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July 3-16, 1998

Clinton restores food stamps to legal immigrants

On June 23, President Clinton signed a bill that will restore federal food stamps to 250,000 legal immigrants, the elderly and disabled, who had been dropped from the program last year as a result of the federal welfare overhaul law.

The Agricultural Research Bill contains a provision to restore \$818 million in benefits over a period of five years. The food stamp action is part of the \$1.9 billion agricultural bill which includes monies for farm research and crop insurance. The bill had already been approved by the Senate and the House.

In California, 100,000 legal permanent residents will likely regain their eligibility for food stamps. On average, eligible families in California receive about \$192 a month in food vouchers.

In 1996, the far-reaching overhaul of the federal welfare system was announced, but since then politicians have softened their stance, largely due to loud protests from civil and human rights and immigrant organizations. Last year, the government restored partial eligibility for legal immigrants receiving disability payments and Medicaid.

But even with the passage of the agricultural bill, most of the legal residents who had their benefits cut off in 1996 — about 935,000 mostly adults between 18 and 64 — will still receive no benefits.

The congressional bill restores food stamp eligibility for legal permanent residents, children and the elderly, who were in the United States on Aug. 22, 1996, the day the federal welfare law was signed. Those arriving after that are ineligible. Also covered in the bill are refugees and asylees for their first seven years in the U.S., and Hmong and Lao individuals who aided U.S. personnel during the Vietnam War, their spouses, children and widowers. ■

Oki Mollway confirmed as first APA woman federal judge

With a vote of 56-34, the Senate on June 22 confirmed Susan Oki Mollway as the United States District Court Judge for Hawaii, becoming the first Asian Pacific American woman to ever serve on the federal district court.

Oki Mollway graduated from Harvard Law School with honors and has a master's degree in English Literature from the University of Hawaii. In 1987, she was named Woman Lawyer of the Year by the Hawaii Women

Lawyers Association.

Currently, Oki Mollway is a litigation partner at Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright in Honolulu. She has worked on cases at both the federal and state court levels and has successfully argued a case before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Her nomination has been vigorously supported by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) and the American Bar Association where a



large majority gave Oki Mollway its highest ranking of "well qualified." Various civil rights groups, including JACL, have long supported her nomination, which was first put forward by President Clinton in 1995.

Women currently make up only 17.4 percent of all federal judges and of the 845 judges now serving, only six are APAs. President Clinton appointed four of the six. ■

War Brides: An unknown story

(Writer Mika Tanner continues her series on the Shin-Issei community.)

BY MIKA TANNER
Special to the Pacific Citizen

War brides, or Japanese women who married servicemen from the American occupied forces after World War II, have always been a part of Japanese American history, and yet relatively little is known about their stories as post-war Issei making their lives here in America. Like the traditional Issei of the late 19th and early 20th century, these women also faced extreme hardship, emotional upheaval, and other challenges. Unlike the first Issei however, their experiences are rarely acknowledged and celebrated as part of the JA legacy. This is the story of one war bride who ventured across the Pacific to find a new life for herself after the war.

Hiroko is a 68-year-old woman living in Los Angeles who agreed to talk to the Pacific Citizen on the condition that we not use her real name. Like other war brides, she feels that many people, especially other JAs, look down on her for marrying an American G.I.

"Some Nisei, not all," Hiroko says, "look down on war brides thinking we were something



A war bride's wedding day. Sumi Ogita with husband Willie Brown, Tokyo, 1950. Photo courtesy of Anthony Brown.

bad, like prostitutes or something. They see movies and books and they think that only henna (scandalous) women come here. So they kind of look down and

discriminate. I'll tell you this, though, when you say you want to come to the United States and be married, they do so many investigations that if you had something like that in your background they would never let you in."

Like most of the women who came to the U.S. as war brides in the late 1940s to early 1960s, Hiroko was a young woman at the end of WWII. Living in Fukuoka after graduating from high school, she worked at a Japanese bank, but her salary was not enough for her to live comfortably in a big city. With Japan in ruins as a result of the war, food, shelter, and especially well-paying jobs were scarce.

"The pay at the bank was so low it was ridiculous. So a girlfriend told me I could find work at a nearby airforce base where they were paying ten times what I was making at the bank."

Hiroko's job as a salesgirl at the officers club within the base put her in contact with her future husband. Most war brides met their spouses in this manner, rather than as call girls or prostitutes as popular theory would suggest. As scholar Evelyn Nakano Glenn reports, often the need for employment corresponded with the expanded opportunities

See WAR BRIDES/page 12

Korematsu awarded Calif. Senate Medal

Fred Korematsu, a recent recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, was awarded the California Senate Medal on June 11 for his contributions to the liberty and quality of life of Californians.

The 79-year-old resident of San Leandro joined a famed wartime photographer Joe Rosenthal as the first recipients of the "Civitas Libertatem Tuere" Senate Medal given by departing members of the State Senate Governing Rules Committee.



When Korematsu and his family were ordered to an internment camp during World War II along with thousands of other Japanese Americans, he refused to go, choosing instead to join his fiancée on the East Coast. But eventually he was arrested and on May 30, 1942, he was sent to Tanforan and then to the Topaz internment camp.

Korematsu, along with Minoru Yasui and Gordon Hirabayashi is famed for filing a lawsuit against the United States government challenging the constitutionality of the forced internment of JAs based on race. The case made it all the way to the Supreme Court where the justices ruled against

See KOREMATSU/page 6

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Anti-immigrant freeway sign comes down

An anti-immigrant billboard sign along the California-Arizona border at Interstate 10 is being torn down after various Latino groups protested the sign, calling its message offensive and racist.

Sponsored by the Orange County, Calif.-based group, California Coalition for Immigration Reform (C.C.I.R.), the same organization that co-sponsored Proposition 187, the controversial sign was erected on May 4 near Blythe, Calif. But on June 23, Martin Media, a national advertising company that had taken on the C.C.I.R. account, decided to pull the sign after numerous threats to destroy it.

Martin Media representatives also indicated that they chose to remove the sign after Burger King and Best Western Hotels



were targeted for boycotts by the same Latino groups because they were leasing billboard space near the offensive sign.

The 10-by-30 foot billboard, made to look like a freeway sign with white lettering and a green background, read: "Welcome to

California. The Illegal Immigration State. Don't Let This Happen to Your State. Call Toll Free (877) NO ILLEGALS."

Those that may have tried to call the pre-recorded message heard: "Halt the immigration invasion of our nation ... Protect

yourselves and your kids from these lawbreakers. Take back America for only loyal Americans."

Mario Obledo, president of the Coalition of Hispanic Organizations and a co-founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, called the decision to tear down the billboard a victory and promised to keep a close eye on any other signs that are insensitive towards immigrants and minorities.

Barbara Coe, C.C.I.R. president, has already promised to get the billboard erected again and to put up similar signs throughout the state. She also indicated that she was unimpressed with Martin Media's decision to succumb to the protests of the Latino activists. ■

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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!

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Thanks to the generosity of P.C. cartoonist, Pete Hironaka of Dayton JA CL, the first 100 who contribute \$100 or more to support the Pacific Citizen will re-receive a signed full-colored, lithographed poster, "I See".

JA CL Calendar

Pacific Northwest
OLYMPIA
Sun. Aug. 1—Bon Odori, 5 p.m., Water St. at Capitol Lake. Info: Bob Nakamura, 360/413-9873, or Reiko Callner, 360/402-0810

COMMUNITY Calendar

(R) Reunions
East Coast
NEW YORK
Thu. July 23—Presentation, "North America's Concentration Camps, U.S. vs. Canada," 1-3 p.m., Ellis Island Museum.

The Midwest
CHICAGO
Sun. July 19—Philippine cultural performances & activities, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., The Field Museum.

The Northwest
OLYMPIA
Sun. Aug. 1—Bon Odori, hosted by Olympia Chapter JA CL, 5 p.m., Water St.

Northern Cal
BERKELEY
Sats. July 11, 25—Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group meetings.

new members banquet, New Canton Restaurant, 2523 Broadway, Sacramento. RSVP by July 10: Karen Kurasaki, 530/752-3746.

thru Aug. 1.
Sun. Aug. 2—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting, 2:30-4:30 p.m., 558 16th Ave. Info: Elsie Uyeda Chung, 415/221-0268.

Southern Cal
LOS ANGELES
Tues. July 7—Botanical tour, 10-11 a.m., Soka University.

SAN FRANCISCO
Sun. July 12—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting, 2:30-4:30 p.m., 558 16th Ave.

tour. Info, time, fee: San Mateo Community Center, 650-343-2793. NOTE—Bus transportation available; beverages to be supplied.

Pacific Southwest
GREATER L.A. SINGLES
Fri. July 10—Meeting, 8 p.m., Gardena Valley YWCA.

Sat. July 11—Dance; Koto & Taiko performance, "Waterfall," 7:30-8:30 p.m., JANM, 369 E. 1st St., Little Tokyo.

Arizona-Nevada
LAS VEGAS
Sun.-Thu., Oct. 18-22—100/442/ M15 1399th Engineers' post memorial celebration.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT
In the June 19 July 2 P.C. story titled "Shin-Issei..." the photo on page 8 was provided courtesy of the Henry and Yuki Miyatake Collection.

NOTICE: Following the national JA CL convention in Philadelphia, all JA CL offices, including national headquarters, district offices, and the Pacific Citizen, will be closed from July 6 to 8, 1998.

JA CL Legacy Grant deadline extended
The JA CL Legacy Grant deadline has been extended to Friday, July 24.

Holiday Issue kits are coming
The Pacific Citizen is requesting that all chapters call the office and submit the name of the person that holiday issue kits should be mailed to.

Small kid time

(R) Sat. Sept. 5—Greater Florin Area Japanese Reunion, 1-5 p.m., dinner 5:30 p.m., Red Lion-Sacramento Inn.

Gwen Muranaka



Disney's *Mulan*: China goes mainstream

BY MIKA TANNER
Special to the Pacific Citizen

I have to admit I watched the new Disney animated feature *Mulan* through a scrutinizing lens of political correctness: I sat through the whole movie waiting for something offensive to happen so that I could write a scathing review seething with self-righteous vengeance. Despite all my expectations, however, I really didn't find too much to complain about. Yes, I have to say that I enjoyed *Mulan* immensely.

Based on a classic Chinese folktale, *Mulan* is the story of a young girl who, despite her intelligence and good nature, is miserably inept at the maidenly arts and virtues necessary to secure her a suitable and respectable marriage. When the villainous Huns invade China and her physically disabled father is drafted into the Emperor's army, Mulan decides to take his place. She cuts off her hair, steals his armor and, disguised as a man, rushes off to join the imperial army. Mulan, through her determination and quick thinking, defeats the Huns, saves China and brings honor and glory to her family. She is accompanied through all this by the requisite Disney "critters": an adorable cricket named Cri-Kee, and Mushu, a wise-cracking, pint-sized dragon played by a hilarious Eddie Murphy.

