
SEATTLE CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

April 1995

VOLUME 32, NO. 4

President's Report

by Cal Takagi

Senator D'Amato's comments

Sorry comment on the political and social climate

Lately, I've found that reading the papers or listening to news broadcasts is often more depressing than enlightening. The news coming out of Washington and Olympia, for instance, reflects a meanness of spirit and a we-they mentality that serves to justify all kinds of punitive and exclusionary legislation against the poor.

A small item in the Seattle Times caught my eye the other day, and it helped to explain something about what is going on. Alfonse D'Amato, Republican senator from New York, is reported as having used a fake Japanese accent to ridicule Judge Lance Ito on a radio show, and to accuse him of dragging the Simpson trial out. In this account, the senator's pidgin performance was too much even for the radio host, who begged him to stop. This particular stereotype and caricature was probably meant to be funny, but to those of us who have been subjected to it, it evokes anything but humor. Even though he later apologized, the fact that someone with the prominence and power of a U.S. Senator should feel free to express his views in this manner is a sorry commentary on what the political and social climate has come to and how anyone who is perceived to be "different" can now be considered fair game.

The sentiments behind this kind of performance are all too clear. Unfortunately, they appear to be shared by a good many others in the legislative assembly. The need for watchdog organizations like the JACL to help protect the rights and liberties of minority populations thus becomes equally clear.

Kobe/Osaka Earthquake Relief Fund donors

Since the March issue of the Newsletter, contributions to the Kobe/Osaka Earthquake Relief Fund have been received from nine additional donors. Thanks go to the following for their generous giving:

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Yoshito Fujii

Longtime community activist dies

Yoshito Fujii, former manager of the N.P. Hotel in the International District, died last week at the age of 93. He was a member of the Seattle Buddhist Church (six-term past president), Ijikai, Gojikai, Hiroshima Club (two-term president), First Hill Lions Club and its bowling league, Wisteria View Housing Corporation (board member), Betsuin Housing Corporation (founder), Japanese Community Service Club, Seattle Japanese Hotel and Apartment Owners Association (past president), Japanese Language School Board, JACL, Japan America Society, University Students Club, Nisei Veterans Committee (Honorary Life Member), and the Japanese Tennis Club.

Fujii was also publisher of the North American Post and a member of the Jackson Street Community Council, receiving its man of the year award in 1964. He is survived by his wife Yukiko and three daughters, Mrs. George (Irene) Mano, Mrs. Tommy (Jean) Deguchi, and Mrs. William (Beth) Kawahara, eight grandchildren, two great grandchildren, and one sister, Mrs. Shige Fujii.

Dates to remember:

April 21-23, 20th Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival, at the Seattle Center.

Japanese calligraphy by the late prime minister of Japan Takeo Miki and pottery by his widow, Mutsuko Miki, will be showcased, along with a wide variety of programs for children and adults.

Seattle Chapter JACL is a sponsor. This year, the chapter will sell sushi with proceeds to benefit the chapter.

May 21-22, Asian/Jewish Leadership Summit

Sunday evening, May 21, 4-8 p.m.; Monday, May 22, 9 a.m.—1 p.m. Call American Jewish Committee (622-6315) or JACL (623-5088) for more information.

Community Focus

Meet the candidates

It's party time in the Asian Pacific Community! Political party time, that is. Come and meet the chair of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee Paul Behrendt, the chair of the Republican State Committee of Washington Ken Eikenberry, and candidates for the Seattle City Council and School Board, on Tuesday, April 18, at the Asian Resource Center, 1025 South King.

It's a time to meet candidates, learn about the state parties, and have a little fun at this event organized by Dolores Sibonga, Ruth Woo and Sutapa Basu and sponsored by Seattle Chapter—JACL, Asian Americans for Political Action, Seattle Indian Center, FAPAGOW, Indochinese China Refugee Association, and the Vietnamese Friendship Association.

Kokoro Kai announces foot care service

Kokoro Kai, an adult social center, announces the opening of a foot care clinic for the elderly. It is open to both Kokoro Kai members and non-members on the third Monday of each month. A licensed nurse provides services which include soaking feet, trimming nails and filing nails and calluses. The charge is \$20 per session. To make an appointment or to get more information, please call Celia or Naoko at [redacted]

CREDITS

The Seattle JACL Newsletter is edited by Bob Shimabukuro. Proofreader: Alice Ito. Contributors: Arlene Oki, Ed Suguro, and Cal Takagi.



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Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

Meetings

Seattle JACL Board Meeting, everyone invited, April 19, 7 p.m., 316 Maynard Ave. S., room 111.

