

RICE PAPER

The newsletter of the Twin Cities chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League

September 1992

Will 15,000 eligible people be denied redress payments?

Issue

"The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992," Senate Bill 2553 and House of Representatives Bill 4551, would authorize \$320 million to fulfill the commitment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which officially apologizes for the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II and provides \$20,000 in redress compensation to surviving internees and those affected by Executive Order 9066.

Background

In addition to providing for an official apology and redress compensation, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 established a Public Education Fund to finance historical research and to promote education about the internment.

In 1988, Congress authorized \$1.25 billion to cover an estimated 60,000 individuals and provide \$50 million for the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund. Because of inaccurate projections and with the inclusion of military servicemen and "voluntary" evacuees, the Department of Justice now estimates that the original figure was too low, and that a total of 75,000 redress payments are needed. S. 2553, similar to H.R. 4551, provides for an increase of \$320 million in addition to the original \$250 million, totaling \$520 million to complete the individual payments as well as fulfilling the educational purposes of the Act.

Current status

Eliminating the Public Education Fund, the President has included the increase of \$250 million in his budget, but has not classified the additional funds as an entitlement, so they will be vulnerable to the politics of the budget process.

On Aug. 11, the House Judiciary Committee passed H.R. 4551, which included language to raise the authorization from \$320 million to \$400 million, thus providing coverage for an estimated 80,000 potential eligibles. The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee passed S. 2553 on Aug. 5. Both bills now go before the full House and Senate.

To date, close to 50,000 redress payments have been made and there is sufficient funds from original entitlement to complete 12,500 more payments. Since payments are being made first to the oldest survivors or their heirs, those who were born after 1934 – an estimated 15,000 eligible individuals – will not receive redress payments if additional funds are not authorized by passage of S. 2553 and H.R. 4551.

The Office of Redress Administration estimates internees born through 1934 will receive their payments later this year.

How you can help ensure that all eligible individuals receive redress payments

by Sam Honda

National JACL has reactivated the Legislative Education Committee (LEC), and I am part of its network.

To date, the House bill has 91 co-sponsors; the only Minnesota co-sponsor is Bruce Vento. The Senate bill has 10 co-sponsors; none from Minnesota. Our task now is to convince the House and Senate members that they should support the respective bills by co-sponsoring them.

Once again – hopefully for the last time – please write to your congressman and Senators Paul Wellstone and David Durenberger to support the Civil Liberties Act of 1992 Amendments, H.R. 4551 and S. 2553.

Page 2 contains some sample letters you may use to write your representative, senators and the President; however, it would be more meaningful and effective if each writer composes his or her own letter.

\$320 million is relatively a small amount in terms of government spending, but please don't take it for granted that this legislation will pass easily. Write!

Sample letters on Page 2.

*Normandale Japanese Garden Committee and
Japanese American Citizens League present
Sukiyaki Dinner and Aki Matsuri (Fall Festival)*

*Noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 18
Normandale Community College,
98th and France Avenue South, Bloomington*

*All-you-can-eat authentic Sukiyaki
Performances by Japanese dance groups and other artists
Art exhibits, demonstrations and films
Oriental boutique*

*Dinner prices: Adults \$7.50 in advance, \$8 at the door
Children 10 and under \$3.50 in advance, \$4 at the door
To purchase advance dinner tickets,
call May Tanaka, (612) 934-9238.
Cultural events are free.*

WRITE LETTERS

Sample letter

September 1992

Honorable (Paul Wellstone or David Durenberger)
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator (Name):

I am writing to urge you to support and co-sponsor S. 2553, the Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992. This Act would provide the additional authorization needed to fulfill the commitment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-383).

As you are aware, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 provided an apology and monetary redress to Americans of Japanese ancestry who were forcibly removed from their homes on the West Coast and interned in camps by our government during World War II. This action represented a denial of basic Constitutional rights.

It is important for Congress to honor its commitment to fully carry out the intent of the Act by authorizing the additional funds necessary to provide redress payments to all eligible former internees.

I strongly urge you to co-sponsor S. 2553, the Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992.

Sincerely,

For representatives, the letter salutation is:

Honorable (Representative's name)
Member of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman (Representative's name):

Use same letter as above, substituting H.R. 4551 for S. 2553.

Use the following sample letter to urge the President of the United States to prevail upon the Office of Management and Budget to set aside the additional \$320 million as entitlements, as the current funds are under the present Act. This would ensure payments to the remaining 15,000 eligible people. Previous allocation to the Public Education Fund also would be ensured. Otherwise, these additional funds, if approved, would be subject to review as part of the federal budget.

Sample letter

President George Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: The Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992
H.R. 4551/S. 2553

Dear President Bush:

I am writing to express my appreciation for your commitment to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-383), which provides reparations to Americans of Japanese ancestry who were forcibly interned in concentration camps during World War II by the U.S. Government. However, I am concerned about the positions that the Department of Justice and the Office of Management and Budget have taken with respect to the proposed Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992.

I strongly object to the recommendation by the Justice Department that the education component of the Fund be eliminated. Education is one of the main purposes of the original Act and is central to ensuring that such a violation of civil liberties will never happen again.

The increase in violence against Asian Pacific America in the wake of our current trade tensions with Japan and the experience of Arab Americans during the Persian Gulf War provide compelling evidence of the need for educational programs. Clearly, the existing scattered private efforts have not and will not be enough. Such efforts lack comprehensiveness and are too localized. All Americans need to hear and learn from the story of Japanese Americans.

The OMB's recommendation that the additional funds authorized by the amendments not be treated as entitlement funds is of great concern to me. I strongly urge that the funds be considered entitlements, just as the original authorization is currently treated. This is a program nearing its completion and it would be unfair to put the remaining redress recipients at risk of not receiving their just due. The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 is a debt of honor that our government must fully keep.

Again, I strongly urge you to support the Civil Liberties Act Amendments of 1992.

Sincerely,

These redress articles contain information from the JACL Legislative Education Committee Action Alert and the Cleveland JACL Bulletin (June 1992).

