

## Bittersweet victory for Japanese Latin Americans

After 57 years, former internees to receive apology and \$5,000 redress payment from United States

BY CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Acting Executive Editor

LOS ANGELES—Justice has come slowly for the hundreds of Japanese Latin Americans kidnapped and forcibly interned by the United States government during World War II, but even as it arrived the victory was somewhat bittersweet.

After more than four months of back-and-forth wrangling between plaintiffs and defendants in the class-action lawsuit, *Mochizuki vs. the U.S.*, the parties have agreed to a settlement that requires the U.S. government to issue an apology and a redress payment of \$5,000 to each surviving Japanese Latin American former internee or their immediate heirs.

"Today we make history," said Julie Small, co-director of Campaign for Justice, announcing the settlement at a press conference in Little Tokyo on June 12. "After

57 years the U.S. government has agreed to acknowledge the violations it perpetrated against Latin Americans of Japanese ancestry during WWII and the suffering these violations caused."

"Today's settlement is the right thing to do," said Bill Lann Lee, acting assistant attorney general for civil rights, who flew in from Washington, D.C., to represent the government. "By settling this case the U.S. government is doing the right thing. Acknowledging the wrong and bringing closure to the uncertainties of litigation ... bringing to an end an inglorious chapter in our nation's history."

Joining Small and Lee were JLA former internees and representatives from the founding groups of Campaign for Justice, including Helen Kawagoe, JACL national president, Gary Mayeda, JACL national vice president of planning and development, and Sharon Tanihara, National Coal-

ition for Redress and Reparations. Although plaintiffs agreed that

pointment with the \$5,000 payment, an amount far less than the



Attorney Robin Toma (left) speaks to reporters at the L.A. press conference, while former JLA internees Carmen Mochizuki (second from left) and Alice Nishimoto (fourth from left) look on. Also attending were Helen Kawagoe, national JACL president (right), and Gary Mayeda, JACL national v.p. for planning and development (second from right).

the presidential apology was by far the most significant part of the settlement, they expressed disap-

\$20,000 Japanese American former internees received under the 1988 Civil Liberties Act. JLA

had been excluded from the '88 Act because of a technicality requiring former internees to be American citizens or legal permanent residents at the time of their internment. For the past two years, plaintiffs in *Mochizuki* ... had been waging a battle to be included in the Act.

"We are disappointed that the reparation payment that has been awarded to our plaintiffs is far less than that given to Japanese Americans," said Small. "[The JLAs] very much want to be treated equally ... to receive the same apology, the same reparations."

Like the more than 120,000 JAs forcibly placed in American internment camps for the duration of WWII, JLAs suffered the indignities of life behind barbed wire fences. But unlike JAs, the U.S. government kidnapped the

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## Shin-Issei: The New JAs

BY MIKA TANNER  
Special to the Pacific Citizen

Issei. Traditionally, this word has described the generation of Japanese who came to the United States in the late 19th and

early 20th centuries, a group of people memorialized for their stoicism, determination, and their dedication to the American Dream. Their descendants — the Nisei, and now the Sansei and Yonsei — are continuing their legacy in the Japanese American community with such social and cultural institutions as the JACL, the Japanese American National Museum, youth basketball leagues, and the annual mochizukis and obon festivals.

However, the term Issei also refers to another group, the Shin-Issei, who, by their very pres-

ence, are challenging the traditional notion of JA identity. Generally, someone is considered a Shin-Issei, or "new" Issei, if they immigrated to the U.S. post

represent a wide variety of experiences. Yet, due to the fact that these experiences are very different from those of the original Issei and their descendants, Shin-

Issei are often seen as completely divorced from the traditional JA community.

The question the community faces, however, is whether it can afford to continue viewing Shin-Issei in this light. The JA community is the only Asian American community not being replenished with large waves of new members after the 1965 Immigration Act lifted quota restrictions on Asian immigrants.

Other AA groups, such as the Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese communities, have seen significant increases in their population that have transformed and re-

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The New JAs — In places like Los Angeles' Little Tokyo, the Shin-Issei are a major part of the JA community.

World War II. Because this broad label encompasses everyone from "war brides" to the Japanese family who moved to America yesterday, Shin-Issei are a diverse and complex group who

## Calif.'s Primary Elections

Matsui, Honda, and Fong among several AAs to go on to November Elections

Staff Report

LOS ANGELES—If the California Primary Elections held on June 2 are any indication, Asian Pacific Americans these days are becoming more receptive to running for the job of public office.

Of the 22 APAs who campaigned in the recent primaries, nine will now go on to the November elections.

Among the expected winners were incumbents U.S. Congressman Robert Matsui (D-Sacramento), who took the Democratic nomination for the 5th Congressional District, and State Assem-

blyman Mike Honda (D-San Jose), Democratic nominee for the 23rd District.

Representative Matsui ran unopposed and won 70.7 percent of the popular vote. Matsui has held the seat since 1978 and if he's successful in the November elections,



Matsui



Honda



Fong

as is expected, he will enter his 11th term in the U.S. House of Representatives. Facing him will be Robert Dinsmore, who won the Republican nomination with 17.8 percent of the popular vote. Dinsmore made a bid for the seat in

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## Come to Philadelphia — the city that loves you back!

BY GRAYCE UEHARA

There could be no better place to celebrate Independence Day than Philadelphia, the birthplace of American democracy. The constitutional Convention, the most important political meeting in the history of this democracy, convened in Philadelphia on September 17, 1787.

Democracy is a process of working towards the goal described in the Constitution of creating "a more perfect union." JACL, with an established history of advancing America towards a "more perfect union," will convene its National Convention from July 1-4 in Philadelphia. Delegates will discuss and debate which programs JACL should pursue to continue this legacy, as the sunset of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 approaches.

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The JACLers  
are coming ...  
the JACLers  
are coming!!!



SEE YA THERE

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## Resounding win for Prop. 227, Prop. 226 loses by a hair

Staff Report

LOS ANGELES—Before the dust had a chance to settle following the passage of Proposition 227, the anti-bilingual education bill, during California's June 2 Primary Elections, a coalition of civil rights groups has filed a civil lawsuit to stop it.

On June 3, various organizations including the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Asian Law Caucus, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and California Latino Civil Rights Network filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court in Northern California, seeking an immediate injunction to block the implementation of Prop. 227. Included among the named defendants are the state school board, Governor Pete Wilson, and state Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin.

The proposition, approved by a resounding margin of 61 percent, requires the state to put most of

its 1.4 million limited-English speaking students into an English immersion class for one year, and then transition them into mainstream, English-only classes. Prop. 227 is co-authored by Ron Unz, a Silicon Valley millionaire and former California gubernatorial candidate.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuit are arguing that Prop. 227 goes against the U.S. Supreme Court's 1973 decision in *Lau vs. U.S.*, which ruled that public schools had to offer limited-English students equal education opportunities. Some have read this to mean that schools must offer bilingual education. It is estimated that approximately 250,000 limited-English-speaking students in California are of Asian descent.

But even as educators and civil rights groups vigorously campaigned against Prop. 227, pre-election polls showed wide-spread

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## P.C. SAVE



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Here's my contribution to support the needs of the P.C. and its efforts to return to a weekly publication!

Please send your tax deductible donations to: P.C. SAVE, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755

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

## JACL Calendar

### Eastern

**NATIONAL**  
 July 1-5—35th biennial Nat'l JACL Convention, Sheraton Society Hill, Philadelphia. Info: JACL website (www.jacl.org), Mikko Horioka, 610/525-6620.

**DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
 Wed. July 1—National Board meeting, Philadelphia.

**SEABROOK**  
 Sat. June 20—JACL Installation and Graduates Recognition Banquet, Center for Country Club, Info: Ellen Nakamura, 609/451-8393. NOTE—Congressman Frank A. Lo Biondo, Rear Admiral Melvin H. Chioigioli, USN Ret., speakers.

**SACRAMENTO**  
 June 24—JA Korean War Veterans Memorial Exhibit opening ceremony, reception, 2 p.m., north side steps of the state capitol building. RSVP: Victor Muraoka, 818/891-1533. NOTE—Exhibit runs thru July 5. Sacramento Chapter JACL, co-sponsors.

### NC-WN-Pacific

#### NATIONAL BOARD

## COMMUNITY Calendar

### (R) Reunions

#### East Coast

**NEW YORK**  
 Sat. June 20—Program, "Non-Japanese in America's Concentration Camp," 1-3 p.m., 3rd Floor Conference Room, Ellis Island Museum. NOTE—Presenters from Gila River and Tule Lake.

**Sat. Sun., June 20-22**—Film screenings, Beyond Barbed Wire and Vistas and Virtue (at 6:15 on the 20th, 2 p.m. on the 21st) at The Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center. Info: Susan Jacobs or Hiroshi Kawanishi, 212/366-4555, re Human Rights Watch Film Festival. NOTE—Discussion with the filmmakers to follow on the 20th.

**Through 1999**—Japanese American National Museum's exhibit, "America's Concentration Camps: Remembering the Japanese American Experience," Ellis Island Immigration Museum, New York City. Info: JANM (Los Angeles) 213/625-0414, (New York) 212/363-5801.

**WASHINGTON D.C.**  
 Thu.-Sun., July 16-19—OCA (Organization of Asian Americans) 25th Anniversary celebration conference, Omni Shoreham, Info: OCA, 202/223-5500, FAX 202/296-0540.

#### The Midwest

**CHICAGO**  
 Through Nov. 29—Exhibit, "Voyage of a Nation, The Philippines," The Field Museum, Roosevelt Rd. @ Lake Shore. Info: 312/922-9410.

#### The Northwest

**SEATTLE**  
 Tue. June 30—Filipino American free-style musical performance by isangmahal arts collective, 8 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S. Info: Wing Luke Asian Museum, 206/623-5124x120.  
 Through Sept. 6—Exhibit, "P.I. (Made in America): Filipino American Artists in the Pacific Northwest," Wing Luke Asian Museum, 409 7th Ave. S. Info: Eydie Calderon Detera, 206/623-5124x132.

#### Northern Cal

**CONCORD**  
 Sat. June 21—Workshop, "Discovering Your Japanese American Family Tree," 2 p.m. at the Concord Library, 2900 Salvo St. Info: Karl Matsushita, 415/567-5006. NOTE—Sponsored by the Diablo Valley Chapter & the JA National Library.

**EAST BAY**  
 Thu. July 2—East Bay Nikkei Singles, Free boat tour of Oakland Estuary, lunch at Yoshi's. Info: Marion Lee, 510/452-3854.  
 Fri. June 26—4th annual Nikkei Benefit Open, Chardonay Golf Club, Info: JCC-CNC, 415/567-5505.

**SACRAMENTO**  
 June 24—JA Korean War Veterans Memorial Exhibit opening ceremony, reception, 2 p.m., north side steps of the state capitol building. RSVP: Victor Muraoka, 818/891-1533. NOTE—Exhibit runs thru July 5.

**Thu.-Sun., July 2-5**—Tule Lake Pilgrimage. Info: Amy Kanazaki, 510/830-0180, Steve Nakashima, 510/482-9518, e-mail: SNakash220@aol.com.

**(R) Sat. Sept. 5**—Greater Florin Area Japanese Reunion, 1-5 p.m., dinner 5:30 p.m., Red Lion-Sacramento Inn, 1401 Arden Way. Registration packet: James Abe, 916/363-1520. Regis. deadline, June 30.  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
 Sat. June 27—Buddhist Church of San Francisco centennial celebration English lecture program, 3 p.m., JCCNC Issei Memorial Hall, 1840 Sutter St. Info: Teresa Ono, 415/346-1972. NOTE—Rev. John Doani and William Masuda.  
 June 25-Aug. 6—Smithsonian Institution's "A More Perfect Union" traveling exhibit, San Francisco Main Library. Info: 415/557-4400.

Wed. July 1—National Board meeting, Philadelphia.

**BERKELEY**  
 Tue. June 23—Oakland A's Asian American Day, Info: tickets: Jane Ogawa, 510/299-1161. NOTE—East Bay & San Jose Nisei baseball players to be recognized: Diamonds in the Rough video to be shown; Berkeley JACL fundraiser.

**CONTRA COSTA**  
 Tue. June 23—A's Oakland Baseball Game, 7:05 p.m., Oakland Coliseum. Discount tickets: Esther Takeuchi, 415/223-2258. NOTE—Bay Area Nisei ball players to be honored Chapter fundraiser.

**DIABLO VALLEY**  
 Sat. June 21—Workshop, "Discovering Your Japanese American Family Tree," 2 p.m. at the Concord Library, 2900 Salvo St. Concord. Info: Karl Matsushita, 415/567-5006. NOTE—Sponsored by the Diablo Valley Chapter & the JA National Library.

**FRENCH CAMP**  
 Sat. July 11—Annual Chapter Bazaar, 4 p.m., Japanese Community Hall, 170 E. French Camp Rd. Info: Gail Matsui, 209/823-8964. NOTE—Food, bingo, raffle.

**SAN FRANCISCO**  
 Thu. June 25—Opening reception for Smithsonian traveling exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," San Francisco Main Library. Info: 415/273-1015

**Through Aug. 30**—Exhibit, "At Home and Abroad: 20 Contemporary Filipino Artists," plus a program of films, music, dance, lectures, readings, etc., The Asian Art Museum, 78 Tea Garden Dr., Golden Gate Park. Info: Michele Ragland-Dilworth, 415/379-8813, recording, 415/379-8801.

**Through Oct. 18**—Exhibit, "Picturing History: MANZANAR," Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. Info: 415/495-7000.

**SAN JOSE**  
 Fri. June 26—Morgan Hill Service Group salmon fishing trip, Monterey Fisherman's Wharf. Info: Jim Sugiyama, 408/779-1213. NOTE—To benefit youth scholarship fund.

**SANTA CRUZ**  
 Sat. June 20—Japanese Cultural Fair, 11:30 a.m., Mission Plaza in front of Holy Cross Church, downtown. Info: 408/475-2115. Continuous entertainment, crafts, cuisine.

**STOCKTON**  
 (R) Sun. Sept. 6—50-year reunion party, "Coming Home to French Camp," Stockton Buddhist Temple. RSVP by July 7: Gail Matsui, 209/823-8964, or Lydia Ota, 209/956-3437. NOTE—Huge turnout expected.

#### Central Cal

**FRESNO**  
 Sat. June 20—Medaka No Gakko annual craft fair, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Reedley High School cafeteria. Info: Carol Egoian, 209/591-4621. NOTE—Washi paper jewelry, Asian rubber stamps, cultural books, Hisako Goka dresses, Nob Yamabe's brush stroke prints & T-shirts, food booths, bake sale.

#### Southern Cal

**LOS ANGELES**  
 Fri.-Sun., June 19-21 and 26-28—Play, Romeo and Juliet Pinoy/Pinay Style, Fridays 7 p.m., Saturdays 8 p.m., Saturdays 7 & 10 p.m., East Los Angeles College, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park. Tickets: Blacklava Productions, 213/717-1714.

