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NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

JACL Announces Passage of Dues Increase, Sets Date for Resisters' Ceremony

By **MARTHA NAKAGAWA**
Assistant Editor

Dues Increase

JACL Executive Director John Tateishi reported that the final tally from the ballots was 58 chapters in favor of the dues increase, 31 opposed and one abstention. Voting was closed on Feb. 7.

While the results from the vote are effective Feb. 7, Lucy Kishiue, JACL membership and fund development director, said JACL will not see any affects for three months since renewal notices are sent out two months in advance.

Referring to the 90 chapters that responded, Tateishi said, "That's pretty remarkable. I was surprised that we got this many responses."

"We had good participation," said Floyd Mori, JACL national president. "It's the best I've seen in terms of a vote count outside the national council. I commend the governors for the work they did."

Mori also added that there will probably be some confusion during this transition period and asked everyone to give the members the benefit of the doubt.

Resisters' Ceremony

Patty Wada, NCWNP regional director, announced that the resisters' ceremony, as mandated by a resolution passed at the 2000 national convention in Monterey, is scheduled to be held on May 11 at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, around 1:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Congressman Mike Honda. The planning committee is also following up on a suggestion made by Kishiue to try to secure a videotaped message from Sen. Daniel Inouye. Other guest speakers will include Mori, and representatives from the resisters, veterans and church communities. Mori said he has already received commitments

from several Nisei veterans from Southern California to attend the event. There will also be a slide presentation, an exhibit, and books and videos on sale. The event will be free to the public.

Investment Committee (IC)

Investment Committee Chair Ted Tsukahara reported that in their January meeting, they discussed the request the board made in November to change the portfolio

mix to 75 percent bonds, 20 percent equities and 5 percent cash. Currently, the mix is approximately 63 percent equities, 31 percent fixed income and 6 percent cash.

The IC felt that changing the mix would not be financially prudent at this time because JACL's current investment policy limits the type of bonds they could purchase. In addition, if JACL is interested in making open covered calls, the policy would have to be rewritten. IC members Arnold Miyamoto and Kenji Takamori are examining the current policy.

The IC recommended the creation of an endowment spending policy, which would be the board's expectation for the

performance of the fund. The target of the portfolio's performance would be set by taking the average of the portfolio's performance for a set number of years (i.e. taking the portfolio's average within the last three years). That amount would then be plugged into the budget.

Mori said the change in the market has necessitated the IC to take a more active role in determining what the budget requirements from the investment funds are.

Jim Matsumori and Richard Yada are currently evaluating the portfolio's performance.

MDC Governor Ben Ezaki, a money manager himself, raised strong concern about having only one fund manager overseeing JACL's portfolio. In addition, he did not support a move for JACL to get involved in covered calls. He said he spoke with 10 different money managers in his office and not one of them heard of a non-profit being involved in hedging.

Tsukahara said the committee met with the investment manager

Nominations Open for National JACL Officers

The JACL nominations committee recently announced that it is now accepting nominations for the election of JACL officers at the JACL national convention in June. Jim Tsujimura, the nominations committee chairman, said the committee "will aggressively seek qualified candidates for each office and that it is important for the chapters and district councils to identify and

encourage qualified individuals to run."

The nominations committee is seeking candidates for the following offices: president, responsible for supervising the affairs of the JACL; vice president of general operations, responsible for monitoring the internal affairs including personnel, the

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Showcases Expose Obstacles for APA Actors in Effort to Diversify Network TV

By **TRACY UBA**
Writer/Reporter

Since four major TV networks were taken to task last year by a minority media coalition for failing to reflect more diversity in their fall line-up, relatively unknown Asian Pacific American actors are finding themselves in an unusual position — they are getting a rare opportunity in Hollywood to share their talents with a wider group of industry executive and casting agents.

Since October, ABC, CBS and Fox have held "showcases" for APA actors in conjunction with such established groups as East West Players (EWP) in Los Angeles, the largest APA performing

arts company in the country, to try to better tap into the pool of APA talent, according to Tim Dang, EWP artistic director.



Erin Quill

"I think it's been very, very effective," he said. "It's an extremely focused and concentrated way to audition."

Dang describes the showcases as an opportunity for an actor to go before approximately 100 casting directors from different networks as opposed to just one, as in a traditional audition.

"It tests the abilities for each actor," he said. "When it comes to this particular moment, you have to be really prepared."

NBC, meanwhile, chose to hold a stand-up showcase at the Laugh Factory in West Hollywood, which Dang called "less effective" because it focused only on comedians and didn't include a broader range of minority performers.

EWP submitted their ACTS (Alliance of Creative Talent Services) members list, a group for actors which teaches them the business aspects of the entertainment industry. There are about 140, mostly emerging, actors who currently belong to the group and who were invited to perform at the showcases, according to Dang.

"From what I hear," he said,

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Seattle Officer Reprimanded Over Asian American Jaywalking Incident

By **Associated Press and Pacific Citizen Staff**

SEATTLE—A police officer who stopped a group of Asian American students for jaywalking has been cleared of racial profiling but reprimanded by the chief for being rude.

The Office of Professional Ac-

courteousness that our personnel are held to," the office said.

The various allegations included: Conduct Unbecoming An Officer, Improper Search, and Unnecessary/Excessive Use of Force.

The investigation found the officer asked condescending questions such as "Can you tell me how we cross streets in Seattle?"



PHOTO: MARTHA NAKAGAWA
Andrea Watanabe, an intern for attorney Yvonne Kinoshita Ward, holds an enlarged photo of the students being detained. Another student from across the street had taken the photo.

countability, a citizen's oversight group in the Seattle Police Department, released a 400-page report recently supporting only one of seven allegations.

Officer Jess Pitts stopped the teenagers because they were jaywalking, not because they were Asian American, the report said.

"Although the officer conducted this stop in the interest of pedestrian safety, his initial interaction did not meet the high standards of

About 15 youths were crossing an intersection near Safeco Field on July 9 when Pitts used a loudspeaker to tell them to move to the curb, but got no response.

The only ticket issued was dismissed. A judge in August threw out a \$38 ticket against Thao Le, a 17-year-old senior at Evergreen High School, because of a lack of evidence.

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From the Director



John Tateishi, National Director

Finding Our Way Out of the Woods

During the past weekend, the national board met to discuss, and struggle with, the JACL's finances. On the bright side of the ledger, the board was informed that chapters had ratified the board's November vote to increase membership dues by a vote of 58 to 30 (with one abstention). The margin of that ratification vote, it seems to me, reflects the chapters' willingness to do whatever it takes to support the organization.

To all the chapters who voted, regardless of how you voted, thank you for taking part in this important decision.

I wish I could tell you that the ratification announcement, which I made during my report, gave the board the necessary relief needed. While the increased revenues will make a huge difference once we begin to see the returns (which won't be for several months), the added revenues won't get us out of the woods

quite yet.

A budget deficit approaching two hundred thousand dollars still remains looming over the organization, and until we're able to close the gap on the budget, there will continue to be uncertainties in our organizational future.

I know that the vote of your chapters on this issue was made with a great deal of thought, and, I suspect in some cases, with heated debate. Given that the ratification is affirmed, I don't want our membership to assume that we're suddenly okay now. Believe me, the increase will help enormously, and those of us responsible for guiding the organizational ship truly appreciate the support. It's just that we're dealing with a budget that took hits on all sides, and then some, and now we're doing what we can to ensure that we continue to operate efficiently and effectively in the coming years.

Unless and until we fill the budget gap, the possibility of personnel reductions is still a reality. But those of you who know me know that I'm fully committed to the staff, especially to the regional staff, who are such a critical part of making this organization as good as it is. To keep our structure as it is, we're going to have to develop new sources of funding to support our operations. Consequently, my focus is directed at corporate funders as a key source of revenues now and in the future. You can help with this if you work in a corporation that could support the JACL and can help with contacts. I can be reached via e-mail at natdir@jacl.org.

As I've said before, I'm confident we'll come out of this a stronger and better organization, but for now, we're going to have to go through some pains as we figure out how best to ensure our

future. That all may sound like clichés (probably because they are), but I say them sincerely because I truly believe that we'll emerge a better organization.

Now, let me leave you with a couple of bright notes, because there are some bright sides to all this.

At the board meeting, I announced that a generous anonymous donor responded to the P.C.'s wish list in the last issue of the paper and pledged over \$14,000 to the P.C. to fulfill much needed equipment needs.

Also, a couple of weeks ago, one of our members walked into the headquarters and handed us a personal check for \$20,000, the largest single donation we've received, possibly ever.

A special thank you to these two generous members, and also thank you to all of you who have been such an important part of the JACL. ■

NOMINATIONS

(Continued from page 1)

operations of headquarters and the regional offices and the national convention; vice president of public affairs, responsible for monitoring the external affairs including issues related to legislation, civil rights and public relations; vice president of planning and development, responsible for programs related to research, grants, scholarship, historical preservation and planning; vice president of 1000 Club, membership and services, responsible for membership retention, recruitment and membership services; and secretary/treasurer, oversees the monies and assets of JACL. The secretary/treasurer must have a working knowledge of fiscal matters including accounting and analysis of financial statements.

Tsujimura indicated that the materials from the nominations committee, which will include the nominations form, job de-

scriptions and the nominations and election guideline, will be mailed to the chapters following the Feb. 9-10 national board meeting. The deadline for nominations is March 28.

"One of the most important things we do in JACL is select our leadership," said Tsujimura. "They are the ones who will guide the JACL for the next two years. The JACL faces many great challenges and we need to find people who will provide determined and active leadership."

The members of the nominations committee are Tsujimura, chair; Debbie Ikeda, CCDC; Lillian Kimura, EDC; Jeff Nakashima, IDC; Rick Ishiyama, MDC; Steve Okamoto, NCWNP; Matthew Nakata, National Youth/Student Council; Scott Sakamoto, PNW; Gary Mayeda, PSW.

For information on the JACL nominations and election, contact Bill Yoshino at the JACL Midwest Office, 773/728-7170. ■

Letters to the Editor

Re: Dues Increase

As a life member of the JACL and a longtime past member of the national board, I have some major concerns over the current effort of the national board to significantly raise membership dues to make up the budget deficit.

I realize that we are facing a deficit budget and cash flow deficit that must be dealt with as soon as possible, but I strongly feel that a significant dues increase of the magnitude that is being proposed should be best dealt with at the national convention.

This would give chapters the opportunity to discuss the proposal in an open forum to express their concerns regarding the impact that a significant dues increase will have on their mem-

bership, which will ultimately impact national's membership base.

In addition, this would allow national JACL time to provide the membership with sufficient financial information to give us a clear picture of our current financial position. Chapters can then make a better informed decision and explore other possible options.

With the national convention just around the corner, I would hope that those chapters who share my concern over the proposed dues increase will vote against the proposal and allow the national council to address this matter at the upcoming convention in Las Vegas.

Alan Nishi

Past National JACL Treasurer



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* "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.

Top NBC Executive Scott Sassa Reportedly On the Way Out

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK—NBC entertainment's top West Coast executive, Scott Sassa, will leave the network after a new schedule is announced in May, according to published reports.

Sassa did not return a call Feb. 4, and NBC wouldn't say anything publicly about stories that he was leaving.

As NBC's West Coast president, Sassa is NBC entertainment chief Jeff Zucker's boss. The *New York Times* reported Feb. 4 that Sassa would not be replaced.



Sassa was passed over last year when Andrew Lack, the former president of NBC News, was promoted to network president. Sassa had angered NBC's management in recent years by being slow to respond to the public's desire for reality TV, instead focusing on series that appeal to upscale viewers.

NBC is running neck-and-neck with CBS for first place in this season's ratings competition.

Sassa, who concentrates more on the business than the creative side of NBC's operations, has developed a strong working relationship with Zucker. He'll reportedly stay through the development process for the new season and is likely to be part of negotiations over whether "Friends" returns for a new season.

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Mineta Recovering from Hip Surgery

WASHINGTON—Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta underwent successful hip replacement surgery Jan. 31 at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and will spend the next few weeks recovering at the hospital before returning home.



Mineta, 70, anticipates he will be back in his office by early March. He was hospitalized for four days last October for a nosebleed and resulting low blood pressure.

Inouye Calls Conditions at Guantanamo 'Appropriate'

WASHINGTON—The conditions for al-Qaeda and Taliban prisoners at a U.S. Navy base in Cuba are better than those at Oahu Prison in the 1950s, Sen. Daniel Inouye said Feb. 1.

Inouye, D-Hawaii, dismissed objections to treatment of the 158 detainees held at Camp X-ray, saying his recent visit to the facility at Guantanamo Bay Naval base with other members of Congress and Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld found no indication of inhumane treatment.

The dignitaries spent about two and a half hours at the detention camp. Inouye described the prisoners' cells as 8-by-8 open-air units surrounded by heavy wire mesh, each holding 12 inmates. He noted they are served by two imams, or Muslim clerics, who lead prayers six times a day, as well as several health workers, including a special dietician familiar with the dietary rules of Islam.

Inouye called the conditions there "sensitive and appropriate" and said they were "superior" to the ones he witnessed almost 50 years ago as an assistant prosecutor in Honolulu, where he visited Oahu Prison once a week.

Inouye was scheduled to meet with Rumsfeld Feb. 4 for a briefing on his defense budget request, which includes money for a structure at Guantanamo designed to cut costs in housing inmates.

