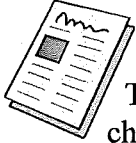




RICE PAPER



A newsletter of the Twin Cities chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League
September 2002



President's Message

This summer was a whirlwind for the Twin Cities JACL. Here's a recap of our chapter's events and activities these past months (more details and photos inside).

June: Allison Fenimore and Jamie Cork represented our chapter as delegates at the National Convention in Las Vegas. Jamie also served on the Resolutions Committee and Ben Ezaki, our MDC governor, served on the Program for Action Committee. One of our chapter members and past presidents, David Hayashi, was elected National JACL V.P. of Planning and Development (congratulations, David!). Leilani Savitt and Natalie Nakasone, two of our chapter youth reps (also serving as MDC district youth co-reps), attended the convention and had the opportunity to meet JACL youth from around the country. Jacquie Lehman helped at the convention as an intern.

The TC JACL was a co-sponsor of the annual Super Senior luncheon, a fun gathering of over-75ers and a few of us younger ones, too! Program organizer Sam Honda presented Morris Lundeen with a plaque to acknowledge his work in editing "A History of the Minnesota Nikkei Project - the First Twenty Years," which has already sold out its first printing. The book is full of precious memories that serve to educate, enlighten and inspire the Sansei and future generations.

Our first craft class was on making Japanese doll cards and bookmarks. Taught by Lil Honda and coordinated by chairperson Kathy Ohama Koch, the Sansei and Yonsei participants caught on fast to create their own original pieces from Lil's samples.

July: Gloria Kumagai and I attended a luncheon sponsored by our State Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans to thank Asian Pacific American Heritage Month banquet sponsors and to begin planning for next year's celebration. One of the

State Council's goals is to make the broader community more aware that the month of May is Asian Pacific Heritage Month throughout the United States, and is proclaimed so every year by our country's President.

The annual summer picnic was a huge success, with lots of food, games, fun, and sun. The amendments and corrections to our chapter's by-laws and Constitution were approved unanimously by the general membership (thank you to the By-Laws Committee headed by Carolyn Sandberg!).

The Twin Cities JACL was a co-sponsor of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) program titled, "Pan-Asian Women's Economic Justice Forum," hosted by the Minnesota chapter as part of their national board's semi-annual meeting. Gloria Kumagai, Leilani Savitt and I had the opportunity to meet many energetic Asian Pacific American women leaders from our state and around the country who are involved in women's advocacy and activism.

Our youth reps have been planning activities to get chapter and district youth acquainted. Jessica Lehman, Mariko and Natalie Nakasone, and Leilani Savitt organized a bowling activity in July for our chapter's youth at the "retro" Jillian's Lanes at the Mall of America. In August, they planned a trip for MDC youth to get together and enjoy themselves at Six Flags in Gurnee, Illinois, while sneaking in some education about the Japanese American incarceration during WWII. Leilani and Natalie will be attending a National JACL youth leadership conference in mid-September.

August: I attended a meeting organized by the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans to discuss higher education issues in Minnesota with Dr. Roy Saigo, President of St. Cloud State University (and one of our JACL members) and other Asian-Pacific American leaders. Among the issues addressed was

the disproportionately low number of Asian-Pacific Americans in top higher education positions as administrators and educators.

Friends and several members of the Twin Cities JACL organized a "Taiko Jam" to raise funds for the family of Phil Sudo. In addition to local community members, many of the Sudo/Ohno family from around the country attended the awesome and inspiring concert performed by Twin Cities Japanese American drum group Kogen Taiko.

We had a bazaar booth for the first time at the Japanese Lantern Lighting and Obon Festival at Como Park in St. Paul. Bookmarks made by the youth group at Carolyn Sandberg's house were sold at the booth, along with our other usual "Festival" items.

The Minnesota Twins hosted the first "Asian American Heritage Night" at the Metrodome, and I ran into several Twin Cities JACL members at the concession stands. Sansei Yonsei Kai danced during the pre-game show, and the Twins played Ichiro Suzuki and the Mariners (final score: Twins 2, Seattle 1). The best parts for my son were the treats, meeting Twins mascot "TC," and having me buy him a Twins baseball cap (he didn't much care that we missed the two homeruns while in line for snacks and the cap, but we did see the "Painting by Nakasone" Twins-O-Gram on the big screen).

I attended a forum on "Post 9/11 America, Voices from AHANA (African, Hispanic, Asian and Native American) and Muslim Communities in Minnesota," that was a followup to last year's forum following 9/11. As we commemorate the first anniversary of the September 11 tragedy and remember the victims, their families, the rescue and recovery workers and others, be assured that National JACL and your local chapter are continuing to monitor for violations of civil and human rights in the community and in government policies, so that injustices based on race, religion, ethnicity, country of origin, or otherwise will not be permitted or tolerated.

Other news: Leilani Savitt, who just started her freshman year at the U of Wisconsin at Madison, received National JACL's Gongoro Nakamura Scholarship award. She has served as a chapter youth

rep for two terms, and is continuing as MDC Youth Co-Rep. Congratulations and best wishes!

Thanks to Connie Fukuda, the Twin Cities JACL received a \$600 American Express grant to support the Camp Savage 60th Anniversary commemoration program and screening of "Uncommon Courage: Patriotism and Civil Liberties" that took place at the Minnesota History Center in June.

Upcoming Events: Allison Fenimore will represent our chapter at the Fall MDC meeting, hosted by the Hoosier chapter. We are also grateful to Allison for sharing her expertise and getting our chapter's website up and running.

Watch for the mailing of our annual report and slate in early October. Because of our special Chrysan-themum banquet program on Saturday, Nov. 9 featuring NASA astronaut Daniel Tani, the Twin Cities JACL annual meeting and installation of board members will be held on Tuesday, October 15 (dinner beginning at 6 p.m. followed by annual business meeting and installation); location to be announced.

