

Help support the Greater Seattle Japanese Community and Cherry Blossom Queen's Court at our Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, December 4th from 4 - 8 PM at the Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway in Seattle. Take-out or dine-in with a special performance by Tsunami Taiko at 6 PM, silent auction, raffle drawing, and more! Tickets are \$10 presale and \$12 at the door. Menu includes Caesar salad, spaghetti entree, garlic bread, dessert, and water or tea. For more information, please contact Jean at the Center for Career Alternatives, (206) 322-9080, GSJQC@yahoo.com.

Seattle JACL Banquet

On behalf of the Seattle Chapter JACL Board, we would like to cordially invite you to our 83rd Annual Installation Banquet on Saturday, January 22, 2005. Our theme for the banquet is *Building on a Legacy of Justice and Equality*.

Our incoming JACL President, Joy Shigaki, was instrumental in setting the tone for this year's banquet and in building on the base of civil rights work in the Chapter as the past chair of the Civil Rights Committee. Ms. Shigaki's term as President will focus on advocating for critical civil rights and social justice issues, developing meaningful coalitions with other civil rights organizations and communities of color, shaping the strategic direction for the chapter, and honoring the stories of the Nisei and others who came before us in the struggle for equality and social justice. Plus, she looks forward to bringing together our membership for fun social gatherings.

Peggy Nagae is this year's keynote speaker, known in the Pacific Northwest for her leadership in *Yasui v. United States*, a federal case involving a petitioner who was convicted of violating a curfew imposed upon Japanese Americans during WWII.

This year's Mistress of Ceremonies is Joy St. Germain, a past president of the Seattle Chapter and currently the Human Resource Director and Diversity Manager at the Washington State Department of Ecology.

The Installation Banquet will be held at an exciting new location – the Seattle Waterfront Marriott, 2100 Alaskan Way, Seattle, WA 98121, (206) 443-5000. Tickets will be \$60 if received by January 12, 2005 and \$70 thereafter. The evening will start at 6 PM with a cocktail reception and raffle ticket sales, followed by dinner at 7 PM. All proceeds from raffle sales will support the JACL Scholarship Fund. Please contact May Namba (206) 784-3824 or Takako Yoda (206) 722-6547 for more information and don't forget to mark your calendars!

-Ann Fujii-Lindwall and Marcine Anderson,
2005 JACL Installation Banquet Committee Co-Chairs

All members are invite to join the Seattle JACL Board as we go holiday caroling at Nikkei Manor, tentatively planed for Wednesday, December 15 at 6 PM. We will adjourn to a nearby establishment for food and drink. If you can join us, please check our message on the office answering machine at (206) 622-4098 sometime after December 1. Leave a message if you can be there and also let us know if you want to join us later for dinner.

Holiday Issue of the PC

It is once again time to send holiday greetings to friends far and near. The Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue allows us an opportunity to do so in a unique way...the Holiday Issue One Liners. For a mere \$9, you can reach friends across the country. The one-line greetings include your name and address, allowing friends to see where to get in touch with you. If you're interested in participating in this wonderful opportunity, please send to Elaine Akagi, 7414 S. 128th St., Seattle, WA 98178, (206) 772-7192 before November 27:

1. Your name (plus spouse and children if you'd like them included)
2. Your address, including city and zip code
3. A check for \$9 made payable to Seattle JACL

Teacher's Workshop

The Seattle Chapter JACL along with the Seattle Public Schools hosted a full-day teacher workshop on Saturday, October 16. Approximately 13 educators from Seattle and as far away as Battle Ground spent a day to learn about Japanese American history and internment. Mako Nakagawa, a former elementary teacher and principal, facilitated the training and experts provided the information to eager teachers.

Tom Ikeda, executive director of the Densho Project, provided the background on what led to Executive Order 9066, which authorized internment, along with video interviews of former internees who told of their personal experience of internment.

Dr. Alan Yabui, instructor at Bellevue Community College, provided sample lessons and projects that teachers could use with their classes. Since the group was small, it was easy to talk to other teachers and share information and lesson ideas.

Karen Yoshitomi, Regional Director for the Pacific Northwest District JACL, explained the resources available in the JACL curriculum guide and other listings of resources.

See "Workshop" on page 3

by Bill Tashima, President

In the past month the Seattle JACL had three events that demonstrated the relevance of our chapter to our community and membership. Unfortunately, due to the newsletter deadline, I am unable to write about our Wing Luke Membership event that would undoubtedly have also been included in this list.

