

SEATTLE JACL CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1994

VOLUME 31, NO. 8

Convention Briefs

Results of National Board elections held at National Convention last week:

President: Denny Yasuhara

Vice President:

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Barry Saiki

General Operations

To be appointed

Planning/Development

Trisha Murakawa

Membership Services

Neal Taniguchi

Secretary-Treasurer

Jonathan Kaji

Youth Council Representative

Kimi Yoshino

Youth Council Chair

Kim Nakahara

- The Mt. Olympus chapter resolution to retract National Board decision of support for "same sex marriages" was rejected.

- Seattle resolutions submitted all passed: (1) JACL support for Hanford "downwinders"; (2) Support for an ACLU constitutional challenge to a Washington State law prohibiting physician aid in dying for mentally competent, terminally ill patients; (3) Recognition of Ranald MacDonald, as the first American to contribute significantly toward U.S.-Japan relations.

- Seattle JAYS president Owen Kikuta won the National JACL Oratorical Contest with his speech, "Why Young People should join the JACL."

Chapter Focus

Thunderous Golf Tournament

What started out as a sunny beautiful day turned into thunder and lightning for the last few holes for the 36 participants in the annual Seattle JACL/1000 Club golf tournament on June 24. At the awards dinner at South China restaurant following the tournament, Bob Ohashi with a low net of 84 and Bill Nishimura with a low net of 63 were announced the winners of each flight. Kay Yamashiro was the winner of the ladies division.

1000 Club members Jim Matsuoka and Helen Akita were the trophy winners and will be co-chairing next year's tournament.

Golf balls for prizes were donated by Tom and Reiko Tsubota, Seafirst Bank (courtesy of Matt Kohler) and Mas Kinoshita. A golf bag was donated by Art Susumi.

President's Report

by Ray Ishii

Our national convention is this month and as I look at the agenda, much of the focus is on JACL's internal processes, organization and structure. I guess this shouldn't be a surprise since this year it seems that the Pacific Citizen has had more stories about internal politics and operations than about civil rights and community issues. The role of the Pacific Citizen, the budget, the communication process between the national offices and the local chapters, and the decreasing membership have received significant attention in the Pacific Citizen and dominate the agenda for the national convention. While these are important issues and a strong organizational infrastructure is critical to the success of JACL's work, there are other issues that also need to be addressed.

Reading the Pacific Citizen and preparing for the convention, I can't help but wonder if we as an organization have lost sight of our reason for existing. First and foremost, I believe JACL is here to serve the community, and the community is not here to serve the JACL. What do our members need? What are the needs of our communities? How are our communities evolving and how can JACL help meet these changing needs? What is our role in the community? What do we want our role to be? These are questions that we need to constantly ask at both the local and national levels. I'm confident that if we regularly and honestly ask and answer these questions, we won't have the problems of decreasing membership or falling contributions. We should make it a practice to listen to the community, be open to new ideas and stay adaptable to the changes in our community. We need to be less of an institution and more of a community resource.

JACL is looked upon as a leader in our community, and to remain so needs to be out front on emerging issues, pushing our conscience and pushing the status quo. We can't shy away from difficult issues and refuse to take a stand just because other civil rights organizations have not already done so. JACL is a civil rights organization whose stated mission is to work for civil and human rights for all people. We need to keep this mission in sight and put aside our minor differences in order to reach these objectives. Though we may disagree with a decision made or process used, we need to remember that we are one organization and draw our strength from our unity.

JACL has a long and rich history, full of success, triumphs, and mistakes. It is important that we study and remember our past because there is much we can learn. In Seattle we are fortunate to have so many individuals still involved with the chapter that have been intimately involved with JACL's past activities. At the same time we must also look ahead and plan for the future. I'm hoping that at this convention we can put aside our differences and for the good of the community, do both.

Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

Meetings

Seattle JACL Board meeting, everyone invited, August 17, 7 p.m., Japanese Language School, 1414 S. Weller St.

