

PACIFIC CITIZEN

The National Publication of the Japanese American Citizens League



{ IN DEPTH }

RECEIVING THEIR HONORARY DEGREES

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Youth Represent Change



Sept. 18-Oct. 1, 2009 issue

The editors and writers of the *Pacific Citizen* are to be commended on the Special Youth Issue. For older readers (like me) it is comforting to read about so many attractive, energetic young people who are thoughtful about the future of the JACL, APA communities and their issues.

While the future may be shrouded in a haze for most of us, it is nice to know that there are capable young folks that can step up with ideas to meet the challenges we know are coming.

The youth that the *P.C.* profiled represent change. Make no mistake about that. We all must be ready to embrace those changes.

LARY SCHECTMAN
Chicago JACL

'Yes-Yes' Boy

In 1939 my brother graduated from UC Berkeley and decided to enlist. He was sent to a Pensacola Naval Base and was rejected.

He went back to San Francisco, where he opened an office on the edge of Japantown. Soon after, a government man told him he could still do something for his country by being an informer of any pro-Japan activi-

ty. Well, my brother told him where to go!

Later our family of five was evacuated to Santa Anita where we were herded into horse stalls. I was a "Yes-Yes" and a GI, but my brother had the guts to protest — a real man, my brother!

ROY HASHIOKA
Riverside, Ill

Fool Me Once, Shame on You

When ethnic Japanese like me were incarcerated during World War II, we obeyed the government orders without much reservation. They classified us as "evacuees." I had no reason to doubt the correctness of terms like this.

But what did the political leaders themselves call these camps? A check of historic data shows an entirely different identification.

On Dec. 30, 1943, Attorney General Francis Biddle's memo to President Roosevelt: "The present procedure of keeping loyal American citizens in concentration camps on the basis of race for longer than is absolutely necessary is ... repugnant..."

On Sept. 23, 1946 Secretary of Interior Harold Ickes said in the *Washington Evening Star*: "We gave the fancy name of 'relocation centers' to these dust bowls, but they were concentration camps nonetheless..."

Some consider it controversial to designate them as concentration

camps on the presumption that Nazi Germany initiated them. Dachau and Buchenwald exterminated Jews by gas chambers, and more correctly should be designated "death camps."

History tells us that the term concentration camps, was first used at the turn of the century in the Spanish American and the Boer Wars. Historians defined it as a place where people are imprisoned not because of any crimes they committed, but simply because of who they were.

Who's next? Muslim? Fool me twice, shame on me.

YUKIO TAZUMA
Seattle JACL

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Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Membership Needs Your Help

JACL needs to reach its membership goals. The future is in your hands.

By Floyd Mori



If you are reading this, you are probably a JACL member. You may be a longtime member or you may be a new member.

Either way, we want to thank you for your continued support of the JACL.

Tim Koide, JACL membership coordinator, recently put out a report stating that JACL has some work to do in order to reach the membership goals set for this year. We can all help with these goals and build up JACL membership.

If half of the individuals reading this article would bring in just one new or lapsed member, we could go well over the top. Everyone has a family member or a friend who could benefit from a JACL membership. Although National JACL now requires JACL scholarship applicants to be JACL members, a large percentage of the scholarship recipients do not keep up their JACL membership. The same is true of past JACL fellows. Chapter leaders

and family members could try to encourage past scholarship and fellowship recipients to join or rejoin the JACL. Maybe it is time for them to give back.

The position of vice president of membership on the JACL national board remains vacant. If you are interested and willing to join the national board to work on membership issues, please contact JACL National President Larry Oda (president@jacl.org).

As we work on issues facing the JACL with our Asian Pacific American coalition partners, we still find that some of the same issues for which JACL was established to fight 80 years ago are still present today. In the past month alone, there were accusations of police brutality against an APA male in Virginia and in California.

Although President Obama recently signed into law improved hate crime legislation — which JACL and others have been pushing for over 10 years — racism and intolerance persist in our society. Minorities are harassed or persecuted in their daily lives at school or

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PHOTO: NALEA J. KO

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APA leaders like Go For Broke's Kevin Tamaki are calling for more MTA options.

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U.S. Army Veteran Sinh Tho Nguyen finishes his journey across America in honor of the fallen.



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Minidoka Supporters Take on Feedlot, Power Line



PHOTO: DENSHO



PHOTO: RYAN KOZU

During World War II, the guard tower at Minidoka (left) overlooked the internment camp.

Today, a sign onsite at the Minidoka Historic Site (top) depicts the landscape as it was during World War II.

A coalition of organizations is working to preserve the Minidoka Historic Site for future generations.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Sue Hasegawa, 77, was in elementary school when her family packed up and headed to the Portland Assembly Center during World War II. They were eventually incarcerated at what is now the Minidoka Historic Site. It is one of 11 sites on the list of most endangered historic places, according to the National Trust For Historic Preservation (NTFHP).

Hasegawa was the youngest of six children. They were a family of strawberry farmers who moved often to cultivate leased land.

When the order came to evacuate, Hasegawa remembers storing all of their possessions in a chicken house on the farm. She never recovered those belongings.

"We didn't have a lot to begin with," Hasegawa said over the phone from her home in Torrance, Calif. "We had no luxury, none whatsoever. Even when it came to toys. Maybe we were just poorer than the rest [laughs]."

At camp she occupied herself, playing games like jump rope and jacks. She said her experience at Minidoka was different than some others.

"I do remember a lot, vividly. But, you know, my reactions and feelings really aren't the same as somebody older because to me I enjoyed it. I had fun because I was young," Hasegawa said. "Yeah, 'cause, you know, all we did was play, go to school and eat and play."

The 77-year-old is one of about 13,000 Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at Minidoka during WWII. Feelings about the site may vary, but most agree that Minidoka is a part of a dark chapter in American history. It is a site some are fighting to preserve in the face of potential changes in the area.

"We have been working with Senator Inouye and Secretary of Interior Salazar to find alternative routes for the impending power line," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "We feel that our urging has been heard and that there will be a new route for the power line that does not impede on the nature and memory of the Minidoka campsite."

"The animal-feeding plant is still to be determined but we are very hopeful that authorities and the courts will see the hazard and nuisance of such an operation so close by."

A coalition of Minidoka supporters — including JACL, Friends of Minidoka, local farmers, the NTFHP, Idaho Rural

Council, Preservation Idaho, and Idaho Concerned Area Residents For the Environment — have come together to oppose a planned confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) nearby. The coalition filed a lawsuit to appeal the Jerome County Board of Commissioners' Sept. 23, 2008 vote to approve a permit for the CAFO near the historic site.

"We challenged the Jerome County Board of Commissioners ruling granting the permit," explained Charlie Tebbutt, the coalition's attorney. Tebbutt is with the Western Environmental Law Center in Oregon. "The district of Idaho will hear that likely in February or March."



PHOTO: DENSHO

Children at Minidoka pose in the garden for a photograph.

It is important to prevent the 13,000-heifer feedlot from opening, Tebbutt said, to "preserve the nature and character of the Minidoka site." Also it would simply stink, he said.

The proposed CAFO site is about 1.2 miles from Minidoka. "If built, the industrial dairy operation will have devastating impacts on Minidoka and its neighbors by causing noxious odors, dust, and pests," said Anthea Hartig, director of the Western office of NTFHP. "It is an insult to the sacrifice of the more than 13,000 internees who lived at the camp during World War II, including those who went on to serve their country in war, and will impair the [National] Park Service's ability to interpret the site for future generations."

Straining the preservation efforts further is another proposed development in the area: the 500-kilovolt electric transmission line, which could bisect the camp. It is a planned 500-mile-long electric line. Talks are underway, according to coalition member, to reroute the line. Although they are optimistic that the

power line will be rerouted, nothing is set in writing yet.

Meanwhile legal fees to stop the planned changes at the site are mounting. At its Oct. 30-31 meeting, JACL national board members approved \$7,500 to go toward legal fees. Other members have also contributed and the NTFHP has offered a grant, matching the JACL's contributions.

"It's still in the review phase. Nothing has been set in stone. Our preference would be to reroute it," explained Karen Yoshitomi, JACL PNW regional director. "The only options on paper are all objectionable." Yoshitomi said the coalition welcomes any donations to continue the legal battle.

Those with a personal connection to the site want to see the site preserved for future generations.

"We should not lessen the story of Minidoka by putting these additional pressures on the site that will detract from it," explained Emily Hanako Momohara, Friends of Minidoka chair. Momohara's family was interned at Minidoka. It would be "heartbreaking" to allow these planned changes to impact Minidoka since the site has been restored, she said.

About 20 Minidoka barracks and two residential "block mess halls" have been located and some moved back, according to the organization's Web site. Officials with the Friends of Minidoka are also working on creating an Issei memorial at Minidoka for future JAs to appreciate.

"Speaking from the youth perspective ... it's important because it's part of our legacy, part of our history. I think that's why JACL exists," said Brandon Mita, JACL youth representative.

"I just hope the JA community and Asian American community — and community at large — join in and do something. I think it's important that we speak out and do something," he said.

Hasegawa said she understands that younger generations would appreciate visiting the site. The 77-year-old has not returned to Minidoka since the day her family left and likely would never go back.

There are no family photos from her days at Minidoka and she does not clearly remember her last day at camp. Friendships with the "gals" she went to school with are still strong. But for the most part, Hasegawa is happy to leave her memories of the camp in Idaho.

"I know it [Minidoka] isn't much because it never was much to begin with, you know," she said. ■

To donate to the legal battle impacting the Minidoka site, make a donation to "camp preservation" at www.minidoka.org or www.jacl.org.

Former UC Students Reflect on their Honorary Degrees



PHOTO: PACIFIC CITIZEN STAFF

Cedrick Shimo had his graduate education at the University of California, Berkeley interrupted by a draft notice the day after the Pearl Harbor attack.

What does an honorary degree mean for former Nisei students like Jim Yamasaki and Cedrick Shimo?

By Christine McFadden
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

For former University of California, Berkeley freshman Jim Yamasaki, getting through final exams during the winter of 1942 was the least of his worries.

A Nisei from Tracy, Calif., Yamasaki was an excellent student working toward becoming the breadwinner of his family. His studies were interrupted, however, when his father's liquor license was suspended, disabling the family business of running a tavern in Tracy. Curfew restrictions then forced him to return home.

"There were bigger problems than [the] interruption of my education ... I had no time to worry about school," he wrote in an e-mail.

Executive Order 9066 uprooted his family and confined his life to the horse stables of the Turlock county fairgrounds, and eventually at Gila River in Arizona.

Though Yamasaki went on to have academic success, he never returned to UC Berkeley.

This Dec. 13, however, he and numerous other former Nisei students who had their schooling similarly disrupted will be receiving honorary degrees for the education they were not allowed to complete.

Decreeing the Degrees

The honorary degrees are the product of Assemblyman Warren Furutani's Assembly Bill 37, signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in October. The bill calls on University of California schools, California State Universities, and California community colleges to issue degrees to anyone who had their educations interrupted by the World War II Japanese American incarceration.

"The main motivation is that it's under the heading of 'unfinished business,' tying up

loose ends," said Furutani. The assemblymember has been working toward this goal for decades.

