

Pacific Citizen

Newsstand: 25¢

\$1.50 postpaid (U.S., Can.) / \$2.30 (Japan Air)

#2902/ Vol. 130, No. 7 ISSN: 0030-8579

National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

FEB. 18-24, 2000

March California Primary Prop. 22: Initiative to Ban Same-Sex Marriage Prompts Debate

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

As the California primary fast approaches, Proposition 22, the statewide initiative seeking to deny recognition of marriage between two people of the same gender, has become an increasingly sensitive topic both because it is an issue of gay rights and, for some, an issue of civil rights.

Prop. 22, which will be presented to California voters on the upcoming March 7 ballot, proposes to make policy that "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

The initiative comes on the heels of the recent Vermont Supreme Court decision on Dec. 20, ruling that gay and lesbian couples are constitutionally entitled to the same legal protections and benefits as heterosexual couples.

Presently, the state of California does not perform same-sex mar-

riages, but there is no law currently prohibiting it from recognizing those that have been legally performed in another state. Prop. 22 aims to close that loophole, whereby California would be restricted from recognizing any same-gender union, including those sanctioned out of state.

Thirty states have already passed laws similar to the one being sought by the initiative's sponsor, Republican state Senator Pete Knight. Those which do not recognize same-sex marriages include Alaska, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia and Washington.

The latest poll released Feb. 9 showed that 52 percent of Californians support Prop. 22, while 39 percent oppose it. Nine percent of the sampled voters were undecided.

No on Knight Claims Discrimination

While many supporters of Prop. 22 contend that safeguarding the institution of marriage is at the crux of the issue, opponents argue that the Knight Initiative represents government intrusion into people's personal lives and that it discriminates against gays, lesbians and transgendered people as a group.

"This is a divisive initiative that is pitting one community against another," said press secretary for the No on Knight campaign, Tracey Conaty, who stated that the measure "will cause real harm to real people."

"What it will do is prevent gay and lesbian families from access to basic rights." Among those, she said, are hospital visitation rights, access to health insurance and child custody and adoption rights. The issue is not about special rights, she said, but equal rights.

Conaty also cleared up a misconception that people may have, saying that Prop. 22 is not about legalizing gay marriage.

"One of the main points is that you don't have to be in favor of gay marriage to be against Prop. 22," she stressed.

"Gay marriage is not legal in California or in any other part of the country, and it's not likely to be anytime soon," she stated. "On March 8, pass or fail, gay marriage will not

Year 2000 Democratic Presidential Contenders Woo California Voters

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

SAN JOSE, Calif.—With less than a month before California's March 7 primary, the two contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination presented

not enough to sway the heavily pro-Gore crowd.

The blue and white pro-Gore banners outnumbered the red, white and blue of Bradley's, and when Gore took center stage, every major California elected official, including Senators Bar-

"I will fight for you," said Gore. "I'll never give up. I'll never give in. I'll never quit. I'll never walk away because of all we have achieved, because we stayed and fought for a democratic ideal."

To drive home his point, Gore portrayed Bradley as a defeatist.



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Former U.S. Senator Bill Bradley outlines his reform plans while Vice President Al Gore greets California Board of Equalization member John Chiang.

their vision for America at the California Democratic Party Convention in San Jose, but the obvious favorite was Vice President Al Gore.

Although former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley came out swinging as a reform candidate who promised no more politics as usual, it was

bara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein and California Gov. Gray Davis, stood behind him.

A spirited Gore came out fast and furious, painting himself as a fighter who, unlike his opponent, did not leave politics in 1996 when the Democrats lost control in Congress.

"Senator Bradley seems to suffer from Demo-pessimism," said Gore. "But I say to you Senator Bradley gave up too soon."

In turn, Bradley accused Gore of being "in bed with special interest," and without evoking any racial overtones, went to the thrust of Gore's vulnerability with his connection with the campaign finance scandal.

"We're supposed to be the party of reform, the party that helps the little guys so when we get in bed with the special interest, we have a crisis of identity, and that's why the fundamental objective here is campaign finance reform and reducing the role of money in politics," said Bradley.

As part of his reform agenda, Bradley declared that his programs were "bolder" and broader than Gore's on major issues such as universal healthcare (Bradley proposes a plan that would give access to 40 million to Gore's seven million); gun control (Bradley advocates registering and licensing all guns; Gore's initiative would cover only new guns); education (Bradley would require all teachers to prove their qualifications to teach, while Gore's would focus on new teachers).

"We have a difference here in

See DEMOCRATS/page 3

APA Candidates Honda and Hayashino Garner Support at Democratic State Convention

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

SAN JOSE, Calif.—Asian Pacific Americans were not a large force at the California Democratic Party's State Convention but still, their presence was notable in areas ranging from candidates running for office to volunteers and floor participants. An estimated 3,000 people attended the event held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center on Feb. 11-13.

The most visible APA candidate was state Assemblyman Mike Honda, who is running for the U.S. House of Representatives in the 15th Congressional District, considered among Democratic leaders as one of the critical seats if they hope to re-

tain control of Congress.

Honda, a Japanese American fluent in Spanish, touted a platform of inclusion and diversity, pointing out that the ability to build coalitions across broad communities was critical in representing California.

On the fund-raising front, which is one measure of a candidate's political strength, Honda was trailing behind his opponent Bill Peacock in the latest financial report filing date of Dec. 31. But Honda told the Pacific Citizen that he had not started campaigning until after his return from a trip to Japan on Dec. 8.

"The filing date was Decem-

See CANDIDATES/page 3

State House Passes Civil Liberties Education Program Bill

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

OLYMPIA, Wash.—A hush fell over the state House as lawmakers told of parents, grandparents and friends and neighbors who were forced to leave their homes and live behind barbed wire during World War II because of their Japanese ancestry.

"What they were told on that day was that because of your race," constitutional protections

"apply to everybody else but they don't apply to you," Rep. Kip Tokuda, a Sansei whose parents and grandparents were interned, told his colleagues during an emotional floor debate Feb. 11.

The House unanimously passed a bill that would help ensure that the forced internment of JAs does not become a forgotten portion of Washington state's wartime history.

House Bill 1572 died last year in the education committee, but was resurrected after backers agreed to narrow the focus. It now goes to the Senate.

"Character requires that we speak out against injustice," Sharon Tomiko Santos, a Seattle Democrat whose mother and grandfather were interned, said as colleagues openly wept. "But how can we speak out against injustice if we don't know how to recognize it?"

The bill would create a so-called "civil liberties public education program," that would fund activities and materials to educate the public about the causes and circumstances surrounding the in-

terment.

HB 1572's sponsor, Rep. Mike Wensman, R-Mercer Island, said the bill would allow schools to update curriculum and help the state preserve firsthand accounts from an aging WWII generation.

Many lawmakers rushed into hugs following the vote.

"I'm so relieved, I'm so relieved," said Tokuda, D-Seattle, as he weaved past celebrating colleagues on his way off the floor.

On the other side of the Rotunda, the Senate unanimously approved a bill to establish Dec. 7 as Pearl Harbor remembrance day.

Senate Majority Leader Sid Snyder, D-Long Beach, was among several moved to tears as he recalled the rush to enlist the day after the Japanese attack.

"I remember several of my classmates that didn't come back. And if it wasn't for those people, I and the rest of us wouldn't be standing here today. And I'm forever grateful," Snyder said as he fought back tears.

SB 6285, which recognizes the day but does not make it a legal holiday, now goes to the House. ■

Methodist Pastors Won't Stand Trial for Blessing Lesbian Union

By TRACY UBA
Writer/Reporter

The United Methodist Church decided Feb. 11 not to bring formal charges against 68 ministers who came under review for blessing the union of a lesbian couple last year.

Following a three-day public hearing in Fairfield, Calif., from Feb. 1-3, a church investigative committee went into closed deliberations for three days and announced that the charges did not warrant a trial under United Methodist law.

If the pastors had been convicted of violating church law, they could have faced disciplinary action as severe as dismissal.

"No further steps or actions will be pursued," said Bishop Melvin Talbert, of the church's California-Northern Nevada Conference. However, he acknowledged that "this decision will not resolve the tension within the community."

The original complaint, filed on May 10 of last year by Ardith Allread, district superintendent of Sacramento, and David Bennett, Dean of the Cabinet and district superintendent of San Jose, charged that the 68 pas-

See PASTORS/page 7

See PROP. 22/page 6

JACL NATIONAL CONVENTION 2000
AN ENDLESS WAVE OF LEADERSHIP

Monterey, California
June 26-July 2, 2000

19 weeks

Inside the P.C. Weekly

- Announcements,
- Calendar page 2
- National News 3
- Community News 4&5
- Three Degrees of
- Separation 6
- Obituaries 7

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: JACL National, 1115 E. ARQUES AVE, SUNNYVALE CA 94086-3904

50166 12/01/99

Pacific Citizen

7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755
Tel: 323/725-0083, 800/966-6157, Fax: 323/725-0064
E-mail: Pacific@aol.com

Executive Editor: Caroline Y. Aoyagi
Assistant Editor: Martha Nakagawa
Editor Emeritus/Archivist: Harry K. Honda
Office Manager: Brian Tanaka
Production Assistant: Margot Brunswick
Writer/Reporter: Tracy Uba
Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Special contributors: Patricia Arra, Allan Beekman, Toko Fujii, S. Ruth Y. Hashimoto, Bob Hirata, Ada Honda, Mas Imori, Mike Iseri, Naomi Kashiwaba, Bill Kashiwagi, William Marumoto, Etsu Masaoka, Bill Matsumoto, Fred Oshima, Ed Suguro, Mika Tanner, George Wakiji, Jem Lew

Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/921-5225 fax: 415/931-4671
JACL President: Helen Kawagoe, **National Director:** John Tateishi
Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Rick Uno, chairperson; Paul Ueyehara, EDC; Hank Tanaka, MDC; Deborah Ikeda, CCDC; Claire Omura, NCWN-PDC; Elsie Taniguchi, PNWDC; Jeff Watanabe, IDC; Vacant, MPDC; Deni Uejima, PSWDC

NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.

Editorials, news and the opinions expressed by columnists other than the national JACL president or national director do not necessarily reflect JACL policy. Events and products advertised in the Pacific Citizen do not carry the implicit endorsement of the JACL or this publication. We reserve the right to edit articles.

© 2000 (ISSN: 0030-8579) PACIFIC CITIZEN is published weekly except once in December. OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Pacific Time.
Annual subscription rates: JACL MEMBERS: \$12 of the national dues provide one year on a one-per-household basis. NON-MEMBERS: 1 year—\$30, payable in advance. Additional postage per year — Foreign periodical rate \$22. First Class for U.S., Canada, Mexico: \$30; Airmail to Japan/Europe: \$60. (Subject to change without notice.) Periodical postage paid at Monterey Park, Calif., and at additional mailing offices.

Permission: No part of this publication may be reproduced without express permission of the publisher. Copying for other than personal or internal reference use without the express permission of P.C. is prohibited. MICROFILM (35mm) of annual issues is available from Bay Microfilm, Inc., 1115 E. Arques Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: JACL National Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115.

Non-Member Readers

Get all the news and features from across the country
SUBSCRIBE TO THE PACIFIC CITIZEN

□ 1 yr./\$30

Allow 6 weeks for new subscriptions to begin.

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone number: _____

All subscriptions payable in advance. For overseas subscribers, additional \$22 per year required for postage. Checks payable to Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupania Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755.