If you are interested in helping out with planning the Chrysanthemum banquet or on the day of the banquet, please contact me or one of our chairs: Kathy Ohama Koch (banquet chair), Chris Noonan (corporate sponsors, publicity), Natalie and Mariko Nakasone ("meet-the-astronaut" youth event), Connie Tsuchiya (written program), or Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone (silent auction). Thanks to Cary Yamanaka for contacting Mr. Tani, and inviting him to share his experiences with us.

We will arrange transportation for seniors or anyone requiring assistance getting to the Chrysanthemum banquet. If you would like a ride, contact May Tanaka (952) 934-9238 by Friday, Nov. 1.

Please support our youth group by giving a pledge for the "Walk for Justice" and by attending Theater Mu's production of "Of Hope and Courage," with proceeds benefitting our youth (contact Natalie Nakasone for both). Thank you to TC JACL member and Artistic Director of Theater Mu, Rick Shiomi, for giving us this fundraising and cultural opportunity.

We hope to see you soon at an upcoming event such as the golf tourney (Sept. 15), "Walk for Justice" (Sept. 15), craft class (Sept. 28), Theater Mu youth fundraiser (Sept. 29), Community Forum on Charitable Giving (Oct. 12), and annual meeting-installation (Oct. 15), and children's holiday party (Dec 8). Definitely plan to attend the Chrysanthemum banquet on Nov. 9, and help us welcome NASA astronaut Daniel Tani!

Correspondence from our members:

Dear Cheryl [and Board],



A belated thank you for the wonderful senior lunch.... It's wonderful what JACL does for us - good to know we aren't forgotten.

Thanks to all.

Sincerely, Mary Yoshida

Dear Twin Cities JACL:

[We] had a great time at the picnic. Thank you for planning such a fun event. We know that a lot of work went into planning and implementation to ensure everyone was well fed (we were!). We also enjoyed the games - [my daughter] is still playing with her pinwheel.

We also appreciated the opportunity to see old friends and meet new people. Thanks again!

[From one of our members]

2002 Twin Cities JACL Board of Directors

Cheryl Hirata-Dulas (President)	(952) 925-2429
Jamie Cork (Vice President)	(651) 450-9459
Ben A. Ezaki III (MDC Governor)	(952) 472-1985
Allison Fenimore (Secretary/Historian)	(651) 636-3044
Gloria Kumagai (Membership Chair)	(763) 377-5602
Jessica Lehman (Youth Rep)	(651) 450-9459
Joyce Miyamoto (postcards/craft classes)	(651) 636-3222
John Nakasone	(651) 698-3647
Natalie Nakasone (Youth Rep)	(651) 698-3657
Mariko Nakasone (Youth Rep)	(651) 698-3647
Carolyn Masami (Chatman) Sandberg	(763) 417-0887
Leilani Savitt (Youth Rep)	(763) 377-5602
Cary Yamanaka	(952) 432-2055
Lisa Hintermeister (Treasurer Non-Board)	(612) 869-5070
Peggy Yamanaka (CPA)	(952) 432-2055

Newsletter Staff:

Chris Noonan - noonant@mediaone.net
Connie Tsuchiya - tsuch002@umn.edu

Calendar of Events:

Sunday, Sep 15, first tee time at noon: Golf tournament, Francis A. Gross Golf Course, Minneapolis

Sunday, Sep 15, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.: 7th annual "Headwaters Fund "Walk for Justice," Boom Island, Minneapolis (fundraiser for the Headwaters Fund and Twin Cities JACL youth). For more info or to make a pledge, contact Natalie Nakasone at 651/698-3647 or nellie4217@aol.com.

Tuesday, Sep 17, 6 p.m.: Board meeting

Sat., Sept 28, 9-11 a.m. - Craft class on making Asian greeting cards, Carolyn Sandberg's home, 2745 Pilgrim Lane North, Plymouth, MN; RSVP Kathy Koch to register (952) 884-1560.

Sunday, Sep 29, 2 p.m.: Theater Mu production of "Of Hope and Courage," (youth fundraiser), Intermedia Arts, 2822 Lyndale Ave South, Minneapolis; contact Natalie Nakasone by Sept. 21 at 651/698-3647 or nellie4217@aol.com to reserve tickets.

Sat., Oct 12, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (note change of time and location) - Community Forum on Charitable Giving presented by Steve Kumagai, Kikugawa Restaurant, 43 Main Street S.E., Minneapolis; RSVP by Oct. 8 to Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, 952/925-2429 or dulas001@msn.com. Transportation can be arranged.

Tues., Oct 15, 6 p.m. - Annual meeting and installation program (location TBA).

Saturday, Nov 9, 1-2 p.m. (tentative) - "Meet the Astronaut" for JACL youth at Holiday Inn West; contact Natalie or Mariko Nakasone at 651/698-3647.

Sat., Nov 9, 5:30 - 9 p.m. - Chrysanthemum banquet and silent auction. Holiday Inn West, 9970 Wayzata Blvd, St. Louis Park; keynote speaker, NASA astronaut Daniel Tani; contact Kathy Ohama Koch at 952/884-1560.

Tues., Nov 19, 6 p.m. - Board meeting

Sun. Dec 8, 1:30-4:30 p.m. - Annual Children's Holiday Party, Mounds Park Academy (gallery area), 2051 E. Larpenteur Ave, Maplewood; contact Les and Karen Suzukamo at 651/653-0377 to volunteer or for more info.



