

Railroad and Mine Workers to get redress

STAFF REPORT

LOS ANGELES - They've had to wait more than fifty years, but finally railroad and mine workers, unjustly dismissed from their jobs at the outset of World War II, simply because of their ancestry will receive reparations and an apology from the United States government.

"The Office of Redress Administration and the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice have today determined that railroad and mine workers will be eligible for redress and an apology under the Civil Liberties Act of 1988," announced Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant U.S. attorney general for civil rights, at a press conference in Little Tokyo on Feb. 27.

In 1941 and 1942 hundreds of JA railroad and mine workers were



Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, congratulates Fumiko Shimada, daughter of a dismissed railroad worker, after announcing that former railroad and mine workers and their families are now eligible for redress.

dismissed by their companies and forced to relocate, usually to internment camps. Although they were not put in internment camps, they lost their jobs as a result of government action.

Until only recently, the workers had been denied redress because documentation proving the government's involvement in the firings had not been found. But in the last couple of months new documents have been uncovered.

"We have taken this decision be-

cause the weight of the evidence suggests that the federal government played a role in the firing of these workers," said Lee. "On balance the historical documents and individual statements established that the railroad and the mining companies, working closely with the federal government, terminated Japanese American workers because of an unjustified perception that these individuals posed a security risk solely because of their an-

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Sansei artist rediscovers father in play, "Old Man River"

By CAROLINE AOYAGI

Assistant Editor

Artist Cynthia Fujikawa's father, Nisei actor Jerry Fujikawa, was well known for his Asian American caricatures on TV shows like *M*A*S*H*, *The Twilight Zone*, and *The Sands of Iwo Jima*, but perhaps his best performance was at home.

Fujikawa was 13 when she first learned of her father's well-kept secret: a first wife and their three children devastated by the war; a family that eerily resembled her own, with a Caucasian mother, two older brothers and a daughter.

It was also the first time she had ever heard of the internment camps and that her father had been forced to live in the Manzanar camp during World War II; that he had once been a replacement soldier for the famous 100th Battalion.

Ever since that day more than two decades ago Fujikawa has been on a self-journey, delving into her

Japanese American roots. "That was the beginning of my curiosity," she said. "I started piecing stuff together. I realized my reason for being was a new beginning for [my father]."

Fujikawa's father passed away in 1983, sadly taking with him many of the details of his life before, during, and after the war. But even after her father's death, Fujikawa's desire to understand her father's past remained steadfast.

In 1991 she began meticulously researching her father's life for what would eventually become the one-woman play *Old Man River*, written by and starring herself and directed by Beth Schachter and currently playing to rave reviews at its Los Angeles premiere at Theater West.

At first, the only information Fujikawa had about her father was a small envelope of reminders that he used to keep hidden. Included in-

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Nakano makes bid for State Assembly

By CAROLINE AOYAGI

Assistant Editor

LOS ANGELES — After more than a decade of service on the Torrance, Calif., City Council, veteran Councilman George Nakano is making a run for the 53rd State Assembly District seat.

And if he is successful in the upcoming elections, Nakano will become the first Asian American Democrat from Southern California to be elected to the Assembly in almost 25 years.

"My chances are really great," said the 62-year-old Sansei confidently during a recent interview at his campaign headquarters in downtown Los Angeles. "I was able to accomplish a lot as a city council member. But now there's also a lot to accomplish at the state level."

In addition to Nakano, there are six other Democrats and three Republicans vying for the open 53rd District Assembly seat, soon to be vacated by Assemblywoman Debra

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Hawaii internees win redress

The 48 Japanese Americans who were forcibly relocated from their homes in Hawaii to be placed in internment camps on the mainland during World War II have finally won their fight for redress.

They will each receive \$20,000 and an apology from the United States government. It was decided on Feb. 19, the first National Day of Remembrance, a day marking the 56th anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066, an order that sent more than 120,000 JAs into internment camps.

The victims had been relocated from a Maui plantation and sent to camps on the mainland's West Coast shortly after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. They had been forced to leave nearly everything behind, allowed to bring with them only what they could

carry. The Maui families had been relocated because their Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Co. plantation was close to an airfield that the U.S. military wanted to expand, explained Roy Cattanin, an attorney who helped them file for redress. Only the JA families were relocated to the mainland; people of Korean and Filipino ancestry were allowed to remain.

In 1988 President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act, legislation that provided an apology to former JA internees and compensated them each with \$20,000.

In Hawaii alone, more than 3,000 people were relocated to American internment camps. So far, over 81,000 former internees have been paid their redress, including more than 2,500 from Hawaii. ■

DOR - a time to remember the remaining redress cases

By CAROLINE AOYAGI

Assistant Editor

LOS ANGELES — As the community gathered to commemorate the first National Day of Remembrance (Feb. 19) in Little Tokyo on Feb. 21, a day set aside to reflect on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the decade-long struggle for the reparations, the message was resoundingly clear: redress isn't over.

Although more than 81,000 JAs have received redress and an apology from the U.S. government as a result of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, there are still thousands who have yet to close this painful period in their lives.

One such group are the Japanese Latin Americans, kidnapped and brought to U.S. internment camps at the outset of the war to be used as hostages, in exchange for Ameri-

can citizens trapped in Japanese controlled war zones. And they only have six months left in their fight to win redress, for on Aug. 10, 1998, the Office of Redress Administration will close its door forever.

They "should be compensated and given a nation's apology," said Michi Weglyn, author of *Years of Infamy*, who was honored with the 1998 "Fighting Spirit" Award at the L.A. Day of Remembrance (DOR) event sponsored by the National Coalition For Redress and Reparations and Friends of Michi Weglyn. "For only then is the intent of the Civil Liberties Act persuasive."

So as JA communities across the nation commemorated the 56th anniversary of Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 that sent more than 120,000 JAs into WWII internment camps, Weg-

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1998 NATIONAL CONVENTION Striving For a More Perfect Union

By GRAYCE UYEHARA

The 1998 National JACL Convention, hosted by the Philadelphia Chapter, will be the last one for the 20th century. The next one, in Monterey, Calif. will be the start of the 21st century.

The Philadelphia convention, with the theme of "Striving For a

More Perfect Union" will have a most appropriate setting. The setting is a great opportunity for JACL to be inspired in its reflection and advancement to a new phase of existence as a human and civil rights organization.

This convention is time for the JACL National Council to act on the words of Archibald Cox: "Every organization should pause at intervals to draw back and reflect in a larger context about its basic functions, its agenda and its way of pursuing them, in relation to conditions and changes in the arena in which it lives."

Indeed, the times are changing for JACL, founded in 1929 and still the oldest and largest Asian American organization with its 112 chapters. The leadership has been passed on to the Sansei and Yonsei generations. What better setting than Philadelphia, where the founding fathers of this democracy created the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, for JACL to deliberate and act to set new directions for JACL.

These deliberations will take place at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Old City, Philadelphia. The hotel near the Delaware River

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Author Michi Weglyn speaks with attendees at the Los Angeles Day of Remembrance reception in her honor.



JACL News

Denver Day of Remembrance



Carolyn Takeshita, Tom Masamori and actress Kathy

Starting with Hoji services by Rev. Kanya Okamoto of the Denver Buddhist Temple followed by Memorial services by Rev. Amy Wake of the Simpson United Methodist Church, an audience of approximately 200 observed the National Day of Remembrance with interdenominational services at the Denver Buddhist Temple on Feb. 22.

A moving presentation of "Within the Silence — Share the Courage," an interactive production by Living Voices was presented that shows the aftermath of the signing of Executive Order

9066 on February 19, 1942, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, including scenes of the evacuation and camp life. The narration was written by Ken Mochizuki.

Refreshments were furnished by the Denver Nikkei Singles, and financial sponsorship was provided by various Denver area Japanese American organizations, including the Mile-Hi Chapter of JACL.

The Day of Remembrance observance was coordinated by Carolyn Takeshita and Tom Masamori. ■

Watsonville Day of Remembrance



Watsonville mayor Dennis Osmer presents a proclamation regarding the observance of the National Day of Remembrance to the Watsonville Chapter. Accepting the proclamation on behalf of the JACL and the JA community is Chapter President Mark Mitani.

South Bay APA Voter Education Summit, March 14

The JACL Pacific Southwest District is cosponsoring a nonpartisan South Bay Asian Pacific American Voter Education Summit on March 14 from 10 a.m.-12 noon, at the Torrance Airport Center. The event is free.

Speakers will include attorney Angela Oh, a member of President Clinton's advisory commission on race; Torrance City Councilman George Nakano; and Redondo Beach City Councilman Michael Gin.

The goal of the summit is to have a nonpartisan educational conference for South Bay Asian American communities, highlighting the importance of registering to vote and voting. The summit will underscore the connection between voting and Asian American community concerns. Speakers will encourage Asian organizations such as churches and ethnic associations to register their members. Voter education materials translated in various Asian languages will also be distributed.

"The Japanese American and other Asian and Pacific Islander communities are rapidly growing in cities like Torrance, Gardena, and Carson," said Al Muratsuchi, JACL Pacific Southwest Regional Director. "This summit is an exciting and groundbreaking effort to reach out and empower South Bay Asian Pacific Americans."

The Torrance Airport Center is at 3301 Airport Drive, near Crenshaw Boulevard and Pacific Coast Highway. The center is located next to the Zamperini Field air tower.

The summit is being cosponsored by JACL, Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Filipino Civil Rights Advocates, Korean American Coalition, Organization of Chinese Americans, and many more. For more information, call JACL at 213/626-4471. ■

Alzheimer's workshop in Fresno

An "Alzheimer's and Dementia Concerns in the Japanese American Community" educational seminar will be held at the Fresno Buddhist Church Annex, 1340 Kern St., on March 14, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by the Central California Nikkei Foundation, Clovis Buddhist Church, Fresno Chapter of JACL, and the United Japanese Christian Church.

If you wish to attend, please RSVP with the Fresno Buddhist Church, 209/422-4054, Nikkei Service Center, 209/237-4006, or the United Japanese Christian Church, 209/322-0701. ■

By the Board



By Karen-Liane Shiba
National V.P. of membership

1997 year-end membership numbers up

WITH so many things to write about since the Philadelphia Convention is just around the corner and only so much space in the PC, I have submitted a series of articles to the PC to print at time and space permits.

Remember that in order for chapter delegates to be credentialed for voting at the National Convention, your chapter must be in "Good Standing" by May 1! "Good Standing" means: A) that your chapter must have a minimum of 25 members, B) your chapter dues and all assessments must be paid in full to National and your district, C) your chapter must have an elected board of officers including a president who is at least 18 years of age — remember to submit your Chapter Board Rosters to National so all the mailings go to the right people, and D) your chapter must have cooperated in projects, programs and services promulgated by the National Council.

If you aren't sure where your chapter stands with National on any of the aforementioned, please contact national Headquarters now, 415/921-5225, so you have plenty of time to correct any discrepancies or submit payments. Don't forget to submit your list of chapter delegates and alternate delegates names to National Credentials Committee by June 30.

And now to the membership numbers. I have just seen the 1997 Year-End membership numbers and they are UP from 1996! These are the "headcount" numbers that are adjusted for Couple/Family memberships (each membership payment in the Couple/Family cat-

egory is calculated to be two people.) The 1997 Year-End membership numbers are up overall by 3.3 percent over the 1996 Year-End numbers (782 new members). Thank you to all who actively participated in recruitment activities during 1997!