Change of Address

If you have moved, please send information to:

JACL Members

National JACL
1765 Sutter Street
San Francisco, CA 94115
or
call membership at:
415/921-5225

Non-Members

Pacific Citizen
7 Cupania Circle
Monterey Park, CA 91755
or
call circulation at:
800/966-6157

Allow 6 weeks for address changes

To avoid interruptions in receiving your P.C., please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575).

Gift Subscriptions Available

Give a loved one the gift that comes every week. Send them a gift subscription to the Pacific Citizen today.

Call 800/966-6157 for details

JACL

Calendar

National

Mon., June 26-Sun., July 2—36th Biennial JACL National Convention; Doubletree Inn, Monterey, Calif.; special rate for JACL conventioners. Reservations ASAP: 831/649-4511, <www.doubletreemonterey.com>.

Eastern

Fri.-Tues., March 31-April 4—Washington, D.C., Leadership Conference; Doubletree Hotel, Info: Tom Ehle, 415/921-5225.

Intermountain

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sat., March 4—District Council Meeting; Jackpot, Nev.
SALT LAKE

Wed., March 1—Scholarship application deadline. Info: Kristi Ruyjin, 581-7203.

Sat., March 4—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting; see

Community Calendar

NC-WN-Pacific

CONTRA COSTA
Wed., March 1—Scholarship application deadline. Info: Yoko Olsgaard, 415/201-0969.

FREMONT

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; see Community Calendar.

HONOLULU

Sat., Feb. 19—Day of Remembrance program; see Community Calendar.

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner fund-raiser; see Community Calendar.

WATSONVILLE

Mon.-Thurs., April 24-27—Senior Center Tour to Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, etc. Info: Carmel Kamigawachi, 831/722-1930, Shig Kizuka, 831/724-0116.

Pacific Southwest

DISTRICT COUNCIL
Sun., Feb. 27—PSWDC Quarterly Meeting; JACCC, 240 S. San Pedro St.,

Little Tokyo

Sun., Feb. 27—2000 District Oratorical Contest; 11 a.m., JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd Floor, Little Tokyo; open to high school students 16 or older. **Application deadline, Feb. 24:** Info: Gerald, PSW District Office, 213/626-4471.

ARIZONA

Wed., March 1—Application Deadline for Sara Hutchings Clardy Scholarship. Info: Kathy Inoshita, Scholarship Committee Secretary, 623/937-5434.

SOUTH BAY

Wed., March 1—Application Deadline for Kiichi Egashira Memorial Scholarships. Info: Christine Shimane, 310/715-2039. ■

DEADLINE for Calendar is the Friday before date of issue, on a space-available basis.

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

COMMUNITY Calendar

The Midwest

CHICAGO

Sun. March 12—Caring Is Preparing workshop: "Long Term Care for Your Parents"; 2-4 p.m., Japanese American Service Committee, 4427 N. Clark St.; RSVP: 773/275-7212.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE

Sat., March 4—National JACL Credit Union annual meeting; Little America Hotel, 500 S. Main St.; business meeting & children's entertainment 5 p.m., buffet dinner 6 p.m., entertainment 7:30 p.m.; **RSVP by March 2:** 801/355-8040.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Fri.-Sun., Aug. 11-13—Greater Portland Reunion; "Nikkei Futures 2000; Doubletree Lloyd Center Hotel; mixer, banquet, tours, golf tournament, picnic, etc. Info: Kennie Namba, 503/258-0848, Kurtis Inouye 503/682-3238.

SEATTLE

Sun., Feb. 27—Seattle First Hill Lions Benefit Pancake Breakfast; 7:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Kawabe Memorial House, 221-18th Ave. S. Info: Bea, 206/322-5995, Karen, 206/684-7542, Andy, 206/624-8929.

Northern California

BAY AREA

Tues., Feb. 22—TV Broadcast, "Regret to Inform," 10:30 p.m., KCSM.

Sun., March 5—Nikkei Widowed Group monthly meeting; 2 p.m.; new members, both men and women, are welcome. For location call: Tets Ihara 415/221-4568 or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

BODEGA BAY

Through March 6—Exhibit, early 20th century woodblock prints by Kawase Hasui, Hiroshi Yoshida, Toshi Yoshida; Ren Brown Gallery, 1781 Highway One. Info: 800/585-2921, <www.ren-brown.com>.

FREMONT

Sun., March 19—Bay Meadows outing; meet at SACBC at 11 a.m. for car pooling. Info: Ted Inouye, 510/797-3075.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sat., Feb. 26—Tenth anniversary celebration of exhibit, "Strength and Diversity—Japanese American Women, 1885-1990"; 6:30-9 p.m., Grand Hyatt at Union Square, 345 Stockton St.; Rep. Patsy Mink, keynote speaker and honoree. Info: National Japanese American Historical Society, 415/921-5007.

Sun., Feb. 27—Program and Film Screening, "We Served With Pride: The Chinese American Experience in WWII"; 1:30-3 p.m., Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave.. Box Office: 415/392-4400.

SAN JOSE

Sat., Feb. 19—Yu-Ai Kai Crab/Spaghetti Feed; 6 p.m., San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Annex; "crab" race, "No Attendance Required" fund-raiser drawing. Tickets, info: 408/294-2505; e-mail: yuai@prodigy.net.

Southern California

LOS ANGELES

Fri.-Sun., Feb. 18-20—Award-winning play about the 100th/442nd RCT, "Our Hearts Were Touched With Fire"; Japan America Theatre, 244 S. San Pedro St., Little Tokyo. **Order tickets ASAP:** JACCC, 213/680-3700. Schedules: Hideo Anzai, 949/752-5670, Louise Sakamoto, 310/327-3169.

Sun. Feb. 20—Nikkei Student Union 14th Annual Cultural Night; 7-10 p.m., UCLA's Royce Hall; taiko drums, judo demonstration, fable, drama, modern and traditional dance. Ticket info: NSU voice mail, 310/284-4650.

Sun., Feb. 27—8th Annual Whale Watch Cruise; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; leaving from Long Beach Marina Sport Fishing, 140 Marina Drive. **RSVP by Feb. 24:** Japan America Society, fax 213/627-1353, phone 213/627-6217 ext. 17.

WEST COVINA

Sat., March 4—"Spring Fling" dance, 7-11:30 p.m., East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave.; DJ Jim Ikehara. Info: 626/337-9123

Arizona - Nevada

RENO

Sun., March 12—Teriyaki Dinner; noon-4 p.m., Washoe County Senior Center, 9th & Sutor; also sushi sale, bake sale, entertainment, bonsai, ikebana, calligraphy, origami, raffle, etc. Info: Tracie Sakaki, 856-4004.

Hawaii-Alaska

Sat., Feb. 19—Day of Remembrance program; 2:30 p.m., special showing of "Snow Falling on Cedars" at 3:30 p.m., Consolidated Theatre's Varsity Twins. Info: Keith Kamisugi, 294-4352, e-mail: keith.kamisugi@ge.net. ■

Beat the Rush

P.C. non-member rates will increase in April 2000



- The early bird gets the worm.
- Subscription rates for 2000 will be rising to \$35 a year and foreign postage to \$25.
- Subscribe or renew today and receive 48 issues of the Pacific Citizen for \$30!
- After March 31, prices will increase.
- For more information, please call 800/966-6157.

Revisiting the Roots of Day of Remembrance

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Assistant Editor

Japanese Americans across the United States will be observing Day of Remembrance (DOR) this month to mark the signing of Executive Order 9066 in 1942 which forcibly incarcerated more than 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry into U.S. concentration camps during World War II.

Now a tradition, DOR traces its roots to Seattle where 22 years ago volunteers organized the event on the site of the former Puyallup Assembly Center, one of 11 hastily built temporary quarters to house the Nikkei population removed from the West Coast.

Masterminding this inaugural event was a man, who, among some circles is vilified while among others is affectionately embraced. He is pioneer playwright Frank Chin, the same Frank Chin whom the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee credits for resurrecting the Nisei registers issue in 1980.

"Frank Chin was the brains behind the whole thing (DOR), but everyone else was taking credit for it," said Paul Tsuneishi, former JACL Pacific Southwest district governor.

Then-National JACL President Clifford Uyeda concurred. "Frank Chin was in control," recalled Uyeda. "He sort of organized the whole thing."

Henry Miyatake, an active JACLer at the time, said, "If it wasn't for Frank Chin, there would not have been a Day of Remembrance. He did a terrific job in re-vitalizing the spirit of the Japanese Americans."

Miyatake, in the early 1970s, was considered a "radical nut" by some JACLers for pursuing redress. By the late 1970s, Miyatake said the redress movement had reached an impasse and his personal life had taken a turn for the worse with a succession of tragedies including the death of his son.

"Mentally, I was not focused on redress," said Miyatake. "But along comes Frank Chin, and he insisted he interview me for background on redress."

What followed, according to Miyatake, were the articles by Chin in the *Seattle Weekly*, which exposed the internal battles within the Nikkei community on the issue of redress.

"When Frank wrote those three articles, there was a lot of interest," said Miyatake. "But he also alienated people, though it was all true, it was based on facts."

After the publication of the articles, Chin again contacted Miyatake. "Frank felt redress was losing momentum and needed something to revitalize it and needed to get more support other than just from the Pacific Northwest area," recalled Miyatake.

That spark would be the Day of Remembrance.

According to Chin, the idea for DOR developed after a conversation with Ene Riisa, a producer friend of his at ABC's 20/20.

"She asked me to see if I had a story for her," recalled Chin. "I said, 'Yeah, redress.' She hadn't heard about it, and she said she had two available dates. One was Thanksgiving and the other was something like April." Chin told Riisa to reserve the Thanksgiving date.

With only a few weeks to spare, Chin quickly enlisted the help of his friends to stage a media event large enough to capture public interest in redress. Among those involved early on included Miyatake, Shosuke Sasaki, Frank Abe, Kathy Wong, Karen Seri-

guchi, Ken Nakano and Ron Maniwa.

"It was just a blitzkrieg of activity," said Abe, who had quit his job to devote full time to DOR.

The group's command post became Maniwa's law office on 7th and Jackson where they held their strategic planning meetings, according to Abe. To be as inclu-



The first Day of Remembrance poster.

sive as possible, the group out-reached to all organizations such as the kenjin kai, the churches, the schools and community organizations including the JACL.

To ensure widespread media coverage, the group created a media kit and contacted both mainstream and ethnic media outlets. The efforts paid off with several articles published before and after DOR and TV stations consistently running public service announcements.

Who actually came up with the term "Day of Remembrance" is up for debate. Chin thought it was either Miyatake or Sasaki, but Miyatake is fairly certain that it was Mayumi Tsutakawa, daughter of famed sculptor George Tsutakawa.

Whichever the case, the phrase stuck and was used in the poster to publicize the event. Inclusion of the word, "redress," in the poster, however, initially met with opposition from JACL, according to Chin.

"I insisted that redress be mentioned because we were going to have politicians there speaking, and we had to give them the subject to lead them," said Chin. "I didn't care what the politicians said, but if the word was in the poster, it would guide them to speak on the subject."

It fell upon former Puyallup Assembly Center internees, Miyatake and Sasaki, to get permission to hold the event at Puyallup, then renamed the Western Washington Fairground (WWG). Because the land was privately owned, they had to receive permission from the WWG board.

Getting permission was no easy task since board members voiced fears that resurrecting the fairground's WWII past would bring bad publicity, especially when the local American Legion was opposing DOR, said Miyatake. Thus, initially, three board members opposed permission, three supported it, with one board member and the director undecided.

With the help of Emi Somekawa, who had worked at the fairground and knew the board members personally, Miyatake and Sasaki approached each board member privately. Miyatake, Sasaki and Roger Shimomura also made a formal presentation before the entire board.