ASTRONAUT DANIEL TANI is Keynote Speaker at TC JACL Chrysanthemum Banquet Nov. 9

Join us for a very special 56th Annual Chrysanthemum Banquet on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2002. NASA Astronaut Daniel Tani presents a program on the challenges of becoming an astronaut, insights about his space walk and visit to the International Space Station, and the impact and importance of our country's space program. The event also includes a silent auction to benefit event/program expenses of the TC JACL.

Transportation to the event will be available for those who request it. If you would like a ride, contact May Tanaka (952) 934-9238 by Friday, Nov. 1.

Saturday, Nov. 9 at Holiday Inn West, St. Louis Park

- 5:30 p.m. Social hour, silent auction bidding, opportunity to meet Mr. Tani
- 6:30 p.m. Presentation of colors by Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota followed by dinner
- 7:45 p.m. Daniel Tani presentation
- 8:45 p.m. Closing

Watch your mail in October for more details and reservation information.

CHILDREN CAN "MEET THE ASTRONAUT"

During the afternoon on Nov. 9, Mr. Tani will meet with children and young people, answer questions and sign autographs. This "Meet the Astronaut" program is tentatively scheduled for 1-2 p.m., at Holiday Inn West in St. Louis Park. For more information and to make reservations for this free event, contact Mariko Nakasone @ mavatr@aol.com or 651-698-3647.



ABOUT DANIEL TANI

Tani, 40, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was selected as an astronaut in April 1996 after working for 10 years for space-related companies, primarily with Orbital Sciences Corp. There, assignments included a period as launch operations manager of the Pegasus program.

Aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour in December 2001, the 12th shuttle flight to visit the International Space Station, Tani served as mission specialist 2 and performed the flight's four-hour space walk with Linda Godwin. During the 11-day mission, he served as Endeavour's flight engineer during ascent and entry, and had primary responsibility in post-insertion activities, converting the shuttle from a launch vehicle to an orbiting spacecraft. He provided information to the commander and pilot during rendezvous with the station and after undocking, and was responsible for shuttle laptop and payload support computers. He also had primary responsibility for deploying the Starshine 2 satellite. The mission was accomplished in 185 Earth orbits, traveling 4.8 million miles in nearly 284 hours.

His previous NASA experience includes technical duties in the Astronaut Office Computer Support Branch and the EVA (Extravehicular Activity) Branch. He served as Crew Support Astronaut for Expedition-2.

Tani is currently assigned as the Expedition-9 backup flight engineer.



NAK NAK NEWZ

By John Nakasone



HELP!! WE NEED YOU TO DONATE SOMETHING TO THE SILENT AUCTION THAT WILL BE HAPPENING ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9TH. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE BIG - USE YOUR IMAGINATION - BE CREATIVE.

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT?
TICKETS TO A PLAY
TICKETS TO A MOVIE
TWINS TICKETS
TIMBERWOLVES TICKETS
WILD TICKETS
GOPHER TICKETS
ORIGAMI LESSONS
A SUSHI LESSON
HOST A DINNER PARTY
HOST A BOAT RIDE ON LAKE MINNETONKA
RESTAURANT TICKETS
YOUR CABIN FOR A WEEKEND
A NICE BOTTLE OF WINE
A NICE PRINT

PLEASE HURRY UP AND CALL ME WITH YOUR IDEA - I NEED TO GET SOME GOOD STUFF QUICK... WE'VE GOT BIG TABLES WITH NOTHING TO PUT ON THEM AND I'M GETTING WORRIED... CALL JOHN NAKASONE AT 612-363-5801. PLEASE HELP!!!

P.S. - SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS BEAT BAKE SALES OR WORKING AT THE VIKINGS GAMES IN THE CONCESSION BOOTHS SO CALL ME ASAP!!!

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. TODD TSUCHIYA WHO WAS VOTED ONE OF THE TWIN CITIES TOP DENTISTS IN THE JULY 2002 ISSUE OF MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL MAGAZINE. WHAT MAKES THIS HONOR EVEN MORE NOTE-WORTHY IS THAT HE WAS SELECTED BY HIS PEERS FOR THIS AWARD.

IT WAS FUN TO SEE THE EXCELLENT TURNOUT FOR THE PHIL SUDO MEMORIAL AT HAMLINE ON AUGUST 11TH. I KNOW THE JACL COMMUNITY WAS THERE IN FULL FORCE. KOGEN TAIKO PUT ON A GREAT SHOW. THEY ARE A TALENTED BUNCH THAT IS EXCITING TO WATCH. I KNOW

THAT THE TWINS WANTED THEM TO PLAY ON ASIAN HERITAGE NIGHT IN THE DOME, BUT THEY COULDN'T FIT IT INTO THEIR SCHEDULE. TOO BAD, I'D HAVE LIKED TO HIRE THE VIKINGS OLD ONFIELD SOUND SYSTEM GUY TO CRANK THOSE DRUMS UP A FEW DECIBELS AND WATCH KOGEN TAIKO ROCK 30,000 FANS OUT OF THEIR SEATS.

SANSEI YONSEI KAI WAS ONE OF TWO WARM-UP ACTS FOR THE MINNESOTA TWINS ASIAN HERITAGE NIGHT AT THE DOME. WHAT A THRILL THEY MUST HAVE HAD. THE WORLD HAS REALLY TURNED HASN'T IT? CAN YOU IMAGINE THERE BEING AN "ASIAN AMERICAN" ANYTHING IN MINNESOTA 15 YEARS AGO?

IF YOU HAVEN'T READ ANY OF PHIL SUDO'S "ZEN AND..." SERIES GO OUT AND BUY THEM. I REALLY WISH THAT I WOULD HAVE HAD THE CHANCE TO MEET THE MAN. HE WAS A GIFTED WRITER. I DON'T HAVE THE GUTS TO READ "PHIL'S CANCER JOURNAL" THAT DESCRIBES HIS BATTLE WITH CANCER BUT YOU CAN GET THERE BY VISITING HIS WEBSITE AT WWW.ZENGUITAR.COM. MARIKO SAYS IT IS VERY MOVING.

