

JACL SEATTLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SEATTLE CHAPTER OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Commitment to You

BY RYAN CHIN

This year, Seattle JACL had its 89th annual banquet. 89, that's a lot.

- A lot of discrimination injustices overcome.
- A lot of community triumphs.
- A lot of hard work made up of volunteer hours.
- A lot of money earned, and spent.

As we've all become far too aware over our lives, time often has a toll or two to pay, as well. With the JACL, we've had the fortune of great supporters over time, but it seems of late that we haven't had as much luck in replenishing those we've lost – less volunteers, smaller boards, and decreases in donations. In a nutshell, over time the amount of resources we have at our disposal, to accomplish what we need to do for the community, has diminished.

With that said, my goal this year was to make sure that we focused on our mission more than ever to maximize the resources we do have. That was easier said than done, as we've become entrenched with so many different types of programs, events, and other organizations over the years. All of the things that we were involved in were good – that was never a question. The reality is: if you want to be as effective as possible with finite resources, you often need to make hard choices and keep the focus on your mission.

As much as I wanted to grow the organization this year, by rolling out new programs, I quickly realized something. While we were known historically as a civil rights organization, for whatever reason, we had somehow lost our "edge." While the moniker National JACL touts indicates that we are the largest and oldest civil rights organization, what did that mean for today? Time waits for no one, and having



achieved is not nearly the same as achieving today.

As JACL Seattle President, you'll see a renewed, more intense focus on our mission: civil rights advocacy.

This means:

- The work that we do will almost exclusively focus on legislation, programs, and/or services that:
 - fight discrimination and defamation based on factors such as: race, ethnicity, religion, gender and sexual orientation
 - help eliminate disparities between people of color and Caucasians (i.e. healthcare access, scholastic performance, access to capital and other resources to start small businesses)
 - develop a pipeline of younger leaders, equipped with education and a proper support network, to pursue the prior bullet points
- Improved communications – faster, and more frequent – on local civil rights issues to our supporters, and the Puget Sound area in general
- A concerted effort to demonstrate to younger people not only what civil rights issues still exist today, but more importantly their relevancy – how it directly impacts them
- More time and thought put into how to engage our supporters - how we mobilize our supporters

See Page 4

INSIDE

- Chapter Changes
- Meet our Interns!
- Policy and Legislation
- Annual Banquet
- APA Legislative Day
- Bridging Communities
- Police Accountability
- Take Action
- ... and Much More!



ABOUT JAACL

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

Seattle Chapter
PO Box 18558
Seattle, WA 98118-0558
www.jaclseattle.org

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Ryan Chin
Second VP, Binah Palmer
Third VP, Elaine Akagi
Treasurer, Jeffrey Hattori
Corresponding Secretary,
May Namba
Recording Secretary,
Bill Tashima
PNWDC Board Delegate,
Dawn Rego

BOARD

Shea Aoki
Nate Caminos
Kiku Hayashi
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Akemi Matsumoto
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Ken Kurata
Dawn Rego
Elsie Taniguchi

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Renew your membership
online by going to
<http://jaclseattle.org>

HISTORY AND ACTIVISM

Seize the Time ... Again

In recognition of the 40th anniversary of when students occupied Seattle Central Community College's Administration Building to demand the hiring of Asian Pacific American (APA) administrators, JAACL Seattle co-sponsored in the Seize the Time...Again event. The bold action of the students led to the hiring of the first APA administrators (management and professors). Prior to this, APA job applicants were not only rejected for these positions, with some even rejected because they were deemed "overqualified".

With funding from a grant from Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods, and space from Seattle Central, the event brought together some of the original participants and allowed some audience members to reminisce, as well as educating a completely new generation on the impact that a grassroots effort could have. OSU Co-chairs Al Sugiyama and Mike Tagawa, who orchestrated the protests and negotiations [with Seattle Central leadership] kicked off the event providing a narration through the series of events that led to the hiring of the first APA administrators coupled with photos and audio from the protest.

In retrospect, while much of what transpired seemed so blatantly apparent now, at the time, things were not so clear. Many at the time may have sympathized with the fact that there were no APA administrators, but most did not agree with the actions of the students. Many students received repercussions – being arrested by the police, suspended from school, or even being reprimanded, in some fashion, by their parents who couldn't understand why it was worth the risk (legal, education, tarnished reputation, etc.). In fact, as Sugiyama pointed out, while there was a broad consortium of students – at least eight student



organizations, students from other schools (such as UW), students from all ethnicities – they were only supported by one non-student organization: JAACL Seattle. Even with JAACL Seattle, the board was split, until one future Washington State Supreme Court Judge; Justice Charles Z. Smith implored the group to support the students' efforts.

