

Annual Appeal

Many thanks for all of your generosity toward our 2005 Annual Appeal. We are so pleased to report that we raised over \$15,600 for our critical programming of the chapter. In addition, we recruited over 50 new members to our organization. As a volunteer driven organization, we greatly appreciate your gifts and memberships and acknowledge your role in keeping JAACL relevant, vibrant, and fiscally sound! On behalf of the Board of Directors, we thank you very much!

December 2005/ January 2006 Donors: Yukio Tazuma; Jesus and Naomi Sanchez; Takashi and Lily Hori; Wayne and Yuka Kimura in honor of Connie Kawahara; Mary Gruenewald in honor of Mary Gruenewald's parents; Lily Tamura; Yuki Sato; Jeanne Semura; Yuki Moore Laurenti in honor of Yuki and Takeyoshi Handa; Steven and Joyce Suzuki; Sally Yamada.

Minidoka Pilgrimage

The 2006 Minidoka Pilgrimage will be held July 7-9 at Twin Falls, Idaho. This will be the 4th annual Pilgrimage and promises to be better than ever. This is a special opportunity for multi-generational families who have ties to Minidoka. As the number of former internees decreases, the Pilgrimage provides a way to learn more about the internment from the people who were there.

In addition, the planning committee is busy working on the details. This year, the Friends of Minidoka Board members are planning a Civil Rights Forum with officials

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Candlelight Vigil

March 1995, Susana Remerta Blackwell, Phoebe Dizon, Veronica Laureta, and baby Kristine, Ms. Blackwell's unborn child, are murdered by Susana's estranged husband in the King County Courthouse.

Since this tragic event, the Asian and Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center has been committed to holding an annual vigil to remember these women and others whose lives were destroyed by violence. Seattle JAACL has agreed to support this event by encouraging their broad network to attend.

This past November, Evelyn Matsen and her 13-year-old son, Wahren Agonoy, were shot multiple times by the husband. We are again reminded of the importance of diligently educating and preventing violence.

On March 2, 2006 the Annual Candlelight Vigil will be held for this purpose. For more information about the Vigil or volunteering for the event, please contact Angel Taniguchi at [redacted]

Board Member Corner

Dawn Rego

Born and raised on the Big Island of Hawai'i, Dawn is of Japanese, Filipino, Hawaiian, Chinese, and Portuguese descent. She is a graduate of the Kamehameha School and the University of Puget Sound. Dawn currently works at the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association, a national non-profit organization that recruits and trains volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children in the court system.

Dawn is a board member of the API Community Leadership Foundation (ACLF) and volunteers for Noel House, a homeless shelter for women. She is a graduate of the ACLF Community Leaders Program and a co-founder of the ACLF Alumni in Civic Engagement (ACE) program that works to engage ACLF alumni through service learning activities to benefit the API community.

Dawn is excited to be on the JAACL Board and is excited to make an impact in the Japanese American community.

Civil Rights Committee

The JAACL Civil Rights Committee had its first meeting in January. After reflecting on activities from the past year, the Committee brainstormed areas to work on in 2006. Three general areas emerged:

Legislative - The state legislative session is in full swing, and a lot of civil rights issues need to be quickly addressed. The Civil Rights Committee identified bills relating to the achievement gap, cultural competence, voting rights, and anti-discrimination.

Coalition-Building - The big planning event for the committee in 2005 was the City Council Candidates Forum in October. The event brought together people

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Day of Remembrance: Reading of Gold Watch

Join us on Sunday, February 19 to remember and reflect on the anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and Japanese American incarceration during World War II. A community reading of the play Gold Watch by Momoko Ito will take place from 1- 3 PM at the Theatre Off Jackson, 407 - 7th Ave. S.

This two-act play takes place in the farmlands and town of Wapato from Labor Day weekend 1941 to June 1942. Community readers will include Bea Kiyohara, Tri Hoang, Joy Shigaki, Sheldon Arakaki, and others. A community discussion will follow the performance.