CHECK OUT VICTOR OHNO'S NEW KIOSK AT THE MALL OF AMERICA. HE SELLS A REALLY COOL LINE OF APPAREL THAT IS CALLED "FUDOSHIN" (INDOMITABLE SPIRIT). IT IS VERY ATHLETIC LOOKING AND HAS BEEN POPULAR WITH THE MARTIAL ARTS CROWD. I LOVE MY SHIRT. NOW I NEED WARMUPS... YOU CAN FIND IT BY BLOOMINGDALES. VICTOR'S CLOTHING CONCEPT SO CAPTURED THE IMAGINATION OF THE MALL THAT THEY AWARDED HIM SIX MONTHS FREE RENT. WISH SOMEBODY WOULD GIVE ME SOME FREE RENT...

DID YOU KNOW THAT CARA HARUMI SANDBERG APPEARED WITH THE EDITOR OF THE BOOK OUR SISTER'S VOICES AT THE "BIRCHBARK BOOKSTORE" IN SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS ON JULY 13TH, 2002. YOU

NAK NAK NEWZ CONT...

KNOW, AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT SOMETIMES GET CRITICIZED FOR NOT BEING VERY VOCAL, BUT WE DO SEEM TO HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF GOOD WRITERS. WAY TO GO CARA!

OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE SUDO, OHNO AND TSUCHIYA FAMILY WHO LOST PHIL SUDO, JOE OHNO AND BILL TSUCHIYA.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CARY YAMANAKA WHO RECENTLY WAS CERTIFIED AS AN INTERNATIONAL JUDO REFEREE. THIS MEANS HE WILL NOW BE SOUGHT OUT TO REFEREE AT JUDO COMPETITIONS IN CANADA, MEXICO AND LATIN AMERICA.

SPEAKING OF JUDO, CONGRATULATIONS TO TRAVIS YAMANAKA WHO PLACED FOURTH IN THE RECENT SENIOR NATIONAL LADDER COMPETITION. HE LOST TO THE EVENTUAL SECOND PLACE WINNER. TRAVIS IS REALLY IMPROVING AND IS COMPETING WITH OLYMPIC CALIBER PLAYERS. I BET HE WILL BE INVITED TO TRAIN AT THE OLYMPIC TRAINING FACILITY SOON. BUT I DON'T REALLY LIKE WHEN HE COMES BACK TO VISIT AT MIDWAY JUDO BECAUSE HE KICKS THE @\$% OUT OF US.

WAY TO GO NICHOLAS AND ALEX HONDA-FUTURE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL PLAYERS. I HEARD THAT THEY WON THE LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP! ACCORDING TO GRANDPA, THEY WERE DOWN BY SIX RUNS AND TIED IT UP IN THE LAST INNING. THEN IN EXTRA INNINGS, THEY WERE DOWN BY A RUN, RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD. NICHOLAS HONDA STEPPED UP TO THE PLATE, AND ON A FULL COUNT, HE HIT A PERFECT TEXAS LEAGUER TO WIN THE GAME AND THE CHAMPIONSHIP!!! GRANDPA SAYS "IT WAS BETTER THAN TWINS BASEBALL."

CONGRATULATIONS SAM AND LIL HONDA WHO CELEBRATED THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY IN JUNE. MORE THAN 50 FAMILY MEMBERS HELPED THEM CELEBRATE AT THE CALIFORNIA HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS. LIL GOT LUCKY AND WON THE 7-7-7 JACKPOT. GUESS SHE DESERVES SOMETHING AFTER PUTTING UP WITH SAM FOR 50 YEARS. DOESN'T SEEM LIKE ENOUGH TO ME...

GIFTED DANCER AND SCHOLAR LEILANI SAVITT HAS JUST BEEN HONORED BY NATIONAL JACL WITH THE "GONGORO NAKAMURA SCHOLARSHIP". SHE'LL ALSO BE GOING TO THE JACL YOUTH MEETING IN LOS ANGELES WITH NATALIE NAKASONE IN SEPTEMBER. CONGRATS LEILANI WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!!

PAINTING BY NAKASONE WAS ONE OF 25 BUSINESSES THAT WERE AWARDED "THE BUSINESS JOURNAL'S" TOP MINORITY BUSINESS AWARD.

IN AUGUST, LIL AND FRANK TANAKA CELEBRATED THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. THEIR CHILDREN TREATED FAMILY AND CLOSE FRIENDS TO A DINNER PARTY AT THE LEXINGTON RESTAURANT IN ST. PAUL.

GAIL WONG AND JEAN TAKESHITA JUST COMPLETED THEIR 3-MONTH TRAINING PROGRAM AT THE MPLS. INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND WILL NOW GUIDE TOURS FOR THE INSTITUTE'S "COLLECTION IN FOCUS" PROGRAM ON THE ARTS OF JAPAN AND KOREA BEGINNING THIS SUMMER. THEY WERE INCLUDED IN A GROUP PHOTO IN THE MIA "ARTS" MAGAZINE. SHOULD BE A GOOD SHOW-CHECK IT OUT.

GIFTED ACHIEVER, JACL BOARD MEMBER, JACL WEBSITE GRANDMASTER, AND MULTI-TASK SPECIALIST ALLISON FENIMORE JUST RECEIVED TWO SCHOLARSHIPS TO HELP WITH HER UPCOMING QUEST FOR A DOCTORATE IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND EDUCATION. GO GET 'EM ALLISON!!!

