

# RICE PAPER

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

October 1996

## *Help wanted:*

### *Please become involved in these important chapter programs*

#### **Membership Committee is formed to enhance recruiting efforts and benefits offered.**

Connie Fukuda, Twin Cities JACL membership chair, is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to work with her on the Membership Committee. Volunteers should be committed to meeting the committee's goals, which are:

- Increasing the number of members in the Twin Cities chapter through proactive marketing and recruiting efforts.
- Exploring chapter-specific membership benefits.
- Welcoming new chapter members through personal phone calls and letters.
- Recruiting new members through events sponsored by JACL and other local Asian American groups.

#### **Why volunteer?**

This is a great way to get more involved with the Twin Cities JACL chapter and to make a difference to our organization. New members are particularly urged to volunteer for this committee as a way to connect with veteran members, meet other new members and learn more about JACL.

#### **What's the time commitment?**

There will be an initial planning committee scheduled for a work-day evening or weekend. Once assignments are set, the time commitment for each committee member will be approximately *four to five hours per month*, depending on responsibilities.

#### **What are the next steps?**

If you're interested in joining the Twin Cities JACL Membership Committee, contact Connie Fukuda, 927-9126, after 6 p.m. on weekdays or any time during the weekends. She'd love to hear from you!

#### **Twin Cities JACL turns 50 in 1997!**

Help us plan the celebration.

Yes, that's 50 years as an organization in Minnesota. We are planning a BIG celebration for April 5. We need the help of many chapter members to plan an extra-special event. Here are some of the ways you can participate:

- A catchy phrase and logo are needed to use on our 50th anniversary promotional materials and throughout the year for commemorative activities. Your creative energies are needed. Send us as many ideas as you can think of. (Note that entries will not be returned to you.)
- We hope to display your memories of JACL events from the past 50 years. If you have stories or photos of JACL programs, send them to us. (Please do not send us originals of photos; rather send us a photocopy. We recommend inexpensively photocopying at Kinko's on the Docutech machine.)
- Several committees are being formed to help with the many aspects of the celebration, including: program, carpool, history, publicity, raffle, speaker, and more.
- Do you know of people who used to have a connection with the chapter but have moved away or become inactive? Let us know who they are so we can add them to our mailing list and invite them to the activities.

*If you can help with any of these, please contact Lynn Yamanaka, 403 Totem Road, St. Paul, MN 55119; 735-6124.*

## **COMING UP!**

Sunday, Nov. 3, 3 p.m.

JACL group discount at Theater Mu's  
*The Sound of a Voice* (see back page for details)

Sunday, Dec. 15, 2 - 4 p.m.

Holiday Party for Kids at Como Lakeside  
Pavilion, featuring the Minnesota Zoomobile.  
Call Chris Noonan, 486-9150, if you can help.

Sunday, April 5

Twin Cities JACL's 50th anniversary celebration,  
featuring a famed Japanese American actor of the  
stage and screen as the keynote speaker.

# WELCOME

We would like to welcome these people who recently joined, or rejoined after an absence, the Twin Cities JACL. (Thirteen of our new members are 1996 Twin Cities JACL scholarship recipients; our chapter awards a one-year student JACL membership in addition to the scholarship.)

Carl and Nadine Aoki, Eden Prairie  
Theresa K. Burscu, Chapel Hill, N.C.  
Jenny Connelly, Eagan  
Ian Dale, St. Paul  
Shannon Inouye, Edina  
Marilyn Kadomatsu, Apple Valley  
Yoshiji Katagiri, Minneapolis  
Marissa Matsumoto, Minneapolis

Mark Metoki, Columbia Heights  
Kelly Jo Miller, Bloomington  
Travis Morehead, Blue Grass, Iowa  
Les Moy, Inver Grove Heights  
Shauna Nelson, Champlin  
Akiko Norton, St. Louis Park  
Yukiko Norton, St. Louis Park

Lucy Rollins, Minneapolis  
Lisa Shakerin, Crystal  
Diane Tanabe, Burnsville  
Nobu Tanabe, Burnsville  
Sarah Tani, Sun Fish Lake  
Aida Taniguchi, Bloomington  
Naomi Taniguchi, Bloomington  
Joyce Yamamoto, Eden Prairie

# MEMBERSHIP

Many thanks to all of you who responded to our recent membership survey. Here is a summary of your responses:

**What are your primary reasons for becoming a JACL member and/or continuing your membership?**

- To meet, come to know and support the Japanese American community and its heritage
- Stay in touch with Japanese American issues and people (especially those living in Minnesota!)
- Social events
- To meet single Japanese American men and women
- Pre-PH member for 35 years
- Many Japanese American friends in the Twin Cities
- Strength in numbers – can do more as a group than as individuals
- Civil rights
- To participate in any activities that promote racial equality, justice and empowerment
- A proactive, highly visible, respected organization can be more effective than individuals

