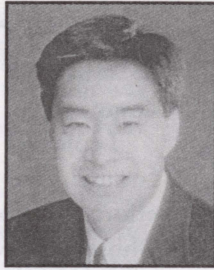


Tom Ikeda, JA of the Biennium

The Chapter is pleased to announce that Tom Ikeda, its nominee for the Japanese American of the Biennium - Education/Humanities, receives the prestigious award at the JACL biennial convention held August 9 through 14 in Honolulu, Hawaii. This highest public award of the National JACL is presented to one, and up to three, in recognition of distinguished achievement and/or community leadership.



During eight years of unpaid, full-time service as executive director of Densho, Tom has led the nonprofit organization's drive to collect nearly 400 hours of oral histories and 2,000 images for its online digital archive. The information is offered free of charge to the public at www.densho.org.

Densho has had a profound impact on increasing public knowledge around the unjust incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII and the importance of protecting the civil liberties of ethnic communities, especially during wartime. Densho's work has been carried out through the Internet and its collaboration with prominent institutions such as the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, the JA National Museum and the National Park Service. Further, during the tense period following the terrorist attacks on 9/11, Tom spoke eloquently at many rallies and conferences about preventing a recurrence of the civil rights violations during WWII.

Earlier this year, Tom was recognized for his *Outstanding Contribution to the Humanities* by Humanities Washington and received a *Community Service Award* from Japanese Community Service. The JA of the Biennium Award was presented at the Sayonara Banquet at the Waikiki Marriot Hotel on Saturday, August 14. Congratulations, Tom!

Fun at the Muckleshoot

Once again, we are planning a fun event of lunch, good fellowship, and some wagering at the Muckleshoot Casino. Last year, the Lake Washington and Seattle chapters met for a similar event. This year, will be joined by members of the Puyallup chapter.

We will meet at the Muckleshoot's Pisces Buffet on Saturday, September 4 at 11 AM. Lunch costs \$5.95 for seniors (age 55 and older) and \$8.95 for adults. Please call our chapter office (206) 622-4098 with questions or transportation needs.

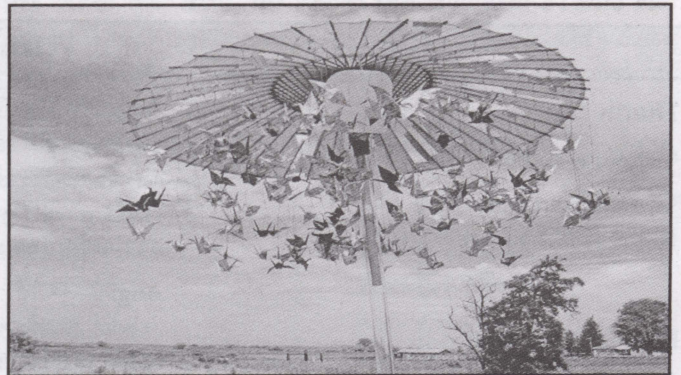
Governor Locke Appreciation Dinner

Gary Locke, the first Asian governor elected on the US mainland, is now finishing his second term and decided not to seek a third. An Appreciation Dinner sponsored by Asian Weekly will be held on Saturday, October 9, 2004 at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, 11100 NE Sixth St. There will be a no-host cocktail hour at 5:30 PM and dinner begins at 6:30 PM. Cost will be \$60 per person before Sept. 30 and \$75 thereafter.

Governor Locke has been a friend to us for many years and we hope our JACL members will join us at this gala event, a perfect way for our community to thank him for all he's done. If you would like to make your reservation, please call the JACL office at (206) 622-4098 or email us at email@jaclseattle.org. Please leave your name and phone number so we may contact you with details.

