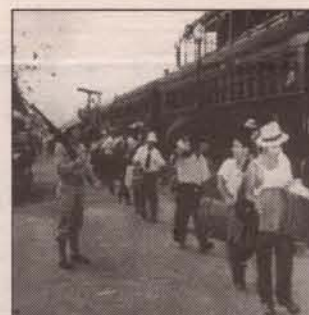




Some AAs say a Six Flags ad is offensive. — PAGE 4

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



JLAs Still Waiting

A July 31 House hearing is cancelled. The future of a JLA Commission bill is now uncertain.

NATIONAL PAGE 3

#3107/ Vol. 147, No. 4 ISSN: 0030-8579

www.pacificcitizen.org

AUG. 15-SEPT. 4, 2008

Kinoshita, Longtime Community Activist and JACL Leader, Passes



By Pacific Citizen Staff

Cherry Kinoshita, a long time leader in the Pacific Northwest District of JACL and a leader in the Redress movement, passed away on July 29 at the age of 84.

Kinoshita passed away in her native Seattle after a long illness. She had been on kidney dialysis for the past eight years.

At the age of 18, Kinoshita was forced to leave her home in Seattle to be interned at the Minidoka Internment camp in Idaho for the duration of World War II. While there, she wrote for the camp newspaper, *The Minidoka Irrigator*. She also met her future husband Masao at Minidoka and they married in 1948.

After the family's return to camp she entered college but had to quit to take care of her parents who were having a difficult time after their internment experience. At the age of 60 she would return to school to earn her BA with honors in sociology.

See KINOSHITA/Page 16

Is it Too Late for Black Reparations?

20 years after JA redress, black Americans receive an apology for slavery without reparations.

By TODD KUSHIGEMACHI
Special to the Pacific Citizen

While the Japanese American community is celebrating the 20th anniversary of Redress, black Americans are finally receiving an official apology for slavery, more than 140 years after the end of the Civil War.

The House passed a resolution in a unanimous voice vote July 29 apologizing to black Americans for slavery and Jim Crow segregation

laws. Some see the resolution as a possible step towards reparations for black Americans.

Although reparations for descendants of slaves is highly controversial even within political parties, some members of the JA community support reparations, understanding that both JAs and black Americans have suffered from actions of the government.

"I am totally in favor of black reparations," said Dale Minami, lead counsel for Fred Korematsu who challenged internment. "We need to heal a gaping wound in America's past, and only through some method of reconciliation can we come together as a country."

See REPARATIONS/Page 11



Steven Toyoji has the guts, now he is looking for the glory at the Paralympic Games in Beijing.

PHOTO: MICHAEL SAITO

Going the Distance for a Golden Dream

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Steven Toyoji always calls himself lucky. The 22-year-old University of Arizona student says he's been blessed with a normal childhood, a loving family and great friends.

He calls himself "extremely lucky" that he lives relatively free of pain, unless you count the soreness that comes with zipping along roads and tracks for about 20 miles

See TOYOJI/Page 10

Call Her 'Your Honor'

Kiyo Matsumoto recently made history when she became only the second APA woman to serve as a federal district court judge. Her colleagues say 'she will do us all proud.'

By LYNDALIN
Assistant Editor

Even in her teens, Kiyo Masumoto had all the qualities of a lawyer in the making. Her father used to say that all her "yeah, but ..." arguments would make her a perfect fit for the courtroom.

"She always liked to discuss things," said George Matsumoto, 86. "If you wanted to go right, she would say left and there were several reasons for it."

Being the second oldest of five siblings was also a training ground for the future legal star born in segregated North Carolina. Like the time the Matsumoto kids threw snowballs at passing cars and made one driver angry enough to threaten to tell their parents. In return,

See MATSUMOTO/Page 13

History Class Inspires Students to Build Monument at Turlock

The popular Turlock Fairgrounds in Stanislaus County, Calif. used to house a WWII Assembly Center. Now thanks to the efforts of students like Kayla Canelo, a monument will finally commemorate this part of JA history.

By CAROLINE AOYAGI-STOM
Executive Editor

For 20-year-old Kayla Canelo, history was something she fell in love with from a young age. As a child, her grandfather would sit her down on his knee and tell her stories from the past, starting

with tales from the Civil War.

Amidst the chronicles of how this nation came to be, Kayla also learned about the Japanese Americans who were banished behind barbed wire fences.

But it wasn't until a senior history class on the JA internment at Cal State Stanislaus that this part of history hit closer to home. Unbeknownst to her, the popular Turlock Fairgrounds — a place just 20 miles south of her home — was once the Turlock Assembly Center where local JAs were rounded up.

"I never grew up learning about internment in school," said Kayla, a resident of Atwater.

See TURLOCK/Page 12



David Seymour and Kayla Canelo pose in front of the area on the Fairgrounds where the Turlock monument will be built.

INDEX

National.....	3-5
Community.....	6-7
Voices.....	8
Calendar.....	14
Obits.....	15



Lloyd!

Rex Lee of 'Entourage' gets personal with the P.C.

ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 9



AA Soldiers Honored

AA soldiers fought in the Civil War even though they were denied citizenship.

NATIONAL PAGE 5

PACIFIC CITIZEN
250 E. FIRST ST., STE. 301, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012



250 E. First Street, Ste. 301,
Los Angeles, CA. 90012
Tel: 213/620-1767,
800/966-6157
Fax: 213/620-1768
E-mail: pc@pacificcitizen.org
www.pacificcitizen.org

Executive Editor:

Caroline Y. Aoyagi-Stom

Assistant Editor:

Lynda Lin

Office Manager:

Brian Tanaka

Circulation: Eva Lau-Ting

Marketing Intern: Megan Terasaki
Reporter Intern: Todd Kushigemachi

Publisher: Japanese American Citizens
League (founded 1929) 1765 Sutter Street,
San Francisco, CA 94115, tel: 415/921-
5225 fax: 415/931-4671, www.jacl.org

JACL President: Larry Oda

Nat'l Director: Floyd Mori

Pacific Citizen Board of Directors: Margie
Yamamoto, chairperson; Vacant, EDC; Lisa
Hanasono, MDC; Kathy Ishimoto, CCDC;
Judith Aono, NCWNPDC; Justine Kondo,
PNWDC; Jeff Itami, IDC; Ted Namba,
PSWDC; Naomi Oren, Youth.

**NEWS/AD DEADLINE: FRIDAY
BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE.**

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

PACIFIC CITIZEN (ISSN: 0030-8579) is
published semi-monthly except once in
December and January by the Japanese
American Citizens League, 250 E. First
Street, Ste. 301, Los Angeles, CA. 90012
OFFICE HOURS — Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5
p.m. Pacific Time. ©2008.

Annual subscription rates: NON-
MEMBERS: 1 year—\$40, payable in
advance. Additional foreign postage per
year (1st class) — Canada and Mexico
\$55, Japan and overseas \$60 (Subject
to change without notice.) Postage paid
at Los Angeles, Calif.

Permission: No part of this publication
may be reproduced without express per-
mission of the publisher. Copying for
other than personal or internal reference
use without the express permission of
P.C. is prohibited.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to: *Pacific Citizen*, c/o JACL National
Headquarters, 1765 Sutter St., San
Francisco, CA 94115.

JACL MEMBERS

Change of Address

If you have moved, please
send information to:

National JACL
1765 Sutter St.
San Francisco, CA
94115

Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

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

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

My Take on Redress

By FLOYD MORI

The Redress issue is a major focus of the Japanese American community during this year, the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The act paved the way for redress and reparations to JAs unjustly uprooted from their homes on the West Coast during World War II. This should be a time of celebration and remembrance for the JACL, but the work to educate the public on the significance of this legislation must continue.



President Gerald Ford rescinded Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1976, exactly 34 years after President Franklin Roosevelt signed it, causing the internment of JAs. The JACL voted at its national convention in 1978 in Salt Lake City to go forward with Redress. I was privileged to be present at those events.

The Redress movement went on for 10 more years. President Jimmy Carter signed a law in 1980 creating the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians which held hearings in nine cities and heard testimonies from over 750 individuals. When the commission held a hearing in San Francisco, I attended and, like many others, was brought to tears by the poignant stories of former internees.

As a California state elected official at the time, I strongly supported redress from the beginning. I was born and raised in Utah so I was not interned, but I was an advocate for the Redress movement. Being a chapter president for four years in the 1980s, we tried to garner support as did others wherever the JACL had chapters.

While other organizations may take credit for the success of the Redress movement and do deserve some credit, the fact cannot be disputed that the JACL was the major force behind the successful completion of Redress. Because of the leaders within the JACL and the chapter structure of the JACL, this organization was able to mobilize the strong grassroots effort which influenced the vote of many members of Congress throughout the country.

Grayce Uyebara of Pennsylvania worked as part of JACL's Legislative Education Committee (LEC) and spent many hours on the hill lobbying members of Congress for passage of the bill. Many others within the LEC and JACL leadership and chapters and some other organizations worked on the effort. Grayce will be honored at the National JACL Gala for her work as a "Champion of Redress." John Tateishi, who was appointed as the Redress

See MORI/page 16

COMMENTARY

Barbecuing While Gay?

The man who attacked Satendar Singh in an anti-gay confrontation gets five months in jail.

By ANDY NOGUCHI

Visibly shaken at the judge's five-month jail sentence for two misdemeanors, Aleksandr Shevchenko, 22, stood in handcuffs before a Superior Court judge Aug. 1. Even his defense lawyer was almost caught speechless as a half dozen media members intently recorded the scene.



The decision ended a year-long trial drama. Shevchenko was finally held responsible for his Russian immigrant group's hateful attack that killed Indian Fijian immigrant Satendar Singh, thought to be gay, while he barbecued and listened to Indian music with his friends at Lake Natomas near Sacramento last July 1.

Judge Gary Mullen refused the defense lawyer's request to allow Shevchenko a couple of weeks to "get his life in order." Smart move! How many weeks does it take to get a ticket to Russia? Shevchenko's accomplice, Andrey Vusick, fled to Russia after the 2007 attack.

Though the jury deadlocked in a June vote favoring the original hate crime felonies, the five-month misdemeanor assault jail sentence for throwing a beer bottle at Satender's group and disturbing the peace was significant. The charges had a maximum nine month sentence, and Shevchenko lacked any significant prior criminal record.

Though many of Satendar's supporters were deeply disappointed on the hate crimes deadlock, there was no "slap on the wrist" for the misdemeanors. Thankfully, there was no "slap in the face" to the community on those counts. The five months in jail sends a clear message to those like Shevchenko who intimidate, attack and throw bottles at people in a public park.

Dozens of people made a special effort to attend the trial because this was important to them. Though this was an attack on Satendar and his friends, it was also an attack on gays/lesbians, Asian Pacific Americans and those who support tolerance in our community. It was an attack on all of us.

Those attending the sentencing included representatives from the gay community plus Florin JACL members Fumie Shimada, Twila Tomita and myself.

Some believe that attacking Satendar for dancing provocatively with and hugging men in his mixed group wasn't a hate crime — that it wasn't a crime of "barbecuing while gay." Ask yourself some questions: If Satendar had not been acting gay, would he be dead today?

If the attack wasn't motivated by hate, why did Shevchenko's group wait

See NOGUCHI/page 16



Letters to the Editor

Reader Urges Aid for Mudslide Victims Near Manzanar

Several employees of the Manzanar Historic Site and Manzanar History Association are dealing with damaged or destroyed homes due to the July 12 mudslide north of Independence, Calif.

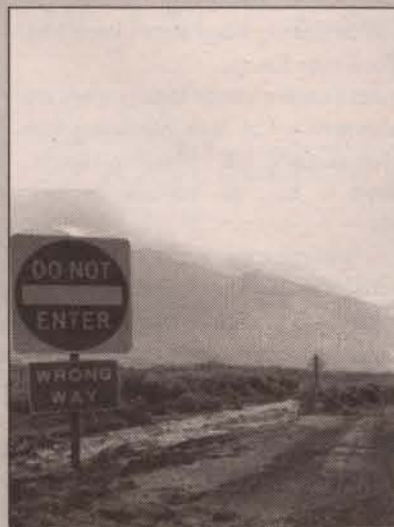
A sudden downpour turned into a 300-yard wide, three-feet thick mudslide. The rain washed down mud, rocks and debris from the Sierra Nevada mountains because the hillsides lost trees in last year's wildfires. The mudslide caused serious destruction to the historic Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery and temporarily closed Highway 395 due to a quarter-mile swath of debris.

I urge the Japanese American community to assist by contributing to local relief efforts. Remember that your contributions aid people who maintain Manzanar and educate the public about the Japanese American internment camps.

To aid people displaced by the storm, the Independence Civic Club is accepting monetary donations. Please send checks to: Independence Civic Club; Attn: Flood Relief Fund, P.O. Box 482, Independence, CA93526.

Send clothing donations to the Independence Chamber of Commerce, Attn: Flood Relief. If shipping by the U.S. Postal Service, use: P.O. Box 397, Independence, CA 93526. If sending by a delivery company (e.g., UPS, Fedex, DHL), use the actual street address: 139 N. Edwards Street, Independence, CA 93526.

JULIE SASAKI-HOM
TROY, MICHIGAN



Japanese Peruvians Still Waiting for Their Redress

A July 31 hearing on a JLA Commission Bill is cancelled. Supporters urge lawmakers to hold the hearing this session.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

LIMA, Peru—Augusto Kague was only 12 when the U.S. government reached far south to his Peruvian farming town and tore his family apart.

It was January 1942 — a month after Japan attacked the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, drawing the United States into World War II. The roundup of Japanese Americans had begun.

But internment efforts went far beyond U.S. borders — a little-known fact to this day.

Kague's father, a Japanese immigrant in Peru, was whisked away by security agents, one of 2,264 of Japanese ancestry arrested in Latin America and shipped off to U.S. camps.

They were interned under the guise of securing Western Hemisphere interests, including the Panama Canal. About 800 were used in prisoner swaps with Japan, turned over to a country that some — as Latin American-born descendants of Japanese immigrants — had never seen.

Now, 20 years after JAs won redress for their imprisonment, a small community of Peruvians continues to seek justice with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union and Campaign for Justice.

The group thought it had a breakthrough when a U.S. House Judiciary subcommittee set a July 31 hearing on a bill that would mandate an investigation into the internment of JLAs and propose remedies.

But the hearing has been canceled, and a

spokesman for U.S. Rep. Xavier Becerra, D-Los Angeles, the bill's sponsor, said it's unclear when it would be rescheduled.

"This was a big violation of human rights, and they don't want to recognize that," said Kague, now 78. "We just have to keep waiting. I've been waiting a long time already."

The hearing would have been just one step in a decades-long battle. The U.S. government didn't include JLAs when agreeing in 1988 to apologize and pay \$20,000 to interned JAs. The government offered \$5,000 and an apology 10 years ago as part of a settlement agreement for a lawsuit filed on behalf of JLAs.