AA and White Students Settle Reverse Discrimination Lawsuit

OKLAHOMA CITY—Asian American and white students are settling a reverse discrimination lawsuit against the state for \$3.3 million, higher education regents said.

A group of students claimed they were denied academic scholarships because they are not Hispanic, Native American or black. The rules at the time required that whites and AAs have higher scores on the ACT college testing exams. Those rules have since been amended, with the scholarship program removing references to race and gender.

In the settlement, lead plaintiff Amy Condit and 20 other plaintiffs were awarded \$109,000 each. An additional 1,300 students who joined the class-action suit were awarded \$750.

The settlement is the second by state regents involving the full-tuition scholarship program for students with exceptionally high scores on the ACT.

In March 2000, regents agreed to pay \$340,000 to settle a federal lawsuit filed by Matthew Pollard, a white student at University of Tulsa, who was denied an academic schol-

arship even though his ACT test scores were better than several minority students who got scholarships.

AA Students Distributed Evenly but Sparsely in Schools

PORTLAND, Ore.—Asian American students are enrolled in nearly every school in greater Portland, with sizable clusters in Beaverton, Milwaukie, Aloha, Tigard and Vancouver, Wash., as well as in every quadrant of Portland, says a new study.

The study, conducted at the Lewis Mumford Center at the State University of New York at Albany, says segregation harms children of color by isolating them in schools where most of their classmates are poor, there is diminished access to the best teachers, and achievement lags.

Although AA students are diffused among 317 of the Portland area's 330 elementary schools, they represent less than one-tenth of the student body in each school. That means AA students aren't the top concern anywhere, which can create problems, said Thach Nguyen, head of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon.

Their particular needs often fall off the radar at a typical school, where whites are the largest group, then Hispanics, with only two or three AA students, to a classroom, AA parents and activists say.

Nguyen said many AA males don't graduate high school in four years in Portland, but that gets little public attention.

Efforts to Boost Japanese Tourism Target Diverse Audiences

HONOLULU—Since Sept. 11, Hawaii's economy has been mired in layoffs and business closings, reigniting talk of how to bring back Japanese tourists, who are known to spend up to three times more than their U.S. mainland counterparts.

Lawmakers are dealing with a \$330 million shortfall in a two-year \$14.6 billion budget passed months before the terrorist attacks.

To help alleviate the financial burden, tourism officials have developed a niche marketing strategy targeting four main segments: the wedding and honeymoon group, young opinion leaders, families and se-

niors, said Tony Vericella, president of the Hawaii Visitors & Convention Bureau.

A series of upcoming concerts on Oahu featuring the Japanese teen idol group Arashi is expected to bring more than 4,000 fans to Hawaii.

Another key demographic has been sports fans, with Hawaii playing host to several high-profile events each year, including the Honolulu Marathon and PGA Tour events like the Sony Open.

Recent Pro Bowl activities in Honolulu have attracted the interest of Japanese television network NTV, which is bringing the NFL to Japanese audiences in the state's effort to market itself to Japan.

Last month, the number of Japanese visitors to Hawaii was down by an average of 26 percent per day compared to the same time a year ago, according to preliminary figures from the state Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism.

First Hmong American State Senator Sworn In

ST. PAUL, Minnesota—The first known Hmong American elected to a state legislature was sworn in Feb. 4.

Mee Moua was elected to a senate seat left open when Randy Kelly was elected mayor of St. Paul.

Thousands of Hmong, an ethnic group from the highlands of Laos that was caught up in the Vietnam War, have settled in Minnesota in recent years. St. Paul has the largest Hmong population of any American city, with more than 24,000 according to the 2000 Census.

Many of the city's Hmong rallied around Moua when she announced she would run to succeed Kelly. Hmong Americans donated \$25,000 of the \$30,000 her campaign raised before the Democratic primary. On primary night, 300 volunteers showed up, including 30 who took turns driving voters to the polls.

Prior to Moua's election, there were no Hmong state lawmakers in Minnesota, Wisconsin, or California, the states with the largest Hmong populations. The National Association of State Legislatures and the National Association of Secretaries of State had said they were not aware of any Hmong elected at the state level.

California License Plate Honors Victims of Sept. 11

Assemblyman George Nakano, D-Torrance, co-authored legislation to create a special state license plate to memorialize the victims of Sept. 11. The bill, co-authored by Assembly Speaker-elect Herb J. Wesson Jr., Assemblyman Dave Cox and Sen. Kevin Murray, passed the Assembly floor Jan. 28.

"All of us have been touched by the tragedies of September 11th, and this license plate gives Californians the opportunity to honor those lost on that terrible day," Nakano said.

Assembly Bill 1759 authorizes the issuance of a California memorial license plate and establishes the California Memorial Scholarship Program and Antiterrorism Fund. Any revenue generated by the sales of the memorial

plate will be deposited into these two funds to provide academic scholarships for California families who lost loved ones in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 and will provide funding for law enforcement agencies in their ongoing fight against terrorism.

California high school students participated in a statewide contest to create the best and most fitting design for the California memorial license plate.

"This contest provided a wonderful chance for students to directly involve themselves in the process of rebuilding our nation," Nakano said.

A selection committee has chosen the finalists and a winner will be picked by Feb. 16.

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APAs in the News

Awards, Appointments, Announcements

Samuel T. Mok was confirmed by the Senate as chief financial officer at the Department of Labor, announced Secretary Elaine Chao Jan. 31. Mok, a certified internal auditor and government financial manager, was the first career chief financial officer and comptroller for the U.S. Treasury Department, where he implemented management control programs to enhance financial reporting and control. He also served as a commissioned strategic intelligence officer in the U.S. Army, where his unit was awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation for outstanding performance.

Dr. Jeremy Wu, chair of the Asian American Government Executives Network (AAGEN), was appointed director of the Office of Civil Rights for the Department of Transportation, announced Secretary Norm Mineta. Wu has served as national ombudsman for the Department of Energy since January 2000, at which time the Wen Ho Lee investigation was underway. He previously served as deputy director of the Office of Civil Rights in the De-

partment of Agriculture for three years and speaks frequently about the underrepresentation of APAs in management positions in the federal government.

Mitchell Maki has been appointed to the position of associate dean of the College of Health and Human Services at California State University, Los Angeles. Prior to joining



Cal State L.A., Maki was assistant professor in the Department of Social Welfare at UCLA. A licensed clinical social worker, Maki earned his Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs, Master of Social Work, and Ph.D. in social work from USC. He is the co-author of the award-winning book, "Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress," and was recently honored with the JACL Pacific Southwest District's Community Service Award.

JACL Corner

Riverside JACL Installation Doubles as Birthday Party for a Centenarian

By HARRY K. HONDA
Editor Emeritus

A piece of birthday cake for centenarian Satoshi "Mike" Mikami, a resident here the past 30 years, transformed the annual Riverside JACL installation/luncheon held at Chan's Oriental Cuisine restaurant on Feb. 9 into a birthday party. Past president Clay Wilson and re-elected chapter president Michiko Yoshimura were instrumental in organizing this happy combination.

Many might guess that the spry-looking Mikami was in his 80s, but Mikami was born in Shimane-ken, Japan, in 1902. He completed high school in Tokyo, emigrated to the United States in 1921 and opened a produce stand in Los Angeles in 1925. He ran Westside Market from 1937-1942 in Santa Monica, Calif., spent his World-War II years at the Heart Mountain camp in Wyoming, and resumed his produce business after the war in

Redondo Beach, Calif., where he raised a family of four children. He retired in 1969 and then visited Japan for the first time. In 1970, he moved to Riverside.

A slide show of Mikami's life was shown with narration from Wilson and Yoshimura, who put Mikami's life into the historical context of what was occurring in the nation and in the world at the time.

Mikami's secret to a long life, as the story goes, was eating lots and lots of vegetables and exercising — he is an avid tennis player and still rises early for his morning walks and exercises.

The chapter congratulated Mikami with a trip to Hawaii for him and his wife and announced a scholarship in his name.

The luncheon's guest speaker, Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge, recounted the actions of the city after Sept. 11. Douglas Urata installed the cabinet officers.

Dr. Gen Ogata, charter president, presented a clock/pen set to

Meiko Inaba, perennial newsletter editor, and a plaque to Michiko Yoshimura in lieu of the traditional past chapter president's pin. Yoshimura remarked that she enjoyed being chapter president as she heads toward a 10th term — though the terms haven't been consecutive. Her first term was in 1977.

The newly installed Riverside JACL board is: Michiko Yoshimura, president; Irene Ogata, vice president; Dr. Junji Kumamoto, treasurer/civil rights; Clyde Wilson, recording secretary; Gayle & Francis Fujioka, corresponding secretaries; Akio Yoshikawa, membership; Joyce Nako, historian; Mable Zink, Sunshine chair; Meiko Inaba, newsletter; Dr. Gen Ogata, 1000 Club, recognition; Douglas Urata, benefits; Joyce Higashida, University of California at Riverside liaison; William Takano, Legacy Fund; Helen Yoshikawa and Ron Sugi, members at large; Mark Sugi, youth. ■

Arizona Chapter Co-Sponsors Teacher Training Workshop

The Third Annual Japanese/Japanese American Internment Workshop was held on Feb. 2 at the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe.

Sponsors of this year's event included the national JACL, Arizona chapter and the Arizona Historical Society Museum (AHSM). Funders were the Arizona chapter and the Arizona Humanities Council.

Among the 38 attendees were 23 teachers, four AHSM interpreters and a park ranger/interpreter from the Manzanar Historic Site.

The welcoming address was given by Mike Steinberg, AHSM curator of education, and Joe Allman, project director of the Arizona chapter and member of the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84.

Carol Kawamoto from the San Diego chapter spoke on the internment experience, focusing on the education component and usage of JACL's curriculum guide; Greg Marutani from the San Francisco chapter spoke on the historical events leading up to evacuation and internment; Kaye Sugiyama from the Arizona chapter spoke about her wartime experiences at the Gila River camps, Canal #1 and Butte #2; Masaji Inoshita from the Ari-

zona chapter and member of the Ira H. Hayes American Legion Post 84 spoke of his experience at the Gila River camp, Butte Camp #2, and his tour of duty volunteering for the Military Intelligence Service in China, Burma and India; and James Kubota, spoke of his experiences at the Minidoka camp and his resettlement years after camp.

After a bento lunch, Steinberg led the group in a tour of the AHSM, which is showcasing an exhibit on the Poston and Gila River camps. Displays include recreated camp barracks, camp furniture, artifacts and videotape showings.

The next workshop is scheduled for Feb. 1, 2003, at the AHSM. ■

San Jose Announces 2002 Officers, Board Members

The San Jose chapter held its annual installation ceremony on Feb. 8 at the historic Issei Memorial Building in San Jose's Japantown. New officers for the 2002 calendar year were sworn in by Jeff Ota, East Side Union School District Board of Trustees vice president. Kenzo Kimura was installed as president, succeeding 2000-2001.

President Ken Sakamoto. The rest of the Board officers include: Emi Yoshida, vice president activities; Kathy Takeda, vice president cultural affairs; Sharon Uye-

da, vice president scholarships; and Kaz Uyesugi, vice president finance.

Continuing board members for the 2001-2002 term include: Carl Fujita, Mark Kobayashi, Aiko Nakahara, Judy Niizawa, Tom Nishisaka, Ken Sakamoto, Tom Shigemasa, Karen Shiraki and Jeff Yoshjoka.

"We look forward to an exciting and busy year in 2002, with a number of activities planned reflecting the organization's support of and commitment to issues of civil and human rights, education, youth programs and cultural activities in San Jose," said Kimura. "This year is particularly significant for JACL because it represents the 60th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 and the 50th anniversary of the JACL Junior Olympics."

To mark the signing of E.O. 9066, the San Jose chapter this spring is planning a reenactment of the forced evacuation of Japanese Americans from the South Bay.

Other special events planned include an annual recognition dinner in the fall to honor Japanese American war heroes and community leaders, and hosting the Junior JACL Olympics in the summer.

These special events will be in addition to traditional chapter activities such as the scholarship program, Nikkei Matsuri, educational forums, among others. For more information contact chapter office at 408/295-1250 or e-mail at sanjosejACL@netzero.com. ■

Sacramento JACL Chapter Celebrates 80th Anniversary



PHOTO: PAUL QUONG

The 2002 Sacramento chapter board members getting installed.

A crowd of close to 400, including many state and local officials and community leaders, filled the banquet room of the Radisson Hotel recently to celebrate Sacramento JACL's 80th anniversary.

The gala dinner was dedicated in the memory of the late Toko Fujii, a long-standing Sacramento community leader who volunteered much of his time helping to establish and assist many community organizations. A special resolution from Congressman Robert Matsui recognizing Fujii was received by members of his family.

The program's keynote speaker was National JACL President Floyd Mori, who was introduced by John Tateishi, JACL executive director.

The program opened with the presentation of colors by VFW Nisei Post 8985 and the Pledge of Al-

legiance was lead by Tom Fujimoto. The invocation and benediction was provided by Rev. Bob Oshita of the Sacramento Buddhist Church.

Mori helped to install the various chapter board members for 2002, who include Gary Kuwabara, president; Elaine Yamaguchi, first vice president; Diane Tomoda, second vice president; Tim Tanaka, secretary; Ralph Sugimoto, treasurer; Gene Itogawa, historian; Suzanne Sasaki, youth coordinator; and Dr. Richard Ikeda, past president.