**Describe the civil rights issues that are important to you in which JACL should be actively working.**

- Equal opportunity/treatment
- Support Affirmative Action programs where needed and beneficial
- Civil rights issues – images in the media; awareness of law & relocation
- Oppose/repeal discrimination legislation at all levels of government
- Discrimination in hiring, firing,

opportunity, prosecution

- Racism
- Work with African Americans and Latinos; Civil rights for all minorities
- Building Pan Asian coalitions for political base
- Promoting positive relationships with other Asian backgrounds
- Direct aid to our Asian "brothers" in need in the Twin Cities; job opportunities, financial, scholarships, education, language gaps, mentorships
- Immigration rights – history is repeating itself
- Hate crimes – countering the religious right, militia movements and racist organizations
- Crime against Asians – Japanese Americans in particular
- Promoting awareness of how Asian Americans served in WW II - MIS; Educate youth about the concentration camp experience
- Education, education, education
- Support Japanese students against harassment in schools
- Support teachers of Japanese ancestry for career development
- Civil liberties public education fund
- Publicize the activities of the JACL nationally and locally to the media and press
- Participate (aid) local Japan-America sister cities
- Promoting Asian artist events
- Elderly

**Describe or list three cultural activities that are important to you in which JACL should be actively involved.**

- Multigenerational get together
- Promulgate the idea of a strong family as the basis for children's success in society
- Insuring that future generations of Japanese Americans are aware of Japanese culture, of WW II history
- Support of Japanese American events that have been neglected in recent years. Some think our problems have been solved – Don't fool ourselves!
- Collaboration with the Asian American Renaissance
- Join with other Asian organizations in promoting cultural, educational and social programs
- An Asian American cultural event
- Japanese poetry, plays and philosophy
- Movies like "The Wash," "Picture Bride," "American Sons" or plays like "Yellow Fever," with discussion afterwards
- Lectures of interest
- Mochi tsuki
- Cooking classes
- Festival of Nations
- Normandale Japanese Garden dinner, boutique and dance
- Cultural exchange – America-Japan week

Membership survey, continued on Page 9.

## FUNDRAISING SUCCESSES!

### *Kanojo "Asian Accents" fashion show benefits Scholarship and Operating funds*

**\$4,754.63 raised at event April 13 and 14, 1996!**

In its Minnesota debut, California-based Kanojo USA helped the Twin Cities JACL raise more than \$4,700. Many thanks to all the volunteers and raffle prize contributors who helped this event exceed our expectations. A very special thank you to Sally Sudo and Tom and Rei Ohno for their hard work.

<b><u>INCOME:</u></b>	Ticket sales	\$ 5,990.00
	Raffle ticket sales	1,270.00
	Vendor income and garment sales	3,709.00
	Misc. refunds	115.14
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 11,084.14</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES:</u></b>	Hotel	\$ 4,900.00
	Publicity, all printing and postage	1,067.75
	Misc. administrative expenses	361.76
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 6,329.51</b>
<b><u>PROFIT:</u></b>	Income	\$ 11,084.14
	Expenses	6,329.51
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,754.63*</b>

\* Profits have been divided equally between the chapter's scholarship and operating funds:  
\$2,377.32 to scholarship fund, \$2,377.31 to operating.

### *JACL walkers "Walk for Justice" Sept. 21*

Watch the next Rice Paper for a wrap-up of this event toraise funds to bring the Smithsonian exhibit "Whispered Silences: Japanese American Detention Camps, 50 Years Later" to Minnesota next year. Thanks to all who gave and participated!

Thank you to all the people who supported the Twin Cities JACL's Kanojo fundraiser by purchasing event and raffle tickets and clothing. And, thank you to these people who made financial contributions:

May Tanaka  
Tomo and Sumi Kosobayashi  
Eugene and Emi Sako  
John and Namiye Oshima  
Shiro and Pat Katagiri  
James and Pearl Kusunoki  
Shun and Yeiko Sakuma  
Laura Chihara  
Nob and Mineko Kimura  
Norman and Kathy Kushino  
Helen Ujifusa  
Jim and Shig Kiriara  
Nobu and Kimiko Sugisaka  
Ken and Viviane Tsuchiya  
Ted and Ruriko Matsuyama  
Akira and Naoko Fujioka  
Shig and Sue Sato  
Tom Oye  
Yutaka and Ruth Semba  
George and Toshi Nishida  
Bill and Peggie Doi  
Nobu Tanabe  
Taka and Toshiko Miwa  
Bill and Anice Hirabayashi  
Ted and Rose Asao  
Ed and Pearl Yoshikawa  
Kuniko Voeller

*In addition, the Twin Cities JACL would like to thank the Kanojo committee members who donated \$323 of expenses toward this event.*