While some took the settlement, Kague was one of hundreds who refused it as unfair.

Like their counterparts in the U.S., imprisoned JLAs had little ties or allegiance to Japan. Kague's father cooked Peruvian food in his own restaurant. His mother was the daughter of a hacienda owner in northern Peru. The children spoke Spanish and only a few words of Japanese.

Brazil, Panama, Bolivia and other Latin American countries deported people of Japanese ancestry and allowed the U.S. to strip them of their citizenship.

But the prejudice was particularly virulent in Peru, where many Japanese arrived in the late 1800s mostly to farm and by the 1940s ran thriving businesses.

"Some of the wealthy families of Peruvian society were always jealous of the progress of the Japanese," said German Yaki, 76, who spent a year in the Crystal City, Texas, internment camp.

Yaki's father was a car salesman for General Motors in Lima when the police hauled him away on Jan. 12, 1943. Months passed with no word before the family received a letter.



PHOTO COURTESY OF NJAHS

NO JUSTICE: During WWII, about 800 JLAs were used in prisoner swaps with Japan.

"He said: 'I don't know where I'm being taken. But one thing's for sure: I'm no longer in Peru,'" Yaki said.

Women and children joined the men in prison camps after losing their breadwinners.

Kague's mother fell behind on payments and lost the restaurant. She sold her jewelry and her furniture and, before long, they were homeless.

It took almost three years before she was able to board a U.S. Navy ship with her six children to New Orleans and reunite the family in Crystal City. A seventh child was born in camp.

When they arrived, internees were stripped of their passports and sprayed with DDT, a now-banned pesticide.

"We were sprayed down like we were animals," Kague recalled.

After the war, their home countries didn't want them back. Many went to work in labor camps for New Jersey's Seabrook

Farms and were eventually granted work permits.

Kague was one of very few able to return to Peru because his mother was a native. His parents in financial ruin, Kague helped support them by taking a job 900 miles from his family in a small bodega in Lima. He's now a successful restaurant owner in the port of Callao.

Many in the community worry that time is running out for the redress fight. Grace Shimizu, whose father was taken from Peru and interned in Texas, has campaigned vigorously, appearing before Congress several times.

A San Francisco Bay Area resident and one of the founding members of the Campaign for Justice, Shimizu notes her father died in 2004 without receiving compensation.

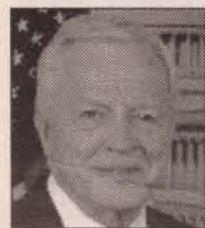
"For us, time is of the essence," she said. "Our people are dying." ■

APA Groups Call for an Apology for 'Asian Invaders' Title on Blog

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Asian Pacific American groups are demanding a public apology from U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg for using the term "Asian Invaders" on his congressional blog.

Knollenberg posted his entry titled: "Protecting Our Families From Asian Invaders" on his blog July 30. The piece dealt with consumer protection legislation. The blog title was later changed to: "Protecting Our Families From Harmful Products."



KNOLLENBERG

"We want an acknowledgement that the choice of words are wrong," said Napapond Fay of APIAVote-Michigan.

The Asian American Center for Justice/American Citizens for Justice and the Association of Chinese Americans are also asking for an apology.

Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield Hills, is currently seeking his ninth term in Congress but his seat is being challenged by Democrat Gary Peters and Independent Jack Kevorkian.

"We appreciate that you changed the title of your blog post to one that is more appropriate, but we demand that you issue a public apology to the Asian American community acknowledging the harmful impact of the original title," said APIAVote in an Aug. 4 letter to Knollenberg.

Nate Bailey, a spokesperson for Knollenberg, said the original blog posting was an error and the office apologizes to those who were offended.

"I can tell you that Congressman Knollenberg is very concerned that Oakland County children don't have tainted toys in their hand," said Bailey in an interview with *The Oakland Press*.

"As that blog entry passed through multiple hands at a staff level, the title ended up conveying something it wasn't intended to, and it was immediately corrected." ■

Hiroshima Mayor Hopes Next U.S. President Backs Nuke Ban

By KATSUMI KASAHARA
Associated Press Writer

HIROSHIMA, Japan—Hiroshima's mayor urged the next U.S. president to support a proposed ban on nuclear weapons Aug. 6, as Japan marked the 63rd anniversary of the atomic blast that obliterated this city and killed 140,000 people.

At the ceremony, Hiroshima Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba also announced the launch of a two-year study to gauge the psychological toll of the Aug. 6, 1945, attack in the closing days of World War II.

Japan submitted a resolution in the U.N. last year calling for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Akiba said that 170 nations supported it, with the U.S. as one of only three countries opposed.

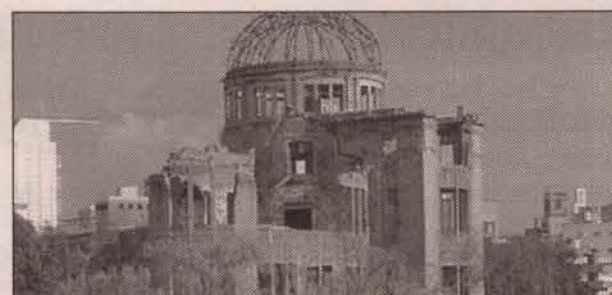
"We can only hope that the U.S. president elected this November will listen conscientiously to the majority," Akiba told a crowd of 45,000 that included survivors, local residents and dignitaries from around the world.

Akiba addressed the crowd with the bombed-out dome of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial looming in the background, and hundreds of doves were released into the air after he finished his speech.

A moment of silence was observed at 8:15 a.m., which was the time of the blast. Japan's official death toll of nearly 260,000 includes injured who have died in the decades since.

Three days later, the U.S. dropped a plutonium bomb on the city of Nagasaki, killing about 80,000 people. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II.

Akiba said more needs to be done for the remaining survivors, whose average age is now over 75. There are



Mayor Tadatoshi Akiba marked the anniversary of the bombings at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial (above).

about 244,000 survivors, according to the health ministry. Many have developed illnesses caused by radiation exposure, including cancer and liver diseases.

"The most severely neglected have been the emotional injuries," Akiba said, in announcing the new two-year psychological study.

Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda also spoke at the ceremony, emphasizing Japan's continued policy against using nuclear weapons or allowing them onto its territory.

"We will lead the international community toward the abolishment of nuclear weapons and lasting peace," he said.

The ceremony was held against a backdrop of growing concern about the U.S. military presence in Japan and its nuclear-powered vessels.

Also, next month the first U.S. nuclear-powered ship to be stationed permanently in Japan, the aircraft carrier USS George Washington, is scheduled to arrive in Yokosuka, just south of Tokyo. ■

WWII Camp Preservation Proves Difficult

By JESSIE L. BONNER
Associated Press Writer

WENDELL, Idaho—His backyard is a maze of car parts, scrap metal and ancient farming equipment, relics that might seem worthless to anyone else but Ron Solders.

"A good junk collector never throws away anything," said Solders, a 56-year-old who owns a moving company in this rural farming community in southern Idaho.

At the edge of the property sits a government barrack that Solders salvaged from a local landowner who was going to haul it to the dump. This is where the National Park Service found it earlier this year while searching for the original pieces of a World War II interment camp that operated in southern Idaho during the 1940s.

The barrack was among the 400 temporary homes built at the Minidoka Relocation Center, one of 10 large camps in the western United States and Arkansas where the U.S. government detained thousands of Japanese Americans. Internees, imprisoned by their own country, worked on irrigation projects and lived behind miles of barbed-wire fence.

The National Park Service hired Patrick Taylor in March to track down a dozen of the original 400 barracks that were scattered throughout southern Idaho after the Minidoka camp was disassembled. The bulk of the long, skinny barracks, measuring 120 feet by 20 feet,



A former Tule Lake barrack was recently posted for sale on eBay.

were given to local farmers.

The park service has proposed restoring a block of the barracks to recreate the living conditions that roughly 13,000 JAs experienced at the camp. The initiative is part of an overall plan to preserve sections of Minidoka, which became a national historic site seven years ago and now sits mostly deserted.

But most of the barracks Taylor has found so far are ghosts of their former selves, long since converted into homes, farming sheds, chicken and pig pens, and in one instance, a Twin Falls apartment complex.

"We have no idea how many still exist," said Taylor, 27, who joined the NPS just five months ago.

Preservation plans at Minidoka fit into a larger, more complicated endeavor as the NPS and grassroots organizations nationwide try to resurrect history that was largely buried for decades.

The camps held memories many JAs wanted to forget and actions the U.S. government worked quickly to erase.

"Most of these sites have been

abandoned since they were closed," said NPS historian Kara Miyagishima. "No one has had the finances to preserve them."

President George W. Bush signed a bill in 2006 authorizing up to \$38 million for a park service grant program aimed at preserving the sites, but two years later, the money still hasn't been appropriated.

Only two of the sites — Minidoka in Idaho and the Manzanar camp in California — have been designated as national historic sites.

While the historic classification means money and federal protection, preservation efforts at the grassroots level have, in certain cases, proven much faster.

High school teacher John Hopper directs the Amache Preservation Society in Colorado. The nonprofit group, which has raised \$200,000 in private donations to help preserve Camp Amache on Colorado's southeastern plains, maintains a cemetery at the former interment camp. The society has plans to restore barracks, a mess hall, and guard tower. ■

Asians With Limited English Proficiency Face Barriers in U.S.

A new law introduced by Rep. Mike Honda aims at honing immigrants' English language skills

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Imagine having your wrong leg amputated or being thrown in jail for not taking your medications — all because your English wasn't good enough to resolve the situation.

For many Asian Americans these kinds of horrendous stories are a reality.

Of the 14 million Asian Americans in this country over 30 percent, most of them foreign born, have limited English language skills making simple instructions like taking the proper medications difficult.

They also face difficulty enforcing their voting rights and getting proper access to education and other government services.

"I have heard many stories of failed access to services because of language access," said U.S. Rep. Mike Honda in an interview with *Agence France-Presse*. He has now

introduced legislation to help immigrants hone their English language skills.

One Southeast Asian man "had the wrong leg amputated in a surgery," said Honda in the same interview. With no translators available, the man's son was left to read the consent forms himself and unfortunately misinterpreted the documents.

A Lao woman with tuberculosis was put in jail for failing to take her medications, noted Honda. The woman's English skills were limited and no one had explained to her the necessity of taking her medications.

"These stories are not uncommon to Asian American and Pacific Islanders and other minority communities. In fact, as appalling as these seem, many of our families face this reality daily," said Honda to the AFP.

The legislation introduced by Honda and Cuban-born Republican lawmaker Ileana Ros-Lehtinen will help newcomers integrate into America's social and economic fabric through English language education, civics instruction, incentives for

businesses that invest in education of their non-English employees, and federal support for state and local plans to integrate new immigrants.

Although the bill is aimed at all immigrants, Karen Narasaki of the Asian American Justice Center believes the benefits of the bill will be immense for the AA community.

"More than a third of our population is limited in English proficiency and a majority are foreign-born," said Narasaki, president and executive director of AAJC. "Today, many Asian Americans are motivated to learn English because they want to gain their citizenship. They know that access to English language programs leads to increased self-sufficiency and better lives for their children."

The legislation is supported by dozens of organizations, including MALDEF; the AAJC; the American Jewish Committee; the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; the Council of the Americas; and Immigration Works USA. ■

National Newsbytes

Road Named After Ex-Governor



DENVER—The Colorado legislature passed a resolution, naming a section of U.S. Route 285 the "Ralph Carr Memorial Highway." As governor of Colorado from 1938 to 1943, Carr welcomed displaced Japanese Americans during World War II.

Kerry Hada, an attorney whose relatives found refuge in Colorado, joined Gov. Bill Ritter and other politicians on the steps of the Capitol to unveil the new road signs Aug. 10. State Rep. Rob Witwer sponsored the legislation honoring Carr.

Three Men Plead Not Guilty to Hate Crimes

KALLISPELL, Mont.—Three men implicated in an attack on migrant workers pleaded not guilty to hate crimes. Edward Hubbs, Daniel Devine and Karl Trent have been charged with malicious intimidation or harassment relating to civil or human rights, a felony.

According to authorities, the three men from Mario, Mont. went to a campground July 12 and threw racial slurs and beer bottles at a group of Asian mushroom pickers. Hubbs has been accused of firing a rifle into the air to intimidate, but Lane Bennett, attorney for Hubbs, said the migrants instigated the confrontation.

The men will each face up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine if they are convicted.

Buddhist Church Dedicated as Point of Historical Interest

VACAVILLE—The Vacaville Buddhist Church was dedicated as a California Point of Historical Interest Site Aug. 4. Issei immigrants from Japan established the church in 1908, and many former internees moved into the church because of housing shortages. The buildings were destroyed in a 1951 fire, and a commercial building and a parking lot are now at the site.

Activist Groups Speak Out Against Six Flags Ads

NEW YORK—Some Asian American groups have spoken out against Six Flags TV ads which feature an Asian man with a thick accent. The commercials, part of a summer campaign, have been called offensive and racist.

The TV ads feature an Asian man screaming, likely alluding to Japanese game shows or commercials with pop-up salesmen. New

York's Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund said they will be contacting activist groups to possibly take action against the theme park for the commercials.

The Asian American Justice Center has also spoken out against the ads, saying they perpetuate the notion of APAs being foreigners. The center deals with poor depictions of APAs by talking to producers.

British Television Presenter Apologizes for Sexist Remarks



CHICAGO—Martin Bashir, a British television presenter known for interviewing Princess Diana and Michael Jackson, apologized for his sexist remarks in a speech to the Asian American Journalists Association.

He said he was surrounded by "Asian babes" and also made suggestive comments about his fellow television presenter Juju Chang. Bashir wrote a letter of apology to AAJA after being publicly reprimanded by network bosses.

Shooting at Samoan Festival Leaves One Dead, Three Wounded

SACRAMENTO—Gunfire broke out between revival gang members at a Samoan Festival in Carson, Calif., leaving three bystanders wounded. A security guard shot and killed a suspect in the gunfight, according to authorities.

The three innocent bystanders were hospitalized with injuries that were not life threatening. No arrests were made, and the number of gunmen is unknown. ■



House Honors Contributions of AAPI Soldiers During Civil War

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a resolution July 30 honoring Asian American and Pacific Islander soldiers who fought in the Civil War. The resolution, co-sponsored by more than 50 legislators from both parties, is the result of Rep. Mike Honda's efforts to bring attention to the role of Asian Americans in U.S. history.

House Resolution 415 focuses on the actions of Edward Day Cohota and Joseph Pierce, who fought for the Union even though they were denied citizenship. Historians have recently uncovered evidence that hundreds of soldiers of AAPI descent fought on both the Union and Confederate sides.

