

# Pacific Citizen

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## P.C. Editor Emeritus Harry Honda Heads Up JACL's Archives Program

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**  
Assistant Editor

*Pacific Citizen* Editor Emeritus Harry Honda, 81, will soon be holding down two offices — one at his usual place at the P.C. office in Monterey Park, Calif., and a second at the Japanese American National Museum in downtown Los Angeles.

Honda, who has been with the P.C. for five decades, holds vast knowledge of the P.C., JACL and the Nikkei community in general, and his expertise is now in demand as the JANM staff begins the process of collecting JACL documents. Late last year, the national board had voted to donate JACL's archival material to JANM.

In the coming months, the museum staff will be collecting boxes of papers not only from the P.C. office but also from JACL headquarters in San Francisco and from the six regional offices across the country. Honda will play a critical role in this process, assisting the JANM staff in sorting through and identifying documents and people.

In the P.C. office alone, Honda has amassed a priceless collection of documents, which he either gathered on his own or were donated to him. Some of these include the original and complete set of the War Reloca-

tion Authority's Final Report; original copies from the Select Committee Investigating National Defense Migration, otherwise known as the Tolan Committee hearings; issues of the now defunct "Scene" magazine from the 1950s, which was started out of Chicago by Togo Tanaka and later continued by Masamori Kojima; Southern California Japanese telephone directories from 1925 to 1964, donated by Empire

ground on how the P.C. archives started.

HH: Most of this stuff is from 1952 on because the P.C. was in Salt Lake City during the war years, up until 1952. The only things we received from Salt Lake City were two file cabinets of photos — a lot of them WRA photos — some of (former P.C. editor) Larry Tajiri's correspondences, bound P.C.s and some files. From there, we now have 16 file cabinets full.

P.C.: How much of the P.C. archival material will be transferred to JANM?

HH: I'll have to figure that out. The museum says we can always call the museum archives, but I don't think that's the way to run a paper. If you want something right now while you're working on a story, you don't want to be calling the museum when you could just walk over here and pick up what you need. The museum needs to understand that we need what you would call working files.

P.C.: Can you highlight some of the major documents you've collected over the past five decades?

HH: • Evacuation/Redress: All this evacuation matter — books, studies, different pilgrimages and a lot of stories — came out after we came back to Los Angeles, and I've been filing all that stuff. I think some

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PHOTO: MARIO G. REYES

Editor Emeritus Harry Honda sifts through one of his many Archive files currently stored in his cramped P.C. office.

Printing; and six boxes of documents, mainly on the Poston WRA camps, donated by Dr. Francis Feeley, a professor at the University of Grenoble in France.

Recently, the P.C. staff took a moment out of Honda's busy schedule to catch a glimpse behind the man that many in the community consider a living, breathing, walking archive of facts and figures.

P.C.: Please give us a back-

## Health Insurance Now Available for Non-Calif. JACL Members

National JACL recently announced that they are now able to offer major medical insurance for members outside of California. This comes after years of successfully providing medical, dental and vision insurance for its California members.

"We are very pleased to be able to finally offer a major medical insurance plan to the member-

ship on a national basis," said John Tateishi, JACL national executive director. "When Seabury Smith proposed a major medical insurance program to us we were very excited, especially since their long-term care and catastrophic insurance programs have been very popular with our JACL members."

With this new benefit, JACL members can choose a medical plan customized and flexible enough to fit a wide variety of medical needs.

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## COMMENTARY Why Join JACL?

By **JOHN TATEISHI**  
JACL Executive Director

One of the questions I am frequently asked when I urge people to join JACL is, "Why?" It's more than just a question itself; there's an implied statement of, "What makes the JACL worth joining?"



It is a question worth answering because this organization does a lot for Japanese Americans and for all Asian Americans. If you look at the history of the JACL, you'll see a remarkable record of contributing to the well-being of JAs and others.

In the 1920s and 30s, we fought to repeal the Cable Act, which took away the citizenship of American women married to Japanese nationals, attacked a number of anti-miscegenation laws and fought school segregation ordinances.

In the 1940s, the awful war years, the JACL was embroiled in a series of controversial issues,

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## APA Students Protest Racial Violence at UC Davis

By **TRACY UBA**  
Writer/Reporter

After holding a "teach-in" rally Feb. 8, community groups and students at the University of California, Davis, are still urging school officials to take more action over a disturbing rise in violence targeting Asian Pacific Americans that began last fall.

Nearly 500 APA students and allies marched on Mrak Hall to publicly decry a recent series of racial confrontations between white and APA students, but some say school officials are not doing enough to ensure tolerance and diversity on a campus whose APA undergraduate population is well over 35 percent and rising.

"It left the administration with the impression that we're serious about this and that we're going to do something about it," said student Julianne Kwong, spokesperson for the Council for Asian Pacific American Affairs (CAPAA) and the UCD cross cultural intern for Asian Pacific Islanders.

"After the teach-in, we had a meeting with the chancellor and he applauded the way we approached the situation. But it wasn't until we put pressure on the administration that they started responding, which is kind of ridiculous because these incidents started happening last quarter," Kwong said.

CAPAA, a group comprised of students, staff, faculty and alumni, organized the rally in response to at least four altercations which have occurred between white and APA students, most of whom belong to ethnically oriented fraternities. Several confrontations involved racial slurs, while two turned violent and one led to arrests.

Problems began in October when members of an APA sorority from the California State University, Sacramento, claimed they were intimidated by members of a white UCD fraternity who made racial epithets while the group was attempting to arrange rocks at the

See UC DAVIS/ page 6

## Radio Talk Show Host Taken Off the Air for Racist Comment

J.R. Gach, 30, an Albany, N.Y.-based radio talk show host who was also heard on WLW-AM (700) in Cincinnati, was taken off the Cincinnati channel after referring to the Japanese as "yellow monkeys."

Gach's "yellow monkey" remarks were made on Feb. 12, following the sinking of a Japanese high school training ship on Feb. 9 by the U.S. Navy off the coast of Hawaii. Nine Japanese still missing from the vessel are presumed dead at this time.

Among the organizations and individuals that voiced their concerns over Gach's remarks was Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest regional director.

Yoshino's letter to Director of AM Operations Darryl Parks read in part: "Gach's references are racial slurs which have no place on a radio broadcast. The use of this vile terminology is offensive and reprehensible. It has been our experience that wherever such slurs are paid a price for the emotional message as during World War II when virtually all Japanese Americans were evicted from the West Coast and incarcerated because of their

ancestry and because racism and the use of racial slurs were allowed to persist."

Park's response to Yoshino read in part: "700 WLW does not encourage, do not condone nor do we tolerate comments like these. Although we discuss provocative topics on a daily basis, you will note comments like these are rarely made. We are embarrassed by this. 700 WLW considers itself a member of the many communities that make up Cincinnati and the Tri-State area. We take our position of influence in our community very seriously and will continue to make every effort to police remarks of this sort."

This was not the first time Gach has made racial comments over the air. He was suspended for three days without pay in 1995 by radio station WWL-AM in New Orleans for referring to an African American caller as a "monkey." He also made a reputation for himself at WGR-AM in Buffalo, N.Y., for antagonizing "African Americans, Native Americans, senior citizens, postal workers, customs officers, feminists, Catholics and homosexuals," according to a 1992 *Buffalo News* article. ■

## No Arrests Yet in S.F. J-Town Shooting

San Francisco Police have interviewed more than 25 witnesses in the Feb. 24 fatal shooting death of Kenji (Ken) Haramoto, 21, of San Francisco, but no arrests have been made and no motives have been established as of press time, according to Inspector Joseph Toomey, officer in charge of the case.

Haramoto was shot to death outside the Denny's restaurant in San Francisco's Japantown around 1 a.m. Saturday morning. According to Toomey, Haramoto and a group of friends had been socializing at the Sonic karaoke bar in Japantown. A woman from Haramoto's group got into a verbal fight with another woman, whereupon this woman slapped the woman from Haramoto's group. Haramoto's group then left the karaoke bar and was milling around outside

the Denny's restaurant when the other woman and several male friends confronted Haramoto's group. Haramoto apparently stepped in as a peacemaker but someone pulled out a gun. Haramoto and a 21-year-old man from Cupertino were hit in the ensuing spray of bullets.

Toomey said Haramoto collapsed after running for about 25 feet. An off-duty paramedic and police officer came to the scene and attempted to administer CPR but Haramoto was pronounced dead by the time the ambulance arrived. The other victim has been treated and released, said Toomey.

Haramoto is survived by his Japan-born mother, Hiroko Haramoto, 59, of Westwood Highlands.

Funeral services are planned for March 4 at Halsted N Gray Mortuary. ■

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## Candidates Vying to Be First APA on New York City Council

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK—This city, as diverse as any in the world, has had a black mayor and two Jewish mayors. Its city council includes members from Jamaica and the Dominican Republic.

Yet, no Asian Pacific American has ever served on the council or in any citywide office—a "shocking" situation, one candidate says, considering that nearly one in 10 New Yorkers are of Asian descent. But with new city term limits forcing incumbents from office in droves, 2001 offers the best opportunity yet for APAs to break through.

"Friends of mine said, 'Kwong, you've got to run. There's term limits, there's a wide open field,'" said Kwong Hui, a political novice who is one of three Chinese American candidates running for city council in Manhattan's First District. Another three Asians are running in the 20th District in Flushing, Queens, and a few are running in other districts in Queens, the city's most ethnically diverse borough.

John Liu has raised the most money of any council candidate in any district—\$131,370 as of his January filing with the city Campaign Finance Board—and is considered the front-runner in the 20th District. Liu said he's shocked there's never been an Asian on the city council, but adds, "we'll rectify that."

But APAs have yet to exercise political muscle. Many are not citizens; others are not registered voters and still others do not regularly go to the polls. In the 1997 mayoral race, just 4 percent of the voters were APA, up from 2 percent in 1993.

Party affiliation is another factor. Since the city is overwhelmingly Democratic, the race that really counts in most city council districts is the Democratic primary. APAs have traditionally not registered Democratic in as high numbers as other ethnic groups in New York such as blacks, Hispanics and Jews.

Margaret Fung, executive director of the Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund (AALDEF), said many APAs have registered as independents, not realizing they would be prevented from voting in primaries. "Every time we've sent out monitors for the primary elections there are always people who want to vote but

are told they can't," Fung said.

In other parts of the country, APAs have been elected to office even where there are not large blocs of APA voters. In 1996, Gary Locke, who is Chinese-American, was elected governor of Washington state, where the APA population is 5.9 percent. Norm Mineta, who is President Bush's secretary of transportation and served as secretary of commerce under President Clinton, was elected mayor of San Jose, Calif., in 1971, when there were relatively few APAs in the area.

But in New York City, candidates must confront a tradition of ethnic voting that leads many to choose the name on the ballot that is most like their own.

"This is not a melting pot," said Democratic political consultant Hank Sheinkopf. "We say it is, but it's not and people tend to vote for those who are like them, as opposed to those who are not like them."

