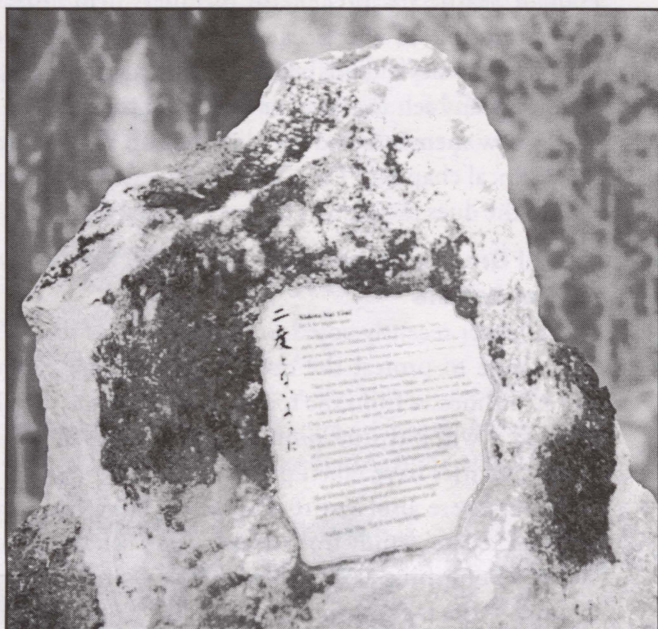




## Bainbridge Island Memorial

by Arlene Oki, President

Over 400 people attended a ceremony on March 30 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the forced relocation of 277 Nikkei from Bainbridge Island to World War II camps. The event was organized by the Bainbridge Island WWII Nikkei Exclusion Memorial Committee in collaboration with the Bainbridge Island Interfaith Council and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American community. The coalition is working to create a



Engraved marker designating proposed site of Bainbridge Island Memorial

memorial that will honor the men, women, and children who left the Eagledale ferry landing on March 30, 1942, the first of many Japanese American groups to be sent to the camps.

Governor Locke presented a proclamation heralding the day as: "Nikkei Memorial Day in Washington State." In reflecting on the experience of the Nikkei pioneers, he said, "Let us take this moment to express our thanks for the lessons they have passed on to this generation. They believed in the essential goodness and promise of America."

Also speaking was Congressman Jay Inslee. He stated, "In passing that memorial, never again will we allow an enemy to intern our neighbors." He noted that in creating the memorial, "this nation will make a commitment to a future of total peace and freedom and turn from a place of national sorrow to national pride." Inslee, a long-time resident of Bainbridge Island, echoed the thoughts of many in the audience: "Let Walt Woodward's spirit be enjoyed today in the national debate."

Mary Woodward-Pratt, daughter of the late Walt Woodward, the only publisher in the U.S. to speak out publicly against government actions to incarcerate Japanese Americans, offered eloquent words. "As a result of this tragedy, our national memory has been altered. Your

See "Memorial" on page 3

## Update on Offensive Abercrombie & Fitch T-shirts

by Tatsuo M.W. Nakata, President-Elect

Last April 27, the Seattle Japanese American Citizens League joined a coalition of other local civil rights groups to protest Abercrombie & Fitch clothing retailer. Over a hundred demonstrators went to the Downtown Seattle Abercrombie & Fitch to protest the company's line of shirts that portray Asian Pacific Americans (APA's) in a derogatory manner and belittle their history and experiences.

Abercrombie & Fitch began selling the shirts in early April, but the company found itself amidst national protests by Asian Pacific American youths. The company then decided to pull the shirts around the second week of April. Abercrombie & Fitch, an Ohio-based retailer, previously produced t-shirts that depicted demeaning, exaggerated, stereotypical images of APA's. An example was a shirt that showed caricatures of APA's doing laundry with a featured a slogan of "Two Wongs Can Make It White."

Asian Pacific American college students helped pull the rally together and made up much of the crowd of protestors that gathered at the Downtown Seattle A & F location. The students were joined by the Seattle JAACL, along with the Seattle Chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA), Korean American Professional Society (KAPS), Hate Free Zone Campaign of Washington, King County Asian Pacific Islander Coalition (APIC), Asian Pacific American Coalition for Equality (APACE), and many other concerned individuals and organizations in the community. The groups gathered in protest due to the fact that while Abercrombie & Fitch officially had recalled the shirts nationwide, other locations around the country continued to sell and market these merchandise.