Doshi Kai meeting, May 3, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for location, [redacted]

Community and Social Events

Easter Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Japanese Baptist Church's Troop 53, April 16, 7 a.m.-1 p.m., 160 Broadway (use Spruce St. entrance). Donation: \$4, \$3 seniors and children 6-12. Under 5 free. Menu includes pancakes, ham eggs and beverage.

White River Buddhist Church Sukiyaki Dinner, April 23, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., White River Buddhist Temple, 3625 Auburn Way N., Auburn. Sukiyaki, teriyaki chicken and pastries will be for sale. Dine in or take out. Bonsai will be displayed. Tickets: \$7. Info: 833-1442.

Seattle Japanese Film Festival, April 28-30, United Arts Cinedome, 6th and Blanchard. Contemporary Japanese films will be featured. Info: 281-4386.

Nichiren Buddhist Church Bazaar, April 30, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 1042 S. Weller St. Chow mein, a variety of sushi (maki, inari, and chirashi), udon, curry rice and baked goods will be offered for sale.

Kick-off event for Nikkei Manor, May 5, Washington State Convention Center, Ballroom A/B, 6th floor, 6:30 p.m. cocktails, 7 p.m. dinner and program, big band dancing to follow, \$45 per person, \$80 couple, \$400 table of ten, RSVP by April 24. Nikkei Concerns invites everyone to learn about Nikkei Manor, Nikkei Concerns' planned new assisted living facility. Info: Darlene Suyematsu, [redacted].

St. Peter's Episcopal Parish Annual Sukiyaki Dinner, May 6, 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall, 1610 S. King St.,

Seattle, Washington. Tickets: \$7 adults, \$4 children 11 and under, can be purchased at the door or by contacting the Parish office at 323-5250. Take-out dinners also available. Info: Yokko Matsumoto, [redacted]

Annual Auction/Fundraiser for Northwest Asian American Theatre, an evening of fantasy gambling, silent auctions and live entertainment from the Blue Moon Lounge, May 13, 6-11 p.m., Dome Room of the Arctic Building, 700 Third Ave. Tickets: \$25. Info: 340-1445.


Nikkei Community Dance, May 13, 8-11:30 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, live band, \$3 per person. Info: 772-1160.

Tulelake Reunion V, May 19-20, Red Lion Inn and Resort, Sacramento, CA. Mixer, sayonara banquet, local tour or Reno tour, symposium, golf tournament. Cost: \$80- (excluding tour). Info: Ed Suguro, [redacted]

"After 50 Years — Japanese American History: The Heart Mountain Experience," a symposium near the camp that held Yakima Valley internees and Northwest Nikkei who transferred there from Tule Lake, May 19-21, Northwest College, Powell, Wyoming. Registration: \$50. Dormitory housing \$18 double, \$13 single. Meals \$13 per day. Optional Thursday, May 18 dinner, \$6. Information and registration: Steve Thulin, P.O. Box 781, Powell, WY 82435 or call [redacted]


Northern California Japanese American Senior Centers present **"Nikkei Forum on Aging II: Together Making a Difference,"** May 27-28, Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post Street, San Francisco 94115. Registration: \$60 (\$70 after April 25). Hotel reservations: Special rates at Miyako Hotel, (800) 533-4567 or (415) 922-3200, ext. 7256. Mention you are attending Nikkei Forum on Aging. Info: San Mateo JACL Community Center, (415) 343-2881.

Greater Portland Reunion, August 11-13, Red Lion Inn, Lloyd Center, Portland. Mixer, tours, golf tournament, banquet and picnic are planned. For registration forms, →



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Seattle JACL — Join us today!

The JACL is the only national Japanese American nonprofit civil rights organization. Our most recent success was the 18-year effort to win redress for Nikkei who were evacuated from their homes and relocated into concentration camps during World War II. We are also involved in cultural events, providing scholarships, and dealing with issues of concern in many areas, including education, affirmative action, leadership training, and more.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Regular membership	\$42
Couple membership	\$76
1000 Club membership	
Fifty Club (annual)	\$60
Century Club (annual)	\$120
Spouse (annual)	\$35
Thousand Club Life	\$1,000
Century Club Life	\$2,000
Youth/Student membership	
(25 years or younger)	\$14
Seattle JACL only	
Booster Club regular	\$20
Booster Club seniors	\$10

Your membership allows you to attend any or all JACL meetings at your option.

To join JACL, complete the form below, make your check payable to SEATTLE CHAPTER JACL and return it to:

May Namba, Membership chair
Seattle Chapter JACL

Seattle, WA 98117

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Regular, Couple, 1000 Club (annual) and Youth/Student memberships

- Membership to National JACL and Seattle Chapter JACL
- One-year subscription to Pacific Citizen, publication of National JACL
- Seattle Chapter monthly newsletter
- Eligible for JACL group health insurance
- Eligible to join JACL credit union

1000 Club life membership

- Member receives benefits listed above for his/her families

Booster Club membership

- Membership to Seattle Chapter JACL
- Seattle Chapter monthly newsletter

contact Greater Portland II Reunion Committee, P.O. Box 133731, Portland, OR 97213-0731.

