

# Minidoka Pilgrimage

June 22 - 24, 2007

The Minidoka Pilgrimage bus will be leaving from Bellevue Community College June 22. Join the bus ride and enjoy the warm feelings and stories from former internees. It will be an unforgettable experience. Those who had attended previously claim that it is one of the best trips they had taken.

The June 1, 2007 deadline for registration is fast approaching. Please send in your registration and attend the Pilgrimage. For more information contact Jane [minidokapilgrimage@comcast.net](mailto:minidokapilgrimage@comcast.net) or contact Gloria Shigeno at \_\_\_\_\_

### Pilgrimage Registration

Registration form available in both Abode PDF and Microsoft Word document formats:

[http://www.minidoka.org/2007\\_pilgrimage.htm](http://www.minidoka.org/2007_pilgrimage.htm)

Seattle Pilgrimage Package with bus from Seattle \$200 (Senior 75 years & older: \$150); Twin Falls Pilgrimage Package arriving via own transportation: \$85 (Senior 75 years & older: \$75)

### Minidoka Pilgrimage Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional people in your party:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Which camp were you in and for how long?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to "Minidoka Pilgrimage" by JUNE 1, 2007 and mail this registration form and check to: May Namba, \_\_\_\_\_, Seattle, WA, 98117. A \$20.00 charge will be applied for cancellations within 7 days of the Pilgrimage.

### Civil Liberties Symposium II, Powers of the President in Wartime

Consider attending the Civil Liberties in Wartime Symposium at the College of Southern Idaho. This year's theme will be Presidential Powers during Wartime and will be held through Thursday, June 21 to Friday, June 22, 2007.

# Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Events

Seattle JACL co-sponsored two educational events during May to celebrate our heritage.

Cold Tofu, a comedy improvisational troop from Los Angeles performed in the Bellevue Community College cafeteria on May 7 from 12:30 - 2:30 PM. After the performance, students, staff and faculty had the opportunity to meet and discuss the challenges of being APIA actors expressing the unique perspectives of their communities in their work. This performance was co-sponsored by the Minority Directors Coalition, BCC Student Programs, and Seattle JACL.

The video "Slaying the Dragon" will be shown on May 21 at 1 PM, South Seattle Community College, Jerry Brockey Center, room 140, with a short discussion to follow. This video illustrates media stereotypes of Asian women from the 30's until today. Co-sponsored by the South Seattle Community College Rainbow Fest and Seattle JACL. Please call J. Seia \_\_\_\_\_ for more details.

## Sakura Matsuri

by Ed Gringas, Event Chair

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Seattle JACL Sakura Matsuri booth, for it was a great success! Our booth featured a children's coloring project at this year's festival, held on April 21 through 23 at the Seattle Center. There were three coloring selections of traditional elements from Japanese culture including a cherry blossom tree and a warrior. Following this year theme of 'youth' for JACL, the event brought smiles to the faces of children and to their observing parents who stopped by our booth.

A fundamental key to the survival of an organization like JACL is its current and future members, and we appreciate everyone's support. The Cherry Blossom festival is not only a great way for us to contribute to the Japanese American community, but to increase awareness of our work in the entire Seattle community.

This year we thank the JACL Board and the University of Washington's Nikkei Student Association members who volunteered to staff the booth. Even Lisa Akiyama of the Seattle Queen's Court, spent some time staffing our booth. Most of all we would like to thank everyone, especially the children who came to our booth, and we look forward to more participation at next year's Sakura Matsuri.

Newsletter Available On-line: [www.jaclseattle.org](http://www.jaclseattle.org)

www.jaclseattle.org  
email@jaclseattle.org

SEATTLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



## President's Message

by Kyle Funakoshi, President

### Taking a left on Civil Rights

There are three core principles at the heart of the JACL Seattle: Civil Rights, Youth Leadership Development and Community Engagement. Most people say that Seattle JACL has a strong history in working through all three areas. However, when you ask the question "What is civil rights?" they will each give you a very different answer.

If you don't believe me, try asking five of your friends that question. Some people will evoke some kind of imagery, like Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, "comfort women" in Korea, internment camps, the war in Iraq and sweat shops in Asia. Others may define civil rights as the "ism"...racism, sexism, homophobia, etc. Yet many others will describe it as the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Other people will talk about basic human rights, or our rights to privacy and self-determination.

Throughout this past year, I've noted that there is no shortage of what people term "Civil Rights" issues. In the past four months, Seattle JACL has been asked by seven different entities to advocate for civil rights issues and perspectives. As Seattle JACL has taken these issues on, we've found that as society became savvier to "political correctness", civil rights issues have become increasingly hidden. Though many issues may have small pieces around discrimination, it's very difficult to weed out overt bias. In other words, the issues are not always "black and white" (no pun intended).

On April 18th, the Seattle JACL board asked, "What is it to be a Civil Rights organization?" The goal of this dialogue was to produce a litmus test for what are civil rights issues, and how do we engage in them.

As you can imagine, 30 minutes was not enough time to create any recommendations. However, the dialogue produced some interesting thoughts that the Civil Rights committee will take to task. We have asked the Civil Rights committee to bring forward recommendations for this litmus test in this next year, and we will share them with you as they emerge.

In the mean time, though we have not produced this litmus test, the discussion has led me to some thoughts around the subject. I hope that they would be useful to everyone who is interested in exploring these issues.

Brazilian educator Paulo Friere once said that the greatest of human attributes is our ability to love and care for one another. He also said that there are two types of people: The "Oppressed" and the "Oppressor".