Following the narration, Sugiyama turned the event over the panelists, some of the students involved with the protests: YK Kuniyuki, Sue Tomita, Annie Galarosa, Frank Irigon, Ruthanne Kurose, and Keith Yamaguchi. While each shared a little bit about what moved them to join the effort, as well as the protest from their vantage point, a strong message came out from the panel communicating the continued need to strive for civil rights.

In short, while this may have been a civil rights triumph from 40 years that triggered many of the participants, and subsequent activists, to continue to fight social injustices, the requirement for vigilance, unfortunately, lingers.

GET INVOLVED, TAKE ACTION

Mobilizing the People

EMAIL LIST

The JAACL Seattle chapter recently started an email list to communicate about important issues, the status of legislation, and news impacting the community. Join the email list today to keep update to date on what JAACL Seattle as doing, as well as the issues and events that concern you. It's free, and the fastest and easiest way to get communications and you'll receive some info that isn't available in our newsletter or elsewhere. You can always leave the email list by clicking the link to 'unsubscribe' at the bottom of each email we send.

Visit jaclseattle.org and look for the sign-up box on the left side of the page to join today. What do you have to lose? Free news, event info, and issue updates delivered right to you.

TAKE ACTION

Have you had a chance to visit JAACL Seattle's website, jaclseattle.org, recently? We added a "Take Action" section (one of the menu options to the right of our logo) which lets our supporters know about important issues that they can get involved with now. In fact, by visiting the Take Action section, our supporters can find out about current issues and simply click on a button to communicate their opinion to their elected officials.

For each of these issues, we have already written sample letters, so people don't need to write anything (unless they want to). The software we use looks up the appropriate elected officials (and their contact info), shows the sample letter we've written (and allows the supporter to personalize it, or even substitute their own text), and then sends the message off.

Just a few mouse clicks, and 120 seconds is all it takes to ensure that your voice is heard on the issues you care about. So keep checking our website for things you can take action on, or even easier, sign-up for our email list and we'll let you know when there's something new!

RENAMING UW'S ETHNIC CULTURAL CENTER

The University of Washington (UW) is in the midst of rebuilding its Ethnic Cultural Center (ECC). The ECC was created with UW's Office of Minority Affairs (originally called the Special Educational Opportunity Program) in early 1970's, in no small part to a sit-in at the university's president's office by the Black Student Union. Today, the ECC has a wealth of resources and opportunities available to students including student advising, organizational development, personal growth, and referrals to different departments and programs.

In conjunction with the new building being constructed, JAACL Seattle has joined a movement to have the new building named after Dr. Samuel E. Kelly, who was responsible for founding the Office of Minority Affairs in 1970 and served as its first Vice President. Part of being a civil rights organization is honoring diversity. Renaming the building honors diversity by recognizing the person who created UW's Office of Minority Affairs, as well as working towards creating a school that more represents the student population – a significant amount who are of color.

Did you know that there isn't a single building on the University of Washington campus named after a person of color?

To support the naming of the new ECC building after Dr. Kelly, JAACL Seattle has communicated its support to both UW Interim President Wise and the Board of Regents. The process is for the Board of Regents to

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approve the naming of the facilities based on the recommendation of one of its subcommittees.

If you would like to also express your support, you can contact UW Interim President Wise and the Board of Regents:

Stanley H. Barer, Chair
UW Office of the Board of Regents
Room 139 Gerberding Hall
Box 351264
Seattle, WA 98195-1264

Interim President Phyllis Wise
University of Washington
301 Gerberding Hall
Box 351230
Seattle, WA 98195

Independent Police Review Board with Subpoena Power

Amidst all of the high profile incidents involving the Seattle Police Department (SPD) over the past 6-10 months, a renewed sentiment has restarted to ensure that there are adequate checks and balances on our local law enforcement agency's actions. JACL Seattle has decided to support the movement to fight for an independent police review board with subpoena power. Currently, there is no independent body that has authorization to review Seattle Police Department conduct.

