

## JACL opposes 'motor voter' legislation

Although the "Motor Voter" bill is meant to make it easier to register to vote, JACL and other civil rights groups are protesting that to the contrary, the Senate version will make it more difficult for Asian Pacific Americans, the disabled and the unemployed to become registered voters. In coalition with other civil rights groups, JACL recently announced its opposition to the Senate version of the "Motor Voter" bill, the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

The recently adopted Senate version eliminates the House bill's requirement that voter registration applications be provided at social service agencies, rather than just at motor vehicle licensing agencies. The coalition, which includes other Asian Pacific organizations such as the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, the Asian Law Caucus and the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California, believes the bill to be discriminatory against those less likely to have drivers' licenses including people with disabilities and those on public assistance or unemployment compensation.

In addition, JACL believes the bill invites discrimination against Asian Pacific Americans and Latino Americans by state officials by encouraging states to require additional documentation of citizenship, even though voter applications already require individuals to meet registration requirements including citizenship. "Moreover the Senate bill does not provide any standards or safeguards against discriminatory enforcement of the documentation requirement," said Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director. "We know from painful experience that those of us who look 'foreign' or have 'foreign' sounding names are the ones who suffer under this kind of requirement."

## EDC internship is announced

Washington, D.C.—The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is accepting applications for the Eastern District Council Internship Program. This Internship Program places a college or graduate student in JACL's Washington, D.C., office for three-month periods during the spring and summer quarters.

The internship program is designed to provide experience in working with JACL on public policy issues and the national political system. The internship is fulltime. The intern will receive a \$1,100 grant.

Qualified candidates must be a college junior or higher and have at least a "B" grade point average. Preference is given to JACL members.

Interested candidates are encouraged to apply by sending a resume, transcript, writing sample and cover letter explaining the candidate's interest in the program by April 30, 1993 to: Karen K. Narasaki, Washington, D.C., representative, Japanese American Citizens League, 1001 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 704, Washington, D.C., 20036



April 2-4, 1993

JEM LEW

## Tri-District Conference, Costa Mesa, Calif.

It was the gathering of some 200 members, representing nearly 80 chapters from the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific, the Pacific Southwest, and the Central California Districts...

By RICHARD SUENAGA  
Editor

The age that has already dawned before us has labels, buzzwords and package directions. It's multiculturalism and coalitions; it's a time for Asian Americans, it's a time for all minorities.

And amid all of this coalescing and commingling of groups, minds, goals, and needs must come further definition and direction. That, in essence, was the theme for the Japanese American Citizens League tri-district conference held in Costa Mesa, Calif., April 2-4. Members from up and down California, as well as from Hawaii, Arizona and Nevada, came together to hear more about multiculturalism and what it means to them in the impending future.

And helping to delineate these concepts were Dr. Bob Suzuki, presi-

dent of California State University, Pomona, and Joe Hicks, executive director of the Southern California Christian Leadership Conference of Greater Los Angeles and the executive vice president of the Martin Luther King Legacy Association.

In addressing the theme of the conference, "Making a Difference in a Multicultural Society," both Suzuki and Hicks emphasized the need for all minorities and members of society to understand each other—their individual cultures, heritage and history.

Suzuki, kicking off the conference and calling himself one of the "young Turks" of JACL in his heydays some 25 years ago, said that it is imperative that we all build

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**DIGNITARIES**—In photo at left, attending the Tri-District Conference April 2-4 in Costa Mesa, Calif., were, from left, Lillian Kimura, JACL national president; Dennis Hayashi, national director; Doris Matsui, White House deputy director of public liaison; Fred Okrand, honoree; Sox Kitashima, honoree; Rusty Kennedy, honoree; and actress Tamlyn Tomita, emcee.



**KARAOKE CHARACTERS**—Having fun at the opening reception were APAN chapter members Eric Kurimura and Gary Mayeda.

JEM LEW

## It's Q & A session for JACL national board

By GWEN MURANAKA  
Assistant editor

COSTA MESA, Calif.—Communication, credibility, and accountability were the central issues in a lively forum between the JACL national board and chapter members April 4 at the tri-district conference. Moderator J.D. Hokoyama set the ground rules in the session—no long speeches, questions should center around issues of the current biennium and there should be no personal attacks. The talk show format provided many of those present with their first opportunity to hear the national board since last year's national convention and many, especially the longtime JACL members, used the opportunity to air pointed questions, observations and com-

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GWEN MURANAKA

## Leadership: JACL shows the way

The National JACL 1993 Leadership Conference, held in Washington, D.C., began on March 19 with the moving Smithsonian exhibit, "A More Perfect Union." The exhibit covers the internment experience, the Redress movement, and a short history of Japanese Americans. For most of the Leadership Conference participants, the exhibit set the tone for the week of intense information sessions.

The first full day of the conference, held at the Hyatt Regency near the Capitol building, brought the participants together to hear Grayce Uyehara, chairwoman of the JACL Legacy Fund, recount the fight for redress. The participants found that her personal testimony lent inspiration and perspective

By KAREN NARASAKI  
Washington D.C. representative,  
and MICHAEL YANG  
EDC spring intern

to JACL's post-redress mission.

During a lunch with the National JACL Board, the participants heard a panel discussion on the "Civil Rights Agenda for the '90s" from Ralph Nease, executive director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Charles Kamassaki, vice president of the Office of Research Advocacy and Legislation of the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), and Wade Henderson, Washington Bureau director of the NAACP. The panel underscored the necessity of finding the common

ground among a very broad civil rights coalition, and of looking at issues of economic justice, such as health care reform. Participants spent the afternoon observing the national JACL board meeting. The Eastern District Council hosted dinner in Chinatown with the national board and the Washington, D.C., Chapter.

Participants began Sunday morning March 21 with an overview of Asian Pacific American demographics, primarily addressing the need for more data collection on Asian Pacific Americans as well as upcoming legislative concerns over Census 2000.

In the next session, Martha Watanabe and Mo Marumoto spoke about political empow-

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**LEADING THE WAY**—Leadership Conference attendees were, from left, Ron Uba, Phyllis Murakawa, Joe Takano, Karen Yoshitomi, Kerry Kaneichi, Joanne Hirase, Lonnie Lin, Patricia Ikeda Carper, Brian Kuwahara, Patty Wada, Travis Nishi, Kelly Wicker, George Ikuta, Belle Nishioaka, Ron Ohata, and Lonnie Masuoka.

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## Calendar

### New York 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 Yehh Gai," 70 Mulberry St., 2nd floor, Sun-Wed, noon-5 p.m. Information: 212/619-4785.

### Pennsylvania Philadelphia

Friday, Apr. 23—Asian Americans United's 2nd annual banquet, Teal Hang Chun Seafood Restaurant, 911-913 Race Street (Chinatown), 6 p.m. Cost: \$35, members; \$30, non-members. Information: AAU, 215/ 925-1538; 801 Arch St., Philadelphia, PA 19107.

### Illinois Chicago

Fri-Sun, Apr. 23-25—Chicago Chapter, JACL, is hosting the spring Midwest district council meeting, Downtown Marriott, 540 N. Michigan Ave. Highlights include a chapter roundtable on membership, programming and fundraising and a reception Friday night. Registration: \$25. Information: Bill Yoshino, 312/ 728-7170.  
Fri-Sun, Sept. 3-5—Sixth National JACL Singles Convention, Chicago Marriott Hotel, 540 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

### Michigan Detroit

Sunday, May 2—Detroit Chapter, JACL, Spring meeting, Oceania Restaurant, 24845 Ryan, Warren, noon. Dim sum lunch and chapter photographic collection viewing. Cost: \$10, members; \$15, non-members. Information: Mary Kamidol, 313/ 522-7917.