With APAs not forming a majority of the voters in any New York city council district, a successful APA candidate must win support across racial and ethnic lines. They will have an unusual opportunity this year: thanks to voter-approved term limits, 35 of the 51 city council members must resign this year, and there will be no incumbents running for those seats in November.

The First District, which includes Chinatown, would seem to be ideal for APA candidates—and three have stepped forward already. The district, which also includes largely white areas such as Tribeca, Soho and Battery Park City, was gerrymandered to be an APA district in 1991 but has been represented ever since by Kathryn Freed, a white tenants lawyer.

Margaret Chin ran against Freed in the Democratic primary in 1991 and 1993 and lost—even though Chin outperformed Freed 2-to-1 in 1991. Chin, 47, is running again this year. The former teacher and college administrator is now deputy executive director of Asian Americans for Equality.

"I have a long track record, and I feel very confident of getting support in Chinatown," she said. A longtime member of the Maoist Communist Workers Party, Chin has remade herself into a Democratic Party stalwart. She has raised \$61,555 for the run. ■

## UPS Donates \$15,000 to National JACL and its Youth Programs



Pictured (l-r) are: John Tateishi, JACL national executive director; Floyd Mori, JACL national president; and Gerald Lee, UPS-Community Relations North California District.

National JACL recently received a \$15,000 grant from the UPS Foundation, the charitable arm of United Parcel Service. The grant will be used to support national JACL and national JACL youth programs.

"We are very proud to support national JACL's youth programs and are pleased that we can play a role in young Asian Americans who aspire to leadership roles in the larger society," said Fred Fernandez. Founded in 1951 and based in

Atlanta, the UPS Foundation identifies specific areas where its support will clearly impact social issues.

"UPS has been a longtime friend and supporter of JACL programs," said John Tateishi, JACL national executive director. "Their many, many years of support of national JACL programs include the oratorical contest at the 2000 Monterey national convention, hate crimes, e-mentoring program, scholarships and general support." ■

## L.A. 80-20 Endorses Candidates After Holding APA Political Forum

By TRACY UBA  
Writer/Reporter

After hosting an Asian Pacific American candidates forum on Feb. 17, the Los Angeles 80-20 Political Action Committee announced its endorsements of political hopefuls from around Southern California, representing the Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Latino and Filipino American communities, who are vying for votes in the upcoming primaries.

Gauging each candidate on their history of and commitment to serving the needs of the APA community, those endorsed by the L.A. 80-20 PAC before the March 6 election were: Martin Gallegos, 24th California State Senate; Gloria Romero, 24th California State Senate; Judy Chu, Monterey Park City Council; David Lau, Monterey Park City Council; Christine Choe-Ruiter, South Pasadena City Council; Judy Wong, Temple City Council; Ben Wong, West Covina City Council; Se-Yao Hsu, San Marino City Council; Eugene Sun, San Marino City Council; Laura Lee, Cerritos City Council; Sonny Landero, Carson City Council; Michael Mitoma, Carson City Mayor; and Victor King, Glendale College Board.

The L.A. 80-20 PAC also endorsed Los Angeles City Council candidates Robert Nakahiro, Richard Polanco and Michael Woo, who will seek election April 10.

"When they get elected, hopefully they'll remember this," joked Alfred Foung, president of L.A. 80-20, a nonpartisan political action committee which is attempting to reverse a split voting trend among APAs. "It's a growing movement. ... As far as how effective we are in the upcoming election, I don't know. Our agenda, our goal is to influence a lot of people. Before, it was mainly Chinese, but now we are reaching to other communities as well."

The 80-20 network pushed onto the political scene last year after endorsing Al Gore in the 2000 presidential election and urging a nationwide bloc-vote from APAs, who, unlike blacks and Latinos who vote overwhelmingly Democratic, have been unable to establish themselves as a minority group with political clout.

But as Foung attested, "there is unity emerging," especially as APAs begin to feel the fallout from lack of political representation, workplace discrimination, hate crimes, the glass ceiling in academic and corporate arenas and limited access to government

resources and assistance.

"This is my first exposure to 80-20, and I'm happy to see the kind of energy and the kind of principles which it represents," said Mitoma, a former Carson mayor whose participation in the candidates forum served as an introduction. "When I was mayor, there were only about five (Asian Pacific) mayors that were elected in the United States. So that shows you the importance of having an organization in which there is political empowerment."

One of Mitoma's mayoral opponents in the March primary, former JACL national president Helen Kawagoe, was unable to at-

note her track record of hiring APAs to government positions and of introducing legislation which criticized the treatment of fired Los Alamos scientist Wen Ho Lee.

"I proudly stood with my Asian American colleagues ... who put forward this resolution to say it was unfair to begin to target, scapegoat and racially profile Asian Americans of notable distinction in our science, in our engineering, in our major institutions, for things that had gone awry on the part of the U.S. government," said Romero.

As an 80-20 member herself, Monterey Park City Council-



PHOTO: TRACY UBA

Monterey Park City Councilwoman Judy Chu talks about issues close to the Asian Pacific American community at a recent Los Angeles 80-20 candidates forum, as L.A. City Council candidate Robert Nakahiro looks on. Both were endorsed prior to the primary elections.

tend the forum.

For Nakahiro, a relative newcomer to politics but a veteran speaker at 80-20 events, APA empowerment is indeed a key concept, as he pointed out, "Los Angeles has a growing APA population" making it one of the most diverse cities in the nation.

"I want [people] to look at my face and know that diversity is not only the face of the present but it's the face of the future," said Nakahiro, who is Hapa. "I want to bring an Asian Pacific American back to the Los Angeles city council so that every single neighborhood in the council district that I want to represent knows that they count, and that they mean something and that government needs to be accountable to everyone because when you're accountable to everyone, we all win."

In speaking about her efforts to address issues close to the APA community, Assemblywoman Romero, D-Monterey Park, who is seeking a state Senate seat,

woman Judy Chu, who is seeking a second term, spoke of her efforts to promote cultural sensitivity in her city, which has one of the most highly concentrated Chinese American populations in the country. In addition to introducing language access cards, offering multilingual public service announcements and Census questionnaires and fighting English-only, Chu said, she has ensured affordable senior housing for elderly APAs, started an Asian youth center and allowed community organizations to maintain their use of public facilities.

In the next few months, L.A. 80-20's endorsement will manifest itself through both media exposure and financial backing, said committee chair Cheng Yue. "We will be supporting the candidates on our endorsement through ads in multiethnic newspapers, flyers and through individual contributions and volunteers. These candidates will be able to feel the impact of our united support," he said. ■

## Community Asked to Continue their Support of Minidoka Camp Site

SAN FRANCISCO—It is important to continue voicing support for the protection of the Minidoka camp site, according to Dan Sakura, former White House staff member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

Sakura accepted an invitation to speak before the February national JACL board meeting where he shared about the behind-the-scenes efforts that ultimately led to former President Clinton protecting the Minidoka site in January under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

Sakura said he and Lenna Aoki, former director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs in the Department of the Interior, were surprised by the amount of support they received from Congress, which not only approved their funding request but included additional dollars. He credited the government-published book, "Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japan-

ese American Relocation Sites," written by Jeffrey Burton, Mary Farrell, Florence Lord and Richard Lord, in providing critical information for their proposals.

But Sakura noted that with the new Bush administration, there was a slight chance that Minidoka may lose its protective status. "There is a sense I have that there is no one in the new administration to help move this forward," said Sakura.

He explained that although the current president cannot de-authorize the executive order, Congress has the power to do this if they determine that the protected site is not being managed properly. Sakura likened the situation to childbirth where the infant mortality rate is highest during the first year.

To prevent Minidoka from losing its protective status, Sakura provided the following recommendations:

- continue having the Idaho chapters voice their support since the Idaho congressional delegation may roll back their support if there is no local interest

- have the Pacific Northwest District and Alaska chapter get involved since many of the Nikkei interned in Minidoka came from the Pacific Northwest and Alaska

- get the Colorado chapters involved since the new secretary of the Department of the Interior, Gale Norton, comes from Colorado

- take advantage of opportunities at community events to gather support

- get the support of environmental and national conservation groups

Kristine Minami, JACL Washington, D.C., representative and director of public affairs, said she has been in contact with the Idaho congressional delegation and plans to continue monitoring the situation. ■

### Rep. Becerra Announces H.R. 619 for JLA Redress at DOR

Congressman Xavier Becerra, D-Calif., announced the introduction of the Wartime and Justice Act of 2001 — H.R. 619 — at the Day of Remembrance ceremony on Feb. 17 at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

Becerra's bill would:  
• provide redress equity for Japanese Latin Americans forcibly brought to the United States to be used in hostage exchanges between the United States and Japan;

• provide redress to Japanese Americans whose rights were violated but were not compensated due to technicalities and narrow interpretations of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988; and

• authorize \$45 million for educational funding.

"Over 2,000 Japanese Latin Americans were uprooted from their homes and forced into internment camps in the United States," said Rep. Becerra. "This group was unfairly overlooked when Congress addressed the abuses by our government against Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II. These individuals are still waiting for equitable redress, and justice cries out for them to receive it."

Karen Parker, an attorney representing JLA Art Shibayama, shared an update of the case. Shibayama had opted out of the Mochizuki settlement, which provided only \$5,000 in compensation in contrast to the \$20,000 paid out to JAs.

Parker noted that the courts have been giving them a difficult time and would not be surprised if things became worse under the Bush Administration. "I think the Bush Administration is going to try harder to keep any discussion off the floor and from the media," she said.

The keynote speaker of the event



During the Los Angeles' Day of Remembrance ceremony at the Japanese American National Museum on Feb. 17, Fred Okrand, director emeritus for the ACLU of Southern California, accepts an award from NCRRA on behalf of pro bono attorneys Alex Fukui, Lisa Ikemoto, Julia Mass, Reggie Chun and Christopher Prince (standing behind Okrand).



UCLA Professor Mitchell Maki accepts an award from PSWD JAACL as Ayako Hagihara looks on during the Los Angeles Day of Remembrance on Feb. 17 at the Japanese American National Museum.

was Alberta Lee, daughter of former Los Alamos scientist Dr. Wen Ho Lee who was recently released from prison after being cleared of spying for a foreign country. Lee noted parallels between the World War II experiences of JAs and those of her father's, and read a passage from John Okada's book, "No No Boy," which she explained captured

her own confused feelings of being of Asian descent in America. Community leaders who were honored at the event included Alan Nishio, who received the Fighting Spirit Award from the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, and Mitchell Maki, who received the Community Achievement Award from JAACL PSWD. ■

### Assemblymember Nakano Leads California Legislature in a Day of Remembrance

On Feb. 16, Assemblyman George Nakano, D-Torrance, introduced legislation to declare Feb. 19 a Day of Remembrance. The measure, Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 17 is co-authored by Sen. Mike Machado (principal), Majority Leader Kevin Shelley and Assemblymembers Wilma Chan, Carol Liu and Abel Maldonado.

ACR 17 commemorates the chronology of events surrounding the internment of Japanese Americans and resident aliens during World War II, beginning with President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 and culminating in the passage of the Civil Liberties Act in 1988.