After three meetings, the board finally gave their approval.

November 25, 1978, dawned a crisp, clear day in Washington. Seattle residents were to meet in the parking lot of Sick's Stadium and caravan to Puyallup, while those from other cities such as Tacoma were to head directly to Puyallup for the DOR event.

Chin arrived shortly before the appointed noon time and noticed

a full parking lot. His immediate thought was that the arena was holding another event.

"I thought, 'Oh, there's a RV show going on,'" said Chin. "But then I looked around and everybody was Japanese!"

An estimated 2,200 people had turned out to Sick's Stadium. From there, the state patrol and local police escorted a caravan of more than 250 cars that stretched four miles down Interstate 5 to the Puyallup Fairgrounds. Ben Nakagawa is credited with coordinating the law enforcement support.

"The strange thing is that people didn't talk until they were in their cars," recalled Chin. "Once they were in their cars, they all talked. Families were talking about being in camp. The trip together with their families brought all the talk out."

"For some parents, this was the first time they talked about the camps to their children," said Miyatake. "It was difficult but cathartic. Psychologically I think it did a lot of good."

Miyatake estimates that another 1,000 people went directly to Puyallup, for a total of 3,200 participants at the first DOR. Actors George Takei, Pat Morita and Mako spoke before the crowd, as well as Seattle Mayor Charles Royer and a representative from the governor's office.

In addition, Seriguchi had spearheaded an exhibit consisting of past newspaper articles chronicling the internment years and a collection of art work from former internees. Miyatake recalled seeing a six-foot replica of a Minidoka water tower that a camp internee had built in camp and somehow transported to Washington.

"It was an event not to be repeated," said Abe. "We'll never have that same passion of trying to put out our story which back then was unrecognized by the government."

Abe felt part of DOR's success was the timing. That same summer, at the national JACL convention in Salt Lake City, invited guest speaker Sen. S.I. Hayakawa had held a press conference after his JACL speech, blasting redress and supporting the government's decision to put the Nikkei into camps although Hayakawa, himself, was never in camp. The non-Nikkei public seemed to embrace Hayakawa's comments, according to Abe.

Uyeda remembered that particular JACL convention. Although some thought Uyeda had invited Hayakawa, he vehemently denied this. "I had nothing to do with the keynote speaker," said Uyeda. "I was opposed to asking him. After that, we (Uyeda and Hayakawa) were no longer friends."

In retrospect, Abe felt Hayakawa's comments helped galvanize Nikkei anger and propelled them into action, particularly with DOR. "It [DOR] worked because there was so much pent up energy and decades of frustration of not having their stories told," said Abe. "The media could see that this was a real story, not staged."

But with all events, Abe noted that it takes planning and recognized Chin for pulling it together.

"I credit Frank Chin with coming up with the idea and inspiring everyone and kind of pushing it along," said Abe. "He was behind the scenes, directing the activity. He was the only person with the vision to see how big it could be and how it all fit together."

Following the Seattle DOR, then-Puyallup JACL President Jim Trujimura asked Chin to help them organize a similar event in Portland.

"That made two (DORs)," said Chin. "Two was good because it set things in motion, and it seemed like things were leading to something. There was movement."

It was the movement that once again jump started the fight for redress. ■

CANDIDATES

(Continued from page 1)

ber 31st, and I had two weeks to raise money so the little over \$30,000 is not a bad record," said Honda, who will be busy campaigning between now and the March 7 primary. His latest stop included a breakfast meeting in East Los Angeles hosted by Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard.

Meanwhile, Peacock raised close to \$77,000, in addition to a personal loan of \$500,000 to a campaign as of Dec. 31.

Alicia Wong, first vice chair of the California Democratic Party, was optimistic about the upcoming race but realistic about facing a tough battle.

"We're going to need all that energy, that unbound and unflagging energy, this year," said Wong.

On the state level, Carole Hayashino's run for a state Assembly seat in the crowded sixth district race was running smoothly. Hayashino leads her rivals in fundraising and is picking up a broad base of endorsements from local city councils, educators and firefighters' associations.

Hayashino, who had been active in the redress movement, also has strong backing from the APA community. In light of the recent espionage allegations brought against Wen Ho Lee and the campaign finance scandal, Hayashino was sensitive to the needs of the APA community.

"We're still thought of as 'outsiders,' as visitors to the United States, and our loyalty continues to be questioned," said Hayashino. "That kind of suspicion has no place in the Democratic party. Ac-

tually that is an issue I've been speaking to as a candidate because I believe my candidacy in the Democratic Party really represents diversity, inclusion, respect and equal opportunity for all people."

Ocellia Chang, chair of the Dr. Wen Ho Lee Defense fund, sought to bank on the Democratic Party's politics of inclusion by garnering support for the scientist.

"I would say that a lot of them (attendees) are quite knowledgeable of the case, and when I have a chance to talk to them, they are quite receptive," said Chang, who was passing out Wen Ho Lee support literature and buttons.

Chang made it no secret that she felt Lee's treatment smacked of racism.

"I really, truly believe if he had been a white person, he would have been given better due process," said Chang. "...I don't believe the case was handled in the most honest way and that due process was compromised."

Among the convention volunteers was Lee High School student John Tan, who became involved in the event as part of his high school government class project. Although his parents tended to vote Republican, Tan said the Democratic Party was more appealing to him.

"They seem to be more for the people," said Tan. "And that's my idea of a democracy."

Tan described his introduction to his first major political event as "exciting" and "really interesting," and now has him thinking about a career in politics.

"I'd like to get involved in politics, maybe as someone who works behind the scenes," said Tan. "It would be a great way to serve our country." ■



California state Assemblyman Mike Honda, who is running for the U.S. House of Representatives in the 15th Congressional District, advocated a program of inclusion.

DEMOCRATS

(Continued from page 1)

boldness," said Bradley, "and the only way the Democratic Party could fail to win in the year 2000 is if we did not take the reform mantle and we failed to be bold enough in these times of enormous change."

Also aware that touting the current economic boom would indirectly give credit to his opponent, Bradley shifted his focus to the future.

"It is in times of incredible prosperity that we should be fixing our roof when the sun shines," said Bradley, who stressed that 14 million children still lived in poverty despite the country's current prosperity.

But Gore in his speech highlighted the economic achievements during his time in office, including lower jobless rates and budget deficits. "As Democrats we can be proud of the record of these past seven years," said Gore. "And I'm here to tell you today, you ain't seen nothing yet."

As a nod to Latino voters, Gore spoke a few sentences in Spanish and picked up on the popular slogan, once used in Mike Honda's bid for the California Assembly, of "si se puede" or "yes we can do it."

With Latinos making up close to a quarter of California voters, it was obvious that Gore was vying for their support. Department of Energy head Bill Richardson, the

highest ranking Latino in the Clinton Administration, is even said to be considered on the short list of possible vice presidential contenders, along with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, and both were given podium time at the convention.

In his speech, Richardson, made a public appeal to the Latino community to support the Democratic Party and criticized the Republicans on their poor minority record.

In referring to a recent spate of Latino-friendly speeches and advertisement from the GOP, the former Congressman from New Mexico said, "Here's something they forgot to mention — no policies, nothing for Latinos. Maybe it's because they had so little to offer. Good policies and not just good pictures is what Latinos and all Americans want." Conventioneer Mariana Castro, a Filipina American from Los Angeles who has been active in politics, liked Bradley's free ideas but plans to vote for Gore.

"Bill Bradley was sort of refreshing and appealing for the Democrats, but I think Gore has a better chance of probably beating whoever is going to be the Republican nominee," said Castro.

Lynn Hum, a Los Altos resident working at Stanford University, also found Bradley's speech to be invigorating but said she will most likely cast her vote with Gore. "I think I would go with the person with more experience and that would have to be Al Gore," said Hum. ■

Speaker Remembers a '54 P.C. Column by Masaoka at Riverside JACL Installation

By HARRY K. HONDA

RIVERSIDE, Calif.—As guest speaker at the Riverside JACL installation on Feb. 6, Kaz Oshiki, a 32-year Capitol Hill congressional staffer now retired in Banning, read aloud from Mike Masaoka's 1954 P.C. column (Oct. 29) of a dream for an appropriate monument in Washington. The monument, Masaoka wrote, would be a constant reminder to all Americans "that the slant of one's eyes does not reflect the slant of one's heart, that the cost of racial intolerance runs high, that all Americans are of a common patriotism."

Oshiki told the 100 present, including Riverside City Councilman Chuck Beatty, of those months as the first volunteer-lobbyist in 1991-92 to have a bill passed and signed to secure federal land for the so-called "Go For Broke" memorial as well as approval of the various commissions which determine the artistic and public merit of the project.

While aware of the current controversy swirling around the opening lines of Masaoka's "Japanese American Creed," written in May 1941, as part of the memorial, Oshiki described the genesis of the project, and of those pins and needles that accompany bills for final consideration in the House and again through the Senate before it reaches the president's desk. Whatever questions about the controversy, Oshiki added, that was not the focus of his remarks for the installation but he welcomed any after the luncheon.

Oshiki recalled that Masaoka also proposed the memorial as a

five-year project at the National Americans of Japanese Ancestry Veterans Reunion in Reno, Nev., in June 1988. (As temporary chair in 1988 of the Go For Broke Veterans Association, Masaoka anticipated the 50th anniversary of the formation of the 442nd RCT in 1993 with a memorial inside Ar-

jington National Cemetery. As seed money to start up a campaign, Dr. Harold Harada of Culver City, who grew up prewar in Riverside, donated the first \$1,000 and was present at the Riverside JACL installation. Masaoka died in June 1991.)

The Japanese American Veter-

ans Association of Nikkei in the Greater Capital area, and GFBVA, chaired by Bill Marutani of Philadelphia, initiated the drive, contacting members of Congress. Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) and a bill for the WWII monument was submitted in June 1991. With adjournment due by the end of October 1992, (the bill had been rewritten so that it was no longer an ethnic war memorial but a tribute to the patriotism of JAs in WWII as part of American history), the House approved the new bill on Oct. 7. The Senate concurred and President Bush signed it on Oct. 24.

As big money was needed to finance construction of the monument, the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation with a nationwide cross section of Nikkei leaders from all walks of life was established to raise an immediate goal of \$8.6 million. Close to \$11 million has been raised.

The foundation received a grant (\$50,000) from the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund to leave a WWII message of some 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry, two thirds being U.S.-born, being held without due process in the "relocation centers" and of

their contributions.

The accelerated national campaign launched in the summer of 1997 met the mandated deadline to raise at least \$8.6 million by the fall of 1999; otherwise the privilege to have the triangular block near the Capitol for the memorial would have been expired. The groundbreaking occurred last Oct. 22 and dedication is scheduled for Nov. 9, 2000.

"Another million is needed for continued outreach," Oshiki concluded at the Riverside installation. [See P.C., Jan. 14-20 for dedication ceremony details.]