I certainly recognize that increasing membership is not an easy thing to do, but if we don't try and ask people to join, we definitely won't grow like we could. The phrase, "Give a little effort, get a lot back" comes to mind. I challenge the rest of the chapters to also try to hit the 10 percent increase mark by this July that was unanimously agreed upon at the San Jose Convention! If we all did a little towards a big goal, then the burden is evenly distributed amongst everyone! If each JACL member either asked someone to join or signed up a family member or friend for a gift membership, then JACL could easily double in size! Have you talked to anyone about joining JACL in the past month? Have you considered upgrading your own membership or becoming 1000 Club members? The JACL is a grassroots organization; let's spread our roots further than it's ever gone before!

Special mentions of the following chapters for extraordinary increases in membership in 1997* (listed in alphabetical order within the districts): NCWNPDC: Berkeley (9%), Cortez (35%), Eden Township (8%), Golden Gate (20%), Honolulu (29%), Lodi (10%), Marin County (16%), Marysville (8%), Salinas Valley (17%), San Mateo (10%), Solano County (16%), Sonoma County

(12%), Tri-Valley (36%); PSW: Arizona (19%), Downtown Los Angeles (17%), East Los Angeles (15%), High Desert (26%), Hollywood (10%), Las Vegas (106%), Orange County (10%), Pasadena (16%), Riverside (33%), San Fernando Valley (10%), San Gabriel Valley (10%), Torrance (25%), Venice-Culver (17%), Ventura County (10%), West Los Angeles (11%); CCDC: Fresno (9%), Livingston-Merced (8%); PNW: Lake Washington (6%), Portland (13%), Puyallup Valley (10%); IDC: Boise Valley (19%), Pocatello-Blackfoot (10%), Snake River (15%), Wasatch Front North (30%); MPDC: Fort Lupton (20%); MDC: Cincinnati (15%), Saint Louis (8%), Twin Cities (10%); EDC: New England (42%), and Philadelphia (11%).

Overall District increases in 1997 membership payments are: NCWNPDC (2%), PSW (9%), CCDC (1%), IDC (3%), and MDC (4%).

*There are many reasons why some of these numbers are not true representations of the chapters' membership. Some of the most common reasons for a "distortion" of the chapter membership numbers are: 1) how the chapters on non-automated renewals handle their renewal system, 2) chapters switching from non-automated to automated renewal and 3) even just an inconsistency in sending out the renewal forms from National.

Those chapters who have increased their numbers have worked hard and they deserve kudos from all of us for doing their part in helping the JACL grow stronger! ■

By the Board



By Grace Kimoto
Central California District Governor

A push for grassroots effort

WHAT a great place and a great time we are in at our organization! With everything looking positive and getting better all the time and with good people working with dedication to make things better, we have to pause and be thankful.

You have staff that are serving us at top professional level and with so much heart AND elected national officers who lead us fervently and are spending so much time and energy trying to accomplish the tasks of their office. How can we lose?

You have a national president that is employed full time and yet leads our organization thoroughly but with so much fun. Helen Kawagoe will finish her term this year and can you imagine how many air miles and car miles she will have traveled and the number of volunteer hours she will have put in? We of the Central Calif. District are getting excited that she can visit us in Fresno in May for our scholarship banquet. She had to really manipulate her busy calendar and visit us on her way to another function! How can an organization ever thank a leader like this?

And yes, Herbert Yamanishi. How were we so lucky to find a national director of his person and caliber? With the massive responsibility on his shoulder, he leads his staff as he looks out for our organization. Can you imagine the extra hours and energy he expends for us? He actually drove to our Livingston-Merced Chapter installation in

1997 and just impressed everyone with his warm personal visit and enlightened everyone of the positive status JACL is now enjoying. We really need our grassroots people to be secure in JACL.

And that's where all this is leading up to. Grassroots persons. I am ever amazed at the chapter persons and all that they do. The Central California District is ever so proud of the leadership and the active devotion of the Fresno and Clovis chapters. In fact, our Fresno Chapter is celebrating their 75th Anniversary THIS YEAR!! That's five years before our formal JACL was formed!! CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER. They spark us every time.

And yet, we have chapters that need some of that spark. As governor, I am concerned. These chapters are doing a wonderful job holding cultural and community activities, (which is part of the mission of JACL). Yet they are struggling to have meaningful meetings, find new chapter leaders and get Sansei and Yonsei to see how vital the JACL purposes are to their own lives and their hopes. I hope to network some of the good things and ideas each chapter may have and to develop a somewhat available support system. Even just getting to know each other and communicating shouldn't hurt and it could be lots of fun. I get concerned when some members say they belong only for the insurance. They are missing out.

And how could chapters die out! We have those wonderful Nisei who would never let that happen. I want to highlight one of those Nisei. BEN NAGATANI is president (yes, again) of the Delano Chapter. Tirelessly, he looks out for the chapter and for the JACL cause. In April of last year, he was alerted that "Jap" was used as an abbreviation for "Jpn" in a class lecture in an educational television broadcast. He quickly wrote to professor Vandana Kohli and she wrote back a thank-you letter and apologized saying "You are absolutely right. I should not have abbreviated Japan as such. Please accept my apologies and convey the same to your constituents. We all need to be careful about not perpetuating, in any form, any type of racial/ethnic slur and I appreciate your bringing my inadvertent yet inappropriate use of an abbreviation to my attention."

How about that? We have people like Ben in our chapters!

And as I keep saying, many Nisei and Sansei and yes, the YONSEI are living in pockets where JACL chapters could be formed. It's Ben Nagatani who is handily trying to contact people just outside his area to invite them to become JACLers. How about that? We could use lots more Ben Nagatani, right? He makes a difference in his retirement. Thank you, Ben! I bet we have lots more stories of the wonderful retired grassroots Nisei making a difference for others. ■

P.C. and National JACL boards pow-wow together

(Continued from previous issue, Feb. 20-March 5, 1998)

BY HARRY HONDA
Editor Emeritus

WHEN the P.C. staff "wish list #2" to increase productivity was presented by Caroline Aoyagi during her report to the board, the list amounted to roughly \$18,000 (for two 17-inch monitors, digital camera, laptop, a news wire service, voice mail system, font bank software, Extensis Mask Pro software, computer/mailling program for Circulation, laser printer for the office manager, 35-mm microfilm reader).

But P.C. doesn't expect this wish list to be all filled, she added. P.C. Board member Sam Shimoguchi (PSW) wanted the National Board to know that P.C. needs equipment to do its job in the best manner possible and that P.C. be authorized to use all of the P.C. SAVE Fund and secure a bank loan to acquire the rest of the items.

IN LIGHT of the successful summer internship program last year, a five month summer internship program was proposed and budgeted for in the revised '98 budget. In 1997, UCLA-bound Stephanie Lai was hired and worked in various aspects of newspaper production and writing. And thanks to Helen Kawagoe's contacts, a \$500 stipend was provided.

Aoyagi, who assumed acting-editor responsibilities in mid-January, proposed a \$600 budget to hire part-time writers or stringers to cover major events in other parts of the country to shore up P.C.'s national pool of

stories. The board recommended and approved the allocation in the revised 1998 budget.

The 1998 P.C. Readership Survey Questionnaire, based upon a 1988 draft, was never implemented for some forgotten reason, according to Harry Honda who spoke on the survey. Some questions were updated. In 1983 random sampling came to \$2,500 not counting staff tabulation hours. The 1998 cost can be under \$250 as it would be a poll conducted during the July 1-5 National JACL Convention in Philadelphia. Some P.C. board members saw its value to the editorial department. Some hoped it would be either a random selection or a true sample (1% of the total membership—about 240 selected, asked and responding).

The one-page 1983 marketing survey delved in the household, travel, consumer preferences, investments and a personal profile. Two-thousand forms with a business reply envelope were mailed in March and 728 forms (a very satisfying 36%) were returned by the deadline of April 30. Tabulation by district council showed: EDC 4.9%, MDC 8.1%, MPDC 1.6%, IDC 4.5%, PNW 10.6%, CDC 5.8%, PSWDC 29%, NCWNPDC 36.4%.

Besides simple checks for the personal profile, being sought are opinions (to what extent, more or less) about the helpfulness of the *Pacific Citizen* in understanding JACL programs, Japanese American issues and culture, its extent of coverage and features. Check-off squares for impressions (from "most useful," "fair and keep," to "not enjoyable" or "no opinion") on the popular features and columns conclude the two-page poll.

Such a poll, while not statistical in pure, would be tabulated and

published as information from convention delegates and boosters.

The P.C. Board tabled the P.C. Questionnaire project, recommending that a professionally-written survey be produced through National Headquarters. Some were aware that many National JACL officers in the past called for one, but more demanding priorities prevailed.

Harry Honda's "Editor Emeritus Papers" ranged from his year-end report, the 1997 Holiday Issue summary of costs, P.C. Board chair Kay Nakagiri's paper, "P.C. in L.A. vs. P.C. in San Francisco" of July 20, 1974, supplementing Shimomura's feasibility study, several papers dealing with direct costs to set and make-up a one-page ad (or with news), costs involved to "keep the office open," how the subscription cost per member is calculated (the fee is usually rounded off to the next dollar), and P.C. readership survey material.

With respect to more PC issues per year, Kerry Ting, then business manager, and Honda attached P.C. Memo #26, Aug. 6, 1997, consisting of 10 pages on Production, one page titled, "Doubling the number of pages rather than frequency" budget proposals for the 23 issues, options for 33 issues, 36 issues, 45 issues and 50 issues were attached.

THE P.C. Editorial Board Chair's report began with four goals "that must be achieved" which Mae Takahashi had stated when she assumed the chair in December, 1996: (1) To fill the editor/general manager position, (2) To upgrade equipment and computer technology to increase operational efficiency, (3) Create a web page, (4) And resume a weekly, or at least a 16-page semi-monthly publication. Each was fully addressed.

There were 12 candidates, not nine as previously reported, had applied for the editor-general manager post. None being qualified, the personnel board announced openings for an executive editor and an office manager/administrative assistant.

An immediate comment was, "Let's work on this after we have a chance to read it and then discuss it."

The final choice belongs to the chapter delegates of the National Council after the proposed budget goes for consideration by the district councils and chapters 60 days prior (Bylaws, Article XIV) to the date when it comes up for a vote, usually during the final session (July 5 in Philadelphia).

The two-year terms of P.C. Editorial Board members is currently staggered: Odd-year—NCWNP (Kimi Yoshino), PNW (Ron Maekawa), IDC (Silvana Watanabe), MDC (Patricia Ikeda-Carper) and Youth (vacant); even-year—PSW (Sam Shimoguchi/Mika Tanner), MPDC (Sharon Jordan Ishii), CDC (Deborah Ikeda), EDC (Clyde Nishimura). The board chair is appointed by the national president not later than Dec. 31 in the even-year for the biennium. Attending were Dr. Frank Sakamoto, MPDC P.C. Representative this past biennium for Ishii, whose teaching schedule at Creighton University intervened and intervening for the youth representative were Youth Council chair Hiromi Ueha and Youth representative Nicole Inouye of the National Board.

The P.C. Editorial Board members who plan to attend the National Convention in Philadelphia in July 1-5 agreed to meet again.

1998 AAJA scholarships

The Asian American Journalists Association recently announced its 1998 national scholarship and internship opportunities to encourage promising students to enter the journalism profession and work for the fair and accurate coverage of Asian American communities.