Minidoka Pilgrimage

This year, a couple hundred origami cranes hanging from a tattered umbrella were left at the Minidoka site as the commemorative memento from this year's Minidoka Pilgrimage. Each Pilgrimage participant hung a paper crane on the umbrella to honor a family member or friend who had been incarcerated at Minidoka during World War II. May Namba, one of our JACL Seattle board members, folded each crane in preparation for the event. May said the cranes represented the internees' hope for peace, justice, and freedom. The tattered umbrella symbolized the internees' tattered lives in the camps. She says that eventually the cranes were able to fly away from Minidoka to attain their freedom, and this is what the memento symbolizes.



This year's Minidoka Pilgrimage attracted 150 people, with participants coming from around the country and Japan. Two buses departed Bellevue Community College on the morning of Friday, June 25 for the 12-hour ride. Many people weren't looking forward to sitting on a bus

See "Minidoka" on page 3

President's Message

by Bill Tashima, President

The Seattle JACL takes a breather in August...mostly due to members taking vacation. We forego our monthly meetings for the Board, Banquet Committee, and Civil Rights Committee. This absence of meetings does not mean an absence of activities. In August, there is the Green Lake Hiroshima to Hope Lantern Float, the Aki Kurose School Beautification Day (see related article), a Mariner Outing with the Lake Washington JACL, and the 75th National JACL Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii.

This convention represents a milestone for JACL - 75 years old and still going strong! The Seattle JACL sends 20 members to this year's convention, including Seattle nominee and winner of the Japanese American of the Biennium Award, Tom Ikeda (see related article) and Sara Cardinelli, Seattle's PNWDC Min Yasui Oratorical Contest entrant.

The Seattle JACL presents two resolutions for National Council consideration: One, a resolution opposing any amendment to the United States Constitution that would ban gay marriages. Two, a resolution committing JACL to develop a national curriculum and to secure a state mandate to teach the lessons of Japanese American history and wartime experiences to all students in each of the 50 states.

The next President's Message covers the convention in detail.

Passings

Losing good people is a part of life. When I was younger, it was my friend's grandparents, then my friend's parents, and now I have friends passing away. Death is a part of life and it is always sad to lose good people.

I regret that the Seattle JACL does not always report the deaths of members, family and friends. However, we do mourn the death of each person. Recently, we lost two good members of our community, Ray Seko, the beloved owner of the Bush Garden Restaurant, and Yone Arai Bartholomew, the widow of Clarence Arai, the first National JACL President and five-

time Seattle Chapter president. Both gave so much to our Chapter and the JA community.

I consider the words of Senator Daniel Inouye: We need to acknowledge the efforts of those who came before us and whose shadows we are in. We are better because of their efforts. *Okagesame de.*

Acknowledgments

Congratulations to Seattle JACL member and Banquet Committee Chair, Marcene Anderson on her recent appointment to the Washington State Bar Association's Board of Governors. Marcene is the first Asian American member of this prestigious body. The Chapter is proud to have been able to endorse and support Marcene on her appointment.

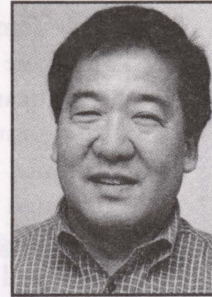
Many of you may have already heard that the Jefferson County Commissioners in Texas voted to rename "Jap Road." Thank you to all the members who wrote, emailed, signed petitions and worked for this name change. A special thank you to Sharon Sobie-Seymour, former Chapter President, for her efforts with CCJR (Committee to Change Jap Road) that ultimately enable a vote and name change.

We received word that Seattle JACL Scholarship winner, Emily Momohara, has also been awarded a National JACL scholarship, the Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship, named for Mr. Kuwahara, a well-known investment and securities broker in Little Tokyo, was for \$5,000.

In the category of "Moving on up..." is Tatsuo Nakata. Our former Chapter President is now Chief of Staff for Seattle City Councilman David Della.

I end this column with a story of true dedication. I have stated that Nisei are "the Greatest Generation" for one because of the selfless sense of responsibility that they practice.

