



# Pacific Citizen

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League

All aboard—  
Check out new  
officers—page 3

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Happy

NEW  
YEAR



## New Year's Greeting

On behalf of the National Board of JACL, I want to extend to all our members and friends the very best wishes for health and happiness in 1993. As we count down toward a new century, much work has yet to be done to make the world a better and safer place for all its inhabitants.

We look forward to the opportunities that a new administration in Washington, D.C. provides us to accomplish our goals. We ask you to join in our efforts by actively participating in your chapter, district and national affairs and to contribute to our Legacy Fund campaign. It is our responsibility to secure the future for the generations to come.

Happy New Year!

*Lillian C. Kimura*

Lillian C. Kimura,  
JACL national president

## IN-SIGHT

### Bringing in the New Year

By LILLIAN C. KIMURA  
National president, JACL

While Christmas is a holiday for families, New Year's is a celebration for friends and a journey back to your roots. Who doesn't love to partake of the "ogochiso" that is usually made only once a year.

Planning the dishes to make for this celebration starts weeks in advance. A little of this, a little of that—all of it you note is expensive as you wheel the cart up and down the aisles of Yaohan or some other Oriental food store. Sato imo, takenoko, kamaboko, konbu, and the dishes you eat for good luck—ozoni, soba, kuromame.

I wish I paid more attention when my mother was planning and cooking these dishes. She would always tell me I should learn if I want to keep on with the tradition. I was too busy washing the pots and pans. Now my sister-in-law and I try our hand at making



the New Year spread with the help of the wonderful cookbooks that various JACL chapters have published, the first I remember being West Los Angeles JACL Auxiliary's, "East West Flavors."

On January 2, I was invited to Sumi and Sam Koide's along with Tom and Janet Kometani. Since Tom and Janet live in New Jersey too, we planned to meet somewhere on our side of the Hudson River so we could go over to Westchester County together. Our making connections was an adventure in itself but we did and had a great feast at the Koide's which was capped by the making of mochi with Augie and Kitty

Nakagawa's electric mochi maker. That is some sight to see—the whole process taking less than an hour.

Other New York JACLers there were Jim and Susan Nishimura who had some great ideas for activities our chapter could do as well as concern about membership recruitment. We lamented about receiving our Pacific Citizen two to three weeks after the publishing date; we thanked June Baensch for contributing children's books which she illustrates for sale at our Holiday Bazaar. What makes these books special is that she inscribes each book with a sketch and her name.

Since I go to my brother's on New Year's, I've missed the gathering that Julie Azuma and Tamio Spiegel plan every year. Theirs is a great spread too and if I were in Chicago, I'd be invited to Bill and Carol Yoshino's whose dining room table barely holds all the delicious dishes. This annual feast is a wonderful way to start the new year and a tradition which I hope the younger generations carry on. That's "thirty" for now. Happy New Year!

## More Holiday Issue stories . . .



Pacific Citizen presents more Holiday Issue stories written by JACL members. In upcoming issues, PC will endeavor to publish most of the articles we received. We thank all who took the time to write for us. One of writers is Pat Okura who recalled the Civil Rights march of 1963. From left are Key Kobayashi, Okura, Masaoka, and carrying the JACL flag are Todd Endo and Aki Sano.

## Asian Americans concerned with cabinet posts

By GWEN MURANAKA  
Assistant editor

President-elect Clinton promised a cabinet that would "look like America" and with his appointment of record numbers of African Americans, Latino Americans and women, he has for the most part delivered. But where are the Asian Americans?

Leaders from various Asian Pacific American groups met recently with Vernon Jordan, chairman of Clinton's transition team

to urge increased consideration of qualified Asian Pacific American candidates. Other Clinton team members in attendance included Doris Matsui, a member of the Transition board, Maria Haley, Jan Pierry, and Melinda Yee. JACL National Director Dennis Hayashi, who was in attendance at the meeting, said the Transition chair was receptive to their concerns and assured the gathering that Asian Americans would be among the next round of

administration appointees.

"The next round of appointments is very important," said Hayashi. "The cabinet positions are considered very glamorous, but we've got to have a four year plan. There's going to be a lot of turnover; if we can get people positioned within the administration, they may move up to the cabinet level."

While Asian Americans may be

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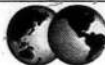
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## Pacific Citizen

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## Calendar

### New York

**Through May 30**—The Chinatown History Museum's photographic exhibitions, "From Canton to New York: The Broken Tradition," and "The People of Tong Yeh Gai," 70 Mulberry St., 2nd floor, Sun-Wed., noon-5 p.m. Information: 212/619-4785.

### Pennsylvania

#### Philadelphia

**Sunday, Jan. 31**—Philadelphia Chapter, JACL, sponsors a trip to see Lane Nishikawa's "Tim on a Mission from Burma," Painted Bride Art Center, 230 Vine St., 7 p.m. Group rate (15 people): \$12. Information: Jane, 215/648-2567.

### California

#### Sacramento

**Saturday, Jan. 16**—Jan Ken Po Gakko's annual New Year's extended session, Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, 6929 Franklin Blvd., Sacramento, 9 a.m. Registration: \$3 per child. Children ages 3 to 10, under 5 will need an accompanying adult. Information: Yumiko Kiade, 916/428-6737

or Sharon Oguro, 916/422-5336.  
**Wednesday, Feb. 27**—Sequoia Chapter JACL's annual crab and spaghetti fundraiser, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 408/738-4334 or Tats Hori, 415/948-6575. JACL officers to be installed.

**Thursday, Feb. 28**—Florin Buddhist JACL, the Next Generation's coed volleyball tournament, San Jose State Pritchard Rd., Florin Y.B.A. Hall, 7235 Pritchard Rd., 5 p.m. Cost: \$22. Dinner, dance, and raffie. Information: 916/383-1831.

### San Jose

**Sat.-Sun., Jan. 30-31**—West Valley JACL, the Next Generation's coed volleyball tournament, San Jose State University, 7 p.m. Information: Tim Watanabe, 408/723-0327.

### Los Angeles

**Friday, Jan. 15**—Japanese American National Museum's Jazz Night at the Museum, 369 East First St., Los Angeles. Reservations required. Information: 213/625-0414.  
**Thursday, Jan. 21**—Japan America Society sponsors Dennis Laune speaking on her book, "Yankee Samurai: Insights for the American on Japanese

Management," Four Seasons Hotel, 690 Newport Center Dr., Newport Beach, 11:30 a.m. Cost: \$30, members; \$35, non-members. Information: 714/850-4335.

**CALENDAR ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE OF THE DAY OF THE EVENT. INCLUDE DAY OR NIGHT PHONE NUMBER FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.**

## Installations

**Carson**—Saturday, Jan. 16, Del Conte's, 2900 Pacific Coast Highway, Torrance, 6:30 p.m. Reservations: C. Mori, 219/16 Millpoint Ave., Carson 90745; 510/834-3663. Checks payable to Carson JACL.

**Cincinnati and Dayton**, Joint Installation—Sunday, Jan. 17, Steve Kao Chinese Restaurant in Dayton. Cost: \$20, per person.

**Contra Costa**—Saturday, Jan. 30, Holiday Inn-Bay Bridge, 1800 Powell St., Emeryville, room at the top, 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$23, single, \$44, couples. Reservations by Jan. 23. Fumiko Takahashi, 510/235-8182. Speaker: Adrian Isabelle, Richmond Human Relations Officers.

**French Camp**—Saturday, Jan. 16, French Camp Community Hall. Speaker: Kevin Hatano, Stockton Police Department.

**Greater L.A. Singles**—Saturday, Jan. 23, Proud Bird, 11022 Aviation Blvd., Los Angeles, 6 p.m. Dinner and dancing. Cost: \$27, before Jan. 16, \$30, after Jan. 16. Information: Janet Okubo, 310/835-7568, or June Furuta, 310/323-2783.

**Philadelphia**—Saturday, March 27, Coastline Restaurant in Cherry Hill. Graduates will also be recognized.

**Riverside**—Saturday, Feb. 6, UCR University Club.

**Selinas Valley and Monterey Peninsula**, Joint Installation—Friday, Jan. 22, Fort Ord NCO Club. Speaker: Lillian Kimura.

**San Diego**—Sunday, Jan. 24, Tom Henis Lighthouse Restaurant, 6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased from board members or call 619/230-0314. Speaker: Lillian Kimura.

**San Mateo**—Saturday, Jan. 23, San Francisco Airport Hilton, 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$30, per person. Volunteers may call: Karyl Matsumoto, 415/952-5666.

**Seattle**—Saturday, Jan. 16, Doubletree Suites, 15500 Southcenter Parkway, Tukwila, 5:30 p.m. Guests of honor: Paul Horuchi and George Tsutakawa.

**Selma**—Saturday, Jan. 16, Gateway Plaza Holiday Inn, 14299 Firestone Blvd., La Mirada, 6:30 p.m. Cost: adults, \$25; students, \$20. Speaker: Assemblyman Nao Takasugi. Reservations and information: Charles Ida, 494 E. Brookside Ave., Orange, CA 92667; 714/974-1076. Checks payable to Selma JACL.

**Sequoia**—Saturday, Feb. 27, Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 5 p.m. Coincides with crab and spaghetti feed fundraiser. Information: Don Miyamoto, 408/738-4334 or Tats Hori, 415/948-6575.

**Washington, D.C.**—Saturday, Jan. 23, Koran Room (Ballroom), Fort Myer Officers' Club, Fort Meyer, Va., 6:30 p.m. Cost: students, \$22; members, \$25; non-members, \$26. Speaker: Takakazu Kuriyama, ambassador of Japan. Information: Katherine Matsuki, 301/946-6995. Reservations by Jan. 19: Lily Okura, chair, 6303 Friendship Court, Bethesda, Maryland 20817. Checks payable to Washington, D.C. Chapter, JACL.

**West Valley**—Saturday, Jan. 23, Villa Felice, 15550 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos, 6 p.m. Cost: \$15. Speaker: Lillian Kimura. Installing officer: Mike Honda, Santa Clara County Supervisor. Information: Bretchihiyama, 408/997-0552; Dale Uru, 408/997-0552 and Aiko Nakamura, 408/378-6077.

## Holiday Greetings from ...

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PASADENA, CA 911—  
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SAITO, Arthur.....390 N Madison Ave., #2 (01)  
ALTADENA, CA 91001  
CHEN, Lucille.....1797 E. Calaveras Ave  
TAMURA, Mary.....283 E. Mariposa

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**Got a news tip?**  
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## All aboard

Pacific Citizen presents a new feature: "All Aboard," which will list all new 1993 chapter board members. Send us your list, and an in-focus photo and we'll run them as soon as possible.

**CLOVIS** — Eugene Shimizu, pres.; Ron Takahashi, vp.; Joyce Aoki, rec. sec.; David Sasaki, treas.; Barbara Shimizu, Paulette Hirasuna, cor. sec.; Cynthia Tsukamoto, membership; Dr. Mas Yamamoto, Maggie Ikeda, Dale Ikeda, scholarship; Travis Nishi, Dale Ikeda, del.

**CONTRA COSTA** — James Oshima, pres.; Sadako Delcollo, 1st vp.; Natsuko Irei, 2nd vp.; Toyoko Toppata, rec. sec.; Yoshio Tokiwa, treas.; 1993-94 board: Carmen de la Cruz, Ernest Iiyama, Lucy Kishue, June Kodani, Rev. Dennis Sato, Dr. Ted Tanaka, Y. Tokiwa, T. Toppata; 1992-93 board: S. Delcollo, N. Irei, Robert Fukuda, Robert Momono, Dennis Okamura, J. Oshima, Masa Sato, Ben Takeshita, Esther Takeuchi.

