

SAVE THE DATE

JACL Installation Banquet

On behalf of the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League, we invite you to join us for our 85th Annual Installation Banquet on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at the Seattle Waterfront Marriott Hotel, 2100 Alaskan Way. The doors open at 5:30 PM and tickets sell for \$90.

The theme chosen for this year's banquet is *Youth—Our Future*. During the banquet we will install our incoming 2007 Board of Directors, celebrate accomplishments of 2006, and shine light on the work that lay ahead for all of us.

For questions, contact Kazzie Katayama at (206)-722-2266, kazziekatayama@hotmail.com or May Namba at [REDACTED]

Update from the Civil Right Committee

This year in the legislature, JACL will continue to monitor legislation in Olympia to advance our civil rights goals, and will continue to support community allies who share our vision for a just and equal society.

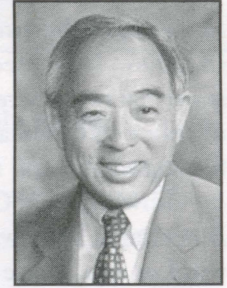
Last year JACL supported bills to make it illegal to discriminate based on sexual orientation (passed); to ensure a child's cultural heritage is considered in parent custody (did not pass); and to allow colleges and universities to consider race as a factor in a holistic admissions process (did not pass).

As we enter the 2007 legislative session, it's hard to say what will become the key civil rights issues. The session runs from January 8 to April 22, and a lot can happen in that time frame. Some issues to keep an eye on include voting rights bills that would impact communities of color; recognition of same-sex relationship; educational disparities and the achievement gap; and an attempt to repeal the recently-passed Anti-Discrimination bill.

Also, save the date! API Legislative Day is Tuesday, February 13 in Olympia! API Legislative Day is the annual lobbying day for the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition, which JACL supports. Every year, API Legislative Day brings people from around the state to the Capitol to meet with elected officials to advance a common legislative agenda and mobilize the API community statewide.

John Tateishi

Last July John Tateishi announced his resignation as the National JACL Executive Director. Citing health issues as the reason, John agreed to continue until the transition of his position to a new Executive Director was complete.



It was on November 14 that John suffered a medical emergency. He was hospitalized, in serious condition, due to a tear in his aorta. This is the same condition that affected actor John Ritter. Any additional stress that would cause his blood pressure to rise, could result in a very unfortunate situation.

Prior to becoming the Executive Director, in the 1980's, John served many years in the organization as the Chair of the Redress Committee. He and his committee guided the course of redress to a successful ending, with the signing of a bill by President Regan. Many of those who worked with John during the redress movement, were local Seattle chapter members. People like Cherry Kinoshita, Chuck Kato, Henry Miyatake, and others who were so involved in the redress movement of the 80's.

Over the last eight years, John Tateishi has been serving the JACL as its Executive Director. In those eight years, he has kept the organization in the forefront of civil rights affairs. He's managed to keep the organization afloat by finding corporate funders to help with special projects and programs. Although the financial situation caused a reduction in staff, John, like all the staff, had taken on more than double the load by doing all jobs required at headquarters.

John has been successfully building strong relationships with many organizations around the country. JACL's name is more widely known because of John's efforts. Although our name is strongly tied to civil rights in the Japanese American community, in recent years that has not been the case. John has put our name on the radar screen again, and our work against hate crimes and the promotion of education is again in the forefront.

Fortunately, John is now resting and healing at his home in Marin County, CA under the loving care of his wife Carol. If you wish to send a note or card, please send it to the JACL headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

President's Message

by Kyle Funakoshi, President

Snow lined the streets of Denver on a brisk November day in 2006. I decided to do a pilgrimage to Sakura Square supermarket, where I spent hours as a child hoping for a box of delicious chocolate coated Pocky while my parents shopped for kamaboko and mochi.

Growing up in Colorado, it was also rare to see other Asian Americans, so it was a treat to hear an occasional Japanese word or two. There was an unspoken understanding in seeing another Asian face. In those days, being Japanese American meant an occasional delicious treat that no one else ate, or listening to Enka music on long car rides. However, as with everything else in life, being older means realizing the depth and complexity of relatively simple things.

As I walked through the aisles of the market at Sakura Square, I saw things in a very different light. I reflected on our rich and powerful legacy, one that we can be proud of. I've learned that our culture is also defined by the struggles we've faced, the obstacles we've overcome and the issues that we continue to face.

As a 30 something adult, my definition of community still hasn't changed much. I believe community is the desire to seek this familiarity and comfort in people who have similar experiences.

The Seattle JACL is my Sakura Square today...the community that I sought as a child. There is a rich legacy of the Seattle JACL being a leader in civil rights and social justice, while recognizing the complexity of our dynamic Asian American culture. Seattle JACL has been a nationwide leader in civil rights. From being one of the chartering chapters of the JACL, hosting the first JACL national convention, and leading the Internment reparations movement, we have contributed to making the Japanese American community what it is today.

As we look forward to this coming year, I believe it's important to honor this past by continuing to be a leader in civil rights, social justice and bringing people together in community. I also believe that it's important to come together and celebrate our dynamic community, which now includes people of multiracial ancestries and people who believe in the work Seattle JACL has led.