THANK CARY YAMANAKA FOR HOOKING US UP WITH NASA ASTRONAUT DANIEL TANI AND PERSUADING HIM TO SPEAK AT OUR UPCOMING CHRYSANTHEMUM BANQUET. IT TOOK A LOT OF E-MAILS, PHONE CALLS, BEHIND THE SCENES NEGOTIATING AND ARM TWISTING BUT HE GOT THE JOB DONE WITH CHERYL'S HELP. THIS SHOULD BE A MEMORABLE NIGHT...

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST-A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR JACL PRESIDENT CHERYL DULAS. ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE JACL COMMUNITY I WANT TO THANK HER FOR THE GREAT JOB SHE HAS DONE. I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF SERVING AS A JACL BOARD MEMBER UNDER AS MANY PRESIDENTS (10-15?) I AM GUESSING AS ANYONE IN OUR COMMUNITY, SO I FEEL THAT I AM QUALIFIED TO SAY THIS. WITHOUT ANY DISRESPECT INTENDED FOR ANY OF OUR PAST PRESIDENTS, I WANT EVERYONE TO RECOGNIZE THAT CHERYL DULAS IS A GREAT PRESIDENT! NOBODY HAS BEEN TO MORE EVENTS, WRITTEN MORE LETTERS, CALLED AS MANY PEOPLE, TAKEN MORE PICTURES, SAID AS MANY THANK-YOU'S, SENT MORE E-MAIL (SIGH), AND JUST PITCHED IN WHEN WE NEEDED HELP JUST DOING STUFF, THAN HER. SHE IS A TIRELESS LEADER WHO HAS ALWAYS PUT HER NEEDS BEHIND OURS WHEN IT CAME TO REPRESENTING JACL (EVEN DURING MATERNITY), AND YOU AND I CAN'T EVER THANK HER ENOUGH. THANK YOU CHERYL FROM ALL OF US. (you are going to run again aren't you?-we need you.) JN.

2003 High School Scholarships

Scholarship applications for 2003 high school graduates will be available in January 2003. Please contact Pam Ohno Dagoberg (763-557-2946, dagob001@tc.umn.edu) if you are interested in obtaining a scholarship application or would like to recommend someone for a scholarship.

Applications will be sent to the following students:

Leanne Aoki, Eden Prairie High School

Anne Arakawa, Burnsville High School

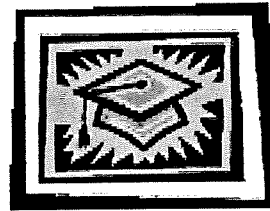
Steven Bastin, Lakeville High School

Alyssa Lubet, St. Paul Central High School

Danielle Miyazaki, Buffalo High School

Ashley Takekawa, Eden Prairie High School

Jarrood Yamanaka, Apple Valley High School



In addition to completing the application form and submitting a transcript, students must write a short essay entitled "The Value of Further Education." Applications are evaluated based on scholastic achievement, extra curricular activities, community service and the essay. Scholarship recipients are required to be current JACL members.

Completed applications must be mailed by March 31, 2003.



ASIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS - Saturday, Sept. 28, 9 am-11 am

Create 3 handmade cards, gift bag and gift tote using Asian motif stamps. Class will include embossing techniques, use of chiyogami paper, ribbon and charms.

JACL Members \$5.00; non-members \$10.00. Adults only please.

Class will be held at the home of Carolyn Sandberg (2745 Pilgrim Lane N, Plymouth. 2 blocks west of Hwy. 169, 2 blocks north of Medicine Lake Road.)

Call Kathy Koch to register (952) 884-1560.



SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE SPECIAL PROGRAMS!

Sunday, September 29, 2 p.m. - Twin Cities JACL fundraiser event!

"OF HOPE AND COURAGE" is Theater Mu's presentation of two one-act plays: "Demons of Noto Hanto," a famous Japanese folk tale about the villagers of a poor fishing village who scared off marauders by putting on demon masks and beating their drums, and "Distant Song," a Korean folktale about a young man who sets off on a journey to discover his fortune.

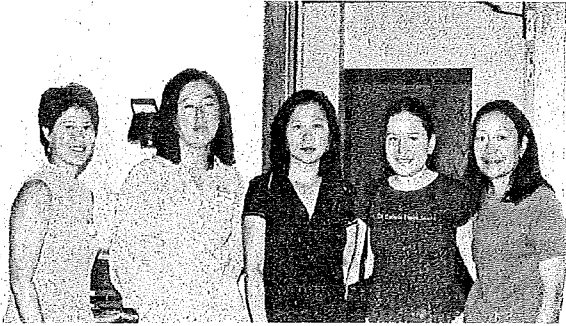
Saturday, October 5 - Twin Cities JACL member informational session!

Steven Kumagai will present a Community Forum on Charitable Giving. More details attached.



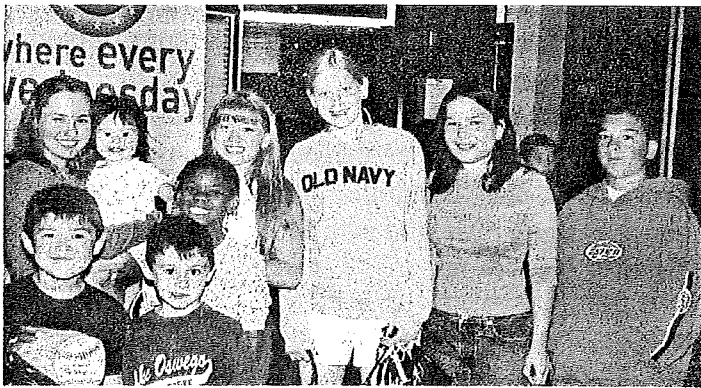
Japanese Lantern Lighting and Obon Festival

JACL sponsored a booth at the Obon Festival at Como Park on August 18. It was a beautiful and successful day, with a record sale (roughly \$500). The booth included items made by the youth group and proceeds from those sales went back to the youth group. Thanks to the following volunteers: Allison Fenimore, John Nakasone, Mariko Nakasone, Carolyn, Chris and Cara Sandberg, Jamie Cork, Jacquie Lehman, Scott Sepple, Joyce Miyamoto, Jim Faber, Mari and Bill Kempton, Gloria Kumagai and Leilani Savitt.