Gary Mayeda, national JACL vice president, planning and development, administered the oath of office to Michiko Yoshimura, pres.; Irene Ogata; v.p.; Dr. Junji Kumamoto, treas.; (immediate past pres.) Dr. Clyde Wilson, rec. sec.; Gayle and Francis Fujioka, corr. sec.; Akio Yoshikawa, membership; Glen Yabuno, historian; Mable Zink, sunshine chair; Meiko Inaba, newsletter; Dr. Gen Ogata, 1000 Club; Douglas Urata, benefits; Joyce Higashida, UC-Riverside liaison; William Takano, legacy fund; and Helen Yoshikawa, Ron Sugi, members-at-large. ■

Portion of Mike Masaoka's Washington Newsletter, Pacific Citizen, Oct. 29, 1954

Proposal: A Monument

"ON THIS, the tenth anniversary of the high-water mark, as it were, (Nisei Soldiers Memorial Day, Oct. 31) of Nisei gallantry in World War II, this writer who was privileged to serve with the 442nd, would like to propose that the Japanese American community consider the placing of an appropriate monument to our heroic dead in the Nation's capital, where among the Nation's heroes it would be in proper company, as a constant reminder to all Americans that the slant of one's eyes does not reflect the slant of one's heart, that the cost of racial intolerance runs high, that all Americans are of a common patriotism."

"Here, in Washington, there are many monuments to individual heroes; to groups and units, like divisions and armies; to commemorate historic events, such as the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima."

"But, to me, a Nisei, no monument could be more appropriate and in keeping with America's

heritage than one especially dedicated to our own war dead, for their sacrifices which have gained so much should be forever enshrined in memory for all to see and marvel and to understand."

* * * * *

Nisei Soldiers Memorial Day was designated for Oct. 31 to mark the now famous rescue of the Lost T-88 Battalion in the Vosges Mountains of northeast France by the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in 1944, the date when the 442nd breakthrough occurred after its men were called up Oct. 28 to make contact at all cost since prior attempts by other units had failed. On the 29th, the 100th and the 3rd Battalion moved out with Companies I and K moving directly against the barrier of fresh German troops and succeeded after hand-to-hand, tree-to-tree fighting with heavy grenade and small arms fire. It was Tsgt. Takashi Senzaki (I), who broke through to the Lost Battalion. (Not "Takeo" as cited in Chester Tanaka's 1982 pictorial history, Go For Broke, 98). ■

COMMENTARY

A Letter From Hawaii Veterans of the 100th Battalion to the National Parks Service

The following letter from Don Matsuda, speaker of Hawaii's Club 100, to John Parsons of the National Parks Service addresses the inscriptions planned for the memorial by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation.

"I write to you as a volunteer from the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, WWII. I trained with the 442nd in Camp Shelby, Mississippi, and was transferred to the 100th after it was decorated at Cassino. Presently, I am the President of the veterans' organization of the 100th Infantry Battalion, Club 100. Our organization opposes the inclusion of Masaoka's name on the Monument. Our past president has sent a letter to the NJAMF to that effect. As President-Elect at that time, I sent a letter to J. Carter Brown stating my own reasons. It was well received and forwarded to you. We fought prejudice even against our fellow soldiers in the Army, and against MPs who had their bayonets pointed against us, I might add."

"Briefly, the letter to the NJAMF stated the following: The 1399th Engineer Battalion should not be left out of the Monument. We have learned that the 1399th Engineers will be included in the monument and we are grateful for this change. An additional point of the letter suggested that quotes and names of Governor Ariyoshi and Representative Patsy Mink be included. Ariyoshi was the first and only Governor of Japanese ancestry. Mink is the first woman of Japanese ancestry to serve in Congress. She introduced and fought for Title IX that gave such a big boost to equal rights for all Americans through equality in women's athletics. We feel that their achievements are worthy of

recognition by including quotations from them on the monument and we would like to see their quotes rather than Masaoka's."

"A third point regards the proposed narrative which states that the 100th/442nd was a volunteer unit. This is not true. The 100th was largely a draftee outfit, under much suspicion and scrutiny. It was the first segregated Japanese American military unit. It was the 100th's outstanding record in training that paved the way for the formation of the 442nd. The NJAMF overlooks and slights Hawaii's leading role."

"Masaoka has been called the Father of the 442nd by his idolators. His autobiography is entitled 'They Call Me Moses (sic)'. Truth is, the decision to form the 442nd was made without Masaoka. He opposed the formation of a 'segregated unit'. Personally, I was proud to serve in an all-Japanese American outfit. I knew, correctly, that it would have greater impact. The 100th and the Military Intelligence soldiers as well as the rest of Japanese American men and women in Hawaii fathered and mothered the 442nd. Do not exclude these people who fought courageously against unjust suspicions. Their story should not be omitted. They, not 'Moses' Masaoka, convinced the Army to form the 100th and the 442nd. Important details of their work were given in my letter to J. Carter Brown."

"The NJAMF was compelled to leave out the most obsequious passages of the 'American Creed,' a revealing admission of their weak position. But the odor remains. Everybody knows and understands its meaning. Such a groveling creed should not be imposed by any government upon a free people. Nor should our gov-

ernment inscribe the name of its author. Japanese Americans know well what he stood for."

"The Masaoka name is too controversial to maintain harmony. Even a close family friend opposes his name being inscribed on the monument. There should be a public forum where both sides can argue it out and a vote taken. Who selected the NJAMF board members? We didn't."

"We thought it was going to be a monument to the Japanese American soldiers. Our organization pledged \$50,000 for a soldier's monument in D.C. to a 'Go for Broke' veterans organization. The name was changed to NJAMF, and its purpose was changed. We may withdraw that pledge. By the way, 'Go for Broke' is a Hawaiian pidgin expression. Don't replace it with the gutless Masaoka creed."

"Finally, we don't take lightly the fact that the veterans were snubbed and sidelined at the groundbreaking ceremonies. We don't like the shabby treatment of Hershey Miyamura, the only living Japanese American Medal of Honor recipient, by the NJAMF. They left him waiting by himself from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. before the ceremony started. This is not a small thing. Any other organization would have gone out of its way to accommodate a Medal of Honor recipient, but not the NJAMF. No, they are too preoccupied with going out of their way for 'Moses' and his 'American' creed."

"It would be wrong to build a monument that is rife with controversy, dredges up bad memories, and causes anger and hurt. We ask you to do whatever is in your power to direct NJAMF to resolve this issue of inscriptions and inaccuracies so that the monument will be something we can all be proud of." ■

Planning for Your Parents' Personal and Financial Independence Workshops to be Held

Educational workshops on planning for the care of elderly parents will be presented by the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) on March 12 and April 16. The "Caring is Preparing" workshops are designed to educate adult children — and anyone else interested in these topics — on the issues they may face when parents need help in making life decisions for the future or are unable to care for themselves. The workshops are open without charge to attendees.

The "Caring is Preparing: How to Plan for a Future of Personal and Financial Independence" workshops are as follows:

March 12—*Long-Term Health and Wellness:* A presentation on issues, resources and services for long-term care. Health insurance and the range of services and programs that support healthy independent living will be addressed.

April 16—*Gift and Estate Planning: Fiduciary Designations, Documents and Tax Strategies:* At-

torneys and financial planners will present information on estate planning and legal documents ensuring that control of future health care, financial and lifestyle decisions is retained and managed consistent with your personal objectives and values.

The workshops are from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and will take place at JASC, 4427 North Clark St., Chicago. Call 773/275-7212 to register.

The "Caring is Preparing" workshops are sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield, in conjunction with the JASC.

The JASC, a nonprofit agency, has been a center of the JA community in Chicago since its founding in 1946. Through public, private and corporate membership and support, the JASC provides services to enhance the quality of life for senior Asians and non-Asians through social services, and initiates programs to preserve the rich history and culture of Americans of Japanese ancestry. ■

Are you in the market for a new bank?

UNION
BANK OF
CALIFORNIA
SM

- We are California's third largest bank, with over 240 branches conveniently located throughout the state.
- We're a member of The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Group allowing us to serve your banking needs in the Pacific Rim and Far East.
- Also, you'll find the Union Bank of California has friendly, knowledgeable staff who will appreciate your business.

Come by any Union Bank Of California branch today.



It's Different Here

Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi Group

Member FDIC

Exhibit to Feature WWII Internment Camp Photo Collection

Portland resident Miyuki Yasui says that researching for "The Heart Mountain Story," the next exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center (ONLC), is like returning to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming where she was sent at age 15 during World War II.

"When I was relocated to Heart

cisco by former Heart Mountain internee Mamoru Inouye, tells a story about the Japanese Americans confined there. After seeing "The Heart Mountain Story" displayed at a national convention, Yasui worked with Inouye to bring the exhibit to Portland. Inouye will be at the opening reception to give personal tours of the exhibit and to sign his book about the photo collection.

"I am delighted that Mamoru will attend the exhibit opening and see how some Oregon residents remember Heart Mountain," said Yasui. "Our presentation of his exhibit also features artifacts and profiles from Oregonians who were interned there, as well as a scale model of a barrack like the one my family lived in for two and a half years."

The exhibit committee chose Feb. 19 for the exhibit's opening reception to commemorate the 58th anniversary of the day President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which gave the military the authority to move persons of Japanese ancestry from strategic areas such as Portland into internment camps. JAs across the nation call this date A Day of Remembrance.

"The Heart Mountain Story" runs through May 20 at the ONLC. Hours are Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sunday, noon-3 p.m. Admission is free.

The ONLC seeks to preserve the historical identity of the Japanese in Oregon. A project of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment, the ONLC creates and hosts exhibits, provides speakers for schools and community organizations, facilitates teacher workshops, videotapes oral histories, and preserves historic documents and artifacts. ■



PHOTO: HANSEL MIETH AND OTTO HAGEL
"Behind Barbed Wire" Jan. 1943.

Mountain I thought camp was fun and didn't worry about the abrogation of my civil rights," said Yasui. "Things look different now, through adult eyes."

The ONLC, located at 117 NW 2nd Ave., will host the exhibit's opening reception on Feb. 19 at 2 p.m.

In January 1943, *Life* magazine sent photographers Hansel Mieth and Otto Hagel on assignment to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. "The Heart Mountain Story" is a traveling exhibit of more than 30 of their photographs which went hidden and unpublished until 1995.

Each compelling image in this collection, organized in San Fran-

Five JACL Chapters' Installation Dinner

By MAS HASHIMOTO
Special to the Pacific Citizen

The five California Central Coast JACL chapters — Gilroy, Monterey Peninsula, Salinas Valley, San Benito County and Watsonville — held a joint installation dinner for the first time on Jan. 28 at the San Juan Oaks golf lodge near Hollister.

Co-chairs Mark Mitani of Watsonville and Lily Kawafuchi of Gilroy planned a program that attracted over 250 people. Master of ceremonies Mark Mitani introduced the Rev. Dennis Shinseki of the Salinas Valley/Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temples, who gave both the invocation and the benediction. Installing all the officers and boards of directors was Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Joseph F. Bialore Jr., who has been installing the Gilroy officers for nearly 25 years.

James D. Houston, and Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, co-authors of "Farewell to Manzanar," were

introduced by Mas Hashimoto of Watsonville. James Houston was recently recognized as one of the top 25 novelists of Santa Cruz County of the past century.

"Farewell to Manzanar" was ranked by publishing firms as the 18th most important book west of the Mississippi River of the past century. "Farewell to

through the internment and up to the present.

Also attending the program were NCWNP District Governor John Hayashi; Santa Cruz County Superior Court Judge Kathleen Akao (niece of Jeanne Houston); Assemblyman Peter Fruseta; Union and San Benito Banks; and the California-Florida Plant

Company.

Autographed copies of David T. Yamada's "The Japanese of the Monterey Peninsula" and the Houstons' "Farewell to Manzanar," sweatshirts designed for the 2000 JACL Monterey Convention, Sunday brunch at San Juan Oaks, and other prizes were raffled.

