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How CLPEF judged
grant proposals
— see page 12

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March 7-20, 1997

Redress Education Fund to award 100 grants

SAN FRANCISCO—The board of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) was expected to send out offer letters this week for its grant program to 100 applicants in 20 states.

The total amount of the awards is approximately \$2.8 million. The average size grant is \$27,678.

The CLPEF, with offices in San Francisco and Washington, D.C., was established under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 to support educational projects that deal with the wartime internment of Japanese Americans.

"The grants program is the cornerstone of our work," said board member Leo Goto of Denver. "It will be exciting to see these projects come to life and to educate others about the lessons learned from the incarceration."

The board has funded projects in each of the seven categories publicized in its application

packet: curriculum, landmarks and exhibits, community development, arts and media, research projects, national fellowships, and research resources.

The award offers range from \$2,000 to \$100,000.

"This may be the only time in history that we have the opportunity to make awards such as this," stated board member Elsa Kudo of Honolulu. "For this reason, we attempted to fund as many projects as possible to help fulfill our mission."

Forty-eight projects, approximately one-half of the total number of grants, are from outside California.

"The board was committed to make the grants program a truly national project so that diverse populations will be exposed to the lessons learned from the incarceration," said board member

See REDRESS/page 6

A 'Day of Remembrance' at Olympia

By CHERRY KINOSHITA
(Special to the Pacific Citizen)

OLYMPIA, Wash.—In a unanimous show of bi-partisan support, on Feb. 19 the Washington State House of Representatives approved HR4614, a resolution introduced by State Rep. Kip Tokuda to recognize the state's Japanese American internees on this Day of Remembrance, while more than

the Military Intelligence Service and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and cites the patriotism of those who challenged the constitutionality of the internment.

Rep. Tokuda (D-37th Dist., Seattle) who had planned for many weeks this commemoration of the Day of Remembrance spoke movingly before his colleagues in requesting their support, mention-

perhaps even more insidious was the loss of self-respect and faith in the American system of fairness."

"Most importantly," Rep. Tokuda added, "this resolution is to remind us as public trustees...that bigotry and discrimination must not rear its ugly head again to create this kind of injustice. Race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, age and gender must never serve as a bar-



PHOTO COURTESY: Washington State House of Representatives

WITH REP. KIP TOKUDA—Members of the Japanese American Citizens League, Nisei Veterans Committee and Military Intelligence Services-Northwest Association gather around State Rep. Kip Tokuda (D-Seattle), flanked by wife Barbara Lui (left) and his mother Tama

Tokuda (right) at the State Capitol where Tokuda's resolution was passed Feb. 19 recognizing the impact of Executive Order 9066 signed by President Roosevelt in 1942 and of the lessons that followed.

50 Nikkei supporters watched from the south gallery.

HR4614, joined by some 19 co-sponsors, honors the "patience, heroism, sacrifice and loyalty" of those who were interned, pays tribute to the valor of the veterans of

ing that his four grandparents, his parents, and his brother had been among those sent to concentration camps, and stating, "...Loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry experienced significant personal and economic losses. But

rier to equality of treatment."

Reflecting the effective ability of Tokuda to garner support from both sides of the aisle, three Republican members of the House, Mark Schoessler of the 9th Dist. (portions of Spokane, Adams, Whitman and Asotin counties), Mike Wensman of the 41st Dist. (San Juan, Skagit and Whatcom counties), and James Buck of the 24th Dist. (Clallam, Jefferson, and parts of Grays Harbor counties), testified in support.

"...It could very well have been my family—the hysteria that came out against the Japanese Americans could have been for all families of German descent during our first and second World Wars," said Rep. Schoessler, "and we would have suffered through the same that our friends the Japanese Americans did...I urge your support of this resolution."

"I have a neighbor who was interned during World War II,"

See OLYMPIA/page 5

COMMENTARY: DNC's MONEY PROBLEM

Old lessons taught anew

By BOB SAKANIWA

Washington JACL Representative

THERE are quite a few different issues around here in Washington as the season begins to change from a mild winter to a wet spring. Here is an update on one of the many issues with which the JACL D.C. office is involved.

As far as headline news goes, it seems like much is said about the Democratic National Committee's problems with fund-raising almost every day.

Recent, stories have begun to look at the bigger picture, focusing on the larger problem of the staggering amounts of money needed to mount a national political campaign. For a presidential campaign, we are talking about sums of money well over \$100 million that are needed to run a campaign, successful or not.

Before the media began looking at the bigger picture, it had been seemingly concerned with only two main characters, the now infamous John Huang and Charlie Trie.

Huang is the former vice chair of the DNC and before that, a political appointee at the Commerce Department, who is now at the center of the fund-raising controversy. Trie is a restaurateur from Little Rock, Ark., and longtime friend of Bill.

These two men, whatever they are ultimately found guilty or not guilty of doing, did not just appear suddenly on the scene.

Media coverage has so distorted the picture, however, that it would appear that these guys came out from nowhere and simply bought their way into the coffee room when, in fact, both had well established relationships with the president before he ever came to the White House.

Furthermore, media coverage has also made it appear that only Asians and Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) were involved in questionable fund-raising practices.

Some of the fallout from this has been: the DNC unilaterally saying that they will not accept contributions from legal permanent residents, concern that some high level APA appointments have been thwarted by the controversy, and the incalculable chilling effect on APA interest in participating in the political process.

On top of all these concerns, we have found out that in the DNC's audit of campaign donations, five of the seven categories of donations that were being investigated target APAs.

In a press conference held by the DNC announcing the results of their initial audit, APAs had been the primary reference point for discussing the campaign fund-raising problems. Notwithstanding the fact that fund-raisers who happen to be Asian Pacific American have solicited questionable donations; this, in and of itself, does not give anyone the right to blanket the entire APA community with suspicion.

There was at least some recognition by DNC chair Steve Grossman that legal political activities conducted by the APA community must be distinguished from illegal and improper activities perpetrated by a few individuals and by Asians living in foreign countries.

While this discussion seems so basic to those of us in the APA community, it is one that cannot be overstressed in this current climate of investigative frenzy.

To address this growing controversy, APA groups, including JACL, are forming task forces to deal with

See DNC/page 5

Unexpected comment in California Assembly on internment sparks outburst

SACRAMENTO—San Jose Assemblyman Mike Honda's resolution, ACR 8, relative to a Day of Remembrance being commemorated Feb. 19 to increase public awareness of events surrounding the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, would have been routine except for some negative remarks that flared into an emotional outburst by legisla-

tors, including two who spent their childhood in internment camps.

However, the resolution was passed 70-0 (10 not present nor voting) by the Assembly and 36-0 (4 not present nor voting) by the Senate with no debate.

In Olympia, the Washington state legislature on Feb. 19 passed without incident House Res. 97-

See COMMENT/page 5

Where are all the youth? PSW rep combs for answer

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

Kent Kawai has just graduated from Cal State Northridge with a degree in mechanical engineering. Though he should be looking for a job, most of his time these days is spent helping JACL answer an ever-elusive question.

"We're trying to figure out why we can't seem to attract young people to the JACL," explained Kawai, PSWD Youth/Student Representative, at the PSWDC meeting on Feb. 8 in Arizona. Though there are 31 chapters in the PSW district, few have active youth groups, he said.

"But to solve the problem we have to first define it," added Kawai. That's why the JACL National Youth/Student Council is preparing a survey that will be distributed to the various chap-

ters. The questionnaire will have approximately 15 questions to find out why the youth haven't shown any interest in joining JACL and other similar organizations, he explained. The council also wants to determine what issues concern the



CAROLINE AOYAGI/PHOTO

\$1,000—David Kawamoto, PSWD governor, hands check to Kent Kawai, PSWD Youth/Student Representative.

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Thanks to the generosity of P.C. cartoonist, Pete Hirakawa of Dayton, JACL, the first 100 who contribute \$100 or more to support the Pacific Citizen will receive a signed full-color lithographed poster, "Nisei." It measures 21x28 inches.

JACL Calendar

ATTENTION: All calendar items—JACL and Community—will be combined in this one page as far as possible. TIME-VALUE is the chief consideration. Items should have "publicity value" in direct connection with the date of publication. Fax 213/725-0063 or e-mail: pacific@aol.com.

Eastern

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 Sat. April 12—EDC Quarterly Session, 10 a.m., Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2nd and Walnut Sts.; Host: Philadelphia JACL, info: Grace Uyei/Hara, 609/654-3685.
PHILADELPHIA
 Sat. April 5—50th Anniversary Dinner, 6 p.m., Happy-hour, 7 p.m. dinner, Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, 2nd and Walnut Sts.; Rep. Chaka Fattah, Helen Kawaguchi, spks. SEABROOK
 Sat. March 8—Seabrook JACL choi mein dinner, 5 p.m., Talaafah School; tickets at Canvas Bag, 451-3882, Chari's Harvest Market.

Midwest
DISTRICT COUNCIL
 Fri.-Sun., March 14-16—Spring MDC session, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, St. Louis; Info: MDC, 314/921-7933 or e-mail: lv4dbgd@aol.com

CHICAGO
 Sat.-Sun., March 8-9—"Exploring Family Legacies," 2 p.m., Japanese American

Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark; info: 773/275-7212. NOTE—Nobu Miyoshi, family therapist, speaker.

ST. LOUIS
 Fri.-Sun., March 14-16—Host: Spring MDC session, Sheraton Plaza Hotel, St. Louis; Info: Yuka Yokota, 314/921-7933.

TWIN CITIES
 Sat. April 5—Chapter's 50th Anniversary celebration, 4:30 p.m., Holiday Inn West, St. Louis Park/RSVP March 24, \$25 per person, info: Kathy Ohama Koch, 612/884-1560; Lynn Wasmuth, 403/705-6124. NOTE—Mako, keynote speaker; Kogen Taiko performance; Douchet (rather than photocopy) old photos for exhibit; transportation provided if requested.

Sun. April 13—Annual sukiyaki fund-raiser, operating and scholarship funds, noon-6:30, Union Congregational Church, St. Louis Park; info: Tom Hara 612/420-9562.

Mountain Plains

HOUSTON
 Sat. March 15-21—Houston Chapl XII golf tournament/first annual 72-hole medal play, George Sakaguchi Memorial, TPC Golf Course (home of the PGA Salt Lake Houston Open), info: Mas Yamasaki, 16402 Farnell Court, Spring, TX 77379, 713/370-1530. NOTE: Open to all JACLers; dates for Capemini tournaments: June, Battle Creek, Mich.; Dr. Gerny Shimura, chair; October, Albuquerque, Randy Shiohara, chair.

Intermountain

NATIONAL JACL
 Fri.-Sun., Oct. 10-13—Fiftieth anniversary 1000 Club celebration, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot,

Fong 391-7596, Tom Tokuhisa 966-1723, David Lopez 1488-2563.

SAN FRANCISCO
 Sat. March 8—"Pat Suzuki Returns" benefit concert, 7:30 p.m., Alcazar Theater, info: Nihonmachi Legal Outreach, 415/567-6255.
 Tue. March 18 [tentative, limited to blossoming of cherry trees]—Introduction of 30th annual Sakura Matsuri queen candidates, 11 a.m., Golden Gate Park, Japanese Tea Garden; info: KI, 415/227-0402, 800/827-6909. NOTE—Pateenball at ANA Hotel on April 12, Festival grand parade on April 20, info: Glenda Okamura, UBC 415/202-0353.
 Ending March 23—"Four Centuries of Fashion: Classical kimono from the Kyoto National Museum," 9:30 a.m., Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, 8th Ave. & J.F. Kennedy Dr., info: 415/379-8801.

Sun. April 6—Nisei Widowed Group, 2-4 p.m.; info: Elsie Uiedow Chung 415/221-0268, Gai Yamamoto 510/444-3911.
 Sat.-Sun., April 12/13 8:19/20—Sakura Matsuri weekend festival, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Nihonmachi; info: KI 415/563-2313. Parade preview at Union Square, noon, drummers, performers from Japan on April 18; Sunday Grand parade route: 1 p.m., Civic Center, Potrero, NOTE—Celebrating 30 years of S.F. Okawa Sutter 415/624-8282; e-mail: monstrosity@comcast.net

Wed. April 16—May 18—Lacquer picnic sets from Osaka, 9:30 a.m.-5 (Wed-Sun), Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, info: 415/379-8801. NOTE—In honor of 1997 Cherry Blossom Festival.

Sat. April 19—US-Japan Taiko concert, 7 p.m., AMC Kabuki Theater, info: 415/563-2313.

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA
 Sat. March 8—Japanese Animation Festival (Anime Con '97), 10 a.m., Foothill College campus center, 12345 El Monte Rd., Los Altos Hills; info: 408/926-3795. NOTE—Featuring the productions of and speakers from Gainax Co. studio, one of Japan's largest animation studios.