### *1996 Festival of Nations booths yield record revenues! Thanks to all the volunteers!*

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Revenues: Bazaar Booth	\$5,282.79	\$4,944.35	\$5,549.83	\$5,580.05	\$5,754.80
Demonstration Booth	\$1,805.64	\$1,324.80	\$1,088.80	\$1,581.20	\$1,758.56
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$7,088.43</b>	<b>\$6,269.15</b>	<b>\$6,638.63</b>	<b>\$7,161.25</b>	<b>\$7,513.36</b>
Expenses: Merchandise	\$3,033.29	\$2,258.10	\$2,611.64	\$2,954.72	\$3,207.44
Booth Fee	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$375.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Insurance	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Volunteer Admissions	\$65.00	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$90.00
Supplies/Misc.	\$114.75	\$80.17	\$71.49	---	---
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,623.04</b>	<b>\$2,783.27</b>	<b>\$3,148.13</b>	<b>\$3,444.72</b>	<b>\$3,727.44</b>
<b>Festival Profit</b>	<b>\$3,465.39</b>	<b>\$3,485.88</b>	<b>\$3,490.50</b>	<b>\$3,716.53</b>	<b>\$3,785.92</b>

## 1996 high school graduates honored by Twin Cities JACL

by Pam Dagoberg, Scholarship Committee

The Twin Cities JACL's 33rd Annual Scholarship Awards Program was held on Thursday, May 9, at the Campus Club in Coffman Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Minnesota. Nearly 70 people were in attendance to honor 17 high school graduates:

Jennifer Madoka Connelly, Eagan High School

Ian Dale, Cretin Derham Hall

Thomas Hara Jr., Osseo High School

Yuki Kaneko, Tartan High School

Yoshiji Donald Katagiri, Academy of Holy Angels

Sarah Kushino, Park Center High School

Marissa Lynn Matsumoto, Southwest High School

Mark Metoki, The Blake School

Kelly Jo Miller, John F. Kennedy High School

Travis Neil Morehead, Davenport West High School

Shauna Nelson, Champlin Park High School

Akiko Norton, St. Louis Park High School

Yukiko Norton, St. Louis Park High School

Lucille Katsura Rollins, South High School

David Esterly Scott, Southwest High School

Sarah Kei Tani, Henry Sibley High School

Naomi Taniguchi, John F. Kennedy High School



Among the 1996 high school graduates honored at the Twin Cities JACL Scholarship Awards program are (front row, left to right): Sarah Kushino, Sarah Tani, Shauna Nelson, Naomi Taniguchi, Kelly Jo Miller, Yukiko Norton, Jennifer Connelly, Akiko Norton; (back row, left to right): Yoshiji Katagiri, David Scott, Marissa Matsumoto, Lucille Rollins, Mark Metoki, Thomas Hara Jr.

Norton, David Scott and Naomi Taniguchi. Mark Metoki was the recipient of the Ken Tanaka Memorial Scholarship, which was presented by May Tanaka. The Yuri Tanabe Memorial Scholarship, presented by Diane and Nobu Tanabe, was awarded to Jennifer Connelly. Marissa Matsumoto and Travis Morehead were the recipients of the Earl Tanbara Memorial Scholarship, presented by Ruth Tanbara. The Susan Matsumoto Memorial Scholarship, presented by Helen and Frank Tsuchiya and Alice and Yo Matsumoto, was awarded to Sarah Tani.

*Congratulations and best wishes to the 1996 graduates!*

If you know of any 1997 high school graduates, please contact Pam Dagoberg, (612) 557-2946. Some of the know 1997 high school graduates are: Evan Iijima (South High School), Jenny Kinneberg (St. Louis Park High School), Jun Matsuda (Lutheran High School), Keiko Marie Snell (St. Paul Central), Sakura Sprecher (Burnsville High School), and Jason Thompson (high school unknown).

The evening began with a buffet dinner followed by greetings and introductions by chapter president, Joanne Kumagai, and scholarship committee chairperson, Kimi Hara. Naomi Taniguchi, Akiko Norton and Yukiko Norton entertained those present with musical interludes. Fred Tsuchiya acted as the evening's master of ceremonies.

General scholarships were presented to Ian Dale, Yoshiji Katagiri, Sarah Kushino, Kelly Jo Miller, Shauna Nelson, Akiko Norton, Yukiko

## 49 golfers competed for cash prizes at annual JACL Golf tournament

It looked like rain in the morning on July 28 at Gross Golf Course, but the day turned out to be just right for the 49 golfers who vied for \$530 of all-cash prizes and door prizes.

Here are the lucky (and skillful) winners ...

### WOMEN'S FLIGHT

1st place: Connie Tsuchiya

2nd place: Emi Sako

3rd place: Yas Fujimoto

### MEN'S FLIGHT A

1st place: Ben Wong

2nd place: John Takekawa

3rd place: Frank Tsuchiya

### MEN'S FLIGHT AA

1st place: Eddie Morioka

2nd place: H. Minokata

3rd place: Jeff Hansen

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Closest to the pin: Helen Tsuchiya,

Rick Tanaka and Carl Aoki.

Longest drive: Lil Tanaka, Rick

Tanaka and John Morioka.