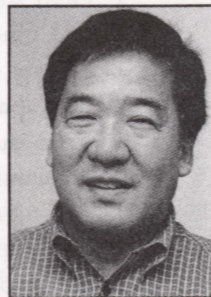
The first event was the Northwest Forum on Asian-American Images in Media: Film. (See "Forum scrutinizes depictions of Asians," page 3) This forum was a frank panel discussion and film presentation on how Asian Americans are viewed by the greater American society. The panel's insight and thought-provoking film clips provided the audience with so much to think about. Thank you Joy Shigaki and Sheldon Arakaki, Seattle and Bellevue JACL President-elects, and others for a great job organizing.

The second event was the Seattle JACL sponsored Teacher's Workshop held at the Seattle Board of Education building. (See "Teacher's Workshop," page 1) The workshop was intended to provide teachers with curriculum guides and resources needed to teach the JA WWII experience. The presenters included the best of our community including Mako Nakagawa, Tom Ikeda, Dr. Frank Kitamoto, Fumiko Hayashida, May Namba, Alan Yabui and many more.

In view of our Post-9/11 atmosphere and certain recent controversial writings (I don't even want to credit her by name), it is so important that young people are instilled with the critical thinking needed to allow them to truly evaluate constitutional rights in time of crisis. After our workshop, the attending teachers will be able to pass on these tools to their students. Thank you Elaine Akagi, Alan Yabui, Karen Yoshitomi, Mako Nakagawa and others for a job well done.

The third event was a Card Stamping party at the Nisei Vets Hall in which Kiku Hayashi and helpers taught eager participants of all ages how to make professional looking Holiday cards using rubber stamps, paper folding and other techniques. This event was important because the Chapter needs fun events too! Thank you Kiku.

All three events were well organized, all attending agreed that the events were successful and each fit well into our chapter mission. Still, in each event, we would have welcomed more participants! I hope in the future, as the chapter publicizes events, you will consider attending. They are worth your while.



Fundraising Appeal

Thank you to all who have contributed to our recent fundraising letter. It's not too late to support our chapter by responding and sending in a contribution. No amount is too small...or too large. I want to thank Ciara Asamoto (sixth grade) and Katie Cunningham (fifth grade) who helped collate and mail the letters. In one sitting, Ciara was able to put together over 200 letters! Toni and Kelley Asamoto as well as Karen, Dave and Kristen Cunningham supported them.

Other Acknowledgments

Thank you to Elaine Akagi, Karen Yoshitomi and Rod Kawakami. In the recent events in Bainbridge Island over school curriculum on the JA WWII experience, our chapter was approached for advice on some educational and legal issues. Elaine was quick to offer her educational help and Karen secured Rod's legal expertise. We are blessed to have such outstanding resources in our community.

Congratulations to the Nikkei Heritage Association of Washington on a successful open house at their future site, the Japanese Language School. The Seattle JACL has been involved with the proposed Japanese Cultural and Community Center group since its inception.

The Korean American Voter Alliance held its third annual convention at the University of Washington. This up and coming group featured a host of events. Our own President-elect Joy Shigaki was on a panel discussing Building Coalitions with Other Communities.

See "President" on page 3

Announcements

Thank You

Generous donors:

Sumie Akizuki
Joan Caine, Historical Booklet
Paul & Lucy Isaki
Richard Murakami, Historical Booklet
Bradley Yamauchi, Microsoft Giving Program

Events Calendar

Dec. 4 – Spaghetti Dinner with Tsunami Taiko performance to support the Greater Seattle Japanese Community and Cherry Blossom Queen's Court; Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway, Seattle, 4 - 8 PM, \$10 presale, \$12 at the door; Contact: Jean, Center for Career Alternatives, (206) 322-9080, GSJQC@yahoo.com.

Dec. 18 – Community Asian Kitchen: Holiday Polynesian Luau; Korean Women's Association Community Center,

123 E 96th St., Tacoma, \$12 adult, \$6 children under 12, 11 AM - 2 PM. Contact: (253) 535-4202.

Jan. 22, 2005 – Seattle JACL Installation Banquet with keynote Peggy Nagae; Seattle Waterfront Marriott, 2100 Alaskan Way, Seattle, \$60 before January 12 and \$70 thereafter, 6 PM with a cocktail reception and raffle ticket sales, followed by dinner at 7 PM; Contact: May Namba, (206) 784-3824 or Takako Yoda, (206) 722-6547.

President, continued from page 2

Otanjobi omedeto gozai masu! Shea Aoki celebrated her 90th birthday. The Board celebrated with Shea, serving cake and ice cream to mark this occasion at our October board meeting. Shea still has a glint in her eyes and sparkle in her smile. Happy Birthday Shea!