Tue. March 11—Slide presentation: "Nature and the Japanese Garden" with Dr. Mark Peter Keene, adjunct professor at Kyoto University of Art and Design, 6 p.m. reception, Iwasawa Oriental Art Gallery, 75 University Ave., Los Gatos; info: Japan Society, 415/986-4383.

SAN JOSE
 Fri.-Sat., March 21-28—San Jose Taiko concert, 2 and 8 p.m., Louis B. Mayer Theater, Santa Clara University, Franklin and Lafayette Sts., Santa Clara; box office: 408/392-4400; info: NLO 415/567-6255.

Southern Cal
GARDENA-MINIDOKA
 Sun. July 27—Minidoka Camp Reunion, "Sharing Memories" luncheon, Sea Empress Seafood Restaurant, info: Betty Yamauchi, 562/213-5279, Toshi Shoji 909/861-9676. NOTE—Invitation for attendees at the 1995 reunion held in conjunction with

Nov., info: Hid Hasegawa, Idaho Falls 208/529-1525.

SALT LAKE CITY
 Sat. March 29—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting, Little America Hotel, info: 801/355-8040.

Pacific Northwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL
 July 18-19—Joint PNW-Intermountain District Council conference at Seattle.

NCA-WN-Pacific
DISTRICT COUNCIL
 Tue.-Thu., April 20-22—California Legislative JACL Leadership Conference, State Capitol, Sacramento; info: Patty Wada, 415/921-5225. NOTE—Application deadline was Feb. 28.

RENO info: Cynthia Lu, 702/827-6385.
Sun. March 16—Potluck dinner fund-raiser, noon-4 p.m., Washoe County Senior Center, 9th & S. Ave.

SACRAMENTO
 Sat. March 29—Annual Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m., William Land Park, Riverside Blvd. near the Jewish Temple; info: Toko Fuji 916/421-0338. NOTE—Committee promises hundreds of prizes.

WEST VALLEY
 Sat. March 29—Next Generation's 5th Anniversary celebration, Manhattan's State Capitol, Sacramento; info: Pam Yoshida 408/297-0288, Jim Nagareda 408/971-6456.

Central California
TRI-DISTRICT/CDC
 Fri.-Sun., June 6-8—CDCD hosts: Tri-District PSW/CN/CWNP Conference, Stardust Hotel-Casino, Las Vegas; info: Patricia Tai,

CDCD director 209/486-6815. NOTE—For JACL Group 6977 room reservations 800/634-6757.

Pacific Southwest

NATIONAL JACL
 Thu.-Sun., March 20-23—National JACL board and staff meeting, JACC2 2nd floor conference room, 244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles; info: Nat'l HQ 415/921-5225.

NOTE—Thu.: Staff retreat; Fri.: 9 a.m. committees, 2-5 p.m. Board; Sat.: 9-5, Board; Sun.: 10 a.m. noon.

Fri.-Sun., June 20-22—Nat'l JACL Youth Conference, UC Irvine (site under consideration), Nat'l HQ 415/921-5225. NOTE—Warren Funatani, keynote speaker.

Sun., May 8—2nd quarter session, Willow Street Center, 4101 E. Willow St., Long Beach; info: 213/626-4471. NOTE—Greater L.A. Singles host.

ARIZONA
 Sun. April 27—Scholarship awards banquet, 1 p.m., Embassy Suites, Phoenix Biltmore, 2630 E. Camelback Rd.; info: Kathy Inoshita, 602/937-5434. NOTE—Applications deadline: March 1, 1997, attn: Kathy Inoshita, NCRB, 213/680-3484. NOTE—Music of Keiko & Kazu Matsui with Line Nishikawa, emcee Jude Naita.

NOTE—March 27—Kona Coffee House: songs and rhythms of Hawaii, 7-8 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414. NOTE—Aina O. Kaleponi Hawaiian Child Care entertainers.

Fri. March 28—Hibari Children's Chorus from Japan, 7-8 p.m., Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., info: 213/625-0414.

Sat. March 29—Hapa Issues Forum; info: Carol Saito 213/626-4471.

Fri.-Mon., May 23-26—Japanese American Korean War Memorial Wall dedication and reunion, JACC2 staff, info: Min Tonai 818/591-1269, Robert Wada 714/992-5461.

LOS ANGELES-MANZANAR
 Sat. April 26—Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, 200 miles north of Los Angeles on US 395, info: Manzanar Committee 213/662-5102.

REARNEY
 Sat. March 29—55th annual Western Young Buddhist League conference, Anaheim Sheraton and Orange County Buddhist church, info: Craig Kawamoto 818/348-2301, Annette Miyamoto 310/575-7026. NOTE—Grained to young adults 17-25 from U.S., Hawaii and Canada.

SAN DIEGO
 Sat. March 15—VFW Post 4851 fundraising dinner, 541 E. 24th St., National City; RSVP 619/497-9782.

Nevada
LAS VEGAS
 Mon.-Wed. April 21-22—Fort Sam Houston ASJA veterans reunion, Fitzgerald's Hotel, RSVP by Feb. 15, Nora Hatay, 1136 Carleton St., Berkeley, CA 94702; 510/845-6878. NOTE—Harry Honda, spkr.

LAUGHLIN-POSTON III
Mon.-Wed. April 7-9—Poston Camp 3 Reunion VIII. NOTE—To be on mailing list, write Poston 3 Reunion VIII, 26807 S. Rolling Vista Dr., Lomita, CA 90717. On Saturday, April 5, 1-3 p.m., exhibit "Dear Miss Breed: Letters from Camp" panel, Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. 1st St., Los Angeles, 213/625-0414. [Miss Breed was the San Diego librarian who corresponded with many Nisei at Poston.]

Arizona
PHOENIX
 Sat. March 22—Dedication of Replica of Flag-raising at Teijima monument by Ira H. Hayes American Legion, Ira H. Hayes Memorial Park, Sacaton; info: Sara Berna, Box 667, Sacaton AZ 85247, 520/562-4024, Joe Allman 602/942-2832.





By the Board

By LORI FUJIMOTO

Reflections: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday

SACRAMENTO—Since Dr. Martin Luther King shared his "dream" 34 years ago, our country has grown and matured. Through the years, there has been progress in the area of equality and justice. Children of color play and attend schools alongside Caucasian children. Women and people of color work and are active members of the policy-making processes. A compassionate government has apologized for the unconstitutional incarceration of our family members.

On this symbolic day honoring Dr. King's birthday, I am watching the telecast of the 53rd Inauguration of our U.S. President. On this special day, our nation's leadership assumes their roles for the next four years. However, as I observe our country's executive leadership declare their responsibilities, I recognize there is still a dream to pursue into the next millennium.

For the Asian Pacific community, there is still an American Dream to

strive for into the next century. One day, our country's executive leadership will reflect a balance of women and people of color. One day, there will be Asian Pacific Americans declaring their responsibilities to our country in the highest leadership positions. The JACL plays a major role in attaining this American Dream by ensuring our democratic right are protected. Therefore, the JACL must:

- Challenge and encourage our JACL community leaders to assume greater roles

Within our extensive network of JACL chapters, we have many talented, articulate and visionary members who must step up and represent our communities at the policy-making tables. From local government up through Congress, we need your leadership to secure consideration and sensitivity on policies and issues from an Asian Pacific American perspective.

- Develop JACL leaders for to-

morrow

Using the JACLOCA Washington D.C. Leadership Conference as a model, we will expand and enhance our leadership development program with District conferences and workshops. For example, Patty Wada, Regional Director of the Northern California Western Nevada-Pacific (NCWNP) District, is working diligently on the California Legislative Leadership Conference for April 20-22, 1997. This program will include opportunities to network with Asian Pacific leaders serving in the state's capitol. To provide a larger pool of candidates for our future National Conventions, we will further expand our leadership program throughout the JACL Districts.

- Increase participation within our communities

As governmental policies are developed, our JACL chapters must continue to speak on issues that impact our communities. Let our policy-makers know how these is-

suues are relevant to our community by writing, calling or e-mailing your elected officials. By regularly expressing the Asian Pacific perspective, you will solidify our network with these policy-makers.

Most importantly, the JACL must continue to support the dedication and service of our Asian Pacific American Congressional Members: **Senator Daniel Akaka, Senator Daniel Inouye, Congress Member Robert Matsui, Congress Member Patsy Mink and Congress Member Jay Kim.** These great leaders in Washington have worked diligently in representing our communities.

The JACL must ensure that this same dedication and hard work towards pursuing the American Dream in continued well into the next millennium. ■

Lori Fujimoto is national JACL vice president of external affairs.

Deadlines for Nat'l JACL scholarships

JACL membership is required to be considered for a JACL scholarship. Membership must be held by applicant or the applicant's parents only; extended ties do not qualify. Applicant must also be planning to be or is enrolled in a college, trade/business school, etc., in the fall of 1997. General deadlines with postmarks no later than the particular date cited are: (1) **March 1, 1997:** Entering Freshman (high school grads) applications to a JACL Chapter/scholarship committee; (2) **April 1, 1997:** All other applications with supporting documents. Awards are to be announced July 1, 1997. Information: JACL Headquarters, 415/921-5225 ■

CORRECTIONS

• **97 Mile-Hi Chapter Board**—Paul Koto, Peter Kanda and Carol Arata-Nichols were three members who were not pictured. (Feb. 21-March 6 PC, page 7). ■

CLARIFICATION

• In the last issue (Feb. 21-Mar. 6), the article, "Greenlining Institute's rhetoric against Sumitomo Bank bothers Nikkei community" should have stated that Japanese community leaders met "separately" with Sumitomo Bank executives and Greenlining Institute representatives. ■

Seattle JACL's 75th anniversary deals 'electric' installation

By **ROBERT SHIMABUKURO**
(Special to Pacific Citizen)

"There was electricity in the air!" That's how Seattle Chapter President Jeffrey Hattori described the chapter's 75th Anniversary Installation Banquet, which drew close to 450 people to the Seattle Sheraton Jan. 25.

It obviously wasn't your usual chapter installation banquet. The presence of political and judicial dignitaries underscored that Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, King County Executive Ron Sims (who arrived late because his son was playing in a

establishing the Seattle Progressive Citizens League in 1921 and hosting the first National JACL convention in 1930, to rebuilding a community during the post-WWII era and leading the fight for redress, were strikingly captured in Rick Wong's slide presentation of photographs from JACL archives and personal collections. More than a few chuckles and gasps of remembrance were heard as JACLers and supporters in outdated fashions, youthful faces (and figures), and changing hardos graced the screen.

But by and large, the slide pre-



By the Board

By DAVID KAWAMOTO

Some Steps in the Right Direction

With kudos to our National Vice President of Membership, Karen-Liane Shiba, I am pleased to see that JACL has had an increase in membership during the last year. I have previously written messages addressing the need to increase membership within JACL. The recent increase is truly a step in the right direction, but it should only be the beginning. There are still many Nisei members within our organization and, as they are wont to point out, they are not getting any younger. I am enlightened by the historical perspective the Nisei bring to our organization and appreciate the help they have provided.

But, if there is to be a future for JACL, it will lie with the youth. And I no longer refer to my generation, the Sansei, but to the Yonsei and Gosei.

The Pacific Southwest District has exhibited its support of youth with its recent donation of \$1,000 to the upcoming National JACL Youth Conference. Additionally, our district is organizing a mentorship program to assist our young leaders in assuming command positions within the organization.

It is with great pride that I point out that my home chapter, San Diego, has elected a Yonsei to serve as its 1997 president. Each chapter must accept the responsibility of recruiting new, younger members. With the proper encouragement, empower the youthful members to act in the best interest of JACL.

But DO NOT burn them out by overburdening them with the mundane duties that exist within your chapters. Though these duties are important, I urge you to find other ways of performing these tasks

than to "dump" them on the new board members. I suggest you find what parts of JACL most interest the youth and empower them to advance that agenda.

The youth I have had the pleasure of working with have done exceptional work in leadership development, fund raising within their age group, have organized activities to recruit new youth members and worked on civil rights activities. These young members are bright, energetic and innovative and have much to offer JACL.

Give them the chance to do something for the organization. This will be their organization soon enough. ■

David Kawamoto, PSWD governor, writes from San Diego



Seattle JACL 75th anniversary dinner celebrities include Judge Eileen Kato (left) and outgoing Gov. Mike Lowry.

double overtime basketball game), outgoing Washington Governor Mike Lowry, and Congressman Jim McDermott, led a roster of state representatives and senators, city councilpersons, judges and magistrates attending the dinner.

But the emphasis of the evening was on the past accomplishments of the chapter and the vision for the future. As outlined by Hattori, the chapter will continue its efforts on civil rights and coalition building and increase its involvement with youth leadership development.