**Through June 22**—Exhibit, "Hirado Porcelain of Japan," L.A. County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd. Info: 213/857-6522.

**Thu. June 22**—Application deadline for Nisei Week Basketball Tournament, college & high school teams. Info: 213/687-7193.

**Thu. June 22**—Japan America Society Seminar, "Being Successful in Japanese Companies," 6-8 p.m., Holiday Inn Torrance, 19800 S. Vermont Ave. RSVP: 213/627-6217x17.

**Wed. June 24**—Japan America Society & Hong Kong Association Summer Mixer, 6-8 p.m., New Otani Hotel, 120 S. Los Angeles St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/627-6217x17.

**Thu. June 25**—Cold Tofu Improv: "Mythology of Tofu," 7:30-8:30 p.m., JANM, 369 E. 1st St., Little Tokyo. RSVP: 213/625-0414.

**Fri. June 26**—Application deadline, Nisei Week Japanese Festival scholarships. Info: 213/687-7193.

**Sat. June 27**—WCBT Obon Festival, 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Community Center, 1203 W. Puente

**SAN MATEO**  
 Sat. July 18—Community Potluck/Dinner Fundraiser, 5-8 p.m., San Mateo JACL Community Center, 415 S. Claremont St. Info: raffle tickets, 650/343-2793. NOTE—Drawing at 7:30 p.m.

**SONOMA COUNTY**  
 Sun. June 28—Community Picnic, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Finley Park, Santa Rosa. Info: Margaret, 707/544-9638.

**STOCKTON**  
 Sat. July 11—Bus trip to Smithsonian Institution's exhibit, "A More Perfect Union," and Fisherman's Wharf/Pier 39 in San Francisco, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: Teddy Saiki, 209/465-8107.

**WEST VALLEY**  
 Sun. June 28—West Valley & Next Generation picnic. Info: Jim Nagareda, 408/971-6456.

### Pacific Southwest

#### GREATER L.A. SINGLES

**Sat. June 20**—Hana Uno Shepard Memorial Scholarship and Fundraiser Dance, 7:30-11:30 p.m., Ken Nakaka Center, 1700 West 162nd St., Gardena. Info: Ken Kishiyama, 310/329-5157, Mary Ann Tanaka, 714/631-4735.

**LAS VEGAS**  
 Sun. June 21—International Food Festival, Cashman Field. Info: Rhea Fujimoto, 702/254-8060. NOTE—Setup 9 a.m. Saturday, cooking starts at 8 a.m. Sunday. Sun. June 28—Merit Awards Dinner, 5

p.m., Phillips Supper House. RSVP 454P. George Goto, 702/384-7163.

#### SOUTH BAY

**Sun. June 28**—Scholarship/Queen Reception, 11:30a.m.-2:30 p.m., Ladera Linda Community Center, 32201 Forestal, Rancho Palos Verdes. Info: 526/921-0633.

**TORRANCE**  
 Sat. July 25—Benefit Golf Tournament "4 Kids," 10 a.m., L.A. Royal Vista Golf Course, 20055 E. Colima Rd., Walnut. Info: Sign-up: Richard Mukai, 310/362-4067. NOTE—\$125 includes green fee, golf cart, tee packs, prizes, dinner.

**RIVERSIDE**  
 Sun. June 28—Annual Community Picnic, 11a.m., Sylvan Park, Redlands. Info: 909/735-8441. NOTE—Grand Buffet Potluck, raffle.

**DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR**  
 is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

Please provide the time and place of the event, and name and phone number (including area code) of a contact person.

Asian American Studies Program, 607/255-3320, Fax 607/254-4996, aaconference@cornell.edu, or Dr. Jonathan Y. Okamura, Univ. of Hawaii, SEED Office, 808/956-6749, okumaj@hawaii.edu.  
 (R) Thu.-Sun., July 2-5—AJA Veterans national convention, new Hawaii Convention Center, Waikiki, Guy Koga, 808/395-4869. Fee, \$100.

### Correction: National JACL Convention

The number for the Holiday Inn, Independence Mall, in Philadelphia is 800/843-2355 or 800/THE BELL.

**NOTICE:** Following the national JACL convention in Philadelphia, all JACL offices, including national headquarters, district offices, and the Pacific Citizen, will be closed from July 6 to 8, 1998. Regular office hours will resume on July 9.

### JACL Legacy Grant deadline extended

The JACL Legacy Grant deadline has been extended to Friday, July 24. The Legacy Grant program was developed as a way to encourage JACL chapters to develop programs on a local level. Past programs include leadership development conferences, oral histories projects, and educational workshops, films and videos. This year there is nearly \$23,000 available, an increase from the previous year. For more information and applications, please contact Karen Yoshitomi at the Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 206/623-5088.



## Holiday Issue kits are coming

The Pacific Citizen is requesting that all chapters to call the office and submit the name of the person that holiday issue kits should be mailed to. Please call 800/966-6157.

### Small kid time



### Gwen Muranaka



## Railroad worker families establish JACL scholarship

SAN FRANCISCO—Efforts are now underway to establish a scholarship to recognize Japanese American railroad workers. The impetus for this scholarship, to be administered by National JACL, comes from Fumi Shimada of Sacramento. Shimada's father, Kametaro Ishii, worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad in Sparks, Nev. and, like hundreds of other Nikkei railroad workers, was fired from his job after the outbreak of World War II.

Shimada was instrumental in obtaining redress for railroad workers like her father, who had been ruled ineligible by the Department of Justice. She was part of a community-wide effort that included advocacy by JACL, NCR, Mithi Weglyn and others who successfully fought for and won a ruling by the DOJ to grant redress to railroad and mining workers and their families.

"A few railroad families and I had been talking about a way to thank JACL and JACL Regional Director Patty Wada for all the help they provided each of us in our fight for redress," said Shimada. "They organized us last year, kept us informed and encouraged us with their letter-writing campaign. We thought we could thank them by possibly creating this scholarship fund."

The scholarship, said Shimada, would be "to honor all of the railroad workers who were fired in

1941-42 by the federal government."

The fund has gotten off to a good beginning, with Shimada herself making the first contribution. The family of Yosaburo Takehara, who worked for Union Pacific Railroad in Caliente, Nev., has also made a donation to the JACL that will be directed to the scholarship.

"It was our way to say 'thank you' for all the hard work JACL did for the railroad and mining people," said Takehara's daughter, Kiyomi Jo Ryujin of Utah.

The JACL began its National Scholarship and Awards program in 1946. JACL members recognized education as a key to greater opportunities for the next generation. In its 52nd year, the program currently offers more than 40 awards for an annual total of over \$70,000 in scholarships. The scholarship program offers awards to students at all levels of study, from high school seniors to graduate students.

"I would like to encourage all other families to contribute to this worthwhile cause," said Shimada. "Through this scholarship, we can ensure that the story of Japanese railroad workers in American history will not be forgotten."

For more information, contact Shimada at 916/427-0169 or JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, or 415/921-5225. ■

## Japanese Latin Americans finally win redress from gov't

(Continued from page 1)

2,264 men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry from 13 Latin American countries, stripping them of their citizenship to justify placing them in Department of Justice internment camps. Documents show that close to 800 of the JLA internees were eventually deported to Japan in exchange for U.S. citizens trapped in Japanese-controlled areas.

Both the JAs and JLAs suffered at the hands of the U.S.

government, said Robin Toma, lead counsel for the JLA plaintiffs. But, "many would argue that JLAs in fact endured much more suffering than what JAs went through. After all, they were taken from their country and sent to a foreign country and imprisoned. Placed in a situation where they could never return to their home country."

"That's why I think many people feel that it's a bitter pill to swallow to take so much less than what the JAs received," he said. "What it has meant to many internees is that it is another symbol of inferior treatment. Of being discriminated against yet again in receiving less than what they believe they are entitled to."

"Like many settlements, this is a compromise and the essence of a compromise is not having your highest hopes realized," said Lee. "\$20,000 is not adequate to recompense for internment, \$5,000 is less. It's a compromise figure arrived at by parties to settle a lawsuit."

But there is another element of the settlement that is less than appealing to the plaintiffs. The government has not guaranteed the \$5,000 payments; thus, there is the possibility that funds in the Civil Liberties Act could run out before every surviving JLA former internee receives their payment. Currently, the Office of Redress Administration estimates that after the remaining claims

for JAs are paid, the current amount of \$11.4 million will drop to \$4.4 million, enough to pay approximately 880 \$5,000 payments. It is estimated that 1,200 JLA former internees are currently entitled to the redress payment.

President Clinton has already indicated that he will support legislation to ensure that all JLAs receive their payment and to extend the life of the Civil Liberties Act until December of this year should the money run out. The United States is committed

those former internees who are unhappy with the agreement to opt out and pursue their own cases against the U.S. government.

"I can't say it was a fair settlement because we did not get the equal justice as the JAs," said JLA former internee Alice Nishimoto. "But I don't want to sound ungrateful to all those people who worked so hard for this cause. If it wasn't for them we wouldn't be here today." Nishimoto was only eight years old when she, her four siblings, and her pregnant mother were taken from their home in Peru and shipped to the Crystal City, Texas, internment camp.

"Finally we're making history today, but I would be lying if I said I am very happy today," she continued. "From the beginning I participated in this campaign because I wanted to get equal justice. I wanted to regain the dignity for my parents. In some sense I can say it was a vic-

tory but this injustice is going to be in the U.S. history forever."

The difficult task that now lies ahead is locating the approximately 400 eligible JLA former internees who have yet to file an application. Many are believed to be residing in Japan and Latin America. Currently, about 600 former JLA internees have filed applications with the ORA. All applications must be postmarked by Aug. 10 of this year and be received by ORA no later than September 4. The ORA is scheduled to close its doors forever on Aug. 10, 1998.

The U.S. government will give notice of the settlement by mid-July to all JLA former internees who have already applied. The government will also be publishing an announcement of the agreement in the Japanese paper *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the Peruvian newspaper *El Comercio*.

For those former internees who have already sent their applications to ORA but want to opt out of the settlement, a request

See REDRESS/page 4



U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights Bill Lann Lee speaks at the recent conference in L.A. to announce redress for JLAs.

to seeking more appropriations if the funds are not sufficient to making these payments, and to working with Congress to achieve that," said Lee. But "we don't anticipate that that would happen."

Although it was a difficult decision, in the end the plaintiffs, together with their lawyers, accepted the less than appealing settlement largely because their most important goal had been accomplished: an official apology for every JLA former internee. "It is the acknowledgment that the U.S. government did wrong and is willing to admit it," said Toma. "And it tells something to all those people that what they went through was not just something that has to be. That hopefully through this recognition it won't happen again."

The plaintiffs also recognized that for many of the former internees time was running out. Many have already passed away and a large number are currently in their 70s.

The settlement also allows for

## JACL applauds U.S. gov't for righting wrong of 56 years ago

"The National JACL applauds our United States government and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for recognizing a wrong from 56 years ago," said Helen Kawagoe, national JACL president, following the announcement of a settlement in the class-action lawsuit (*Mochizuki vs. the U.S.*) filed against the U.S. government, seeking reparations and an apology for Japanese Latin Americans (JLAs) interned during World War II.

"We are elated that we have moved one step closer to closing the chapter, once and for all, on a shameful period in our great nation's history," commented Lori Fujimoto, national vice president of public affairs.

As documented by the U.S. Congressional Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (1983), the U.S. government abducted and transported 2,264 Latin American citizens and legal permanent residents of Japanese ancestry dur-

ing WWII. Stripped of their passports at sea, they were labeled as "enemy aliens" as they entered the U.S. and were imprisoned in U.S. DOJ internment camps. Over 800 JLAs were forcibly deported to Japan in exchange for Americans held in the Axis nations. The remainder were held as prisoners until the end of the war. After the war, JLAs were left without a country. They were unable to return to Latin America and unable to apply for U.S. citizenship until recently.

"We are proud to have contributed resources and played a major role in pursuing redress for Japanese Latin Americans," said Gary Mayeda, national vice president of planning & development. "For the past four years, the JACL national council, national board, national headquarters, district offices and staff and our network of chapters have greatly supported the remedying of this injustice."

Fujimoto added, "We deeply ap-

preciate the steadfast efforts of our staff members: Ms. Patty Wada, Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific district director, Mr. Al-Muratsuchi, former Pacific South West district director, Mr. Bob Sakaniwa, JACL Washington D.C. representative and Mr. John Tateishi, JACL legislative consultant. Collectively, they have contributed thousands of hours to research and education in order to accomplish our coalition's initiative.

"Our work is not complete. We are committed to bringing the JLA redress claims and the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 to closure. To the U.S. DOJ and Acting Assistant U.S. Attorney General Bill Lann Lee, I offer the JACL's assistance in processing these claims. We will utilize our vast network of chapters to help locate eligible Japanese Latin Americans and initiate any additional work to close the chapter, once and for all." ■

### COMMENTARY

## A major victory for JLAs

BY JOHN TATEISHI

On Thursday, June 11, attorneys representing Japanese Latin Americans (JLAs) filed settlement papers with the U.S. Court of Claims, bringing final resolution to *Mochizuki v. the U.S.*, the case which sought redress for JLAs.

In accepting the government's offer of \$5,000 and a letter of apology from the president, the final chapter to the WWII internment of people of Japanese ancestry within the borders of the United States was finally closed.

Although \$5,000 was hardly adequate for their abduction from their homes in Latin America, their imprisonment at Crystal City, and the deportation of many of them to Japan in exchange for Americans held prisoner there, it was — like the symbolic \$20,000 for Japanese Americans — more than just a meaningful gesture.

This was a major victory and accomplishment for Japanese Latin Americans. It was also a major concession on the part of the government.

It was clear by mid-March that Judge Loren Smith, who issued a court order urging both sides to settle, was prepared to rule in favor of the government's motion to dismiss the case. The DOJ contended that JLAs did not fall within the definition of the eligibility provision of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (CLA) (the basis of the JLA lawsuit) and *Mochizuki* was irrelevant to CLA and should therefore be dismissed. The judge's order hinted his agreement.

A few days before a scheduled April hearing date in which Judge Smith would rule on *Mochizuki*, the DOJ indicated they wanted a delay to consider a settlement. An offer was made shortly thereafter, the DOJ decision being that they were willing to provide \$5,000 compensation under the CLA.

One can argue the merits of the amount provided to JLAs, but what cannot be argued is the fact

that this was a major and critical concession on the part of the DOJ and that the achievement of this settlement came about through a great deal of personal commitment of individuals in the government.

I know personally that some very heavy, emotional meetings took place within the DOJ, where Asian Americans working in the department put themselves on the line to argue for the JLA position. Consider the most visible among them, Bill Lann Lee. After undergoing a grueling and unsuccessful confirmation hearing last year, Lee made the decision as the Acting Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights that railroad and mine workers and their families should be included among those eligible for redress, ending a long roadblock for these people.