"I've always thought, 'what about those folks who were in college and then they got pulled out of college by Executive Order 9066 and were not given the opportunity to finish?' he said. "For me, the motivation is that our Nisei are almost gone and this was something to correct past wrongs."



Jim Yamasaki was a freshman at UC Berkeley during the winter of 1942.

Duncan Williams, who serves as associate professor of Japanese Buddhism and chair of the Center for Japanese Studies at UC Berkeley, believes that this legislation is long overdue.

"Of course I think it [AB 37] should've come a long time ago," said Williams. He noted that a number of larger universities on the West Coast have already issued degrees in

years past. "In my opinion, I would have hoped and thought that the UC system ... would be a leader, but it seems like we're at the tail-end ... we ought to have done this earlier."

With the degrees approved, approximately 400 former students or their family members — UC Berkeley had the largest population of JA pre-WWII students — will be among the first people in decades to be issued honorary UC degrees.

The ceremony will run jointly with the regular undergraduate graduation; Williams, who serves on the ceremony's campus planning committee and who will be reading the names of the JA graduates, hopes that the university's undergraduates will be able to learn something from the Nisei.

"If you think about it ... the kinds of challenges that people faced back then is really a point of pride for a Japanese American family to be able to say, 'our daughter just got into UC Berkeley,'" Williams said.

He notes that the ceremony will be especially meaningful for former seniors who were just weeks away from "all that hard work and overcoming barriers to get their college degrees."

What it Means to Them

Although Yamasaki was incarcerated, he still had education on his mind.

From inside Gila River, Yamasaki applied for a scholarship to leave camp and resume his studies elsewhere. He was accepted on a scholarship to the University of Utah, where he was subsequently drafted despite boasting the best grades in his classes among white students who were allowed to defer.

He became a 2nd Lieutenant and was transferred to the Military Intelligence Service, ending up in Japan on occupation duty in the counter intelligence. He spent the next year writing secret reports for Gen. Douglas MacArthur's staff.

"Here was a person not trusted in 1943 [and] four years later, had secret clearance in the

U.S. Army," he said.

When Yamasaki returned to the States, he had trouble finding a school that wasn't already packed with veterans using their GI Bill or would accept Nisei students because of postwar prejudice.

Yamasaki managed to matriculate at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill. thanks to the admissions interviewer, who graduated from UC Berkeley the same year Yamasaki was forced to leave.

In 1949, Yamasaki earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

Although he will be attending the ceremony this December, Yamasaki believes that the hardships he overcame are worth more than the degree.

"For those that were close to graduating and for some reason did not receive a college diploma, perhaps this will satisfy their loss," said Yamasaki, a SELANOCO JACL member. "For the rest of us, what we learned in achieving our degree [elsewhere] is what helped us in our career."

Nisei Cedrick Shimo also faced numerous challenges, but unlike Yamasaki, he had his graduate education at UC Berkeley interrupted by the draft.

Shimo received his draft notice the day after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, but was ironically refused passage on the train to Los Angeles because he looked like the enemy.

Shimo eventually volunteered for the MIS and was transferred to Camp Savage in Minnesota. Right before graduating from the MIS language school, he was expelled for protesting a rejected furlough. Shimo wanted to say goodbye to his mother before being sent to the Pacific Front, but JAs were not allowed on the West Coast.

He was transferred to the 525th, a special unit for "troublemakers," demoted to the rank of a private, and eventually was reorganized into the 1800th, a similar unit for "malcontents." When the war ended, he received an honorable discharge.

Though Shimo is unable to attend the UC Berkeley graduation ceremony, he appreciates the degree.

"At least I got proof that I was in graduate school in case somebody doubts it," he said.

While there is no deadline for California public institutions included in AB 37 to issue the degrees, Furutani says time is of the essence.

"As you know, the average age [of Nisei's] is 86 or 88 — there's no deadline, but literally they're passing away and if we don't get this done right away, more and more are going to have to be given away posthumously." ■

Christine McFadden is a Portland JACL member.

UC Honorary Degrees

Four campuses have scheduled ceremonies.

UC San Francisco — Dec. 4

UC Davis — Dec. 12

UC Berkeley — Dec. 13

UCLA — Spring 2010

Info: <http://honorary.universityofcalifornia.edu>

Metro Agrees to Explore Alternative Build Option in Little Tokyo



PHOTO: NALEA J. KO

David Yoda (right) asks an MTA official to explain diagrams of the Regional Connector Transit Corridor project at the Nov. 12 meeting in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo.

The Little Tokyo Community Council voiced its concerns with the present transit options and asked Metro to create an alternative.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Los Angeles' Little Tokyo stakeholders pressed officials to explore an alternative option in their bid to expand the light rail transit system.

About 40 people gathered at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Little Tokyo Nov. 12 for one of numerous community-update meetings. The topic of discussion: the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) plans to connect the Blue Line and Gold Line transit systems.

The nearly two-mile-long Regional Connector Transit Corridor project's scope would include Little Tokyo as well as Bunker Hill, the Civic Center, the Toy District, the Historic Core, the Arts District and the Jewelry District, among others.

The Nov. 12 meeting followed the Little Tokyo Community Council's (LTCC) Nov. 10 decision to urge the MTA to explore an alternative build option. LTCC represents over 90 businesses and organizations in the area.

LTCC sent a letter on Nov. 9 to the MTA, asking officials to pursue the underground emphasis option, which would run below ground at Second Street. They also emphasized protecting the Nishi Hongwanji Temple's property. Other options encroached on the temple's property. Community leaders expressed concern about the impact of construction that would likely take three to four years.

"What will it do to us as an institution that's mission is to tell the story of the history of the Japanese here?" said Chris Komai, JANM public relations officer. "If you know anything about the history of the Japanese, you know that Little Tokyo has been constantly pushed around. And you know what, we're getting tired of it."

JANM sees about 100,000 visitors annually, Komai said. He said museum officials are concerned about how the construction phase would impact visitor rates, including school tour programs.

There are currently four MTA options on the table: a no-build alternative, a transportation system management alternative, an at-grade light rail transit alternative and an underground light

rail transit alternative. Project Manager Dolores Roybal Saltarelli said MTA would explore a fifth option and continue to work with stakeholders.

Taking a unified stance, Little Tokyo business leaders said they oppose "the two build options." They welcome further talk with the MTA.

"At this time, subject to the approval of the Nishi board itself, we're open to listening to Metro's options — below grade option as long as it does not encroach on the Nishi Buddhist temple's property," said Eric Kurimura, spokesperson for the Nishi Hongwanji Temple. He was not alone in expressing his apprehension.



RENDERING COURTESY OF METRO

One of the MTA's four build options being explored is the underground light rail transit alternative (above).

"We have real concerns about the effects with construction and long-term disruption it would cause to this area. This part of Little Tokyo is very key to us," explained Kevin Tamaki, with the Go For Broke National Education Center.

MTA officials said there is a need to increase the connectivity of the transit system to meet the needs of the growing population.

They estimate that by 2035, the population in Los Angeles would grow to nearly 2 million people. According to the Southern California Association of Governments the population in Los Angeles has grown by 12.81 percent since 1990.

Without the regional connector there is a gap in the transit system. MTA officials said the connector would benefit all of Los Angeles not just downtown. It would provide a "continuous trip between the Pasadena Metro Gold Line and Metro Blue

Line, and between the Metro Eastside Gold Line and Metro Expo line."

Riders who have to transfer at Union Station because of the gap are delayed about 20 minutes and have to pay additional fees. Further reasons why MTA officials said expanding the transit system would be necessary.

The cost of each option varies. The capital cost for the transportation system management alternative would be about \$63 million. That alternative would provide a shuttle service from 7th Street to Union Station. With the at-grade light rail transit alternative the price tag would be about \$796 million. Its route would head westbound on Main Street and north on Temple Street. The underground light rail alternative would run along Second Street and go into Little Tokyo. The estimated cost: \$910 million.

Most in Little Tokyo are in favor of expanding the transit system. But they want the MTA to implement appropriate mitigation efforts during construction as well as iron out a fifth build option.

David Yoda, who lives in Little Tokyo, said he would probably take advantage of the regional connector if it were convenient.

"I haven't heard anything good or bad about it. I just — from time to time I read about it," Yoda said while surveying posted MTA diagrams at the meeting. "The new Gold Line would be convenient if I wanted to go down to the eastside."

Construction has not begun. MTA is conducting an 18-month environmental impact statement/environmental impact report. That EIS/EIR is expected to be complete in the summer of 2010.

In the interim Little Tokyo stakeholders are cautious to support the fifth option without first seeing it.

"Of course the point is though too, 'exploration' of the fifth option. We're not in favor of choosing the fifth option because a lot of people have said, 'What if the fifth option is just as bad as the other two,'" said Craig Ishii, JACL PSW regional director. "So, we want to see what it will look like, what mitigations are going to be coming along with it."

Ishii said he hopes any disruption that occurs to the community is within a reasonable degree. ■

On the Web

www.metro.net/projects_studies/connector/default.htm

JACL's Third Quarter Deficit Places Weight on Year-End Fundraisers



PHOTO: GARY MAYEDA

JACL National president Larry Oda (right) said he is hopeful year-end revenues will be realized.

By Lynda Lin
Assistant Editor

The JACL closed out the third quarter with a deficit of \$43,356, a loss in line with projections made earlier this year, said national board members at its Oct. 30-31 meeting in San Francisco.

In June, the national board revised the 2009 budget — expenses were trimmed and projected membership revenue was reduced, among other changes. But even with these adjustments, a deficit was expected.

“The budget shortfall is attributed to unbridled optimism,” said Oda.

The 2009-10 budget adopted in 2008 by the national council laid the foundation for aggressive membership goals to fund JACL programs. That was, board members say, before the economic recession gripped the nation.

“When we adopted this budget we hoped that we were conservative in our revenue expectations and generous in our expenditure projections; when in actuality our revenue projections were too generous, and expenditure projections too conservative,” added Oda.

The economic recession has put increased pressure on the organization's budget and cash flow.

JACL has drawn down its reserve fund to manage shortfalls in its cash flow, said Josh Spry, JACL secretary/treasurer.

But waning membership revenue continues to afflict the JACL. Each year membership declines at approximately 4 to 5 percent, said Spry.

“Membership development is a function of enthusiastic chapter programs that touch people and involve members young and old,” said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. “As long as we are not willing to ask people to share the joy of serving the community we will see a decline in membership.”

The vice president of membership position has remained vacant since Ryan Chin stepped down from the post in June citing personal reasons. The search, said Oda, has been unsuccessful so far.

“The skills needed for the position or the enormity of

the task at hand seem to discourage volunteers. We have gone to each of the districts and requested recommendations, but there seems to be reluctance to relinquishing their own membership chairs,” he said. “So far, the people we have approached have all declined the appointment.”

Board members are now focusing on identifying candidates for vice president of membership for the elections at the 2010 JACL national convention in Chicago, said Oda.

There is good news. JACL's investments have risen above the draw threshold, which enabled national board members to restore investment income on the budget's revenue side by \$230,000.

If there is a surplus at the end of the year, that money will replenish the cash reserves, said Spry.

“There is a good chance that we may see a surplus or be within the planned budget,” said Mori. “The fact that we have been able to operate within the budget is very good in light of the severe economic recession.”