Many of the calls for reviews of police involve officers being accused of misconduct against people of color. While reviews take place when citizens ask for them, many of the review bodies can be construed as potentially biased through their affiliations. The establishment of an independent review board with subpoena power would greatly reduce, if not eliminate, any potential biases. Providing subpoena power gives the body authority to ensure that it can gain access to all information sources required for a thorough investigation.

This is not the first time that there has been a movement for an independent police review board, unfortunately. The fact that there is a call for such movement, repeatedly, is a strong indication that a process change is needed in order to make the system seem more equitable.

It's important to note that JACL Seattle is grateful to have the SPD and believes that they do a great job protecting and assisting the city's residents. However, we also believe that there should not be a single person or entity anywhere that has unbridled, absolute power. Without an independent police review board with enforceable authority, the SPD has the chance to reach such power. As a democracy, we find it appropriate to have an independent body selected by the people, to check that law enforcement is protecting the people in a desirable fashion.

From Page 1

to move the masses, as well as how we maximize the skills and talents that we far too often don't tap

That's our commitment to you this year.

I have no doubt that once we do this that depletion of resources will reverse. Once we improve our communications (about civil rights issues) and the mobilization of our supporters we'll gain supporters, volunteers, and donors.

With that said, we need your support! Here's some ways you can help, today:

1. Join our email list so you know when there's breaking civil rights news, as well as ways you can help on important issues
2. Check the "Take Action" section of jaclseattle.org, regularly. This is where you can learn about issues that need your help, which many times is sending an email directly from the JACL Seattle website and as easy as a few clicks of the button (for more info, please see the "Mobilizing the

Rush Limbaugh Mocking Asians

"Ching, chong, ching, chong, chong, ching, chebaba," that was Rush Limbaugh's words when providing his summation of President Hu Jintao's visit to the US. While Limbaugh mocked the President, he elaborated saying, "When I Hear Chinese or Japanese, it sounds like the same word."

When California State Senator Leeland Yee expressed his dismay over the incident, Limbaugh defended his actions. As a result of Limbaugh chastising Yee, numerous death threats have been sent to the California State Senator.

Since most of JACL Seattle's supporters are not listeners of his show, and because he's evidently unsympathetic if he offends any of his APA listeners, it obviously would make little to no impact if we encouraged people to stop listening to the radio show (770 AM, KTTH in Seattle). However, we know that it's important to make sure that our voice is heard, so we expressed our concerns to 770 AM, as well as some of the sponsors of Limbaugh's show. If you feel likewise, you may want to let not only 770 AM know, but the sponsors of the program.

To hear the excerpts, visit: jaclseattle.org/rushmockschinese

Allyson Love

Bonneville Seattle

People" article)

3. Become a member of the JACL. This not only provides us with necessary funding for general operations, but it also means that you'll continue to get the newsletter beyond this one, so you can be notified of important events that we hold, such as the Seize the Time...Again event we co-sponsored on March 2nd.

4. Volunteer. Please remember that JACL Seattle has always been a volunteer run organization. With that being said we always need help regardless of what you can give. It doesn't matter what you're able to, or want to do, we probably could use you

5. Donate money.

We're going to have an eventful, action packed year. I hope you're excited as I am because I'm looking forward to working with you.



AMY NGUYEN



REYNA ROLLALAZO

JACL SEATTLE INTERNS

Talented intern pool boosts chapter's capacity

JACL Seattle Interns –In conjunction with our APA Empowerment Series, JACL Seattle's program to encourage civic engagement from college students through networking and training, we've hired four interns. Thanks to a generous grant from the City of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods, four paid interns will be helping with marketing, managing, and developing the APA Empowerment Series so we can touch the lives of hundreds more college students. Each of them are impressive leaders already, here's a little about each one:

ALEK KANETOMI

- President of UW's Japanese Student Association (JSA)
- UW Certificate of International Studies in Business — Japan Track, Vice President of Internal Affairs
- UW Business Major (focus on marketing and international business)

REYNA ROLLALAZO

- UW Filipino American Student Association (FASA), Fundraising Chair
- UW Sisterhood of Pi Nu Iota (Filipino interest group), President Secretary, and Treasurer

- UW Law, Societies, and Justice Major (Cum Laude), June 2010
- Law school in Fall 2011

NATHAN SILPAKIT

- Associated Students of the University of Washington (ASUW), Assistant to Director for Diversity Efforts
- South Puget Sound Community College, Senator for Multicultural Affairs
- Providence Saint Peter Hospital, High School Outreach Coordinator
- UW American Ethnic Studies Major