It goes without saying that Bill Lann Lee played a major role in pushing for the rights of JLAs to be given consideration under the Civil Liberties Act. It would be very wrong to assume that there was easy agreement at DOJ on this issue, for there was not. It took Lee and other Asian Americans and other supporters at DOJ to argue the case among their colleagues, sometimes in heated and emotional debates.

Ultimately, Attorney General Janet Reno got involved and made the decision to provide redress to JLAs. That's how high this issue went within the department, not an insignificant matter by any means.

We know also that President Clinton was personally aware of this issue, thanks to the efforts of Doris Matsui, who has not received nearly the credit she deserves in helping to further this issue within the administration. I can speak personally in saying that her role in this effort was significant and often critical in making sure the administration stayed on track in supporting the cause of the JLAs. Without the administration's support, the case

See TATEISHI/page 12

## 9 APAs go on to November elections

(Continued from page 1)

1996 and was resoundingly defeated by Matsui.

Assemblyman Honda, a former Santa Clara County supervisor, garnered 55.6 percent of the pop-

ular vote to win the Democratic nomination for the seat he has held since 1996. In November he will face Vietnamese American Patrick Du Long, who won the Republican nomination with 22 percent of the popular vote. Du Long ran unopposed in the primary election.

In the hard-fought battle for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate, State Treasurer Matt Fong came out the victor against Darrell Issa, a millionaire car-alarm manufacturer. Fong garnered 22 percent of the popular vote while 20 percent of the votes went to Issa. Polls also showed the more moderate Fong receiving 24 percent of his support from cross-over Democrats compared to Issa's 16 percent.

In the November elections, Fong faces a tough challenge against incumbent U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, who won 44 percent of the popular votes to capture the Democratic nomination in the primary.

The son of former Secretary of State March Fong Eu, Fong estimates that he will need to raise about \$20 million in his campaign to unseat Boxer, and he's counting on strong Asian American support. In a pre-primary poll by the Chinese American Voters Education Committee in San Francisco, Fong was favored by Chinese American voters over Issa or Boxer by 3 to 1.

In other races for the State Assembly, Mike Matsuda, running unopposed, won the Democratic nomination for the 68th District Assembly, while Torrance City Councilman George Nakano beat out six contenders to win the Democratic nomination for the 53rd District.

Matsuda, an Anaheim school teacher, received 30.7 percent of the votes, with 100 percent of the

precincts reporting, getting more votes than any of his five Republican opponents. He will now go on to face Republican Ken Madrox who won 23.7 percent of the popular votes.

Nakano, a four-term city councilman and the only non-white in the race, won 28 percent of the popular votes, running on a moderate platform in the largely Republican district. He now goes on to face Republican candidate Bill Eggers, who ran unopposed in the primary and captured 34 percent of the votes.

Those who lost in their bids for public office included freshman politician Alan Nakanishi who was seeking the Republican nomination for the 10th District. The Lodi ophthalmologist managed to win 23 percent of the votes, coming in second out of a field of nine candidates. The winner, Anthony Pescetti, garnered 30 percent of the votes.

In the race for the 49th District Assembly seat, three-time Monterey Park, Calif., city councilwoman Judy Chu narrowly lost to Gloria Romero for the Democratic nomination. Chu won 30 percent of the votes compared to Romero's 39 percent. This was Chu's second unsuccessful attempt for the seat, losing in 1994 to incumbent Diane Martinez.

Romero will meet Republican Jay T. Imperial and Libertarian Rachel Brown in the November elections. Chu will continue her term as M.P. city councilwoman, which runs until 2001. Next year she will take her turn as mayor, a post she has held two times previously.

Three-term Republican Congressman Jay Kim lost in his bid to retain his seat in the 41st District. Recently convicted of campaign finance violations, Kim had been prevented from campaigning in person due to court-imposed travel restrictions. State Assemblyman Gary Miller won the seat with a 2 to 1 margin over Kim, garnering 24,504 votes to Kim's 13,060. ■



Matsuda



Nakano

## Community NEWS

### Arizona State University opens APA Studies Program

TEMPE, Ariz.—On April 28 the Arizona State University College of Public Programs held a reception at its Tempe location for approximately 200 members of the Asian Pacific American community, university staff, faculty and friends, to announce its new Asian Pacific American Studies program.

The guests were welcomed by David Tung of the university's Asian Pacific Alumni Chapter. ASU president Dr. Lattie Coor spoke on the university's commitment to excellence and its support for the new APA studies program; speakers also included Kathy Wong (Lau) of the APA program, and Yen Le Espiritu, president of the Association for Asian American Studies and professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, San Diego.

Dr. Anne L. Schneider, Dean of the College of Public Programs, ac-

nounced the new Asian Pacific American Studies program, an interdisciplinary undergraduate program that examines the experiences of Asian Pacific Americans within the Southwest and the United States as a whole, along with other comparative diasporas. Located within ASU's College of Public Programs and with a university-wide mission, APAS is the first such program in the southwestern United States. It is currently establishing offices, developing courses, recruiting students, and cultivating community support and will begin offering classes for the Fall 1998 semester.



(left to right): Tom Kadomoto, Dr. Peter Haynes, Hon. Barry Wong, and Joe Allman.

knowledge the community's support and recognized Mr. Y. F. Wu of Hong Kong, the Alumni Chapter, and the JACL Arizona Chapter for their generous support of the program.

The Asian Pacific American Studies program is an interdisciplinary

undergraduate program that examines the experiences of Asian Pacific Americans within the Southwest and the United States as a whole, along with other comparative diasporas. Located within ASU's College of Public Programs and with a university-wide mission, APAS is the first such program in the southwestern United States. It is currently establishing offices, developing courses, recruiting students, and cultivating community support and will begin offering classes for the Fall 1998 semester.

Dr. Thomas D. Nakayama, the program's director, has been active with its formation as a faculty member in the Department of Communication. His research specialties include intercultural communication and APA and cultural studies. This spring he is completing a Fulbright teaching fellowship in Belgium. ■

### REDRESS

(Continued from page 3)

for exclusion postmarked by Sept. 10 must be sent in. Individuals who have not yet applied for the redress but wish to be excluded from the settlement must send their exclusion request to the ORA postmarked by Oct. 19.

Finally, in November, Chief Justice Loren Smith, already giving preliminary approval of the settlement, will hold a fairness hearing to give final approval to the agreement. Once final approval is given, the government will begin processing payments within the next 60 days. Payments will be given out first to the oldest former internees and their heirs, and will continue along a chronological order. All payments should be received by February, 1999.

"It's been difficult for all of us to relive... we were trying to forget," said Carmen Mochizuki, the named plaintiff in the lawsuit. "I feel a sense of closure and peace. I stand here proud to say this is the most precious thing I've ever received."

"I'm disappointed that we did not receive the same amount given to JAs but I feel that we're victorious today by finally making the U.S. government acknowledge the wrong done to us."

For assistance in filing claims or more information on the settlement, contact: Japanese - Ayako Hagihara in the U.S. at 310/344-1836; Spanish and English - Robin Toma in the U.S. at 213/974-7640. For more information on Campaign for Justice call Julie Small at 310/473-6134. ■

### Internment study invites participants

NEW YORK—A randomly selected number of Japanese Americans who were in a WRA camp during World War II are receiving an invitation in the mail to participate in a national study of how the incarceration affected their lives and families and how they coped.

The project, originating out of the work of the Congressionally mandated Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWIC) and currently funded mainly by the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) is guided by a national advisory committee of distinguished scholars and leaders in Japanese American affairs.

Principal investigators Drs. Set-suko Matsunaga Nishi of the City University of New York and David T. Takeuchi of the University of California at Los Angeles note that "time was running out for us, the Nisei, to get a documented record and our own accounts of the long-term effects and of our recovery from that experience," and emphasized the importance of every invited person's participation if at all possible.

Through confidential personal interviews with some, and mailed questionnaires with others, the

study seeks to fill in what scholars consider a sketchy and uneven aspect of Japanese American and American history. The study will examine how Nisei feel those events of wartime made a difference in their schooling and work; friendships, family relationships, and community involvement; well-being and satisfaction in life; and what they think were the consequences for the way they have coped with life's opportunities and adversities.

Dr. Nishi is professor of Sociology at Brooklyn College and the Graduate School of CUNY, with a long career of community service and of research on JAs and American race relations. She was incarcerated in Santa Anita Assembly Center before being released to continue her education. Dr. Takeuchi, originally from Hawaii, is associated with the Asian American Studies Department and on the faculty of the Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA. He has directed major research projects on Asian Americans and other groups.

For more information, contact Dr. Nishi at the JA Life Course Project, 914/359-0813. ■

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### From the desk of author James Oda

Bob Toguchi of Honolulu purchased 4 books with an accompanying note that some of the subjects dealt in my book, including the ancient Jews and the Mu continent, are covered in the teachings of his church, Sukyo-Mahikari.

Pleasantly surprised, I contacted the Mahikari headquarters, Santa Margarita, California, to obtain a pamphlet on their teaching tenets. In short, their tenets are as follows:

- 1) The origin of the earth is one,
- 2) The origin of mankind is one, and
- 3) The origin of all religions is also one.

I was impressed with this opening paragraph which is unpretentious. In contrast, reference books pertaining to the Takeuchi Document are dogmatic. These writers openly and repeatedly cling to the theory that ancestors of the imperial family ruled the world ever since 300,000 years ago. This is the exact repetition of the Great East Co-Prosperity Sphere doctrine advanced by the Japanese militarists before WWII.

The Mahikari tenet maintains that Jesus, Buddha and other Saints had aura radiating from their inner body, but that every human possesses the same aura to a lesser degree. The Mahikari offers their followers training techniques to put their aura to good use.

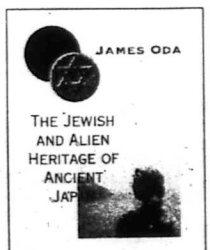
The Mahikari sect has grown by leaps and bounds, and now enjoys one million followers in 75 countries. They have built a grand gold-plated shrine in Takayama, Gifu-ken, near Mt. Kurai where the first contingent of an outer-space group purportedly landed. (Note: The other landing point was Mt. Kunlun, northwest of Tibet.)

### TO ORDER:

James Oda, 17102 Labrador St., Northridge, CA 91325

\$18 per copy, post and tax paid by author.

Also available at Kaede Shobo, Torrance; Bunbundo, Honolulu; Kinokuniya, New York.





## Philadelphia, PA — The city that loves you back!

(Continued from page 1)

The host chapter would like this convention to be a memorable event. A quick review of the convention program starts with the Welcome Mixer. Highlights of the first night will be music by the Philadelphia String Band, who play at the annual New Year's Mummer's Parade, and a buffet of Philadelphia hoagies and cheese-steaks. On the same day, the Homecoming Luncheon at Chinatown's Hongkong Golden Phoenix, featuring California State Assemblyman Nao Takasugi, will gather together those who want to remember their relocation days in Philadelphia.

To help everyone stay energized for the meetings, an exercise class open to all convention participants will be led by a physical therapist in the hotel at 6:30 a.m. every morning. The keynote address at the National Council Session will be delivered by Bill Lann Lee, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. The JACL Awards Luncheon will have Norman Mineta, Lockheed Vice President, as master of ceremonies. The Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition will bring a large contingent of the Yasui clan to Philadelphia to commemorate Min Yasui's leadership in the campaign for redress.

The final gala event of the convention, the Sayonara Banquet and Ball, will be chaired by Marian and Tom Tamaki. A reception hosted by Congressman Bob Matsui and his wife, Doris, will precede the banquet. The congressman will be the master of ceremonies for the gala event, and Doris Matsui will induct the officers for the next biennium. Bunji and Eiko Ikeda will kick off the Sayonara Ball with line dancing to get everyone up and participating.

Delegates and boosters can take a break from the busy convention schedule by taking advantage of many other opportunities offered by the city. Visitors to the convention will have front seats for the spectacular celebration of the Fourth planned by the city, which will include special events such as the awarding of a Freedom Medal to George Mitchell for brokering the peace in Ireland.

The convention site at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel is surrounded by many historical sites, including the Liberty Bell and

Constitution Hall. Right along the waterfront on Delaware Avenue, a block away from the hotel, there is sizzling night life which includes rock and jazz clubs. Symphony lovers have the opportunity to hear the world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra perform at the outdoor Mann music center in Fairmount Park.

Families with children can walk a block to take the ferry across the Delaware River to visit the New Jersey Aquarium in Camden. Other attractions for children are the Philadelphia Zoo, the Franklin Institute, and the National History Museum.

Philadelphia has more four- and five-star restaurants than other larger cities. But best of all, the area around the Sheraton has scads of dining places with sufficient options to a range of tastes and budgets. The convention committee will provide a listing of eating establishments.

Although the weather in Philadelphia in June is usually hot and humid, with temperatures reaching the 90s, the summer thus far has been considerably cooler, perhaps from lingering effects of El Niño. Be prepared for some thunderstorms.

We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks! ■

### JACL Arizona Chapter Scholarship winners

The JACL Arizona Chapter's 37th Annual Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship Awards and Graduates Luncheon was held on April 25 at the Beefeaters Restaurant in Phoenix. There were 140 JACL members and guests present for the event.

Winners this year included Erin Fujimoto of Apollo High; Marissa Herron of Mountain Pointe High; Kristin Hirohata of McClintock High; Michelle Komatsu of North High; and Nicole Tadano of Horizon High. They each received a plaque and a \$700 award.

Nicole Tadano was elsewhere receiving her black belt in karate, so her father, Joseph, accepted for her. Dr. Glen Komatsu, MD, of Torrance, Calif., a 1970 recipient of an Arizona Chapter scholarship award, spoke on the need for the Sansei and Yonsei to put some effort into the Japanese American community. ■

## National Youth/Student Council presents the Youth Luncheon and ID-4 Youth Day at the Philadelphia national convention

The JACL National Youth/Student Council (NYSC) is pleased to announce Rabbi Ed Rettig and the Hapa Issues Forum as the highlights of the Youth Luncheon patriotically themed, "We the People . . .", to take place during JACL's Biennial Convention in Philadelphia which starts June 30.

"We the People . . ." celebrates the diversity within our own Japanese American/Asian American community. This will also serve to challenge ourselves to redefine our sense of community. The luncheon will take place on Thursday, July 2, from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Sheraton Society Hill. Rabbi Rettig is the Youth Luncheon keynote speaker. He is Deputy Director of Jewish Communal Affairs for the American Jewish Committee. He will be addressing the affects of outmigration in the Jewish community and what the Jewish community has done to instill their heritage and culture in future generations.

Hapa Issues Forum (HIF), a

community organization started at UC Berkeley, will be awarded the Vision Award. HIF celebrates the mixed-race Asian American experience. The Vision Award is given to individuals and organizations who have had an impact in their field and have served as a role model for AA youth, students and young adults.

For information, please contact Patricia Tom at the Central California District Office at 209/486-6815 or Hiromi Ueha at huueha@uci.edu.

