



Silent auction, taiko group featured at Installation Banquet

by Manaji Suzuki and Suzanne Hamada

At its upcoming Installation Banquet January 26th, Seattle Chapter JACL will be celebrating its 80th anniversary. The chapter, known then as the Seattle Progressive Citizens League, was formed in 1921. The annual banquet was started to welcome its new leaders and to celebrate the accomplishments of past officials and members.

The JACL provides leadership on a national scale for many important issues impacting the lives of Japanese Americans, such as monitoring anti-Asian violence, promoting accuracy about Japanese American experience in textbooks and the media and continuing leadership development for Japanese Americans and minorities. The JACL continues to celebrate its commitment to improving the quality of life for all Americans regardless of race, gender or religious affiliation and to developing understanding among all social and ethnic groups.

This year the banquet will be held at a new location, the Doubletree Hotel Seattle Airport. Pre-dinner reception begins at 5:30 PM. The keynote speaker will be Byron Kunisawa, President and CEO of Cultural Solutions, Inc. and international expert in workforce diversity, organizational development, multiculturalism and systemic change.

For entertainment, the Kaze Daiko children's taiko group will perform original pieces. There will also be a silent auction and raffle. Items procured include a set of signed, matted and framed Aki Sogabe prints, original antique jewelry and other pieces of artwork. Items are still being procured and may be donated by con-

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**Seattle Chapter JACL 80th Anniversary
Installation Banquet
Doubletree Hotel Seattle Airport
18740 Pacific Highway South
January 26, 2002**

Chapter has successful fiscal year despite economic downturn

Chapter interim financial report for 2001

by Jeffrey Hattori

Despite the economic downturn, we are pleased to report that 2001 has proven to be another successful fiscal year for the Seattle Chapter JACL. Through increased fundraising efforts and due diligence in implementing cost savings in operating costs, our chapter has been able to aggressively support both internal and external projects that forward our vision and mission on: 1) civil rights; 2) youth leadership development; and 3) cultural/historical preservation.

It is important to note that none of this would have been possible if not for the generosity of our membership, community, corporate sponsors and hard work of the board and committee members. Along these lines, I would like to acknowledge a few unsung heroes who work behind the scenes to ensure the financial health of JACL: chair of the Endowment Fund Committee Wayne Kimura, bookkeeper Hector Kwan and board member Mike Latimer.

The following provides a summary of JACL's total assets and special projects implemented/funded through November 2001:

Through November 2001 total assets are:

Unrestricted:	\$ 16,711	(Operating)
Restricted:	\$434,878	(Endow., Schlrshps., SpcPrjcts)
Total Assets:	\$451,589	

Special Projects include:

- JACL's Kurose, Tazuma and Tamesa Scholarships
- JACL's Aki Kurose Middle School Academy Reader Board Project
- JACL's newly formed Kaizen Youth Group
- JACL's Mukai Farm/Children's Day Event
- JACL's Historical Booklet
- JACL's Pike Place Market Art Postcards

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Kaizen shines with the stars at Ammy Awards gala

by Maya Yamazaki

PNW District Youth Co-Representative

The Kaizen Group, a youth-oriented extension of the JACL funded by the Seattle Chapter, recently attended the Ammy Awards. The event, held on Nov. 10 at the Orpheum Theatre in Los Angeles, honored Asian Americans in entertainment. Among those

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Excited about mix of old and new

by Arlene Oki, incoming chapter president

As I begin to write this, my first column as JACL president, I am filled with great anticipation about the year that lies ahead. As many of you know, this is not a position I coveted. In fact, I was happily ensconced in the second vice president position for a decade because I was comfortable with the responsibilities and totally committed to our goals of equality and justice for all. But, I know that it is now my turn, and, with that acknowledgement, promise to extend my best efforts to be an active and responsive representative of one of the finest chapters in the entire country.

I am excited about the talented mix of old and new members who will join our board next year. Some of our new members were on the election ballot sent to you in October and I appointed others under a bylaws provision that allows the president to appoint up to eight members. They include Kiku Hayashi, a dedicated civic activist; Gene Kanamori, a corporate executive for United Parcel Service who has been a leader in many API organizations and has brought considerable corporate donations into the community; Edwin Hamada, who, in addition to being married to our hardworking secretary, Suzanne, is a graduate student at the UW; Tone Shimizu, a retired businessman from California; Masako Tamura, a case worker from the Asian Counseling and Referral Service; and Alan Yabui, Chair of the Speech Department at

Bellevue Community College. We are also very happy to welcome back former board members Judge Ron Mamiya, Seattle Municipal Court; Janice Yee, director of the Denise Louie Education Centers and Vicki Yuki, program coordinator for the Seattle Housing Authority.

In the aftermath of the horrific events of September 11, it is clear that our work to protect basic human rights is needed more than ever. As a community that has itself endured years of racial hostility and wrongful government actions during wartime, we will do our best to support those who face similar circumstances today.