AMY NGUYEN

- Seattle Chinatown International District Preservation & Development Authority (SCIDPDA), Economic Development Intern
- UW Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) — Vice President
- UW Chi Sigma Alpha Sorority, Community Service Chair
- UW Economics Major, December 2010



EVENTS

JACL Seattle holds 89th Annual Banquet

The Seattle JACL held its 89th Annual Banquet at the New Hong Kong Restaurant on Saturday, January 29th. Over 220 guests gathered as the chapter honored five beloved community leaders—"Uncle Bob" Santos, Eddie Rye Jr., Kip Tokuda, Sharon Tomiko Santos, and the late Roberto Maestas. The honorees are legendary for their activism for civil rights. 2011 Chapter President, Ryan Chin, wrote, "Each...has made significant contributions to the betterment of our society through their leadership and hard work. Their unrelenting dedication to equality serves as a model for us all."

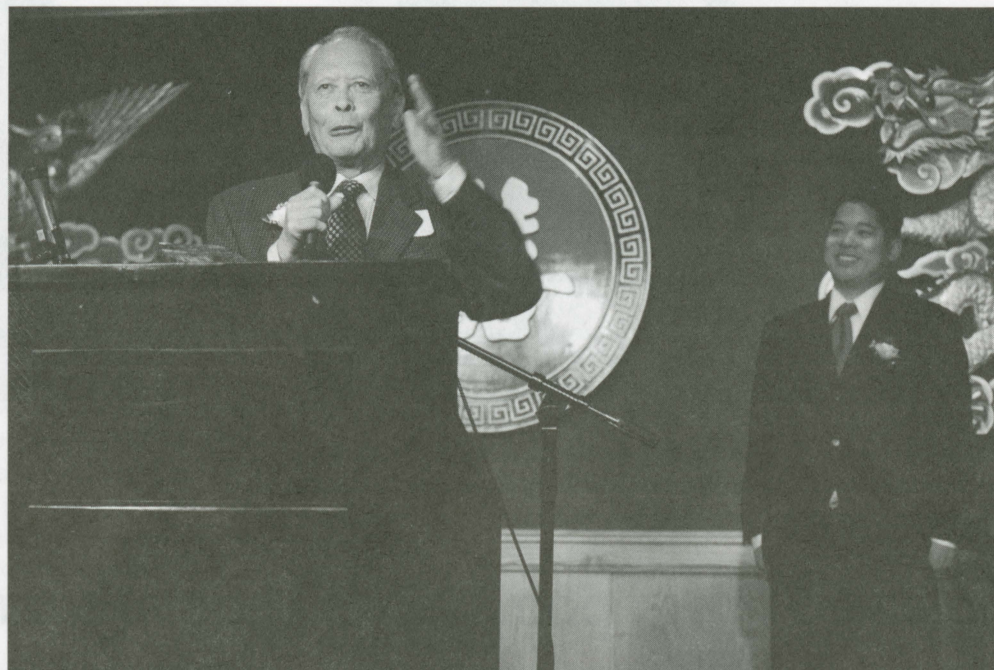
Prior to presenting each with a plaque, the audience was treated to a short video that Ryan prepared for each honoree in which poignant stories were shared by various community leaders. One humorous story from Kip Tokuda relayed an incident in which he and Sharon were walking by the Governor's mansion and mistaken by two tourists for Gary and Mona Locke.

This year's event marked a change from past formal banquets at hotel venues to the more friendly confines of a large but cozy restaurant. Many people commented that they welcomed the intimate, more casual restaurant atmosphere along with the tremendous amounts of good food. Another change was the absence of dignitary greetings, incoming and outgoing Chapter President remarks, a keynote address, and a Board installation ceremony. Mistress of Ceremonies, Kelly Miyahara, from the Jeopardy TV quiz show, skillfully guided the program through the evening.

The Banquet is the Chapter's primary fundraising activity. This year, Al Sugiyama exhorted diners to "Raise the Paddle" in support of JACL. His efforts netted around \$7,000.

The evening began and ended with fundraising for the Chapter's five scholarships: the Bunshiro Tazuma Scholarship, the Minoru Tamesa Scholarship, The Aki Kurose Memorial Scholarship, the Masao and Cherry Kinoshita Scholarship, and the Elaine Akagi Scholarship. The banquet began with a live and a table dessert auction. Kip Tokuda and Sharon Tomiko Santos were the auctioneers for the live auction. The banquet ended with a drawing for the winner of the scholarship fund 50/50 raffle. These activities raised around \$8,300 for the Chapter's scholarship funds.