As of Sept. 30 the Legacy Fund is at \$5,790,618, the Life Trust Endowment is at \$457,271 and the National Endowments sits at \$396,550. The Masaoka Endowment Fund is at \$353,642 and the JACL Reserve Fund sits at \$48,392.

Successful year-end fundraisers including Annual Giving and the *Pacific*

Citizen's Holiday Issue are critical to the overall budget.

“We are hopeful that the expected revenues will be realized because without a reserve fund, there may be no other alternative than to draw on the endowments to balance the budget,” said Oda.

The 2010 budget will be examined at the next national board meeting scheduled for Feb. 12-13.

Membership continues to decline, but the organization's “appetite and expectations for programming have stayed the same or increased. The [current] budget shortfall is due to the inputs shrinking and outputs growing, which is unsustainable in the long-run,” said Spry. “We as an organization need to take a hard look at what is important to us and what we can do well.” ■

‘The [current] budget shortfall is due to the inputs shrinking and outputs growing, which is unsustainable in the long-run.’

— Josh Spry,
JACL secretary/treasurer

National Newsbytes

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

JACL Denounces Media Personality for ‘Oriental’ Comment

NEW YORK—Radio shock jock Don Imus is in hot water again after a guest on his morning show used an anti-Asian remark to describe CBS news anchor Katie Couric.

On Nov. 9, Bo Dietl, a former New York Police Department detective and a regular guest on Imus' show, said Couric “got her eyes pulled so far, she's starting to look Chinese herself.”

“Ten years ago she looked American. Today, she looks Oriental,” Dietl added.

Bill Yoshino, JACL's Midwest regional director, sent a letter to the CEO of Fox News Roger Ailes, objecting to Dietl's behavior.

“By continually inviting Dietl as a guest, Fox News gives credence to his childish behavior and the racist, hateful views he demonstrates,” said Yoshino in the letter.

Hokubei Mainichi Closes

SAN FRANCISCO—The *Hokubei Mainichi*, a 61-year-old bilingual Japanese American daily printed its last edition Oct. 30, according to the Asian American Journalists Association.

Newspaper officials decided to stop production because of declining circulation and advertising revenue.

In a letter to readers, Don Yamate, president and CEO, said the company would still seek investors.

Judge Resigns After Flap Over Interracial Wedding

BATON ROUGE, La.—Keith Bardwell, the justice of the peace who was heavily criticized for refusing to marry an interracial couple because he believed their children would suffer, stepped down Nov. 3 after 34 years in office.

Bardwell reportedly refused to sign Beth Humphrey and Terence McKay's marriage license because they were a “mixed couple.” In interviews, he said he refers interracial couples to other justices of the peace.

Civil rights leaders and officials, including Gov. Bobby Jindal, wanted him out.

Humphrey and McKay have filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against Bardwell and his wife.

House Recognizes Filipino American History Month

WASHINGTON—The House of Representatives has unanimously approved a resolution recognizing Filipino American History Month. Rep. Bob Filner, D-Calif., introduced House Resolution 780, “Recognizing Filipino American History Month.”

The Senate passed its own version of this bill as a Senate resolution by unanimous consent on Oct. 1 to kick off Filipino American History Month.

Same-sex Marriage Backers Vow to Keep Up Fight in Maine

PORTLAND, Maine—Supporters of a voter-rejected same-sex marriage law is taking heart in the 47 percent they received.

Leaders of the campaign that tried unsuccessfully to prevent the scuttling of Maine's gay marriage law vowed to continue what they termed a civil rights struggle. But what form their effort will take is not yet known.

The vote marked another defeat for same-sex marriage supporters following last year's Proposition 8 campaign in California that repealed court-ordered same-sex marriage. There are now five states that allow same-sex marriage — Iowa, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Connecticut.

Jury Convicts Illinois Man of Manslaughter

CHICAGO—Jurors have convicted a 33-year-old man of involuntary manslaughter in the 2007 drowning death of 62-year-old Vietnamese American fisherman Du Doan.

Prosecutors say Doan drowned after Haley shoved the fisherman into a Lake Michigan harbor. Doan could not swim. Prosecutors had sought a murder conviction. Instead Haley was found guilty of manslaughter.

Haley will be sentenced Nov. 19. ■

APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Yamamoto Receives 2009 Haaheo Award

Eric Yamamoto, a law professor at the University of Hawaii, has received the 2009 Haaheo Award for his contributions to justice for communities in Hawaii and beyond.

Yamamoto is a law professor at the University of Hawaii, William S. Richardson School of Law. He was co-counsel to Fred Korematsu in the successful re-opening of the leading WWII Japanese American internment case, *Korematsu v. U.S.*

Yamaguchi Heads Wash. State APA Commission

Long-time community leader **Kendee Yamaguchi** has been named the executive director of the Washington State Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

Yamaguchi, a Sansei born and raised in Washington, was a director in the Office of Management and Administration at the White House prior to this position.

Muratsuchi is Re-elected to School Board

Torrance School Board President **Al Muratsuchi** was the top vote-getter among a field of seven candidates running for the Torrance Unified School District Board of Education.

Muratsuchi has served on the Torrance School Board since 2005.

In addition to serving on the school board, Muratsuchi serves as a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice. He had previously served as the JACL PSW district regional director.

Former 'Survivor' Winner Joins the FCC

Yul Kwon, a lawyer best known for being the first APA to win the CBS reality show "Survivor" has been appointed to deputy chief of the Federal Communications Commission's Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau.

His media activities include working as a special correspondent for CNN and as a co-host for the Discovery Channel.

Chin Wins Seat in NYC's Chinatown

New York City's Chinatown has elected **Margaret Chin** as its first Chinese American to the city council.

The downtown Manhattan neighborhood is one of the biggest Chinese communities outside Asia. Chin is a community organizer and immigrant advocate who speaks three Chinese dialects.

Golfers Win Tournament



(L-r) Warren Minami, Earl Takeguchi, Floyd Mori and Doug Minami.

The Foundation for Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce recently hosted an international team golf championship at Bretton Woods Golf Course in Germantown, Maryland.

David Kim won the long drive in the gross division. The winning team with a score of 64 included: **Chris Convey, John Tagami, David Asaki** and **Denny Minami**.

JACL National Director **Floyd Mori** won long drive in the net division. The winning team with a gross score of 63 and a net score of 47 included: Mori, **Warren Minami, Earl Takeguchi** and **Doug Minami**. ■

JACLers Wanted More for the Next Generations



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLOYD SHIMOMURA

Florice and Sam Kuwahara were married in 1941. She later established two JACL scholarships in her husband's name.

Florice Kuwahara donated to the JACL to improve educational programs.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

Florice Kuniko Kuwahara always wanted others to have more opportunities than she had. The Turlock, Calif. born Nisei only completed one year of her college education before she was married. She wanted more for the next generations.

So before she passed away in April at the age of 90, she included a donation of \$40,000 to the JACL in her will for "educational scholarships or other leadership development programs."

Florice, who had previously helped establish two other JACL scholarships in memory of her husband Sam S. Kuwahara, supported the JACL's goal of civil rights, said Floyd Shimomura, her nephew.

Florice was a longtime Cortez JACL member.

"The fact that she selected your organization as one of her beneficiaries indicates that you held a special place in her heart," wrote

Shimomura in an Oct. 31 letter to the JACL. "Your selection is her way of showing her appreciation, love, and best wishes for the future."

Florice married Sam, the manager of the Cortez Growers Association, in May 1941. The couple held off their wedding reception until the crops were harvested.

Florice, a seamstress, made her own wedding dress for reception, a "big community affair" with about 300 guests at the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall in Merced, said Shimomura.

The date was Dec. 7, 1941, and their happy preparations were interrupted by news that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor.

"Florice said it was the worst day of her life and her whole life changed," said Shimomura, a past JACL national president.

The couple was incarcerated at Amache along with other Japanese Americans. Florice never had a wedding reception. But her family members say she attended the weddings of her many nieces and nephews and never mentioned her own disappointment.

As a tribute, family members plan

to give a silent toast in honor of Florice at all future wedding receptions for the one she never had, said Shimomura.

The JACL began its National Scholarship and Awards Program in 1946. The program currently offers over 30 awards to qualified students nationwide.

Donors like Florice and Paul Ohtaki, who bequeathed \$200,000 to the National JACL Scholarship Program, make all this possible.

Ohtaki, a businessman and *Bainbridge Island Review* journalist, passed away in 2008 at the age of 83.

The \$2,000 "Paul and Katherine Ohtaki Memorial Scholarship" for freshmen will be one the program's highest awards, said David Kawamoto, JACL vice president of planning and development.

"It's really appropriate that the National JACL Scholarship Program have a scholarship named for the Ohtakis. They were longtime supporters of JACL whose names appear on the foyer wall at JACL headquarters. They have been very generous," said Kawamoto. ■

PSW to Host First JACL Annual Convention

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL national board has accepted and selected the Pacific Southwest District's bid to host the first-ever annual convention in 2011.

Board members voted in favor of PSW's bid at the Oct. 30-31 meeting in San Francisco.

No other chapters or districts submitted bids, according to Sheldon Arakaki, JACL vice president for general operations.

The annual convention's purpose, according to the bid, will be to conduct business on a more frequent basis and better maintain relationships within JACL as well as with community organizations and businesses.

At the 2008 JACL national convention in Salt Lake City, the national council approved a constitution and bylaw amendment to host annual conventions. The JACL has traditionally hosted biennial conventions. ■

The 2011 annual convention will not be a full convention, but it will be more than the JACL's tri- and bi- district conference, said Gary Mayeda, annual convention chair.

The convention date and location have not been selected, but locations of interest include the Hyatt Hotel Century Plaza in Los Angeles and the Hyatt Regency Orange County in Garden Grove. ■



VERY

truly yours

BY HARRY K. HONDA

Uruguay, Part Two

Editor's note: Part one of this column ran in the Pacific Citizen's Oct. 16-Nov. 5 issue.

"Saturday Night Live" erupted at the Asociación Panamericana Nikkei's fantastic Sayonara shindig amidst the gaucho atmosphere of Chacra La Toscana, a restaurant geared for special events and fiestas.

The program began with thunderous taiko booms from Uruguayan Nikkei players timed to a "candombe" beat (similar to Brazilian samba). Aside from three Angeleños, one fellow at our table of eight spoke Spanish, English and studied Japanese — even wrote his name in *kanji*. He (Jun'ichi Yoshikai) revealed he got "hooked by COPANI VII in Vancouver (1993) as a youth from Mexico" and currently lives and works in Paraguay.

Jim Koyanagi's luggage was not at the airport carousel when he landed in Montevideo. He was scheduled to show a DVD at a workshop on his architectural projects in Canada, which was packed in his suitcase. His grief vanished when the baggage, misplaced in Miami, was delivered with enough time to arrange a special showing on La Toscana's two huge video screens.

The karaoke tournament mentioned in pre-convention publicity was cancelled because of lack of participants. But an impromptu contest emerged anyway at the Sayonara dinner, featuring APN's world-class leaders including Carlos Kasuga of Mexico, Felix Kasamatsu from Washington, D.C., Noritaka Yano of Brazil, Luis Hirata of Peru, Kazunori Kosaka of Argentina, Roberto Hirose of Chile, Arturo Yoshimoto (PANA-USA) and Emilio Ohno (Uruguay).