Directors at large are: Keith Adachi, Lori Fujimoto, Tom Fujimoto, Kuni Hironaka, Randy Imai, Michael Iwahiro, Gary Kikumoto, Erin Komatsubara, Hiroko Ni-nomiya, Dean Okimoto, Michael Sawamura, Miyoko Sawamura, Shigeru Shimazu, and Genevieve Shiroma. ■

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Mile Hi Chapter 64 Years Young



The JACL Mile Hi chapter recently reached its 64th year, having been founded in 1938. For the past five years the chapter has enjoyed the leadership of Dr. Mark Shimoda, Mile Hi chapter president. The chapter recently installed its board members who include: (front row, l-r) Richard Hamai, treasurer; Sumi Takeno; Shimoda, president; Mari Agnes Medurd, Dr. Frank Sakamoto; (back row, l-r) Dr. James Taguchi, Sam Mayeda, Dan Iritani, George Masunaga and Dr. Tom Migaki.

SHOWCASE

(Continued from page 1)

"the actors who have participated are getting a higher volume of auditions and they are scoring jobs, so it seems there has been an immediate response, but as far as the long-term impact, we'll have to see."

Last year, a coalition including the Asian Pacific American Media Coalition, National Latino Media Council, American Indians in Film & Television and NAACP criticized the four major networks for failing to live up to promises to increase diversity in their programming.

The coalition issued "report cards" grading each network's efforts to increase diversity. NBC received the highest grade with a C, while Fox earned a C-minus, CBS a D-plus, and ABC scored the lowest with a D-minus.

This year, goals set forth by the group have been streamlined and better implemented.

"We've been encouraged that the networks have invested in these showcases. But the bottom line is people getting jobs," said Karen Narasaki, head of the coalition and the executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium in Washington, D.C.

"The networks know it's make or break if they don't deliver this fall," she said. "If they don't, we'll have to take some consumer action which I hope we won't have to do."

Narasaki said the coalition will meet with networks in early April "to get a sense of the progress" before the fall season programs are announced the second week of May. She expects at least one net-

work to unveil a show featuring an APA lead character.

She said the coalition is also encouraging networks and executives to start a similar outreach and development campaign for minority performers in New York.

New York transplant Erin Quill, who auditioned for both CBS and Fox, described her showcase experiences as "positive," though also quite different. Actors at the CBS showcase performed a one-minute monologue for casting directors, while FOX chose actors from photos and resumes submitted by EWP and ACTS.

"This was not a 'throw you a bone' situation," said Quill, whose father is Irish American and mother is Chinese Australian. "The people involved genuinely had a stake in putting together a representation of Asian American talent, and they were very concerned with professionalism, with quality, and making us the focus of industry execs and casting directors."

Quill, who holds a BFA in vocal performance and has been in the entertainment business for 15 years, just booked a job on "NYPD Blue" as a direct result of the Fox showcase. Other shows she's received callbacks from as a result of the showcases are "Providence," "Family Law," and "Girlfriends." She also received a part on the WB's "Roswell," but the part was subsequently written out.

For other actors, the benefits have come about indirectly. Actor Will Shin said his audition at the ABC showcase at the Improv unexpectedly led to an opportunity to try out for the lead role in a play. "They were looking for a young Asian lead actor, and a fellow showcase actor referred me," he

said.

"There is no way I could have bribed or convinced 70 creative executives to get together for an evening to watch me perform," Shin said. "It remains to be seen whether it will help my career, but I am very optimistic that the necessary inroads have been paved."

Martin Yu, 33, who participated in the CBS showcase in December at the Court Theatre in West Hollywood, also found that the showcases gave him much-needed exposure to high profile executives and casting directors.

"Within days after the showcase, I was cast as a guest star in a sitcom — my meatiest role to date — which was unexpected," he said. "I didn't think that all of a sudden I would be getting auditions like mad, but I was hoping that if casting directors ran across my name again, they would think, 'Yeah, that was that guy.'"

Others say despite these innovative approaches the networks are now taking to seek out prospective minority talent it continues to be an uphill battle.

"As of yet, they have not been helpful one iota," said veteran actor Donald Li, who is in his mid-40s and has been a professional actor since 1983. "The only audition thus far that I think was a result of my being seen in the showcase was for Amy Lippens for the show 'Once and Again.' It was for a one-line Asian waiter role."

Another problem, said Esther K. Chae, who auditioned for Fox, is that APA actors are still largely seen as the "other." "The industry still continuously mixes up and confuses the Asian American talents with Asian talents from Asia, which is a whole different story,"

she said.

Being a woman of color also poses particular obstacles. "It's tough with the challenges of the entertainment industry not having strong female roles period, but on top of that virtually none for Asian women, unless it's an ethnically specific role such as the soon to be made movie 'Memoirs of a Geisha' which is not 'American,'" said Chae, who was born in Eugene, Ore., and raised partly in Seoul, Korea. "The mainstream still asks, 'But you could be the next Michelle Yeoh,' and I just shake my head because Michelle Yeoh is not American, I do not speak Chinese, I am not a huge mega star in Asia and I don't have the 10-year built up cache that she does."

Like Chae, Linda Wang, a late 20-something actor from Queens, N.Y., recently relocated to Los Angeles from New York. Neither have seen a boost in work since auditioning at the showcases, though as relative newcomers both say it takes time to gain exposure.

As an East Coast bred performer who has worked on and off Broadway, Wang called the showcases "a great opportunity" but said there is still a gap APAs have yet to bridge. "Asian Americans are 20 years behind African Americans in terms of exposure and opportunity," said Wang, who once broached the topic with comedian Bill Cosby.

Such figures as Cosby not only helped introduce the black family into the public consciousness but helped push African Americans beyond the color barrier in the media, which is what needs to happen with APAs, say many performers. Much of that needs to start with the writers and those behind the camera.

"Writers should not feel ham-

strung by having to fabricate storylines that are ethnic specific," said Li. "It's just a simple matter of being open to the idea that, 'Hey, I have this detective role, why couldn't he be Asian?' or 'I created this district attorney role, why couldn't she be Asian or Latina?' It's as simple as that. African American performers have recently started to benefit from such open-mindedness, why not the rest of us?"

Yu agreed: "Every casting director has their go-to Asian actors. For change to come about, writers and producers need to create more Asian characters, and producers and directors need to cast in a more race-blind fashion. Too often you see a call for 'Caucasian male' for a role that's not race specific."

Shin said it also falls to the executives and those with financial clout. "The decision makers have to have a certain reliability, comfort level and commonality with the performers of minority origins. Talent is talent but minorities have a long uphill battle to fight, regardless of impeccable talent. The old-boy network is going nowhere anytime soon," he said.

Quill calls the showcases a "first step" in changing industry attitudes and misperceptions that APAs are either stereotypes or unmarketable, but she emphasized, "It is going to take Asian American writers telling stories that incorporate America and Asians in America to break down those walls and allow us into people's homes."

"It boggles the mind that in a country where Asian Americans are so prevalent — in our court system, medical fields, public services, the basic fabric of American life — we are still viewed as foreign and underwhelmingly represented on television." ■

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NATIONAL

(Continued from page 1)

in January and has not ruled out changing the money manager.

The committee has two new members: Matsumori and Takamori, who replaced Grayce Uychara.

Finance Committee (FC)

The board had a lengthy and sometimes contentious discussion on whether or not to change the structure of the Finance Committee, which is not clearly defined in JACL's constitution or bylaws. The FC has traditionally been made up of the national director, national president and national secretary/treasurer.

After passing a motion with a friendly amendment to change the current structure, the board voted to rescind the initial motion and decided to keep the FC structure in its traditional form.

Art Koga, JACL secretary/treasurer, initially moved to implement a June 29, 2000, motion which had been passed by the previous board but never instituted by the current board. This motion stipulated that the FC be made up of a national secretary/treasurer and a representative from the investment committee and governor's caucus, with the national president and national executive director sitting in as non-voting, ex-officio. In addition, Koga added to the motion that the business manager be added as an ex-officio. Masuo seconded. A friendly amendment from Clyde

Nishimura, EDC governor, was accepted to strike out the inclusion of the business manager since it was not part of the June 29, 2000, motion. Koga did not accept another friendly amendment from Ezaki to have the national director and national president as voting members.

Koga's motion passed but was soon reversed when Karen-Liane Shiba, vice president of planning and development, moved to rescind the June 29, 2000, motion, seconded by Bob Taniguchi, CCDC governor. The motion carried.

Ezaki then proposed a friendly amendment where the national president and national director would be voting members, along with the national secretary/treasurer. Seconded by Nishimura. Motion carried with two abstentions from Koga and David Masuo, PNW governor.

2002 Revised Budget

In November, the board worked on a 2002 budget, which would have had an estimated \$44,058 deficit. But as of February, they are estimating a \$203,515 deficit for 2002. This deficit took into consideration the recent departure of two staff people — Beth Au, PSW regional director and Akiko Schelske, national executive assistant. Mori emphasized that this financial problem was not a matter of overspending but that the downturn in the economy has had a huge im-

act on JACL's revenue source.

Mori formed an ad-hoc committee consisting of Koga, Ken Inouye, Pacific Citizen editorial board chairperson, and Nishimura to examine the revised 2002 budget in an effort to come up with various options to address this problem.

Koga recommended the following: take another \$50,000 from the national endowment fund; decrease the P.C. allocation by 10 percent; ask the president's council to begin fund raising; and examine the current investment policy. Koga felt that if they cannot generate enough revenue to cover the \$203,515 deficit, they may have to start making cuts that will affect staff.

After listening to the committee, Mori felt they needed more time to come up with a solution.

Other Payments

Teruya brought up the fact that five chapters in his NCWNP district have not been paid for assisting in the 2000 national convention in Monterey. Each chapter is owed \$5,000.

Tateishi said he will contact the five chapters and the board agreed to pay the \$25,000. The funds will be taken out of the national endowment fund.

In total, the board agreed to take out \$75,000 from the national endowment fund to pay for the following: \$25,000 to the five NCWNP chapters; \$20,000 to the districts for last year's district allocations; and \$30,000 in chapter

dues rebates.

Koga said they have enough cash to make it to the end of March.

Blue-Ribbon Implementation Committee

At the November board meeting, the board moved to form a Blue-Ribbon Implementation Committee (BRIC). Mori appointed JACL Vice President of General Operations David Kawamoto (chair), Nishimura, Matthew Nakata, national youth chair, and Taniguchi.

Kawamoto reported that after discussing the BRC recommendations electronically, they came up with the following:

• BRC's recommendation of initiating a 1-3 specific "new civil rights" and cultural values agenda — The committee felt this could be implemented into the Program for Action.

• A president's council — Mori said he currently has 10 people who have consented to sit on the council to help JACL fund-raise, and they plan to meet sometime in March.

• Redistricting — The committee felt this needed further discussion at the district level and recommended that a committee be formed to examine this.

• Board restructure — Kawamoto initially moved to restructure the board as recommended by the BRC to consist of the national president, a vice president, secretary/treasurer and three board members-at-large. Seconded by Nishimura. The motion was later

withdrawn after a brief discussion. Mori felt that this needed further discussion at the upcoming convention.

Mori asked the committee to come up with more concrete suggestions to be discussed at the convention.

2002 National Convention Update from Larry Oda

• Registration brochures should be ready for distribution by the end of February. Early registration deadline is April 30.

• Proposed Workshops are "APA Leadership in the 21st Century," "Teacher Training for the Internment Experience," "U.S.-Japan Relations," "Addressing Local Hate Crimes," "The Equal Employment Opportunities Commission," "The Social Security Administration," "Planned Giving," "Aging and Retirement," "AARP," and "Media Advocacy."

The youth are working on organizing two workshops: "Easy Japanese Cooking" and "Asian Pacific American Entrepreneurs."

• Fund-raising: As of January, \$75,000 has been confirmed from corporate donors including: State Farm, National JACL Credit Union, Anheuser-Busch, Ford, PG&E, JACL Health Benefits Trust (Blue Shield) and Bank of America. They will continue to pursue other possible corporate donors.

• Scheduled Events: Welcome Mixer at the Top of the Riviera on Wednesday night. It will

See NATIONAL/page 11

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11/5-11/10	Yamato Music Cities Adventure - New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville. Lily Nomura
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In Sports

2002 SALT LAKE CITY OLYMPICS

U.S. Pairs Figure Skaters Ina and Zimmerman Finish Fifth, Russians Take Gold

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY—Top American pairs figure skating team **Kyoko Ina and John Zimmerman** finished fifth after the free program Feb. 11, with Russians **Elena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze** barely edging out world champions **Jamie Sale and David Pelletier** of Canada for the gold medal.

Xue Shen and Hongbo Zhao, of China, received the bronze after attempting what would have been a historic throw quadruple salchow.

In a controversial decision by the judges, the Russians defeated the Canadians by a 5-4 margin, though their long program was less than perfect. Sikharulidze stumbled on a double axel jump.

Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze scored four 5.7s and five 5.8s for technical merit and two 5.8s and seven 5.9s for presentation, while Sale and Pelletier received six 5.8s and three 5.9s (out of 6.0) for technical merit and five 5.8s and four

5.9s for presentation. Judges from the U.S., Canada, Japan and Germany ranked them first in the ordinals, while the other five judges had the Russians on top.

Three-time U.S. champions Ina and Zimmerman entered the long program in fifth position after the short. They were to remain there, but their free skate to Rachmaninov was impressive, with Ina only briefly touching her hand down after landing a double axel.