The Chapter thanks this year's Banquet Co-Chairs, Ken Kurata and Elaine Akagi. We also acknowledge the Dessert Auction Co-Chairs, Emi Suzuki, Paul Tashima and Bill Tashima; NVC Commander, Keith Yamaguchi for leading the Pledge of Allegiance; the Reverend Kerry Kaino, for the invocation, and the many volunteers who helped with the evening's program.



"Uncle Bob" Santos speaks as JACL Seattle President Ryan Chin looks on.

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors to the Dessert Auction:

Elaine Akagi
Ciara Asamoto
Carmellette Bentley
Central Market-Shoreline
Cheesecake Factory-Bellevue
Cheesecake Factory-Seattle
Cheesecake Factory-Southcenter
Ryan Chin
Costco-Shoreline
Karen Cunningham
Cupcake Royale
Daniel's Broiler-Bellevue
Dessert Works
Lillian Hayashi
Hiroki's
Dale Kaneko
Maile Kaneko
Kyle Kinoshita

Macrina Bakery
Sharon Maeda
Debbie Nakagasawa
Jon and Cheryl Nakagawara
May Namba
New Hong Kong Restaurant
Assunta Ng
Arlene Oki
Perry Ko's South China
Restaurant
Sam's Club-Shoreline
Jeff Saul and Lily Eng
Julie Stevenson and Ali Myers
Mari Sugiyama
Stephen Sumida
Emi Suzuki
Joyce and Steven Suzuki
Bill Tashima and Chris Bentley
Paul Tashima
Umae Do-Art Oki

UPCOMING EVENT

Seattle JACL to host 43rd National Convention

The Seattle Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League is honored to be hosting the 43rd National JACL Convention in July of 2012. The committee has been hard at work since 2008 planning for this event. This will be the first time since 1988 that the National convention has been in the Seattle area. This event is expected to attract 400+ attendees from across the country and Japan.

The Seattle chapter is one of the founding chapters of the national organization and held the first National convention in the early 1920's. We are one of the oldest chapters in the nation, celebrating our 89th anniversary in 2011. The national organization, which includes 112 chapters across the country, is the oldest civil rights or Asian Americans,

whose mission is to fight for the rights of all Americans.

The 2012 convention will be held at the Bellevue Hyatt Regency, July 5-8. Among the activities being planned are an Awards Luncheon, workshops, Welcome Mixer, Sayonara Banquet, in addition to activities for our youth. The election of national officers will take place, as well as business meetings. For many of the delegates, it will be a homecoming for those Nisei who left the Seattle area many years ago. For others, it will be an opportunity to see long time friends and make new ones.

We welcome members to join us in planning the convention. Please contact Elaine Akagi for information.

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

JACL Joins Coalition to Protect Our Economic Future

With the new year came new budget challenges. As soon as the 2011 legislative session began in Olympia, the Seattle chapter of JACL joined the Our Economic Future coalition, a broad-based statewide group of over 200 organizations concerned about the devastating long-term consequences of several years of severe budget cuts.

After \$5 billion in state budget cuts in the past two years, an additional \$4.6 billion this year would be devastating. The cuts will strip more than 100,000 people (including nearly 30,000 children) of health care coverage, eliminate care and prescription drugs for the most vulnerable, undermine our public schools, make college unaffordable, and seriously damage the safety and health of our environment.

Many state and local agencies and programs that face severe cuts serve communities of color and underrepresented communities. The state Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, for instance, is being downsized and combined with other community-specific Commissions due to these budget cuts.

Because continued racial disparities in education, health care,

interpretation services, and other programs continue to be civil rights issues, the Our Economic Future coalition has a Racial Equity Team that works to ensure that the voices of communities of color are not forgotten or left out of these important conversations about funding. JACL is part of these conversations.

The power of the coalition is that a wide-ranging array of organizations -- focusing on civil rights, health care advocates, senior advocates, immigrant rights, gay and lesbian rights, environmental protections, and many other groups -- stand together in the face of budget cuts. This year, after the passage of Tim Eyman's I-1053, which makes it harder for the legislature to raise revenue, it is more important than ever that organizations unite with a common message that our communities cannot take more cuts.