Future joint events by the five chapters will include the annual Day of Remembrance observance in Salinas Rodeo Grounds on Sunday, Feb. 27, at 1:30 p.m., with JACL National Director John Tateishi as the keynote speaker, and the 36th Biennial JACL national convention in Monterey from June 27 to July 2. ■



From left: James D. Houston, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, Mark Mitani, Santa Cruz County Superior Court Judge Kathleen Akao.

Manzanar," first published in 1973 and currently in its 30th printing, is the most widely read book on the subject of the internment.

As guest speaker, Jeanne Houston spoke on "From Internment to the New Millennium: A Personal View." She put her life into perspective from her youth

cannot undo the injustices of the past, but it is critical that we understand that our history of racism and exclusion is recent history," said Locke.

He pointed out that slavery existed during his grandfather's lifetime and that it was only two generations ago that Congress, acting on anti-Chinese sentiment, passed the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Citing a personal experience with injustice, Locke recalled a third grade teacher who used to ask students what they had for breakfast. He said that when the Asian children answered that they had rice and fish, the teacher would slap their hands for being unAmerican.

Locke praised the civil rights and redress movement, and urged the crowd to remember how far they had come. Yet, the governor said he was puzzled that AAs should have one of the lowest rates of voter registration. "Asian Americans should use the power we have as citizens," he said.

King County Executive Ron Sims told the crowd that the only way to bring about change was to speak loudly and be a noisy,

squeaky wheel.

Seattle Mayor Paul Schell said the people needed to celebrate differences.

Japanese Consul General Yoshio Nomoto praised the region's diversity and JACL's support of Japan-U.S. relations.

Four people were recognized that evening. The "Friends of JACL" awards went to Leah "Mom" Wilson, a retired school teacher and Nete Miles, regional manager for public affairs at the Eli Lilly Corp.

Lori Matsukawa received the JACL community award for her contributions to the APA community, and Ryan Chin, a Ranier Beach High School graduate, was recognized as a youth leader.

The new JACL board was sworn in by JACL National President Helen Kawagoe. The incoming officers included: Sharon Sobie-Seymour, president; Akemi Matsumoto, president-elect; Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, first vice president; Arlene Oki, second vice president; Mari Hirabayashi, third vice president; David Yamaguchi, board delegate; Michael Latimer, treasurer; Shea Aoki, historian; and Ann Fujii-Lindwall, corresponding secretary. ■

Social Justice is Focus at Seattle JACL's 78th Installation Banquet

By LOUISE WATANABE
Special to the Pacific Citizen

Guest speakers at Seattle JACL's 78th annual installation banquet spoke on the theme of "2000: Achieving Social Justice" by discussing the impact of I-200, the anti-affirmative action measure passed by Washington voters in 1998.

More than 400 people attended the event, held at the Doubletree Suites in Tukwila, Wash.

Keynote speaker Martha Choe, director of the Washington Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development, pointing out the Asian Pacific Americans were "the sons and daughters of this country," cited the need for "compassion and humanity" to overcome prejudices and for Asian Americans to recognize their "shared and collective history as Americans."

To remove racial barriers, Choe advocated social justice, but raised concerns of plummeting college enrollments and contracting opportunities for communities of color in the post-I-200 world.

Gov. Gary Locke voiced similar sentiment. "We all know that we

cannot undo the injustices of the past, but it is critical that we understand that our history of racism and exclusion is recent history," said Locke.

He pointed out that slavery existed during his grandfather's lifetime and that it was only two generations ago that Congress, acting on anti-Chinese sentiment, passed the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Citing a personal experience with injustice, Locke recalled a third grade teacher who used to ask students what they had for breakfast. He said that when the Asian children answered that they had rice and fish, the teacher would slap their hands for being unAmerican.

Locke praised the civil rights and redress movement, and urged the crowd to remember how far they had come. Yet, the governor said he was puzzled that AAs should have one of the lowest rates of voter registration. "Asian Americans should use the power we have as citizens," he said.

King County Executive Ron Sims told the crowd that the only way to bring about change was to speak loudly and be a noisy,

squeaky wheel.

Seattle Mayor Paul Schell said the people needed to celebrate differences.

Japanese Consul General Yoshio Nomoto praised the region's diversity and JACL's support of Japan-U.S. relations.

Four people were recognized that evening. The "Friends of JACL" awards went to Leah "Mom" Wilson, a retired school teacher and Nete Miles, regional manager for public affairs at the Eli Lilly Corp.

Lori Matsukawa received the JACL community award for her contributions to the APA community, and Ryan Chin, a Ranier Beach High School graduate, was recognized as a youth leader.

The new JACL board was sworn in by JACL National President Helen Kawagoe. The incoming officers included: Sharon Sobie-Seymour, president; Akemi Matsumoto, president-elect; Vicki Toyohara-Mukai, first vice president; Arlene Oki, second vice president; Mari Hirabayashi, third vice president; David Yamaguchi, board delegate; Michael Latimer, treasurer; Shea Aoki, historian; and Ann Fujii-Lindwall, corresponding secretary. ■

San Francisco/Bay Area Nikkei Singles Awards Scholarship at Annual Installation Dinner

At the annual installation dinner held at the Fort Mason Officers Club on Jan. 22, the San Francisco/Bay Area Nikkei Singles of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California installed newly elected officers for the 2000 calendar year and honored the 1999-2000 scholarship recipient.

Georgann Maedo emceed the evening's program, which included words from outgoing president Fumi Nihei who has served two terms. Greg Marutani, a long-time friend and supporter of the SF/BANS organization, performed the installation of the new officers, who are: President Arleen Honda from San Francisco, Vice Presidents Ron Sugiyama (San Francisco) and Fumi Nihei (Berkeley); Corresponding Secretary Lois Yonemoto, Record-



MAYUKO MUNEYASU

ing Secretary Florence Dobashi, and Treasurer Marjorie Fletcher (all from San Francisco); Dave Abe (Oakland) as publicity chair; and Historian Kay Kyono of

Berkeley.

Mayuko Muneyasu was selected as the recipient of this year's SF/BANS scholarship award and is currently enrolled at the Metropolitan School of Art in Denver. Bill Sakai, chair of the club's scholarship committee, introduced the scholarship recipient's mother, Yoshi Miura, and then introduced Linda Jofuku, executive director of Yu-Ai-Kai of San Jose, who spoke on behalf of the recipient, who was unable to attend the dinner.

The SF/BA Nikkei Singles of the JCCNC is an organization that seeks to provide social, educational and cultural events and activities for singles, widowed, divorced and never-married. For information about the organization, contact Arleen Honda at 415/221-0206. ■

**7.9%
apr**

**CAR
LOANS**

**6.9%
apr**

UNTIL
FEB. 29

New cars:
5 years

Used cars:
4 years

BORROW UP TO \$50,000. OAC. DOES NOT INCLUDE:
TAXES, LICENSE, EXTENDED WARRANTIES.
NEW CARS, 100% OF PURCHASE PRICE.
USED CARS, 100% OF HIGH BLUE BOOK



**National JACL
CREDIT UNION**

Toll free 800/544-8828 / Tel 801/355-8040 / Fax 801/521-2101
Email: jacks@jacks.com / PO 1721 / SL, Utah 84110

PROP. 22

(Continued from page 1)

be legal. This is not about protecting marriage. It's about attacking gay and lesbian people and their families.

Those who have endorsed the No on Knight campaign include Governor Gray Davis, Vice President Al Gore, Senators Bill Bradley, Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, Republican Congressmen Tom Campbell, California Republican League, California Democratic Party, League of Women Voters, Interfaith Alliance of California, California Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO and American Civil Liberties Union.

Among the minority endorsers of the No on Knight campaign so far are Assemblyman Mike Honda, the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, the Asian Pacific American Bar Association, NAAACP-San Jose as well as Assemblymembers Antonio Villaraigosa, Gil Cedillo and Gloria Romero and Congressmembers Xavier Becerra, Loretta Sanchez and Marty Martinez.

All voters have to do is look at "the record" and "the history" of those who drew up and now support Prop. 22, Conaty said, calling Sen. Knight, the Christian Coalition and the Traditional Values Coalition "fairweather friends" to the minorities from whom they are seeking support.

"We have a common enemy," she said. "These are the same people that go after ethnic communities and immigrant communities."

According to Conaty, the No on Knight campaign is scheduled to begin their television ad campaign this week.

Yes on 22 Says "Protect Marriage"

Despite the fact that several prominent Latino politicians in California are opposed to the measure, the Sacramento-based Yes on 22 campaign has been soliciting support from the Latino and Spanish-speaking community, among others. Recognizing the sway the Latino vote may have in the March election, they began running a 30-second television ad on Spanish-language stations in Northern and Southern California on Jan. 20. Ads on English-language stations began on Feb. 7.

"The fact that the Protection of Marriage Committee is beginning its television campaign on Spanish language television illustrates two points," said Julio Calderon, past president of the Mexican American Political Association. "First, the key to victory in California elections is to speak to the growing number of Latino voters, and secondly, that there is a high level of support for Prop. 22 with Latinos."

According to a poll released in January by the Public Policy Institute of California, 67 percent of sampled Latino voters favored Prop. 22.

Part of the foundation of this campaign, said Yes on 22 communications director Robert Glazier, "has sprung from the traditional values of minority communities ... who recognize the importance of the family, having both the mother and the father in the home."

"This campaign has a broad spectrum of support from all communities," he said. "It's said to see the levels the No on Knight campaign will go to to incite and intimidate minorities by bringing up issues not related to this measure."

He insisted that Prop. 22 is not

about dictating family or who one can love. It's about viewing marriage as "a legal public policy matter" and closing a loophole in California law, he said, which can currently be affected by decisions made in other states.

"We believe gays and lesbians have a right to live the life of their choice, but that does not give them the right to redefine the institution of marriage for everyone," Glazier said.

Even if Prop. 22 passes, he added, "Californians will continue to have the same protections. That goes for both heterosexuals and homosexuals."

JACL's Stance

In early 1994, the issue of same-sex marriage first caught the attention of JACL, following a 1993 Hawaii Supreme Court decision which ruled that the state's denial of marriage licenses to three gay couples was unconstitutional unless it could show "compelling state interest."

The Honolulu chapter and the Pacific Southwest District (PSW) supported the court's ruling and were the first to endorse the concept of same-sex marriage as a matter of civil rights. Highly controversial at the time, some argued that the issue did not affect a majority of the membership and therefore JACL should not get involved, while others maintained it directly related to a denial of a particular group's basic rights.

The national council subsequently voted on the issue in August 1994. According to their position, JACL "finds that the prohibition of same-sex marriages is a violation of civil and human rights and the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution; and supports the concept of marriages as a constitutional right that should not be denied because of a person's sexual orientation."

National JACL recently chose to endorse the current No on Knight campaign, likewise premised upon the stance that this California initiative denies gays and lesbians equal rights as far as marriage.

"This is an issue that 20 years ago would have failed as a consideration of civil rights. People didn't understand how it could be an issue of civil rights," said JACL National Director John Tateishi. "JACL has

come a long way in trying to understand that and trying to further the rights of those who have a different sexual orientation."

"Those who don't support [Prop. 22] are trying to be objective, looking at it from the perspective of individuals trying to exercise their rights," he said.

For others, Tateishi acknowledged, "it's hard because it's an emotional response." But whatever position people choose to take, he said he doesn't look at them with judgment because it really comes down to "a difference of perspective."

The San Diego chapter first took a stand against Prop. 22 by endorsing No on Knight back in October 1999, followed by PSW's Civil Rights Caucus in December.

"It's fairly clear-cut that [Prop. 22] is a violation of civil rights," said Dan Ichimura, chair of the caucus and research coordinator at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. "Typically, there's a lot more discussion at our meetings," he said, but on this particular issue, the caucus felt it was "a no-brainer."