While emphasizing its commitment to leadership development, the chapter also honored its illustrious history. The chapter's first 75 years, starting with es-

PHOTOS: SAM SHOJI (Seattle)



DALE MINAMI

sentation did what it was supposed to: allow older members to recall, savor and celebrate those defining moments of JACL history, which in turn serve as a foundation with which newer and younger members are able to build a strong, responsible and responsive community.

Keynote speaker Dale Minami, chair of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board, kept to the theme of the evening, saying that

those working for social equality must pause to look at where they started, while continuing to climb up the mountain of progress. He also warned of current anti-Asian and anti-immigrant sentiments, scoring government and media scrutiny of Asian and Asian American fundraising and fundraisers while turning the other cheek to larger illegal donations being made by non-Asians.

Gov. Lowry, who introduced the first redress bill in Congress, was honored by the chapter for his work.

SEATTLE JACL

Jeffrey Hattori, pres.; Janice Yee, pres.-elect; Cal Takagi, 1st v.p.; Ariene Oki, 2nd v.p.; Jonathan Matsui, 3rd v.p.; Kazzie Katayama, 4th v.p.; Sam Shoji, corr. sec.; Victoria Yuki, rec. sec.; Shea Aoki, historian; Elaine Akagi, board delegate; Board members—Randy Aoyama, Jill Beppu, Mark Fukuda, David Hoekendorf, Ayako Hurd, Ray Ishii, Jean Joichi, Chuck Kato, Eileen Kato, Frank Kuichi, Sid Kuboi, Hugh Matsubayashi, Iris Miyahira, Ken Nakano, May Namba, Chizuko Norton, Danny Okada, Kyle Okada, Michelle Ota, Joseph Rogel, Christine Shigaki, Kip Tokuda, Vicki Toyobara-Mukai, Grant Yamaguchi, Miyuki Yoshida.

Some faces at 1930 Convention identified

A huge 11x17-inch enlargement of the first National JACL Convention picture taken in 1930 of only Seattle area delegates and boosters, which Robert Yamamoto of Bellflower, Calif., found in his mother's personal memorabilia, was forwarded for display at the recent 75th anniversary celebration of Seattle JACL (P.C. Jan. 24-Feb. 6, p. 8).

Bob Shimabukuro wrote to say the enlarged photo had arrived too late for the event, but it appears as the center-spread for the Seattle JACL Newsletter, February 1997, requesting anyone able to identify individuals in the photo should

contact the *Pacific Citizen*. Two responses were received this week, sending the newsletter page with the photo with identifications.

The first response came from **S. Frank Miyamoto**, who identified 20 people with comments included:

Ted Yonago, Frank Yamashita (well-known as the first first Nisei to make the U.W. varsity as quarterback), Masako Hotta (I may be wrong about this name), Yurino Takayoshi, Amy Ota, Clarence Arai (first Nisei lawyer in Seattle), James Sakamoto (I'm surprised I don't seem to see Misa), Chuzaburo Ito, Heiji Okada, Eikichi Okiyama (three influential Issei community leaders), Nobuko Yanagimachi Suzuki (she was at U of W in 1930, married Dr. Paul Suzuki), John Fujita (Fife), George Ishihara (one of Jimmie Sakamoto's closest friends), Iwao Hara, Tomoe Takayoshi, Masumi "Mac" Kaneko (what happened to him after the war?), Bob Hiyashida (a dentist like his father), Shiro Hashiguchi (worked at Yokohama Specie Bank), Juro Yoshioka (student at U of W in 1930, married Billie Tashiro, helped run her father's hardware-fishing tackle store after the war).

From **Koko Sutow**, Seattle, are 19 names.

In the 4th row—Manabu Isari, Jiro Naito, Charles Nagata, George Yasumura, Tom Isari; 3rd row—Eiko Tsujikawa Yoshida, Mabel Natase Shiraga, Sarah Okura Yoshimura, Fumyo Miyaki (Yamasaki), Koko Sutow (Tsujikawa), Lois Namba (Kompeka?), Mr. Isari; 2nd row—Mary Yasumura Maki, John Arima, Jimmie Sakamoto; 1st row—Minoru Terada, Min Okura, Mike Arima, Frank Natsuhara, Clarence Uyenatsu. ■

Sonoma County's New Year potluck dinner attracts crowd

By MEI NAKANO
Grapevine Editor,
Sonoma County JACL Newsletter

SEBASTOPOL, Calif.—Attendance was up at the annual community New Year's potluck dinner Jan. 11, making it a lively affair. But compared to, say, 10 years ago, the Issei were hardly visible and the contingent of children seemed surprisingly small. Attendees consisted mostly of Nisei (now the oldesters) and Sansei (with spouses and partners), who, in previous years, did not attend in such large numbers. What is it? Now in their 40s and 50s, are they feeling more comfortable with their folk? Or, settled now, maybe they see the need for community. In any case, a welcome sight.

Despite the fact that only a sprinkling of Issei attended, the awesome spread on the main tables consisted mostly of Japanese fare, a circumstance that appeared to please most diners. We can thank the Nisei for learning the art of Japanese cooking well and can only hope they have passed on their culinary talents.

Co-chairs of the event, Margaret Wallman and Ed Nomura managed the event exceedingly well, arranging the program and seeing to it that each invited guest was warmly hosted.

Guests:

Official guests included Sandra Pardo, representing Rep. Lynn Woolsey, Bill Roventini, Sebastopol councilman, Jim Harberson, 2nd Dist. county supervisor and his wife, and Herb Yamanishi, National JACL director.

Installation of Officers:

Yamanishi installed the new officers for the year 1997. They included Carol Kawase, Marie Sugiyama, Margaret Wallman and Harry Sugiyama. The oath was also administered to new board members Rodney Sugiyama and Mike Pogojeff, who were roundly welcomed.

Outgoing acting president Margaret Wallman recounted the accomplishments of the past year, and gave personal thanks for the cooperation of the community, which, she said, made the programs work.

Carol Kawase, incoming president, spoke of the need for leadership—particularly in the minority community—and the chapter goal for 1997 to develop leaders



PHOTOS BY MARGARET MURAKAMI

INFORMAL & TASTY-LOOKING—(Top photo) Informally chatting at the Sonoma County JACL New Year potluck-installation party are National JACL Director Herbert Yamanishi (left), and James Murakami, one time, National JACL president, and special guests across the table. **(Lower Photo)** The spread before the party started shows off mounds of Inari, makemushi and other tempting Japanese goodies—identified with glistening white chopsticks and the shamoji (rice spatula).

among us. She listed the desire to make a difference among the top characteristics.

Fishing Awards:

The Fishing Awards, a tradition of our chapter (and unique to it) were handed out by Curly Ishizu, who functions as the official weigh-in person. The JACL Trophy for the largest fish went to Harry Sugiyama, followed by second place winner Ray Morita, and Arnie Yamasaki, third. The Pot, to which the fishermen "contribute," was won (in order of amount) to Ken Morita, Harry Sugiyama and Ray Morita.

Ishizu also paid tribute to a former fisherman in their ranks, Edwin Ohki, who died during the year, characterizing him as one of the best among them.

JACL Service Awards:

JACL Awards went to winners in three categories this year—to

those who had given long and outstanding service, but who had not received chapter awards in recent memory.

The first, "JACL Service Award," went to Margaret Wallman, who has served JACL since 1985 in numerous ways: two consecutive terms as president; acting president the past two years; secretary; scholarship chair for 11 years; delegate to the District Council. She was described as a willing worker, who accomplished her various tasks with a great deal of clarity.

Betty and Harry Kawase, along with Tak Kameoka, garnered the second award, "Service to the Wider Japanese American Community." The Kawases were cited for their long and dedicated service to Enman No Tomo, for being anywhere their work was needed and for seeing to the chore of getting the chapter newsletter in the mail monthly. Harry

Kawase has also voluntarily been videotaping events put on by the Chapter.

Kameoka was characterized as an "outstanding community servant and spiritual leader," who served the Japanese American community for more than 35 years as (1) president of the Enmanji Buddhist Church and (2) the Sunday School superintendent for as long as some can remember. He also took a leadership role in the Young Adult Buddhist Assn. locally as well as in the San Francisco Bay District. Some years ago, he had served, at different times, as JACL president, vice president and treasurer. In his acceptance speech, he paid tribute to his wife of many years, who, he said, made it possible for him to be active.

The fourth honoree, Bob Fuchigami, garnered the "Service to the Larger Sonoma County Community" award. Having received his doctorate in Special Ed., he dedicated his career to teaching from 1956 through 1992, at which time he retired from his position as a professor of Special Education at Sonoma State U. He has held numerous administrative positions there as well during his tenure and served on several local, state, regional and national task forces and committees.

His activities for JACL include helping in the formation of Ichi-Ni-San Gakko, serving off and on for many years on the board, representing the chapter on regional council boards, and chairing the redress movement for Sonoma County. He has been one of the most sought-out speakers for the County schools on the subject of the Japanese American wartime experience. And, he leaves a significant material legacy to the chapter in donating the bulk of the library books now in our collection.

Entertainment:

The Sonoma County Taiko Drummers provided the rousing entertainment for the evening. Bruce Shimizu, leader, noted that they had performed at more than 35 venues during the year, and their remarkable performance made it evident why they are so often sought. Little Angela Shimizu, barely taller than the drum, performed like a pro, obviously relishing the activity. Our community and Sonoma County are fortunate to be able to claim this talented cultural treasure. ■

Agenda

JACL Credit Union annual dinner set

SALT LAKE CITY—The friends and family night atmosphere will prevail again at the annual National JACL Credit Union dinner on Saturday, March 29, at Little America Hotel. Happy hour begins at 6, with dinner and a brief meeting to follow. Children are especially invited, as games for the kids are planned. Dinner is \$15 each, \$5 for members 18 and under, \$20 for non-members. RSVP: 801/355-8040, 800/544-8828.

Recent stories emanating from Washington about credit union membership restrictions, according to JACL Credit Union president-manager Terrell Nagata, involve nationally chartered credit unions, whereas the National JACL is a Utah state-chartered institution. ■

Dancers flock at Florin JACL hop

SACRAMENTO—Over 250 from Northern California communities plus Reno attended the second annual Florin JACL benefit dance Feb. 15 at the Sacramento Scottish Rite Temple, reported benefit chair Bill Kashiwagi. They hailed from Greater Sacramento Area, Stockton, Vallejo, Fairfield, Chico, Auburn, San Jose and Novato.

The intermission show featured Sacramento Dance members in their British Two Steps and the Bolero Samba. DJ Tom Campbell provided music for the evening. On the committee were:

Salle and Toru Hoshikawa, Mary and Amos Freeman, Mary and Woody Ishikawa, Betty Abe, Frances Kushi, Frank and Yo Shimizu, Ruby and Hank Tanabe, Mary and Bone Harakawa, Karen and Chris Tomine, Sue Okamoto, Toyoko Seno, Corky and Nob Kurita, refreshments: Sam Kashiwagi, James Abe, Tommy Kushi, gatekeepers. ■

Next trek for San Mateo to Yosemite

SAN MATEO—Yosemite in the spring is the next sight for San Mateo JACL Community Center seniors, April 29-May 1, which will be spectacular in view of the massive winter rain, noted Roz Enomoto.

Guided tour includes overnight stay at Yosemite Lodge, lunches at Ahwahnee Hotel, Wawona Lodge and the Nutcracker Restaurant in Oakdale, plus a tour of Hershey's Chocolate Factory. Tour rates are \$300 per person double occupancy, \$415 single and \$280 per person triple occupancy. RSVP info: SM-JACL 415/343-2793. ■

Pro & Con HMO panel set by San Fernando Valley

In an effort to help the community better understand the pros and cons of HMO's, the San Fernando Valley JACL is sponsoring a panel discussion on the subject at 7:30 p.m., on Saturday, March 15, at the S.F.J.A. Community Center, 12953 Branford St., Pacoima.

The impetus for this meeting was two articles in the Rafu Shimpō, a Japanese American daily newspa-

per, in which Dr. Kenji Irie described his frustration in following HMO procedures. Citing how it became a matter of professional integrity and conscience, he eventually chose to drop out.

A variety of viewpoints will be presented from:

A diabetes control instructor, Mrs. Anne Sumida, registered nurse and 16 year employee at Kaiser

Permanente; Dr. Cheryl Tanigawa, Medical director for Southern and Central California for Secure Horizons/Pacific Care; Commissioner George Nishinaka, County Commission of Insurance, will share his impressions of HMO's from his vast store of experience; and Dr. Daniel Takeda, California's Family Practice Physician of the year, who teaches at Northridge Hospital and in private practice in Simi Valley, will relate as to why he chose to discontinue as an HMO physician.