In these tough times, we need to stand together as a state and protect the public services that are the key to our future prosperity and quality of life in our communities.

For a list of all 250 organizations from across the state that are also part of the coalition, visit <http://oureconomicfuture.org/about/>

JACL Opposes Racial Profiling Bill in State Legislature

JACL added its name to a list of over 50 organizations (representing people of color, civil rights, labor, bar associations, service organizations, and faith communities) opposed to House Bill 1126, a bill in the legislature which purports to be tough on "anti-gang" measures but instead allows for racial profiling of youth and provides no alternatives for at-risk youth.

The bill doesn't require proof of gang activity in order for an injunction to legally prevent someone from engaging in vague things like "wearing gang clothing" (never defined), contacting minors near a school (who may or may not be family), "associating with gang members" (who may or may not be family or neighbors), and a host of other activities. As we know, the idea that many youth of color are automatically gang members because of stereotypes about clothing and association already allows for racial profiling of innocent kids in our communities.

The bill also does nothing to address the very real concern about gang violence in neighborhoods across the state. Study after study has shown that the best way to prevent youth from joining gangs is to provide healthy, safe alternatives for youth -- not cut them off their community, family, and safety net the instant they are suspected of gang involvement.

For more on the bill and its harmful impact on civil rights, visit the ACLU of Washington's fact sheet: <http://bit.ly/gsiYUL>

POLICY AND LEGISLATION

JACL represents at APA Legislative Day

Ryan Chin, our Seattle Chapter President, represented JACL in a small meeting with Governor Gregoire where the disproportionate impact of budget cuts was discussed. The rally after numbered over 1500 elders, youth, leaders, and individuals from across the state of Washington. People came from Spokane, Yakima, Snohomish, King and Pierce Counties and SW Washington.

Participants were welcomed in 30 languages from members of our communities and were then welcomed to the state capitol by Senator Paul Shinn and Representative Cindy Ryu. After the rally participants met with their legislators to advocate for important programs and legislation that affect the API community.



APA Legislative Day in Olympia.

PROGRAM

Bridging Communities Program for Uniting Youth

The Japanese American Citizens League in partnership with the Council on American-Islamic Relations-WA (CAIR), OneAmerica, the Arab American Community Coalition (AACC), the Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS), and the National Park Service is proud to introduce the Bridging Communities-Seattle Program. Originally founded in Los Angeles, The Seattle Bridging Communities program, with grant support from the National Park Service, seeks to coalesce Arab American, American Muslim and Japanese American youth through the learning and understanding of differences and commonalities that unite us under one Seattle community. Through interactive workshops, participants will focus on topics such as community, identity, human rights, culture, religion, community service, and advocacy.

For more information about our program please visit our website at: <http://www.jacl.org/bc-seattle>

Also join us on Facebook at: <http://on.fb.me/ff4HrK>



APA EMPOWERMENT SERIES

- Sofia Aragon
- Allison Lau
- Akemi Matsumoto
- Jeffrey Hattori
- Albert Shen
- Banquet
- Elaine Akagi
- Marcine Anderson
- Alex Anderson
- Shea Aoki
- Ryan Chin
- Ann Fujii Lindwall
- Jeanette Girard
- Kiku Hayashi
- Sue Honaker
- Ken Kurata
- Paul Kurose
- Akemi Matsumoto
- May Namba
- Arlene Oki
- Iris Okimoto Nielson
- Dawn Rego
- Mari Sugiyama
- Emi Suzuki
- Paul Tashima
- Bill Tashima
- Convention
- Elaine Akagi
- Marcine Anderson
- Kiku Hayashi
- Sue Honaker
- Wendy Kimball
- Ken Kurata
- Don Maekawa
- Tomio Moriguchi
- May Namba
- Rose Nohara
- Mae Numata
- Arlene Oki
- Joy St. Germain
- Elsie Taniguchi
- Bill Tashima
- Karen Yoshitomi

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

- Shea Aoki
- Lloyd Hara
- Jeffrey Hattori
- Ray Ishii
- Wayne Kimura
- Mako Nagagawa
- David Okimoto

JACL Seattle Volunteers & Donors



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

- Elaine Akagi
- Ann Fujii Lindwall
- Kyle Kinoshita
- Paul Kurose
- Ali Myers
- May Namba
- Mari Sugiyama
- Emi Suzuki
- Bill Tashima