"I am pleased that heroes such as Pierce and Cohota will finally take the place they deserve in our nation's memory," said Honda, author of the bill. "The history of America would be totally different without the contributions of Asian Americans."

Cohota, a 30-year Army veteran, and Pierce are the two most widely documented AAPI Civil War soldiers. Cohota's comrades testified about the seven bullet holes in his coat during the battle of Drury Bluff, and Pierce volunteered for an assault on Bliss Farm during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Anti-Chinese sentiment and the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act resulted in AAPI soldiers like Pierce and Cohota being denied veteran benefits, even though other non-citizen soldiers who served in the Civil War were granted American citizenship.

Honda originally introduced a House Joint Resolution to grant honorary, posthumous American citizenship to AAPI veterans. Because there was not enough bipartisan support for the bill, he later introduced House Resolution 415, which did not require Senate passage, presidential approval or reassignment to a committee preoccupied with contemporary immigration.

"As a teacher and an educator of more than 30 years, I believe our students should learn about these exploits in their history books," Honda said. "They should learn that



Asian Pacific American soldiers like Joseph Pierce (above) fought in the Civil War even though they were denied citizenship. Now a House resolution honors their service.

from the start our country's history has been rich in diversity."

Formal consideration of the bill allowed Rep. Brand Ellsworth, Rep. Thelma Drake and members of the Armed Services Committee to speak out about the contributions of AAPIs to U.S. history on behalf of the bill.

The grassroots efforts of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance played a significant role in the passage of the resolution, which they considered to be the least the country could do for the overlooked veterans.

"Success of this bill celebrates the ability of ordinary, patriotic citizens and purposeful organizations to effect change," said Carolyn Chan, executive vice president of CACA. "Educating our citizens about the contributions of our diverse populations will teach tolerance and strengthen our nation." ■

JA Groups Commemorate 20th Anniversary of Redress

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation recently hosted two events marking the 20th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Other organizations such as the Japanese American National Museum also held events commemorating the signing of redress legislation.

NJAMF's first event was a July 31 reception for members of the Senate and Congress on Capitol Hill. Speakers included former internees Congressman Mike Honda and Congresswoman Doris Matsui.

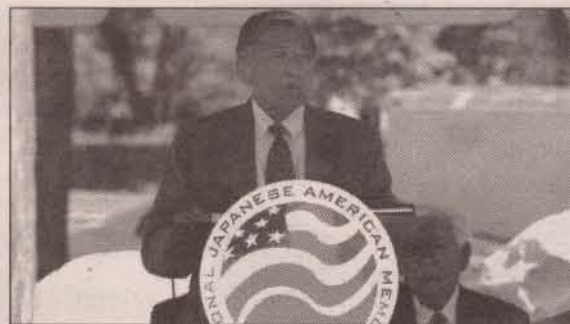
The second Foundation event took place Aug. 3 at the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II in Washington, D.C. Featured speaker former Cabinet Secretary Norman Mineta was joined by other speakers including Robert Nakamoto, president of Japanese American Veterans' Association, and Melanie Maron of the American Jewish Committee.

"This Memorial is a place where the American public comes to understand why the national apology was needed and stands as an ongoing reminder that what happened to our community must never be repeated," said Craig Uchida, chairman of NJAMF's board and master of ceremonies for the event.

During the ceremony Kelly Kuwayama and Grant Ichikawa, both World War II veterans and members of JAVA, presented the colors and laid a wreath to honor those who were interned and who served during WWII. The JACL and the Cranes for Compassion Project decorated the Memorial with 25,000 paper cranes.

Other organizations also held events commemorating the 20th anniversary of redress:

- The Japanese American National Museum held the



NEVER AGAIN: Norman Mineta (top) keynoted the NJAMF's Aug. 3 event, where Donna Shimoda Hollingshead (right) also spoke.



event Americas Promise, featuring Mitch Maki, dean of the College of Health and Human Services at California State University Dominguez Hills, and a panel discussion of other civil rights issues. Other issues that were discussed included the deportation of Mexican Americans during the 1930s and the struggle of Native Hawaiians. The program was part of a series, Redress Remembered, in which the story of JA redress has been explored.

• A panel of key people in the redress movement gathered at the University of Washington Aug. 10 to speak of their experiences in camp and the grassroots movement to educate members of Congress. The panel was moderated by former state representative Kip Tokuda, and the event was co-sponsored by local chapters of the JACL, the Wing Luke Museum and the Dept. of American Ethnic Studies at U. of Washington. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

L.A. County Fire Dept. Honors First APA Female Deputy Chief

Helen Jo's recent promotion to deputy chief makes her the first APA woman to achieve such a rank in the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

Jo, 42, joined the Fire Department in 1998 as a budget officer and became chief of the financial management division in 2002. She is now one of the department's seven deputy chiefs.

The first APA to rise to the ranks of deputy chief of the Los Angeles County Fire Department was Darrell D. Higuchi in 1993.

Kay Okamoto Awards Presented to Two Longtime Volunteers



(L-r) Steve Okamoto, Nell Noguchi, Shiz Mihara and Allen Okamoto.

At the 52nd anniversary of the Hamilton Senior Center, the **Kay Okamoto Volunteer Award** was presented to Nell Noguchi and Shiz Mihara.

Noguchi has been a longtime volunteer at the Funjinkai, the San Francisco Buddhist Church and at the Hamilton Senior

Center. Mihara, who runs the Paper Tree store with her husband and daughters, had been a supporter of the Hamilton Senior Center activities. Appreciation from both Allen and Steve Okamoto were extended to Greg Marutani, of the San Francisco JACL, who has served as the coordinator for the award since its inception 20 years ago.

Mac Selected as JACL Ford Program Fellow



The JACL recently welcomed Jacqueline Mac as the new Ford Program Fellow in the JACL Midwest office. A 2008 graduate from the University of Illinois with degrees in psychology and Asian American Studies, Mac will assist with programs related to hate crimes, education youth and leadership.

The Ford Fund has sponsored this fellowship for two years to provide an opportunity for young leaders to develop their leadership skills and their knowledge of the APA community.

Cleveland JA Groups Honor Young Scholars

The Cleveland JACL and the Cleveland Japanese American Foundation recently awarded seven \$1,000 scholarships to local scholars.

The recipients were: (l-r) Charlotte Greene, Krista Kano, Louis Keller, Leo Simpson, Kathleen Kerecman, Hana Yasaki and Rachel Holtzapple.

Murase Announces Bid to S.F. Board of Education

Emily Murase has launched her campaign for San Francisco Board of Education.

Emily serves on the board of the Lowell Alumni Association. She most recently served as chair of the Parent Advisory Council, a body that is appointed by the San Francisco Board of Education in order to include parent voices in key policy decisions.

She has also served on the San Francisco JACL board.

Fujie Elected President of Calif. State Board



Holly Fujie, a West Los Angeles JACL member, was elected president of the State Bar of California. She is only the third woman chosen to head the organization since it was established by the legislature in 1927.

Fujie, 52, will be sworn in as the 84th president at the State Bar's annual meeting in Monterey in September.

Fujie is a shareholder with Buchalter, Nemer, Fields and Younger in Los Angeles. ■



Richard Foltin (far right) of the AJC and Floyd Mori, JACL national director, met with Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints during the Salt Lake City national convention.

JACL to Honor AJC at National Gala Dinner

The American Jewish Committee (AJC) will be presented with a "Champion of Redress" award at the upcoming JACL National Gala Dinner Sept. 25 in Washington, D.C.

Throughout the year the JACL has been highlighting Redress in light of this year's 20th anniversary of the national movement. The 1988 Civil Liberties Act paved the way for an apology and reparations to Japanese Americans who were interned in concentration camps in remote areas of the U.S. during World War II.

When the JACL began the Redress campaign in earnest after the 1978 National JACL Convention, John Tateishi, who was the chairman of the JACL National Committee for Redress, received a call from Ernie Weiner, director of the Bay Area chapter of the AJC.

Weiner had been directed by the national office of the AJC in New York City to monitor the JACL's Redress campaign.

Weiner pledged the support of the AJC for the Redress movement, and the AJC became the first organization to endorse the JACL's Redress campaign. Weiner recently received the Edison Uno Civil Rights Award at the National JACL Convention in Salt Lake City.

Richard Foltin, legislative director and counsel in the AJC Office of Government and International Affairs in Washington, D.C. attended the recent convention and was on a panel about Redress. While in Salt Lake City, Foltin along with Floyd Mori, JACL national director, and Tim Koide, JACL membership coordinator, met with Elder Jeffrey R. Holland of the Quorum of Twelve

Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Elder Holland has been closely associated with Israel and with the BYU Jerusalem Center, which was built while he was president of Brigham Young University.

Other "Champions of Redress" to be honored are the Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, Grayce Uyehara, and Tateishi. The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye is the honorary chairman for the Gala and Congressman Mike Honda will be the master of ceremonies. ■

JACL Gala Dinner

Date: Sept. 25
Place: Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C.
Info: 202/223-1240, gala@jacl.org or www.jacl.org

JACL Announces Completion of Masaoka and Inouye Fellowships

The JACL recently announced the completion of two of its fellowships, both that have relationships to the Honorable Sen. Daniel K. Inouye from Hawaii, who is third in seniority in the U.S. Senate. The Masaoka fellow served in the Senator's office, and another fellowship is in his name.

The Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship was established in 1988 by the JACL to honor Mike M. Masaoka for his lifetime achievement of outstanding public service. He worked tirelessly in promoting justice, civil rights, and human dignity. The Masaoka fellow serves in the Washington, D.C. office of a member of the Senate or House of Representatives.

Masaoka was a leader for the JACL in Washington, D.C. until his death in 1991. His wife, Etsu Masaoka, granddaughter, Michelle Amano, and brother-in-law, Norman Mineta, continue to live in the area.

The motto of the Masaoka Fellowship is: Leadership Development for Community Service. Dr. H. Tom Tamaki of Philadelphia was the administrator for the Masaoka Fellowship for 20 years. It is now being handled by the Washington,



Nina Fallenbaum (left) and Naomi Lim met with Sen. Daniel Inouye.

D.C. JACL office.

Nina Fallenbaum from California, was the Masaoka Fellow for 2007-2008 and served in the office of Sen. Inouye. She has returned to Tokyo, Japan, to resume graduate studies there. The next Masaoka Fellow is Leslie Tamura also from California, who will serve in the office of Congresswoman Doris Matsui.

The first term of service for the JACL Sen. Daniel K. Inouye Fellowship is ending. Naomi Lim from New York City served as the first JACL Inouye Fellow. The fellowship was begun after the first National JACL Gala held in September 2007 and was funded

in part by AMGEN. The new Inouye fellow is Elizabeth Nakano.

Also recently completing JACL fellowships are Elaine Low, the Ford Fellow working in the Midwest Regional Office with Regional Director Bill Yoshino, and Meilee Wong, the Norman Y. Mineta Fellow funded by State Farm, in the D.C. JACL office under the direction of Debee Yamamoto, director of Public Policy.

Jacqueline Mac is the new Ford Fellow in the Midwest Regional District office, and Crystal Xu is the next Mineta Fellow in the D.C. office. ■

PSW District to Honor Heroes from Redress

The JACL Pacific Southwest (PSW) District will honor heroes from were the leaders in the JACL's efforts as one of the organizations that played a key role in righting this violation of civil liberties that are guaranteed by the Constitution."

The district will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act, legislation which acknowledged the injustice and offered an apology to Japanese Americans who were evacuated and interned by the U.S. government during World War II.

The dinner will recognize the individuals who acted as advocates for the generations of Americans who rarely spoke of the injustices they had endured. Award recipients will be Joe Allman, Michael Hide, Fred Hoshiyama, Mas Inoshita, Kenneth Inouye, Harry Kajihara, Harry Kawahara, Marleen Kawahara, Junji Kumamoti, Lillian Morizono, Phil Shigekuni, and Miyo Senzaki.

Headlining the evening will be Master of Ceremonies Mitchell Maki, the lead author of the award-winning "Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress," dean of the College of Health and Human Services of California State University, Dominguez Hills, and recipient of the 2008 George Kiriya Education Excellence Award.

"We are very pleased to have Mr. Maki lead our event, and to help us recognize our local heroes who had this dream long before it became a reality," said Alayne Yonemoto,



ALLMAN



INOUE



KAJIHARA



MORIZONO

ing space in the dinner program are available. ■

PSW Annual Awards Dinner

Date: Sept. 13
Place: The Grand Long Beach Event Center, Long Beach
Info: psw@jacl.org or 213/626-4471

Takeo Okamoto Community Leadership Award Seeks Nominations

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California is now accepting nominations for the 2008 Takeo Okamoto Community Leadership Award.

The award will be presented to an individual who has positively impacted the Japanese American community through long-term commitment.

The award was created by the children of Takeo Okamoto, who was known for his leadership and dedication to the community. Past award recipients include Wallace Nunotani, Eddie Moriguchi and Daisy Satoda.



Okamoto excelled in insurance sales, assisting the community in an industry where JAs often could not find service, and he established T. Okamoto & Co., the first Nisei real estate brokerage firm in the San Francisco area.

He was also a founding member of organizations including the Japanese Businessmen's Club, the San Francisco JACL, the JCCCNC and the Kokusei Kai Shigin Group.

The JCCCNC is a non-profit community center based in San Francisco that serves the JA community through programs, services and administrative support for other service organizations.

Nomination forms must be completed and submitted by Sept. 12. For more information, contact the JCCCNC at 415/567-5505. ■

Nikkei Federation Rising Stars Youth Leadership Program Seeks High Schoolers

The Nikkei Federation is seeking high schoolers for its sixth annual Rising Stars Youth Leadership Program, a leadership development and cultural education program.

The program is scheduled to take place on selected Saturdays from November through March 2009 at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center in Little Tokyo.

The goal of the program is to provide leadership skills to high school youth and inspire them to cultivate an ongoing involvement with the Japanese American community. Participants will develop leadership skills, gain experience in community service and learn about the JA experience.

"We understand that the future of our community lies squarely on the shoulders of our youth," said Ann Masuda, chair of the Rising Stars Program. "We've seen firsthand how the skills that are taught in this program have helped the participants in their academic, professional and community endeavors."

The workshops are led by a group of community leaders and experts from a variety of backgrounds and industries. The workshops cover topics geared towards developing leadership skills and increasing understanding of the JA culture and history.

"The speakers we had taught us practical skills as well as a better understanding of our culture," said Nicole Elby, a graduate of the fifth Rising Stars program. "We learned about our cultural values and how to find a balance between being a doormat and being overbearing."