Applicants must be graduating high school seniors or undergraduate or graduate students enrolled full time (12 or more credits) in an accredited college or university during the 1998-99 academic year. Students are selected based generally on the following criteria: commitment to the field of journalism; sensitivity to AA issues as demonstrated by community involvement;

journalistic ability; scholastic ability; and financial need.

Students interested in applying for the scholarships should send a self-addressed 55-cent, stamped envelope to: AAJA Scholarship Program, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115-3107. The deadline for completed applications is April 15.

AAJA is a national non-profit organization working to support and increase the number of AA journalists in the media, and promote fair and accurate news coverage of AA issues. AAJA has awarded over \$320,000 to more than 290 students since its scholarship program began in 1981. ■

VFW essay contest

"The Nikkei Veteran in the Military Intelligence Service" is the theme for the 1998 essay contest sponsored by Golden Gate Nisei Memorial Post #9879 and the post's Ladies Auxiliary.

All Japanese Americans of Junior high school or high school age students living in the Greater Bay Area are eligible to enter the contest. Students do not have to be relatives of Veterans of Foreign Wars members. The deadline for submissions is April 10, 1998.

The essay should be typed double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11" paper and limited to 400 words. Essays may include personal interviews as well as researched, published, and documented material. They will be judged on originality, format, accuracy, and content. Judges selected for the contest will not be members of Post #9879 or its Auxiliary. Upon receipt, the essay will become the property of the VFW Post and its Auxiliary.

The Post and Auxiliary will be awarding a winner and runner-ups in each of the two school-age categories. The Post and Auxiliary installation of officers dinner will be in May. Dinner will be paid for the winners.

For further information and to obtain entry forms, write or call Mike or Kaz Iwahashi, 1305 Everett St., El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510/233-6752. ■

11th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival Scholarship Program underway

Funded by generous donations of community supporters, the

Eleventh Annual Cherry Blossom Festival Scholarship Program is underway. These scholarships are awarded to deserving high school seniors of Japanese American descent based on an application submitted to the 1998 Cherry Blossom Scholarship Committee.

High school seniors of JA descent are encouraged to apply for two scholarships of \$2,000 each. Applications are available through all high school scholarship counselors in Northern California. Application forms may be requested from Klara's Travel Agency, 1680 Post Street, Suite C, San Francisco, 94115 or the San Francisco Japan-

town Sumitomo Bank, 1696 Post Street, San Francisco 94115.

Applications are due at the Cherry Blossom Festival address, P.O. Box 15147, San Francisco 94115-0147, postmarked no later than March 28, or delivered by noon on March 30 to Klara's Travel Agency. The scholarship winners will be honored at the Opening Ceremony of the Cherry Blossom Festival, April 18, at Peace Plaza, San Francisco Japantown.

The Cherry Blossom Scholarship is administered by the San Francisco Nikkei in Education, an organization that recognizes the importance of cultivating community activism and commitment in our youth. ■

"Diamonds in the Rough" heads to Baseball Hall of Fame

BY RAY ARIFUKU
Fresno JACL

The Nisei Baseball Research Project (NBRP), with the assistance of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California and the National Japanese American Historical Society, has successfully completed its quest to honor the Nisei Baseball League and Nisei players.

For those who are still unaware, the Nisei had a baseball league which spanned the western half of the United States from California to Colorado and had similarities with the Negro Leagues and Women's Professional League. The similarity of leagues continues as Kerry Nakagawa of Fowler JACL has had his "Diamonds in the Rough" exhibit accepted for temporary display in the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York — the Negro and Women's Leagues also began as temporary exhibits, and due to the interest generated they are now permanently displayed. The NBRP board hopes to have the Nisei Baseball League exhibit also become permanent.

The exhibit opened to the public on Feb. 2 and runs to mid-April with a possible extension.

As no monies are paid to NBRP from the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and there are costs to promote and upgrade the exhibit, donations are being accepted. Donations are tax deductible and can be sent to NBRP, 4728 N. Glen Avenue, Fresno, CA 93704. Make checks payable to JCCCNJ / NBRP. NBRP can be reached at 209/222-5763 or by 24-hour fax at 209/221-9303. ■

1998 Manzanar pilgrimage

The 29th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage has been set for April 25, announced the Manzanar Committee. The theme of this year's pilgrimage will be the 10th Anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act.

Everyone is welcome to help shape this year's pilgrimage. If you are interested, the next planning meeting is March 7 at 2 p.m. at the LEAP office, 327 E. Second Street, 2nd Floor, Little Tokyo. To RSVP for the meeting, contact Manzanar

Committee Chair Sue Embrey at 213/662-5102.

Plans are also underway for the post-pilgrimage evening program and campout. Last year a special evening program of stories by former internees and a poetry reading was held at the Lower Gray Meadows campground near Independence. For more information on the campout and evening program contact Jenni Kuida at (310) 301-4915 or Ayako Hagihara at (310) 344-1893. ■

Feb. 14-15 P.C. Board Meeting Motions

Attending:

Pacific Citizen Editorial Board: Mae Takahashi, Chair, Clyde Nishimura, EDC; Patricia Ikeda-Carper, MDC; Deborah Ikeda, CDC; Sam Shimoguchi, PSWDC; Kimi Yoshino, NCWNP; Silvana Watanabe, IDC; Mika Tanner, PSWDC; Dr. Frank Sakamoto, MPDC; Don Maekawa, PNWDC. JACL National Board: Helen Kawagoe, National President; Herb Yamaniishi, National Director; Richard Uno, VP General Operations; Lori Furumoto, VP Public Affairs; Gary Mayeda, VP Planning and Development; Kana-Lana Shie, VP Membership; Hiromi Ueha, National Youth Council Chair; Nicole Inouye, National Youth Representative; David Kawamoto, PSW District Governor.

Motions:

1. Pacific Citizen Relocation Study
a) Motion: To accept the Pacific Citizen Relocation Study submitted by Floyd Shimomura and to also amend one phrase.

Vote carried.

b) Motion: To recommend to the National Board that the Pacific Citizen remain in Southern California.

Vote carried.

2. P.C. SAVE Fund

Motion: To use the money in the P.C. SAVE Fund for equipment that the P.C. Staff feels is needed, in consultation with the National Board.

Vote carried.

3. P.C. Wish List #2 - Pacific Citizen equipment

Motion: For the National Board to fund the list of items, totaling approximately \$18,000, on Pacific Citizen's Wish List #2 dated 11/97.

Vote carried.

4. Stringers/part-time writers

Motion: To approve the allocation of \$600 in the 1998 and 1999-2000 budgets to hire "stringers" to be paid \$50 per story, in order to increase the P.C.'s national coverage of events.

Vote carried.

5. Payment policy for regular contributors

Motion: To develop a policy for the Pacific Citizen to pay regular contributors, but not to pay for any other submissions, and to allocate funds in the 1998 and 1999-2000 budgets for this.

Vote carried.

6. Pacific Citizen Internship Program

Motion: For the Pacific Citizen Board to approve the allocation of up to \$2,500 for the Pacific Citizen News-Paper's internship program in the 1998 and 1999-2000 budgets and to support it as a yearly program.

Vote carried.

7. Readership Survey

Motion: To recommend to the National Board that they consider conducting a readership survey.

Vote carried.

8. Travel Budget

Motion: To approve the allocation for Pacific Citizen staff travel in the 1998 and 1999-2000 budgets for the purpose of covering JACL events.

Vote carried.

9. Insert Policy

Motion: That non-profit or government groups sponsoring advertising inserts be charged enough to cover printing, administrative, production, and mailing costs. If it is unclear whether this is an advertising or editorial insert, the office manager should resolve the conflict with input from the executive editor and national director.

Vote carried.

10. Copyright Policy

Motion: That we add a common law copyright symbol to the masthead of each issue of the Pacific Citizen and include a sentence in the information box requiring people to have expressed written permission from the executive editor of the Pacific Citizen to republish articles.

Vote carried.

Community NEWS

Ft. Sam Houston AJA Reunion set for April 20-22

The Ft. Sam Houston AJA's reunion has been scheduled for April 20-22 at the Fitzgerald Hotel Casino, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The "Ft. Sammers" were among the hundreds of Nikkei GIs shipped to Texas from the West Coast during the outbreak of World War II. Led by the late Col. Ken Uchida of Ogden, Utah, this group has previously held reunions in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Reno, and Laughlin. They have vowed to continue this nostalgic reunion in spite of thinning ranks each year.

Co-chairmen, Bill Yamadera (Monterey Park) and Nora Hataye (Berkeley) announced the following program and committees:

April 20 - Registration, Welcome Buffet Dinner

April 21 - Group Photo, Reunion Banquet

April 22 - Farewell Breakfast, meeting

For information: Nora Hataye, 510/845-6878.

Committee Members include: Casey Kasuyama (L.A.), Sam Itaya (Stockton), advisors; Bill Yamadera, Sat Nagai (Stockton), Etsu Sugaya (Az.), arrangements; Grace Kodama (Sun City), Dorothy Ogawa (Temple City), Kay Sato (Tex.), Ruth Yamadera (Monterey Park), door prizes; Ted Ohira (Gardena), Tats Hataye (Berkeley), Ryo Terasaki (Downey), Chiz Ohira (Gardena), entertainment; Duke Ogawa (Temple City), group photo; Susan Uchida (Utah), Sam Sato (Tex.), Sooty Yamasaki (Utah), hospitality; Rae Naritomi (San Marcus), Ruby Suzuki (Wash.), Jane Naritomi Hart (San Marcus), Yoshiye Kasuyama (L.A.), refreshments; Nora Hataye, registration and finance; Sachi Itaya (Stockton), Eva Kojima (San Jose), Nora Hataye, registration desk; Sam Itaya (Stockton), George Suzuki (Wash.), Dr. Shig. Terasaki (Downey), toastmasters. ■

"Return to Amache" changes headquarters

The headquarters hotel for the "Return to Amache" event to be held in Colorado Springs on June 19-21 have been changed to the larger Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel, announced Min Tonai, president of the Amache Historical Society.

The change was made because responses from former Amacheans and their families were far greater than anticipated, he said.

"Return to Amache" registrants who have reserved rooms at the Radisson Inn Colorado Springs North must cancel their own reservations by calling Radisson Hotels at 800/333-3333 or the Radisson Inn Colorado Springs North at 719/598-5770.

They then should make a new reservation at the Sheraton Colorado Springs Hotel 800/981-4012. The Amache Historical Society negotiated rate is \$96 per room per day.

Registration for the "Return to Amache" event is still, open and

those who have not yet registered may send a deposit of \$100 per person, plus \$10 for each address that they wish to receive all mailings for this event.

