

# RICE PAPER



A newsletter of the Twin Cities chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League  
February 2003



**President's Message:** Akemashite omedetō gozaimasu! On behalf of the board, we extend our best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Here's a brief summary of our activities since the last Rice Paper. Photos and detailed articles are elsewhere in this issue.

**September** - The youth group participated in the annual Headwaters Fund "Walk for Justice," a successful fundraiser for youth programs thanks to Natalie Nakasone, her friends, and Sam Shimada. Natalie and the youth group also organized a fundraiser outing to Theater Mu's production of "Of Hope and Courage." Jay Yamashiro coordinated another fun golf tournament again this year. Kathy Ohama Koch organized a craft class on making Asian motif greeting cards at Carolyn Masami Sandberg's home. Macalester College held a program to co-dedicate the Lealtad-Suzuki Multicultural Center in Esther Torii Suzuki's honor.

**October** - The chapter was a co-sponsor of a reception for California Congressman Mike Honda, and Carolyn Masami Sandberg moderated the panel discussion with Repr. Honda, Minnesota Senators Mee Moua and Satveer Chaudary. Allison Fenimore represented our chapter at the Fall MDC meeting in Indianapolis; Ben Ezaki attended as MDC Governor. Steve Kumagai and his partner John Schubert gave an informational program on Charitable Giving. On a sad note, Tom Ohno passed away; we are grateful to the Ohno family for designating memorials to our chapter's scholarship fund.

We held the annual meeting and installation program at Kikugawa Restaurant. Thank you again to the outgoing youth board members, Leilani Savitt (who is continuing as MDC Youth Co-Rep), Jessica Lehman, Mariko Nakasone, and welcome to our newest board members, Rachel Matsumoto, Jan Kiriara Monson, and Joseph Uemura. See page 2 for the complete list of the 2003 board members.

**November** - The Chrysanthemum Banquet was a major highlight of the year. NASA Astronaut Daniel Tani gave an engaging and informative presentation, and Maya Nishikawa, WCCO-TV reporter, was our emcee. The entire evening was a success thanks to Kathy Ohama Koch (banquet chair), Chris Murakami Noonan (PR and corporate sponsorships chair), Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone (silent auction co-chairs), Cary Yamanaka (speaker contact person), Jan Kiriara Monson (table decorations), Connie Tsuchiya (program), and many, many others.

Earlier in the afternoon, Mr. Tani talked about his Space Shuttle and International Space Station experiences and answered lots of questions at our "Meet the Astronaut" children's program, coordinated by Mariko Nakasone.

**December** - Our 50th anniversary cookbooks were a big hit at the Japanese American Service Center's Christmas Bazaar in Chicago, thanks to Kathy Hara and Carol Yoshino, and to MDC Director Bill Yoshino, who manned the booth. Joyce Miyamoto held a scrapbooking workshop for the board and others at her home.

Les and Karen Suzukamo chaired the annual Children's Holiday Party. Our chapter co-sponsored a reception for author Frank Wu at Ridgedale Library in Minnetonka. The PC Holiday issue carried a greeting for our chapter and an ad for our cookbooks and videotapes.

Throughout the quarter, our chapter was represented at other community events, including the Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development annual dinner, African-Hispanic-Asian-Native American (AHANA) forum on "Post-9/11 Voices of AHANA and Muslim Communities in Minnesota" and summit on priority policy areas for Minnesota's minority communities, Japan America Society of Minnesota annual Mondale Award and Scholarship Dinner, Asian American Journalists Association's "Taste of AAJA," and Theater Mu's opening night of "Of Hope and Courage."

**January** - The board started the new year with its 5th annual half-day retreat. The board reviewed the current operational structure, and revised it by categorized activities and committees into four areas: Programs, Fundraising, Finance, and Administrative.

Board members who will oversee each of the areas are: Programs: Co-Chairs Jan Kiriara Monson and Rachel Matsumoto (oversee picnic, golf tournament, annual meeting, Chrysanthemum banquet, children's holiday party, crafts/culture classes, community forum, generations dinner, and youth activities). Fundraising: Co-Chairs Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone (oversee Festival of Nations, silent auction, cookbook and video sales and other fundraisers). Finance: Treasurer Lisa Hintermeister (oversee budget, auditing, Investment Committee, Scholarship Committee). Administrative: Cheryl Hirata-Dulas (oversee communications, education, nominations, membership, advocacy/hate crimes, sunshine, and by-laws committees; community response/networking; historical preservation; National and District responsibilities).