A question and answer session follow. Information: Phil Shigekuni at (818) 893-1581. ■

Chicago hosts Sansei Legacy Project

CHICAGO—Family therapist Nobu Miyoshi with the Alameda, Calif.-based Sansei Legacy Project addresses a family communications workshop, "Exploring Family Legacies," over the March 8-9 weekend at the Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark St., with families on Saturday and with invited counselors and social workers on Sunday. Meetings start at 2 p.m.

Co-sponsored by Chicago JACL, the Miyoshi workshop relates how the interment experience has impacted on intergenerational communication. ■

Narascki speaks at St. Louis inaugural

ST. LOUIS—The St. Louis JACL celebrated its 51st inaugural with the new board installed Feb. 10 by Midwest District vice governor Irma Yokota, who is also chapter president this year.

Approximately 60 members, friends and coalition guests attended, not only to witness the installation, but to hear Karen Narascki, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium, Washington, D.C., speak on "The Pursuit of Justice—an Eternal Challenge."

Individual recognitions were given to Joe Yokota for his long service to the JACL and to the annual Japanese Festival, to Sam Nakano for being the first chapter president and his continuing commitment to JACL, and to Emily Durham and Robin Hattori for being the youngest members of the board. ■



PHOTO BY JOE YOKOTA

#51 for ST. LOUIS—Nine of the ten St. Louis JACL board members installed Feb. 10 are (from left): seated—Emily Durham, Irma Yokota (president), Wendy Roll, Robin Hattori; standing—Bob Mitoni, Dr. Kendall Itoku, Mike Kimzey (past president), Sam Nakano (founding chapter president), Steve Mitoni; and not pictured Kathy Frye.

Detroit slates bone marrow drive

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Targeting Asian Americans attending the University of Michigan, the Detroit JACL with the new campus organization, Minority Marrow Donor Coalition, has set a bone marrow registration drive for Wednesday-Friday, March 26-28.

As pointed out at the National JACL Convention, which adopted the Cleveland JACL resolution for greater Asian American registrations, chapter president Valerie Matsumoto said, "Registration does not mean you will have to donate bone marrow—actual donation occurs only after a match has been repeatedly suggested by the blood screening process. Registration does mean you could possibly save one's life."

The National Registry total for Asian Americans is only 4.8%, the

lowest minority representation besides Native Americans. Bone marrow cures such diseases as leukemia, histiocytic disorders, Hodgkin's lymphoma, inherited immune system disorders, malignancy and non-malignant diseases, plasma cell disorder and severe aplastic anemia, the MMCD explained.

Registration involves giving a small amount of blood. With a series of tests, the blood is matched. However, chances of any two unrelated individuals of any race matching are between 1-100 to 1-1 million. The chances of finding an unrelated match are better among those of the same racial or ethnic background. A donor must be 18-55 years of age and in good health. Information: Asian American Donor Program, 2363 Mariner Square Drive, Alameda, CA 94501, 800/59-DONOR. ■

Saga of Diplomat Sugihara rebounding

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant editor

WITH the help of Steven Spielberg's Academy Award winning film, "Schindler's List," the story of Oscar Schindler has reached millions of people around the world. Now the Jewish community wants you to hear the story of Chiune Sugihara.

Sugihara was the Japanese diplomat who saved the lives of more than 6,000 Jews while stationed in Lithuania during World War II. Going against the will of his government, Sugihara signed transit visas day and night so Jewish refugees could have safe passage to Japan. It is estimated that close to 40,000 Jewish descendants are alive today because of the visas this WWII hero issued.

On Feb. 24 Sugihara's eldest son, Hiroki, spoke to a crowd of more than 200 people at Los Angeles' Sephardic Temple Tifereth Israel, sponsored by the Sephardic Educational Center. Descendants of Sugihara's visa recipients, Holocaust survivors, and members of the Jewish community came to meet the hero's son.

"I feel happiness, pride, disbelief, and humility because people came here tonight to hear [my father's] story," the retired Nagoya businessman began. Talking about his father's accomplishments still makes him feel awkward, he explained, because it goes against Japanese custom. "But I think this is something my father is letting me do. I can't help but feel my father's presence here."

When Hitler and the Nazis began persecuting Jews throughout

Europe, thousands of Jewish refugees lined up outside the Japanese embassy in 1940. Sugihara, with the blessing of his family, made the decision to risk his life, his family's life, and his career to save them. "It was my father's destiny to be there at that particular time and place," said Hiroki.

And when the war ended he paid for his heroic actions. After the family spent 18 months in a Russian concentration camp, Sugihara was dismissed from the Japanese Foreign Ministry upon his return to Japan in 1947.

"But never once did my father express regret for what he did in August 1940," emphasized Hiroki. His father was a man who loved life and had the highest respect for humanity, he explained. He proved that "one person can indeed make a difference if they have the courage to stand on their principles."

Since Hiroki began spreading his father's story around the world two years ago, the interest has grown to such an extent that he now does it full-time. He's been to Canada, Brazil, and a number of U.S. states. A Japanese citizen, he splits his time between his homeland and San Francisco on a six-month business visa.

Eric Saul, a historian specializing in Japanese American and Holocaust history, sponsored Hiroki to come to the United States in 1994. "Up until that time no one had heard of the story of Sugihara," he explained.

"He is the Japanese Schindler," continued Saul. "If there had been a few more Sugiharas maybe a million more [Jews] could have been saved." It is estimated that more than 6 million Jews were exterminated during the Holocaust.

Both the Jewish and Japanese



Moshe Amster (left), Hiroki Sugihara and Stephanie Feldman

Dist., West Seattle, Burien), who spoke of friends and classmates whose parents had been interned, appealed to the legislators "not to condemn those who made these decisions" but to "remember the mistakes that we made... Because in a time of crisis... we allowed our ignorance to get ahead of our intellect, and our prejudice to get ahead of our principle."

Rep. Dawn Mason (D-37th Dist., Seattle) related to her own background of African American history by speaking of the "injustices done to a people for no other reason than fear and prejudice based on racial differences."

Commending Rep. Tokuda as a "testimony to the contributions of Japanese Americans" and speaking of the internment, Rep. Mason said, "...for those who do not know this part of American history, please learn it, and to those who do not know a Japanese American as a personal or professional ally, please meet one. And for those who still see differences, ask yourself why."

Rep. Mason concluded, "We have a responsibility to make sure that we look at history and we find a commonality that fear and prejudice and bigotry bring," and that we will never have to have people stand and say "55 years ago, 100 years ago, 1,000 years ago, political leadership failed us here in America or in the world."

At the conclusion of the moving testimonies, HR4614 was unanimously approved. Rep. John Pennington, Speaker of the House, pro tempore, then introduced Rep. Tokuda's mother, Tama Tokuda, his wife, Barbara Lui, 3-year-old daughter Molly, and brother Floyd Tokuda, who were then asked to stand to receive an ovation from the legislators. Also acknowledged were the dozens of representatives from the JACL, the Military Intelligence Service Assn., the Nisei Veterans Committee, the Seattle Sansei group, and the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, who had made the 60-mile trip to the state capital in Olympia to show their support for Rep. Tokuda's resolution. Among those present were:

Karen Yoshimoto, Pacific Northwest

JACL Regional Director; Jeffrey Hattori, Seattle JACL President; James Arima, Lake Washington JACL President; Hiro Nishimura, pres. Military Intelligence Service-Northwest Assn.; Commander Katsushi Ota, Nisei Veterans Committee, Inc.; Tom Ikeda, Japanese Chamber of Commerce; Gail Hikida, Seattle Sansei; Kelly Wicker, Reiko Callner, Olympia JACL; Harvey and Edith Watanabe, White River Valley JACL.

COMMENT

(Continued from page 1)

4614, authored by Rep. Kip Tokuda (D) and honoring Japanese American internees for "their patience, heroism, sacrifice and patriotic loyalty." Nineteen colleagues co-authored the resolution which also recognized that "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership" — not military necessity — led to the internment of Japanese Americans. It was also resolved "to remember the lessons and blessings of liberty and justice for all."

Assemblyman Brooks Firestone (R-Santa Barbara) rose in opposition, stating the resolution "appears to give blame to America." Honda's resolution, taken up for action Feb. 14, in one of the "whereas," quotes from the Civil Liberties Act of 1988: "...for these fundamental violations of the basic civil liberties and constitutional rights of these individuals of Japanese, the Congress apologized on behalf of the Nation."

Firestone added the resolution could help the Japanese government in a campaign to revise history by shifting the blame for World War II onto America.

Assemblyman Nao Takasugi (R-Camarillo), who spent his war years at Arizona's Gila River WRA Center, declared, "I think it's time we stand to say... a black page in the history of our country must be recognized."

Honda, the San Jose assemblyman (D), was joined with his family at Amache WRA Center in southeastern Colorado. The pair comprise the entire Asian American caucus in the state legislature. Assemblyman Dick Floyd (D-Wilmington) wondered if Firestone wanted "to blame American citizens who were mistreated, maltreated, ripped off, blame them for the war?" ACR 8's first "whereas" says: "President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order

9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, pursuant to which 120,000 Japanese Americans and legal residents aliens were incarcerated in internment camps during World War II."

Assemblyman Bernie Richter (R-Chico) couldn't believe "we should be having a debate over whether we should condone incarceration of American citizens because of their race."

Honda said the resolution was meant to recognize that "we as a country can make mistakes."

YOUTH
(continued from page 1)
South Bay Chapter's Young Adults Group that's very active in various community projects. Offering more community based programs may be something JACL should consider, he suggested.

Kawai also noted a disturbing trend: most of the youth who join JACL do so for only a short period of time. They join in hopes of winning one of the many scholarships offered by the organization, he explained. They also leave once the prize has been awarded. "It's unfortunate," he said, "because there's so much more you can do."

He and the JACL National Youth/Student Council are working hard to promote interest in JACL, and have high expectations for their upcoming youth conference, "Leading Into the Future." "We hope that every chapter can send a lot of people out," said Kawai, who wants between 300 to 400 young people to attend.

"If every chapter in this district could send ten people, we'd immediately reach that goal," said Gary Mayeda, JACL vice president of planning and development. "Hopefully we can say that one day without laughing."

The youth conference will be held at the University of California, Irvine, June 20-22. Some topics to be discussed include: (1) community involvement, (2) gay & lesbian education, and (3) Asian American identity. The registration fee is \$50 and includes two nights' stay and meals.

The conference is not just for JACL members, added Mayeda, former National Youth/Student Council Representative of the Pa-

There were only a few Japanese Americans who came to hear Hiroki speak, and Mariko Yoshida, 35, was one of them. She was born in West Germany in 1961, the year the Berlin Wall was first built. Her father is Japanese and her mother is a Canadian of French and German descent. Yoshida was educated in Japan but heard of Sugihara's story only after moving to the United States where she's lived for the past 14 years.

Yoshida believes Sugihara's story is relevant to all human beings, not just the Jewish and Japanese communities. "It's more than the fact that he was Japanese," said Yoshida. "But that there was a person. We have to go beyond cultural boundaries."

Though it's been more than a decade since Chiune Sugihara passed away, he has yet to be officially recognized by the Japanese government for his heroic actions during World War II. A petition to "reinststate and rehabilitate the diplomatic career and good name of Chiune Sugihara" is currently being distributed by the Jewish community.

Hiroki Sugihara will speak at the Marysville Chapter, JACL, on March 20 and at the Sonoma County Chapter on April 15.

In addition to his speaking, Hiroki is working on a second book and a documentary film. He has set up the nonprofit "Visas For Life" Foundation and continues to show photo exhibits at museums around the world. The "Kaunas [Lithuania] Ghetto" photo exhibit will open at the Holocaust Museum, Washington D.C., on Nov. 21. For information about these and other events, contact Anne Akabori, 916/428-7409.

cific Citizen Editorial Board. Chapters that have a shortage of young people should consider working with local high schools and colleges, he said.

Jean Ushijima of the West Los Angeles Chapter is planning to do just that. Though her chapter has more than 700 members, "there's no such thing as a youth member," she explained. That's why she's going to see if students from various Asian studies groups at UCLA would be interested in attending the conference.

Though the event has always been open to all communities, this year the youth/student council is focusing on the Asian Pacific American community, said Kawai. "It's no longer just the Japanese American youth."

PSWD voted unanimously at the district meeting to donate \$1,000 to the National Youth/Student Council for the upcoming conference. "This is probably the most important activity we're doing... trying to attract the youth," said Ron Osajima, PSWD vice governor.

For information: "Leading Into the Future," contact National JACL, 415/921-5225.

DNC

(continued from page 1)

this multifaceted issue.

One group is addressing media coverage that unnecessarily highlights an Asian and Asian American aspect of any allegedly illegal contribution.

Former Congressman Norm Mineta will be working with APA group to counter negative images of APA political participation being created in the media.