Paul Igasaki, vice-chair of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and longtime JACL member, said it best: "Our national interest must be one of justice, not hate; of unity, not prejudice; and of the rule of law, not revenge."

Throughout the coming year, we hope to keep you informed about local, district and national JACL activities through this newsletter and other venues. Our focus will continue to be on civil rights/social justice issues as well as our rich and beautiful culture. But we know we cannot do it alone and do it well without your active support. I encourage all members to join us as we work on activities and actions to benefit the Nikkei and other communities of color in the Greater Seattle area.

My best wishes to you and your family for peace, good health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

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present were Garret Wang from *Star Trek: Voyager*, the Basco brothers, John Cho from *American Pie I and II*, and Chris Tashima, the first American-born actor of Asian descent to receive an Oscar.

Ten members of the Kaizen Group participated in the event as escorts for the celebrities. Their duties included taking the stars from the red carpet and showing them to their seats, guiding the presenters from their seats to the backstage area, and escorting the winners from the stage to the media area. After the award show, Club Soho hosted an after party where the Kaizen members met some of the younger stars and made new friends.

Attending the Ammy Awards allowed the members to appreciate the work of Asian Americans within the entertainment industry. They also shared information about the Kaizen group and its mission. Most of the other volunteers were aspiring actors or people with connections with the award show who came from the Los Angeles area. Many were intrigued by the fact that an organization in Seattle would send participants to volunteer at an award show in Los Angeles.

The Ammy Awards is an annual event sponsored by aMedia, the publisher of aMagazine and many other Asian American forms of literature. The members of the Kaizen Group hope to be able to attend this award show annually to show their support for the Asian Americans in entertainment, an industry that usually overlooks minorities, and to spread the influence of the Kaizen Group, allowing more opportunities for the young leaders to form networking ties and connections. 425.641.8016

Banquet, continued from front page

tacting Linda Tanouye <addrehab@aol.com>, or Shig Nishiwaki <snishiwaki@yahoo.com>.

Bob Shimabukuro, outgoing editor of this newsletter and author of *Born in Seattle: The Campaign for Japanese American Redress*, will be signing books before the banquet. The book will also be on sale at the banquet.

For further information regarding the banquet, please contact May Namba @ (206) 784-3824. Hope to see you there!

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- JACL's International District Street Fair Booth
- National JACL's Youth Conference held in Seattle
- National JACL donation
- Camp Harmony Exhibit at Wing Luke Museum
- Internment Photo Project by Emily Momohara
- Book Signing Receptions for Bob Shimabukuro and Eric Muller
- "Help Nicole" effort to increase the API bone marrow registry
- Annual Cherry Blossom Festival
- Annual Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Day
- ROAR's "Get out to Vote" Mailings for the Seattle Mayoral and Port of Seattle elections
- Annual Martin Luther King March/Rally

Again, I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to all of the Seattle Chapter JACL members and community for your ongoing support. We look forward to continuing and increasing our efforts in 2001.

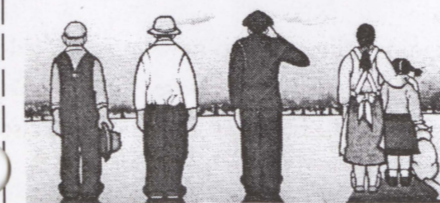
Sogabe prints framed, sets available for purchase at Installation Banquet

by Linda Tanouye

A framed set of the five Sogabe cards of the "Japanese Farmers at the Pike's Place Market" is now available for \$45. The framed print set is 8" high by 39.5 inches across. These five prints are framed by a white matte. A kit is also available for \$35.

Framed prints and kits will be available at the Installation banquet in January. Please preorder as we will have only a limited number available.

Also we have been able to reduce the cost of postage for the card set to \$1.50. Cards can be purchase for \$15 plus \$1.50 for postage for a total of \$16.50.



Japanese Farmers at the Pike Place Market

Please send me _____ sets of "Japanese Farmers at the Pike Place Market," a five-card set. I have enclosed \$15 for each set, plus a \$1.50 postage and handling fee."

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

NAME: _____

STREET (OR PO BOX#): _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (indicate whether day or eves/weekend) _____

Please send completed form to:
Seattle Chapter JACL
PO Box 18558
Seattle, WA 98118-0558

Chapter seeks office manager

by Akemi Matsumoto

As an all volunteer organization, Seattle JACL needs a special person to provide consistent response to our membership and to assist the President with the following tasks:

- 1) answer the phone and get messages to appropriate board members for response.
- 2) open mail and distribute to appropriate board members for response.
- 3) coordinate JACL tables for community dinners, etc.
- 4) answer e-mail and get messages to appropriate board members.
- 5) other duties as assigned by the president.

Part time, approximately 20 hours a month, small stipend for parking and lunch.

Please call Arlene Oki if interested: (425) 556-9110 or (206) 684-0106.

Thank You!!!

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Seattle Chapter JACL 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 6:30 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 President Akemi Matsumoto.)

Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter

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

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