Although true in many respects to Disney's standard formula, *Mulan* is different in some significant ways. First, the conflict Mulan struggles with is not how to find true love or live happily ever after with her Prince Charming; instead the plot focus on how she can be true to herself while still remaining a good Chinese daughter. The usual boy-girl romance is distinctly subdued, unlike with other Disney classics. The possibility of love between Mulan and the handsome army captain Shang is barely hinted at, and only at the very end of the film. Furthermore, it seems that Shang is attracted to Mulan not because of her beauty or feminine



(Top left): After making the bold decision to take her ailing father's place in the Imperial Army, Mulan disguises herself as a man and sets off on a journey filled with danger and surprises in Disney's *Mulan*. (Bottom left): Mulan gets a pep talk and some "expert" advice from her feisty, firebreathing "wannabe" guardian dragon, Mushu.



Mulan's tremendous love and respect for her father, Fa Zhou (bottom right), gives her the courage to secretly take his place in the Imperial Army where she proves herself to be a brave and disciplined warrior (top right) in fending off the Hun invasion in Disney's *Mulan*. *Mulan* is currently playing in theaters nationwide.

accomplishments, but because of her courage and devotion to her family.

Another difference that *Mulan* can boast is that there is no cleavage. After generations of female Disney characters with Barbie or Pamela Anderson-like proportions, this is a welcome change. Apparently, this was no fluke—*Mulan*'s creative team insisted that her frame be more realistic than that of previous Disney heroines such as Pocahontas or Belle.

I watched and enjoyed *Mulan* totally conscious of what it was and what it was supposed to be. That is, a potential blockbuster generated by the formidable Dis-

ney empire. In *Mulan*, Disney is doing what it does best, which is to make generic, expensive, and technically brilliant animated films that spin off into a line of hyped-up merchandise coveted and demanded by kids all over the world.

What Disney also does is transform every story into something distinctly American. Although the characters in *Mulan* are Asian, and the cast is Asian American, the film is pure Disney. There are very little recognizable traces of Chinese tradition left in the final production. What is disturbing is that, given Disney's monopoly on popular culture, this may be the only exposure many

children will have to China and its history. I think most people would agree that the Disney version of Chinese culture is not the most reliable.

What's interesting is that it actually could have been much worse. According to a *Newsweek* article, *Mulan* was supposed to have been totally different, originating as a video project called *China Doll* that depicted a "miserable Chinese girl who struggles against oppression until a British Prince Charming whisks her away to happiness in the West." Can you imagine if that was actually produced? Fortunately, none of the head animators would touch it, and eventually

China Doll was transformed into the drastically different story of *Mulan* at the suggestion of children's book author Robert San Souci.

So, if you don't have any personal objections to the Disney corporation and just want to see a fun and entertaining movie, *Mulan* is a sure bet. The animation is beautiful, the characters sincerely winning, and the message is better this time around than it has been in the past. Disney may not be the place to be culturally educated, but it sure can put on a good show. ■

Disney's *Mulan* is currently playing in theaters nationwide.

G.I. Joe® salutes the WWII JA soldiers of the 442nd

The story of the 442nd Combat Battalion tells of the extraordinary mission of a crack infantry regiment destined to be ranked with the finest assault troops in history. The 1998 G.I. Joe® Classic Collection assortment salutes the Nisei soldiers for their contribution to the Allied victory during World War II. The 442nd Americans of Japanese Descent Combat Soldier figure will be available in September.

After the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor, Nisei were classified as "4-C Enemy Aliens" whose loyalty to the United States government was deemed "questionable." The men and their families were forced from their homes and incarcerated in internment camps, yet guilty of nothing but their Japanese heritage. Their right to bear arms and their eligibility to serve in the armed forces were taken away. In all, 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry (70,000 of whom were native-born U.S. citizens) were incarcerated in internment camps scattered across the country.

On February 1, 1943, President Franklin Roosevelt approved a War Department proposal to organize a combat team consisting of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent. In accordance with that proposal, the 442nd Combat team was activated. With the Nisei Selective Service Classification revised, the War Depart-

ment issued a call for volunteers. In Hawaii, a call for 1,500 men resulted in a tidal wave of more than 10,000 volunteers, while on the mainland hundreds volunteered from within the barbed-wire relocation centers.

As a military unit, the 442nd's record in North Africa and Europe was extraordinary. Adopting the slogan "Go for broke," they fought as much for their country as for their incarcerated relatives back home. They fought in seven major military campaigns in Europe, made two beachhead assaults and captured a submarine. In late spring of 1945, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, part of the 442nd, was among the first Allied units to liberate prisoners from Dachau.

The 442nd's bravery earned more than 18,000 individual citations and Presidential Unit Citations including 52 Distinguished Service Crosses, one Distinguished Service



Hasbro's 1998 G.I. Joe® Classic Collection honors the WWII JA soldiers of the 442nd with the soldier figure (above) scheduled to be released in September.

Medal, 560 Silver Stars (28 with oak leaf clusters), 22 Legions of Merit, 4,000 Bronze Stars, 12 Croix de Guerre and nearly 9,500 Purple Hearts. Known as the "Purple Heart Battalion," the 442nd Division also suffered the highest casualty rate in U.S. Army history, with more than 700 deaths.

The 442nd Americans of Japanese Descent Combat Soldier G.I. Joe® doll is authentically dressed in shirt, trousers, helmet with netting, wool knit cap, combat boots, scarf, wool overcoat, duffel bag, web belt, two ammo pouches, canteen with holder, two grenades, rifle with strap, radio backpack with harness and dog tags. It retails for approximately \$29.99.

For more information visit the Hasbro Web site at <http://www.hasbro.com>, or call the G.I. Joe® action line at 800/GOGLJOE (800/464-4563). ■

442 vets O.K. Nisei G.I. Joe doll

HONOLULU—AJA veterans in Hawaii who scrutinized the 12-inch Hasbro toy doll depicting the famed Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team found the doll was not perfect; the ammunition belt was for a handgun, not for the M-1 Garand rifle in the doll's hands, and the webbing on the tiny helmet was a bit off, not hexagon shape but square, 442 Club president Robert Katayama told an *Advertiser* reporter.

"Still, we feel it is an honor," said former club president Henry Kuniyuki, to have a niche in the G.I. Joe® Classic Collection. The figure is scheduled for release in the fall.

It was a Nikkei Hasbro employee who, a year ago, suggested the addition of a Nisei G.I. Joe to senior designer Kurt Groen, who was already familiar with the saga of the 442nd. When a prototype was shown at a G.I. Joe convention in San Jose last summer it was a big hit, noted the *San Jose Mercury News*. ■

Tulelake Reunion VI — Memories of WWII internment and redress

BY TOKO FUJII

The four symposiums presented in conjunction with the recent Tulelake Reunion VI, held in Sacramento on May 16 and 17 at the Doubletree Hotel, were adjudged some of the best.

The first, "Evacuation: Was it Detrimental To Your Health?" was presented by Dr. Gwep Jensen of the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her exhaustive study contained interviews with more than 50 people, half of whom endured evacuation and the other half who had not been displaced.

The 200 hours of study brought out many unexpected observations. Dr. Jensen found that those who were evacuated suffered 50 percent more heart trouble than those who had not been displaced. Her study also brought out the fact that many deaths occurred in camp medical facilities because they were not ready with even the basics such as surgical instruments, medicine and trained personnel, for instant cities of 10,000. The dedication and skill of health-care givers among those incarcerated really saved the day in many of the camps, she observed.

Dr. Satsuki Ina, Professor of Psychology at the University of California at Sacramento, having treated so many who were traumatized by their experiences as children in camp decided to produce a documentary on the subject. Her video chronicles the history of seven who were severely

affected by their experiences as children in WRA camps. Titled "Children of the Camps" it's due to be completed by the end of 1998 and will be shown, for the first time during the "Day of Remembrance" period next February. The Public Broadcasting System, with local KVIE Channel 6 as the main outlet, will enable it to be shown nationwide in the year to come.

"Japanese American Musicians in the '30s, '40s and Postwar" was the title of the third symposium. George Yoshida's hour-long presentation featured the big band sound pre-war and during World War II, with emphasis on Japanese American musicians and their contributions to the world of music in those days. His 17-piece J-Town Jazz Ensemble has been well received at many JA functions in northern California and supplied the music for the reunion's Mixer on Saturday night, with jazz vocalist Ayako Hosokawa.

The fourth and most significant symposium was titled "Redress: A Promise Fulfilled." This panel discussion followed the conception of the idea of redress through the effort to pass the legislation and the completion of the payment of reparations.

Moderator Jerry Enomoto, two-time JACL national president and head of the Legislative Education Committee, commented on the history of the grass roots fund raising which enabled the redress

movement to move along.

John Tateishi gave up his position at the City College of San Francisco to take the helm of the national campaign to seek redress for the WWII internment of JAs. He related his experiences and difficulties in his task to mo-

ved.

Dr. Uyeda was responsible for bringing different factions of the redress effort together. He created a handbook which laid out the master plan for obtaining reparations and redress for the evacuees. The plan called for individ-

was surprised and disturbed by the extent of financial and emotional trauma that the displaced Nikkei had suffered. He also recounted his confrontation with General DeWitt, who had actually issued the evacuation orders, as to the reasoning and the necessity for the forced removal of all JAs without charges or trials.

Priscilla Ouchida, as aide to Senator Patrick Johnston, was the architect and driving force behind the successful passage of the bill to provide back pay to all Nikkei who were fired from State of California payrolls right after Pearl Harbor for the reason of "treason and possible sabotage." She also spearheaded the successful effort to exempt reparations funds from state income tax or disqualifying those who had been receiving state aid. She recounted the work and strategy which led to these major victories for JAs in California.

Harry K. Fukuhara, who is very active as one of the leaders of Military Intelligence Service Association of California, is credited with the unification of the MIS groups of Northern and Southern California. He gave brief histories of the military accomplishments of the Nikkei army units — 100th, 442nd, etc., and the MIS units. According to some military experts, he said, the war in the Pacific was shortened by two years through their activities. He stated that he was told many times over that without the exploits of these Nikkei soldiers, gaining redress and reparations would have been virtually impossible. ■



Tulelake Reunion VI's Symposium, "Redress: A Promise Fulfilled" — (left to right) William Marutani, John Tateishi, Priscilla Ouchida, Moderator Jerry Enomoto, Harry Fukuhara, and Dr. Clifford Uyeda.

bilize the Nikkei communities to push an effective campaign for reparations. He extolled the sincerity and drive of Dr. Clifford Uyeda, during whose tenure as national president of JACL in 1978 much progress was made to solidify the thinking of those behind the redress movement. Tateishi also credited Edison Uno as the man who originally came up publicly with the idea that redress and reparation were just-

ual payments, community fund payments, and a statement of apology from the U.S. government. Although Uyeda was not an evacuee, his leadership and tenacity were responsible for much of the progress made in the late '70s toward the passage of a civil rights bill, which came to fruition in 1988.