Not only did they perform with gusto eyeing video lyrics in Spanish, but each had their loyal troopers dancing *ondo*-like in circles, singing and clapping. Arturo even approached the panel of three judges, gesturing and singing. It seemed to have paid off as he won the second place trophy. The winner was Mr. Yano from São Paulo.

It was past midnight when the crowd began boarding the buses back to the hotel. Returning to the hotel, I realized I didn't have my camera with snapshots of the festivities at the Sayonara dinner.

Our PANA-USA delegate Arturo Yoshimoto

assured me not to worry about recovering the camera. A call came back saying "Ricardo from Argentina" had it. Ricardo was none other than the stellar emcee of the evening, Ricardo Hokama from Argentina. The next morning while having breakfast, Ricardo came by and handed me the camera.

During the delegates' assembly chaired by APN president Felix Kasamatsu, representatives were hard-pressed on where to hold the next COPANI. After varied commentaries on the role and responsibility of APN to the Nikkei in the western hemisphere, the choice came to Cancún on the Yucatan peninsula.

I was gracious to hear that I was a part of PANA history from 1980 as the consistent and lone JACL connection this time at Montevideo. At the 1980 JACL San Francisco convention with Canadian Nisei leader George Imai of Toronto present, two Nisei leaders from Mexico City — Carlos Kasuga and Enrique Shibayama — sought American and Canadian Nikkei to join them to establish the Pan-American Nikkei Association.

"It wouldn't be a true Pan-American organization without U.S. and Canada," they declared in Japanese, Spanish and English.

Supported by Dr. Jim Tsujimura, national president (1980-82), Chuck Kubokawa initiated the PANA movement in JACL as the International Relations Committee chair. Floyd Shimomura, then chair of JACL's constitution committee, authored an English language charter for PANA.

The presence of Dick Yamashita, a JACL Nisei businessman in Tokyo at this session, amplified the English-speaking nature within PANA. He participated in at least the first three PANA conventions in Latin America: Mexico City (1981), Lima (1983) and São Paulo (1985).

The last U.S. delegate to address a plenary session was Kubokawa in Vancouver. Lillian Kimura, then JACL national president, also extended greetings, and later founded the Japanese Americans in Eastern United States as a unit-member in APN. ■

Harry K. Honda is the editor emeritus of the Pacific Citizen.

THE SHIGEKI SHAKE DOWN

Ratings Boost

BY PETER SHIGEKI FRANDSEN



Pundits including CNN's Glenn Beck seek controversy in the Fort Hood tragedy.

Amid the fighting during World War I, a curious event transpired — the "Christmas truce." There are numerous accounts, but most are variations on the same theme.

For a moment, soldiers from opposing sides were heard singing the classic Christmas hymn "Silent Night" in their native tongues from across the trenches — the same trenches where they would later resume fighting after the unofficial truce was lifted.

These men were soldiers who responded to the call to duty and fought with honor to defend the truths to which they had committed.

The recent tragedy at Fort Hood hit very close to home for me for some reason. I have yet to identify exactly why I was so affected, but it was difficult for me to watch the memorial services.

It's disturbing to me that a man who had taken oaths to defend the Constitution against all enemies and to "do no harm" could cause such horrific havoc. It is indeed a tragedy.

But when I watched the news media cover the story, first I marveled at the robotic way they seek controversy, scoops and fresh angles. Then I cringed in disgust at how these news organizations ask the exact same questions. Every time they try to pitch the "Muslim angle," they do a huge disservice to the greater Muslim community.

When a man in Florida kills people in his apartment complex, do we immediately know his religion and begin to speculate about his extremist views? Hardly. I realize that Maj. Nidal Hasan's religion may have influenced his actions that tragic day, but the news organizations have a duty to be responsible about the way they play into the fears and insecurities of their viewers, especially at the risk of Muslim Americans, who are often victims of unjust prejudice already.

The weekend after the Fort Hood tragedy, NBC's "Meet the Press" moderator David Gregory asked his

guest Gen. George Casey about concerns of "backlash against our Muslim soldiers who are in the Army, as a result of this incident?"

Gen Casey responded, "... I think we have to be careful with that. Our diversity not only in our Army, but in our country, is a strength. And as horrific as this tragedy was, if our diversity becomes a casualty, I think that's worse."

His answer was well-stated, true and extremely apropos. And yet Gregory followed up with this question: "Do you have any reason to believe that having Muslims in the Army puts them in a very difficult position and makes the more conflicted fighting a war against Muslims in Afghanistan or Iraq?"

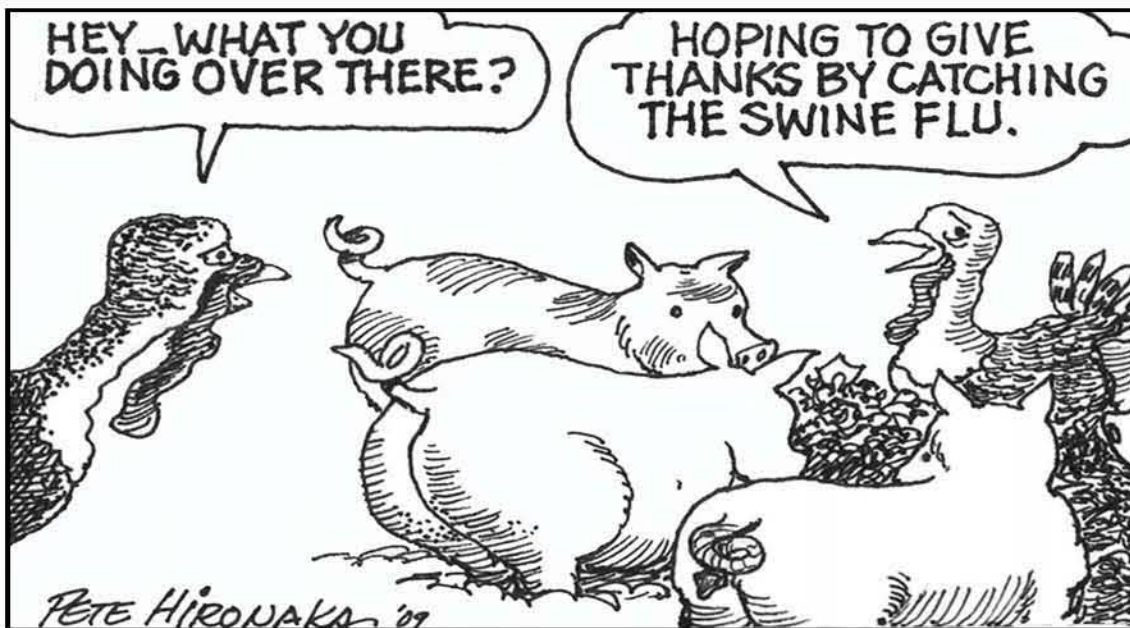
An hour later, George Stephanopoulos asked the same question on ABC's "This Week."

I was stunned that this incredulous line of questioning rolled out in completely different interviews. Pundits, anchors and producers who seek to drive up ratings through controversy by "asking the identical, loaded tough questions" do us all a huge disservice.

Men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, regardless of race, religion or creed, have voluntarily taken an oath to serve our nation. This tradition has been at the forefront of our country since its founding. This tradition will continue regardless of the condescending insinuations of ratings-driven punditry.

I wholeheartedly concur with Gen. Casey. The greatest tragedy would be to allow our diversity to be destroyed, intimidated and undermined. ■

Peter Shigeki Frandsen is living in Biloxi, Mississippi. He is a Mount Olympus JACL member.



Meet the New Hapa Doctor in Hollywood



PHOTO BY GEORGE HOLZ/CBS

Daniel Henney (right) plays Dr. David Lee on the CBS TV show 'Three Rivers.'

Daniel Henney is establishing himself on American TV in the CBS medical drama 'Three Rivers.'

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Daniel Henney has enjoyed a successful career in South Korea for years. The Hapa actor still has a home in Seoul and says he will always have a presence in Korean entertainment.

Now he is establishing himself in the American entertainment industry with roles like Agent Zero in the film "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" and his newest venture on the CBS TV show "Three Rivers." Despite now being thousands of miles from Korea, Henney still maintains an unwavering fan base in the country.

"I was on the set at Paramount a couple of weeks back. I walked out of my trailer to head into makeup and there was a group of people getting the daily tour of Paramount Studios," Henney explained in an e-mail to the *Pacific Citizen*. "In the back two seats there was a Korean couple. As soon as I walked out they saw me and started to freak out!"

He facetiously told the couple that he was only Henney's body double. As the trolley departed he heard them say, "Wow! His body double looks exactly like him!"

Henney said studying Korean while he was working in the country was difficult, but now he has a new language challenge to overcome: learning medical jargon.

"I've spent my last four years struggling through the ins and outs of learning Korean," the model-turned-actor said. "Now that I've finally gotten used to speaking that language, now I have to come back here and fight my way through some of the hardest sentences I've ever spoken in my life! Ha ha."

The Hapa actor plays Dr. David Lee on the CBS TV show "Three Rivers," which premiered Oct. 4. Lee is a playboy surgical resident whose scrubs seem a bit tighter and his

swagger is a tinge more confident than anyone else in the transplant hospital.

Struggling through words like "serum ammonia" is a challenge for Henney. However the Michigan-native has become accustomed to putting up a fight, working in the competitive industry.

Throughout his career Henney said he has fought for any role he wanted regardless of how unsuitable it might have seemed. Agent Zero, he said, was originally written as a German role. And his character on "Three Rivers," was initially a character named David Leone, scripted for a Latino. Henney said there are adequate roles for Asian Pacific Americans in Hollywood, if an actor is willing to fight for them.

"Whether it's written for a Caucasian, German, Korean or whatever, I'll compete with whomever I need to compete with to get that role," he said.

Awkward Beginnings

Henney's mother is Korean American and his father hails from Britain. He was born in Carson City, Mich. He got his break as a model in 2001 in Chicago, Ill. finding an "untapped niche" market. Shortly after Henney headed to Hong Kong and spent three years in Asia and Europe.

Since then he has appeared in almost every major fashion magazine from *Allure* to *Vogue*. Korean and American fans alike now swoon at the heartthrob, but Henney said he was not always model material.

"Didn't we all have that phase? I was a relatively normal kid, but I ate SO much. So, I was a bit on the heavy side," Henney said.

In the sixth grade he had to get braces, which gave him a chance to display his loyalty to his much loved sports team.

"So, being the Michigan State fan that I was, I decided to make all of my braces green and white," Henney said. "So, I basically walked around with green teeth for the following year. Real smart move."

Henney said he felt like a gremlin during puberty in Michigan, a part of the country he

did not always appreciate. Growing up there he felt "trapped," "claustrophobic" and "antsy" to get out. At the age of 18 he left. As an adult Henney would later appreciate the home life Michigan offered.

Model-Turned-Actor

Henney's experience in the modeling industry was not snag-free. He eventually landed regular modeling gigs. And his modeling pay-



PHOTO:GEORGE HOLZ/CBS

checks allowed Henney to pursue a long-time interest.

"I've been the 'entertainer' for my family every since I can remember," Henney said. "SNL [Saturday Night Live] was really huge in my house, so my parents and grandparents would constantly encourage me to put on skits and little shows for them. I used to do a pretty good George Bush impression thanks to Dana Carvey."