For further information contact your area representative or Irene Furuya, 626/791-0547, 626/794-3036 or fax 626/296-0803; AHS President, Min Tonai, 818/591-1269, fax 818/591-8815, email: tonaim@pacbell.com; Central CA, Grace Yamaguchi Kimoto, 209/394-2456, email: Kifite@townsquare.net; Chicago, IL, George Watanabe, 847/253-4169, fax 847/228-5798; Denver CO, Henry Okubo, 303/773-1525, email:HYOGO@aol.com; Los Angeles, CA, George Yas Hirano, 310/377-0767, fax 310/516-0381; Sacramento, CA, Misao Hamanaka Inaba, 916/391-1384, fax 916/373-1124; San Francisco, CA, Cal Kitazumi, 415/386-4162, fax 415/386-4162. ■

Tule Lake '98 pilgrimage registration package set

SAN FRANCISCO—For those not attending the JACL convention in Philadelphia, there is another Tule Lake Pilgrimage July 2-5 with busses leaving from various San Francisco Bay Area points on July 2 for a seven-hour trip to Klamath Falls with housing at the Oregon Institute of Technology campus dorms. Registration forms are available from the Tule Lake Committee, P.O. Box 17041, San Francisco, CA 94117. Deadline for entry is April 1. Space is limited to the first 300. Schedule includes a Camp tour, panel discussions with historians, former internees and community leaders, memorial service, a cultural program featuring performances by Asian American artists on July 3-4, and a closing program July 5 before returning home.

A group flight for Southern Californians to Sacramento is on tap; call Kimie Yamato 213/780-4987 or Eiko Sakuda 213/728-0888. Other committee contacts are:

Stephanie Miyashiro 510/524-2024, Steve Nakashima 510/482-9518, Brian Ellis (San Jose) 408/730-3974, Lori Tamita (Sacramento) 916/453-3120, Lois Yoshishige (Portland) 503/343-7795; Stan Shikuma (Seattle) 206/725-1676. ■

Fujikawa's "Old Man River"

(Continued from page 1)

side were the birth certificates of his three children from his first marriage and the death certificates of his two sons.

For more information on her father she began searching through her family records at the National Archives. She also obtained his army records and medical records and talked with people who had lived during the same period as

her father.

What she found was a father who wasn't so much of a stranger as she had long thought, and now at the age of 36 she has finally begun to understand him. "I discovered that my father wasn't so far removed from me," said Fujikawa, who readily describes her home life growing up as dysfunctional. "He was a foolish old man, an eccentric, a character. But he was a loveable man."



PHOTO BY NEIL JACOBS

Old Man River - Artist Cynthia Fujikawa, with an enlarged photo of her late father, Nisei actor Jerry Fujikawa in the background.

Of the play, which she chose to name after a song she so vividly remembers her father singing off-key while she was a child, she said, "It's an artistic expression of my healing." "It's a healing of old wounds."

During her research for the play, Fujikawa also set out to find her half-sister, separated from her father soon after the end of the war. After years of writing letters and making phone calls, in 1993, through the aid of the Office of Redress and Reparations, she was able to locate her in Olympia, Wash. Six weeks later they were reunited.

"We're very close now," said Fujikawa. "It's a relationship I don't have with anyone else."

Last year the play premiered in New York, where she currently resides. What she has found as she takes her play from coast to coast is that audiences are able to relate to the parent-child relationship the play explores.

"Everyone wants to understand their parents," she said. "In my generation, if you talk about parents you're talking about WWII." And educating the public about the war and the internment of tens of thousands of Japanese Americans is also what the play is about, she said. "I want them to leave there wanting to know more about it."

For Fujikawa, *Old Man River* has given her a sense of closure. "Underneath it all I'm putting him to rest," she said of her later father. "... all the things he didn't get to before his death."

"I think about him all the time," said Fujikawa. "I'm getting his forgiveness for not understanding him sooner. I hope he approves of [the play]. I think he would." ■

Cynthia Fujikawa's "Old Man River," one-woman play, "Old Man River" is currently playing until March 8, at Los Angeles Theatre West. For tickets call 213/660-TKTS (\$12-18)

Nakano makes bid for State Assembly

(Continued from page 1)

Bowen who, because of term limits, cannot rerun.

The district includes more than a dozen cities, including Venice, Manhattan Beach and Marina Del Rey, but more importantly for Nakano, the area includes Torrance, the city in which he's already made a name for himself and which makes up more than a third of the district.

The area is described as highly educated and mostly affluent, with Anglos making up 74 percent of the population, Asians and Latinos each at 12 percent, and Blacks comprising 2 percent. AAs here have a high voter registration rate, and of the AAs living in the 53rd District, JAs make up the largest group.

Nakano describes himself as a moderate Democrat and believes this is what has enabled him to get the endorsement of both local Democratic and Republican officials in his bid for State Assembly. That's important, he said, especially in an open primary, "because the person who gets the support from both sides will get elected."

As a member of the Torrance City Council, Nakano has been credited with initiating the Graft Abatement Program in 1988 and the establishment of the Office of Economic Development in 1992. And he plans to take what he's learned at the local level all the way to the State Assembly. Everything at the state level re-

ally goes back to the cities, said Nakano, for it's at the city level that things get done.

Nakano was the first minority to be elected to the Torrance City Council in 1984 and has been re-elected three times since, currently serving his fourth term. Yet even today, Nakano is the only minority to have ever held a seat on the City Council.

In California AAs make up more than 10 percent of the population but only two AAs currently hold a seat in the Assembly—Mike Honda (D-San Jose) and Nao Takasugi (R-Oxnard).

These low numbers need to change, said Nakano. "One of the important things is to get people elected to office. It's so important that we have representation. If you're in public office you're in a position to influence and advocate. At the national level, if we didn't have people like Sen. Spark Matsunaga, Sen. Daniel Inouye, we would never have gotten redress and reparations," he said, referring to the long struggle of JAs to get the Civil Liberties Act passed in 1988.

Nakano was born and raised in Los Angeles and is the eldest of four children. Like ten of thousands of JAs, he and his family were sent to internment camps during World War II; for four years the Jerome, Ark. and Tule Lake, Calif. camps were his home.

He holds a degree in mathematics and a masters degree in education, and enjoyed a lengthy

career as a teacher and assistant principal before entering political life. A master of Kendo, he holds a 5th degree black belt.

In 1983 he founded the Torrance Chapter of JACL and is currently a member. He serves on the board of directors of the United Way Harbor/Southeast Region of the California Retired Teachers Association, and is the chair of the Advisory Board of the Torrance Salvation Army. He lives in Torrance with his wife Helen.

Throughout his political career Nakano has spent much of his time encouraging AAs to take on leadership roles and to get involved in public office. "It's important to identify people in the community who have potential to be leaders and engage them in positions," he said. "I have to be there to facilitate that."

He advises young AAs aspiring to enter public office to get involved not only in AA organizations but also mainstream groups. But more importantly, "They need to understand the importance of being a policy maker in the community," he said, "of how to fix people's lives."

Nakano is currently scheduling a number of fundraisers throughout the country. For more information on his campaign for State Assembly, please call 213/239-6688. ■

www.jacl.org

JACL has a website on Internet by typing in "www.jacl.org". Ideas and suggestions from chapters are always welcome. ■

Tri-Cities Reunion set for April 11

The original date of March 28 has been changed to April 11 for the Tri-Cities Reunion (Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Rexburg) at Cactus Pete's in Jackpot, Nevada.

Individuals are required to make their own room reservations by calling Cactus Pete's at 800/821-1103. A block of rooms has been reserved for April 10 and 11 at \$60 per night.

Registration for Keno will take place from 9 to 6 p.m. and 1 to 6 p.m. for the Slot Machine Tournament. The banquet will begin at 7 p.m.

Banquet checks of \$16.50 should be sent to the following people: Pocatello: Sanaye Okamura, 107 Turaco, Pocatello, ID 83201 or Mikie Morimoto, 107 Bryan, Pocatello, ID 83201; Idaho Falls: Sud Morishita, 1131 Bannock Ave., Idaho Falls, ID 83402 or Martha Sakaguchi, 1059 Redwood, Idaho Falls, ID 83401; Rexburg: Miye Hikida, 1038 N. Hill Rd., Rexburg, ID 83440.

The deadline for registration is April 6. ■



Note: All events will be held at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, Philadelphia unless otherwise indicated



Very Truly Yours

WWII monuments — by and for Issei and Nisei

AMERICANS have been building monuments and memorials for their heroes since Colonial times. Our Issei have, too, to preserve their deep sense of gratitude of their sons who gave their lives serving this Nation during World War II. Some have been raised in such communities as Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Seattle, Los Angeles (the Sadao Munemori monument inside Evergreen Cemetery), Stockton, Denver (the very same design stands at the Naval Academy in Annapolis without due credit to the Nisei War Memorial at Fairmont Cemetery) and one by the Chicago American Legion Post 1183. I'm afraid I've missed some, too.

The first monuments were built by internees inside the WWII "relocation centers." The memorial, shaped like an Army tank, set up at Rohwer (Ark.) WRA Center in 1945

alongside one for the Issei who died in camp, was made of cement, chicken-wire for molding and whatever help the camp administration was able to supply. My dad, now of happy memory, was among those who helped.

No doubt, the most photographed and seen is the cenotaph at Manzanar's cemetery, which has been attracting pilgrimages on an annual basis. It was designed, along with the stone shelters at the camp entrance, by the late Issei landscaper and stone mason Ryozo Kado, who became well known for his Lourdes-like grottoes. Upcoming is the 29th annual pilgrimage on Saturday, April 25, Manzanar Committee chair Sue Kunitomi Embrey (213/662-5102) reminded us at the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California installation dinner last Sunday.



PACIFIC CITIZEN PHOTO FILE

MEMORIAL TO NISEI SOLDIERS—On the occasion of the 15th anniversary marking the close of Rohwer WRA Center in 1961, many from the Chicago-St. Louis area joined the Chicago American Legion Post 1183's rededication of the Rohwer Camp's memorial to the Nisei in the military from the camp during WWII. The cemetery was also designated a state historical site.

1998 NATIONAL CONVENTION Striving For a More Perfect Union

(Continued from page 1)

is just a few blocks from the hallowed grounds where Independence Day started and is celebrated. We will be walking in the footsteps of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, William Penn, John Marshall, James Madison, Patrick Henry, John Adams and Alexander Hamilton. To test your memory of history, why don't you fill in the other names.

The Fifth Amendment in the Bill of Rights will never be forgotten by Japanese Americans who experienced the failure of that guarantee — "Nor shall any person ... be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

Though Philadelphia admittedly is just as hot and humid as in the late 1700s, we can dodge back into air-conditioned comfort. But everyone coming to Philadelphia must experience walking on cobblestone streets, as did those who founded the United States, and visit the numerous places where history was made.

Across from Constitution Hall is the great bronze bell which called the citizens of Penn's Green Town to the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. The famous crack silenced the historical bell in 1846. There will be subsequent articles about other historical areas in Old City and the numerous restaurants and fun places within walking distance from the hotel.

Philadelphia is the first capital of the U.S. Yet from Old City you can see the exciting center city of glass and granite towers located around

City Hall. The Avenue of the Arts is vibrating with new excitement from City Hall south. The leafy tree-lined Parkway from Logan Circle leads to the distinctive Museum of Art, overlooking the Schuylkill River. It is as beautiful as any avenue in Paris. Visitors will have to pick and choose as there are so many interesting places to visit.

The Philadelphia Chapter hopes that the history of our nation will provide inspiration and incentive to do some serious thinking about setting our organization's course like the founding fathers did for our country. The Philadelphia JACL chapter invites all those who wish to take part in the deliberations for advancing our country to a "More Perfect Union."

Benjamin Franklin was noted for his wise words in his Green Town. Franklin's challenge was "God grant that not only the love of liberty but a thorough knowledge of the rights of man may pervade all the nations of the earth, so that anybody may set his foot anywhere on its surface and say, 'This is my country.'" We are challenged to make Franklin's dream our dream. Come to Philadelphia and receive a warm welcome from the City of Brotherly (and Sisterly) love.