William M. Marutani, the only Nikkei appointed to the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians by President Carter, related his experiences as a traveling member of the commission, taking testimony from hundreds of evacuees. He

CLPEF statement on Japanese Latin Americans

BY SUSAN HAYASE
Vice Chair, CLPEF

The recently announced settlement of the class action lawsuit *Mochizuki, et al vs. the United States Government* has been finally resolved 10 years after the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and 56 years after the Japanese Latin Americans were incarcerated by the United States government.

Consistent with our mission to "sponsor research and public educational activities ... so that the causes and circumstances of [the incarceration] and similar events may be illuminated and understood," the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) has to date funded several projects to educate the American public about this important issue which is even less well known than the story of Japanese Americans in U.S. concentration camps.

The wartime experiences of JLAS — their forcible deportation from their adopted countries by the U.S., their subsequent incar-

ceration in the U.S., family separations, legal limbo at the end of the war — and their present-day campaign for redress have serious implications for constitutional and human rights as well as international relations.

Unlike the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which despite some compromises was generally embraced and celebrated by the Japanese American people, this settlement raises several policy issues on the treatment of the incarceration of JLAS and of JAs.

There are several policy issues at hand: 1) the basis of ineligibility for redress of the affected JLAS was their illegal status resulting from U.S. government actions and not their own; 2) other JLAS with identical circumstances to those in the settlement were given legal status retroactive to the date of their entry and therefore were eligible for redress under the Civil Liberties Act; 3) despite similar, and in some ways worse, treatment during the war, the settlement awards JLAS \$5,000 or

less, as compared with the \$20,000 compensation received by JAs; and 4) the degree to which the \$5,000 compensation was determined by availability of funds within the existing appropriations for redress. On this last point, working within the remaining amounts available assumes that seeking an additional appropriation from Congress or the administration was not an option.

Both the details of the JLAS' concentration camp experience and the various aspects of this controversial settlement deserve further study and analysis by historians, legal scholars, and political scientists.

Additionally, as with many other aspects of the World War II concentration camps, the story of the JLAS deserves to be told so that Americans will have a greater understanding of the impact of government policies on real people and of the commitment and courage required by those who seek justice and equality. ■

Manzanar Committee completes tour guide book

LOS ANGELES—The Manzanar Committee announced this week that a self-guided tour book for the Manzanar National Historic Site has been completed and is ready for distribution.

Titled *Reflections: In Three Self-guided Tours of Manzanar*, the 45-page book contains an overview of the 150-year history of the Japanese in America, a recommended reading list, photographs, sketches, and a foldout map of the selected tours.

"We selected historic photographs which had not been used as frequently as some," said Sue Embrey, chair of the Manzanar Committee who managed the project. "We also chose to use sketches from the mimeographed edition of the *Manzanar Free Press* Japanese Section of September 1943 which had never been used before."

Current photographs included in the book were taken by Tak Yamamoto of the committee and the archeological team of the Western Archeological and Conservation

Center, National Park Service. The graphic artist for the book design and layout was Kimiyo Ige. The cover photograph of the cemetery monument is courtesy of Christopher Landis, whose photographs of Manzanar are currently on exhibit at the Ansel Adams Center for Photography in San Francisco; the back cover aerial photograph was taken by Dr. Reichi Iizuka of Las Vegas.

The three suggested tours are: #1, Administration Area, which can be reached from the entrance to the historic Auditorium off Highway 395; #2, the southwest area of the camp, including the Block 6 and 12 gardens and the Judo Dojo; #3, beginning at the cemetery and including concrete foundations of a guard tower, the hospital grounds, Children's Village, Block 22 garden and Merritt Park.

At press time all descriptions were accurate. However, Embrey warned that since the park is undergoing development, changes in roads, trails and other locations may occur. She added that two ad-

ditional park rangers are scheduled to report for duty in June and advised that park personnel should be consulted for current conditions.

Response to the tour book has ranged from "A good combination of background information and current material" to "Absolutely spectacular!" (from Dr. Arthur A. Hansen of California State University Fullerton, who was one of the consultants to the project). The book project was funded by the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF).

The former World War II camp, where 10,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were interned from March 1942 until November 1945, is located 200 miles north of Los Angeles on U.S. Highway 395. The National Park Service has jurisdiction over the site.

For information on purchasing a copy of the tour guide, contact the Manzanar Committee, 1566 Curran Street, Los Angeles, CA 90025, phone 213/662-5102, fax 213/ 666-5161. ■



Blue Shield of California offers group health care

coverage to current JACL members age 18 and over who reside

in California. Plans may include a wide range of benefits,

including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental

care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information

about these plans, call the JACL Group

Health Trust today at 1-800-400-6633.



Choose from four plans:

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A new low option \$1000 deductible basic plan.

Blue Shield of California
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"Torrance JACL 4 Kids" day golf tournament fundraiser

In an effort to outreach to the community, the JACL Torrance Chapter has created its first annual "Torrance JACL 4 Kids" day golf tournament fundraiser. The tournament will be held on July 25 at 10 a.m. at the Los Angeles Royal Vista Golf Course in Walnut to raise funds for various charitable organizations in the L.A. area.

Four organizations have been selected to benefit from the fund-raising event: Camp Footprints, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center Pediatric Immunodeficiency (MZ) Clinic, Torrance Elementary Schools, and Cheer for Children. These organizations were specifically selected because donations will directly benefit the children, instead of being used to pay for overhead and administrative costs.

The golf tournament, which will be a four-person scramble format, will include a "Closest to Pin" competition (winner to receive a new set of Taylor Made irons) and a "Longest Drive" contest (winner to receive a new Odyssey putter). In addition, representatives from Callaway Golf and Taylor Made Golf will be on hand to demonstrate their line of golf clubs starting at 8:30 a.m. The day's events will close with a prime rib of beef and chicken buffet dinner and a raffle drawing. The green fee, cart, contests, dinner, as well as tee packs, are all included in the \$125 entrance fee.

In support of the "Torrance JACL 4 Kids" event, contributions from

individuals and corporations are being sought to raise money for these deserving organizations. There are four ways in which contributions can be made. First, an advertisement can be placed in the event's program. Second, individuals and corporations can sponsor a golf hole — a banner will be placed alongside the hole indicating the sponsor. Third, a raffle will be held the day of the event, and raffle prize donations (such as gift certificates, airline tickets, and golf clubs) are needed. Finally, monetary contributions are also desired.

Contributions are tax-deductible charitable donations under Section 170(c) and 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Federal ID# is 33-0250272. A contribution confirmation letter will be provided for all donations received. Thus far, the list of contributors to the golf tournament includes Las Vegas Golf and Tennis, KPMG Peat Marwick LLP, CAST Management Consultants, and Alpine Electronics, and many others.

Please send all entrance fees for the golf tournament and donations to: Torrance JACL, P.O. Box 4201, Torrance, CA 90510-4201, by July 10. Checks should be made payable to "Torrance JACL," and entrance fees for the golf tournament will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For further details visit the website at <http://www.jacl.org/torrance> or call Richard Mukai at 310/362-4067. ■

CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Watsonville chapter scholarships

The JACL Watsonville Chapter recently announced the recipients of the 1998 Kee Kitayama Memorial Scholarships. They are Watsonville High School's co-valedictor Richard Amy Uyematsu, daughter of Richard and Susan Uyematsu, Derek Hayashi, son of Dr. Arthur and Joanne Hayashi, and Michelle Kadotani, daughter of David and Jeanni Kadotani.



Kadotani Hayashi Uyematsu

Each applicant achieved high academic standards and participated in community service. They were also required to write an essay on Executive Order 9066, the Day of Remembrance, February 19.

Uyematsu, who will be majoring in business administration at St. Mary's College of California, wrote that while disappointed that many people still do not know about the

internment, she was personally elated that so many people of other races and ethnic groups attended the showing of *Beyond Barbed Wire* at the Fox Theater in Watsonville.

Hayashi, who attended York School in Monterey, will be a fresh-

man at Willamette University in Salem, Ore., majoring in biology. His intensive research on Executive Order 9066 and its unfairness towards loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry impressed his teachers and classmates at York as well as

our Watsonville JACL Board of Directors. Kadotani, of Monte Vista Christian High School, will matriculate at the University of San Francisco majoring in pre-law. She started a Japanese Club at her school, attended the Cabrillo College Day of Remembrance event on February 19 and relayed her experiences and knowledge gained about the unfair internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans to her classmates.

Thanks to the generosity of The Kee Kitayama Foundation, Keiko Kitayama, and many JACLers who donated to the scholarship portion of the Day of Remembrance Education Fund, we were able to award the most money ever — \$2,250 (\$750 each). ■

"Lessons Learned from History" an essay writing competition

As part of their 1998 "Day of Remembrance" educational programs, the San Mateo Chapter of the JACL sponsored an essay contest for all high school students in San Mateo County. Essay topics were:

1. The migration of any one or more of the Asian cultural groups to California before, during, and after the Gold Rush;

2. The forced internment of Japanese Americans during World War II;

3. The implications of the internment and denial of constitutional rights of JAs during WWII for today's society.

The education committee is pleased to announce the winners of this competition, who will receive a savings bond and educa-

tional videos and materials for their schools.

First Place: Logan Price, Menlo-Atherton High School; essay titled, "Civilian Internment."

Second Place: Keri Owyang, San Mateo High School; essay titled, "Too Many Chinese: Immigration of Chinese to California."

Third Place: Bradley Okamoto San Mateo High School; essay titled, "Big Bands Behind Barbed Wire."

Honorable Mention: Monica Lee, Crystal Springs Uplands High School; Ann Caldwell, Menlo-Atherton High School; Davis Yang, Menlo-Atherton High School; June Snedecor, Menlo-Atherton High School.

A certificate of merit and a savings bond will be awarded to these students at the July 18 JACL Community Center potluck to be held at the San Mateo Senior Center on the Alameda. ■

Fremont JACL holds scholarship luncheon

Fremont JACL held its annual luncheon honoring high school graduates on May 31 at Sushi Yoshi in Newark. Master of ceremonies for the event was Mas Yamasaki. Receiving scholarship awards were:

Masutaro Kitano Scholarship — Catherine Droboff, graduate of Irvington High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Droboff.

Tom Kitayama, Jr. Scholarship — Jeni Yamashita, graduate of Newark Memorial High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Yamashita.

Sumitomo Bank Scholarship — Jeni Yamashita.