LEGACY FUND

At the JACL national convention Aug. 6-11 in Denver, the Twin Cities chapter was presented with a certificate of appreciation for outstanding support of the JACL's Legacy Fund. The certificate recognizes that the chapter has achieved 76 percent of its Legacy Fund goal of \$51,000.

We would like to recognize and thank all Twin Citians who have contributed to the Legacy Fund. The following people contributed between September 1990 and May 14, 1992.

A very special thanks

Benefactors (\$20,000 +)

Patrons (\$10,000 - \$19,999)

Masayoshi Harada

Sponsors (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Yoshio and Alice Matsumoto

Friends (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

S. Bill and Peggie Doi
Ritsu Harada
Osamu and Lily Honda
Thomas Kanno
Warren Kyono
Theodore Matsuyama
Norie Nakamoto
Emi Nomura
Masaye Ono
George and Michi Rokutani
Julia Saito
Gladys Stone
Mary Miwa Tanaka
Earl Tanbara
George and Yoshi Tani
Minoru Tsuchimochi

Contributors (up to \$999)

Toshio and Mary Abe
in memory of Kay Kushino
Richard Adamson
in memory of Kay Kushino
Joseph and Miyo Berger
Ila Beste
in memory of Kay Kushino
Charlie and Yasuko Chatman
in memory of Kay Kushino
S. Bill and Peggie Doi
in memory of Kay Kushino
Keith and Worma Erikson
in memory of Kay Kushino
Chester and June Fujino
in memory of Kay Kushino
Fumio Hangai
in memory of Kay Kushino
Kimi Hara
in memory of Kay Kushino

William and Anice Hirabayashi
in memory of Kay Kushino
Osamu and Lily Honda
in memory of Kay Kushino
Yukiko Ishibashi
Tom and Marian Kosobayashi
in memory of Kay Kushino
Tomo and Sumiko Kosobayashi
in memory of Kay Kushino
Gloria Kumagai
Carole Lindstrom
in memory of Kay Kushino
Theodore and Ruriko Matsuyama
in memory of Kay Kushino
Jim and Barb Mizuhata
John and Lois Myers
in memory of Kay Kushino
Phil Nomura
Arthur and Marion Oakes
in memory of Kay Kushino
Tom Ohno
Carl Olson
in memory of Kay Kushino
Dean and Masako Potter
in memory of Kay Kushino
Toni Reck
in memory of Kay Kushino
Bernadette Reid
in memory of Kay Kushino
George and Michi Rokutani
in memory of Kay Kushino
Yoshio and Akiko Sako
in memory of Kay Kushino
Ruth Sanmonji
in memory of Kay Kushino
Shigeo Sato
Yutaka Semba
in memory of Kay Kushino
Paul Shimizu
Robert and Ellyn Stein
in memory of Kay Kushino
Tim Strand
in memory of Kay Kushino
Tsuguo and Reiko Sumada
in memory of Kay Kushino

Gary and Colleen Swenson
in memory of Kay Kushino
Harry and Alice Takata
in memory of Kay Kushino
Charles Tatsuda
in memory of Kay Kushino
Minoru Tsuchimochi
in memory of Kay Kushino
Frank Tsuchiya
Twin Cities Chapter of JACL
Elaine Sachi Watson
Nancy White
in memory of Kay Kushino
Shirley Wirtz
in memory of Kay Kushino
Marvin and Elayne Wolfenson
in memory of Kay Kushino
Frank Yanari
Min Yoshida
Edward and Pearl Yoshikawa
in memory of Kay Kushino
George and Helen Yoshino
in memory of Kay Kushino
Julie Zats
in memory of Kay Kushino

The Legacy Fund is a nationwide endowment from which only the earnings will be used to implement the organization's mission, purpose, and its Program for Action. The goal of the fund is to raise \$10 million over a three-period beginning October 1990.

As of May 14, 1992, the Legacy Fund balance nationwide reached \$3,423,529. The Midwest District has reached 64 percent of its \$700,000 goal.

For more information or to make a contribution, contact our local Legacy Fund coordinator:

Sam Honda (612) 429-3410
3935 Lakewood Ave.
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

All contributions are tax deductible.

WELCOME

We would like to welcome these people who have recently joined or re-joined the Twin Cities chapter of JACL.

New members

Dede Mariko Doi, Rochester
Daniel and Cheryl (Hirata) Dulas, Minneapolis
Kirsten Ezaki, Mound
David and Kathy Koch, Bloomington
Dr. Karen Tanaka Lucas, Apple Valley
Cathy Nakamoto, St. Paul
Dana Nojima, Minneapolis
Masao Sakamoto, Columbia Heights
Pauline Shimada, New Brighton
Jack and Jane Takemoto, Stillwater
Charissa Uemura, St. Paul

Re-joined JACL

Dr. George Hayano, Fridley
Roy Kyono, Bloomington
Reiko Ohno, Bloomington
Isamu Shimada, Minneapolis
Jim and Judy Tabata, Minneapolis
Paul Tsuchiya, St. Louis Park

POTPOURRI

Dear members of JACL:

The family of Tadashi Kumagai wishes to express deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kind expression of sympathy and for the beautiful floral arrangement.

Barbara, Nancy and Joanne Kumagai

Your chapter needs you!

The Twin Cities chapter is looking for volunteers to help plan the upcoming Installation Dinner, tentatively planned for Saturday evening, Nov. 14.

Do you have an hour or two to help? We could use members' help to check out possible sites, choose the menu, design the program, take dinner tickets, write nametags and any other detail we need to take care of in planning this event. No experience necessary – any and all help is welcome. If you're interested, please call Mark Honda, (612) 458-5258.

If you're interested in possibly serving on the Twin Cities chapter board of directors, here's your chance. We're in the process of compiling the slate to be voted on by the membership in early November. Seven two-year terms begin in January 1993 and expire at the end of 1994. If you want to visit a board meeting to see what goes on before you decide if you're willing to participate, please feel free to join us. See Page 5 for a list of upcoming board meetings. All board meetings are open to visitors. If you have questions, call chapter president Mark Honda, (612) 458-5258.