**DELANO** — Ben Nagatani, pres.; Jerry Nagatani, 1st vp.; Sadawo Yonaki, 2nd vp.; Saburo Okino, rec. sec.; Lynne Nagatani, cor. sec.; Takashi Kono, treas.; Marge Park, social; Dr. James Nagatani, 1000 Club.

**FLORIN** — Eileen Namba Otsuji, pres.; Tracy Uno, pres.-elect (aging & retirement); Andy Noguchi, past pres.; Titus Toyama, 1st vp. (family program, legal counsel); Mark Morodomi, 2nd vp.; Denise Okamoto, Claudia Taylor, sec.; Judy Fukuman, cor. sec.; Isamu Kashiwagi, treas.; Tommy Kushi, membership; Bill Kashiwagi, insurance; Richard K. Uno, 1000 Club; A. Noguchi, Mary Tsukamoto, redress; Kern Kono, redress treas.; Betty Kashiwagi, Nami King, communications; Joan Kubokawa, historian; Marion Kanemoto, oral history; Sally & Tom Hoshizaki, hospitality; Paul Takehara, performing arts; Henry Yui, newsletter; Sandi Michiaki, publicity; Twila Tomita, scholarship; James Abe, George Furukawa, schol. fund; Carol Hisatomi, women's concern; Hiroko Tsuda, women's peace event. \* **Board meets** second Tues., Florin Buddhist Church, 6 p.m., open to public.

**FOWLER** — Kevin Nagata, pres.; Ken Hashimoto, 1st vp.; Rev. Kyogyo Miura, 2nd vp.; Frank Osaki, sec. (scholarship); Howard Hiyama, cor. sec.; Tak Miyoshi, treas.; Thomas Toyama, publicity; Art Fujiwara, insurance; Joe Yokomi, 1000 Club & membership.

**FRESNO** — Robert Ishikawa, pres.; Izumi Taniguchi, vp. (membership); Russell Nakata, vp. (activities); Kerry Kaneichi, sec.; Hiro Kusakai, treas.; Fred Hirasuna, 1000 Club; Roy Kikunaga, del.

**LIVINGSTON-MERCED** — Grace Kimoto, pres.; Fred Kishi, vp.; Chris Masuda, rec. sec.; Leslie Kim Loeser, cor. sec.; Yoe Kinoshita, treas.; Sherman Kishi, PC Ads; Rinks Sano, membership; Sherry Kaji, historian; Lucy Okuye, Stan Morimoto, Floy Yagi, Bob Taniguchi, activities; Frank Shoji, 1000 Club; Buichi Kajiwara, insurance; Shirley Olsen, Liv. Health Clinic rep.; Bob Ohki, scholarship; area directors: Cressey—Smokey Kimura, Livingston—M. Kajiwara, Atwater—Merced—Yo Kuniyoshi; B. Kajiwara, Martha Kajiwara, del.

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**REEDLEY** — Stan Hirahara, pres.; Charlene Okamura, rec. sec.; Lynn Kurumaji, cor. sec.; Sadie Abe, treas.; Stan Ishii, membership; Russell Osato, scholarship; Curtis Koga, insurance;

Carolyn Ikemiya, activities.

**SALT LAKE** — Larry Grant, pres.; Terry Nagata, vp. (scholarship); Jean Irwin, vp. (arts); Tosh Kanegae, vp.; Yuriko Kojima, treas.; Jeff Itami, redress, AAU/DC; John Owada, vels; Toshiko Marse, cultural; Taka Kida, Issei Center; Jeff Nakashima, conv. rep.; Alice Kasai, coordinator; Joanne Hirase, legis.; Dale Arnold, directory; Tomoko Ogi Moses, bilingual; Scott Winget, health ins.; Hide Fujiwara, AARP.

**SAN DIEGO** — Board: David Kawamoto, Arthur Nishioaka, Wesley Mizutani MD, Karen Tani, Masaaki Hironaka, Don Estes, Joseph Horiye, Robert Ito, Tetsuyo Kasfima, Marleen Kawahara, Sally Lorang, Ben Nakata, Mitsuo Tomita MD, Vernon Yoshioka.

**SAN MATEO** — George Ikuta, pres.; Allen Sakamoto, vp. (program); Grayce Kato, vp. (membership); Ted Yamagishi, treas.; Lory Kitamura-Tintor, sec.; Steve Okamoto, past pres.; board: Yosh Kojimoto, Mary Jo Kubota, Gene Roh, Ron Shimamoto, Niles Tanakatsubo, George Wakayama, Bo Yoshimura, Lori Fukumoto, April Smith. \* **Board meets** 3rd Wednesdays, 7 p.m., San Mateo Community Center.

## CABINET

(Continued from page 1)

upset that there are no Asian Americans on Clinton's cabinet, Rep. Norman Mineta was widely reported to be under consideration for the transportation secretary position, which eventually went to former Denver mayor Federico Pena.

The Hokubei Mainichi reported that Mineta said in a KCBS interview that he and Clinton decided he could accomplish more as the chair of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee; although deciding against the cabinet post was a "tough decision."

Mineta spokesman Eric Federer confirmed that Mineta did meet with the president-elect to discuss the possibility, however at that time Mineta was never formally offered the position. "He talked with the president-elect in late November in Little Rock," said Federer. At that time, according to Mineta's spokesman, the congressman expressed to Clinton a preference for the Public Works chairmanship over transportation secretary.

Speaking in praise of the appointment of Pena, who is a Latino American, Mineta said, "I've known and worked with Mayor Pena for many years on the gamut of transportation issues, from roads to transit to aviation. I know that he is experienced in shaping and implementing policy, which is borne out by the tremendous respect he has earned from his colleagues within the U.S. Congress of Mayors."



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## Voices from past presidents

### Shig Sugiyama

JACL National President, 1974-76

*Pacific Citizen caught up with a number of past JACL national presidents and asked them about their current life and activities, as well as their thoughts about the organization as it is today or could be in the future.*

#### Personal update

As you may recall, I was with the U.S. Civil Service Commission in Washington, D.C., when my term ended in 1976. When President Carter took office in 1977, I was assigned to the President's reorganization project and worked on developing and gaining passage of what became the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978, the only major piece of legislation that Carter was able to get through the Democratic Congress. In January, 1979,



when the Civil Service Commission was abolished (as a result of the CSRA), I was transferred to the new Office of the Special Counsel (of the Merit Systems Protection Board). I served there as an assistant special counsel, then when pro-

See SUGIYAMA/page 13

### Hank Tanaka

JACL National President, 1972-74

#### Personal update

Although I retired two years ago, my new "free" time has been consumed by volunteering for several organizations, including JACL. I am reminded of a retirement gift (coffee mug) on which was printed, "retirement is a full time job." So true! One of my most challenging volunteer jobs is serving as the newly elected chair of the Citizens Advisory Board of a local state-supported psychiatric hospital. I am also challenged every day by the participants in my aerobics and aquatics classes. They're all younger than I! But, the joy of retirement is being able to get up each day and say to yourself, "Now, what do I want to do today?" It does take some skill to be able to juggle a schedule which balances one's personal interests with involvement in community services! Five



grandchildren and a sixth in November, 1992, round out a growing family of 15 persons, who live in places which span from Auburn, Wash., Chicago area, Cleveland, and the Washington, D.C. area. Visiting our grandchildren also consumes much of our time such as the joys of being grandparents! ☐

### James Murakami

JACL National President, 1976-78

#### Personal update

Since the completion of my terms of office, my activities have turned inward to the community in serving as president of the Santa Rosa East Rotary membership, on the board of directors of the Luther Burbank Performing Arts Center, and the board of the Sonoma County Chapter, JACL.

I am still active in my mechanical and engineering firm (Murakami Engineers), even though I recently had the devastating experience of receiving my Medicare Card.

My two children, who used to accompany Margarette and me to the JACL



activities, are now married and have families of their own.

### Patrick Okura

JACL National President, 1962-64

Following 30 years of residency in Omaha, Neb., I arrived in Washington, D.C., to assume the position of executive assistant to the director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), Dr. Bertram S. Brown. I served 13 exciting years at NIMH and assisted in launching many new programs for children, delinquents and ethnic minorities.

I retired from NIMH in 1963 and have been engaged in the private sector as a consultant in mental health, substance abuse and civil rights. I am the founder of the President of Double "O" Associates, Inc. and more recently, founded the Okura Mental Health Leadership Foundation, Inc. On my 77th birthday, in 1988, I established the foundation, whose goals are to assist young Asian Pacific American potential leaders in the field of human services. In the past two years, the foundation has provided stipends and scholarships to 18 young Asian Pacific Ameri-



cans to spend a "Week in Washington" attending a leadership seminar. The Okura Foundation has also funded several symposiums and meetings in the fields of mental health and civil rights. The foundation is tax exempt.

I also founded the National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA) and served as

See OKURA/page 10

## JACL Establishing internal order

### My term in retrospect

This is not written as an article; it is merely a jottling of impressions, of musings. Moreover, since I served as president-elect and as president, it's now fuzzy looking back over the period 1972-76 as to 'was it when I was president-elect or when I was president?' I was new to JACL when I had the temerity to run for national president in 1972. The Nixon Administration was reaching out to minorities, particularly Asian Americans, when my work took me to Washington, D.C., in Nov., 1972. Mo Marumoto was serving as a special assistant to the president. I believe he is the first and only Nikkei to have served on the White House staff. The White House looked to the JACL as the point of contact with the

Japanese American community since the JACL was the largest and only national Asian American organization. It was a time of challenges and new opportunities for JACL. Barry Matsumoto had just arrived to replace Dave Ushio as Washington rep when Kimi and I reached the capital. Dave, who had trained under the venerable Mike Masaoka to become JACL's Washington representative, had just left to replace "Mr. JACL," Mas Satow, who was retiring as national director. Mas and his wife, Chiz, had managed to keep the organization together and operating, with shoe-string budgets, for more than 25 years. It was obvious that the hiring of Dave and Barry as new staff was only the beginning. JACL would

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## Finding a home for JACL

### Memorable events

The decision to establish a permanent home for JACL was not without dissent. Some of us felt we should focus more on program and fiscal development rather than an edifice. The decision to locate the home on the West Coast was also not unanimous. A minority felt that headquarters should be relocated to Washington, D.C., where the "action is!"

Nevertheless, a successful building campaign was held and the new headquarters was dedicated after my term ended. I had expressed my view that the building be designed to enable flexible use in the future. Perhaps some day the building might best serve as an educational resource center.

Under the leadership of Dave Ushio, newly appointed executive director, JACL entered an era of innovative youth program planning and development, fiscal

development and leadership training. These were exciting times as JACL was infused with creative ideas and progressive leadership. It was also a time of risk-taking and confrontation.

### Views of JACL

It is my view that JACL is here to stay. The Program for Action now sets a clear course and reaffirms its mission as primarily a civil/human rights organization. The mandate makes clear that JACL will not become a fraternal or watchdog type organization.

### Future challenges

In a separate article titled, "Times have changed. It's time for a change," I have

See HOME/page 9

## To make intelligent choices

One of the most memorable events of my term was when the late Sen. S.I. Hayakawa, who was the Sayonara Banquet speaker at the Salt Lake Convention as I was leaving office, saying that the \$25,000 redress amount passed by the delegates at this convention was outlandish and not realistic. JACL and its members worked diligently, long and hard and proved him wrong. The membership increased despite the changeover in national directors with the resignation of Dave Ushio and the hiring of Kari Nobuyuki a year later.