Joseph Kato Scholarship — Emi Kamei, graduate of Washington High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Kamei.

Frank Kasama Scholarship — Ryan Nagata, graduate of Foothill High School, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Nagata.



JACL Fremont Chapter scholarship recipients (from left to right): Jeni Yamashita, Catherine Droboff, Ryan Nagata, and Emi Kamei.

Union-Bank Scholarship — Catherine Droboff.

Fremont/Union City Fire Marshall Bill Reykalin, guest speaker of the event, spoke of his 23 years in fire service and of the changes in the role of the department,

from strictly putting out fires to becoming more of a community service worker. He related this to alert youths to be prepared for change — to get experience, learn from it and proceed to the next level. ■

WLA Chapter and auxiliary scholarship awards dinner

Community members, parents, and West Los Angeles JACL and Auxiliary members attended dinner on June 8 at the Marie Calendar Restaurant in Marina Del Rey to celebrate and award scholarships to the graduating seniors from local high schools.

WLA JACL President Jean

South High School, daughter of Randy and Marlene Sakamoto, who was presented with the Taya Isono Scholarship by Louise Isono Starcher; and Jason Shimizu, Culver City High School, son of Glenn and Linda Shimizu, who received the Dr. Milton Inouye Scholarship from Chieko Inouye.

impact of meeting 350 young people from all over the country. He spoke movingly about the warmth and positive reactions which he felt would help to generate understanding and love among the people who attended.

Erin Kimie Sato, 1998's Miss West Los Angeles, commended and congratulated the scholarship recipients, and the Rev. Mark Nakagawa of the WLA United Methodist Church lead the sixty attendees in opening and closing prayers.

The scholarship chair and co-chair were Eiko Iwata and Grace Kataoka. ■



West Los Angeles & Auxiliary Scholarship Recipients: Andrew Masahiro Uchida, Kira Akiko Sakamoto, Jason Derek Shimizu, Elissa Anne Narikawa, and Kenji Michael Yamazaki.

Shigematsu awarded the three WLA JACL Scholarships to Elissa Anne Narikawa, University High School, daughter of Isao and Diane Narikawa; Andrew Uchida, Brentwood High School, son of Randy and Gloria Uchida; and Michael Kenji Yamazaki, Brentwood High School, son of Dr. Mark and Nancy Yamazaki.

The two seniors receiving WLA JACL Auxiliary Scholarships were Akiko Kira Sakamoto,

Three seniors were also sponsored for national JACL scholarships. They are Julie Takako Nagashima, University High School, daughter of Koji and Mieko Nagashima; Elissa Anne Narikawa, and Kenji Michael Yamazaki, also listed above.

Kenji Yamazaki, recipient of a National Youth Leadership Conference award, spoke of his experiences and impressions of the Washington, D.C., event and the

Santa Maria Valley Chapter scholarships awarded

Santa Maria Valley Chapter JACL awarded two \$500 scholarships for 1998.

One of the recipients, Sumi Araki-Kawaguchi, will transfer from Allan Hancock College to Cal State Long Beach and pursue her education in computer science. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Araki-Kawaguchi.

The second recipient, Jodee Minami, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Minami. She graduated from St. Joseph High School and will be attending the University of San Diego. ■

From the desk of author James Oda

According to the Takeuchi document, Moses came to Japan around 1300 B.C. He sailed from Aqaba on the back side of Mt. Sinai and arrived at the port of Hotatsu, then a gateway to Japan's capital in Ecchu. He stayed at Hotatsu for 12 years, during which time he married an imperial princess Omuro and raised three children.

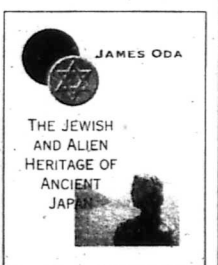
The purpose of his coming to Japan was to obtain the official sanction from Japan's emperor for his Ten Commandments. (Note: Japan's emperor was regarded as the highest authority in the world, although no western literature testifying to that effect has ever been found.) After 12 years, he went back to Mt. Sinai with a space ship (ama-no-ukibune) provided by the emperor. (The Japanese people generally believed that imperial ancestors descended from heaven with ana-no-ukibune.)

Another mystery involving Moses is the legend that Moses founded the Roman Empire. This story emerges from the fact that the first Roman emperor's name was Romulus and Moses's last name was also Romulus. Chronologically speaking, they could not be one and the same. However, the Japanese source is ever more persistent, contending that soon after Moses's departure Princess Omuro followed him to Rome, Italy, and there she adopted a new name Princess Rome and that there are passages in the Greek literature describing the activities of a princess of foreign origin named Princess Rome.

One positive confirmation for the Japanese source is the existence of three tombs, respectively, for Moses, Princess Rome and one of their sons, in the town of Oshimizu near Mt. Hotatsu. There is no tomb found anywhere in the Middle East for Moses. (Ref. Oda, pgs 118-128)

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A More Perfect Union opens at San Francisco Public Library

SAN FRANCISCO—Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, the San Francisco Public Library is presenting an exhibition and program series, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution," from June 26 through Aug. 6 at the Main Library.

The internment of nearly 120,000 Japanese Americans — most of them citizens — during World War II is a little-told story in America's history. "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the United States Constitution" is intended to recover this previously obscure but vital chapter in American constitutional history.

The exhibit uses an historical event to examine a perennial question of individual liberty vs. national security. It looks at the way in which a democracy deals with its imperfections within the framework of a living document, designed to be permanent yet

subject to amendment.

Originating from the National Museum of American History of the Smithsonian Institution, this exhibition and program series on the WWII eviction and incarceration of persons of Japanese ancestry will offer library patrons an informative look at the hardships that JAs endured during WWII. The exhibition and programs are presented by the library and the National Japanese American Historical Society, in conjunction with the JACL San Francisco Chapter.

"A More Perfect Union" will have multiple program components that will examine and reflect upon the internment experience, the effort to redress and the present-day relevance of the internment's constitutional issues. Honoring the tenth anniversary of the historic Civil Liberties Act of 1988 enacted by Congress and signed into law by President Reagan, these exhibits and programs are designed to educate the public

and raise the level of awareness about "a grave injustice [that] was done to both citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry by the eviction, forced removal and incarceration of civilians during WWII."

Significant emphasis is given to children's programs for this series in an effort to create a better understanding of the ramifications of the Japanese internment. Exhibitions and program librarian Laura Lent states, "This exciting collaboration between the library, the Smithsonian and local JA organizations creates unique opportunities for children and adults to interpret the historical significance of the internment and its aftermath, through an educational forum of exhibits and programs."

"We hope to further the understanding of the Japanese internment through events that appeal to younger audiences, including storytelling, performance art, art classes and exhibits." ■

Utah Chapters make a "big deal" out of visit of "A More Perfect Union" exhibit

BY YAS TOKITA

My wife Elaine asked me a question that stumped me. "Why is the name of the exhibit 'A More Perfect Union'?" How embarrassing — I had been working on the exhibit committee, under the leadership of Salt Lake Chapter president Terry Nagata, since October 1997.

The answer came from LuAnn Nakamura of the Salt Lake City

Americans in concentration camps during World War II.

Colleen McLaughlin of the library had approached Nagata in late 1997 to plan a program of events to complement the exhibit. The three Utah JACL chapters embraced the program with enthusiasm and went to work on the planning.

What resulted was a rich potpourri of happenings including a gala opening reception, a video film series, panel discussions, lectures, workshops, demonstrations of Japanese arts, crafts and martial arts, and art and photographic exhibits. These were to be sprinkled over the six-week run of the exhibit.

JACL national director Herb Yamamashi, Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Greg Marutani and David and Carol Kawamoto were present for the final presentation of the JACL N.I.S.E.I. teacher workshop. The JACL's Curriculum Guide is the core of this program for educators grades K-12.

The opening reception, held on the evening of May 2 was lush. The Ogden Buddhist Church Taiko drummers provided a roaring, rumbly introduction in the north courtyard of the Main Downtown Salt Lake City Library. The exhibit

was on the second floor, where the Topaz Museum has a table to sell the updated version of *Pride and Prejudice*. There was also a buffet reception, and koto music provided by Kimi Osterloh and Hatumi Bryant gave a soft, Japanese flavor to the exhibit.

Jane Beckwith gave the keynote address — a chronology of teaching the high schoolers of Delta, Utah, about the Topaz Concentration Camp and the formation and accomplishments of the Topaz Museum.

The Nikki Nojima Louis Troupe presented their increasingly recognized Reader's Play, *Breaking the Silence*. The audience included educators who had traveled from Bozeman, Mont., 540 miles north of Salt Lake City. The reaction was typical — empathy on the part of Japanese Americans, understanding and gaining of an identity on the part of Sansei, Yonsei and Gosei, education on the part of those who had been unaware, and appreciation of a powerful statement by all who attended. ■



Visitors examining the panels of "A More Perfect Union" at the Salt Lake City Public Library.

Main Library. The title, of course, is from the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States of America, which we, as grade school children, studied and memorized. The complete title of the exhibit is, "A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the United States Constitution."

The Salt Lake City Public Library is one of 20 across the U.S. selected to host the traveling exhibition. It gives the public an opportunity to examine the historical, political, social, economic and legal issues that surrounded the internment of Japanese and Japanese

Korean vets seeking KIA photos for exhibit

The Japanese American Korean War Veterans will be hosting their second annual Korean War Memorial Exhibit during the Los Angeles Nisei Week Festival, Aug. 15-23. The exhibit will be displayed at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, 244 So. San Pedro St., Los Angeles.

The primary purpose of the exhibit is to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice for their country in the war for the freedom of South Korea. At the present time, the exhibit committee has 88 photographs of these brave men which are displayed in the Memorial Exhibit's "Gallery of Honor." This represents a 22 percent increase in photographs since the previous 1997 exhibit.

Killed In Action records chairman Paul Ono is requesting assistance from the families and relatives of the KIAs, Korean War

veterans and the public in obtaining additional photographs of the KIAs, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of the next of kin. The committee's goal is to obtain as many photos as possible prior to the 49th anniversary of the Korean War, which is June 25, 1999, in preparation for the 50th anniversary commemoration year. Questions may be directed to Paul Ono at 310/532-2495, or mail inquiries to 16230A S. St. Andrews Place, Gardena, CA 90247-4649.

The committee intends to update the exhibit every year with new display items, personal photos and memorabilia. Please contact Ken Oye at 310/328-8835 with any questions regarding the photographs and souvenirs or send the items to Ken Oye at 2431 Santa Fe Ave., Torrance, CA 90501. ■

A lesson in American history

BY STEVEN C. NAGATA

New York Chapter

NEW YORK—On June 6 the New York Chapter conducted its first teachers' workshop at New York University (NYU), which attracted more than 25 educators from the tri-state area. Sponsored by the JACL and the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) and funded by the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, the workshop shed light on a little-known subject on the East Coast. Because the workshop was supported by the New York City Board of Education, participants received 5-1/2 hours continuing education credits.

