

Board Member Corner: Kyle Funakoshi

Kyle joined up in January of this year. He has a strong passion for volunteerism and civic engagement, and is currently working with the Asian/Pacific Islander Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF), JACL Civil Rights Committee, chairing the Pacific Northwest Asian/Pacific Islander Think Tank in Higher Education, and teaches Sunday school at Blaine Methodist Church. If you are interested in getting involved with any of these organizations, please let him know at [redacted]. We are glad to have him on our board!



JACL Community Picnic

The Seattle JACL has planned an old-fashioned community picnic, *Pikuniku 2005* for Sunday, August 14. We invite all members, friends and family to attend. The chapter will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, plates and utensils, and soft drinks. We are asking that participants bring a side dish, such as salad, rice, fruit or dessert to share.

Pikuniku 2005 will be at Shelter House #5, in Lower Woodland Park, near southwest corner of Green Lake, between Aurora Ave. N and West Greenlake Way North (just north of N 50th St.). The site is close to Green Lake, the Woodland Park Zoo, a pitch and putt Golf Course, lawn bowling, tennis courts, and a dog off-leash area. The Green Lake Boat rental is about one mile away.

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Saving for College

by Kurt Kwon, State Farm® agent

According to The College Board, *Trends in College Pricing 2003*, tuition and fees for a public college or university average \$4,694 per year, more than four times what it cost 20 years ago. For private colleges and universities, the average tuition and fees have also increased more than four times to over \$19,000. And, that's just tuition, not room and board, books and supplies, and other expenses.

In 1997, Congress gave middle-income parents a new college-planning tool with the Education IRA, now called the Coverdell Education Savings Account (ESA). Parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles can all contribute until the child reaches 18 years of age, as long as the total yearly contribution for the child doesn't exceed \$2,000.

529 Plans are another tool available to set aside money

See "Saving" on page 3

Kachikan

(Values)

The Portland chapter JACL has extended an invitation to members in the Pacific Northwest District Council (that's us) to attend the 2005 Bi-district Convention. Every two years, when there isn't a national JACL convention, the various districts combine to hold smaller, district conventions. Our district gets together with the Intermountain District (IDC). In 2003, the IDC hosted us in Boise, which took place in conjunction with the Minidoka Pilgrimage.

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Beyond Harassment at WSU

What started out several months ago as a call for community support from Asian American students at Washington State University (WSU) to address incidents of racial harassment on campus has shed light upon some even larger issues of inclusion and equality throughout the university.

In a recent meeting between Asian American community members and WSU President Lane Rawlins, the president acknowledged that there are a number of issues that the university must address. The first and most immediate need is to revise the policies, procedural guidelines and response to victims and perpetrators of harassment and discrimination. The second and more difficult challenge is to change the negative climate on campus, which has resulted in the disappointingly low enrollment of Asian American students and an abysmal record of retention for faculty and staff of color.

See "WSU" on page 3

Chinatown Street Festival

The Seattle JACL will have an information booth at the Chinatown Street Festival, July 9 and 10. This year we will have two tables for our booth and we plan to have the Bainbridge Island Eagledale Ferry Dock Memorial Site design-model on display along with other information related to the Internment. We also will have Mary Matsuda Gruenewald signing her book *Looking Like the Enemy*. Like last year, we also plan to sell our Sogabe cards and bottled water.

Help Needed

Please consider working at our booth on either day, from 10 AM to 5 PM. If you want to volunteer at the booth, please call Alan Yabui at [redacted] or you can sign-up at the June Board meeting. We are also soliciting donations of bottled water for our booth. Please help us make this project a success!!

President's Message

by Joy Shigaki, President

When I began as President (and even before) I wondered to myself, how will all of the work get done for the chapter?? Will I burn out even before I get started??

HERE IS THE ANSWER. This is not work you do alone. The work of JACL is a community effort. Our organization is fortunate to have a dedicated group of active volunteers including our board and committee members (nearly 60!) that do the work. From our Civil Rights Committee to Banquet Committee to Strategic Planning Committee, many folks put their time and talents into this organization due to the commitment to the mission and legacy of the JACL. Furthermore, we are allowed to do the work with the generous financial support of our members, corporate supporters, and friends.

Confronting Internalized Racial Oppression Workshop

On May 22, a diverse group of 40 community members: young and old, shy and outspoken, fourth generation and first generation, Filipino American and Vietnamese American began delving deeper into how racism and oppression has been internalized by members of the APA community. The JACL Civil Rights Committee hosted a workshop to start meaningful and authentic dialogue on Internalized Racial Oppression.

We are impacted by internalized racial oppression on an individual and family level. Plus, there are many spoken and unspoken, conscious and unconscious barriers that prevent the API community from coming together, working collaboratively, and finding common healing in our communities as well. This is a result from past histories, experiences with racism, institutional racism, and the stereotypes that have been pushed down into us. For me, the workshop was very challenging, enlightening, and encouraging on many levels. I still have work to do in my own life as a fourth generation Japanese-American and to be active in my own community to help make substantive change.

Thanks to the key organizers of this workshop including Beverly Wong, Dawn Rego, Kyle Funakoshi, Darlene Lee, Truc Nguyen, Dwight Mizoguchi, Joyce Yee, Rebecca Chan, Mark Mitsui, Amy Hashiguchi, and many others. Also, many thanks to our community co-sponsors and endorsers!