GMS scholarship

The Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) program will select 1,000 students per year for a scholarship that supports the costs of attendance and can be renewed each year during the scholar's undergraduate program. The award is renewable for graduate study for those scholars who choose one of the five graduate programs: math, science, engineering, education or library science. Students are eligible if they are African-American, American Indian, Asian Pacific Islander or Hispanic; a citizen of the US; 3.3 GPA; will enter an accredited college or university as full time in the fall of 2005; and show leadership abilities. The deadline is January 14, 2005. If you have questions, contact 1-877-690-4677 or email the GMS program at info@gmsp.org.

Forum scrutinizes depictions of Asians

adapted from the Northwest Asian Weekly article by Kiku Hayashi

Why are there so few Asian Americans in film? And when filmmakers do tell our stories, are we being well represented? These questions were at the heart of the discussion panel, entitled *Asian American Images in Media: Film*, held October 2 at the Theatre Off Jackson in Seattle's Chinatown/International District, organized by the Northwest Asian American Film Festival and the Seattle and Lake Washington chapters of the JACL. "Through this event, we were hoping to discuss the stereotypical, one-dimensional images of Asian Americans in film and find ways to be proactive in promoting a fuller range of our community," said Joy Shigaki, Seattle JACL president-elect.

Through film clips, associate professor of communications Anthony Chan provided a history of Asians in film, showing what racial stereotypes are and how they come about and why Hollywood is not accommodating to Asian Americans. The professor is the author of *Perpetually Cool: The Many Lives of Anna May Wong (1905-1961)*, a biography of the pioneering Asian American film star.

The three filmmakers presented examples of their works: X. Dean Lim showed *Yellow Truth*, Karen Lin presented *Perfection* and Wes Kim screened *Vision Test*.

Lim is a writer for the NBC hit shows "Law and Order" and "ER." His *Yellow Truth* was humorous and entertaining, although some parents might find the dialogue inappropriate for their children.

Workshop, continued from page 1

Pramila Jayapal, director of the Hate Free Zone, updated participants regarding the aftermath of September 11, 2001 and explained how the Arab/Muslim population is being treated as the Japanese Americans were following the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Hate Free Zone was created to help victims of public and government harassment.

The highlight of the training was the panel of former internees and Arab/Muslims. Dr. Frank Kitamoto, Mrs. Fumiko Hayashida and May Namba spoke of their experiences and memories at Camp Harmony, Minidoka and Tule Lake. Devon Abdullah, who is half Lebanese, and Amelia Derr, education director at the Hate Free Zone, spoke of current conditions in the Arab/Muslim community. Their stories touched the hearts of all the educators, many praising this portion of the training.

The Seattle JACL provided the funding for this workshop. We thank all who participated and invite our members to help pass our history on to future generations. You can sign up to be a guest speaker in classrooms or to write your story in our future class on Writing About the Internment. Further, you can help financially to keep these teacher trainings going by donating to the education fund. Contact: Elaine Akagi at (206) 772-7192 or eakagi@seattleschools.org

Lin's film, *Perfection*, featuring television and movie actress Ming-Na, works to combat the model minority myth that has plagued Asians for decades. Lin felt that "the key to increasing Asian American representation in film is to increase the number of Asian American writers, producers and directors in Hollywood."

"Without scripts, we have no stories, and without someone to stand behind the films and the roles, there is no representation. It is also important to support the Asian American artists that are coming through the ranks," she said.

Vision Test is an award-winning short film by Kim that shows how perceptions of race, gender and appearance can subconsciously sway perceptions and judgments of people. Continuing the dialogue after the panel discussion, Kim said that it wasn't enough for filmmakers like him to target only the Asian American audience. It isn't "economically viable," Kim believes.

"There just aren't enough of us, and our tastes are too diverse to be able to create a film that will appeal to all sectors of the community. The real challenge is to get the mainstream, non-Asian audience to accept Asian American protagonists and stories on the screen and feel like they can identify just as fully with those stories as with stories featuring non-Asians," Kim said.

Kiku Hayashi can be reached at scpnwan@nwlinc.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.

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

November 2004, Volume 41, Issue 11

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.

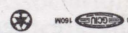
Seattle Chapter JACL website: www.jaclseattle.org
E-mail address: email@jaclseattle.org

- 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)

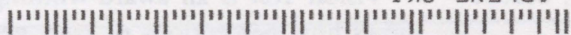
- Shea Aoki
- Sara Hidano-Cardinelli
- Ryan Chin
- Jeffrey Hattori (hattorijtds@aol.com)
- Kiku Hayashi
- Kazzie Katayama
- Ann Fujii Lindwall (fujiiindwall@comcast.net)
- Ron Mamiya (ron.mamiya@ci.seattle.us)

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



BELLEVUE 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