Oppressors take away love and care from the Oppressed, thus robbing them of their humanity. At the same time, by stripping these things away, the Oppressors are also suffering,

because they have lost their ability to love and care for the Oppressed. To Freire, the key to restoring humanity is the ability to restore love, care and compassion for everyone.

To me, at the heart of human rights/civil rights is the ability to restore this humanity...the ability to come to the table in a loving and caring way.

To me, JACL Seattle's success comes from not just "fighting" to prove our own point, but actively trying to bring people to the table in loving discourse. There have been many times where this road was the less popular, but it has been the correct road to take and has led us to our historical success around civil rights.

To me, this is the litmus test for how I see the controversial Civil Rights issues of today: be they supporting Lt. Ehren Watada in his plight, or the issues surrounding Casa Latina...how do we approach these issues in a way that will restore humanity?

Dr. Martin Luther King once said that "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction...The chain reaction of evil — hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars — must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation."

It is up to us to heed his call and warning, and to create the "beloved community" and approach issues not by tactics of proving our own points...but by the greater strategy of bringing back humanity and restoring love to all.

See "President" on page 3



### 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 Kyle Funakoshi, jaclseattle@yahoo.

## President, continued from page 2

### Recent membership and donations

#### Regular/Individual

Licia Aho  
Lance Akagi  
Midori Akagi  
George Arakawa  
Momoye Asaba  
Theodore S. Chihara  
Sujn Chon  
Mae Deguchi  
Micaela Fujita  
Mary S. Fukuyama  
Mary Furuta  
Sharon Harada  
Rose Tamaye Harrell  
Norio Harui  
Kiku Hayashi  
Fumiko Hayashida  
Frank T. Hidaka  
Hannah Hirabayashi  
William T. Hirata  
Karen Hopkins  
Tsuguo Ikeda  
Chiyo Ikejiri  
Kaz Ishimitsu  
Andy Iwano  
Ayako Toki Johnson  
Yo Kaneko  
Shohei Karibe  
Chiyuki Kashiwagi  
Charles T. Kato  
Eileen A. Kato  
Ann Kawasaki Romero  
Momoko Kido  
Sally Kitano  
Teru Kiyohara  
Kazuo Kobayashi

#### Student/Youth

Lisa F. Akiyama  
Michelle Gingras  
Janice Phaik Goh  
Lois Kwangmie Han  
Olivia J.Y. Heung  
Steven T. Hirano  
Kimberly Koba  
Takahiro Konaga  
Hayato Miyagi  
Yeibun Mori  
Kaiko Nishikawa  
Florian D. Purganan  
Rei S. Saito

Yeichi Kozu  
Penny Kumagai Atcheson  
Misayo Kumakura  
Anna Kurata  
Charlene Lee  
Sharon Maeda  
Lori Matsukawa  
Lilly Mukai  
Mako Nakagawa  
Wayne Nakamura  
Dick Nishioka  
Gregory Y. Ogata  
Nori Okamura  
Terry Okazaki  
Susan Oki  
Susan Otani  
Sharon Tomiko Santos  
Yuki Sato  
Robert Seko  
Joy Shigaki  
Polly Shigaki  
Nancy Shioyama  
Kathy Sugiyama  
Eddie Suguro  
Nobie Takahashi  
Kiku Tatsumi  
Florence Teshima  
Takeko Todo  
Kip Tokuda  
Saburo Tsuboi  
Marion Watanabe  
Ed Yakushijin  
Margaret Yanagimachi  
Wm Toshio Yasutake  
Harry Yoshimura

#### Booster

Nellie Fujii Anderson  
David H. Ishii  
Yukiko Ishii  
Susan C. Ishii-Yin  
Jim K. Namba  
Kim T. Nguyen

#### Senior Booster

Kimiko Hazel Calhoun  
Tama Murotani-Inaba  
Chiyo Kamihara  
James H. Nakamoto  
Rosie Y. Sugahara  
Elsie Leilani Taniguchi

#### Family/Couple

Antonia & David Asamoto  
Bobbe & Jon Bridge  
Kyle Funakoshi  
& Valerie Cerera  
Lily Eng & Jeffrey Saul  
Hiromi & Edward J. Gingras, Jr.  
Akiko & Toshio Ito  
Shirley & Terry Kameda  
Vickie & Gene Kanamori  
Jean & Chris Kato  
Beth & William T. Kawahara  
Lucille & Ben Kodama  
Ruthann Kurose  
& Nathan Rothman  
Yoshiko & Paul Minato  
Kathleen & Washin Murakami  
Jean & George Nishi  
Sachie & Jeff Nitta  
Gail Nomura & Stephen Sumida  
Wendy Nakatsukasa-Ono  
& Curtis Ono  
Akari Takayama & Family  
Lilly & Victor Takemoto  
Takako & Noboru Taki  
Cherrie & Min Tsubota  
Ruth & Benjamin Woo  
Helene & Arthur Yorozu

#### Thousand Club

Shunji Asari  
Bruce A Harrell  
Nina LaBoy  
Kenji Okuda

#### Thousand Club Spouse

Amy Matsuoka

#### Donations

Midori Akagi  
Mae Deguchi  
Edward & Hiromi Gingras  
Toshio Ito  
in honor of Arlene Oki  
Washin Murakami  
Rev. Dick Nishioka  
Kenji Okuda  
Polly Shigaki  
in memory of Tatsuo Nakata  
Elsie Leilani Taniguchi  
Margaret Yanagimachi

### Membership Form

Individual \$67, Youth & Student \$30, Couple & Family \$115,  
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

### 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](http://www.jaclseattle.org)  
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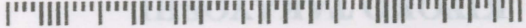
### 2007 Officers and Board Members

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President-Elect ..... *To be identified*  
1st Vice-President..... Dawn Re  
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

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