JACL is still the largest national Asian American organization that is very widely respected and admired for its ability to get national and local legislation passed. The JACL has this ability because of our national and local network capabilities and the strong commitment of the JACL volunteers which is unparalleled in other organizations. It goes without saying that the

Japanese American members in the Senate and the House of Representatives in Washington and other local and state political bases work hard for us in our efforts to get things done. This mechanism should be utilized rallying the cause of all Asian Americans in the coalitions that could be formed to counteract issues and incidents, such as Asian-bashing that is presently becoming disturbingly prevalent.

In joining together in the coalition, the young JACL board needs to be aware of the self-interests of each organization and rightfully so. The decision to band together will parallel many other situations of Board members between the rock and a hard spot. There will be no right or wrong decisions but only intelligent choices. But if the individual Board members firmly deep down believe that the choice is right for JACL, no one can deter you from your choices and action.

## Marching with Martin Luther King

During my term of office as national president (1962-1964), the most memorable event was having the National Board meeting in Omaha, Neb. to pound out a civil rights statement and program for the national organization. This was not a popular issue at the time, so I made the decision to avoid the hassle we would have received if the board meeting was held at the national headquarters in San Francisco. It was at this meeting that the decision was made to march with Martin Luther King Jr. in the famous March in Washington for freedom and jobs. Participating in the march carrying the blue and gold banner of our national organization, along with Mike Masaoka and 50 brave JACLers from Washington, D.C., Chicago and Philadelphia chapters, was not only the most memorable, but one of the proudest moments of my life. August 28, 1963, was truly the beginning of redress for me. I also participated in the 15th and 25th anniversary March held in Washington, D.C.

Since coming to Washington, D.C., in 1971, I have continued my interest in JACL and have been active both on the national and local levels. Nationally, I have served as chair of the National Aging and Retirement Committee — 1982-1990; Chair of the Mas Satow Memorial Committee, 1980 to present. The Satow Committee was responsible for publishing the book, JACL in Quest of Justice by William Hosokawa. We still have a supply of books, so we urge chapters to purchase and distribute the books locally to all public libraries and schools and colleges.

Locally, I have served as the Washington, D.C., chapter president (1981-1984); D.C. Chapter redress chair (1982-1992). I still serve on the chapter board, as an ex-officio member. I shall continue to serve the JACL nationally and locally, as it has been part of my life for the past 60 years.

As far as the future of JACL is concerned, I feel strongly that there is a need

See MARCHING/page 10

## Views from past presidents

*Pacific Citizen caught up with a number of past JACL presidents and asked them about their current life and activities, as well as their thoughts about the organization as it is today or could be in the future.*

## JACL: 'A matter of spirit'

## Memorable events

I became National JACL President (1982-84) at the relatively young age of 34 and will always cherish the fact that I had the opportunity to serve the community during a very important period of our history. The passage of time tends to blur the unimportant and sharpen the significant. In hindsight, there is no question that continuation of the redress movement—the single most important moral issue confronting our organization since the evacuation—was the most significant. During my "watch," the two most significant redress events were persuading the Federal Redress Commission to recommend individual monetary compensation and the introduction of the implementing legislation in Congress. Many dedicated persons worked on this program from around the country and my contribution was small. Looking back on it now, I really appreciate the fact that I—a member of the Sansei generation—had a unique opportunity to work with and know some of the truly great Nisei leaders who are now no longer with us—such as Min Yasui and Mike Masaoka.

## Views of the Organization

Having been a past national president, I have great sympathy and respect for all those who have

## Floyd Shimomura

JACL National President, 1982-84



SHIMOMURAS—From left, Mark, Floyd, Ruth, Brian and Lisa.

## Personal update

Ruth and I have remained busy since leaving office in 1984. 1986 I left my teaching position at the UC, Davis, School of Law to return to the California Attorney General's Office where I had worked previously.

In the same year, Ruth and I had our third child, Brian, who is now 6, a first grader, and spoiled by his grandparents (and I guess a little by me). In 1989 we moved to a larger home in Woodland to accommodate our growing family.

See SHIMOMURA/page 13

served and are currently serving in that office. The current president—Lillian Kimura—has received the mandate of the National Council due to her energy and ideas and deserves our full support. From what I read in the Pacific Citizen, Lillian and her board are doing fine.

## JACL and Its future

I do not worry about the future of the JACL. To me, the JACL is not so much an organization but a spirit of service and idealism which joins and has joined thousands of Japanese Americans together from around the country for over 60 years. Certainly, indi-

vidual chapters may rise and fall. However, so long as this spirit continues to dwell somewhere within the heart of our various communities, I cannot conceive of the JACL becoming extinct.

## Advice to the new Sansei-Yonsei National Board Members

Listen to those who went before, then go ahead and do what you think is right. After all, if they were so smart, why are there still problems? Moreover, in most cases they will be delighted to be proved wrong. (C)

## Wishing . . .

*Pacific Citizen asked some JACL members about their wishes for the New Year—for JACL, for themselves, for the world—seriously and not so seriously.*

## What's your wish for JACL? For your chapter?

I wish greater compassion for JACL. As one of the oldest human and civil rights organizations in the nation, JACL has done much to bring change and awareness to national leaders as well as rank and file members. But at the same time JACL needs compassion when deciding public policy, for the needs of individual chapters change from district to district. The urgency to express our individual chapter needs can sometimes overwhelm our pursuit for human and civil rights for all.

My wish for my chapter, the Asian Pacific American Network (APAN), is again compassion. Like any other chapter, we have internal conflicts that arise from "... I thought so-and-so-called meeting to gripe about this not the other person..." It is difficult to deal with the cynicism and many times we overlook our own accomplishments.

We have experienced a more than 100 percent increase in membership, most of whom are under 35 years of age. We have awarded more than \$1,000 in scholarships, and have done many community service projects.

More than 10 APAN members participated at the national convention in Denver. Without compassion we could not tolerate those who are cynical. Without compassion we could not see the great strides of progress. Without compassion we could not be a leading force for human and civil rights.

What do you wish chapters would do?

## Gary Mayeda, PSW Youth Representative

Age: 29

Chapter: Asian Pacific American Network (APAN)

Occupation: Student/Engineer/ Photographer / Mac Consultant, etc.

Residence: Los Angeles

Outside interests: Photography, Racquetball, Macintosh, Community

Two wishes here. (Did I go over my quota?) I wish for individual chapters to take a more active role in youth membership. This is not meant to say have more cake and ice cream parties. The youth of today are very sophisticated and knowledgeable about the current events of today. Granted there exists much competition for their involvement from other civic and social organizations in the community, but JACL must present themselves as a caring force for human and civil rights. When a young prospective individual attends a meeting to "check it out," and finds that the board is squabbling over when and where to have a holiday dance and what food to bring (not that this is unimportant) and that the agenda does not cover current events or other issues on National's agenda, what will that prospective member's impression of JACL be like?

I praise those many chapters that have a high degree of youth participation, and encourage chapters aspiring to gain more youths to take a closer look at how to increase their membership. Just ask your local district youth representative.

representative.

I also believe that we should have a concise but well defined national voting procedure that does not allow for any loopholes. At a recent "Chili Vision" fund-raising event in Los Angeles in September, the audience members, who were mostly Asian Pacific Americans, yelled out "Recount!" when the winner of the chili cook off was announced. The audience laughed but I felt sorrow inside knowing that the recent voting mishap has given false impressions of the organization of JACL. We cannot let such a mishap happen again.

What do you wish JACL wouldn't do?

I wish JACL wouldn't take so long to take a stance on important issues such as the confirmation of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court. A late response does no good to the reputation of the organization.

What do you wish for yourself  
See MAYEDA/page 13

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## JACL: Some reflections

Pacific Citizen asked a number of JACL officials and members about their participation and experiences working in the organization

### Tom Kometani

**The integrity of the Constitution was restored and the nation had been educated as to the frailties of individual rights during times of national stress.**



### Redress heroes

As the last group of eligible Japanese Americans receive their redress payments, I reflect on the long struggle for justice. The U.S. Constitution was ignored by our political leaders in 1942 when our government incarcerated 110,000 Americans and permanent residents solely on the basis of ancestry. The same Constitution, five decades later, allowed Japanese Americans to seek and obtain redress for their grievances.

The quest for redress started with a resolution introduced by Edison Uno in 1970 at the National JACL Convention in Chicago. There was a realization that if we did not demand justice, nobody else would do it for us. If the incarceration of

Japanese Americans goes down in history as a justifiable event, then similar injustices can happen again to any American.

JACL decided to take the legislative approach to rectify the injustice. What began as an exercise in using the political process to air grievances finally ended with successful legislation, which included an apology and individual reparations to Japanese Americans. The integrity of the Constitution was restored and the nation had been educated as to the frailties of individual rights during times of national stress. The crucial role of the Nikkei mem-

bers of Congress have been widely recognized and cannot be overemphasized. There have been thousands of Nikkei and non-Nikkei who made important contributions toward the redress movement.

As a Sansei who spent almost three years as a child in Pinedale, Tule Lake, and Heart Mountain camps, I would like to raise up the names of a few of my Nikkei heroes of the legislative push for redress.

MIN YASUI early on rallied the troops with his deep conviction and oratory that "Redress is not just a Japanese American Issue - it is an AMERICAN issue, a CONSTITUTIONAL issue!"

HARRY KAJIHARA, as National JACL President, struggled to keep redress the top priority item and raised funds to support the Legislative Education Committee (LEC), the lobbying arm of JACL.

GRAYCE UYEHARA tirelessly organized the LEC grassroots lobbying effort in Washington D.C. using the network of 115 JACL chapter throughout the U.S. Capitol Hill has never been the same since!

JERRY ENOMOTO provided the strong, steady, consensus leadership as chairman of the LEC and was able to keep committee members from hurting each other during heated discussions.

GRANT UJIFUSA provided the LEC with an effective legislative/political strategy and valuable personal connections on Capitol Hill and in the White House.

CHERRY KINOSHITA whose attention to detail was critical for maintaining LEC's integrity when dealing with Congress and the Office of Redress Administration.

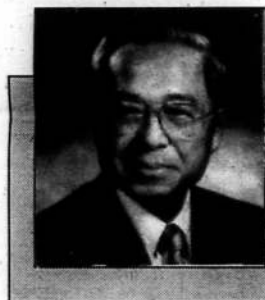
These heroes were totally dedicated to redress, sacrificing family and vacation to do what was needed over the long haul. They have lived the virtues of ON (obligation), GAMAN (endurance), and GIRI (duty and honor). For sure, one trait they never exhibited was ENRYO (restraint).

The fact that grievances can be redressed, even after 50 years, says something very positive about our Constitution and form of government. However, the fact that it took 50 years to obtain justice indicates that we have a long way to go to achieve equity for all. Organizations like JACL will have plenty to do into the next century. We can only be thankful that Nikkei leaders of the redress drive have given us a legacy of commitment and dedication to righting a wrong.

The JACL Legacy Fund has been set up to ensure that future JACL education and advocacy projects will be funded. We all need to pitch in to reach the \$10 million goal to perpetuate the REDRESS LEGACY.