SEIZE THE TIME...AGAIN

- Donnie Chinn
- Annie Galarosa
- Frank Irigon
- Adam Kong
- YK Kuniyuki
- Ruthanne Kurose
- Alan Sugiyama
- Alysa Sugiyama
- Kathy Sugiyama
- Mike Tagawa
- Sue Tomita
- Jill Wakefield
- Keith Yamaguchi
- Evelyn Yenson

DONORS

(Nov. 2010 - Feb. 2011)

- General Donations
- Lori Bannai
- Kimiko Hazel Calhoun

- Ryan Chin
- Frank Fukui
- Bruce Harrell
- Bob Hasegawa
- Kiku Hayashi
- Hannah Hirabayashi
- Bernadette Horiuchi
- Naomi Ishisaka
- Joanne Ishisaka
- Ray Iwata
- Ken Kurata
- Lori Matsukawa
- Akemi Matsumoto
- Emily Morishima
- Shigeko & Mary Otani
- Sunkie Oye
- Nancy Shioyama
- Ruby Inouye Shu
- Norman Suzuki
- Akai Takayama
- Victor Takemoto
- Noburu Taki
- Bill Tashima
- Elmer Tazuma
- John Tubbs

JACL ORGANIZATION

Redefining How We Meet

During the March board meeting, the JACL Seattle board voted to move out of its current office. It was an agonizing choice that was only decided after three months of internal debate. We've held the office for many years, and it holds many memories, but ultimately the board decided to give up the office and redirect our resources.

Unlike most offices which utilize the space for workplaces, what we found was that we use the space for meetings and storage (we have no staff that utilizes the space day-to-day). Since there were alternatives available for storage and meeting space, it made sense to consider using the money we spend on the office space to invest in JACL programs and services, instead.

For an organization steeped in tradition and history, this represents a big change. Now what?

Instead of meeting at the office, we'll meet somewhere else. Instead of having a landline and answering machine where our response time is contingent on someone visiting the office, checking the answering machine, and directing the message to the correct person, we have free voicemail that instantly sends the message to the board via email. Instead of receiving mail at the office, we'll receive it via PO Box, which we already do for some things.

Our non-financial documents will be added to our archives at the UW. This will make them much more accessible to people, as previously, these documents that were stored in file cabinets in the back of our office, were not utilized in recent years. To access it in our office, a researcher would need to know that we held these records at the office, reached out to someone who has the key to the office, and arranged a time where they could thumb through the documents while a volunteer from the chapter stayed.

For the important historical possessions that can't go into UW's



Special Collections, we'll work with local Japanese and Asian American organizations to find appropriate homes where they can be displayed and/or used. Financial documents will go into a self storage closet in case they are needed for reference in the future.

The only constant in life is change. We're evolving to get leaner and meaner. In the past we needed an office to meet at; nowadays we can meet at a Starbucks, or even a library. We value tradition, but we also value the donations from supporters – and try to balance the two. We can now use the money that would've went towards office space (overhead) to offer programs and services, such as our APA Empowerment Series whose purpose is to develop a consistent pipeline of community leaders by networking and educating college students annually. The bottom line is that we can deliver more value to our supporters (and community) by getting leaner and meaner, while investing as much of our resources into programs and services, as possible.

HISTORY

JACL Seattle Archives at UW

Did you know that many of JACL Seattle's important historical items are housed in UW's Special Collections? In fact, according to UW Special Collections Curator Blyne Olivieri, JACL Seattle Chapter's records are heavily used and were recently researched by a professor from one of the University of California schools who will be citing some of the material.

In a move that the chapter hope leads to even more utilization of our records, we're moving more into our UW Special Collections archive in the coming months. However, prior to doing so, we'd like to request the help of people who've been involved with JACL Seattle over the years. In particular, we have various photos that we'd like to move, but we want to identify as much information

about the pictures (i.e. people, locations, estimated dates) before this happens – it would make the material a lot more valuable. Sadly, as the years have went by, there have become less and less people who understand the contents of our materials, so we want to maximize the remaining memories we still have, so others can be able to derive value from these pictures. Without the memories, and background info, pictures don't quite mean as much to viewers.

We're looking to host a potluck in the Seattle Chapter office, April 14th at 6:00PM to identify info on these precious photos. Please RSVP to Ryan Chin, if you are able to help us.