Other tasks JACL will be involved in are: (1) working to monitor news stories on this matter to be used as evidence of poor and inaccurate media coverage, (2) prepare to address any questions for the APA community that may arise during the upcoming congressional hearings on this subject, and (3) to meet with DNC officials to express our concern over its process in examining campaign donations.

The most important aspect of the campaign finance scandal is the les-

See DNC/page 10

OLYMPIA

(Continued from page 1)

stated Rep. Wensman, "I want to thank him personally and thank all of the other individuals for forgiving this injustice and for moving beyond it over the years."

Rep. Jim Buck, a graduate of the West Point Military Academy who served as an Army captain in a field artillery unit, addressed the military history of Nisei veterans, clarifying for the legislators, "...A regiment is generally a third of a division. It usually comprises about 3,000 to 5,000 soldiers. And as I read through the record of the 442nd Central Postal Directory, I thought it was absolutely remarkable the number of unit citations and the decorations that the members of this unit received. When you consider a Medal of Honor, 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, 568 Silver Stars, 4,000 Bronze Stars and 9,486 Purple Hearts, that tells me this outfit worked very hard. The unit was famous through the Italian campaign."

As to the enormous number of casualties, Rep. Buck added that visualizing 9,000 people would be equivalent to the entire population of one of the towns he represents, "then you can begin to grasp what that meant for our country to have that many casualties from one organization. My sincere admiration goes to those veterans."

On the Democratic side of the legislature, a former immigrant from the Philippines who arrived in the United States in 1961 and who had risen to win election to a third term as the state representative from Seattle's 11th Dist. Rep. Victoria Velasco spoke with deep sincerity as she looked up at the Nisei veterans and former internees in the south gallery. "I salute the Japanese American veterans for their patience, heroism and sacrifice, and also those who were interned in the camps for their sacrifice and loyalty, for without them, I believe that I would not be here in this country and I could not have realized this opportunity to serve in the House of Representatives."

Rep. Dow Constantine (D-34th

Japanese Latin Americans interned by U.S. in '43, Campaign For Justice in Washington, D.C.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant editor

Like all Japanese Americans interned during World War II, Alice Nishimoto knows too well what it's like to suffer injustice and humiliation at the hands of the United States government.

Born in Peru, she was only 9 years old in 1943 when she, her four siblings, her pregnant mother, and her father were kidnapped by Peruvian officials and placed onto a ship. The destination was made known to them only upon their arrival in Crystal City, Texas. For the next two years the U.S. Justice Department's internment camp was to be their home and the home for over 2,200 Japanese kidnapped from 13 Latin American countries.

"When they deported us, they took our lives away," says Nishimoto. "We didn't commit any crimes, and Peru was not involved in the war." And yet, while most J-As have been able to celebrate the U.S. government's decision in the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, hundreds of Japanese Latin Americans have yet to receive reparations and an apology.

The denial is due to a technicality in the Act; payments are only given to those who were U.S. citizens or permanent residents at the time of their evacuation. During the war, Japanese from Latin America were classified as illegal aliens by the U.S. government. Passports and birth certificates were destroyed soon after they were brought to the U.S.

"They didn't apologize to us because we didn't become citizens," says Nishimoto. "But why should we be citizens? They brought us here from a different country. Everything was taken away in one day."

Until recently, Nishimoto and other Japanese Latin Americans never knew why they had been brought to the U.S.; they were to be exchanged for American prisoners of war held in Japan, she says.

After the war Nishimoto's family, banned from returning to Peru, was

forced to return to war-torn Japan. When she finally returned to the U.S. in 1957, Nishimoto learned for the first time that her Peruvian citizenship had been stripped in 1943. "I found out I was a nobody," she says bitterly.

And they're tired of waiting for the government to mend the past.

On March 8, Nishimoto and members of "Campaign For Justice," a group lobbying on behalf of the Japanese Latin Americans, are heading to Washington, D.C., armed with over 3,000 signed petition letters. The group filed a class action lawsuit on Aug. 26, 1996, demanding Japanese Latin Americans be included in the Civil Liberties Act; the government has yet to respond. So far, former congressman Norm Mineta and Reps. Patsy Mink (D-Hawaii) and Tom Campbell (R-Calif.) have agreed to meet with them. "Campaign For Justice" was formed in last August by Japanese Latin Americans and various civil rights organizations including JACL, National Coalition For Redress/Reparations (NCRR), American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Southern California, and the Japanese Peruvian Oral History Project. The group is now international with offices in Tokyo, Lima, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

For months now the group has been educating the Japanese American community about the Japanese Latin American experience and they've received a great deal of support. The West Valley Methodist Church in Chatsworth and the San Fernando Valley JACL held an obento lunch and information session on Feb. 23. "Campaign For Justice" held a send-off party Feb. 27 for the group at the Don Felix Peruvian Restaurant in Los Angeles, with proceeds going towards the Washington trip.

"The government is not trying hard enough to locate internees," Nishimoto says. "If they had included us in '88 there would be no problem, no anguish, no stress." It's been difficult sharing her internment story with hundreds of people, she explains. "We're not trained for this. It takes courage."

The internment of Japanese Latin Americans happened more than fifty years' ago and some people have advised Nishimoto to let go of the past.

"But it was such an injustice," she says. "And the only way people are going to know what happened to us is for us to tell our stories."

Nishimoto is now a U.S. citizen. She's raised two grown children and resides in Gardena, Calif., with

they did something wrong and apologize," she says. "They treated us like illegal aliens and that's not right. The longer they wait, more could die." Mochizuki's father passed away in 1951 and in 1963 she lost her mother.

Shima was 19 when he was taken from his homeland in Peru and interned at Crystal City. On the day of his kidnapping, he had decided to visit his uncle's store. When he

Latin American plaintiffs in the class action lawsuit. He first heard of their story at an NCRR clinic several years ago and has been drawn to their story ever since, he says.

Their chances are "very good," says Toma of the lawsuit. "We need to let the President know that this has to be settled," he adds. "And that this is not something the President should be fighting. The government should not deny redress to people who've suffered so much."

Fred Okrand, Legal Director Emeritus of ACLU and a member of the "Campaign For Justice" legal team, played an important role in the Japanese American redress movement in the 80's. "I came out of retirement for this case," says the well-known attorney. "They have a good chance from the standpoint of the law," he adds. "From the standpoint of justice, they have a 100% chance."

Ayako Hagihara, director of "Campaign For Justice," and Julie Small, assistant director, have played an important role in the campaign's success thus far. Hagihara first joined the team in June '96. "At the time I didn't know much about the issue," she says. "But it's incredible what the government did."

"We talk about injustices. This is a pretty obvious example of injustice," says Small. She got involved with the group after learning that her boyfriend's father, a Japanese Latin American, was interned at Crystal City.

"For me, the part that's most important is I thought redress was basically done," says Gary Mayeda, JACL National Vice President of Planning and Development, who joined "Campaign For Justice" last July. "But to find out that something this important isn't finished for so many people. But success is imminent," he adds. "It's just a matter of time."

For information, contact Ayako Hagihara at 310/344-1893.

Editor's note—Argentina, Brazil and Chile did not participate in shipping Japanese to the U.S. for internment ■



CAROLINE AOYAGI: PHOTO

The plaintiffs in the class action lawsuit: (from left) Alice Nishimoto, Koshio Henry Shima, and Carmen Mochizuki.

her husband. But to this day she struggles to forgive the U.S. government. "I do feel bitter towards the government," she says. "If we get it [redress], we'll get closure, but it's still not enough for everything."

Carmen Mochizuki agrees. She is the named plaintiff in the class action lawsuit with plaintiffs Nishimoto and Koshio Henry Shima. Mochizuki was 11 when she was taken from Peru and brought to the guarded camp in Crystal City with her two siblings and parents. She wants justice not only for herself but for her parents, who died before seeing redress. "In memory of our parents who suffered a lot, I'd like them [the government] to realize

arrived, two Peruvian officials were already taking his uncle away. Because Shima had the same last name, he was also taken into custody. His father and sister would later join him at the camp.

"It was a hard time for me," says Shima. "At the time I didn't speak any English or Japanese." After the war, he moved to New Jersey but found it difficult to make a living. His father had owned a store in Peru and he was to have inherited it. He is now 72, has two adult sons, and is still waiting to receive his apology and reparations.

Attorney Robin Toma, one of the founders of "Campaign For Justice," will represent the Japanese

Ombuds-person youth bound for Washington

SANTA MONICA, Calif.—Allison Kato, the elected student ombuds-person at Crossroads School for the Arts and Sciences



ALLISON KATO

Arcadia High: 'We the People' finalists

ARCADIA, Calif.—State winners in the California high school constitution and bill of rights competition, 30 students from Arcadia High School (80 percent of whom are Asian Americans) will compete in the "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution" national finals in Washington on April 25-28. The February state competition began with oral presentations by each team member and questioning by the judges. Ten schools competed.

For team member and student body president Steve Chung, 18, a Korean immigrant, the state victory was especially sweet. "I appreciate the depth and principles embodied in the Constitution and our government," he said, looking

ence from March 18 in the Nation's Capital. The leadership program is sponsored by the nonprofit Congressional Youth Leadership Council founded in 1985, with some 7,000 youth nationwide participating in the 20 sessions of the conference.

The daughter of Winfield and Deann Kato of Los Angeles, Allison has helped student government at Crossroads as class representative, is active on the school newspaper, a Head Start volunteer, an arts major and captain of the junior varsity tennis team. ■

forward to being naturalized this spring.

Funding support is needed because the U.S. Department of Education, which conducts this competition, provides for air transportation only for the 30 students. In addition, hotel and food expenses for the six-day stay, expected to exceed \$15,000, must be raised; prompted San Gabriel Valley JACLer Ed Tokeshi. Contributions should be sent to Arcadia High School, attn. Ron Morris (team coach and government teacher), 180 Campus Dr., Arcadia, CA 91007. Morris also coached the 1991 and 1993 teams which won the state titles, the latter team winning the national.

REDRESS

(Continued from page 1)

Yeichi Kuwayama of Washington, D.C.

Grants were awarded to individuals and groups in Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Curriculum for teachers

In addition to the amounts offered, the board announced its intention to create a teachers' training curriculum initiative that is expected to be finalized later this spring.

"The board is interested in sponsoring a bold initiative in encouraging teachers to teach the lessons learned from the incarceration," stated Executive Director Dale Shimasaki. "Based on the pool of applications the fund has received, there is a clear interest in teacher training/curriculum initiatives."

Some of the teacher training proposals will be included in this initiative. The curriculum/teacher training awards will be in addition to the \$2.8 million already committed to the grant program.

The table on page 1 shows the distribution of the awards by state and category.

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Talent of Japanese artist enchants 'Oscar night'

By CAROLINE AOYAGI
Assistant Editor

With less than three weeks to go before the 69th Academy Awards, Oscar fever has hit Hollywood, and shinsei artist Hiro Yamagata is basking in the heat.

The 48-year-old native of Shiga-ken has been chosen to decorate this year's Governor's Ball, the official post-awards party, the Academy announced at a press conference held on Jan. 30 at Yamagata's picturesque Malibu studio.

Surrounded by life-size Oscar statues and a miniature version of the Ball decor, the world renowned artist — dressed in jeans, sweat-shirt and running shoes — addressed the dozens of reporters and camera crews. "I'm really excited about the Academy Awards," exclaimed Yamagata in rapid, accented English. "It's an

honor."

Yamagata's work, "Earthly Paradise," will be reproduced and enlarged onto a 70 by 200 foot scrim that will hang above celebrity guests at the Shrine Exposition Center ballroom. Lasers programmed by the artist will create "beam sculptures" with shifting images that will also be projected onto the scrim.

In "Earthly Paradise" Yamagata has chosen vintage Mercedes-Benz convertibles as his canvas onto which lush, tropical scenes have been painted. His love of the Fiji Islands is evident in the brightly colored, vibrant paintings of flowers, waterfalls, and dolphins.

A single car takes more than two years to complete, said Yamagata. Each vehicle is first painstakingly restored before painting can begin. The various floral and nature designs come from photos the artist himself shot on trips around the world.

"Earthly Paradise" represents the harmonious union of "nature and technology," Yamagata continued. "It is my belief that they can be enjoyed in unison," the artist writes in his synopsis. "It is not necessary to forsake one for the other. The two forces are joined in the automobile, the ultimate symbol of transportation, covered in earthly paradise; the beauty of one reflected in the other."

"The guests are in for a real treat," said Sid Ganis, first vice president of the Academy. "Hiro is an amazing creative force and I have no doubt that his work will be a major highlight of the evening."

Yamagata will be collaborating with the special events company Ambrosia Productions on Oscar night. "With the inspiration of Hiro and his art, we've arrived at a point of great inspiration," said Carl Bendix, co-owner of Ambrosia. "It's a reminder of things that

are the most beautiful in the world."