The Youth/Student Council will also present ID-4 Youth Day during the national convention, to be held July 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. at the Sheraton Society Hill.

ID-4 Youth Day is a one-day conference concentrating on disseminating valuable information on life skills and current issues. The morning session will provide an internship/fellowship fair featuring opportunities from corporations and community organizations. Running concurrently with

the fair will be two workshops. State Farm Insurance Representative for Community Relations David Wong will focus on the nuts and bolts for writing resumes and going on job interviews. The other workshop, presented by Christine Chen, program coordinator for the Organization of Chinese Americans, will focus on getting the most out of your intern experience.

The afternoon session will address issues through AA films. Highlight of the afternoon session will be a film titled *Letters to Thien*, about the life of a Vietnamese American stabbed to death in a hate crime by a white supremacist. A presentation will follow. Other films provided by National Asian American Telecommunications Association will complete the day.

Cost for ID-4 is \$30, and lunch is included. For more information contact Patricia Tom at 209/486-6815 or Hiromi Ueha at huueha@uci.edu. ■

## More than 1000 attend Tulelake Reunion

BY TOKO FUJII

SACRAMENTO—The sixth, and probably the final, Tulelake Reunion was held here on May 16 and 17 at the plush Doubletree Hotel. The total attendance of over 1000 was the second largest in the history of the gathering, exceeded only by the 50th Anniversary Reunion in 1992.

The two outstanding social events of the two-day meet were the Mixer on Saturday night and the Sayonara Dinner on Sunday. Over 700 merrymakers crowded the Grand Ballroom to mingle, visit and reminisce as the 17-piece J Town Jazz Ensemble played nostalgic music from the '30s and '40s. Led by George Yoshida of El Cerrito, the band brought back memories to the ex-Tulelakes. Chairman Kuni Hironaka and his committee had the huge hall decorated with colorful balloons to give the event a festive atmosphere.

Over 800 registrants, friends and guests filled the ballroom beyond capacity on Sunday night to honor national leaders responsible for the passage of the "Civil Rights Act of 1988" and to listen to a message from Congressman Robert T.

Matsui, the keynote speaker for the reunion.

Matsui gave credit not only to the leaders of the redress effort, but to the rank and file of the Japanese Americans, the Nisei and the Sansei, who went beyond the call of

the Sacramento Chapter of JACL were Matsui, Jerry Enomoto, Norman Mineta, William Marutani, Dr. Clifford Uyeda, Priscilla Ouchida, Grayce Uyehara, Harry Fukuhara and John Tateishi.

Harry K. Honda, Editor Emeritus of the



JACL National Director Herb Yamanishi, center, and Sacramento Chapter president, Mike Sawamura (right) present an award to Norman Mineta.

duty to raise money and to push their legislators for their support during the crucial time of garnering congressional support for the passage of the redress bill.

Honored with plaques from the Tulelake Reunion Committee and

the crucial times in the past five decades.

Assemblyman Mike Honda from the San Jose area, one of the outstanding freshmen legislators in the California State Legislature, was the event's MC. ■

### Registration Card

1998 JACL National Convention

### REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please indicate your choice of either the Regular Convention Package, Youth Convention Package, Individual Events and/or Special Events by marking the appropriate options. Amounts listed are per person.

Register before May 7, 1998 and take advantage of reduced registration fees and discounts on individual convention events! See the schedule of convention events and organized activities. Additional information on other activities and sightseeing tours will be available during the convention at the Registration & Information booth.

### PACKAGE REGISTRATION

The Regular Convention Package fee admits registered badge holders to all Business Sessions, Workshops and the Oratorical Competition. Other events in the Regular Convention Package include the Welcome Mixer, Balch Institute Reception/Exhibits, Awards Luncheon and Sayonara Banquet.

The Youth Convention Package fee includes the Regular Convention Package items as well as the Youth Luncheon.

### INDIVIDUAL EVENT REGISTRATION

Daily registration will be available for those interested in attending only specific convention events.

A registration fee of \$20 will be required for admission to exhibits, business sessions or workshops on a per-day basis.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

Written cancellation requests received by May 21, 1998 will be refunded 100%. Cancellations received after that date will be denied and any residual amount will become a charitable contribution to JACL. There will be no partial refunds if a registrant does not attend all functions.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:

Herb Horikawa 610.525.6620  
Bunji Ikeda 610.265.5898  
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☐ Alternate ☐ 1000 Club

☐ Booster ☐ Masaoka Fellow

☐ Youth (age 12-25) ☐ Age

☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Register early and save money!

"Early Bird" postmark deadline: May 7, 1998.

	Early Bird Before 5/7/98	After 5/7/98
PACKAGE (Includes Individual Events listed below)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Convention*	\$175	\$210
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth Convention	\$ 85	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Balch Institute Reception & Exhibits**		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sayonara Banquet**		

\*Does not include the Youth Luncheon (see below)

\*\*Included, but please mark if you will attend

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (Included in Package)

☐ All Meetings \$ 40 \$ 45

☐ One Day of Meetings \$ 20 \$ 25

Circle day(s) of attendance: Tu We Th Fr Sa Su

☐ Welcome Mixer \$ 25 \$ 30

☐ Awards Luncheon \$ 40 \$ 50

☐ Workshops \$ 20 \$ 25

(Please fill out the Workshop Registration Form which will be sent to you upon receipt of this Convention Registration Card.)

☐ Sayonara Banquet \$ 65 \$ 75

☐ Youth Luncheon \$ 30 \$ 35

(Included in Youth Package only; others are welcome to attend by registering and paying for lunch.)

### SPECIAL EVENTS (Not included in Package)

☐ Golf Tournament \$100 \$125

(Includes lunch, dinner & bus.)

Handicap \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Golf and Dinner only \$ 65 \$110

(Includes lunch & dinner, but no transportation.)

Handicap \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Golf Awards Dinner only \$ 30 \$ 35

☐ Wheaton/Seabrook Trip \$ 60 \$ 70

(Includes lunch, dinner & bus.)

☐ Philadelphia Homecoming

Reunion Luncheon \$ 30 \$ 40

☐ Youth Day Conference

"ID4-Philadelphia" \$ 20 \$ 25

### TRIPS & TOURS

(Please complete the Trips & Tours Registration Form

which will be sent to you upon receipt of this

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### SUMMARY OF FEES

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CONVENTION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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PA. If you are registering for more than one person,

please make additional copies of this form.

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### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

We have reserved a block of rooms for the convention. Reserve early to ensure a space and the rates below. Call the Sheraton Society Hill directly at 800.325.3535 or 215.238.6000 to make your reservations. Mention that you are part of the JACL National Convention. Convention room rates are:

Single/Double Occupancy	\$ 99*
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# CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

## Banquet honors Portland area high school graduates

BY ANN SHINTANI

PORTLAND, ORE.—A group of 150 parents, friends and community supporters, and 20 graduates, attended the annual Japanese American graduation banquet here on May 3 at Legin Restaurant.

Veleda Club's Harue Mae Ni-nomiya emceed the event; the Veleas served as function chair this year. Other organizational sponsors were Buddhist Daihonzan Henjoji Temple, Epworth United Methodist Church, Gresham-Troutdale JACL, Japanese Ancestral Society, Nichiren Buddhist Church, Nikkei Fujinkai, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Nisei Veterans, Portland JACL and Shokookai of Portland.

Representing the Oregon Nisei Veterans, Al Abe led the flag salute as Eagle Scout Lee Greenwood, also graduating this year, held the flag. The invocation was given by Rev. Dean Yamamoto of Epworth UMC.

The graduates honored were: **Japanese Ancestral Society recognition:** Kristi Barkley (Westview H.S.), Joie Mohr (Evergreen H.S.), Jonathan Onchi (Beaverton H.S.), Noah Lee (Grant H.S.), Chris Shoop (Hillsboro H.S.);

**Tsuya Minamoto Scholarship:** Aaron Saito (West Linn H.S.); **Hide Naito Scholarship:** Lauren Nishimura (Glencoe H.S.);

**Satsuki Azumano Scholarship:** Paula Okamoto (Hudson's Bay H.S.);

**Gresham-Troutdale JACL:** Ayala Solis (Beaverton H.S.); **Shokookai:** Emi Nomura (Sunset H.S.);

**Portland JACL:** Kelii Hara-guchi (Grant H.S.);

**Oregon Buddhist Temple Tamura-Terakawa Scholarship:** Lindsay Brooks (Clackamas H.S.);

**Veleda Scholarship:** Peter Sholian (Grant H.S.);

**Oregon Nisei Veterans Scholarships:** Jack Ouchida, Nick Okano (Lakeridge H.S.); **Rodger Okamoto,** Kelly Kimura (David Douglas H.S.); **Jim Ikeda,** Erin Schneider (Sam Barlow H.S.); **Tosh Kuge,** Keisuke Ishii (Lake Oswego H.S.);

**Nikkei Fujinkai:** Kimberly Ota (Lincoln H.S.);

**Obukan Judo Scholarship:** Jordan Hambleton (Canby H.S.).

This year's Citizenship trophies were presented to Beth Tarasawa of Tigard H.S. and Lee Greenwood of North Salem H.S. Athletic trophies were awarded to Kari Ellis of Grant H.S. and Kelly Kimura of David Douglas H.S.

Keynoting the affair was Tara O'Sullivan, Executive Director of the Oregon Commission on Asian Affairs. O'Sullivan serves on the Portland Hate Crimes Task Force and OSU President's Board for

Visiting Minority Affairs. He grew up in Tokyo and came to the United States in his high school years. He recalled the feeling of acceptance that enveloped him when he first arrived; that acceptance he attributed to the efforts and blood of the Japanese Americans who lived before him. He remembers being asked during class discussions about "being Japanese American and the impact of Executive Order 9066 which sent 120,000 Japanese Americans to internment camps."

He felt disconnected, he said, because of his Tokyo upbringing, and couldn't respond to questions about experiencing discrimination, but he learned quickly. He came to believe that the entire civil rights movement began with the realization that the internment was wrong. He implored the young graduates to never forget the past.

Working with the Jewish community, he has adopted their philosophy — any wrong, no matter how small and removed, must be stopped. He asked the graduates and audience to honor those who had suffered before them thereby easing their way to adopt the attitude of "not in my presence." We should speak up, as it is a small debt that we owe to the past, he said.

## Snake River Valley honors local scholars at annual banquet

The Snake River Chapter held its 53rd annual graduation banquet on May 8 at the Four Rivers Cultural Center in Ontario, with Patrick Takasugi, director of the Idaho Department of Agriculture, giving the keynote address.

The annual banquet honors local high school graduating seniors of Japanese descent. Scholarships of \$2,000 each were awarded to Dana Slyter of Weiser and Katie Moore of Nyssa. The Scholarships were funded by the Snake River JACL, Idaho-Oregon Nikkei-jinkai, and Mr. and Mrs. Sig Murakami.

The banquet also honors high school juniors selected for sponsorship by JACL to attend Boys State and Girls State. The dele-

gates selected were David Eldred of Fruitland for Gent (Idaho) Boys State and Christopher Yamasaki of Ontario for Beaver (Oregon) Boys State.

In addition to the awardees, the 1998 graduates honored were:

Paul Ogawa of Nyssa; Jennifer Matsumoto, Pat Ogawa, Kim Mizuta, Stacy Morinaga, Chris Points, Tamiko Shiery, and Todd Sowden of Ontario; Jennifer Pressley and Ryo Yonehara of Vale; Dart Burrows, Mandy Hoffman, Dana Ishida, Codi Kodama, and Daphne Uru of Fruitland; Nick Shigeta, and Todd Shigeta of New Plymouth; Melissa Koyama and Matt Morishita of Payette; and Travis Yano of Weiser. ■



(From left) Daphne Uru, Fruitland; Dana Slyter, Weiser; Katie Moore, Nyssa; Jennifer Pressley Vale; Pat Ogawa, Ontario; Jennifer Matsumoto, Ontario; Matt Morishita, Payette; Tamiko Shiery, Ontario; Travis Yano, Weiser; Codi Kodama, Fruitland.

## San Diego honors 14 area scholars

Kimm Groshong of Hilltop High School in Chula Vista earned the \$1,000 scholarship presented at the San Diego Chap-

Vista High), Steven Kosaka (Clairemont High), Kio Lance (El Capitan High), Ichiro Mukasa (Bonita Vista High), Nobuya Mu-

Horiye are past San Diego scholarship recipients.

San Diego Municipal Court Judge Dana Sabraw was the



STANDING (left to right): Steven Kosaka, Kio Lance, Joshua Hale, Nobuya Murakami, Elly O'Rourke, Maiko Yoshida, Ichiro Mukasa, David Iwashita, and Chris Yamauchi. SEATED (left to right): Keynote speaker Judge Dana Sabraw, Janelle Urata, Kimm Groshong, Darren Yamaguchi, Emi Minezaki, Tricia Kawasaki, and scholarship chair Carol Kawamoto.

The \$750 scholarship was presented to Darren Yamaguchi of Grossmont High. Receiving the \$500 scholarship was Emi Minezaki of Mira Mesa High. The recipients of \$250 scholarships were Joshua Hale (Granite Hills High), David Iwashita (Coronado High), Tricia Kawasaki (Bonita

rakami (Hoover High), Elly O'Rourke (Serra High), Janelle Urata (Helix High), Chris Yamauchi (Valhalla High), and Maiko Yoshida (Kearny High).

San Diego Chapter Scholarship Committee Chair Carol Kawamoto and Chapter President Joseph Horiye presented the awards to the scholars. Kawamoto and

and not truly fitting in with either of his cultures. He continued by pointing out how he accepted these challenges and was strengthened in overcoming them. Those in attendance were moved by his comments and felt they were particularly relevant, since a number of the scholarship recipients were multicultural. ■

## 1998 Stockton JACL Scholarships

The 1998 Stockton JACL scholarship awards were presented to 11 deserving students on June 14 at a luncheon at Dave Wong's Restaurant.

The 1998 recipients were:

• **Kimberlee Sakai,** Lincoln High School, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Gary Sakai: The Stockton JACL Elizabeth Humbarger Scholarship for \$700.

• **Louisa Bazett,** St. Mary's High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Bazett: The Stockton Chapter JACL Scholarship for \$500.

• **Heidi Okamoto,** Escalon High School, daughter of Mrs. Carolyn Johnson: The Anheuser-Busch, Inc. Scholarship for \$500.

• **Natalie Masuoka,** Bear Creek High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jun Masuoka: The George & Amy Matsumoto Scholarship for \$500.

• **Dawn Terashita,** New York Medical College, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Kengo Terashita: The Mitsuye Baba Memorial Scholarship for \$300.

• **Eric Nakaki,** St. Mary's High School, son of Dr. and Mrs. William Nakaki: The Sumiden Wire Products

Scholarship for \$300.

• **Julie Shiromizu,** St. Mary's High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Shiromizu: The Sumitomo Bank Scholarship for \$300.