Highlights of JACL board meetings

Following is a summary of the major items discussed at the Twin Cities JACL board meetings on April 8, June 9, July 14 and Aug. 25.

MEMBERSHIP

National JACL has implemented a centralized system for maintaining membership records and collecting dues. The board approved use of this system for our chapter. The local chapter remains responsible for recruiting members and encouraging members to renew their memberships. Much of the local membership effort is being coordinated by Sam Honda.

A membership brochure is being developed. This brochure may be used as a model by other chapters in the Midwest District.

The board approved a goal of 150 members by Dec. 31, 1992.

FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

Much of the spring months were spent planning the bazaar and demonstration booths at the Festival of Nations. This is the chapter's major fundraiser of the year.

Several board members and friends gathered at a potluck dinner to learn how to fold paper dolls; these were later sold at the booths.

The board discussed a possible policy for displaying items in the JACL demonstration booth and whether non-JACL fundraising items should be allowed. This issue was tabled until more information is gathered. See Page 10 for a wrap-up report by Chuck Tatsuda Jr.

SUKIYAKI DINNER

Union Congregational Church was booked during April and May, so the dinner was postponed until mid-June, which adversely affected turn-out. One of the goals for this year's Sukiyaki Dinner was for the Sansei to be more involved in the planning process and to learn from the Nisei how to order, prepare and cook the food.

The purchase of a rice cooker was approved. See Page 10 for a wrap-up report by event chair Jay Yamashiro.

PICNIC

The summer picnic was held Aug. 2. See Page 10 for a wrap-up report by picnic chairperson Joanne Kumagai.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Because of a scheduling conflict at Gross Golf Course, the tournament date was changed to Sunday, Aug. 23. See Page 12 for a complete list of tourney winners.

FALL FESTIVAL

The Normandale Japanese Garden Committee has again invited JACL to participate and present an Aki Matsuri (fall festival) in conjunction with the committee's Sukiyaki Dinner on Sunday, Oct. 18. JACL has agreed. Program details are being worked out. Event chairs are Joanne Kumagai, Charissa Uemura and David Hayashi.

NEW PROGRAMS

The board currently is exploring the possibility of presenting two new programs: a Japanese cooking class and a mochi-making-and-tasting party.

The board also is considering working with a national financial planning company to present workshops and services to members.

CHAPTER NAME CHANGE

The board is considering proposing to the membership that the chapter change its name from the Twin Cities chapter to the Minnesota chapter. This idea was presented in the Rice Paper April issue, but Mark Honda has not yet received any feedback. The name change may be given to the membership for a vote this fall. If you have any comments, please address them to Twin Cities JACL, P.O. Box 582864, Minneapolis, MN 55458-2864, or call Mark Honda, (612) 458-5258. Thanks for your input.

Mark your calendars now!

JACL Installation Dinner

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14. Watch for details.

Holiday Party for Kids

Tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 6.

NATIONAL AWARD

John Nakasone coordinated a local effort to nominate writer David Mura for a national JACL award. The recipient of the award, however, was figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

The chapter's two delegates, Joanne Kumagai and David Hayashi, represented the Twin Cities chapter at the national JACL convention Aug. 6-11 in Denver, Colo. See Page 12.

RESIGNATION

Shirley Iseri Hinchliff has resigned from the board due to a new job. No replacement has been appointed.

ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Mark Honda and David Hayashi attended this event on behalf of JACL. They met with people of other Asian groups, distributed information about JACL, and attended a workshop on the "Asian-Pacific Learner."

STAR FESTIVAL AT ORDWAY COMO JAPANESE GARDEN

With the help of several JACL members, JACL sold \$877 of bazaar merchandise July 6-11 at this festival. Thanks to all who helped.

Board meetings are held 7 to 9 p.m. one Tuesday each month. Upcoming meetings are Sept. 15, Oct. 6 and Nov. 10. The board welcomes any visitors. If you would like to attend, call Mark Honda, (612) 458-5258.

Karen Tei Yamashita in town to read from new novel

The success of Karen Tei Yamashita's first novel, *Through the Arc of the Rain Forest* (1990), has made the publication of her newest novel, *Brazil-Marú* a much-anticipated event. "A new visionary voice," wrote the San Francisco Chronicle, and The New York Times called her writing "fluid and poetic."

More about *Brazil Maru* (1992)

This engrossing multi-generational novel follows the attempt of an idealistic band of immigrants to create a utopia in the jungle and uncovers the little-known history of the large Japanese-Brazilian community.

After arriving in 1925 on the Brazil-Marú to farm and create a new civilization, three generations of Japanese immigrants first survive the hardships of clearing the land, then endure the suspicion and humiliation during World War II. As their self-appointed charismatic leader persuades this group of socialist Christians to embrace his passions for baseball, painting and chickens, they struggle with the issue of maintaining their identity, while adapting to a new world.

More about Karen Tei Yamashita

Yamashita went to Brazil in 1975 on a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship after graduating from Carleton College. She stayed 10 years and has since returned to her native California with her Brazilian family. Her fiction has appeared in The Los Angeles Times Magazine, and her plays have been produced at Highways in Santa Monica and at The Northwest Asian Theater in Seattle.

Her first novel, *Through the Arc of the Rain Forest*, a saga set in the Brazilian rain forest, won a Before Columbus Foundation Award and was the first small-press book to win the prestigious Janet Heidinger Kafka Prize for best fiction by an American woman.

Karen Tei Yamashita
will read from and sign copies of
her new novel

Brazil-Marú

(Coffee House Press, \$19.95)

Borders Bookstore

Friday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Calhoun Square,

3001 Hennepin Ave. S.,
Minneapolis, (612) 825-0336

Odegard Books

Monday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m.