### Washington Seattle

Tuesday, Apr. 13—Tomo No Kai dine-out, Blue Max Restaurant, 7299 Perimeter Rd. S., 5 p.m. Cost: \$20, choice of prime rib or salmon, send choice and check to: Yoshi Kanemori, 4454 54th Ave. S.W., Seattle 98116. Information: Kim, 206/ 324-0662.  
Saturday, Apr. 17—Northwest Asian American Theatre's 20th anniversary gala, Washington Athletic Club, 1325 6th, Seattle, 6 p.m. Cost: \$40, Kong Sun Gills, 676 S. King. Speaker: David Henry Hwang. Information: Roger Tang, 206/ 465-2882.

365-0282 (eve.), 206/ 543-9663 (day) or Nancy Calos Nakano, 506/ 763-4382.

Fri-Sun, Apr. 23-25—The 18th annual Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival, Seattle Center, Fri-Sat, 9 a.m.-Sun, 10 a.m. Admission: free. Music, dance, martial arts, and food. Information: 206/ 626-4140.

### Nevada Reno-Sparks

Sat-Sun, May 22-23—Asian Pacific Americans of Northern Nevada are among the sponsors for Asian Pacific Festival of Fortune, centered in downtown Sparks. Asian Pacific marketplace and artisans. Cost: free. Sat. evening: Dance of the Dragons through Victorian Square in downtown Sparks. Information: John Ascuaga's Nugget, 800/ 648-1177.

### Arizona Phoenix

Sunday, May 2—Arizona Chapter, JACL, hosts the 32nd annual Sara Hutchings Clardy scholarship awards and graduates' banquet, 2532 W. Pecos Ave., Phoenix, 6:30 p.m. RSVP by Apr. 26 to: Peggy Matsushita, 4320 W. Orchard Ln., Glendale, AZ 85302, 602/ 934-3340, or Kathy Inoshita, 5332 W. Golden Ln., Glendale, AZ 85302, 602/ 937-5434.

### California San Francisco area

Monday-Wednesday, May 3-5—San Mateo JACL Community Center's trip to Yosemite National Park. Cost: \$295, per person, includes 2 nights 3 days at Yosemite Lodge, lunches and tours. Information and reservations: San Mateo JACL, 415/ 343-2793.

Saturday, May 8—Contra Costa Chapter, JACL, is sponsoring Kids' Day III, East Bay Free Methodist Church, El Cerrito, 1 p.m. Karo demonstration, San Francisco Taiko Dojo kids' performance and origami making. Cost: JACL member, \$3 child, \$7 family, non-member, \$4 child, \$10, per family. Registration by mail until Apr. 28, limited space. Information: Dennis Okamura, 1642 Julian Dr., El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510/ 234-8252.

### Sacramento area

Friday, Apr. 16—Elk Grove Cityhood benefit ballroom dance, 7-11 p.m., Laguna Town Hall, 3020 Renwick Ave., Elk Grove, Calif. Donation: \$10 per person. Information: Bill Kashwagi or Pearl Zarilla, 916/ 635-2815.

## Arts calendar

### Theatre

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.—Through Sunday, April 25—Crossroads Theatre Company presents "Mothers," a story of the lives of two women and their mixed-race daughters, 7 Livingston Ave., New Brunswick, N.J., Tues-Sat, 8 p.m.; Sat-Sun, 3 p.m. Additional performances: Mar. 21, 7:30 p.m. and Apr. 6, noon. Previews: Mar. 7-12, cost: \$20, Sun-Thurs; \$24, Fri. Regular run: \$22, Sun, Tues-Thurs; \$30, Fri-Sat; \$26, Sat-Sun. matinees, and \$18, weekday matinees. Information: 908/ 249-5560. Commissioned by Bill Cosby; performers include: Jeanne Mori and Takayo Fischer.

### Dance

SAN FRANCISCO—Thurs-Sun, Apr. 22-25—Theater Artaud presents June Watanabe in Company, 450 Florida St., San Francisco, 6 p.m. Cost: \$13-50. Thurs and Sat, \$15-50 Fri and Sat. Information: Theater Artaud box office, 415/ 621-7797.

### Art pick BOSTON

Through Friday, Apr. 30—Japan Society of Boston presents, "Into the Mind: Miso Okubo," an exhibition of paintings and drawings, Bank of Boston's Gallery, 36th Floor, 100 Federal St., Boston. A retrospective on Okubo's career, it shows the effects of the internment and her development as a Japanese American artist. Free. Information: (617) 451-0726.

### Music

LOS ANGELES—Friday, April 16—The Japan America Symphony Orchestra with 13-year-old violinist Tamaki Kawakubo, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Music Center, Los Angeles, 8 p.m. Selections include: Brahms' Symphony No. 4. Tickets: \$35, \$20, available at Music Center box office or Ticketmaster outlets or by calling 213/ 480-3232 or 714/ 740-2000.

### Small kid time



### Gwen Muranaka



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# CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 1)

bridges between and among all ethnic groups. Citing the turmoil of the recent Los Angeles riots and the situation in Yugoslavia, Suzuki said that inter-ethnic relationships is not just a domestic problem but a worldwide one.

The university president said that from his perspective multiculturalism must be promoted to reduce ethnic polarization—and called upon JACL to play a role in reaching out to other ethnic groups.

One of the wrong turns some make, he said, is the promotion of the group's identity and interest, believing that will lead to a harmonious society.

"That makes it worse, not better," he said. "You can't understand problems by studying them in isolation. You must study the interrelationship of all groups—minorities and whites as well."

To illustrate Suzuki carried members back in time to his days as a teacher at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. In the East, he said ethnic conflicts are strong, not only among minorities but among white working class groups such as Polish and Irish American working classes. He said he had a difficult time teaching multiculturalism to the Irish from south Boston. They were hostile and unresponsive.

"To bridge the gap, they needed to go back and understand their own group's history in this country," Suzuki said. They had to grasp their own sense of discrimination that their ancestors had received in English colonial times.

"When you learn your own history, you have a far greater empathy and experience for the problems of minority groups," he said.

In his classes, Suzuki noted that ethnic minority students were knowledgeable about their backgrounds, particularly African Americans. But the Polish and Irish American students had not thought of or even knew they had backgrounds prior to coming to America.

"I realized the extent to which white ethnics had suppressed their background," Suzuki said. "I call it 'social amnesia.' That kind of indifference or ignorance, he added, has discouraged them from learning about and understanding their culture and has affected their individual and collective psyches.

The speaker said that this phenomenon has parallels to some minorities. "We must get them to understand their own experiences and use them as a bridge between white ethnicity and ethnic groups."



**'Koreans need to understand blacks and vice versa. All groups do. If we did, we'd understand how far more in common we have than the differences that divide us.'**

—Dr. Bob Suzuki

Referring to some of the tensions in Los Angeles, Suzuki cited the black-Korean conflict. "Koreans need to understand blacks better and vice-versa," he said. "All groups do. If we did, we'd understand how far more in common we have than the differences that divide us."

As for Japanese Americans, he said that the community must make stronger efforts to extend beyond its borders. At Cal Poly Pomona, Suzuki said that an endowed chair in multiculturalism will be established in the names of Michi and Walter Weglyn who devoted their lives to civil rights. Michi Weglyn will be honored with a doctor of humane letters on June 12 when the chair will be announced.

He also pointed out that Japanese Americans are severely underrepresented in leadership areas.

In education, he said, "There are only four (Asian American) chief executive officers in education in the United States." There should be 100 if it was proportionate to the Asian American population.

That small percentage of leadership also exists at corporate and political levels. "There's only one Asian American in the California legislature when Asian Americans make up about 10 percent of the population. There should be at least 10 to 12 Asian Americans in the California Legislature. Our

leadership role is absent in California."