The oversubscribed workshop was organized by Dr. Sumi Mitsudo-Koide, New York JACL Education Committee chair. It was facilitated, in part, by committee members Sharon Ishii-Jordan and Teresa Maebori; Greg Marutani, San Francisco JACL Chapter President; Lloyd Kajikawa, JANM Education Coordinator; and Jackie Kuwada, National JACL intern. The morning session included an overview of the history of Japanese American internment and redress, while the afternoon session focused on the development of strategies and lesson plans to teach these topics in K-12 classrooms. Many of those in attendance had little knowledge of the JA internment during World War II and expressed

shock over the loss of both civil and constitutional rights by United States citizens of Japanese ancestry.

The attendees were particularly interested in the sociological and financial impact of uprooting families and communities. When they learned about camp life, workshop participants were able to empathize with the struggle of internees to make life as normal as possible. In what has become part of the healing process, many were moved by the personal stories of Mitsudo-Koide and Dr. Irene Shigaki of the School of Education at NYU. As children, both panelists were incarcerated at Minidoka Concentration Camp.

The teachers' workshop is being held in conjunction with JANM's exhibit, "Americas Concentration Camps: Remembering, the Japanese American Experience," at the Ellis Island Immigration Museum. It is particularly significant that the exhibit, showing through Jan. 5, 1999, is at Ellis Island because many of the participants were unaware that Japanese, in addition to Germans and Italians, were held for up to two years on Ellis Island during the war. The exhibit creates an opportunity to share the Japanese American experience with the many visitors to Ellis Island who know very little about this dark chapter in American history. ■

Korematsu awarded Senate medal

(Continued from page 1)

the three JA men in December 1944.

In 1983 the case was again brought before the U.S. courts after evidence was discovered by historian and law professor Peter Irons that showed the U.S. government had concealed documents that proved JAs did not pose a serious threat to national security. With the help of various lawyers including Dale Minami,

the conviction of Korematsu, Yasui, and Hirabayashi was overturned in San Francisco Federal Court on Nov. 10, 1983.

"I wasn't looking for awards," said Korematsu as he thanked the members of the Senate. "I was looking for justice, and this should never happen to any American again — to be interned like the Japanese Americans were interned during the Second World War." ■

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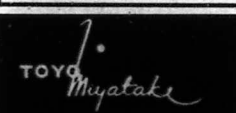
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MIXED MESSAGES

By Mika Tanner

Bubble girl

FROM what I have been able to experience, Japanese and Japanese Americans are not the most physically demonstrative people in the world. What I mean is that we are not, traditionally, given to expressing ourselves with hugs and kisses, vigorous slaps on the back, or eyebrow-raising public displays of affection. It's not that we don't ever do it, of course, but I've noticed that in general, our physical expressiveness tends to be on the subdued side.

Not that there's anything wrong with that. I myself like to have a comfortably large bubble of personal space around me, especially if I'm around people that I don't know very well. What I find interesting, though, is how, as JAs, we negotiate this need for personal space when we find ourselves in different environments. Do we remain true to our JA nature no matter where we are? Or do we find that our expressiveness changes depending on the situation and the culture of people that we're with?

I've begun to consider this question because lately I have been involved with a group of people who are very, VERY physically affectionate. For the past year, I have been dancing with a Brazilian samba group, and Brazilians are some of the most physically expressive people in the world. Every Brazilian person I met would immediately kiss my cheeks and give me a warm hug. At first, this custom always took me by surprise because I could never imagine meeting a Japanese or JA person and giving them a big smooch right off the bat. Gradually, however, I became accustomed to this practice and now I can kiss total strangers just like a true Brazilian.

Of course this skill has not extended itself to all the new people in my life, but it did make me aware of how my behavior changes with each situation. With some of my JA friends, even those that I'm very close to, I am very conscious of encroaching on their bubble of physical space and making them uncomfortable. Therefore hugs are typically reserved for those special sentimental moments or when I know that such displays would be appropriate.

With my non-JA or non-Asian friends, however, I don't worry so much about making a sappy fool of myself and hugs and kisses are given and received with undisguised affection.

I also find that being Hapa, there is a big difference between how my father's side of the family shows affection and how my mother's side interacts with each other. Around the Tanner family, everyone greets each other with hugs and kisses, and it was always funny to see my mother stiffly embraced in some uncle's bear hug. My Japanese relatives, on the other hand, are definitely not so touchy-feely. In fact, although I love and care for my Japanese relatives deeply, I don't remember having ever hugged or kissed them in my life. It's just not how we've done things.

So why the difference between the two cultures? I know that Japanese and JA culture is one based on *enryo* and stoicism and that feelings are not displayed blatantly on one's sleeve. When I was younger, this was a little confusing, especially when I would watch TV sitcoms and families were all huggy kissy with each other. Mrs. Brady was always giving her kids reassuring pats and squeezes and I wondered why my own mother did not do the same. Eventually, though, I came to understand that this lack of physical demonstrativeness did not mean a lack of caring, so it ceased to bother me. And of course I know now that physical closeness does not necessarily mean emotional closeness, so I'm definitely not advocating that all JAs let their hair down and get all cuddly all of a sudden.

Instead I'm thinking how interesting it is that different cultures and groups have their own ways of interacting with others and how, as JAs we find that we often need to adapt our behavior to our surroundings. I'm still naturally given to maintaining my space bubble in most instances, but I'm happy to know that I'm able to come out of it from time to time and get down and earthy with the best of them. ■

Mika Tanner is a board member of Hapa Issues Forum.



Very Truly Yours

By Harry K. Honda

A P.C. reporter's reflections of 25 national JACL conventions

MY FIRST encounter with JACL national conventions dates from 1938 when Jimmie Sakamoto of Seattle was national JACL president and I was making the courtesy rounds of the Japanese vernaculars in Los Angeles, where the convention was being held at the City Hall council chambers. Mas Satow, then Japanese YMCA secretary who later guided National JACL in the postwar year period, introduced Very Truly Yours to Jimmie, who was blind but whose thoughts and voice were far-sighted and patriotic in a period of Nisei history that's almost forgotten.

The second (1946), at Denver, was a never-forgotten venture when George Masunaga of Denver and I played the devil's advocate with Mari Sabusawa (then of Chicago) who wondered why we were not in JACL.

Our third (1948) was attending as a Downtown L.A. Chapter delegate in Salt Lake City, splitting the motor jaunt four ways. Roy Hoshizaki, Roy Hirano, Roy Uno, and I drew lots to determine which 100-mile stretch we were to negotiate. By the time the third Roy had the wheel, the rest of us were fast asleep and he could hardly keep awake.

For 1950, the Henry Ohye Air Trophy Race from Los Angeles to Chicago gave exciting daily coverage to the JACL convention in Chicago. News that Ohye was lost somewhere in West Texas and progress of the race lent a kind of national publicity that has never been replicated by any organization.

I missed the historic 1952 convention at San Francisco — "historic" as Congress overrode President Truman's veto of the Walter McCarran omnibus bill. Chapter delegates went into a special emergency session Thursday at 10:30 p.m. to petition their senators to override the veto. The house had overridden Truman's veto earlier that day. The minutes record that blank telegram forms were distributed. Mas Satow collected and dispatched them to the Senate from a downtown Western Union office after midnight.

For 1954 at Los Angeles and my first convention as a P.C. Reporter — it was typing our stories in the quiet after the registration committee people closed shop for the night at the Statler Hilton.

For 1956 at San Francisco's

Palace Hotel, the standout was the silver chalice with star sapphires crafted by silversmith Harry Osaki of Pasadena, presented to President Eisenhower for his efforts for world peace. It is on display at the Eisenhower Museum in Abilene, Kan.

For 1958 at Salt Lake City's Hotel Utah, our sharing the short ride to the banquet at another auditorium with convention speaker and first Asian American congressman, Rep. Dalip S. Saund (D-Calif., Imperial Valley) remains unforgettable.

At Sacramento's first hosting of a national convention in 1960, JACL began to designate the recognition luncheon as a testimonial to a JACL pioneer, in this case Dr. Tom Yatabe of Fresno.

Seattle hosted the 1962 affair during a July hot spell at the Olympic Hotel and the hotel had no air conditioning. We all slept with the door and windows open.

Here was a chapter, Detroit — with about 300 members — pulling off a successful event at the Sheraton Cadillac in 1964.

1966 in San Diego was the time when two Harry Hondas were registered for the convention and getting our phone messages mixed. The other Harry represented Fowler JACL.

1968 in San Jose (our 12th convention) had a big surprise. A virtual unknown, Norman Y. Mineta of San Jose, was named Nisei of the Biennium, "symbolizing the ideal in the field of human rights." He was yet to be elected mayor, with greater political calls ahead.

OVERWHELMING the 1970 convention and the Mike Masaoka Testimonial was the still-unresolved murder at Chicago's Palmer House of Evelyn Okubo, a Stockton Jr. JACLer, and the brutal assault upon her roommate, Carol Ranko Yamada, who survived. That night, all the Juniors were housed in a large conference room for their safety and sent home the following a.m.

JACL's first national convention on the East Coast, in Washington in June 1972 at the Shoreham, proved to be a "wet" one. Us Californians are unaccustomed to summer rainstorms. (We're ready now for whatever Philadelphia in '98 has weather-wise.)

For 1974 at Portland, our late P.C. circulation manager Yuki Kamayatsu proposed that Nisei seniors deserve the youth P.C. subscription rate (\$10). This resolution

hasn't flown since.

In 1976, reassembled at Sacramento, the expectation after hiring a JACL development director (Ray Bendiner) full-time to raise badly-needed funds fell flat.

The 25th Biennial in 1978 (my seventeenth) turned out to be the only one where every P.C. subscriber got a copy of the convention minutes with special reportage and photographs.

Back in San Francisco for '80, there was a hotel strike in the City, necessitating a last-minute venue change to a hotel by the Airport. Some hadn't heard about the strike, and they were waiting at the airport.

In Gardena Valley for '82, it's remembered for dedication of a new county library in memory of Masao W. Satow and the appearance of Bill Hosokawa's *JACL in Quest of Justice*.

For '84, it was JACL's most ambitious adventure to meet in Honolulu, only to be interrupted by an island-wide power outage one night. Those roomed at the upper levels of the high-rise Pacific Beach Hotel, the convention site, walked down stairs, lighting their way with matches to fetch a candle.

For '86, JACL issued its first posthumous Japanese American of the Biennium award to Col. Ellison S. Onizuka, the astronaut.

MOST MEMORABLE in '88 was the "break" to join a select group from Seattle to witness President Reagan sign HR 442, the redress bill, in the Old Executive Building in Washington, via the overnighter to Atlanta and then to the National Airport.

