

Join Us for Holiday Caroling

You are cordially invited to join us at Nikkei Manor to serenade the residents with seasonal Christmas Carols. We will begin at 5 PM on Wednesday, December 14th.

Then plan to attend the Seattle Chapter JACL's Annual Holiday Meeting and dinner immediately following the caroling at the New Kowloon Restaurant, 900 Jackson St. There is covered parking in the building. Dinner will cost \$15 and will include an 8 course meal!

Please respond by December 7th. All members and committee members of JACL are invited! Questions or to RSVP contact Elaine Akagi at [REDACTED]

Strategic Planning

As a follow-up to last month's article on the JACL PNW District Strategic Planning Project, we have developed a short "Frequently Asked Questions" sheet below to help inform chapter members of what we are trying to do. If you have any questions, feel free to call Jeffrey Hattori at (253) 315-1764 or e-mail at hattorijtds@aol.com.

What is a strategic plan and its purpose/goal?

A strategic plan is a five-year roadmap for the organization's future based on information gained through the organization and community input. The purpose/goal is to ensure that the organization is moving in a positive and clear direction to remain relevant and fiscally viable for the future.

Why are we doing this, and why now?

As a membership driven organization, we need to respond to the rapid changes in the community and because our traditional membership base is diminishing.

How will my chapter benefit from this?

To best honor our parents and grandparents who worked so hard to build JACL, we must do our "due diligence" to ensure JACL remains relevant and viable.

Who can be involved?

Anyone interested in and authorized to speak/represent on behalf of their chapter should be involved in the planning. When the Market Research phase begins, the greater Japanese American community, all district members, funders, and stakeholders should participate.

Who is currently involved?

Currently the Seattle, Lake Washington, Puyallup Valley, and Alaska chapters have had representatives at the planning meetings. We would like all district chapters to have representatives at the planning meetings. A "1-800" conference call-in phone number is available so that

See "Planning" on page 3

Driving Class for Seniors 1

The Seattle Chapter of JACL is hosting a workshop for senior drivers, 50 and above. Attending this two half-day class, will earn you a discount on your current car insurance cost. We are very fortunate to get the top notch volunteer services of Mr. Fred Sakura to conduct the class. He has earned a wide spread reputation for being not only very knowledgeable, but also an exciting and motivating instructor.

Class will begin at noon and last until 4:30 on two consecutive days, January 19 and 20 at the JACL office, 316 Maynard Ave. S, Room 111. The office phone number is (206) 622-4098. It is mandatory to fully attend both sessions to earn a certificate.

JACL is hosting this workshop as a community service. However, there is a small material fee of \$10 per person which goes to the AARP organization. Space is limited so please sign up ASAP. To register, or for more information, call Kazzie Katayama at [REDACTED]

Review of Karaoke Idol

The Seattle JACL hosted its first ID/Chinatown Karaoke Idol event at the Bush Garden Restaurant and Bar on November 3 with over a dozen performers singing in the evening's contest.

Judges included Yuji Okamoto, star of Karate Kid; Karen, owner of the Bush Garden; and Joy Shigaki, our very own Seattle JACL president. Merri Ann Osborne, stage name Tabitha, won the Karaoke Idol contest. She sang with pure passion and energy; the overcrowded room hooted and clapped and sang along with Tabitha's rendition of "What's Up." Second prize went to Mark Okazaki, performing "Truly." Alan Alabastro was the third prize winner. Another performer who stole the stage but didn't accept a formal recognition was Tatsuo Nakata with his infamous rendition of "Knockin the Boots."

Thanks goes to Kenny for his much appreciated role as karaoke deejay and to all of the Bush Garden staff.



Yuji Okamoto and Merri Ann Osborne

Save the Date: 2006 Installation Banquet - Our Annual Installation Banquet will be Saturday, February 4 at the Waterfront Marriott Hotel. Tickets purchased early will be \$65 and you can expect to receive an invitation in December. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please contact Ann Fujii-Lindwall at [REDACTED] or Kazzie Katayama at [REDACTED]

President's Message

by Joy Shigaki, President

What a year it has been! It's quite amazing to think it actually is coming to a close. There is always so much to do and so little time! It truly has been my honor to serve this year. I do believe that we are an organization with incredible relevance, significance, and positioning to make substantive change. My only hope is that I have left JACL a little stronger and better prepared for the future.

I am very pleased that TOGETHER we've achieved great things for this organization that can support our public education programs, respond to critical civil rights and public policy issues, strengthen coalitions and serving the community, and building capacity for the Seattle Chapter. Our 2005 annual report will be coming out in January and you'll be able to see how much we have done and how your donations and membership are put to great use!