"I especially gained from the sessions about how to work in groups and the importance of networking. I've already implemented the networking skills which really helped me with a school project!" ■

Rising Stars Youth Leadership Program

Deadline: Early submission strongly encouraged, enrollment is limited

Program fee: \$100 per student will be charged upon acceptance

Applications: nikkeifederation.org, or contact Glenn Nakatani at P.O. Box 4235, Covina, CA 91723, 626/915-5388, fax: 626/915-2699, or e-mail: gnakatani@aol.com

Note: Participants must be enrolled in high school.

COMMENTARIES

A Tribute to Cherry Kinoshita, 1923-2008

By BOB SHIMABUKURO

An extraordinary American community organizer/activist, Cherry Kinoshita, died July 29 after a prolonged illness. Her leadership in the successful campaign for redress for Japanese Americans forcibly evicted from their West Coast homes during World War II cannot be overstated and should be honored.

As one who spent the better part of four years researching and chronicling the activities of the JACL's Seattle Redress Evacuation Committee, the Community Coalition for Redress/Reparations (CCRR) and its successor, the Washington Coalition for Redress, I know how embarrassed she would be over an article such as this one. She regularly minimized her own role and highlighted her colleague's efforts.

Her determination, careful strategic analysis and attention to detail led JACL Legislative Education Committee strategist Grant Ujifusa to once remark, "Cherry single-handedly saved us from disaster (on Redress)." While he was referring to a detail in the markup of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, there were other instances in which her leadership "saved" redress:

- Kinoshita recognized the importance of the original redress proposal by Henry Miyatake and Shosuke Sasaki and promoted the JACL Seattle chapter's campaign to the national stage.

- She successfully led the local and state redress campaigns for Washington State workers, Seattle Public School clerks and City of Seattle workers who lost their jobs simply because they were of Japanese ancestry, keeping the issue of redress alive in the media and in the minds of Washington State politicians and residents. This was during a "lull" in the national redress action while the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) was preparing its report to



Congress.

- The very effective organizing done by Kinoshita and other volunteers of the CCRR resulted in very successful hearings when CWRIC came to Seattle. The moving testimony given, from deeply

personal accounts and different plans to redress lost lives, businesses and community, was extremely powerful. For the community it was also a healing and enabling process. As Miyatake noted, before, JAs were ashamed to speak about evacuation but the hearings provided lessons for JAs who did not know their own history.

- And lastly, the scorecard on the national legislative vote on the Civil Liberties Act says it all: for Washington State's congressional delegation, 10 yes, 0 no. From the most liberal to the most conservative, Cherry and her committee(s) had convinced them all.

The campaign for legislative redress from the late 1960s to the signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 took 20 years. It's been another 20 years since the signing. During that time we have seen other groups suffer from "wartime hysteria."

This 20-year anniversary of the signing, Aug. 10, 1988, would be a good time to recommit ourselves to safeguarding our civil liberties, remembering redress as a major community accomplishment, and honoring and thanking the people who showed us the way.

Thank you, Cherry. May you rest in peace. ■

Bob Shimabukuro is the author of "Born in Seattle: The Campaign for Japanese American Redress."

A Salute to the Millennium Club

By TIM KOIDE
JACL Membership Coordinator

When the Millennium Club was conceived at the Hawaii convention in 2004, the thought was that every year the JACL would benefit from a growing patronage of core individuals who wanted to make a larger investment in the organization.

Indeed, those who have joined the club since its inception are those who have contributed and served the community and the organization for many years and continue to do so.

With an eye towards future growth and achievement we salute our Millennium Club members, who have gone above and beyond to show their dedication to the JACL and the APIA community at large.

Those individuals are: Sheldon Arakaki, Lake Washington; George Aratani, Downtown Los Angeles; George Azumano, Portland; Hugh Burleson II, Lake Washington; Ernest Doizaki, Downtown Los Angeles; Edward A. Endow, Stockton; Jerry Enomoto, Sacramento; George Higashi, Salinas Valley; Yo Hironaka, San Francisco; Edith Ichijui, Monterey Peninsula; Dale Ikeda, Clovis; Jean Kariya, Washington, D.C.; Tak



Millennium Club members were honored at the recent Utah convention.

Kawagoe, Gardena Valley; Helen Kawagoe, Gardena Valley; David Kawamoto, San Diego; Carol Kawamoto, San Diego; Lillian Kimura, New York; George Masunaga, Mile High; Gary Mayeda, APAN; Sam Mayeda, Mile High; Ted Namba, Arizona; A. Hirotschi Nishikawa, Philadelphia; Mary Oda, Monterey Peninsula; Tsuneo L. Oda, Monterey Peninsula; Henry K. Sakai, Chicago; Toshiko Sakamoto, Mile High; Frank Sakamoto, Mile High; Allen Shimada, Washington, D.C.; Floyd Shimomura, Sacramento; Lisa Sloan, Chicago; John Takeuchi, Diablo Valley; Hitoshi Tom Tamaki, Philadelphia; Elsie Taniguchi,

Puyallup Valley; Robert Taniguchi, Livingston-Merced; Takeko Wakiji, New York; George Wakiji, Ventura County; Stanley Yanase, Gardena Valley; Ron Yoshino, Chicago; Milo Yoshino, Diablo Valley.

We extend the invitation to all to participate more fully in the activities and mission of the JACL, not just by becoming part of the Millennium Club, but through helping us implement the programs and activities that will help make a difference in our community.

As the cliché goes, "it is what you make it." Let's continue to make the JACL our organization — making our community and nation a better place to live, grow, and learn. ■



YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®

(CST No. 1019309-10)



TOURS FOR 2008

- | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------------|
| Sept. 11-21 | Yamato Colors of Canada & New England, aboard Holland America's new ms Eurodam - 10 days sailing from Quebec to Saguenay, St. Lawrence River, Charlottetown/Prince Edward Island, Sydney and Halifax/Nova Scotia, Bar Harbor/Maine, Boston, Newport/Rhode Island and New York. | Sharon Seto |
| Sept. 13-23 | Yamato Classic Canada & New England Cruise aboard the Sea Princess - 11 days/cruise only from New York to Newport, Rhode Island; Boston, Massachusetts; Bar Harbor, Maine; St. John, New Brunswick; Halifax and Sydney, Nova Scotia; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; Quebec City, Quebec. | Peggy Mikuni |
| Oct. 5-10 | Yamato Exclusive National Parks & Canyons of the American Southwest - A motorcoach tour from Los Angeles visiting St. George, Utah, Bryce Canyon National Park, North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Monument Valley and Zion Canyon National Park. | Philippe Theriault |
| Oct. 18-Nov. 2 | Yamato Exclusive Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan - 16 days visiting Tokyo, Hakone, Kyoto, Fukuoka/Saga, Nagasaki, Beppu and Hiroshima. | Peggy Mikuni |
| Nov. 2-8 | Yamato Southern Charm with Collette Vacations - 7 days visiting Charleston and Beaufort, South Carolina; Savannah, Jekyll Island and St. Simons Island, Georgia and St. Augustine and Jacksonville, Florida. | Sharon Seto |

PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2009

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|
| Feb. 23-Mar. 5 | Yamato Ten Magical Days in Egypt/Land and Cruise | Philippe Theriault |
| Mar. 31-Apr. 14 | Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan | Peggy Mikuni |
| May 12-21 | Yamato Miyamoto Musashi and Samurai Tour to Japan | Lilly Nomura |
| July | Yamato Discover California Motorcoach Tour | Lilly Nomura |
| August | Yamato Canadian Rockies Tour | Philippe Theriault |
| Oct. 1-7 | Yamato East Coast Fall Foliage Tour | Lilly Nomura |
| October | Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan | Peggy Mikuni |
| Nov. 12-16 | Yamato New York & Hudson River Valley Tour | Philippe Theriault |

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

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

Please visit our website at: www.yamatotravel.com

YAMATO TRAVEL BUREAU®
250 East First Street, Suite 1112
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3827
(213) 680-0333 OR (800) 334-4982
Email: groups@yamatotravel.com



[PETER SHIGEKI FRANDSEN]

THE SHIGEKI SHAKE DOWN

Independents

Summertime. Summertime means movies. Movies are those dreadful things that litter the walls of our subways, obstruct the view of the drive-home landscape with billboards, and fill our children's rooms with unnecessary gimmicky franchised toys. Movies are those contrived, templated situations that propagandize programmed Pavlovian responses of laughter, tears, or bliss ... simultaneously. Movies are opium for the masses.

Living in New York, you are required to call a good movie by an entirely different name: film. Films are not movies and should never be mistaken for such. Who has ever heard of the Sundance Movie Festival? Such a celebration could never survive. But TriBeCa Film Festival? Now that is an entirely different beast.

A film is special. A film is sophistication.

Right around the first week of July when the rest of the country was celebrating its independence, the IFC Center in the West Village was displaying

its own Independents at the New York Asian Film Festival in partnership with the Japan Society. Having recently begun to appreciate the distinction between movies and films, I recruited some of my buddies to participate in the festivities. Thumbing through the NYAFF program listing, we picked a couple films, arranged our schedules and made an event of it.

'Will we continue to do things like we always have, or will we shake the stagnant shackles of the status quo?'

My favorite film "Fine, Totally Fine" (*zenzen daijoubu*) featured a collection of thirty-something

Japanese misfits who were trying to make that always awkward transition from early adulthood to full adulthood. Lost in love, career decisions and societal expectations, this film was painfully hilarious and teeming with originality as this rag-tag band of friends expanded the meaning of meaningful participation in society in the brief 110 minutes of footage.

Leaving that small auditorium at the Japan Society, I committed myself to see more Japanese films. Pathognomic of any good film, I was still mulling through the subject matter several days later. I was stuck on the ostensible originality of "Fine, Totally Fine." As much as I enjoyed that film, I could not help but wonder if I were more immersed in Japanese cinema, would I still awe at this film's originality?

This led me to consider the question: is originality transcendent? Does something have to be original in all situations to be considered original in any singular situation? Can something be original in one situation and passé in another? And if all ideas and creations have origins and influences elsewhere, can anything be truly original?

Originality can be a powerful motivating force. There is something inherently human about seeking originality. Writing during the middle of 19th century Russia, in "The Idiot", Fyodor Dostoevsky declares that being labeled un-original is one of the greatest possible insults. And yet, while many find this to be equally insulting in modern society, sometimes we get pinned between the desire to be fresh and the aversion to changing the status quo. Thus where originality and its compatriot, creativity, can drive people forward, the ramifications of such a partnership can simultaneously drive people backward.

We must inquire within. Will we be satisfied as moviegoers, or will we graduate to films? Will we continue to do things like we always have, or will we shake the stagnant shackles of the status quo?

As we contemplate the actions that transpired in Salt Lake City at convention in July and begin to put our resolutions into action, we have a fresh, new opportunity to move forward with originality and creativity. We, like Dostoevsky, need to bristle at the accusation of being "un-original." We need to assert our independence from our own mainstream media in the sense that we refuse to follow trite and simplistic templates to make it to the cut and just get by. We need original scripts and screenplays for success.

We need to become Independents. ■

Peter Shigeki Frandsen is currently a student at Columbia University, College of Dental Medicine. He is also a Mt. Olympus JACL member.



[HARRY HONDA]

VERY TRULY YOURS

What Did I Think of the Salt Lake City Convention?

THAT WAS ONE of the many questions being posed during the national JACL convention last month at Salt Lake City which I easily answered as the "best convention yet" (for me) "because IDC and Salt Lakers have the experience, having hosted so many national conventions" — beginning with 1942 (7th Biennial), 1944 (8th Biennial), 1948 (10th Biennial), 1958 (15th biennial), 1978 (25th Biennial), 1994 (33rd Biennial) and 2008 (40th Biennial, and Intermountain District's eighth).

Let's check the records:

Seattle—1930 (1st Biennial), 1936 (4th), 1962 (17th), 1988 (30th), 2012 (42nd); Los Angeles—1932 (2nd), 1938 (5th), 1954 (13th); San Francisco—1934 (3rd), 1942 (national board emergency session), 1952 (12th), 1956 (14th), 1980 (26th); Portland—1940 (6th), 1974 (23rd); Denver—1946 (9th), 1992 (32nd); Chicago—1950 (11th), 1970 (21st), 1986 (29th), 2010 (41st);

Sacramento—1960 (16th), 1976 (24th); Detroit—1964 (18th); San Diego—1966 (19th), 1990 (31st); San Jose—1968 (20th), 1996 (34th); Washington, D.C.—1972 (22nd); Gardena Valley—1982 (27th); Honolulu—1984 (28th), 2004 (38th); Philadelphia—1998 (35th); Monterey Peninsula—2000 (36th); Las Vegas—2002 (37th); Arizona—2005 (39th).

SELANOCO—2011 (the first "annual," a temporary designation). As JACL has approved holding "annual" conventions, confusion arises by dubbing it the "first annual" for that overlooks a history of 40 biennials.

Personal highlights of the 40th biennial:

(1) Ms. Shea Aoki (Seattle), a JACler who has attended every biennial convention, was recognized at the 1000 Club whing-ding. She showed me several snapshots, one of Mas Satow partying at her home (probably 1936).

Wondering where her historic collection should go, I suggested: (a) to identify and date photographs, (b) carefully remove staples from documents, (c) organize items in chronological order or in folders by topics and (d) offer them to the University of Washington Special Collections or the Seattle Public Library.

Bill Hosokawa revealed his books and files were donated to the University of Denver. Mike Masaoka's papers are in the hands of the University of Utah's Marriott Library. UCLA-JARP Special Collections

includes papers from well-known Nikkei families: Kyutaro Abiko, Yone Arai of New York, Charles Kikuchi and from Karl G. Yoneda.

(2) Visiting the National JACL Credit Union office. It sports a sunny office environment, a drive-in booth and a comfortable community meeting room. *Thanks for the lift, Silvana (convention co-chair Watanabe).*

(3) Reading the *Deseret News* where NASA astronaut Daniel Tani spoke to a roomful of children at the new Salt Lake City Main Library, describing his four-month stay in space. It was the only news story in print about and during the convention.

(4) The memorable chat with IDC Governor Brian Morishita, who related how often his dad, "Sud," thought of Very Truly Yours. We exchanged notes on how his dad and two others (Mits Kasai and Yukio "Eke" Inouye) drove from Idaho Falls in March 1942 to attend the emergency session in San Francisco. Being farmers, they had "extra" gas ration stamps to help complete the journey. They brought fruit to eat when unable to dine (being they were Nihonjin) at a café on the road.

(5) Congratulating Sansei playwright Soji Kashiwagi that his latest, "Nihonmachi: The Place to Be," about California's Japantowns, is surely going to see "manju" in the American dictionary. The musical tells of three generations of a manju-making family.

(6) Watching Densho's trailer of Utah Nisei pioneers, including Dr. Jun Kurumada and Kay Terashima, relating their early days. Executive director Tom Ikeda explained technology has improved this past decade. Specialist in documentaries preserving family histories, he even culled Nihongo terms as heard on the videos.