Eight months before the Olympics, they were still struggling at the world championships. Then at Skate America they turned things around with a second-place finish, the first U.S. pair to medal at the event since 1997, and qualified for the Grand Prix with a solid fourth-place finish.

With the help of Russian coach Tamara Moskina, who also trains Berezhnaya and Sikharulidze, Ina and Zimmerman overcame early communication problems when they began skating together in 1998.

"Every year, we kept wonder-

ing, 'why is nothing going the way we wanted it to?'" Ina said. "We sat down and realized that this relationship, this team, this whole project wasn't going the way it should go."

Moskina, who has since brought out more depth in their artistry and technique, said first a few lessons were in order.

"I needed to teach two individuals to tolerate each other, to respect each other, to sacrifice some of their egos and likes and dislikes," Moskina said. "They were already grown-up personalities and they were different."

"We sort of grew up. It was like we learned more about ourselves," Ina said. "We really learned each other's personalities, what ticks, what doesn't tick. And I think that's really what has helped our skating."

Ina, who was born in Japan and raised in New York, skated in two previous Olympics with former partner Jason Dungjen, finishing fourth at Nagano, but has never won a medal. ■

Kwan Hints She Will Compete After Olympics

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY—**Michelle Kwan** might follow **Todd Eldredge's** lead.

The six-time U.S. champion and four-time world winner didn't declare her intentions Feb. 8 when asked about turning professional after the Salt Lake City Olympics. But Kwan, the 1998 silver medalist, appears to have made up her mind to compete well beyond this season.

Eldredge did the same thing, taking a two-year break after the Nagano Olympics before returning to major international competition. He won a bronze medal at last year's world championships and took his sixth U.S. title last month. These Olympics are his third.

If Kwan, the favorite in Salt Lake City, decides to stay eligible, the 2006 Winter Games in Turin, Italy, would be her third.

"I can't guarantee anything," Kwan said. "I'm still only 21 and I might be a veteran, gone to two Olympics, but skating is such a wonderful sport."

"Who knows? Maybe I will be in Italy in four years. Maria Butyrskaya is 29 and at her prime," she added.

Kwan already has gone through a season in which she barely competed. In 1999, she didn't want to do more than one Grand Prix event and was barred from the series. Kwan competed only in the U.S. championships, which she won, and at worlds, where she was second to Russia's Butyrskaya.

"It's difficult when you only do two major competitions, nationals and worlds," she said. "It's BAM! BAM! and the season is done."

"You can look at it both ways, though. Some skaters say it is better to do two internationals because the season is so long."

Why would Kwan even consider either route if she wasn't serious about remaining eligible? It may be that she has so many rich memories from skating and still welcomes the challenge from younger

skaters such as Olympic teammates **Sasha Cohen** and **Sarah Hughes**.

But most of all, she cherishes the journey.

"When I first watched the Olympics on TV and saw Brian Boitano win, I thought, 'Oh, I'm going to the Olympics.' I was not aware of what it takes," she said.

"I can't justify training four years for just these six minutes. There's got to be more. It's definitely the process. How can I say, the last four years I have been training for this moment? It's everything: the training, falling, being crazed — those are the moments and things that make skating so special."

Last month's nationals were one of those special times. Kwan, overcoming a mediocre season, skated superbly to win her fifth straight title. She re-established herself as a gold medal threat with that performance.

"At nationals, skating as well as I did, those are the moments you always strive for," she said. "You always want to be in a zone. To see it — and the process of getting there, and knowing what it feels like — it's just incredible."

Kwan's previous Olympic experiences were not completely satisfying. In 1994, she was an alternate to the U.S. team as skating officials pondered barring **Tonya Harding** from going to Lillehammer. Kwan went to Norway and trained for an Olympic appearance that never came when Harding was allowed to compete.

By 1998, Kwan was the Olympic favorite. But she finished second to **Tara Lipinski**.

That, she said, doesn't make victory here the only goal — even if she's pursued Olympic gold since she was a child.

"That whole dream was so close in '98," she said. "You're on the podium, but there's one more step."

"But realizing there's more to life than a medal, you have to move on, you live life without regrets." ■

Engineering Professor to Ski for Thailand

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHILADELPHIA—**Prawat Nagvajara** says he probably won't win the 30-kilometer cross-country race at the Olympic Games this week, and that's fine.

Nagvajara, 43, an engineering professor at Drexel University, is just excited to be the first Thai athlete ever to participate in the Winter Games. He is Thailand's lone representative and will carry its flag in the parade of nations.

"I'll be the last skier that will cross the finish line, but in a reasonable time," he said.

"The winter sports are not that

well-known in Thailand," Nagvajara said. "When the games were in Nagano, there was no coverage at all." That's because no winter sports are played in Thailand.

Born in Bangkok, Nagvajara started skiing when he went to Boston for college. He attended Northeastern University as an undergraduate and received his Ph.D. in computer engineering from Boston University in 1989.

He's competed in some local races and about three years ago began dreaming of the Olympics.

Because Thailand doesn't have an Olympic team, all he had to do to qualify was compete in five in-

ternational races, Nagvajara said. He went to his final race in January and made it into the games in the 30-kilometer free-technique cross-country skiing event.

At Drexel, the news came as a surprise, said fellow engineering professor **Bruce Eisenstein**. "I think everyone was surprised in a good way. He's very modest. He's not the kind of person that would engage in self-promotion."

Nagvajara's wife and his 2-year-old son, **Nathan**, are joining him in Salt Lake for the games. He said **Nathan** is ready to watch him. "He knows how to root for Thailand: 'Go Thailand, go.'" ■

Pro Baseball: Ishii Signs \$12.3 Million Contract With Dodgers

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Los Angeles Dodgers were careful to say they're not expecting too much right away from **Kazuhisa Ishii**.

Maybe so, but their wide smiles gave them away — they believe they've added a gem.

A left-hander considered one of the best starting pitchers in Japan in recent years, Ishii signed a four-year, \$12.3 million contract with the Dodgers Feb. 8.

He becomes the third high-profile Japanese player to join the major leagues in three years. The previous two, reliever **Kazuhiro Sasaki** and outfielder **Ichiro Suzuki**, led the Seattle Mariners to a record 116 regular-season victories last season.

"No matter if he's on a mound here or he's on a mound in Japan, he still throws in the low 90s with four pitches," general manager **Dan Evans** said of Ishii at a Dodger Stadium news conference. "I don't want to put any numbers on it. (But) we have expectations

of a very talented pitcher, he's in the prime of his career at age 28."

The Dodgers won rights to Ishii on Jan. 9 when their bid of \$11,264,055 was accepted by the Yakult Swallows, the pitcher's team in Japan's Central League.

Under the agreement between the major league commissioner's office and the Japanese commissioner's office, the sides had 30 days to complete a deal. The deadline was Feb. 8 at midnight EST.

The Dodgers and **Joe Urbon**, finalized the deal early Feb. 8 when they agreed to the package of award bonuses.

"I'm so excited, my hands are shaking," Ishii said through an interpreter. "That's how much I want to succeed, do my best to help the team."

Ishii receives a \$1.5 million signing bonus and salaries of \$500,000 this year, \$2.2 million in 2003, \$2.6 million in 2004 and \$3.2 million in 2005. The Dodgers get options for 2006 at \$3.3 million and 2007 at \$4 million, with a guaranteed buyout of \$1.1 million

for each option.

In addition, he receives a \$25,000 housing allowance each year and 10 round-trip plane tickets annually from Japan to the United States.

He also can earn up to \$150,000 annually in performance bonuses based on innings pitched, which if earned would raise the package to \$18.35 million over six seasons.

Los Angeles gave Ishii a complete no-trade clause for this year. He said that, he can select 10 teams each year that he can't be dealt to without his consent. The team also will pay for a trainer and a translator.

Ishii was 12-6 with a 3.39 ERA and 173 strikeouts in 175 innings for Yakult last season and 78-46 with a 3.38 ERA in 244 games in 10 years with the Swallows.

"He's been part of a very good ballclub, he's been in high-pressure situations over there, and he's excelled," Evans said.

Ishii is expected to be a No. 2 or No. 3 starter for the Dodgers, joining **Kevin Brown**, **Andy Ashby**

and **Hideo Nomo**. Barring a trade, **Omar Daal**, **Eric Gagne** and **Odalis Perez** will compete for the final spot in the team's rotation.

"I don't think he's going to have a problem being a successful pitcher over here," Dodgers manager **Jim Tracy** said. "We know there is going to be a transition period here. We're going to try to smooth this along as best we can."

Dodgers pitching coach **Jim Colborn** said he believes Ishii can be a 20-game winner at some point in his career.

"We want him to find his own level without a lot of pressure," Colborn said. "I'm sure he'll be a very solid contributor and win a lot of games for us, a lot of important games. I'm sure he'll get better, you've got to give him some slack in his first year in a different culture. I think he throws 89 to 91 or 92 (mph), he has a good, sharp slider and knows how to pitch with it."

There were many more Japanese reporters than Americans at the news conference, and on Feb. 9

another news conference was held in Japan.

"We understand the magnitude of this signing in Japan and the popularity of Ishii," Evans said.

The Mariners paid \$13,125,000 to the Orix Blue Wave of the Pacific League for the rights to **Suzuki** last off-season, and signed him to a three-year contract worth \$14,088,000.

Suzuki was an immediate star, leading the AL with a .350 average and topping the major leagues with 56 stolen bases. He was selected as the league's Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable Player.

Seattle signed **Sasaki** to a two-year, \$9.04 million contract before the 2000 season, and he also won the Rookie of the Year award. **Sasaki** had 37 saves in his first season with the Mariners and 45 last year. ■

Sports coverage continued on page 9.

Very Truly Yours

Harry Honda

Quotables of 2001 to Keep You Going

HERE IS MY annual New Year potluck of quips and quotes gleaned from the issues of the past year. As in the past, the italicized iotas are personal comments or circumstances of the statements.

#2940 (Jan. 12-Feb. 1) Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta "will be a strong leader for the department."—S. Floyd Mori. *Norm's leadership has certainly manifested itself on avenues and airways he never thought would happen, truly a leadership shaped from experience.*

#2941 (Feb. 2-15) There were two front-page headlines on the "state of the organization": "JACL Faces Shrinking Membership/Member Get a Member." *How did we do?*

#2942 (Feb. 16-March 1) The EDC, and D.C. chapter in particular, is considering ways to get the government-published book, "Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of WWII Japanese American Relocation Sites," reprinted. — EDC Gov. Clyde Nishimura. *We pray EDC's know-how scores.*

#2943 (March 2-15) P.C. editor emeritus heads up JACL's archives program: usual place in Monterey Park, a second at JANM in downtown Los Angeles. *In a high-security area since 9-11.*

#2944 (March 16-April 5) "How does one persist to fight for policies

that best serve our country?"—Ryan Chin, V.P. Public Affairs. *A good conundrum for young and old.*

#2945 (April 6-19) "We wish to reiterate that the veterans have repeatedly acknowledged the rights of WWII draft resisters in their stand, their stated position and their decision to accept the consequences..."—Commentary signed by Sus Satow et al. "However, we, as veterans and as JACL members, DO object to the National JAEL extending an apology to the resisters." From another perspective, Hisashi Ishizaki adds: "The Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee did not need nor have ever asked for an apology." *Emotions test one's samurai upbringing.*

#2946 (April 20-May 3) Racist graffiti, discovered in late March on the Stanford campus, elicited a tepid but straightforward comment from Alan Acosta, the university's director of communications: "The investigation is ongoing and we are vigorously pursuing the case and all leads we can find." *Stand by!*

#2947 (May 4-17) "JA Community Anticipates Backlash from 'Pearl Harbor.'"—P.C.'s three-column banner. *With all the publicity, you'd think Disney could have advertised with us.*

#2948 (May 18-31) Da Pidgin Guerrilla [Lee Tonouchi] is a funny guy on a serious mission. —That's

the gist of P.C. Reporter Tracy Uba's story with sentences feigning his pidgin. *Proponents really need to invent a pidgin alphabet with phonetic accents.*

#2449 (June 1-14) "JACL Votes to Reject Philip Morris Monies." *A bone we never thought would confront the national board, which is tossing the bone to the national council convening in June, 2002.*

#2450 (June 15-July 5) JACL criticized eBay's use of 'Jap' in describing items on its auction site. In a one-man offensive, Richard Imon of Las Vegas has been suggesting, "Jpn." *Instead, Yahoo! and eBay announced they would no longer sell hate-related items.*

#2951 (July 6-19) The Montgomery County school board in Maryland has named a new elementary school in Rockville after the late Senator Spark M. Matsunaga. *It's been 20 years since the Los Angeles County dedicated a new library named for the late Masao W. Satow.*

#2952 (July 20-Aug. 2) A resolution in favor of allowing non-citizens "full membership status" including holding national office will be on the JACL convention agenda. *Would this proposal water down the homage rendered to the meaning of and expectation of citizenship?*

#2953 (Aug. 3-16) An encouraging facet of JACL is the many younger adults and teenagers show-

ing interest and confronting ethnic and racial problems of the 21st century.... —Floyd Mori. *Better that this "Mori Memo" obtains wider circulation.*

#2954 (Aug. 17-Sept. 6) Asian Americans [in California] seek re-districting to unify ethnic communities. —Associated Press. *Unprecedented, indeed. As Stewart Kwoh, APALC executive director, Los Angeles, says: "If we don't say anything, they will definitely divide our communities again."*