• **Ryan Daeodsjah,** Lincoln High School, son of Mr. and Mrs. Effendi Daeodsjah: The Union Bank of California Scholarship for \$300.

• **Tiana Guzman,** Galt High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Guzman, the Fred Dobana Memorial Scholarship for \$250.

• **Robin Yamaguchi,** Tokay High School, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Yamaguchi: The Gungu Watanabe Memorial Scholarship for \$250.

• **Yin Chun Chen** from Taiwan, San Joaquin Delta College: The Stockton JACL Elizabeth M. Humbarger Memorial Scholarship for Foreign Students of Asian Descent for \$300.

Members of the scholarship committee were Tad Shibata, Tadashi Agari, John Fujii, Tom and Kelly Hoang, Alene Kaneko, West Hashimoto, Calvin Matsumoto, Michi Shimada and Chisato Watanabe. ■

## San Jose JACL announces 1998 scholarship recipients

Seven high school seniors were awarded a total of 11 scholarships at the San Jose JACL Chapter annual awards luncheon held April 25 at the Wesley United Methodist Church Social Hall. Sharon Uyeda, Vice President of Scholarships, chaired the luncheon and awards program. Serving on the scholarship selection committee were Mark and Lisa Kobayashi, Dr. Mitsuo Kumagai, Claire Omura and Kathy Takeda.

The recipients were: • **Melissa Kurimoto,** Pioneer High School: \$2,000 Phil Matsumura Community Scholarship, presented by Shirley Ota, and \$2,500 San Jose JACL Award, presented by Chapter President Jeff Yoshioka.

• **Lindsey Shintani,** Leland High School: \$3,000 Dr. Tokio Ishikawa Memorial Scholarship, presented by Mrs. Tokio Ishikawa and daughter Carol.

• **Thomas Hamaguchi Hocker,** Silver Creek High School: \$2,500 George Masunaga Endowment Scholarship, presented by Michi Masunaga, and \$300 Lanette Yonoko Hayakawa Memorial Scholarship, presented by John Hayakawa.

• **Joni Tsukuda,** Los Gatos High School: \$1,000 Kay Shimizu Memorial Scholarship, presented by Esau Shimizu, and \$1,000 Slectron Corporation Scholarship.

• **Jay Yamanaga,** Bellarmine Preparatory School: \$500 Kemi Sakayue Memorial Scholarship, presented by Shizue Sakayue and her son Robert, and \$500 William K. Yamamoto Memorial Scholarship.

• **Nicole Miyahara,** Homestead High School: \$500 Ray and Lucy Matsumoto Trade School Scholarship.

• **May Shishido,** Los Gatos High School: \$500 Ninja Youth Club Scholarship. ■

## Sacramento scholars honored at annual dinner

With more than 200 people in attendance, the annual scholarship dinner sponsored by the Sacramento JACL was one of the best in recent years.

More than \$24,000 in total awards was given to the following deserving students:

Carl Takei, Brian Laing, Jason Chew, Edward Takashima, Lynn Yoshikawa, Gordon Au, Courtney Onodera, Lindsay Onodera, Christopher Chew, Megan Daniels, Derrick Miyao, Brandon Shibata, Geoffrey Nishimoto, Kenneth Kojima, Yuki Yamamura, Rebecca Todd, Shelley Okimura, Kevin Sakamoto, Leina Maruyama, Marisa Takeuchi, Kara Shimizu, Tori

Ueda and Jill Shibata.

Rev. Bob Oshita of the Sacramento Betsuin gave the invocation, followed by the pledge of allegiance led by Commander Shigeo Yokote of Nisei Post 8985 VFW. Mistress of ceremonies was Miko Sawamura, president of Sacramento JACL.

Top scholarship winner Carl Takei gave a short but touching response on behalf of the recipients.

Michael Iwahiro, scholarship committee chair, expressed his congratulations to the winners and his appreciation to the donors of the awards. He also gave credit to his committee for its hard work in the administra-

tion of the program, which is the largest program among 114 individual chapters.

The Scholarship Committee members are: Tom and Amie Fujimoto, Randy Imai, Erin Komatsubara, Ruby Matsuhara, Toko Fujii, Craig Miyamoto, Charles Miura, Midori Hiya, Hon. Charles Kobayashi, Shig Shimazu, Mika Furukawa, Cindy Nishio, Gary Hatano and Ralph Sugimoto.

A memorial award of recognition and appreciation for the work of the late Frank Hiyama for his many years in the scholarship program was presented to Midori Hiyama. ■



# Remembering Walter Weglyn

BY SACHI SEKO

THE RECENT apologies from President Bill Clinton and redress for railroad workers and their families are significant achievements for those who worked so long and hard for it. No one deserved to savor the satisfaction more than the late Walter Weglyn, husband and partner of Michi Weglyn. It was his final wish. "I have to live to finish our work. We must secure redress for the families of railroad and mine workers and Latin American hostages," he said. "We must win."

Walter was infatuated with Japanese Americans, not only with the woman he loved and married, but with all of us. His esteem and affection for persons of Japanese ancestry, I am sure, were further defined by his own experience as a survivor of the holocaust in which many members of his family perished. But that was Germany and he was a Jew. Walter could never accept the treachery imposed by Americans on other Americans. Redress became his crusade. It is only because he has died that I feel I can reveal his disappointment in the majority of us who did not sustain the redress movement to its conclusion. It offended his image of us as a special people.

FOR MOST of us, interest in redress faded soon after President Reagan signed the 1988 Civil Liberties Act, a common attitude being, "I've got mine." But Walter and Michi Weglyn were not your ordinary couple. They believed that unless redress ap-

plied equally to all those who were disenfranchised, it would be an incomplete victory.

Contrary to common perception, the campaign seeking redress for those originally denied did not begin last year or the year before. The Weglyns continued their totally voluntary work in 1988, ten years ago. They didn't have to do it because they had no vested interest in it. Their one decade of unrecognized and quiet commitment was spurred largely by their moral indignation. It was also an act of faith in our country, in our constitution. That one day, this shame which was cast on us would be removed. Not that we will forget or maybe never forgive, but we will move on.

With the zeal and commitment of archaeologists, the Weglyns dug through literally tons of documents. There were trips to archives; countless telephone calls across the country, year after year. Their office was their apartment. There was no secretarial help. Michi pounded away on her manual typewriter. The same machine on which she produced *Years of Infamy*, the seminal book on the incarceration. When prospective sources of information visited, the Weglyns were generous in their hospitality. There was no expense

account.

When Walter was stricken with brain cancer, I tried to bring a halt to their work. Leave redress alone, I suggested, as Walter's condition deteriorated. "You are one tough broad," I taunted my friend of over 50 years, hoping to slow her down. After Walter's death, Michi continued the campaign alone, even denying herself

parents. The sincerity and pain of the writers are absolute. But we all know, no matter how well phrased, emotional narratives alone in a situation such as seeking redress are inadequate persuasion. Only an experienced historian and scholar of Michi's caliber could appreciate the intricate mental maneuvering required to locate the necessary incriminat-

ing documents.

Michi continued to direct the crusade from her New York apartment, eventually leading Fumiko Shimada of Sacramento to the "smoking gun," a master's thesis by Andrew Russell of Arizona. How Walter would have prized this moment of vindication. He would have laughed with

joy. He had a wonderful, youthful laugh. And then he probably would have wept. It was a long time coming.

THIS PIECE is about Walter. So let me repeat a story he liked hearing about Salt Lake City's First South, which was our Japan Town. My family had a



PHOTO BY DORRY L...

time to grieve. She never lost her focus or tenacity.

As the campaign began to show signs of possible success, others joined the effort. Michi encouraged them to write letters. We all read these personal declarations of degradation and deprivation. Many of the letters included testimonials to the courage of our Issei

store on that street. Those were tough times, straight out of camp, competing with the established businesses. Often, I'd complain we were the only store engaged in monkey business. My mother, particularly, was more interested in the human aspect of the store. Word got around quickly. Soon, she had a regular clientele of Issei who sought material help or plain advice. In those days there was a lot of movement, either through death or return to the coast or even to Japan. And each time, those surviving or remaining behind would come, one by one, to our store, asking to be included in any collective gift. Some brought coins, not having enough to make a bill. Any apology for the smallness of the gift, because many of us were very poor, was quickly interrupted by my mother who said, "You are giving your fair share. Yours is a fine gift because you remembered." And discreetly, she converted the coins to currency, always making up the shortfall. Walter loved this story of remembrance.

I think he would be touched to know that there are those of us who choose to remember and to honor the remarkable contribution of the Weglyns by adding to the Michi Nishiura and Walter Weglyn Chair for Multicultural Studies. Gifts may be mailed to: The Endowed Chair for Multicultural Studies, Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768.

(The \$1 million campaign for the Michi Nishiura and Walter Weglyn Endowed Chair for Multicultural Studies was launched June 1993, when Michi Weglyn delivered the commencement address to graduates of the College of Arts, Cal Poly Pomona. ■)



## THE HOLIDAY GIFT THAT WILL MAKE HISTORY!

"Give Your Family a Permanent Place in Japanese American History."

George Takei

There's no way to repay your family for all the support they have given you. But you can start by preserving their name for all the generations that will follow.

For a \$500 contribution, you can designate a name that will be permanently inscribed in the outer Glass Walls of the new Pavilion of the Japanese American National Museum.

A permanent place in Japanese American history is a special holiday gift you can give your parents, grandparents, siblings, children, friends, even yourself. At the same time, you'll also be giving everyone a reason to visit the Museum and discover first hand important information that isn't found in history books.

Follow Actor George Takei's example and honor those dearest to you before it's too late. It's the perfect holiday gift.

Hurry! Only donations made prior to August 31, 1998, will be inscribed in time for the opening of the new Pavilion in January of 1999. Otherwise, names won't go up until late 1999. To receive a "Windows to the Future" registration packet, please call our Development office at (213) 625-0414. Outside of Los Angeles, call toll-free (800) 461-5266.

Space permitting, the Museum will accept listings after December 31, 1997, but at a donation of \$500 per name.

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## MIXED MESSAGES

By Mika Tanner

## Mother and the single girl

**M**Y mother is becoming increasingly concerned these days that my life's destiny is to be an old maid. So far, she's tolerated my disastrous relationships, my impetuous flings and sporadic dates with a certain amount of patience. But I think my single-woman lifestyle of eating cereal for dinner, pursuing unstable career goals, and having a cat for a roommate may have gotten to her. The way I see it, she doesn't think she can relax until I am safely married and cared for by an attentive husband. Like all mothers, she is a very dedicated worrier. Plus, I suspect that she's begun to hear my biological clock ticking VERY LOUDLY. Time is running out.

In part, I think my mother is concerned that if I wait too long, age and gravity will catch up to me and make me less appealing to a potential suitor. The way most Japanese women of her generation feel, a woman's looks are her ticket to a good life. Sure, brains and a "nice personality" help too, but when it comes right down to it, a young face is really what matters.

So, to counteract the inevitable (I am 28, after all), my mother advises me to wear makeup at all times and has been giving me suggestions about night creams and other miracle-producing beauty products. To tell you the truth, I don't know if any of it is working. I guess in ten years or so, if I'm married and have skin like rose petals, I'll have my answer.

Another concern my mother has is that I don't do well in relationships. Usually it's because I fall for somebody completely wrong for me, destining myself for

failure. Too often I act completely on my emotions, rather than pragmatically assessing the person's suitability as a life partner. To cure me of this destructive habit, my mother periodically sends me clippings from Ann Landers' column that instruct me on the do's and don'ts of dating. She even went so far as to tape a segment on the news show 20/20 that featured the women authors of *The Rules*, the bestseller that tells women how to snag the man of their dreams. Her concern of course is very much appreciated, but to tell you the truth, advice like "NEVER telephone a man, even to return a call" is just not very practical in the '90s.

Once, after extricating myself from a particularly unfortunate association, I vowed I would forever after heed my mother's counsel. I had made so many bad decisions up till that point it seemed she could certainly do no worse when it came to finding that special someone in my life. In fact, she would be able to coolly assess the merits and shortcomings of a relationship far better than I ever could. It would be just like *omiai* — the Japanese practice of arranged marriage, which rests on the assumption that your parents know what is better for you than you do yourself.

Of course, my resolution to adhere to my mother's guidance went out the window as soon as I met my current boyfriend. Meeting him, my mother was initially dismayed because he's younger than I am, still a student, and still very far off from being a responsible, corporate-type "family man." However, this time, rather than flying off the handle as I usually

do at my mother's seemingly intrusive objections, I tried to appreciate her point of view as a parent. Looking at it this way, especially with my less-than-stellar track record, I can totally understand her concern. Plus, with experience, I have come to realize that love, unfortunately, does not conquer all; there are many other factors that go into making a successful relationship. Factors that didn't seem so important at one time in my life.

I think the fact that I didn't dismiss my mother's comments as totally old-fashioned and ridiculous has helped not only our relationship, but the one between me and my boyfriend. Instead of becoming defensive and hurt that my mother was less than pleased with his presence in my life, he patiently tried to gain her trust and assure her that he was not, as she feared, a young, flighty man who would do me no good. The fact that he was sensitive to mother's feelings and did not demand that I defy her by "standing by my man" meant a great deal to me. My mother-the-icicle has gradually been thawing out, and I've even begun to think she likes him.

Although I can't say I'm ready to follow every word of my mother's advice, or that I'm even willing to settle down and become a "responsible adult," I believe I have struck a happy medium. I put night cream on before I go to bed, wear makeup on most days, and listen to the pearls of wisdom that she sends my way. Sometimes I comply with her suggestions, and sometimes I don't, which, for the most part, seems to work for the both of us. ■

By Harry K. Honda

Tule Lake Reunion VI:  
Is it 'a Last Hurrah ...?'

Very Truly Yours

**S**ACRAMENTO—At least 1,200 spent the May 15-17 weekend enjoying a pleasant time at the Tule Lake Reunion VI at Doubletree Hotel. Ours was staying put to cover the meaty-subject workshops, sample the sumptuous food, the "big band" music of George Yoshida's 18-piece J-Town Jazz and vocals of Ayako Hosokawa from Tokyo.

The reunion registration area and lobby, for me, was the place to greet names often in small print in the 1000 Club Honor Roll or a one-time chapter president. And those Angelenos we've known for some 40 years and seldom see back home were the happiest surprises, including brothers Min and Robert Iwasaki, Dr. George Kambara, Dr. John Kashiwabara, Fred Shingu, and our long-lost P.C. columnist Jobo Nakamura, remembered for his "Masao" stories out of Chicago in the '40s. The last time we chatted with Jobo in L.A., he was working under Dr. Thomas Noguchi at the coroner's office.

You couldn't help but meet new faces — "new" for me, being a "non-Tule Laker" and a "non-Sacramento." There were Cleveland JACLer Henry Tanaka, his wife Sachi, his sister Helen Watanabe and her husband Kay who live in the South Bay area. The Watanabes were paying their respects at Sierra West Cemetery's columbarium where ashes of the Japanese dead are kept. Were it not for Masako (Kitajima) Kobayashi, whose ashes of her parents and brother are in the adjacent columbarium, I would not have visited this old cemetery to the south of the State Capitol — a place

not a usual stop for a city tour unless someone very famous was buried there.