Suzuki then turned to what he called the "very real glass ceiling" that exists in business today.

When Asian Americans begin climbing the corporate ladder they often encounter barriers, a subtle kind of racial discrimination. "Asian Americans are stereotyped as not having dynamic leadership," he said.

Although Suzuki noted the problem of racial and cultural bias that exists in business, he also pointed out that Asian Americans too often give up too easily. "Few apply (to higher positions), or if they try once and fail, they never try again," he said.

"They've got to go for it. Otherwise they can't complain about barriers. That's part of the reality."

To overcome obstacles, he said Asian Americans must improve both their writing and verbal communication skills. Experience in public speaking, he said, is imperative to attaining leadership roles.

JACL, he added, should encourage young people to assume leadership positions, provide opportunities and mentors for them.

"JACL, with its longtime commitment to civil rights, can play an instrumental role," he said.

## Black leader calls for understanding among minorities

In offering his view on the state of multiculturalism, Hicks framed his talk in light of the timely 25th anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. He pointed out that the Southern Christian Leadership Conference was founded in 1957 by King with its mission "to save the soul of America."

"Twenty-five years after his assassination, that mission is relatively an incomplete one," Hicks said at the conference luncheon.

America in 1993, he added, is in deep trouble with racial politics and societal decadence. It is a time of heightened xenophobia and ethnocentrism.

"How do we make a difference in a multicultural society?" he asked. In the words of King, he said, "we must rise above narrow concerns to the broader issues of humanity."

Hicks said we must "search our own souls for the myths and stereotypes we hold of other minorities, other peoples—Jews, blacks, Hispanics and Asians."

It is a time when minorities exchange or feel too many innu-

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## CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 3)

endos about each other. "We all can be racists," he said, "believing that others are culturally and socially inferior to us."

He said the struggle is sometimes against or within our own communities. Among blacks, he said, Afro-centricity is sometimes strong, leading to a narrow view that all that is significant in the world is black. All ethnic groups are capable of this kind of thinking, he said.

The struggle, then, is against ethno-centrism, a concept that excludes others, that says one group is superior to another. "We need honest exploration, debate and discussion among minorities to go beyond that," he said. "We must flush it out. It's a sticking point. We need a new life—a coalition... Let's build a common vision of what we want this nation to be. Scapegoating has become an art form in American... It's a worldwide phenomenon."



"We all can be racists, believing that others are culturally and socially inferior to us."

—Joe Hicks

Returning to the vision of King, Hicks said that minorities must fulfill his legacy, and that his non-violent message was even more relevant today.

And in light of the impending trial decisions in the Rodney King and Reginald Denny cases, Hicks said that the fear and hysteria that's gripped the city must

be overcome. "We must get beyond what rises and falls on these two verdicts. We have other work to do, we must get beyond the siege mentality and reconstruct this city. We must have decency and respect between communities. Join with the SCLC to complete the unfinished agenda of Martin Luther King."

## Doris Matsui: JACL's increasing political role

Reflecting on her own rise to White House deputy director for public liaison, Doris Matsui challenged JACL to continue to grow and mature as a civil rights organization. Speaking at the tri-district conference April 3, Matsui said, "Twenty years ago I was busy taking care of my only son. Our hopes were quite simple. To make a good life for ourselves, Brian and our community."

"The intervening years have changed our hopes and broadened them. Asian Pacific American hopes have also compounded and diversified. JACL, too, has changed. JACL has endeavored to expand and mature to meet the needs of both the new immigrants and the fourth generation Japanese Americans," said Matsui.

Referring to comments by Rep. Roscoe Bartlett (R-Md.) who said in a speech about scholarship recipients that Asian Americans do not "represent the normal American," Matsui said, "All Asian Americans have a stake in JACL."

"Sometimes the most insidious hurt comes from a quiet kind of discrimination. This is the time in



"JACL, too, has changed. JACL has endeavored to expand and mature to meet the needs of both the new immigrants and the fourth generation Japanese Americans."

—Doris Matsui

America when we have the greatest need of talent and resources. You are forcing others to change their stereotypes," said Matsui. Talking about Bill Clinton,

challenge everyone to continue to fight discrimination—to take pride in our heritage and break down stereotypes of what others want us to be."

## TALK

(Continued from page 1)

plaints.

Dr. Roy Nishikawa, former JACL national president and Wilshire Chapter, JACL member, had questions about the handling of the JACL endowment fund, set up in the 1950's for general operations.

A trustee for the fund, Nishikawa complained that there hadn't been sufficient communication, beyond a teleconference call, and follow-up between himself and national after some of the money from the endowment fund was moved to another fund.

"If you're not accountable for finances, the membership is going to lose confidence. It's going to make it harder to raise money for the Legacy Fund," warned Nishikawa.

Jonathan Kaji, national secretary/treasurer, responded saying that he and Nishikawa had talked about the issue and that the transfer of money was done because the accountant advised that income from the fund should be taken out and transferred every year. Alan Nishi, vice president of membership and former secretary/treasurer, confirmed the procedure that Kaji detailed.

Lillian Kimura, JACL national president, said that Nishikawa's concerns pointed out a general need for greater communication between national and the chapters.

"Roy is pointing out that we



**MODERATOR—J.D. Hokoyama**, executive director of Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, roamed around the room with microphone in hand for audience member questions.

have to let membership know what is happening and have a financial statement (publicized) in the annual report and Pacific Citizen," said Kimura.

Kaji said that national JACL is undergoing its first full audit in over 8 years and that national staff is preparing a financial report.

When Jim Oshima, Contra Costa Chapter member, asked about the role of the national board to the districts and chapters, Kimura said, "We are responsible for managing the organization under California corporate laws,

dealing with such issues as managing the budget and supervising staff. The buck stops with us... The direction we get comes from chapters through districts. It's a partnership all the way."

Neal Taniguchi, national vice president general operations, added, "The national board has two roles. The chief responsibility is to put together a strategy for implementing the program for action. The second responsibility is as a strategic thinker, to look beyond micro issues."

Craig Minami, APAN Chapter member, asked how JACL will respond to the next U.S. Supreme Court nomination given the announcement of the retirement of Justice Byron White and an emergency resolution passed at the Denver convention that states that JACL must take a stand on Supreme Court nominations in a timely manner.

Bill Kaneko, national vice president public affairs, said, "We need to convene an executive committee or do telephone polling so that we can act expeditiously on issues, not just on this but other issues and communicate with chapters and districts."

"The question is how to implement national policy and work at the local level... Districts have great constituency bases. Officials are more responsive to local chapters than to a letter from national headquarters at San Francisco. I want to strengthen the effectiveness of the JACL machine so that

See TALK/page 5

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## TALK

(Continued from page 4)

we can act expeditiously," said Kaneko.

On the specific issue of the Supreme Court nomination, Trisha Murakawa, national vice president, planning and development, said, "Before we even discuss taking a position, I think staff will provide information (regarding the nomination). The staff is on the front line getting calls from the media. When we do take a position, we're not going to take an ignorant position."

Dennis Hayashi, JACL national director, added that because he and Karen Narasaki, Washington, D.C., representative, are members of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, they would be receiving that group's information on the upcoming nomination.

Tom Shigemasa, San Jose Chapter member, asked whether JACL is working with other civil rights organizations on broader civil rights issues, not just issues affecting Japanese Americans. Using the recent controversy over gays in the military as an example, Shigemasa said, "The San Jose Chapter took a position only because we felt we couldn't wait for the national board. I commend the national board for recognizing the need to take a position."