*Thanks to Sam Honda and all of his helpers!*

## AT A GLANCE

### Highlights of JACL board meetings

Following is a summary of the major items discussed at the Twin Cities JACL board meetings March 27, May 14, June 18, July 23 and Sept. 10, 1996.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Sept. 10, JACL balance was \$40,962.76; \$24,945.85 in the Scholarship Fund, and \$16,016.91 in general operating.

The well-received cooking classes offered during the summer had expenses exceeding income of nearly \$700; although some additional costs will be incurred for video editing, much of the difference may be made up when we begin selling the videos.

Forty-nine golfers participated in the annual golf tournament. Cost of prizes exceeded fees and budget by \$31.

#### "WHISPERED SILENCES" SMITHSONIAN EXHIBIT

The chapter hopes to work with the Minneapolis Public Library to bring this exhibit to the Twin Cities in 1997. The Coalition Committee organized a group of walkers who participated in the Headwaters Fund Walk for Justice in September; the chapter's proceeds from that walk will support the exhibit. The chapter also has submitted a grant proposal to the JACL Legacy Fund for this exhibit.

#### PICNIC

The weather was good and the turnout was great for this Pig Roast and Picnic chaired by John and Jacqueline Nakasone. Close to 150 people attended!

#### 50th ANNIVERSARY

Plans have begun for this celebration, which includes a banquet and celebration on April 5, as well as commemorative programs throughout the year. Committees are being formed.

#### NATIONAL CONVENTION

Ben Ezaki, Tom Hara, David Hayashi and Joanne Kumagai from

our chapter traveled to San Jose for the national convention and returned to report to the board on the convention activities, resolutions and other actions.

The board discussed two items raised at the convention: budget and finance and segregated accounts amendments; and a nonprofit organization membership category.

#### YOUTH

The board met with Jeri Ezaki, who has extensive experience in working with youth and in developing youth programs. The board discussed how to include youth in JACL activities, mentoring programs, connecting the scholarship program to youth program, the possible links among JACL youth, and more.

#### DONATIONS

The chapter made a \$200 donation to the Super Senior Luncheon July 11 for isseis and niseis.

The chapter also made a \$150 donation to the Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese Dance Group.

#### SPRING FUNDRAISERS

The board discussed the plans and details for the Kanojo "Asian Accents" fashion show (April 13 and 14) and the Festival of Nations (May 2 to 5). In August, Kanojo approached the chapter about returning to the Twin Cities in 1997.

*Videos of Rita Nakashima Brock's address at the 1996 Installation Banquet are available.*

*If you would like a copy of Rita's keynote speech, "Life in the Interstices: Bi-Racial, Bi-Cultural Americans," delivered at the Feb. 25, 1996, Chrysanthemum Banquet, contact Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, (612) 822-7198.*

### Do you have old JACL minutes?

Chapter historian Lynn Yamanaka is compiling an inventory of JACL documents. The Minnesota Historical Society is holding some donated documents, and Lynn has obtained some chapter board meeting minutes, but is missing some minutes between 1980 and 1994. Do you know where we can find any minutes? If so, please call Lynn, (612) 735-6124.

### Cleveland JACL sponsors National Marrow Donor Program Resolution

WHEREAS, as of Feb. 29, 1996, 2,010,328 donors are registered nationally; 95,796 or 4.8% of that total are Asian Americans; and

WHEREAS, more than 16,000 new patients are diagnosed each year with leukemia, aplastic anemia or 60 other fatal diseases for which a marrow transplant may be the only chance of survival; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Chapter of the JACL initiated its first bone marrow donor program in November 1995 followed by the Asian/Pacific American Federation (A/PAF) bone marrow donor program in June 1996; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Chapter & A/PAF are committed to continuing the bone marrow donor program as an ongoing public service project

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, by the National Council of the JACL that chapters enhance the need for unrelated volunteer marrow donors and increase the National Registry through recruitment

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, chapters can get assistance from the Asian American Donor Program: 2363 Mariner Square Drive, Suite 241, Alameda, CA 94501, (510) 583-3366.

# MEMBERSHIP

## Twin Cities Chapter Japanese American Citizens League

### *1996 Membership Application (for new members only)*

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.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \*

For those who are interested in making a larger contribution to JACL,  
these membership options are available:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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 membership chair:**

**Connie Fukuda  
4300 Eton Place  
Edina, MN 55424**

**Phone: (612) 927-9126**

*Make checks payable to Twin Cities JACL.*

## Summer cooking classes filled to capacity!

by Kathy Hara, cooking classes program chair

Sometimes we got a late start, and sometimes we lost our electricity due to power overload, and sometimes we could hear the Olympics on TV from the bar across the hall. But, by the fourth session

of the Twin Cities JACL's cooking classes this past July, we began to get the hang of it! Best of all, everyone had a good time, sampled a lot of good food, and hopefully, learned how to cook some of the traditional dishes of Japanese cuisine.