Victoria Crossing, 857 Grand Ave.,
St. Paul, (612) 222-2711

Legends from Camp to be published in October

Lawson Fusao Inada's first poetry collection since 1971, *Legends from Camp*, recreates a shameful episode in our history. With a painter's eye for carefully chosen detail, Inada mingles moments of bitterness, irony and a gentle wistfulness. Inada's eye and ear investigate other concerns as well in *Legends from Camp*: Tributes to jazz greats, Tibetan Buddhist masters and pastoral beauty distinguish this rich gathering of poems.

Inada's *Before the War* (Morrow, 1971) was the first volume of poetry by an Asian-American to be published by a major firm. Inada has edited two major Asian-American anthologies: *AIIEEEEE!* (Doubleday, 1976) and *The Big AIIEEEEE!* (New American Library). The recipient of two creative writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, he currently teaches at Southern Oregon State College.

Legends from Camp will be published by Coffee House Press, Minneapolis, in October – during the year of the 50th anniversary of the internment of Japanese Americans.

WCCO-AM, WLTE-FM a NAACP create broadcast internship program

WCCO-AM (Minneapolis/St. Paul AM 830) and WLTE-FM (Minneapolis/St. Paul FM 102.9), in conjunction with CBS Radio and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), are offering a paid radio broadcast internship program that will provide opportunities for people of color and socio-economically deprived non-minorities.

The internship will be tailored to meet the interests and experience of the recipient and will provide an opportunity to explore career paths within the radio broadcast industry. The first internship will begin at WCCO-AM.

"We are pleased to be working with the NAACP and the Urban Coalition in initiating this internship program," said Rand Gottlieb, vice president and general manager at WCCO-AM. "WCCO-AM is the marketplace leader that will provide a premier learning experience for these interns."

The NAACP will act as consultant to WCCO-AM and WLTE-FM for the broadcast internship program. Matthew Little, president of the Minneapolis branch of the NAACP, said, "This is a positive step toward inspiring more minorities to become a part of the industry."

Applicants for the WCCO-WLTE internship must be a Twin Cities resident who is 18 years or older. Interested people must submit a résumé and letter of application including the following information: reason for interest in the internship; qualities the applicant will bring to the program; and the reason the applicant should be considered for the internship. Applications for the fall 1992 internship must be received by 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28. Send applications to: WCCO-AM/NAACP Internship Program, 625 Second Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55402.

New Shiatsu center opens

The Center for Shiatsu and Japanese Holistic Arts opened April 1. The center offers a series of Shiatsu workshops as well as a professional Shiatsu training course.

Shiatsu is Japanese acupressure therapy/massage using the same body meridian energy points as acupuncture. Shiatsu works with muscles and nerves as they relate to the organs to treat and prevent a variety of ailments. Shiatsu has been practiced for more than 1,000 years in Japan and is beginning to be recognized in this country as both an alternative and supplement to Western medical techniques.

The center will offer a complete curriculum for serious students of Shiatsu. The Professional Shiatsu Practitioners course includes anatomy and physiology, diagnosis, anma, oriental medical theory, and history of Shiatsu and Japanese culture.

Workshops offered include Introduction to Shiatsu, Shiatsu for Couples, Shiatsu for Couples with Pregnancy or Nursing, Do It Yourself Shiatsu, Positive Care for Women's Health, and Shiatsu and Anma Massage for Children and Infants. Workshops meet two and a half hours for up to four sessions. Fees range from \$5 for Introduction to Shiatsu, to \$55 per couple for couples courses that meet for four sessions.

Individual Shiatsu treatments will be offered on a limited basis. The center will be publishing several books on Shiatsu and will conduct research in conjunction with those publications.

Center director is James Mochizuki from Japan. Other faculty include Michael F. Kelly, Steve Sonmore, Mark McCarthy and visiting instructors.

The center is located in the Meridel Le Seuer Center for Peace and Justice, 1929 S. 5th St., Minneapolis. For more information, call (612) 649-4854.

Reprinted from Asian Pages (June 1, 1992), a bi-weekly publication serving as a leading Asian resource for all Minnesotans.

New sushi chef joins Saji-Ya

With the addition of Sekimoto Tanehide, the all-Japanese chef staff at Saji-Ya Japanese restaurant can now boast of more than 40 years of combined experience.

Takako Jaeger, Hideko Wittevrongel and Tanehide, under the direction of executive chef Yamamoto, offer the finest in traditional Japanese country-style cuisine, teppanyaki-style preparation and the freshest sushi in the Twin Cities.

Tanehide, who was executive chef at Ichiban's Japanese restaurant in Minneapolis for more than eight years, brought his excellent sushi skills to Saji-Ya last fall. He offers such daily delicacies as the Spider Roll, Dynamite Roll and other specialties made from fresh fish that is flown in daily.

Yamamoto, executive chef for the past three years, is renowned for his teppanyaki skills where dinner is prepared and grilled tableside at one of Saji-Ya's five teppanyaki tables.

Takako and Hideko, a team since their days at Fuji-Ya restaurant, where Takako was head chef for 30 years, expertly prepare the traditional, country-style Japanese cuisine in Saji-Ya's main dining room.

Saji-Ya, located at 695 Grand Ave., St. Paul, one block west of Dale Street, is open seven days a week. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner is served 5 to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 5 to 9 p.m. on Sundays. The sushi bar is open during lunch and dinner hours. Teppanyaki-style dining is available during dinner hours. Reservations are recommended. Call (612) 292-0444.

Reprinted from Asian Pages (June 1, 1992), a bi-weekly publication serving as a leading Asian resource for all Minnesotans.

Chrysalis starts support groups for women of color

Chrysalis, a Minneapolis nonprofit center for women, is initiating two new support groups for women of color.

One group is a self-worth group, which aims to assist women in developing a sense of their self worth, learning skills in assertiveness, finding new ways to take power over their lives, and learning ways of working through problems.

This self-worth support group will be facilitated by women of color and will meet at St. Andrews Interfaith Church, 1830 James Ave. N., 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays.