When he moved to New York City in 2004, he immersed himself in acting. He took three or four acting courses a week and invested all the money he made in modeling toward honing his acting chops.

"No, it wasn't a childhood dream, but it was always something that I wanted to experience and now I'm completely addicted," he said.

Henney's role on "Three Rivers" is not his first stint in hospital scrubs. In South Korea, Henney played Dr. Henry Kim in "My Lovely Sam Soon." The role established his stardom

in South Korea. Movie roles soon followed. Henney went on to receive the Premiere Magazine Rising Star Award for his performance in the feature film "My Father."

Returning to Hollywood has not been completely smooth for Henney. He has faced some speed bumps.

"I got my first traffic ticket last week!" Henney said, mentioning that he had a clean driving record since the age of 16. "So last week I'm driving down Melrose and decided to get into the turning lane a bit too early [and] then I heard the sirens."

"He gave me a ticket for driving on the wrong side of the road, as if I was jousting with oncoming traffic or something. Anyway, I just smiled and said, 'thanks.'"

There are also downsides to returning to the states and working steadily. Henney said he has not had time to date, explaining that most women are not willing to date a person who is gone 50 percent of the time. "Right now my dog Mango is the only girl in my life," Henney said.

Most importantly his successful career in South Korea has enabled him to give back to his parents. In a blog post earlier this year, Henney talked about buying a new summer home for his parents. The single most rewarding part of his career is giving back to his parents, he said.

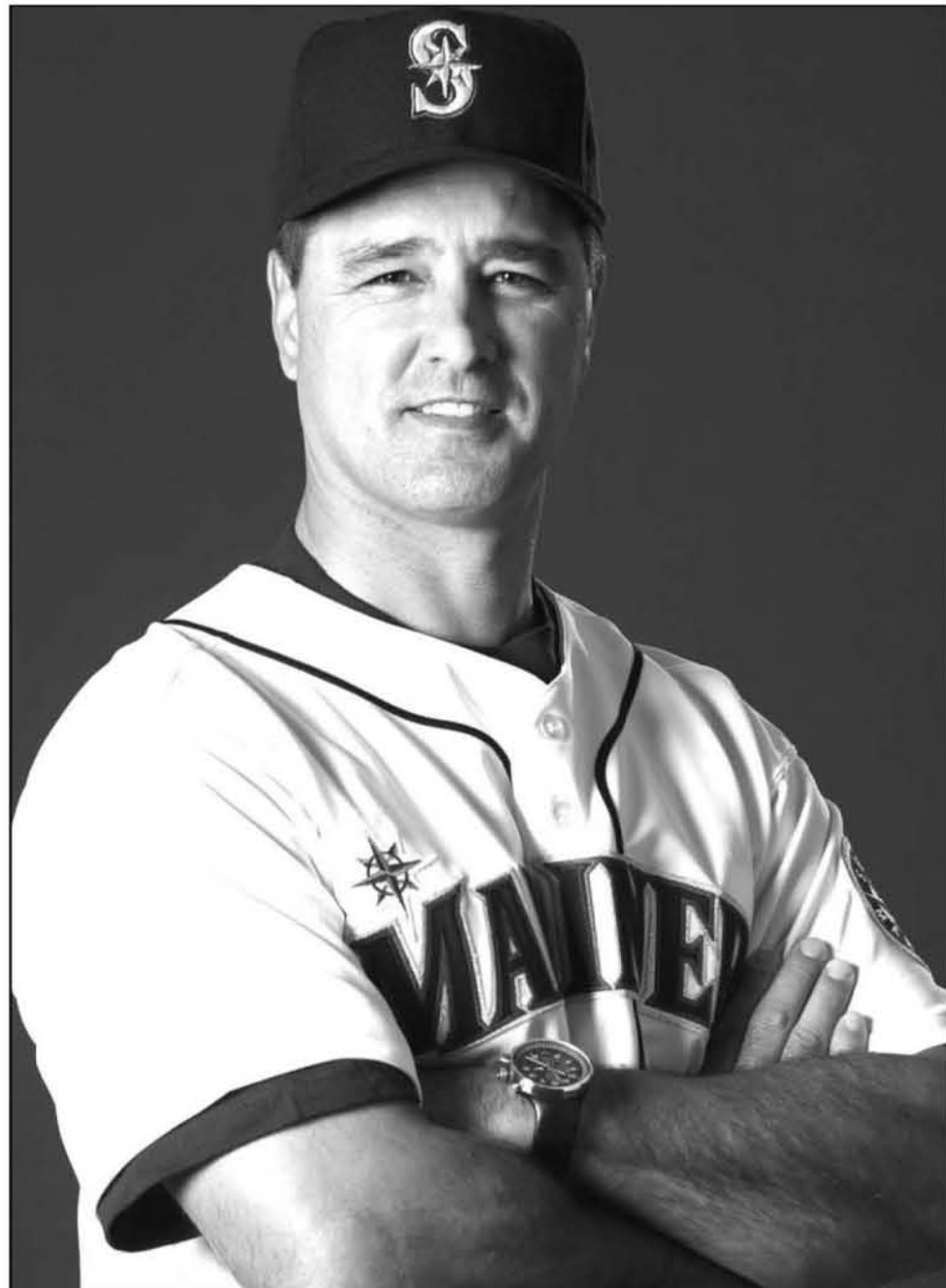
"Of course it's nice to be able to buy material things, but the most rewarding aspect of this all is just knowing that my parents are happy with the path I've chosen in life," he said.

Henney's busy schedule might not allow for much leisure time, but for now he is content with a steady role on American TV.

"I personally find that just hanging out with really good people and sharing laughs is better than any exotic vacation for me," Henney explained. "My job itself is basically a vacation, so as long as I surround myself with the right people, it never feels like work."

Three Rivers airs Sundays at 8 p.m. (ET/PT) on CBS. For more information on Daniel Henney, visit www.daniel-henney.com.

Seattle Mariners Manager Gears Up For 2010



PHOTOS: BEN VANHOUTEN/VANHOUTEN PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.

'I try to be who I am in the dugout. I'm not much different outside the dugout,' said Don Wakamatsu.

In his second season as the MLB's only APA manager, Don Wakamatsu is looking for his team to be bigger and better.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

Being the first Asian Pacific American Major League Baseball manager comes with a lot of responsibilities.

Just ask Yonsei Don Wakamatsu, who took the Seattle Mariners manager position about a year ago. His first season in Seattle was packed with hits and misses. But with spring training just around the corner, don't expect to see Wakamatsu letting out stress on the field.

It's simply not his style.

"Well, I think the hardest thing is, especially when I took the job in Seattle everybody said, 'Well are you going to be like Lou Piniella?'" Wakamatsu said over the phone referring to the former hot-tempered Mariners manager. "I think the first thing you have to know about managing is you have to be yourself no matter who you are. And I've never been a real temperamental guy."

Wakamatsu said keeping "level-headed" is also a good way to set an example for his play-

ers. He also recognizes his responsibility "to represent the Asian community." In his first year as manager, a 30-year veteran umpire gave Wakamatsu a bit of sound advice: "Talk to guys. Don't yell at 'em." It's a philosophy Wakamatsu has tried to incorporate in the dugout.

"But again that goes back to, I think, the philosophy that, you know, if you are consistent in your actions in the dugout then your players will emulate that," Wakamatsu said. "So, [laughs] the only guy that did get kicked out this year was Ichiro [Suzuki] for the first time in his whole career. So, I thought that was kind of funny."

Wakamatsu had to step in between the umpire and Suzuki as the announcers narrated the incident, "the first Seattle Mariners player to be thrown out of a game this year." Looking back at the highlights and lowlights of his first season as manager, Wakamatsu said he does not really have any regrets.

"So, we played some awfully good baseball but it's still — even so far this winter I proba-

bly talked to half the players just to say, 'Hi,'" Wakamatsu explained. "And that's kind of my philosophy in a nutshell. If we can build relationships there's a trust and then we can go forward from that point rather than it being just a business."

The Business of Baseball

As a Yonsei growing up in Northern California, Wakamatsu became aware of the past injustices committed against his Japanese American grandparents, James and Ruth. They were incarcerated at Tule Lake during World War II. In total, an estimated 120,000 JAs were rounded up and incarcerated at that time.

The Mariners skipper said part of the reason he became so enamored with his grandparent's experience was that he knew the camp memories were fleeting. His grandmother, 92, and grandfather, 94, live in Oregon. They did not always talk openly about their camp days.

About two or three years ago Wakamatsu obtained some historical photos, which are now on display in his Texas home.

"So, I have them in our house here in Texas," Wakamatsu said during a phone from his Texas home. "To me it's respectful, but it's a necessity that they understand what our grandparents went through to be able to give us that opportunity."

While his grandparents opened the door to their past, Wakamatsu welcomed them to his new home: Safeco Field. They came out on opening day and got the VIP tour through Wakamatsu's office and the ballpark. His grandparents became avid fans, watching every game, Wakamatsu said.

"We got them a couple of Seattle Mariners' blankets and they sit and watch the game every night," Wakamatsu said. "My dad now — my dad obviously has been a baseball fan because he's followed my career — but now he thinks he's a manager along with me. [Laughs]"

Baseball was a pursuit his family supported. First it was an opportunity to go to college at Arizona State. Then it was pro ball with the Cincinnati Reds, where Wakamatsu was a catcher. There were few JA baseball pros to look up to as a fledgling player. Lenny Sakata, Ron Darling and Atlee Hammaker were some of the APAs Wakamatsu admired.

Looking Beyond the Game

Giving back to older and younger generations of JAs is never far from Wakamatsu's mind. He participated in a charitable Nikkei golf tournament to benefit an all-Japanese retirement home.

"Again in my position I like to be able to give back or be able to help. I think that's part of the responsibility that's bestowed upon me

that I need to be able to do those things," Wakamatsu explained. "And I try to do as much as I can within the confines of the schedule this year."

Now he might inspire his children to follow in his footsteps and pursue a professional athletic career. His two sons, Jacob and Lucas, play football for their schools. Jady, his daughter, is in gymnastics. Seventeen-year-old Jacob is scouting out colleges.

"He's a junior this year and he's a pretty good player," Wakamatsu said like a proud father. "I think he's looking at both football and baseball. I'm going to take him up to Arizona State next month. They're having a prospect camp. They're going to take a look at him."

Of course his kids are baseball fans, Wakamatsu explained, but living in Texas you almost have to play football. Wakamatsu himself played baseball, basketball and football.

If not for baseball he likely would have been an architect. With an affinity for art, Wakamatsu still finds ways to be creative in the dugout.

"Well, I was one of few coaches in the big league I think Jerry Naron [former Cincinnati Reds manager] is one, myself and now my bench coach Ty Van Burkleo, are the only guys that do the lineup cards in calligraphy."

Managing in Seattle can be difficult since his family is based in Texas. Wakamatsu did get to see his family when the Mariners played the Texas Rangers. After a respite at home, Wakamatsu will head to the winter meetings in Indianapolis in early December.

"But there are a lot of thoughts that are going toward next year already. I don't know if you ever take off your manager's hat. But it is nice to be able to unwind a little bit and watch your kids

play," Wakamatsu said.