Note: Chapter Presidents will be receiving convention registration packets in early March. Registration brochures are also available from National Headquarters and Regional Offices. Call Grayce Uyehara, 609/953-7413 for information or Miho Horikawa, 610/525-6620, Registrar. ■

By Harry K. Honda.



Voice of a Sansei

By Akemi Kayleng

The Dollhousers

ISPENT many years out in industry, before returning to school as an older student. During those years of employment I saw a lot. An all too common occurrence in business is corporate downsizing. People lose their jobs. They react in various ways. I'd like to comment on one very specific type of person I encountered.

He was some very impressive, powerful manager. He worked in some wing of the building we called Mahogany Row. The desks were not the inexpensive and functional desks we worked on. They were genuine, polished mahogany wood. His office must have been decorated by a professional interiors consultant. The man himself was always in his Harris tweeds, and ate in the executive dining room on genuine porcelain while we ate in the cafeteria on paper plates.

Then he lost his job. As the months went by his story made its way through the grapevine. Former subordinates who had feared him and always addressed him by title, never by first name, learned he had committed suicide. Or if not an actual suicide, he had suffered a major psychiatric breakdown. Or he had gotten heavily into drug or alcohol abuse, or was battering his wife so severely she left him.

Why did he do it? The story continued to unfold. He had lost that breathtaking American Dream home. He was living in a modest apartment. He was bagging groceries at the local supermarket. He had been searching for months for more suitable work. He was an anonymous nobody, standing in line at some government office trying to get food stamps. The quality of his life was so poor he chose substance abuse or violence or death as his escape.

I was always puzzled by these stories. I certainly agreed his situation was bad, but I just could not comprehend why he had chosen such an extreme reaction. I've been through much worse things. Those who are intimately familiar with my personal history agree with me on this point. I never reacted as they did. I just kept on going and eventually solved my problem.

Furthermore, I'm aware that back in World War II, the Issei and Nisei faced far worse things than those executive suicides ever did. Those modest apartments where the police found their bodies were a lot nicer than the barracks in the internment camps. Those jobs bagging groceries are indeed degrading, but at least, they are jobs. After release from

camp, many employers would not hire any Japanese, period. Waiting to get food stamps as an anonymous nobody is still a lot nicer than having people spit on you.

I don't recall hearing of mass suicides, or waves of drug abuse or domestic violence among those Japanese.

When we hear of "civil rights," the knee jerk reaction many have is, Whites have something good they don't want to share with minorities. The purpose of civil rights is to make them give minorities their share of the American pie.

I'd like to suggest another perspective. Some things about our culture are superior to Anglo culture. For their own good, mainstreamers should acculturate to our way. Those breakdowns did not know how to *gaman* their way through bad times. They had no *gambare*, so they never reconstructed their lives the way we reconstructed ours. From those barren quarters of the internment camps, we went on to surpass Whites in education and professional achievement. From those modest but still much nicer apartments, Anglo executives went on to add papers to the files of county social workers and coroners.

I'm going to say something I never dared say openly before. I have been at times amazed at the sheer fragility of White people. I've been astounded by how childishly dependent they are on a system to tell them they are wonderful. At how much they need some system to set them up for success because they have so little character substance of their own. I've been incredulous at their assertions their achievements were their own.

I think back to my relationships with some of those White men, and I just have to laugh at them. They thought I was some Oriental Doll delighted at their materialistic *shibui* image and suave White boy charms. They never realized how shallow and cheap they looked to me. They were just little kids who had done childish exercises in some workbook given to them by a system which coddled them. They really thought that I, their Oriental Doll, believed in those gold foil stars with adhesive backing pasted on their papers.

Those cooing White men who fluttered about me were living like pampered pets in a kennel. A kennel which sheltered them from the wilderness I had come in from. I was supposedly the doll, but those White men were the true dollhousers. ■

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Topaz '98 attracting group mini-reunions

SAN JOSE—The Topaz Reunion '98 Committee is urging participants in the reunion—to be held May 29-31 at the Double Tree Hotel here—to register by the deadline date of April 15 so their names can be included in the reunion booklet.

Several groups are arranging "mini-reunions" reports Tomi Gyotoku, registration chair. They are all on Saturday the 30th as follows:

Classes of '43 and '44—Lunch at Cathy Restaurant, 1st St., San Jose. Contact: Frances Morioka, 778-26th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121, 415/668-3303.

Class of '45—Lunch at Yu Ai

Kai Senior Center, 4th St. Near Jackson, Japan Town. Contact: Isao Baba, 1335 Coniston Ct., San Jose, CA 95118, 408/2654-1764; Sam Nakaso, 8633 American Oak Dr., San Jose, CA 95135, 408/270-8924.

Faculty—Lunch at New Pearl River, 34 E. Rosemary off First St. Write: Koji Kawaguchi, 8192 Grant Dr., Huntington Beach, CA 92646.

Jr. High Classes—Locale TBA. Write: Mary Hiramoto, 2588 Oak Rd. #138, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.

Reunion registration: Tomi Gyotoku, 826-38th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121; Double Tree Hotel, 408/453-4000, e-mail: sales@doubletreereunion.com. ■



A Bridge Across the Pacific

By Emily Murase

JACL Women's Concerns Committee: A legacy of activism

AT THE JACL Headquarters building in San Francisco, the portraits of our past national presidents are displayed prominently on the "Wall of Fame." Visitors will notice immediately that all of our past national presidents have been men.

This did not change until Lillian Kimura's historic presidency in 1992 and now Helen Kawagoe's tenure. What this display fails to acknowledge is that women have played a crucial role in the life of the JACL over the years.

As active chapter members and officers, the women of the JACL have created a community of shared interests and activities — social, cultural, as well as political. In order to promote women's leadership in the community and to address issues important to Nikkei women, the JACL Women's Concerns Committee was formed in 1983.

One of the first issues that the committee dedicated itself to was to challenge the tradition of beauty contests in the Nikkei community. According to founding committee member Chizu Iiyama, pre-war beauty contests were vehicles to promote the circulation of local Japanese newspapers.

Arguing that, even today, these contests serve primarily as a way for merchants to improve business and only secondarily to benefit the contestants, the committee, during the 1980s, introduced a resolution at the District Council level objecting to the tradition and urging chapters to refrain from sponsoring contestants.

The response from chapters was highly charged. One committee member recounted, "It was as if we were attacking apple pie and motherhood." The resolution was eventually withdrawn.

Although the resolution was not adopted, the resulting dialogue that included former contestants discussing their experiences made the effort worthwhile. Moreover, the controversy resulted in substantive changes to the evaluation criteria for the beauty contests and spawned a scholarship program to recognize community service that

continues today.

Meanwhile, the committee had sponsored its first conference, "Japanese American Women in Transition: A Time for Change and Growth," chaired by Mei Nakano and Lucy Kishaba, in September 1985. Over 200 people attended the event. This was followed by a second conference, "JA Women in Transition II," chaired by Pat Orr and Alice Nakahata, the following fall. In 1987, Lucy Kishaba and Sandi Ito co-chaired "An A Faire for Women: Celebration of Ourselves." Most recently, the committee orga-

JACL. In addition, the committee has authored other resolutions, later adopted by the National Council, to address women's reproductive rights and family leave.

As part of the non-governmental organization (NGO) movement, four committee members attended the 1995 United Nations Women's Conference in Beijing, returning with tales of sisters near and far.

Last August, the committee organized a commemoration of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki atomic bombing. At the event, "Hiroshima: Some Personal Perspectives,"

speakers shared their accounts of the effects of the bombing with an audience of over 50 people.

The next program, "Japanese Families in Transition: Myth vs. Reality," will be held on April 4 at the Nihonmachi Terrace from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Given a disturbing rise in juvenile crime in Japan, speakers Dr. Reiko True and Dr. Yuko

Franklin will focus on shifting family relationships and societal changes affecting the Japanese family. The cost of the event is \$15 and includes an obento lunch. For reservations, send your check made payable to Ms. Patricia Orr, JACL Women's Concerns Committee, to 45 Sandpiper Circle, Corte Madera, CA 94925. For further information, call 415/924-7279.

Currently the committee includes representatives from the Sansei Legacy Project, the Himawari Kai, the Friends of Hibakusha, the Center for Japanese American Studies, and the National Japanese American Historical Society. The committee meets regularly in the San Francisco Bay Area and welcomes all interested men and women. For more information, contact Pat Orr at the above number.

Through the work of the committee, Nikkei women are constructing their own "Wall of Fame," not limited to a specific physical location, but extending throughout our communities. ■



JACL Women's Concerns Committee: (back row, l-r) Jean Ishibashi, Emie Iiyama, Kimiko Higashi, Emily Murase, Pat Orr; (front row, l-r) Kiku Funabiki, Kay Yatabe, Chizu Iiyama, at the home of Pat Orr.

nized a conference titled "Taking Charge: Making a Difference" in 1994.

At these conferences, the committee honored outstanding Nikkei women for their contributions to the betterment of society: Dr. Yoshiye Togasaki in public health, Nikki Bridges in community activism, and Ruth Asawa in bringing the arts to children.

Recently, the committee has focused on providing moral and financial support for women who have been victims of sex discrimination and sexual harassment. In some cases, shunned by leaders in our community, Nikkei women have been involved in grievances against entrenched religious and educational institutions such as the Buddhist Church, the American Friends Service Committee, and San Francisco State University.

The committee is active in issues domestic and international. As part of a National Council resolution recognizing the importance of the issue of sexual harassment, the committee has developed guidelines for the

Railroad and Mine Workers to get redress

(Continued from page 1)

cestry."

Approximately 15 former railroad and mine workers and 155 family members living at the time of the workers' dismissal are now eligible for a redress payment of \$20,000 each and an official apology from the United States government.

Lee's announcement follows a recent meeting in Washington D.C. with former railroad and mine workers and various organizations, including JACL and the National Coalition for Redress and Reparations (NCRP). Moved by the personal testimonies of those who had suffered through the unjust dismissals, he had promised to review their cases.

"I found the presentation to be powerful," said Lee of the testimonies. "I think the cold historical record has been considerably enriched because of all the work that has been done. I found it put everything in perspective."

Fumiko Shimada of Sacramento, who shared her story with Lee on the recent D.C. trip, was only 2 1/2 years old when her father was fired by Southern Pacific after 22 years of service.

"It was very difficult because as you know no one wanted to hire a Japanese who had been fired," said Shimada, who still remembers her father returning home distraught after losing his job. "The country didn't trust him so it was very difficult on our family with five children."

Shimada's father passed away in 1976, but her fight to win redress has continued to this day. "It's been a long battle but it's been worth every minute," she said. "And we're very happy with this decision."

"Lee's announcement was beyond our expectations," said Al Muratsuchi, JACL Pacific Southwest Regional Director. "For him to go as far as to grant redress to all the families was most pleasing and sig-

nificant."

"It's wonderful, especially because of [redress] sunset date of Aug. '10," said Kay Ochi, NCRP vice president.

Although Lee was unable to comment on the current situation with the Japanese Latin Americans and their fight for redress, because of the ongoing settlement discussions, both Muratsuchi and Ochi are hopeful that they too will win soon win reparations.

"There seems to be a momentum," said Muratsuchi. "A reason to have guarded optimism."