THERE WERE two busloads trekking to the campsite 250 miles north. After an overnight stay on the Oregon side, a late spring snowfall in the morning cancelled the scheduled drive up to the Klamath Falls Cemetery where remains of some Tule Lakers were transferred when the camp was closed — so related Gene Itogawa of the State Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Historic Preservation, co-chair of the pilgrimage. This bare northeastern corner of California also recalls the Modoc Indian War of 1872-1873, the final Indian holdout in the state. So, WRA's Tule Lake wasn't the site of the first U.S. Army clash with a minority in the area.

Dr. John Hara, longtime St. Louis JACLer making his first pilgrimage, readily recognized Castle Rock and Abalone Mountain — the two topographic prominences — but little else. Gene also explained the camp barracks, offered to returning U.S. GIs after the war for home-staying, were 100-feet long and had to be spliced in half to transport off the camp. Some still are seen in the basin, split in two parts or as L-shaped buildings. The Tulelake Museum devotes a section to camp artifacts, as elderly docents softly mention they came from the "Jap" camp. Under the circumstances, no one was about to admonish them.

ONE STUDY we look forward to reading deals with the 1945-46 evacuee mortality rate in the WRA camps being lower than the rest of

the U.S. population, and whether there was a racial correlation in spite of evacuees living in the camps. Nonetheless, deaths could have been averted, so Dr. Gwenn Jensen from the Univ. of Colorado Boulder told the reunion symposium on health in the camps. She has completed her dissertation on the health consequences of Japanese American internment, of the quality of medical care during the first days in the camps. She ascribed the work of the volunteers as a life-healing blessing in the public health picture at Tule Lake, even though supplies were inadequate. She reported that water at Heart Mountain was terrible, contributing to a wave of diarrhea. She said Dr. Terasaki, a public health officer, was worried about water at Manzanar since it came from the mountains, and had chlorination and filtration systems initiated. Based on interviews, Jensen related WRA had exhibited a poor attitude or lacked awareness of public health needs once the thousands were suddenly concentrated in the camps. On the other hand, what she found was the evacuees' cultural ability to cope — *shikatanai, gaman, gambare, on and giri* — that fought the ills and trauma of Evacuation.

AS CAMP reunions go, this was billed as the "last hurrah" by Reunion chiefs Tom Okubo and Toko Fujii, but our ex-Tule Lake friends were telling me they said that three years ago. The two gentlemen are old hands at staging these reunions, so we anticipate another "Last Hurrah" reunion. ■



From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

## A triumph of justice

**I**FJACL's long-gone founding fathers (and mothers) were still with us, they no doubt would be delighted by the latest legal triumph of justice — the apology and token compensation to Japanese Latin Americans for their mistreatment during World War II. But they wouldn't be particularly surprised because of their rock-ribbed confidence in the American justice system.

Back in 1931 the infant and inexperienced JACL sent Suma Sugi of Los Angeles to Washington to lobby for an amendment to the Cable Act. Among other things, the Cable Act revoked the citizenship of American women who married foreigners. It posed a particular burden on Nisei women marrying Issei non-citizens because if the marriage were dissolved, the women, being of an ineligible race, could not apply for naturalization. The amendment would eliminate this provision.

Since many other organizations, and even Congressman John Levi Cable, were supporting the amendment, Suma Sugi's lobbying role was limited, but JACL leaders were jubilant that they had a role in making the justice system work.

A few years later, Tokio Nishimura Slocum, Japan-born but reared in North Dakota and a genuine World War I hero, led a fight to win naturalization rights for Japanese who had served in the U.S. military. With scant funding from JACL, Slocum lobbied vigorously and was largely responsible for passage of the Nye-Lea bill in 1935 which granted naturalization rights for the first time, if only for a limited number, to Asians. Those were heady legislative triumphs.

But the Evacuation of 1942-45 was a devastating setback for justice through the legal system. Largely disregarded by the American public, the heartlessly discriminatory Executive order 9066 was signed by President Roosevelt and an entire American minority stripped of its constitutional rights. It took many years of intense effort to persuade Congress to pass the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the nation's apology for the injustice of the evacuation. It took the nation nearly a half century to get around to it, but the important point is that it was done.

Meanwhile, slow but steady progress was being made through the legal system to eliminate discriminatory land ownership and anti-miscegenation laws that affected Japanese Americans directly, and to promote the human and civil rights of all.

Redress first appeared to be a mission impossible. Hard work, knowledge of the way the system works and the skill to use that knowledge, and a growing awareness of the importance of human rights in the American way of life, made it possible.

Redress for miners and railroad workers penalized by E.O. 9066 appeared to be a more difficult goal than that of the evacuees. And redress for Japanese Latin Americans, though completely justified and necessary, looked even more difficult. All of us, and not just the direct beneficiaries, owe the activists a debt of gratitude for their efforts to right these wrongs.

As the earliest JACLers believed, the justice system works. But it seldom works by itself. We, the people, have to make it work. ■



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# Opening ceremony for Korean War exhibit set

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Japanese American Korean War Veterans Memorial Exhibit chairman Ed Nakata and State Capitol Exhibit chairman Toko Fujii have announced details for the opening ceremony of the memorial exhibit which is to go on display in the state capital from June 25 to July 5, in commemoration of the 48th anniversary of the beginning of the Korean War.

The exhibit honors the 246 Japanese Americans who gave their lives in Korea during the war, and contains stories and pictures of the war as experienced by the JAs. Featured in the exhibit are 84 individual photographs of those who died in Korea during the war.

Also features a 12-foot-long aluminum replica of the memorial wall located at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center in Los Angeles.

The opening ceremony begins at 2 p.m., June 24, on the north side steps of the California state capital building, followed by an exhibit viewing and a reception. The ceremony will begin with the posting of the colors by members of Nisei Sacramento VFW Post 8985. Reception and other arrangements for the special event are being provided by the members and ladies of the Nisei VFW post and the Sacramento Chapter of JACL.

Legislative cosponsors State Senator Patrick Johnston and Assemblymen Mike Honda and Nao Takasugi and Robert M. Wada, president of the JA Korean War Veterans, are program speakers, and Governor Pete Wilson has also been invited to speak. State Senator Richard Polanco, and Assemblymen Gilbert Cedillo, Wally Knox and Steve Kuykendall have



Korean War Vets Memorial Exhibit set to open in Sacramento's State Capitol Building on June 25.

confirmed their attendance. The opening ceremony and the memorial exhibit are open to the public.

The event is co-sponsored by the Japanese American Korean War Veterans, the National Japanese American Historical Society, the Sacramento Chapter of the JACL and Nisei VFW Post 8985.

For further information or reservations, please contact Victor Muraoka at 818/897-1533, fax 818/897-1714, 4714 Clymer St., Mission Hills, CA 91345, or Toko Fujii, 916/421-0328, fax 916/421-9856, 1204 Monte Vista, Sacramento, CA 95831. ■

YES...IT IS EASY TO SPOT THE OLD-TIME NISEI DELEGATES HERE.



## Letters to the Editor

### Draft resisters

If we have learned one thing from our World War II internment experience, it is that the stereotyping and ostracism of a people from society is inhumane, painful and unjust. We were then victims of this cruel constitutional travesty, victimized and made to feel ashamed and helpless by the Big Lie. Have we become more compassionate a people in our sensitivity towards others being similarly discriminated against as pariahs for our having gone through that kind of hell? I wonder.

I write this in response to Stan Kanzaki's more recent call in the *Pacific Citizen* for a plebiscite of the entire JACL membership on the long-festering "Resisters Issue." I, for one, can only feel immense pride in those draft-age men behind barbed wire who refused to cooperate any further with all the illegalities then being perpetrated by our government in violation of our constitutional rights. These were young men who had seen their parents' lives ruined, who courageously demanded that the grievous wrong of wholesale exile and internment first be corrected before they would accept the one restored right: the right to be shot at.

JACL, which has defended and advocated for the protection of civil rights of individuals and groups against the discriminatory acts of government, employers, etc., must immediately get focused in sorting out its priorities. It must set aside its bitterness towards those who exercised in camp their constitutionally guaranteed right to free speech. It must admit its errors and stop its vilification of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and other resisters of conscience, including those the government maliciously consigned to Tule Lake as "disloyals" (to justify concentration camps on American soil). We have no right to leave such a legacy of shame, divisiveness and misunderstanding to our children and to those who will follow.

If JACL is to maintain its integrity as a civil rights organization, it should follow the fearless and principled example of former PSW Governor Ruth Mizobe, who expeditiously brought about reconciliation for the Pacific Southwest area in 1995 by stating that "we, as JACLers, close this chapter of our history and truly begin the healing process that is 50 years overdue."

*Michi Nishikawa Weglyn*  
New York City

### Remembering the Riflemen

... and in the beginning home was an infantry squad (Oct. 14, 1944, Vosges [France]; K Co. 442 RTC) with which I would form bonds with comrades with an intensity unknown to outsiders, family, and even lovers. One minute into battle 12 men were suddenly 11 and a month later there was only one. In combat a rifleman is not an island, an individual, but needs the squad to bring structure and logic to a noisy, irrational activity. "Values" are often distorted but sometimes enhanced and understood in the promise of apocalypse — if you survived.

During WWII there were 12 men in an infantry rifle squad and four squads in a platoon (i.e., 48 men); four platoons in a rifle company

(192) and four companies in a battalion (three rifle and one heavy weapons companies), a total of 768 men. Three rifle battalions were the foundation of a regiment and in the aggregate with officers totaled about 2,500. On occasions the numbers were inflated by a surfeit of replacements. A segregated unit is "home," and when you show up they have to take you in.

The figure of 4,000-4,500 often cited as 100/442 strength included in addition to the rifleman 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, 232nd Combat Engineer Company, Anti-tank and Cannon Companies, Medical Detachment, Service Company and 206 Army Band. Furthermore each, as well as the rifle companies, battalions, and the regiment, included headquarters personnel who were rarely involved in combat — I know, for I was with the 3rd Bn. headquarters group during the last Italian campaign — I was very careful.

This account of the geometry and configuration of 100/442 RCT is not intended to diminish nor denigrate the vital and crucial roles of the supporting combat and service units. Moreover it is a truism that in a "democratic" army (the counterpoint is a segregated outfit and an oxymoron) individuals are assigned at random and quite fortuitously. The stark reality is that rifle companies sustain 95 percent of the casualties. From Oct. 14 to Nov. 15, 1944, the regiment suffered 2,100 casualties (*GO FOR BROKE: Pictorial History of 100/442 RCT*, Chester Tanaka, 1982).

Why this review and essay now? It is a fundamental requisite of history to clarify, analyze, and seek "truths." It is no less obligatory for Nikkei history, especially now that the number of Nisei is declining rapidly. Then there is the mythopoeisis of the 100/442 RCT and MIS reaching an apogee in the monument and memorial building projects which have raised contentious issues, opinions, and emotions (see *KaMa! Forum* of April 24, 1998, and other recent Nikkei and vernacular publications including P.C.). Perhaps it is also the end-of-the-millennium effect.

I have strived to be historically atonal and I anticipate corrections and criticisms. The omission of MIS and other Nisei, women and men, in WWII military service makes this essay incomplete but I don't have the experience nor grasp of their histories. I hope that they and my comrades will forgive me and understand this paeon for the rifleman.

*Eji Suyama*  
Ft. Meade, SD

### Solidarity

We stand in solidarity with the UCLA students and supporters who expressed their indignation toward Chancellor Albert Carnesale at the fund-raising dinner for the UCLA Asian American Studies Center held recently.

On May 19, the UCLA Affirmative Action Coalition held a rally and protest to demand that UCLA's new chancellor, Albert Carnesale, defy compliance to Proposition 209 and UC Regents' decisions SP-1 and SP-2. All of these measures seek to eliminate affirmative action in higher education and employment at UCLA. Hundreds of

students occupied Royce Hall that day and subsequently 80 students were arrested for the sit-in.

That same evening, Carnesale spoke at the fund-raising dinner for the Asian American Studies Center, the premier research and resource center for Asian American Studies in the nation.

During Carnesale's speech, several undergraduate and graduate students, as well as community supporters, stood up and turned their backs toward Carnesale. Some raised their fists high in the air. Carnesale went on speaking.

We admire the courage and commitment to equality and diversity that these students and their supporters showed at the dinner.

We also commend the respectful way this protest took place. Some of the students who stood up in protest were recipients of scholarships from the Asian American Studies Center.

Many Japanese Americans believe that to be "good" Americans, we should not make waves — that we should not raise issues that point out the inequalities in society today. These people feel embarrassed when other JAs stand up and speak out for justice.

But we should not forget that, had we not stood up and spoken out, redress would not have happened and generations of Americans would have grown up without learning about the violation of civil rights committed by the U.S. government against its own people.

Throughout the struggle for civil rights and ethnic studies, many Asian Pacific Americans stood up against discrimination and injustice. Institutions like the Asian American Studies Center would not exist today had these people not spoken out.

Although the students and supporters at the May 19th dinner did not speak a word, their message came across loud and clear — APAs will not tolerate the continuing attacks on people of color. Keep up the good fight.

*In solidarity,  
Members of Seigi*

(formerly known as the Social Justice Committee of the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations)

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\* "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 abridgement. 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.



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# Shin-Issei: The new Japanese Americans

(Continued from page 1)

talized their communities in expensive ways.

The JA community, on the other hand, has not witnessed similar growth; a favorable postwar Japanese economy deterred the overseas migration of workers to the U.S. Consequently, the JA community is largely U.S. born and now struggling with the complex issues of cultural survival and regeneration. This makes the question of Shin-Issei inclusion into the community so significant: If JAs do not embrace Shin-Issei into their fold, will a JA community maintain a viable cultural and political presence within American society?

Unfortunately, the answer to this question is not easy to come by. Both the Shin-Issei and the traditional JA community regard one another with mixed feelings and are far off from existing as an integrated, unified group. Many JAs view the new issei as cliquish, preferring to associate only with each other. They also feel the new immigrants do not make the appropriate effort to learn about JA history and the struggles of previous generations that have made their stay in America possible. Shin-Issei, on the other hand, tend to believe that many JAs are not willing to acknowledge them as legitimate members of the community and thus feel discouraged from claiming a JA identity of their own. This mutual apprehension has created a bi-polar structure that raises many concerns for the future of the community.

Charles Igawa, Ph.D. the president of the California Association of Japanese Language Schools and a Japanese immigrant living for over 40 years in the U.S., agrees there is a wide rift between the new Japanese and the established community. Igawa, who identifies himself as JA rather than as Shin-Issei, acknowledges, "There is a deep fissure between JAs and the Japanese that has never been analyzed. We have never taken the time to address the fundamental differences between these two

groups."