The other support group is titled Work and Life for Women of Color. This group meets at Chrysalis, 2650 Nicollet Ave. S., Room 2, Minneapolis, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mondays. Women in this group focus on work and life issues. Women who are unemployed, underemployed, professional, trade workers, retired workers, support staff, care takers, in non-traditional jobs, on public assistance, or self-employed might find this group helpful.

Chrysalis support groups meet for eight weeks and are very low cost; no one is ever turned away due to inability to pay.

For more information, call Chrysalis, (612) 871-0118.

MEMBERSHIP

Twin Cities Chapter Japanese American Citizens League

1992 Membership Application

Thank you for your interest in the Twin Cities JACL. If you would like to become a member of this chapter, please check which membership category you would like, and complete the information at the bottom of the form. Membership is in effect for 12 months. If you currently are a member, your 12-month membership begins from your previous expiration date.

- _____ Trial membership (for first-time JACL member)\$ 20
- _____ Regular membership\$ 40 *
- _____ Spouse of a regular member\$ 30 *
- _____ Family membership\$ 70 *
- _____ Student membership\$ 15 *
- _____ Youth membership\$ 5 *
- _____ Thousand Club membership\$ 60
- _____ Century Club membership\$120
- _____ Spouse of Thousand/Century Club member\$ 29

** Rate has not increased since 1989.*

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

ISSUES/CONCERNS/SUGGESTIONS OR OTHER COMMENTS FOR THE TWIN
CITIES JACL BOARD: _____

Send this form to 1992 membership chair: **Sam Honda**
3935 Lakewood Ave.
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Phone: (612) 429-3410

Make checks payable to Twin Cities JACL.

Reiko Ito Shellum Koeck receives a Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans (CAPM) leadership award for her work in the arts.

Reiko has devoted much of her life to helping others develop a better understanding of Japanese culture.

In 1973, she co-founded the Minnihon Arts Center in downtown Minneapolis. She assisted in developing ethnic studies programs for educators and taught Japanese art, culture and dance classes.

Although Minnihon is no longer physically present, she continues her teaching and showcasing of Japanese cultural arts.

This award was presented for her longstanding commitment to educating others about Japanese cultural arts and for her pioneering efforts in doing this. Nominated by Dr. Gloria L. Kumagai; presented by Haruo Okazaki, M.D., Japanese American CAPM member.

Bill Doi receives a Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans (CAPM) leadership award for community service.

Bill has a long history of involvement in leadership positions in the Japanese community. He is one of the founders of the Nikkei Project, which holds monthly social activities for the Japanese elderly in the Twin Cities.

Bill has served on a number of committees for the Catholic Church and Minneapolis Public Schools and still continues to participate in the state-mandated human relations programs in which he relates his experiences during World War II. He is retired from Campbell-Mithun.

The leadership award was presented by CAPM member Haruo Okazaki, M.D., Japanese representative, "For his years of commitment in bringing about a better understanding of Japanese Americans and his devotion to the Japanese American community in the Twin Cities." Bill was nominated by Dr. Gloria L. Kumagai.

These Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans awards articles were published in Asian American Press on June 5 and July 17, 1992.

Social service agency names award for Ruth Tanbara.

At its annual meeting May 20, Family Service of Greater Saint Paul celebrated its 100-year history of serving the people of St. Paul.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the first Ruth Tanbara Diamond Award for outstanding volunteer contributions. This award was established as a means of celebrating the 100-year history of volunteerism at Family Service. The award recognizes direct service volunteers who have made significant contributions to the organization.

The first recipient of the Ruth Tanbara Diamond Award is Sylvia Carty, a volunteer since 1989 in the Intake Department at Family Service.

The award is named in honor of Ruth Tanbara, a long-time member of Family Service's board of directors and its membership and development committees. She also has contributed many hours as a volunteer to her church and the community.

Ruth and her husband, Earl, moved to St. Paul in 1942 and helped numerous Japanese families during resettlement and the difficult times that followed. She has a sincere interest in families and has always worked to help others.

Gladys Stone honored.

Dr. Gladys Stone was awarded a certificate of commendation by the University of Minnesota for her contribution to the cause of all-inclusive curriculum, including curriculum that is multi-cultural, gender fair and disability sensitive.

Tak Tsuchiya inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame.

An item in the Star Tribune (June 15, 1992) noted that Takuzo (Tak) Tsuchiya has been inducted into the Minnesota Inventors Hall of Fame. A retired General Mills engineer, Tak made major contributions to the technologies of cereal puffing, protein texturization, food conveying and food processing.

John Nakasone honored with GSA painting award.

Painting contractor Painting by Nakasone of St. Paul recently won the prestigious "Partnership in Administration" award from Government Services Administration (GSA) Region 5 at their awards banquet. Region 5 includes Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Painting by Nakasone completed three painting contracts for GSA during the past year. President of the firm, John Nakasone, was praised for providing detailed schedules and sketches to agency heads prior to commencing work, completing the work in an orderly and timely manner, and ensuring that there was no adverse impact on building occupants. John is president of the Minneapolis-St. Paul chapter of the Minnesota Council Painting and Decorating Contractors of America.

Moose and Sadie's named "Best new coffee house" by Mpls. St Paul Magazine.

Among the "best of's" recognized in Mpls. St. Paul Magazine's July 1992 issue: Moose and Sadie's, 212 Third Ave. N., Minneapolis, across from the Monte Carlo Bar, (612) 371-0464.

Partners Lisa Chen and Peter Kiriara have created a hangout in the former Colonial Warehouse that manages to be both airily Spartan and cozily sybaritic. The dark, rich coffee is served in porcelain cups big enough to keep your hands warm. Muffins and five-inch cookies from Chez Paul, pastries from Alice Factor and softball-sized sandwiches complete the menu. The hours are convenient; The New York Times and the Star Tribune are available; and Moose (Kiriara's Doberman) and Sadie (Chen's daughter) offer their benedictions from giant photographs on the brick walls.