The day paid special tribute to the two California state legislators who spoke against E.O. 9066 in 1942, state Sen. Ralph C. Dills and John Shelley.

Dills, who retired from the legislature in 1998, was present on the assembly floor to receive a special resolution from Nakano. Shelley's son, Assembly Majority Leader Kevin Shelley, accepted for his father. Nakano also ac-

knowledged the two members of Congress who publicly opposed the measure, John Coffee of Washington and Jerry Voorhis of California.

"I want to salute those brave elected officials who stood publicly to oppose the internment of Japanese Americans. I thank them for their courage to stand up for justice," said Nakano. "Nakano, who as a young child spent four years in the camps with his family, also acknowledged members of the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Central Postal Directory, some of whom watched the proceedings from the assembly gallery.

"It is only in this country that we can talk about our past mistakes, learn from them and work toward the future so that something like this does not happen again to any group of people," said Nakano, who served in the California Air National Guard and the U.S. Air Force Reserve. For additional information or to order a photograph, please contact Becki Ames in Nakano's office at 910/782-1553. ■

### Judge Ito Switches Speech Topic After Listening to Resisters' Story

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Lance Ito tore up a prepared speech on youth involvement at the Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California's installation dinner on Feb. 25 after listening to Heart Mountain resister Yash Kuromiya speak and viewing "Conscience and the Constitution," Frank Abe's documentary on the Heart Mountain resisters.

The resisters' issue was not new to Ito. He had done independent research on this topic, and had shared it last year during his keynote speech at the Heart Mountain reunion in Seattle. For this, Ito said his father did not speak to him for a few weeks.

Ito's family, like Kuromiya, was incarcerated at the Heart Mountain War Relocation Authority camp during World War II. But Ito's family supported the JAACL line of cooperating with the U.S. government and his uncles served in the U.S. Army.

Ito, however, felt that all factions made principled stands and that the "JAACL made the right decision for that time," that the veterans were to be commended for sacrificing their lives for the good of the community, but that the resisters also made the "right decision for the long term" based on constitutional and moral grounds.



Judge Lance Ito installs the 2001 JAHCSS Board (l-r): George Kiriya, past president; May Toya, vice president; Glen Kitayama, president; Sue Kunitomi Embrey, president-elect; Iku Kiriya, editor; Not pictured: Hazel Taniguchi, corresponding secretary; Joh Sekiguchi, treasurer; Sid Yamazaki, historian; Wakako Yamauchi, recording secretary.

To reconcile the rift within the community, Ito, who is on next year's Heart Mountain reunion organizing committee, said he hopes to pull together a panel consisting of JAACLers, veterans and resisters. Ito also installed the 2001 JAHCSS's board of directors which are: Glen Kitayama, president; Sue Kunitomi Embrey, president-elect; May Toya, vice president; Wakako Yamauchi, recording secretary;

Hazel Taniguchi, corresponding secretary; Joh Sekiguchi, treasurer; Sid Yamazaki, historian; and Iku Kiriya, editor. California Assemblyman George Nakano also presented certificates of recognition to the JAHCSS board, in particular to founders George and Iku Kiriya. More than 80 people attended the event, which was held at the Sea Empress restaurant in Gardena, Calif. ■

### Go For Broke Foundation Receives \$500,000 Grant

California Assemblyman George Nakano (D-Torrance) presented the 100th/442nd/MIS World War II Memorial Foundation with a check for \$500,000 to continue the foundation's efforts to educate the younger generation on the contributions of the Japanese American soldiers.

"Today we celebrate American heroes — men who bravely fought for our country under incredibly difficult circumstances and became the most decorated unit in U.S. military history for their size and length of service," said Nakano.

Nakano presented the check at South Torrance High School, where several teachers, who participated in the foundation's education training workshops, gave moving testi-



Go For Broke Co-Chair Robin Morishita, Executive Director Christine Sato, California State Assemblyman George Nakano, Torrance Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Arnold Plank and South Torrance High School Principal John O'Brien.

mones. Nakano, a member of the state Assembly Budget Committee, secured funding for the foundation in last year's state budget. The

\$500,000 grant, administered through the California Arts Council, funds a statewide teacher training program. ■

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### Berkeley Chapter Offers Grants

Twice a year, the Berkeley chapter accepts grant applications for community-oriented educational projects or programs sponsored by organizations or individuals which support civil and human rights causes.

The grant program was created to help organizations that are endeavoring to preserve the culture and values of Japanese Americans, and promote understanding between all social and ethnic groups.

Applications should be submitted by March 15 for funds to be disbursed by May 15, and by Sept. 15 for funds to be disbursed by Dec. 15. For information, contact Co-chair Jane Ogawa at 925-299-1161 or write to Berkeley JACL, Attn: Grants Committee, P.O. Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609, or e-mail: Berkeley@JACL.org.

### Ventura County JACL Holds 20th Installation

The Ventura County chapter held its 20th installation luncheon on Feb. 4 at the Casa Sirena Hotel. Over 70 people attended, including JACLers from the San Fernando and SELANOCO chapters, to hear guest speaker Sgt. Brian Moriguchi of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Anne Chilcott served as master of ceremonies.

Moriguchi, a 15-year veteran of the department, spoke about his service and difficulties he encountered.

## JACL Corner



Ventura County JACL Chapter Installation

tered after filing a lawsuit regarding offensive material he uncovered in one of the field offices. After filing a complaint, he found his car with three flat tires, his computer files deleted, and his girlfriend was followed by members of the department.

Moriguchi was advised that his "career was over," and was shipped to Lancaster as punishment. Later, the Internal Affairs Bureau investigated his case. An injunction prevented retaliation against Moriguchi and he received a promotion.

"There is a prevailing attitude that Asians are quiet, submissive, subservient and don't make waves," said Moriguchi, who encouraged the audience to be more vocal, and thanked the JACL for its support.

Although he feels his career was

hurt substantially, Moriguchi said he would stand up for his principles if again faced with the same situation.

Chapter officers for the 2001 term were installed by Harry Kajihara, past national JACL president.

Officers include (photo above): president, Cate Kuniyoshi; vice-president-membership, Anne Chilcott; vice-president insurance/newsletter, Chuck Kuniyoshi; Joanne Nakano, secretary; Marcia Miyasaka; treasurer, Ken Nakano; scholarship chair, Ron Morinishi; Japanese cemetery restoration chair, Ken Nakano; cultural chair, Carolyn Morinishi; historian, Wesley Yamada; members-at-large, Cherry Abe, Janet Kajihara, Sumiko Kato, Aiko King, Ellen Matsuo, Edwin Miyasaka, Roy Sumino and Ruby Sumino.

### San Jose Chapter Installs Officers

Richard Tanaka recently installed the officers for the 2001-2002 board of the San Jose JACL. Tanaka was the chapter's first Sansei president who served in the 1960s. He is also contending for an open seat on the San Jose City Council. Tanaka currently serves as a trustee on the San Jose Community College District Board and has given 29 years of public service.

Pictured in the box below (l-r): Judy Niizawa, Hon. Richard K. Tanaka, Tom Shigemasa, Dr. Kaz Uyesugi, Carl Fujita, Mark Kobayashi, Karl Kinaga, Tom Osahidari, Ken Sakamoto (president), Leon Kimura, Art Honda (advisory board), Jeff Yoshioka (treasurer), and Kenzo Kimura (v.p. civic affairs)

Chin, Shannon Doolittle, Ann Fujii-Lindwall, Dawn Furushima, Gl Hiraabayashi, Ayako Hurd, Steve Idemoto, Ruthanne Kurose, Mike Latimer, Cathy Lowenberg, Matthew Nakata, May Namba, Chiz Norton, Manaji Suzuki, Bill Tashima, Kip Tokuda, and Vicki Toyohara.

An awards ceremony was also held. The Honorable James McDermott, U.S. Representative, 7th District received the Don Kazama-Human Rights Award; Kaz Ishimitsu and Masa Marukami received the Community Service Awards; and Arlene Oki and Karen Yoshitomi received the Unsung Heroines Awards.

Special recognition was given to the installation banquet committee members who have served for four or more years. They are: Aka, Fujii-Lindwall, Hattori, Hurd, Kazzie Katayama, Mita, Katayama, Joanne Kimura, Tama Murotani, Namba, Norton, Oki, Sam Shoji, Cal Takagi, Naoko Takagi, Shigeiko Uno, and Takako Yoda.

### Mile-Hi Chapter Holds Installation



Mile Hi JACL Chapter Installation

The Mile-Hi chapter held its installation of its officers on Jan. 20. (Pictured above). They are (back row): Katherine Nakazono, Richard Hamai, Adele Arakawa (mistress of ceremonies), George Masaruza, Tom Migaki, Sumi Takeno, the Hon. Maoto Mizutani (consul general of Japan), Mark Shimoda; (front row): Cherry Tsumsumida (keynote speaker), Frank Sakamoto, Mariagnes Medrud, Mrs. Mizutani; (not pictured): Karlyn Tanaka-Beck, Karen Koto, Lisa Mochizuki, Herb

Ikemiyashiro spoke about growing up in Peru and his pride in his heritage. A Sansei Peruvian, Ikemiyashiro told of the time when the U.S. government incarcerated those of Japanese ancestry at the Crystal City Department of Justice camp to use in a hostage exchange. These people were not allowed back into Peru, and as a result, families were separated. The U.S. government has allotted them some redress, but many claims remain unsettled.

Kishi's story of the U.S. incarceration is well documented, but the importance of the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific War against Japan is a story not often told. Kishi took part in the occupation of Japan and worked in the building where Gen. MacArthur was headquartered.

### 'World War II: Spaces of Remembrances' Exhibit in Minnesota

A group of JACLers from the Twin Cities chapter recently drove to Duluth, MN to view an exhibit by Catherine Ishino titled, "World War II: Spaces of Remembrances," at the Tweed Museum of Art on the University of Minnesota-Tuluth (UMD) campus.

Tom Ohno said they had an opportunity to speak with artist Ishi-

no, a Sansei associate professor of graphic design at UMD and former art director at the McNeil-Lehrer News Hour on PBS.

The exhibit includes personal and historic photographs; a video of Ishino interviewing her parents, Mary Tomiko and Jwao Ishino; a performance video; a timeline of Japanese American history; and a 30-foot wall with 120,000 marks to represent the number of JAs who were incarcerated during the war.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Ishino's grandfather, then living in Los Angeles, was one of the first to be picked up by the FBI and sent to a Department of Justice camp. Ishino's parents ended up at Poston.

Ishino, who has been active in human rights issues throughout her career, hopes this story of the camps will reach as many people in the Midwest as possible. She hopes to make this a traveling exhibit, according to Ohno.

### National JACL Singles Convention 2001 Set for Aug. 31-Sept. 1

This year's JACL singles convention, "Come Together 2001," will be held Labor Day weekend, Aug. 31-Sept. 1, at the Torrance Marriott Hotel in Torrance, Calif.

Plans include workshops and seminars, a mixer with line dancing, dinner dance, optional trips to Las Vegas, Little Tokyo, the Japanese American National Museum and the Getty Center, and golf and bowling.