I know I'm not receiving a Golden Globe, but I want to thank those who have been there for me this year! Thanks to my family and friends for their on-going support throughout the year when I've been inspired, tired, overwhelmed, and determined. (It certainly was a roller coast ride worth taking!) I'd especially like to thank Vincent, my husband, for accepting my year of constant meetings, frequent late nights, moodiness, and without a complaint! To my family, mom, dad, Ali, Erin, and my extended family, you have always been there for me and I'm so grateful. To my second family at the Wing Luke, thanks for getting behind me even in the midst of our campaign!

An Amazing Board and Executive Board - Thank You!

When I was encouraged to take on the role of President this year, I was assured that I'd have the support of those on the board. I was definitely not let down. I am so grateful to all of you on the board for all of your leadership, commitment, and dedication. I'd especially like to thank my Executive Committee who's had to keep up with me, slow me down, and deal with my constant demands - thanks to Jeffrey, Tatsuo, Elaine, Kazzie, Doug, Ken, May, and Arlene!

Volunteers Make JACL Work

There are over 100+ active volunteers to help keep JACL alive and relevant. From the banquet committee to the civil rights committee to those who drive our membership, all of these committees work quietly to maintain the operations, vision and plan for the future, respond to pressing civil rights issues, work to build coalitions across communities of color and more! I know I have left people off and I do sincerely apologize. My memory isn't what it used to be!

Membership Thanks to Vicky Yuki, May Namba, and Masako Tamura for keeping our membership so well maintained!

Civil Rights To Kyle Funakoshi, Devon Abdallah, Dwight Mizoguchi, Soya Jung Harris, KL Shannon, Binah Palmer, Joyce Yee, Kiku Hayashi, Beverly Wong, Doug Honma, Tatsuo Nakata, Ibrahim al Husseni, Rebecca Chan, and so many others who helped to drive many of our activities this year.

Education Always to Elaine Akagi, Karen Yoshitomi, Mako Nakagawa, May Namba, Alan Yabui and others who ensure meaningful public education programs are offered in our schools.

Strategic Planning Special thanks to Jeffrey Hattori for keeping our District plan moving forward and those Seattle Chapter members serving on the committee.

Banquet To the folks that keep our annual banquet organized and always an incredible event- Shea Aoki, Marcine Anderson, Ann Fujii-Lindwall, Janette Girard, Suzanne Hamada, Jeffrey Hattori, Kiku Hayashi, Doug Honma, Kazzie & Mits Katayama, Ken Kurata, Ryan Minato, Tama Murotani-Inaba, May Namba, Arlene Oki, Akiko Sakurai, Mariko Sata, Sam Shoji, Naoko Takagi, Irene Tanabe, Bill Tashima, Shigeko Uno, Alan Yabui, and Takako Yoda.

Newsletter Kudos to Ryan Minato for keeping our monthly newsletter and website going!

Special Projects: To Bill Tashima and Dave and Karen Cunningham for creating a wonderful JACL picnic this summer and Kyle, Anna, and Tatsuo for their Karaoke Idol event at Bush Garden Restaurant!

Finance To Hector Kwon our accountant and Ken for his time as treasurer!

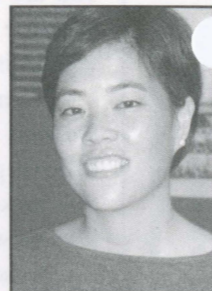
To our many community partners and friends ACLU, Arab American Community Coalition, Asian Pacific Islander Coalition of King County, CURE, The Defenders Association, Densho Project, Evergreen-Washelli, Lake Washington JACL, Korean American Voters Alliance, Langston Hughes Film Festival, NAACP, Nisei Veterans Committee, Macy's, The Massena Foundation, Microsoft, Military Intelligence Service Northwest, Nikkei Heritage Center of Washington, North By Northwest Productions, Minority Executive Directors Coalition, OCA of Greater Seattle, The People's Institute NW, PEMCO Insurance, Puyallup Valley JACL, Seattle Public Schools, The Sikh Coalition, State Farm Insurance, United Parcel Service, University of Washington Dept. of Ethnic Studies, Wing Luke Asian Museum, and so many more! Thank you for your on-going collaboration.

Support Our Annual Appeal

These past few years have been demanding for our chapter. In order to keep our chapter healthy, thriving, and doing all the innovative work we need your support. Over 90% of our budget goes to programs without staff, but committed volunteers. This means your donation goes directly to our work! Please consider a gift for our annual appeal and I encourage you to give generously!

