

J A C L news

Twin Cities Chapter to Select 1991 - 1992 Board Members

The slate is set for the JACL's 1991 board of directors! Six people have been nominated to fill six vacancies on the Twin Cities JACL board. These board members will serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 1991.

To cast your vote for the JACL board nominees, JACL members should send the enclosed ballot to JACL board secretary, Joyce Miyamoto, no later than **November 20**. We have sent along a pre-addressed envelope for your convenience.

Here is a little biographical information on the six nominees:

SHIRLEY ISERI HINCHLIFF

Shirley is seeking her second term on the JACL board. She served for two years, 1988-1989, and was involved on the Festival of Nations committee. Shirley is employed in the print shop at Prudential Insurance. Her favorite pastimes include tennis, camping, walking and most outdoor activities. Shirley resides in Minneapolis.

KAY KUSHINO

A veteran JACLer, Kay has been a member since 1935 and a 1000 Club member since before World War II. She served as president of the Twin Cities chapter for two terms and is the recipient of the silver, ruby and sapphire pins. Kay is a resident of Minneapolis.

JOYCE MIYAMOTO

Joyce has served on the JACL board as secretary for the past three years. She lives in Arden Hills with her family, which includes daughters Emily and Carly, who dance in the Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese dance group. Joyce is an assistant county attorney in the Civil Division of the Hennepin County Attorney's Office.

CHRIS MURAKAMI NOONAN

Chris is a past president of the Japanese American Youth (JAYs) group and is now seeking her second term on the JACL board. She dances with the Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese dance group and is marketing communications manager for the Graduate School of Business at the University of St. Thomas. Chris resides in Shoreview.

LINDA van DOOIJEWERT

In addition to her JACL activities, Linda also

serves on the boards of the St. Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee, Nikkei Project, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and the program committee for Japan America Society. She is also a volunteer for the Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese dance group and the M.S. Society. Linda is a past JAYs president and MDC youth commissioner. She lives in Arden Hills.

KATHY OHAMA WORKMAN

Most recently, Kathy has served as program assistant to the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans and has been involved in the newly formed Asian Chamber of Commerce. She has also worked in communications for Honeywell. Kathy is a resident of Bloomington and has two children. Her hobbies include crafts and cooking. This is Kathy's first term on the JACL board.

JACL National President Is Guest Speaker at Twin Cities Installation Dinner

Cressy Nakagawa, JACL national president, will be the guest speaker at the Twin Cities JACL Installation Dinner. The program also includes the installation of newly elected members of the board of the directors.

WHAT: Twin Cities JACL Installation Dinner

WHEN: Sunday, December 9, 1990
5 p.m. Social hour
6 p.m. Dinner

WHERE: Normandy Inn
405 S. 8th Street, Minneapolis

COST: \$15 per person

MENU: Choice of main entree:
Salmon
London Broil
Stuffed Breast of Chicken
Oven-browned potatoes
Tossed salad
Popovers
Chef's selected vegetables

RSVP: By December 3
Call May Tanaka, 934-9238.

Report from the Fall Midwest District Council Meeting October 19-21, 1990 - St. Louis, Missouri

Submitted by Mark Honda

Attending MDC meetings is one of the most informative and enjoyable opportunities of serving on the JACL board. Meeting members from other chapters allows us to build friendships across the Midwest. These semi-annual get-togethers are a time for chapter delegates to learn and share their community's concerns and activities. Also, reports on the national direction of the JACL are given by Bill Yoshino, JACL national director.

Some of the topics discussed at the meeting:

REDRESS (Bill Yoshino)

October 9th marked the date of the release of the first redress checks. In an emotional ceremony, Attorney General Richard Thornburgh presented nine checks, six of those to Isseis over 100 years old. The Office of Redress then released 15,000 checks to those internees who have been identified. Another 10,000 checks will be issued as soon as the federal budget has been passed. This will bring the age limit down to 70 years old.

LONG-RANGE PLANNING/JACL PROGRAM FOR ACTION (Hank Tanaka/Bill Yoshino)

From nine long-range planning workshops held in 1989, the Long-Range Planning Committee identified major trends that impact Japanese Americans. These trends include: Japanese Americans being the smallest Asian population; the continuing aging of the Japanese Americans; Japan-bashing; and anti-Asian violence. Goals were then clarified to meet these concerns, which became known as the JACL Program for Action. These goals are:

- I. Secure and uphold civil and human rights.
- II. Create programs to address the needs of JACL members.
- III. Increase JACL's organizational ability to carry out its mission.
- IV. Pursue to its conclusion the redress of injustices of the wartime internment of Americans of Japanese ancestry.
- V. Increase the number of Japanese American and other Asian American men and women in leadership positions.
- VI. Preserve the cultural heritage and values.