In addition to permanently removing the line of t-shirts, the crowd of protestors requested Abercrombie & Fitch company to do the following; issue a public apology from their CEO- Michael Jeffries; hire a consultant team to better understand the issues of people of color; develop an educational plan or campaign to encourage diversity; unconditionally grant refunds for consumers who may wish to return the shirts; and portray positive images of Asian Pacific Americans and other people of color in advertising materials and clothing lines.

For further information on the continuing efforts to prevent Abercrombie & Fitch from making similar types of merchandise in the future, please visit the website: <http://www.boycott-af.com/>, or directly contact the company by calling their customer service toll-free number at 1-800-432-0888. You may also write to: Michael S. Jeffries, CEO, Abercrombie & Fitch, 6301 Fitch Path, New Albany, OH 43054 or e-mail [abercrombie@abercrombie.com](mailto:abercrombie@abercrombie.com).

## President's Message

by Arlene Oki, President

April was a month filled with many community dinners, work parties, and other activities. Attendance has been very good at our monthly board meetings, as well at such activities as the sushi-making event. The addition of many fine members has brought new life to our board discussions and activities. And we are happy to announce that two more outstanding individuals, Elsie Taniguchi and Darrell Mihara, have agreed to join us. Each has extensive experience in the JACL and will greatly enhance our capacity to serve the community.

### Sushi Making

Members worked long hours to make approximately 700 boxes of makisushi and inarizushi to sell at the Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival. It was an intergenerational activity that I believe was also a lot of fun for everyone involved. Shea Aoki, our dedicated mentor to the volunteers, along with Joy Shigaki and Manaji Suzuki did a wonderful job overseeing the entire operation.

### Kip Tokuda and Nori Catabay

People who admire and support State Representative Kip Tokuda and Nori Catabay, legislative aide for the Democratic Caucus, attended a reception to wish them well as they embark on new career choices. Kip is now the director of the Family and Youth Services Division in the City's Human Services Department. Though he will not run for re-election this fall, he will continue to be a state representative until the new representative is sworn in January 2003. Kip's departure from the state legislature will be deeply felt by those who advocate for children and families and issues of importance to communities of color.

Even at her young age, Nori has helped bring the needs of the community to the state legislature. Nori is now the legislative aide for new King County Councilwoman Carolyn Edmonds.

Kudos to incoming president Tatsuo Nakata for helping organize a sterling tribute to Kip and Nori!

### Membership Dues Increases

We are sorry to announce that a majority of JACL chapters have voted to increase dues to our National organization. The poor economy, the rising costs to run our organization, and decreases in membership are reasons cited for the need to raise funds through increased membership dues. Though Seattle Chapter board members demonstrated a deep understanding of the fiscal crisis confronting the national organization, they did not believe it justified such a drastic increase in dues. Many felt that higher dues would hinder our ability to attract new members and the distribution of revenues does not benefit local chapters. Thus, Seattle joined Portland in voting to oppose the dues increase. (Please see related Bill Tashima article.)

### Somali Grocers, Freedom for Hamoui Family and Coulter Letters

The Chapter recently voted to send a letter to the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture to protest the decision to disqualify three Somali-owned businesses from the food stamp program. The INS action was taken without due process and insufficient evidence that illegal activities have taken place.

Letters were also sent to the INS to urge federal officials to free the Hamoui family from its detention center, and to Andrew McMeel Publishing and Universal Press Syndicate to protest the column, "Mineta's Bataan Death March," written by Ann Coulter.

The Seattle JACL recently joined a rally calling for freedom for the Hamoui family. This case involving the illegal detention of a law-abiding family is especially critical because of the fragile medical condition of the mother in the family. As people who were also deprived of our constitutional rights, it is imperative that we speak up to ensure that all Americans are accorded their rights as mandated by the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.



## Announcements

### Thank You

For your generous donations:  
Misayo Kumakura  
Robert Shimabukuro and Alice Ito  
Dorothy Ito  
Thousand Club Life Member:  
Tosh Uyeji

### Events Calendar

**Ongoing through Jun. 9** - "The Story of Dr. Feng Shan Ho: Visas for Life," Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 - 7th Ave. South, Seattle. Contact: (206) 694-6796.

**Jun. 1-2** - Chinese Culture & Arts Festival, Seattle Center, FREE, all day. Contact: (206) 684-7200.

**Jun. 5** - 2002 JACL Scholarship Banquet, Blaine Methodist Memorial Church, 3001 24th Ave. S, 6 PM. Contact: Ann Fujii, fujiiindwall@attbi.com.

**Jun. 6** - Assemblage Unraveling: Constructs of a Filipino American Aesthetic, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 - 7th Ave. South, Seattle, 5:30 - 7 PM. Contact: (206) 694-6796.

**Jun. 7-9** - Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival, Seattle Center, FREE, all day. Contact: (206) 684-7200.