JACL ORGANIZATION

Volunteer Wish List

As a volunteer run organization, JACL Seattle always needs volunteers. Most people would be surprised how their skills, knowledge, and/or time could be utilized by us. Below are just some of the things we could use help with now. We understand that when people volunteer, they're taking away from time that they could be spent doing other things, so it's perfectly fine if you can do some of the tasks below, but not all (for a "position/role"), or if you have a certain availability. If you're able to help out, or have questions, please email Ryan Chin, rchin3@yahoo.com.

FUNDING RESEARCHER

- Research grants that JACL could apply for (and how to apply)
- Research foundations that JACL could apply for (and how to apply)
- Research corporations that JACL could apply for funding with (and how to apply)

GRANT WRITER

- Write grant applications
- Write foundations funding requests
- Write corporate funding requests

VIDEOGRAPHER / VIDEO EDITING

- Record interviews
- Edit videos clips we have to create short movies (5 minutes or less) documenting events or people from footage we have

SCANNER

- Scan JACL Seattle photos
- Scan text documents and convert them to text

BECOME A MEMBER OF JACL

Join JACL – together, we can make a difference.

JACL provides leadership on a national scale for many important issues that affect our daily lives. These programs have included in recent years the monitoring of anti-Asian violence; the promoting of accurate accounts of the Japanese American experience in our nation's textbooks; the promotion of leadership development skills; the creation of the Legacy Fund, a perpetual endowment that is helping to ensure that we can carry on our work into the future; and the ongoing monitoring of the campaign for Redress, in which we successfully lobbied the US Government for compensation and an apology for Japanese American WWII internment camp survivors.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Free Pacific Citizen Newspaper subscription
- Quarterly Seattle JACL Newsletter
- Scholarship Program
- JACL Credit Union Services

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Seattle Chapter Booster \$25

Senior Seattle Chapter Booster \$20

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

National JACL Individual \$67

For individuals looking to support National, Pacific Northwest (District) and Seattle JACL. Seattle JACL receives \$3 of this membership, the rest is split between National and Pacific Northwest (District) JACL.

Students & Youth \$30

Category for individuals who are 25 years of younger or who are currently enrolled in a college, trade school, or university at either the undergraduate or graduate level.

Couple & Family \$115

Spouses or partners (and children) residing in the same household.

Thousand Club \$100

Century Club \$175

Exclusive membership categories whose members make a larger annual contribution to the programs of the organization.

Life Thousand Club \$3000

Life Century Club \$5000

Spouse or partner of a current Thousand Club, Century Club, or Life Member.

BECOME A MEMBER:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Become a member online or send a check with your payment to:

JACL Seattle
316 Maynard South
Seattle, WA 98104

TRIBUTES / NEW MEMBERS

Renew your membership online at www.jaclseattle.org

TRIBUTES

Japanese American Veterans

Calvin & Lorraine Hoshibata

Chuck Kato

Lillian Kato

Cherry Kinoshita

Tom Kometani

Maekawa Family

Joan Yoshitomi

Carol Suguro

John and Rose Fujimari

Tohachi & Miyako Suzuki

Hiroshi Suzuki

Yoshio Tomita

Daisy S. Tomita

Jack Y. Tsuchiya

Herbert Tsuchiya

MEMBERS (NOV. 2010 - FEB. 2011)

NEW

Wendy Kimball
Sayaka Omori

RENEWALS

Shunji Asari
Bi Hoa Caldwell
Jill Yamada Cooke
Les Y. Dogen
Teri Eguchi
Ann Fujii-Lindwall
Florence Fujita
Taihei Fukumoto
Joyce Hands
Sharon Harada
Tom Y Hayashi, DDS
Bernadette Horiuchi
Tetsuden Kashima
William T. Kawahara
Rod Kawakami
Sally Kitano
Ronald Komatsu
Kathy Kozu
Dan T Matsumoto
Michael Matsunami
Ken Mayeda

Holly Meo
Mike Mizumoto
Frank Muramatsu
Giro Nakagawa
Wayne Nakamura
Kurt Nogaki
Dennis Nomura
Kunio Otani
Sunkie Oye
Masaye Sado
Wilce Shiomi
Joy M. St Germain
Wayne Sugai
Kathy Sugiyama
Alan Sugiyama
Eugene M Tagawa
Elmer Tazuma
Massie Tomita
Herbert M Tsuchiya
Tom M Tsukiji
Lawrence Tsunoda
Mildred Tsutsumi
MacKenzie Walker
Joe Yabuki
Etsuo Yoshitome



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