ROHWER RESTORATION PROJECT

(George Sakaguchi - St. Louis)

The only internment camps in the Midwest District, the Rohwer and Jerome sites have been the focus of a restoration project sponsored by the Midwest District Council. Sakaguchi has been working hard to give this project recognition at the National JACL Convention as well as the sold-out Rohwer Reunion held in Los Angeles

last summer. The project, however, is off to a slow start, raising only \$4700 of the \$40,000 goal.

THE LEGACY FUND (Bill Yoshino/Hank Tanaka)

JACL has begun a national fund-raising campaign. Its goal is to raise \$10 million in three years. The Legacy Fund is an endowment from which only the earnings will be used to support programs, operations and grants on the national level as well as on the local chapter level.

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

(Joy Yamasaki - Chicago)

A district survey of civil and human rights activities, ethnic concerns and community relations was conducted, and the results were distributed. The Chicago and St. Louis chapters are very active in setting up civil rights committees to address these concerns and building coalitions with other Asian groups in their area. Contact persons in each chapter were set up for civil rights concerns and legislature issues.

COALITION-BUILDING WORKSHOP

(Rosalyn Berg)

The executive director of the American Jewish Committee spoke to us about the benefits of coalition-building. Her "how-to" speech described some of the problems that must be overcome in coalition building and the expectations a group should have when it is a part of a coalition. We also heard from Dr. John Hara (St. Louis) and Gerry Shimoura (Detroit) about the coalition-building experiences in their chapters.

MEETING CALENDAR

1991 Spring MDC meeting: April 26-28 in Chicago
1991 Tri-District meeting: August 16-18 in Philadelphia
1991 Fall MDC meeting: November 22-24 in Cleveland

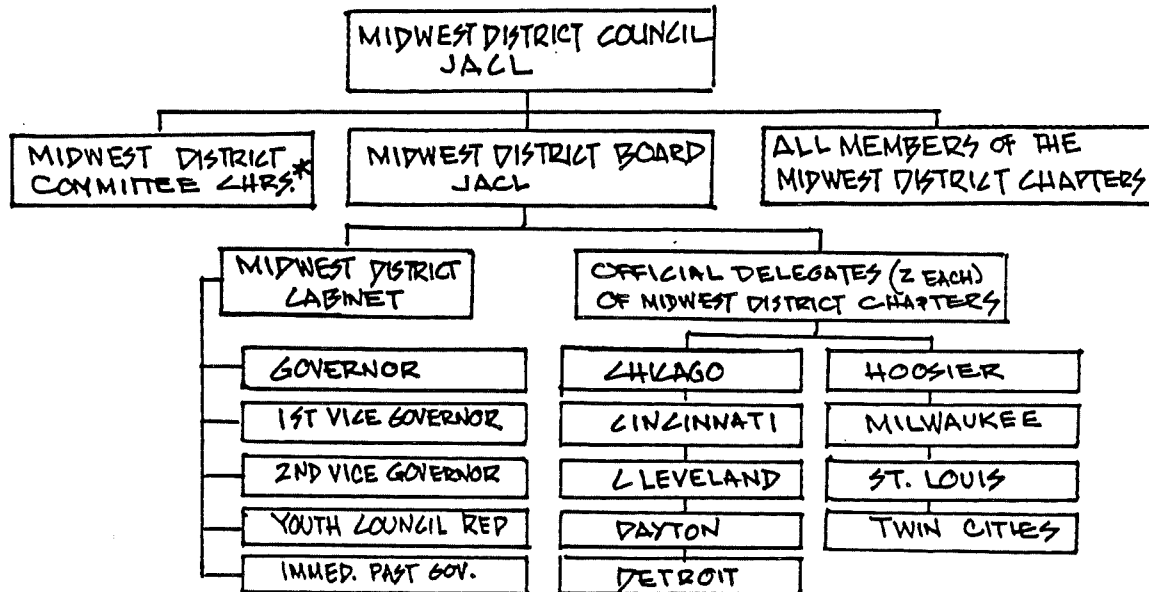
It is an important function of each chapter to share with its members the information learned at these meetings. If you would like more information on any of these topics or have any concerns you would like the chapter or district to address, please let me know.

Mark Honda
8664 Summer Wind Alcove,
Woodbury, MN 55125
735-5464

On the following page is a copy of the MDC organizational chart. Please note that Jay Yamashiro, a Twin Cities JACL board member, is chair of the Budget and Membership committees.