(7) The elegant photo display of WWII Nisei GIs, which I understand from Ogden's Steve Koga, was mounted for Utah JAClers last February for their Day of Remembrance program. I noted Don Seki, a colleague with Go For Broke NEC, posing at ease during combat in France and Italy, then somewhere in Salt Lake City in uniform with his left sleeve showing a prosthesis.

Only a booster, as I was for several biennial conventions now, has given me time to leisurely view exhibits of the various vendors. Thank you, national JACL, for handing me a special desk clock at the 1000 Club's 60th anniversary whing-ding.

And which ones are your highlights and why? ■



Lloyd Shall Inherit the Earth

Rex Lee talks about his coming out, getting typecast and the new season of 'Entourage.'

By LYNDA LIN
Assistant Editor

In Hollywood, it's a cliché to yearn for a career in front of the camera at a young age. It's much trendier to chance upon it, almost trip over the revelation on the way to the next best thing. Rex Lee didn't get this memo. If he did, he tore it up and charted his own course.

The first time Lee told his parents he wanted to be an actor he was two years old.

"I don't think they took me seriously."

In his young world, he thought everything on television was real — like "The Love Boat" was a real cruise ship with real passengers experiencing real life drama that just happened to be caught on camera.

"I just wanted to live a scintillating life with cameras around," said Lee, a second generation Korean American actor most famous for playing Lloyd, Ari Gold's verbally-abused right-hand man on HBO's "Entourage." Of course being rich and famous didn't hurt either.

Since joining the hit show in its second season, Lloyd has become a hero of the downtrodden — a symbol of the meek ultra entry-level everyman who will eventually inherit the Earth.

But before the Screen Actors Guild awards nomination and the real estate on TMZ.com's homepage, the only roles Lee was offered usually involved the ticket taker at the movie theater or a waiter.

"All guys in the service industry," he sighed.

So Lee coined himself the "Asian David Spade." It was more an exercise in defining himself for himself in a self-marketing class he was taking before his career was "Lloyd-ed." Spade played a sassy receptionist on "Just Shoot Me," so Lee thought it would be a good description for all his service roles — better sassy than just any old waiter.

Now, he doesn't have to describe himself using another actor. "I'm a type now. I'm the Rex Lee type."

You've Been Lloyd-ed, Baby

Lee just recently wrapped filming his scenes for the new season of "Entourage," set to premiere Sept. 7. The last few seasons have been tempestuous for Lloyd, who stuck by his agent-on-steroids boss in a failed company mutiny and was left behind, both onscreen and in real life, when everyone else got to go to the Cannes Film Festival.

Over the years, glimpses of Lloyd's evolving personal life have also earned more TV time.

"My concept of Lloyd is that he doesn't know how to do a half-ass job. He's going to be the best assistant ever," said Lee.

It's an attitude that also intersects with real life. After Lee landed the part, he went to work every day thinking, "I defy you to get rid of my character."

"We go back and see Lloyd is very polite in the beginning,



PHOTOS: HBO.COM

which is like me because you don't want to get fired," said Lee. Lately, Lloyd has been throwing it back at his boss. "When you get to a point where you can sass back and not be afraid of getting fired, you're emboldened to go there and talk back more."

The Ari/Lloyd exchanges are legendary. No boundaries have ever been drawn in Ari's attacks on his assistant. No racial or sexual jokes are too taboo. In one of the first episodes of the new season, Ari calls Lloyd "Yoko." But those who follow the show know it's all in love. They need each other like an R-rated Laurel and Hardy.

"Lloyd is incredibly ambitious," said Lee about his character's high tolerance.

Gay American

"I'm not aware of them bragging," said Lee haltingly about his parents. The Ohio native grew up with an anesthesiologist father and an evangelist mother.

At first, his parents thought their American-born children should learn perfect English, but not at the expense of forgetting their native tongue, so Lee was sent to Korean school. When he tried to use what he learned in class with his Korean friends, they laughed at him.

"I said forget it, no more speaking Korean in front of other Koreans."

He went to college to become a classical pianist. He credits his sister for paving the way for him — she was an aspiring rock singer with a rebellious streak while Lee didn't like to rock the boat. By college Lee knew he was gay, but he hid it from his parents. He came out six months after his graduation and his parents kicked him out of the house.

"I've talked to them about being on the show before ...," he trails off. "I think my mom is still not okay with it."

But Lee is not ashamed of who he is.

In Tinsel Town, many closeted actors don't trust movers and shakers to have the imagination to look beyond their so-called gayness.

"I'm concerned, but I'm not too worried," said Lee about being typecast.

Rock Hudson was pulling it off back then, he said. Neil Patrick Harris and T.R. Knight were playing straight roles before they came out.

If worst-case scenario, his career ended and all he played



WORKING HARD FOR HIS MONEY: Ari (left) calls Lloyd 'Yoko', among other insults, in the new season of 'Entourage' premiering Sept. 7.

were gay characters, he would be happy, he said.

"My job as an actor is to find truth in every role," said Lee. And there are many facets and experiences of being a gay American. "I think change is coming very slowly."

At Asian Pacific American events, Lee gets the feeling that some reporters who don't get Lloyd think he's a terrible minority representation.

"I'm slightly disappointed. I feel like the state of how people relate to gay people has evolved. I hope I will live to see the day where there is no more homophobia and where being gay is a natural expression of human love."

"I'm also a realist. I'm trying to do my part," he said.

On the show, he wants Lloyd to become more indispensable to Ari and finally get promoted at the end of the show. But it's a strange time in L.A. now with the recent writer's strike and the threat of another actor's strike.

Lee, who has a small role in the upcoming comedy "Shades of Ray," said he would like to do more movies in the future. But he still has some short-term goals.

"I'm really slob. My apartment is a mess. I still have boxes that I haven't unpacked since the last time I moved, which was quite some time ago." ■

On the Web

www.hbo.com/entourage

TOYOJI

(Continued from page 1)



PHOTO: MICHAEL SAITO

BEIJING BOUND: This will be Steven Toyoji's first Paralympics Games.

a day on a low-lying wheelchair built for speed. It's the kind of pain that makes your arms feel like lead. Then maybe, it's not so lucky.

"The worst thing about a marathon is training for it," said the Yonsei wheelchair racer to the *Pacific Citizen* from his Tucson home after one such training session.

But it will all be worth it in a few weeks when Steven takes his position next to other world-class athletes at the Paralympic Games in Beijing. At the Sept. 6-17 games, Steven has a chance at glory in three track events: the 400-meter, the 800-meter and the marathon.

"I've never been on this kind of stage. Nothing can compare," he said about his first Paralympic Games. He's nervous, but once the gunshot goes off signaling the beginning of the race he knows he'll fly.

"He's one of the best racers around," said Pete Hughes, Steven's coach at the University of Arizona. "I think he'll medal for sure."

But it's not just any medal he wants — Steven is going for gold.

His Body Went to Sleep

"The thing about Steven is he never thought something was the matter with him," said his mom Susan Toyoji.

Growing up in Redmond, Wash., Steven was once told he couldn't play basketball because he couldn't run, so Steven ran.

He didn't grow up knowing he had a disability — the results of transverse myelitis, a rare neurological syndrome caused by inflammation of the spinal cord. It attacked when Steven was only eight months old.

"One day he woke up and was feeling out of sorts. He was crying and sort of flopping around. He was irritable," said Susan about her youngest son with husband Kenny Toyoji.

At first, the doctors didn't know what was wrong. They burned

through a slew of diagnoses — some fatal. Then Susan and Kenny heard the word that changed their lives: paralysis.

The doctors said it was like Steven's body went to sleep.

"It was a hard time," said Susan, a retired elementary school teacher.

But in the sport of life, everyone loves an underdog. Steven, who was initially paralyzed from the shoulders down, gained feeling back in his arms. He can even walk a little.

"It's not graceful, but it gets me from point A to point B," said Steven.

For the most part, he says he has never been treated any differently from anyone else — even at home with his older siblings Kurt and Lisa. Growing up there were no ramps or rails in their two-story house. And at Redmond High School, where he graduated in 2004, he was crowned homecoming king.

"I was always polite to people," Steven explained as a reason for his popularity. "I wasn't a mean kid."

There are still little things he struggles with — he can't really touch his thumb and forefinger together and he doesn't always do well with buttons. Susan once introduced her son to more user-friendly zippers, but he didn't like it.

"I am always looking for things that would make it easier for him. But he doesn't need it. He just makes due," she said.

He was also always competitive. While on a family vacation, young Steven refused to leave until he caught a fish like everyone else. Lisa had reeled in one earlier, so when Steven wasn't looking, they placed Lisa's fish on his line and had him reel it in.

A couple of years ago, his family finally told him the truth, but he still swears the fish put up a fight.

Boy Meets Sports

Steven didn't get involved in wheelchair sports until he was 16. At

first, it wasn't easy to get him to go, mostly because he didn't see himself bound to his wheelchair.

"I was hating it," said Steven about his first few weeks with the Northwest Adaptive Sports program.

But after awhile, nothing compared to playing sports with people with similar physical challenges.

Then he started going to track practice, but it wasn't love at first sight.

"The sport needs to grow on you," said Steven. To be a successful racer, the wheelchair needs to fit like a shoe, but the "loaner" chairs he received from the sports program were often too big.

"I jiggled around in my chair a lot."

But he got better, went faster and caught the attention of Jacob Heilveil, a former Paralympian, who saw real potential in the young athlete. Heilveil introduced Steven to Wendy Gumbert, a national team coach for the U.S. Paralympics.

"From the beginning it was obvious, he has a lot of heart and determination," said Gumbert.

At 18, Steven competed at his first international competition.

"I got out there, and people were riding my lanes, bullying me around and cutting me off. Of course because I didn't know any better, I slowed down."

Now, he races smart. He races tactical, but not mean.

Before any competition, he visualizes the race in his head. What will he do if he gets a flat? Where will he attack? And of course, if he spies a heavier competitor, he makes a mental note to draft behind him.

Dreams in the Making

To get ready for the games, Steven

trains six days a week. He does two-a-days and about 20 miles. His intensity has earned him the nickname "energizer bunny" among his coaches.

"A lot of times, I've had to tell Steven to not work that hard. I guess it's a good negative trait to have," said Gumbert.

It's because Steven has a lot of making up to do — he missed out on the 2004 Paralympic Games in Athens because of a disability classification error.

"He's turned the corner after Athens. Originally he was okay with it, but then during the opening ceremonies, he said I should be there. I got robbed," said Hughes.

In March, Steven came in first place in the quad division at the Los Angeles Marathon to win his berth on the Paralympic team. His road to Beijing will begin during training camp Aug. 21 in Japan, where he will vacation with his family after the games.

So far, Steven says his most formidable competitors are Santiago Sanz from Spain and Thomas Geierspichler from Austria. But he talks mostly about how incredibly lucky he is to be able to compete at this elite level.

"He can do it. I know he can get a medal. It's all in his heart," said Gumbert.

But no matter what happens in Beijing, he says he'll continue racing until he's old. It's the beauty of competition that gets him up in the morning, but it's his spirit that inspires everyone around him, especially his mom who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis six years ago.

"It's not a bad sentence," she said. "I live with it. Part of it is because of Steven." ■

Other APA Paralympians*

SuGui Kriss



The sitting volleyball player, 21, was a bronze medal winner at the World Organization Volleyball for Disabled Intercontinental Cup in Egypt.

Danielle Fong



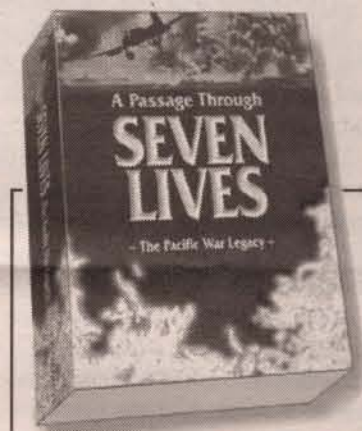
The 17-year-old is proof that shooting is a family pastime. Her sister Sandra is an Olympic competitor in the sport as well.

Will Groulx



He served in the U.S. Navy from 1995-2001 until he was medically discharged after suffering a spinal cord injury. Now Groulx, 34, is looking for gold in wheelchair rugby.

*This is not a complete listing of all the APA Paralympians. For a complete list, check www.paralympics.teamusa.org



What does war solve?

"A Passage Through SEVEN LIVES is a stunning and perceptive memoir/history of Japanese culture and imperialism before and after the World War II.

"Kyo Takahashi weaves a majestic tapestry, using the history of Japan and bloody battlefields as the warp, and lives of people who were involved in the war, as the weft. Every fact was blended in carefully with artistic illustrations, creating a shocking and enlightening panorama.

"This book is a valuable addition for those not familiar with Quaker Friends' supportive actions for Japanese Americans who were sent to the internment camps." —from Reviews

A Passage Through SEVEN LIVES

—The Pacific War Legacy—
by KYO TAKAHASHI

6"x 9" paperback, 504 pages includes over 250 illustrations, 25 maps, and charts.

\$23.99

10% goes to the AFSC Peace Fund available at **Amazon.com** and **Alibris.com**

*

Visit— <http://KyoVision7.com>

PACIFIC
Job Opening — Web Reporter

Are you a journalism or English major looking for a part-time job? Then the *Pacific Citizen* needs you! The *P.C.* is a national Asian American newspaper and is in need of a part-time Web reporter for its downtown Los Angeles office.

The focus of the job is writing news stories and features for the *P.C.* Web site. Other duties will include general editing and production duties, rewriting, research and taking photos. Assignments may include some evenings and weekends.

The ideal candidate has two years news reporting experience or 2 years of college journalism experience. Individuals with knowledge of Quark X-Press and Dreamweaver a plus. Knowledge and experience with the Japanese American and Asian American community is also preferred.

If you want to gain experience towards your career, then please send a cover letter, resume and two writing samples to: Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, Executive Editor, 250 E. First Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: editor@pacificcitizen.org.

APPLY TODAY

WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG

(800) 966-6157

CITIZEN

REPARATIONS

(Continued from page 1)

Mitch Maki, co-author of the book "Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress," said the legacy of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 is determined by the degree to which JA redress inspires other groups.

"The passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 represents a moral precedent that this country needs to atone for past wrongs, and that would extend to the African American community," Maki said.

The Apology

Slavery was an institution of the United States for 246 years, according to Congressman Steve Cohen of Tennessee, author of the resolution. The U.S. Constitution supported slavery by counting a slave as only three-fifths of a person, and it was not until the 1865 ratification of the 13th Amendment that the government formally outlawed slavery.

Cohen introduced the resolution apologizing for slavery in one of his first acts as a U.S. Congressman in February 2007. Speaking on the floor of the House in support of HR 194, Cohen referenced the Civil Liberties Bill of 1988, which provided redress for JAs.