Igawa feels that these differences have existed for decades, and are often a result of long-held prejudices. He senses that many Japanese look down on the original Issei and, by extension, their descendants, as *kinin*, a peasant class not able to make it in their own country.

Mary Karatsu, a longtime Nisei volunteer at the Japanese American National Museum, is also aware of this attitude, saying, "Sometimes, I really think Shin-Issei look down on Nisei and JAs. They're not interested in mixing with us — they want to stick together."

Other JAs, like Hitoshi Sameshima, also a volunteer at the museum, feel many of the new Japanese immigrants do not appreciate what previous generations of JAs endured. "Many of the new Issei are apparently not aware that the older Issei went through so many hardships — they take the privileges and rights they have here for granted."

History may also be a factor that divides the two groups. Much of the JA identity continues to rest on the events of WWII and on making the distinction between themselves and the acts of the Japanese "enemy." This, some feel, makes the rift between Japanese and JAs inevitable. One Shin-Issei, who was reluctant to give their name, believes, "Many JAs are still in the old world of 50 years ago. They should look more to the future. Otherwise there will always be some kind of awkward feeling be-

tween Japanese and JAs. The focus needs to change."

There are some, however, who do not believe Japan has acknowledged or made sufficient reparation for their actions in WWII, and that this neglect has resulted in a national attitude of corporate expansionism reflected in the attitudes of the new immigrants.

"The Japanese have become a conveniently successful people without having to go through historical reflection or atone for past atrocities," Igawa states. "The

immigrants.

However, the fact that many Shin-Issei do not have to endure similar struggles as earlier generations may also be a reason why they are often viewed as not trying to become a part of American or JA society. As Igawa notes, "It used to be that immigrants, while struggling to gain a place in society, became a part of it. The Shin-Issei don't have to do that. They are able to remain mobile, and transnational — they can still be very much directed toward Japan, both psychologically and culturally."

He does, however, recognize that it is becoming increasingly difficult to integrate into American culture when technology, media, and travel make this so easy to avoid.

"You have the same TV shows, the same shops, the same newspapers," Igawa says. "Although you become functional in

dangerous. Now, although there are no longer the same psychological barriers, most JAs, especially the younger generations, do not speak Japanese nor have visited Japan. Many have never studied the history of their ancestral homeland.

Shin-Issei also remark that the JA community, in creating this distinction, tends to be very exclusive. "The way JAs exclude is very subtle," says Igawa, who has been in the U.S. most of his life. "It's hard to shed that feeling that they don't accept me. They tolerate me, but they don't totally accept me."

Igawa, in attempting to make ties within the JA community, fought for the inclusion of Shin-Issei issues in the recent Ties That Bind Conference. He believes that the only way JAs and Shin-Issei can work together is through constant dialogue and that Shin-Issei need to define their niche within American society. "The Shin-Issei have an enormous challenge ahead of them to cultivate their own identity and find their mission as a generation." Igawa also believes in the role of the individual. "My own responsibility," he states, "is to carve out my own identity, and to keep writing, speaking, and trying to continue the dialogue."

Sameshima agrees that an understanding can be reached. "Although many Shin-Issei live here the way they did in Japan, I think as they have children here, patterns will change. Children bring conditions from the outside world into the home." He continues, "Both groups are cliquish, but if there was some way to bridge the gap, I think they could get along."

As the JA community approaches the new millennium, issues of community survival and the role of Shin-Issei will continue to be discussed and debated. Perhaps, in this process, both groups will come to negotiate their differences and embrace each other in an alliance that will ultimately strengthen the JA community for generations to come. ■



**PIONEERS**—The Issei, first generation Japanese Americans who came to the United States prior to World War II, pioneered the first Japanese towns. Pictured is the Mayeda family in 1935, owners of the Asahi Restaurant and Tavern in Seattle's Nihonmachi.

psychic of the Shin-Issei is totally different from that of the older generations because the Japanese national psyche is totally different. Japan is an economic giant, with the attitude that they are Number One... The Shin-Issei are here with that kind of economic clout behind them. They are finding their place in the sun without earning it like the earlier generations."

Thus, the relative affluence and middle-class lifestyles of the Shin-Issei make many of the traditional JA cultural concepts such as *gaman*, *shikatanai*, and *kodomo no tame ni* obsolete; concepts that have in the past brought the community together do not apply to this new group of

your new environment, you still are able to remain at heart Japanese."

Yet it is this apparent disapproval of maintaining Japanese ways and habits that many Shin-Issei find puzzling. "We are all racially Japanese," Shin-Issei Mitsue Watanabe says, "But yet many JAs show no interest in where they came from, which I find to be really strange."

In fact, it is true that there is a marked distinction that many members and cultural institutions within the community make between what is Japanese and what is Japanese American. At one time, any connection that JAs had to Japan was potentially

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The Regional Director manages the Pacific Southwest District office in Los Angeles, supervising one staff person and periodic student interns. This semi-autonomous position is responsive to the Pacific Southwest District Council and board to ensure that JACL members in the district are adequately served. Lifting, travel, and work after regular hours and on weekends will be required.

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## OBITUARIES

## Kei E. Kaneda, 75, New England Chapter JACLer

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.—Kei E. Kaneda, born March 29, 1923, in Stockton, Calif., died of cancer June 6 at her apartment in Cambridge.

Kaneda was a student at Stockton Junior College when E.O. 9066 sent her to the Stockton Assembly Center and then to Rohwer Relocation Camp.

She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a bachelor's degree and received her master's in clinical social work from Smith College School of Social Work at Northampton, Mass. She worked for a short period at a branch of the YWCA before moving to Boston, where she lived the major part of her life, working at Massachusetts General Hospital and then teaching at Simmons College of Social Work. In her later years she also did some consultation and placement work.

Kaneda had a major role in reactivating the New England JACL Chapter and arranged a Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians hearing in Boston which focused on the constitutional issues of the removal and internment order. She was also active with the Cambridge Friends Meeting.

"She is survived by sisters Grayce K. Uyehara (New Jersey) and Ruby K. Friendland (New York), brothers George R. Ben, and Roy (Pennsylvania), along with many nieces and nephews, three sisters-in-law and two brothers-in-law.

A memorial service will be held at Cambridge Friends Meeting. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions to the JACL Legacy Fund and to Cambridge Friends Meeting. ■

## Aki Kurose, 73: Lifetime activist for peace

SEATTLE—An awardee (now posthumous) for the JACL-Japanese American of the Biennium in the field of Education for 1997-98, Aki Kurose, 73, died on Sunday, May 24. "So beloved by the entire community, she touched so many, young and old, with her beautiful spirit. In the many, many years I've lived in the city of Seattle, the obituary (by Seattle Times writer Paula Bock) is the longest I ever recall seeing," commented Cherry Kinoshita, one-time Seattle JACL president.

Aki was born in Seattle, attended Bailey Gatzert (elementary), Washington, Broadway and Garfield schools and received her diploma at Puyallup Fairgrounds during WWII. At Minidoka, her parents taught her not to be bitter about the internment. "Her parents were pacifists who recognized injustice but preferred to solve problems. They said being bitter only hurts people. War is the enemy, not the people," she once said.

After the war, she attended Friends University in Wichita, Kan., and worked as secretary for Quaker peace activist Floyd Schmoie on the American Friends Service Committee. While not adept as a clerk, her greatness came as a peace advocate, educator and mother.

At age 51 she went back to school, earning a master's degree at the University of Washington. She taught in the central area and was

transferred in the 1970s under a federal teacher-desegregation mandate to Laurelhurst Elementary School, where she taught science to first graders, winning the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching. She was called the Mother Teresa of Seattle's public schools for working with children in poverty, and at the Rose Garden Ceremony at the White House, she showed President Bush the peace button on her lapel. She told the president: "One stealth bomber could fund how many good teachers?"

As recently as this past spring, when chemotherapy and radiation could no longer stop her cancer of 17 years, acupuncture eased the pain. On good days, she would visit classrooms, sharing her message of peace and stories about the internment of Japanese Americans.

On Saturday before she passed away, she was visited by her lifelong mentor, now centenarian, Floyd Schmoie. After she fell asleep, he scrawled this note: "My dear Aki... Angels watch over you and God will bless you. In our turn we will all join you in the realm of love which is not limited by time or space."

She is survived by her daughters Ruthann Rothman and Marie Woo; sons Hugo T. and Guy S., all of Seattle, and Paul M. of Berkeley, six grandchildren, sisters Suma Yagi and Fusaye Funai (both of Seattle), and predeceased by husband Junelow and son Roland. ■

## Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Amano, Momoyo, 87, San Diego, May 6; Sebastopol-born, survived by daughters Miyuki Honda, Yuriya Yamasaki, Sumie Nakashima, 5 gc., 3 gc.

Azawawa, Robert Kiyochi, 87, Walnut Creek, May 12; survived by sons Eugene, Robert, Glenn, Ronald, daughter Helen Moran, 3 gc., 1 gc., sisters Yasuko Takemoto, Mary Azawawa, brother Esam Azawawa.

Bou, Shoji, 82, San Francisco, May 14; survived by sister Yuriko Bou.

Date, Kathleen, 82, Berkeley, May 8; survived by husband Daniel, sister Helen Izumi (Glen Ellyn, Ill.).

Fujii, Takeo, 87, Gardena, May 15; Makawell, Hawaii-born, survived by sons Alvin, Rodney, 3 gc., sister Tamayo Kobayashi.

Fujimori, Kenzo, 80, Pleasant Hill, May 8; Stockton-born, previously resided in Denver, survived by wife Yasuko, daughter Melody Fujimori, 1 gc., brother Dr. John Fujimori, sister Jean McLaughlin (Sacramento), sister-in-law Min Nakayama (Denver).

Fukuhara, Misayo, 96, Englewood, Colo., April 24; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons James, Kenji, daughters Helen Nitta, Nancy Nitta, Lorraine Mori-moto, Ida Sasaki, Linda Fukuhara, daughter-in-law Amy, 36 gc., 48 gc., 20 gc.

Fukushima, Junko Kihara, Kanagawa, Japan, April 16; survived by husband Rev. Shinetsu.

Hand, Lawrence Jack "Bud," 73, Los Angeles, May 5; Long Beach-born, survived by wife Suzanne Kimiko, sons Bruce, Brian, Bradley (Monterey), daughters Lisa Manouchery, Lianne Stern, brothers Rowland (Fresno), Jack (Idaho), sister Arlene Large, mother-in-law Yayo Nakano, brothers-in-law Ken, George Nakano.

Hashimoto, Minoru, 78, Seattle, May 12; Paia, Maui, Hawaii-born, survived by wife Molly, daughters Katie Makashima, Sherry Kataoka, Gail Hashimoto, Donna Takei, 5 gc.

Higuchi, Yoshiaki "George," 72, Rosemead, April 21; Honolulu, Hawaii-born, survived by wife Mitsuko "Alice", daughters Judy Saito, Patty Higuchi, Joyce Wyncoc (Ore.), sons Alan, Brian, Christopher Sakuma, 6 gc.

Hoshino, Harold Shoji, 82, Monrovia, May 14; Pendleton, Ore.-born, survived by wife Misa, son Henry (Danville), daughters Carol Hayashi, Debbie Fagen, 4 gc., brothers George (Minneapolis), James, Edward (San Jose), sisters Helen Doi, Mae Masuda (San Jose).

Ishida, George, 76, Apple Valley, May 12; survived by daughters Patricia, Christine, 1 gc., sister Toshiko Komura, father Toshio Ishida.

Ishigaki, Robert A., 80, Monterey Park, April 29; Los Angeles-born, survived by wife Kiku, son Cliff, daughter Cindy, brothers-in-law Tom Nakamichi (Selma), Tak.Nakamichi (Fresno), Kusu Nakamichi (Issaquah, Wash.), sister-in-law Sawano Ura (Watsonville).

Ishihara, Isamu, 87, Woodland Hills, May 7; Hawaii-born, recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Ray award from the Japanese government, survived by wife Kazuyo, son James Minoru, daughter Jean Hiroko, 3 gc., brother-in-law Minoru Kumagai.

Iwamoto, Mitsuko, 89, Santa Maria, May 14; survived by daughter Susie Kobara (previously of Torrance, now of Arroyo Grande), son Susumu "Sam" (Santa Maria), 3 sisters in Hawaii.

Iwamoto, Shohei Robert, 96, West Los Angeles, May 12; Kanagawa-born, survived by wife Tomiko, sons Rev. Edward Masuo, daughters Michiko June Tomita, Judy Mitsue Okita, 9 gc.

Kajiura, Chikabou, 78, Chicago, April 7; originally of Colo., survived by brother Robert Seishi Nagata, sisters Kimi Yamauchi, Evelyn Yoshie Nishimoto, predeceased by husband Kenji, brother Benjamin Nagata, Kawashima, Sumiko, 98, Concord, April 20; survived by daughter Mitsuko Iwatsu, 6 gc., 8 gc.

Kimura, David Yoshio, 81, Fountain Valley, April 16; Seattle-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, daughters Yumi Kato, June Kato, 4 gc.

Kumamoto, Hisayo, 96, Bellflower, May 12; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Masuo, Takeomi (Japan), daughter Kiyoko Shiozaki, 11 gc., 11 gc. Son-in-law Tak Yamaguchi (Fresno), daughter-in-law Fusako Kumamoto.

Kuroiwa, Telko, 82, San Francisco, May 1; survived by husband Mickey, sister-in-law Sachi-Ishida.

Masumoto, Masaaki, 62, Seattle, April 17.

Mato, Morio Mo, 72, San Gabriel, May 10; Gardena-born, survived by wife Michiko, sons Shigeru Paul, Hiroshi John, sisters Eiko Nakatsui, Toshiko Oishi.

Mayeda, Ben Yoshio, 84; Campbell, May 15; survived by wife Dorothy, sons Peter (Walnut), Carl (Cupertino), 4 gc., siblings Matsuye Kami (Los Angeles), Yoshiko Mayeda, Katsuko Yamashita, Setsuko Koyama (all of Japan).

Mayemura, George Yukio, 43, Long

Beach, May 6; Gardena-born, survived by brothers John Isamu, Shinobu, Nobuo Roy, Susumu, Terumi Ted, sister Mary Kazuko Eubank.

Morimoto, Shigeo, 94, Sacramento; Wakayama-born, survived by a daughter, Akemi (Sacramento); sons Noriaki Nakamura, Motoki Nakamura (San Mateo); sisters Mineko Akaba, Isoko Morimoto (both of Japan); 2 gc., 2 gc.

Nagafuchi, John Yoshiaki, 64, Los Angeles, April 17; Seattle-born, survived by wife Louise, son Brian, daughter Lynelle Goya, 2 gc., sisters Mary Oda, Frances Shurr, brothers Sumito, Dabo.

Nakagawa, Jane Hisaye, 61, Carson, May 13; Watsonville-born, survived by husband James, son Marc; daughter Dana Armstrong, 2 gc., brothers Fred Oda, John Oda, Jack Oda, mother-in-law Ann Nakagawa.