Thanks to all who contributed articles for this page recognizing the achievements and service of local Japanese Americans. A special note of thanks to Tom Oye, whose watchful eye caught several of the above honors when they were published in local newspapers.

Festival of Nations is successful fundraiser (again!)

Our chapter's major fundraising event, at the Festival of Nations, held April 30 to May 3 at the St. Paul Civic Center, was again a rousing success. Our bazaar and demonstration booths never looked better, thanks to the hard work of many volunteers. In a recessionary year when students held back their normally "free-wheeling" buying instincts, chapter booth revenues declined only 5.6 percent from the record numbers of 1991.

Both the bazaar and origami-ribbon fish demonstration booths featured many new items as efforts continue to broaden product offerings. Additional efforts also were made to spruce up the physical appearance of the booths, since our booth location at next year's Festival is largely dependent on how our booth looked this year.

We need to expand our volunteer list for next year's Festival. (Remember, all volunteers receive free admission to the Festival so you can enjoy the exhibits, performances and food.) We will be asking many of you for your time next year. Hope you can help!

Many thanks to all of the volunteers. Your time and efforts made our fundraiser a major success.

— by Chuck Tatsuda Jr.,
Festival of Nations booth chairperson

389 Sukiyaiki dinners served to benefit JACL's scholarship and operating funds

This year 389 dinners were served at JACL's Sukiyaiki Dinner fundraiser on Sunday, June 14. In previous years, the event was held in the spring, but because the dinner site, Union Congregational Church, was booked every weekend during April and May, we pushed the fundraiser to early summer. Although turn-out was down this year, JACL earned more than \$1,400 to be equally divided between the chapter's operating and scholarship funds.

The Sanseis made an effort this year to be more involved in planning the event and to learn from the expert Nisei how to order and prepare the food. A special thanks to Kimi Hara, who spent many hours "showing us the ropes." Next year, we'll try to have even more Sanseis involved in each of the work groups.

Many thanks to all who helped chop, cut, serve, wash, greet, set up and clean up.

— by Jay Yamashiro
Sukiyaiki Dinner chairperson

Festival of Nations Revenue Summary

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>
Bazaar booth			
Thursday	\$ 1,374.00	\$ 1,068.10	—
Friday	1,813.29	1,965.25	3,031.00
Saturday	1,399.25	1,505.10	1,218.04
Sunday	696.25	781.35	491.50
Total bazaar booth	\$ 5,282.79	\$ 5,319.80	\$ 4,740.54
Demonstration booth			
Thursday	\$ 325.00	\$ 420.20	—
Friday	779.00	1,046.40	\$ 621.00
Saturday	428.00	486.80	332.26
Sunday	273.64	239.25	123.75
Total demo booth	\$ 1,805.64	\$ 2,192.65	\$ 1,077.01
FESTIVAL TOTALS	\$ 7,088.43	\$ 7,512.45	\$ 5,827.55

Sukiyaiki Dinner Summary

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1989</u>
Dinners served	389	510	506	597
Revenues	\$ 3,998.70	\$ 5,734.10	\$ 5,302.40	\$ 5,373.85
Expenses	2,595.31	3,296.12	3,155.36	2,900.20
PROFIT	1,403.39	2,437.98	2,147.04	2,473.65
Profit to				
Scholarship Fund	\$ 701.70	1,218.99	1,073.52	1,236.82
Profit to				
Operating Fund	\$ 701.69	1,218.99	1,073.52	1,236.83

90 JACL picnic-ers enjoy sunny day

Lake Cornelia in Edina was the gathering place for the annual JACL summer picnic on Sunday, Aug. 2. This year, as in the past, great food was enjoyed by all. A special note of acknowledgement goes to chef David Hayashi and crew for the wonderful burgers, hot dogs and brats.

The games for kids – big and small – were a great success, thanks to Kathy Koch and Chris Noonan. This was the first-ever year for "Take-away Bingo," and judging by the enthusiasm of the adults engrossed in the heated competition, this won't be the last year.

Many thanks go out to all those people who arrived early to set up and to those who stayed late to help clean up.

Feedback on the picnic site was very positive, so we'll try and reserve the shelter for next year's picnic.

See you then!

— by Joanne Kumagai
Picnic chairperson



The pressure was on as kids concentrated on the relay race competition at the JACL summer picnic Aug. 2. Photo by Charissa Uemura.

MIS holds 50th anniversary reunion in Minneapolis

The Military Intelligence Service held its 50th anniversary reunion in Minneapolis May 28 to 30. The event, culminating in a Saturday night banquet attended by about 400 people, was co-hosted by the Military Intelligence Service Club of Southern California and the Twin Cities JACL.

As part of the event, this resolution was presented.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the year 1992 marks the 50th anniversary of the relocation of the United States Army Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) to Camp Savage, Minnesota; and

Whereas, during the period May 1942 to July 1946, the school, later relocated to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, trained more than 6,000 military linguists of whom more than 90 percent were Americans of Japanese ancestry; and

Whereas, Americans of Japanese ancestry were enduring very trying experiences and challenges following the forced removal and internment of all persons of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast, the majority of whom were American citizens; and

Whereas, the citizens of the great Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul extended to the soldier students and staff of MISLS warm hospitality, friendship and encouragement; and

Whereas, we Japanese Americans assigned to MISLS at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling have always remembered over the past decades, the kindness and friendship with which the citizens of the Twin Cities accepted us;

Therefore, be it resolved that this Resolution be presented to each of the Twin Cities as a permanent record of our most grateful appreciation to the citizens of Minneapolis and St. Paul, appreciation and fond memories that we shall cherish forever.