National Asian-Pacific American Women's forum meeting, July 20, 2002 at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Pictured l to r: Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, Jin Sook Lee (NAPAWF), Toko Serita (NAPAWF National Co-chair), Leilani Savitt, Gloria Kumagai.



JACL Youth Bowling at the Mall of America, Bloomington

Taiko Jam for Phil Sudo

The color of the sky at sunset,
the sound of the rolling waves,
the feel of the sand in my hands.
Phil Sudo

Thanks to the gracious and self-less efforts of an entire community, the Taiko Jam for Phil Sudo, held in early August, was both a spiritual and financial

success. The money raised will go to the children of Phil Sudo, who passed away of stomach cancer at the age of 42. Phil was a musician and author of a series of Zen influenced books.

Kogen performed it's first full-length concert and ended the afternoon with *Growing Beyond*, a mixed media tribute to family members and friends interned during WWII. Benjamin Kimitch added dance interludes to the program and also performed two dance solos after the intermission. The first was *Shakuni Kobu*, a dance he choreographed in memory of his mom, Phyllis Kimitch. Next, he was joined by Melissa Yu of Chinese American Dance Theater for *Chasing the Fish*, a traditional dance of the Dai minority people of China.

In addition to the show, attendees purchased taiko t-shirts, Zen Guitar dogo books and shirts, Japanese crafts and Fudoshin apparel. They were also able to bid in silent auction on executive suite passes to the PGA tournament held the following weekend.

The concert would not have been possible without the dedication of many volunteers and donations. Thank you all.



Twin Cities JACL welcomes new members:

Emi Saiki, Orono
Rob, Debbie, Kristin and Kyle
Takamoto, Woodbury

Jodie Tanaka, Minneapolis



2002 SUMMER PICNIC

The Twin Cities JACL hosted the annual summer picnic at Rosland Park in Edina on a sunny and hot July afternoon. Over 100 attended the picnic and enjoyed the wonderful selection of potluck dishes, refreshing sno-cones, fun games, and socializing.

Thanks to everyone who attended, and to those who helped make the picnic a huge success:

- Joyce Miyamoto for making the picnic postcard, Chris Noonan for doing the mailing, and Connie Tsuchiya for putting announcements in the Rice Paper,
- Allison Fenimore for taking RSVPs,
- John and Jacqueline Nakasone for the fabulous barbecued pork roast, buns, and condiments, and to Lloyd's for donating bottles of barbeque sauce,
- Jan Monson for making the picnic signs so the attendees could find the parking area and picnic pavilion,
- Cary, Bradley, Travis, and Jared Yamanaka for arriving early to wash down the tables and pavilion area; Carolyn and Chris Sandberg, Liza Mack, Mickey and Lucy Kiriara, Jan Monson, Jackson Huus, Connie Fukuda, Sachi Williamson and Sam Shimada for also helping with moving and covering tables, organizing the picnic area, and setting up,
- Carolyn Sandberg for purchasing bottled water and pop, and Connie Fukuda for bringing ice tea,



Picnic Goers: Kathy Koch, Tayeko Moriguchi, Judy Moriguchi, May Tanaka and Liz Hara.



Gloria Kumagai calls Bingo.

Jackson Huus and Jan Monson



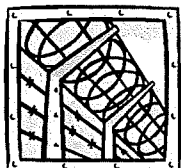
- Carolyn and Chris Sandberg, Connie Fukuda, Chris Noonan, Cary Yamanaka, Mickey and Lucy Kiriara, and Jan Monson for bringing ice and ice chests,
- Gloria Kumagai for bringing the paper goods, cookbooks and videotapes to sell, and for being the bingo caller,
- Jamie Cork for bringing the nametags,
- Sam Honda for providing the shave-ice maker and bingo game and to Mark Honda for bringing them to the picnic,
- Leilani Savitt for making youth announcements, for coordinating the youth directory, and for organizing the youth games and prizes with Jessica and Jacquie Lehman and Liz Hara,
- Carolyn Sandberg for facilitating the by-laws and Constitution amendment voting process,
- Mariko Nakasone for making the Twin Cities JACL event board,
- John Nakasone for bringing the rope for the highly competitive tug-of-war matches (I think this year's score was tied at adults 1 and kids 1, with lots of blistered hands on both sides!),
- those who stayed to help with clean-up,
- Lisa Hintermeister for collecting receipts and tabulating expenses,
- and all of the unnamed "silent" volunteers who graciously donated items and helped out!

Thanks also to Connie Fukuda and Jan Monson for volunteering to serve as next year's picnic co-chairs!

Submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

MDC JACL YOUTH RETREAT

On Sunday, August 4th ten youth arrived at the Sleep Inn Hotel in Lake Bluff for the summer MDC JACL youth retreat. The brave souls included Eric Hattori (Chicago), Mike Fujihira (Milwaukee), Kurt Van Engel (Milwaukee), Amy Suyama (Milwaukee), Jennie Suzuki (Hoosier), Mariko Nakasone (Twin Cities), Natalie Nakasone (Twin Cities), Jessica Lehman (Twin Cities), Jacquie Lehman (Twin Cities), and Leilani Savitt (Twin Cities).