See "President" on page 3



Announcements

Thank You

Generous donor:

General Fund

Janice T. Nakamura

Events Calendar

Aug. 21 - Hear the famous story of Sadako and the 1,000 paper cranes and learn how to fold your own origami crane, which will be sent to the Hiroshima Peace Memorial in Japan; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 - 7 Ave. S, Seattle, 10 AM; Contact: (206) 623-5124 x 114.

Aug. 28-29 - TibetFest with performance, Tibetan-style bazaar, food and children's activities; Seattle Center House, Fisher Pavilion, all day, FREE; Contact: (206) 444-4059, www.tibetaninwashington.com.

Aug. 28 - 5th Annual Aki Kurose Middle School Academy Beautification Day with refreshments and lunch; 3928 S Graham St., 9 AM - 1 PM; RSVP: May Namba, (206) 784-3824.

Aug. 28 - Tickets available for Mariners vs Kansas City Royals hosted by the Lake Washington JACL; Safeco Field, 1:05 PM, \$10; For tickets, contact Alan Yabui, (425) 820-5466, alan0540@aol.com.

Sept. 4 - Day at Muckleshoot Casino with Puyallup chapter. Muckleshoot's Pisces Buffet, 2402 Auburn Way S, Auburn, 11 AM, lunch: seniors \$5.95, adults \$8.95. Contact: JACL office, (206) 622-4098.

Sept. 23 - JACL strategic planning process; JACL Office, 316 Maynard Ave. S, room 111, 6 PM; Contact: Joy Shigaki, (206) 623-5124 x110, shigaki@juno.com.

Oct. 9 - Governor Locke Appreciation Dinner; Meydenbauer Center, 11100 NE Sixth St., Bellevue, no-host cocktail 5:30 PM, dinner 6:30 PM, \$60 before Sept. 30 and \$75 thereafter. Contact: JACL office, (206) 622-4098, email@jacleattle.org.

President, continued from page 2

Here is a prime example. I received a call from May Namba on the Friday that the buses left for the Minidoka Pilgrimage. May had made several hundred cranes from a special cloth-like paper for a Sunday presentation. Each participant was going to add a crane to a tattered kasa (paper umbrella). May forgot to deliver the cranes.

We discussed the options: overnight delivery would be a minimum of \$200 and no true guarantee of on-time delivery; or flying out to Boise, which is also expensive. I told May that this was a *shitaganai* kind of thing, the committee would have to do without the paper cranes.

Well, you guessed it. May woke up at 4 AM on Saturday morning to catch an early morning flight to Boise. While checking-in, the airline made May repack all the cranes. When she got to Boise the plane was late, so May missed her connecting Greyhound bus trip to Twin Falls and ended up taking a taxi for the 140 miles from Boise to Twin Falls.

People who attended the pilgrimage commented on how the act of adding a paper crane to the kasa was such a moving part of the ceremony. May never said one word about the additional expenses she incurred, but did say how glad she was to attend the pilgrimage.

I say, our greatest generation.

Minidoka, continued from page 1

for 12 hours each way, but then later said that it was one of the most bonding and intimate parts of the three-day event. The bus ride featured fun games, informative films, storytelling sessions, and sing-alongs.

Events in Idaho included a Dutch oven dinner and pontoon rides on the Snake River, site tour of the Minidoka Internment National Monument, a visit to see an authentic barrack, viewing of Teresa Tamura's photographs about former Minidoka internees and the site, storytelling sessions, a performance of Living Voices: Beyond the Silence, a raffle, and the closing ceremony.

The Pilgrimage was a meaningful three days for all involved. For some it was a time of remembering and healing. For others it taught them about the history of incarnation and the experiences of their parents, grandparents, and friends. For all, it renewed their commitment to understanding and upholding civil and Constitutional rights as well as passing on the Japanese American legacy.

This year, the Pilgrimage was organized by a consortium of groups, including the Japanese American Citizens League, the Nisei Veterans, and the Friends of Minidoka, collectively known as the Minidoka Pilgrimage Committee.