"Legally it's more complicated," said Ochi, "but morally it's clear that they should receive redress."

To date, more than 81,000 JAs have received redress. Those who feel that they are eligible for redress are encouraged to file their claims by April of this year so that the ORA can process them in time before they close their doors forever on Aug. 10, 1998. ■



From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

An admirable bird

FOR some length of time I have been aware of a remarkable variety of bird whose name, unfortunately, escapes me at the moment. Inability to remember details is one of the hazards of advancing age. Perhaps the name will come back to me by the time I reach the end of this column.

This bird is not particularly handsome, like the eagle or peacock or cardinal, but it exhibits admirable intelligence. It has great stamina. It can fly huge distances, maneuvering in mid-air with skill and artistry and seemingly without exhaustion. It is industrious and caring, building well-crafted nests unlike those of the eagle which simply places sticks on a tree-top, or the shore birds which lay their eggs on sand.

It is a good provider. It is solicitous about its offspring, more than normally expected even among birds which compared to other wild creatures go to great pains to rear their young to maturity. It works very hard and feeds the hatchlings faithfully, and by the time the young are mature enough to leave the nest the parents have patiently seen that they are self-sufficient. Of course many wild creatures take good care of their offspring, nurturing them carefully until they can be off on their own, but these birds were exceptionally devoted to the preparation of their young for life in a hazardous world.

Even more remarkable, the mature bird goes to great lengths to take care of the elderly members of its flock, making sure they are safe from predators and have access to shelter and an adequate supply of food.

As I indicated earlier, these birds in addition to being industrious are intelligent. They make few mis-

takes after once running into trouble. They learn quickly and have long memories. In this sense these birds are admirable and you might even say that as birds go, they are something of models.

But, I learned, some but not all of these birds suffer from a genetic aberration. As they reached middle age and beyond, their eyes act like those of the halibut. The halibut?

Yes, the halibut, a flat sea-bottom fish which in the mature form has both its eyes on one side of the head. When it is very young the halibut has one eye on each side of the head which is normal. But for some strange reason one of its eyes migrates to the other side so that both eyes look upward as the halibut lies on the ocean floor. How this happens I don't know, but it does happen.

Well, the bird's eyes don't change position like the halibut's. They stay right where they belong so there is no change in appearance. But somehow the eyes begin to focus toward the back instead of the front. When the change is completed, the bird sees very little of what's ahead, but it sees very well what is behind it. Under the circumstance it is understandable that the bird has less and less interest in the here and now and the exciting scene unfolding ahead, and concentrates its attention on what's behind — where it's been and what has occurred in times past.

Now that I am at the end of the column, I think I recall the name of this strange bird that pays more attention to the past than the present and future. I think it is called Nisei. ■

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

East Wind

By Bill Marutani

"Day-jah-woo"

THE BUBBLE ECONOMY of several Asian nations has developed serious leaks. Puffed by inflated property valuations and artificial props, sapped by corruption at various levels of gov-



ernment, the bubble has developed serious leaks. These Asian nations have had to turn to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to bail them out. Among such paper tigers is the Republic of Indonesia. With a population of about 210 million people, it has the world's fourth largest populace. Led by President Suharto, a septuagenarian ex-general who is now in his sixth term of office, there are rumblings of antagonism against his seeking yet another term. The IMF has imposed conditions on extending bailout financing to Indonesia; these include lowering or removing barriers to foreign investments; family members, relatives and cronies relinquishing their monopoly grip on various lucrative segments of Indonesia's industries. As inflationary forces continue to erode the value of the rupiah, the common folks are being further squeezed.

All of which provides a setting for day-jah-woo that's all too familiar.

ABOUT NINETY PERCENT of Indonesia's population is comprised of Muslims while 3 or 4 percent are ethnic Chinese; yet it is reported that this latter ethnic segment controls 30 to 70 percent of the nation's wealth. The genesis for this imbalance may be traced to the earlier days of Dutch colonial rule (the Dutch having replaced the Portuguese) when the Dutch utilized

Chinese as administrators. In this state of affairs, the ethnic Chinese presented a ready target as scapegoats. Thus, during the 1965 coup that eventually brought Suharto to power, some 500,000 Chinese were massacred. And now in the current financial crisis, with the value of the rupiah drastically falling, food prices rising sharply, demonstrators taking to the streets with looting that follows, shopkeepers place signs in their windows proclaiming to be Muslims.

IN THE U.S. when riots erupted in our urban cities, there were reports that some shopkeepers also placed signs on their shop windows identifying themselves as belonging to a specific ethnic group. Although I personally never saw for myself, I've read that following the Pearl Harbor attack, some Asians wore buttons proclaiming to be something other than Japanese. I did have a personal experience wherein my ethnicity became a focus.

IN THE FALL of 1942, leaving Tule Lake camp I was headed for a college in the Midwest. At a train stop in Omaha, Nebraska, I went to the station luncheon counter to have breakfast. As I sat there having scrambled eggs, a fellow (white) sitting next to me uttered "sugar," whereupon I shoved the container over to him. Perhaps as an opening overture, he posed the question "How many Chinese are there in the U.S.?" to which I (truthfully) replied I didn't know. "Well," he reassured me, "You Chinese are OK, but not them Japs."

Under the circumstances, I let it go at that. ■

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

Teacher seminar hosted by Arizona chapter

On February 7, a seminar for teachers utilizing the National JACL curriculum guide, "A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience," was held at the Arizona Chapter of JACL hall in Glendale, Arizona.

In attendance were 26 teachers and/or instructors from elementary, high school and college levels. Joe Allman, co-president of the Arizona Chapter, served as the seminar facilitator. Carol Kawamoto, National JACL Education Committee Chair, made introductory remarks followed by a historical presentation by Greg Marutani, National JACL Education Committee member.

Guest speakers included Rick Noguchi, coordinator of the "Transforming Barbed Wire" project; Masaji Inoshita, a former in-

ternee at the Gila River Relocation Center and a Military Intelligence Service (MIS) veteran; and Hiro Nomura, a former internee of the Poston Relocation Center.

During the afternoon session, Kawamoto and Marutani spoke on the use of the curriculum guide to explore prejudice and discrimination relative to the internment of 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry during World War II and various constitutional issues.

They provided an overview study of Japanese Americans, including a history of culture, achievement, issues, philosophy and modern day outlook. The teachers then broke up into various groups — elementary, high school, and college levels — to develop lesson plan ideas teaching about the internment. ■



Greg Marutani, National JACL Education Committee member, discusses the Japanese American internment experience at a seminar for teachers in Arizona on February 7.



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Letters to the Editor

Hosokawa responds to criticism by New York Chapter Advisory Board

I was astonished to read in the previous week's Letters section that the Advisory Board of the New York Chapter of JACL was expressing "objections to and disappointment with" my mention of Dr. Harry Abe in the Jan. 2-22 issue.

What had been my breach of propriety? After commenting favorably on the Chapter's videotaped interviews, I wrote:

"One of those interviewed was Dr. Harry Abe who, after war service, had to struggle to find a medical school that would accept him. But characteristically, he persevered, and became a prominent physician. He is the last to appear on the videotape that I saw and he brings a loud roar of laughter from the audience when he winds up the presentation by declaring with a broad grin that the Nisei are 'blah'. Of course we all know that they aren't..."

I am at a loss as to why the New York Chapter Advisory Board feels that the above paragraph "may have inadvertently provided disservice to Dr. Abe and his distinguished service in his professional, military and community service."

Please explain how I have damaged the esteemed Dr. Abe, so that I can make proper apologies.

Bill Hosokawa
Denver, Colorado

How do you say, Nagano?

I am a Japanese American who is tired of hearing Nagano pronounced NAG-a-no. Isn't the correct way na-GA-no?

I've tried to contact the media about this and they say it is correct. I find this hard to believe. It is awfully irritating to hear over and over.

Frank Naranaki

Go to the library (or web site: <http://www.latimes.com>) and check the L.A. Times, Feb. 12, Metro front page story by Robert Pool for a plausible explanation. Its Feb. 7 editorial hoped that the Americans would have learned the right enunciation before the Winter Games are over. Which leads us to speculate that that might have been input from Nancy Yoshikawa, Times editorialist. To avoid aural irritation in the future, mute the TV and read the Closed Captions. I chuckle when announcers, radio or TV, don't pronounce São Paulo right.—HKH

Cheers to Hironaka

Please accept my expressions of esteem and respect regarding Pete Hironaka's cartoon in the Pacific Citizen issue of Feb. 6-19, 1998.

I am sure that some "Bleeding Hearts" will object to its sentiment. But cartoonists do not need to try to please everyone!

Hooray for Pete Hironaka!

David Moore M
Phoenix, Arizona

Reader disagrees with Oda's Japanese-Jewish connection

This is in response to articles by James Oda on Japanese and Jews. He claims that the Lost Tribe reached Japan from the Holy Land and its members have settled in Japan, resulting in members even marrying into the imperial family. His last article appeared in the Jan. 23-Feb. 5 issue of the P.C. which cited Ben-Ami Shillony's book on the Jews and the Japanese.

I first read Oda's article with amazement and disbelief. I asked my friend, Ben-Ami Shillony of Hebrew University, who was cited in the latest article by James Oda as if agreeing with Oda, about the matter. Shillony said that he has seen something like Oda's articles before. He confirmed my understanding of the origin of Japanese people that Oda's claims have no basis for their validity. With Shillony's Ph.D. in Japanese history from Princeton and having written a number of articles and books on Japan as well as Jews, few other people know so much about the Japanese and Jews in my recollection.

The evidence Oda cites to prove his points failed to establish a causal relationship between two or more variables, even if there are similarities. These similarities constitute only a necessary condition, not a sufficient condition to draw any causal inference.

In any case, I am sending a copy of Oda's article to Ben-Ami Shillony for his review since his book was cited in the latest article. Incidentally, his name is Shillony and not Shillory as appeared in the article. It is important for us to know who our ancestors are, but our knowledge must be based on a valid, reliable and verifiable foundation.

Yasumasa Kuroda
Honolulu, Hawaii
ykuroda@hawaii.edu

Japanese in Chiapas

I am researching a story about Japanese immigrants who settled in the Chiapas region of Mexico. My purpose is to acquaint readers of Hispanic Lifestyle Magazine, Riverside, Calif., about their diverse heritage. I am seeking any further information concerning the Japanese and where I might obtain any photos of these immigrants to document the story. A copy of the German photographer who photographed the arrivals in a lifeboat would be most helpful.

Leonard Goymerac
1264 W. Highland Ave.,
Redlands, CA 92373

The writer was informed a detailed account covering this phase of Japanese-Mexican history is in Japanese (Ogino, Nichiboku Koryushi-Japanese Mexican History, 1990) and another in Spanish (Ota, Siete Migraciones Japonesas en Mexico, 1890-1978, El Colegio de Mexico, 1982).—HKH

Info on 'lock-up'

I am doing a research report on "Japanese Migration after Internment, post World War II" for the 1988 National History Fair. I also need information on the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII and detailed information on their "lock-up." The extreme racism that the Japanese were faced with, including the denial of jobs and how life became so difficult. The location in which the migration took them. And, specifically what forced this migration. Then what happened after the migration. If you could send any information that would benefit my topic, I'd be mostly grateful.

Rebecca Hiltoby
Telford, Pa.

