

Elaine Akagi and Elsie Taniguchi elected to leadership positions in PNWDC

An uncontested slate of candidates was offered to Chapter presidents and delegates for the election of officers for the Pacific Northwest District Council (PNWDC) of the JACL at its quarterly meeting on October 25. Congratulations to Seattle Chapter vice-president Elaine Akagi, who was elected vice-governor for Washington State and Seattle and Puyallup Valley member, Elsie Taniguchi, who was elected One Thousand Club Chair. Another Seattle Chapter vice-president, Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, facilitated the elections process in the absence of Nominations Committee Chair Greg Kimura of Alaska. The current governor, David Masuo of Anchorage, Alaska, was re-elected for a second term.

2004-2005 PNWDC Officers:

Governor	David Masuo
Vice Governor-Washington	Elaine Akagi
Vice Governor-Oregon	Scott Sakamoto
Secretary	Rose Nohara
Treasurer	Manh Pham
Historian	Hugh Burleson
One Thousand Club Chair	Elsie Taniguchi

Among issues discussed at the meeting were the serious ramifications of the U.S. Patriot Act, defamatory remarks by pro golfer Jan Stevenson and personalities on KNDD radio station, Bruce Yamashita documentary, a national resolution to honor Nisei/Nikkei veterans, membership drive, 2004 Washington DC Leadership Conference and national convention scheduled for next August in Honolulu.

Decorate to help raise money for the Seattle JACL

Seattle JACL has been offered the chance to decorate a condominium unit as part of a N.C. Enterprises campaign to increase awareness of their newly built Midori Retirement Condominiums. If the Seattle JACL unit sells, then the chapter receives a \$2,000 donation. As part of the offer, the Seattle JACL will pick the theme, furniture, and decorate one of the beautiful condominium units located at 1515 E Yesler Way (across from Seattle Keiro). We could use your help as a volunteer for this fun project, so lets get together, exercise some creative talent, and raise money for the chapter. For more information, please contact the chapter office at (206) 622-4098.

82nd Annual Installation Banquet

On behalf of the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League board and membership, we would like to cordially invite you to our 82nd Annual Installation Banquet on Saturday, January 31, 2004. Our theme for this banquet is "Building on Our Legacies Across Generations." The incoming JACL President, Bill Tashima, was instrumental in setting the tone for this banquet. He explained: "We make a big deal about the differences between generations and interest groups. Yet, I really believe that we share more common ground than differences. While each generation has faced different challenges, our goals and dreams remain similar."

The Installation Banquet will feature keynote speaker Lori Matsukawa, with Jeffrey Hattori as master of ceremony, to be held at the Doubletree Hotel - SeaTac, 18740 Pacific Hwy. South, Seattle. Ticket price is \$60 per person. The evening will start at 5:30 PM with a cocktail reception and raffle ticket sales, followed by dinner at 6:30 PM. All proceeds from raffle sales will support the JACL Scholarship Fund. For more information, please contact May Namba (206) 784-3824 or Takako Yoda (206) 722-6547. Mark your calendar.

Hope to see you there! - Ann Fujii-Lindwall and Marcine Anderson, Installation Banquet Committee Co-Chairs

Collecting blankets and sleeping bags

With the rain and cold of winter months upon us, many are fortunate enough to have a roof overhead and a warm place to sleep. However, there are some in our community who do not have the basic necessities, like warm clothing or even adequate shelter.

Our Seattle JACL board recently learned of a community member who, for years and years, has taken it upon herself to look after those who could use a little extra help. She has prepared home-cooked meals, distributed tons and tons of clothing, and given stuffed animals to kids with no home. From this unsung hero, our board also learned that warm blankets and sleeping bags are a real need, especially this time of year.

With this inspiration, Seattle JACL will take up a collection of blankets and sleeping bags through mid-December to be donated to people who could use them to stay warm and dry. Please take a moment to look through your home for extra blankets and sleeping bags that you are able to donate. They don't have to be in perfect shape - just clean. For more information, please contact Kazzie Katayama at: (206) 722-2266.

President's Message

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

At the end of this month Seattle JACL will wrap-up another full year of activities, work, and fun! Thanks to your membership, support, and friendship, we have been hard at work this year – staring down many challenges and realizing many accomplishments. At the start of 2003, our chapter's board outlined many of the priority areas that we wanted to work on – keeping the JACL viable, relevant, and strong for future generations in the many years to come.

At our 2003 planning retreat we identified several areas in which the chapter wanted to focus: civil rights, preserving the legacy of our elders, increasing visibility, increasing membership, outreaching further to hapa and multi-racial community members, building stronger coalitions, and further empowering and engaging our youth. I am pleased to report that our chapter has made tremendous steps forward in all of these areas.

The work of this year's civil rights/ anti-discrimination committee was amazing! Under the leadership of 2nd VP for Civil Rights, Joy Shigaki, and the strong support of a committee comprised of several highly-skilled members, the civil rights committee organized a multitude of events, took leadership on a number of issues, and formed many healthy working partnerships along the way. The committee's work, in organizing forums on civil liberties, the USA Patriot Act, and most recently – affirmative action, has served as a catalyst, sparking dialogue and action.

Another strong and dedicated committee, comprised of about five members, assembled one of the first pilgrimages to the Minidoka Internment Site in nearly a decade. This pilgrimage was covered in the New York Times and several other media outlets – helping to increase visibility for our chapter. More importantly, the pilgrimage brought nearly 200 people of all ages together to share thoughts and experiences on issues surrounding internment and Minidoka. Having the chance to engage in this type of dialogue and share this

experience helped to promote awareness and appreciation of those who were unjustly incarcerated. Given the state of current events, it also helped to remind us all about the delicate balance between “homeland security” and civil liberties.