For making these classes possible, I want to thank the following people:

Kelvin and Annette Lee, owners of Perfect Host Catering, who got the ball rolling by offering the use of their facilities; committee members Joanne Kumagai, Sara Solum Hayashi, David Hayashi and Cheryl Lund for their time and creativity; Lucy Kiriara for her support, her aprons and her wonderful enthusiasm; cooks Ginko Lundin, Kimi Hara, Alice Matsumoto and Hiroko Boerger, who were the center of it all; and Fong Heu, our unflappable videographer.

So now we proceed to Phase 2 of our project: producing the video. We will be spending the next few months editing the film, which may include shooting additional footage in the studio. Sara Hayashi's firm, Creative Resource Center, will begin work on the package graphics. Our aim is to have the videos for sale in time for Christmas.

The big question is this: Do we want to do this again next year? If you have ideas about what you would like to see, or if you would be interested in working on this project, please give me a call at (612) 420-9562.



Alice Matsumoto and Lucy Kiriara prepare to teach the "noodles" Japanese cooking class.

### APRONS FOR SALE:

Many people expressed an interest in the aprons worn by the instructors at the Japanese cooking classes this July. These aprons, made by Lucy Kiriara, are now available for purchase for the price of \$19, plus mailing costs, with all profits going to the JACL cooking class fund. The butcher-style aprons are made of white preshrunk denim with a black applique of four Japanese crests (mons). Please note that this design is different from the original aprons. For more information and to place an order, call Lucy Kiriara, (612) 881-2866.

The Twin Cities JACL would like to thank Kathy Hara for her many hours of work to present the very popular cooking classes.

## American Express awards \$1,000 grant to Twin Cities JACL

The American Express Foundation recently awarded a \$1,000 Volunteer Action Fund grant to the Twin Cities JACL. The funding will be used to develop a new chapter-specific informational and membership brochure as a way to inform and attract prospective JACL members.

The Twin Cities JACL was one of 202 organizations selected from American Express' Volunteer Action Fund. Established in 1994, the fund awards grants to eligible organizations in which American Express U.S. employees volunteer on a regular basis.

Joanne Kumagai, Twin Cities JACL president, noted: "The need for developing a new brochure is especially important when we consider the number of Japanese Americans in the community who may not be familiar with the JACL. To continue to be a viable organization, we must keep growing and adding new members to our chapter who could help contribute to our common goals."

Connie Fukuda, membership chair and an American Express employee, submitted the grant application to American Express. She said, "I am proud that American Express established this fund to support the organization for which employees volunteer. With the fund, American Express provides as much support as possible to those of us who are involved in our communities."

The Twin Cities JACL has received two previous American Express Volunteer Action Fund grants, submitted by local JACL member David Hayashi, who is an American Express employee.



## Tom Ohno awarded 1996 Asian-Pacific Leadership Award

Presentation made May 18 at the State Capitol as part of Asian-Pacific Heritage Month celebration

The Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans awarded the 1996 Asian-Pacific Leadership Awards during a celebration held at the State Capitol on May 18 in honor of Asian-Pacific Heritage Month. The recipients were selected based on their contribution to society and humanity, being a pioneer in their field of work, and their efforts in promoting a positive image of Asian Americans.

Long-time Twin Cities JACL member and member of the Scholarship Committee **Tom Tomeo Ohno**, nominated by the Twin Cities JACL, was among the nine recipients of the 1996 award. Others honored included: Bounxou Chanthraphone; Erlinda De La Cruz Davis; Chan Chhan Keo; Kusum Saxena, M.D.; and Krishna Saxena, M.D.; Chang-Won Song, M.D.; Rampai Sukhum; Soua K. Yang; and Shen Pei.

At the State Capitol celebration and awards presentation, opening remarks were made by The Honorable Tony Leung, Hennepin County judge.

The keynote address was delivered by Stuart J. Ishimaru, counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

Ishimaru encouraged the Asian community to take an active part in the political process by voting and by taking part at every level possible. Asian voices need to be heard, Ishimaru stated, on many crucial issues such as health care, immigration quotas, affirmative action and the legalization of English as the official language. Ishimaru spoke on making a difference by striving for individual excellence not just for our families, but for our society. He counseled the audience to be informed and active in the decisions that affect our society.

### TOM TOMEO OHNO

*Recognized for his lifelong contributions in the areas of education, scholarship, youth development and multicultural relationships. (Following are excerpts from the nomination form submitted by the Twin Cities JACL.)*

As an active member of the Twin Cities chapter of the JACL, Tom has served as chapter president and youth adviser of the JAYs (Japanese American Youth group). He cofounded the JACL Scholarship Committee, established in 1964 to honor and recognize outstanding high school graduates of Japanese American descent, and was a committee member for more than 30 years. Because of his experience in the Minidoka internment camp, he has dedicated time and effort to cultivate an awareness of the Japanese American internment by volunteering to speak to students and community members and by participating in a program titled "Diary: Asian Minnesotans" that aired on KTCA-TV. Recently Tom dedicated many hours to coordinate ticket sales for a Kanojo "Asian Accents" fashion show to raise funds for the JACL Scholarship Fund.