With a year of managing under his belt, Wakamatsu said he has learned to look beyond the game. Sure there were wins this year, but most importantly Wakamatsu said he is proud of how close the team has grown.

"You know and I've said this to the players ... we've all played for different teams and different organizations. And the ones you remember the most are because of the relationships," Wakamatsu said.

"I think we accomplished a lot of things we set out to do. I mean we got a lot of work to do obviously, but [I'm] awfully proud of some of the accomplishments. And I think we left a good imprint on the fans up there. They are going to be looking for bigger and better things, and so are we." ■



'... my dad obviously has been a baseball fan because he's followed my career — but now he thinks he's a manager along with me.'

JACL, Muslim American Groups Call for Calm After Fort Hood

As the country mourns the fallen, JACL leaders say this a time for understanding and tolerance.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The Army psychiatrist accused in the Fort Hood shootings has been charged with 13 counts of premeditated murder in the military's legal system making him eligible for the death penalty if convicted, officials said Nov. 12.

Weeks after the Nov. 5 shooting at the Texas Army base, Muslim American groups continue to call for calm amid growing speculation on Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan's religious beliefs and ties with a radical Islamic imam.

"What we're seeing now is a rhetorical backlash," said Ibrahim Hooper, national communications director for the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), a civil liberties and advocacy organization that denounced the Fort Hood shooting as a "cowardly attack."

Media coverage on the Fort Hood tragedy continues to link Islam to the violence that occurred, Hooper added. "It paints Americans of Islamic family as potential terrorists."

Already, Hooper says Muslim Americans are reporting cases of hate e-mail and verbal abuse.

In Florida, a Marine reservist was charged with attacking a Greek Orthodox priest he said he thought was a terrorist. Lance Cpl. Jason D. Bruce is accused of hitting Rev. Alexios Marakis over the head with a tire iron Nov. 9. Bruce told the police he heard Marakis yell, "Allahu akbar!" — Arabic for "God is great."

"People are very apprehensive. They're outraged by the [Fort Hood] attack itself," said Hooper. "They're trying to get by when their loyalty and patriotism are coming into question."

It's a feeling, community leaders say, Japanese Americans should know well based on the World War II treatment of the JA community.

A day after the Fort Hood shooting, JACL released a statement condemning the attack and calling for tolerance.

"The World War II experience of Japanese Americans should not be forgotten so as to not unjustly blame the Muslim American community for this appalling act done by one disturbed person," said Larry Oda, JACL national president.



PHOTO: CHERIE CULLEN/DOD

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey and his wife Sheila meet with APA family members of a fallen soldier killed in the Fort Hood shooting.

In the immediate wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, JACL also urged the government not to react like it did during WWII.

"Japanese Americans know well the sting, humiliation and heartache that can occur when a community is condemned for an action far from their control or their own behavior," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "This is a time when understanding and tolerance are of prime importance."

President Barack Obama has ordered a review of all intelligence related to Hasan, and whether the information was properly shared and acted upon within government agencies.

Thirteen died in the shooting spree at the Army base in Texas, including Pfc. Kham Xiong, a 23-year-old Hmong American from Minnesota. Xiong, who was married with three young children had been preparing to deploy to Afghanistan. ■

Oregon Garden Dedicated in Honor of JA Farmers



PHOTO COURTESY OF HIDEO AND RUTH HARADA

Attendees of the dedication walked the paths and took in the view.

The Harada Japanese Garden is named after Hideo Harada's family, but it honors all.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

In the town of Brogan, Oregon, a Japanese garden has been dedicated in honor of the area's pioneering Japanese American farmers.

"It was awesome!" Hideo Harada, 87, exclaimed about the Harada Japanese Garden, a traditional oasis of rocks and a bamboo water fountain located next to the town's fire station on Fifth Avenue.

The garden was dedicated Oct. 19 to honor JA farmers like Hideo and his brother Dick, who was among the first JAs to settle and work in Brogan.

"It meant a lot," said Hideo, a Snake River JACL member, about

the dedication ceremony that drew friends from near and far. Brogan is over 40 miles from Ontario, where Hideo now lives with his wife Ruth, but they still made the journey. Others came from further away.

At the event, childhood friends walked along the paths and took in the view.

"It was a tear-jerker," said Hideo, a Nisei, whose family lived and worked as farm laborers in Auburn, Wash., before farming opportunities lured Dick to move to Brogan in 1939 along with Tom Kamo and Tad Fujita.

"They were in their 20s and decided to start farming and they struggled badly," said Hideo.

At the outbreak of World War II,

Hideo and the rest of the family packed up their car and drove for three days and two nights get to Brogan to avoid having to live in barbed wire camps.

Had they stayed, Hideo said they would have likely been incarcerated at the Pinedale Assembly Center under Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor.

Most of Hideo's friends and extended family members were taken to camps, where they wrote him letters about camp life.

"It was lonesome," said Hideo, whose uncles and aunts were incarcerated in Minidoka.

So Hideo and Dick worked. They grew onions, potatoes and sugar beets and introduced row-cropping to the area.

Brogan leaders say the JA farmers helped build the area's agricultural industry.

Today, onions continue to be the top crop in the county, according to the *Argus Observer*.

Before the JA farmers came, Brogan farmers grew crops like alfalfa, said Hideo. "There's no money there!"

Hideo said he's proud the garden is named after his family, but emphasizes that it's an to honor all JA farmers and laborers.

A plaque at the entrance of the garden highlights his point. It names all the area's pioneering JA families from the Arais to the Yoshiharas. ■



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August	Yamato Canadian Rockies & the Majestic British Columbia Coast Tour – 10 days/9 nights visiting Calgary, Banff, Jasper, rail to Prince George, rail to Prince Rupert, ferry through the Inside Passage to Port Hardy, Campbell River, Victoria.	Philippe Theriault
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October	Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan	Peggy Mikuni
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2010 Spending Bill Includes Funds For Honouliuli Study

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The fiscal 2010 Department of Interior and Environment spending bill includes \$3 million for camp preservation projects, said the JACL.

H.R. 2996 or the "Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act 2010," which President Barack Obama signed into law Oct. 30, includes \$900,000 for barrack reconstruction at Manzanar and \$350,000 for park boundary expansion at the Minidoka National Historic Site in Idaho.

Also reported in the bill's text are land expansions for Heart Mountain in Wyoming and a special research study to determine the feasibility of including Hawaii's Honouliuli Gulch's in the National Park System.

After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor and propelled the U.S. into World War II, government officials began imprisoning Japanese American community leaders suspected of having ties to the Japanese government.

Less than one-percent of Hawaii's JAs were imprisoned in temporary facilities scattered across the islands including Honouliuli — the largest confinement site that held about 320 people including Germans, Italians and prisoners of war.

Preservationists and community groups including the JACL have been working to

ensure the former WWII internment camp gains its rightful place in American history.

"It's exciting to see a significant move forward to preserve Honouliuli," said JACL Hawaii President Shawn Benton. "With the passing of the 'Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, Appropriations Bill' for the 2010 fiscal year, the dream of developing Honouliuli into a national historic site is now becoming a reality."

In 2007, Monsanto Corp. bought the land that housed Honouliuli. The company has proposed a seven-acre parcel for a parking lot, walking path and visitor center.

The JACL Washington, D.C. office worked with Sens. Daniel K. Inouye and Dianne Feinstein as well as Rep. Mike Honda to ensure the inclusion of camp preservation elements in the 2010 budget.

"The camp preservation funding included in next year's budget will enable the nation to enhance its understanding of this unfortunate time in American history when civil rights were ignored," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "Much more in terms of educational programs will be made available to students and citizens alike as facilities are developed and artifacts preserved." ■

On the Web

www.jaclhawaii.org

www.jacl.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF REP. MIKE HONDA'S OFFICE

President Obama praised the courage of the 442nd RCT and the competitive spirit of Wat Misaka.

President Reestablishes White House AAPI Initiative

By Pacific Citizen Staff

President Barack Obama's decision to restore the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) is an important step in increasing access and participation in federal programs, said the JACL in a statement.

At an Oct. 14 special White House ceremony, Obama signed an executive order to reestablish the president's advisory commission and White House Initiative on AAPI.

Despite the community's "story of striving and success," the president said AAPIs continue to face many barriers.

The mission of the initiative and commission is to work with government agencies and departments to improve the health, education and economic status of AAPI communities.

Floyd Mori, JACL national director, attended the ceremony.

"The White House Initiative on AAPIs will play a key role as a liaison between the AAPI

communities and the various agencies in the government," said Mori. "This has been missing for some time, and this will give us access and impact."

At the event, the president cited the "competitive spirit" of AAPI athletes like Wat Misaka, the National Basketball League's first non-white player. Misaka, a World War II veteran and Salt Lake City JACL member, made the trip from Utah with his son Henry to attend the ceremony. The New York Knicks drafted Misaka in 1947.

The president also referenced the "courage and the patriotism and sacrifice of heroes like the members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team" and acknowledged Terry Shima, executive director of the Japanese American Veterans' Association.

The initiative and commission will be co-chaired by Sec. of Education Arne Duncan and Sec. of Commerce Gary Locke.

Kiran Ahuja has been appointed the initiative's executive director. ■

JACL Applauds Expansion of Hate Crimes Legislation

The bill's passage benefits the APA community, which continues to face intolerance, leaders say.

By P.C. Staff and Associated Press

The JACL celebrated a victory in a decade-long battle to expand federal hate crimes law Oct. 28 when President Barack Obama signed the bill into law.

"We were happy to be on the frontlines working to improve the hate crimes law that now will include additional categories of impacted communities," said JACL National Director Floyd Mori, who attended the White House signing.

The new law expands federal hate crimes to include gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. It also loosens limits on when federal law enforcement can intervene and prosecute crimes.

Civil rights groups have tried for a decade to expand the hate crimes law, but fell short because of a lack of coordination between the House and Senate, or opposition from President George W. Bush. This time, the bill got through attached to a must-pass \$680 billion defense measure.

The bill is named after Matthew Shepard and James Byrd.

"Asian Americans have had first-hand experience with hate violence in the brutal murders of Vincent Chin and Joseph Ileto," said Stewart Kwoh, executive director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center.

Chin, a 27-year-old Chinese American, was murdered in 1982 by two out-of-work Detroit autoworkers. And in 1999 Joseph Ileto, a Filipino American postal worker was fatally shot in a Los Angeles suburb by a self-proclaimed white supremacist.

Hate crimes law enacted after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1968 centered on crimes based on race, color, religion or national origin.

Some 45 states have hate crimes statutes, and the bill would not change current practices where hate crimes are generally investigated and prosecuted by state and local officials.

But it does broaden the narrow range of actions — such as attending school or voting — that can trigger federal involvement and allows the federal government to step in if the Justice Department certifies that a state is unwilling or unable to follow through on an alleged hate crime. ■

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COMMENTARY

The AAPI Community Needs Immigration Reform Now

When people ask why JACL is working on immigration, my first thought it — how could we not?

By Kristin Fukushima



Participating in a rally is a heady experience. Although they can be chaotic and even disjointed at times, it's all part of the experience. Rallies are full of emotions, camaraderie and purpose — a body of individuals that comes together and moves in solidarity for a common ideal.