**Jun. 7** - Loren Miller Bar Association Dinner honoring retiring State Supreme Court Justice Charles Z. Smith, Westin

Hotel, 1900 - 5th Ave., 5 PM reception, 7 PM dinner. Contact: (206) 239-2110.

**Jun. 15** - Japanese Language School Centennial Celebration Luncheon, Contact: (206) 323-0250.

**Jun. 21** - "If Tired Hands Could Talk" Documentary Screening, the legacy of a nearly forgotten community of first-generation women immigrants, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 - 7th Ave. South, Seattle, 8 - 9:30 PM. Contact: (206) 694-6796.

**Jun. 26-30** - JACL National Convention, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada.

## New National JACL Dues

by Bill Tashima, Chapter Membership Coordinator

As reported in the "Pacific Citizen," a majority of JACL chapters voted to increase the National dues for JACL members earlier this year. This increase was one of several suggestions made by a Blue Ribbon panel composed to look at the financial future for the National organization. Along with the dues increase, the National JACL has already imposed several belt-tightening actions, such as closing some regional JACL offices.

The dues increase is effective for all current members with memberships expiring on June 30, 2002 or later, and is effective for new members as of April 2002.

The following is the new Seattle JACL dues rate schedule. All increases reflect changes in National dues, while the Seattle JACL and the PNWDC have not increased their portions.

Individual	\$62
Couple/Family	\$110
Student/Youth	\$26
1000 Club	\$100
1000 Club Spouse	\$40
Century Club	\$175

If you have any questions about the dues increase or your current membership, contact Bill Tashima, Chapter Membership Coordinator, at (206) 525-0531 or email at buber@aol.com.

### Memorial, continued from page 1

Commitment for what is right gave you the strength to share your most private thoughts," she said. The Walt and Millie Woodward Fund was created "to promote the values of acceptance, understanding, and respect of civil rights for all and support the important fundamental principles of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights in a diverse and changing world."

Mayor Darleen Kordonowy of Bainbridge Island, state representatives Sharon Tomiko Santos, Phil Rockefeller, and David Fall were also present to honor the Nikkei evacuees and the memorial proposal.

The proposed memorial to be called "Nidoto Nai Yoni" or "Let it not happen again" will be sited at the Eagledale ferry dock. An engraved marker to designate the site was unveiled after the ceremony. The Washington State Legislature passed a resolution supporting the memorial earlier this year and Congressman Inslee has introduced a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the site for inclusion in the National Park System.

The Seattle Chapter has submitted a resolution to the JACL National Convention to generate national support for the efforts of the Bainbridge Island community.

## Newsletter Sponsors

The Seattle Chapter Newsletter is sponsored in part by these generous donors:

The Bon Marche	Microsoft
Eli Lilly & Company	Vulcan

## Recent Membership

### Individual

George Arakawa  
Paul Chapelle II (new)  
Flo Fujita  
Amy Yoshi Hara  
Karen Hopkins  
Steve Idemoto  
Lois Kaneko  
Sam Kawakami  
Sally Kazama  
Frank Kikuchi  
Frank Kitamoto  
Misayo Kumakura  
Janice Kumasaka  
Sumi Kuriyama  
Dan Matsumoto  
Miyoko McCoy

### Couples and Family

Wayne and Joan Isa  
George and Marie Ishii  
Eddie and Joyce Ito  
Toshio and Akiko Ito  
William and Ayako Johnson  
Terry and Shirley Kameda  
Gene and Vickie Kanamori  
Daniel and Terri Murakami

### Thousand Club

Ted Nakanishi

### Centruy Club

Herb Tsuchiya

### Thousand Club Life Member

Tosh Uyeji (new life member)

### Student

Aily Nash (new)

### Booster

Susan Carnahan

Mitzi Nakamura (new)  
Wayne Nakamura  
Mitsuo Nakanishi  
Ruth Okada  
Toshiko Okamoto  
Susan Otani  
Robert Seko  
Jeanne Semura  
Joy St Germain  
Eddie Suguro  
Paul Tanaka  
Kaz Tanemura  
Kenneth Usui  
Marion Watanabe  
Ayako Iky Yamada  
William Toshio Yasutake

George and Jean Nishi  
Robert Shimabukuro and Alice Ito  
Yoshiaki and Naomi Takemura  
Noboru and Takako Taki  
George and May Yano

Bill Tashima

Gordon Hirabayashi

## Sushi-making Event A Success!

by Joy Shigaki, 2nd Vice-President

As part of the Cherry Blossom Festival, April 19-21, over 70 energetic and vivacious volunteers assisted with JACL's annual sushi making event at St. Peter's Church. From preparing and rolling the inari sushi to selling it in our booth, these generous people gave their precious time and energy to this important effort. A special thank you goes out to all of them!