This year, we can look forward to providing community forums to give people opportunities to explore our dynamic and complex Asian American culture. We will continue to be

on the front lines of civil rights issues, seeking partnership with like-minded groups, and being on the leading edge of encroaching issues. Finally, we will look ahead to the future in putting together a nationwide study on Japanese American community, and exploring the future of Japanese American community.



Thank you for your continuing membership and supporting the issues that Seattle JACL, and I look forward to seeing you in the coming year!

Recent Memberships

Individual

- Sumie Akizuki
- Anne Arakaki-Lock
- Jennifer Asato
- Ryan Chin
- Les Y. Dogen
- J. Kiiko Fisk
- Ann Fujii-Lindwall
- Florence Fujita
- Sei Fujiwara
- Yasuko T. Fukano
- Ai C. Handa-Moore
- Amy Hirasawa
- Joyce Ito
- Tetsuden Kashima
- Masao Kojima
- George Kozu
- Yuri Kumasaka
- Kelli Larsen

- Charlene Mano Shen
- Lydia Minatoya
- Tadako Thea Mori
- Frank Muramatsu
- Ted Nakanishi
- Kenneth J. Nakatsu
- Joe J. Nishikawa
- Janice Nishimori
- Alice Oishi
- David Okimoto
- Masaye Sado
- Joy M. St. Germain
- Ruth A. Sumida
- Manaji Suzuki
- Norman T. Suzuki
- Elmer S. Tazuma
- Carmen Tsuboi Chan
- Glen E.M. Yaguchi

Thousand Club

- S. Frank Miyamoto
- Tomio Moriguchi
- Nyla M. Nakano
- Shigeto Otani
- Bill Tashima

Thousand Club Spouse

- Tom Hirai

Couples/Family

- Rodney & Kristine Kawakami
- Henry & Minnie Itoi
- Tosh & Tomi Mano

Student/Youth

- Derrick Hattori
- Serii Hattori
- Mariko Sata

Announcements

Feb. 3 – Seattle JACL 85th Annual Installation Banquet: Youth—Our Future; Seattle Waterfront Marriott Hotel, 5:30 PM, \$90; For more information please contact Kazzie Katayama at [redacted] or May Namba at [redacted]

Feb. 13 – API Legislative Day in Olympia, the annual lobbying day for the Asian Pacific Islander Coalition.

Jun. 22-24 – Minidoka Pilgrimage 2007; for more information please contact May Namba at [redacted] or email minidokapilgrimage@comcast.net.

More events can be found on our website: www.jaclseattle.org

Membership Renewal

Your membership provides the means to achieve our common goals

Membership Categories

Regular/Individual

Regular sustaining members of the organization.

Couple/Family

Membership for an individual, their spouse/partner and any children under 25 years of age.

Youth/Student

Members 25 years of age or younger or students currently enrolled in a college, trade school, or university.

Booster

These members do not receive the Pacific Citizen, but do receive the Chapter newsletter. All proceeds from Booster Membership goes to the Seattle Chapter.

1000 Club

A membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization.

1000 Club Life

Members who pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership.

Century Club

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization.

Century Club Life

An exclusive membership category where members pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership.

1000 Club or Century Club Spouse

Spouse or partner of a JACL 1000 Club or Century Club member

Membership Rates

Regular/Individual	\$67
Couple/Family	\$115
Youth/Student	\$30
Booster	\$20 (regular)
.....	\$15 (senior)
1000 Club Individual	\$100
1000 Club Spouse	\$40
1000 Club Life	\$3,000
Century Club	\$175
Century Club Spouse	\$40
Century Club Life	\$5,000

Yes, I would like to support the work of JACL!

Name _____ Membership Category _____

Address _____ Amount for membership \$ _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Additional contribution \$ _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by email.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Email _____

Please send this form and your check to:
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 Kyle Funakoshi 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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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 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

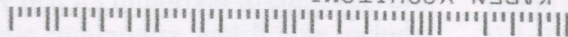
2007 Officers and Board Members

- President Kyle Funakoshi
- President-Elect *To be identified*
- 1st Vice-President..... Dawn R.
- 2nd Vice-President Binah Palmer
- 3rd Vice-President Elaine Akagi
- 4th Vice-President Akemi Matsumoto
- Treasurer Jeffrey Hattori

- Corresponding Secretary May Namba
- Recording Secretary..... *To be identified*
- Historian Kazzie Katayama
- PNWDC Board Delegate..... Doug Honma

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Devon Abdallah | Kiku Hayashi | Arlene Oki |
| Shea Aoki | Irene Ishii | Mori Kurose Rothman |
| Nate Caminos | David Iyall | Joy Shigaki |
| Edward Gringas III | Ken Kurata | Elsie Taniguchi |
| Bob Hasegawa | Mark Mitsui | Kendee Yamaguchii |
| | Truc Nguyen | |

SEATTLE WA 98104-2927
671 S JACKSON ST
KAREN YOSHITOMI



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

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