

Congratulations to the 2003 Seattle JACL Officers and Board Members

Congratulations to the 2003 Seattle Chapter JACL Officers and Board members who were recently elected by the Seattle JACL membership. The 2003 officers and board members represent the diversity and strength of our Nikkei community, reflected in their occupations and in their involvement in the JACL organization, our Nikkei community and in our community at large. The officers and board will continue to lead the Seattle JACL in the 21st century, stronger than ever before in its civil rights activities and in its leadership on issues important to the members of the Seattle JACL, the Nikkei community, communities of color and the broader community.

The Seattle Chapter President for 2003 is *Tatsuo Nakata*, who served as the Legislative Assistant for Washington State Representative Velma Veloria. President Nakata recently began his new job as the Endowment Associate for Nikkei Concerns for its ongoing endowment campaign, "Generations of Caring." President-elect is *Bill Tashima*, Office Director, Social Security Administration. First Vice President is the *Honorable Vicki J. Toyohara*, Administrative Law Judge, Washington State Office of Administrative Hearings; 2nd Vice President is *Joy Shigaki*, Community Relations Specialist, King County; 3rd Vice President is *Elaine Akagi*, Teacher, Visually Impaired Department, Seattle Public Schools; and 4th Vice President is *Akemi Matsumoto*, Instructor, Bellevue Community College. Our Treasurer is *Jeffrey Hattori*, Allied Specialist, Eli Lilly & Company; *May Namba*, Retired, is our Corresponding Secretary; *Vicky Yuki*, Support/Resident Services Coordinator, Seattle Housing Authority, is our Recording Secretary; our Historian is *Kazzie Katayama*, Senior Project Coordinator, King County; and our Board Delegate is past president, *Arlene Oki*, Planning and Development Specialist, City of Seattle.

The following persons have been elected to the Seattle Chapter Board for 2003: *Shea Aoki* (Retired); *Kiku Hayashi* (Community Volunteer); *Doug Honma* (Research Analyst, Evans/McDonough Company); *Steve Idemoto* (Research Analyst, Economic Opportunities Institute); *Ann Fujii Lindwall* (Administrative Assistant, Seattle Public Schools); *Cathy Lowenberg*, (Public Liaison Officer, Office of Governor Locke); *Honorable Ron Mamiya* (Seattle Municipal Court Judge); *Darrell Mihara* (Dean, Health Medical Division, North Seattle Community College); *Ryan Minato* (Research Analyst, Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs); *Emily Momohara* (Fine Arts Photographer); *Steven Peralta* (Law Student, Seattle University); *Honorable Sharon Tomiko*

See "Congratulations" on page 3

JACL Helps to Thank Justice Charles Z. Smith

On Sunday, November 17th, Seattle JACLers packed two tables in a filled-to-capacity ballroom to honor and say, "thank you" to Justice Charles Z. Smith for his leadership on social justice, diversity, and the betterment of the human condition.

Justice Smith announced earlier this year that he would be retiring from the Washington State Supreme Court after 14 years of dedicated leadership and service. As many Seattle JACLers know, Justice Smith was a strong supporter during the Redress movement and has been a member of JACL for many years. We wish Justice Smith the best of luck in retirement and all future endeavors!



Eleanor Smith & Justice Charles Z. Smith

Seattle JACL mourns loss of beloved board member, Ayako Hurd

The Seattle Chapter JACL mourns the loss of our dedicated board member Ayako Okubo Hurd who passed away on December 9 at the age of 93 years. Mrs. Hurd was a longtime JACL member who inspired many younger Nikkei to contribute to the community through membership in our organization. She was a strong force on the Seattle Chapter's Electronic Venue Committee to purchase a computer, software, printer and other office equipment to modernize our operations.

As excerpt from condolences sent by Governor Locke: "Throughout her life, Aya was a very positive force in the local community. Like many Washingtonians, she grew up into a farming family, contributing to the impressive agricultural tradition in Puyallup Valley. She and her family were all affected by the events of a regrettable time in our nation's history, the internment of Japanese Americans. However, Aya emerged from this unfortunate period with great strength and a powerful determination to demonstrate her strong citizenship."