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President's Message

by Doug Honma, President

As of this writing, we find ourselves in between two key dates on the calendar, the first being the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. and the other being the Day of Remembrance—the anniversary of the beginning of Internment. On each of these days, we take time to commemorate these events with the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. March and Rally and a host of DOR events, including one sponsored by the JACL on Sunday, February 19th at the Theatre Off Jackson. (see *Reading of Gold Watch* page 1)

These days kick off every year with reminders of the visions and ideals of our work here at the JACL—to build an America where one day every member of our society will be truly viewed as an American without judgment based on the color of one's skin. They also serve as a stark memorial of what happens when we as a nation abandon those principles on which we were founded. I've also found these days to present a challenge. While on these two days we reflect on past wrongs and celebrate progress made, they also serve to encourage us to continue this important work during the remainder of the year.

While the JACL does a lot of this work year-round in the form of advocacy and education, much of the effort to combat discrimination and achieve that vision of an America that truly honors its diversity happens one person, one mind at a time. It's up to us as members and supporters of the JACL to take the lessons of these days, live them out, and pass them on in our own ways.

Thank you, Banquet Committee!

Also capping our activities for the year is our annual Installation Banquet, held this year on February 4th at the Seattle Waterfront Marriott. The banquet is our single largest fundraiser of each year and is planned in a year-round effort by a team of dedicated volunteers.

I'd like to thank the chairpersons of this year's event, Marcine Anderson and Ann Fujii Lindwall for their leadership over the past year as well as Jeffrey Hattori for his ever-persistent pursuit of sponsors and Ryan Minato for his work to layout our

program/sponsor booklet. I would also like to give appreciation in advance to Ken Kurata and Akiko Sakurai—chairpersons of the 2007 Installation Banquet. Thanks for stepping up!

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who attended this year's banquet! It was a wonderful evening and I am looking forward to seeing you again next year!

Board Member Corner – Dawn Rego

We begin our Board Member spotlight this year with a new member of our Board, Dawn Rego. Last year, she served on the Civil Rights Committee, but is now taking a big leap by not only joining the Board but also assuming the role of Recording Secretary. (see *Board Member Corner* page 1)

Arlene Oki elected as Historian

Returning to the Executive Committee after the briefest possible hiatus is Arlene Oki, who is returning to her role as Historian. We're overjoyed to have her dedication and experience back amongst our officers! Thanks Arlene!

Memberships for January 2006

Individual

Waldron Akira
Vicki Asakura
N. Lorraine Hoshibata
Amy E. Kobayashi
Dean Koga
June Kubo
Ken Mayeda
Yoshito Mizuta
Emily Hanako Momohara

Smith Morimoto
Lilly Mukai
Nori Okamura
Jeanne I. Semura
Yukio Tazuma
Michi Tsukada
Ayame Tsutakawa
Janice Yee

Couples/Family

John & Lillian Matsudaira
Washin & Kathleen Murakami

Booster

Jene Deguchi
Paola Maranan



Announcements

Feb. 15 – Day of Remembrance event *Honoring Courage: Remembering the Japanese Internment*; Seattle University School of Law, Sullivan Hall, 2nd floor, 5 PM; sponsored by Seattle Journal of Social Justice and SU School of Law. Contact: sjsj@seattleu.edu, (206) 398-4988.

Feb. 19 – Day of Remembrance: Community Reading of Gold Watch by Momoko Ito; Theatre Off Jackson, 407 - 7th Ave. S, 1- 3 PM; contact: Joy Shigaki, (206) 623-5124 x110, shigaki@juno.com.

Feb. 23 – *Hawaii Japanese American World War II Story*; UW Ethnic Cultural Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn Ave., 7 PM, FREE; contact: UW Department of American Ethnic Studies, (206) 543-5401.

Feb. 25 – 4th Annual Puget Sound Asian Pacific Islander Leadership Conference; Student Union, Shoreline Community College, 16101 Greenwood Ave. N, 8 AM - 5 PM, \$35; contact: Starr MacDonald, (425) 467-9365, starr@ediorg.org.

Feb. 28 – Center for Career Alternatives Annual Dinner; Westin Hotel, 1900 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, 6 PM, \$75; contact: Erwin Sastra at (206) 322-9080.