ORGANIZATION CHART: Midwest District Council JACL

Rev. 11-12-83



*COMMITTEE CHAIRS: (as of 10-20-90)

BUDGET - JAY YAMASHIRO

PROGRAM - GARY YANO

MEMBERSHIP - JAY YAMASHIRO

CIVIL RIGHTS - JOY YAMASAKI

ROWHER PROJECT - GEORGE SAKAGUCHI

US/JAPAN EDUCATION - KAZ KIMURA

LEGACY FUND CAMPAIGN - HANK TANAKA

Learning From Our Past

An excerpt from "A Message to Our Members"
 Cressy Nakagawa, JACL National President
 August 1990

We are an organization made up of volunteers who devote countless hours to JACL. It is our membership that has always provided the strength to the organization, and it is proper that our membership through its chapter presidents and delegates formulates the policies of this organization.

I have listened to the views of our membership on the state of the JACL and where it ought to be headed in future years. In fact, much of what I have heard has to do with what happens after redress and what we must do as we make the transition of leadership within the organization from one generation to another. ...

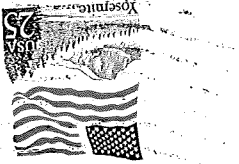
The San Diego Convention provided all of our chapters the opportunity to assess the future of the JACL. It also provided us the opportunity to examine our past. In 1989, a presidential committee was appointed to review research related to JACL's position and action toward the wartime draft resisters and the "No-No Boys," and to issue a report.

At the convention the JACL took action to recognize the Japanese American draft resisters of World War II, who professed their loyalty to America but were otherwise unwilling to serve in the armed forces of the United States because of the deprivation of their

constitutional rights, deserve a place of honor and respect in the history of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

The JACL confirmed in its report that:

"It is important to learn from our experience. It is important to understand why government failed in 1942 and succeeded in 1988 to provide redress. As an organization we must always stand vigilant. We must expend all energy and resources to defend constitutional rights. In 1942, too many organizations and individuals stood silent in the face of a human and constitutional tragedy. Today, we must cultivate our organizational and political relationships while encouraging and supporting the advancement of Japanese Americans to public office and positions of influence in public policy. In 1942, a half century of pervasive racism and intolerance was a major factor which led to the internment. Today, intolerance continues within society necessitating programs of prejudice reduction and the dissemination of information of the Japanese American experience for the purpose of creating understanding. The Japanese American community today is what it is due to the cumulative effect of our history in this country and both because of and in spite of the decisions of the JACL and of other groups and of individuals at that time. Where we are going and whether we will survive as a community will depend upon our ability to face that history and move beyond it so that we may focus together on the challenges of the future."



TWIN CITIES CHAPTER
 209 Dennison Avenue
 Shoreview, MN 55126

Japanese
 American
 Citizens
 League

Numerous Resolutions Heard at National JACL Board Meeting

Following is a summary of resolutions referred to the National JACL board at the National Board Meeting in San Diego, August 25-26, 1990.

Resolution 8 - That the National Board assume financial obligation of \$1000 annually to conduct annual Memorial Day activities at Arlington Cemetery. UNANIMOUS

Resolution 9 - That JACL endorse the Min Yasui Memorial Project. No funds are being used for nor is funding implied in this resolution. UNANIMOUS

Resolution 11 - That National Staff be directed to develop guidelines to implement an internship program at JACL National Headquarters. UNANIMOUS

Support of Anti-Arab backlash statement - Move to accept American-Arab ADC Statement. UNANIMOUS

Legacy Fund Recommendations - To approve the following actions by the Legacy Fund Campaign Committee at its meeting on August 25, 1990.

1. That an ongoing Legacy Fund Campaign Committee be created to be comprised of district representatives, national treasurer, ex-officio national president and national director and staffed by to-be hired legacy fund coordinator. Members of the former Legacy Fund

Steering Committee will serve on the Campaign Committee. Continued membership will be reviewed in March 1991.

2. Grayce Uyehara as chair of the Legacy Fund Campaign Committee.

3. Each National Board member to make a personal contribution to the Legacy Fund campaign and participate in fund-raising.

4. District (reps) governors will serve as district campaign managers and design a campaign strategy for their respective districts. Reps will make status reports to campaign chair, Grayce Uyehara, by October 15, 1990

5. Independent service contracts to be prepared by national staff (Bill Yoshino) to provide special assistance to larger districts, namely PSW and NCWNP. Each contract not to exceed \$5000 for a three-month period: September-December 1990. UNANIMOUS

Redress payments - To develop an information program on investing and protecting redress payments. UNANIMOUS

Japanese and Asian American Experience - That JACL assure that American school systems and textbooks reflect accurately the Japanese and Asian American experience. UNANIMOUS

If you'd like to submit something for the next issue of JACL News, call Chris Noonan at 483-3897.

Now it's called "JACL News," but if you have an idea for another name for this newsletter, call Chris Noonan at 483-3897.