Tom helped found the bilingual Twin Cities Independent Church in northeast Minneapolis. This church bridged a gap in the Japanese American community among the Japanese-speaking Issei and Nisei and the English-speaking Sansei. Tom was a board member and started the church's bilingual choir.

Tom has participated in the Fair Employment Practices Committee

(EEOC) and on the United Nations Organizing Committee for the city of Minneapolis, which planned activities centered around the anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

While a high school math teacher at Roosevelt High School, Tom volunteered to mentor numerous Lao students. He also coached several teams, including the girl's softball and soccer and boy's varsity baseball teams. He participated in the Edina Youth Baseball League and the Bloomington Athletic Association, where he coached youth soccer, baseball and hockey.

Tom was born in Seattle, Wash. In 1942, his family was relocated to Minidoka, Idaho, internment camp. His family moved to Minnesota in September 1944, where he graduated from West High School, Minneapolis. Tom received a teaching degree in math and physical education from Augsburg College and a master's degree in school administration from St. Thomas in 1971. He taught math for 30 years at Roosevelt High School and Cretin Durham Hall. He is married to Reiko and has two children, Pam and Rob.



Tom Ohno (center) received a 1996 Asian-Pacific Leadership Award at the State Capitol May 18. Pictured with Tom are: Lee Pao Xiong (left), executive director, Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans; and Stuart J. Ishimaru, counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

*This article contains excerpts from an article by Hershey Yoshiko Wier, which appeared in Asian Pages, June 1-14, 1996.*



# THANK-YOU

## Thank you to the Twin Cities JACL

from David Hayashi, newly elected JACL National Secretary/Treasurer

Thank you to everyone who contributed time, money and other support to my campaign quest for the JACL National Secretary/Treasurer position.

The response to Tom Hara's solicitation letter was very humbling. We collected around \$3,000 for the Hayashi Campaign Fund. The funds enabled me to travel to the Central California District meeting in Fresno and down to San Diego for the Pacific South West (PSW) district meeting the next day. This trip in June was very beneficial and allowed me to get to see many familiar faces and meet some few folks. All of the candidates were present at the PSW meeting, so it was important that I was there to state my case. The funds were also used to print campaign brochures and buttons, as well as to host a hospitality room for one evening at the national convention.

I am truly appreciative of all the support I received from throughout the Midwest and even coast to coast. As you might have heard, I won the election by an overwhelming landslide (55 to 52.5 votes ... smile). My opponent's supporters ran a great campaign and worked very hard at

the convention to promote their candidate. Tom Hara, with his vast experience at the national level, was a great organizer for my campaign and in letting me know what campaign step I should take next.

I would like to state that I will do my best for the JACL in this position. I have already begun to implement changes and have been working with national staff and others in the nonprofit arena to research and put into place policies and controls focused at strengthening our infrastructure to safeguard our assets and ensure our financial foundation continues to grow.

As always, I am available if anyone has concerns or questions. Please feel free to write or call.

David Hayashi  
4709 Oakland Ave. S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
(612) 822-3659

### Membership survey, continued from Page 2.

- Fall festival
- Diversity activities
- Obon (carnival atmosphere with food)
- New Year's
- Memorial-type thing
- Museum of events on Asian art
- Supporting Eiji Oue by attending his performances as a group

**What kind of entertainment, activity or speaker, if any, would you prefer for an upcoming Chrysanthemum (Installation) Banquet?**

- Stewart Kwoh
- An assessment of the types of bias or discrimination against Japanese Americans.
- Eiji Oue
- Other Asian cultural entertainment
- Celebrity
- Nobu KumeKawa (Kamekawa?)
- Community building
- Not so political
- Asian singer of popular music

**Are there any additional benefits you would like to receive as a member of the Twin Cities JACL?**

- Do not want to receive the Pacific Citizen
- Senior golf tournament
- Retirement income and health care/health insurance programs; 403-K

**Additional comments:**

- The Pacific Citizen is not informative enough.
- Disappointed in national organization. Kind of petty. Disruptive.
- Willing to participate in fundraising activities, but am not interested in belonging to a social club.
- We'll have minimal power if all Asian Americans cannot even unite for common goals.
- Greater opportunities to socialize with other Japanese Americans in the area – something that caters to singles
- As the children of the nisei and sansei become more assimilated through intermarriage, the JACL will become hard-pressed to perpetuate itself under its present

purpose and charter. The local chapters need to devise and implement long-term programs that will ensure the JACL remains a viable and relevant organization to the generations that follow under changing demographic conditions.