The convention is hosted jointly by the Greater Los Angeles Singles chapter JACL, Orange County Sansei Singles, Nikkei Singles Club, and Orange County Widows and Widowers.

Registration for the weekend is \$165; \$150 if received before June 30; \$180 after Aug. 17. The hotel special convention rate is \$95 per room per night, single or double occupancy, phone 800/228-9290.

For information contact Victor Kato, 714/891-6606, e-mail: vakato@earthlink.net.



San Jose JACL Chapter Installation

### 'Bridging Differences, Building Communities' Theme for Seattle Installation

The Seattle chapter's annual installation banquet was held on Jan. 27 at the DoubleTree Suites in Tukwila. Scheduled keynote speaker Bill Hosokawa was unable to attend due to a medical emergency. Floyd Mori, national JACL president, delivered the keynote address.

Elaine Akagi, Pacific Northwest District Governor, installed the new officers and board of directors. The new officers include: Akemi Matsumoto, president; Joy Shigaki, first vice president of operations; Arlene Oki, second vice president of civil rights, aging and international relations; Ryan Minato, third vice president of youth, leadership development and education; Linda Tanouye, fourth vice president of public relations; Jeffrey Hattori, treasurer; Kazzie Katayama, historian; and Suzanne Hamada, recording secretary.

The new board of directors are: Elaine Akagi, Shea Aoki, Ryan

Okamoto, John Tanigawa, Mark Yamasaki.

### Livingston-Merced Chapter hosts JACL Day of Remembrance 2001

Over 100 people came to the Livingston Methodist Church Pioneer Hall Feb. 18 to hear stories from sons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. The speakers were Professor Roy Yasui of the UC Stanislaus at Turlock, a Canadian interned Nikkei; Dr. Daniel Ikemiyashiro, of Peruvian heritage; and Sherman Kishi, a U.S. citizen who shared his experiences as an MIS veteran.

Yasui spoke of his incarceration in abandoned mines and ghost towns, where he lived in tents through the cold winters. He said that his area attempted ethnic cleansing by giving them two choices: go and live in eastern Canada or be sent to Japan. Eventually, the British rescinded that order and they received individual redress, \$12 million for education, cultural activities, and a race relations foundation.

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## UC DAVIS

(Continued from page 1)

Yolo Causeway levee, a traditional student Greek activity.

That same month, a group of about 15 white males from the Kappa Sigma fraternity exchanged words in an apartment parking lot with several members of Sigma Kappa Rho, a Korean American interest fraternity, then later assaulted them inside their apartment while calling them "chinks." Two of them, UCD student Jeff Hayes and former student Jeff Wyle, were charged with five felony counts each, with hate crime enhancements, by the Yolo County District Attorney.

A second confrontation at the levee in December prompted all three presidents as well as members of Kappa Sigma, Sigma Kappa Rho and Lambda Phi Epsilon, another UCD Asian interest fraternity, to meet Jan. 23 at a reconciliation forum, arranged in part by UCD Student Judicial Affairs. The California Aggie reported that while some witnesses perceived alcohol as being a factor in that particular incident, Sigma Kappa Rho president Harold Kim said race also may have been a motivation, as several people heard the word "chink" used.

"As an educational institution, we have taken the stand with respect that there have been instances of racial slurs that this is absolutely unacceptable behavior," said UCD Vice Chancellor Carolyn Wall. "We were aware of the first fight and that there may have been racial overtones. There was an immediate university response at the unit level as far as our Student Judicial Affairs office getting involved."

"As a campus, we are extraordinarily diverse. We are past having any one majority group. But certainly students in the Asian American community are saying that they are looked at and stereotypically treated," said Wall, who attested that the university has been making every effort to be responsive to APA students' concerns.

As far as disciplinary action against the fraternities involved and the two students currently charged with felonies, Wall said that the university is ready to conduct its own investigation and take necessary action pending the outcome of the trial, which is scheduled to begin in March.

Although UC Davis students were involved, most of these incidents occurred off campus in Yolo County, which is outside of the UC Davis Police Department jurisdiction, according to Capt. Rita Spaur.

"We haven't been directly involved in the investigations, but what we have done is participate in student forums which have focused on race issues," she said. "I know that the Student Affairs Office is coordinating efforts so that we have a clearer understanding of what's going on."

Spaur said no hate crimes have been reported this year to UCD police. "Within our department, we have the campus violence preven-

tion program, which mainly focuses on helping victims of sexual assault, but they have gotten no reports of bias incidents that I know of," she said, adding that all UCD law enforcement officers go through diversity training as mandated by law.

But CAPAA spokesperson and UCD student Diem Nguyen said these statistics do not accurately reflect what's going on on campus. She pointed out that some APA students are reluctant to report hate crime incidents they witness or are involved in because it is not a culturally recognized practice, while others simply believe UCD officials aren't willing to compromise the image of the school to address larger racial issues.

"In the past few months, there has been this progression of violent acts. What the administration has been doing is acting as if it's fraternity against fraternity, and alcohol is involved," Nguyen said, "but it's a racial issue. Alcohol does not make you a racist, that's something that's deep-seated."

One APA student (who asked not to be named) said that she sees several reasons why racial hostilities are prevalent on the UCD campus today. "I notice that the different racial groups, they hang out with each other," she said. "The Filipinos hang out with the Filipinos, the Koreans hang out with the Koreans. I think maybe people are just used to it."

Meanwhile, she pointed out, "A lot of kids at Davis come from white suburbia. They join the Greek system, and they think Davis is supposed to be a white community, so they think they have the right to do whatever they want."

She added that the abolishment of affirmative action may be another factor. When those laws were rescinded, it actually led to an increase in APA enrollment, which in turn may be what is causing a backlash from white students who are uncomfortable with the number and visibility of APAs on campus.

"There are so many Asians coming to the UC system. ... But, for instance, there aren't very many blacks on campus. A lot of people find that very unsettling," she said.

Since these incidents began, several community and civil rights groups, it gotten involved in supporting the APA enrollment, causing the Sacramento-based Davis Asians for Racial Equality (DARE) was instrumental in a recent letter-writing campaign which urged UCD Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef to "implement services that would act as preventative measures against violence and improve the cross-cultural climate on campus."

"The students, the university administration, the UC Davis police are all working together," said DARE spokesperson Grace Kim. According to Kim, DARE formed in 1983 after another instance of racial violence in which a local Davis High School student named Thong Hy Huynh was stabbed to death by a white supremacist.

"As a former student at UCD, active in the early Asian American student movement and Asian

American Studies, it's shocking that the same racist attacks I saw 25-30 years ago are still going on," said Andy Noguchi, president of Florin JACL, which has also been monitoring the situation. "Davis has always had a reputation as being a nice, quiet campus, someplace you think your kids will be safe, and the administration tries to keep up that image even when it's not true."

But in fact, Noguchi said, "There's been a long history at Davis of trying to get respect for Asian American students, whether it's been for affirmative action, whether it's been trying to get Asian American Studies programs implemented, whether it's been getting student groups organized."

"It's important that DARE and JACL and other active civil rights groups speak up when these types of incidents occur because sometimes the administration takes extra note when community groups that have been established for many years are supporting the students," he said.

With the backing of such outside groups, APA students presented a list of action items to UCD administrators who recently agreed to meet one of their requests: hiring a full-time student affairs officer in the Asian American Studies department.

"We see the possibility of addressing more of the other issues they raised with this new budgetary year. We can't make any promises at this point, but we can certainly be responsive," Wall said.

But Nguyen remains skeptical. "The administration is trying to maintain this safe atmosphere. ... We wanted to work with them, but during an initial meeting they were not responsive. [Vice Chancellor Wall] was telling us that there was no funding. Now, they have money for this position, but I'm hoping they're not just saying, 'Here's your SAO, now go away, because that's not going to happen.'"

"It seems like we as students are doing all the work when the administration should have done something about this a long time ago," she said. "But we're not going to wait for them."

Among their other action items requested of the university are a culturally sensitive point person who will work with hate crime victims; mandatory seminar on diversity and cultural competency for incoming freshmen; assessment of diversity training by UC Davis and City of Davis Police Departments; permanent funding for an API leadership conference; and expansion of the cross-cultural center. ■

## COMMENTARY

(Continued from page 1)

and there are books written on that subject so I can't add anything to that debate in the space I have here.

But what bothers me is that no one seems to look at the positive things the JACL has and continues to do. For one, the pardon of the resisters; it would be naive to think that President Truman pardoned the resisters simply because he thought they deserved a measure of justice. The JACL's field Secretary Mike Masaoka (yes, that M word again!) was in the nation's capitol urging a pardon for the resisters. And don't forget that it was the JACL that argued for the creation of a JA unit in the military.

The 1940s also saw the JACL push for the Evacuation Claims Act, as unsatisfactory as it may have ultimately been as passed by the Congress. And JACL successfully fought for the repeal of the California Alien Land Law, as well as similar laws in Utah and Oregon.

We amended the Soldier Brides Act to include the language "irregardless of race," which was a major breakthrough in establishing attitudes on race in the Congress. And we successfully fought for the restoration of fishing licenses for JA fishermen.

In the 1960s, we fought hard for the Walter-McCarran Act, allowing for the naturalization of the Issei, and we successfully fought to eliminate Idaho's anti-miscegenation law.

In the 1960s, JACL, along with a number of organizations, lobbied for the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King. We were a key lobbying group in the 1965 Immigration Act which opened the door to Asian immigration and changed the face of America. We also initiated a federal campaign to repeal all anti-miscegenation laws nationwide, and fought for fair housing policies for all people of color.

In the 1970s, JACL brought forth resolutions calling on the U.S. government to redress the wrongs of the World War II internment. In 1978, we launched a nationwide campaign to educate the nation and to demand monetary compensation and an

official apology from the U.S. government. Two years after launching the campaign, we successfully lobbied passage of the first redress legislation, creating a federal commission to investigate the internment and to report to the Congress and the president.

In the 1980s JACL became the primary organization in the JA community nationwide advocating for redress and educating Americans about the events of the internment. In 1988, redress legislation was signed by President Ronald Reagan, culminating a long effort that began with the closing of the camps to gain recognition of the massive injustice of the internment, and to acknowledge the personal harm done to JAs.

Today, the JACL is at a crossroads. Our community is changing, and organizationally, we need to change if we are to continue to be effective in the future. We can't live solely on the laurels of the past because it's the future that is our concern.

So when non-members ask me the question "Why?" should they join JACL, I tell them because we continue to do what we've always done. Our mission has always been to insure the well-being of JAs and anyone who is victimized by social injustice, and we continue to carry out that mission on a daily basis.

Our mission is to fight discrimination, and as much as I'd like to see the need for what we do become out-dated, I'm afraid we're here for the long haul. The battles are different today, but anyone who thinks AAs are free of discrimination and racism needs to look more closely at America today.

Issues like affirmative action may not affect us at first glance, but all you need to do is look beyond the universities and colleges where our kids do well, and look to the corporations where they hit barriers all the time. Or look at hate crimes, which are growing in our communities. Or look at the increase of derogatory language against Asians.