The board also focused on creating an operational plan for the year (thanks to Jan Monson for creating the visual aids). For each of our programs and activities, the board reviewed a summary of the good and negative points from 2002, with any suggestions from the committee or program chair, and came up with a well-defined plan for 2003 (who, what, timelines and resources needed). We hope that this will improve the efficiency of the board, and enable us to serve the membership and community more effectively.

Regarding membership, we extend a thank you to Gloria Kumagai, for serving as membership chair for the past 3 years. Rachel Matsumoto is taking over as membership chair and is putting together a membership committee. Let her know if you are interested in helping out.

Other things we have been involved in this first month of 2003 are as follows. Allison Fenimore represented our chapter at the MDC Education Committee meeting at the MDC Chicago office. Allison has also worked hard to get our website up and going; take a look at [www.tcjacl.org](http://www.tcjacl.org).

We sent a letter to Parasole Restaurant Holdings, Inc., owner of the restaurant Chino Latino as a community response to a billboard ad, "Our happy hour is cheaper than a Bangkok brothel."

## Upcoming

We are co-sponsoring a community briefing of the book, "Asian American Women: Issues, Concerns, and Responsive Human and Civil Rights Advocacy," by Lora Jo Foo, on Thursday, February 13, from 5:30 - 8 p.m. at the International Institute in St. Paul. The education committee has an upcoming meeting on February 22. Festival of Nations will be coming up on April 30 (set up)-May 4, and inventory ordering will be taking place on February 16.

Please feel free to contact any of the board members or committee chairs with your ideas and concerns, or to volunteer for a committee or help plan or work at an event. We have a full calendar of activities and events again this year, and we hope to see or talk with each one of you at least one time during the year.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, many who work behind the scenes, and to you, our membership, for your continuing support of the JACL!

## 2003 Twin Cities JACL Board of Directors

Cheryl Hirata-Dulas (President)	(952) 925-2429
Jamie Cork (Co-Vice President)	(651) 450-9459
Allison Fenimore (Co-Vice President)	(651) 636-3044
Joyce Miyamoto (Secretary)	(651) 636-3222
Rachel Matsumoto (Membership/Programs Co-Chair)	(612) 827-5280
Jan Kiriara Monson (Programs Co-Chair)	(952) 924-0957
Gloria Kumagai - (Fundraising Co-Chair)	(763) 377-5602
John Nakasone - (Fundraising Co-Chair)	(651) 698-3647
Ben A. Ezaki III (MDC Governor)	(952) 472-1985
Natalie Nakasone (MDC Youth Co-Rep)	(651) 698-3657
Cary Yamanaka (Festival of Nations Liaison)	(952) 432-2055
Carolyn Masami Sandberg (Nominations/By-Laws)	(763) 417-0887
Joseph Uemura (At-Large)	(651) 633-2925
Scholarship Committee (holds one seat)	
Lisa Hintermeister (Treasurer - non-board member)	(612) 869-5070

## Newsletter Staff:

Chris Noonan - [noonan@attbi.com](mailto:noonan@attbi.com)

Connie Tsuchiya - [tsuch002@umn.edu](mailto:tsuch002@umn.edu)

## Calendar of Events:

**February 13, 5:30-8 p.m.** - JACL Co-Sponsored  
Book Briefing and discussion with Lora Jo Foo,  
International Institute, 1694 Como Avenue, St. Paul

**February 18, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting, Lisa  
Hintermeister's office

**February 22, 10 a.m.** - Education Committee  
meeting, Sally Sudo's home

**March 18, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting, John Nakasone's  
office

**March 28-30** - MDC Spring meeting, Cleveland

**April 15, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting

**April 30** - Festival of Nations

**May 20, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting

**June 17, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting

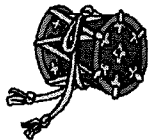
**July 17-20** - Tri-District meeting, Omaha, Nebraska

### Kogen Taiko

#### Performance Calendar

Minnesota Symphonic Winds  
Musical Collaboration  
May 3, 2003, 4:00

Gallery Opening  
Center for Independent Artists  
El Colegio Building  
42nd & Bloomington  
May 8, 2003, time: tba



See [www.kogentaiko.org](http://www.kogentaiko.org) for up-to-date information



## Minneapolis Art Institute Offers Family Day and Japanese Cultural Classes

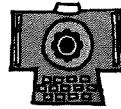
### Cherry Blossoms Scatter in Spring:

A free family day event at the Minneapolis Art Institute (MIA) will be held on Sunday, April 13 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. in celebration of Hana Matsuri, the flower festival in Japan marked by the blooming of the cherry blossoms. There will be art activities, ikebana flower arranging, traditional dance by Sansei Yonsei Kai, and Haiku poetry readings.

