffed the tables at the Festival, the chapter effort was very successful. We made in excess of \$2,000.

The Cherry Blossom planning committee would like to express our appreciation to all the volunteers and also to all the Seattle Chapter JACL members who came out to the Festival.

<b>Volunteers</b>	Kurose/ Rothman	Linda Tanouye Bill Tashima Pat Terao
Elaine Akagi	Mike Latimer	
Shea Aoki	Ann Fujii-Lindwall	
Alice Baba	Cathy Lowenberg	<b>In-kind Donations</b>
Yuriko Brunelle	Akemi Matsumoto	Shea Aoki
Karen Cunningham	Ryan Minato	Karen Cunningham
Lily Eng	Tama Murotani	Haruo Farrington
Linda Ettinger	Kimi Nakanishi	Food Service
Betty Fujiki	Chiz Norton	International
Dawn and Alan	Arlene Oki	Kazzie Katayama
Furushima	Sandra Oline	Amy Koba
Dee Goto	Russ Pool	Kustom Foods
Suzanne and Edwin	Jamal Reimer	Akemi Matsumoto
Hamada	Jeff Saul	Marie Nakata
Gil Hirabayashi	Joy Shigaki	Manaji Suzuki
Steve Idemoto	Carol Suehiro	Mas Tahara
Kazzie Katayama	Chieko Sumimoto	Bill Tashima
Laurel Krueger	Kathy Suyama	Uwajimaya
Ruthann, Mori, Mika, and Nathan	Manaji Suzuki	

## General Fund Donations

**Silver**  
Polly Shigaki  
Janice Nakamura  
Maria Batayola  
Ryan Chin

**Gold**  
Penny Fukui

## JACL Booklet Donations

Joyce Kumasaka  
Bhang  
Amy Y. Hara  
Kime Hara  
Paul & Mary Hosoda  
Mits & Kazzie  
Katayama  
Joyce Kikuchi

Yukio & Julianne  
Kumasaka  
Yoshie Mori,  
Katashi Oita  
H. Constance  
Sekijima  
Richard Shoji  
Alan & Chie Yabuki  
Fumiko Yamaguchi

one of our Chapter goals is to provide more cultural, educational and intergenerational activities.

Six board members and the Executive Director of the National Japanese American Historical Society also came to the farm for the event. Originally named the Go for Broke Organization, the NJAHS is considering taking title to the farm in order to preserve the farm and Japanese garden for future generations.

Thank you to Ann Fujii-Lindwall for the great publicity, the many strawberry shortcake bakers and servers, Ruthann Kurose and Julie Sotomura for organizing the childrens' crafts, Charlotte Ohashi for setting up the doll display, Tom Kubota for lending us his many precious and beautiful dolls, and the Mukai Farm and Garden for use of their site.

The Board unanimously and enthusiastically accepted the nomination and appointment of Arlene Oki as our President-Elect. Thank you, Arlene for agreeing to be our next president!

The Seattle JACL would like to update its MS Excel membership and mailing databases to an MS Access format. If you have expertise in designing relational databases and can volunteer your talents, please contact Bill Tashima at (206) 525-0531 for further information.

## JACL Board Profiles

**MICHAEL LATIMER** has been a member of Seattle JACL for the last four years serving on the Executive, Education, Finance and Endowment Committees. Mike has a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering, both from the U.S. Naval Academy. Mike works as a Financial Consultant at Salomon, Smith Barney in Seattle. He is married to a Korean American and has two children. Mike also serves on the Board of the Asian Pacific Community Leadership Program. He is involved in JACL because he wants to contribute to and be involved in the Nikkei community.

**RUTHANN KUROSE** has been a member of Seattle JACL off and on for the last twenty years. She worked on the Redress efforts from 1979 to 1985 and was a member of the Youth Concerns Committee from 1973—1975. Ruthann has a BA in Political Science and has done graduate work in the School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington. Ruthann is a Trustee of Bellevue Community College, a member of the KCTS TV Advisory Board, and a board member of the American Jewish Committee. Ruthann's family is Jewish-Japanese and she has two children. Ruthann is especially committed to the civil rights work of JACL.

**STEVE IDEMOTO** is a new member of JACL. He is a political researcher with the Economic Opportunity Institute, a non-profit

See "Board Profiles" on page 4

## Proposed Bylaws Changes

At the April 2001 Board meeting, the Bylaws Committee presented changes to the current Bylaws. These changes have been made to ensure that our by-laws are consistent with our present practices. The board voted to recommend these changes to the general membership. We welcome your feedback at this time. If you should have questions

### March 6, 2001 Proposed Bylaws Changes

Article III, Section 2: (b) Special members—Non-citizen residents of the United States who desire to become associated with the Chapter.

Section 2, last paragraph: Except as otherwise provided for in these Bylaws, only active, special, booster, senior citizen, and student members shall have the right to hold office, and only active, special, booster, senior citizen, and student members shall have the right to vote.

Section 3: Applications for membership shall be made in such form as prescribed by the board. All memberships shall be on a 12-month basis except for honorary memberships, which are effective for the life of the individual.

**Article IV, Section 2: The number of directors shall be forty (40), consisting of eleven (11) officers, twenty-one (21) elected directors, and eight (8) directors appointed by the President with the approval of the elected directors and officers. Directors shall be elected and appointed annually and the term of each director shall be for the subsequent calendar year or until election and qualification of his/her successor.**

Article VI, Section 4: The chairperson of each committee shall be appointed by the respective officer to whom the committee reports.