Hayashi said that JACL works with other civil rights groups as



**PANEL**—Members of the JACL national board fielding questions at the Tri-District session open to member inquiries were, from left, Dennis Hayashi, national director; Lillian Kimura, national president; Neal Taniguchi, vice president, general operations; Trisha Murakawa, vice president, planning

cally to the board's recent support of gay and lesbian rights, said, "We felt it was in the purview of JACL because of the national constitution. In the preamble it says that we uphold the civil rights of all regardless of sexual orientation. We took a position and will advocate strongly for gay and lesbian rights."

She added, "Mike Masanaka said that sometimes JACL has to take a stand on issues outside and he was very successful."

Nishi remarked that chapters and districts have input on all decisions made by the national board through their district governors.

After hearing reports from high school students at the conference of anti-Asian acts on school

grounds, John Yamada, Eden Township Chapter member, asked Kim Nakahara, national youth chair, what the JACL youth were doing for high school students.

Nakahara responded that out of necessity the JACL youth program has focused its attention on college-aged youth. "This discussion has been going on for a long time. There are only 10 people on the national youth council. We turned our attention to college students because of accessibility."

Denny Uejima, San Gabriel Valley Chapter, asked for more information on youth activities. "There are chapters like ours who have youth who could be involved and we get no response from national, there's no information. It

See TALK/page 6

and development; Alan Nishi, vice president, membership services; Kerry Kaneko, National Youth Council representative; Kim Nakahara, National Youth Council chair; Bill Kaneko, vice president, public affairs; and Jonathan Kaji, secretary/treasurer.



**DISCUSSING**—Dennis Hayashi, left, and Neal Taniguchi listen while Lillian Kimura responds to question.

## More stories on the Tri-District conference

in next week's issue:

- Workshop sessions
- Presentations
- Organization restructuring
- Membership development
- Photos

an executive committee member of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and that through this national coalition of organizations JACL was able to get support on issues such as Wanda Kimura added, "When we were at the Washington D.C. conference you could sense the high regard JACL has among the civil rights community. We could not have accomplished redress without these other groups."

Fred Hirasuna, Fresno Chapter member, asked the board who determines JACL public policy on controversial issues.

Taniguchi answered, "The national board does and is accountable to the national council. The constitutional by-laws, resolutions and program for action are the three documents that we use to decide how we're going to vote."

Murakawa, speaking specifically



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## Tri-district workshop

# Nikkei story needs to be in school curriculum, panel says

By HARRY K. HONDA  
Editor emeritus



HARRY K. HONDA

**GREG MARUTANI** shows a copy of the San Francisco JACL curriculum guide for teachers on "Day of Remembrance" at the PSWDC-hosted Tri-District Conference.

similar approach might be pursued in other areas.

Kamimoto also noted that the Japanese American experience, as taught in the public schools, often ends before Pearl Harbor, the Evacuation and the wartime Nisei story. "That's now stressed (along with immigration and the anti-Asian discrimination) in the social studies syllabus, which we prepared," she continued.

"If we all pull together like we did in the redress campaign, the unfinished business ahead with the textbooks can be accomplished."

—Greg Marutani

On the same panel, entitled "Unfinished Business: Including the Japanese American Experience in Public School Curriculum," was Hawaii-born Chinese American Dr. Franklin Ng of CSU-Fresno's Anthropology Department and Asian American Studies Program, who described the strategy that must be tracked to insure the program.

The professor asserted national U.S. history contains a cultural bias in textbooks since little is said about the West, California or even Hawaii. "The Asians in American have played a legitimate role in our history," he reminded. "And the economic side cannot be ignored either," as he noted Samuel Gompers' prejudice against the Chinese Americans kept his AF of L movement "white."

And more needs to be told

about the non-Nisei who are part of the Japanese American history such as Ralph Leao, the Chicano who went to Manzanar to be with his Nisei classmates; YMCA director Hung Wei Ching of Honolulu who helped in the formation of the 100th Infantry; Young Oak Kim's leadership with the 100th/442nd in combat; Ralph Carr, the only Western state governor who openly welcomed the Japanese American evacuees to his state during WWII; and Milton Eisenhower, WRA's first director in 1942. "Why isn't there a nice article about Milton Eisenhower?" he wondered.

Ng also reminded that the competence of teachers is "another crucial and vital key in telling the Japanese American story in spite of the textbooks."

George Kuriyama, a Los Angeles school district principal, commented the L.A. Unified School District has been working on Japanese American studies for secondary schools and a program should appear soon.

Nancy Araki of the Japanese American National Museum reported their curriculum draft of a similar nature is being reviewed by a New York educational group. "A realistic national framework is needed," she said, "since the Japanese American story as well as our museum belongs to all ages."

About chapters securing photos for a curriculum guide, Marutani said a list of resources is appended in the guide.

In closing, Marutani said the San Francisco JACL project to make available a VHS-copy of "A Personal Matter" by Gordon Hirabayashi vs. the United States, on its wartime experiences (see Mar. 5 P.C.) can be the best "foot-in-the-door" for opening up high school students to the little-known phase of American history. "Even the teachers ask, why did it (the Evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans) happen?"

Chapters wishing to preview the video should inquire with their district governor, each of whom has a copy. Marutani remembered one JACLer in Idaho (Hero Shioasaki of Pocatello-Blackfoot) was gun-ho in having the schools buy and show the video. Shioasaki also related the Evacuation story as part of his chapter's role in the education project.

"It's perhaps the best way to start discussion in the classroom," Marutani added. The special \$50 video offer from San Francisco JACL, Box 22429, San Francisco, CA 94122, ends June 30.

## TALK

(Continued from page 5)

hurts recruiting. Is there any way to expand communication?

Kimura interjected that chapter presidents do in fact receive information on youth and other JACL activities and it's their responsibility to disseminate that information to members.

Nakahara said, "We provide information to the district youth representatives. It's difficult. We don't have a lot of contact with chapters. Help us keep informed."

In another controversial issue, Neil Sugimoto, High Desert Chapter member, asked about the voting process following the confusion at the Denver-convention.

Taniguchi said there had been discussion of a number of ways of refining the election process including using a third party to tabu-

late the votes. The vice president of general operations said that there would be some changes to the process, but the tallies would still be tabulated by the nominations committee.

"What was the problem? Human error," Taniguchi continued. "You can't ever completely resolve human error. We ought to leave the accounting to the nominations committee."

Doug Urata, Riverside Chapter member and Blue Shield Health Insurance trustee, complained about the lack of communication by the national board and the overall treatment of the health insurance program. "We're treated like the step-child of united parents," said Urata.

Nishi said that the programs offered by JACL should provide the best services available.

Kimura said, "I'm not talking about Blue Shield, but we need to do a better job owning our name. We need to get permission from those who would use the JACL

name."

Kaji reassured that there was no distancing of JACL from the Blue Shield program and that he was now trying to collect information on all of the services JACL offers.

"Part of the mandate that I received when I was elected was that I know what's under JACL, know the services that we provide, including Blue Shield," said Kaji.

"Last year when Nightline talked we got calls. I'm not singling out Blue Shield. We need to know what services are being provided," said Kaji.

Urata also told Pacific Citizen that there was no immediate plan to move the Blue Shield operation out of the JACL national headquarters in San Francisco.

And commenting on the program, he added, "JACL is the reason that there is a non-profit trust. It is a true member benefit."





ABOVE—Congressional staff speaking on advocacy were, from right, John Nakahata, Chris Strobel, Marie Blanco, Stuart Ishimaru, Karen Narasaki (partially hidden), Leadership Conference participants Karen Yoshitomi, and Ron Uba. BELOW—Attending the EDC-sponsored dinner were, clockwise from bottom left, Carole Hayashino, Karen Narasaki, Brian Kuwahara, Warren Wong, Trisha Murakawa, Kelly Wicker, Joy Nakamura and Teresa Maebori.