#2955 (Sept. 7-20) Briefs: Tombstones at Port Blakely, Wash., cemetery bearing foreign names being toppled... Poston I school auditorium destroyed by an early morning fire. *Definitely not juvenile horse-play.*

#2956 (Sept. 21-Oct. 4) Ron Uba's eyewitness account of the terrorist attacks of the World Trade Center Sept. 11 turns out to be a rare accounting in the Nikkei press. *Another "date of remembrance," has been born.*

#2957 (Oct. 5-18) Arab and Muslim Americans continue to be target of hate crimes and incidents three weeks after the 9/11; over 400 compiled nationally. *Catastrophes falling on individuals often go unreported.*

#2958 (Oct. 19-Nov. 1) The FBI met with Arab and Muslim Ameri-

cans in Southern California in an effort to allay their fears. [Such as: The FBI interrogation of the 5,000 Issei and Nisei after Dec. 7, 1941. Nearly 3,000 were released but over 2,000 Nikkei were shipped to enemy alien internment camps.] *It's time to print these numbers again for the record.*

#2959 (Nov. 2-15) Headline for Bill Marutani's column "East Wind" reads "The Annual Smear Fest," a tagline pontificating on "Day of Infamy" pundits justifying the Evacuation. While their voices are numbered, Marutani is disturbed by the rise of "gross racial profiling." *So, "profiling" is a nine-letter neologism, replacing "discrimination" of 14 letters.*

#2960 (Nov. 16-Dec. 13) Eight Asian American candidates score big in New York, New Jersey. *As identified, none were Japanese American.*

#2961 (December, 2001) "We've chosen the theme of 'Family,' a topic that has become ever more important since the horror of the Sept. 11 attacks and the aftermath." —Caroline Aoyagi, P.C. executive editor. *Fifty fine articles or fifty fascinating facets. These invigorated me to Kodansha's Encyclopedia on Japan on "traditional family - kazoku" and its selection of books in English.* ■

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Brian Niya

All in It Together



For those Japanese Americans who are involved with one or another of the ethnic community organizations, it is common to meet another JA for the first time and find that you are connected in some way. Though this is more a Nisei phenomenon, since Nisei are probably more likely to be members of JACL, attend a JA church, or have gone to camp, you still see it among younger folks, with the ties often centering around sports, professional organizations, or Nisei relatives. In fact it is almost a truism that when two Nisei meet for the first time, they inevitably play a little game to try to find how they are connected, often beginning with the question, "So what camp did you go to?"

I understand this and the implications it has for how one lives his or her life in the JA community. But it did not prepare me for what I would experience in the five-plus years since I've moved to Hawai'i.

In Hawai'i it's as if everyone, whatever their ethnicity, is tied to absolutely everyone else. And you don't even have to try very hard to find the connections. Examples abound, but I'll give you just a couple.

We recently moved and have become friends with one of our next door neighbors. They have lived in Hawai'i a few years longer than us and neither is from here. The husband is of Filipino/Haole ancestry and the wife is from China. It turns out we are connected in no less than three ways. The husband once dated a

well-known writer whose work I knew and whom I had recently met. The wife was an art historian who is close friends with an artist whom my co-author had recently interviewed for a book we're writing on Asian American artists. And we've just found out that my wife's friend from college who now lives in Hawai'i actually works with the husband.

Another example: when my wife was pregnant, she became friends with a colleague who was pregnant at the same time and who had the same due date. Since that time, our families have remained close, and our children, who ended up being born one week apart, are like siblings (complete with the fighting). It turns out that this friend was a college classmate of another friend whom I had worked with in California but who was originally from Hawai'i.

Another case is one of my favorites and actually occurred before I moved here. I was publishing and collector in the Big Island and found that he not only knew both my maternal and paternal grandfathers, but may have attended my parents' wedding. He also knew that they had a child, so he kind of knew me (or at least my existence and position in the family) before we had even met.

Now I know most of you may have similar stories to tell, but the point here is that I have connections like that to virtually every single person I meet in Hawai'i, whether they are JA or not. So does everyone else. The novelty isn't in any one of the stories like

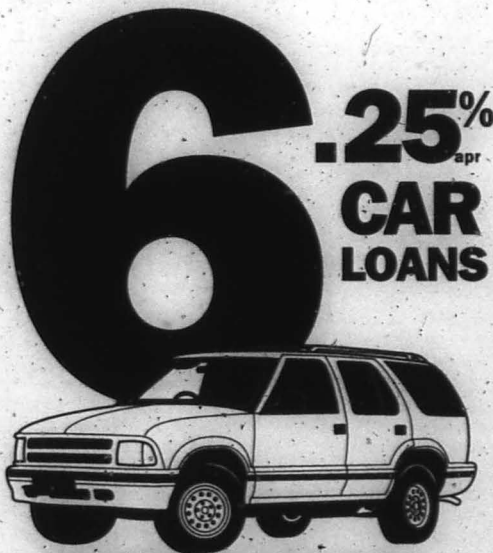
those above; it is in the sheer number of them.

So what does this all mean? Well for one thing, it has the effect of putting all of us on our best behavior. When you know that the person who is tailgating you is likely to be your friend's cousin or cousin's uncle's stepson or whatever, you're less likely to flip him the bird. I'm convinced this phenomenon is part of the reason why Hawai'i is a more civil society than somewhere like Los Angeles, where you are very unlikely to have those types of ties to a random person you might meet.

I think it also contributes to the strong identification many locals have with local institutions whether or not they actually live here. "Hawaiian Clubs" can be found on college campuses all over the West Coast and in some other areas of the country, mostly populated by AA students from Hawai'i. Those same campuses don't typically have "Orange County Clubs"; in fact the very notion of such a thing seems silly.

On the down side, I think this phenomenon is also part of the reason for the insularity one finds here, the sense that Hawai'i is an island unto itself, somehow less connected to the rest of the world. As someone who is used to being a part of the larger national and world stage, this insularity is one of the hardest things to get used to about living here.

Well I better stop before I offend someone who knows someone I know here. Which would be everyone, I guess.... ■



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In Sports

Exodus of Star Players Taking Toll on Japanese Baseball

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO—Former Yakult Swallows pitcher Kazuhisa Ishii said he was lured to America by double cheeseburgers, good golf courses and the prospect of facing Barry Bonds.

Ishii, who inked a \$12.3 million, four-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers on Feb. 8, became the 15th Japanese player to sign with a major league team.

Many worry that if the talent

just how far their game has come. But if all the best players go overseas, the appeal of the game at home will continue to decline.

"I really worry about the future of the game in Japan," said Boston Red Sox scout Ray Poitevint, who has been surveying Japanese talent for almost 20 years. "I think the people who run Japanese baseball have to find a way to make the game more appealing to the fans and the players."

That may be a tall order. Com-

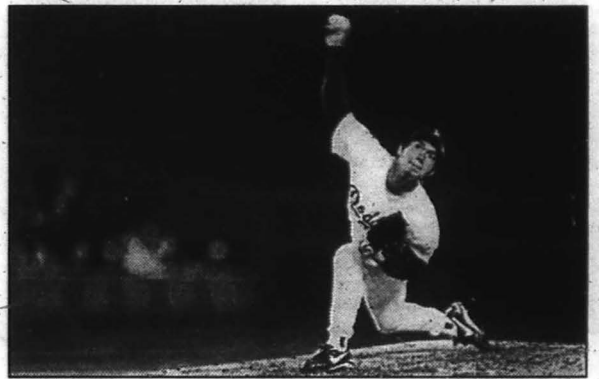


Photo Courtesy of L.A. Dodgers

Hideo Nomo

drain continues, Japanese baseball will become nothing more than a minor league for the majors.

"I think the floodgates have opened," said Marty Kuehnert, president of a Tokyo-based sports consulting company. "And there's not a heck of a lot Japan Professional Baseball can do about it. It's like trying to tell a Russian hockey player to stay in Russia instead of going to the NHL."

The exodus of star players like Ishii and 2001 American League MVP and Rookie of the Year Ichiro Suzuki has taken its toll on the popularity of Japan's professional leagues.

Attendance at most parks was down last season and many Japanese fans now rather watch the Mariners and Dodgers on TV than the Yomiuri Giants or the Orix BlueWave.

Even Ishii's former manager, Tsutomu Wakamatsu is looking forward to seeing how his erstwhile star gets along in the majors.

"I've never really watched major league baseball on TV before but I will now," said Wakamatsu.

Equally worrisome to Japanese baseball officials is that Major League Baseball is now tapping into Japan's amateur ranks.

Last month, the Boston Red Sox signed 22-year-old pitcher Ryo Kumagai to a minor league deal worth \$450,000.

Kumagai didn't allow an earned run in 47 innings last season as the closer for Tohoku Fukushi University, the same school that produced Seattle Mariners closer Kazuhiro Sasaki.

The success of players like Suzuki and Hideo Nomo of the Dodgers is a source of national pride to all Japanese — proof of

pared to their major league counterparts, Japanese players are treated only slightly better than your average company employee.

Free agency requires nine long years of service and agents are frowned upon. Most players have no choice but to negotiate contracts on their own and many are forced to accept pay cuts in the off-season.

Add to this a long season that begins with "spring" training in January and it's no wonder many Japanese players yearn for the greener pastures of the major leagues.

"There's no doubt Japanese baseball is losing its appeal," said Hiroyuki Omori, a 39-year-old fitness instructor. "I'm a Yomiuri fan but if (Hideki) Matsui goes to the majors, I'd probably stop watching Japanese baseball."

After winning the Central League home run title in two of the last four seasons, Matsui has become the most recognized player in Japanese baseball.

Highly coveted by several major league teams, the 28-year-old Matsui has said he will make a decision on going to the majors after the 2002 season when he becomes a free agent.

For its part, Japanese baseball is trying to make its game more exciting. Officials have called on umpires in both leagues to try to speed up the pace of games for the upcoming season.

The current average length of a game in the Central League is 3 hours, 17 minutes, while the average game in the Pacific League lasts 3 hours, 23 minutes. That's too long for commissioner Hiromori Kawashira, who has set a goal of no more than three hours for the 2002 season. ■

College Volleyball: Hawaii Sweeps UC San Diego

HONOLULU—Tony Ching, who returned to action after sitting out seven matches with a shoulder injury, had 10 kills for the University of Hawaii men's volleyball team, which had its second consecutive sweep of UC San Diego on Feb. 9.

The Rainbows won by scores of 30-15, 30-26, 30-24, with 13 kills

from freshman Jose Delgado and 11 by Delano Thomas.

Eric Perrine led UC San Diego with 16 kills.

The second-ranked Rainbows improved to 6-0 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation and 9-2 overall. San Diego is winless in conference play and 1-9 overall. ■

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

PRO BASEBALL Ichiro Voted Seattle Sports Star of the Year

SEATTLE—Japanese right fielder Ichiro Suzuki of the Seattle Mariners was voted the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer's* male Sports Star of the Year.

Suzuki, a sensation in his rookie season in major league baseball, won easily. Other men's nominees were Olympic speedskater Apolo Anton Ohno, University of Washington All-American defensive tackle Larry Triplet, Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander and SuperSonics guard Brent Barry.

Jay Buhner, a 1994 Sport Star nominee who announced his retirement as a Mariners right fielder after the end of the season, accepted the award for Suzuki, who was at home in Japan. ■

Agbayani's College Jersey Number Retired

HONOLULU—Hawaii Pacific University honored pro baseball player Benny Agbayani by retiring the No. 28 college jersey he wore as a Sea Warrior.

Hawaii Pacific President Chitt G. Wright congratulated Agbayani, a Hawaii native and an outfielder for the Colorado Rockies, on his success and thanked him for his contributions to the university and the state of Hawaii.

Agbayani, who wears No. 50 for the Rockies, says he wears it to honor the 50th state. Before becoming a baseball standout at Hawaii Pacific, Agbayani made All-State teams in baseball, football and soccer at St. Louis School.

Prior to being traded to the Rockies, the Honolulu-born slugger spent his major league career with the New York Mets from 1998. Agbayani, 29, hit .277 with 14 doubles, two triples, six homers and 27 RBIs in 91 games last season.

After the 2000 season in which he hit .289 with 15 home runs and drove in the winning run in the Mets' only World Series game victory over the New York Yankees, Gov. Ben Cayetano honored him by declaring a week in late November "Benny Agbayani Week." ■

COLLEGE BASEBALL Komine Returns, but Will Nebraska Deliver?

DALLAS—Nebraska lived up to all of the expectations a year ago, winning their first Big 12 regular season title in 2001, then following that with their third straight conference tournament championship and the school's first-ever appearance in the College World Series in their home state.

With the return of All-American pitcher Shane Komine (14-2, 3.35 ERA and 157 strikeouts), who decided to return for his senior season, and two-time All-Big 12 junior first baseman Matt Hopper (.358, 12 home runs, 85 RBIs), the Cornhuskers are again among the Big 12 favorites.

Nebraska is No. 8 in both the Baseball America and Baseball Weekly/ESPN polls, and 13th in Collegiate Baseball. They are one of four Big 12 teams — the others are Texas, Oklahoma State and Baylor — listed among the top 25 in each of the three major preseason polls. ■

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JACL COMMUNITY Calendar

East Coast

PHILADELPHIA

Through May 26—Exhibit, "Hands On: Japanese Craft and Design of the 20th Century"; Philadelphia Museum of Art; featuring furniture, lighting, lacquer, textiles and ceramics. Info: 215/684-7364.