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

Arts and Cultural Events

Shakuhachi Concert by Baigyoku (Hanzaburo Araki), part of the Seattle Asian Art Museum's Spring Performance in the Park series, April 23, 3 p.m., Garden Court of the museum, 14th Ave. E. and E. Prospect St. Free with regular museum admission. Info: 654-3124.

"Power of Language: Writers of Color Reading and Discussion Series," Sherman Alexie, Arthur Tulee, Carletta Wilson aka Sundaira Morninghouse and Tiffany Midge will read their writings on myth and spirituality followed by a discussion led by moderator Gail Tremblay, April 25, 7:30 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S., \$4 general, \$3 students/seniors. Info: 340-1049.

Minority art exhibition featuring 30 artists of color, through April 27, and chatani origami architecture, through June 16, both exhibits at the Washington State Convention Center, 800 Convention Place, daily 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Info: 447-5000.

Students of Fujima Fujimine will perform traditional dances as part of Japanese Children's Day, one of a series of the Seattle Asian Art Museum's Spring Performance in the Park, May 7, 2:30-2:45 p.m. and 3-3:15 p.m. Also, hands-on activities with Stuart Nakamura and members of the Hyogo Cultural Center and the Japan-American

Society, Garden Court of the museum, 14th Ave. E. and E. Prospect St. Free with regular museum admission. Info: 654-3124.

"Power of Language: Writers of Color Reading and Discussion Series," Fatima Lim Wilson, Omar Casteneda and Vinh Do will read about immigration and migration and discuss the issue with Ferdinand DeLeon, May 9, 7:30 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S., \$4 general, \$3 students/seniors. Info: 340-1049.

Improvisatory group Sokkyo will perform with musicians Susie Kozawa and Esther Sugai Zadrozny, dancers Mari Murao and Yoko Murao, and vocalists Steve Effingham and Maribeth Saunders, one of a series of the Seattle Asian Art Museum's Spring Performance in the Park, May 14, 3 p.m., Garden Court of the museum, 14th Ave. E. and E. Prospect St. Free with regular museum admission. Info: 654-3124.

Ceramic vessels and sculpture by **Kazuko Kayasuga Matthews**, through May 27. Artworks Gallery, 155 S. Main St., Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: 625-0932.

"Jet Dreams: The '50s in the Northwest," a group showing of the arts, architecture and crafts of the 1950s, including works by George Tsutakawa, Frank Okada and Paul Horiuchi, through June 4, Tacoma Art Museum, 12th St. and Pacific Ave., Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday till 7 p.m., Sunday noon-5 p.m. Admission: \$3 adults, \$2 seniors/students, \$1 children 6-12. Tuesdays, free. Info: 272-4258.

Seattle Chapter JACL Membership application

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The Seattle Chapter JACL newsletter is published the 2nd Wednesday of each month by the Seattle Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League. Send items for inclusion by the 1st of the month to: JACL Newsletter, c/o Bob Shimabukuro, 6621 S. Bangor St., Seattle, WA 98178.

Japanese American Citizens League

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Tree Planting Ceremony at Flag Terrace

5:15 PM

Opening Ceremony at Center House

6:00 PM

APRIL 21 (Friday)

10:00-9:00 PM

APRIL 22 (Saturday)

10:00-9:00 PM

APRIL 23 (Sunday)

10:00-6:00 PM

Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival
has been recognized by
the National Endowment for the Arts
for fostering individual artists carrying on
Japanese traditional arts in America
in performing and visual arts,
highlighting artists of Japanese origin
who pass on the traditions to the next generation,
in cooperation with the Ethnic Heritage Council.

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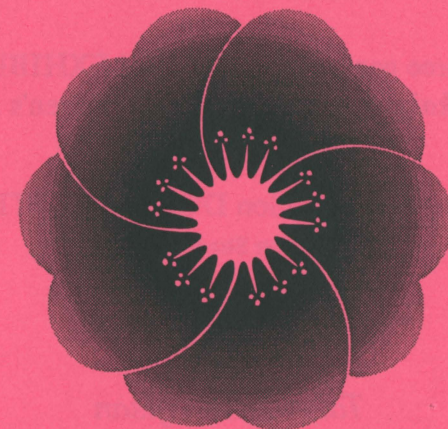
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Kumihimo - Temari -
Saganishiki Weaving

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Bunka Shishu - Chiyogami Ningyo
Kobe Earthquake Memorial Installation

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