"JACL took the position in the past to support the civil rights of gays and lesbians, and I think if we expect to get support on other civil rights issues from those communities, we've got to extend our hand to them," he said.

PSW Regional Director Beth Au said the issue will be further discussed by her district at their next meeting on Feb. 27. She expects PSW will concur with the caucus and JACL's past stance.

Meanwhile, the Central California District (CCDC) has not discussed the issue, but is aware of the national JACL decision to endorse the No on Knight campaign, according to regional director Patricia Thai Tom. Their next district council meeting is scheduled for March 12.

On whether this endorsement marks JACL becoming more actively involved in gay rights issues, however, Tateishi said, "I think we need to look at those issues case-by-case. We need to look at whether there is an infringement of rights. But I don't see this as a blanket movement."

NCWNP Opens Dialogue

The Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District (NCWNP) recently held a program in San Rafael, Calif., on Feb. 6, in conjunction with their quarterly district council meeting, to encourage further dialogue on Prop. 22 and the issues of homosexuality and same-gender marriage as they affect and include the Japanese American community.

NCWNP Regional Director Patty Wada organized the program after meeting with her district council members, who gave the go-ahead on the condition that both sides of the Prop. 22 debate were represented.

"JACL always talks about how we were victimized, so it's important that we look inside and not victimize others. This is an unpleasant issue for some people, but as a civil rights organization, we deal with things that are unpleasant. We decided we should just put this on the table," said Wada.

Elsie Uyeda Chung, one of the program's panel speakers and founder of the Nikkei Widowed Group, said, "I'm glad to see JACL is getting involved in educating the public about gay rights issues. ... I know how Japanese ladies are, everything is hidden, no one wants to talk about anything."

Uyeda Chung, along with her son, Richard, 28, attended the program to offer personal perspectives on Asian American families coming to terms with a loved one's sexuality.

"He came out by telling me that he was bisexual," she recalled, of her son. "But I knew in my heart he was gay, I just had to wait for him to come and tell me."

While Uyeda Chung recounted emotions ranging from pain and fear to healing and acceptance, Richard discussed what it was like growing up, especially the confusion he felt when he was younger. "For a while, I tried to pretend I could be straight," he said.

Today, he admits, he's just happy to be out. "I feel like I'm just living my life. I don't feel like I'm any braver than anyone else, but it's nice to know that we're breaking movement."

See PROP. 22/page 7

Three Degrees of Separation

By Naomi Hirahara

Bad Luck Years

I had first heard of the bad luck years from my Yonsei girlfriend who had grown up in San Fernando Valley.

She was turning 33, and as was common in her family, was going to have a *yakudoshi* party. "Yakudoshi?" my mother, an immigrant from Hiroshima, furrowed her brow. "That's the old way."

Yakudoshi just may be an ancient custom, but it's alive and well in pockets of the Pacific Coast and Hawaii. For example, when I was doing a search on the Internet on wedding favors, a bunch of florists and home businesses located on the Islands came up. They were prepared to make centerpieces, party favors, and special displays for not only yakudoshi events, but also *kanreki* birthday celebrations and golden wedding anniversaries.

Yakudoshi literally means "bad luck" years. Depending on who you ask or what books you refer to, calamitous years for a man are 25 and 42; for a woman, they are 19 and 33. To reverse the bad luck, the person has to host a party for friends and family. Kanreki, on the other hand, falls on a person's 60th or 61st birthday (again depends on how you count age and anniversaries). In contrast to yakudoshi, kanreki is considered a lucky age because it marks the completion of a whole cycle of zodiac and calendar signs. In essence, the honored person returns to his or her childhood; that's why they often dress the birthday person in those shiny, bright red caps and vests.

For yakudoshi, at least on the mainland, there's no prescribed dress or ritual. In fact, it's like a large birthday party for adults. And so far, I've never heard of a guy hosting a yakudoshi; 33-year-old Sansei or Yonsei women seem to be the ones keeping this

practice alive. Indeed, the 33rd year of a woman's life in America is a marking point. Many women, if they haven't already, begin to seriously consider marriage and motherhood at this time of their lives. Perhaps most importantly, at this time in their careers, they have the money to pay for "the party in the first place."

Women, in general, are plagued with the weight of "good" and "bad" years. For example, 1966 was the year of the fire horse, which had particularly dark ramifications for baby girls. According to legend, a female child born in that year will kill her husband or may set fires, for what purpose, I don't know. As a result, the births of girls officially dropped by 30 percent in Japan during that year. No doubt, this was a result of concerned parents fudging their daughters' birthdates on their certificates.

I myself am not superstitious. I don't believe in horoscopes or astrological signs, but find it interesting that I'm both a tiger (Chinese zodiac) and a bull (horoscope), not a gentle combination, for sure. As for feng shui and the power of fortuitous and unlucky numbers, I've witnessed those who reverently plan their days accordingly, but haven't seen their lives come out that much better than mine. But things like yakudoshi, I believe, are different. More than warding off bad luck, they are usually held as an excuse for friends and family to get together. And in this day and age, when even thirty-something women often seem embarrassed about their age, it's a time for true celebration of milestones — past, present, and future. ■

Naomi Hirahara is a writer based in Pasadena, Calif. She can be contacted at nhirahara@aol.com.

Los Angeles Japanese Casualty Insurance Assn.

COMPLETE INSURANCE PROTECTION

Aihara Insurance Agency, Inc.
250 E. 1st St., Los Angeles 90012
Suite 700 (213) 626-9625
Lic# 0496786

Funakoshi-Ita Inc. Services, Inc.
99 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena 91101
Suite 900 (626) 795-7059
Lic# 0175794

Ota Insurance Agency, Inc.
35 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena 91101
Suite 250 (626) 795-6205
Lic# 0542395

Kagawa Insurance Agency, Inc.
420 E. Third St., Los Angeles 90013
Suite 901 (213) 628-1800
Lic# 0542624

J. Morey Company, Inc.
One Centerville Drive, La Palma 90623
Suite 260 (714) 962-5910
Lic# 0655907

Ogino-Altumi Insurance Agency
1618 W. Beverly St., Montebello 90640
Suite 210 (323) 728-7498
Lic# 0605452

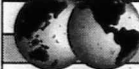
Iso-Tsunehiko Ins. Agency, Inc.
250 E. 1st St., Los Angeles 90012
Suite 1005 (213) 628-1365
Lic# 0599628

Sato Insurance Agency
250 E. 1st St., Los Angeles 90012
Suite 700 (213) 680-4190
Lic# 0441090

T. Roy Iwami & Associates
Izu-Quinty Ins. Service, Inc.
241 E. Pomona Blvd., Monterey Park 91754
Suite 100 (626) 727-7755
Lic# 0696313

Charles M. Kamiya & Sons, Inc.
Jus Kenneth M. Kamiya, Inc.
373 Van Ness Ave., Torrance 90501
Suite 200 (310) 781-2066
Lic# 0207119

Frank M. Iwasaki Insurance
121 N. Woodburn Drive, Los Angeles 90048
(323) 879-2184
Lic# 0041676



Pacific Citizen

National Business and Professional Directory

Get a head start in business

Your business card in each issue for 24 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. PC has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

Greater Los Angeles San Mateo County, Calif.

TAMA TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL
Martha Igarashi Tamashiro
626 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 310
Los Angeles 90017; (213) 622-4333

FLOWER VIEW GARDENS
Flowers, Fruit, Wine & Candy Citywide Delivery
Worldwide Service
1801 N. Western Ave., Los Angeles 90027
(323) 466-5753 / Art & Jim Ho

Howard Igarashi, D.D.S., Inc.
Alan Igarashi, D.D.S.
General Dentistry / Periodontics
22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102
Torrance, CA 90505
(310) 634-8282

Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto, Optometrist & Associates
A Professional Corporation
11420 E. South St., Torrance, CA 90701
(310) 860-1339

Cambridge Dental Care
Scott Nishizaka D.D.S.
Family Dentistry & Orthodontics
900 E. Katella, Suite A
Orange, CA 92667 / (714) 538-2811
www.cambridgedentalcare.com

BROOMS AWAY
Janitorial Services, House Painting
626-281-5512

Two Locations to Serve You
MIZUNO INSURANCE AGENCY
INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS
LICENSE #0533265

Southern California office:
9556 Hamilton Ave.
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Central California office:
205 W. Bulfinch Ave., #18
Clovis, CA 93612
888-964-7272

For the Best of Everything Asian

Fresh Produce, Meat, Seafood and Groceries
A vast selection of Gift Ware

Seattle, WA • (206) 624-6248
Bellevue, WA • (425) 747-9012
Beaverton, OR • (503) 643-4512

Letters to the Editor

Recognizing the Contributions of Nisei Pioneers

Bravo and amen to Jerry Enomoto's letter to the "Letters to the Editor" and Harry Honda's "Very Truly Yours" column, both of which appeared in the Feb. 4-10 issue of the P.C.

Jerry's words are especially appropriate when he states that he has "no patience with petty animosities (and criticisms) that distract from our goal." I am certain that Jerry had those who have expressed criticism of those who have worked so hard and are responsible for the planning and the building of the National

Japanese American Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Let's not forget the contributions, vision and the inspirational leadership rendered by so many role model Nisei pioneers of the JACL, namely, just to name a few, Sab Kido, Mike Masakata, Mas Satow, Scotty Tsudiyu, Jerry Enomoto, Harry Honda, Bill Hosokawa, Barry Saiki, George Inagaki, Hito Okada, Jimmy Sakamoto and Walt Tsukamoto. They have all contributed so much toward the betterment of the lives of all Japanese Americans in America.

Needless to say, the accomplishments and contributions made by our elected and highly respected congressmen, past and present, Sparky Matsunaga, Norm Mineta, Dan Inouye, Bob Matsui and Patsy Mink are most certainly unquestionable.

Why are some people so negative in their thinking and expressions?

Bill Fujita
Berkeley, Calif.

Need to Consider Intent in Ethical Correctness of Speech

Regarding Bill Marutani's column on "Menus, Princesses, and Kechin-bo" in the *Pacific Citizen*, Jan. 14-20, I think it is important to consider intent before coming to judgment on the issues of political or ethical correctness in speech. One must consider the speakers, the possible audiences, and the unintended offense of those remarks. It is well known that in homogeneous small groups, the "forbidden" words are accepted and sometimes frequently used within the confines of that group, but those same persons may be highly offended to hear the same words from someone outside of their group. Some Afro-Americans frequently use the term "nigger" among themselves, and even on televised stand-up comedy shows. It must be noted that the connotation is quite different internally versus externally.

As the comedian Jackie Mason said, ethnic humor is perfectly acceptable if the participants are all comfortable with the good-natured intent of the speaker. The problem is determining if all the listeners are truly comfortable with it. Even if that condition is satisfied, how can one be sure that the remark will not offend someone hearing a repeat of the remarks at another time? Indeed, if a non-black person repeats a joke verbatim that was heard on one of the televised shows mentioned above, the results can be horrific.

My wife was born and raised in Japan, and shortly after arriving here, asked me why the expres-

sion "Jap" is so offensive. Although her family's house had been firebombed during WWII, she had no memory of being the target of that epithet and looked at that term as simply being an abbreviation for the adjective "Japanese." Some Samurai sword collectors in the United States refer to them in ads as "Jap swords." The ones I have talked to usually admired the Japanese culture and were quite unaware that the term was offensive, promising to use a more acceptable abbreviation in the future. Some looked upon that usage as being analogous to saying "Yank" for "American," which usually is offensive only to those from the deep South.