It is not too late to make an end of the year tax-deductible donation to JACL! (See mailable form on page 3)

See "President" on page 3



President, continued from page 2

Donations as of November 21, 2005

Devon Abdallah	Lori Matsukawa
Elaine Akagi	and Larry Blackstone
DiHoa Caldwell	George Matsuno
Kimiko Hazel Calhoun	Ken Mayeda
Carmen Tsuboi Chan	Mitsuye Mihara
Ted Chihara	Dwight Mizoguchi
Kyle Funakoshi	Tatsuo Nakata
Florence Fujita	May Namba
Sei Fujiwara in honor	Harry and Sachiko Okazaki
of May Namba	Arlene Oki
Mary Granger	Ted Oye
Doug Honma	Binah Palmer
Jeffrey Hattori	Akiko Sakurai
Kiku Hayashi	Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos
Hannah Hirabayashi	Mariko Sata
Tama Murotani-Inaba	William and Shizuka Sata
Dr. Ruby Inouye	Joy Shigaki
Kazzie Katayama	Noburu and Takako Taki
Nob and Mary Koura	Beth Takekawa and Tony To
Jan Kumasaka	Bill Tashima
Ken Kurata	Anna Tamura
Mori and Ruthann Kurose	Elsie Taniguchi
Alan and Ann Fujii Lindwall	Herb Tsuchiya
Howard Martin	Alan Yabui
Kenji McCullough	Fumiko Yoshikawa
Christi Woo Matsuda	

Looking Ahead in 2006

My year only builds on all those before me and the ones ahead. I wish Doug Honma a great year in his presidency and encourage all of you to stay engaged and involved in JACL. It will take all of us to continue to build on a legacy of justice and equality for all!

Best for the year ahead and all good things to you and your family in 2006!

Aki Sogabe: Japanese Farmers at the Pike Place Market

Japanese Farmers at the Pike Place Market is a five-card set for \$10, plus a \$3 delivery fee. The Seattle Chapter has printed these commemorative reproductions of the Market mural for chapter fundraising.



To purchase this set, please contact the JACL office at (206) 622-4098 or email Joy Shigaki at [redacted]

Planning, continued from page 2

all outside of the Seattle metro area can call-in and participate at the meetings. Karen Yoshitomi, PNWDC Regional Director is also involved in the planning.

What are the project's initial steps?

The initial step is already taken. A planning committee is established and has created a work plan, set a time line and identified priorities. We are currently informing and engaging the district chapters, raising funds and plan to hire a consultant by early January.

What is the duration of this project?

The target completion date is the end of 2006 with the implementation to start in the first quarter of 2007.

What do we really want answered?

What will JACL's future direction be and who will/may be our future membership.

How can National and other districts benefit?

This effort can be used as a model that can be duplicated by National and/or other districts.

Please help to support our 2005 Annual Appeal!

Over 90% of our operational funding goes to meaningful programming and work in the community! Your contribution will help keep the Seattle chapter active, visible, and in the forefront of civil rights and critical advocacy work in our community. All donations are tax deductible.

You will receive a thank you letter and all donations will be acknowledged in future newsletters.

Your Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

Address: _____

CITY STATE ZIP

Check one: \$1,000 \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50

Other amount: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Seattle Chapter JACL and remit to:

Attn. Annual Appeal
Seattle JACL
P.O. Box 18558
Seattle, WA 98118

Information

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 Joy Shigaki 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

December 2005, Volume 42, Issue 12
Editor and Newsletter Design: Ryan Minato

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

2005 Officers and Board Members

- President Joy Shigaki
- President-Elect Doug Honma (
- 1st Vice-President..... Jeffrey Hattori
- 2nd Vice-President Tatsuo M.W. Nakata (
- 3rd Vice-President Elaine Akagi
- 4th Vice-President Kazzie Katayama
- Treasurer Ken Kurata

- Corresponding Secretary May Namba
- Historian Arlene Oki

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Devon Abdallah | Tadd Mitsui |
| Shea Aoki | Dwight Mizoguchi |
| Sara Hidano-Cardinelli | Binah Palmer |
| Kyle Funakoshi | Akiko Sakurai |
| Kiku Hayashi | Sharon Tomiko Santos |
| Jan Kumasaka | Mariko Sata |
| Mori Kurose | Anna Tamura |
| Ruthann Kurose | Elsie "Leilani" Taniguchi |
| Howard Martin | Bill Tashima |
| Kristi Woo Matsuda | Alan Yabui (|
| Kenji McCullough | |



98104+2927-99 C032

KAREN YOSHITOMI
671 S JACKSON ST
SEATTLE WA 98104-2927

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

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