## LEADERSHIP

(Continued from page 1)

ement and gave helpful tips on fund-raising and organizing. Melinda Yee, from the Office of Presidential Personnel, spoke to the Leadership Conference over lunch. She called for greater Asian Pacific American involvement in the political parties, and addressed the issue of presidential appointments.

Sunday afternoon, Daphne Kwok, executive director of the Organization of Chinese Americans, Laura Efland, legislative director for Congresswoman Patry Mink, and Cora Yamamoto, legislative assistant for Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii), spoke on employment, education, and health issues. Later in the day, Phil Nash, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, Steve Carbo, legislative staff attorney for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Ivan Fong, attorney at Covington & Burling, impressed upon the participants the role of litigation in advocacy. Ivan Fong quoted Alexis de Tocqueville, saying "All great social issues end up in the courts."

On the next day, Karen Narasaki began by covering practical guidelines and techniques for advocating before Congress and administrative agencies. Participants also got to preview the new JACL Federal Advocacy Handbook. They then heard the inside perspective of experienced congressional staff members: Stuart Ishimaru, Marie Blanco, John Nakahata, and Chris Strobel. Later that afternoon, JACL National Director Dennis Hayashi provided insight into working with the media. Leona Hirakawa, associate managing editor for the *New Republic*, and Alan Ota, Washington correspondent for the *Oregonian*, provided their insights into the role of the media, and conducted a mock interview of Dennis Hayashi on the significance of the Justice for Wards Cove Workers Act. Many participants said that seeing Hayashi in the mock interview was one of the high points of the program.

The participants then rushed off to the Department of Justice to see the administrator of the Of-

fice of Redress Administration (ORA), Paul Suddes. He gave a comprehensive overview of the process of working with agencies on regulations and applications, using redress as an example.

Participants then moved on to meet Doris Matsui, White House deputy director for public liaison. In the sunlit Indian Treaty Room of the Old Executive Office Building, Matsui spoke enthusiastically about the administration's interest in Asian Pacific American concerns.

After this meeting, participants had dinner with Congressman Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) and celebrated participant Kerry Kaneishi's 21st birthday. Conference attendees were impressed by the substantial time that Mineta spent with the group, as well as the genuine interest he showed in each individual.

At breakfast Tuesday participants listened to insightful stories of grassroots organizing from Martin Hiraoka of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, and Matt Pinucane, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (AFL-CIO). Over lunch, Hayashi and the participants engaged in a discussion on the future of JACL, which many enjoyed for the opportunity to exchange ideas. Equally interesting for many was Narasaki's subsequent discussion on anti-Asian violence. She gave the participants ideas for what could be done at a local level and noted that the three major avenues to address this problem are victim services, prevention through education, and enforcement.

Rep. Mink (D-Hawaii) discussed education issues over lunch on Tuesday. A session on building coalitions followed with representatives of various JACL coalition partners: Claudia Withers, executive director of the Fair Employment Council of Greater Washington, Tony Califa, legislative counsel for the ACLU, Claire Gonzales, senior civil rights policy analyst for NCLR, and Michael Lieberman, Washington counsel for the Anti-Defamation League. They discussed the importance of coalitions in successful advocacy strategies and provided practical advice about working in coalitions.

Next, Pete Nakahata of the Office of Management and Budget tackled the budget and appropriations process. He walked the Leadership Conference through the informal and formal routes that budgets and appropriations proposals have to navigate to be approved. The participants then rushed to the House Ways and Means Library to meet Congressman Robert Matsui (D-Calif.). Many of the participants felt that Matsui's speech to the Leadership Conference was a "call to arms" for the Asian Pacific American community.

The last day of the conference also began early. At 8 a.m., many participants toured the Capitol Building. Matsui's aide, Andrea Hopewell, and Joy Nakamura, assistant to the JACL Washington D.C. representative, led the hour-long tour through the Senate Chamber, the Rotunda, and Statuary Hall. Following the tour, some participants stayed to watch the Senate in action while others went to the Office of Redress Administration. At ORA, participants could see the actual redress payment processes. They were able to search for specific records of relatives or friends who had been interned.

From ORA, participants moved to the Hart Senate Office Building to meet with Sen. Akaka. He spoke encouragingly about the end of gridlock and the new excitement on Capitol Hill because of the new administration.

The Leadership Conference attendees returned again to the Hyatt Regency for their last meal together. Participants completed their evaluations and lingered to eat, reflect, and say goodbyes. They thanked the Washington, D.C. staff with a poem and flowers. In their closing evaluations, all of the participants noted the personal challenge they felt from the intense 1993 Leadership Conference, and they expressed strong sentiments of dedication and empowerment.

One participant wrote: "We came away with a sense of inspiration, a sense that... we can use the political process to improve the lives of all Americans." ☐

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## Opinions



From the frying pan

BILL HOSOKAWA

## The Redress-Legacy Fund connection

Someone needs to say this, so let it be me.

One of the major rationalizations for demanding cash as part of Redress was that money was the "proper symbol of the nation's regret that a wrong had been done. Compensating the aggrieved with money is the American way, it was argued. Since money couldn't make up for the injustice of the Evacuation, the money itself—its material value, its buying power—was unimportant; it was important to make money part of the package for its symbolism.

Since this appeared to be a sincere and widely held view, Redress could not be settled by an apology and payment of "one dollar and costs," as is done not infrequently in civil cases where principle is considered more important than economic loss.

Well, most of the \$1.4 billion in checks have been cut, distributed and cashed and they represent an impressive symbol. But if the cash value had little importance, that is not being demonstrated by the snail's pace progress of JACL's campaign to solicit \$10 million from Redress recipients for a Legacy Fund to support its commendable long range human rights program.

If money meant so little to the redressed, one would think that they would not hesitate to turn a share of it over to a good cause

like JACL which spearheaded the fight to win Redress. (Despite the efforts of several groups, I think it is fair to say Redress would not have been realized without JACL's efforts and leadership.) So far approximately \$3.8 million has been contributed, or less than 40 pct. of the goal. That money was given by fewer than 4,000 donors, just over 5 pct. of the beneficiaries.

Was \$10 million a realistic goal? It represents less than 1% of the government's payout of roughly \$1.4 billion.

For sake of argument, let's look at some numbers.

About 70,000 individuals received Redress checks.

About 4,000 contributed to the Legacy Fund. That leaves about 66,000 who haven't.

Let's be generous and say that two-thirds of them, 44,000, for various reasons can't or don't want to give to the Legacy Fund. Maybe they have debts, or children and grand-children to educate, medical bills, a broken down car or a roof that needs replacement, churches, the National Japanese American Museum, veterans memorial drives and other good causes to support with this unexpected windfall. Or maybe they still have bitter grievances against JACL and wouldn't give it the time of day.

That's okay. It's their money.

But that still leaves 22,000 unaccounted for, people who might be persuaded to share a bit of their symbolic payment.

Let's say each of them decided to give \$100 out of their \$20,000—one-half of one percent—to the Heritage Fund. That would amount to \$2.2 million.

But maybe they could be persuaded to be a bit more generous and give an average of \$200—just one percent of the Redress check, a penny on the dollar. Not \$200 per person, but an average, meaning some might give \$300 and others just \$100. At an average of \$200, contributions from 22,000 ex-evacuees would amount to \$4,400,000 and the Fund would be pretty close to meeting its goal.

Is this likely to happen? I don't know. It would be nice if it did. But unless something like this takes place, the protestation that money was an unimportant part of the struggle for Redress will turn out to have been largely a pious fraud. ☐

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

## Letters

Pacific Citizen encourages and welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be brief, are subject to editing and those unpublished can be neither acknowledged nor returned. Please sign your letter but make sure we are able to read your name. Include mailing address and telephone number. Fax letters to 213/626-8213 or mail to Letters to the Editor, Pacific Citizen, 701 E. 3rd St., Ste. 201, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

## Nikkei in Maine made a difference

As an only child in the 1940s in Portland, Me., I was particularly observant of those around me, most of whom were adults.