On the other hand, the expression "JAP" as an abbreviation for "Jewish American Princess" is, according to my Jewish friends, exclusively designed to be a derogatory term. It is not anti-Semitic, but it is rather disparaging towards certain women within the Jewish community and is usually expressed by members within that community. However, it may also be an indirect slap in the face to all persons of Japanese ethnicity, conjuring up the bad connotation associated with the same sound and spelling.

When members of an ethnic group are heard using a self-derogatory term by people outside their group, they are unknowingly legitimizing the term to the rest of the world. They are unwittingly reversing the gains made by others to discourage the use of

these terms and making it easier for the hate groups to disseminate their literature containing these terms.

In the case of "niggard" or "niggardly," there is no etymological relationship between that word and the term "nigger." The latter term is derived from "Negro," meaning a member of the black race, which also is the Spanish word for the color black. Interestingly enough, there was a time when the term "black" was politically incorrect for a member of that race, and "Negro" was the acceptable term. Now it seems to be reversed, with "Negro" and "colored" being discouraged, and "black" being phased out in favor of "Afro-American," etc. However, we still have the "United Negro College Fund" and the "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People." Unfortunately, a city managerial-level person was unjustly fired recently (by an obviously ignorant superior), for using the word "niggardly" in public. (The "bad" he didn't know about "Kechin-bo.") It was expressed accurately to point out stinginess, and had nothing at all to do with race.

Let us not condemn others because we don't like the sound of their words, but instead consider their intent. That would be a nice step for mankind (whoops! I mean personkind!).

Alan Dash
via e-mail

Bible, especially the New Testament. I understand that the ministry of Jesus was one of radical inclusiveness. He included the people who were ostracized.

Hanaoka said during his deposition he cited the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II as an example of being unfairly ostracized and discriminated against. "I took this as a human rights issue. Being Japanese is not a matter of choice, being gay is not a matter of choice. If that is the case, we need to respect and support their rights," he said.

During the hearings, each respondent was called to testify before the committee to justify, according to their discipline, their participation in the wedding ceremony. "It was really moving to see them stand up there and not only put their jobs on the line but put their orientations on the line," said Chris Hwang, staff attorney for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, a national non-profit legal advocacy center which was representing Rev. David Franka.

"They understood that their participation was an act of conscience and that it was directly informed by their teachings and by the Christian faith," she said.

Charlton testified before the seven-member committee to the difficulty she and her partner faced before their wedding, being members of two groups that viewed each other with suspicion.

"Now we share our church life with the gay community and share our gay life with the church," she said. "It was very stressful being in

two different closets. Now we're not in any closet."

The decision not to recommend trial was not celebrated by everyone, however. It drew immediate protests from some, including Rev. Greg Smith of Hope United Methodist Church in Sacramento, who said he was considering leaving the church.

"[This] decision effectively ended the rule of discipline," Smith said. "We now follow our own individual conscience as far as I can see."

Meanwhile, Hanaoka said he is "disappointed by the reaction of the evangelicals." He mentioned that many of them are seeking to cede from the California Northern Nevada Conference to form a separate church conference.

"Diversity or difference of opinion is a healthy part of any church. I was hoping we could agree to disagree," Hanaoka said.

Although some members of his own congregation, which is predominantly JA, had mixed feelings about his blessing of the union, Hanaoka said many were supportive and those who didn't agree "respected my decision as mine."

As for the future, he added, "The rift between evangelical and liberal members of the church will continue, but what I would like to see is more dialogue, more respectful dialogue. We come from diverse theological positions, but hopefully we can learn to live together and respect each other. I don't know if that is going to happen."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Emoto, Hatsuie, 77, Spokane, Wash., Feb. 2; Denver-born; survived by husband Harry; sons Tom, Jerry (both Spokane), John (Greenacres), James (Edmonds); daughter Connie Burr (Oregon City, Ore.); 6 gc.; 1 gc.; brother John Katsuka (Spokane); sister Midori Moriyasu (Japan).

Fujitaka, Dick Hideo, 76, Berkeley, Dec. 28; Sacramento-born WWII MIS veteran; survived by wife Lily; children Gen and Sayo; 2 gc.; brother Steve; sisters Kim Takata and Yuri Hanamoto.

Fukano, Fujiko, 94, Hanford, Jan. 14; Yamaguchi-born; survived by daughters Emiko Sonoda, and Teruko Sakaguchi and husband Sam; sons Toshi and wife Grace, Willie and wife Lettie, Tom and wife Jean; 13 gc., 17 gc.

Hori, Tatsui, 81, Los Altos, Jan. 18; survived by wife Florence Sadako; sons Bruce and wife Lynn, David and wife Kristy; 1 gc.; sister Kiku Funabiki and husband Walter.

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcome. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$19 per column inch. Text is worded as needed.

Hirayama, Misao, 88, Chicago, Jan. 19; survived by sons Katsuyoshi, Yasuo; daughters Michie Rutkowski and husband Paul, Mitzi Yaguchi and husband Tom; 4 gc., 2 gc.; predeceased by husband Kitaru.

Ige, Kimiko, 83, Gardena, Jan. 11; Hawaii-born; survived by sons Thomas and wife Barbara, Calvin; daughters Jeanette Ginoza, Helen Ige and husband Owad (Hawaii), Gladys Tuguchi and husband Ted; 13 gc., 9 gc.; brother Jiro Nakata and wife Gladys; sisters Masako Cassidy, Haruko Shockley, Fusae Omura (Las Vegas), Yoshino Ige (Hawaii), son-in-law Jerry Vuetch.

Kaku, Chizue, 85, Los Angeles, Jan. 13; Portland, Ore.-born; survived by sons Billy N., Dick S. and wife Pauline; daughters Katie K. Tanjiri and husband Eddie, Alice R. Kaku, Judy S. Matsuzaki; 7 gc., 6 gc.

Kimura, Ted Kazuo "Bo," 65, San Jose, Jan. 20; survived by wife Dorothy "A.J.," daughters Debbie Nishijima and husband Peter, Karen Kubo and husband Larry, Debbie Ellis and husband Dave, Donna Carey; 7 gc.; brothers Kichiro, Harry, John, Paul; sisters Keiko Martin, Setsuko Nishijima; predeceased by brother Roy "Michio."

Kumagai, Dr. Richard, Dec. 28 service, Bothell, Wash.; survived by wife Gihyl Feldkamp; daughters Jeannette, Joy (both Seattle); brothers George and wife Sumie (Santa Monica), Fred and wife Sachi (Santa Maria); sisters Rose Makita (Carlsbad), Lily Takashima and husband Nob (Chula Vista), May Thompson and husband Robert (Las Vegas).

Kunimoto, Shizuyo, 96, Petaluma, Jan. 12; survived by daughters Ayako Yago and husband Masao (San Francisco), Yoshiko Yasuda and husband Harold (Petaluma); 8 gc., 10 gc.; sisters Helen Matsumoto and husband Jim (Las Vegas), Aiyee Kurihara and husband Tom (Laguna Woods); brother, Fred Kurokawa and wife Toshiye (Lindsay).

Murakami, Mitsuo, 84, Los Angeles, Jan. 13; survived by daughter Margery Takiguchi and husband Ken; 2 gc.; brothers Haruo and wife Setsuko, Rev. Harry and wife Miri; sisters Yumi Nakamura, Chieko Sakai and husband Roy.

Nawata, Miuki, Sacramento, Jan. 18; survived by husband Masami; daughters Phyllis Takahashi and husband Gene (San Mateo), Janet Sayama and husband Fred (San Jose), Susan Kadani (Sacramento); 8 gc.; sisters Satsuki Abe (Los Angeles), Sueyo Yamaguchi and husband George (Gilroy), Sumiye Ogiwaka and husband Art (Santa Clara), Asaye Hatai (Visalia), Yukiye Hatai and husband Toshiro (Ivanhoe); brother Akiyoshi Toyoshima and wife Sue (San Jose).

Otani, George M. "Pop," 88, Sacramento, Jan. 17; Bridgebrook-born; survived by wife Kimiko; sons William and wife Elaine, Ted and wife Patricia, Michael; daughter Nancy Otani; 4 gc., 3 gc.

Sawasaki, Harry Minoru, 82, San Francisco, Jan. 22; survived by wife Mary; sons Bill and wife Nina, Steve and wife Carmen; daughter Lynn Sawasaki; 6 gc., 1 gc.; sister Michiko Hayashi (Japan); sister-in-law Yoshiko Sawasaki (Los Angeles).

Takehara, Ei Sakaye Suzuki, 97, Chicago, Jan. 20; survived by daughters Aiko, Ukio Yano and husband Paul, Sakie Kawahara and husband James, Fumiko Nakamoto and husband Sumio; sons Ichiro and wife Mitsuko, Kiyoshi and wife Joannee, Yo and wife Yasu, Joe; 20 gc., 23 gc.

Tokunaga, Shinko, 78, Hollywood, Dec. 19; Suisun-born, Calif.; survived by son Asao and wife Carolyn; daughter Toshihiko Hill; 2 gc.; brothers and sisters. ■

DEATH NOTICE

HARRY HIROSHI TANAKA
BELLFLOWER, Calif.—Long Beach-born Harry Hiroshi Tanaka, 78, passed away Feb. 4 at his residence. The deceased is survived by his son, Kenneth of Illinois; brothers, George T. (Mary S.) Ishizuka and Jun (Belkita) Fukushima; sisters-in-law, Mary Ishizuka and Ayako Ishizuka of El Cerrito; nieces and nephews. A private family memorial service will be held at a later date.

Whereabouts

KIYOKO ISHIYAMA
Marilyn Elg is looking for Kiyoko Ishiyama. They grew up together and attended Muscatelli Grammar School in Rosemead, Calif. Kiyoko's family went to an Arizona internment camp, and had asked Marilyn to take care of their parents. The parents had a nursery on the corner of Mission and San Gabriel. Please call Marilyn at 909/629-8391. After the first part of April, please write to 37 Washington, Lubec, ME 04652. ■

FUKUI MORTUARY

707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213-626-0441 • Cemetery
Fax 213-617-2781

KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY

F.D.L. #929
911 VENEZIA BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90015
(213) 749-1449
(213) 749-0265
R. Hayakawa, President
H. Suzuki, VP/Gen. Mgr.

PASTORS

(Continued from page 1)

tors (now 67, since one passed away) who co-officiated the Holy Union service on Jan. 16, 1999, went against the order and discipline of the UMC.

The lead deacon in the case was the Rev. Don Fado of St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sacramento, who performed the wedding of church members and long-time partners Jeanne Barnett, 69 and Ellie Charlton, 64.

The ceremony was attended by 1,500 guests and 92 Methodist ministers. Only 68 were named in the complaint, however, because the others came from outside the jurisdiction of the California-Northern Nevada Conference.

Fado compared his participation in the ceremony to an act of civil disobedience, which his church has condoned in cases of civil rights advocacy or anti-war protest. He said a trial might have forced the church to face the needs of its gay members.

Rev. Nobuaki Hanaoka, one of Fado's 68 colleagues and a pastor at the Sacramento Japanese United Methodist Church, felt that the decision made by the committee was "a good one" mainly "because the Book of Discipline (church law) is self-contradictory."

"Paragraph 65c, which bans homosexual unions in the United Methodist Church, contradicts paragraph 117, which spells out the policy of complete inclusiveness," he said.

"I'm a serious student of the

PROP. 22

(Continued from page 6)

down walls and talking about stuff that is taboo.