Mar. 2 – Annual Candlelight Vigil for preventing violence held by the Asian and Pacific Islander Women and Family Safety Center; contact: Angel Taniguchi, antaniguchi@gmail.com.

Jul. 7-9 – Minidoka Pilgrimage; contact: Alan Momohara, (253) 838-8495, alanmomohara@hotmail.com.

A Successful Senior Driving Class

It is unexpected to hear laughter coming from a senior driving class but that is exactly what happened for both days in mid-January. Everyone seemed to enjoy the driving class while at the same time learning a lot. The instructor, Mr. Fred Sakura, was lively, informative, humorous, and conveyed the seriousness of the subject with great sensitivity.

Comments from the participants included: Great teacher; he sure knows his stuff and makes it interesting; the time sure went by fast; I was sure I was going to fall asleep, but I didn't; it was more fun than I thought possible; I learned a lot and would recommend the class to all my friends; I know I am now a better/safer driver because of this class; sure enjoyed the food! Of course, everyone is happy with the coming reduction in their car insurance, but even more important is the improved confidence in driving skills and knowledge.

The Hawaii Japanese American World War II Story

Why was Hawaii spared the tragic and unnecessary violation of their civil rights? A screening of a work-in-progress film documentary by Tom Coffman will explore this question of why there was not an en masse roundup and incarceration of Japanese Americans in Hawaii during World War II.

The program includes music from the Seattle Tsunami Taiko group, a brief talk to contextualize the Hawaii experience within the WWII internment and incarceration episode, and a personal perspective by Ken Sato on growing up in Hawaii.

On February 23, the University of Washington will host this program at the Ethnic Cultural Theatre, 3940 Brooklyn Avenue, starting at 7 PM with a panel discussion to follow. This event is free to the public with refreshments available. For more information call the UW Department of American Ethnic Studies, (206) 543-5401.

Pilgrimage, continued from page 1

and faculty from the College of Southern Idaho. The Forum will surely be exciting and informative, held prior to Pilgrimage on July 6-7.

Steve Thorson, a members of the Friends of Minidoka Board, is working with the Yamaha Corporation to schedule a Music Camp at the College of Southern Idaho, overlapping the Pilgrimage. The Music Camp will focus on the music of the '40s and also provides the opportunity for participants to play the music of Minidoka's Harmonies at the Pilgrimage.

If you are interested and want to get involved in planning the Pilgrimage or have any questions, please contact Alan Momohara at

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from various communities of color. The Civil Rights Committee will continue to strengthen ties with organizations and community partners on social justice issues.

Education - Last year's racial harassment incident at WSU illustrated a need to address the needs of Asian and Pacific Islander students. The Civil Rights Committee will continue to identify ways to advocate for API youth, in K-12 as well as higher education. Areas to examine include the achievement gap and bilingual education.

Contact Binah Palmer at [redacted] if interested in working with the JACL Civil Rights Committee on any of these issues!

DOR, continued from page 1

Free to the public and family friendly. Sponsors include the Japanese American Citizens League - Seattle and Lake Washington Chapters, Nikkei Heritage Center of Washington, University of Washington Department of American Ethnic Studies, and the Wing Luke Asian Museum. For more information, contact Joy Shigaki at [redacted].

Membership Form

Individual \$62, Youth/Student \$26, Couple/Family \$110, Chapter Booster \$20, Senior Chapter Booster \$15.

Membership Category: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Day/Evening: _____

E-mail: _____

Yes, receive chapter newsletter notice by e-mail.

Please make checks payable to JACL and remit to:
Seattle Chapter Membership Chair
P.O. Box 18558
Seattle, WA 98118

Mission Statement: The Seattle Chapter JAACL 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 Doug Honma 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

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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.

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

2006 Officers and Board Members

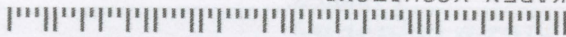
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- Corresponding Secretary May Namba
- Recording Secretary Dawn Rego
- Historian Arlene Oki
- PNWDC Board Delegate..... Joy Shigaki

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