NEW YORK CITY

Fri-Sat, March 1-2—Conference, "Racial (Trans) Formations: Latinos and Asians Remaking the United States."; sponsored by the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race at Columbia University and A/P/A Studies. For details, contact Nicholas De Genova, Columbia University, 212/854-0199, npd18@columbia.edu.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fri-Tues, April 12-16—JAACL/OCA Leadership Program; Forms and info: Kristine Minami, 202/223-1240; fax 202/296-8082; e-mail: dc@jaacl.org.

Midwest

DAYTON

Fri-Sun, March 15-17—Midwest District Council meeting; DoubleTree Hotel.

CHICAGO

Sun, Feb. 24—Chicago JAACL Inaugural; 12 noon social hour, 1 p.m. lunch; Maggiano, 175 Old Orchard Shopping Center, Skokie; entertainment by AA comedy group Stir Friday Night. For more information, please call Donna Ogura, 312/943-7801 M-F 9 am-3 p.m., or JAACL office, 773/728-7171 M-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mountain Plains

WYOMING

Thurs-Sun, Aug. 30-Sept. 1—Heart Mountain Reunion 2002. Info: Raymond Uno, 801/355-0284.

Intermountain

SALT LAKE CITY

Through Feb. 24—Nagano Hospitality House; 14 E. Broadway (300 South); free miso, 7-9 a.m.; restaurant, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; to introduce Nagano Prefecture and Japan to Olympics visitors; Japanese speaking volunteers needed. Info: Tomoko Ogi (801)484-7366.

Sat, March 16—National JAACL Credit Union meeting; 5:30 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. meeting; Little America Hotel; will feature special recognition for past chairmen and governors of the IDC from Utah. **RSVP by March 11:** Credit Union, 355-8040.

Sun, March 17—Intermountain District Council meeting; 8 a.m.-1 p.m.; Little America Hotel; Salt Lake chapter hosting.

Pacific Northwest

PORTLAND

Sun, March 3—Oregon Buddhist Temple Spring Bazaar; 12 noon-3:30 p.m.; 3720 SE 34th Ave. and Powell Blvd.; sushi, chow mein, noodles, gifts, produce, snack bar, raffle, ikebana exhibit. Info: Etsu Osaki, 503/254-9536.

SEATTLE

Through February—Exhibit, "If Tired Hands Could Talk: Stories of Asian Garment Workers"; Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 7th Ave. South. Free with museum admission. Info: 206/623-5124 ext. 114.

Northern California

BAY AREA

Sun, March 3—Nikkei Widowed Group meeting; for place and time, call: M. Kusada, 415/333-5190, or Kay Yamamoto, 510/444-3911.

EL CERRITO

Sat, March 16—Illustrated presentation, "Japanese American Internees at Idaho's Kooskia Internment Camp, 1943-1945"; 5:30-7 p.m.; East Bay Free Methodist Church, 5395 Potrero Ave.; presented by Priscilla Wegard, Ph.D.; light supper will be provided. **RSVP by March 9:** June Kodani, 519/548-4104.

LODI

Through February—Georgia White display at the Lodi Library; documents, photos and archives from CSUS JA Archival Collection; also free documentary screenings: "A Fam-

ily Gathering," "Days of Waiting," "Honor Bound," "Uncommon Courage," "Conscience and the Constitution," "A Personal Matter: Gordon Hirabayashi v. United States." For times and locations: Robin Knowlton, Lodi Arts Commission, 209/368-8269.

ROCKLIN

Tues., Feb. 26—Film screening, "Children of the Camps" with Dr. Satoshi Ina; 12:30-2:30 p.m.; Dietrich Theater, Sierra College. Info: Debra Sutphen, Placer JAACL, 916/789-2754.

THURS., FEB. 28

—Book signing, "Standing Guard: Telling Our Stories" (oral histories of Placer County JAs.); 2:30-4:30 p.m.; Sierra College Learning Resources Center Rare Book Room; Info: Debra Sutphen, Placer JAACL, 916/789-2754.

SACRAMENTO

Through March 3—Exhibit, "Continuing Traditions: Japanese American Crafts & Ceremonies"; Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sundays noon-5 p.m.; Golden State Museum, 1020 "O" St. Info: 916/653-7524, www.goldenstatemuseum.org.

Sat., March 9—Tsubaki Dance Club's 19th Annual Spring Dance; 7:30-11:30 p.m.; Scottish Rite Temple, 6151 "H" St.; refreshments; music by DJ Duncan Hardin. Tickets, info: Nob Kurita, 916/726-5521, or Tosh Matsumoto, 916/429-8600.

Sun., March 17—Film screening, "Children of the Camps"; 11 a.m.; Crocker Art Museum, 216 "O" St.; shown in conjunction with the Henry Sugimoto exhibit. Info: 916/264-5423.

Through March 24—Exhibit, "Henry Sugimoto: Painting an American Experience"; includes award-winning documentary film "Harsh Canvases: The Art and Life of Henry Sugimoto"; Crocker Art Museum, 216 "O" St. Info: 916/264-5423.

SAN MATEO

Sun, Feb. 24—Supday Movie Matinee, "Ame Agaru" (After the Rain) by Akira Kurosawa; 1:30 p.m.; JAACL Community Center, 415 Claremont St. Info: 650/343-2793.

Sat, March 16—"911 Community Dialogue"; 6-9:30 p.m.; College of San Mateo's Little Theater, 1700 W. Hillsdale Blvd.; cosponsored by San Mateo JAACL. Free. Info: Kate Motoyama, 650/574-6676.

STOCKTON

Fri, Feb. 22—San Joaquin Nisei Farmers League 26th annual banquet; 6 p.m. social hour; Waterloo Gun and Bocci Club, 4343 N. Ashley Lane; keynote speaker, Hon. Richard W. Pombo, 11th Congressional District. Tickets, info: Terry Paoletti, 209/465-1754.

WATSONVILLE-SANTA CRUZ

Sun-Mon, March 10-11—Reno trip; Reno Hilton, Silver Legacy and Boomtown; discount to active Watsonville-Santa Cruz JAACL Senior Center members. Info: Carmel Kamigawachi, 831/722-1930, or Shig T. Kizuka, 831/728-2693.

Sat, April 27—A re-enactment of the WWII Japanese American internment by the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JAACL: "Liberty Lost... Lessons in Loyalty"; Vet's Memorial Hall and Mello Center. Volunteers, actors and donations wanted. Info: Mas Hashimoto, 831/722-6859, hash79@earthlink.net, or www.jaacl.org.

Southern California

CALABASAS

Fri, March 1—Fitness and Exercise Walk; 9:30-11 a.m.; Soka University, 26800 W. Mulholland Hwy. Free. **RSVP, info:** 714/843-3746.

HOLTVILLE

Sat, March 16—Imperial Valley Nikkei Reunion; 5:30 p.m. registration, 6:30 dinner; Barbara Worth Resort and Convention Center. Reservations and Info: Tim Asamen: 760/344-2627. For charter bus from Los Angeles-Gardena, call Nancy Matsuda, 323/888-9922.

LONG BEACH

Sun, Feb. 24—Japan America Society 10th annual whale watch cruise; 9:30 a.m. registration, 10 a.m. departure, 12:30 p.m. return; leaves from Long Beach Marina, 180 Marina Dr.; narration in Japanese and English. **RSVP by Feb. 21:** 213/627-6217 ext. 206, fax 213/627-1353.

LOS ANGELES

Through Feb. 17—Play, "Sisters Matsumoto" by Philip Kan Gotanda; 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, plus 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays; David Henry Hwang Theatre, 120 Judge John Aiso St., Little Tokyo. Tickets: 213/625-4EWP Box Office open from two hours before performance.

Sun, Feb. 17—16th UCLA Nikkei Student Union Cultural Night; 7 p.m.; UCLA Royce Hall; parking at Structure #5; speakers, exhibitions, original drama, odori as well as contemporary Japanese music, taiko, martial arts, etc. Free, but tickets are required: 310/396-9304, e-mail: nikkei@ucla.edu. Info: www.uclanikkei.com.

Wed., Feb. 20—Three-session study of Japanese Buddhism; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Japanese Evangelical Ministry Society (JEMS) headquarters, 948 E. Second St.; in conjunction with the sixth annual gathering of retired Nisei ministers, wives and widows; lunch is included. RSVP: JEMS, 213/613-0022.

Sun, Feb. 24—2002 Dr. Roy Nishikawa District Oratorical Competition; 11:30 a.m.; JACCC, 244 S. San Pedro St., 2nd Floor; open to high school students age 16 or older, and full-time undergraduate college students. **Apply by Feb. 15.** Info: Gerald Kato, JAACL Pacific Southwest District office, 213/626-4471, e-mail: youth@jaclpsw.org.

Through Feb. 24—4th Annual Shikishi Exhibition, "Awakening"; JACCC, George J. Doizaki Gallery, 244 So. San Pedro St. Info: Kym Aoki, 213/628-2725 ext. 112.

Fri., March 8—Japanese American National Museum 10th Anniversary Dinner: The Grand Ballroom, 6801 Hollywood Blvd. at Highland; dinner catered by Wolfgang Puck; sponsor tables available. Info: 213/830-5631.

PASADENA

Sat., Feb. 16—Year of the Horse Chinese New Year festival; 1 p.m.; Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave.; lion dance, folk dancing; dough doll making, calligraphy, brush painting workshops for children. Free. Info: 626/449-2742.

WEST COVINA

Sat., March 2—"Spring Fling" benefit dance; 7-11 p.m.; East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, 1203 W. Puente Ave; Info: 626/960-2566.

Arizona - Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Fri., Feb. 22—Asian Chamber of Commerce Community Achievement Awards Dinner; 6 p.m.; Rio Suites Hotel & Casino, I-15 & Flamingo. RSVP: ACC, 737-4300.

RENO

Sun, Feb. 24—Reno JAACL Potluck and White Elephant Bingo; Knights of Pythias Hall.

Sun, March 10—Reno JAACL Scholarship Benefit Teriyaki Dinner; Senior Center. Tickets, info: Bud Fujii, 852-0559, or Norm Ikada, 747-7074.

Hawaii

HONOLULU

Fri-Sun, March 8-10—Eighth Annual Honolulu Festival; celebrating the arts and culture of Japan: Uozu Taimon Matsuri, Uneme Giant Taiko Matsuri, Takasaki Danuma Mikoshi, Akita Kantou Matsuri, street jazz from



PHOTO: NORMAN SUGIMOTO

On March 8, the Japanese American National Museum will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the public opening of its Historic Building, a former Buddhist temple, at the Hollywood and Highland's Grand Ballroom in Los Angeles.

Sendai, Osaka pro wrestling, arts & crafts, music and dance, grand parade, fireworks, more. Info: 808/294-3328, www.honolulu-festival.org. ■

Correction

Jordan F. Hiratzka was inaccurately identified as founder of Berkeley Boy Scout Troop 26 (New Year's Issue, page 11, "In Memoriam"); he did help to revive the troop upon return of the internees postwar.

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

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

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE PROGRAMS

CHICAGO, Sun, Feb. 17—4-6 p.m.; Chicago Historical Society, 1601 N. Clark St. (parking at Clark & LaSalle); noted author, historian, radio personality Studs Turkel and JAACL Executive Director John Tateishi will speak on "Civil Rights and the Media"; panel moderator, Judge Sandra Otaka; Info: Lary Schechtman, Chicago JAACL, 773/728-7171.

FLORIN, Calif., Sat, March 9—2 p.m.; Florin JAACL program, "Guardians of the Constitution"; Florin YBA Hall, 7135 Pritchard Rd.; speaker, John Tateishi, JAACL National Director; includes oral history exhibit and literature table. Info: Christine Umeda, chair, 916/427-2841.

FRESNO, Calif., Sat, Feb. 16—10:30 a.m. ceremony and recognition of Nisei veterans at Fresno Fair Grounds; bento lunch, films and workshops at Fresno State University Education Building; storyteller Megumi, koto demonstration, presentation by poet Lawson Inada; exhibits throughout, the afternoon; program arranged by JAACL Central California District chapters. Info: Bob Taniguchi, 209/383-5161.

HONOLULU, Mon, Feb. 18—2-4 p.m.; University of Hawaii, Richardson School of Law, Classroom 2 (2515 Dole St.); Dalton Tanonaka, M.C.; keynote speaker professor and author Mitchell Maki; also poetry readings by J. Martin Romualdez and Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani; taiko. Info: Brian, 395-2617.

INDEPENDENCE, Calif., Sat, Feb. 16—1:30 p.m.; anniversary program, "Sixty Years Ago," and premiere of exhibit on Executive Order 9066; American Legion Hall, Hwy 395 & Kearnsage St.; refreshments provided by the Independence Chamber of Commerce.; optional visit to the Manzanar auditorium. Info: Independence C of C, 760/878-0084, or Manzanar National Historic Site, 760/878-2194.

LOS ANGELES, Sat, Feb. 16—9 a.m.-1 p.m.; UCLA Law School Forum: Learning From the Internment in a Post 9-11 World; presenting a new book, "Race, Rights, and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment"; complimentary lunch. Free. Info: UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 310/825-2974, www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc.