### Fred Hirasuna

**The big question is whether they (Sansei and Yonsei) can attract the young... and still retain the support of the remaining Nisei.**



### There from the beginning

Dr. Tom Yatabe came from San Francisco to Fresno in 1922 to open his dental practice. He had been very active in trying to organize Nisei citizens in the Bay Area in the early days of the American Loyalty League. So when he came to Fresno, he immediately began to get the then very young Nisei interested in forming an American Loyalty League chapter. Finally in May of 1923, the Fresno American Loyalty League was formed. In all respects, Dr. Yatabe was the American Loyalty League. He held the chapter together and the Fresno Chapter, JACL, can claim that as the Fresno American Loyalty League, it is the oldest and only JACL chapter with a continuous history since its founding in 1923. It was known as the Fresno American Loyalty League Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League until the name was changed to Fresno Chapter, JACL, a few years ago.

I joined the Fresno American Loyalty League in 1929 at the urging of Dr. Yatabe who happened to be my dentist. In 1930, when the First JACL National Convention was held in Seattle, Dr. Yatabe could not go because his wife, Mary, was pregnant with their first child. He asked me to go in his place to represent Fresno. I was only 22 at the time. Three of us, Yoshio Honda, Tom Kanase and I made the trip in Yoshio's Model A Ford. It was the first time that any of us had ever been out of California.

At this convention, I was privileged to meet the pioneers in the JACL movement: among them, Saburo Kido, Sim Togasaki, Clarence Arai, Jimmy Sakamoto, Suma Sugi and Tokio Slocum. Significant results were the sending of Suma Sugi to Washington to lobby for the restoration of citizenship to Japanese American women who married alien Issei, and Tokio Slocum to lobby for the right to naturalization for Asian veterans of World War I. At that time, Asians in general were not eligible for American citizenship.

I graduated from Fresno State College (now California State University, Fresno) in 1932. I started in 1926, but stayed out two years in the interim because I ran out of money. There was no work for a Japanese American graduate with a social science major. My work experience ranged from working in fruit packing houses during my high school years, to hand-nailing fruit boxes, to trucking in the Los Angeles area, to bookkeeping and managing sheds for fruit shippers in Delano and Imperial Valley, to managing the International Chick Sexing Association in Fresno

See HIRASUNA/page 10

### Mamoru Wakasugi

**'Our goal was to make a place for our Sansei children to grow up and be a part of the community.'**



### A lifetime of service

In the late evening of Dec. 6, 1941, my younger brother in high school had an accident with the family car. The next morning I went early to the neighboring town of Forest Grove, where the accident had occurred to look over the damage to the car. During that mid-morning, there was a radio report about an attack on Pearl Harbor. It did not identify who the attackers were. I don't remember too much of that either other than it was hard to

believe the Japanese military had done such a drastically act.

It seems that we went about our business of farming and prepare for the coming season of curing for 125 acres of strawberries. With the war, we stayed low as we were either the only family or perhaps there was another family of Japanese ancestry in the Banks, Ore., area.

[Banks is about 25 miles northwest of downtown Portland.]

There were incidents where people congregating in the local tavern seemed to be aggressive in doing something for their country by wanting to pick on the Japanese families. We had a strong-willed, fair-minded sheriff in Washington county, John Connell, who let it be known especially around the taverns that he would not tolerate anyone intimidating us or causing bodily harm. He was well-respected by his deputies, some of whom I knew. As a result we had no unpleasanties. And as soon

See WAKASUGI/page 8

### Change and response

This year's 32nd biennial JACL national convention which convened in Denver augurs the transition of leadership in JACL from the Nisei to the Sansei and Yonsei generations. The elected officers are all Sansei and Yonsei except for Lillian Kimura, the first woman national president in



**The important lesson learned from the redress campaign is that we can initiate change on issues which affect Japanese Americans...**

### Grayce Uyehara

JACL's 62 year history. Such indicators of change tell us that JACL must begin to seriously look at the organization and to consider how JACL will respond to the forever present problem of racism and to new problems related to the global economic conditions. For the past 15 years, JACL addressed the priority program to redress our grievance for the evacuation, incarceration and relocation after Executive Order 9066. This difficult task to see that every eligible individual is identified and receives the \$20,000 individual payment

was reached last year with the passage of the bill for additional funding. The payments will be completed this year. The unfinished business, an important one, is to see that \$50 million is appropriated for the Education Trust Fund. This phase is equally important. Even today, many of us are still speaking before high school and college students and interested groups because so few people know about the Japanese American experience. As more and more Americans realize upholding the

See UYEHARA/page 11



## Looking back . . .

## Prologue

It was a huge patriotic rally for some 1,500 delegates and guests attending the first biennial JACL Intermountain District Council (IDC) at Pocatello, Idaho, Nov. 20-21, 1941, and a special event with such notables as Gov. Chase A. Clark of Idaho participating during the panel on "What We Americans Can Do in This Crisis." A luncheon with the governor preceded at the Shanghai Restaurant.

Typical of the sentiments of public officials present were those on the panel. Gov. Clark declared that there was no reason to doubt the loyalty of any American group, including, of course, the Japanese Americans. "We all now have a common duty—the preservation of the American way of life," the chief executive declared.

It was also a farewell banquet for Mike Masaoka of Salt Lake City for he had just been hired as the JACL national secretary in San Francisco. He was National JACL's first professional staff member for headquarters.

Bill Yamauchi of Springville, Utah, was re-elected IDC chair; George Shiozawa of Pocatello, 1st vice-chairman; George Yoshida, Ogden, 2nd vice-chairman; Tatsuo Koga, Ogden, executive secretary; and Joe Kurumada, Salt Lake City, treasurer.

Charters were presented to newly formed chapters at Idaho Falls, Reburg and Pocatello.

The IDC convention passed only one resolution, unanimously, calling for all Nisei to pledge themselves "unequivocally and without any reservations whatsoever to exercise extraordinary vigilance and to report any and all cases of espionage and sabotage which may come to our attention, and use do hereby create committees which will stand ready at all times to serve our government in any capacity to which we may be called, to the end that we may carry our share of responsibility and trust in the civilian as well as the military defense of our country."

Portions of the panel discussion was aired by local radio KSEL. The Pocatello High School Band entertained. City newspapers carried local merchants extending greetings to the JACL convention. As noted in Alice Kasai's History of the IDC-JACL: 1940-1965, two weeks later came the attack on Pearl Harbor. The first district convention had fittingly dedicated the program "To the 2,700 young Americans of Japanese descent who are serving the U.S. armed forces—the best per capita record of any two nationality groups combined."

National Secretary Masaoka briefly returned in February to Salt Lake City to discuss the impending Evacuation problem and movement of Japanese evacuees to the Intermountain area. To learn of the Army's plan to evacuate, Shigeki "Shake" Ushio, Tadashi Watanabe (of Idaho Falls) and Dr. Jun Kurumada of Salt Lake City, Yukio "Eke" Inouye, Paul



## A trek in time

Another page of JACL Intermountain history unfolds a trip to San Francisco . . .

By SUD MORISHITA

Okamura, Mitsugi Kasai and Mrs. Martha Nishitani of Idaho attended the emergency National Board meeting March 5-8 in San Francisco at the Kinman Gakuen.

(Editor's note: The 25-year IDC history now needs to be corrected to show Sadao "Sud" Morishita of Idaho Falls attended this historic JACL meeting in place of Martha Nishitani. This following recollection of a memorable trek by automobile from Idaho Falls to San Francisco (350 miles one-way) and back in March, 1942, was related by Sud Morishita to P.C. editor emeritus Harry Honda on a short ride from the Twin Falls airport to Jackpot, Nev., where the IDC convention was being held last October, 1991, in tribute to the late Mike Masaoka.

Here was a 50-year-old story waiting to be told. (Sud was 20 years old at the time.) It portrays the kind of Nisei in their early 20s who were in JACL and of the adrenalin that flowed in their veins when the crisis of Evacuation was before them.

The delegates from the Idaho Falls JACL attending the March 1942 National JACL Emergency Meeting in San Francisco were Mitsugi Kasai, Tadashi Watanabe, Yukio Eke Inouye and Sud Morishita, officers of the chapter. We first met with the Issei leaders at that time to discuss the

notice received of the forthcoming meeting.

Because of the seriousness of the meeting, the Issei not only advised but urged us to attend. Mr. Nukuna, one of the Issei leaders, even offered funds for the trip in case the JACL treasury was depleted.

We departed for San Francisco two days prior to the meeting date. We decided to stop in Twin Falls for lunch at the restaurant operated by the Hachiyas where there was assurance of being served.

No sooner had we seated at a table when the chief of police of Twin Falls and a patrolman approached us. His first question was where we were from and what we were doing. When we responded with our destination and purpose, his response was, "The devil you're going to San Francisco. Who gave you permission?"

After that discussion and presenting him with letters of reference and endorsement of the trip from Idaho Falls Mayor E. W. Fanning and Bonneville County Sheriff Harry Meppen, he reluctantly gave us his "permission" to leave. We never stopped to eat again until we reached San Francisco about 3 p.m. the following day. We were fortified with extra gas ration stamps and a bagful of oranges. We also encountered refusal of sales at some service stations enroute.

Upon checking in at the Miyoko Hotel, we were informed that FBI agents wanted to see us but they never approached us.

We were forced by armed guards to pull over at the Oakland Bay Bridge to present our birth certificates coming and going.

When we entered the JACL Office, Mike Masaoka left his chair immediately to greet us. He was elected to see us from the Intermountain District. He assigned a young Nisei assistant who gave us a short tour of the city. The "Evacuation Sale" signs at Japanese firms with ultra low prices for merchandise and the mood of the Japanese in general really hit us with the realization that the talk of evacuation was for real and the gravity of the situation really gave us an emotional jolt.

The sessions day after day were the most memorable meetings I have ever attended.

Every avenue to defray prevent the Evacuation order and the course to take and what solutions to look for were argued at length. The capabilities and wisdom displayed by the leaders and Nisei in general to this day amazes me.

Being from the Intermountain area, we were invited to lunch and dinner during our entire stay by persons interested in moving to Idaho and surrounding area. Naturally, all the food we were treated to was China-meshi. It got to the point where a plain hamburger would have been a feast.

See TREK/page 6

Gwen Muranaka

### Small kid time



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## WAKASUGI

(Continued from page 6)

as local groups were organized to keep peace and order and to report suspicious activities, I was included in this guard unit and sworn in as a sheriff's deputy.

In the meantime, there was much confusion about our immediate future. As an active JACL member (Editor's note: Wakasugi had been a national vice president, chapter president for two terms, 1937-38, and had just chaired the 1940 National JACL convention at Portland), I had difficulty attending the JACL chapter meetings in downtown Portland because of the curfew. We were restricted from traveling about after sundown.

The Nihonjinkai was totally shut down as some of the leaders had been arrested and interned as of Dec. 7-8. The chapter acted as the liaison for the Japanese community and engaged in a limited amount of counseling. As each day passed, it seemed the pressure was getting more aggressive and having a Japanese face made things more and more uncomfortable. Letters-to-the-editor were getting quite inflammatory. Our local newspaper, *Hillsboro (Ore.) Argus*, had become quite prejudiced against us.

The following February, National JACL called an emergency meeting of all the chapters to be held in San Francisco the first weekend of March for the purpose of discussing the welfare of our immediate future. By this time we were reading about many persons of Japanese ancestry being thrown into jail as a possible spy or saboteur by local law enforcement personnel who had become over-enthusiastic. I remember Mike Masasaka and George Inagaki being arrested and jailed in New Orleans in 1942.