"This Congress did the right thing in apologizing for the imprisonment of Japanese Americans during World War II," Cohen said, "but the fact that this government has not apologized to its own citizens, Africans Americans, for the institution of slavery and for the Jim Crow laws

that followed ... is certainly a mistake, and today we rectify that mistake."

Although the resolution makes no reference to reparations, it commits the House to remedy "the lingering consequences of the misdeeds committed against African Americans under slavery and Jim Crow."

Vernellia Randall, a professor at the University of Dayton School of Law, said that although there is no mention of reparations, the resolution is still important.

"It's a first step towards addressing what connection slavery and Jim Crow laws have to the current state of the African American community," Randall said in an interview with the *Pacific Citizen*. "As someone who grew up during Jim Crow, I think it's long overdue."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People said in a statement that its Washington Bureau has been in negotiations with Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa to introduce a companion resolution in the Senate.

Reparations

Some speculate that Cohen's resolution will lead to consideration of monetary compensation for black Americans. John Tateishi, former redress chair and immediate past JACL national director, said an apology from the government for internment was an important step to monetary redress for JAs.

"Under the American form of jurisprudence, once it's established that a wrong has been committed, a common course of legal action is

monetary compensation," Tateishi said.

One of the strongest voices in favor of slavery reparations is Congressman John Conyers of Michigan. Conyers annually introduces HR 40, a bill that would create a commission to study the impact of slavery on the "social, political and economic life of our nation," according to his Web site.

Conyers' bill was influenced by JA redress, which revealed the importance of commission reports and recommendations in creating support for monetary reparations, according to Tateishi. However, Conyers was not initially supportive of JA redress.

"Conyers rejected the idea of JA redress when I first lobbied him because he was so frustrated by the insensitivity of his colleagues to the very notion of black reparations," Tateishi said.

In 2006, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, in Chicago, ruled that slave descendants had no standing to sue companies with past ties to slavery. The panel also said the descendants could not receive reparations because the statute of limitations ran out more than a century ago.

Reparations is also controversial because of the difficulty of determining who should receive reparations and who should pay. However, Minami said this is not a valid excuse.

"Just because it will be difficult to determine who is entitled doesn't mean there should be no entitlement," Minami said. "Once the idea



Attorney Dale Minami (right), pictured here with Fred Korematsu, believes the time has come for black reparations.

of redress for African Americans is accepted, then the method can be devised."

Maki, dean of the College of Health and Human Services at California State University Dominguez Hills, said he supports redress for black Americans, but he thinks the black community should determine what form reparations should take.

"Just as Japanese Americans were able to determine what they considered to be proper redress and reparations, the African American community needs to be vocal in determining what would be proper redress," Maki said.

One opponent of reparations is presumptive Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama. Obama said he opposes offering reparations to the descendants of slaves but supports combating the legacy of slavery through policies that will improve schools and provide universal health care.

"I have said in the past, and I'll repeat again, that the best reparations we can provide are good schools in the inner city and jobs for people who are unemployed," Obama said.

However, Randall said she thinks Obama is "dead wrong."

"Class-based solutions do not get rid of race-based problems, and Sen. Obama is well aware of that," she

said.

Randall said reparation is not about giving money to black Americans but about fixing a wrong. She said she did not want a dollar amount because JAs, who received monetary reparations, did not gain back the true value of what was taken from them.

"Instead of getting their land and their possessions back, [Japanese Americans] got a dollar amount," she said. "If they were to get real reparations, a real attempt should have been made to determine what was actually lost by families. They should have gotten a lot more."

Minami agrees that redress does not repay what was lost during relocation and internment, but he said redress still "went a long way to remove the self-doubts, shame and anger."

Against the sentiments of his colleagues, Congressman Conyers will likely continue to reintroduce his bill, and Tateishi said the JACL will support his commission.

"The Black Caucus came on board early in our lobbying, so it's only appropriate that the JACL continues to support his bill," Tateishi said. ■

The Associated Press contributed to this story.



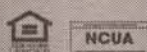
Think it's expensive and tough to get a home loan?

Think again!

We have mortgage loans with zero fees*

Don't believe everything you read! In fact, now is a fantastic time to buy or refinance. Interest rates are low and there are hundreds of homes for sale at reduced prices, making your negotiating power stronger than ever. Plus, pay no origination fee! Getting a home loan is easier than you think and we're here to help. Hurry, this is a limited-time offer!

800-544-8828 • www.jaclcu.com



*Origination fee, tax search fee, processing fee. Based on approved credit. Eligibility and membership required.

PACIFIC

Job Opening Circulation/Receptionist

The Pacific Citizen, a national publication of the JACL, is currently seeking a part-time circulation/receptionist for its downtown Los Angeles office.

The focus of the position is to maintain and update the P.C. database of non-member subscribers, coordinate the member mailing list with JACL headquarters, handle subscription invoicing and all inquiries and duties related to the circulation of the newspaper. Position also requires the answering of telephones and correspondence.

A minimum of two years college education or business training required. Experience in circulation management and marketing a plus. Knowledge of MAC and Microsoft Office are preferred.

Please send a cover letter and resume to: Caroline Aoyagi-Stom, Executive Editor, 250 E. First Street, Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012 or email: editor@pacificcitizen.org.

APPLY TODAY

WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG
(800) 966-6157

CITIZEN

TURLOCK

(Continued from page 1)

"It's sort of ironic that I live between Merced and Turlock," two cities in California that once housed Assembly Centers.

But unlike the Merced Fairgrounds, she soon learned that there is currently no monument or reminder at the Turlock Fairgrounds of this part of American history.

It was enough to inspire Kayla to lead a campaign to build a Turlock monument.

"She's just amazing," said Dr. Nancy Taniguchi who taught the "Japanese American Internment" class that moved Kayla. "She said there should be a monument at Turlock. She got very indignant."

Now with the help of fellow students and community members, Kayla has already gotten permission from the Turlock Fairgrounds board to build a monument on the property. She's currently fundraising and hopes to complete the project by the end of this year.

Student Inspiration

David Seymour, 24, grew up in Turlock and had often visited the local Fairgrounds as a child. But it wasn't until college that he learned of its JA history.

"I knew of internment but I did not know that Turlock was an Assembly Center until I was a freshman in college," said David, noting that his English professor had assigned the class "Desert Exile" by Yoshiko Uchida. "I couldn't believe it. No one had mentioned it before."

So when Turlock became a topic of discussion in Dr. Taniguchi's class, he knew he wanted to help.

"I knew right away that there was no monument at the fairgrounds. And I thought, we need to get one there."

So David and Kayla are now pooling their efforts, trying to create

awareness in the local community and raise the \$1,000 needed to build the monument. "Turlock Granite and Marble Works" has donated much of the costs to build the memorial and so far they have raised \$350 in contributions.

It was this past March that Kayla made a last minute presentation before the Turlock Fairgrounds board. By April they had been given unanimous support to build a monument on the property.

Her enthusiasm for the project often elicits curious stares and one Fairgrounds board member even asked her: "Are you Japanese?"

No, she's not. But for Kayla, ethnicity doesn't matter.

"I don't think this is an issue exclusive to one race or nationality, everyone should be aware of it," she said. "It's something we shouldn't forget."

Dr. Taniguchi agrees. "People involved in this are not tied by race but by the importance of civil liberties, and the importance of history."

Turlock Was Once Home

"It's very intriguing that someone could be inspired by their class, that has no personal connection to internment," said Ed Nakade, 58, president of the local Cortez JACL. "There's so self-interest."

Ed first learned about Kayla's efforts after she reached out to the local JACL chapters. Now Cortez JACL has set up an account for her to raise the necessary funds.

But Kayla's efforts have also touched Ed personally. His family was originally from Vacaville so he had always assumed they had been sent to one of the Stockton area Assembly Centers. But he was wrong.

"I mentioned Kayla's efforts to my mom and she mentioned that she went to Turlock," said Ed. "I didn't realize that JAs in Vacaville were sent to Turlock."

Although Ed wasn't even born yet, seven members of his family were taken to Turlock, including his parents and three aunts.

From April 30 to Aug. 12, 1942, a total of 3,699 JAs from Alameda, San Joaquin, Contra Costa and other regions of the Sacramento Delta would head to Turlock on their way to the Gila River interment camp in Arizona. At its peak, the Assembly Center held 3,662 JAs.

In addition to building the monument, Kayla and David also hope to find former Turlock internees.

Greg Marutani, a member of JACL's Education Committee, attended some of the Cal State Stanislaus classes and was impressed by the enthusiasm of the history students.

"In sending my contribution toward this project I included a note to Kayla, thanking her for her work on this project and to let her know that I appreciate her commitment to preserving another part of the Japanese American experience," he said. "I hope others will do the same."

A Moving Lesson

The Turlock monument will be located near the main entrance of the Fairgrounds near Gate 1, the one gate that is open year-round.

Surrounded by beds of roses and shaded by trees, visitors to the Fairgrounds will be able read the inscription telling the story of Turlock's former JA residents.

So far the monument design has been selected but a final inscription still needs to be chosen.



The Turlock monument will be located near the main entrance of the Fairgrounds at Gate 1, a gate that is opened year-round.

David hopes the monument will inspire young people to learn more about the WWII internment, especially timely since this year is the 20th anniversary of Redress and the 100th centennial for Turlock.

"I'm ashamed that it has taken this long to have this monument built," he said.

In 1982, efforts by the local community to erect a state historical marker at the former Merced Assembly Center were met with much resistance, notes Dr. Taniguchi. Now the Merced Assembly Center Committee is working on expanding the monument.

So far the Turlock monument hasn't met much protest except for one disgruntled former WWII vet who called Kayla and asked: "Why are you doing this for the enemy?"

"He was very confused," said Kayla. "He had a lot of false information."

Dr. Taniguchi notes that the attacks of Sept. 11 have changed the way Americans view their civil lib-

erties, highlighting the need to learn from past mistakes.

"Especially after 9/11 a lot of people have awakened to this idea that this could happen again ... if we forget the mistakes of the past," she said.

"9/11 to all of these young people is very, very vivid."

For Kayla and David, who will both be entering the Masters history program this fall, the Turlock monument is a chance to educate the younger generation.

"What surprises me is [internment] wasn't very long ago. Our role is to make sure this doesn't happen again," said Kayla. "In the future it will be up to us to educate our children." ■

To donate: Make checks payable to Cortez-JACL and mail to TAC Committee, c/o Kayla Canelo, 636 Juniper Ave., Atwater, CA. 95301.

Note: All monies raised over the needed \$1,000 will be donated to local JACL chapters.

PACIFIC

Special Offer

Send a gift subscription to a friend and save \$5 off the regular price of \$40!

GIVE A GIFT TODAY

WWW.PACIFICCITIZEN.ORG

(800) 966-6157

PACIFIC CITIZEN

News and Information for the Asian American Community

Home About Subscribe

Back Station

National News

After October 1942, a

Top Stories at

Car Loans As Low As

4.50% APR*

100% Financing on New Cars • 100% Financing on Used Cars

Refinance Existing Loans

No-Fee Auto Loans

New or Used Cars

EQUAL HOUSING
LENDER

NCUA

Eligibility & Membership
REQUIRED

*OAC (on approved credit) does not include: Tax, License, & Extended Warranties

**This offer not valid to existing car loans with the credit union

National JACL Credit Union

(800) 544-8828

www.jaclcu.com

MATSUMOTO

(Continued from page 1)

Kiyo simply reminded the driver that he did not know where they lived.

"Kiyo was always quick on her toes," said her younger sister Kei Matsumoto. In the heat of the moment, she always had the perfect response. All of these attributes pointed towards one destiny, which the Sansei achieved after graduating from Georgetown University, working for the U.S. Attorney's Office, and in 2004 being appointed federal magistrate judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Last month Kiyo, 52, made history as the second ever Asian Pacific American woman to serve as a federal district court judge. After the Senate's unanimous confirmation, President George W. Bush appointed Kiyo to the post July 21, making her the newest member of an elite group — she is only the third APA federal district judge outside of California and Hawaii.

Although she recognizes the significance of her appointment, she

admits the accompanying personal and media attention makes her a little uncomfortable.

"There's been a lot of buzz," said Kiyo to the *Pacific Citizen* from her New York office. "I want to live up to the expectations of the community at large ... and I'm very grateful to those who paved the way."

Righting a Wrong

The congratulatory phone call about her confirmation came near the end of her visit with her father in Oakland. It was perfect timing for Kiyo to break the news to the man she credits with influencing her career choice.

Growing up in the Matsumoto home, World War II internment stories were used as the ultimate trump card. When young Kei resisted cleaning her room, George would remind his daughter that he could only bring one suitcase with him to their barrack in the desert.

"He did that all the time," said Kei with a laugh.

Unlike many other Nisei who struggled to talk about their WWII

experiences, George and his wife Kimi talked openly about their history — George's family was taken to Poston and Kimi's went to Topaz. From a young age, the Matsumoto kids — Mari, Kiyo, Kei, Ken and Miye — learned about racism and responsibility.

Her parents would always say there weren't enough APA lawyers to take a stand against this gross injustice at the time, said Kiyo. "Who was there to stand up for us?"

"[Kiyo] wanted to become a lawyer to make sure that she was never victim," said her older sister Mari Matsumoto.

George, a Bay Area native, met Kimi Nao in kindergarten. They reunited after the war and moved to North Carolina, where they raised a family while George taught at North Carolina State University.

"At that time in the South, racism was black and white," said George.

The Matsumoto kids grew up in a separate and unequal world. George, who went on to become a well-known architect, initially failed one of his design exams because he did-



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KEI MATSUMOTO

Kimi Matsumoto (top, right) attended Kiyo's 2004 robing ceremony (left) before she passed away of cancer.

n't include segregated bathrooms. Despite this, Kiyo said she and her siblings didn't experience anti-Asian sentiment until they moved to California in 1961.

In the Bay Area, Kiyo remembers a lot of name-calling and questions about where they were from. But it was also a place of social awakening. In the 1980s, Mari became active in the redress movement, and George testified about his internment experiences at a hearing in San Francisco. The fight to right a wrong became a family project.

"I think that my parents' view is that the government is capable of making mistakes," said Kiyo. "Hopefully there are checks and balances along the way."

It's this legacy that makes Kiyo's appointment on the 20th anniversary of Redress particularly poignant.

"The country has done a major wrong within the realms of the law. Out of this came Kiyo and my other kids too," said George. "It's a fair country."

A Journalist Turned Lawyer

Kiyo has the training to not only enforce the law in her courtroom, but to report on it as well. She received her journalism degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

"I never worked as a journalist," said Kiyo, who chose the major because pre-law wasn't offered. In her course work, she always gravitated to the human-interest angle of every story.