Nakamoto, Kenichi, 78, San Gabriel, May 5; San Diego-born, survived by wife Kiyoko, son Dr. Kenneth, daughter Janie Ige, 2 gc., sisters HirokoMuro, Kimiyu Takayama, Chiyeo Nakata, brother-in-law Tom Fujitaki, sister-in-law Kiyu Fujitaki.

Nishiyama, Fusako, 85, Los Angeles, May 14; Mie-born, survived by sons Jimmy Hajime, Roy Yutaka, 4 gc., 5 gc., brother Hiromasa Kitamura (Japan), sister-in-law Masako Nishiyama (Japan).

Ohara, Tane, 92, Torrance, May 17; Kagoshima-born, survived by sons Thomas Satoru, Victor Kiyoyu, Roy, daughters Helen Himeko Mimura, Marian Mitsuko Kita, Lillian Yuriko Scranston, Heidi Hideo Baker, 21 gc., 26 gc.

Ohata, Kevin Kaoru, 43, Los Angeles, May 27; Los Angeles-born, survived by mother Fumiko, brother Ronald Noboru, sister Susan Naomi, aunts Toshiko Yoshio (Lodi), Takako Tanaka.

Ono, Midori, 80, Huntington Beach, May 9; Tacoma, Wash.-born, survived by sons Tsutomu, Tosh, Kenneth, Ronnie, 6 gc., brother Hiroshi Yamakawa, Ozaki, Tsugi, Chicago, April 10 service; survived by son Masato.

Sasaki, Sam I., 86, Brighton, Colo., April 22; Gardena-born, former resident of Long Beach, survived by wife Yoshiko, daughters Amy Tokunaga, Judy Sato, Kathy Yoshimoto, son Sam Jr., 8 gc., 1 gc., brothers Satoru, Takeru, Nari, sisters Shizuko Kawamoto, May Kanow, Yukie Suzuki, predeceased by brother Henry, sister Harumi.

Sato, Tomio, 98, Chicago, May 4; survived by daughter Mary Okada, Edna Okada, Grace Ming Ruby Okada, Ruth Sato, 7 gc., 5 gc.

Sato, Tomiko Grace, 78, Los Angeles, May 1; Courtland-born, survived by son Danny Akio, daughters Beverly Sato, Thelma Nakamoto, Fumiko Lee, 3 gc., sister Mary Yoshiyama.

Shigekuni, Shizuyo, 102, Gardena, May 1; Hiroshima-born, survived by sons Henry Masaki, Thomas Nobuyuki, 8 gc., 8 gc., 8 gc., predeceased by husband Frank, son Tunney Tsuneo, daughter Fumiko, grandson Scott Thomas Shigekuni.

Shikuma, Hiroshi "Heek," 78, Watsonville, Feb. 17; WWII 442nd Purple Heart veteran, Watsonville JACL Chapter president ('56), survived by wife Chiyeko, son Ted (Pleasanton), daughters Nancy Shikuma-Watson (Watsonville), Anne (Sandy, Utah), brother Mack (Watsonville), sister Emi Shizuko (San Jose), 1 gc.

Shimizu, Seichiro Jack, 91, Seattle, April 24 notice; survived by wife Aiko, son Bob, daughter Sally, 5 gc., 4 gc., brother Eiichi Shimizu, sister Takiko Ni-nomiya (Japan).

Shimomaye, Eugene, 64, Monterey Park, May 9; Denver, Colo.-born, survived by wife Mary Sachiko, children Steve, Cindy, Roesner, Karen Shimomaye (Utah), 1 gc., sisters Masako Koga, Jill Nishida, mother-in-law Alyce Kuwaki (Camarillo).

Shinhira, Tsuru, 82, San Mateo, May 5; Akita-born, survived by husband Hajime, sons Tetsuya, Shigeru, daughter Yoshiko Ajari, gc., gc.

Shinhira, Tsuru, 82, San Mateo, May 5; survived by husband Hajime, sons Tetsuya, Shigeru, daughter Yoshiko Abe, gc., gc.

Shinoda, Minoru "Min," Castro Valley, May 21; member of the board of governors of the Japanese American National Museum, president of Eden Township Chapter of JACL ('49, '51), survived by wife Takiko, daughter Janet McEl-haney, daughter-in-law Cheryl Burchfield Shinoda-Brounston, brother Fred Shinoda, 2 gc., sister Rose Mayeda, sisters-in-law Chiyo Yoshihashi, Hisaki Kimura.

Shintani, Tadao, 73, Anaheim, April 22; Torrance-born, survived by wife Yoshiko, daughter Patricia Hamabata, son Dr. Gary (Michigan), 2 gc., sisters Luiko Hamaguchi, Nanaye Kohigashi.

Standford, Alice Marie, 85, Fresno, member of Fresno JACL.

Sudo, Eido, 67, Seattle, April 6; survived by sons Roland Haruta, Ronald Haruta, Stanley Haruta, Bill Sudo, daughter Mary Fuji, 9 gc., 3 sisters 1 brother in Japan.

Taguchi, Kendall Mutsuko, Los Angeles, April 18; survived by parents Casey Osamu, Jean Hsiao Taguchi, brother Reid Yoshio, grandmother Sumiko Taguchi, grandfathers Jim Yoshio, Dorothy Mutsuko Shiba, uncles Dennis Mitsuya Taguchi, Dr. Steven Yoshihara Shiba, aunt Joyce-Yoko Mayeda.

Takahashi, Thomas Taro, 67, Sacramento, April 22; Florin-born, survived by wife Hiroko, son Dean, 1 gc., sister Frances Matsuda.

Taketa, Rev. Kuniko K., 77, Longmont, April 25; Kumamoto-born, survived by sons Dr. Daniel Ray, Mark, daughter Cathleen Naomi Taketa, 4 gc., brother Kunio Higashida, sisters Sumie Akashi, Haruka Yoshihara, sisters-in-law Mitsuko Higashida, Haruko Higashida (Japan).

Tanaka, Kunio "Jim," 62, Gardena, May 10; survived by wife Sumiko, sons Barry Kenjiro, Tak Shinobu, brothers Teruo (Stockton), Hideo, Yukio(Santa Ana), Hideki, sisters Anne Tanaka, Sumie Otsu, Chiye Nishida, Yuo Hiroaka (Berkeley), Masako Shiota, Nobuko Ishibashi, sister-in-law Tsuneko Tanaka.

Tani, Ruth Fusako, 80, Mar Vista, April 15; Tacoma, Wash.-born, survived by sons Karl (San Diego), Dennis, Gordon, 6 gc.

Tom, Raymond, 64, Fresno, March 27; Korean War veteran, survived by wife Carole, sons Matthew, Mark, Michael.

Tomiyama, Glenn Shunichi, 54, Sacramento, April 16; Tule Lake-born, survived by daughters Adeena, Heather (Ashland, Ore.), father Kaneoyoshi Oscar Tomiyama (Sacramento), brother Alan.

Tomiyama, Glenn Shunichi, 54, Sacramento, April 16; survived by daughters Adeena, Heather Tomiyama (Ashland, Ore.), gc., father Kaneoyoshi Oscar Tomiyama (Sacramento), brother Alan, uncle Keiji Oshima, aunts Tomiko Oshima, Fusaki Handa, Miyoko Nakamura (Japan).

Tomobuchi, Fusakichi, 85, Torrance, May 11; Wakayama-born, survived by daughters Hiroyo Yamagata, Atsuko Fujita, 5 gc.

Tsuchiya, Frank Y., 74, St. Louis Park, Minn., May 17 service; survived by wife Helen, sons Frank Jr. (Bloomington), Todd (Eden Prairie), 2 gc., brothers William (Los Angeles), Paul and Albert both Bloomington, daughter-in-law Connie, sisters-in-law Jean and Sakie, predeceased by daughter Susan Matsumoto.

Tsukagawa, George Kiyoyi, 81, Los Altos, May 2; Los Altos-born, survived by wife Florence Fumie, sons Dennis (Los Angeles), Ronald (Mountain View), sister Norma Kageyama.

Uemishi, Kane, 96, Denver, Colo., April 20; Takayama-born, survived by son Ron (Denver), daughters Hope Yukawa, Mariagnes Medrud (both of Boulder, Colo.), 3 gc., 4 gc.

Wada, Hiroshi, "Kocho," 82, Torrance, April 8, Portland-born, survived by wife Aline, brother Kiyoshi (Denver), sisters Tomoko Kajioka (Sacramento), Mary Uyesima (San Gabriel).

## DEATH NOTICE

GEORGE K. MORISHIGE  
EVANSTON, Ill.—George Morishige, 83, died June 1. Born in Irvington, Calif. Survived by wife Mutsue, sons Kenny (Marjorie), and Jerry (Jane Michiye), grandchildren Dana Ann and Gregory Kenji. Memorial service was Saturday June 13 at Buddhist Temple of Chicago.

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# GOCHISO-SAMA P.C.'s Restaurant Review

## RM CAFE: Fusion Cuisine—What Emerges from the Merging?

BY MIKA TANNER

Fusion cuisine is a relatively new concept in mainstream culture, although Japanese Americans have been innovators of it for years. Spam musubi, chili and rice, shoyu hotdogs — all these things are essentially fusion food JA style. Fusion cuisine, however, making its way into the mouths of mainstream gourmands, is something else entirely — an exotic melding of East and West that gives birth to an exquisite culinary triumph served on nice dishes.

That's the concept, anyways. Eager to see it put into practice, I recently had dinner at the *RM Cafe*, a relatively new fusion restaurant in Santa Monica owned by the restaurant's Japanese chef, Waka, and his wife, Hiro-mi.

Although Chad Takebayashi, the very pleasant manager of the cafe, informed me and my boyfriend that the menu was supposed to reflect "world" cuisine rather than strictly Asian fusion, there was a heavy Asian/Japanese emphasis. Sake, miso shiru, and sushi were featured along with more European-flavored combinations like Wasabi Fettuccini, Asian Shrimp Risotto, and Green Tea Spaghetti.

To start, we sampled the Cigar De Mame, a long, thin spring roll filled with tuna and avocado, laced with a type of miso sauce. It was tasty, although rolled so tightly it seemed a bit tough. We also tried the Lobster and Crabmeat Salad, which turned out to be an impressively layered concoction of beans, avocado, and a lobster and crabmeat mixture. The entire thing was dressed with a sweet ginger cream dressing and green wasabi oil, then artfully strewn with pink peppercorns. Despite its attractiveness, the salad was not a success. The mixture of whole beans — kidney, white, and even soybeans — did not go well with the creamy texture of the mayonnaise-y crab and lobster meat. The crunchy distinctiveness of the peppercorns was distracting as well. I couldn't figure out what the dish was trying to be, exactly, but whatever it was, it was trying too hard.

For entrees, we were served the Roasted Canadian Duck Breast and the Grilled Tuna "Poki" Steak, both highlighted as chef signature

dishes. The duck, arranged on top of perfectly roasted discs of potatoes and lightly accented with a mascarpone cheese and mustard miso sauce, was very good, although the raisin nut chutney on the side looked vaguely like trail mix from Trader Joe's.

The tuna, on the other hand, was disappointing. Pieces of seared ahi tuna were placed on a mound of coconut garlic mashed potatoes, bok choy, and served with a Thai-like banana curry sauce. Like the salad, none of it seemed to go together. The salad garnish, prepared with a variety of spices including dill and cilantro, seemed to further confuse this already complicated entree.

Happily, the two desserts we tried were thoroughly satisfying. The Gateau au Chocolat, a warm chocolate cake served with chocolate and raspberry sauce, was delectable; and the Sweetly, a coconut rice pudding layered between chocolate wafers served with plum wine ice cream and apricot sauce, was unusual and delicious.

Although the *RM Cafe* is trying its best to cater to a trendy Californian crowd, it is overly-ambitious. Trying to be all things at once — creative, artful, cutting

edge — its focus is lost somewhere. I think that *RM Cafe* would be better off downsizing from "world" cuisine to something manageable and serving it at more reasonable prices. The chef's presentation, while beautiful, is not enough to carry the dishes; rather than striving to invent complex combinations that often don't work, I would recommend that he concentrate on letting the flavors of the ingredients speak more for themselves.

Fusion cuisine is a good concept, I think. Many delicious dishes could be borne from merging the food of different cultures together. However, as my boyfriend remarked, "something has to emerge from the merging." That is, there has to be a purpose, a focus to the fusion, so that what results has a distinctive character all its own. Otherwise, you could end up with something contrived and pseudo-chic, which, despite its potential, is ultimately what happened at the *RM Cafe*.

*RM Cafe*, 1401 Ocean Ave., Santa Monica, CA; 310/458-4771. Open for lunch, Tues. - Fri; dinner, Tues. - Sun. Appetizers and salads from \$6.00 to \$12.50; entrees from \$9.50 to \$20.00. ■

### PROP. 227

(Continued from page 1)

support for the measure, even among minorities. It's estimated that 57 percent of the AA voters approved the proposition, including 48 percent among black voters and 37 percent of Hispanic voters.

Proposition 227 is scheduled to take effect in 60 days. Officials from the State Board of Education have already announced that requests for exemptions from the law would be rejected. So far eight school districts, including Fresno, Oakland, and San Jose, have filed papers seeking waivers from the law.

Besides the pending lawsuit, the only other way to overturn Prop. 227 is by qualifying another ballot initiative and getting it passed by the voters.

Proposition 226, the bill to restrict unions' political contributions was rejected by California voters by a close margin of 53 percent, losing by only 365,000 votes.

The ballot initiative was aimed at reducing labor support for Democrats nationwide and would have required unions to get written permission annually from all of its members before using any of their dues money in political campaigns.

Washington passed a similar measure in 1992 and so have the states of Michigan, Idaho and Wyoming. Similar legislation to Prop. 226 has been defeated in 20 other states but decisions in nine states are still pending. The AFL-CIO says that such legislation could pass in New Jersey and South Carolina.

The creators of Prop. 226 are already vowing that they will be back in the year 2000. ■

### TATEISHI

(Continued from page 3)

would not have reached the conclusion it has, particularly with the president's commitment to insure that all JLA's receive compensation should funds at ORA run out.

And it goes without saying that the personal commitment and support of the Nikkei members of Congress — Senator Inouye, Representatives Matsui and Mink — made a difference, as it always does in our efforts. Each sought to persuade the attorney general and the president to support the JLA cause.

The attorneys for the JLA's contributed endless hours and resources on this case and deserve a great deal of credit for all they accomplished. And the JACL should be proud of its contributions, which were not insignificant, toward en-

suring a successful conclusion to this effort.

But in the end, it is the JLA's who matter and who deserve credit for their courage in facing difficult memories of their experience to seek justice. No amount can truly compensate them for their treatment, but the settlement is a step toward helping them heal the wounds and a closing of the final chapter on the internment. ■

John Tateishi is JACL's redress consultant.

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