Memorial Day Reflections

May 30, we remembered the many lives that were lost during times of war and other international conflicts. Regardless of your thoughts on war and the military and the complex political realities of the time, there are human faces and names of those who were lost while serving in the military. Our community especially remembers the contributions of Japanese Americans in our military service and those who served in the 442nd and Military Intelligence Service despite losing rights and liberties at home. We honor our Nisei Veterans for their contributions and courage.

Many, Many Thanks!

- I would like to thank the Scholarship Committee members who put in countless hours to plan, organize, and execute the process for selecting our three scholarship awardees for 2005. Those members include Elaine Akagi (Chair), Ann Fujii-Lindwall, Alan Yabui, Kiku Hayashi, Bill Tashima, May Namba, and Mori Kurose.
- Many thanks to Ryan Minato, our newsletter editor and webmaster, who works to ensure our members and friends are kept up to date on the issues and work that JACL is involved in. He plays a critical role in our public relations and communications.
- To Masako Tamura, Vicky Yuki, and May Namba, thank you for running our membership process so flawlessly. They are the many hands working behind the scenes that help keep the organization moving.

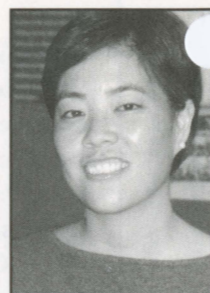
Join Us in Our Work!

It is critical to mobilize our community. Interested in becoming involved? Call us at (206) 622-4098 or email me at shigaki@juno.com. Let us continue to be vigilant in Building on a Legacy of Justice and Equality for all people!

Thank you to our generous donors

Soya J. Harris, API IRO Workshop
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2005 scholarship recipients from left to right:
 Amy Hashiguchi (Bushiro Tazuma Scholarship),
 Kelly Mayeda (Minoru Tamesa Scholarship) and
 Kelsey Getz (Aki Kurose Scholarship).



Picnic, continued from page 1

Karen Asada-Sakata and members of the Northwest Taiko group have volunteered to lead an interactive taiko program. Want to hit a taiko drum...here's your chance. And what is a community picnic without the traditional undokai or games and contests for all ages.

Program Times

- Noon - 2 PM: Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
- 1 - 2 PM: Interactive Taiko
- 2 - 3 PM: Undokai

Come as early as you want. Stay as late as you want. Walk around the lake or just relax, eat, talk with friends, and enjoy the Seattle summer. Please call our chapter office at (206) 622-4098 or send an email to email@jaclseattle.org with your name and the number of people attending.

Saving, continued from page 1

for education. Since 529 Plans are regulated by the states, each state determines the contribution limit. However, 529 Plans allow you to contribute much more than allowed by an ESA. This gives families a greater opportunity to better meet their education savings needs.

While contributions to these accounts are not tax deductible, earnings accumulate tax deferred. Even better, when you draw the money out to start paying for qualified education expenses, those distributions are tax free.

You'd be surprised how a program like that can help. If you have an 8-year-old child—and thus have ten years to save for college—an investment of \$100 per month at an 8 percent annual rate of return would create a nest egg of \$18,295 when the child turns 18. Disciplined investors know that while the stock and bond markets do fluctuate, over time they have historically produced a greater rate of return than other types of investments that carry lower risk.

As with any investment, saving for college takes preparation, some guidance and, in many cases, sacrifice. If you would like to learn more about saving for college, please call Kurt Kwon toll free at

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Convention, continued from page 1

Portland has planned an exciting and informative schedule during this year's gathering. The dates are August 18 to 21 with the meeting place at the historic Embassy Suites Hotel in downtown Portland. The schedule includes meetings of each district council, informative and fun workshops, a luncheon, an awards dinner, a golf tournament, the Nikkei Community Picnic, and several local tours. The cost of the convention is \$125 by the June 1st deadline. JACLers are encouraged to make reservations at the Embassy Suites, where room costs are \$125/night that includes breakfast, valet parking and a manager's daily reception.

For more information on the convention, visit the Portland chapter website, www.pdxjacl.org. To reserve a room, call 1-800-362-2779 and ask for group code JAC. Join us for a great weekend of camaraderie and spirit!

WSU, continued from page 1

The current code of conduct for students prohibits discrimination that is "(a) sexually or racially motivated and (b) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a person's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment." (Emphasis added, WAC 504-25-020) Harassment includes conduct that is "...sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to threaten an individual or limit the individual's ability to work, study or participate in the university..." (Emphasis added, WAC 504-25-040) In the case of the most recent accusations of racial harassment, the student conduct officers concluded that the behavior at issue, although repeated, did not rise to the level of harassment and was not racially motivated.

Continued community pressure can be the catalyst that will lead to the adoption of a more reasonable definition and a written public policy statement with regard to harassment and discrimination. Also, a continued demand for the university to make a strong commitment to provide support and assistance to victims of harassment and discrimination is essential.

There are a number of ways in which JACL members can get involved:

Contact WSU President Rawlins at () or via E-mail at () and let him know that you support a change in the student conduct policies and procedures.

Contact the Comparative Ethnic Studies (CES) Department Chair, Yolanda Flores Niemann at () or via E-mail at () and let her know that you would like to see greater visibility and effort by the CES department in terms of recruitment and retention of Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the CES department.

Contact the Students for Equity and Diversity (SED) at WSU via E-mail at wsusolidarity@gmail.com and let them know that you support their efforts to address racial harassment and attempts to change the negative campus climate.

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.

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Article and Event Submission: Board members should submit materials to the editor 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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