Over 700 boxes of sushi were made to support the work of the Seattle JACL. The proceeds for the fundraiser will go towards youth development programs, civil and human rights work, advocacy in the broader community, and general operations.

**Mission Statement:** The 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.

**Chapter Board Meeting:** Our primary means of carrying out our mission is a monthly meeting, held at 6:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month, except August, at the chapter office, 316 Maynard Ave. S., Seattle. Those wishing to make presentations or be added to the meeting agenda should contact President Arlene Oki prior to the meeting. All are welcome.

**Seattle Chapter Newsletter:** Published a week after the third Wednesday of each month by the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League. Address: PO Box 18558, Seattle, Washington, 98118. Phone: (206) 622-4098

**May 2002, Volume 39, Issue 4**  
 Editor-In-Chief and Publisher: Joann Natalia Aquino  
 Website and Newsletter Design: Ryan Minato

**Contributors:** Bylined articles represent the views of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of Seattle Chapter JACL or the National JACL. The entire contents are copyrighted by Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter. No part of this publication may be printed without prior consent.

**Article and Event Submission:** Board members should submit materials to the editor-in-chief (joannnatalia\_editor@hotmail.com) 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.

Seattle Chapter JACL website: [www.jaclseattle.org](http://www.jaclseattle.org)  
 E-mail address: [email@jaclseattle.org](mailto:email@jaclseattle.org)

2002 Officers and Board Members

- President ..... Arlene Oki (alene.oki@ci.seattle.wa.us)
- President-elect ..... Matthew Nakata (nakata\_ma@leg.wa.gov)
- 1st Vice-President ..... Elaine Akagi (reiko@aol.com)
- 2nd Vice-President ..... Joy Shigaki (joy\_shigaki@metrokc.gov)
- 3rd Vice-President ..... Cathy Lowenberg (c\_lowenberg@hotmail.com)
- 4th Vice-President ..... Linda Tanouye (addrehab@aol.com)
- Treasurer ..... Jeffrey Hattori (hattorijtds@aol.com)
- Corresponding Secretary ..... May Namba (nambamay@prodigy.net)
- Recording Secretary ..... Suzanne Hamada (sdhamada@yahoo.com)
- Historian ..... Kazzie Katayama (kazzie.katayama@metrokc.gov)
- Membership ..... Bill Tashima (buber@aol.com)
- Past President ..... Akemi Matsumoto (akemiseattle@hotmail.com)
- PNWDC Delegate ..... Elaine Akagi (reikoa@aol.com)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Shea Aoki   | Darrell Mihara                               |
| Ryan Chin (vppublicaffairs@jacl.org)              | Ryan Minato (ryanminato@hotmail.com)         |
| Shanon Doolittle<br>(shanondoolittle@hotmail.com) | Shig Nishiwaki (snishiwaki@yahoo.com)        |
| Edwin Hamada<br>(sdhamada@yahoo.com)              | Chiz Norton (chiznorton@aol.com)             |
| Kiku Hayashi (kiku@hotmail.com)                   | Tone Shimizu<br>(shimizut@worldnet.att.net)  |
| Ayako Hurd (ayako_hurd@msn.com)                   | Manaji Suzuki (manaji@gateway.net)           |
| Steve Idemoto (si@economp.org)                    | Masako Tamura (masaeric@hotmail.com)         |
| Gene Kanamori (picnrollfor@aol.com)               | Elsie Taniguchi                              |
| Ruthann Kurose (kuroman@wa.net)                   | Bill Tashima (buber@aol.com)                 |
| Mike Latimer<br>(michael.s.latimer@vssmb.com)     | Kip Tokuda (tokuda_ki@leg.wa.gov)            |
| Ann Fujii Lindwall<br>(fujiiindwall@home.com)     | Vicki Toyohara<br>(donandvickimukai@msn.com) |
| Ron Mamiya (ron.mamiya@ci.seattle.us)             | Alan Yabui (ayabui@bcc.ctc.edu)              |
|   | Janice Yee (janiceyee@deniselouie.org)       |
|   | Vicki Yuki (vyuki@sea-pha.org)               |

Seattle Chapter JACL  
 P.O. Box 18558  
 Seattle, WA 98118-0558

**Non-Profit Org.**  
**US Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Seattle, WA**  
**Permit # 9180**

KAZZIE KATAYAMA  
 [Redacted]  
 SEATTLE WA 98118-2830