Article V, Section 3: All active, special, booster, student, and senior members are eligible to hold any office; provided, that the President, President-Elect and Vice Presidents, shall be twenty-one (21) years of age or older.

Article VII, Section 2: Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of the meeting and, in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than seven (7) nor more than fifty (50) days before the date of the meeting, either personally or by mail by the Corresponding Secretary, who shall be acting at the direction of the individual or individuals calling the meeting who shall also set the place, day, and hour of the meeting.

Article IX, Section 2: The Board shall determine annual Chapter dues.

Article XII—**Misconduct**, Section 1: Any officer or director neglecting his or her duties or any member who is guilty of misconduct reflecting on the good name of the Chapter shall be subject to sanction which can include recall or expulsion.

or comments, please feel free to join us at our next board meeting on June 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the JACL Office. Or feel free to contact Joy Shigaki at 206/328-8156 or by email at <shigaki@juno.com>. Thank you for your input.

—Joy Shigaki, Bill Tashima and Gil Hirabayashi

Section 2: A written and signed complaint by any member in good standing shall be filed with any officer who shall present the same at the next meeting of the Board. If the Board decides to take action, the President shall appoint an ad hoc committee to address the complaint. The committee shall send the concerned individual a copy of the complaint; and such individual shall have the opportunity of answering the complaint at the next Board meeting. The ad hoc committee shall report their findings at the next Board meeting and the individual shall have an opportunity to address the complaint and findings. The ad hoc committee will present its recommendations to the Board. The Board shall then vote on appropriate actions or sanctions. A three-fourths (3/4) majority of the Board present is needed to enact sanctions.

Section 3: If a sanctions motion fails to attain a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote the issue is considered closed.

### SEATTLE CHAPTER JACL OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES PRESIDENT

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, all general meetings of the membership and Executive Cabinet meetings. S/he shall, with the Treasurer, sign leases and contracts approved by the Board of Directors. S/he shall be an ex-officio member of all committees (and of the Advisory Board) and cultivate leadership among members of the Board. S/he shall attend community meetings on behalf of the organization and be a spokesperson at such meetings. S/he shall assure that the annual report is filed and minutes and other records are maintained.

(Additional by-law changes suggested by Akemi Matsumoto to bring present practice and by-laws into congruence under Seattle Chapter JACL Officer Responsibilities.)

### VICE PRESIDENTS

Responsibilities:  
For all vice-presidents, add to responsibilities "...solicits and appoints chairperson of each committee assigned."

All vice-presidents will monitor the activities of their respective assigned standing JACL Committees/Activities. A brief progress report on their committees will be made at each board meeting.

**TREASURER** (last paragraph): The Treasurer shall assist the President and designated board members in developing an annual budget in managing the endowment fund.

## New Members and Renewals

**Individual**  
Carmen Tsuboi Chan  
Mae Deguchi  
Marcia Fujimoto  
Mary Grunewald  
Ai Handa-Moore  
Norio Harui  
Elaine Hayes  
Ute Hirano  
Kimo Hirayama  
Bernadette Horiuchi  
Ann Kawasaki  
Nancy Kloster  
Kazuo Kobayashi  
Frank Kubo  
Fusako Mito  
Ice Nakamura  
Ja Nakano  
Joe Nishikawa  
William Nishimura

Kurt Nogaki  
Mitsu Nomura  
Ruth Okada  
Aiko Okamoto  
Dave Okimoto  
Shigeto Otani  
Patricia Sado  
Peggy Saito  
Polly Shigaki  
Peggy Tanemura  
Frank Yamagimachi  
Nancy Yamaguchi  
George Yamane  
Mary Yokoyama  
Fusako Yonemura  
Molly Yoneyama  
Mrs. William Yorozu  
Yukio Yoshihara

**Couples/Family**  
Kazzie and Mits

Katayama  
Charles and Lillian  
Kato  
Rod and Kris  
Kawakami  
Mike and Margaret  
Mizumoto  
Giro and Miyo  
Nakagawa  
Tosh and Lois  
Taniguchi  
Jiro and Takeko Todo  
Tom and Nobie Tsukiji  
Clyde and Kathryn  
Yamamoto

**Thousand Club**  
Dr. Marvin Hayami  
Coleen Hayami (1000  
Club Spouse)  
Robert Matsuura

Ronald Oni-Greenridge

**Century Club**  
Tomio Moriguchi  
Naomi Sanchez

**Student**  
Ryan Chin  
Joanne Schreiner  
Michael Nicholas  
Walsh

**Boosters**  
Karen Akada (New)  
Maria Batayola (New)  
Sharyn Hirokawa  
(New)  
Steve Okamura (New)  
Fudge Shiogi  
Jerrie Tsuruta (New)  
Rose Yamaguchi

**Thank You!!!**  
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## Board Profiles, continued from page 2

public policy institute based in Seattle. Steve's father is Hawaiian Japanese American and his mother is a Caucasian from California. Steve joined the Board of JACL because he wanted to get more involved with the Nikkei community in Seattle for political and social reasons. Steve has both a BA degree in psychology and a BS degree in Political Science from the University of Washington.

### Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter

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Board members should submit materials to the editor (<shimaito@home.com>, 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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Please let us know your concerns.

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