

Affirmative Action Community Forum

The Affirmative Action Community Forum: *Dispelling the Myths, Working for Equity* will be hosted by the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League, King County Civil Rights Commission, Coalition to Undo Racism Everywhere, UW Asian American Student Association, Seattle University Asian Pacific Islander Student Union, NAACP, Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, and a number of other community organizations. The forum will work to:

- ◆ Increase public understanding of Affirmative Action;
- ◆ Raise community discourse on its importance today;
- ◆ Educate the public on Affirmative Action history;
- ◆ Understand local impact of Initiative 200 on K-12/higher education and on contracting and hiring;
- ◆ Understand the implications of the Supreme Court decision for University of Michigan case; and
- ◆ Formulate proactive strategies to preserve Affirmative Action in Washington State.

JOIN US on Saturday, November 15, 1 - 4:30 PM at the UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn Ave. NE in the University District. It is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For questions, contact Joy Shigaki, shigaki@juno.com, (206) 622-4098.

JACL Gala Dinner

by Bill Tashima, president-elect

Over 800 people gathered at the gala dinner to celebrate "An American Testimonial: A Salute to the Japanese American National Leaders" on September 13th at the Wilshire Grand Hotel in Los Angeles. The dinner recognized the Honorable Norman Mineta, Senator Daniel Inouye, Congressman Robert Matsui, and Congressman Mike Honda. To paraphrase Senator Inouye, it was JACL's way of saying "okagesama-de."

The atmosphere was warm and friendly with Wendy Tokuda (Kip Tokuda's sister), San Francisco TV Anchor, as Mistress of Ceremonies. The program included a salute to the late Congresswoman Patsy Mink. Her tribute was particularly touching as music accompanied a slide presentation detailing her life and accomplishments. Further in the program, each honoree gave their remarks, focusing on what seemed to be a unified theme: the accomplishments and continued importance of JACL and the unique voice that Japanese Americans can articulate while facing assaults on civil liberties and civil rights.

Special thanks to the efforts of Rose Nohara, Lake Washington JACL President, and for the representation shown by the Pacific Northwest District with well over twenty people who made the trip down to Los Angeles.

Report from NHAW

by Arlene Oki

It was a productive and busy year of activity, setting up the Nikkei Heritage Association of Washington (NHAW). The NHAW Core Committee filed Articles of Incorporation in the State of Washington. This was done with the assistance of Sharon Sakamoto, providing pro bono legal services. The Committee also completed and adopted a Charter, Bylaws, held elections, and filed for 501(c)(3) status. The organization now seems ready to launch the second phase of its mission to develop a Japanese Cultural and Community Center in Seattle.

NHAW officers include: Ron Mamiya, president; Lori Matsukawa, vice president; Kip Tokuda, vice president; Dee Goto, treasurer; and Arlene Oki, secretary. It is expected that more names will be added to the Honorary Board and working Board of Directors in the near future.

Community outreach continues to be important, gaining support for the building of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center. Lori, Ron and Kip have met with approximately twenty different groups to announce the formation of the NHAW and to solicit ideas on the creation of the center.

Groups such as the Taiko and Budo organizations have already submitted to the NHAW proposals for the use of the center. Discussions on a site for the center have not formally started though the topic is drawing a lot of comments and conjecture from the community.

Recently, NHAW met with a group representing Nikkei and cultural organizations to discuss their role in planning and developing the center. Under the skillful facilitation of Nellie Fujii Anderson, they shared their "wish lists," covering activities they hope to see at the center, the future needs of their organizations, and what each might bring to the NHAW's efforts. A follow-up meeting will be held on November 15.

Thanks to Ted Yamaura of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Executive Development Institute (EDI), NHAW was assigned a team of talented young professionals from EDI to compile the results of a survey. The survey was disseminated to Nikkei in the greater Seattle area to assess the level of support and potential use of the center by the community. The team has also developed a questionnaire to solicit useful information on "best practices" from other cultural centers in the U.S. and Canada; the results of which are now trickling in.

Finally, we hope that everyone will support the Sake & Sushi Fest on October 29 with part of the proceeds going to benefit the NHAW. The event will be from 5 - 8:30 PM at the Grand Hyatt in downtown Seattle. Tickets are \$50 (patron) or \$100 (premier patron). Please contact (206) 320-1010 to purchase your tickets.