LOS ANGELES, Sat, Feb. 16—2 p.m.; "1942 and 2001—Without Due Process: From Japanese American Internment to Arab American and Muslim American Detention"; Aratani Central Hall, Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St., Little Tokyo; presented by the JAACL PSW district council, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, and JANM; reception follows. RSVP: JANM, 213/625-0414. Info: NCRR, 213/680-3484, or JAACL/PSWDC, 213/626-4471.

PHILADELPHIA, Sat, Feb. 16—2-4 p.m.; "From Cambodia to Philadelphia: One Story of an Escape to Freedom"; Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, 7th & Market Streets.; speaker Chiny Ky, Philadelphia School District Office of Language and Equity Issues; lecture, slides, discussion, refreshments. Free. Info: Joyce Horikawa, 856/427-9431, or Miiko Horikawa, 610/525-6620.

PORTLAND, Ore., Sun, Feb. 17—2 p.m.; 60th anniversary reunion for survivors and friends of Portland Assembly Center; 2-4 p.m. opening reception of exhibit, "Can History Repeat?" at Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 117 NW 2nd Ave.; 4:30 p.m. dinner and 5:30 p.m. dinner program at Great China Seafood Restaurant, 336 NW Davis, featuring stories of those who were incarcerated. RSVP: 503/224/1458.

ROCKLIN, Calif., Tues., Feb. 19—2-4 p.m.; interpretive documentary photo exhibit and reception, "Uncle Tim," by nationally known photographer Dean Tokuno, to honor his uncle and other veterans of the 442nd RCT.; Ridley Gallery, Sierra College. Info: Bill Tsujii, 916/789-2270, or Debra Sutphen, Placer JAACL, 916/789-2754.

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Through Feb. 22—School presentations at Golden State Museum, Mondays through Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations for teachers: 916/653-3476.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sat, Feb. 16—11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; panel discussion, "Listening to and Learning from the Voices of Internment"; California Historical Society, 678 Mission St. Info: 415/357-1848.

Sun, Feb. 24—3 p.m.; "Conscience in Rhythm"; Kabuki 8 Theatre, 1881 Post St. at Fillmore, Japantown; keynote speaker Yuri Kochiyama; taiko, performances, creative arts presentation, candlelight ceremony. Tickets: 877/243-3774. Info: 415/353-5732 or www.asianimprov.com. Free reception follows at JCCNCC, 1840 Sutter St. **SAN JOSE, Calif., Sun, Feb. 17**—5:30 p.m.; "Guilty by Reason of Race"; San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, 640 N. First St.; speakers include Arab Americans and Jim McEntee-Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission; performances; candlelight procession through Japantown. Info: Nihon machi Outreach Committee, 408/814-3176, or www.nocsj.org.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Sun, Feb. 17—2-4 p.m.; Washington, D.C., JAACL program: film screening, "Of Civil Wrongs and Rights, the Fred Korematsu Story," followed by Sansei and Yonsei presenting information they have garnered via interviews with older JAs in "Passing on Our History to a New Generation"; George Washington University Marvin Center Amphitheater. Info: Craig Uchida, 301/438-3132.

Tues., Feb. 19—3:50 p.m.; Panel discussion: "Americans Alienated: 9066 and 9/11"; Carmichael Auditorium of the American History Museum; followed by a reception; sponsored by JAACL and the Smithsonian Institution's APA Studies Program; panelists: internee Karen Ebel; Dr. Chirimjeev Katuria, Sikh American; author Frank Wu. Free. Info: 202/223-1240.

NATIONAL

(Continued from page 6)

feature a Las Vegas Revue and an Elvis impersonator.

Youth Luncheon on Thursday. Gerald Kato, PSW youth director, is working on securing a keynote speaker.

Awards Luncheon Friday. Mori said he wants to start a tradition where Japanese American role models from the host chapter can be recognized.

Premier Membership Recognition Reception, sponsored by the National JAACL Credit Union in conjunction with the Sacramento chapter. Kishiue is working on organizing a special reception for premier members such as the 1000 Club members.

"Leadership Salute" Dinner on Friday evening. Tateishi said they want to honor the Nisei veterans, which JAACL technically has not done, and the wartime JAACL leaders Saburo Kido, George Inagaki and Mike Masaoka.

Sayonara Banquet Reception Saturday Evening, sponsored by Congressman Robert and Doris Matsui.

Sayonara Banquet Saturday evening with keynote speaker Morris Dees, chief counsel with the Southern Poverty Law Center.

2004 National Convention Site

Hawaii was chosen as the 2004 national convention site, although Chicago also turned in a strong bid. During the voting process, the governors' caucus declined to make a recommendation to the board because they felt the vote would be too close. Following a discussion among the entire board, six voted in favor of Hawaii, five for Chicago and one abstained. Mori did not allow proxy votes for board members, who had left the meeting early to catch their flights.

NCWNP Office Move

Teruya made a motion to have NCWNP pay for two months rent to keep the NCWNP district office at its current location, and after the two months, NCWNP would reconvene to see whether the district could continue to fund the office. Seconded by Masuo. Motion passed by a voice vote.

At the November board meeting, the national board had decided to have the NCWNP office moved back to headquarters in an effort to save money. But this would entail NCWNP breaking their current lease agreement, which may have some dire financial consequences.

Personnel

Tateishi announced that Lucy Kishiue, who is currently program director of membership/fund development, will take on more duties of handling operations, administration and personnel responsibilities at headquarters. Her appropriate title will be announced later.

Fund-raiser

Tateishi, in following up with the board's November request to find a fund-raiser, was able to secure an individual from Chicago with a fund-raising background.

Donations

Tateishi said he received a call from an individual, who agreed to donate \$14,000 to the P.C. after reading his recent column regarding P.C.'s equipment wish list. The donor asked to remain anonymous.

The Arizona chapter also decided to donate funds after reading Tateishi's column. They will be cutting a check for \$2002 as part of a 2002 campaign, challenging other chapters to support P.C.

Kishiue said another donor who asked to remain anonymous recently donated \$20,000 to JAACL after winning a fishing tournament in Cabo San Lucas.

Soko Bukai/YWCA Case

Shimomura reported that JAACL joined other Nikkei organizations in San Francisco in signing a document that agreed not to file any lawsuits in connection with the YWCA building lawsuit.

In San Francisco, the Soko Bukai — a group of Japanese American Christian churches — is involved in a lawsuit against the local YWCA over who owns the property rights. Because California's alien land laws prevented Asians from owning land in the early 1900s, a group of Issei women raised enough funds to purchase a residence facility for a Japanese YWCA, which was then purchased in the trust of the San Francisco YWCA. (The YWCA's own facilities were segregated at the time.) Eighty-some years later, the YWCA attempted to sell the property, valued at \$1.65 million, as a sole title holder and denied the existence of a trust agreement with the Nikkei community. While JAACL never made any claims to the YWCA property, Shimomura said the attorneys involved in the case wanted to ensure that no other Nikkei organizations, other than the Soko Bukai, would be allowed to make claims on the property.

Judicial Candidates

Gary Mayeda, vice president of membership, moved to support Shimomura's request for JAACL to write letters of support for three Asian American attorneys applying for judicial appointments in California. Seconded by Shiba. Passed unanimously.

Shimomura explained that while California has an AA population of about 10 percent, only 3 percent of judges are AAs. He was approached by Gov. Davis' judicial appointments secretary about possible AA judicial candidates, and after discussing the matter with three other AA attorneys, Shimomura said they came up with a short list of three candidates, which he presented to the JAACL board.

Help Nicole/Bone Marrow Registration

After hearing a presentation by a Seattle organization called Help Nicole, Masuo made a motion to increase the awareness of the need of people of color and multi-racial bone marrow donors; for JAACL to organize bone marrow registration drives with the goal of registering 20,000 new people of color and mixed ethnicity individuals in 2002; and for chapters and districts to actively encourage other organizations to sponsor drives and provide financial support for this effort. Seconded by Kawamoto. Passed unanimously. There is no fiscal impact.

Help Nicole, a volunteer organization, initially formed to find a bone marrow match for leukemia-stricken Nicole Howard, who is part Japanese and part Caucasian.

Membership

Kishiue reported that JAACL saw a 3 percent overall increase in membership last year, with IDC leading the way with a 16 percent increase in their district. She also commended Milo Yoshino from the Diablo chapter, who has been boosting 1000 Club membership in his chapter.

Annual Giving

Kishiue reported that they received \$61,744 in contributions from donors. The results exceeded their targeted goal of \$45,000.

Planned Giving

Kishiue and Steve Okamoto met with representatives from Unión Bank to see whether the bank could help support JAACL's planned giving program.

Mori asked Kishiue for some guidelines on what the board can do in supporting the planned giving program.

The next board meeting will be April 20-21. ■

OBITUARY

Former Gardena City Councilman Dr. Paul Y. Tsukahara Passes

Dr. Paul Yoshihiro Tsukahara, dentist, former Gardena City councilman, and Military Intelligence Service veteran, passed away in his sleep at home on Jan. 30. He was 75.

Tsukahara was first elected to the Gardena City Council in 1980. He was subsequently re-elected in 1984, 1988 and 1992. Last year, he and his wife, Aki, were inducted into Gardena's Wall of Fame for the couple's civic contributions to the city.

During World War II, the Santa Barbara, Calif.-born Nisei was incarcerated at the Gila River War Relocation Authority camp. He re-

ceived a leave clearance from camp to attend high school in Pennsylvania, and from there, he attended Marquette University. While at Marquette, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Military Intelligence Service.

In 1952, Tsukahara returned and completed his dentistry studies at Marquette University. The following year, he moved to Gardena and opened his own practice. It was in Gardena that he also met and married Aki Tashiro.

Among Tsukahara's major community contributions to Gardena were as one of the founders of the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural

Institute (JCI) and assisting in the building of the Town & Country Center, the first shopping center in Gardena.

He is survived by his wife, Aki Tsukahara; daughters, Mardy (Norman) Maehara and Louise Tsukahara; son, Ken (Sharon) Tsukahara; grandchildren, Darren, Paige and Curtis Maehara, and Alex and Evan Tsukahara; sisters, Chiyo (Yoshimi) Hiraoka and Alice "Miz" Tsukahara; sisters-in-law, Sachi Watanabe of Bellevue, Wash., Frances (Bruce) Kaji, Cookie Atsumi and Tomiko Tsukahara of Tokyo; and many nieces and nephews. ■

Obituaries

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Deguchi, Ben, 77, Seattle, Nov. 1; U.S. Army Korean War era veteran; survived by wife Jene Chiyo; son Ross Horn, daughter Bev Uyeda and husband Art; 2 gc.; brother Tom and wife Jean; sisters Mitsuko Hamakami and husband John, Hisako Funai, Yoshiko Tanabe; sister-in-law Mae Deguchi.

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 reworded as needed.

Horikoshi, Rev. Yoshikazu Casper, 91, Richmond, Dec. 3; Kyushu-born Methodist minister who served at the Heart Mountain camp during WWII; survived by wife Hisako Horikoshi; sons Elliot and wife Joan (Danville), Peter and wife Wendy (Alameda); daughters Nancy and husband Hale (Marin); Katherine (Richmond); 6 gc., 1 ggc.

Kaneko, Theodore "Ted," 85, Garden Grove, Dec. 2; Riverside-born WWII 442nd (H Co.) veteran; survived by daughters Susan Mochizuki and husband James (Kirkland, Wash.), Ann Uyeda and husband Michael; 2 gc.; sisters Ruth Tsukahira, Callie Morizono and husband Michael (San Francisco); brother-in-law Frank Horino and wife Lois (Colo.); sisters-in-law Bess Komaki, Garnet Nakamura, Patricia Sugihara and husband Mas.

Masuda, Hiroshi Frank, 79, San Francisco, Dec. 29; Manzanar internee; U.S. Army veteran; survived by wife Etsuko Jean; daughters Alyce and husband Kendall, Evelyn; son Donald.

Matsuda, Nelson Tatsuo, 70, Dec. 11; U.S. Air Force Korean War veteran; survived by wife Sakie; sons Dwight, Craig and fiancée Kristi Woo; brother Hiro.

Minamiki, Rev. George Hisaharu, Ph.D., S.J., 82, Los Angeles, Jan. 4; Los Angeles-born; principal at Hiroshima Gakuen postwar, teacher in liturgy at Notre Dame University for over 30 years; survived by sister Umeko Genevieve Mori.

Nagal, Dr. Willie T., 82, Westminster, Colo., Dec. 25; Seattle-born, former Boulder, Colo., resident; Fulbright-Hays fellow at the University of Tokyo; consultant-interpreter for American Educational Mission and Institute for Education-Leadership at the International Training Center, U.S. Operations Mission to Japan, American Embassy in Tokyo, 1954-58; former president of Teikyo Loretto Heights University,

in Denver and established its Center for Japan Studies; recipient of the Order of the Kun Yonto Zuihoshio from the Japanese government in 1989; survived by his wife.

Nosoko, William Masuo, 88, San Mateo, is survived by wife Grace Kimoko; daughters Candace and husband David Ames, Louane and husband Paul Igasaki; grandchildren John, Alisa and Marisa Ames and Aiko Igasaki; sisters Fumi and husband Joe Ishida, Yasuko and husband Hiroji Kariya; sister-in-law Miye Nosaka. Watch-repairment for Levy Brothers Department Store in San Mateo for nearly 40 years; graduate of San Mateo High School and College of San Mateo. Army veteran, JAACL member and former past president and active member of the San Mateo Buddhist Temple.