Doshi Kai meeting, September 7, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for location,

Community and Social Events

Seattle Karaoke Club's 10th Anniversary Recital, guest singer: Koji Tachibana, August 13, 1 p.m., Seattle Buddhist Church, 1427 S. Main St. Proceeds to Seattle Japanese Language School. Admission: \$5. Info: Moji, or Shimada,

Karaoke with Kip Tokuda, a benefit for his election campaign, August 13, 8 p.m. to 12 midnight, Eng Suey Sun Plaza, 815 S. Weller St. Door prizes, light refreshments, \$25 suggested donation. Info: 725-1115.

Tomo no Kai picnic, August 15, 10:30 a.m., Woodland Park shelter #3, tables 38, 39, 43 and 44. Potluck. Info: Seiji, t

Sister City High School Baseball Games, Tacoma/Pierce County vs. Kitakyushu, Japan, Cheney Stadium, Tacoma. Game 1, Au-

gust 17, 7 p.m.; Game 2, August 20, 7 p.m.; Games 3-4, August 21, 11 a.m. Tickets available on day of game, \$2 each, \$5 for all games, children under 12 free.

Courier League Reunion, August 20, SeaTac Red Lion Inn. Ir Jugs Hata, or Popo Yorozu,

Asian Baptist Dinner Festival, 17th annual festival featuring Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and Korean foods and a cultural program, September 10, 5 p.m., Japanese Baptist Church, 160 Broadway. Info: 622-7351 or 722-4122.

Nikkei Community Dance, September 10, 8 to 11:30 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, live band, \$3 per person. Info: 772-1160.

Weekly Ballroom dance class, every Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St.

Arts and Cultural Events

Grand opening of Seattle Asian Art Museum, open to the public, August 13, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Volunteer Park, 15th Ave. E. and E. Prospect St. Seattle Kokon Taiko will perform. Free admission. Info: 654-3100.

Woodblock Prints by Akira Kurosaki, through August 20, Azuma Gallery, 530 1st Ave. S., Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Info: 622-5599.

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"A Cool Breeze in Summer," a concert of recent Asian American and Asian-inspired works by composers of the Northwest curated by Esther Sugai Zadrozny and Yoshiko Saheki and including a commissioned site-specific sound environment by Sie Kozawa, August 25, 7:30 p.m., Seattle Asian Art Museum Auditorium, Volunteer Park, \$5 members and students, \$10 nonmembers. Info: 654-3100.

Woodblock Sheets by Kuniyoshi, through August 28, Davidson Galleries, 313 Occidental Ave. S., Tuesday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Info: 624-7684.

"Asian Influences in American Art, 1890-1970," paintings, prints and ceramics by regional and national artists, through

August 31, Martin-Zambito Fine Art, 721 E. Pike St., Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info: 726-9509.

"They Painted from their Hearts: Pioneer Asian American Artists," works by notable Washington State Japanese, Chinese, Filipino and Korean artists from 1900 to 1960. Exhibit will feature photography, paintings and sculpture, September 6 through January 15, 1995, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407-7th Ave. S., Tuesday through Friday 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. Admission: \$2.50 adults, \$1.50 students/seniors, 75¢ children 5 to 12. Info: 623-5124.

CREDITS

The Seattle JACL Newsletter is edited by Bob Shimabukuro and Mayumi Tsutakawa. Proofread by Alice Ito. Contributors: Ray Ishii, Cherry Kinoshita and Ed Suguro.

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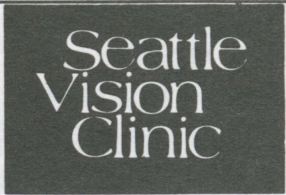
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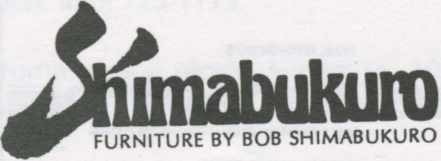


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Dennis Sakamoto

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