Yamagata's resumé would impress even the most veteran of artists; the U.S. and French governments have both commissioned his work in the past and various Olympic committees have called on his talents. Royalty and celebrities are counted among his clients; the King and Queen of Sweden have purchased his work, and Arnold Schwarzenegger is not only a client but a close friend. "He's special," said Yamagata of the action movie star. "We're buddies."

"No theory, just myself. . . as an artist, I can sleep anywhere."

—HIRO YAMAGATA

As an artist, Yamagata is an original. "I don't have an art theory even being an artist," he said. "I don't want to have one." And don't look for any cultural influences in his work. "I have no nationality. Always where I go I am myself," he explained. "Being an artist I can sleep anywhere, on the sidewalk or on Los Angeles Ave." But more than likely you'll find this successful artist at his vacation home in Fiji, or in Malibu, where he resides with his second wife Lisa for most of the year.

He has lived most of his adult life in the West; he spent six years in Paris and has been living in the United States for close to 20 years. Both his 11-year-old and 14-year-old daughters were born in the U.S., and the artist has applied to become an American citizen.

Yamagata has now collected 44 Mercedes-Benz 220A cars, of

which 16 are finished. And the vehicles are in demand. A bank purchased one of the artist's cars for \$1.2 million but he wouldn't say which bank. A corporation recently offered to buy 20 of the rare vehicles but Yamagata declined the generous offer. The objective was not to sell the vehicles, he explained, but to showcase "Earthly Paradise" in museums around the world. So far, "Earthly Paradise" has been exhibited in Japan, Italy, Monaco, and Sweden.

"Earthly Paradise" drives into Los Angeles Shrine Exposition Center on Mar. 24, immediately following the Academy Awards ceremonies. ■

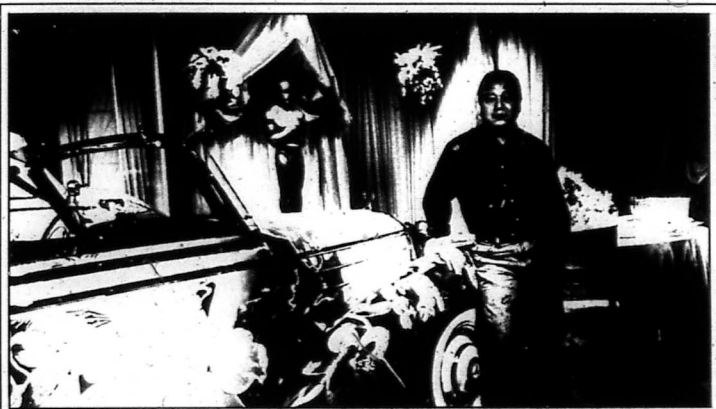
East West Players to mark 31st year

Billed as an evening of glamour, entertainment and community, the East West Players celebrate their 31st anniversary on Monday, April 28, with an award dinner at the Bonaventure Hotel, Los Angeles.

The Made in America Award is going to playwright Wakako Yamauchi of *And the Soul Shall Dance*. The Visionary Award honorees are Amy Hill (*All American Girl*, the *Pauly Shore Show*), David Henry Hwang (Tony Award winner of *M. Butterfly*), Soon-Tek Oh (veteran actor and founding member of EWP), George Takei (community leader and of *Star Trek* fame), and John Woo (director of *Hardboiled* and *Broken Arrow*).

Community leaders and EWP Conservatory directors Dom and Sachiko Magwili were named for the Ray Creevey Award.

Information: 213/660-0366. ■



'OSCAR' DECOR ALL SET—Yamagata poses with one of the cars from "Earthly Paradise"

Voice of a Sansei

Quantum physics and the middle aged Sansei

© By AKEMI KAYLENG

My Nisei father was coldly insensitive to human feelings when it came to choice of profession. Certain types of jobs were the "right" ones, and others were just plain "wrong." His rigid rulebook extended beyond mere job selection. Even the "right" job was "not proper" if it was held with the "wrong" sort of employer.

More specifically, conservative establishment jobs requiring a college degree were the "proper" choices. Their primary purpose was to make a secure salary using well defined, structured methods. Emotional factors or social concerns were taboo. Engineering, accounting, medicine, law, were all "proper" choices.

But even a good choice had not been realized "in the proper manner" if it was done for a questionable employer. The accountant had to be conservatively dressed and working in a conventional office. An accountant in bell bottom blue jeans managing the books for some New Age venture run by a bunch of mystics was out. That kind of business was simply not "proper."

I would have been a lot happier if he applied his guidelines only to himself. Don't misunderstand me. I'm very disciplined in a structured sort of way myself, and I've never been employed by some far left avant garde group. But unlike my father and many Nisei like him, I just don't feel all human definitions exist only in certain rigid channels.

The old Nisei vision of the world goes something like this. It reminds me of certain molecular structures I studied in graduate

school. Society is a set of atoms assembled together just so. Each person is an insignificant dot in a swarm of electrons surrounding the nuclei: the families, schools, employers, or whatever group they belong to. No individual has any significance. The significance is in the aggregate of individuals, the electron clouds, performing roles governed by the central nucleus.

This vision of the world is safe in its structured security. The problem for me was, it was a lousy prison.

I'm either the Nisei's ideal or the Nisei's bad girl, depending on how one chooses to look at things. On the one hand, I was the stereotypical Math Whiz Kid, good employee, model citizen. Never drank or smoked or did drugs. Financially conservative. Nice to old people. Obeyed all the laws (not even one parking ticket in years as a licensed driver!). A stable marriage over twenty years old.

On the other hand, I hate that damned structured perception of success and happiness and The Proper Way We Have To Be. Making it means you've brought honor to the family and will now function like some perfect computer chip in that prison of a molecular lattice structure. You derive all sense of human worth from knowing you're making the system run smoothly. That's the old Japanese way of seeing things.

For me, (and, I suspect, many younger Japanese), making it can also mean you're seeing the limitations of the system you are in. You are not dealing with "reality"

(whatever that means) directly. You've got this damned thing called the system getting in your way. You are only connecting the dots and painting by numbers in a grown up's version of a little kid's creation. You want to draw your own thing. The hell with the damned system. That's the Anglo midlife crisis way of seeing things. I suspect that as we continue to Americanize, more and more successful Asians will come to feel this way.

In the old style classical physics everything happened in a clearly defined, linear, logical, highly structured manner. In modern quantum physics we cannot predict where and what everything's going to be. We only know probabilities that things will fall into certain patterns. The classical rigid structure has given way to less certain predictions.

In human life, the old Nisei's structured perceptions and behavior was secure and stable but also confining. As we move in the flow of ever increasing assimilation, that predictable structure will blur out more and more. We are living in less certain times. Uncertainty is the unknown, and the unknown causes unease. But it also gives us a flexibility and freedom not available to the Nisei.

I'm studying quantum physics now. It's an appropriate reflection of the person I am, a Japanese American of the approaching twenty-first century. ■

Akemi Kayleng has spent over thirty years in mathematical applications.

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Opinion



From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Another line for the button maker?

Younger readers of this column may find it hard to believe, but in the unhappy days following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor large buttons proclaiming "I Am Chinese" appeared on the shirts and jackets of some San Francisco area residents.

Why they wore these buttons is understandable. To most of their fellow Americans, they looked exactly like the dirty, lowdown, sneaky San Francisco Japanese Americans who allegedly were responsible for Pearl Harbor, or something like that. They all had slant-eyes, yellow skin and black hair, didn't they?

(Life Magazine, or maybe it was Time, in a fit of rampant patriotic enterprise published a layout of police-type mug shots to help their readers distinguish between the benevolent Chinese and the hated Japanese.)

The Chinese Americans should have been the first to stand up for the rights of Japanese Americans. But under the circumstance they were anxious to put as much space between themselves and people who looked like them but who, at the time, were as popular as polecats at a picnic. You could hardly blame them for wanting to make

sure a red-necked super patriot wasn't going to try to avenge the sneak attack by some extracurricular nose-punching.

The buttons must have worked because I don't recall reading about Chinese Americans becoming victims of misidentification. Nor were they thrown into concentration camps. I do not think the safe-pass button movement was launched by responsible persons. More likely, they were the product of some fast-buck artists, probably not even Chinese.

This sidelight of history came to mind the other day while reading about various individuals, identified loosely as Asian Americans, who had contributed generously to Bill Clinton's presidential reelection campaign. These donations apparently were a gesture of appreciation for an opportunity to dine at the White House, sip a cup of the president's coffee of a morning when he had nothing better to do, or perhaps even impart a bit of wisdom into his ear about this country's Far East policy. Whatever the purpose, the Democratic National Committee felt uneasy enough about accepting the money so that it was hurriedly returned, but only after the news got into the papers.

It turned out that these Friends of Bill were Asians as well as people broadly identified as Asian Americans, but no Japanese or Japanese Americans have surfaced. That is nice to know particularly since some of our brethren, for reasons unclear, prefer to be called Asian Americans rather than the more specific Japanese American.

At this point in history there is nothing dangerous or disadvantageous in being identified as Japanese Americans. In fact, it can be uncomfortable for Japanese Americans to be mistaken for wealthy Asians looking for opportunities to enrich the Clinton war chest. Thus there may be some merit, particularly while strolling in the vicinity of the White House, in displaying a button that specifies what you are not.

Somehow, I doubt that anyone I know has the business acumen to make "and market buttons saying "I Am Japanese American," or maybe, "I did not have coffee with the President." ■

Hosokawa is the former editorial page editor for the Denver Post. His columns have appeared regularly since June 1942 in the Pacific Citizen.

Very truly yours

By HARRY K. HONDA

Computer Math

HARRY Kajihara's name has been off the P.C. pages for almost eight years—since the JACL redress campaign was successfully closed.

As if to make up for not appearing in P.C. columns, he was pictured on another front page and "in color" this past week (*Camarillo Star*, Feb. 18), teaching algebra at Ventura College via the computer as well as the traditional book and blackboard method.

At the Ventura County JACL installation luncheon, he kept mumbling about "computer-math" and that didn't register with Yours Truly until this newspaper article. Starting this semester, the college has commenced a three-year experiment, offering math and algebra classes by computer and interactive CD-ROM. The same courses are also being taught on campus using standard book and blackboard. College officials will compare the results: Which have better test scores? Which students retain more?

The experiment may shed the mighty million-dollar answer: What makes a better teacher, man or computer?

Kajihara, a retired engineer who learned higher math with a slide rule and began teaching math as a second career 12 years ago, volunteered to be a "mediator" for a computer-taught intermediate algebra course. Class opens with a brief lecture, then being on hand to answer questions. As the article by staff writer Lauren Dodge continues, "One hour later, (Kajihara) teaches the same subject in a traditional setting, lecturing at the front of the room as students take notes in three-ringed binders, twirl pencils and yell out answers over the tap and scratch of chalk on a chalkboard." (Pst, I nearly flunked traditionally-taught college algebra I-II.)

A Silicon Valley company, Academic Systems, designed the software. Idea did meet with resistance and the program was on the back-burner at Ventura College until state funds became available this past year. With 30 computers and a three-year commitment, Kajihara is among a half-dozen instructors who volunteered to be trained and teach the course.

The program is in use on 50 campuses nationwide. Early results show pass rates 15 percent higher, according to the company, and Kajihara is convinced they are the future of education.

The computers, in multimedia, presents lectures, quizzes and gives homework assignments. It even spots weaknesses, answers questions and keeps track of scores. Asking the computer is especially good if the student is shy, says Kajihara.

Unlike the lectures, there's no tuning out. "You can't just sit and daydream," one student told the reporter. Just weeks into this, students have taken time to be acclimated but their comments have been favorable. "Me and math don't get along, but I think I like this better," another chap added.

Software to teach English and upper-division math are in the works. Now, when you hear Kajihara mumble, "computer-math," it won't be gobble-de-gook. ■



East wind

By BILL MARUTANI

Shotguns, rifles & short arms

IN THE NIKKEI agricultural community of prewar White River Valley outside of Seattle, very few that I know of owned firearms such as a shotgun. As youngsters we did some "plinking" (as we called it) with a spring-loaded Daisy BB rifle. (Strictly speaking, since the barrel was a smooth bore, it was not a "rifle.")

The first time I held and fired a gunpowder-charged weapon was in the winter of 1942-43 in South Dakota. From the barbed-wire confinement of Tule Lake, I had traveled to Mitchell, S.D. to attend Dakota Wesleyan University. Three friends took me pheasant-hunting, handing me a 12-gauge shotgun loaded with heavy buckshot shells. (Colder the weather, thicker the birds' feathers, hence heavier pellets for penetration. But heavier the pellets, the more pronounced is the "kick" or recoil of the gun.) Verbal instructions were given to "lead" the bird—i.e. aim just a bit ahead of the direction of the bird's flight so the buckshot and the bird will meet at the same deadly spot. After some misses, one could "get the hang of it" and we were able to bag some birds.

