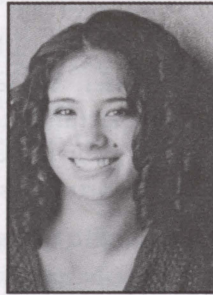


Pacific Northwest District Oratorical Contest

The Pacific Northwest District Council is proud to announce their representative for the 2004 National Min Yasui Oratorical Contest. Representing the Seattle chapter, Sara Cardinelli spoke of her family's history as immigrants to Hawaii and the continuing issues facing Japanese American youth.

Sara is a junior at Inglemoor High School and is in the International Baccalaureate program. She also participates in Model UN, National Honor Society, Japanese Club, Tae Kwon Do and ballroom dancing. Quite a well-rounded young lady, wouldn't you say? Sara was born in Seattle, but spent five years of her life in Hawaii. She enjoys reading and tennis and is now trying to make decisions about college, where she plans to major in communication or foreign affairs.



Sara Cardinelli

Sara will represent the PNW District at the national oratorical competition in Honolulu, in conjunction with the JACL National Convention. She is excited about this opportunity, and equally excited to be able to see her "grandma" in Hawaii. Sara will compete with representatives from each of the other seven districts. The grand prize has not yet been announced.

Scholarship Dinner

The Seattle chapter annual scholarship dinner will be held on May 21 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1610 S King St. It will be a potluck dinner beginning at 5:30 PM. Our guests of honor will be our 2004 scholarship recipients. This year's scholarship recipients are:

Erene Flores-Sanchez for the Aki Kurose Scholarship of \$2000. Erene is a senior at Roosevelt High School and hopes to give back to his community by following a career in medicine.

Emily Hanako Momohara for the Bunshiro Tazuma Scholarship of \$1500. Emily is a former Seattle chapter board member and is currently studying with artist Roger Shimomura at the University of Kansas.

Kei Yonker for the Minoru Tamesa Scholarship of \$1500. Kei is a senior at Ballard High School and plans to attend the University of Washington in the fall.

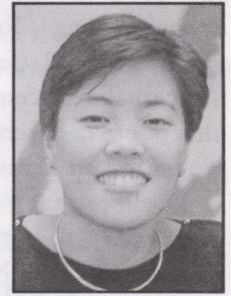
These three fine students will be present at the scholarship dinner to accept their checks. Please join us in honoring them. For more information on the event, contact Elaine Akagi at (206) 772-7192.

Joy Shigaki to be next chapter president

At the April Seattle JACL Board Meeting, the Board unanimously voted in favor of appointing Joy Shigaki to the vacant President-Elect position. As President-Elect, Joy will become the next Seattle JACL Chapter President in January 2005.

Joy has played an important part in the Seattle JACL, serving as a Board Member for several years and, for the past two years, as the Chapter's 2nd Vice-President for Civil Rights. Joy also chairs several large committees, including the JACL Cherry Blossom Festival committee and the Civil Rights committee. In recognition of her leadership and the efforts of the Civil Rights committee, Joy along with the committee received the JACL Community Service Award at our 2004 Installation Banquet in January.

Joy is also heavily involved with St. Peters Episcopal Church and the Church Council of Greater Seattle. Currently, Joy is coordinating the Endowment Campaign for the Wing Luke Museum. Prior to this position, Joy had a stint as a Field Coordinator for the Howard Dean Campaign and before that she worked for several years for King County Executive Ron Sims.



Joy Shigaki

Anne Namba fashions on show

The Seattle chapter is proud to present a trunk show by fashion designer, Anne Namba. Anne's designs have been worn by Heads of State, First Ladies, Kristie Yamaguchi and many other men and women of note. Her designs, based on Japanese prints and often made from kimono material, are stunning and unmistakable.

Anne will be in the Seattle area on May 22 from 9 AM through 7 PM to show her fashions. She will be at the Bellevue Club Hotel, 11200 SE 6th Ave. in Bellevue. You may see her designs, try on her clothes and talk to her during those hours.

Anne is generously donating 10% of her sales to the Seattle JACL scholarship fund, so while you shop for that something special, you may also help our young people through the scholarship fund. Watch for a special mailing coming soon or call Elaine Akagi at (206) 772-7192 for more information.

President's Message

by Bill Tashima, President

The Greatest Generation

Several years ago, Tom Brokaw wrote a book titled, *The Greatest Generation*. Brokaw detailed the personal sacrifices of individual servicemen and women during World War II to underscore his premise that this group represented the greatest generation in history.

