

Beautification Day Aki Kurose School

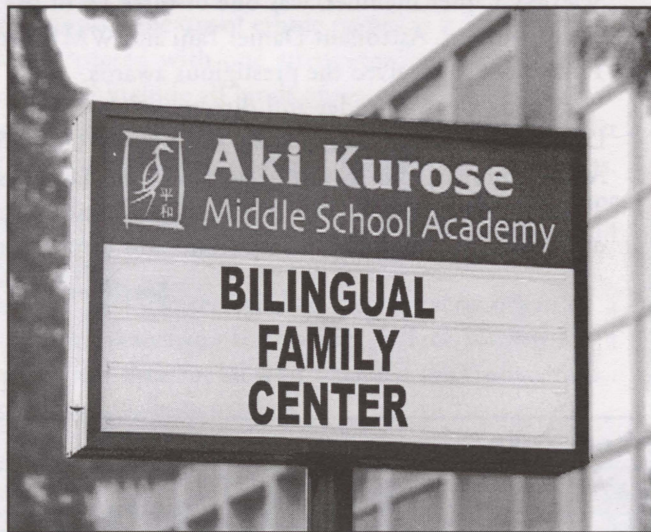
by Jeffrey Hattori

Please mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual Aki Kurose Middle School Academy Beautification Day, Saturday, August 24th, from 9 AM to 1 PM. This event is sponsored and organized by the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League.

For the years past, well over fifty dedicated individuals have lent a hand to rake, prune, weed, pick-up litter, lay bark, and have fun, so the students and staff at Aki Kurose Middle School Academy can start the school year entering a well-groomed environment.

As many of you know, in honor of Aki Kurose, the Seattle Chapter JACL worked diligently on the naming of the middle school, created a scholarship (donations are always welcome!) to support higher education for youth whom Aki cared so deeply about. The Chapter also raised funds to purchase a reader board which prominently displays a peace crane that shares the school activities and announcements.

The Beautification Day is an annual event that continues JACL's commitment to youth and honor our very dear friend, Aki. Please bring your yard tools and join us on August 24th! Plenty of refreshments will be provided for all the volunteer workers.



3rd Annual Aki Kurose Middle School Academy Beautification Day:

Aki Kurose Middle School Academy

3928 So. Graham St., Seattle

Saturday, August 24, 2001

9 AM - 1 PM

RSVP, please contact: May Namba at (206) 784-3824.

National Youth/Student Council Funding Boosted

by Tatsuo M.W. Nakata

In planning for the upcoming biennium, JACL National faced many difficult budgetary decisions. Not immune to these decisions were the budgets of the two main national youth/ student programs – the National Youth/ Student Council and The Biennial National Youth/ Student Conference. Each of these two programs were budgeted minimal amounts of hard monies. Recognizing the need for JACL National to provide consistent and stable funding for such a high priority for the future, the Seattle Chapter was proud to play an integral role in restoration of funds to these two programs.

The Seattle Chapter signed on as a sponsor to a National Youth/ Student Council-generated floor amendment that would have specified a “floor” amount of membership dues to be devoted to providing consistent funding for National Youth/ Student programs. The amendment, which failed by a slim majority, managed to generate a vital discussion among convention delegates with regard to funding for youth programs.

Later in the same afternoon, during budget negotiations, the Seattle Chapter and Pacific Northwest District played a vital role in passing a nearly unanimous budget amendment that provided National Youth/ Student programs with stable funding for the 2002-2004 biennium.

Thanks to the leadership of Seattle Chapter delegates, JACL National will strengthen its commitment to investing in the future of our organization.

Green Lake Reunion

by Dr. Roland Kumasaka

Former residents and friends of the Seattle Green Lake Japanese American Community are invited to a reunion on Saturday, August 17, 2002. The social gathering and the reunion dinner will be held at the Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle, Washington.

There will be an exhibit of old photographs and newspaper articles about community activities and social events. Many of these photographs and articles will be included in a booklet that will also include some family histories and personal recollections.

Although we have forgotten some events, I don't think we can forget this period of our life. This is a time to see our friends...a time for a reunion.