- We're worried that the National JACL seems to be "losing it" and wonder about the long-term survival of the organization.
- I really feel isolated from the Japanese community here – it would be nice to have some ways of "mixing" – to meet people.
- The so-called younger generation has taken over (and rightly so). But be receptive to what the so-called older generation (that is, the nisei) has to say based on their experiences with civil rights.
- The Rice Paper is very good! (Donation to the Rice Paper enclosed)
- Try as I may, I find it difficult to accept same-sex marriages.
- Thank you for supporting the Senior Luncheon.
- Because of health condition, I stay home most of the time.

## An Ethnic Trump

They always said they didn't want their young son to see himself as more Chinese than Irish.  
But is that possible?

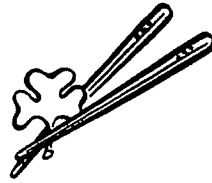
by Gish Jen

That my son, Luke, age 4, goes to Chinese-culture school seems inevitable to most people, even though his father is of Irish descent. For certain ethnicities trump others; Chinese, for example, trumps Irish. This has something to do with the relative distance of certain cultures from mainstream American culture, but it also has to do with race. For as we all know, it is not only certain ethnicities that trump others but certain colors; black trumps white, for example, always and forever; a mulatto is not a kind of white person, but a kind of black person.

And so it is, too, that my son is considered a kind of Asian person whose manifest destiny is to embrace Asian things. The Chinese language. Chinese food. Chinese New Year. No one cares whether he speaks Gaelic or wears green on St. Patrick's Day. For though Luke's skin is fair, and his features mixed, people see his straight black hair and "know" who he is.

But is this how we should define ourselves, by other people's perceptions? My husband, Dave, and I had originally hoped for Luke to grow up embracing his whole complex ethnic heritage. We had hoped to pass on to him values and habits of mind that had actually survived in both of us.

Then one day, Luke combed his black hair and said he was turning it yellow. Another day, a fellow mother reported that her son had invited all blond-haired children like himself to his birthday party. And yet another day, Luke was happily scooting around the Cambridge Common playground when a pair of older boys, apparently brothers, blocked his way. "You're Chinese!" they shouted, leaning on the hood of Luke's scooter car. "You are!" "You're Chinese!"



So brazen were these kids, that even when I, an adult, intervened, they continued to shout. Luke answered, "No, I'm not!" – to no avail; it was not clear if the boys even heard him. Then the boys' mother called to them from some distance away, outside the fence, and though her voice was no louder than Luke's, they left obediently.

Behind them opened a great, rippling quiet, like the wash of a battleship.

Luke and I immediately went over things he could say if anything like that ever happened again. I told him that he was 100 percent American, even though I knew from my own childhood in Yonkers that these words would be met only with derision. It was a sorry chore. Since then I have not asked him about the incident, hoping that he has forgotten about it, and wishing that I could, too. For I wish I could forget the sight of those kids' fingers on the hood of Luke's little car. I wish I could forget their loud attack, but also Luke's soft defense: *No, I'm not.*

Chinese-culture school. After dozens of phone calls, I was elated to discover the Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association nearby in West Newton. The school takes children at 3, has a wonderful sense of community and is housed in a center paid for, in part, by great karaoke fund-raising events. (Never mind what the Japanese meant to the Chinese in the old world. In this world, people donate at least \$200 each for a chance at the mike, and the

singing goes on all night.) There are even vendors who bring home-style Chinese food to sell after class – stuff you can't get in a restaurant. Dave and I couldn't wait for the second class, and a chance to buy more *bao* for our freezer.

But in the car on the way to the second class, Luke announced that he didn't want to go to Chinese school anymore. He said that the teacher talked mostly about ducks and bears and that he wasn't interested in ducks and bears. And I knew this was true. I knew that Luke was interested only in whales and ships. And what's more, I knew we wouldn't push him to take swimming lessons if he didn't want to, or music. Chinese school was a wonderful thing, but there was a way in which we were accepting it as somehow non-optional. Was that right? Hadn't we always said that we didn't want our son to see himself as more essentially Chinese than Irish?

Yet we didn't want him to deny his Chinese heritage, either. And if there were going to be incidents on the playground, we wanted him to at least know what Chinese meant. So when Luke said again that he didn't want to go to Chinese school, I said, "Oh, really?" Later on we could try to teach him to define himself irrespective of race. For now, though, he was going to Chinese school. I exchanged glances with Dave. And then together, in a most carefully casual manner, we squinted at the road and kept going.

*This appeared in The New York Times Magazine, July 7, 1996. Gish Jen's most recent novel is "Mona in the Promised Land." (Illustration by Bob Hambly.)*

## Some myths and truths about market volatility

by Ben A. Ezaki III  
Dean Witter Reynolds Inc., Minneapolis

Instinct is difficult to overcome. The temptation to move to the sidelines during times of market volatility can be great. However, stock market investors with a long-term perspective should keep the following in mind:

- The latest economic news or political developments, at home and abroad, can cause stocks to "react emotionally" on a daily basis.
- Over the long term, share prices will largely be determined by the sales and earnings of the underlying company.
- Investments in solid, high-quality stocks are generally worth holding onto through short-term market gyrations.