In San Diego for a second time in '90, the other Harry Honda from Fowler was not a delegate.

In 1992 in Salt Lake, what happened to P.C. might be titled as a requiem of sorts. The business side of the paper "died."

In 1994, back in Denver, Mari Sabusawa (now Mrs. James Michener) eagerly recalled the tête-à-tête of almost 50 years earlier (see 1946) and beamed brightly in victory.

In 1996 in San Jose, the National Council session blossomed with computerized presentation of the formidable million-dollar operating budget, a show that ushered in a style that the Now Generation is most familiar with. After 25 Biennials, we now come from the Then File. ■

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East Wind

By Bill Marutani

Coming or going

dants processed my schedule change — canceling, re-booking, and seat assignment.

AS I WALKED away, leaving behind all those waiting lines, I began to wonder. Had I received what might appear to be special treatment from three Asian airline employees because I, too, was an Asian? Or did my special, limited request qualify for expeditious processing regardless of the ethnicity of the customer? Somewhat like express check-out counters in a supermarket. If the latter, I felt no discomfort. But if it be the former, well . . .

WHICH BRINGS to mind another experience I had at a Japanese-owned hotel-restaurant in one of our major cities. I got into line, just behind two young Japanese ladies. (They were chatting in *ni-hongo*.) The maitre d' (who appeared to be Latino) was picking customers from back of the line

(back behind me) and seating them. I thought nothing of this; there are several factors in assigning seating, including the number of persons in any particular party. But when several duos from behind me were escorted to seats, one of the Japanese ladies in front of me reacted by declaring "A-ra!" (rough translation "Hey," "Look") my suspicions were aroused. When the maitre d' next passed by, I stopped him and voiced my complaint. I don't know if my complaint registered, but the two Japanese ladies were seated next.

It's difficult sorting out these things, whether one is being overly-sensitive, whether it be on the "favorable" end (as at the San Francisco airport) or the "unfavorable" end (as with the non-complaining Japanese ladies at that restaurant). ■

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



A Bridge Across the Pacific

By Emily Murase

Internet 101

HAVE you never surfed the Internet? Don't know what an ISP is? Feel technologically inadequate as friends, colleagues, kids and grandchildren exchange adventures in cyberspace and you have no clue?

For those who will not be at the Philadelphia National Convention where I'll be giving the workshop Internet 101, let me provide a brief synopsis.

What is the Internet? The Internet is simply a vast global network of computers. Generally, the origins of the Internet can be traced to Arpanet, a communications network developed by the Department of Defense in 1969 to sustain nuclear attack.

By design, the Internet is decentralized. While parts of the network may be disabled, information can always take alternate routes to reach its intended destination.

World Wide what? In very general terms, the World Wide Web (WWW) refers to a large part of the content that runs over the Internet. It is composed of millions of websites that display text and graphics and sometimes convey sound.

People from all over the globe contribute websites. Some create their own personal websites, including photos of a newborn child, a monster trout caught on a fly, or a favorite artwork. Others advertise businesses and enable you to, for example, order a Hawaiian lei for overnight delivery.

Websites are identified by Universal Resource Locators (URLs), which are also known as web addresses. The address for the JACL website is http://www.jacl.org.

What do I need to go on-line? In order to access the Internet, you need a computer with a mo-

dem, an Internet Service Provider (ISP), and a Web browser.

What is an Internet Service Provider (ISP)? While a modem is the hardware that allows your computer to link to the Internet network, you need an ISP to provide you with the actual connection. There are a number of national ISPs such as America Online (AOL) and Compuserve, as well as local or regional ISPs, such as Pacific Bell.

Generally, ISPs charge a flat fee of \$20 per month for unlimited usage of the Internet. For beginners, I recommend the three-hour plan offered by AOL for \$5 a month (if you exceed three hours, there is an hourly charge).

What are web browsers? A web browser is software that you need on your computer to access the World Wide Web. The two most common web browsers are Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Explorer. There is little difference between their functionality.

What is a search engine? A search engine allows you to search the World Wide Web for a specific topic. Popular search engines include Altavista (http://www.altavista.digital.com), Yahoo (http://www.yahoo.com), and Infoseek (http://www.infoseek.com), but there are numerous others.

You submit a topic or key words and, in a matter of seconds, the search engine presents you with websites that include the topic or key words. Most searches will result in an overwhelming number of websites or hits for any one key word. The trick is to narrow your topic as much as possible.

I recommend Altavista because it has a Refine button that allows you to narrow a search using a table of key words that you can

include or exclude. This functionality usually reduces the number of hits to a manageable number.

How can the Internet help my JACL chapter? A chapter website is a useful resource for both members and potential members. A number of chapters have already linked their websites to the JACL home page.

For example, the Cleveland website includes a link to an extensive collection of camp photos. You can read the Hoosier Chapter newsletter Bamboo Heritage on-line.

Through the Portland website, you can find out about such community events as a golf tournament of the Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland. And you can purchase the Nisei Cookbook from the St. Louis Chapter website. The Torrance website invites applicants for the chapter scholarship and the Watsonville website will eventually include a directory of member businesses.

Much of this will be meaningless unless you have a chance to see the Internet in action. You should ask a family member or friend for a demonstration. Also, many libraries offer free Internet access.

As we rapidly approach the new millennium, it is important for our organization to be forward-looking and to take advantage of technology to promote our goals. Already chapters have developed innovative ways to reach members and potential members on-line. We should expand on these efforts as much as possible.

This summer, Emily Murase, a member of the San Francisco Chapter, is teaching daycamp kids the basics of surfing the Internet.

© 1998 Emily Murase



From the Frying Pan

By Bill Hosokawa

A lasting memorial

AS has become custom over the years, on Memorial Day we drove out to Fairmont Cemetery on the far side of Denver to attend the service at the Nisei War Memorial sponsored by Nisei Post 185 of the American Legion. This was the 52nd annual commemoration and with the passage of time the event has lost none of its poignancy.

The monument itself is impressive. Four slabs of granite bearing, from left to right, the words Freedom, Honor, Justice and Equality, stand on a stone base. Under these words are etched the names of Japanese Americans from this area who gave their lives in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Nearby is a tall flagpole from which the Stars and Stripes is flown on special occasions. On Memorial Day a tent is pitched near the monument for special guests and the elderly.

The veterans of Legion Post 185 take the observance very seriously. Although their numbers have dwindled over the years, each member digs out and squeezes into his Legion uniform and dons his overseas cap for the observance. They bring out the flags and rifles needed for the firing squad, round up the proper wreaths and several hundred long-stemmed carnations for everyone at the service to place on the monument's base as symbolic tribute. They hook up the public address system and see to it that a proper program is readied.

Over the years I have noticed no significant drop in the number attending although the Issei are no more and greater numbers of Nisei pass away each year. The younger people are taking over. There are many familiar faces, of course, but many are seldom seen at other community functions. In this sense the memorial service may be the one function that brings together many who for one reason or another have drifted from the community.

The number that attend is surprising since so many of the names inscribed on the monument have become unfamiliar. Some were in the Denver area only briefly during the war before they went into service. Some are from families that no longer exist, or have moved away to places unknown. Yet all are honored equally by strangers who respect, and are grateful, for their sacrifice at a time when going into military service was not applauded by all elements of the community.

I wish that some of those who today defend most vocally their wartime opposition to service would attend a memorial program in Denver, or in any of the other Japanese American communities where those who sacrificed their lives are commemorated. If they did, they might understand the depth of love and respect and appreciation that a large cross-section of the Japanese American community still feels for those who went to war and didn't come back.

Each of them was a hero, and his loss is mourned still.

While members of our community have returned annually to the monument for more than a half century, there is a nagging concern. What happens when the vets are gone? Will there be others to lead the commemoration? What happens to the monument itself?

The last question is not pertinent to the Japanese American National Memorial which is scheduled to be built in Washington, D.C. A federal agency, funded by taxpayers, will be responsible for its upkeep. There are many good reasons for seeing that the memorial is built, and the fact that it will be maintained in perpetuity is one of them.

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

By the Board



By Grace Kimoto
CCDC Governor

A 4th of July celebration

THIS is a real privilege — to have a place to write and share ideas in the world of JACL.

I have been learning, and feeling, how much my work as CCDC governor seems really worth the effort and time (yes, and dollars) that I spend. The goals of our organization, the marvelous people who went before us, and the energies now being spent for our people and their causes and needs enthrust me much. I hope I can be one of the catalysts to continue these noble causes.

But I wonder how it is that some people are so concerned about the future of JACL. I wonder if their vision is a narrow view focussed on just one group of people, the Japanese Americans. Perhaps it would help to remember always that we are but one group of people in this wonderful country. Our group is ever evolving and (heaven forbid!) revolving, and as we develop to be productive and find a reputable place in our communities as Americans each day, are we not building a better America?

So how are we doing? Are we in partnership with other Americans making decisions for our society and for ourselves? Are all

our young people finding a level playing field as they seek opportunities to rise to the level they are capable of? Are we listened to as equally as other groups when needs or concerns are expressed to the local governmental bodies? Are we really judged by our character and not by our color? Can we go anywhere in our country safely and happily as Americans? And most importantly, are we accepted as American everywhere? It seems we have a lot to do to be organized, to teach ourselves to be proud of who we are, to share our values and our culture in our society, so people know who we are; and, hopefully, when they know us we will be treated as equals — yes, as we also learn to accept all other groups of Americans and treat them equally!

So as we approach the birthday of our dear country, the 4th of July, and congregate in Philadelphia for our 35th National Convention, let's work together to make decisions good for our organization, for our people and for our place in this great country, the United States of America.

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Voices of our readers speak

Prop 209 is our fight

BY JERRY ENOMOTO
Past National JAACL president

I just read an article dealing with the increasing number of Asian Pacific American (APA) students in California universities, compared to the declining number of African American and Hispanic students. There was mention of a concern about a possible "backlash" against APAs as a result of this impact on Proposition 209 in the educational arena.

What should APAs be concerned about? Are we beating a dead horse in worrying about 209? Do we as APAs have a special responsibility to continue the fight for affirmative action and equal opportunity? The answer should be a "no brainer," because APAs are no different from African Americans, Hispanics, or any fellow Americans of color. We still stand on the outside looking in where opportunities in any field of endeavor, be it education, jobs, or contracts, are concerned. The statistics long found in any EEO survey have not changed, especially at the higher levels or public and private institutions.

Yet we find fellow APAs still operating under the illusion that color and gender make little difference, and that study and hard work is all you need to make it.

Let's say for the sake of argument that APAs now have it better than African Americans. If it were not for the blood and sacri-

fices of our African American brothers and sisters during the fight for civil rights in the '50s and '60s, none of us would be better off than we were when we were thrown into the camps.