For more information, please contact: Henry Fukano at 5520 – 26th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108, or e-mail: hrfukano@yahoo.com.

Newsletter Available On-line: www.jaclseattle.org

President's Message

by Arlene Oki, President

2002 JACL National Convention

A renewed sense of purpose and dedication to our central mission of civil rights for Americans of Japanese ancestry...and all Americans...was certainly evident at the 37th Biennial JACL National Convention in Las Vegas. It was also heartening to see young Seattle-area leaders join other young Nikkei from many parts of the country in assuming important leadership positions within our organization.

There were numerous luncheons, receptions, dinners, workshops, committee/district meetings and plenary sessions at the Riviera Hotel. The following is a brief summary of the Convention highlights.

Reports to National Organization

Ryan Chin presented an excellent overhead presentation on his work as National Vice President for Public Affairs. Matthew Tatsuo Nakata, incoming Seattle Chapter President, summarized his work as Chair of the National Youth/Student Council succinctly and ensured that funding would be dedicated to youth programs. His two-year stint as Chair of the Council helped to ensure a brighter future for the youth/student movement. We are all so proud of Ryan and Tatsuo's achievements.

Officers

Maya Yamazaki, a Seattle Chapter member and delegate from the Pacific NW District Council, easily won election to follow Tatsuo as National Youth/Student Chair. Doug Honma, the Seattle Chapter's youth representative, drew a lot of interest to the Kaizen group through flyers that he distributed widely. Many chapters were very interested in this model to attract young people to community service through the JACL.

Ryan Chin easily defeated his opponent in his race to become V.P. for Membership. He drew accolades from President Floyd Mori and National Director John Tateishi for his 5-step proposal to increase membership in the national organization.

David Hayashi of the Lake Washington Chapter, was elected V.P. for Planning and Development. David provided able leadership in developing the 2003-2004 Program for Action.

Floyd Mori was re-elected to be President. Others who won elections included Art Koga, Secretary/Treasurer; David Kawamoto, V.P. for General Operations; and Ken Inouye, V.P. for Public Affairs.

Awards

Thanks to the effective work of Seattle Chapter members, but to my total surprise, we won honorable mention for the Inagaki Award. Though I submitted an application, I did not expect to win because we took the top prize at the last convention. But I happily accepted the beautiful plaque and \$400 while stumbling through words of appreciation. The Phoenix, Arizona Chapter won the top prize.

Did you know that the Seattle Chapter has won more Inagaki awards than any chapter in the U.S.? Our predecessors have left us a strong legacy of activism, and one that requires a lot of effort to live up to.

Speaking of our legacy, speakers at the Salute to Wartime Leaders dinner provided wonderful recollections about the three brilliant and strong leaders: George Inagaki, Saburo Kido, and Mike Masaoka. Sadly, many of the issues these men dealt with are still relevant today.

Wayne Nakamura, manager of multicultural markets for Star Farm Insurance, longtime supporter of many API causes and Seattle Chapter member, was one of three JA of the Biennium award winners. Astronaut Daniel Tani and WMBA star Lindsay Yamasaki also received the prestigious awards.

Morris Dees, founder and director of the Southern Poverty Law Center, was honored with the Edison Uno Civil Rights Award following his inspiring speech at the Sayonara Banquet. Those of us in the audience felt equally honored to have the opportunity to listen to his important and inspirational words.

See "President" on page 3



President, continued from page 2

Resolutions, By-laws and Budget

Bill Tashima presented eloquent and convincing remarks supporting the resolution urging the Boy Scouts to rescind their ban on gay leaders. After defeating an amendment to the resolution, the measure passed by a large margin. Bill served as an alternate delegate for Seattle and was of tremendous help as we worked to sort out all the parliamentary procedures, amendments to resolutions and by-laws changes. May Namba, our other alternate delegate, was Mrs. Dependable as always and filled in for me during budget deliberations.

Though Tatsuo did not run for National office, he left his mark on the organization and, in the process, ensured a stronger presence for young people as programs and policies are considered by the National Board. He worked diligently on a by-laws amendment increase funding for a national youth director and youth programs. When that failed, he persevered to get increases for youth programs during budget deliberations. As he worked the room, I could envision his transformation into another State Representative Kip Tokuda...or Congressman...or Senator.