In those earliest years, one person stands tall in my heart's memory, a giant of the spirit.

His name was Harold and he walked miles, to and from the city, to help my mother at the house.

His face was unlike any other I had ever seen, its features melted together.

They told me he came from far away and was burned by a bomb. My father said he came in a wooden ship I had seen on our Sunday drives, that had sunk into the Portland harbor.

This man was so aware of, attentive, and kind to me, as a child, his memory is indelibly printed upon my soul.

The effect he had upon me, caused me to wish to be a part of his family. He had lost so much.

It was very hard for me when he left; I wanted to go with him.

Sensitive to superficialities from a very tender age, his presence in my life then, planted the seed of my growing vision of the beauty within the heart of humanity.

For this, I am eternally grateful, for the gift of Harold from Japan, a very caring and tender man.

Anne Lunt

Shelton, Wash.

## Disagrees with position on gays in military

Although I am a fellow "minority," an African American, I write to you now as an American veteran. I think JACL is wrong in its support of open homosexuality in the military.

I believe, sincerely, that you have fallen into the same sink-hole far too many minorities fall into by supporting every minority issue.

By nature American minorities tend to support whatever issues that drive into those domains historically controlled by white males. That support is understandable. However, when minority support runs contrary to universal human morality, ethics and reality, minorities must draw the line.

It is unmistakably true that racial differences play no part in war. As Lincoln stated during the Civil War: "Death is the great equalizer." But, as all human societies and cultures, be they driven by spiritual or non-spiritual principles, morality under the definition of human evolution has always maintained restrictions on any behavior that runs contrary to normal, biological human survival.

Homosexuality runs contrary to human survival. Although homosexuality has room to exist in highly developed cultures, such as our American culture, it should never be permitted to legalize itself as an equal to that segment of society whose sexual nature perpetuates our existence.

Until homosexuals can naturally reproduce they will not be equals to heterosexuals and they should not be permitted to intrude upon every heterosexual domain. Democracy is a social reality, not a biological reality. As such, homosexuality should not be encouraged by social legitimization.

I suggest that you seriously reevaluate your conscience and not feel selectively compelled to champion every minority group. I am sure you would never support Lillian Baker's "minority." Nor would you agree with her claim that Japanese Americans favor weakening the victorious American military that defeated the Japanese empire.

Phyll Coleman

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IN-SIGHT

LILLIAN C. KIMURA

## Back east, out west

The road beckoned again as I trekked down to the nation's capital on Amtrak for the National Board meeting. Just a week before, the East Coast was battered by the "blizzard of the century," but fortunately a few warm days helped to melt much of the accumulated snow.

This spring meeting was planned in conjunction with the Washington Leadership Conference Seminar. (Usually held in the fall, the Seminar was scheduled for a later time so the participants could meet with new administration and congressional leaders.) Eastern District Council leaders/members were given the opportunity to interface with the Board. On Friday evening, we were able to view the long-running exhibit at the Smithsonian, "Toward a More Perfect Union," and to meet representatives of organizations that helped with the redress campaign at a reception sponsored by Sony Corporation. Thanks to Chris Wada of Sony

for making it possible. We also thank EDC for inviting the Board and Seminar participants to dinner on Saturday night and to Teddy Chan and Philip Morris Company for hosting the luncheon. (Outcomes of the Board meeting have been reported in previous issues of PC and the Seminar activities are found in this issue.)

The following week, I spoke at the Philadelphia Chapter, JACL, installation. Tarynn Yokomizo turned over the president's gavel to Bill Kishi. Among the Board are offsprings of long-time Philadelphia Chapter leaders such as Craig Ikeda, Naomi Higuchi, Joyce Horikawa and Paul Ueyehara (you can guess whose son he is). One of Bill's program ideas is a trip to Bruyeres, France, to honor what our Nisei soldiers did there during WWII.

This past weekend found me in Costa Mesa at the California Tri-District conference, ably chaired by B.J. Watanabe and Ruth Mizobe. The highlight of the week-

end, of course, was the presence of Doris Matsui who was accompanied by her assistant, Wendy Nishikawa. I had a delightful time chatting with Doris' father, Mr. Okada, and her two sisters who came down from Dinuba to be with her. Interesting aside: Ken Yokota, former governor of CCDC, told me he is related to the family, and Linda Hara, co-president of SCAN, was a high school classmate of Doris. Since the Conference will be covered in this and subsequent issues of PC, I will write no more about it.

A final word—I appreciate the staff of the Pacific Citizen always making me feel welcome when I come to the office to write my column. The equipment is made available for me to use and they always provide lunch. Thanks, guys! That's thirty for now.

Kimura is the JACL National President. Her IN-SIGHT column appears regularly in Pacific Citizen.

PETE HIRAKAWA 9/4/93





## Sidebar

MEI NAKANO

## Power of beauty/Power of the weak

The cherry trees out back are in bloom again. I know what that means: blossoming beauty contestants here in California and in Washington state will be lining up to be judged fairest of them all in the Cherry Blossom Festivals. This will be followed by a parade of like contests for Asian American women throughout the year, up and down the West Coast and Hawaii, the most notable of which is the contest for Nisei Week queenom in southern California.

I have to ask it: Why do we persist in this archaic, embarrassing exercise? It seems to me to lack a single socially redeeming quality. What's more, it diminishes the worth of human beings, so is ultimately corruptive. Ban it, abolish it, bury it, I say.

Back in 1985, the JACL Women's Concerns Committee (WCC) spotlighted this issue by presenting a resolution at a Tri-District conference urging "all chapters to refrain from sponsoring candidates for queen contests." A recap of that event may serve to illuminate. The WCC wanted to abolish the contests on the premises that they (1) represented physical attributes to the detriment of more valuable qualities like intelligence, sense of humor and compassion; (2) derived their criteria of beauty from Western models; (3) were unfair, given the inequality of gifts handed out at birth; and (4) in the case of Asian contests, imposed illegal "ancestral purity" tests.

All hell broke loose. A flurry of letters about the issue burst upon the pages of the vernacular presses of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Honolulu. The *Hawaii Herald* featured a full front page piece while CBS's Frank Ahe in Seattle called for an on-air interview. A Bay Area PBS station even devoted a program to the issue. The *Pacific Citizen* itself featured a cartoon and at least three op-ed pieces in addition to numerous letters.

The resolution never made it to the floor of the conference, for the

sponsors and supporters had "counted" it dead in the water beforehand. But WCC members expressed satisfaction, since the heated debate it provoked had heightened awareness about the subject. Bets are that if the resolution were put forth today, it would score.

The greatest outcry against the resolution came from males, to no one's surprise, since they had a vested interest. One man, the chair of the Festival, as it happened, wrote: "This Committee must have nothing to do but criticize something they do not have any knowledge of, since they have not participated in any queen pageant.... Idle spoilsports, jealous and mean-spirited, in other words."

Here is another: "It doesn't hurt to let the country know that Japanese or mix race (sic) women of Japanese extraction are beautiful women regardless of their personal trait, education, physical attributes and/or image. We should be proud of them.... Proud of them for all the wrong reasons, of course. Of the three females who voiced opposition to the resolution, two were former beauty queens. One wrote that the 'pageant' was really not a 'beauty contest' because it was 'based on intelligence, poise and how well an individual can present herself.'"

Yeah, right. That's like telling yourself you ate that box of chocolates for its nutrients. Let's be real: beauty contests are by definition about looks, no matter how else they're coated. And under those terms, beauty has more to do with breasts and behinds than it does with, say, brains or good health.