Prior to going to the San Francisco meeting, I went to the U.S. district attorney in Portland to obtain a letter of identification. His answer was that as an American citizen, I would not need such an identification. I then explained to him about the problems that persons of Japanese ancestry were having with local law enforcement authorities, locking them

up for questioning. Thus, I received a letter of identification to use on my trip to the JACL emergency meeting.

As I recall at one of the service stations, we were getting the royal treatment: air in the tires, checking under the hood, our windshields and rest of the windows washed when the local police showed up. My I.D. letter was enough to allow us to continue.

Each time we approached a major bridge, we were pulled over by the military guard on watch and each time, that letter of identification allowed us to go on. At another inspection stop, then national JACL treasurer Hiroto Okada was mistaken for Chinese and we all were taken to be Chinese and waved through. It was a risky move but we laughed about it at that time. (We were in all passenger cars in the car owned and driven by Ray Sato of Parkdale.)

Our last major barrier was crossing the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge, which was heavily sand-bagged to house the guns, camouflaged with netting all over the upper frames. Because we were Orientals, we had to stop for inspection. Again we showed that letter and we were allowed to proceed.

I can't remember much about that emergency meeting now except that it was very somber. The future of our lives was very bleak, and by this time, I believe, some of the areas were being told to prepare to evacuate. Trying to imagine to be bodily moved abruptly with the accumulation of the years was almost impossible, especially with our destinations unknown.

The late Tom Yego of Placer County, JACL, and I were delegated by the Emergency Council to inform the Army of the impact of removing the Nisei farmers would have on the war effort in supplying food.

It was rather scary as I recall for both Tom and I had never been in such a responsible position in that we were helping to make a decision to satisfy the Army from a security position and also to help provide food for the war effort. The military officers before us were probably not very well versed in

See WAKASUGI/page 13

## TREK

(Continued from page 7)

On our return trip, we stopped in Sacramento and visited with Walter Tsukamoto, who was instrumental in organizing the JACL movement in the Inter-mountain area. Again, we had China-meshi with Walter.

From Winnemucca, Nev., we traveled through Jordan Valley to reach Homedale, Idaho, where Eke's brother Kay Inouye resides. After spending a night with Kay, we headed for home via Boise. South of Boise between the small towns of Mountain Home and Glenn's Ferry, a universal joint on the drive-line of our car fell apart right in the middle of a sagebrush desert.

It was around 2:30 p.m. when Eke and Mitsugi caught a ride with some Japanese to Mountain Home to get parts for the vehicle.

After sundown, Elmore County Sheriff Earl Winters stopped to check the parked vehicle. After some questioning, Sheriff Winters suggested I ride with him to Mountain Home, fearing some harm may have befallen Eke and Mitsugi. Tadashi was told to stay with the vehicle to guard against tires being stripped from the car.

Contrary to Twin Falls Police Chief Gillette, Sheriff Winters was a very courteous lawman. He drove around the entire town of Mountain Home but could not locate the two. He even checked with the phone company about any long distance calls being made to Idaho Falls.

On the final swing through town, I spotted Eke and Mitsugi in a friendly service station. ("You can imagine the scare Eke and

Mitsugi had seeing me riding in a sheriff's car, thinking I was picked up and we were coming to pick them up, too. This was one time all of us had a good laugh, despite the war.")

Unable to obtain parts in Mountain Home, Eke had called our friend Tom Morimoto, who operated a restaurant in Shoshone, Idaho, about 75 miles in distance, to tow us into Shoshone. Sheriff Winters offered his help in any manner and left us at the service station to await Tom's arrival.

Tom, accompanied by his wife Mikki (both currently reside in Pocatello), towed us into Shoshone. At the hotel next to Morimoto's Boston Cafe, the night clerk was reluctant to disobey the owner's non-renting rooms to Japanese. After a short discussion, the clerk relented: "To hell with the boss. I'll let you all stay," and provided us with the needed two nights lodging in Shoshone before the vehicle was repaired.

We finally arrived in Idaho Falls tired with an experience that money cannot buy and hopefully would never be repeated.

Many who accuse and insist the JACL should have resisted the Evacuation order instead of meekly submitting and evacuating are not aware nor do they want to consider the realities of the situation. There were no options. Evacuation, however, unjust, would have occurred voluntarily or forcefully.

(Acknowledgment: Morishita is grateful to the current Elmore County Sheriff Rick Lear for checking the county records to find the name of the county sheriff in 1942. Sheriff Winters still lives in Mountain Home, Idaho.)





**TRUSTEES**—Above, from left, seated, are Jim Tsurumoto, Betty Oka, Kikuo Nakahara, Lee Trucker, Dr. Richard Ikeda, Sandy Mori; standing, from left, are Jean Yasumoto, chairman; Gus Barlas, consultant; Frances Morioka, administrator; Doug Urata; Manuel Nuris, consultant; Gerald Takehara, Kevin Nagata. Not present were Jordan Hiratzka and Dr. Jim Yamaguchi.

**STAFF**—At right, seated, Frances Morioka, and John Yasumoto; standing, from left, are Jean Yamada, Jemiko Nakamura, Katherine Watanabe. Not present: Doris Sasaki.

## Blueprint for Blue Shield

By JOHN YASUMOTO  
Special to the Pacific Citizen

In 1992, the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council Blue Shield Group Health Trust (called "JACL Blue Shield") celebrated its 27th year. Based upon the annual premiums of more than \$14 million versus numerous claims of more than \$12.5 million to be paid this past year to subscribers, the JACLers are benefitting greatly from this service program.

When the JACL Blue Shield proposal was adopted in Nov., 1964, the purpose for a group health plan was to provide all JACLers an opportunity to subscribe for health care coverage. Many members, at the time, being self-employed or working where health coverage was unavailable, were most interested. (One of the chief proponents, according to the district council minutes, was the late Edison T. Uno with Haruo Ishimaru, then regional director, as staff support.)

The district council signed its initial contract with California Blue Shield in March, 1965. The plan became a trust in June, 1965.

As stipulated in the JACL Blue Shield charter, other JACL district councils of the national organization may and have joined this plan. They are as follows:

Central California (March, 1969); Pacific Southwest (Jan., 1971); Pacific Northwest (Feb., 1971); Intermountain (March, 1971); Mountain Plains (March, 1976); and Midwest (March, 1980).

And as of Oct., 1992, the JACL Blue Shield enrollment shows seven district councils, 83 chapters, 5,350 subscribers with a to-

tal JACL membership of 10,250. All adult members must belong to JACL.

### General operation of the plan

Each chapter has a volunteer commissioner, who assists in the paperwork, filling out application forms and explaining the program. Some commissioners, it must be noted gratefully, have been associated since the start of the program.

Commissioners elect the 11-member board of trustees, who are responsible for the proper operation of the plan. The trustees are: Kikuo Nakahara (San Mateo), Jim Tsurumoto (Eden Township), Dr. Jim Yamaguchi (Fremont), Dr. Richard Ikeda (Sacramento), Sandy Mori (San Francisco), Gerald Takehara (Sacramento), Jordan Hiratzka (Berkeley), John Yasumoto, chair (San Francisco), Douglas Urata (Riverside), Betty Oka (Orange County), Kevin Nagata (Fowler), (Dr. Yamaguchi is Kristi's father.) Lee Trucker is the legal counsel. Gus Barlas is consultant to the board. Manuel Nuris, after representing Blue Shield of California for 27 years, retired last May. Currently representing Blue Shield is Marlene Matsuko, consultant.

The day-to-day work to support the plan is under the care of the plan administrator, Frances Morioka, and her staff: Doris Sasaki, Jemiko Nakamura, Katherine Watanabe and Jean Yamada.

### PPO and HMO

At the recent (Oct. 15, 1992) board meeting, a new contract



with California Blue Shield, effective 1993, was approved by the board. The present plan was modified to the Preferred Providing Organization (PPO) plan and the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) plan as an option. Meetings with the chapter commissioners to explain the modifications were held. Letters detailing the modification were also mailed to individual subscribers at the same time.

The Blue Shield PPO plan is replacing the present JACL Blue Shield plan. It gives improved service and better control over the benefit costs. Subscribers have been advised to use Blue Shield member providers—the physicians and hospitals—for maximum benefits.

The Blue Shield HMO plan is available as an option in selected areas of California. Those who elected the option were expected by Nov. 20, 1992, to complete a new enrollment card and identify their personal HMO physician.

To senior members, they were informed their enrollment would be automatically with the PPO plan effective Jan. 1, 1993. At this time, the Blue Shield HMO plan is not available to members whose primary coverage is Medicare.

To members who turn 65, the plan provides coverage for pre-existing conditions, and broad coverage for dental, vision, hospice care, prescription drugs, skilled nursing facilities, broader coverage for professional services, and worldwide protection.

To the out-of-California members, they were automatically enrolled in the PPO plan with benefits paid at the higher 80% or preferred level of coverage.

### Responsive environment

A smooth transition of leadership from one generation (Nisei) to the other (Sansei/Yonsei) means continuous leadership training and development at all levels of JACL. This should be initiated and implemented by national JACL. It also means being resourceful, having a working knowledge of other systems (economic, political, educational, health, etc.), and inviting the comments and participation of other Nisei and Asian Americans. It means that we need to view critically our existing organizational structure and remove barriers which may impede our progress. It means that we should carry out

See HOME page 10

### HOME

(Continued from page 4)

expressed my opinions as to the future of JACL. In short, JACL will be among the leading advocates for Asian American causes. JACL will grow in stature as well as geographically. TIMES HAVE CHANGED. IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE. Twenty years ago, the average age of national board members was 45 years. Today, the average age is 32 years. This also represents a change in generations, from the Nisei to the now Sansei/Yonsei dominated board. Two decades ago, our membership base was 30,000 members; today it is 24,000. There are probably many reasons for this change. I think that the transi-

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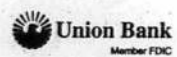
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**HOME**  
 (Continued from page 9)

initiatives which can be accom-  
 plished in a timely fashion, rather  
 than to promote programs which  
 are difficult to carry out.

**Member growth**

It is projected that our member-  
 ship will grow to 32,000 by year  
 2000. Where will we find the 8,000  
 new members? I suggest an ag-  
 gressive, well-planned campaign  
 to develop new chapters in such  
 states as Georgia, South Carolina,  
 North Carolina, Virginia and  
 Florida and other states in the  
 regions covered by the Midwest  
 District and Eastern District  
 Councils. JACL needs to be repre-  
 sented by all regions of our coun-  
 try. Regular membership should  
 be open to any person who be-  
 lieves in and subscribes to the  
 mission of JACL. To change the  
 organization's name would not be  
 in the best interest of JACL.

**Financial growth**

Broadening the base of finan-  
 cial support has been proposed for  
 years. It takes special professional  
 skills to do this. In 1973, JACL  
 hired its first and only profes-  
 sional fund-raiser. He resigned  
 after one year of employment. We  
 are now in the midst of hiring a  
 director of fund development.  
 Let's hope this person will remain  
 long enough to help develop a

**OKURA**  
 (Continued from page 4)

the executive director for two years  
 (1987-1989). Presently, I serve as  
 counselor for NAPAFA, Inc. On  
 the local level, I serve on the Mary-  
 land State Civil Rights Commis-  
 sion; Montgomery County Men-  
 tal Health Commission and the  
 Montgomery County Alcohol and  
 Drug Abuse Advisory Council. I  
 also serve on the Asian-Pacific  
 American Heritage Council Board  
 of Directors as Vice President.

I have also been active in the  
 UCLA Alumni Association, Wash-  
 ington, D.C., Chapter and in April  
 of 1992, was appointed to the  
 National Alumni Board of Direc-  
 tors, so I find myself in Los Ange-  
 les five times a year, attending  
 the alumni board meetings. I will  
 serve a three-year term through  
 1994.