I believe that Brokaw's phrase, the greatest generation, is what we, Sansei, would also attribute to our parents. Undoubtedly, the Nisei would credit the Issei. However, as a Sansei, I feel that Nisei are, in fact, the greatest generation. As a Sansei, I can only imagine the wide range of feelings of despair and outrage that our parents experienced during the evacuation and internment during World War II. I also feel a tremendous amount of pride as I see how our community was able to endure and prevail during such times.

In my view, the Nisei set a high level of community activism, achieved a remarkable level of success, and demonstrated a shared feeling of gambate in every endeavor. Though sometimes I wonder if my generation will be able to impress future generations as the Nisei and Issei impressed us. I know it is our obligation, privilege and honor to pass on our legacies of the Nisei and Issei.

We seldom take the opportunity to stop and acknowledge the accomplishments of our parents and their generation. My mother passed away twenty years ago when she was 61 years old. To this day, I regret that I did not make an opportunity to acknowledge her accomplishments to her. We need to make these opportunities now when we can.

There is one group in our community for whom we can make an opportunity. Every year the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) holds a Memorial Day Service at Lake View Cemetery, 1554 - 15th Ave. E, 10 AM. The program honors the many Seattle Japanese Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice

to our country in our conflicts in the Spanish American War, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Granada. I also view this service as an opportunity to thank our Veterans, particularly the Nisei, for all that they have done. I know I don't need to review the accomplishments of the NVC.

I urge all of our members, Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei, and others, to make an opportunity to show your gratitude to our "greatest generation" by your presence on Memorial Day. We need to make these opportunities now.

Pacific Citizen Spring Campaign

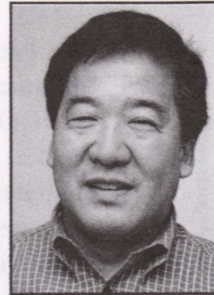
I hope everyone had a chance to read Ann Fujii Lindwall's article on the front page of the Pacific Citizen (PC) in the April 2-15 edition. Ann is a longtime community writer and Seattle JACL Board member. In her column, Ann wrote an eloquent and compelling plea to contribute to the PC's spring appeal campaign. She explained how the PC staff is shrinking with no real increases in salary for the last eight years.

At our April Chapter Board meeting, we passed the hat and Board members pitched in over \$200 for the spring appeal. The Board asks you to support Ann and the PC with a donation as well. Please mail your donations to Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755. Include your name, address and indicate the Seattle Chapter.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

By Presidential proclamation, May is designated as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM). The Seattle JACL will be participating in three events this month. First was the

See "President" on page 3



President, continued from page 2

annual APAHM Celebration at the Seattle Center, Center House on May 2, 2004. The Seattle JACL, in conjunction with the Puyallup Valley and Lake Washington JACLs, cosponsored this event with the Asian Pacific Directors Coalition. The program is packed with entertainment representing the rich cultural heritage of APAs, plus three panel discussions focusing on APA contributions to society.

The Seattle JACL will also have a booth at the City of Seattle APAHM celebration on May 18 at the Seattle City Hall, 12 noon. We will be folding cranes and accepting donations for the Sadako Statue Restoration Effort and the annual Green Lake Hiroshima to Hope Lantern Float.

May ends with the long awaited Asian Pacific American Community Summit on May 29 at the Tacoma Dome. Over 10,000 APAs are expected to attend. The Seattle JACL will be joining the other Puget Sound JACL Chapters (Lake Washington, Puyallup Valley, Olympia, and White River Valley) and the JACL Pacific Northwest District Council in setting up a JACL information booth and registering new voters. Doors open at 9 AM.

Japanese Community Queen Program

The Greater Seattle Japanese Community Queen Committee Scholarship Program will be on Saturday, May 29, at Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue at 7 PM. Tickets are \$20. As you recall, Terry Nakano was honored at our Installation Banquet this year for his dedication to this program and we hope we can support him by having members attend this event. The Seattle JACL presents a Miss Tomodachi scholarship at this event. You can obtain tickets for this event at www.ticketwindowonline.com or by calling (206) 325-6500.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to the many Board members who helped teach children how to fold cranes at the recent Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival. Special thanks to Mariko Sata for putting together the display board that told the story of Sadako and the thousand cranes, detailed the recently vandalized Seattle statue of Sadako, and also demonstrated how to fold a crane.

Several JACL members also assisted Shea Aoki in her sushi/somen effort to benefit the Cherry Blossom Festival. I hope no one missed the special talents of sushi tetsujin (Iron Chefs) Ryan Minato and Anna Tamura as they demonstrated how to roll Unagi Maki and Futo Maki.