There's another aspect to this grotesque ritual that should disturb us. It fixes women in a position of passivity and powerlessness—usually at the hands of men. You recall the story in the Old Testament, the one in which good old King Ahasuerus (thought to be the Persian Xerxes) surveyed a lineup of "fair young virgins." From among them, he chose Esther, set a crown upon her head

and made her queen. Esther was said to be a good woman, but even so, she must have heaved a great sigh of relief—or maybe let slip a small whoop of triumph.

All through the ages, the world over, in myths and in fact, women have lined up to be measured, inspected, figuratively groped—and waited to be chosen. Devised by men, these competitions subjugate women. They seduce women into going to horrifying lengths to be chosen. In other cultures, they are chosen to be the prize for some man. In the uniquely Western version of this ritual, they are chosen to win the prize, like a toaster or a trip to China. No matter. The degrading, cattleshow character of the contests are the same.

But when you think about it, beauty contests are also ultimately insulting to men, proposing that a woman whose vacuous smile and shapely form (sometimes helped with silicone) should be the object of their desire.

Robin Lakoff and Raquel Sherr, credentialed authorities on the subject of beauty, cut to the essence. Beauty itself, they say, is passive. "A woman's beauty is of no intrinsic use to herself but is of value only in that it enables her to attract to herself someone in possession of the things that will be useful or pleasurable to her; so she trades her beauty for (a man's) wealth, charm, strength. But it is not really a comfortable trade.... The power of beauty is the power of the weak."

I totally agree. But like most people in this society, I have been thoroughly conditioned to the notion that beauty matters, so I struggle with my demons on that score. Still, in my bones I know that beauty, as defined in the contest arena, is surface, insubstantial. And it evanesces as the cherry blossoms out back. ☐

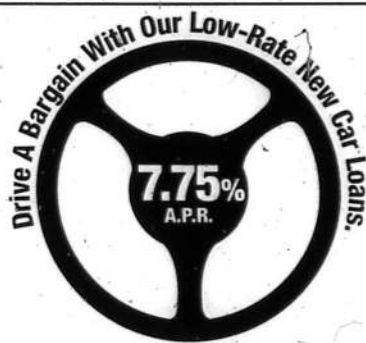
*Nakano, Nisei author of "Japanese American Women: Three Generations," is presently working on a book about her father. Her column appears monthly in the Pacific Citizen.*

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## By the board

JONATHAN KAJI

## Belt tightening for '93



It's never easy to save, much less reduce expenses. For JACL the realities of the '90s force us to reassess our ability to achieve the Program for Action within a tight yet balanced budget.

The National Board adopted the 1993 revised Budget of approximately \$1.4 million which represents a slight increase over 1992. Of course, any budget is a financial forecast of the near future based on a series of hopeful assumptions.

On the plus side, revenues from membership fees will (hopefully) remain constant or increase with new members. Like many of your own personal investments, you've seen your returns drop with the prime rate - and so, we've had to make a downward adjustment in investment returns.

I'll hand it to our Board members, though; they've been very understanding of our current financial situation and aren't too rough on me whenever I must invoke the spending limitation of "the budget." With that said, they

are well aware that I will continue to cast a critical eye whenever a spending request is suggested, unless the proposal cites the specific line item source of funds. (I heard the word "tightwad" murmured a few times at this last Board meeting, so I suppose I'm doing my job!)

For the first time in over eight years JACL will have a full audit of its operations. The Board approved the selection of the national accounting firm of Grant Thornton to conduct the audit. My thanks to the Audit Subcommittee, comprised of John Hayashi, George Kodama, Ken Yokota, Alan Nishi and myself who reviewed five proposals from major accounting firms and were able to secure a very reasonable rate. Work will begin in April and wrap-up at the end of May.

Having a certified audited statement in hand is extremely important for our fundraising efforts. It shows the prospective individual or corporate donor that we are a fiscally-responsible and sound organization and that our resources

are wisely managed. It is important for the membership to realize that the Board will continue to operate with full-disclosure of all its operations and operate as a member and chapter-driven organization.

Additionally, the 1993 Legacy Fund budget of \$166,000 was adopted. It is also important to note that the Board ratified the past expenditures of the Legacy Fund which totalled over \$340,000, or less than 10% of gross revenues. When compared to average fundraising campaign cost of 15% or more, the Legacy Fund Campaign Committee is to be commended for its efforts.

Overall, I'm glad to report that on the whole, JACL is doing quite well. Once the economic roller coaster levels off, we'll all be able to loosen our belts a bit and relax. But for now, JACL will continue on a fiscally-conservative approach. ☐

*Kaji, a member of the Gardena Valley chapter, is the JACL National Secretary/Treasurer.*



**CCDC GROUP**—From left, standing, Larry Ishimoto, CCDC governor; Ken Yokota, Fresno chapter; Ben Nagatani, Delano chapter; Elisa Kamimoto, CCDC regional director; Traci Ando, CCDC youth representative; Kathy Kaneichi, president, Tulare County chapter; Roy Kikunaga, Fresno chapter and Kerly Kaneichi, national youth representative. Seated are Setsu and Fred Hirasuna, Fresno chapter.

PC staff photo



PC staff photo

**NEW LEADERS**—From left, standing, Brett Uchiyama, West Valley chapter, Trisha Murakawa, and Warren Wong, APAN chapter. Seated are Denise Kato, Ventura County chapter and Brian Kuwahara, West Valley chapter.



PC staff photo

**CHATTING**—Betty Oka and Carrie Okamura of the Orange County chapter enjoy conversation at the banquet during the Tri-District Conference in Costa Mesa, Calif.

## Tri-District conference

# Picture this . . .

Some 200 JACL members from the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific, the Central California, and the Pacific Southwest Districts gathered in Costa Mesa, Calif., April 2-4 for workshop sessions, gala social events and district business . . .



PC staff photo

**HONORED**—Sox Kitashima of the San Francisco NCRR chapter receives the NCWNP plaque for her dedication to the redress effort.



**AT RIGHT**—Dinner emcee and actress Tamlyn Tomita, left, poses with event organizers Linda Hara, center, and Ruth Mizobe at the big Saturday night festivities that featured Doris Matsui, White House deputy director public liaison.

**AT LEFT**—Tom (past San Jose chapter president) and Sue Shigemasa of San Jose meet friends and acquaintances at the banquet held at the Westin Hotel in Costa Mesa.



JEM LEW



JEM LEW



PC staff photo

**ABOVE**—Joe Allman of the Arizona Chapter and San Franciscan John Yasumoto of JACL Blue Shield exchange ideas on the proposed Gila River WRA Camp Memorial during the banquet at Tri-District Conference.

**AT LEFT**—Group of participants gather for lively dialogue during workshop session on "Understanding Your Cultural Values." Theme for the tri-district conference was "Making a Difference in a Multicultural Society." Seminars provided information, insight and dialogue into many of the issues affecting Japanese Americans today.





# Like Father Like Son



## OBITS

(Continued from page 11)

ers Wallace (Sacramento), Kengo, Yoshio, Harold, Elvis, James, sisters Amy, Michi, Nancy Palmer.

Okita, Noboru, 81, Los Angeles, Feb. 16: Portland-born, survived by son Kenneth, daughter Akiko Nishikawa, 4 gc., brothers Earl (Chicago), Kyo (San Jose), sisters Myo-Harunaka, Louise Tsujimoto (Palo Alto), Okubo, Sumi, 78, West Los Angeles, Feb. 24: Anacortes, Wash.-born WWII Navy veteran, survived by son Kenzo, daughter Linda Harunaka, 4 gc., brother Hiram, sisters Tomi, Hime Isosaka (all of Michigan), sister-in-law Nobu Okubo (Mich.).