May 29, 1992

*Graduates and School Staff
United States Army Military Intelligence Service Language School
Camp Savage and Fort Snelling*

Military Intelligence Service Club of Southern California

Twin Cities Military Intelligence Service Reunion Committee

Twin Cities Japanese American Citizens League

~~~

The following letter, sent to JACLer and event planner Bill Doi, was among the many accolades received by the MIS Reunion Committee.

### **Dear MISers and JACLers of the Twin Cities:**

In the excitement and the wonderful time I had over the past week during the celebration of the 50th anniversary reunion, I forgot to get the addresses of individuals and leaders of the Reunion Committee. And, therefore, I am writing this letter to thank all the people that worked so hard to put on this remarkable celebration. I am sure that all the attendees from southern California and from the rest of the 50 states enjoyed the festivities, too.

In particular I want to thank the committee in charge of the program at Normandale Community College. The luncheon was terrific and the Japanese garden was lovely. I enjoyed every bit of that day's program and especially our visit to the old site of Camp Savage. We were very happy and delighted to learn that the Transportation Department of the City of Savage is going to set a plaque and monument at the site of Camp Savage in the very near future.

Lastly, I was so impressed by every program and wanted to thank each and every member of every committee but found that to be impossible. I was impressed with the friendly attitude of everyone we met – especially Kimi Hara, May Tanaka, Tom Moriguchi, Grace Ohama, Mas Abe and last but not least, you, Bill Doi. Because of the wonderful time I had and because I was so impressed with the friendliness of all the people, I want to join in and be counted in the "MIS Fund for Normandale Japanese Garden." Enclosed please accept my check for \$100 for that purpose.

*Thank you and most sincerely,  
Mits Usui  
Northridge, California*

## Wind adds excitement to golf tourney

86-50 ... Whew! No, not my golf score, but it could have been! No, these numbers were the temperature and the wind speed on Sunday, Aug. 23, the day of the annual JACL golf tournament. To say the least, Gross Golf Course in Minneapolis was a great challenge that day.

With 47 participants braving the elements, this year's tourney was a great success. Here's a complete list of the winners.

| A FLIGHT          | SCORE | NET HANDICAP |
|-------------------|-------|--------------|
| 1) Taka Miwa      | 80    | 72           |
| 2) Scott Takekawa | 84    | 73           |
| B FLIGHT          | SCORE | NET HANDICAP |
| 1) Akio Kuga      | 89    | 74           |
| 2) Arlen Matsui   | 87    | 75           |
| C FLIGHT          | SCORE | NET HANDICAP |
| 1) David Hayashi  | 105   | 75           |
| 2) Terry Noonan   | 113   | 76           |
| WOMEN'S FLIGHT    | SCORE | NET HANDICAP |
| 1) Hisa Osada     | 103   | 75           |
| 2) Emi Sako       | 111   | 76           |

### Low gross winners:

Men: Taka Miwa (80)      Women: Hisa Osada (103)

### Winners of other prizes include:

#### MEN'S

|                            |                |          |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| Longest drive:             | John Pilarski  | Hole #12 |
| Closest to pin (2nd shot): | Scott Takekawa | Hole #14 |
| Closest to pin:            | Art Arakawa    | Hole #17 |
| Closest to pin (2nd shot): | Scott Takekawa | Hold #6  |
| Closest to pin:            | Dick Hidani    | Hole #3  |
| Longest drive:             | Taka Miwa      | Hole #9  |

#### WOMEN'S

|                 |               |          |
|-----------------|---------------|----------|
| Longest drive:  | Mari Somekawa | Hole #4  |
| Closest to pin: | Toshi Nishida | Hole #11 |

The golf tourney was made possible with the cooperation and assistance of the golf committee. I would like to thank: John Nakasone, David Koch, Sam Honda and Chris Noonan. Also, thanks to George Sanada and Rich Lanaki for their door-prize donations.

I hope that those who attended this year's tourney will return for next year's challenge. Invite a friend. See you all next year.

- by Jay Yamashiro  
Golf Tournament chairperson

## Impressions from Denver:

### JACL National Convention Aug. 6 - 11

As I flew into Denver, I wondered what was in store for me in the next few days. This was my first national JACL convention and also the first time I was able to be in Denver for more than just a few hours. Surely there would be time to see a few of the sites around the Mile High City ... NOT!

The week was filled with meetings - special meetings in between special meetings, meetings before the banquet, meetings after the banquet, and there were, of course, the hospitality room gatherings.

I was able, however, to play golf on Wednesday at Arrowhead Golf Course during the JACL tournament. It was a beautiful day for golf on a very beautiful course set in the Denver foothills. I walked away with the second-place prize money (due to the handicap system, not my skill).

Wednesday afternoon the meetings started, and basically there were activities until Sunday. The Denver host chapter did a great job of hosting the event. Everything - the events and all the logistics - were well thought out. I will not get into details; you can read all about the week in the Pacific Citizen convention issue. I would like, however, to share my thoughts about the week as a whole.

The week really had a positive impact on me. I was able to reunite with some familiar faces, and it was nice to make some new friends. I was very impressed by the professionalism and commitment of so many of the members. Although the national council sessions were long and very parliamentary, one had to be impressed with the process. There were a great many active Sansei, and the Yonsei had a strong presence. Our new national board is primarily Sansei, and we have our first woman national president, Lillian Kimura. The strong leadership that has been provided by the Nisei over the years is being passed to the younger generation. I feel very good about the direction of our organization, and although we have definite challenges to face during the years to come, we will overcome them and grow stronger as Japanese, as Asians, and most of all, as Americans.

- by David Hay



New JACL national president Lillian Kimura. Photo by Charissa Uemura.

David Hayashi and Joanne Kumagai attended the JACL national convention as delegates of the Twin Cities chapter. Board member Charissa Uemura also attended the convention.

## Mary Yoshida

*The following article appeared in the Brooklyn Center Sun-Post on July 22, 1992. Mary Yoshida did go on to be crowned Aquatennial Senior Queen. Congratulations!*

### Aquatennial senior queen candidate pens memories

by David Duff

Mary Yoshida may be the 1993 Aquatennial Senior Queen by the time you read this.

She was nominated, breakfasted and lunched and then interviewed for the honor along with four other women.

And the decision was to be announced Tuesday noon, July 21, at a lunch at the Lutheran Brotherhood Building in downtown Minneapolis.

It seems out of character for the quiet, serious grandmother to put on a crown and embark on a year-long series of public appearances.

But it's the right time in her life to do a lot of things, Yoshida said at her North Minneapolis home recently.