After law school, Kiyo worked at a law firm in Seattle, Wash. before joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. There, she was part of the legal team that investigated the Lucchese and Gambino organized crime families' domination of the Long Island carting business.

"That was an interesting case," said Kiyo about the ongoing case that continues to snag national headlines.

For over 20 years with the U.S. Attorney's Office, she also worked on environmental and health care fraud cases.

"It's such a gratifying career choice, you have a sense that you are doing a good thing," she said.

In 2004, Kiyo took her first step in history as a newly appointed federal magistrate judge. At the traditional

robing ceremony, there was not one empty seat in the courtroom.

"It was a real reflection of who she is as a judge," said Kei.

Kiyo's next robing ceremony, which is tentatively slated for the fall, will be marked with an absence — Kimi passed away in 2004 from cancer.

"I think it will be on all our minds," said Kei.

The Human Interest Angle

When news of Kiyo's confirmation broke, phone calls came in welcoming her to the elite eight — she is one of eight active APA federal Senate-confirmed judges out of approximately 850. One of the calls came from U.S. District Judge Susan Oki Mollway, the first APA female district court judge.

"When I joined the bench 10 years ago, there was no other Asian woman serving as a federal district or appellate judge, and I didn't expect to have to wait a full decade for that to change," said Oki Mollway in a statement to the *Pacific Citizen*. "Judge Matsumoto has been on the bench as a federal magistrate judge, so I am certain she is well prepared for her new position."

"Judge Matsumoto is a wonderful person and a terrific judge, and she will do us all proud," said U.S. District Judge Denny Chin, the first APA federal judge to be appointed outside of the 9th Circuit.

Right now, Kiyo can't focus on the accolades — her work life is in flux. Not to mention the fact that she's a wife and mother of four children ages ranging from 11 to 17.

She credits her husband of 23 years, Colin Lee, with helping her strike a balance. They try to maintain a normal life with kids that are generally not too impressed with the title federal judge.

A marshal recently came over to their home to brief them on new safety procedures that come with the new high-profile job. He watched Kiyo and Colin urging their kids through their daily morning activities and made a comment that still makes her laugh:

"He said, 'she gets more respect in the courtroom,'" she said.

It's a good thing, she added. It grounds her. ■

welcome to YOUbanking™

You
should be banking on a
much more personal level.

You should have your own personal banker who's dedicated to your financial success. You should have a skilled professional who will help make your day-to-day banking effortless. You should have a financial ally who can leverage Union Bank's global resources on your behalf. You deserve the exclusive personal financial services of Priority Banking.^{®1}

Call a nearby office to schedule an appointment
with a Priority Banker.

Invest in you™



unionbank.com/priority

Southern California Priority Banking Offices

Gardena (310) 354-4773 Torrance (310) 373-8411
L.A. Main (213) 236-7705 West L.A. (310) 915-7115
Little Tokyo (213) 972-5526

Northern California Priority Banking Offices

Japan Center (415) 202-0350 San Francisco Main (415) 765-3434
Palo Alto (650) 947-2042 San Jose Main (408) 279-7411
Sacramento (916) 321-3161 Sunnyvale (408) 738-4900

^{®1}The Priority Banking program offers a range of Union Bank products and services to individuals and businesses that maintain combined balances of \$100,000 or more in qualifying accounts. Terms and conditions of the Priority Banking program are subject to change. You may be assigned to another program or product if you no longer meet the minimum balance requirement of Priority Banking. See our All About Personal, or All About Business, Accounts & Services Disclosure and Agreement for details.

©2008 Union Bank of California, N.A. Member FDIC.

Calendar

National

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Thurs., Sept. 25—National JACL Gala Dinner, "Celebrating Champions of Redress"; 6 p.m. reception, 7 p.m. dinner; Grand Hyatt Hotel, 1000 H St. NW; honoring Norman Mineta, John Tateishi and Grayce Uyehara; \$200/person, \$150/non-profits, \$100/JACL members; sponsorships available. Info: 202/223-1240.

East

TOWSON, Mass.

Sat., Sept. 6—Towson University Asian Arts and Culture Center present the Many Moons Festival; 11-6 p.m.; Center for the Arts at Towson University; enjoy performances by dancers and musicians, sample Asian cuisine; \$13/advance purchase, \$15/at the door, \$10 AA and CC members, \$5/students and children over 3. Tickets, 410/704-2787 or www.towson.edu/centerfortarts.

Midwest

ALBUQUERQUE

Sun., Sept. 28—New Mexico JACL Annual Aki Matsuri Festival, "Bamboo: The Way of Living Green"; 10-6 p.m.; National Hispanic Cultural Center, 1701 4th St.; featuring entertainment, food, arts and crafts for sale, etc. Info: Leo Gomez, 505/291-1062 or hanayagi@spinn.net.

ST. LOUIS

Aug. 30-Sept. 1—32nd Annual Japanese Festival; Sat.-Sun. 10-8 p.m., Mon. 10-5 p.m.; Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd.; \$10/general admission, \$7 for seniors, \$3/garden members and children 3-12; featuring cultural demonstrations, art exhibitions, entertainment and a Japanese marketplace. Info: 314/577-9400 or www.mobot.org.

Pacific Northwest

BELLEVUE

Sept. 6-7—11th Annual Aki Matsuri; Bellevue Community College Main Campus; Sat. 10-6 p.m., Sun. 11-5 p.m.; featuring demonstrations, entertainment, food and raffles. Info: www.enma.org.

PORTLAND

Wed., Aug. 27—Guest Artist Spotlight: Portland Taiko and Shohei Kikuchi; 6:30 p.m.; Echo Teatre, 1515 SE 37th Ave.; \$7 via 503/205-0715, www.portlandtaiko.org or at the door. Info: www.portlandtaiko.org.

Through Aug. 31—Exhibit, "Go For Broke: Photographs by Motoya Nakamura"; Tues.-Sat. 11-3 p.m., Sun. noon-3 p.m.; Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW Second Ave.; exhibit features portraits of JA veterans from the 442nd RCT. Info: www.oregonnikkei.org.

Through Sept. 2—Exhibition and Sale, Portland Japanese Garden's Annual Behind the Shoji Art Show and Sale; 10-7 p.m. Tues.-Sun., noon-7 p.m. Mon.; Portland Japanese Garden, 611 SW Kingston Dr.; featuring pottery, photography, glass, jewelry, textile art and more. Info: www.japanesegarden.com.

SEATTLE

Mon., Aug. 25—NVC Annual Golf

Tournament; 9 a.m.; Jefferson Park Golf Course, 4101 Beacon Ave. S; \$40/player, includes the round, prizes and dinner; cart is \$15/player. Info: Terry Takeuchi, 425/228-8937, Warren Higa, 425/269-1046 or Bob Kiga, 206/930-6190.

Northern California

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Sat., Sept. 13—Midori Kai, Inc.'s Annual Fundraiser Boutique; 1-4 p.m.; Mountain View Buddhist Temple Hall, 575 N. Shoreline Blvd.; featuring over 60 vendors showcasing Asian arts, crafts, jewelry, clothes, etc. Info: Phyllis Osaki, 925/596-1770 or Marsha Baird, 510/579-1518.

SAN JOSE

Sat., Oct. 4—Spirit of Japantown Festival; 10-6 p.m.; Fifth and Jackson Streets; featuring entertainment, artisans, vendors and food. Info: Aggie Idemoto, 408/268-4440.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sun., Sept. 14—Screening, "Transcending: The Wat Misaka Story"; 1 p.m.; Sundance Kabuki Theater, 1881 Post St.; documentary film about the first Asian American pro basketball player and star player from the Univ. of Utah; free; RSVP to 415/567-5505 by Sept. 10.

STOCKTON

Sat., Sept. 27—Stockton JACL Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser; Stockton Buddhist Church; \$7/adults, \$4/children 10 and under; proceeds benefit the chapter Education fund.

Southern California

GARDENA

Sun., Aug. 17—Seminar, "Alzheimer's and Dementia Concerns in the JA Community"; 1-3 p.m.; Ken Nakaoka Community Center, 1700 W. 162nd St.; Kathy Martelli is the featured speaker; free; no reservations required. Info: Karen Uyekawa, 213/894-3235.

LONG BEACH

Sat., Sept. 13—PSW District Awards Dinner, "PSW Heroes from Redress: 20 Years of a Living Legacy"; The Grand: Long Beach Event Center, 4101 E. Willow St.; \$100/person. Info: psw@jacl.org or 213/626-4471.

LOS ANGELES

Through Aug. 24—Nisei Week Festival; various locations around Little Tokyo; events include: Nikkei Games (Aug. 2-16), coronation ball (Aug. 16), car show, grand parade (Aug. 17), pioneer luncheon (Aug. 20), gyoza eating contest (Aug. 23) and the Nisei Week ondo (Aug. 24) and closing ceremony. Info: www.niseiweek.org.

Aug. 18-22—East West Players' Creative Play Program for Children; Mon.-Fri. 10-2 p.m.; East West Players' David Henry Hwang Theater, 120 Judge John Aiso St.; program for children ages 9-13; \$300/per student, discounts for siblings who enroll together. Info: Marilyn Tokuda, mtokuda@eastwestplayers.org or 213/625-7000 ext. 15.

Mon., Aug. 18—Visual Communications' Summer Screening, "OMG!!! Omg of MSG!"; 7:30 p.m.; David Henry Hwang Theater; features 11 selected shorts from this year's film festival; \$10/general admission, \$8/students, seniors and friends of VC members.

Info: www.vconline.org.

Sat., Aug. 23—Concert, "Next Generation REMIX 2008: Community Reborn"; 6-10 p.m.; JACCC Plaza, 244 S. San Pedro St.; featuring cultural performances and contemporary artists. Info: Nate Imai, 213/628-2725 ext. 128 or nimai@jaccc.org.

Sun., Aug. 24—Benefit concert, "IMELDIFIC! A Concert to benefit the New York premiere of Imelda: A New Musical; 2 p.m.; Henry David Hwang Theater, 120 Judge John Aiso St.; \$250/VIP, \$100/orchestra and \$50/balcony; Info or tickets: info@eastwestplayers.org or 213/625-7000.

Through Aug. 24—The 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors present, "Just Like White People"; Thu.-Sun. 8 p.m.; The Complex, 6476 Santa Monica Blvd.; \$15/general admission, \$12/students and seniors. Info: 818/754-4500 or 18mighty-mountainwarriors@gmail.com.

Sat., Nov. 15—Go For Broke National Education Center's 7th Annual Evening of Aloha Gala Dinner; Westin Bonaventure Hotel, 404 S. Figueroa St.; Ret. Gen. Eric Shinseki is the keynote speaker; food prepared by Roy Yamaguchi and Chris Yeo. Info: www.goforbroke.org/eoa or 310/222-5702.

ROLLING HILLS

Sept. 8—40th Annual Japan America Golf Classic; 11 a.m. shotgun start; Rolling Hills Country Club. Info: www.jas-socal.org or 213/627-6217 ext. 2007.

SAN DIEGO

Sat., Nov. 15—Screening, "Daniel K. Inouye: An American Story"; 1-2 p.m.; Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Public Library, 9005 Aero Dr.; this



PHOTO CREDIT: JJ LANE

St. Louis Osuwa Taiko drummers will perform at the Missouri Botanical Garden Japanese Festival Aug. 30-Sept. 1.

biographical film tells the story of the Senator from Hawaii who is now the 3rd most senior senator in the U.S.; presented by the San Diego JACL.

SANTA BARBARA

Sun., Sept. 14—Annual Santa Barbara JACL Community BBQ; featuring games, raffle, prizes, food and stuff for the kids; \$10/adults, \$6/kids under 11 years old. Info: Wade Nomura, wnomura@verizon.net or 805/448-9912.

VENTURA COUNTY

Sun., Oct. 12—18th Culture Day. Info: Jeff Kunisaki, 805/493-1824 or Mariko Chilcott, 805/231-1392.

Hawaii

HONOLULU

Through Sept. 27—Exhibition, "Pride & Practicality: Japanese Immigrant Clothing in Hawaii"; gallery hours 10-4 p.m.; Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii; exhibition shows how the first Japanese

immigrants weaved their cultural pride and identity into the fabric of Hawaii; free for JCCH members, \$3/non-members and residents, \$5/non-residents. Info: 808/945-7633 or www.jcch.com.

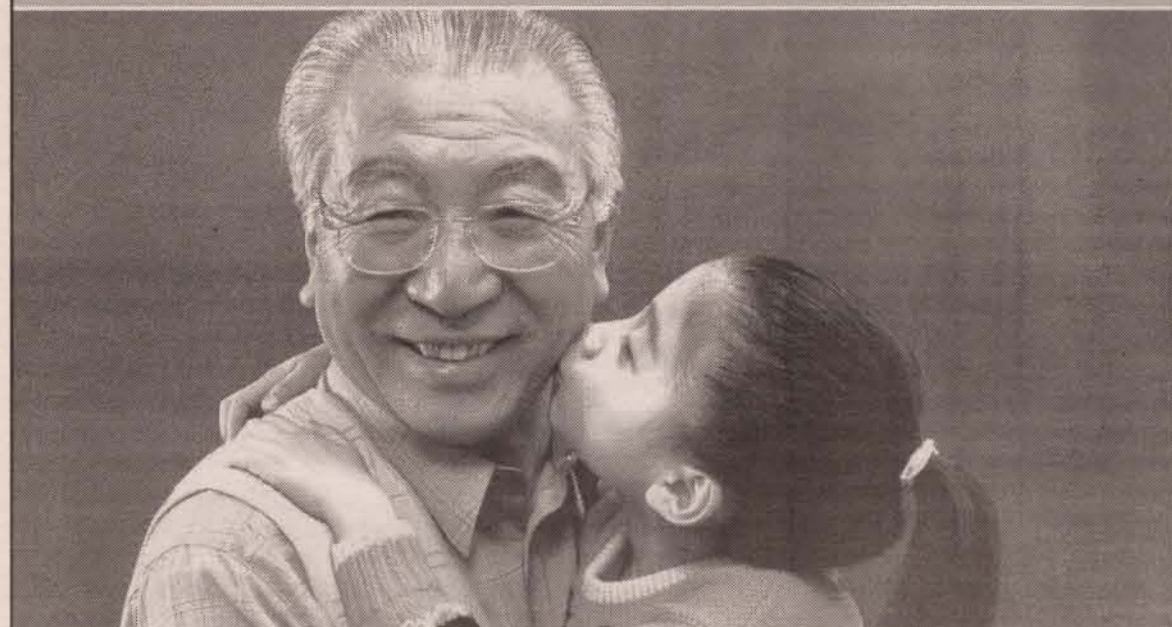
Nevada

LAS VEGAS

Oct. 14-16—2008 Manzanar High School Reunion; California Hotel; events include a mixer, slot tournament, photos and memory books; Manzanar rangers will participate with displays and presentations. Info: Cherry Uyeda, 818/981-2629, Grace Deguchi, 310/968-1666, Michi Osaki, 323/463-5143, Venice area: Kats Marumoto, 310/836-3565, Gardena: Jun Okimoto, 310/372-7133, Maryknoll: Seigo Yoshinaga, 626/576-1196, and San Fernando Valley: Victor Muraoka, 818/368-4113. ■



Blue Shield of California
An Independent Member of the Blue Shield Association



Health Plans for California JACL Members

Call the JACL Health Benefits Administrators at

1.800.400.6633

or visit www.jaclhealth.org



In Memoriam - 2008

All the towns are in California except as noted.