President's Message

by **Tatsuo M.W. Nakata, President**

crispness in the air, leaves changing colors – and falling and getting stuck to your car windshield as they are soaked in rain, and new assortments of caffeinated beverages at your local latte retailer – Autumn has arrived in Seattle. As the seasons change, so too does your Seattle JACL – sort of. Actually, Seattle JACL hasn't changed too much throughout the years – we are still committed to civic engagement, civil rights, and celebrating diversity. While we as an organization may not change too much – one thing is for certain – the organization gets older, more established, and sees many of our members continue to do wonderful things in the community.

This year, Seattle JACL will be marking 82 years of service with our Annual Installation Banquet. Please save the date – January 31, 2004 – and be on the lookout for more information and your invitation as the date draws near. We hope that you will be able to join us and bring 1, or 2, or more, family and friends along as we install our 2004 Board of Directors, enjoy delicious food, and recognize some outstanding contributors to the community.

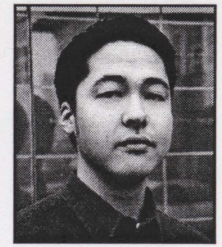
Also, there is still plenty of time to place an advertisement in our banquet booklet. With the installation banquet being our primary fundraiser for the year, it is vitally important that we can count on your support to attend and/or purchase advertisements. Additionally, by purchasing an ad in our banquet booklet, it will be viewed by nearly 1,000 businesses, community groups, government agencies and individuals throughout the greater Seattle area. This exposure could save anyone valuable networking time! Ad prices start as low as \$75. If you would like to place an advertisement in our

installation banquet booklet to help support Seattle JACL, please contact Kazzie Katayama at: (206) 722-2266.

A very special thank you goes to the installation banquet committee and this year's installation banquet co-chairs – Ann Fujii Lindwall and Marcine Anderson for putting a tremendous amount of time and energy into what will surely be a very dynamic evening.

As mentioned, our Annual Installation Banquet provides us with an opportunity to install our 2004 Board of Directors. Shortly, we will be holding our chapter-wide elections for next year. If you like the activities and the advocacy that Seattle JACL does, or if you feel that you would like to contribute in additional ways, I hope that you will consider becoming more involved in our organization. Our committees are always in need of an extra helping hand. And with so many other wonderful people helping out already, you can commit to helping wherever you can. In the process, you will meet an energetic group of people committed to bettering the community.

One example of an event that we are currently working on is the state-wide, "Asian Pacific American Community Summit." The theme for this event is appropriately entitled, "Celebrating Unity & Civic Involvement" and it will be taking place May 22, 2004. This conference will focus on celebrating Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month through culture, various workshops, and leadership training in advocacy and organizing.



See "President" on page 3

Announcements

Thank You

For your generous donations:

Sumie Akzuki
Nellie Fujii Anderson
Ann Fujii-Lindwall
Polly Shigaki
Fudge F. Shiogi
Eugene M. Tagawa

Newsletter sponsored in part by these generous donors:

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Events Calendar

Oct. 29 – Sushi & Sake Fest fundraiser to benefit the NHAW hosted by the JACC; Grand Hyatt Hotel, 721 Pine St., \$50, 5 - 8:30 PM. Contact: (206) 320-1010.

Nov. 1 – Seattle JACL Office

Beautification followed by Dim Sum; Seattle JACL Hall, 316 Maynard Ave. S, 11:30 AM. Contact: (206) 622-4098, <tatsuonakata@yahoo.com>.

Nov. 5 – Overcoming Barriers to Healthy

Eating for Older Adults a workshop for professionals by the Healthy Aging Partnership; Tukwila Community Center, 12424 - 42nd Ave. S, \$75, 8 AM - 4 PM. Contact: Karen Lewis, (206) 824-2907, <karenl@chef.org>.

Nov. 8 – Hmong New Year presented by Hmong Association of Washington with folk arts, film, food, children's activities, and traditional performance; Seattle Center House, all day, FREE. Contact: (206) 684-7200, (425) 750-0901.

Nov. 13 – Asian Pacific Islander

Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF) Graduation Dinner with social and silent auction; South Seattle Community College, Jerry M. Brockey Center, 1600 - 16 Ave. SW; 5:30 - 8:30 PM; To reserve a seat at the Seattle JACL table, contact: Tatsuo Nakata, <tatsuonakata@yahoo.com>, (206) 622-4098; For information on the dinner, contact: Karyn Kubo Lamborn, (206) 625-3850, <aclfseattle@hotmail.com>.