Oshima, Namiye Joan, 75, Minneapolis, Jan. 5; Topaz internee; producer/program director for 20 years on WCCO-TV; she was the first Nisei woman to have her own TV show; survived by husband John; sons Kyle, Kevin (Lakeland); daughters Kristie (Los Angeles), Karin, Kathleen and husband Jeffrey (New York City); 4 gc.; brothers Hideo and wife Ruth (Leesburg, Va.), Tetsuo

DEATH NOTICE

FRED H. SAWADA

SCHENECTADY, N.Y.—Fred H. Sawada, 85, passed away Jan. 24 after a lengthy illness. Mr. Sawada was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and graduated from Franklin High School in Seattle, Wash. After receiving an engineering degree from Milwaukee School of Engineering in Milwaukee, Wis., Mr. Sawada worked as an engineer for General Electric for 34 years until retiring in 1982. He was an Army Veteran of WWII and received the Silver Star Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, four Oakleaf Clusters, a Presidential Citation, Combat Infantry Badge and four Battle Stars. He was granted 14 patents. His memberships included senior member of IEEE, American Physics Society, American Institute of Physics, Schenectady GE Engineers & Scientists Association, NY Academy of Science, Christian Business Men's Committee and Scotia Glenville High School Scholarship Committee. Fred was also past president of Scotia Kiwanis and G.E. Elfun Society. Mr. Sawada was a member of First Presbyterian Church where he was a Deacon, Elder, Deputy Moderator, Board of Deacons and a Sunday school teacher. He is survived by his wife, Susanne K.; children, Suzanne R. Sawada and her husband Leonard Joy of Evanston, Ill., and Dr. Stephen G. Sawada, and his wife Mary of Indianapolis, Ind.; grandchildren, Stephen, Nicole and Christie Joy and Hayley and Samuel Sawada; brother, Denny Yasuhara of Spokane, Wash. A memorial service was held with Rev. L. Charles Stoker, pastor of First Presbyterian officiating. Interment is at Gerald B. H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery, Schuylerville, N.Y. Memorial gifts may be made in Fred's memory to the First Presbyterian Church Building Fund, 209 Union Street, Schenectady, NY 12305.

Chung and wife Elsie (San Francisco); Philip and wife Sharon (Honolulu); sister-in-law Kay and brother-in-law John Spicer (both San Francisco).

Tanaka, Mitsy Mitsue, 75, Las Vegas, Dec. 28; Shibuya, Tokyo-born, master teacher in Ikebana and licensed teacher in Oshie artwork; survived by husband Tom; son Michael Mitsuo; daughter, Catherine Kazue; predeceased by one child, Tee Hajime.

Taniguchi, Harumi, 99, Seabrook, N.J., Dec. 3; survived by children: Hastumi Ogata (Pittsboro, N.J.), Suzie Tsutako Takata (Deptford, N.J.); Kazuto Taniguchi (Gardena), Jim Torao Taniguchi and Itsuko Asada (Bridgeton, N.J.); Natsuko Ciferri (San Clemente), Yasuye Kato; 14 gc., 12 ggc. ■

DEATH NOTICE

KANEJI (KAN) DOMOTO

NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y.—Kaneji "Kan" Domoto, architect and landscape architect, passed away Jan. 27. Born in Oakland, Calif. on Nov. 5, 1912; Kan was the eighth child of Kanetaro Domoto and Teru Morita, and participated with his father in the building of the Domoto Nursery. He attended Stanford University and U.C. Berkeley and was the first president of Eden Township JAACL. Domoto later studied architecture with Frank Lloyd Wright in Taliesin. Kan was interned with his wife Sally Fujii at Amache, Colo. during WWII. They moved to New Rochelle where they raised four children and remained active in the New York JAACL. Kan's career in architecture and landscape design spanned over 50 years and included the creation of residences and commercial projects. He received several awards for his Japanese-American gardens, including the Frederick Law Olmsted Award for his Jackson Park design. His first wife died in 1978 and he later married Sylvia Schur in 1992, who survives him. He leaves four children, 6 grandchildren, 1 great-granddaughter, 2 sisters and numerous nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on Jan. 29. Donations in his memory may be made to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation.

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From the Bookshelf

FICTION

The Far Side of the Moon
By Jonathan Pearce
Infinity Publishing
137 pp., \$11.95

This is a fictionalized account of Okei, the first known Japanese woman to die on American soil. Okei was a part of the Aizu Wakamatsu Colony, an ill-fated settlement that started in 1869 in Northern California that ventured in growing tea and raising silkworms. The book's reading level is geared towards young adults. To order, visit the website www.balona.com or www.BuyBooksOnTheWeb.com or call 877/BUYBOOK.

NONFICTION

Sounds of the River: A Memoir
By Da Chen
HarperCollins
307 pp., \$25.95 hardback

When Da Chen was 16 years old, he boarded an overcrowded train for the three-day journey from Fujian to Beijing, bidding farewell to the hardscrabble rural life of his father. Chosen to attend one of the country's best language schools, he dreams of perfecting his English and one day going to America. But despite his intelligence, he at first is treated as a "country bumpkin" by other students and faculty. He also sheds his youthful innocence and cops to the system of bribes and black marketing that oils the everyday economic and political machinery of post-Mao China. But when his troubled, though well-connected roommate commits suicide, the realities of a heartless system are in full array.



Seattle's International District: The Making of a Pan-Asian American Community
By Doug Chin
University of Washington Press
150 pp., \$14.95 paperback

This book traces the journey of early Asian immigrants to Seattle, describes their early settlements and chronicles the evolution of the International District. It is a story about the movement of the Chinatowns, the heydays of the 1920s, Filipino immigrants and union organizing, the internment of Japanese Americans, the decline of the district and how it fought back, the changing social and political structure of the neighborhoods, the area's residential and commercial revitalization, and its emergence as a present-day pan-Asian American community.

Shirakawa: Stories From a Pacific Northwest Japanese American Community
By Stan Flewelling
Preface by Gordon Hirabayashi
University of Washington Press
250 pp., \$24.95 hardback

The White River Valley is part of a fertile crescent between Seattle and Tacoma, Wash. Japanese immigrants called the area Shirakawa, which translates into "white river." This book, part community history, part anthology, details how the Issei overcame waves of organized opposition to forge a viable community. It is the story of their efforts to develop job opportunities, family support systems, cultural outlets, community organizations, and centers for worship and education. Also included in the book are more than 40 interviews with Nisei who grew up in the White River Valley.

Japanese Modern Art: Painting from 1910 to 1970
Edited by Irmtraud Scharschmidt-Richter
Edition Stemmler
208 pp., \$65 hardback

With more than 100 works by 26 Japanese artists and five essays by preeminent Japanese art historians,

this hardback volume documents the development of Japanese painting into a unique form of modernism. Confronted by Western influences beginning in the mid-19th century, Japanese artists used imitation to develop their own personal styles, yet still retained a distinctive traditional aesthetic which has evolved over many centuries. From prints representing early Japanese Surrealism to drawings depicting the horrors of World War II, this book offers a diverse selection of pieces which tell of the synergetic relationship between Western and Japanese modern art.



Amerasian Journal Double Issue 2001-2002 — After Words: Who Speaks on War, Justice, and Peace? Volume 27, Number 3/Volume 28, Number 1
Edited by Russell Leong and Don Nakanishi
UCLA Asian American Studies Center, 300 pp.

This is a special "crisis" edition of *Amerasia Journal* that contains interlinked essays, analyses, memoirs and stories from 40 Asian and Asian American writers, who examine the geopolitical crisis of the continuing violence in Afghanistan and the Middle East. It also provides a vital "word documentation" of the AA, South Asian and Islamic presence in America in the days before, and following 9/11. Includes a chronology of anti-Asian hate crimes and photographs by Corky Lee, Eric Chang and Mary U. Kao. This issue comes out March 15. To preorder: \$13 plus \$4 shipping and handling (California residents add 8.25% state tax) from the UCLA Asian American Studies Center Press, 3230 Campbell Hall, Los Angeles 90095-1546. Make checks payable to "UC Regents." Preorders also taken by phone 310/825-2968; fax 310/206-9844; e-mail thaocha@ucla.edu; or visit

SEATTLE

(Continued from page 1)

The OPA report was in response to a complaint filed on behalf of the students that asked for an independent review and investigation by a neutral outside agency, a full and public apology, and disciplinary action and changes within the Seattle Police Department so that such incidents would not be repeated.

According to the complaint, Pitts repeatedly asked the students, "Don't you understand English?!" When one student tried to indicate that they did in fact speak English, the student was told he had an "attitude problem" and was promptly told to face the wall and was patted down.

The complaint refers to independent witnesses who stated that the AA students complied with Pitts various requests. At one point, one of the instructors who was with the students tried to mediate and was told by another officer who had arrived on the scene, "Get back! I've been to your country before when I was in the Army."

In response to the OPA report, Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske said a reprimand is minimal punishment but officers do not take such an official scolding lightly. He said Pitts is an outstanding officer "but we also have very high standards for our officers."

"His dealing in communicating with the individuals could have been more cooperative and more helpful," Kerlikowske said.

Kerlikowske said the officer was justified in asking the youths if they spoke English since the teens appeared to ignore the officer when he initially cautioned them about jaywalking.

"All our officers are cautioned because it's a safety issue. We had a lot of visitors here from Japan," he said.

But in an analysis of the OPA report by Leo Hamaji, a public defender who has been offering legal support to the AA students, he points to "significant flaws" in the investigative process as well as in the analysis and the conclusions.

"The primary shortcoming of the investigation is that it was woefully incomplete and biased," states Hamaji. "Had OPA ob-

tained and considered Pitts sworn testimony regarding this incident at a court hearing for the jaywalking infraction, the factual conclusion reached by it should have been entirely different."

Hamaji said the issue of the illegal search was inadequately addressed by the OPA and its conclusion that the search was lawful is inaccurate. He also points to several conflicting statements by Officer Pitts. For instance, at one point Pitts indicates that the students crossed against the light but in other statements he said the students had a green light.

Although the OPA report concludes that no racial profiling occurred, Hamaji states that race was a primary factor in this incident. The officers involved in the incident not only assumed the students were foreigners, they made statements questioning the students racial origin. "This is their country. The assumption is troubling," writes Hamaji.

"Contesting whether people of Asian origin are or can 'really' be Americans has long been part of anti-Asian discrimination," states Hamaji, "most tragically in the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II." ■

Kid's Korner

Flowers From Mariko

By Rick Noguchi & Deneen Jenks
Illustrated by Michelle Reiko Kumata
Lee & Low Books
32 pp., \$16.95 hardback
Reading Level: Ages 9-12

Life is difficult for Mariko and her family after they are released from U.S. concentration camps after the end of World War II. Mariko's father longs to restart his gardening business, but his truck has been stolen. The family moves to a trailer park, where Mariko sees her parents worried and her father's spirit low. One day, Mariko's father gives her two packs of seeds, which are seeds to flowers her father grew in camp. Mariko plants the seeds and tends the tiny shoots. Soon, her hard work pays off, bringing a surprising and unforgettable gift to her family.



Where on Earth is My Bagel?

By Frances Park & Ginger Park
Illustrated by Grace Lin
Lee & Low Books
32 pp., \$16 hardback
Reading Level: Ages 4-8

Although Yum Yung lives in Korea, the idea of a New York

bagel pops into his head one day and he declares: "I want a bagel!" Yum Yung's search begins at the highest mountaintop, where he finds a pigeon to take his message to New York. "I would like to order one bagel to go," he writes. After a long wait and no bagel, Yum Yung asks his friends the farmer, the fisherman, the beekeeper and the baker for help. Their creative solution reveals the power of a child's imagination and perseverance, illustrating that anything is possible, especially if you have the help of your friends.

Striking it Rich: Treasures From Gold Mountain

By Debbie Leung Yamada
Illustrated by You Shan Tang
Polychrome Publishing Corp.
128 pp., \$13.95

Christie and Michael are visiting their grandparents' old store outside Oakland, Calif. For years, they've heard stories from Auntie Mei about a mysterious room hidden somewhere in the store. Then Christie and Michael discover the secret room and stumble across letters written by early Chinese pioneers during the California Gold Rush. The letters offer the children a treasure they never imagined. With flashbacks that take them back in time to the lives of the letter writers, Christie and Michael "meet" some of the earliest Chinese immigrants and discover a rich sense of their own history and heritage as Chinese Americans.

www.sscnet.ucla.edu/aasc

Asian and Pacific Islander Community Directory: Los Angeles and Orange County 2001-2002
UCLA Asian American Studies Center

This 9th edition of the Asian and Pacific Islander directory includes a list of APA academic programs, student services, media and businesses. To order: \$15, plus 8 percent tax, \$4 shipping and handling for first book and \$2 for each additional book. Make checks payable to "UC Regents" and mail to UCLA Asian American Studies Center, Publications/Community Directory, 3230 Campbell Hall, Box 951546, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1546.

From Third World to First: The Singapore Story: 1965-2000

By Lee Kuan Yew
HarperCollins

729 pp., \$35 hardback

Lee Kuan Yew, the current Senior Minister and former Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore, offers a memoir detailing his 30-year career in shaping the new Asian economy. With a forward by Dr. Henry Kissinger, this hardback



text provides a portrait of the man who transformed a swamp-infested former British colony into a thriving socialist-democratic metropolis, boasting the world's fourth highest per capita real income. Personal anecdotes highlight Lee's controversial government policies and his role as mediator between the United States and China into the late 20th century.

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