We're a great organization doing a lot of good for a lot of people. Our chapters and regional offices are out there taking care of business on a daily basis. So, if anyone wonders why it's worth joining JACL, let them know about some of our accomplishments. There are quite a few. ■

## First Henry Sugimoto Retrospective at JANM

The first retrospective exhibition of paintings by Henry Sugimoto (1900-1990) will open on March 24 at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

"Henry Sugimoto: Painting an American Experience" is an examination of the Japanese American experience as seen through the work of the artist, whose life and art were transformed by his incarceration in American concentration camps during World War II.

In his early years Sugimoto primarily painted idyllic landscapes and city scenes, but once incarcerated, he abandoned his beautiful landscapes in favor of depicting the indignities he and his fellow inmates suffered during the war.

His work has provided researchers a first-hand account of the experiences of JAs in the concentration camps.

Over 100 works spanning Sugimoto's long career, which began in the 1930s, will be exhibited along with photographs, sketch books and other archival materials. The museum will also offer a variety of lectures, art talks, workshops and family events related to the exhibit.

For more information, call 213/625-0414. ■

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(Continued from page 1)

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This is a more traditional major medical plan, allowing members to build up a tax-free savings account to pay for routine medical expenses. From the moment the account is started, the money is tax-free and remains that way while the MSA is active. The MSA combines with a high deductible insurance policy that keeps the cost of an MSA competitively low.

### Traditional major medical plan

This plan is ideal for members looking for more "freedom of choice." It provides a broad range of coverage for all facets of health care for members and their family with no demands for selected physicians or certain health care facilities. This plan has been designed with a choice of higher deductibles, which translates into lower premiums.

This offer is only available to non-California national JACL members. The insurers have developed their own acceptance criteria and thus JACL membership does not guarantee acceptance into the insurance program.

For more information on any of the above plans, contact the JACL insurance administrator, Seabury & Smith, 1440 Renaissance Drive, Park Ridge, IL 60068-1400. You can also call toll-free at 800/503-9230 or visit the web at: [www.seaburychicago.com](http://www.seaburychicago.com).

Note: Coverage may not be available in all states. The market may not offer all three insurance products in your state and, due to the nature of local regulators, no coverage choices can be offered in some states.

## Tule Lake to Host Teacher Training Workshop

The Japanese American Resource Center/Museum of San Jose (JARC/M), the Tule Lake Committee, and the JACL NCVNP district council will present an all-day teacher training session on March 10 at Tulelake High School in Tulelake, Calif.

The California Civil Liberties Public Education Project (CCLPEP) recently awarded a \$5,000 grant to James King, a social studies teacher at Tulelake High School, to hold the workshop. King has long been involved in educating his students about the evacuation and internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and wanted to take the information beyond the walls of his own classroom.

The grant will train and provide resources to teachers in at least four school districts in the area surrounding Tulelake, so that they will be able to educate students in their classrooms.

A panel made up of Eiko Tanaka Yamaichi, Jimi Yamaichi, and Mas Yamasaki will give first-hand accounts of life during the evacuation and internment. Another panel consisting of Hiroshi Kashiwagi, Hiroshi Shimizu, and Jimi Yamaichi will describe how the internment camp experience at Tule Lake was different from the other nine camps, in that some of the land was taken away from the residents in the area, and this no doubt contributed to the negative feelings about the camp in the surrounding communities. Tule lake was also designated a "segregation camp" to which families awaiting

repatriation to Japan were sent. Workshop participants will participate in a hands-on tour of the camp site led by Jimi Yamaichi. The *Klamath Falls Herald and News* featured the training session on its front page in January. More than 30 teachers and community members have pre-registered.

The steering committee for the workshop consisted of James King, JARC/M board members, and JACL representative Greg Marutani.

As in past workshops, a resource kit of books and videos that can be used in the classrooms will be given to Tulelake High School and it is hoped that enough money can be raised to give multiple copies of some of the books and materials. At present the major contributor towards the kit is the NCVNP district council of JACL.

Donations can be sent to: Tule Lake Committee, c/o Hiroshi Shimizu, P.O. Box 170141, San Francisco, CA 94117. Please mention "Resource Kit" on the check.

The workshop will be presented from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and teachers will be given the opportunity to earn continuing education units through Santa Clara University.

For more information, contact James King at 530/667-2292, or Ann Muto at 408/257-7865, [atmuto@yahoo.com](mailto:atmuto@yahoo.com). The JARC/M website at [WWW.jarc-m.org](http://WWW.jarc-m.org) also has information regarding the internment camps during WWII. Tulelake High School also has its own website about the internment camp: [www.tulelake.k12.ca.us/thc/](http://www.tulelake.k12.ca.us/thc/)



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## Fred Wada Had No Intention of Being Incarcerated

HUNDREDS came a couple of weeks ago (Feb. 17) to Honpa Hongwanji, Los Angeles, to mourn the death of Fred Isamu Wada, who died Feb. 12 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He was 93.

Remembered by many as founder of Keiro Home in the late 1960s, he then spearheaded the campaign that led to the purchase of the Jewish Home for the Aged in

Boyle Heights — now the Keiro Retirement Home and Immediate Care Center — in 1975.

Wada-san's record of leadership and accomplishments began in 1942, at the age of 35, a

By HARRY HONDA

## Very Truly Yours

prosperous produce merchant in Oakland with no intention of being incarcerated. With a March 29 deadline for persons of Japanese ancestry to move voluntarily to an inland state, Wada decided to move out of California at once with a corps of Japanese Americans to raise "food for victory."

But "most of the Japanese had little choice but to go into the relocation centers," his daughter Grace Miyamoto (now in Hawaii) recalled in her 1988 P.C. Holiday Issue article. "Many heads of families were Issei who could speak little or no English and there were many who were afraid to move to unknown places since there were many rumors of anti-Japanese sentiment and hostilities."

Her mother (Masako), who was born in Utah and remembered her early childhood years, suggested they move to Utah, because "she remembered people there being friendly and helpful to her family." And her father (Fred) also read in the newspapers that farmers in Utah needed laborers, but "it was no easy matter."

The Japanese in Utah, with whom he had conferred, discouraged him about leading others for fear of creating more hostilities toward all Japanese in general. JACLers assisted initial evacuees to find work but, as more and more relocated voluntarily to Ogden and Salt Lake City, they also feared the coming of West Coast evacuees in



PHOTO: PACIFIC CITIZEN ARCHIVES  
Fred Wada (right) holds freshly turned soil in the spring of 1942 to show two California Nisei (in the middle is Bill Honda) who joined him in the wartime Japanese American farming cooperative at Keetley, Utah, rather than being incarcerated because of ancestry.

large numbers.

"Undaunted," as Grace's piece continued, "Fred Wada went before 350 people in Duchesne and Uintah counties (at Roosevelt, Utah) to convince them, in his broken English, to allow him to bring about 130 Japanese there to farm. He assured them that each would bring about \$1,500 in cash or equipment. He promised them that no one would ever go on welfare, they were all honest, hard-working people."

Prominent San Francisco Bay churchman Galen M. Fisher, in his February 1943 *Survey Graphic* article on Wada's patriotism to form this pioneering band, revealed that Wada was ready to sink \$20,000 in the undertaking. Finally, Fisher advised him to make the colony a nonprofit cooperative enterprise.

In a short time Mr. Wada enrolled 130 farming associates: 65 strong, mature men, more than half of them single, 30 married women, six of whose husbands were still interned, and 35 children. Most of the men were farmers, nine were college graduates in agriculture, plus three merchants, three auto mechanics, a carpenter, an electrician, a plumber, a barber, a registered pharmacist ("Doc" Masao Tsujimoto), four nurses and four gardeners. All agreed to pool machinery and stocks and to contribute a state amount for general expenses.

The first party of 20 left three days before the March 29 deadline. The entire company reached Utah by April 1. Wada had chosen this particular spot because the other ranches had one major drawback — inadequate housing. Keetley in-

cluded 15 cottages, a large building that was divided into 10 apartments — previously built to house the working force of a nearby mine. The land had good black loam suitable for truck crops, with upper slopes to raise hay and livestock. Irrigation from the nearby river was built at low cost.

Owner George A. Fisher leased 3,200 acres for Wada's successful wartime venture. "They trucked the high quality produce to Salt Lake City and proudly put up a big sign by Highway 40 that bore the words, 'Food for Freedom.' It was a symbol of their patriotism and their desire to help America win the war," Grace wrote. And one of the first things the men built upon arrival at Keetley was the bathroom. "A huge vegetable metal wash tub was turned into a shed around it so everyone could enjoy the warmth of the *furō* during those freezing-cold nights."

During the first year, a group of 29 left Keetley to establish a branch colony at Sandy upon the urgent invitation of a large landholder there. Fisher noted the colony was able to pay the entire first year's rental, \$7,000, out of their earnings, the net profit of \$6,000 being divided equally among all the workers — men, women, adults and minors.

This bit from Fred Wada's wartime years deserves a closing line from him. "When I first saw it (in mid-February), the snow had leveled everything. When the snow melted it was all hilly with rocks and sagebrush. Hell, we had to move fifty tons of rocks to clear 150 acres to farm." ■

## Special Insights

As you might expect, the Ehime Maru sinking was and is big news in Hawaii, partly because the accident happened right in our back yard and partly because there are particularly close ties between Japan and Hawaii relative to other parts of the United States. The various twists and turns of the story have been dutifully covered and analyzed by the local media here.



By BRIAN NIYA

There is one aspect of the coverage that I found a little disturbing, however. It is the reflexive turn to the local Japanese American community for reaction,

## Troubled in Paradise

as if there is some special insight and/or duty that we might have on the tragedy by virtue of our race or ethnicity. It made me wonder whether, if the sunken ship had been Dutch for instance; there would have been a similar inquiry to the Dutch American community for their response.

As a JA, I felt no special tie to this particular incident. On a human level, and particularly as a parent, of course I felt very sad for the families who lost children and other family members in the accident.

But since I have no ties to anyone from that part of Japan nor to anyone involved in the fishing industry, there wasn't a strong personal connection. In fact, because I have a close family friend who serves in the U.S. Navy on a submarine, I probably felt a closer tie to the sub crew than to the unfortunate victims on the ship.

A couple of weeks before the Ehime Maru sinking, there was a devastating earthquake in the state of Gujarat in India. The number of people killed and injured there dwarfed the number in the Ehime Maru incident. As of this writing, 19,607 have been reported killed and 166,000 injured, numbers so large as to boggle the mind.

Being from earthquake country in California, I followed this story carefully. Even given the distance and the differences between Gujarat and Southern California, I

felt a stronger tie to the victims of this disaster than to those on the Ehime Maru.

The point here isn't to rank one tragedy over the other, but simply to point out that there ought not to be an automatic assumption that JAs in general would or should have some special connection to Japan or its people. Some do, to be sure. But others — particularly Sansei or Yonsei — don't. It's an individual thing, not a group thing.