The Minidoka Pilgrimage Committee has decided to hold a Pilgrimage every year, so please consider participating next year. Information will be forthcoming. It is tentatively scheduled for the last weekend in June.

Strategic Planning Process

Join us as we begin discussions about our way forward with the Seattle JACL. It is open to all! For more information, please contact Joy Shigaki at (206) 623-5124 x110 or by email at shigaki@juno.com. Our first meeting will be on Thursday, September 23 at 6 PM in the JACL Office, 316 Maynard Ave. S, room 111.

Aki Beautification Day

The 5th Annual Aki Kurose Middle School Academy Beautification Day is set for Saturday, August 28, from 9 AM to 1 PM, so please mark your calendars. With Seattle JACL as a sponsor and organizer, Beautification Day allows students and staff to start the school year off entering a well-groomed school. Each year well over fifty dedicated individuals come to rake, prune, weed, pick-up litter, lay bark and have fun. Anyone can participate and contribute. Plenty of refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Beautification Day is an event that continues JACL's commitment to youth and to honor our very dear friend, Aki. To share in this event, please bring your yard tools and join us, Aki Kurose Middle School Academy, 3928 S Graham St., RSVP: May Namba, (206) 784-3824.

JACL at the Summer Festival

The Seattle JACL once again participated in the annual Chinatown-International District Summer Festival held July 10 and 11. Our eye-catching booth displayed a new photo montage of recent chapter activities, put together by Mariko Sata. Also provided were handouts on JACL membership and activities. After two days, the booth raised almost \$1,000 for the Chapter by selling our Aki Sogabe Pike Place Market prints in framed sets and gift sets as well as bottled water donated by Board members.

Thank you to the following Chapter members for their help and generous donations:

Elaine Akagi
Dave Asamoto
Ryan Chin
Karen Cunningham
Ann Fujii-Lindwall
Jeff Hattori
Kiku Hayashi
Doug Honma
Ken Kurata
Kenji McCullough
Tadd Mitsui

Tatsuo Nakata
May Namba
Arlene Oki
Mariko Sata
Sharon Tomiko-Santos
Joy Shigaki
Anna Tamura
Bill Tashima
Shigeko Uno
Alan Yabui

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 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.

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

August 2004, Volume 41, Issue 8

Editor and Newsletter Design: Ryan Minato
Editor: Andrew Lantoria Rogge

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 (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.

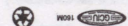
Seattle Chapter JACL website: www.jaclseattle.org
E-mail address: email@jaclseattle.org

- President Bill Tashima (buber@aol.com)
- President-Elect Joy Shigaki (shigaki@juno.com)
- 1st Vice-President Doug Honma (doug_honma@yahoo.com)
- 2nd Vice-President vacant
- 3rd Vice-President Elaine Akagi (reikoa@comcast.net)
- 4th Vice-President Alan Yabui (ayabui@bcc.ctc.edu)
- Treasurer Ken Kurata (kenkurata@windermere.com)

- Corresponding Secretary May Namba (maynamba@comcast.net)
- Historian Arlene Oki (arlene.oki@ci.seattle.wa.us)
- PNWDC Delegate Tatsuo M.W. Nakata (tatsuoakata@yahoo.com)

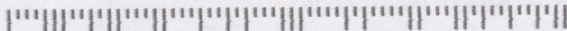
- Shea Aoki
- Ryan Chin
- Jeffrey Hattori
(hattorijtds@aol.com)
- Kiku Hayashi
- Kazzie Katayama
- Ann Fujii Lindwall
(fujiiindwall@comcast.net)
- Ron Mamiya
(ron.mamiya@ci.seattle.us)

- Tadd Mitsui
- Kenji McCullough
- Sharon Tomiko Santos
- Mariko Sata
- Anna Tamura
- Elsie "Leilani" Taniguchi
- Linda Tanouye
- Vicki Yuki
(vyuki@sea-pha.org)



BELLEVEUE WA 98005-1741

ARLENE OKI



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

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