Aoki, George, 83, Sacramento, July 1; survived by daughters, Laurie (Harvey) Kamigawachi and Melanie (Jim Douglas) Aoki; sons, Bruce and Kirk (Jill); 4 gc.; sister, Sono Kunibe; and brothers, Yori (Mitsy) and Jun (Kazie).

Higashi, Susumu "George," 93, Gardena, June 27; survived by wife, Mitsuko; daughter, Kathy Kubota; 1 gc.; and 2 ggc.

Hill, Ayako Yoneoka, 93, Los Angeles, July 14; survived by son, John; daughters, Amy and Mary; and 1 gc.

Inouye, Sid, 87, Alhambra, June 29; survived by son, Eric (Diana); daughter, Pat (John) Corral; 4 gc.; and sister, Mary Berthold.

Ito, Fred Yoshiaki, 89, Seattle, July 5; WWII veteran, MIS; survived by son, Robert; daughters, Kathy (Doug) Carmichael, Janey (Les) Tiffany and Judy (Yoshifumi) Daikoku; 7 gc.; and sister, Reiko Ito.

Kimura, Robert Yoshinori, 83, Kaneohe, Haw., July 9; U.S. Army veteran; survived by sons, Randy and Roy; daughters, Ellen Kagami and Joanne Quon; and 5 gc.

Kitahara, Mae Sachiko, 85,

This compilation appears on a space-available basis at no cost. Printed obituaries from your newspaper are welcomed. "Death Notices," which appear in a timely manner at request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug. 2; survived by sons, Joey (Sandra) and Gary (Debbie); 10 gc.; 3 ggc.; and sister, Toni (James) Nakamura.

Matsueda, Kay Kisato, 98, Granada Hills, June 13; survived by daughter, Grace (Gilbert) Iwamasa; 9 gc.; 12 ggc.; and sister, Matsuyo Sakata.

Mori, Toshiko, 93, Albuquerque, June 25; survived by sons, Richard and Dennis (Sally); daughters, Kathryn, Sachi Bague and Jean Kinder; 10 gc.; 11 ggc.; sisters, Michiko Terajima and Yoshiko Honda; and sisters-in-law, Betty Iseri and Kazuko Iseri.

Naito, Frank Yukio, 68, Diamond Bar, July 2; survived by daughter, Nicki (Gene) Lew; 2 gc.; sister, Sally Yamamoto; and brother-in-law, Joe Katayama.

Nakamura, Yaeko K., 98, Los Angeles, July 9; survived by daughters, Joyce Okazaki and Louise (Gene) Manabe; 3 gc.; 2 ggc.; sisters, Masako Miura, M.D., Sakae Okabe and Irene (Mas) Kinoshita; and sister-in-law, Yuri Kusayanagi.

Nakata, Patsy Y., 81, Los

(562) 598-9523

Established 1965

Imperial Jewelry Mfg. Co.

Fine Jewelry • Custom Designing • Repair

11072 Los Alamitos Blvd.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

JACL Supports Bill to Include Curriculum on Vietnam War in Calif.

The JACL strongly supports California Assembly Bill AB 2064, which requires the California State Board of Education to include instruction on the Vietnam War, including instruction on the "Secret War" in Laos, the role of Southeast Asians in that war and the refugee or immigrant experience as a result of that war.

This bill follows and accentuates AB 78, which encouraged instruction on the "Secret War" of Laos and the role of Southeast Asians in that war.

Southeast Asians were allies of

the United States in the struggle against the spread of communism during the U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. After the war, many Southeast Asian groups, including Hmong, Lao, Cambodian, Vietnamese and Mien, endured life-threatening hardship and oppression, which eventually forced them to leave their homes as refugees.

"With Southeast Asians as one of the fastest growing segments of the population in California, we must craft our school's curriculum to convey their history," said JACL National Education Committee

Chair Elaine Akagi.

"California's students need to learn about the history of Southeast Asians who died while supporting the U.S. effort to contain the spread of communism and that once the U.S. withdrew in 1975, faced life-threatening hardship, forcing them to leave their homes as refugees."

The JACL urges the California Legislature to pass AB 2064 and calls on Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to sign the bill into law so that this important chapter in American history is included in California's school curriculum. ■

Asian Pacific Americans in various ways. Together, the experiences, stories and work of Okoshi and Mukai illustrate the common connections and the knowledge embodied in the Asian Pacific American experience.

Okubo-Kanemura, Ayako "Aya," 89, West Los Angeles, July 5; survived by daughters, Sherry (Bruce) Watanabe and Terrie (Kenny) Itomura; 4 gc.; and brother-in-law, Takao (Aki) Nishimura.

Owaki, Frances Ann, 73, July 3; survived by daughters, Susan (Jack) Bierman and Stephanie (Karim) Tatah; sons, Stephen and Peter; 4 gc.; and brothers, Bob and Philip Nakamura.

Sakamoto, Hideko, 93, June 27; survived by sons, Paul (Alice) and Masa (Helen); daughter, Aiko Mayeda; 7 gc.; and 7 ggc.

Sano, Chiyoko, 95, San Mateo, July 9; survived by sons, Masaru and Hiroshi (Christa); daughters, Fujiko (Bert) Yamasaki and Emi (Frank)

Hino; many gc. and ggc.; brothers, Joe (Michie) And Haruo (Yoko) Kakuda; and sister, Umeko Masuyama.

Takami, Jim, 78, Culver City, July 4; survived by wife, Lillian; daughter, Catherine (Scott) Burford; son, Michael (Debbie) Takami; 6 gc.; son-in-law, Michael Yee; and brother, Ted Takami.

Takata, Janet Fujiko, 70, Los Angeles, July 7; survived by husband, Shigemi; daughter, Carolyn; sons, Jim (Barbara) and Craig (Brenda); 7 gc.; brothers, Bill and John Nishi; and sisters, Joanne Imura, Robin and Linda Nishi.

Takeshita, Ted T., 94, Spokane, Wash., survived by wife, Rose; daughter, Kiyo (Paul) Teruya; son, Marc (Yumi); daughter-in-law, Patricia; 6 gc.; 11 ggc.; and sister, Mary Okamoto.

Tamura, Alvin Akira, 79, San Jose, May 25; survived by wife, Teresa and sister, Gloria Morita. ■

SOUP TO SUSHI

(a special collection of favorite recipes)

New Deluxe 3-Ring
Binder Cookbook With
Over 750 Recipes

\$25 (plus \$5.50 handling)

Wesley United Methodist Women
566 N. 5th Street
San Jose, CA 95112



National business and Professional Directory

Your business card in each issue for 22 issues is \$15 per line, three-line minimum. Larger type (12 pt.) counts as two lines. Logo same as line rate as required. P.C. has made no determination that the businesses listed in this directory are licensed by proper government authority.

Oakland, Calif.	Greater Los Angeles	Seattle, Wash.
KITAZAWA SEED CO. SINCE 1917 The Asian Vegetable Seed Source for Gardeners, Retailers, Growers Request a Catalog P.O. Box 13220 Oakland, CA 94661-3220 ph: 510/595-1188 fx: 510/595-1860 kitaseed@pacbell.net kitazawaseed.com	Cambridge Dental Care Scott Nishizaka D.D.S. Family Dentistry & Orthodontics 900 E. Katella, Suite A Orange, CA 92867 • (714) 538-2811 www.cambridgedentalcare.com	UWAJIMAYA ...Always in good taste.
Greater Los Angeles Dr. Darlyne Fujimoto, Optometrist & Associates A Professional Corporation 11420 E. South St, Cerritos, CA 90703 (562) 860-1339	Paul Jay Fukushima ATTORNEY AT LAW Wills & Trusts Probate & Conservatorships paul@fukushimalaw.com 12749 Norwalk Blvd. Suite 111 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-2575	For the Best of Everything Asian Fresh Produce, Meat, Seafood and Groceries A vast selection of Gift Ware Seattle, WA • (206) 624-6248 Bellevue, WA • (425) 747-9012 Beaverton, OR • (503) 643-4512
HOWARD IGASAKI, D.D.S., INC. ALAN IGASAKI, D.D.S. Dental Implants / General 22850 Crenshaw Blvd., Ste. 102 Torrance, CA 90505 (310) 534-8282	Phoenix, Ariz. YUKI TADANO REALTOR®, GRI Phoenix/Scottsdale real estate 1st USA Realty Professionals, Inc. (602) 565-1630 ytadano@cox.net www.yukitadano.com	

KUBOTA NIKKEI MORTUARY
久保田日系葬儀社
RELIABLE, COMPASSIONATE, PERSONALIZED
911 VENICE BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90015
TEL (213) 749-1449
FAX (213) 749-0265
日本語でも親切にお世話させていただきます。
www.kubotanikkeimortuary.com

福井 FUKUI MORTUARY
Four Generations of Experience
FD #808
707 East Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Ph. 213/626-0441
Fax 213/617-2781
Gerald Fukui
President

REVERSE MORTGAGE

Call for a free information package

If you are 62 or older and own your house, a Reverse Mortgage may benefit you!

- Turn Home Equity into Tax Free Cash
- You keep title to your home
- No Monthly Mortgage Payments
- Safe FHA Program Designed for Seniors

"I pledge to provide excellent customer service with the highest standard of ethics"

25+ Years Experience as a Financial Professional

David C. Miyagawa Chee

Certified Public Accountant

CA Dept. of Real Estate - Real Estate Broker #01391106

1-800-967-3575



MORI**(Continued from page 2)**

chairman for the JACL in 1978, will also be honored at the Gala as will Norman Mineta.

Some of the other JACL leaders who worked hard for Redress are: Cherry Kinoshita (who just recently passed away), Jerry Enomoto, Molly Fujioka, Ruth Hashimoto, Harry Kajihara, Lillian Kimura, Tom Kometani, Peggy Liggett, Meriko Mori, Judy Niizawa, Mae Takahashi, Rudy Tokiwa, Mary Tsukamoto, Edison Uno, Dr. Clifford Uyeda, Shig Wakamatsu, Denny Yasuhara, Min Yasui, Bill Yoshino, along with hundreds of others.

The late Sen. Spark Matsunaga worked very hard to gain support of the U.S. Senate. Sen. Daniel Inouye has given credit to his colleague from Hawaii for his tireless efforts, and Sen. Inouye's contributions were also valuable.

Congressman Barney Frank was also key in the Redress movement for which he received the Chairman's Award at this year's National Japanese American Memorial Foundation dinner in D.C. Former Congressmen Bob Matsui, Mineta and others played critical roles.

The 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which is the most highly decorated unit for its size in U.S. mili-

tary history, needs to receive credit for their service to this nation during WWII. Because of their valor and loyalty, members of Congress listened to them. JAs have benefited greatly because of all these brave young men who served in the military. Due to a much earlier experience which President Ronald Reagan, as a young soldier, had with the family of a slain soldier of the 442nd, the President did not hesitate to sign the bill into law.

There are many within the JACL

KINOSHITA**(Continued from page 1)**

gy from the University of Washington.

Kinoshita became active in the local JACL chapter after the war and eventually served as a national board member and on the *Pacific Citizen* editorial board.

By the 1970s she became involved with the grassroots efforts to gain an apology and reparations for JAs who had suffered the indignities of internment. Eventually through the efforts of community leaders like Kinoshita, JAs won an apology and \$20,000 each with the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act.

"Many in the (Japanese American) community felt it was better to leave these things in the past. They thought it might stir up

and outside of the JA community who worked long and hard to bring about Redress. Although the JACL has honored some at the recent national convention — and will honor others at the PSW dinner, at many local events and at the JACL Gala Dinner in D.C. — it is unfortunate that the JACL is not able to recognize every one of them with an award.

Thank you to all who played a part in this important effort and to all who are commemorating Redress. ■

animosity," said Kinoshita's only child Kyle, in an interview with the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. But she felt it was "the right thing to do."

"Cherry was one of a kind and fully committed to social justice to the end," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "Just weeks ago she was calling upon the JACL to further recognize those who worked on the redress movement years ago. We recognize her great efforts and the work she did for redress and for the JACL. We are saddened at this loss."

Kinoshita's husband Masao passed away in 2006. She is survived by her son, daughter-in-law Susan and granddaughter Katie.

The family plans to hold a small private service. Remembrances may be made to the JACL Seattle chapter, the Nisei Veterans Committee and Keiro. ■

NOGUCHI**(Continued from page 2)**

a few hours after an initial conflict subsided to confront Satender's friends in the parking lot with

**SINGH**

For those who say, "What about the guy who murdered Satendar?", I say good question! Will Andrey Vusick, the man who struck the fatal blow, finally finish his "business" in Russia as his

vicious anti-gay slurs? Would a rowdy, dirty dancing group of straight Anglo Saxons have been attacked?

family claimed? Will the U.S. government bring him to justice? Don't hold your breath.

After the U.S. government legally railroaded 120,000 Japanese Americans (including my family) to World War II internment camps, a few of us have some doubts. It's another reason why we have to speak out, stand together, build friendships and demand justice. ■

Andy Noguchi, writing from Sacramento, helped organize support for the Satendar trial and attended most of the legal proceedings. He serves as the civil rights co-chair for the Florin JACL chapter and the NCWNP district.

First Lady Recognizes L.A. Thai Town as Cultural Asset

First Lady Laura Bush recognized the Thai Town neighborhood as a "Preserve America" community, indicating its cultural and historical significance. The federal recognition makes Thai Town eligible for up to \$250,000 in grants and \$250,000 in matching funds.

The Bush administration established the Preserve America program in 2003 to help communities preserve cultural and historical sites and educate others about their stories. About 500 communities have been recognized so far.

Koreatown and Historic Filipinotown have also applied for Preserve America status in an effort by the city of Los Angeles to gain recognition for its Asian American enclaves. Chinatown was awarded last month, and Little Tokyo was recognized in March. ■



Legacy of Leadership

2008 JACL National Convention in Salt Lake City

The 2008 JACL Convention Committee

&

The National JACL Staff

Sincerely want to "Thank Each and Everyone"
who Sponsored, Attended, & Volunteered
for the 40th Biennium JACL Convention

See you in Chicago 2010!