

# Japanese American Citizens League

## NEWSLETTER

TWIN CITIES CHAPTER

March, 1989

Editor: Sam Honda

### KARE-TV "ELEVEN WHO CARE"

There were 11 winners out of 80 nominees for the selection of "ELEVEN WHO CARE" Volunteers sponsored by Channel 11. KIMI HARA Was on TV (her picture) early in March as a nominee. It cited her volunteer work as chairperson of the JACL Scholarship committee, her work with the Minnesota Nursing Board and her part in the international level as a consultant for World Health Organization. It was disappointing Kimi was not one of the 11 who were chosen. Kimi's dedication to many organizations (including many Japanese Community organizations), her helping hand in funerals, during illness, transportation for the Isseis, etc. are legendary and it would be difficult to find a person in the Japanese Community who has not been touched by her generosity.

Esther Suzuki

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### Passing of a friend

George Ono, religious leader of the TC Buddhist Association, passed away after a long illness on March 10th. George joined JACL in the early 1930's and a long time 1000 Club member.

JACL extends deep sympathy to Masaye and relatives.

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### Redress Money

Some people believe we already received the \$20,000. If the American War Veterans Relief Association have it their way, we won't see it at all. When the Justice Department releases the first 20 million dollars for 1990 probably the only one's in Minnesota who will receive their redress money will be Mr Tsuchimochi, who will be 101 in April. Also, Mrs. Nishimura and Mrs. Fujimoto will be 93 years old this year. Most of us will have to wait till the year 2000. I'll wait.

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36th annual meeting was held on March 19th at Village Wok in Golden Valley. Officially we are now the Twin Cities Japanese American Citizens League Credit Union. We have money to loan to

our members. For a new car the maximum we can loan out is \$10,000 or 2/3 of the cost of the car. For more information on loans call Ed Yoshikawa...822-8982

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FESTIVAL OF NATIONS coming up soon. We need your help! If you are willing to help call Mark Honda...870-4898 or Linda van D...484-3670 or Jay Yamashiro

698-4926

Editorial:

I received some comments on my last editorial on redress. That's the problem with writing.....you're gonna run into people who don't like what you write. Well, here we go again! JACL national issue. On resolution #7 the so called "No-No Boys" resolution. I haven't read the resolution, but I understand that the no-no boys want an apology from JACL for calling them cowards back in 1943-44.

I want to take everyone back to 1943. I was in Jerome WRA attended meetings in the mess hall on whether to sign yes-yes or no-no to questions 27 and 28 on the loyalty questionnaire. These two questions pertain to willing to serve in the arm forces and give up all loyalty to Japan. This situation caused alot of hard feelings among long time friends. I think some of the hard feelings still remain today. The pressure was on.....the no-no boys were beating up on the yes-yes boys. I remember some of the yes-yes boys had to be escorted out of camp for their own safety. The fights were not fair fights, it was a case of ambush with clubs and knives. Their leader was a Buddhist priest named Rev. Kai and they use to gather early in the morning for exercise and other rituals wearing a hachimaki with a hino maru. I'm sure they were not all pro-Japan. I remember going there one morning trying to talk some of my friends out of that group and almost became a casualty myself.

Many Nisei were pressured into giving up their citizenship and went to Japan after the war. Some made Japan there home, but many returned to US in the 1950's. Agitators like Rev. Kai never did go to Japan, but was one of the first to leave camp after the war was over.

The Fair Play Committee members must have signed yes-yes on the loyalty questionnaire otherwise they couldn't have been in Heart Mountain WRA in January of 1944 when the War Department announced Nisei would be drafted. All the no-no's were sent to Tule lake WRA latter part of 1943.

Many years have passed and most of us are enjoying the fruits of our nation whether it is because we (Nisei) cooperated with the government and fought the war or whether it was because some resisted the draft, protested and took a stand on the constitution, JACL should apologize to the no-no boys and in the meantime those who did the beating should identify themself so we can forgive them for their cowardly act. We have to end this bitterness or we'll end up taking it to our grave.

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Don't Forget

SUKIYAKI DINNER  
Sunday, April 23, 1989

All this extra space.....anyone wish to send me an article, please do