### There's never a bad time to make a good investment

History has shown that the stock market has a remarkable record of rebounding from crisis situations. In fact, neither inflation, recession, war, nor even the Great Depression of the 1930s proved to be more than a temporary setback to the upward momentum in stock prices.

Sometimes the rebounds come

within days, as in the case of the attempted Soviet coup, the 1989 Chinese student revolt, the Cuban missile crisis and President Kennedy's assassination. At other times, it may take several months, as occurred after the Korean War and Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Ultimately, however, stocks have come back.

### Market timers beware

Staying out of the market, even in tough times, can carry a heavy penalty. A study conducted by DataStream and Sanford Bernstein & Co. revealed that the 2,528 stock trading days of the 1980s produced an annualized return of 17.6 percent; however, missing just 40 best days out of that period clipped the return to only 3.9 percent.

### Listen to the experts

When you begin to worry about market volatility, remember to take the long-term view:

- "Drops are unsettling, but it is important to understand that company fundamentals do not change overnight. Well-financed growing companies will do well

over time and, rather than try to pick the perfect time to be in or out of the market, we have found that investors who have stayed the course through good and bad times have ultimately had the best returns."

— Bill Jurika, Jurika & Voyles

- "Many investors won't buy shares until the outlook is good — until they come out of the tunnel into the daylight. But if they have that attitude, they never will enjoy a bargain, for share prices usually turn up before most can see the light at the end of the tunnel."

— Sir John Templeton

If you would like more information about market volatility, please write to me in care of the Asian American Press, or call me at (612) 340-6715.

*Information and data in this report were obtained from sources considered reliable. Their accuracy or completeness is not guaranteed and the giving of the same is not to be deemed a solicitation on Dean Witter's part with respect to the purchase or sale of securities or commodities.*

# JUDO

## Judo classes offered

Judo is an international Olympic sport that was developed by Prof. Jigoro Kano in the late 1880s. It is practiced in almost every country in the world. It embodies physical training, stamina, playing spirit and mental discipline.

The Midway Judo Club is located on the second floor of a building on the corner of Wall and 5th streets in the lowertown area of St. Paul.

Classes are offered:	Tuesday	8 to 10 p.m.
	Thursday	7 to 8:30 p.m.
	Saturday	8:30 to 10 a.m.

For more information, call Cary Yamanaka, (612) 432-2055.

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. Rice Paper is published four times a year. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue!

The Twin Cities JACL Rice Paper      Chris Murakami Noonan, editor      148 Hemlock Place, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127      (612) 486-9150

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## Enjoy a Theater Mu performance at a discount!

Theater Mu is proud to open its 5th season with two Japanese-style dramas. *The Sound of a Voice*, written by David Henry Hwang, author of *M. Butterfly*, will be directed by Zaraawar Mistry. Also on the program is the world premiere of *Fall*, created by Mistry and Sophronia Liu and directed by Mistry.

*The Sound of a Voice* is a classic Asian American play written by Tony and Obie award-winning playwright Hwang. The cast features Maria Cheng, nationally recognized dancer/choreographer, and Masa Kawahara, who has acted in Theater Mu's *River of Dreams*.

In the style of a Japanese folk tale, *The Sound of a Voice* tells of a samurai warrior who encounters a lone woman living in a remote part of a forest. Is she an innocent woman slandered by the surrounding villagers, or someone who turns men into victims? He has come to find out. Neither intentions nor appearances are what they seem in this psychological drama that reflects so much of our own contemporary encounters.

*Fall* is based on a Japanese folk tale of two women who send their voices to distant lovers by pounding on the fulling block. The innocence of a colorful autumn day turns to sadness for the mistress and maid as they wash their clothes by the river. The cast includes Sandra J. Agustin,

Maria Cheng, Sun Mee Chomet and Sophronia Liu.

One of the highlights of the program will be the music, composed and performed live by Ying Zhang, a prominent musician from Mainland China who was given the honorary title First Class Composer and had his name recorded in the Register of Great Musicians in 1988. He will play the shakuhachi, the Japanese bamboo flute.

The program runs Nov. 1 through Dec. 1, 1996, Thursday through Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. (No performances Saturday, Nov. 2 or Thursday, Nov. 28.) Additional performances on Mondays, Nov. 11 and 18 at 8 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 23 at 3 p.m.

Performances take place at Studio 6A, Hennepin Center for the Arts, 528 Hennepin Ave. S., downtown Minneapolis. For reservations and more information, (612) 824-4804.



Join a group of JACLers Sunday, Nov. 3 at 3 p.m., and, if there are 10 or more of us, we can enjoy "The Sound of a Voice" and "Fall" for \$9 per person (tickets regularly \$12; \$10 seniors and students). If you are interested, call David Hayashi, (612) 671-3735, and let us know your name, how many tickets you want and your phone number. Tickets can be picked up and paid for at the door Nov. 3.