While this may seem like a small gripe, it's part of a larger story of distinctions not being made between JAs and Japanese nationals and of an assumption that there is some sort of overarching racial identity that trumps national or regional identities. Given our history, I think it is important to make sure that the distinction between local JAs and Japanese nationals is always made clear. I think it is safe to say that most JAs would feel this way, particularly those reading this paper. (In fact JAs have been so intent on making this distinction that the close ties Issei and Nisei once held with Japan prior to the Pacific War have largely been glossed over in most historical accounts. But that's another story.)

This is not to say that JAs should not learn about, visit, and even work and live in Japan. We should by all means do these things if they are what we want to do. But we should be able to do this without any questions about our "loyalty" or "Americanism." And we shouldn't be expected to be experts about Japan just because we are of Japanese descent.

The sinking of the Ehime Maru was tragic and unnecessary. Because of the different ways Japanese and Americans handle these types of situations, there were many misunderstandings and misperceptions as the facts about the case emerged. Because of these misunderstandings, the incident has grown in importance and threatens a rift in U.S.-Japan relations.

Many types of people might have been able to shed some light on the incident based on their particular perspectives: an expert on the history of U.S.-Japan relations, for instance, or an American who spent a lot of time in the region of Japan where most of the ship's occupants hailed from. But not JAs as a group just by virtue of our ethnic background.

One day, JAs might be viewed just like any other American. But that day hasn't come yet. ■

## COMMENTARY

### Calling All Youth to the Spectrum Conference

By GERALD KATO, PSWD Youth Director

I would like to invite JACL youth/student members to attend a Nikkei youth conference in April. This conference titled "Spectrum: Broadening of Young Nikkei" will take place April 20-22 in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. The mission of the conference is to empower and inspire young Nikkei to challenge

Gerald Kato

notions of exclusivity, take an active part in leadership roles in their community, preserve their culture and appreciate their heritage while reevaluating the past, interact with and learn from older generations and understand the evolving nature of the Nikkei community." This conference is open to students from high school through college and young professionals.

I am proud to say that JACL PSWD has an active role in the planning and promotion of the Spectrum conference. I feel this is an excellent opportunity for

JACL to actively work with young Nikkei from Northern and Southern California as well as the rest of the country, and is an opportunity that cannot and should not be missed. While there is truth to the notion that this is a California-centric conference, we must realize that a greater proportion of the Nikkei population resides within the state of California. No chapter or district should feel excluded from sending youth/students to this conference. I would strongly encourage students from outside California to consider attending this conference.

One potential conflict to the Spectrum conference is that it will be held at the same weekend as the PSW, CDCD and NCWNP Tri-district. This is an unfortunate conflict, but after much discussion with the Spectrum organizers, this was the best possible date for the conference. If we, JACL, are advocates of what we say, and if we are truly committed to youth, then youth/student representation at the Spectrum conference should be of utmost priority. I am asking that chapters and districts try to send youth representatives to this conference, especially those in PSW, CDCD, and NCWNP. We must

embrace and make the most of being able to work side by side with young Nikkei, most of whom are not part of JACL, and the different community organizations.

The organizers of this conference are students from UCLA, UCI, UC Berkeley, USC, Claremont Colleges, Stanford, CSUN, CSULB, and many more colleges and universities. There are also many community organizations involved including: JACL, PSWD, national JACL, California Japanese American Community Leadership Council, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC), Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC), Japanese American National Museum (JANM), Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCN), Hapa Issues Forum, and Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC).

If youth/student members have any questions, would like more information or are interested in attending the Spectrum conference, please feel free to visit the conference website at [www.nikkeiyouth.org](http://www.nikkeiyouth.org), e-mail me at [youth@jclpew.org](mailto:youth@jclpew.org), or call me at the PSW regional office at 213/626-4471. ■

### NBC West Coast President Scott Sassa to be Honored at National Museum Dinner March 3

The Japanese American National Museum will honor Scott M. Sassa, president, NBC West Coast, with its Award for Excellence at the institution's annual dinner on March 3 at the world-renowned Hollywood Palladium. The dinner is already sold out.



The dinner's theme is "A Sentimental Journey" and will include fine dining and dancing to the music of George Yoshida and the J-Town Jazz Ensemble, as well as honoring Broadway pioneer and recording artist Pat Suzuki and former Disney and Hanna-Barbera animator Iwao Takamoto with Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Sassa was appointed to his present position in May 1999. He oversees all of NBC's entertainment-related businesses and serves as a member of the board of directors for NBC Internet (NBCi). Earlier, Sassa had worked with his predecessor Don

Olmeyer as president of NBC Entertainment and oversaw the development and production of NBC's new primetime shows such as "The West Wing," "Law and Order: Special Unit" and "Third Watch." He joined NBC in September 1997 as president of the NBC Television Stations division.

Sassa, who grew up in Torrance and attended USC, changed his career goals in college. "I was originally going to go into banking," he once told an interviewer. "Because I was in Los Angeles and at USC, I ended up working in many entertainment-related jobs. I worked for ABC, Dick Clark and Disney while I was in school."

The national museum's Award for Excellence is presented to individuals who have achieved unprecedented success in their fields. Sassa is the first Japanese American to hold one of the top executive positions in network television. Previous Award for Excellence honorees include Ann Curry, news anchor for NBC's "Today Show," and Jon Nakamatsu, 1997 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Gold Medalist. ■



## APAs in the News

### Awards, Appointments, Announcements

Congressman **Mike Honda** was one of 12 leaders and activists who received the Peace Corps' Franklin H. Williams Award on Feb. 21 in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes the outstanding community service of people of color who have served as Peace Corps volunteers.

Honda, a former educator and high school principal in California, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in El Salvador from 1965-67. He was elected to the school board in San Jose, served as the first and only APA on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and was a member of the California state Assembly before his election to Congress last year.

**Daphne Kwok**, executive director of the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA) for over 10 years, announced she will leave that position in early April to become the new executive director of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), a national, nonprofit, nonpartisan educational organization dedicated to training and empowering APAs for involvement in civic and political affairs.

While at OCA, Kwok coordinated programs for 45 chapters and 37 college affiliates representing over 10,000 members. In 1999, she testified before the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus on the impact of federal counterintelligence and security investigations at the Department of Energy on APAs. In 1997, she testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the impact of the campaign fundraising controversy on APAs.

"During her stewardship, OCA steadily ascended in power and influence to be ultimately acknowledged by government, corporate and community groups as the premier national Asian Pacific American civil rights organization in Washington, D.C.," said OCA national president George M. Ong. "On behalf of OCA, I wish Daphne the best of wishes, happiness, and success in her new career position."

OCA will still thrive due to Daphne's accomplishments, and we look forward to continuing that legacy."

**William H. (Mo) Marumoto** was unanimously elected chairman of APAICS, announced interim chair Rear Admiral M.E. Chang, USN (Retired) on Feb. 5. Marumoto, chairman and CEO of The Interface Group, Ltd., in Washington, D.C., succeeds former APAICS chairman and congressional founder, Secretary of Transportation Norm Mineta.

Marumoto heads a boutique retainer executive search firm he founded in 1973 and has been named one of the top executive recruiters in the country by several magazines.

The Santa Ana, Calif.-native was the first APA to serve on the executive level of the White House and currently serves on the Board of Trustees at the Japanese American National Museum, Whittier College, National Asian Pacific Center for Aging and Advisory Council for the George Washington University School of Business and Management.

APA musicians recognized at the 37th Annual Grammy Awards ceremony on Feb. 21 at the Staples Center in Los Angeles included:

- Opera Recording Award to the Conductor, Album Producer(s) and Principal Soloists: "Busoni: Doktor Faust," **Kent Nagano**; **Kim Begley**

- Classical Crossover Album: "Appalachian Journey," **Yo-Yo Ma**, cello; **Edgar Meyer**, double bass; **Mark O'Connor**, violin
- Classical Album: "Shostakovich: The String Quartets," **Dahong Seetoo** & **Max Wilcox**, producers

- Producer of the Year, Classical Albums Only: **Steve Epstein** "Appalachian Journey (IB; Mist Nocturne; Waltz; Indecision, etc.)" **Yo-Yo Ma**, cello; **Edgar Meyer**, double bass; **Mark O'Connor**, violin
- New Age Album: "Thinking of You," **Kitaro** ■

## The Quarter in Review

Amidst another tumultuous, history-making quarter, the JACL continued to fight for the equal rights of all. The following are some of the highlights and lowlights of the past few months.

### Nakamura Courthouse



By **RYAN CHHIN**

### By the Board

#### JACL V.P. Public Affairs

can heroes upgraded to the Congressional Medal of Honor during a ceremony last June at the White House. Last October the national board passed a resolution supporting the naming of the federal courthouse after Nakamura. A ceremony on March 26th will commemorate the official name change.

### Bush Cabinet Appointments

JACL took an active role in the shaping of President Bush's cabinet by supporting the nomination of Norman Y. Mineta and opposing the confirmation of John Ashcroft. Secretary Mineta was unanimously confirmed as the Secretary of Transportation in an unprecedented vote that took place during his hearing. JACL joined other civil rights organizations in the StopAshcroft-Now.org coalition and mobilized our grassroots resources in a letter-writing effort powered by JACL's website ([www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)). John Ashcroft endured a heavy critique but was confirmed as the attorney general by a 58-42 Senate vote.

### Camp Preservation

JACL worked with the White House and the Department of the Interior to develop increased protections for some of the internment camp sites. Prior to leaving the White House, President Clinton designated Minidoka the "Minidoka Internment National Monument." JACL maintains an active listserve dedicated to the ongoing preservation work to ensure that President Clinton's actions are not reversed and also to fight for the protection of other locations.

### Native Hawaiian Sovereignty and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act

JACL fought aggressively to fulfill some of the priorities set forth by national council during the tail end of Congress' session by actively supporting and lobbying for legislation articulating the political status for Native Hawaiians and strengthening hate crime-prevention statutes. However, despite JACL's dedication to fighting for passage of the Native Hawaiian Sovereignty and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, both failed in Congress. JACL will continue to fight for legislation on these issues, as well as others that combat discrimination, in the new session.

### Yahoo!

JACL praised Yahoo! for taking a stand against hate on the Internet. In early January, Yahoo! announced that they would no longer allow anyone to sell hate items or material through its auctions, classifieds or shops.

### Congressman Mike Honda

JACL criticized the mailer circulated by Republicans that erroneously depicted then-Calif.

Assemblyman Mike Honda behind bars despite the fact that he has no criminal record.

### Takuji Yamashita

JACL commended the Washington State Supreme Court for allowing Takuji Yamashita into the state bar posthumously. Yamashita was denied entry into the state bar 93 years ago because he was not allowed to become a citizen, which was a requirement for entry. A ceremony officially accepting Yamashita into the bar occurred March 1st.

### Montgomery School District

JACL supported the naming of a school in the Montgomery School District after an Asian Pacific American. Currently, the state of Maryland has no schools named after an APA despite the growing population of APAs. The national board unanimously passed a resolution, submitted by EDC Gov. Clyde Shimamura, in support of this effort.

### MTV

JACL commended MTV for educating its audience — the majority-being youth — on hate crimes and ignorance. The music cable television network recently launched a year-long anti-discrimination campaign starting with a show exploring the murder of gay student Matthew Shepard. In addition, MTV News ran a special on hate crimes and then the network listed the names of hate crime victims for 17 continuous hours. The commercial-free period cost the network \$2 million. The national board unanimously passed a resolution, submitted by NCWNPD Gov. Alan Terry, acknowledging MTV's actions. ■

### National Business and Professional Directory

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# Letters to the Editor

## Resisters Revisited

In a letter to the editor entitled "Nisei Veterans Vis-à-vis Draft Resisters" in the Feb. 2-15 issue of the *Pacific Citizen*, the question was posed, "Why exacerbate the situation by being a draft resister and demonstrating a pro-Japan stance?" As a Pacific War veteran, I thought all the protests at the time were justifiably American citizen protests including those by Gordon Hirabayashi, Minoru Yasui, Fred Korematsu, Mitsuko Endo, and draft resisters (the latter by the hundreds).

The *Fusei* endured it all typically quietly. Had the protests by the Nisei not occurred, I dread thinking how Japanese Americans would have continued to be discriminated against as had the Issei. I consider all the JA WWII protests necessary, justifiable and ultimately resolved according to the laws. Thanks to the books of Michi Weglyn and William Hohri awakening us to the facts.

I find that continuing the unrelenting diatribe after all these years only keeps the wounds from healing. JAs were so determined to be Americans we continue to be myopic, not paying adequate attention to what was taking place at the time.

I can still remember when the raw material embargo was placed upon Japan. Since then I've learned through reading historical books the implications of the embargo. In 1941 Pearl Harbor occurred after the embargo was placed upon Japan. Shortly thereafter my father was apprehended along with other community leaders. Then it was curfews, evacuation and internment for the rest of the West Coast JA community. The latter ended for me by being drafted from Heart Mountain.

Today I try to keep up with current events by reading more than newspapers. The most recent book is "Day of Deceit" by Robert B. Stinnett which includes the chapter, "The Truth About FDR and Pearl Harbor." I find "The Coming War With Japan" by George Friedman and Meredith Lebar published in 1991 the most intriguing of the books I've read.

Hopefully we can prevent our sons and daughters from having to repeat our experiences. We experienced Nisei need to focus on the future for them based on our many experiences. To continue bemoaning others' decisions, when we were finally able to decide for ourselves, will only mislead new generations. "History forgotten, history unlearned, history repeats."

Hideo Takahara  
via e-mail

JACL is seeking new sources of funding while recruiting new members.

Does the math work? Will the financial problem be fixed through just another membership drive? The problem seems much deeper and may be worthy of thorough analysis and reflection by the broader membership.

As a deeply concerned member, I encourage JACL to use the *Pacific Citizen* to provide a more detailed disclosure of current revenue sources, expenses and assets. By opening the organization's current financial statements on the pages of the *PC*, we would be taking an important first step in stimulating membership to action and in facilitating discussion on the future of JACL's membership base.

Kenta Takahara  
New York

## Congratulations to P.C. Staff

I just wanted to congratulate your staff on publicizing an outstanding article on Shane "K" Komine, pitching star for the Univ. of Nebraska. About six months ago I urged your staff to consider writing a story about an athlete of Japanese, American descent. The reason was to showcase the *Pacific Citizen* in a more positive manner.

I still believe that the No. 1 priority should be an emphasis on discrimination against Asian Americans. After reading the first few *Pacific Citizens*, I decided to stop reading them because it was the same old news and coverage. However, with this recent issue, you have reignited a renewed interest in reading your newspaper.

Again, thank you for sharing an article on a potential professional athlete of Asian descent. A few other JA professional athletes you may want to consider interviewing include: Anaheim Angels star pitcher Shigetoshi Hasegawa, Seattle Mariner's star pitcher Kazuhiro Sasaki, and recently traded to the Boston Red Sox comeback/turnaround pitcher Hideo Nomo, formerly with the L.A. Dodgers.

Thank you for listening to my input and I appreciate your publishing of a sports hero!

Randy Oka  
Salinas, Calif.

## Pacific Citizen

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

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

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

## OBITUARY

### Karl Akiya, 91, a Kibe Hostile to Prewar Japan

San Francisco-born Karl Ichiro Akiya, a Kibe Nisei who was sent to Kibe in 1912 to live, and who left Japan in 1935 in opposition to its militarism and invasion of China, died after a stroke on Feb. 8 in New York. An economist and union organizer, his social and political activism in the Japanese American world of San Francisco, Tanforan, Topaz and postwar New York were remembered as markedly progressive.

He taught Japanese in 1943 at the Navy intelligence school at

the University of Michigan and worked for the Office of Strategic Services in Washington. Postwar, he moved to the Lower-East Side of Manhattan, joined the Bank of Tokyo, and retired in 1980 as head of its research division. Akiya was the first Japanese American recipient of the Martin Luther King Award from the City of New York for his community work (1987). He wrote in Japanese, "Road to Freedom Across the Pacific: A Kibe-Nisei's Autobiography," as a testimony of life in America.

## Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Akiyama, Fusa, 102**, Los Angeles, Jan. 30; Nagano-ken-born; survived by son George Jitsutaro; daughters Joan Kumeko Nakashima, Barbara Matsuye Akiyama; 12 gc.; predeceased by husband Einozuka.

**Amemiya, Hideo, 56**, Tustin, Feb. 19; Tokyo-born hotelier with the Disneyland Resort Hotels; survived by wife Naoe, brothers and sisters.

**Campbell-Henderson, Nancy Reiko Watanabe, 57**, Eagle, Idaho, Dec. 17; Wendall, Idaho-born; survived by husband Arthur Henderson; daughters TaMia and Tian-na; sister Sharon Hicks and husband Larry (Boise); brother Sonny Watanabe (Boise); 4 step-gc.

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 \$14 per column inch. Text is reordered as needed.

**Fujimoto, Taichi, 94**, Morgan Hill, Feb. 17; Wakayama-ken-born; pre-war Yakima Valley, Wash., farmer; internee at Ft. Missoula, Heart Mountain and Tule Lake, and longtime strawberry grower in Santa Clara Valley; survived by wife Ayako; sons Isao and wife Christine, Kazuya Fujimoto and wife Dorothy; daughters Yoshiko Kajiko and husband Tadao, Toyoko Ohmi and husband Yoichiro (Japan), Motoko Seto and husband Maso (New York), Coleen Salsbery and husband Mac, Janet McCabe and husband Jack, Ann Fujimoto (San Jose), Shigeko Perryman and husband Andy (Santa Barbara); 16 gc.; 2 gc.; predeceased by Keiko Shoko and Donald.

**Kato, Katsuni, 96**, Los Angeles, Feb. 15; Hiroshima-ken-born; survived by wife Ayako; sons Tetsuo Ted and wife Mary, Kunio; daughters Barbara Shirota and husband Jon, Emiko Wecker and husband Allan, Mitsue Oshita and husband Mitsuru; 9 gc.; 10 gc.; sister Shizue Kurakaki (Japan); sister-in-law Sumie Kihara.

**Kawai, Walter Isei, 88**, Montebello, Feb. 11; Fresno-born; survived by wife Grace Hiroko; son Leroy and wife Joyce; daughters Gayle Hayashi and husband Masato, Karen Hayashi and husband Hideo; 9 gc.; 2 gc.

**Kora, Masa Sr., 82**, Parma, Idaho, Jan. 13; Emmet, Idaho-born; Japan-educated WWII U.S. Army veteran (Australia, Philippines and Japan); survived by son Masa Jr. and wife Rosemary (Aloha, Ore.), Matthew (Redwood City); daughter Suzanne Corbet and husband Ross (Boise); 2 gc.; brothers Sam and wife Toshiko (Otsu), Taka and wife Rose (Homedale), Mr. and Mrs. Noburu (Hiroshima); brother-in-law George Otani (Homedale).

**Kuroda, Ichiro Kenneth, 82**, Los Angeles-born, Feb. 16; WWII veteran; survived by wife Teruko Terry; daughter Christine Menaka and husband Harry (Oakton, Va.); sons Kenneth, Roger; 3 gc.; brothers-in-law Tetsuo Itano and wife Peggy, Hiroshi Itano and wife May, sister-in-law Kikue Teragawa and husband Susumu.

**Maekawa, Rose, 82**, Providence, R.I., Jan. 29; Vashon Island,

Wash.-born, former resident of Spokane; survived by daughter Georgia Moody (Providence); sister Kim Sakai (Bainbridge Island) brother August Takatsuka (Vashon Island); 4 gc.; predeceased by husband Tom.

**Matsumoto, Tayeko Matsuo, 78**, Springfield, Va., Nov. 9; Hueneme-born; Gila River internee; survived by son Richard Hisao (Springfield); daughter Karea Keiko Matsumoto Dunphy (Annapolis); 2 gc.; predeceased by husband Hisao.

**Mio, Joshua C., 15 days**, Fruitland, Idaho, Sept. 11; survived by parents Chris and Kristy; sister Courtney; grandparents Jim and Emma Stegans and Ron and Lisa Mio; great-grandparents Inez Polley and Tom and Jayne Mio.

**Nakano, Florence, 72**, San Jose, Jan. 8; Watsonville-born; survived by sons Ronald and wife Lydia, Todd and wife Meredith; 2 gc.; sister Margaret Abe.

**Nomi, Rosie Shiruz, 79**, Ontario, Ore., Feb. 16; Sumner, Wash.-born; Minidoka internee; survived by son Craig and wife Stephanie (Beaverton); daughter Nancy Johnson and husband Randy (McMinnville); 5 gc.; brothers Dick Terashima (Caldwell), Ronnie Terashima and wife Vicki (Boise); sisters Mary Yokoyama and husband Frank (Seattle), Dorothy Yamaguchi and husband Elmer (Ontario), Florence Fincher (Chula Vista); predeceased by husband Ben.

**Sadakane, Hatsuyo, 104**, Los Angeles, Jan. 28; Hiroshima-ken-born; survived by daughters Eiko Kato and husband Tetsuo, Shizumi Matsuda; son-in-law Yasushi Waki; 12 gc.; 17 gc.; brother Hideo Tsunemoto and sister Sueko Niromiya (both Japan).

**Sato, Kay M., Chicago**, Dec. 30; Seattle-born; WWII 442nd RCT veteran; survived by wife Miye May, daughters Diane Bjornson and husband Dan, Joanne Rowe and husband Jeff, Linda Adams and husband Keith, Marianne Sato; 4 gc.; brother Eddie and wife Doris.

**Sugimoto, Kei H., 82**, Bellevue, Wash., Feb. 7; Fukuoka-born; survived by daughters Linda F. Tappe and husband Havens (Bellevue), Barbara R. Arine and husband Robert (Lempoc); 2 gc.; 1 gc.; brothers George Y. Hanafusa and wife Kathryn K., Ken K. Hanafusa; sister Deana H. Abe and husband Lewis; brothers-in-law Richard Sugimoto and wife Madeleine, Roy A. Sugimoto and wife Hilde; sister-in-law Amy Ihara.

**Teshima, Charles S., 94**, Oakland, Feb. 6; Tokyo-born, immigrated to Calif. in 1912; survived by son Ronald S. (San Diego); daughters Carolyn K. Teshima (San Francisco), Diane Teshima Hicks (Oakland), Nancy J. Teshima (Albany); sister Theresa Teshima (San Francisco); predeceased by wife Edna Nagano Teshima, Salinas native.

**Wada, Fred, 93**, Los Angeles, Feb. 12; Bellingham, Wash.-born; survived by wife Masuko; sons Fred Tokio, Edwin Yuji and wife Sandy; daughters Grace Miyamoto and husband Tadao (Hawaii), Mary Roth and husband Brent (Yreka), 11 gc.; 7 gc.; sisters Elko Yamada, Masako Kuwaki and husband Masao, Yaezo Sutow (Chicago); sis-

'Akiya was first married to German photographer Hansel Meit in 1936. Just before Pearl Harbor, he was briefly married and then divorced from Lillian Yoshimura. He met and married Matsuko Murakami, another Japanese instructor at Michigan. Others surviving are daughter Elizabeth Kyoko Chestnut and son Frederick Ikuo (both of Albuquerque).

Memorial service will be held March 17, 1 p.m., at the Japanese American United Church at 7th Ave. and 24th St. in New York. Daughter Elizabeth has requested an RSVP from friends by e-mailing her: <eachestnut@aol.com>

ters-in-law Jane and Tracy Wada.

**Yamamoto, Yasu, 101**, Los Angeles, Jan. 29; Hiroshima-ken-born; survived by son Ben Tsumoru; daughter Sumiye Kajikawa and husband Sadao; daughters-in-law Hiroko and Tokiye Yamamoto; 6 gc., 4 gc.; 1 ggc.; sister Kinuyo Kawamoto (Japan).

**Yoshimoto, Edward K., 90**, Los Angeles, Feb. 17; Petaluma-born; survived by wife Sanaue; sister-in-law Kikuyo Imamura and husband Dick; brother-in-law Michi Yoshimura.

**Yoshimura, Albert Kunio, 69**, Chicago, Nov. 20; Honolulu-born; Jerome and Rohrer internee; survived by wife Nora; sons Joseph Swain, Albert Jr. and wife Oksana; daughter Valerie Shay and husband William; 3 gc.; sister Mildred Nuibe, brothers Mackay and wife June, Fred and wife Eleanor.

**Yoshino, George, 72**, Spokane, Wash., Dec. 30; Kennewick, Wash.-born; Heart Mountain internee; survived by wife Marguerite; daughters Jean Johnson (Seattle), Jo Foglesong (Quincy, Wash.); sons Mike (Danville), Walter (Federal Way); Wash. by wife Sanaue; sister-in-law Kikuyo Imamura and husband Dick; brother-in-law Michi Yoshimura.

**Yoshino, Albert Jr. and wife Oksana**; daughter Valerie Shay and husband William; 3 gc.; sister Mildred Nuibe, brothers Mackay and wife June, Fred and wife Eleanor.

### DEATH NOTICE

#### HISATO TIMOTHY YAMASAKI

SAN JOSE, Calif. - Hisato Timothy Yamasaki, D.D.S., 86, passed away Jan. 28. A native of Aromas, Calif. and beloved husband of the late Yoshiko N. Yamasaki. A loving father of Arthur Nagao Yamasaki, Edith Michiko Lowe and Wesley Masami Yamasaki; father-in-law of Joye Yamasaki, Leland Lowe and Linda Yamasaki. Devoted grandfather of Scott, Lauren, Todd and Eric Yamasaki. Dear brother of Tadam Yamasaki and his partner Sharon Kuwanti and Haruyo Yagi and her husband Tami. Private memorial services were held Saturday Feb. 10 at Wesley United Methodist Church, with inurnment in Oakland Memorial Park.

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## Facilitating Dialogue

Thank you for running the important front-page commentary by JACL Executive Director John Tateishi, "JACL Faces Shrinking Membership," Feb. 2-15.

Mr. Tateishi's update on the state of our organization's finances is a "shot across the bow" for JACL. His piece points out that 55 percent of JACL's base funding is from membership dues, while more than half of the membership is over 75 years old. With rapidly declining membership revenues,

ARCHIVES

(Continued from page 1)

of this can go to the museum archives because there's no need for us to look at it anymore, but if it's historical studies and data, I'd like to see that they stay here.

We have the complete set of the WRAs' Final Report. The JACL was able to buy these books, from volumes 1-11. And then each regional office was collecting that quarterly reports so it pilled out those. I have quarterly reports from 1942-1943, and semi-annual reports from 1940-1944. If there are any from 1945, I'm not aware of them. So if there's anything you wanted to know about the WRA from a WRA perspective, it's here.

These are the Tulan Committee hearings from 1942, before evacuation got under way. Fred Fertig was at the (WRAs) regional office, and this was his copy that he left behind so I kept them. These are the testimonies.

Pete Imamura, who used to be with the PC, went to all the different (Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians) hearings and collected all the copies of the hearings that were available. Our office was at 941 East Third Street at the time. When we moved to 701 East Third Street, in the process of moving, someone threw out a whole section of these hearing papers. An entire section of the original testimony papers are gone but I saved the rest in one of these boxes.

I set aside most of the redress files because we're suppose to be doing a history on it. Mae Takahashi has been one of the people most active in developing our (JACL) redress history, and I've been helping out the committee

from the very beginning. Mae fought tooth and nail to get funding for this. But in the meantime, Dr. Mitchell Maki came out with his book (Achieving the Impossible Dream), which more or less covers quite a bit of what JACL did, but Mitchell said that JACL could still tell their story because there's a lot of stories that's not in the book. A lot of the material is already in the PC, in the columns.

JACL: These are things that emanated from San Francisco like news releases, convention minutes. I was active on the planning commission back in the 1960s. I was kind of like the acting secretary on the commission, and I was asked to join the staff along with my PC responsibilities. I worked on the commission for about four years, and all those papers are in there.

PC: The PC files basically have to do with papers on policy, programs, budget, advertising, printing and reports developed over the years. When Richard Sunaga was here, we had regular staff meetings on a weekly basis. We would discuss the pros and cons, and I would write up a brief summary of what transpired and pass it around to the staff. That's all in there.

Individual biographies: We have three file cabinets full of biographical documents and articles. It's very sketchy, but what I've been doing is collecting stories on individuals who are of substance; who they were, what they did, where they were in camp, whether they were in the service and what they did after the war. They come in handy. For instance, we know that Fred Wada (founder of Keiro Homes in Los Angeles which later expanded to Keiro Services) just passed away. Look how thick his file is. We have some very interesting

articles about when he took some people up to Utah, and we even have some pictures of him in Utah. We even have a story written by Galen Fisher that includes Fred Wada. Galen Fisher was one of the best Protestant missionaries up in Berkeley (Calif.), who defended the Nisei and the Japanese at the outbreak of war.

Courts: We have files under courtroom. Anybody who is an attorney or judge, and they're Nisei or have a Nikkei name, I throw them into this file. And it's not just from Los Angeles. It's on everyone from around the country. I recently pulled out the names of the attorneys and listed them in an A-Z kind of format.

Photographs (Honda has a collection of historical photographs dating back to pre-war days. One major project has been identifying people in a group shot from a Seattle JACL convention in the 1930s): When this guy brought this picture to me, it was the first time I'd seen it. It was in his mother's album, and I've been trying to find out how many of these people could be identified.

We published another (similar) photograph on the front page of the Holiday issue way back and were able to identify quite a few people. That one had three rows of people, which we found out were delegates. But this guy's photograph has four rows of people, which are probably people from the Northwest. I had this passed out at a big reunion in Seattle in 1997. It was part of a program book and we asked people to see if they could identify themselves.

Miscellaneous Folders: These are files I generated at home, on weekends. I would sit down and write up PANA (Pan American Nikkei Association) or on community history. For the community history, I want to write about Japanese American history in all the different states.

When JACL had a chapter for the first time in the Southeast part

of the United States, in Atlanta, the young people there wanted to know the history of the community so this is what I prepared for them. Some of the stuff appeared in the "Congressional Record" as a tribute to JAs by the members of the House back in 1972. I put some of that in there and squeezed it into this size. To me, it's not an exhaustive history, but at least it highlights, for the purposes of the Atlanta chapter, what the JA community was like in that part of the country back at the turn of the century.

I'm still doing community histories on the Pacific Northwest. This one on Montana is part of a 100-page document.

PC: What major projects are you working on right now?

HH: Right now, I'm working on the JACL resolutions. I'm going through all the convention minutes

and digging up all the different resolutions that were passed or rejected, and who moved, who seconded, whether it carried or not. We've already got part of it, up to 1962. Now I'm continuing that.

I'm also indexing the (six boxes of the Feeley papers, so I told Jessica (Silvers, an archivist hired by JANM) that I'll go down to the museum a couple of days, but I'll be coming back here to continue with what I'm doing. I'll be going to JANM when the JACL files show up from San Francisco, but otherwise, I told them I'd go down there when they need me because I've got all this other business to do yet.

Anyone interested in donating papers to the JACL archive program should contact the national JACL office at 415/921-5225; fax 415/931-4671; address 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

AAJA Announces New Program for High School Journalism Students

The Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) in San Francisco recently announced the launch of a new program initiative to train and develop the next generation of journalists of color.

With funding support from the Ford Foundation and other sponsors, "Boot Camp By the Bay" is a week-long student campus that will bring together a multicultural group of high school students to sharpen their journalism skills, learn how their cultural values impact their professional development and work together in a unique learning environment.

According to AAJA National President Victor Panichkul, "AAJA needs to come up with ways of attracting Asian Americans at a younger age to this profession, to think of the profession as something they should aspire to. High school journalism programs such as this student campus are a significant step in this direction."

"Boot Camp By the Bay" is

scheduled for July 28 to Aug. 1 at the University of San Francisco. The best and brightest minority students with a keen interest in broadcasting, newspapers, magazines, photojournalism or new media are especially encouraged to apply for the project.

Qualified applicants must be high school students for the 2001-02 school year and must be available to travel to San Francisco during the camp week. All costs, including airfare, room and board, will be covered.

AAJA is a non-profit educational association devoted to training and developing AA journalists and ensuring fair and accurate coverage of the AA community. It has 1,700 members in 18 chapters across the United States and Asia.

Deadline for applications is March 30. For information or to obtain an application form, contact program director Karen Dipso at 415/346-2051, ext. 300. Or visit the AAJA website at www.ajaanj.org.

PANAMERICAN NIKKEI ASSOCIATION USA EAST (PNA USA EAST) announces the Eleventh Conference (XI COPAN) of Panamerican Nikkei Association in New York City from July 25-28, 2001. For further information, please contact: PNA USA EAST, 101 Park Avenue (Suite 2900), New York, NY 10178. Tel: 212-808-7851 Fax 212-808-7898. E-mail: pnausaeast@aol.com Website: www.pnausaeast.org

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