YEARS LATER, I've looked back at that

experience and wryly wondered how the FBI would have reacted had they learned that this "non-alien" (the term contrived to designate Americans of Japanese ancestry, as appeared on the "Evacuation" posters) fresh out of camp, was blasting away with a shotgun. As a matter of fact, in the spring of 1943, an FBI agent travelled the 75 miles from Sioux Falls to Mitchell, just to check up on the activities of this "dangerous" former Tule Lake inmate. The agent never spoke to me; there was a partial wall separating us as he was questioning an instructor on the other side, and I overheard the entire farcical investigation.

WHEN CALLED to active duty in '44, for basic infantry training, I was handed the M-1 Garand rifle, a nine-plus pound, gas-operated, .30-caliber weapon with a muzzle velocity of 2,700 f.p.s.

The management of the M-1 was quite different from a shotgun. Among other things, its gun-stock was too long, or my arms were too short. Or both. I returned from the firing range with a swollen and bloody right cheek, providing the unforgiving recoil of that weapon. No one offered

any corrective instructions. Here I was, a green footsoldier who was supposed to be proficient with his trusty rifle, being bludgeoned daily by that basic weapon.

PONDERING MY PRECIFICAMENT, I reached the obvious conclusion that I had dog-goned better turn things around. My face, particularly my right side, could not much longer endure the daily pounding. So, firmly gripping the stock, short arms and all, I fired off a round. No kick into the face! Another round; again, no kick into the face! I carefully analyzed what I was now doing that I had not done before.

It was fundamental: with my right cheek firmly against the stock, when the rifle recoiled, my cheek, and head, were now being "pushed" up rather than "kicked" up. The rifle and I finally became one, so that in the final testing, I even managed to nail down an "expert" rating.

Short arms and all. ■

After leaving the bench, Marutani resumed practicing law in Philadelphia. He writes regularly for the Pacific Citizen.

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Letters

America is what you think!

I read the article by Stacy Ige, a student at CSU Fresno. "America Is Not What You Think" (P.C. 11-15/12-19/96).

She indicates that she is not free in America, the land of the free. She feels there is a glass ceiling and that she is discriminated against. She feels she must change to succeed.

I am amazed that a college student (whom I assume is young) can have such a defeatist attitude. She hasn't even been in the workforce and she is complaining about how she will be treated. She might be justified if she had worked for ten or twenty years, but as a student, I advise her to get some confidence and get rid of her excuses.

I grew up in a small farming town (population 1,000) in the Central Valley. I graduated from Fresno State in 1965 with a degree in accounting and was immediately hired by the Los Angeles branch of a major accounting firm. I took a leave of absence from the firm during the Vietnam War to join the Army and graduated from Officer's Candidate School as a second lieutenant and served overseas.

For the past 13 years I have been the Chief Executive Officer for an eye medical group in Glendale and have recently been named as Western regional director of a national ophthalmology organization. I believe I have earned these positions based on merit, not on racial quotas.

Glendale is also the place where I live. Historically, Glendale has not been considered minority-friendly, yet I have served as chairman of the local chapter of the American Red Cross, as secretary-treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce, as president of the high school's booster club, as a member of the executive board of the American Boy Scouts, and as an elder of my church.

I am not saying there isn't discrimination. I have felt it; I have seen it. I certainly know it exists. But I see more complaining than action on too many people's part. I believe you have to persevere towards a goal, even if you don't succeed in gaining it.

By our efforts, we set a platform for others to build on. In my experience, people are recognized for their talent, not on who they are or who they know. If you don't produce, you don't succeed. Try it, it works.

Glenn Yamada
Glendale, Calif.

'For the record'

First of all, I wish to commend those who are diligently working to increase our JACL membership numbers. However, I write relative to Karen-Liane Shiba's statement (P.C. Feb. 21-March 6) regarding January 1996 membership payments versus those of 1997, where they exceeded those of 1996 by 647.

To compare these two figures would be like comparing apples to oranges since membership administrator Amy Yamashiro quit for the first time mid-December 1995 and the National office was in transition and did not permanent full-time staff to monitor and input membership data in a timely manner, thereby yielding skewed figures for January 1996. When she quit for the second time November-December 1996, the National office (Herb Yamaniishi, director) had a permanent complement of staff and improved systems to take up the slack.

Karyl Matsumoto
San Mateo

Karyl Matsumoto covered the National office as office administrator and interim National JACL director between April and December, 1995. Yamaniishi assumed his post as national director on Jan. 1, 1996.

A reason for the monument

When the VFW publication *California Veteran* published a story of the Nisei World War II Veterans Monument in the October issue, many favorable comments and questions were directed to me with regard to this monument proposal at a recent VFW function that I attended. It is surprising to me that so many do not know the story of the Japanese American soldiers, especially about the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific.

That is why we must continue to write. And when we can no longer write, the monument will continue to tell this story about the JA experiences during World War II.

Sus Satow
Sacramento

Capitalize 'Hapa'

Issei, Nisei (sic), Sansei, and Yonsei. As they should be, these four words describing Japanese Americans are always capitalized. Yet, the Pacific Citizen continues to refer to people of partial Japanese ancestry as "hapa."

Isn't it time to recognize Hapas as full members of the Japanese American community? Extending a capital "H" to Hapas is a small but important in this recognition.

Not extending this simple dignity to Hapas sends a subtle but dubious message to everyone. Hapas, like the Issei, Nisei (sic), Sansei and Yonsei are part of the Japanese American community. A continued reference to "hapas" strongly suggests otherwise.

Greg Mayeda
gmayeda@hooked.net

Thoughts on 'Hapa'

As the father of a "Hapa" (re: Feb. 21 P.C., page 1), I have given much thought to some of the issues raised or implied. When the issue of son's identity came up in the past, I urged him not to think of himself as "half" of anything, but as an inheritor of two peoples and two cultures.

In that sense, he is ethnically and culturally twice as rich as we mono-racial beings. Legally, he is an American citizen, but in these broader terms he is indeed a Pacific citizen (or "Pacifican"), with family and deep ties on both the eastern and the western shores of the Pacific.

Hugh L. Bartleson
Vice President

Lake Washington JACL
What a marvelous name to call the generation before us—Pacific citizens!—Editor.

Shigeo Hoge
Los Angeles

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Books

▼ 'Years of Infamy'

Michi Weglyn's ever-popular *Years of Infamy: the Untold Story of America's Concentration Camps* (1976), has been revived with closing accounts of the Redress movement, which culminated with signing of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act. (The University of Washington Press, P.O. Box 50096, Seattle, WA 98145). Royalties from sale of the book (\$16.95 + \$4 shipping for 1st book) will benefit the newly endowed Michi Nishiura Weglyn and Walter Weglyn Chair in Multiculturalism established by California State University at Pomona.

▼ 'One Sunny Day'

With so few first-hand accounts in English about the Hiroshima/Nagasaki experience by a bicultural A-bomb survivor, *One Sunny Day: a Child's Memories of Hiroshima*, by **Hideo Tamura Snider** (Open Court Trade, 332 S. Michigan Ave. #2000, Chicago,

IL 60604, 1996, glossary, index, \$17.95, soft) is an amazing autobiography of a University of Chicago Hospital social worker, who works with radiation oncology patients. Snider was 10 years old when the A-bomb was dropped, and her memories are haunting and eloquently written.

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Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Choose from three plans: AccessSM HMOSM Blue Shield PPO and Shield 65. Each has a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug, benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Group Health Trust Administrator today at 1-800-400-6633.

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Museums

The Kona Coffee Story, Along the Hawaii Belt Road
Through Jan. 9, 1997 at the Japanese American National Museum
(JANM), 369 E. 1st St., Los Angeles, 213/625-0414

The history of the Kona coffee farmers on the Big Island goes back to 1892 and by 1914 more than 80% of the coffee grown in Hawaii was produced by the Japanese in the Kona district. By 1931, there were some 1,300 Japanese families caring for 2.5 million trees on 5,000 acres. Each tree produced about 4 pounds of coffee beans roasted. By 1937, 125 sacks meant \$625, which hardly covered living expenses for the year. The traditional steps as unfolded at JANM, from handpicking the coffee beans, hulling the outer skin, drying, to roasting the inner bean is a rare page devoted to another phase of Issei to U.S. ag-

riculture. General histories of the Issei in America have altogether missed the Kona coffee grower.

In the 1960s, Hawaii Gov. Quinn's appeal to save the Kona coffee growers revived the family-operated industry. Business and production methods improved so that Nisei and Sansei growers by the 1980s were doing well.

We all know how dear a pound of 100% Kona coffee is today — \$30 at Starbucks, they tell me.

As part of this exhibit, museum visitors will be offered complimentary samples of 100% Kona coffee, the only U.S.-grown gourmet coffee, with a distinctive aroma and flavor. — HKH ■

The 100-Year Road: Japan to San Diego, a Japanese American Journey

Through Aug. 10 at the Museum of San Diego History Casa de Balboa, Balboa Park, San Diego, Calif., 619/232-6203.

A Japanese community history here in a museum format comes across effectively in nine parts: the pioneers, worshipping, military, recreation, commerce, agriculture, fishing and exile. A corner of a Poston camp barrack, bamboo poles used by tuna fishermen, a uniform of a 442nd GI, a colorful collection of farm box labels, an old family Buddhist altar and other artifacts attest to the joint efforts of the San Diego Historical Society and the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego.

Deservingly taking the bows at the reception this past week (Feb. 15) for his leadership in "The 100-Year Road" was college professor Don Estes, who has been teaching history all his life, writing about the Japanese and Japanese Americans of San Diego, and culling from his collection of 3,000 images the photographs for this exhibit — that attracted many eyes peering for a familiar face or easily remembering those years when San Diego Japantown was just called "5th and Island" adjacent to Chinatown. — HKH ■

'Go' anniversary spurs Next Generation

SARATOGA, Calif. — West Valley JACL's "right-on" young adult crowd, the "Next Generation," is in full swing for their Fifth "Go" Anniversary dinner-dance on Saturday, March 29, at the elegant Manhattan Restaurant. (Italicized "Go" to symbolize the Japanese word for "5" and meaning "moving forward" in English.)

Five years ago, the JACL chapter realized the Next Generation as a way to help perpetuate what they have founded over 20 years ago—a clubhouse, a nutrition and activity program for seniors, and staging the annual Daruma Festival in August featuring cultural food, arts and craft, as well as financial contributions to JACL for their activities.

The Next Generation, in the past five years, has "given back" to the chapter with a Mazda minivan, a large-screen TV and remodeling the clubhouse kitchen. At the same time and consistent with the Next Generation mission statement — "Next Generation encourages the involvement of young people in the Japanese American community and preserve our unique heritage for the appreciation of future generations," programs have focused on culture and community service.

Japanese American themes were emphasized during the Cultural Series, some being sponsored by local businesses. Over 30 members last month gathered to watch *Picture Bride*, sponsored by Cupertino Florist. A Sunday night volleyball league has been underway with several tournaments under its belt.

Dinner tickets must be purchased in advance, by March 15, from board members, Cupertino Florist, Classic Rock, Nagareda Studio, Contempo Realty, or Gordon Koo 408/293-4432. For information: Nagareda 408/971-6456, Yoshida 293/4432. ■

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(continued from page 5)
son we can take away from it.

Many Asian Pacific Americans would like nothing more than to assimilate into mainstream society and be looked at as simply being Americans. Unfortunately, as this scandal has shown us (as well as the immigration and welfare reform last year), there is still plenty of bias and prejudice in this country about immigrants.

As Asian Pacific Americans, some of our families may have been here for five or six generations, yet many people still view APAs as immigrants. If Connie Chung's name were listed on a Federal Elections Commission donor list, she probably would not have gotten a call from reporters or donation auditors. If her name was listed as C. Chung, you can bet your last campaign dollar she would have gotten calls.

Regardless of whether we are fifth generation Japanese American or newly arrived Hmong, we or our families have experienced the pain of not being accepted, and we should forget that pain. The campaign finance scandal reopens an old wound and the pain we feel is the pain of having to once again prove that we are Americans. ■

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Rancho Santiago College in Santa Ana, Calif. Has openings for **Disabled Student Programs and Services Specialist and Graduation Specialist**, salary: \$2,444-\$3,122/mo, deadline: 3/1/97; **Community Services Coordinator**, salary: \$2,572-\$3,285/mo; **Graveward Custodian**, salary: \$1,855-\$2,370 + 7.1/2% Shift Differential, deadline: 3/1/97; **Senior Clerk**, must type 45 wpm, salary: \$2,065-\$2,638/mo, deadline: 3/1/97. We are also developing a pool of qualified candidates for hourly **teaching/coaching positions** in Women's Soccer, Cross Country and Track and Field, salary: \$35.25/lecture hr, & **Child Development Center Teachers**, salary is \$10.92/hr., deadline: 3/1/97. Contact 714-564-6499 for applications, job announcements & to schedule for typing test. AAEOE/ADA

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ELA Sansei businessman enters 'frugal funeral' industry

LOS ANGELES—A local wholesale fine wine and liquor consultant since the 1980s, Douglas Ban recently joined the sales force of California Casket Co. in West Los Angeles, which offers the simple pine box to the velvet-lined bronze model at prices that cost half as much as those purchased at funeral homes.