I recently celebrated my 81st  
 birthday and 51st wedding anni-  
 versary. I am in good physical and  
 mental health, as I keep quite  
 active. Yes, I still try to play golf,  
 but that is going down hill rap-  
 idly!

**HIRASUNA**  
 (Continued from page 6)

and Mankato, Minn., and finally,  
 to starting, with two others, the  
 Sunnyside Packing Company in  
 1948. Today I am practically re-  
 tired and my son, Stuart, is  
 running the company. My wife, Setu,  
 and I have four children and six  
 grandchildren. We have been  
 married 57 years. Our daughter,  
 JoAnne, is a graduate of Boalt  
 Law School. One son, Alan, a me-  
 chanical engineer, is one of five  
 partners with their own company,  
 L'Garde, in Tustin, Calif. Another  
 son, Jon, is a doctor of medicine and  
 Stuart is managing the family  
 business.

My JACL experience started in  
 1929 and has continued to this  
 day. Even during the war, when I  
 was in Minnesota, I maintained a  
 contact with JACL. There were  
 times when I had my doubts about  
 the leadership of JACL, but, as I  
 have stated many times, the deci-  
 sions made were sincere and hon-  
 est and in what was believed to be  
 the best for the interests of all  
 Japanese Americans.

The Nisei generation has been  
 the mainstay of JACL, but it is  
 fast fading with death and old  
 age. The Denver convention was a

diversified base of financial sup-  
 port and to obtain special grants  
 and foundations from government  
 and private sources.

**Program for Action**

The program approved by the  
 national council in 1990 and 1992  
 was a culmination of two years of  
 membership workshops held by the  
 national long range planning com-  
 mittee. We now have a course of  
 action that was designed and  
 mandated by the membership.  
 Priority setting and timely imple-  
 mentation of plans are in order.  
 Additional funds and staff will be  
 needed to carry out new initia-  
 tives and programs or to expand  
 existing programs. Times have  
 changed. It's time for a change.  
 Some things probably won't  
 change. Headquarters will remain  
 on the West Coast. The Pacific  
 Citizen, as a membership news-  
 paper, will remain close to where  
 the majority of JACL member-  
 ship live. The communications  
 network will improve as chapters  
 begin to focus more on respective  
 regional issues. Volunteers will  
 continue to provide the bulwark  
 of support and leadership. Hope-  
 fully, 10 years from now, JACL  
 will be a highly visible and re-  
 spected organization. It will be  
 called upon to respond to critical  
 issues which affect the lives of all  
 Americans of Asian ancestry. It  
 will be an outstanding advocate.  
 JACL will be represented by all  
 regions of our country.

**MARCHING**  
 (Continued from page 4)

for a strong national organization  
 and a strong energetic program.  
 The need to stem anti-Asian vi-  
 olence and Japan/Asia-bashing is  
 a very critical area that calls for  
 strong national initiative. Civil  
 rights issues, as far as Asian Pa-  
 cific Americans are concerned, are  
 of paramount importance and we  
 need strong leadership at the na-  
 tional level.

We also need to learn how to  
 use our resources (financial and  
 personnel-wise) in a more pru-  
 dent manner. We need to encour-  
 age our talented Sansei and Yonsei  
 to become more active in JACL,  
 nationally and locally. The Nisei  
 have become too complacent and  
 too self-centered and satisfied with  
 their status and need to be awak-  
 ened. This is a task that the  
 newly elected national officers  
 should take seriously and take  
 steps to remedy.

Recognizing that JACL is not a  
 social service agency, still we can  
 do something in the area of aging  
 and retirement for our senior citi-  
 zens, the older Nisei members.

turning point. The Sansei and  
 Yonsei, for all practical purposes,  
 are now taking full control of JACL  
 policies and actions. The big ques-  
 tion is whether they can attract  
 the young, a relative term because  
 older Sansei are now in their fifties,  
 to membership in JACL, and  
 still retain the support of the re-  
 maining Nisei. They need to en-  
 courage recent immigrants from  
 Japan, those who intend to make  
 the U.S. their permanent resi-  
 dence, to apply for naturalization  
 and, hopefully, to seek JACL mem-  
 bership. A American citizenship  
 should remain a requirement for  
 membership. JACL is still the  
 largest JA organization with the  
 most political clout.

JACL is not a major concern in  
 the lives of many, perhaps the  
 majority, of the younger genera-  
 tion. They did not and do not face  
 the rampant discrimination that  
 plagued the Nisei and Issei in the  
 '20s and '30s. This discrimina-  
 tion tended to solidify Japanese,  
 both citizens and aliens. Business,  
 professional and social opportu-  
 nities are more open now. Inter-  
 marriage, increasingly, is taking  
 its toll. We are not opposed to  
 intermarriage, but we must face  
 the fact that many inter-racial

**See HIRASUNA/page 11**

## SUGIYAMA

(Continued from page 4)

noted into the Senior Executive Service, as an associate special counsel. I retired in 1988 while serving as associate special counsel for Planning and Oversight. We moved here to El Sobrante concurrently with my retirement. The reason we chose El Sobrante is that it's only 15 miles to Moraga where our son, John, and his family live. Remember John? He had just graduated UC Berkeley, and was my "Campaign Assistant" when I was elected Pres-Elect in '72 at the Washington, D.C., convention. He's now married to Jennifer (also a UC grad) and has two daughters, Tara (12) and Ashley (9). John joined the California Department of Justice on his graduation from Boalt Hall in '75, and is now a senior assistant attorney general in the Civil Division. I was appointed to the Richmond Police Commission in 1989 and was on the 1990-91 Contra Costa County Grand Jury as foreman pro-tem. I'm a member of VFW Post 913 of Richmond and served as junior vice commander in 1991-'92. I was to be senior vice commander this year, but I resigned that position, and also from the Police Commission, in July. I had to cut back on my activities when I learned I had a touch of emphysema. My 40+ years of smoking caught up with me, even though I quit four years ago, the day I retired. And, it hasn't been easy for Kimi either. She had to undergo major surgery for breast cancer last summer. But, she's healing now, and the doctors are confident they got it all out. I also enrolled in the 3-year Master in Jodo Shinshu graduate program at the Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) in 1990. I will graduate next May if all goes well. Since the IBS is affiliated with the Graduate Theological Union (on Holy Hill in Berkeley), this semester I'm taking courses at the Pacific School of Religion and the Franciscan School of Theology as well as at the IBS. It sort of blows your mind to think about studying at a Protestant, a Catholic and a Buddhist seminary, all at the same time. Keeps me busy, but it's all very intellectually stimulating. That covers the past 15 years in a nutshell. Doesn't cover establishing the Ekoji Bud-

dhist Temple in 1981 at Springfield, VA and consequent involvement in the Buddhist Churches of America. I haven't been involved in BCA since 1988.

## INTERNAL

(Continued from page 4)

have to bring on staff to support and back-up the members who served as volunteers. Otherwise, JACL would not be able to meet its challenges and opportunities.

A number of personnel problems had erupted in JACL during the preceding year or so. As a member of the previous biennial's Personnel Committee and chairman of the current committee, it was obvious to me that JACL must update and document its personnel policies and procedures. President Hank Tanaka, in Cleveland, had his hands full. He was pulling together the diverse and contending interests within the JACL and moving the organization forward. And, because I knew something about personnel management principles and procedures, I drafted new personnel policies and procedures. It covered the usual personnel matters such as responsibility and authority for personnel policies and procedures, hiring and firing procedures, job classification and pay, employee relations and grievance procedures, personnel benefits and retirement. The Executive Committee provided comments and input. Then the National Board approved, with some changes, the new personnel policies and procedures manual recommended by the Executive Committee, in June 1973. This was not JACL's first personnel manual. But I believe it was the first manual designed to meet future needs as they were foreseen at the time. I don't know how well those policies and procedures have stood up since then. From what was reported in the *Pacific Citizen*, it seems there were some problems referred to a personnel committee a few years ago. But, any kind of policy and procedures document must change with time. Needs, circumstances and laws change. Human nature changes. Individual and organizational vision change. And, the 1973 document was prepared in anticipation

of such changes and provided for rational means for making appropriate changes. We even made some changes during my 1974-76 term as president. What was or was not provided in the 1973 Personnel Manual is not of much importance today. What is significant to me is that, in light of the controversy that accompanied almost every hiring and firing decision and internal staff grievance during those years, personnel matters appear to have been relatively non-controversial these past 10 or so years. How many national directors, regional directors and Washington representatives have we had since 1976? I would hope that the 1973 manual gave the organization at least a starting point for dealing with personnel matters in an organization which has modernized through modest bureaucratization.

As a final note, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest appreciation to the JACL staff that served with me during those troublesome days of the mid-seventies, particularly Dave Ushio and Wayne Horuchi (who succeeded Barry as Washington representative.) Dave took a lot of heat as national director for doing what was necessary to keep JACL moving. But he put together a fine, young staff who really took their hearts out working for JACL and its members.

It was Dave and his team that provided support for the fund-raising for the new national headquarters building (now appropriately Masao Satow Memorial Building) and oversaw its final design, construction and furnishing. The JACL building in San Francisco was my pet project started when I was NCWDC district governor. It's one of the few things in this world that I can point to and say "It's there because of me (and many others)."

It was also Dave and Wayne that arranged for President Ford to issue and sign the proclamation, "An American Promise," that repudiated E.O. 9066 on February 19, 1976 at a White House ceremony before a large assembly of Japanese American members of Congress and prominent JACL leaders. Whatever JACL accomplished on the national level during my term, it was largely because of the hard work of the staff. JACL staff of 1974-1976. Thank you!

## HIRASUNA

(Continued from page 10)

families are losing contact with the so-called Japanese community. Their social life seems to lean toward non-Japanese society. They seem to feel little or no personal need for a Japanese American organization. There are exceptions, of course. We in Fresno JACL are blessed with a number of the younger generation who are genuinely interested in maintaining their Japanese roots, perhaps more so than many of the Nisei generation. We need many more such people to extend the life of JACL as a meaningful organization. The inactive or less active chapters in our area are those with very few or no younger members. Nationally we do not seem to be getting these younger members in significant numbers, and unless we do, JACL life is limited.

Politically, our minority is falling behind in numbers when compared to the Chinese, the Kore-

ans, the Filipinos and the Southeast Asians. To be a meaningful political entity, we must work with other Asians in projects of common interest. Asian minorities must work with African Americans and Hispanic Americans to uphold the rights of all minorities.

It should be recognized that the JACL as an organization played a leading role in the success of the redress movement. This success was incredible when one considers the small number of Japanese Americans in the United States the proportionately small membership of the JACL exercising a political clout out of all proportion to their numbers and in face of an enormous national budget deficit. It emphasizes the value of, and the need for this type of an organization.

JACL as an organization must retain the confidence and the support of its members. It must be an open organization with all of its workings open to its members. Financial reports must be detailed

and available to all members. The duties and responsibilities of its staff must be revealed in full. Remuneration and reasons for differences in salaries should be detailed. Progress in all of its projects must be reported. Grassroots members want to know what is being done to merit their financial support. Some Nisei question the possible uses that the organization may make with the Legacy Fund, uses which may not be in accord with their conception of the purposes for the existence of JACL.