World War II and the U.S. government's now decried decision to lock up many Japanese Americans in camps after the Pearl Harbor attack are factors in Yoshida's life.

She is one of 15 American-born women of Japanese descent who are writing their memoirs for publication in a book this fall. They are scheduled to turn in their final, edited stories today, July 22, at a meeting with their editor, Nobuya Tsuchida, head of the University of Minnesota's Office for Minority and Special Student Affairs.

Tsuchida is preparing the completed scripts for publication, perhaps by the University of Minnesota Press or the Minnesota Historical Society. Yoshida hopes it is published this fall: "I'd like to use it for my Christmas list."

Financing is the problem. The 15 women writing their memoirs have been providing "stamp money" for the project. Yoshida has contributed any checks she has received for speaking at schools and organizations.

Yoshida is a frequent volunteer in the Robbinsdale School District. She teaches origami, the Japanese art of folding paper to make animals, in the elementary schools.

And Yoshida is a faithful volunteer Friday mornings at the Senior Answer Line, a service of the school district for senior citizens.

She answers calls from senior citizens and obtains information from the office computer files or other sources and phones it back to the callers. Requests are about transportation, housing, food shelves, household assistance and many other topics that affect seniors' private lives.

Yoshida and her fellow writers are also expected to provide suggestions for a title for their book when they meet. She is considering "Minnisei: Personal Accounts of Some Minnesota Nisei Women," "Nikkei Potpourri" and "50 Years Remembered: History Project of Minnesota Nisei Women," among others.

The Japanese Americans came to Minnesota during and after the "relocation camp" (now commonly called "concentration camp") experience in World War II. Some have stayed; others moved elsewhere.

"There was not as much rejection in Minnesota as on the West Coast," Yoshida said, adding that the situation remains the same today.

"It's a struggle to continue our culture against the peer pressure on children," she said. She remembers when her children would not bring friends home because the Yoshida family ate dinner with chopsticks.

"People are funny," she said, with her disarming smile.

Perhaps it is that smile and its accompanying upbeat attitude that led to her being nominated for the Aquatennial honor by the school district's senior program.

After she agreed, Yoshida submitted a résumé, listing her community activities.

"I hesitated but began to feel guilty, keeping in mind the minority I represent," she said.

She and four other finalists (plus five candidates for Aquatennial Senior King) breakfasted at a downtown hotel July 7, where they socialized with the reigning king and queen, the commodore and judges, who represent the organizations that sponsor the royalty events.

"One judge asked me if with all my activities I would have time for anything more. I answered, 'With the book project nearing its end, that I would,' " she said.

At a more formal lunch meeting July 13 each candidate gave a five-minute presentation of personal background and response to the question, "How are you making a difference to your community today?"

Yoshida said many others had longer lists of activities and commitments to the community than she did.

But she noted that the reigning queen is black. "I was surprised we were the only two minorities."

She added, "I don't know if my husband approves or disapproves. I found out after months that he approves of my book. Writing gave me a feeling of satisfaction to get it down and leave it for my grandchildren."

Compensation checks from the U.S. government arrived several years ago. Her husband Minoru's came first, on stationery without heading and just a scrawled, unidentified signature.

When they figured out who had signed it, they wrote to complain about the letter's coldness. Perhaps as a result, Mary Yoshida's letter arrived bearing the seal of the White House and an identification below the same scribbled signature: George Bush, President of the United States of America.

"Only in America can we appeal and get this response," Mary Yoshida said.

The Yoshidas' generation of Japanese Americans finally accomplished this compensation for their World War II losses, but their parents are mostly gone now.

"Why bring up the past in a negative way?" Mary Yoshida said, with one of her engaging smiles.

## PERSPECTIVE

### Priorities

by Hank Tanaka, as printed in the Cleveland JACL Bulletin (May 1992)

#### "What's in it for me?"

That's an often-repeated comment from some persons who belong to a voluntary, not-for-profit, educational membership organization like JACL.

To respond to these comments, not infrequently the organization seeks tangible benefits or perks to retain and attract members. Discounts on purchases and rentals, group insurance rates, and information and knowledge on a subject of personal interest are familiar benefits offered.

But the "bottom-line benefit" is more intangible: to improve the quality of my life, protect and uphold my rights as an individual, give me the opportunity to express my views on subjects of concern to the organization, feel assured that the organization is looking out for my welfare and well being.

As we become more oriented toward materialistic rewards, we may tend to become more skeptical and cynical about the future. In turn, we may have less confidence in joining organizations that offer little tangible benefits in return.

JACL, after more than 60 years of existence, has maintained its primary purpose: to strive to uphold and protect the rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry. The track record of JACL in legislative activities is outstanding. And JACL continues to pursue its role as an active advocate in collaboration with other organizations.

#### "What's in it for me?"

What about passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988? What about the redress payments to eligible recipients? Issei finally being able to become naturalized citizens in 1952? The repeal of the Emergency Detention Act of 1950 in 1974? What about the courts finally vacating the Korematsu, Hirabayashi and Yasui cases to protest the constitutionality of E.O. 9066?

What about JACL's work in preparation for the 50th anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor? Or its continued appearance on television, on such programs as "Nightline," "The Oprah Winfrey Show," and "Donahue"?

Have these legislative accomplishments and media presentations helped to improve the quality of your life or the lives of members of your family?

*We appreciate hearing from readers with comments and suggestions on improving this newsletter. We also appreciate news items and articles from the Japanese American community.*

*The Twin Cities JACL Rice Paper  
Chris Murakami Noonan, editor  
209 Dennison Ave., Shoreview, MN 55126  
(612) 483-3897*

*Thanks to all who contributed to this issue!*

**Japanese  
American  
Citizens  
League**

**RICE PAPER**  
209 Dennison Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55126

**TWIN CITIES CHAPTER**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
St. Paul, MN  
Permit #3311