"When I discovered the tremendous savings that was possible, it would be a great service to the Asian American community if I can introduce families of what is now possible," Ban said, explaining that the Federal Trade Commission ruled funeral homes can no longer condition the purchase of a casket with the purchase of other funeral goods and services.

As stated in his sales brochure, "if you are purchasing a casket from a source other than a funeral home, the funeral home of your choice must use the casket you

have provided without duress or embarrassment to the consumer," the grandson of the itinerant Issei minister Rev. Takeshi Ban pointed out. "And professional trained consultants are standing by, day or night, to help you make an unpressured, sensible selection. In most cases, we can ship the casket anywhere in the continental U.S. within 24 hours after a selection is made."

Some communities, such as the Death Care Project in Sebastopol, are returning to the time when, a century ago, the community and family handled the funeral arrangements and the undertaker then was merely a coffin maker. "Talking about funeral arrangements ahead of time with a friend or clergy" is one tip that Mr. Ban is quick to add.

For information: Douglas Ban 213/727-7137. ■

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is seeking an energetic, organized and highly motivated individual to fill a key position at its newspaper, the *Pacific Citizen*. For questions, contact Richard Uno through the JACL by phone: 415/921-5225; fax: 415/931-4671; or e-mail: JACL@hooked.net.

Editor/General Manager

The Japanese American Citizens League seeks a person to be Editor and General Manager of the *Pacific Citizen*. The person chosen will be in charge of overseeing and supervising the semi-monthly newspaper with a circulation of over 20,000 and a staff of four to eight people, depending on the season.

Position requires experience (five years preferred) in editing, writing and managing publications, and personnel supervision. Knowledge of and experience with the Japanese American Community preferred. Computer experience required, experience in the use of PageMaker a plus.

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JACI National Headquarters and regional offices in Chicago, Seattle, Los Angeles, Fresno and San Francisco. (JACI regrets stating an ear-

CLPEF tells how proposals were reviewed for grants

The Board of Directors of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) met in Washington, D.C., during the week of February 3 to discuss the grant program. The Board wanted to inform the public of the process by which it reached its decisions on the grant program. The following is a list of questions and answers to help the public understand the process by which the Board made its decisions.

What was the process for deciding on applications?

Once an application was submitted to the East Coast Office, staff determined if the applications were complete and if they were submitted by the postmark deadline established by the Board. Because of the large volume of proposals, independent panels of experts were recruited to review the proposals based on the grant criteria established by the Board. Each proposal was reviewed and scored independently by the review panels. The panel scores and comments were submitted along with the proposals to the Board for their review and consideration.

What were the qualifications to serve on a review panel?

In general, panelists:

- must be familiar with the mission of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund or the Civil Liberties Act of 1988
- must comply with federal conflict of interest laws and policies
- must not have applied for a grant or cannot have been identified as a principal participant in an application
- must be willing to meet the stringent deadlines to review the applications and return them to the East Coast Office
- cannot review an application in a sub-theme in which they have written a recommendation/support letter.

What was the composition of the review panels and how were they organized?

There were three members per review panel and a total of fifteen panels. Generally, panels were organized by funding categories and sub-themes. For example, in curriculum, there was a three-

member panel to review projects up to \$25,000; a second panel to review projects for up to \$100,000 and a third panel to review projects for up to \$250,000 in requests. In some cases where there were relatively few applications submitted, one panel would review all the applications within a particular sub-theme.

What was the selection process for review panelists?

The evaluation of applications are the responsibility of the Board. In that regard, Board Members were asked to submit names of qualified reviewers to staff. Staff also identified names of qualified reviewers. Generally, staff phoned or e-mailed prospective applicants identifying who was/was not interested in serving as a panelist. Staff had requested and reviewed resumes; and to the extent possible, staff attempted to ascertain whether there were potential conflicts of interest in being a reviewer. The Executive Director assigned panelists according to their backgrounds and reviewed the names with the Board Chair for final approval.

What were the confidentiality guidelines for review panelists?

Panelists did not know who was on their review panel. They were instructed not to discuss the proposals with the applicants. Their names were kept confidential from the public.

Why were the names of the review panelists kept confidential?

This was done to prevent the panelists from being lobbied on particular proposals. Again, none of the panelists knew who the other panelists were. This was done to receive their best professional input on various proposals and to prevent other panelists from influencing their evaluations.

What were the backgrounds of the panelists?

Panelists included professors from universities, journalists, former officers and staff of Japanese American organizations, consultants and staff from foundations and philanthropic organizations, individuals who were ac-

tively involved with the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) and redress, artists, actors, media consultants, attorneys, civil rights activists, former staff of state legislatures, teachers, members of local school boards, librarians, college administrators, Japanese American community leaders, and publishers.

Where were the panelists from?

This is a national program. Every attempt was made to recruit qualified reviewers throughout the country. Many panelists were identified throughout the country. However, many of them, particularly in areas outside the West Coast, there were involved in grant proposals, and were ineligible to participate as a panelist. This reduced the pool of prospective panelists from outside of California and the West Coast who met the minimum qualifications to be a panelist. Each panel had at least one reviewer from outside of California. Of the 45 panelists, 20 (44 percent) of the total panelists were from outside of California. In addition, there was a total of 22 female reviewers. Each panel had at least one female reviewer.

Upon what basis did the panelists review the proposals?

On page 11 of the application form, there was a list of 14 criteria. This criteria was widely publicized and was included in *The Federal Register* for public comment. These 14 points were used by the review panelists in evaluating and scoring the proposals.

What happened to the panelists' evaluations?

All applications were submitted to the Board of Directors along with the panelist evaluations for further review if it met one of three standards. Because of the number of proposals and their length, the Board decided to consider only those proposals which obtained a certain average score or received recommendation for funding from a majority of the ratings panel. Thus, the Board relied heavily on the professional expertise of the rating panelists' evaluations in making their decisions. The proposals that were

considered by the Board for funding were:

- if the proposal received an average score of 80 percent of the total possible points or higher from the rating panels; or
- if the proposal received less than 80 percent, but two or more of the reviewers checked off on the score sheet "recommend for funding"; or
- if the proposal received an average score between 70 percent and 79 percent of the total possible points.

To be considered in the last category, the proposal must have received a unanimous vote from the Board. In no case could the number of proposals in this last category exceed 5 percent of the total amount of grants funded by the Board. All proposals which met one of these three tests were submitted to the Board for their review to make a final decision on funding.

What was the basis of the Board's selection of the final proposals?

As noted on page 12 in the application form:

"In conjunction with the panel scores, the Board will consider the overall breadth and variety of the field of applicants to determine which ones would best fulfill its program and mission. Final grant awards may be made for the full amount of the grant requests or a portion of the grant request."

How were conflicts of interest handled?

The Board and staff are subject to federal conflict of interest and

ethics laws. Members of the Board must recuse themselves from voting on a project for a variety of reasons. It could include things such as: if they were members of a board that had applied for a grant, or if they had a financial interest with an applicant, or if they were related to the applicant. Staff recused themselves from discussion on a project if they were in a similar situation.

What is the Board's policy on confidentiality with regard to the review of the grant proposals?

All members of the Board and staff signed the following statement on February 3, 1997:

"Because the evaluation of applications to the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund requires full and candid discussions on the merits of the proposals and the utmost honesty, this Board agrees that all discussions whatsoever of the proposals, the names, rankings, comments of the review panelists, scores, and all written material related in any way to the evaluation process, shall remain confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person except members of the Board, its employees, representatives or agents. Any violation of this agreement will be deemed a serious breach of the Board's policy and will be handled appropriately. Disclosure of any of the information described above may be allowed when an applicant appeals the Board's decision or an applicant, its agents, employees or representatives reveal the Board's decision to reject an application." ■

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| SEP 27* | Nashville, Memphis & Branson - 10 Shows (Shoji & Mike) |
| OCT 13 | Hokkaido & Tohoku Tour - SELLING WELL |
| OCT 20 | Unravel Vistas - SELLING WELL |
| NOV 03 | Okinawa, Kyushu & Shikoku Tour |
| NOV 09 | Orient - Hong Kong, Bali, Malaysia, Singapore & Bangkok |
| DEC 04 | San Antonio Christmas |
| DEC 10 | Christmas in Branson - 8 Shows (Shoji & Mike) |
| | 1998 PREVIEW |
| APR 24 | 1998 - Holland Tulip Cruise |
| MAY 11 | SPECIAL - Japan 1 More Time - Tokyo, Tsukiji, Yokohama, Kamakura, Hakone, Hamana Flower Ctr, Toyota Motor, Nagoya, Takarazuka, Inland Sea, Honjima, Nanto, Awaji & Osaka. |
| AUG 18 | 1998 - Moscow to St. Petersburg Cruise |
| SEP 03 | Crystal Symphony Mediterranean Cruise |

"Early bird savings - call for brochure."

TOURS INCLUDE - flights, transfers, baggage, hotels, sightseeing, tips & taxes, shows, transportation and MOST MEALS. *New Departure Dates.

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12012 Ohio Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025

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1997 GROUP TOURS

| No. | Tours | Dates | Escort | Price |
|------|---|-------------|------------------|---------|
| 4. | Japan Cherry Blossom Tour | 03/31-04/10 | Ray Ishii | \$2,695 |
| 5. | China & Hong Kong | 04/07-04/22 | J & M Kobayashi | \$2,645 |
| 6. | Washington DC Cherry Blossom | 04/11-04/21 | Hidy Mochizuku | \$1,968 |
| 7. | 9 Day Music Cities Tour (New Orleans, Nashville) | 04/26-05/04 | Yuki Sato | \$1,649 |
| 8. | Satsuki Ura-Nihon Tour | 05/19-5/27 | Toy Kanegai | \$3,095 |
| 9. | Spectacular California Tour | 05/31-06/06 | R & N Takeda | \$1,098 |
| 9a. | Ozark/Branson Show Tour | 05/30-06/05 | | \$1,319 |
| 10. | New Mexico & Colorado Tour | 06/21-06/29 | Yuki Sato | \$1,569 |
| 10a. | Alaska By Land | 06/25-07/02 | | \$2,669 |
| 11. | Japan Summer Tour-Ext to Hiroshima | 06/23-07/01 | Ray Ishii | \$2,795 |
| 12. | Hawaiian Cruise-4 Islands, Children Free | 06/28-07/04 | Toy Kanegai from | \$2,332 |
| 13. | Imperial Splendors Eastern Europe | 06/28-07/08 | G & P Murakawa | \$2,300 |
| 14. | National Parks & Las Vegas | 07/18-07/25 | J & M Kobayashi | \$1,399 |
| 15. | Alaska Salmon Fishing | 07/21-07/28 | G & P Murakawa | \$2,895 |
| 16. | San Juan Islands & Pacific Northwest | 08/16-08/23 | Toy Kanegai | \$1,829 |
| 17. | Russian River Cruise (Wait list) | 08/19-08/31 | B & Y Sakurai | \$2,448 |
| 17a. | Canadian Rockies Loop | 09/20-09/30 | | \$1,599 |
| 18. | Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour | 09/22-10/01 | Ray Ishii | \$3,395 |
| 19. | Canada & New England Fall Foliage | 10/04-10/15 | Hidy Mochizuku | \$1,969 |
| 19a. | 9 Day Heritage of America | 10/04-10/12 | | \$1,549 |
| 20. | Ura-Nihon/Shikoku Tour | 10/06-10/17 | R & N Takeda | \$2,995 |
| 21. | Exotic Asia Cruise & Tour | 10/10-10/21 | B & Y Sakurai | \$2,799 |
| 22. | Yangtze River Cruise | 10/14-10/31 | Yuki Sato | \$2,598 |
| 23. | Japan Basic Tour-Ext to Hiroshima | 10/20-10/28 | Michi Ishii | \$2,895 |
| 24. | Georgia & South Carolina Show Tour | 10/25-11/02 | | \$1,396 |
| 25. | Branson/Ozark Christmas Tour | 11/28-12/03 | B & Y Sakurai | \$1,079 |

Travel Meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 PM at Felicia Mahood Center, 11338 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles.