

# Pacific Citizen

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National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)

July 6-19, 2001

## Conference on Resisters Opens Dialogue



Photo courtesy of Kanji Taguma, Nichi Bei Times

Resisters from l-r: Mitsuru Koshiyama (Heart Mountain), Dr. Takashi Hoshizaki (Heart Mountain), Jimi Yamachi (Tule Lake), Frank Emi (Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee leader), Ken Yoshida (Topaz), Yoshito Kuromiya (Heart Mountain) and Noboru Taguma (Amache).

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA  
Assistant Editor

In an effort to continue dialogue with the Nisei resisters of conscience, National JACL President Floyd Mori accepted an invitation by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF) to attend an educational conference that focused on the Nisei draft resistance movement during World War II.

"Personally I was very moved by the conference," said Mori. "I developed a clearer and better understanding of the feelings of the resisters. I feel more face to face contact with the resisters is going to be helpful and healthy for the JACL chapters and members."

The conference, held from June 21-23 at the Little America Hotel in Cheyenne, Wyo., attracted more than 100 people from as far away

as Massachusetts, North Carolina, Arizona, Washington and California.

Mori, who drove to Cheyenne from his home in Salt Lake City, Utah, said this was the first time he had formally met with a group of resisters and felt it was an important step towards understanding what they had gone through. He encouraged other JACLers to do the same.

"I urge the chapters to look at this issue more deeply and to try to develop dialogue with the resisters," said Mori. "I'm hoping that at next year's convention, we can put together a group of resisters and veterans and their families or children, and dialogue and discuss this as a group."

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## Affirmative Action Foe Pushes New Race Initiative

By TRACY UBA  
Writer/Reporter

Affirmative action opponent Ward Connerly recently launched a California ballot initiative to prohibit government agencies from compiling racial data, much to the dismay of some-minorities who say they are reliving the horrors of Proposition 209.

Just as that measure ended affirmative action statewide five years ago, Connerly's new "Racial Privacy Initiative" proposes to remove race categories from government forms and prevent most state and local agencies from maintaining such statistics.

Asian American, African Ameri-

can and Latino groups fear it will adversely impact the government's ability to ensure equal representation and access to programs and funding for underserved minorities.

"This is step two of Connerly's master plan to rid California of any semblance of an affirmative action program," said JACL national executive director John Tateishi. "Unfortunately, this type of move is targeted at eliminating opportunities for those who have been the most victimized by racism and discrimination."

Along with JACL, those opposed to the initiative include the ACLU of Southern California, Asian Law

Caucus, Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Los Angeles, Hapa Issues Forum, Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund, Urban Institute for African American Affairs, the cities of Berkeley and Richmond as well as several prominent state Democrats and Republicans.

Connerly, a University of California Regent, initially pushed to get the measure before state voters by March 2002 but had not raised enough money to gather the 670,816 signatures needed to qualify it. "In one of the most racially and ethnically diverse places in the na-

See INITIATIVE/ page 4

## A Great Story: the Japanese American Experience

By CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Executive Editor

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Do you want to hear a good story? It's about success, courage and adjustment, with a pretty happy ending.

It's the Japanese American story. Unfortunately, it's not told very often and there's still few books and writings about it. So it's a great story that education and passing on the legacy of the JA story was the theme of the MDC/EDC/MPDC Tri-District conference June 28-July 1.

"The Japanese American story is a part of the American story," said Dr. Roger Daniels, professor of history at the University of Cincinnati, who spoke at an education panel discussion during the tri-district conference. "It's not the whole story but it's a part of the story."

Discussing the topic of education and how it relates to the JA community, Daniels was joined by Dr.

Edwin Yamauchi, history professor at Miami University, Dr. Michael Carrafiello of Miami University, and moderator Dr. Sharon Ishii-Jordan of Creighton University.

Even in the year 2001, the story of JAs in this country is little told. Although it is no longer a rarity to see passing references about JAs during World War II, including evacuation and the internment, the many other stories from this community are still largely missing. Whether it's stories about the pre- or post-war Japanese immigrants, the Kibei, the resisters of conscience or the Hawaiian JAs, more needs to be known about

these parts of JA history.

"There is very little knowledge of or recognition of Japanese American history," said Carrafiello. Although he has a Ph.D. degree in history, Carrafiello readily admits that it wasn't until his college days that he first learned of the JA WWII story.

Now as professor director of the Colligan Project at Miami University, he has incorporated the story of JAs in this project and is making sure that others like him also learn of the stories. "There's a recognition that there's a lot to do but doing a

See JA STORY/ page 5

## Racism — A Never-ending Struggle

By CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Executive Editor

CINCINNATI, Ohio—"Where are you from?"

"No, where are you really from?" Ever been asked these questions? What about, "How do you like our country?" or statements like, "You speak English well."

Well if you have, you aren't alone! Almost every Asian American during his or her lifetime has been asked these questions, usually several times over.

Frank Wu, a law professor at

Howard University and a well-known commentator on Asian American issues, frequently finds himself answering these same questions, even though he was born in Cleveland, Ohio, grew up in Ann Arbor, Mich., and currently resides in Washington, D.C.

" Oftentimes when this happens people are thinking about race without realizing it," said Wu. They are confusing the issues of race and citizenship, thinking that only Whites can be native-born citizens

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## COMMENTARY

### Working Together

By JOHN TATEISHI  
JACL National Executive Director



Last month, we embarked on our semi-annual fund drive through the Pacific Citizen. Normally, we send out a direct-mail appeal at mid-year, but this

year we decided to initiate this effort through the PC.

Why? Because we want to appeal to everyone who gets the PC, and because the primary purpose of our fund drive is to help support this work we do on a daily basis at the JACL. Some of that work involves the ongoing membership services we provide from headquarters, but much of the work has been in dealing with issues that surfaced as a result of some inci-

See TATEISHI/ page 7

## Workshop Strives to Train the Teachers

CAROLINE AOYAGI  
Executive Editor

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Armed with an array of books, a variety of videotapes, and a couple of curriculum guides, a new crop of teacher workshop trainees may be coming to your area of town soon.

More than 40 people from the Midwest, Eastern and Mountain Plains districts took part in a workshop, on how to train the teachers during the MDC/EDC/MPDC Tri-District Conference held on June 28-July 1. During an intensive, six-hour session, participants learned the essentials of how to bring the story of Japanese Americans into America's schools.

"Everybody needs to get edu-

cated about this, not only Asian Americans but all Americans, said New York chapter member Sumi Koide of the JA story. "It's about injustice and justice, things everyone should be able to relate to."

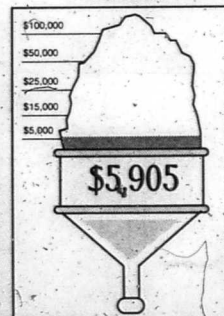
Koide has already been involved with three teacher training workshops in her area and knows the importance of raising awareness in areas like MDC, MPDC, and EDC where the numbers of JAs are much smaller than on the West Coast.

"There aren't a whole lot of Japanese Americans here on this side of the United States," she said. "That's why you have to be self-motivating."

Whether at the middle, junior, or high school levels, schools across the United States are still failing to include the JA story in their history books and lesson plans. Sadly, the stories of the tens of thousands of JAs interned during World War II, the heroics

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**Please Help Us**  
"Carrying the Torch Into the 21st Century"  
Help Continue the Work of JACL for Future Generations

The JACL is facing a financial crisis, brought on by a diminishing membership. We are asking for your generous donation to help us continue the mission of the JACL.

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## JACL-COMMUNITY Calendar

### National

**Tues.-Tues, July 10-17**—Documentation, "Of Civil Rights & Wrongs: The Fred Korematsu Story" by Eric Paul Fournier; PBS, check local TV listing or www.naatanet.org

### East Coast

**NEW YORK CITY**  
**Fri., July 20-Sat., July 28**—24th Annual Asian American International Film Festival; Florence Gould Hall, 55 E. 59th (Madison Park). Tickets: 212/355-6160. Info: 212/989-1522; or visit www.AsianCinevision.org.  
**Wed.-Sat., July 25-28**—XI COPANI (meeting of the Japanese of the Americas); Roosevelt Hotel, 45th & Madison. Info: www.pnausaest.org, or Lillian Kimura, 973/680-1441.  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Sat., July 14**—Employment Matters Concerning Asian Americans; noon-4 p.m., Montgomery County Community College, Blue Bell; lunch included; sponsored by the Organization of Chinese Americans. Info: Hiro Nishikawa, 610/896-1538.

### The Midwest

**CHICAGO**  
**Fri., July 27**—Chicago JACL golf tournament fund-raiser; 9th annual tree ceremony; \$75 includes cart, lunch, refreshments; 50-golfer limit. Sign up ASAP; JACL office, 773/728-7171.  
**CINCINNATI**  
**Sun., Aug. 12**—Cincinnati JACL Annual Potluck; 4 p.m. social hour/silent auction; 5 p.m. dinner; Hyde Park Bethlehem United Methodist Church, 3799 Hyde Park Ave., Oakley, CLEVELAND

**Sat., July 21**—Obon at Cleveland Buddhist Temple, 1573 E. 214th St.  
**Sun., July 22**—Cleveland JACL scholarship luncheon; 1 p.m., Shinano Restaurant, 5222 Wilson Mills Blvd., Richmond Heights. Info: Hazel Asamoto, 216/921-2976.  
**DETROIT**  
**Sun., Aug. 12**—Detroit JACL Community Picnic; Parkland Pavilion, Edward Hines Drive, Dearborn Hts. Info: Mary Kamidoki, 734/522-7917, or

Toshi Shimoura, 248/356-3089.  
**MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL**  
**Sun., July 15**—Twin Cities JACL annual summer picnic; Rosland Park, Edina. Info: Carolyn Sandberg, cmsandberg@mediaone.net, or Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, 952/925-2429.

### Intermountain

**SALT LAKE CITY**  
**Sat., Aug. 11**—Mount Olympus JACL outing; 6 p.m., Evergreen Park. Info: Silvana Watanabe, 801/261-2424.

### Pacific Northwest

**SEATTLE**  
**Fri.-Sun., July 13-15**—JACL National Youth/Student Council Conference; Seattle University; info: Gerald Kato, 213/326-4471, youth@jacp.org.  
**Thurs.-Sun., July 12-15**—JACL PNW-IDC Bi-District; Best Western Executive Inn, 200 Taylor Ave. N.; keynote: Dr. Satsuki Ina and John Tateishi; educational forum: "WWII, JACL, Nikkei Patriotism & Protest"; advocacy & senior focus workshops; and national board dialogue. Rooms are limited. Mention JACL for special rate: 800/351-9444. Registration fee is \$180. Info: Tamiko Ward, 360/754-5899, tamiko.ward@GTE.net, or Elaine Akagi, 206/772-7192, Reiko@aol.com.

### Northern California

**MONTREY**  
**Sun., July 15**—Obon Festival; 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, 1155 Noche Buena, Seaside.  
**Sun., July 29**—Monterey Peninsula JACL Scholarship BBQ; JACL Hall, 424 Adams St. Info: Suzan Nishiguchi, 624-7093, Stephanie Yamamoto, 484-1769, Jeanne Nakagawa, 384-4002 or Jeff Uchida, 394-4167.

**SAN FRANCISCO**  
**Thurs., July 12**—"Broken Trust," forum on the YWCA building controversy; Nisei Community Hall, 1840 Sutter St., 6-8 p.m. Invited speakers: U.S. Congressman Mike Honda, Janice Mitikani, Rev. Delores Tibbs, Beth Abby Gibson, Carole Hayashino, Don Tamaki. Info: www.1830sutter.com or 415/567-5505.

**SAN JOSE**  
**Sat.-Sun., July 14-15**—67th Annual Obon Festival; San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 12:30-9:30 p.m., 640

North Fifth St. Info: 408/293-9292 or www.sjsetsuin.com.  
**Sun., July 22**—Obon religious service at San Jose Church Betsuin. Rev. Marvin Harada of the Orange County Buddhist Church will be guest speaker.  
**SAN MATEO**  
**Sun., July 22**—Shikura Kurosawa's "Ikuu" will be shown at San Mateo's JACL Community Center, 1:30 p.m.  
**Sat., July 28**—San Mateo JACL Potluck Dinner; San Mateo Senior Center, 2645 Alameda; Info: 343-2793.

### Southern California

**GARDENA**  
**Fri., July 13**—"Find Your Political Center in a Topsy Turvy World" with Ron Ikejiri, Gardena city councilman and former national JACL Washington representative, 8 p.m., Gardena Valley YWCA, 1341 W. Gardena Blvd. Info: Louise Sakamoto 310/327-3169.  
**HOLLYWOOD**  
**Fri.-Sun., July 13-15**—"Breaking Genres With Japanese Director Kiyoshi Kurosawa"; Egyptian Theatre, 6712 Hollywood Blvd. Info: American Cinematheque 323/466-FILM or www.egyptiantheatre.com.  
**LONG BEACH**  
**Sat., July 28**—"Stargate: A Decade of Miracles" with Keiko Matsui; 8 p.m., Carpenter Performing Arts Center, CSULB, 6200 Atherton St.; in honor of 10th anniversary of Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches. Tickets: \$62/985-7000 or 888/43M-HOPE (236-4673).  
**LOS ANGELES**  
**Sat.-Sun., July 7-8**—Obon & Odori; Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 815 E. First St. Info: 313/680-9130.  
**Thurs.-Sat., July 13-Aug. 12**—"A Nicker's Worth" and "Fentor" by Jason Fong, directed by John Miyasaki; East Los Angeles College, 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez; Monterey Park. Info: 213/628-7018.

**Sat., July 28**—19th Annual Asian American Drug Abuse Program benefit concert, featuring Tierra with Latin Symbolics 2000, 7 p.m., Japan America Theatre, 240 San Pedro St. Tickets: \$15. Info: 323/293-6284 or www.aadapinc.wc.

**Sun., July 29**—Venice-Culver Community Law Day; 1-4 p.m., Venice Japanese Community Center, 12448 Braddock Dr.; attorneys will cover estate planning and healthcare rights;

certified financial planner will discuss IRAs. Co-sponsored by Venice-Culver JACL. RSVP requested: Diana H. Nishiura, 310/838-8626, or Hitoshi Shimizu, 310/391-8628.  
**Sat.-Sun., Aug. 4-12**—61st Nisei Week Japanese Festival; Info: 213/687-7193.  
**Fri., Aug. 3**—"Salute 2001," All Nikkei Veterans and Family Event; JANM, 369 E. First St. RSVP by July 10. Info: JANM, 213/625-0414 ext. 2240.  
**SAN DIEGO**  
**Sun., July 8**—San Diego JACL Annual Community Picnic; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Crown Point Shores in Mission Bay Park. Info: San Diego JACL, 619/230-0314, or Vernon Yoshioka, 619/467-2010; e-mail: karentani@msn.com.

**TORRANCE**  
**Thurs., July 12**—Arigato Community Benefit Festival; James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Dr.; magic show, koto, Japanese dancing, jazz, speeches/drawing contests, more. Outdoor event free; theater program \$5. Info: 800/450-5523.  
**Fri.-Sun., Aug. 31-Sept. 2**—Ninth Biennial National JACL Singles Convention, "Come Together 2001"; Torrance Marriott Hotel. Call hotel for special convention rate: 800/228-9290. Info: Miyako, 310/559-4024, e-mail: singlesconvention@yahoo.com; visit: www.singlesconvention.net.

**WHITTIER**  
**Fri., Aug. 10**—Fourth Annual Akimatsu Golf Tournament; 1 p.m., Workman Country Club, 1509 S. Workman Mill Road; to benefit the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community-Center. Submit entry by July 27. Info: 626/960-2566.

**Arizona - Nevada**  
**LAS VEGAS**  
**Mon.-Wed., Sept. 24-26**—Manzanar High School Reunion; Fremont Hotel; banquet to be dedicated to the late Shiro Nomura. RSVP by August 1: Kazuo Nagai, 212/380-2611; Sam Ono, 310/327-5568; Ray Onodera, 626/573-5279; Bruce Kaji, 310/327-7790 ext. 12; Arnold Maeda, 213/398-5157.

**RENO**  
**Sat., July 14**—National Conference for Community and Justice, 3.5-mile Walkabout, 9 a.m., Wingfield Park.  
**Sat., July 14**—Sierra Folkdite Festival; 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Wingfield Park; Reno JACL will have a snow cone booth. Info: Mimi Fujii-Stricker, 853-8850. ■

## Letters to the Editor

### Saying No to Tobacco

We would like to commend the National Board of Directors of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) for their courageous position not to accept corporate funding support from tobacco companies such as Phillip Morris. Your strong position is a clear signal to Phillip Morris that they cannot continue to buy influence in our community.

As you are already aware, the tobacco industry continues to market tobacco products in our community with only token criticism. In fact, for the first time the tobacco industry has designed "in language" advertising campaigns specifically targeting Asian Americans in their attempt to

change their corporate image. Tobacco products are responsible for thousands of deaths in the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities each year. In order to counter community criticism of their marketing practices, the tobacco industry has resorted to buying silence by offering major local, national and regional organizations cash contributions. Although we fully understand that many organizations depend on the generosity of major corporations to support their programs and initiatives, it is important for groups such as JACL to take a stand against companies that produce products that kill thousands of people each and every year.

The importance of your board's action cannot be emphasized enough. Thank you for taking such a courageous stance. I trust that your leadership will encourage other national groups in our community to follow your lead.

Dileep G. Bal

Robin Shimizu

Calif. Dept. of Health Services

### JACL's Non-action Wise

Stanley Kanzaki (PC, May 4-17) characterized JACL's decisions not to take action on issues like the "cognofort women," the "Rape of Nanking" and fingerprinting of foreigners in Japan as "safe, politically correct" rather than "independent, proactive."

As an activist and journalist who has followed these issues for decades, and who has participated in some of the debates concerning whether JACL should support them, I would applaud JACL's "non-action" as intelligent and courageous.

I was a fingerprint refuser myself, and naturally welcomed support, but not from people who were misinformed.

Unfortunately, the JACL members who were motioning for support for the anti-fingerprinting movement in Japan didn't really know what they were talking about. And so I found myself arguing against JACL giving knee-jerk support to a cause that most of its members and leaders weren't prepared to understand.

Ditto for the "Rape of Nanking" issue. I read the various drafts of

Mike Honda's act as he was pushing it through the California legislature. Honda has been capitalizing on the "political correctness" of supporting "victim" causes. Why should JACL, simply because it happens to be a civil rights group fighting for the interests of Japanese Americans, jump on Honda's Greater East Asia and Pacific War victims bandwagon?

The movie "Pearl Harbor" is closer to home. The story of Pearl Harbor, as an event in world history, is larger than the story of JAs. But the tragedy of Pearl Harbor is particularly significant for Americans of Japanese ancestry. And precisely because JACL is endowed by the collective experiences of such Americans, it is very firm ground to share these experiences with a public that might be confused by certain elements of the fictional "Pearl Harbor" movie. However, this is not the case for every issue, and so JACL is perfectly rational in being selective about what issues it falls behind.

Bill Wetherhall

Abiko, Japan



### Carrying the Torch into the 21st Century

Yes, I/we want to help continue the work of the JACL for future generations.

Enclosed is my/our gift of:  
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Please return this form with your check, payable to Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and mailed to: P.O. Box 7144, San Francisco, CA 94120-7144. Your donation is fully tax deductible.

## Montgomery County Makes History by Naming School After APA

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Md.—In a contentious debate over the naming of a new elementary school in Germantown, the Montgomery County Board of Education made history June 12 by voting to name the school after the late U.S. Sen. Spark M. Matsunaga.

It is the first school in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area and Maryland to be named for an Asian Pacific American.

The eight board members approved the "Spark M. Matsunaga Elementary School" by a margin of 5-3 after several rounds of consideration.

"The JACL commends the Board of Education for their vision and leadership in naming this school for an Asian Pacific American," said national president Floyd Mori. "It teaches the children of Montgomery County that role models come from every segment of society and that we as a society value that diversity."

JACL Washington, D.C., representative and Montgomery County

resident, Kristine Minami, said, "I am a product of the Montgomery County Public School system, and I am thrilled that future generations of students will now have the opportunity to see what I did not see growing up — the name of an Asian Pacific American role model, a hero from our community, on one of our schools."

Matsunaga, D-Hawaii, was a decorated war hero who served in Congress in both the House and Senate from 1962 until his passing in 1990. During this period, he and his family lived in Montgomery County where all five of his children attended public schools.

Prior to this vote, the top choice of parents and teachers on a naming committee was Lillian B. Brown, 89, a retired black educator who taught in a local segregated school.

But this spring, after lobbying from the county's APA community, the Board of Education proposed three other names, including Matsunaga and Alan Cheung, past president of the Montgomery County Board of Education and the first APA to serve on the board.

"There's a huge level of anger in the community about this," said Patricia Rapp, a Germantown PTA activist and member of the naming committee. "We feel the name is being crammed down our throats."

The committee drew up its own list, with five names ranked in order of preference. Matsunaga and Cheung were fourth and fifth, and the committee added no other APAs to the list.

"I see it as an equity issue. It's about fair play," said board member Kermit V. Burnett. "There was a time when no schools were named for African Americans, and people said that should be changed. And it was changed. I see this as the Asian American community asking for the same thing."

In the early 1990s, it was county policy that names of minorities and women be considered for all new schools.

More than 13 percent of Montgomery County students are currently APA.

The Spark M. Matsunaga Elementary School is scheduled to open in September and will matriculate students with disabilities. ■

## Cities Rescind Anti-JA Resolutions

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

The city of Stockton may soon follow the lead of Upland, Calif., which recently rescinded a wartime anti-Japanese American resolution.

Resolution 13,746 was passed on June 21, 1943, by the Stockton City Council. It opposed the return of JAs to their homes after the internment, claiming it "would be detrimental to the best interest and general welfare of the state of California and the United States in general."

Stockton officials said the resolution is on their books, though they had no knowledge of it until now.

"We weren't aware we had it until I got a message from the Upland city clerk," said Stockton City Clerk Katherine Gong Meissner.

The city manager's office has tentatively scheduled a council vote to rescind the resolution on July 10, Meissner said.

In a letter to the Pacific Citizen, California Sen. Michael Machado urged Stockton to act immediately on this matter: "I was ... astonished to learn that the city has retained a long-standing resolution opposing the return of Japanese Americans who were interned during World War II and declaring that such a return would somehow be 'detrimental to the best interest' of the nation."

"Nothing could be further from the truth ..."

Before the war, Stockton had a large JA farming community. Most lost their homes and businesses after having been evacuated and sent to U.S. concentration camps.

"Unfortunately, I believe that (resolution) was due to the hysteria

that occurred during World War II. And I can't blame our current city council for that," said local optometrist John Fujii, who was quoted in the Stockton Record. "Basically, it's a sentiment of the past that shouldn't be a reflection of our current government."

Stockton officials checked their records after Upland resident Nobu Ikeda discovered her city still had a WWII-era resolution questioning the loyalty of JAs after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and opposing the return from the camps. Ikeda had been reading a story about the movie "Pearl Harbor" and wrote to Mayor John "JP" Pomierski asking that the Upland City Council rescind it.

"It's about principle," Councilman Ken Willis said after Resolution 687 was unanimously rescinded June 11. "It's something we wish had never occurred but it did."

The Upland City Council adopted a new resolution that read: "The City Council recognizes that throughout World War II Americans of Japanese ancestry proved their loyalty on the field of battle as American soldiers while many of their families were interned in government camps, and the City Council gratefully acknowledges and honors the sacrifices of all Japanese Americans."

Ikeda did not attend the June 11 meeting because she received a hate letter after she submitted her request to the council, but she witnessed the decision on television.

"I was very pleased to see what happened," she said. "They took time from their busy schedules and went to city hall to speak on this," she said. ■

## ACLU Awards Hirabayashi and Korematsu

The American Civil Liberties Union awarded its 2001 Roger N. Baldwin Medal of Liberty to Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu, two Japanese Americans who challenged the U.S. government's evacuation and internment of over 120,000 JAs during World War II.

The awards were presented on June 15 at a special ceremony held during the ACLU's Biennial Conference in Miami.

The Medal of Liberty award, which the ACLU presents every two years, honors individuals who have made lifetime contributions to the advancement of civil liberties. The medal, named for ACLU founder Roger N. Baldwin, comes with a cash award of \$25,000, which Hirabayashi and Korematsu will share.

"I am delighted that the Medal of Liberty award will be presented jointly to Mr. Hirabayashi and Mr. Korematsu, who have spent a lifetime trying to right the same historical wrong," said Nadine Strussen, president of the ACLU. "These two men bravely stood up for their rights and the rights of

others when many people were too frightened or full of hate to challenge a government they knew was wrong. They are true American heroes."

In 1942, Hirabayashi refused to board a bus headed to an internment camp and turned himself in to the FBI, where he explained his act of civil disobedience. The FBI arrested him for defying military curfew and for failing to report to a control station.

With the help of the ACLU, Hirabayashi challenged the internment order before the Supreme Court but lost his case. A federal appeals court reversed his conviction 40 years later.

Korematsu, in an act of similar civil disobedience, evaded authorities at the time of evacuation. He was eventually apprehended and put in jail before being convicted of violating the internment order and sentenced to five years probation.

Korematsu's case was presented again in federal court in 1983, which also reversed its wartime decision.

The late Minoru Yasui, of Port-

land, Ore., spent time both in internment camps and in jail for challenging the constitutionality of the curfew. The ACLU of Oregon honored him with its MacNaughton Civil Liberties Award in 1983. ■

## Support Needed to Rename 'Chinks Peak'

Public support is needed when the Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council addresses the issue of changing the name of "Chinks Peak" to "China Peak," according to Idaho JACLer Micki Kawakami.

Last year, the council opposed renaming Chinks Peak, but immediate protest after the vote forced the council to revisit the issue this September. The meetings are scheduled for Sept. 4-8.

The council will also examine renaming landmarks which include "squaw" and "pappoose." But the Idaho legislature has already voted once to not remove "squaw" names from Idaho landmarks. ■

## JACL Urges Ban on Internet Hate Items

JACL recently urged e-commerce leaders to prohibit the sale of hate items on their websites.

In a letter addressed to Amazon.com, the world's largest e-commerce company, JACL Vice President of Public Affairs Ryan Chin said, "Over the past few years, we have witnessed the tremendous growth of the Internet, and unfortunately, along with it, a huge number of sites that teach hatred and promote ignorance. ... We urge you, as one of the leaders of the Internet, to make it a policy to ban all

hate related items throughout all of Amazon.com's sites."

Chin also sent a letter to book retailer Barnes&Noble.com.

This year, Yahoo! and auction site eBay, two of the most popular Internet sites, announced that they would no longer sell hate related items. No other e-commerce sites had made such policies previously.

"We believe policies such as this should be the norm, rather than the rare exception," said JACL national executive director John Tateishi. ■

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## INITIATIVE

(Continued from page 1)

tion, where people are marrying across racial lines, the whole concept of race is becoming anachronistic," he was quoted as saying in the *Daily Bruin*.

Connerly's group, the American Civil Rights Coalition, is now aiming for the November 2002 ballot and expects to get 1.1 million signatures, said ACRIC executive director Kevin Nguyen.

Nguyen said the measure is needed to put an end to divisive, not to mention unconstitutional, racial and ethnic preferences.

The initiative states: "The state shall not classify any individual by race, ethnicity, color or national origin in the operation of public education, public contracting or public employment...."

"For purposes of this section, 'classifying'... shall be defined as the act of separating, sorting or organizing by race, ethnicity, color or national origin including but not limited to, inquiring, profiling, or collecting such data on government forms."

"Our contention is that racial data in this day and age is outdated, especially with the results of the most recent census which show there is no longer a clear 'minority,'" Nguyen said.

"[Race] is a social construct that has been used in a political fashion to divide groups and trump other groups' of their individual rights, he said. "We need to look beyond the box to address lingering problems of social inequity."

"We propose that a greater reliance be made on more precise indicators of disadvantage like income or geography," he suggested. "Instead of race boxes, we should have in place a whole array of other questions that capture a more accurate social picture."

But critics fear voters will be misled by the initiative's language and will not understand the devastating effects it will have on minorities in terms of public policy. "This initiative takes away our

ability to assess the needs of the community and our ability to react to them," said Victor Hwang, managing attorney for the Asian Law Caucus. "It's not grounded in the needs of the community. It's pure theory."

Hwang believes the initiative will hurt AAs particularly in the health arena, where culturally and linguistically appropriate medical and social services is critical.

Tateishi agreed: "What concerns me about the Connerly initiative is its insidious intent to eliminate race as a factor from all government programs. Programs designed to assist disadvantaged minorities would suffer immensely without the identity of racial categories because the very groups these programs are designed to assist will no longer be identifiable."

"I think the consequences of this current initiative can be more far reaching and damaging than 2009 because it's so broad and sweeping in its focus," he said.

California passed Prop. 209 in 1996, eliminating the use of race in college admissions and public hiring. Although current UC eligibility criteria ensures that the top 4 percent of students from all California public high schools are eligible for admission, experts say the ban on affirmative action has since led to a dramatic enrollment drop, particularly among African Americans, Latinos and American Indians in the UC system.

According to the Office of the President, the enrollment of AA undergraduate students at UC Berkeley, for example, stayed fairly steady from 1995 to 1999.

However, in that same time, African Americans dropped from 5.7 percent to 4.7 percent, Latinos fell from 4.5 percent to 2.9 percent and American Indians decreased from 1.2 percent to 0.8 percent.

Although Nguyen said this new state initiative won't affect federal programs, he called it "a harbinger of things to come."

"We came closer than we ever have to revising the federal government's approach to race." ■

## JACL Corner

### Fremont Hosts Scholarship Luncheon

The Fremont JACL honored this year's high school graduates in Newark. They are: Stephanie Joo, American High, Tom Kitayama Jr. Memorial; Evan Mnamoto, American High, Union Bank of California; Michael Rogers, American High; Joseph Kato Memorial; Karen Yoshimura, Irvington High; Kevin Toda, John F. Kennedy High, Masutaro Kitani Memorial; Kyle Reykalin, James Logan High, Fremont JACL; Amanda Rivera, Mission San Jose High, Fremont JACL; William Manegold, Mission San Jose High; and Pamela Yamamoto, Washington High, Frank Kasama Memorial.

### Puyallup Valley Installs Officers, Honors Scholarship Winner

The Puyallup Valley JACL's newly elected officers were installed by PNW District Governor Elaine Akagi. They are: Steve Kono, president; Jeff Hiroo, Carolyn Takemoto and Joe Kosai, vice presidents; Elsie Taniguchi, membership; Liz Dunbar, recording secretary; Mary Sugimoto, corresponding secretary; Dudley Yamane, treasurer; and Robert Mizukami, board delegate.

The chapter also honored their scholarship winner, Darren Robert Akagi, a Puyallup High School graduate and three-time National Honor Society member, who will attend Whitman College.

### Sacramento Fetes Scholarship Winners

Sacramento JACL's 2001 scholarship recipients were feted with more than 150 in attendance. Over \$23,000 in awards went to: Nikki Muranaka, Sacramento JACL; Akemi Kashiwada, Nisei Post 8985 VFW; Kimberly Wong, Noboru Shirai Memorial; Candace Ota, Ladies Aux. Nisei Post 8985 VFW and Frank Yamana Memorial; Allen Ishimoto, George Kashiwagi Memorial and Sacramento Nisei Bowling Association; Jeffrey Chew, Matsui Memorial; Edgar Diaz, East Lawn;

Dana Fong, Fujita Memorial and Sacramento Rebels; Marris Miyao, Terami Memorial and Hokka Kumamoto Kenjin Kai; Ahren Shirai, Hiroshima Nikkei Jin Kai and Sacramento Nikkei Singles Club; Brienne Daniels, Kawakami Memorial; Sachie Kerri Maeda, California Bank & Trust; Yoshie Oya, Union Bank of California; Roger Fujita, Masao Itano Memorial; and Robyn Matsumoto, Masaki Memorial.

### Salt Lake/Mount Olympus Hold Joint Scholarship Dinner

A joint Salt Lake/Mount Olympus JACL scholarship dinner for high school seniors was held recently. This year's Mount Olympus high school scholarship recipients are: Bryce Akagi, Alta High School, \$1,000; Jacob Tateoka, Skyline High School, \$900; Joseph Tateoka, Valley High School, Hazelton, Idaho, \$800; Jamie Hashimoto, Hillcrest High School, \$600; Lyndee Garrick, Cottonwood High School, \$600; and Kevin Hashimoto, Box Elder High School, \$600.

### Santa Maria Valley Holds Scholarship Luncheon

Righetti High School students were awarded scholarships at a June 9 luncheon held by the Santa Maria Valley JACL. Kiiki Araki Kawaguchi, Mario Brock and Megumi Yamada. Each was awarded \$500. Araki-Kawaguchi will attend CSU Long Beach on a \$26,000 per year scholarship; Brock will attend UC San Diego; and Yamada will attend UC Berkeley.

### South Bay Awards Egashira Scholarships

The South Bay JACL announced the recipients of the Kiichi Egashira Memorial Scholarship at a June 9 reception.

This year's recipients were: David Hill, Peninsula High School, \$2,000; Erin Akemi Matsushita, North High School, \$2,000; and Eleanor Emi Williams, Peninsula High School, \$1,000. ■

### Dr. Ina to Keynote at PNW-IDC Bi-District Luncheon

Dr. Satsuki Ina, producer/project director of "Children of the Camps" will keynote the awards luncheon on July 13 during the PNW-IDC Bi-District Conference in Seattle.

In keeping with the conference theme of "Honoring True Heart," Ina's presentation, "Healing with Courage and Compassion," will focus on the emotional/psychological consequences of the World War II camp experience and the journey to healing from the wounds of racism. She will also address the personal and intergenerational impact of the internment experience.

Currently a professor emerita at California State University, Sacramento, she also has a private psychotherapy practice where her primary focus is treating those who have suffered trauma.

On July 14, the plenary session will include a keynote address by JACL National Executive Director John Tateishi, followed by an educational forum on the question of loyalty admist discrimination during the war. Panelists will include Bill Hosokawa, former editorial page editor of the *Denver Post*, long-time columnist for the *Pacific Citizen* and author of several books; Fred Shiosaki, 442nd veteran; Frank Abe, producer/director of "Conscience and the Constitution"; and Mits Koshiyama, a Heart Mountain resister.

The Saturday luncheon will include a "national board dialogue" where members can interact with their elected officers.

Workshops will follow two tracks. The senior focus track will include: "Preventing Fraud Against Older Adults," "Support and Resources for Family Caregivers," "Health Insurance/Long Term Care," and "Planned Giving." The advocacy track will include: "Internment Camp Preservation and Strategic Planning" (Mindoka National Historic Site), "Healing with Courage and Compassion."

For information, contact the PNW district office at 206/623-5088 or e-mail at pnw@jacj.org. ■

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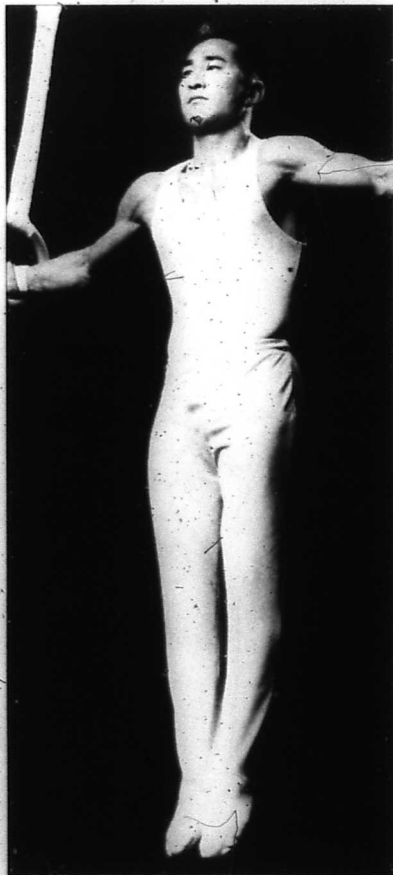
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# JA STORY

(Continued from page 1)

little does a lot," he said.

The JA community also plays a role in the telling of these stories. Although the evacuation and internment forever affected the JA community, the many other stories must not be forgotten. Much of what has been written about JA history has to do with the events surrounding WWII, yet almost nothing has been written on the time period from after the war to the present day.

"The events of 1941 and 1946 have really dominated Japanese history, understandably, but to the almost disregard of everything else," said Daniels.

The stories of the early Japanese immigrant pioneers who faced much hardship and discrimination have been largely ignored. Ishii/Jordan, whose ancestors first settled in the Omaha area, believes more study needs to be done in this area.

Little is known about the Kibei in the JA community. Just prior to WWII, many JA families sent their children to Japan to live with relatives and attend school. Their experiences, different from those JAs who remained here, also need to be told.

Although much has been documented about the JAs on the mainland, the history of JAs in Hawaii still needs to be explored. "Interesting things have happened in Hawaii that are very different from the mainland," said Yamauchi, a native of Hilo.

Large numbers of Japanese immigrated to Hawaii prior to the war, eventually becoming the

largest group on the islands. Many worked on the sugar plantations and when WWII happened, few experienced the trauma of the concentration camps, unlike their counterparts on the mainland. Hawaii was also the seat of the rising political power for JAs that continues to this day.

Although a rarely discussed topic in the past, recent documentaries have started to tell the story of the resisters' conscience of WWII. Currently, Daniels is featured in Frank Abe's film "Conscience and the Constitution" which explores the thoughts and motivations of this group of men who refused to serve in the U.S. Army until their constitutional rights were restored.

"The issue [of the resisters] still divides many people of that generation," said Daniels.

"I think they were morally correct," he said, but added that if the majority of JA males at that time had done the same thing, there would be a very different JA community today. Still, he believes "they were politically correct not only in the short run but in the long run."

The present-day JA community is undergoing dramatic changes and the future stories of the JA community will likely be quite different from those in the past. The recent Census showed an increase in the number of Asian Americans at more than 10 million, but the JA community saw a decrease in its numbers to 800,000, making its numbers smaller than those for Americans of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Filipino ancestry.

"The future of JAs is going to be very different from the JAs of

the past," said Daniels.

Educating the American public about the JA experience starts from within the community. For many of the Sansei and Yonsei, there's a desire to learn about their ancestral roots and community, said Ishii/Jordan. She's hopeful that organizations like JACL can help them find some of those answers and continue to pass on the legacy of the JA community. "JACL may be able to give them their roots," she said.

"Education is a part of life and one hopes that it is a lifelong proposition," said Daniels. Still, "there's more to be learned and we are a long way from knowing about everything."

# RACISM

(Continued from page 1)

and the rest are "fresh off the boat."

Wu spoke at the MDC/EDC/MPDC Tri-District Conference's banquet dinner sponsored by Toyota and AARP on June 30, and discussed the issue of race, a topic he says he never tires of.

"This is a struggle which never ends, the way that no struggle which is truly worth the struggle never ends," said Wu. "This will all stop when racism stops."

Growing up in Michigan, Wu and his family would often cross the Canadian border to visit Windsor, Ontario, for some good Dim Sum. During these many trips he would often ponder why it was that he was greeted with friendliness by the Canadian border agents while he was greeted with hostility and suspicion by his own country on the American

side.

Once he made this same trip with three of his Asian American friends and his White girlfriend at the time. On their return to the United States they were told to pull over to answer some additional questions.

Wu and his friends found themselves in a room full of people and he noticed that most were persons of color. He also noticed that during the inquiry session he and his friends were ridiculed with question after question while his White girlfriend was not.

"It reminds us however assimilated we are, when people see my Asian face, it raises an alarm," said Wu.

Wu believes that there is no other reason but race for the border incident and is an example of a much larger phenomenon he calls "perpetual foreigner."

In a recent survey by the Committee of 100 on White Americans' attitudes towards Chinese Americans, the results indicated that "significant racial prejudice exists," said Wu.

A third of those surveyed believe that AAs are more loyal to their homeland than the United States. Many believe that there is a significant risk that AAs are stealing government secrets for China. Interestingly, these same people believe that AAs in this country do not experience prejudice or discrimination.

The survey brings back "the

old images of yellow peril rising again and again," said Wu. He added, "this survey should give us reason to pause" and should be a concern in light of the recent "Pearl Harbor" movie and the increase in incidents of racist hosts using disparaging, racist comments like "Chinaman."

But in spite of this, Wu is encouraged by the coalition building and activism by AA groups in response to these racist incidents. "I see positive signs in the activities of JACL and other Asian American groups," he said.

In fact, the entire notion of AAs and of Asian America is an example of a coalition, said Wu. "By saying we are 'Asian Americans' we are claiming an identity for ourselves," he said. "We are refusing to be defined as others would define us."

The recent Census shows an increasing number of AAs in this country, but the inevitable fact is that AAs will always be a racial minority because AAs will always look different from the White mainstream, said Wu. And that's why it's not enough to build coalitions among the AA groups. Coalitions must also be built with other minority groups including the African American community and the Hispanic community.

"This is an ongoing process, not an end result," said Wu. "In this struggle we can make the United States better than it is. And that after all is what this organization is all about."

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Fred Korematsu was probably never more American than when he resisted, and then challenged in court, the forced internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

**WHAT HAPPENED TO HER? AND THE STRAWBERRY FIELDS**  
by Rea Tajiri (A co-presentation of the Independent Television Service)  
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Set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War, WHAT HAPPENED TO HER? AND THE STRAWBERRY FIELDS tackles the minefield between cultural history and personal memory. On a journey, Irene (Suzy Nakamura), a 16-year-old Japanese American, comes to an important realization about her past: her parents were incarcerated in an internment camp during WWII. She detours her road trip, ditches her boyfriend and drives off into the Arizona desert in search for the truth that will set her free.

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## Little Tokyo Story

On my annual visit to Los Angeles, I try to catch up on some of the things going on in the Japanese American community that I miss in Hawaii. Much as I've come to like it in Honolulu, there are still a lot of things I miss about Southern California, ranging from edible Mexican food to tall mountains to the range of arts and



By BRIAN NIYA

culture you can only find in places like L.A. or New York.

Now that I have a young daughter, I'll also miss the JA basketball leagues that she might play in if we still lived here.

## Troubled in Paradise

Even though she's showing more signs of being inclined towards ballet than basketball, it would still be nice for her to be exposed to that part of her ethnic culture.

One of the news items that greeted me here was a story in the local JA newspaper about the ongoing saga of the gymnasium/recreation center in Little Tokyo in downtown Los Angeles. It seems that the Los Angeles Children's Museum is seeking to move into a prime spot in Little Tokyo, which could force the rec center out.

Efforts to build a gym/rec center in Little Tokyo go back to the 1970s when plans for redeveloping the area were being drawn up. Then, as now, JA basketball leagues were an important part of the community and one of the only ways younger JAs were involved in it. But for various reasons those efforts didn't bear fruit, and now 30 years later we're still waiting for that gym.

I have to admit, I can't quite figure out why.

It would certainly be good for Little Tokyo. There aren't too many J-towns left anymore, and most of us think that bringing new energy to the ones that are left is a good thing. Having the rec center in the middle of J-town would bring lots of people in who would not ordinarily go downtown on a regular basis. These would include not just kids but parents and the many adults who still play ball or practice martial arts or other activities. These people would eat at restaurants in the area and patronize neighboring institutions like the Japanese American National Museum, East West Players and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

It would be good for getting more young people involved in JA community institutions. For many younger folks, sport leagues are the only tie to the ethnic community. Have you been to a JA basketball tournament lately? At such a tournament, you will see families. Parents watch kids play. Mothers and children watch fathers play. Fathers and children watch mothers play. Grandparents watch everyone play (though a few grandparents

still play themselves). Teenage boys and girls watch each other, whether playing or not. Rivalries are forged between teams from different areas. Friendships are formed over the rivalries. Gossip traverses the bleachers. In short, these leagues and tournaments are a microcosm of the JA community for many of their participants. Having the games and tournaments in the historic center of ethnic community can only encourage participation in that community beyond the court.

One of the reasons I stopped playing basketball (other than not being any good, of course) was that I got tired of driving an hour each way to play for an hour. Downtown Los Angeles is centrally located from the areas with the greatest Asian American populations: the South Bay, the Eastside, West Los Angeles and the Valley to the north. Finding courts has always been a problem for the leagues. A Little Tokyo rec center would be a boon.

It would be good for martial arts, volleyball, senior nutrition programs and the wide variety of activities that are being planned for the rec center.

Of course, not everyone is enamored with the role of sport among JAs. Indeed, there are many issues regarding JA sport leagues must grapple with these days. Issues of pan-Asianism, declining participation, new styles of play and new elements in the community must be faced. Sometimes the changes happen more slowly quickly than some of us would like. But then, such things are part of being a community. Working out solutions that everyone can be satisfied with might point out ways of solving problems that extend beyond the sport world.

To me, adding a rec center to a block that already includes JANM, MOCA, Union Center for the Arts and the Go For Broke Memorial would be an ideal use of space. But hey, what do I know? ■

## About PANAs's Convention in New York City

TWO YEARS ago in Santiago, Chile, Pan-American Nikkei Association delegates at COPANI X eagerly preferred their next gathering meet July 25-28 in New York City. Latin Americans "initialize" their great functions by taking the first syllables rather than initials. Hence Convention Pan-



By HARRY HONDA

americana Nikkei is shortened to COPANI X. There was back-up support, just in case, from Canada's delegate Art Miki of Winnipeg to host the PANAs convention in Vancouver,

## Very Truly Yours

B.C. — especially since their new National Heritage Center opened its door a year ago.

As you know, the site of PANAs conventions alternates biennially in the odd-numbered years from North and South — The United States, Canada and Mexico vs. Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile. In the 20 years of PANAs history, Bolivia, Colombia and Uruguay have yet to host a convention. I hear it might next be in Bolivia.

This past weekend (June 28-July 1) during the JAFL tri-district conference in Cincinnati, the lady of many hats, former national president Lillian Kimura of New York and COPANI XI planning committee chair, handed me what follows to "help make [my] visit to the 'Big Apple' a pleasant one." There's still time to join the PANAs crowd.

Weather and What to Wear: New York City in July can be hot and humid outside and cool to cold inside where most places are air-conditioned. With the exception of the opening dinner on Thursday at the convention hotel, The Roosevelt at 45th St. and Madison Ave., and the Friday reception at the United Nations, dress casually. We suggest that you pack a sweater or, if the women prefer, a shawl for the air conditioning. No event requires formal dress.

What the Registration Fee Covers: Thursday and Saturday dinners, Thursday and Friday lunch, Friday evening reception at the UN, workshops and registration packet. The registration table will be open on Wednesday, July 25, at 9 a.m. [USA-Canada: US \$475, Latin America: US \$300; Students (valid ID required): US \$150.]

Getting Around New York: the best way to travel in the city is by foot, then a bus or the subway. You can purchase a token or Metro Card for \$1.50. The hospitality table or the hotel's concierge can help with your questions.

Smoking: New York City has strict non-smoking laws. Smoking is not permitted in meeting rooms, restaurants and offices. One can always smoke outside the door of most buildings. There are areas where you can smoke inside. I request it through our convention travel agent, Kfintetu International Travel, 1325 Avenue of the Americas, #2002, New York, NY 10019; 212/259-9635 or through Ernie Hida, American Holiday Travel, 312 E. 1st St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Welcome Boat Ride to See the Statue of Liberty at Sunset on the Hudson: our first event will be on Wednesday, July 25. We will bus you from the Roosevelt. Still to

Pier 83 (42nd Street) to board at 7 p.m. for a 7:30 departure. We will have a light supper, music and dancing while the boat goes past the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. On our return you will see the lights of the skyline of Manhattan and New Jersey.

Other Conference Features: scheduled speakers include Sen. Daniel Inouye, Carlos Kasuga, president of PANAs, Dr. Akemi Kikumura-Yano of the International Nikkei Research Project; and Luis Baba, the well-known Nisei economist in Peru. We will hear Nikkei women choral groups from Brazil and Peru. Because many people were interested in the Nikkei WWII internment in the United States and Canada, a special session is planned for Saturday afternoon that will include a discussion about the Latin American detention.

Final Request: we must make reservations for an accurate count for meals, the boat ride and optional activities. Please sign up now by completing the registration form and filling in your choices by mail or e-mail: Yasuhiro Takemura@kintetu.com. Or call Lillian Kimura, 973/680-1441.

PS. I have been fortunate to cover all of the PANAs conventions from 1981 when national JAFL was a founding and integral force in establishing the international organization of Nisei in the Western Hemisphere. George Imai of Toronto, Enrique Shibayama of Mexico City and Enrique Yara of Lima, Chuck Kubokawa, Luis Yamakawa, the late George Kondo and Floyd Shimomura from the United States were among the craftsmen of the PANAs constitution, one in English and the other in Spanish. Australia, with its own WWII history of Japanese internment, became a PANAs member in 1995. ■

## 2001 JAFL Youth Conference to be Held in Seattle July 13-15

The JAFL National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) will hold its 2001 conference, "Transforming Leadership in the Asian Pacific American Community through Unity, Identity and Diversity," on July 13-15 at Seattle University.

The youth council chose to host this year's conference in Seattle because they want to showcase Seattle's rich Asian Pacific American diversity," said acting interim national youth director, Gerald Kato. "Too often one's perception of Asian Pacific American communities is either centered in Los Angeles, San Francisco or New York. By having the conference in Seattle, we can show that Asian Pacific American communities are not relegated to those three cities."

Youth, students and young professionals under the age of 25 from across the country will be offered an array of workshops, including taiko as a Japanese art form;

Hapa issues; APA gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender issues; Asian American movement, 1960s-present; women's history; AIDS and HIV in the APA community; importance of graduate school; generation gaps; political empowerment; and APAs in entertainment.

The conference is scheduled to have an opening keynote address by Washington State Rep. Velma Veloria, the Vision Awards banquet dinner honoring Kamikaze Records, an "Off Tha Hook" party with a performance by R&B artist April Villanueva and a closing keynote speech by Paul Kawata, executive director of the National Minority AIDS Council.

For a registration form or more information, call Gerald Kato at 213/626-4471 or e-mail him at youth@jacplsw.org. Visit the NY/SC conference website at www.jacl.org/youth. ■



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## RESISTERS

(Continued from page 1)

For the past year, Mori has been meeting with various Nisei veterans' groups to address concerns following the passage of a resolution recognizing and apologizing to the Nisei resisters at the 2000 biennial national JACL convention. Immediately following the vote, a handful of Nisei veterans stormed out of the convention in protest.

The JACL's history with the Nisei resisters has been a controversial one. The resisters openly challenged JACL's wartime policy of proving loyalty through military service. The resisters refused to serve until their rights were restored and they and their families were released from U.S. concentration camps. For their stand, many resisters were ostracized from the Japanese American community. It was only within the past two decades that the resisters' story resurfaced thanks to the efforts of non-JAs and the younger generation. But a handful of JAs, many of whom are JACLers and/or Nisei veterans, continue to condemn the actions of the resisters.

The contentious nature of the resisters' topic within the JA community was not lost on conference organizers, and David Rietz, HMWF president, said he was encouraged to see Mori at the conference.

"We're extremely pleased to have Floyd Mori choose to join this session and to be able to learn more about the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation," said Rietz.

## TEACHERS

(Continued from page 1)

of the JA WWII veterans, and the recent success of the redress movement are not being told to America's students.

And that's why JACL's National Education Committee (NEC) has made it a priority to hold teacher training workshops across the country and hosted the recent training workshop at the tri-district.

"Students and teachers need to know our story, especially in terms of our internment," said Teresa Maebori, NEC member from EDC. Although some schools may include a few glancing paragraphs on evacuation and internment, a more thorough exploration of JA history, including how JAs came to America and their contributions to this country is needed, she said.

Joining Maebori at the recent tri-district workshop were members of the NEC that included: Allan Hida, MDC; Sharon Ishii-Jordan, MPDC; Elaine Akagi, PNWD and chair; Greg Marutani, NCVNPD and Bill Yoshino, JACL staff liaison.

Working with the Go For Broke Foundation and the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund, JACL has already held 28 workshops across the United States, and they are hoping to increase that number by

## TATEISHI

(Continued from page 1)

dents (e.g., the sinking of the Ehime Maru, the U.S. spy plane downing in China) or as a result of events (the release of the movie "Pearl Harbor").

But these were blips on the screen. We are more involved on a day-to-day basis with issues and incidents that may not be high profile but are important nevertheless. In most cases, these include issues that continue to trouble us — hate crimes, discrimination against APAs, requests for assistance in housing and employment matters, etc.

Our mid-year appeal to you has an added sense of urgency. For the past several months, you've been reading in the P.C. about our financial situation and the crisis we're facing as we struggle with a cash flow shortage. There are a number of factors that contributed to our current situation, but let me try to explain (in an over simplification) how we got here.

The two factors that have primarily contributed to this current situation are a decline in membership revenue, due largely to the attrition of Nisei membership, and

To prevent the conference from getting mired in personal attacks, HMWF Vice President Carolyn Takahashi said they stayed focused on the national aspects of the issue. "We needed to come at it as unemotionally as possible and to say these are the facts, these are the research, instead of the usual response when you have discussion between the resisters and everyone else," said Takahashi. "It touches a raw nerve that's hanging out there and then everybody responds emotionally and you can't listen to the logic. That's why we came at it by saying, 'Let's look at the research.'"

But HMWF did receive some criticism for tacking the resistance topic. "There were some members of the foundation who were not happy at all about us doing this," said Takahashi. "But it was not in the majority so that felt good."

The response Patricia Wolfe, HMWF treasurer, gave to critics was this: "We simply told them that there were 10,689 people at Heart Mountain and that there are 10,689 stories at Heart Mountain. This is the story of 85 of them. We were more than happy to do a workshop for any other group such as the MIS, the 442nd, the firemen, the hospital workers, on the subject that is relevant to Heart Mountain."

Most recently, Rietz said Heart Mountain was named a Wyoming State Heritage Site by the Wyoming Parks and Cultural Commission, which means that the state recognizes that a very significant history took place here.

In a related development, Sheila

training the various chapters to hold their own workshops.

The NEC members stressed the importance of teaching the students when they are young. "It's never too young to start teaching this," said Akagi. "We need to reach out to the younger students."

In preparing for a teacher training workshop, students and faculty in a specific area will need to be targeted. One way this can be done is by visiting or calling your local schools. Hida, a former internee of Tule Lake and Amache, recommended targeting social studies teachers and has found it useful to join the various social studies associations, both locally and nationally ([www.ncss.org](http://www.ncss.org)).

There are various visual aids that can be used, whether it's pictures, videos, overheads or books. Since classes are usually about 45 minutes long, the NEC members suggested that selected videos for the teachers should be about 30 minutes long. At the various teacher training workshops a copy of the JACL Curriculum Guide, which also includes lesson plans, is supplied to every attending teacher.

When putting on a teacher training workshop it's helpful to have first hand accounts of what happened during WWII, whether it's someone who endured the hardships of internment or a veteran who fought in WWII. "People want

the beating we took in our investment portfolio, which in turn adversely affected income we draw from interest to help cover operating costs. There were a number of other factors, but these were the two that most impacted us.

At the Monterey convention, we intended to propose a \$3 dues increase for the 2001-02 budget to keep up with the increased cost of maintaining our operations. Instead, we lowered the cap for the Legacy Fund to release funds to support our operations and, in doing so, eliminated the dues increase consideration. But the investment market took a downturn and we ended up with neither the Legacy Fund money nor a much needed dues increase. So despite the best intent of everyone, the shortfall became inevitable as the market continued to drop.

Given our cash shortage, we've cut back on the expense side of the budget as much as we can. There are literally no other areas of the budget that can be cut except personnel, and I'm reluctant to do this because I truly believe that one of the real strengths of the JACL is its structure and the people who staff this organization.

There's no question in my mind that it is the membership that is

Bricher-Wade from the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office said they plan to address an offensive VFW-sponsored sign posted near Heart Mountain. The text of the signage portray Heart Mountain as a summer camp, said Bricher-Wade.

For the past two decades former Heart Mountain internee Bacon Sakatani has been pushing to have the sign removed, but Bricher-Wade said because the sign was put up using private funds, the state cannot take it down. The option she proposed was to place new markers next to the VFW sign. She said one sign can give the JA point of view; a second from an academic point of view, putting the camp in an historical context; and a possible third sign recognizing the Heart Mountain draft resistance movement, which resulted in the largest mass trial in Wyoming history.

Sakatani was cautious about endorsing this latest development. "We've expressed our concerns to the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office and asked them not to remove the sign just to please contact us for critique," said Sakatani. "I'm very concerned."

Bricher-Wade did not foresee problems in securing state funding for the new markers and said they hope to have something in place within the next two to three years.

Contact Bricher-Wade via e-mail: [sbrich@state.wy.us](mailto:sbrich@state.wy.us); phone 307/777-6179; or write State Historic Preservation Office, 2301 Central - 3rd Floor, Cheyenne, WY 82002. ■

to hear about first account events of what happened to them," said Yoshino.

The NEC has been developing a speakers' bureau so that individuals can be available to speak at the various teacher training workshops across the country.

In the Washington, D.C. chapter, a speakers' bureau was developed over 10 years ago to provide speakers for the various workshops and forums held in the area. To date, close to 700 students and teachers in the area have now been exposed to the history of the JA community.

"These teacher training workshops are the most effective JACL program but are also the most unused program in the last decade," said Floyd Mori, JACL national president, who encouraged more JACL chapters to become involved. "These workshops have the potential for greater things to happen."

The NEC is planning an education workshop at the upcoming 2002 JACL national convention in Las Vegas and an education webpage to be linked to the JACL website ([www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)) is currently under construction.

"The United States is really an ongoing experiment in democracy," said Koide. "What happened to us is part of a long journey towards a true, equal democratic life in this country. And we are still on that journey." ■

the strength of this organization, and through that membership we carry on much of the work of the JACL.

But the regional staff also makes us a unique and effective organization. It is through those offices that we provide services to our chapters and districts, and it is through them that we respond to incidents out in the regions.

At the last few national board meetings, it's been repeatedly expressed that our problem isn't in expenses but in revenues. This is clear.

This brings us back to the current fund drive. We've set our goal at \$100,000. Any money we raise through this campaign will help us but won't be the answer to our problems. This we also know.

Consequently, we've developed a revenue plan that looks to various new sources of funding, namely corporations and foundations. I believe our future and vitality as an effective organization depends on this type of change.

Our appeal to you now is to help us carry on our work. And yes, we'll be doing a year-end appeal as we always do, and your generosity then as now will help us continue to serve our community and those in need. ■

## OBITUARIES

## Tom Masamori, 79: JACL's 2000 Ruby Pin Recipient

Tom Masamori, whose lifework has been photography, was suddenly stricken last December and passed away on Sunday, July 1. He would have been 79 on July 26.

Tom is a recipient of JACL's Ruby Pin (2000), JACL Sapphire Service Pin (1999) and National JACLer of the Biennium (1998).



During World War II, Tom and his family who farmed berries in Pescadero, Calif., were sent to the Salinas Assembly Center and then to the Poston War Relocation Authority camp in Arizona.

He graduated from Santa Cruz High School, studied music for two years at San Jose State, spent time in Poston, resettled in Denver, was drafted into the Army in April 1944, and after infantry basic training at Camp Blanting, served as a 442nd combat medic in the Po Valley campaign.

Active in JACL's Mile-Hi chapter for over 40 years, he held vari-

ous offices: chapter president (1985), Mountain Plains district treasurer, P.C. representative, and JACL's veterans liaison (1992).

He chaired committees to erect memorials to Colorado Gov. Ralph Carr and Minoru Yasui in Sakura Square in Denver. Among the boards he served on include the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Go For Broke National Memorial Foundation, American Legion Nisei Post 185, committee to erect a Nisei war memorial in Fairmount Cemetery, Colo., and as president of the Colorado Nikkeijin Kai (1993-94).

He was husband of Lily. Father of Robert (DJ), Cyd (Jack Anderson), Michael, Ron (Dr. Christine Rodgers), John (Rachel) Ca, Dan, Susan. Grandchildren Michael, Michelle, Jonathan, Lily, Matthew. Brother of Art Oka, Rose (Harry Tazawa) of Denver; Frank (deceased), Vi (George Kurasaki), George (Pat), Harold (Jean) of California. Service Saturday, July 7; family greeting at 1 p.m.; service at 2 p.m. at Simpson United Methodist Church, 6001 Wolf St, Arvada, CO. ■

## Rev. Goldwater, Buddhist Priest Who Aided Japanese Americans During World War II Passes

BY JOYCE NAKO  
P.C. Contributor

Kinsui sensei has died. I am in shock, although I know 93 years is indeed a long life. Nonetheless, Rev. Julius A. Goldwater, whose last name translates into Japanese as Kinsui, is to me ageless, timeless, forever. I spent three days with Rev. Goldwater in 1991, for an oral history project on the camps.

My interviews generally took two hours in one day. Why I went back for three days, I'll never know. But at the end of it, this nominal Buddhist — I had married into it — became a full-blown disciple of the Goldwater Teachings.

He was perhaps the most honest man I had ever met: prickly, irascible and totally human. I learned what it was to be an American, about freedom, about individuality. Rev. Goldwater taught wholeness. He actually taught me to be a feminist, to hold my views, my opinions; he taught full expression.

*Hakiri* — he taught exactness. The value of a human being lies in small daily acts of rightness. So I do

not mourn a great man's passing; I am instead grateful I had encountered a Spirit of Camp, a legacy regarding "how to be an American."

The Rev. Rev. Julius A. Goldwater, a spiritual leader has passed on, and we are all richer for The Path he has laid for us to follow.

Goldwater passed away on June 11 at his home in Los Angeles. He converted to Buddhist in the 1920s and studied in Hawaii, Japan, and China before returning to minister at the Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, now occupied by the Japanese American National Museum.

During World War II, Goldwater allowed JAs to store their possessions at the temple, watched over their properties, and used his own money to visit camps in California, Arizona, Wyoming, Colorado and Arkansas. After the war, he turned the temple into temporary housing for returning internees. For assisting the JAs at the time, Goldwater was labeled a "Jap lover," his house defaced, and he was censured by the temple's governing body. ■

## Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

**Akikuni, Darrin Tsugio, 28**, Los Angeles; Culver City-born Sansei; survived by mother, Linda; brother, Bill; sister, Ohata and wife Yuko; aunt Junie Obi and husband Michael.

**Asaba, Takahiko "Taka," 86**, Seattle, May 1; Port Blakeley, Wash.-born; Minidoka internee; WWII 442nd RCT Army veteran; survived by wife Momoye; sons Neil, Roger; daughter Susan; 2 gcs; predeceased by daughter-in-law Joanne Fujita Asaba.

**Burleson, Kimie Ina, 81**, Bellevue, Wash., June 18; Yokohama-born, Lake Washington JACL member; survived by husband Hugh; son Hugh; daughter Rose; Georgehang; 4 gcs; 2 gcs.

**Hironaka, Mitsuko, 91**, San Francisco, June 25; Mayfield-born; interned at Tule Lake and Amache; survived by sister Shizuko Ito; nephews Allan and Edward Hida, Tomi and Albert Ito; niece Ann Kageura, 12 grandnieces and grandnephews; predeceased by sisters Shu Hironaka and Hida Hide.

**Koga, Mary, 80**, Chicago, Ill., June 8; Sacramento-born, interned during WWII, published "Photographs: Mary Koga" as worked for the Japan American Society of Chicago; survived by husband Albert and sister Marion Ishii.

**Nakagawa, Dorothy, 87**, Santa Rosa, May 13; Seattle-born; survived by sons Harry and wife Arlene, Quentin and wife Judy; daughter Jane; Sanders Billie and husband John; 8 gcs., 8 gcs.;

predeceased by husband Hisakazu.

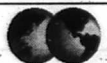
**Yamazaki, Joy, 78**, Pacific Grove, June 17, born in Newark, Calif.; survived by husband Peter; son John; daughters Mary, Patricia, Deborah; Andrew; sister Kay Kitahata; brother-in-law Dr. James Yamazaki and wife Ak; sister-in-law Louise Yamazaki; many nieces, nephews and relatives; predeceased by daughter Barbara. ■

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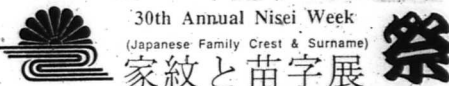


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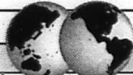
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MEXICO HOLIDAY CRUISE (NEW REDUCED RATE) Los Angeles, Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco	AUG 26-SEPT 1
CRYSTAL HARMONY CRUISE LINE	
NEW ENGLAND AUTUMN HOLIDAY TOUR Boston, Stratton, North Conway, Boothbay Harbor, Kennebunkport, Acadia	SEPT 28-OCT 5
HOKKAIDO HOLIDAY TOUR Tokyo, Lakes Akan/Mashu/Kushiro, Shiretoko, Abashiri, Onneyu Orsen, Souhkyu, Otaru, Sapporo, Shiraoi, Noboribetsu, Hokodate	SEPT 30-OCT 10
WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN HOLIDAY CRUISE (SPACE LIMITED) Lisbon, Morocco, Casablanca, Gibraltar, Palma de Mallorca, Barcelona, Marseille, Monte Carlo, Livorno, Rome	OCT 21-NOV 1
HOLLAND AMERICA CRUISE LINE	
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SOUTH AMERICA HOLIDAY CRUISE (SPACE LIMITED) Chile, Chilean Fjords & Glaciers, Strait of Magellan, Cape Horn, Falkland Islands, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Rio de Janeiro	NOV 13-DEC 3
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### 2001 GROUP TOURS

10. Japan Summer Tour	6/25-7/6	Ray Ishii	2,675
11. Waterways of the Czars	8/14-8/29	Toy Kanegai	3,148
12. Canadian Discovery by Rail	9/5-9/14		3,519
13. Japan Hokkaido/Tohoku Tour	9/17-9/27	Toy Kanegai	3,095
14. Australia & New Zealand (wait list)	9/19-10/3	Bill Sakurai	3,349
15. China Special & Hong Kong	9/26-10/10		2,695
16. New England Back Roads & Fall Foliage	10/4-10/11		1,489
17. Takayama Festival & Gero Onsen	10/8-10/17	Miki Ebata	3,210
18. New York & Washington, D.C.	10/10-10/17		1,699
19. Smoky Mountain, Georgia/N. Carolina/Tenn.	10/14-10/21		1,689
20. Japan Fall Foliage Tour	10/15-10/24		3,095
21. China & Japan Tour	10/31-11/15		2,995
22a. Japan Special Tour	11/1-11/10		3,200
23. Okinawa/Kyushu Tour	11/12-11/21		3,195
24. Discover Vietnam & Bangkok	11/5-11/17	Galen Murakawa	2,249
25. Branson Christmas Tour	12/6-12/11		1,095

### YEAR 2002 GROUP TOURS

Fantastic Florida Tour	3/5-3/13	Bill Sakurai	1,899
Japan Cherry Blossom Tour	3/25-		
Japan Sea Side Tour	5/13-		
Japan Summer Vacation Basic Tour	6/24-		
Hokkaido & Tohoku Tour	9/16-		
Japan Fall Foliage Tour	10/14-		
Okinawa & Kyushu Tour	11/1-		

Please call for booking of any unescorted individual tours or for a detailed itinerary.  
Travel meetings are held on third Sunday of each month beginning at 1:00 p.m. at Felicia Mahood Center  
11338 Santa Monica Blvd. in West Los Angeles