Nov. 15 – Affirmative Action Forum; UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn Ave. NE, 1 - 4:30 PM. Contact: Joy Shigaki, <Shigaki@juno.com>, (206) 622-4098.

Jan. 31, 2004 – Seattle Chapter JACL Annual Installation Banquet.

Focus on Membership

by Darrell M. Mihara, Membership Committee

National JACL has embarked on an aggressive membership drive. Currently, overall membership in JACL is increasing, however, membership in the Seattle Chapter has declined. To commit the Seattle Chapter to this national initiative, two proposals were presented to increase membership.

The first idea is a competition among the board. The board has been split into two teams with each team trying to increase membership in JACL through recruiting new members, renewing lapsed members or purchasing gift memberships. The winning team will receive a potluck dinner provided by the other team. Each board member has a goal of bringing in three new members. We will also recognize the board member who individually has the most success.

The second idea involves current members helping to recruit new members. Members can help by sharing the attached membership form or consider purchasing a gift membership for someone you know. The member who is most successful in raising membership will be presented with a framed set of Aki Sogabe cards and all who recruit or gift members will be eligible for other prizes. Be sure to write "referred by: your name" on the membership form.

Also, the National Credit Union is providing a Hawaiian vacation package to the Chapter that increases membership the most between May and December 2003. It would be great if we could win this and use the vacation package as a raffle prize to support the chapter.

If you have questions or need additional membership forms, please contact me at (206) 528-4402 work, (206) 842-8982 home, or by email at Dmihara@sccd.ctc.edu.

President, continued from page 2

This effort is currently being led by the King County Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, with numerous community members and organizations helping out. On behalf of Seattle JACL, I have been lending our chapter's support. The planning is still in the early stages, so it's not too late to get involved with this effort. If you would like to find out more information about getting involved, please don't hesitate to contact me at tatsuoakata@yahoo.com.

This event will be highly important for the ongoing work of Seattle JACL in that it will assist us with building even stronger ties to other organizations, reaffirm the grassroots' ability to ensure government representation, and allow us as Asian Pacific Americans to showcase the strengths of the community in Washington State.

I hope that you will consider getting involved or helping out with any of the aforementioned opportunities. Thank you for your continued support and membership. As members, you are the energy that makes up our strong organization and that has allowed Seattle JACL to reach the tender young age of 82. Have a magnificent month and I hope to see you soon!

Recent Membership

Individual

- Sumie Akizuki
- Shea Aoki
- Ann Fujii-Lindwall
- Marcia K. Fujimoto
- Sei Fujiwara
- Joyce Hands
- Hannah Hirabayashi
- Nancy Kloster
- Yuriko Kojima
- David Koyama
- Aya Kozu
- George Kozu
- Kathy Kozu
- Holly Meo
- Thea Mori

- Barbara Nagaoka
- Alice Oishi
- Richard Okamoto
- Mark Okazaki
- Polly Shigaki
- Al Sugiyama
- Kathy Sugiyama
- Eugene M. Tagawa
- Takeko Todo
- Kip Tokuda
- Ben Tsuboi
- Tony Tsuboi
- Ted Yamamura
- Fred Ye

Student/Youth

- Emiko Hastings
- Tadd Ken Mitsui
- Robyn Rader

Couples/Family

- Paul and Lucy Isaki
- William and Beth Kawahara
- Joshua and Carol Ann Suehiro
- Benjamin and Ruth Woo

Booster

- Nellie Fuji Anderson
- Howard Martin
- Dwight Mizoguchi
- Kim Nguyen
- Fudge F. Shiogi

1000 Club/1000 Club Spouse

- Penny Fukui

Membership Form

Individual \$62, Youth & Student \$26, Couple & Family \$110, Chapter Booster \$20, Senior Chapter Booster \$15.

Membership Category: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

Phone Day/Evening: _____

E-mail: _____

Yes, receive chapter newsletter notice by e-mail.

Yes, list my information in the Japanese American Community Directory

Please make checks payable to JACL and remit to:
 Seattle Chapter Membership Chair
 P.O. Box 18558
 Seattle, WA 98118

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 Tatsuo M.W. Nakata prior to the meeting. All are welcome.

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Article and Event Submission: Board members should submit materials to the editor (ryanminato@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

2003 Officers and Board Members

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