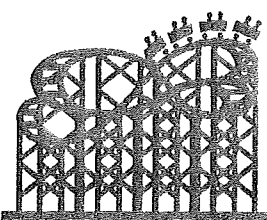
Upon arrival, the youth went out to lunch at Subway. After eating Subway, the youth went to the meeting room and participated in ice breakers. Next, Al Hida gave a historical perspective of the events that led up to the Japanese American Internment Camps. He gave each of the youth a bundle of information containing his projector presentation, book lists, and a list of websites to expand our knowledge. Overall, Al's presentation provided information that most of the youth had not heard before in a very informal and question engaging environment.

After Mr. Hida's presentation, the youth brainstormed ideas to increase the number of active youth at the chapter level. One suggestion was to have combined Milwaukee and Chicago youth events because of the lack of the youth in the individual chapters and the proximity of the two cities. The youth also discussed different ways to fundraise for the district because money is always a concern. The group decided that mass e-mails are the best way to stay in contact with one another.

After the intensive discussion that lasted about two hours, the youth got ready to go out for pizza and bowling. The youth ate at a nearby Pizza place. The pizza was very unique and delicious. After pizza, the youth went bowling by the Gurnee Mills Mall. The youth split up into two different teams and were very competitive the entire two games each played.



After bowling, the youth came back to the hotel and had a chance to talk to one another in an informal setting. They did some crazy and wacky things but all in good fun.



The next morning the youth went to Six Flags or/and the outlet malls. The roller coasters at six flags were extremely fast and thrilling. Around dinnertime the youth all joined up and ate at Culver's Custard Shop. After Culver's, the youth either went back to either Six Flags or the outlet mall. And, after that some of the youth went to Steak n' Shake for tasty desserts.

On the last morning of the retreat the youth went to the outlet mall for last minute shopping. Then around noon the group ate their last meal at Steak n' Shake before embarking on their journey home.

Overall, the weekend was a major success. Due to the small number of participants, the youth took the opportunity to learn about one another on a very close and personal level. Moverover, the youth left the retreat looking forward to the next MDC JACL youth event.

NATIONAL JACL BIENNIUM CONVENTION - Las Vegas, Nevada



Another two years has quickly gone by and another national convention is over. The national convention was held at the Riviera Hotel and Conference Center in a very hot Las Vegas, Nevada, June 26 to June 30, 2002. Several members from the Twin Cities Chapter attended the convention, Jamie Ishio Cork and Allison Fenimore attended as the chapter's delegates, Ben Ezaki attended as the Midwest District Governor, Leilani Savitt and Natalie Nakasone attended as Midwest District Youth Reps and Jacqueline Ishio-Lehman attended as an intern.

The convention was busy but fun. The event kicked off with a welcome reception including a dinner and entertainment, which of course had to include an Elvis impersonator. There were two days of business meetings with one day of various workshops in between. The grand finale of the event was the silent auction and Sayonara Banquet, with keynote speaker, Morris Dees, Director of the Southern Poverty Law Center.

During the business meetings each of the national officers gave a report of the state of affairs regarding their offices. This was followed by the proposal of resolutions, constitution and bylaw amendments and budget discussions. The National Council approved the resolutions to ask the Boy Scouts of America to reconsider their stance on gay troop leaders, the resolution relating to religious freedom, and the resolution to support the Eagledale Ferry Landing National Monument and the Council did not reject any resolution. After lengthy discussions the National Council ratified the constitution and bylaws amendments to dissolve the Mountain Plains District Council and add a National Youth/Student Chairperson. Therefore the youth would not lose a vote due to the dissolution of MPDC. It appears that MPDC will become part of MDC making MDC the largest district geographically. Also ratified were amendments to include annual reports to be distributed to the district governors and the establishment of standing committees by the National Council and did not ratify the constitution and bylaws amendments to restructure the National Board nor to add a set amount of money that would go to the youth out of membership dues. The budget for the next biennium was passed and included a large increase to the youth budget.

The election of national officers was also held during the convention. Ron Katsuyama from Dayton, Ohio in our district was running for Vice President of Membership so it was exciting to assist him in his election campaign. Unfortunately, after a gallant attempt Ron was not elected to national office. The following people are the new JACL National Officers: Floyd Mori, President, Art Koga, Secretary/Treasurer, Ryan Chin, VP of Membership, David Kawamoto, VP of General Operations, Ken Innouye, VP of Public Affairs, David Hiyashi, VP of Planning and Development, Joshua Spry, National Youth Representative, Maya Yamazaki, National Youth Chairperson.

Several of the workshops focused on assisting the Nisei and many of the concerns facing them as they age. There was also a leadership workshop, which was directed primarily at the youth in the first session and the delegates in the second session. And our own Bill Yoshino presented a workshop on hate crime prevention in communities. It was a day filled with valuable information to assist the JA community.

The youth luncheon was a great success with RJ Reynolds' grandson as the keynote speaker. He did a very charismatic presentation about the negatives of smoking. The dinner to honor the veterans was a success even though Norman Mineta, the keynote speaker, did not attend. Floyd Mori stepped up and filled the evening with his comments.

And of course the city of lights was filled with entertainment for everyone. The continuous glitter was overwhelming. Just a look at each of the hotels and casinos is an amazing tour. But let's not forget the magnet of the casinos for those old enough to gamble (we all needed to come home and work to cover). In the end a lot of business was done, a lot of fun was had and every one made it home a little tired but safe and sound. So on to the next convention in Waikiki, Hawaii in 2004.

Respectfully submitted - Jamie Ishio Cork and Allison Fenimore



Children's Holiday Party moves to Maplewood

The annual Children's Holiday Party will be moving east from Edina to Maplewood this year. Please join us at Mounds Park Academy on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm for food, games, entertainment, and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus. Mounds Park Academy is located at 2051 E. Larpenetour, about a half-mile east of White Bear Avenue. We have reserved the school's Gallery space. Directions to come.