In that fashion, the Oct. 13 march and press conference for immigration reform was made up of people from across all racial, ethnic, gender and class groups to march for a cause in the rain. All of us — including JACL PSW — came together for the shared belief that our communities desperately need comprehensive immigration reform.

Others from all over the nation held similar rallies to celebrate Illinois Rep. Luis Guterrez's intention to introduce a major immigration reform bill.

Now that the battle for health care reform is drawing closer to an end, equally pressing issues can emerge from the backburner. Granted, health care reform is important for the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community — AAPIs suffer from high uninsured rates and growing health disparities. But ensuring that we get a humane and comprehensive immigration reform bill written and passed is also critical for the community.

Nearly two-thirds of the AAPI community is foreign-born, and over half of these immigrants are recent — from the last 16 years. AAPI immigrants mainly use the family-

sponsored visa method to immigrate. Yet immigrants coming from the Asian Pacific region face the longest backlogs. In fact, the average wait for a Filipino American to try and sponsor a sibling to come over is 22 years. To be forcibly separated from family for that long is unacceptable.

When I am asked why JACL works on immigration, my first thought it — how could we not? The fight to unite our families and protect our workers is the AAPI civil rights issue today.

The Japanese American community is not sheltered from these immigration issues either — a startling 30 percent of the JA community is foreign-born. Immigration issues affect every AAPI ethnic group, so it's important for us to all come together and work on this as a community.

Yes, we need to pass health care reform first. But we must also immediately begin working on immigration reform. Already, people are organizing in their communities. On Nov. 18, Rep. Gutierrez will speak on a national telephonic town about his bill. It's easy to participate — just call up some friends and listen in together on speaker-phone.

'It's time to break the misconception that immigration reform is just a Latino issue. an issue that affects everyone, but the current system is broken and disproportionately impacts AAPI immigrants.'

An even easier way to begin advocacy is to simply call your Congressional representative, and let him/her know you want comprehensive immigration reform now.

It's time to break the misconception that immigration reform is just a Latino issue. It's an issue that affects everyone, but the current system is broken and disproportionately impacts AAPI immigrants.

Once we have a bill on the table, we need to make sure our community's voice is heard loud and clear — the AAPI community needs immigration reform now. ■

Kristin Fukushima is the public policy coordinator in the JACL PSW Office. She can be reached at kfukushima@jacplsw.org.

the issue should be resolved soon.

In order to keep up the JACL's important work, membership must be maintained and built up. We cannot continue to lose members.

As our older members advance in age and pass on, it is vital that we replace those members.

Many years ago JACL leaders hoped to get membership to the 50,000 mark when it was around 30,000. Our membership totals are now below 15,000. It is possible to increase membership in the JACL. Please help. ■

Become a JACL member today at:
www.jacl.org



JACL and APA leaders met with Paramount Pictures officials over concerns of racial stereotyping in the film 'The Goods' (left). Pictured above (l-r) Bill Imada, Katie Martinelli, Guy Aoki, Adam Goodman, Craig Ishii and Floyd Mori.

Paramount Agrees to Ongoing Dialogue

By Pacific Citizen Staff

JACL leaders met with Paramount Pictures officials Nov. 12 to discuss the movie studio's summer comedy that many called racially insensitive.

The meeting was the result of Asian Pacific Americans' protest over a controversial in scene in the film, "The Goods: Live Hard, Sell Hard," in which Jeremy Piven's character uses a racial slur and attacks an APA character played by actor Ken Jeong. The scene remained in the film.

Paramount issued a statement apologizing for the "racially demeaning language used in the scene depicted in the film."

JACL National Director Floyd Mori and PSW Regional Director Craig Ishii met

with Adam Goodman, president and CEO of Paramount Pictures, and Paramount executives Sharon Keyser and Katie Martinelli.

In the meeting, Goodman committed to ongoing dialogue and requested that more meetings be held to monitor Paramount's performance, said the JACL in a statement.

Bill Imada, CEO of the IW Group, and Guy Aoki, co-founder of the Media Action Network for Asian Americans, also attended the meeting.

"We look forward to a close working relationship with the studio in eliminating the perpetuation of negative stereotyping of ethnic minorities. Through this dialogue, we hope to avoid the type of debacle which resulted from 'The Goods,'" said Mori. ■

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MORI (Continued from page 2)

work. Prejudice and discrimination still exist. The JACL is relevant today.

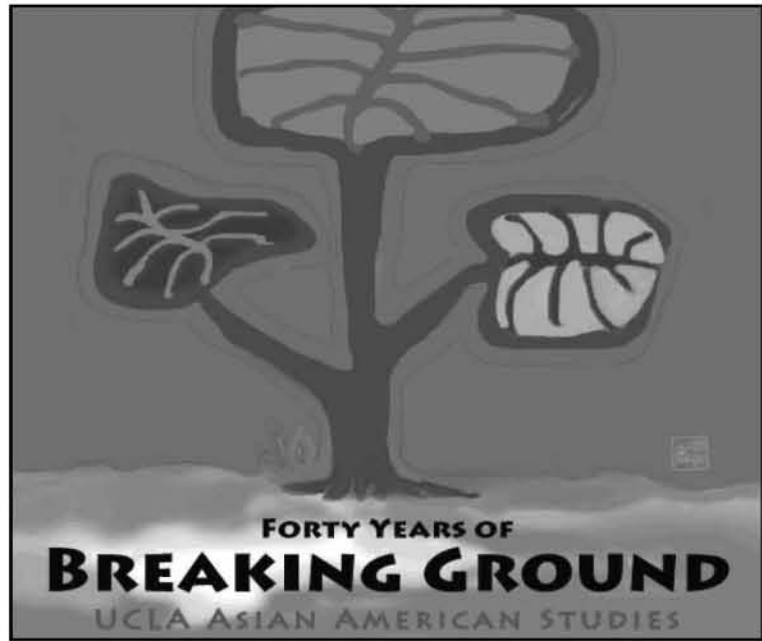
Besides giving out scholarships, building leadership, and providing social and cultural opportunities, the JACL remains vigilant in protecting our civil liberties.

It is important to preserve the World War II camps in order to teach future generations about a past injustice.

The U.S. Constitution must be upheld and the camps are good reminders of that. Minidoka was recently threatened with a power line. The JACL became involved and

GO.SEE.DO

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS*



LOS ANGELES, CA
 Oct. 6-Dec. 11
UCLA's Powell College Library
Asian Americans created an exhibition at the Powell College Library that traces four decades of Asian Pacific Americans who have contributed to UCLA.

GO!

For information, contact Marjorie Lee at 310/825-2974.

Midwest

Twin Cities JACL's Holiday Party for Kids

EDINA, MN
 Sun. Dec. 6
 3-5 p.m.
 Edina Community Lutheran Church
 4113 W. 54th St.
 Edina 55424
 Join the Twin Cities JACL for an afternoon filled with fun, magic and a visit from Santa. They are collecting unwrapped toys for Families Moving Forward, which provides short-term shelter housing for homeless adults with children; and Southside Family Nurturing Center, which works with at-risk toddlers.

DO!

Pacific Northwest

Seattle JACL's "New Year's Eve Gala"

SEATTLE, WA
 Dec. 31, 8 p.m. - 2 a.m.
 Nisei Vets Hall
 1212 South King Street
 Join the Seattle JACL as they ring in 2010 with music, food and drink. Ozoni, a traditional New Year's soup, will be served at midnight. The cost: \$50 per person.
 For info: Akemi Matsumoto, akemiseattle@hotmail.com

Northern Calif.

SF JACL's Annual Spaghetti-Crab Feed

SAN FRANCISCO, CA
 Dec. 5, 5-8 p.m.
 Christ United Presbyterian Church
 1700 Sutter Street in San Francisco
 Tickets are \$25.00 per person or two for \$45.00 and are available at the Paper Tree in Japantown.
 For tickets and info: sfjacl@yahoo.com, 415/641-1697

NCWNP JACL's Hiroshima: Spirit of the Season

SAN FRANCISCO, CA
 Dec. 19, 7 & 9:30 p.m.
 Hotel Nikko
 Celebrate the holidays with the NCWNP JACL District as they attend the 'Christmas at the Razz Room' to enjoy an evening of holiday classics by jazz fusion group, Hiroshima. Tickets \$47.50 each.
 For info: Pam Yoshida, pam@yokoo.net. Sign-up forms available at www.jacl-ncwmp.org.

Nevada

Poston Camp III Reunion

LAS VEGAS, NV
 April 5-7, 2010
 Golden Nugget Hotel & Casino
 For info: geoada@yahoo.com ■

GO!

Voice Your Opinion on NPS Confinement Sites Grant Program

To prepare for its next grant cycle, the National Park Service (NPS) is hosting a series of "listening sessions" to assess the first year of its grant program.

In 2009, NPS awarded 19 grants totaling \$970,000 to help preserve and interpret the history of former World War II Japanese confinement sites.

Congress appropriated \$1 million for the 2009 grant program, \$30,000 of which went to program administration. The grants require a community match of \$1 in non-federal money or in-kind donations for every \$2 in NPS money.

The "listening sessions" will be a part of the NPS' information gathering process to encourage feedback on the grant program.

NPS 'Listening Sessions'

Denver, Colo.
 Nov. 30, 10 a.m.-12 noon
 National Park Service
 Intermountain Regional Office

12795 W. Alameda Parkway
 Info: 303/969-2885 (RSVP encouraged)

Chicago, Ill.
 Dec. 1, 7-9 p.m.
 JACL Chicago Office
 5415 North Clark St.
 Info: 402/661-1928 (NPS) or 312/728-7170 (JACL)
 www.jaclchicago.org

Seattle, Wash.
 Dec. 2, 6-8 p.m.
 Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project
 1416 S. Jackson St.
 Info: 925/943-1531 ext. 122 (NPS) 206/320-0095 (Densho)
 www.densho.org

Little Rock, Ark.
 Dec. 3, 2-4 p.m.
 Little Rock Central High School
 NHS Visitor Center

2120 Daisy Bates Dr.
 Info: 402/661-1928 (NPS) or 501/374-1957 (Little Rock NHS)

Los Angeles, Calif.
 Dec. 3, 6-8 p.m.
 Japanese American Cultural and Community Center
 244 S. San Pedro St., Suite 505
 Info: 925/943-1531 ext. 122 (NPS) or 213/628-2725 (JACCC)

Honolulu
 Dec. 3, 6-8 p.m.
 Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii
 2454 South Beretania St.
 Info: 808/541-2693 ext. 723 (NPS) 808/945-7633 (JCCH)

San Francisco, Calif.
 Dec. 4, 6-8 p.m.
 Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Northern California
 1840 Sutter St., Suite 201
 Info: 925/943-1531 ext. 122 (NPS) or 415/567-5505 (JCCCN) ■

Bill is Introduced to Fight Hepatitis

APAs have a much higher rate of Hepatitis B and develop liver cancer at a much higher rate than other ethnic groups.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

A bill to boost funding for Hepatitis education and research would reduce the prevalence of the potentially deadly disease, lawmakers say.

Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., has introduced H.R. 3974 or the "Viral Hepatitis and Liver Cancer Control and Prevention Act of 2009," a bipartisan bill that health officials are hailing as the first-ever to address two major causes of liver cancer.