With the help of Clarence Moriwaki who provided background on the Eagledale Ferry Dock memorial, the Seattle Chapter's Bainbridge Island resolution passed with no opposition. Dr. Frank Kitamoto and Clarence of the Bainbridge Island WWII Nikkei Internment and Exclusion Memorial Committee put up an impressive display in the Convention's exhibit room.

A very timely and important emergency resolution was one presented by Hugh Burleson, president of the Lake Washington Chapter, on banning the use of ethnic names as school mascots. The resolution passed with one strengthening amendment to expand the ban to include all kinds of teams.

A by-laws change eliminating the Mountain Plains District successful passed. The District will merge with other Districts. Another by laws proposal to eliminate four V.P. positions for Public Affairs, Operations, Planning and Development and Membership failed.

The Las Vegas Chapter worked tirelessly to organize a smoothly run convention. It was the perfect setting for a productive and fun time for all who attended the Convention. Now, on to Honolulu in two years!

Recent Membership

Individual

Vicki Asakura
Mary Grunewald
Fred Hasegawa
Ute Hirano
Bernadette Horiuchi
George Kaminishi
Nancy Kloster
Frank Kubo
Ruthann Kurose
Miyuki Maruhashi (New)
Mitsu Nomura
Aiko Okamoto

Couples and Family

David and Karen Cunningham
Kazzie and Mits Katayama
Rod and Kris Kawakami
Mike and Margaret Mizumoto
Giro and Miyo Nakagawa
Tosh and Lois Taniguchi
Tom and Nobie Tsukiji

Booster

Charles Aramaki
Pauline Asaba
Chiyoko Baba
Marie Coon
Mack Harada
Mitsuko Hashiguchi
Dale Kaku
Kimio Kamimae
Yoshi Kanemori
Tsu Kanzaki
Teruo Koba
Thomas Kobayashi
James Kressbach
Tomoko Kuwanoe
Aiko Kyono
Barbara Matsudaira

Keiko Sakakibara
Patricia Sado
Peggy Saito
Hiro Suzuki
Grant Takemura
Mildred Tsutsumi
Nancy Yamaguchi
George Yamane
Mary Yokoyama
Yae Yorozu
Yukio Yoshihara

Student/Youth

Doug Honma (new)
Joanne Schreiner

Thousand Club Spouse

Colleen Hayami

Century Club

Tomio Moriguchi

Tebo Matsudaira
George Miyake
Mitsuko Morishita
Francis Ogino
Bessie Okada
Mitsuko Osaki
Catherine Sakura
Connie Saito
Tad Shibuya
Fudge Shiogi
Ruby Inouye Shu
Kiyo Taki
Kiku Tatsumi
Alan Yamagiwa
Fumiko Yoshikawa

Announcements

Thank You

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Events Calendar

Aug. 17 - Green Lake Reunion, social and dinner, Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle. Contact: hrfukano@yahoo.com.
Aug. 24 - Annual Beautification Day for Aki Kurose Middle School Academy, 3928 S. Graham St., Seattle, 9 AM - 1 PM. RSVP and Contact: (206) 784-3824.
Aug. 24-25 - TibetFest presents both modern and ancient Tibetan and Himalayan tradition, Seattle Center, all day, Free. Contact: (206) 684-7200.

Ongoing through November 17
Visas for Life: The Story of Dr. Feng Shan Ho, Chinese diplomat in Vienna, Austria during the Holocaust, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S, Tues.-Fri. 11 AM - 4 PM. Contact (206) 623-5124.

Ongoing through August 18
Assemblage Unraveling: Constructs of a Filipino American Aesthetic, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S, Tues.-Fri. 11 AM - 4 PM. Contact (206) 623-5124.

Aki Sogabe: 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: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (indicate whether day or evening/weekend): _____

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

Information

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.

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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
 E-mail address: email@jaclseattle.org

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- Membership Bill Tashima (buber@aol.com)
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