The Nisei, as a group, are not for long. If the average age of the Nisei was about 18 in 1942, it must be around 68 now. Many Nisei are now in their seventies and eighties and becoming less and less active. Membership must come out of the Sansei and Yonsei generations. It will be the task of the young leaders to attract their peers to JACL membership. It will be a formidable task. Upon its success depends the survival of JACL.

## UYEHARA

(Continued from page 6)

guarantees of the Constitution and Bill of Rights depends on "sound and uncorrupted public opinion" (Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes), the importance of the Education Trust Fund places responsibility on JACL to finish the total redress program. The important lesson learned from the redress campaign is that we

can initiate change on issues which affect Japanese Americans and all Americans. With redress removed from JACL's high priority programs, the questions often raised by the membership and from the community are (1) why do we need JACL? and (2) what is JACL doing today? It is not just JACL which must respond to changing needs or, more correctly, will have to make adjustments to the changes taking place in the United States and in our Japa-

nese American communities.

This past year's unusual presidential election is indicative of the citizenry's urgent awareness that America must find answers to several serious problems. These problems challenge the leadership, individuals and organizations to work together to find the right answers. In the foreword to the book, "Workforce 2000: Work and Workers for the 21st Century," the Assistant Secretary of

See UYEHARA/page 13

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## Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

## 'Japan at War'—oral histories tell it all

**D**ec. 7, 1992 passed with little fanfare. It was as though the nation had spent all its emotion a year earlier on the 50th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. This year we had other concerns, like the dispatch of troops to succor the starving in Somalia, and the shaping of the Clinton administration. The national memory of that ghastly day when enemy planes appeared suddenly over Hawaii will grow even more dim as the anniversary dates slip by, one after another.

I spent part of the day reading a fascinating book. The title is *Japan at War, an oral history*. (By Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook. W.W. Norton Co., New York. \$27.50.) The book is made up of the recollections of some 70 Japanese.

Some of them tell of experiences in China and Manchuria during the heady early period in Japan's 15-year-march toward destruction. Others recall the tightening economic noose around their lives as a war to assure Japan of security and prosperity from resources on the mainland and in Indonesia led step by step toward hunger, privation, sorrow and death.

Some recall the foreboding when they heard of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Others

tell of elation that Japan at last had struck back at what they had been told was American oppression.

In one particularly interesting chapter Toshikazu Kase, formerly an important Foreign Ministry official, accuses Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura of misleading Tokyo about the U.S. position in his reports from Washington where he had been sent as ambassador in a desperate effort to avoid war.

Some of the stories are revolting. One former army officer tells of being forced to behead Chinese prisoners with his samurai sword to "prove" his ability to lead. Others recall experiences in a biological warfare laboratory and using poison gas in China. There are stories of cannibalism among starving Japanese soldiers fleeing from Allied forces in New Guinea, and the mass hysteria that led to wholesale suicides among civilians in Okinawa.

Throughout these first person stories runs the dark thread of calculated brain-washing. The leaders lied time and again and the press, which knew better, was part of the conspiracy to weld the nation into an obedient monolith. Conditioned to absolute obedience, an entire nation believed no sacri-

fice was too great, no order too inhuman or outlandish if it was for the emperor. Thus did Japan plunge into an unjustifiable war it could not win.

But the individual reminiscences bring out the fact that in what might appear to be a nation united in a sacred war, there was pettiness, greed, doubters of the emperor myth and goof-offs who went to great lengths to save their skins. The saddest stories are of those who went to their deaths reluctantly but courageously because they believed it was their duty to give their lives.

History by anecdote has the disadvantage of lacking perspective; one needs a certain background to understand motivations and to test recollections against facts. That is the book's weakness.

Not to mind, *Japan at War*, by looking deeply into the hearts and minds of people who lived through a personal and national tragedy, provides rich and often sad insights into what it was like to be a Japanese in World War II.

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor of the Denver Post. His column appears weekly in the Pacific Citizen.



East Wind

BILL MARUTANI

## Wakon-yôσαι

**T**HE OTHER DAY an article written in English by a Japanese on the subject of "Japanese spirit" caught my eye. The term in the newspaper that caught my eye was "wakon-yôσαι." For a moment, I thought it might have something to do with vegetables ("yasai") or horse radish ("daikon"). Of course, it was neither. In the context of the subject-matter I guessed the "wa" referred to Japan or things Japanese, such as "wa-bun" (Japanese text or writing) or "wa-shoku" (Japanese food or meal).

But that's about as far as I got. NEXT CONSIDERING "KON," I was introduced to the Chinese character which, in Japanese, is read as "tamashii," meaning "spirit." So now combining "wa" (Japanese) with "kon" (spirit) I ended up with "Japanese spirit." As for "yô-sai," the guess that "yô" probably meant "western" as in "yô-shoku" (western food or meal) or as in "yô-fuku" (western attire) turned out to be correct. That then left "sai": I discovered it's part of the not unfamiliar word "sai-ho" (sewing), a term not unfamiliar to many of you who do serious sewing. "Sai" means "cut," as in tailoring of a suit of clothing, the

Japanese reading being "ta-tsu" (the "tsu" being tacked on).

So there you have it: "yô-sai" meaning "western tailoring" or "styling." Putting all four pieces together—wakon-yô-sai—we end up with "Japanese spirit (with) Western style" meaning: adopt Western methods while retaining the Japanese spirit. It's a laborious, step-by-step process figuring all this out, but when one knows so little of the language there's no alternative to crawling. Walking comes much later.

THE NEWS ARTICLE mentions that this phrase was simply a takeoff on an earlier motto which was "wa-kon kan-sai"—the kan, as many of you know, referring to Chinese, as in kan-ji (Chinese characters). In the Edo period, learning and adopting Chinese methods and culture were in vogue. However, thereafter during Japan's drive for modernization, the nation turned to European values—to the British, French and Germans—from whom the Japanese eclectically incorporated into their political system, their military system, as well as techniques of industrial and agricultural production. American know-how was quite prominent in shaping agricultural tech-

niques, particularly up in Hokkaido. So from "wa-kon kansai," the shift was to "wakon-yô-sai." "Yô" as mentioned earlier, referring to the West.

POST WWII, Japan discovered yet another social system which it admired: America's vitality and proven power. The "sai" now attached itself to this marvelous "bei-hoku" (America) so that the motto metamorphosed to "wa-kon bei-sai." By the way, the kanji character for "spirit" ("kon" in Chinese, "tamashii" in Japanese) is also a part of the term "Yamato-damashii" (also meaning "Japanese spirit"), "Yamato" being the name of ancient Nippon. As I've mentioned once before, "Yamato" is written with the kanji characters "dai" (big) and "wa" (peace) which should read "Dai-wa." How it got to be read as "Yamato" (mountain door) still has me stumped.

Can some folks out there clear this stump for me? ☺

Marutani is a retired judge of the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia. His column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.

## Letters

Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. You may fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail them to Letters-to-the-Editor, Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Suite 201, Los Angeles, CA, 90013.

## Kajihara addendum to Holiday Issue

For the record, let me state my grandson's name is Kevin (not as mentioned in the caption in the 1992 P.C. Holiday Issue, p. C-6). And I hasten to add that Molly Fujioka, Diablo Valley chapter, was among those raising over \$65,000 with Cherry Kinoshita of Seattle and Grace Uyebara of Philadelphia during my two years as redress chair. Another name which should have been included in my long third paragraph was Jerry Enomoto of Sacramento, who sponsored a major LEC redress workshop and raised \$25,000.

Lastly, and definitely not leastly, I wish here to express appreciation to the past two National JACL presidents Enomoto and Shig Wakamatsu for helping me a great deal during my term. Jerry is calm, clear-thinking and frank, and I could and did count on his counsel for reasoned inputs on "Knotty" JACL issues. Jerry capably guided LEC as chairman, filling a huge void left by the late Min Yasui.

Shig, having many years of experience with JACL, possessed valuable historical perspective and insights which I drew upon frequently. He also put in 150% effort as the LEC treasurer. At 11 p.m., I would answer my phone and Shig would be on the other end, calling on LEC money matters from the Midwest JACL office. "Shig, isn't it 1 a.m. there? Close the LEC checkbook and please go home now," I'd say.

Harry Kajihara

Oxnard, Calif.

## Past president addendum

I am sure the JACL staff and readers will appreciate this addendum to my Holiday Issue article (see page B-46: bottom, 3rd column, reading "As National Treasurer," the additions in italics). There were no pension plans, no overtime and very limited expense accounts. Working for JACL was a labor of love. Conditions are different today. And JACL needs to equal or exceed prevailing wages and benefits. This is the only way to attract and hold capable people.

Roy Nishikawa

Wilshire JACL

## Museum computers help locate families

Bill Marutani (East Wind column, Oct. 23) tells of his having learned about his WRA family number at the recent Heart Mountain reunion in Seattle. His discovery could not have been made without the Japanese American National Museum that furnished the computers containing the database obtained from the National Archives and provided the volunteers who processed over 700 others for similar data at that reunion.

As a respected writer, Marutani does not mention the source of his discovery was the JANM. Such recognition from him would have been appreciated.

The museum has also offered the same service at the last National JACL convention in Denver as well as the Poston I reunion in Torrance. At JANM's Legacy Center in Little Tokyo, visitors are encouraged to search this database and ask for a printout of their own families. Many are surprised to see the information.

Ike Hatchimontsi

Torrance, Calif.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
IT'S THE YEAR OF THE  
ROOSTER!



AKEMASHITE  
SHINNEN  
OMEDETO!

IN OTHER WORDS—  
HOPE 1993 WILL BE  
SOMETHING FOR YOU  
TO CHEER ABOUT!

Pete Hirawaka 1/1/93

## WAKASUGI

(Continued from page 8)

farming, so we had to face an equally apprehensive group of military men.

As we began to start our 1942 berry season, I had contacted the packing houses, lenders and suppliers for the coming season as usual, but also felt their cooperative attitude was not the same. In the growing of strawberries, generally for a new planting, our bank would finance long-term, so at the time of Dec. 7, we owed them a rather large sum of money. I had gradually built up a line of credit after going through the disastrous Depression of 1930-34. And by the late '30s, I began to have some equity built-up and had increased the size of our berry operation.

(Editor's note: Wakasugi was nominated (but not selected) for the coveted Winthrop Rockefeller Award for Distinguished Rural Service in 1980, in spite of many honors. These included his lifetime role in Oregon agriculture and agri-business; promoting public and trade relations between Japan and United States; serving on the Oregon State Board of Agriculture (one year as chairman during his 11-1/2 years on the board), the Oregon State Farm Bureau board of directors (12 years), local county boards of potato growers, sugar beet growers and onion growers, the Extension Service advisory committee as well as his years of service on the Annex School Board, Treasure Valley Community College agricultural advisory board, in politics (a lifelong Republican and a longtime member of the Malheur County Republican central committee), the Snake River Valley, JACL, and church (director and past superintendent of Park Community Church).

## Personal update

Mamoru Wakasugi was born Nov. 4, 1912, on Bainbridge Island, Wash., educated at Hillsboro (Ore.) High School and Northwestern Business College, Portland, and started farming in 1926-27.

After more than 50 years, I retired from farming in 1978. I had a heart attack that year, and open heart surgery in 1979. After recovery, I farmed the balance of the year but liquidated the farm. I had no successor to take over.

For something to do and to keep in circulation community-wise, I studied for a real estate license and passed the requirement after a year of study. I am now licensed in both Idaho and Oregon, working with Blackaby Real Estate.

During my years on the farm, there was hardly time for taking up a hobby. Since retiring, he has taken about a dozen trips through many parts of the U.S. and world, including one PANA Convention in Brazil.