Kogen Taiko

Performance Calendar



October 17, 2002

Patrick's Cabaret

National YMCA's Week Without Violence

see <http://www.kogentaiko.org> for details as they become available

November 16, 2002

The Galaxy Library

14955 Galaxy Ave

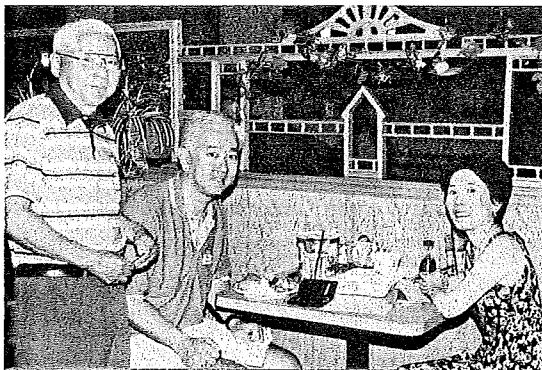
Apple Valley, MN

952-891-7045

1:00 free performance

SUPER SENIOR LUNCHEON

The Super Senior Luncheon was held at New Century Buffet in Bloomington on June 30th. Approximately 100 people enjoyed a Chinese buffet and the opportunity to meet friends and socialize. Seniors 75 and over received a free meal and chance to win a cash prize in the raffle. The event was co-sponsored by Twin Cities JACL, the Nikkei Project and the Twin Cities Buddhist Association.



Event organizers Sam Honda, Todd Tsuchiya and Lynn Oyanagi.



Bill Doi, Ruth Tanbara and Yoshi Tani.



Seated l to r: Dean Yanari, Toyo Lang, Kimi Yanari, Ben Wong, Jackie Wong and Gail Wong

OPINION

A Minnesotan discovers her Japanese roots in Tokyo

This summer my family vacationed for two weeks in Japan, visiting my sister who has lived in Tokyo for the past 15 years.

Being a tourist in Japan is like discovering a new world — a mini-land, where an entire small-scale urban infrastructure is built with reverence to nature and ethnic culture. I couldn't help but draw constant comparisons between life there and life in Minnesota. And because I spent the entire time observing my surroundings with great wonder, I thought I'd share things about Japan as they compare to those here at home.

Tokyo nice:

In Japanese, the pronunciation of the word Connie (my name) sounds just like the Japanese word for crab. My son's name, Kyle, is pronounced Kaeru, the Japanese word for frog. Yet, not one Japanese person so much as smirks as I make my way through an entire country literally saying, "Nice to meet you. My name is Crab-woman and this is my son, Frog." People simply bow and try their best to pronounce our names as uncrab-like and unfrog-sounding as possible.

The collective warmth of the

bath; and play the latest video games at "game centers" placed conveniently on busy street corners. And if you really want to feel America, Tokyo Disneyland is a virtual clone of the original theme park.

Food on a stick:

While there's nothing that quite compares to a State Fair pronto pup, the Japanese have their own "stick" cuisine of sorts, called kushiyaki. Seems every neighborhood has a kushiyaki vendor selling various types of marinated meat (chicken, meatballs, beef, even baloney) on skewers, which are grilled to order and purchased to go. The aroma of the grill makes it difficult to walk by one of these quaint storefronts without grabbing a snack.

Tokyodome/Metrodome:

The Yomiuri Giants, Tokyo's pro baseball team, play at the Tokyodome in an area they refer to as Dome City. Believe it or not, they purposely mimicked the structure of our Metrodome: same dome, same revolving doors, same blue seats and a blimp.

The similarities end here however. Each game is like a college bowl championship, complete with bands, cheering sections and a dance line. Concession stands are filled with bento

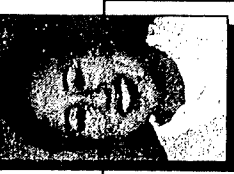
boxes — compact boxes with rice, mountain veggies, fish and other delicacies, chopsticks and a wet wipe. The vendors are all cute young women wearing neon uniforms and hats, who sell draft beer from taps attached to their backpacks. Sorry, none of them come close to resembling "Wally the Beer Man." And get this: every regular season home game is sold out, regardless of how well the team is performing.

Grocery shopping:

In Japan, the food is exotic, fresher and sweeter. Fresher I surmise, because you are never too far from the farm where the fruit is grown or the ocean where the seafood is harvested.

A Japanese peach is white and has the flavor of juicy peachy candy; I've never tasted anything quite like it. A cantaloupe is usually packaged individually, in a wooden box, and costs about \$10. Before you start to stagger, a two pound bucket of shrimp already cooked and seasoned, costs only about \$3.

There is a certain aesthetic sensibility and pampering that goes into the way all food is grown, prepared and packaged... as if care and artistry is behind every peapod. They have neither the space nor the inclination for



Connie Tsuchiya
Guest Columnist

warehouse-type food shopping.
Metropolitan life:

People say Tokyo is overly westernized with its skyscrapers and financial district. I disagree. True it is ultra-modern, but Tokyo is a city, which in its design, scope and sheer attitude, reflects the uniqueness of Japanese culture, seamlessly blending nature into an urban setting.

From my sister's apartment, I can walk down a winding street no larger than an alley and turn the corner to dine at any number of restaurants with sliding wooden doors and tatami mats. Arranged flowers, groceries, banks, friendly neighbors and neon lights that rival Las Vegas are steps away. I guarantee you will not feel like you are in a western city if you go to Tokyo.

I am glad to be back to my relatively spacious home, minivan and pizza. At the same time, I am missing my sister and Japan. My son is now aware that a unique society exists and it is a part of him. I've come to realize how my sister could fall in love with Japan, not in spite of the differences but because of them.

Connie Tsuchiya is an Eden Prairie resident whose column appears regularly in the Sun-Current.

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