"Chronic Hepatitis B and C are silent killers, poised to strike millions of Americans and it is time for Congress to act in a concerted effort to educate particularly vulnerable communities as well as the general public," said Honda, chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

Lawmakers say the bill, which has a price tag of \$90 million in 2011, would increase the ability of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support state health departments in their prevention, immunization and surveillance efforts.

Hepatitis B and C are highly contagious blood borne viruses that cause liver disease, liver cancer and premature death.

APAs have a much higher rate

of Hepatitis B and develop liver cancer at a much higher rate than other ethnic groups. With early detection, Hepatitis B is treatable and Hepatitis C can be cured.

"It is vital that minority populations receive the care they need in an appropriate and effective manner, and this legislation will help make sure that happens," said Rep. David Wu, D-Ore., a cosponsor of the bill. ■

Whereabouts

Searching for a boy born on or around Feb. 16, 1947 in the Japanese Hospital in Los Angeles.

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IN MEMORIAM

All locations are in California except as noted.

Freire, Gloria M., 80

Sept. 19, Cleveland, OH. A member of the Cleveland Chapter JACL, Gloria was a social worker, assistant professor and civic leader. She is survived by husband, Luis, sons Michael (Jurate), Charles; 2 g.c.

once wrote a regular column for the *Pacific Citizen* entitled, "From Happy Valley." She is survived by her son Alan Kent Seko. According to her wishes, she was cremated and her ashes scattered.

Hishiki, Hiroshi, 91

Oct. 2, Los Angeles, CA. Worked for about 40 years in the publishing business and served as the editor and publisher of the *Kashu Mainichi*. He is survived by son, Dr. Marc R. Abrams, daughter Cindy Abrams, cousins and friends.

Takemura, Herbert Show, 80

Sept. 22, Oxnard, CA. He worked as a computer paraeducator at the Oxnard Union High School District. He is survived by his wife, Sumiko, sisters Mary (Rev. Jack) Takayanagi, Martha Tsutsui, sister-in-law- Michiko (Jack) Hirai, nieces and nephews.

Kihara, Katomi John, 74

Sept. 29, Spokane, WA. Born in Auburn, WA, John worked for the city of Spokane until his retirement in 1998. He is survived by his mother, Shizue, brothers Frank (Diane), Bob (Joy), sisters Ayako Tanaka, Mary Barker, nieces and nephews.

Tamura, Kazuma J., 88

Oct. 25, Portland, OR. A longtime farmer in Troutdale, OR. Survived by son Paul (Laura), daughter Pam (Mike) Oja; 3 g.c.

Kino, Joe Hideo, 89

Oct. 18, Ontario, OR. A resident of Fruitland, ID. He is survived by his wife, Yasuko, children, Riki Shiraishi, Maxine (Ken) Teramura, Pauline (Dan) Catterson, Jim (Joan) Kino, Nancy (Larry) Massaro, Apryl (Rick) Bentley; 12 g.c.; 14 g.g.c.

Tsukamoto, Masa, 86

Oct. 8, Boise, ID. A prominent potato farmer of Blackfoot, ID. He's credited with inventing and developing many popular farm implements, including the HeadStart Potato Planter Shoe, EZ Tarp system for trucks. Tsukamoto was involved in the establishment of the Minidoka Relocation Center monument in 1979.

O'Brien, Barry, 56

Sept. 20, Cleveland, OH. Barry is survived by his wife, Janice Toyota, son Kirin and mother Aileen O'Brien-Muth (Bob).

Xiong, Kham, 23

Nov. 5, Fort Hood, TX. PFC Kham Xiong was one of 13 victims killed in the shooting at Fort Hood Army Base in Texas. He grew up in California and moved to St. Paul, MN. He is survived by his wife, Shoua Her, 3 children, parents and 10 siblings.

Shijo, Fusako "Effie", 90

Aug. 11, Cleveland, OH. The wife of the late Yoshio, she is survived by her son, Ronald (Susan); 2 g.c.; 3 g.g.c.

Yorioka, Kengo, 97

Sept. 10, Vancouver, WA. A longtime resident of Spokane, WA. He is survived by son, Richard, daughters Patricia, Kathryn Migaki, Judy Wong; 6 g.c.; 3 g.g.c. ■

Seko, Sachi Wada, 82

Nov. 10, Salt Lake City, UT. She

JACL Chapters Celebrate their 75th



Silver Pin recipients Dr. Richard Matsuishi (left) and Peggy Matsuishi (second from right) with JACL National President Larry Oda (right) and his wife Anne.

PHOTO: MARK ISHIKAWA

Two JACL chapters have commemorated their 75th anniversaries in separate celebrations.

Arizona

Arizona JACL hosted its 75th anniversary luncheon on Nov. 8 at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel. About 275 guests, including National JACL President Larry Oda and over 20 JACLers from Southern California and Las Vegas, attended the event.

Oda gave the keynote speech on Japanese American history and the significance of Arizona chapter over the past 75 years.

For the first time, chapter members who have actively served for at least 10 consecutive years were awarded the JACL Silver Pin.

The honorees were: Miyoko Ariza, Doris Asano, Toshiko Chavers, Nancie Haranaka, Kathy Inoshita, Mas Inoshita, Barbara Ishida, Jo Ann Kimura, Peggy Matsuishi, Dr. Richard Matsuishi,

Helen Matsumoto, Kaye Minato, Marian Miyamoto, Michele Namba, Ted Namba, Akiko Okabayashi, Gladys Sallas, Joyce Shiota, Mary Tadano, Masako Takiguchi, Marilyn Tang and Seiko Watkins.

Superior Court Judge Brian Ishikawa, an Arizona JACL member, served as the event's emcee.

On the Web:

www.jaclaz.org

Watsonville-Santa Cruz

The Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL marked its milestone at an Oct. 4 gala themed, "Honoring Our Past ... Defining Our Future." Over 150 attended the celebration at the Seascape Golf Course in Aptos, Calif.

Distinguished guests included: Alan Nishi, NCWNP district governor; Patty Wada, NCWNP district regional director; Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, co-author of *Farewell to Manzanar*; Milo and Reiko Yoshino

of Diablo Valley JACL; and Rev. Shousei Hanayama and his family.

Special recognition was given to senior JACLers including: George and Frances Hoshiyama, Dr. Masako Miura, Nancy Iwami, Fujiye Idemoto, Ray and Louise Sako, Haruko Yoshii, Miyeko Yamashita, Tom Mine, Asako Yamashita, Ida Takahashi and Kiyo Kaneko.

Ten past chapter presidents also attended the event, including: April Goral, Yoko Umeda, Ben Umeda, Paul Hiura, Tom Mine, Marcia Hashimoto, Dr. Art Hayashi, Lester Aoki, Mas Hashimoto and Paul Kaneko.

The Watsonville chapter was established in 1934 with 35 members led by President Tom Matsuda.

The chapter's centennial celebration is planned for Oct. 8, 2034. ■

On the Web:

www.watsonvillesantacruzjacl.org

Apply Now For 2010 JACL Scholarships

JACL is calling for applicants for its 2010 scholarship program. Based on the earnings of the scholarship endowment fund, the JACL awards about 30 scholarships, totaling over \$50,000 each year.

The freshman applications must be submitted to the applicant's JACL chapter by March 1, 2010. Each chapter is asked to screen the applications and forward the "outstanding" applications to:

JACL Scholarship Program
c/o JACL

5415 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60640

There is no limit to the number of applications a chapter can forward for consideration. Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2010 to be considered for the awards.

Applications for the other scholarship categories (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative and performing arts, and financial aid) should be sent to:

JACL Scholarship Program
c/o Portland JACL

P.O. Box 86310
Portland, OR 97286

Applications for these other categories must be postmarked by April 1, 2010.

To be eligible, applicants must be JACL students or individual members. Information and applications for the scholarship program are now available at www.jacl.org. ■

For more information, contact David Kawamoto at 619/287-7583 or dhkawamoto@aol.com

DOR Events Set at Merced Assembly Center

Feb. 20, 2010 will be a historic day for the Japanese American community in California's Merced area. A Day of Remembrance dinner and dedication ceremony will be held at the Merced Assembly Center to unveil a commemorative monument honoring the center's former internees.

The assembly center, located at the Merced County Fairgrounds, closed in September 1942. During its operations, the Merced Assembly Center held more than 5,000

Japanese Americans from the nearby counties including: Merced, Stanislaus, Humboldt, Sacramento, Napa, and Yolo.

Former Merced Assembly Center internees are invited to the dedication and dinner. The highlight will be the unveiling of the monument, which consists of a wall listing the names of former internees, five storyboards, five benches, and a sculpture of a young girl sitting on top of suitcases.

A special \$84 room rate has been

arranged at the Courtyard by Marriott located at 750 Motel Drive in Merced for Feb. 19 to 20. Ask for JACL rates when calling 209/725-1221. ■

For more information, contact Adrienne Iwata, AKIwata@comcast.net 209/526-5696

Janet Fujimoto janetf127@gmail.com 209/723-8588

'In Memoriam' appears on a limited, space-available basis at no cost. *'Tributes,'* which appear in a timely manner at the request of the family or funeral director, are published at the rate of \$20 per column inch. Text is reworded as necessary. For info: busmgr@pacificcitizen.org.

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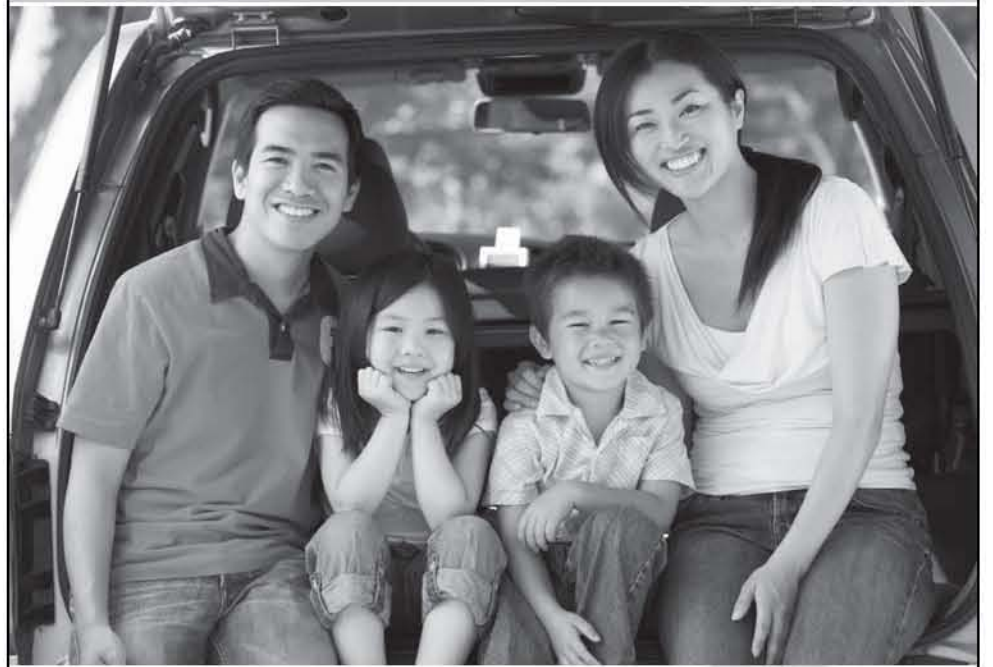
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