APAs should need no personal reminder of what it means to be despised anymore, but we are still



Jerry Enomoto

a minority, and most of us still need help — and that equalizer is affirmative action.

It might be easier to shut our eyes, and take comfort in the attitude that "I've got mine, why worry about them?" Some of us were "them" in 1942, and that's why we did time in American-style concentration camps.

As we approach a new century, full of promise for future generations, let's never forget that the struggle for equal opportunity through affirmative action is our fight, not somebody else's. ■



Letters to the Editor

Japanese Latin American redress

The Japanese Latin Americans were abducted from their homes in Latin America and imprisoned in America's concentration camps in a scheme orchestrated by the U.S. government.

Fifty years later, they were denied redress by the Office of Redress Administration because they were not U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens at the time they were abducted and incarcerated, and therefore, did not meet the eligibility requirements of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

Now, in settlement of the *Mochizuki v. U.S. government* lawsuit, even though the government has conceded its crimes, it is an insult and disappointment that Japanese Latin Americans are being granted less than their full measure of justice in the form of the apology and partial redress payment of \$5,000, with that amount depending on whether there is enough money left in the redress fund. Such an apology does not give the recipients the impression of a sincere and heartfelt gesture!

Suing the U.S. government is not an easy or pleasant task, even when the facts are on your side. When a redress appeal is denied, the next step, as required by the Civil Liberties Act, is to file a lawsuit against the government. The participants in this lawsuit can attest to how difficult and unpleasant an experience it has been for the plaintiffs and all those involved, and how many horrific memories it has stirred up. The courage, dedication and tenacity of the plaintiffs, attorneys and members of Campaign for Justice made this settlement possible for the entire category — they are to be commended, as well as congratulated.

It is not to begrudge anyone the redress they so justly deserve to point out that in 1992, when it was first noted that many categories of individuals were being denied redress, the Civil Liberties Act was amended to include Caucasian spouses and parents interned in the camps because, like the Japanese Latin Americans, they did not meet the original eligibility requirements of the Civil Liberties Act. As a result, this category received an apology and full redress payment from the U.S. government. Why couldn't the Japanese Latin Americans have been included in the same way?

In proportion to the entire U.S. budget, the amount of monies required to fully and properly compensate all of the Japanese Latin Americans, including those who have yet to be located, is a paltry sum. In order to live up to the claims of human rights, fair play, justice and equality that America espouses to the rest of the world, the U.S. government would have done a better deed by long ago granting redress and finding the monies to fully compensate each Japanese Latin American internee, rather than working so long and hard to oppose the Japanese Latin

Americans, and, as the redress program comes to an end, granting only a partial payment to the individuals in this category.

Sharon Tanihara
Garden Grove, Calif

Arigatai

For the recipients of the \$20,000 redress recently granted railroad and mining workers families, let us *orei*, a gracious quality of all Issei who could not receive anything unless they promptly returned with an *orei* of some sort.

A scholarship fund for students to help them through college or university has been established by some railroad and mining descendants who have received an apology and redress. This fund will be administered by the National JAACL headquartered in San Francisco. If you are *arigatai* and would like to continue the practice of *orei*, please send your contribution to Patty Wada, JAACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115-5225. Please earmark your contribution to the Railroad/Mining Workers Scholarship Fund.

Equally as prominent as the JAACL is the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations, Attn: Kay Ochi, 231-E. Third St., Ste. G-104, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

And do not forget Michi Weglyn, whose unending efforts for over a decade led to this momentous decision. If you wish to thank her, send your *orei* to Michi Nishiura and Walter Weglyn Chair for Multicultural Studies, c/o Dr. Bob H. Suzuki, President, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, 3801 West Temple Avenue, Pomona, CA 91768.

Jeanne Konishi
Murray, Utah

Update on the Go For Broke monument — two significant events

On April 5 a milestone was reached in Los Angeles with a groundbreaking celebration of the Go For Broke Monument at a site adjacent to the Japanese American National Museum. A message from Senator Dan Inouye was read to the assembled dignitaries and officials and representatives of Nisei veterans groups.

He wrote, "I am pleased that the Go For Broke Monument commemorating the heroic role of the World War II Nisei veterans will finally become a reality. The creation of this monument is an appropriate way to commemorate our brothers who put themselves in harm's way to preserve and defend our nation's principles of peace, freedom, and democracy. It also serves as a lasting reminder that no American should ever again be deprived of civil liberties because of race or ethnicity. There are many things in my life that I am proud of but I am especially proud to have been a member of this prestigious group. I hope that our experience which is fittingly captured in this Monument will serve to inspire generations to

come. I send you, my friends, my best wishes for a most successful event. Aloha."

Sen. Inouye's name will be on the Honor Roll listing the 15,000 men of the 100th, 442d, and MIS who risked their lives overseas, including the 800 KIA (killed in action). Concentration camps that held many of the soldiers' families will also be described.

This is the only national monument whose specific goal is to honor the Nisei soldier and recognize his response to prejudice in wartime, just as President Harry Truman did in 1946. Located within walking distance of the Walls for the KIA Nikkei soldiers of WWII, Korea, and Vietnam, it will complete the Nikkei legacy to future generations.

Two weeks before the groundbreaking, another notable event was quietly revealed, the ending of years of bitter opposition to the Monument by a group that held that it should only list the KIA soldiers. An ad appeared in the *Rafu Shimpo*, headlined — "Americans of Japanese Ancestry WWII Memorial Alliance recognizes 100th, 442d, MIS WWII Memorial Foundation Monument." The text included the statement, "The AJA WWII MA congratulates the 100th, 442d, MIS WWII Memorial Foundation upon their announced groundbreaking ceremony on April 5, 1998."

Hopefully, both events, especially the latter, will be noted in areas outside of Southern California, and will increase interest in the completion of the Monument. Many in the Nikkei community have hesitated to declare their support in order to avoid being caught in the crossfire of feuding veterans.

\$500,000 more is needed to reach the Foundation's goal of \$2.5 million. Contributions may be made to the 100/442/MIS Memorial Foundation at PO Box 2590, Gardena, CA 90247. Flexible payment options and donor wall contributions are available. For information, call 310/327-4193.

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* "Voices" reflect the active, public discussion within JAACL 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.

San Francisco State honors Japanese American students forced to leave college, sent to internment camps in 1942

SAN FRANCISCO—It was the early 1940s and 19 Japanese American students on the San Francisco State University campus on Upper Market Street were busy leading lives of typical college students. Sue Yusa was eagerly looking forward to singing with the school vocal group—*Treble Clefs*—which she had just joined after an audition. Aiko Nishi Uwate had recently moved from the family farm outside of Sacramento to an apartment with girlfriends on Octavia Street, to study music. And George Magotaka Hirose was only a year away from graduating and preparing for a career as a minister.

But their lives all changed in 1942 when they and 16 other Japanese American students at SFSU were forced to abruptly put their college education on hold. The 19 were among the 120,000 JAs sent to remote internment camps until the end of World War II in 1945, because of Executive Order 9066 signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Now, more than 50 years later, Yusa, Uwate, Hirose, and Helen Nitta Hori returned to campus as honored alumni for a tribute from SFSU at its commencement on May 30. Also during commencement, SFSU awarded honorary degrees to internationally-known sculptor Ruth Asawa — whose family during WWII were sent to two different internment camps and not reunited until 1946 — and John Hope Franklin, who heads President Clinton's Initiative on Race Advisory Board.

"In light of the national discussion on race relations taking place today, this years commencement offers us a special opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's history, and to realize how past actions and events forever changed the lives of these JA citizens," said SFSU President Robert A. Corrigan. "In honoring them as well as

our honorary degree recipients, Ruth Asawa and John Hope Franklin, let us be reminded of our shared history and the responsibility that we as individuals and as a university have for the future."

The tribute at commencement comes after an exhaustive search for the former students over the past few months. The

said Hirose.

Although most of the former students are now in their 70s, they still have fond memories of attending SFSU.

Aiko Nishi Uwate entered SFSU in 1941 as a transfer student from a junior college in Sacramento. With a deep interest in music, Uwate took piano,

Capital University in Columbus, in a completely different subject area — biology. After marrying and raising children she wrote a book, 15 years ago, on Japanese names for babies; still in print, the book has sold about 10,000 copies.

"I'm glad that San Francisco State will honor all the former students who had to leave because of the internment. But I wish it had come sooner, because so many other of my classmates have died," said the 75-year-old Los Angeles resident.

George Magotaka Hirose, born and raised in San Francisco, began taking classes at SFSU 1939, studying everything from astronomy to comparative religion.

"I had excellent instructors. I especially remember Albert Fisk who headed up the philosophy department. I always enjoyed his classes." Hirose was a junior when he was forced to leave because of President Roosevelt's executive order.

"I remember the whole experience as being very disruptive and disturbing," said Hirose, who is now 77. "We were put into camps without due process or given a chance to say how we felt." He and his family were first sent to Tanforan (then a horse track in San Bruno), then on to Topaz, Utah, where they stayed in tar-papered barracks. But under a national student relocation program he was able to finish his studies at Huron

College in South Dakota before going on to Dubuque Seminary in Iowa. He then spent the next 40 years as a Presbyterian minister, serving congregations in places such as Southern California, Utah and Idaho before retiring in 1986 in San Francisco.

"I remember having a wonderful time in college at San Francisco State and learning so much from the faculty. I also remember going to football games when Joe Verducci was coach. It was too bad we all had to leave," he said.

Sue Yusa grew up in Berkeley but wanted to come to SFSU to study music. She enrolled in 1940 and took a variety of music classes, but was especially interested in chorus. "I had just been accepted in the choral group called the *Treble Clefs* after an audition. I remember looking forward to rehearsals, but I had to tell everyone that I wouldn't be able to come to rehearsals anymore, because I had to leave school and go to the camp at Tanforan," she recalled.

After living in a permanent camp in Arizona with her mother and brother, Yusa was able to continue her college education first in Illinois and then at UC Berkeley. She returned to SFSU for her teaching credential in 1947 and her master's degree in 1950. A lifelong East Bay resident, Yusa, now 77, taught elementary school in Richmond, Pinole and El Cerrito for more than 30 years before retiring in 1984.

Helen Nitta Hori, born in Loomis, Calif., in farming country, also came to SFSU to study music. Hori remembers her last piano lesson at San Francisco State with her instructor, Raymond White. "It was the last lesson before I had to go away. I cried on his shoulder," she recalled. "Dr. White tried to be supportive ... he said he was sorry he couldn't do anything. But he always encouraged me to do my best." Hori's family was sent to the Marysville Assembly Center, then on to the Tule Lake internment camp located near the Oregon border. After the war, she returned to San Francisco and reentered SFSU and later graduated with honors. She went on to earn her teaching credential and taught elementary school for many years before retiring.