Many of us will never forget her broad, beautiful smile whenever she entered our offices and saw her colleagues on the board or committees. We loved her and will miss her presence on our Board. The Seattle Chapter sends deepest condolences to Ayako's family and hopes that the support of family and friends provides comfort during this difficult period.

President's Message

by Arlene Oki, President

As we approach the end of 2002 and my term as president, I must admit that the days have flown by and, for the most part, it has been a challenging and satisfying experience. The infusion of young people bolsters my hope that the JACL will continue to be a strong advocate for civil rights and the preservation of our culture. The community will reap great benefits from the work of an energetic and bright crop of young people willing to contribute their time, energy and talent to good causes.

Several issues stand out when I reflect on what we've achieved this year. They include the National Convention's endorsement of the Bainbridge Island Memorial Study for designation of the site in the National Park System. The bill was recently passed by Congress and now awaits the President's signature. We participated in rallies to urge the INS to release the Hamoui family and, just a few weeks ago, the women and later the father were finally released from the INS detention center. We worked to support immigrant airport workers who faced harassment and subsequent firings due to federal government regulations requiring airport security screeners to be U.S. citizens. The ruling, which resulted in the dismissal of hundreds of non-citizen airport workers, has now been declared unconstitutional by U.S. District Judge Robert Takasugi. Two major events this year were the *Civil Liberties Celebration and the forum, "Justice for All: the Aftermath of September 11th."* We felt privileged to be a part of the planning and implementation of these historic, community-based events. Both events cut to the core of the Japanese American Citizens League mission. We care about social, economic and political justice. And we especially care about supporting those whose freedoms are being compromised by misguided government actions or individuals who promote hatred and prejudice.

Attention to Hapa issues is now off the back burner. Cathy Lowenberg, our energetic 3rd V.P. for youth, organized a meeting to begin planning for outreach and activities focused on Hapas. Look for activities in the coming months.

Several Seattle JACL members are working with an ambitious committee that is studying the feasibility of developing a Japanese Cultural/ Community Center in Seattle. The broad-based committee has held two meetings and a smaller sub-committee has been meeting almost every week for the past three months. They are conducting research on Japanese cultural centers in Honolulu, Hawaii; Burnaby, Canada; and other locales. Judge Ron Mamiya and Kip Tokuda will co-chair the group. They hope

to add a popular and very well-known individual to be the third co-chair in the near future.

Thanks to Kazzie Katayama and her sister, Nobu Takahashi, 25 women recently enjoyed an evening learning how to make useful and lovely Japanese ornamental boxes. It was pure fun to be with them and to learn something new at the same time. Kazzie and Nobu went way beyond the call of duty by preparing pre-cut forms for the boxes and Mits, Kazzie's husband, developed instructions with diagrams. Kazzie even went so far as to prepare her famous homemade senbei for all to enjoy.

Congratulations to Bill Tashima, president-elect for 2004, who was selected by the Seattle Chapter and the Japanese Consulate General to participate in the "Advanced Country's Japanese American Invitation Program." He and two others went on an all expenses paid tour of Japan for six nights and seven days this month. The purpose of the program is to promote an accurate and extensive understanding of modern-day Japan.

We held our annual holiday dinner for board members, committee members, and officers. This year, we added time to sing Holiday carols for Nikkei Manor residents.. Though JACLers love to talk, I have never heard any of them sing (other than Tatsuo who does karaoke). I hope it was a treat instead of a treatment for the residents of Nikkei Manor.

Throughout the year, we have appreciated the support of members who have called us, sent educational materials, helped with the Aki Kurose Middle School Academy cleanup, donated money and helped in so many other ways. One special volunteer is Kelley Asamoto who is helping her godfather, Bill Tashima, send membership renewal letters. Though Kelley is only 12 years old, she is learning the value of providing community service. Thank you, Kelley!

Congratulations to the new officers and board members for 2003 and sincere appreciation to our present ones for many, many hours of time and energy they have dedicated to our activities this year. It is a privilege to work with people who care deeply about the future of our community and social justice for all.