The P.C. Archivist says: Inasmuch as information on this subject is often requested, let this be a general starter of sources that may help. We refer to the regional resources listed in the "JACL Curriculum Guide" (1996). In Pennsylvania are: Asian American United, 801 Arch St., Philadelphia, 215/925-1538; and The Balch Institute, 18 S. 7th St., Philadelphia 215/925-8090; and about an hour's drive away, the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center, Upper Deerfield Township Municipal Bldg., Hwy 77, Seabrook, N.J.

The Japanese American collection at Balch includes internment camp newspapers, yearbooks and family archives. Seabrook was one of the largest postwar Japanese American settlements in South Jersey after the war.

Books in general circulation would include Issei: the World of the First Generation Japanese in America 1885-1924 by Yui Ichikawa, Years of Infamy by Michi Weglyn, Prejudice, War and the Constitution by Jacobus ten Broek, Nisei by Bill Hosokawa, and Righting a Wrong by Leslie Hatamiya. For a description of the postwar adjustment of Japanese Americans from the wartime "relocation centers," the War Relocation Authority's Final Report #10, People in Motion (1946) is where one starts, but this is a 270-page volume not in general circulation.—HKH

Pacific Citizen

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* Except for the National Director's Report, news and the "Views" expressed by columnists do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. The columns are the personal opinion of the writers.

* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JACL of a wide range of ideas and issues, requiring clear presentation though they may not reflect the viewpoint of the editorial board of the Pacific Citizen.

* "Short expressions" on public issues, usually one or two paragraphs, should include signature, address and daytime phone number. Because of space limitations, letters are subject to abridgment. Although we are unable to print all the letters we receive, we appreciate the interest and views of those who take the time to send us their comments.

DOR - a time to remember the remaining redress cases

(Continued from page 1)

lyn, in a moving speech, asked the L.A. attendees to stand alongside those whose fight for redress continues.

"We must all keep caring and keep on extending a helping hand. Let us all... see that the landmark redress program ends on a note of triumph, not on despair," she said. "So that we may truly celebrate, on August 10, the greatness of a nation that responded justly to the cries of all who were once made to suffer."

Workshops were held following the tribute to Weglin, including one to update the community on the current status of the Japanese Latin Americans.

On the heels of a recent lobbying trip to Washington, D.C., that brought Campaign For Justice and former Japanese Latin American internees before a number of legislators — including Associate Attorney General Ray Fisher and Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Bill Lann Lee — Japanese Latin Americans finally had something to smile about.

After more than a year of silence from the government, federal lawyers at a Feb. 13 U.S. Court of Federal Claims hearing asked for a postponement of a decision on *Mochizuki vs. the United States* to consider settlement in the Japanese Latin American redress case.

The lawsuit, filed in August of 1996, seeks to include Japanese Latin Americans in the 1998 Civil Liberties Act. Until now, they've been denied redress because of a technicality in the Act that says a person must have been a U.S. citizen or a legal permanent resident at the time of internment in order to be considered eligible for redress. Japanese Latin Americans, having been kidnapped from their home countries, do not meet this criteria.

The plaintiffs are seeking to certify the lawsuit as a class action so that all Japanese Latin Americans who suffered the internment will be redressed, including those currently living overseas, those who are unaware of their eligibility, and those who have had their claims previously denied by the ORA. Chief Judge Loren Smith has been expected to rule on the plaintiff's request for class action certification, and the government's motion to dismiss the case and to deny discovery to the plaintiffs, when government lawyers asked for the postponement.

"It is possible to interpret the language [in the Civil Liberties Act] and hopefully we can get the Department of Justice to change their minds," said Fred Okrand, legal director emeritus of the ACLU Foundation of Southern California and legal counsel for *Mochizuki vs. U.S.* But, he said, "the pressure has to be constant."

If a successful settlement in *Mochizuki vs. U.S.* is not reached in the next couple of weeks, Judge Smith is scheduled to make a ruling on March 3.

"If we can create the political will to resolve the issue, we will find a solution," said Julie Small, co-chair for Campaign for Justice. This was

the group's third trip to D.C. but this time, "the significant thing is the shift in attitude [of the government]," she said, and largely attributed it to successful meetings with Fisher and Lee.

"I'm guardedly optimistic," said Robin Toma, legal counsel for the plaintiffs and a human relations consultant for the L.A. Commission on Human Relations. The son of former JA internees, Toma emphasized the importance of remembering those who have yet to receive redress. "We have to remember that it was not only those who were here in the U.S. who were interned, but that there were those who were taken from their homes, from communities in far away lands who were imprisoned along with Japan-

ese Americans," he said. "And they are still waiting for justice."

"I think I did some good by telling my story," said former Japanese Peruvian internee Alice Nishimoto, who was part of the D.C. delegation. It's important that our stories be told, she said. We were there with them [JA former internees]. We went through more than them because we were brought here from another land. We went people to remember what we went through so it never happens again."

"We want to have guarded optimism," said Al Muratsuchi, Pacific Southwest Regional Director, who was part of the JACL delegation on the lobbying trip. "It feels like we've turned a corner." But there's still much "unfinished business," said Muratsuchi. On this DOR, it's important that the community remembers "that until we can get redress for everyone who suffered during WWII, the redress move-

ment remains an incomplete effort."

"The important thing is we still have a ways to go. Six crucial months to go," said Phil Shigekuni of the JACL San Fernando Chapter, who was also part of the D.C. delegation. "We can't celebrate too much, because there's work out there that remains." ■

Friday before date of issue

News releases and all advertising (including death notices) for this publication are due the Friday before date of issue. Publication items are usually accepted to the Calendar page.

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(from left) Sharon Tanihara of NCRR, and attorney Robin Toma, Julie Small, and Alice Nishimoto of Campaign for Justice speak at a Los Angeles Day of Remembrance workshop in Little Tokyo.



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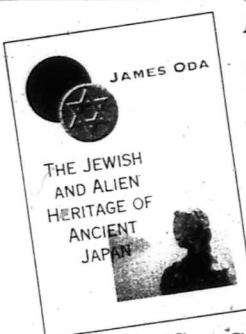
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Position requires two years of college training in bookkeeping and secretarial studies or its equivalent, two to five years of progressively more responsibility in office management. Knowledge and experience with computer word processing and spreadsheet programs required. Experience in the use of publishing software a plus. Duties of the Office Manager include: reviews the Editor's mail, answers correspondence, provides instruction and information to P.C. personnel, maintains files, reports, assembles and organizes information for the Editor, maintains adequate inventory of supplies, and ensures maintenance of equipment. Works under limited supervision. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Hiring salary range: \$22,621 - \$26,000. Send cover letter and résumé to Harry K. Honda, Intern editor, Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755, fax: 213/725-0064.

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The JACL seeks a person to be Executive Editor of the Pacific Citizen, a newspaper located in Monterey Park, Calif. The executive editor will be in charge of overseeing and supervising the semi-monthly publication with a readership of 70,000 and a staff of from four to eight people, depending on the season. The successful candidate will want to build the semi-monthly tabloid to a weekly publication.

Position requires a minimum of two years experience (five years preferred) in copy design, editing, writing, working with correspondents and managing publications; must have experience in the use of Mac/Quattro/Excel or its equivalent. Knowledge of and experience with the Japanese American community preferred. Responsibilities include hands-on involvement in the conceptualizing of issues and articles, writing, assigning stories, photography, editing layout, and production. Periodic travel involved, including evenings and weekends. Excellent fringe benefit package provided. Hiring salary range: \$35,150-\$49,100. Send cover letter, résumé and work samples to Richard Uno, Japanese American Citizens League, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115 or fax to 415/791-4671. E-mail questions to JACL@jaci.org.



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Amemiya, Hiroshi, 74, Los Angeles, Feb. 7; Yamashiro-born, survived by son Roy Seiji, daughter Grace Mayumi Komura, brother Hodge Hajime, sisters Fujiko Komura, Yukiko Shibuya.

Chiba, Chester Hajime, 75, Anaheim, Dec. 26; Vancouver, Canada-born, survived by wife Agnes Yoshiko, sons Ron, Allan, Seiji, sister Terrie Sandhiana, 5; **Fujinami, Isamu**, 96, Fullerton, Feb. 6; Hiroshima-born, survived by granddaughter Loren Okada, 1 ggc., sister Yukiko Doi (Japan).

Fujiwara, Kinu, 82, Daly City, Jan. 8; Tokyo-born, survived by son Yasutaka.

Kenichi Fukui, 79, Kyoto, Japan, Jan. 9; winner of the Nobel Prize for chemistry (31), professor at Kyoto University, Nara-born.

Furukawa, Yoshikazu, 63, Monterey Park, Jan. 20; Auburn, Wash.-born, survived by family in Japan and Seattle.

Furuta, Matsuko 'Mattie', 89, Los Angeles, Jan. 31; Panier-born longtime East LA JACLer, survived by husband Masami Sam, son Sam, daughter Peggy Tom, 5 ggc., 1 ggc.

Futagaki, Michael Roy, 38, Los Angeles, Jan. 30; Oakland-born, San Leandro resident, survived by parents Shigeo and Chiyoko Futagaki (San Leandro), brother Stan (Castro Valley).

Handa, Matsuo, 71, San Jose, Jan. 15; Hawaii-born, survived by children Larry, Linda, Ion, 5 ggc., siblings Miso, Takeo, Shigeo, Jingo Handa, predeceased by wife Polly.

Hatake, George Itsuoyoshi, 80, Hayward, Feb. 4; Alameda-born, survived by wife Aiko, brother Kazuo, sister Shizue Kaku.

Hayashi, Richard, 85, San Mateo, Jan. 29; Kagoshima-born, survived by daughter Kaoru Ohtomo, sons Michael, Dennis.

Higashi, Michael, 41, Spokane, Wash., Jan. 13; survived by daughter Shizuko, parents Shozo and Mary, brother Craig; sisters Jacqueline Higashi-Poynter, Lisa Lauderdale, granddaughters Linda, Patricia.

Hirasawa, Walter Y., Seattle, Jan. 1 (notice); survived by wife Amy, sons Ronald (Lake Forest, Ill.), Patrick (So. Cal. Blvd., Minn.), daughter Sandy Krogman (Bozeman, Mont.), 5 ggc., brothers Carl (Concord, Bruce (Gardena), sister Eleanor Shimogaki (Missoula, Mont.), sister-in-law Keiko Hirasawa (Torrance).

Hosaka, Laura Sachiko, 27, Redfield, Feb. 5; Fresno-born, survived by parents George and Chieyo Hosaka, brothers Kirk, Dave, Todd.

Ige, Roy Z., 75, Las Vegas, Dec. 28; Hawaii-born, survived by wife Edith, sons Wayne, Ron (both of Guam), daughters Lon Cochran, Kathleen Ige (both of Houston), brother Edmund (Hawaii), sisters Haruko Ige (Hawaii), Evelyn Scholies (Las Vegas), Shirley Nambu (Los Angeles), Sue Oka (Torrance).

Ishii, Kazuo, 86, Hawaii, Feb. 3; Hiroshima-born, retired president of Central Pacific Bank, survived by son Takeshi, daughters Hiroko Nishida, Kuniko Misawa, brother Akida, sister Takiko Shimomae, 7 ggc., 2 ggc.

Ismi, Mary Haruko, 83, Ontario, Ore., Jan. 7; Seattle-born, survived by husband Tom, sons Richard (Corvallis, Ore.), Franklin (Manhattan Beach), daughter Margaret Ismi (San Francisco), 3 ggc., brother Jim (Ontario), sister Helen Yamamoto (Denver), sister-in-law Rose Kanetomi (Los Angeles).