Omo, Anthony T., 79, Los Angeles, Jan. 10: Bakersfield-born, survived by wife Joy, daughter Susan, sister Nobuyo Horiki.

Ouchi, Masao, 70, Monterey Park, Feb. 3: Utah-born, survived by wife Yoshiko, sons George, daughter Grace Shintaku, 4 gc., brothers Toshio and Tomio Nagao, (both Jpn.), sisters Masa-Kikue, Michiko Ando, Eiko Sato (latter two in Jpn.).

Ouchi, Michi, 48, Santa Monica, Jan. 24: Manzanar-born, survived by parents Kiyoshi, Masako, sister June Nagata (New York).

Oye, Clarence J., Lakewood, Colo., Dec. 1 (service), survived by wife Doris, son Richard (Boulder), brothers Alfred, Herbert, Harold, Edward, Raymond and sister Helen Cort.

Sakuyama, Taiiko, 87, San Francisco, Dec. 13: San Francisco-born, survived by her brother-in-law Hiroshi Kohagura.

Sato, Ben, 84, Palo Alto, Feb. 2: Sacramento-born, survived by wife Alice, daughters Carol Nakaguchi, Ann Murano, 3 gc., brother Tom.

Sato, Natsu, 88, Long Beach, Jan. 23: Shizuoka-born, survived by son Shigeru, daughter Masuko Otsuki, 7 gc., 3 gc./sister Zenkaku Naito (Jpn.), sisters Kimi Isobe, Mine Ishikawa (both Jpn.).

Shigeno, Tadao, 75, Ontario, Ore., Jan. 8: Winslow, Wash.-born Oregon farmer prewar and postwar in Snake River Valley, past president of Snake River Shrine Club, life member, Masonic Lodge #147 AFAM, BPOE #1660, JACL; survived by wife Chiyo, sons Dennis (Pleasant Hill, Calif.), Thomas (Merced, Wash.), daughter Bonnie Sumida (Phoenix), Debra Seelinghauser (Bozelli, Wash.), Cheryl (Portland), 2 gc., sisters Tamara Asaba and Beulah Sakagami (both Jpn.).

Shigetaki, Uneyo, 92, Pasadena, Feb. 20: Hiroshima-born, survived by daughters Grace Masuhara, Lillie Matsushima (Chicago), in-law Emiko Iwasaki, 4 gc., 2 gc.

Shimabukuro, Yasuko, 77, Seattle, Feb. 14: survived by son Tom (Reston, Va.), Roy (Burlingame, Calif.), Robert, Ned (Portland),

daughters Katherine, Ann Colunga (both Arlington, Va.), 4 gc., 5 sisters and 2 brothers in Hawaii and Okinawa.

Shimizu, Barry K., 57, Gardena, Jan. 14: survived by parents Teitoku/Lily, brothers Mark (Seattle), Glenn, grandfather Chiyoso Mizumoto, friend Carol Urahe.

Shirashi, Sechie, 72, Sepulveda, Jan. 10: Sunada, Don K., 81, Gardena, Jan. 13: Fresno-born, survived by son Katsumi, daughter Kaoru Minamoto (Kingsburg), Miori Tani (Clovis), Lily, 7 gc., 3 gc., brothers Takumi (Fresno), Yoshio (Fresno), Yoshiaki (Jpn.), sister Yukio Haranaka (Jpn.).

Takata, Harukichi, 88, Los Angeles, Feb. 14: Kagoshima-born, survived by Tsuyoko, daughters Yasuko Yaguchi, Linda Yocozumi, 3 gc.

Takayoshi, Henry S., 92, Seattle: Israel resident at Bainbridge (1916), amateur photographer, survived by wife Kiyo, son Ben T., daughters Miyoko Sakuma (Anderson, Calif.), Meiko Hada, Shizue Sumita, 18 gc., 16 great-gc.

Takada, Nisaburo, 92, San Francisco, Dec. 8: Shizuoka-born, survived by wife Koharu, daughters Kyoko, Fujiko, Mitsue Iiyama, son Hiroshi, 2 gc.

Takahara, Mas S., Saffo Lake City, Jan. 19 at a Torrance, Calif. hospital: Girey-born, survived by husband Teitoku, father Takahara Shiba, 5 sisters Helen, Naohisa, Tomiko, Suihiko (Sunnyvale), Mary Imamura, Aiyee Hideshima (Ogden), Yuni Uyeda.

Takamoto, Masao, 85, Bellflower, Feb. 9: Gardena-born, survived by son Masao, daughter Michiko Leiger, 4 sisters.

Takeuchi, Sato, 95, El Cerrito, Dec. 14: Nara-born, survived by sons John, Frank, Edward, Roy, daughter Margaret Fujimoto, 13 gc., 2 great-gc.

Tamura, Katsuchi, 87, Honolulu, Feb. 14: dean of Waikeke's tennis court, headed Tamura Supertite, which his father started in 1905 as plantation store; survived by wife Teiuko, sons Clifford, Herbert, daughter Anne T. Hokawa, 6 gc., 3 gc., brothers Sakae, Jitsumu, Makio, Harry, sisters Sayoko Okamura, Shinobu Kawano, Kimiko.

Tanaka, George, 75, Los Angeles, Feb. 21: Gardena-born WWII Navy veteran, survived by brothers Thomas, Ken, sister Misa Tanaka.

Yano, Mitsuyuki, 72, Torrance, Jan. 11: Hawaii-born, survived by wife Toyo, son Mark (Portland), daughter Kathleen Sasaki, mother Yo Yano (Hawaii), brother Richard (Hawaii), 5 sisters Chiyon, Wakako (Hawaii), Toshie Nagata, Helen Honma, Nancy (latter three of Hawaii).

Yoshida, Kiyono, 88, Gardena, Nov. 8: Hiroshima-born naturalized U.S. citizen, survived by her daughters Fumi Tamura, Fusaye, Takemoto, Michiko Yamaguchi, Yoko Yaguchi, 12 gc., 10 great-gc.

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| KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE TAUCK TOUR (Nashville Opryland/Smoky Mtn)   | (9 days)         | MAY 15           |
| BEST OF SHIKOKU-KYUSHU (Island Sea Bridge/Takamatsu/Kochi/Matsuyama/Beppu/Kagoshima/Kumamoto/Nagasaki/Hiroshima) | (13 days)        | MAY 14           |
| CARLSBAD CAVERN-MONUMENT VALLEY (incl. Sedona/G. Canyon/Vegas/Laughter)  | (8 days)         | JUN 2            |
| CANADIAN ROCKIES/VICTORIA (25th year/Summit/Top Hotels/Mor Week included)  | (8 days)         | JUN 16           |
| NIKKI ROYAL CARIBBEAN CRUISE & DISNEYWORLD   | (8 days)         | AUG 23           |
| BEST OF EUROPE TOUR (London/Paris/Lucerne/Venice/Florence/Rome)  | (16 days)        | SEP              |
| NIAGARA-ONTARIO TAUCK TOUR (Montreal/Ottawa/Nagasaki)  |                  |                  |
|  | Escort-John Kono | (10 days) SEP 27 |
| JAPAN HOKKAIDO-TOHOKU (including Sado Island)  | (14 days)        | SEP 29           |
| EAST COAST & FALL FOLIAGE (Wash DC/Philly/NY/Boston/Fallage/Niagara Falls)                                       | (10 days)        | OCT 4            |
| JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE   | (14 days)        | OCT 12           |
| HAWAIIAN GOLF HOLIDAY (Oahu/Honolulu/Prince GC/Big Island/Waikaloa GC)   | (8 days)         | NOV 3            |
| CRYSTAL HARMONY'S PANAMA CANAL CRUISE  | (10 days)        | NOV 14           |

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