"I felt it was important to go outside and talk to the mainstream JA community," he said, "so that they'd have a better understanding of what's it's like to be gay, to sort of put a face to the label."

Richard currently volunteers for the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT) in Los Angeles.

Meanwhile, Uyeda Chung, a member of the San Francisco-based support group Asian Pacific

Islander Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (API-PFLAG), and her sister, June Sugihara, a fund-raiser for groups like the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), have begun to get more involved in gay rights advocacy.

"My house has become sort of a haven for API gays and lesbians," said Uyeda Chung. "When they need to talk, they say, 'Elsie, can you come over?' They know their parents won't approve. I'm not a counselor or anything, but I can give them moral support."

"I've also approached several Japanese religious groups in the area and asked if I could speak, but they said, 'No, no, we're not ready for that.' And it's like, get real. This thing exists."

While they touched upon what Prop. 22 would mean for the gay, lesbian and transgendered community, Tony Francois, a volunteer speaker for the Yes on 22 campaign and an attorney at the law firm McQuaid, Metzler, Bedford & Van Zandt in San Francisco, spoke about what the initiative would mean for the state of California.

"Current California law is that only men and women should be married," said Francois. "Same-sex marriages being validly performed in other states, historically, that has not been a conflict for California. But now with the possibility that other states would legalize same-sex marriage, it's our view that California shouldn't be changed by activists or judges in other states. ... If the law should change, it should be done by the voters of California."

"Those people who say that this [initiative] is anti-gay, I don't agree with that. My personal feel-

East Bay Nikkei Singles Offers Scholarship

East Bay Nikkei Singles is offering a \$500 scholarship. Application is open to Asians of single-parent households. The applicant must be graduating

high school and planning to attend a trade school, business school, college, university, or any institution of higher learning in the fall of 2000.

The deadline for application is April 15, 2000. Application forms may be requested by writing to: Eleanor Tui, 46017 Paseo Padre Parkway, Fremont, CA 94539 or by calling 510/656-5449. ■

ing is that's not really what's before voters," he said.

Francois said the fundamental issue is about not allowing another state to determine or dictate our state law. "It's about preserving that choice," he said.

Other panelists at the program included Lorrie Tanaka, a member of Omusubi, an organization for lesbians of Japanese descent; Rev. Lloyd Wake, a retired Nisei minister formerly with Glide Memorial United Methodist Church and Pine United Methodist Church; and Chris Lyford, the Director of Marriage and Family Life for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. ■

This space could be yours
Advertise in the
Pacific Citizen
Call
800/966-6157

National Japanese American Memorial Dedication Washington D.C.

Nov 8 Memorial Dedication - Washington D.C. Tour - 4-Day - 6 Meals - Washington Sightseeing, Smithsonian Institute & Mt. Vernon. Transportation to Arlington Cemetery Memorial Service, Japanese American Memorial Dedication, Reception and Gala Banquet.

4-Day Washington Tour \$495 + Airfare \$450 = \$945
Reception & Gala Banquet \$175. Registration Fee to be announced.

Nov 12 Ext. 1 - 7-Day - 11 Meals - \$1099 - Williamsburg, Charlottesville, Shenandoah, Gettysburg, Penn Dutch, Philadelphia & New York.

Nov 12 Ext. 2 - 7-Day - 11 Meals - \$999 - Raleigh, Myrtle Beach "Branson of the East" - Shows Nightly, Charleston, Savannah & Jackie Island.

KOKUSAI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

4911 Warner Ave., Suite 221, Huntington Beach, CA 92649
714/840-0455 and 562/493-2122 - FAX 714/840-0457 [1006444-10]

2000 ESCORTED TANAKA TOURS

JAPAN SPRING ADVENTURE (Takayama Festival, 12 days) APR 11
TAUK TOURS - A WEEK IN FRANCE (8 days, limited seats available) MAY 11
JOCONE NIKKEI PACIFIC NW CRUISE & LAND (7 days) MAY 27
CANADIAN ROCKIES / VICTORIA (8 days) JUNE 14
TAUK NOVA SCOTIA (8 days) JULY 14
GRAND PRINCESS MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE (14 days) SEPT 8
BEST OF HOKKAIDO NATIONAL PARKS (10 days) SEPT 14
TENNESSEE / BRANSON / KENTUCKY (Ship/Tour/Show, 9 days) SEPT 23
EAST COAST & FALL FOLIAGE (11 days) OCT 1
JAPAN AUTUMN ADVENTURE (12 days) OCT 12
TREASURES OF VIETNAM (13 days) NOV 5

*** CALL OR WRITE TODAY FOR OUR FREE BROCHURES ***



Tanaka Travel Service is a full service agency and can assist you in issuing individual air tickets, cruise bookings, & other travel plans.

TANAKA TRAVEL SERVICE
441 O'Farrell St., San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 474-3900 or (800) 826-2521
CST #1005545-40



KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2000 TOURS

SOLDOUT - Spring Japan Classic - Japan by Train - Europe Classic
Mar 16 Japan Millennium Special - 9-Day - 17 Meals - \$2295 - Tokyo, Kamakura, Lake Biwa, Okayama, Bitchu-Takahashi, Aki & Kyoto.
Apr 5 Nishi-Nihon Onsen Kanko - 9-Day - 20 Meals - \$2895 - Osaka-Shira-hama-Takahashi-Nishi-Nagato-Tamatsukuri-Yumura-Kobe.
May 19 Australia & New Zealand - 16-Day - 29 Meals - \$3795 - Melbourne-Cairns-Barrier Reef-Sydney, Australia & Christchurch-Queenstown-Milford Sound-Mt. Cook-Rotorua-Auckland, New Zealand.
Jun 6 America Once More - 10-Day - 18 Meals - \$1295 - By bus - LA to Manzanar-Mammoth-Yosemite-Reno-Minidoka-Yellowstone-Heart Mt.-Jackson-Salt Lake-Topaz-Bryce-Zion-Las Vegas-LA.
Jun 17 Hawaiian Island Cruise - 4 Islands - 8-Day - All Meals - from \$2295.
Jul 15 Alaska Cruise - Inside Passage - 8-Day - All Meals - from \$2095.
Aug 10 Scandinavia - 12-Day - 20 Meals - \$3495 - Copenhagen, Denmark - Bergen-Stalheim-Lillehammer-Oslo, Norway - Stockholm, Sweden.
Sep 22 New England/Canada Foliage Cruise - 12-Day - All meal - from \$2458
Oct 2 Japan Fall Classic - 11-Day - 23 Meals - \$3095 - Tokyo-Takayama-Ama-hashidate-Hiroshima-Tsuwano-Inland Sea-Shodo Isle-Kyoto.
Oct 9 Hokkaido/Tokyo - 11-Day - 24 Meals - \$3595 - Sapporo, Soukoku Gorge, Aino Village, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Lake Towada, Hachinantai Onsen, Matsushima Bay, Sendai & Tokyo.
Oct 16 NEW DATE "Uranibon" Otherside Japan 11-Day-25Meals-\$3595 Tokyo-Sado-Toyama-Kanazawa-Fukui-Amanohashidate-Kinosaki-Tottori-Matsue-Izumi Taisha, Mt. Daisen Hot Springs & Kyoto.
Oct 26 NEW DATE "Okinawa-Kyushu-Shikoku" 12-Day-27Meals-\$3595 4-Day Okinawa, Nagasaki-Uzen Onsen, Miyazaki, Takachiho Gorge, Ashizuri Misaki, Kochi-Takamatsu & Osaka.
Nov 24 Orient Deluxe "Viet Nam Cruise" - 15-Day - 29 Meals - \$3695 - Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia Cruise, Bangkok & Viet Nam Cruise.
Dec 10 Branson Christmas - 1 More Time - 5-Day 8 Meals 7 Shows-\$1095

"Early bird savings - call for brochure"
INCLUDES: flights, hotels, sightseeing & MOST MEALS.

KOKUSAI INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC.

4911 Warner Ave., Suite 221, Huntington Beach, CA 92649
714/840-0455 and 562/493-2122 - FAX 714/840-0457 [1006444-10]

ALOHA PLUMBING

Lic. #440840

-SINCE 1922-

777 Junipero Serra Dr.
San Gabriel, CA 91776
(213) 283-0018



SAN GABRIEL VILLAGE

235 W. Fairview Ave.
San Gabriel, CA 91776
(213) 283-5685
(818) 289-5674

Classified Ads

DRIVERS

SMALL FLEET OWNERS AND OWNER OPERATORS

Dedicated Auto Freight From LA
Area To Canada And Back
Approximately 2400 Miles One Way
With Your Authority Pay \$1.00 A Mile
Limited Runs Available

For More Details Please call
1-888-242-5747

COME CELEBRATE THE MILLENNIUM WITH US



YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®
(CST No. 1019305-10)



SPECIALLY SELECTED TOURS & CRUISES FOR 2000

3/10-3/19	Maupintour's Ancient Egypt Tour	Grace Sakamoto
3/25-4/5	TBI's Inland Sea of Japan Tour	Lilly Nomura
4/5-4/16	Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
4/6-5/11	Fitzgerald Washington D.C. & Maryland, Cherry Blossom Tour	
5/15-5/21	Mayflower Tours Mackinac Island and the Great Lakes	Lilly Nomura
5/20-5/28	Alaskan Cruise aboard the Ocean Princess	Grace Sakamoto
6/25-7/2	Disney Cruise Vacation	
7/1-7/8	7-Day Venice to Rome cruise aboard Wind Surf (20% off brochure rate)	Lilly Nomura
7/17-7/24	Fabulous London & Paris with Collette Tours	
7/13-7/22	Costa Rica, Nature's Museum with Collette Tours	
7/23-8/3	12-Day Grand Princess Barcelona to Istanbul Cruise	
8/12-8/21	Fitzgerald Canadian Rockies	Lilly Nomura
10/7-10/14	Fitzgerald Albuquerque Balloon Festival & Carlsbad Caverns	
10/9-10/20	Yamato Exclusive Fall Foliage and East Coast Tour	Lilly Nomura
10/21-10/28	7-Day Radisson Tahiti Cruise aboard the Paul Gauguin	Joyce Francis
10/23-11/5	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
11/6-11/20	15-Day Spain & Portugal with Collette Tours	
12/6-12/12	Fitzgerald New Orleans & San Antonio Christmas Tour	Lilly Nomura

Yamato Travel Bureau® is in its 43rd year of operation and continues to be a full service travel agency. This means we will sell all phases of leisure and corporate travel: airline tickets; hotel accommodations; car rentals; tours; cruises; rail passes, etc. We also have discounted airfare to certain destinations. Please call on our experienced travel consultants for your travel and tour arrangements.

Professional Memberships: American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA), Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA), Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), VACATION.COM (a national consortium).

For more information, please call **YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®**
(213) 680-0333 OR (800) 334-4982 FAX: (213) 680-2825
E-Mail: Yamatotrav@aol.com



The 100th/442nd
Returns to
Pietrasanta and
Italian Battlefields of WW II
April 17 - 30, 2000
Land Only \$2379



Good News! We have been able to obtain some additional hotel space for this tour so that we are now able to accept additional reservations. *This tour has the endorsement of the 100th/442nd Veterans Association and the 100th/442nd W.W.II Memorial Foundation.*

Because space is filling rapidly, we urge you to call now. Please do not wait and be disappointed!

For information and reservations call:

(818) 246-1662 or (800) 304-5100

CST #101689-10

Air add-on's are available.

Phyllis Anesetti - Coordinator



CHASE TRAVEL SERVICE

316 E. Broadway, Glendale CA 91205-1011



Travel Service
Representative