Kadonaga, Teune, 81, San Jose, Jan. 16; Tottori-born, survived by sons Akira, Iwao, Dr. Tadashi, 6 ggc., 7 ggc., predeceased by husband Masa.

Kajihara, Masayoshi, 67, Redfield, Jan. 12; Kagoshima-born, survived by wife Yoshiko, sons Harry Haruo, Richard Kenji, daughter Margaret Hideo Kajihara.

Kakuchi, Akira, 88, San Francisco, Jan. 7; Wakayama-born, survived by wife Kiyo, daughter-in-law Keiko Kakuchi, predeceased by son John.

Kanada, Josephine F., 78, Denver, Dec. 27; Monterey-born, survived by son Bruce (La Salle, Colo.), daughter Janice Tinker (Richmond, Texas), 3 ggc., sister Margaret Sallow (Dulles, Colo.), predeceased by husband Ben.

Kaneko, Norikazu, 88, San Leandro, Jan. 15; Nagano-born, survived by daughter June Nishikawa, son Teruo, 9 ggc., 3 ggc.

Kashiwagi, Misa, 100, Sacramento, Jan. 10; Wakayama-born, survived by sons Bill, Masao, Sam, George, daughter Natsuko Wallace, 15 ggc., 14 ggc., 1 ggc., predeceased by husband Yoshikazu, son Paul.

Kataoka, Grant Ichiro, 82, Seattle, survived by wife Ruth, son Richard (El Cajon), daughter Julie (Renton, Wash.), brother Harry (Seattle), sister Sally Ida (Malone, N.Y.), 9c.

Katayama, Tamako, San Francisco, Jan. 26; Ibaraki-born.

Kato, Namie T., 78, Fort Morgan, Colo., Dec. 1; Irvington-born, survived by husband George, daughter Betty (Fort Morgan), son James (Littleton, Colo.), brother Tatsumi Tajima (Alameda), 9c.

Kawahara, Yoshino, 99, Torrance, Feb. 1; survived by son Frank, daughters Dr. Hattie Colton, Mary Teraka, Lillian Brookman, Ruth Donohue, 15 ggc., 15 ggc.

Kawakami, Noriko, 85, Honolulu, Nov. 28; retired state judge and former Territorial legislator, survived by wife Joan, daughters Alice, Esther, Irene, brothers Keiji, Tony, Daniel, sisters Yukie Murakami, Mafu Hashikawa, 1 ggc.

Kihara, Yoshiko Barbara, 77, Torrance, Feb. 9; San Diego-born, survived by sons Robert, Douglas, daughter Betsy Tacadena, sisters Ellen Aiko Kubo (Gardena), Irene Takahashi (Clovis), 4 ggc.

Kikuchi, Yoshi Iwama, 96, Huntington Beach, Jan. 30; survived by daughters Marian Oyama (Walnut Creek), Elizabeth Yama-

da (La Jolla), Anna Yamauchi (Woodland), son Thomas (Northridge), David (Pasadena), 14 ggc., 16 ggc., predeceased by husband Rev. Kenji.

Kinomoto, May Haruko Yamamoto, 80, Seattle, Jan. 3; Ashu, Wash.-born, survived by two sisters.

Kobashigawa, Jumiye, 83, San Francisco, Jan. 3; Portland, Ore.-born, survived by husband Dick, sons Ben, Jun, daughter Linda Waters, 5 ggc.

Kadonaga, Teune, 81, San Jose, Jan. 16; survived by sons Akira, Iwao, Takashi, 9c., 9gc.

Kohagura, Hiroshi, 78, San Francisco, Jan. 30; survived by son Gerald Sakuyama, brother Hideo, sisters Sally Suzuki, Ruth Maruko.

Kuramoto, Shigenobu 'Sam', 87, San Lorenzo, Jan. 15; Newcastle-born, survived by wife Mito, sons Ak, Minoru, Richard, Hide Henry, Isamu Ken, Tatum Ben, daughter Naomi Tsurumoto, 10 ggc., 1 ggc.

Masui, Kiyoko, 76, Modesto, Jan. 17; Walnut Grove-born, survived by son Glenn, daughters Kimi Masui, Eileen Romero, 9c.

Mizutani, John (Kaname), 76, Seattle, Jan. 3; survived by wife Setsu, daughter.

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Taketa, Thomas M., 77, Santa Fe Springs, Feb. 10; Seattle-born World War II veteran, survived by wife Sylvia, sons Richard, Andrew, daughter Elaine Watanabe, 7 ggc., brother Victor.

Takeda, Paul Yoshio, 67, Los Angeles, Feb. 10; Elk Grove-born, survived by brothers Harris Takashi, Alfred Masaru, Thomas Kyoko, sisters Frances, Tazuko Ikeda (Hawaii), Lorraine Kazuko Watanabe (Hawaii), sister-in-law Reiko Takeda, brother-in-law Eddie Robinson (Kansas).

Taketa, John C., Chicago, Jan. 21; service; survived by sister Mariko Inoue, brothers Edward, Kiki Herbert, George, sister-in-law Ann (San Jose), predeceased by sister Hiromi Taketsuchi.

Hiro Tamura, 46, of Albuquerque, N.M., passed away on Feb. 5. Born in Puyallup (Washington), he was a graduate of the Chicago Art Institute and winner of a scholarship that permitted him to study in France. He is survived by wife of 50 years Susie, daughters Joyce and Ruth May, sons Richard, Henry, Ron, and 4 grandchildren.

Tamura, Yelko Uyeno, 77, Palo Verde, Feb. 5; San Mateo-born, survived by wife Yelko, sons Michael, Gregory, Jeffrey, Douglas, brother Koichi Uyeno (Akum), sisters Tayeko Takahashi (Los Angeles), Yancy Yamamoto (Akum), Nobuo Nojiri (Japan), sister-in-law Dolly Uyeno (Sacramento).

Theodore Tomita, 66, of Mercer Island, Wash., who founded West Coast Printing with his brother Paul in 1930, died of heart failure Jan. 4. All the Japanese typesetters in their firm in the International District, survived the WWII evacuation era, as one of their Caucasian friends had stored their equipment. They reopened the shop after the war. The shop was firebombed in 1992 in wake of the Rodney King beating trial in Los Angeles as frustrated people lashed out at white and Asian-owned businesses in many cities. Tomita turned his business over to his children. Surviving are wife of 59 years, Masako, son Ted, 8 ggc., brother Paul and sister Suniko Tsujimura, Los Angeles.

Tomiyoshi, Kenji, 87, Ontario, Ore., Feb. 2; Walnut Grove-born, survived by sons Fred, Roy, daughter Ruby Tomiyoshi, 2 ggc., sister Tomoko Nakata, brother Masumi Kase (Japan).

Urabe, Eve S., 88, Salinas, Feb. 4; survived by daughters Mae Sakagawa, Rubie (both of Salinas), Marianne Ida (Palo Alto), son David (Glendale, Ariz.), 11 ggc., 7 ggc., brother Harry Shichi (Seattle), sister Mary Yoshida (Dayton, Ohio).

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DEATH NOTICE

KENJI FRANCIS SEO
KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Kenji Francis Seo, 79, passed away Jan. 17. Survived by his wife, Tomiyo, daughter Peggy Seo Oba, son-in-law Kenji Oba, and granddaughter Mari, all of Kansas City; sisters Mary Louise Yoshino, of Silver Spring, Md., and Aileen S. Yoshino, of Irvine, Calif.

DEATH NOTICE

AYA YOKOYAMA
WEST SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Aya Yokoyama, 77, died suddenly at home Dec. 29, 1997. Survived by husband of 56 years, Harry Masaru Yokoyama; daughters Judith Katuko Ueda (Clarence) of Omaha, Neb., Dr. Victoria Yoshiko Yokoyama of Clovis, Calif., Christine Nina Yokoyama of Berkeley, Calif.; son Andrew Michael Yokoyama (Catherine) of West Sacramento; sister Tuya Katsumi of San Francisco; grandchildren Kimi and Marc Ueda, Lisa and Stacy Yokoyama and Hana Yokoyama-Hatch, predeceased by brother Kenneth. A native of Sacramento, she maintained an apartment business and enjoyed traveling, gardening, and cooking. Funeral was Jan. 3 at the Japanese United Methodist Church in Sacramento. Memorial Service and inurnment at East Lawn Memorial Park, Sacramento, Calif.

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NEW APR 16-Tokoku Cherry Blossom Tour - 11 Day - 24 Meals - \$2995
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MAY 11-Japan 1 More-11-Day-23 Meals-\$2895-SOLDOUT-SEE BELOW
Tokyo, Tsukiji, Yokohama, Kamakura, LakeHakone, Flower Center, Toyota, Nagoya, Tokushima, Shikoku, Inland Sea, Shodo Isle, Takarazuka & Osaka.

NEW - MAY 18 - Japan 1 More Time-7, 11-Day- 23 Meals- \$2895
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MAY 27 - Deluxe American Charter - St. Petersburg-Moscow Cruise - 12-Day-29 Meals-From \$3245

JUN 18 - Tauck's Canyonland Tour - 8-Day - 20 Meals - \$1795 - Scottsdale Lake Powell - Grand, Glen & Bryce Canyons - Zion - Kanab - Las Vegas.

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BEST OF HOKKAIDO	SEP 30
EAST COAST/FALL FOLIAGE (11 days)	OCT 4
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1. Japan Cherry Blossom Tour	03/30-04/09	Ray Ishii	\$2,895
2. Mackinac Island/Tulip Festival	05/05-05/14	Ray Ishii	\$1,989
3. Japan Satsuki Tour	05/18-05/27	Ray Ishii	\$2,995
4. New Mexico/Carlsbad Cavern	05/23-05/31	R&N Takeda	\$1,550
5. China/Yangtze River Cruise & Hong Kong	06/02-06/20	Ray Ishii	\$2,995
6. Japan Basic Tour	06/22-07/01	J&M Kobayashi	\$2,895
7. Grand Tour of Europe	06/23-07/11	Phyllis Murakawa	\$2,975
8. Alaska Land & Cruise	06/25-07/06	Yuki Sato	\$2,889
9. Scandinavian Tour	07/09-07/20	Phyllis Murakawa	\$3,199
10. Africa & Kenya Safari	09/15-09/26	Ray Ishii	\$4,559
11. Japan Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour	09/21-09/30	Ray Ishii	\$3,285
12. China Special & Hong Kong Tour	09/29-10/13	J&M Kobayashi	\$2,495
13. New England Fall Foliage Tour	10/06-10/17	Phyllis Murakawa	\$2,019
14. Japan Ura-Nihon Tour	10/05-10/14	Galen Murakawa	\$2,895
15. Spain & Portugal Tour	10/09-10/22	Bill Sakurai	\$1,868
16. Florida plus Key West	10/11-10/18	R&N Takeda	\$1,475
17. Okinawa/Kyushu Special Tour	10/12-10/21	Michi Ishii	\$2,895
18. Tennessee/Branson/Kentucky	10/17-10/25	Toy Kanegai	\$1,695
19. Japan Basic Fall Foliage Tour	10/19-10/28		\$2,895
20. Branson/Ozard Christmas Tour	11/27-12/02		\$1,099

Travel meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Felicia Mahood Center
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