On behalf of Seattle Chapter JACL board members and officers, thank you and...

...Best Wishes for the Happiest of Holidays and New Year!



Announcements

Thank You

For your generous donations:

Terry Okazaki
Charlene Mano Shen
Sallie Yamada

The Seattle Chapter of the JACL gratefully acknowledges the generous donation of \$10,000 from Mrs. Sallie Yamada in

memory of her late husband, Dr. Kelly Yamada. This is, by far, the largest donation we have received in many, many years. Thank you, Mrs. Yamada!

Events Calendar

Jan. 25, 2003 – Asian Pacific Islander Blood Drive/ Bone Marrow Registration, Chinese

Baptist Church, 5801 Beacon Ave. S., Seattle, 8:30 AM – 2 PM. Contact: Herb Tsuchiya, (206) 722-4122.

Jan. 25, 2003 – Seattle Chapter JACL Installation Banquet, SeaTac Doubletree Hotel, 18740 International Blvd., 5 PM. Contact: May Namba (206) 784-3824.

Kaizen Needs Your Help

by Steven Peralta

The Kaizen Group – a group of young and emerging, Asian Pacific American leaders within the Seattle JACL – is seeking your help in identifying an outstanding candidate for the first ever *Kaizen Group Leadership Award!*

Nominators are invited and encouraged to identify a person of Asian/ Pacific American decent below the age of 30 years, who may be characterized by many or all of the following: this person strives to address social problems with effective solutions; s/he provides leadership to the community; s/he brings different groups and communities of color together; her/his leadership is largely unrecognized beyond her/his community or field; and s/he, if recognized, would inspire other young people. The Kaizen Group will present this award to a deserving young person at the upcoming Seattle JACL Installation Banquet on January 25, 2003. Both the award recipient and the nominator will receive a complimentary ticket, sponsored by the Kaizen Group, for the Banquet.

To receive a nominations packet, or for further information on nominating an outstanding young person, please contact: Steven Peralta at: <peralta@hotmail.com> or (206) 669-2444.

Congratulations, continued from page 1

Santos (State Representative, 37th District); Tone Shimizu (International Trade Consultant, Nishino Corporation); Dr. Manaji Suzuki (Pediatrician, Medalia Silver Lake Pediatrics); Anna Tamura (Landscape Architect, National Park Service); Elsie "Leilani" Taniguchi (Nikken Wellness Consultant); Linda Tanouye (Consultant, ADD Vocational Management); Honorable Kip Tokuda (Director, Dept. of Children & Family Services, City of Seattle); and Alan Yabui (Instructor, Speech Department, Bellevue Community College).

Special acknowledgment to our Chapter's Nominations Committee members, Judge Vicki Toyohara, Chairperson; Arlene Oki; Tatsuo Nakata; Kazzie Katayama; and Elaine Akagi, for their hard work and efforts in ensuring a successful nominations process and an outstanding slate of officers and board members for 2003. Many thanks also go the members who took the time to cast ballots in the November election.

President Tatsuo Nakata sees civil rights as his priority, especially in light of the increasing racism and the recent backlash against communities of color, religious communities and immigrant communities. During his tenure, President Nakata plans to work with the officers, board, membership, and community – to develop a 5-year strategic plan for the Seattle JACL which will help guide the organization through the 21st century. Part of President Nakata's vision includes increasing chapter membership; outreach efforts to further include multi-racial persons; and identifying the issues and needs important to a continuously evolving Nikkei community.

We look forward to a successful and productive year during 2003 under the leadership of Tatsuo Nakata. Congratulations president, officers and board members on your election!