I was married in 1943 to Mary Yamada of Nampa who, at the time of Pearl Harbor, was a nurse

## SHIMOMURA

(Continued from page 5)

family. In 1990 I was appointed chief counsel for the California State Personnel Board. In 1991, my oldest son, Mark, graduated from high school; he is currently 19 and a sophomore at UC, Riverside. In late 1991, I was appointed a Senior California Assistant Attorney General and put in charge of the State Government Section. This section contains 20 attorneys and provides legal advice and court representation to the governor, state treasurer, other top California officials (this year's budget impasse was a headache). In 1992, my daughter, Lisa, started high school. Lisa is 15 and a sophomore (and is already talking about a car). Currently, Ruth is very active in her exercise class (every morning at 5:30 a.m.) and her many hobbies such as miniatures, sewing and following the Oakland A's. (C)

at St. Luke's Hospital in Boise. Our two daughters (Mary Ann Wright, Kathy Bowe) and son (Scott), all Univ. of Oregon graduates, live in California. Mary Ann is a medical technologist living in Berkeley; Kathy, who served in an administrative capacity with Campus Crusade headquarters in London, is with Campus Crusade in Bakersfield, and Scott is with CBS-Hollywood.

The area where I now live in eastern Oregon was the place that I had voluntarily evacuated to in the spring of 1942 as I had a sister living there. The neighborhood was agricultural and we were well-treated. Most of our neighbors are gone now as they were part of the older generation.

I have volunteered my services to the community whenever I was asked. Being on the many boards, commissions and neighborhood organizations has been one pleasant experience. Current activities include serving the board of directors for the Malheur Housing Authority, county AARP, county historical society and the West Treasure Valley Cultural Center and being elected chairman to several of them.

There were many Nisei who were called into the inner workings of the community and who have accepted. Our goal was to make a place for our Sansei children to grow up and be a part of the community also because of our groundwork.

There is still some anti-Japanese prejudice but that rarely shows. Many of the Nisei have been very successful with new homes, nice farms and children who generally excelled in school. Perhaps some envy might have been engendered, but the fact that Nisei in leadership positions in the community no doubt have been a factor in reducing the discrimination and prejudice.

Today, I am very impressed with the Sansei and Yonsei: how most have continued their education to meet today's requirements which many of their parents were unable to do. They hold positions of responsibility in government, business, and in their own businesses. Many are in agriculture and taking over successfully in a highly competitive field. They also have assumed active roles in the community as volunteers to fulfill needs. Because of the Sansei and Yonsei doing a commendable job, we, the Japanese American community, will continue to prosper.

## MAYEDA

(Continued from page 5)

(career, life in general?)

I wish for a successful, secure professional career with a lot of

side projects going on at the same time. As far as life in general, health would be on the top of my list next to happiness, then the biggest "badder" Macintosh would be a close third.

What do you wish for New Year?

New Year's? . . . Hmmm . . . Since I'm the newsletter editor for APAN, I wish that everyone turned in their article on time. Better yet, I wish that I could get a dinner for every late article from the respective writer. . . Hmmm, no that would make me look like a post-Thanking person after every newsletter printing.

OK, I'll amend my wish to include a membership to the local gym as well. How's that?

## UYEHARA

(Continued from page 11)

Labor in 1987 wrote, "Although future trends can be anticipated to some degree, policies and programs seldom lead, even keep up with change in economic and leadership position." The JACL mission is to protect the rights of Japanese Americans. Unless we gather some of our own basic intelligence about our own community, how can we propose to assess the needs and to propose viable programs. I have this notion that if JACL programs are relevant to the rapid changes taking place in our society, our organization with its 62 year history, 113 chapters and more than 24,000 members will appeal to the Sansei and Yonsei generations. JACL will have to move faster and smarter on legislation and program proposals which will meet our specific needs. There are also needs that are common to all Americans, such as jobs, affordable health insurance, care of the increasing elderly and education and retraining or workers for the 21st century economy. All are present needs. Already, JACL should review its 1992-93 Program for Action. JACL must keep pace of the rapid changes taking place in our nation and globally, business as usual will leave us irrelevant. I remember Minoru Yasui's rallying call whenever he spoke, particularly to the college students. "Power gives up nothing without a demand." For the sake of future generations, all of us must cast aside one lesson from our culture—"The nail that sticks out will be hammered down." The future is at risk so we must be willing to take risks as we learn new ways to complete the mission of JACL. That is how I see the future of Japanese Americans in a changing America. Will the new leadership find their way in a new era?

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Classified Ads**  
— Page 16

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## FAREWELL

(Continued from page 14)

Okazaki, Edward Yukio, Salt Lake City, March 20; Hawaii-born 442nd veteran, president of Japan Okinawa and Japan Central DOS Mission, regional representative of Quorum of Twelve to Japan and Taiwan, NEW Administration on Aging and Office of Human Development regional director, first director of Utah State Commission on Aging.

Okuda, Hejima, 86, Honolulu, Sept. 19; Japan-born grocer-artist (founded Waluku, Maui's first supermarket, raised family of 7 daughters and finally studied at Honolulu Academy of Arts and Univ. of

Hawaii), best works in portraits, seascapes, landscapes.

Oshideri, Dr. Kenji, 81, Stockton, Aug. 18; Stockton-born retired dentist.

Parish, Dr. H. Carroll, 72; Santa Monica, Aug. 8; Pasadena-born educator, Los Angeles Japan America Society official, awarded Order of Rising Sun (1964).

Rosa, Paul, 82, San Rafael, Sept. 27; pioneer civil rights and labor leader since the 1930s, during and post-WWII helped as WRA office thousands from the internment camps find jobs and housing in Cleveland, San Francisco Bay area.

Shaw, Helen (Matsunaga), 67, Bethesda, Md., June 17; Los Angeles-born violinist with National Symphony Chamber Orchestra, financial analyst and wife of U.S. Foreign Service officer John P. who died in 1975; married Wallace Little in 1985.

Shibata, Rev. Tetsuhiko, 84, Stockton, Dec. 4; minister-emeritus, Buddhist Churches of America.

Shimamoto, Tony T., 69, Culver City, Aug. 9; Hiroshima-born nurseman.

Sugimoto, Roy, Ph.D., 75, Houston, Texas, April 15; Los Angeles-born WWII veteran, doctorate in organic chemistry (Purdue), internationally recognized in fuel additives research, member: American Chemical Society (emeritus), Sigma Xi, Society of Automotive Engineers.

Tada, Kazuo, Seattle, May 15; Seattle-born WWII veteran-299th Engrs Bn in Europe, retired postal service employee of 42 years.

Takayasu, Shigematsu John, 93, Oxnard, Aug. 27; Tottori-born pioneer in Southern California farming, recipient of Order of Sacred Treasure and Dai Nippon Nohki medals for Israel contributions to California agriculture.

Tamaki, Hiro, 76, Culver City, Aug. 15; Ogden-born social worker, published Internment Unit's Director.

Tanabe, Yoshihiko, 71, Milton, Wash., Aug. 9 in auto accident; File-born retired Puget Sound Valley vegetable grower, 70-71 P.V. JACL president, pioneer in Japan farm training program, Northwest Vegetable Growers Association president, Tacoma Buddhist Church president, Selective Service Appeals Board member.

Tanaka, H. William, 70, Washington,

Oct. 1; Los Angeles-born WWII veteran, economic analyst postwar Japan, lawyer-founder of Tanaka, Ringer & Middleton law firm, decorated with Order of Sacred Treasure (1991).

Taniguchi, Ichitaro G., 88, Santa Maria, March 10; Wakayama-born, came to U.S. 1914, wholesale produce supplier prewar, fish market owner postwar; Santa Maria Japanese community center chair, Kitsu Club founder.

Tashima, Chiyoko, 72, Los Angeles, April 23; Brawley-born, pioneer Nisei



CHIYOKO TASHIMA

woman bowler and JACL national titlist in the 1950s.

Tatehita, Masayasu, 97, San Anselmo, April 18; Kumamoto-born, prewar Nihongo teacher, Fresno County.

Tanabe, Yoshihiko, 71, Milton, Wash., Aug. 9 in auto accident; File-born retired Puget Sound Valley vegetable grower, 70-71 P.V. JACL president, pioneer in Japan farm training program, Northwest Vegetable Growers Association president, Tacoma Buddhist Church president, Selective Service Appeals Board member.

Tobe, Masayo, 66, San Rafael, May 3 of cancer; San Leandro-born, postwar Michigan resident, returned to San Francisco, worked by U.S.A.F. Motion Picture Service, and Rafael Conventual Hospital (1977-1991).

Togasaki, Dr. Kazuo, 95, San Francisco, Dec. 15; San Francisco-born pioneer Nisei physician in the S.F. Japanese community since 1935, opened hospital at Topaz, transferred to Tule Lake, and Manzanar; graduated UC School of Public

Health Nursing, medical degree in 1933 from Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, completed residency in Chicago.

Tsunakawa, Lou S., 75, Stockton, Oct. 18; Los Angeles-born 442nd veteran, civil engineer-architect, Stockton JACL president (1952), Little League baseball coach of 4 decades.

Uchida, Yoshiko, 70, Berkeley, June 21; Alameda-born author of children's and adult books for more than 40 years, her most recent The Invisible Thread (1991).

Wakatsuki, Justice James, 63, Honolulu, Sept. 22; associate justice of Hawaii Supreme Court (1983), Honolulu-born Army veteran, House (D) legislator (1956-70), House Speaker (1974-80), appointed to Circuit Court (1980).

Watanabe, Dr. Robert, 66, Los Angeles, Sept. 30; San Luis Obispo-born orthopedic surgeon, specializing in back and knee, invented video arthroscopy and orthopedic instruments, UCLA sprinter (1948-51), founder of JACL Nisei Relays (1949), his all-time best of 9.6 in 100-yard, held many masters, senior USA/TAC records, UCLA football team physician (1960-80).

Wong, Henry W., 72, San Francisco, July 18; San Francisco-born owner of Wong's Ball & Tackle Shop in Japan town since 1950, parents ran Kum Far Low in Japan town (1912-1950).

Yamauchi, Chester, 69, Los Angeles, July 18; of cancer; Colton-born owner-operator of classic Catering for past 30 years, publisher of Tazai Times.

Yamashita, Dr. Ken, 73, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., Aug. 29; Seattle-born physician, diplomate American Board of Surgery.

Yatsu, Frank Kensaku, 109, Seattle, July 24; Seattle-born, pioneer resident in Pasadena, Cleveland, interned in Arizona, among first recipient of redress check.

Yuguchi, Setsuichi Cy, 73, Montebello, Aug. 11; Riverside-born WWII veteran, wholesale meat provender.

Yumori, Shimo M., 87, Culver City, July 1; Wakayama-born Venice pioneer maron.

## More Classified Ads

(Continued from page 15)

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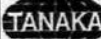
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NAGASAKI-OKINAWA TAUCK TOUR (Montreal/Osaka/Nagasaki)	(10 days) SEP 27
Excort-John Kono (10 days) SEP 27	
JAPAN HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU (including Sado Island)	(14 days) SEP 25
EAST COAST & FALL FOLIAGE (Wash DC/Philly/Norfolk/Hager/Norfolk)	(10 days) OCT 4
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE	(14 days) OCT 12
HAWAIIAN GOLF HOLIDAY (Oahu-Hawaii Price GC/Big Island/Waikaloa GC)	(9 days) NOV 3
CRYSTAL HARBOR'S PANAMA CANAL CRUISE	(10 days) NOV 13

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