The Kaizen Group – the youth/ student arm of Seattle JACL remained highly active this year – helping to further empower the younger generation and helping to get youth and students involved with Seattle JACL. Through the vision, leadership, and work of the Kaizen Group, the Pacific Northwest District of the JACL had its first ever youth leadership retreat. This retreat brought together enthusiastic, sharp, and talented youth for the purpose of building skills and developing new working relationships. The retreat was a huge success and plans are underway to implement a second retreat in conjunction with the biennial oratorical contest for the summer of 2004.

Your support directly helped us with youth and student empowerment. Not being too far removed from school myself, I know that having adequate financial support in school can make all the difference in obtaining a college degree. Seattle JACL was very pleased this year to award over \$5,000 worth of scholarships to deserving students who are sure to make an impact in their fields and communities.

In order for National and Seattle JACL to remain relevant, we must take notice of the rapidly changing community demographics. One of the biggest changes in the Japanese American community is its increasing number of multi-racial and multi-ethnic members. Wanting to keep our organization relevant to sansei, yonsei, and gosei generations, our board felt it was important to have activities specifically geared toward

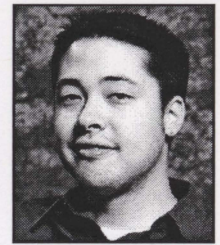


photo credit: John Pai

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Announcements

Thank You

For your generous donations:

Lyle Canceko
Henry A. Matsubu
Ken Mayeda
Mitsuye Mihara
John* & Reiko Sato Foundation
Ruby A. Shu

Newsletter sponsored in part by these generous donors:

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Events Calendar

Dec. 10 – 8th Annual Seattle Human Rights Day by the Seattle Human Rights Commission with keynote speaker Sherman Alexie; Arctic Building, 700 - 3 Ave., Seattle, 12 - 1:30 PM; Contact: (206) 684-4540.

Dec. 12 – Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle 4th Annual Breakfast; Washington State Convention Center, 7:30 - 9 AM, \$60; reserve your seat at the Seattle JACL table, please contact: Tatsuo Nakata: (206) 622-4098 or <tatsuonakata@yahoo.com>; for information on the breakfast please contact: (206) 461-3792 x3009.

Dec. 19 - Apr. 11 – Through My Father's Eyes, photographs by Filipino American artist Ricardo Alvarado provide unique insight into Filipino life and history in the United States between 1901 and 1935; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 - 7 Ave. S, Seattle. Contact: (206) 623-5124, www.wingluke.org.

Jan. 31, 2004 – Seattle Chapter JACL Annual Installation Banquet with keynote speaker Lori Matsukawa; Doubletree Hotel – SeaTac, 18740 Pacific Hwy. South, Seattle; for ticket or sponsorship information please contact: (206) 622-4098.

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engaging multi-ethnic and multi-racial community members. This year we were able to address this important matter by establishing an informal committee on multi-racial/ multi-ethnic issues & affairs which is devoted to planning activities, discussing issues, and informing others on issues specific to people of multi-racial/ multi-ethnic backgrounds. We hope to continue to build this committee and increase the number of activities available for next year.

This is but a mere sampling of the numerous activities, programs, and achievements for this year. The tremendous amount of work that is accomplished never ceases to amaze me, especially when you consider that it is all done through volunteer efforts. I really want to thank all of our board members, committee members, and volunteers for dedicating so much of their time, heart, and soul to making Seattle JACL the great organization that it is.

To learn more about all of the activities for 2003 and about the activities on the horizon for 2004, I hope that each one of you and your families will join us for our 82nd Annual Installation Banquet. The banquet committee works tirelessly, and yet in a fun manner, to organize this remarkable evening.

In closing, it has been an incredible privilege to serve as your Seattle JACL president for 2003. I believe enormously in this organization and the rich legacy that it stands upon today. It is my hope that, as president, I was able to maintain the upstanding reputation of Seattle JACL and further advance our mission, rooted in equality and justice. I remain grateful to you – the members – for allowing me the opportunity to serve as president. I am thankful, I am honored, and I am humbled. Happy Holidays and I hope to see you at our installation banquet.

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

Recent Membership

Individual

- Marcine Anderson
- Florence Y. Fujita
- Fred Hasegawa
- Fumiko Hayashida
- Elaine Ishikawa Hayes
- George Kaminishi
- Mitsuhiro Kodama
- Masako Kojima
- Bob T. Matsumoto
- Kiyoshi Mizuhata
- Smith Morimoto
- Kenneth J. Nakatsu

- Keiko Nungesser
- Cheryl Ooka
- Mark Quintana
- Ann Kawasaki Romero
- Sharon Sobie Seymour
- Hiroshi Suzuki
- Norman Suzuki
- Akari Takayama
- Keith Talbot
- Joyce Teshima
- Wendy Tokuda
- Manshiro Yuki

Couples/Family

- Michael Arao
- Tom and Sally Hirai
- Wayne and Joan Isa
- George and Marie Ishii
- Dennis and Judy Nomura
- Noboru and Takako Taki
- Miwa Kudo and Michael Tu

Booster

- Tushi Kurosaki
- Sachiko Okazaki
- Risa Yuki

Senior Booster

- Chiyoko Baba
- Yoshi Kanemori
- Fumi M. Kaseguma
- Kime M. Nakamura
- Harry Okazaki
- Connie Saito
- Lily Shitama
- Michi Tsukada

Student/Youth

- Sara Cardinale
- Paul Tashima

Thousand Club

- Kenji Okuda

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

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