Recent Membership

Individual

Smith Hayami
Frank Hori
Akio Hoshino
Chiyo Kamihara
Eileen Kato
Megumi Kobayashi (New)
Masao Kojima
Charlene Lee
Henry Matsubu
Mitsuye Mihara
Toru Matsuoka
T. Natsuhara
Jill Nishi

Ann Kawasaki Romero
Lily Mukai
Jeff Sakamoto
Jerry Shigaki
Masami Sado
Manaji Suzuki
Hideko Tachibana
Akari Sato Takayama
Kimi Tanaka
Elmer Tazuma
Jane Tsuboi
Yoshi Yatsu
Ida Zodrow

Couples/Family

Lily Eng and Jeff Saul
Tsutomu and Yaeko Ito
Washin and
Kathleen Murakami
Victor and Lilly Takemoto
Alan and Chiye Yabuki
Ed and Maxine Yakushijin

Thousand Club

John Matsudaira
Zenji Shibayama

Student/Youth

Ruth Ann Kataoka

Who Wants to be a Millionaire?

by Tatsuo M.W. Nakata

Who wants to be a millionaire? I'm sure a lot of us do! The Seattle Chapter JACL is pleased to announce your chance to be 1/1000th of a millionaire! That's right! You could win \$1,000 cold, hard cash. Who of us after the holiday season couldn't use an extra thousand bucks?

On January 25th, at our upcoming 81st Annual Installation Banquet, Seattle JACL will announce lucky prize-winners of: \$1,000, \$500, and \$250. While we would like to see as many people as possible attend the upcoming banquet, you need not be present to win. We are currently selling raffle tickets for the low, low bargain price of only \$5.00 each, or 5 tickets for \$20.00. All proceeds from this raffle benefit the Seattle JACL scholarship fund which every year helps aspiring young people fulfill their academic goals.

Every ticket that you purchase increases your chances of winning extra money that you could use to take a vacation, pay down your holiday bills, or fulfill a New Year's resolution – and the proceeds from your tax-deductible purchase of these raffle tickets benefit a wonderful cause – the Seattle JACL Scholarship fund! So what are you waiting for? Buy your raffle tickets today! To purchase tickets or get further information, please contact: Linda Tanouye at: (253) 826-5422.

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

December 2002, Volume 39, Issue 11

Editor: Tatsuo M.W. Nakata

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 (nakata_ta2001@yahoo.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

2002 Officers and Board Members

President Arlene Oki (arlene.oki@ci.seattle.wa.us)
President-elect Tatsuo M.W. Nakata (nakata_ta2001@yahoo.com)
1st Vice-President Elaine Akagi (reikoa@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)

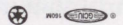
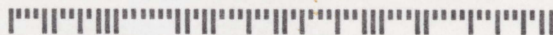
Historian Kazzie Katayama (kazzie.katayama@metrokc.gov)
Membership Bill Tashima (buber@aol.com)
Past President Akemi Matsumoto (akemiseattle@hotmail.com)
PNWDC Delegate..... Elaine Akagi (reikoa@aol.com)

Shea Aoki
Ryan Chin (vppublicaffairs@jacl.org)
Shanon Doolittle
(shanondoolittle@hotmail.com)
Edwin Hamada
(sdhamada@yahoo.com)
Kiku Hayashi
(kikuhayashi@hotmail.com)
Ayako Hurd (ayako_hurd@msn.com)
Steve Idemoto (si@economyp.org)
Gene Kanamori (picnrollfor@aol.com)
Ruthann Kurose (kuroman@wa.net)
Mike Latimer
(michael.s.latimer@vssmb.com)
Ann Fujii Lindwall
(fujiiilindwall@attbi.com)

Ron Mamiya (ron.mamiya@ci.seattle.us)
Darrell Mihara
Ryan Minato (ryanminato@hotmail.com)
Shig Nishiwaki (snishiwaki@yahoo.com)
Chiz Norton (chiznorton@aol.com)
Tone Shimizu
(shimizut@worldnet.att.net)
Manaji Suzuki (manaji@gateway.net)
Masako Tamura (masaeric@hotmail.com)
Elsie Taniguchi
Kip Tokuda (tokuda_ki@leg.wa.gov)
Vicki Toyohara
(donandvickimukai@msn.com)
Alan Yabui (ayabui@bcc.ctc.edu)
Janice Yee (janiceyee@deniselouie.org)
Vicki Yuki (vyuki@sea-pha.org)

SEATTLE WA 98118-2830

KAZZIE KATAYAMA



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

Japanese American Citizens League
Seattle Chapter
P.O. Box 18558
Seattle, WA 98118-0558