The Japanese Consul General Tadahiro Abe presented Kip Tokuda and Tomio Moriguchi, former Seattle JACL Presidents, with special commendations for their respective contributions to the advancement of bilateral relations between Japan and the United States. Kip was honored for his work in the Washington State House of Representatives and Tomio accepted the honor on behalf of the North American Post.

Interesting enough, Consul General Abe also honored the Northwest rock group, the Ventures, with an award. I was surprised to learn that the Ventures had a big influence on early Japanese rock music and toured Japan around 50 times.

Thanks to the Seattle JACLers who turned out to help the Chinese Information and Service Center in the annual International District Spring Clean Up. Our team cleaned King St. and Weller St. from 12th to Rainier Ave.

And to Joy Shigaki, our new Seattle Chapter President-Elect... Thank you!

Civil Rights Committee: the work continues

The JACL Civil Rights Committee continues to move forward and plan engaging public events for our members and the general public. A number of key events are listed below that you can look forward to during the next three months:

Presidential and Gubernatorial Candidates Forum: address the key issues that will affect communities of color in this region during state and national elections. Work to educate the public on the importance of their vote and understanding of the issues. A statewide Presidential representative will participate.

Beyond Talk - Redrawing Race Membership Event: host a free event in June to bring together our on-going supporters and invite new friends at the Wing Luke Asian Museum as part of their Beyond Talk Exhibition.

Youth Vote Coalition: support a regional voter registration effort to ensure APIs and other communities of color are politically engaged and mobilized.

API media workshop: organize a local forum to address the images of APIs in varying types of media. Develop helpful tools in working with media to promote positive stories and images of API.

We can use your help in organizing these events. For those interested, our next meeting is on Monday, May 24 at 6 PM at the JACL Office, 316 S Maynard Ave., room 111. All are welcome! Please feel free to bring your favorite dish to share.

Events in the region

Seattle's Race Conference: May 21-22 at the Seattle University Campus at Pigot Hall with opening celebration on Friday, 7 - 10 PM and keynote address and community workshops on Saturday, 8:30 - 6 PM. The goals are to develop strategies to reverse racial disparities and disproportionalities and provide options for becoming more involved. FREE to the public. For more information please visit www.seattleraceconference.com.

50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education:

May 10 - reception and panel discussion of Brown at the Seattle University's Pigott Auditorium. The reception begins at 5 PM with a panel discussion at 6 PM.

May 17 - re-enactment of the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court Oral Argument at 4 PM Kane Hall, Room 130 on the UW Campus.

Announcements

Thank You

Generous donors:

Endowment Fund

Cherry Kinoshita

General Fund

Miyoko Kaneta

in thanks of Card Stamping event

Miyoko Kaneta

in honor of Cherry Kinoshita

Miyoko Kaneta in honor of Gloria Shigeno

May Sasaki in honor of Cherry Kinoshita

Sam and Haruko Shoji

in honor of Cherry Kinoshita

Aki Kurose Scholarship

May Namba in memory of Teresa Hidaka

Kazzie Katayama in memory of Henry Darty

Temesa/Tazuma Scholarship

Elaine Akagi in honor of Cherry Kinoshita

Events Calendar

May 21 - Seattle chapter scholarship

potluck dinner to honor the 2004 scholarship recipients; St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 1610 S King St., Seattle, 5:30 PM; Contact: Elaine Akagi, (206) 772-7192.

May 21-22 - Seattle's Race Conference; Seattle University Campus, Pigot Hall, 901 - 12th Ave., Friday, 7 - 10 PM, Saturday, 8:30 - 6 PM, FREE; Contact: www.seattleraceconference.com.

May 22 - Anne Namba fashion showing; Bellevue Club Hotel, 11200 SE 6th Ave.,

Bellevue, 9 AM - 7 PM; Contact: Elaine Akagi, (206) 772-7192.

May 29 - APA Summit with educational workshops, gubernatorial candidates' forum and cultural performances; Tacoma Dome, 2727 East D St., 9 AM, FREE; Contact: info@apasummit.org or www.apasummit.org.

May 29 - Japanese Community Queen Scholarship Program; Meydenbauer Center, 11100 NE 6th St., Bellevue, 7 PM, \$20; Contact: www.ticketwindowonline.com, (206) 325-6500.

July 2-5 - 2004 Tule Lake Pilgrimage: Citizens Betrayed; Contact: Barbara Takei, (916) 392-5432, btakei@pobox.com.

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 Bill Tashima 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.

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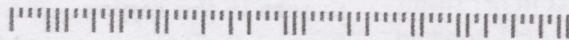
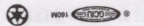
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