Aiko Nishi Uwate of Los Angeles, one of 19 Japanese American former San Francisco State University students who were interned, receives a plaque from San Francisco State president Robert A. Corrigan at the university's recent commencement ceremony.

university received assistance in the search from many Bay Area JA community-based organizations such as the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, as well as the *Nichi Bei Times* and the *Hokubei Mainichi* newspapers. The Office of Redress Administration in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice also assisted in the search. One student said she learned of the search by reading a short article about it in the *Oakland Tribune*.

"I appreciate the honor and being recognized by the university and President Corrigan. This honor will have great impact on my life and my family,"

violin and other performance classes. "San Francisco State was known for its music department and that's what I wanted to do when I started," she recalled. But the evacuation order came down in 1942. Uwate then returned to the family farm outside of Sacramento, where she and her family were sent to a temporary camp in Turlock before being taken to a permanent camp in Arizona. However, she was able to continue her college education, earning credits in teacher training from a college in nearby Tempe by helping teach youngsters in the camp.

She later left camp to go to work in Ohio and was eventually able to earn her degree from

■ JOB OPENING

Regional Director

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is seeking a Regional Director for the Pacific Southwest District who is energetic, organized, and highly motivated to "make a difference."

Under the general direction of the National Director, the Regional Director carries out JACL's Program for Action and other policies; conducts advocacy, community relations, and fund-raising activities; serves as a JACL spokesperson at the regional level; works with JACL members to develop programs and events; and monitors local, state, and national affairs affecting Asian Americans.

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.

A four-year college degree, excellent writing and public speaking abilities, and transportation are required. Hiring range: \$31,433-\$37,335, depending on experience. Excellent fringe benefit package includes health and retirement benefits. Send cover letter, resume, and writing samples to: Herbert Yamanishi, JACL, 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115; fax, 415/931-4671; e-mail, jacl@jacl.org.

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The Shin Issei - A war bride's story

(Continued from page 1)

created by the American occupation. Young women such as Hiroko found jobs on the bases as sales or administrative workers, or as waitresses or bar girls in establishments catering to U.S. servicemen.

Another factor that led to the increase in the unions between Japanese women and American servicemen was the shortage of Japanese men due to the large number of war casualties. "In Japan," Hiroko relates, "there were hardly any men to date, no one for us to marry. Everything was topsy turvy — Japan had lost a war for the first time in its history, there was no food, very few homes. Americans seemed like they were from another planet. They would give candy to little kids and drive cars — they seemed almost magical."

Hiroko's family was displeased when she announced her decision to marry an American serviceman. "They disliked me marrying an American — my father's cousin got killed by Americans during the war. My father disowned me and my uncle even ordered me off his property. My mother, though, was very pro-American. She loved Americans so she was happy that I was mar-

rying this man. She liked my husband because he was very polite and respectful to her. My father was alcoholic and abusive, and I think she wanted something better for me."

Hiroko moved with her husband to Montgomery, Alabama in 1952 and her first taste of America was quite a shock. "I was very surprised when I got to Alabama. I remember thinking, 'How different America is from the movies!'"

Besides her difficulty in adjusting to her new environment, her marriage to her husband also suffered some upheaval. In addition to struggling with the daily rituals of shopping, communicating, and keeping house in a completely unfamiliar environment, many women found that their husbands were not the carefree, affluent Americans they had been led to believe. Hiroko, for example, was disappointed to learn that her husband's social and educational background was not in keeping with the proud tradition of her Japanese family. "My husband was not a college graduate or anything, kind of lower class. Not so educated, but he was a good person."

A prevalent theme that ran through many war bride marriages was one of isolation and

loneliness. Hiroko, too, felt alone without nearby friends or relations to interact with or to boost her self-esteem. Hiroko mentioned that her husband's family lived nearby but that they, like other southerners she met, did not readily accept her. "To them, Asians are like something lower. People know you're there but they ignore you. It was a very lonesome, sad time for me."

Like other war brides, Hiroko actively sought the company of other Japanese to alleviate her loneliness. "If I saw other Asians I would speak to them in Japanese to see if they would answer me. Sometimes they would be Chinese and I would have to say, 'Oh, excuse me.' But if they were Japanese I would talk to them and ask for their number so maybe I could call them up sometime and visit."

Hiroko also made the most of her situation and her husband's meager military salary by working odd jobs sewing and waitressing. Her life became even busier when her son was born. When asked if she raised her son to be Japanese, Hiroko replied, "Oh, no. My son was raised to be strictly American. My husband didn't want me to speak Japanese in the house or he would get mad. Everything American-style, even cooking. I used to order things like canned *kamaboko* — (fish cakes) from this Japanese store in New York and have it shipped. I



The story of Issei women pioneers (pictured above, circa 1915) is a well-documented part of JA history. A less well-known story is that of the war brides who came to America post-WWII.

would eat Japanese food in secret, when my husband was at work."

After 15 years of marriage, Hiroko's marriage fell apart. "He lost interest in me," she says. "He worked at nighttime a lot and there was just no love any more."

Despite the loss of her marriage, Hiroko decided to remain in America and eventually moved to Los Angeles. "I never thought about going back to Japan, though, because my son was here. Also, after I got used to it, I liked America. It's so free — you can dress anyway you want, go anywhere, there are no restrictions. I'm a little unusual, so America is better for me. I moved to L.A. after the divorce because I had visited several times and loved it."

After working at different restaurants in the Little Tokyo area, Hiroko finally got a job at a non-profit organization serving the local Japanese and JA community, where she has been working for the last 20 years. "Because

I have no relatives here, I wanted to work where there are other Japanese people."

War brides are often seen as lacking a sense of ethnic identity because, unlike other JAs, their experiences have not been validated by a larger community. As opposed to JAs, whose historical and community legacy instills them with pride and an ability to resist racist assaults, war brides have no similar source of support.

Hiroko, like many other war brides, faced these difficulties by building her own network to rely upon. Happily employed and with many friends and acquaintances, Hiroko has built a life in the U.S. that is worthy of admiration and celebration. She talks about her life not with regret, but with a sense that she made the best of what life had to offer her. Each year she visits her sister in Japan, and although happy to visit for a short while, America is the place that she calls home. ■



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COST REDUCTIONS FOR JAPAN TOURS COMING

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OCT 12 - Hokkaido & Tohoku-11 Days- 23 Meals - \$3495. Sapporo, Sounkyo, Sahoro, Ainu Village, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Lake Towada, Hachimantai Onsen, Matsumura Bay, Sendai & Tokyo.

OCT 19 - Uranibon - 11 Days - 25 Meals - \$3395 - Soldout - Waitlist Good

OCT 29 - Okinawa-Kyushu-Shikoku - 11 Days - 26 Meals-\$3495 -4-days Okinawa, Nagasaki, Kirishima Onsen & Takachiho Gorge, Kyushu - Cape Ashizuri, Kochi & Takamatsu, Shikoku + Inland Sea Cruise to Osaka.

NOV 7 - Orient Deluxe + Orient Cruise-15 Days - \$3395 - 28 Meals - HongKong, Bali, Indonesia, Singapore +3-DAY CRUISE (Kuala Lumpur, Langkawi, Malaysia to Phuket, Thailand) & fly to Bangkok, Thailand.

DEC 9 - Branson Christmas - 5 Days -10 Meals - Shoji Tabuchi, Mike Ito, Andy Williams, Jim Stafford, Osmonds, Tony Orlando & Silver Dollar City.

NEW - DEC 29 - Japan New Years + Orient Cruise -12 Days - \$3595 3-Day Tokyo NewYears "Osechi Ryori", Singapore, 5-day Cruise (Kuala Lumpur, Langkawi, Phuket & Penang) + 2-day Shirahama Hot Springs.

1999 PREVIEW

MAR 29 - Japan Classic "Cherry Blossoms"- 11 Days - 23 Meals - Tokyo, Takayama, Nara, Hiroshima, Tsuwano, Shodo Island & Kyoto.

APR 7 - China Deluxe -12 Days - 30 Meals - Tokyo, Beijing, Xian, Guilin & Shanghai. Deluxe hotels with many Western style dinners.

APR 17 - Tohoku Onsen Meguri "Cherry Blossoms"- 9 Days -All 20 Meals Iizaka Onsen, Yunohama Onsen, Oga Onsen, Hiroaki & Narugo Onsen.

MAY 10 - Japan - I More Time - 11 Days - 24 Meals - Tokyo, Tsukiji Fish Market, Kamakura Daibutsu, Hakone, Toyota Motors, Gamagori Hot Springs, Toba, Mikimoto, Shodo Island, Takarazuka, Toei Studios & Osaka.

MAY 17 - Uranibon Vistas -11 Days - Daizen Onsen, Matsue, Kinokuni Onsen, Fukui, Kanazawa, Toyama, Sado Island & Tokyo.

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7. Japan Basic Tour	06/22-07/01	Ray Ishii	\$2,895
8. Grand Tour of Europe	06/23-07/11	J&M Kobayashi	\$2,975
9. Scandinavian Tour	07/09-07/20		\$3,199
10. Japan Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour	09/21-09/30	Ray Ishii	\$3,285
11. Africa & Kenya Safari	09/15-09/26	Phyllis Murakawa	\$4,559
12. China Special & Hong Kong Tour	09/28-10/13	J&M Kobayashi	\$2,495
13. Canada/New England Fall Foliage Tour	10/06-10/17	Phyllis Murakawa	\$2,019
14. Japan Ura-Nihon Tour	10/05-10/14	Galen Murakawa	\$2,895
15. Spain & Portugal Tour	10/09-10/22	Bill Sakurai	\$1,868
16. Florida plus Key West (wait list)	10/11-10/18	R&N Takeda	\$1,475
17. Okinawa/Kyushu Special Tour	10/12-10/21	Michi Ishii	\$2,895
18. Tennessee/Branson/Kentucky	10/17-10/25		\$1,695
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20. Branson/Ozard Christmas Tour	11/27-12/02		\$1,099

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TENNESSEE/BRANSON/KENTUCKY (Shoji Tabuchi Show, 9 days)	SEP 12
BEST OF HOKKAIDO (11 days)	SEP 30
EAST COAST/FALL FOLIAGE (11 days)	OCT 4
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE (11 days)	OCT 12
CHINA SOJOURN (also Macau & Hong Kong, 16 days)	OCT 20
NIKKEI SO. CARIBBEAN CRUISE (benefit for JCCOCC, 8 days)	NOV 14

1999 ESCORTED TANAKA TOURS

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PARIS, CHATEAUX & COUNTRYSIDE (11 days)	MAY
CANADIAN ROCKIES/VICTORIA TOUR (Banff, Lake Louise, 8 days)	JUNE
CRYSTAL CRUISE PANAMA CANAL (Book early for group rate, 11 days)	SEP 16
BEST OF HOKKAIDO & TOHOKU	SEP
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