### "Shaped With a Passion: Japanese Ceramics" Art Classes:

A series of classes for children ages 4-7 on various aspects of Japanese culture (working with clay, attending a tea ceremony, eating wagashi cakes, writing on rice paper) will be held at the MIA on Saturday, April 5, 12, and 26. Classes for children ages 4-6 will be held at 10-11:30 am or 3:30-5 pm (\$25 members/\$34 nonmembers); for ages 6-7, classes are from 1-3 p.m. (\$32 members/\$45 non-members).

Call 612/870-3131 to register (MIA member registration begins on January 28; nonmember registration begins February 11). The MIA is located at 2400 3rd Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404



### Welcome new members:

Jay and Debbie Kiriara, St. Louis Park  
Peter Kiriara, Minneapolis  
Larry and Mary Matsumoto, New Brighton  
Scott Sepple, Columbia Heights

Our chapter needs to sell 7 more gift memberships. If you are interested in purchasing a gift membership for a family member and/or friend, contact Gloria Kumagai at 763-377-5602.



# NAK NAK NEWZ

By John Nakasone



THANK YOU TO GLORIA KUMAGAI, AND EVERY-ONE ELSE WHO HELPED ON, OR DONATED TO THE TC JACL CHRYSANTHEMUM SILENT AUCTION. IT WAS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS AND BECAUSE OF YOUR HELP, WE WERE ABLE TO RAISE \$2,500.00!!!

TALKING ABOUT THE AUCTION-I HAD THE PLEASURE OF PICKING UP THE THREE GIFTS THAT JAMES SAKAMOTO DONATED AND WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE GIVEN A TOUR OF HIS WORKSHOP. MR. SAKAMOTO IS A GIFTED METALWORKER, WOODWORKER, AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONE CRAFTSMAN. HIS WHIMSICAL WIRE SCULPTURE OF TWO DRAGONS WAS THE HIT OF THE NIGHT AND BROUGHT ON AN UGLY BID WAR BETWEEN THE SANDBERGS AND THE KUMAGAI/SAVITTS. (THEY STILL AREN'T TALKING)...WHAT WAS REALLY IMPRESSIVE WAS JAMES' HAND-CARVED WALNUT, WOOD EAGLES. THIS MAN HAS A RARE TALENT!

OF COURSE SAM HONDA WAS QUICK TO POINT OUT THAT HE WAS GLAD I PURCHASED THE GOLF BALL RETRIEVER BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE COULD USE IT AS MUCH AS I CAN. THANKS SAM.

CONGRATS TO DR. PAUL M. TANI, AND DR. MARSHALL TANIGUCHI WHO WERE HONORED IN THE 2003 MPLS./ST. PAUL MAGAZINE AS BEING "TOP DOCTORS" IN THEIR RESPECTIVE FIELDS.

ANDREA HONDA HAD HER GOOD LOOKING SMILE IN THIS FINE MAG. ALSO, FOR HER PARTICIPATION IN THE FUNDRAISER FOR THE UNITED HOSPITAL FOUNDATION NEUROSCIENCE PROGRAM.

DID YOU KNOW THAT BUD NAKASONE TOOK A SPILL DURING THE LAST ICE STORM WHILE BRINGING OUT THE GARBAGE AT 6AM? YES, THAT IS THE ONLY TIME YOU CAN BRING THE GARBAGE OUT AT THE NAKASONE RESIDENCE. UNFORTUNATELY, HE DIDN'T COUNT ON AN ICY BACK STEPS AND BROKE TWO BONES IN HIS ANKLE. NOW HE IS DOING BED REST AT HOME. BUDDY IS BORED TO DEATH, SICK OF SITTING STILL AND COULD USE SOME CHEERING UP. GIVE HIM A CALL...

NEW BOARD MEMBER JOSEPH UEMURA IS AN ACCOMPLISHED CALLIGRAPHER AND HAS SOME OF HIS WORK DISPLAYED AT HENNEPIN AVENUE CHURCH. HE ALSO HAS COME OUT OF RETIREMENT TO TEACH A CLASS ON "AMERICAN PHILOSOPHERS ON RELIGION" (JAMES, ROYCE, SANTAYANA, DEWEY) EVERY SUNDAY.

SALLY SUDO WAS IN NEW YORK BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS AND TOOK HER GRANDDAUGHTER NAOMI TO THE NUTCRACKER BALLET AT LINCOLN CENTER. SHE RECENTLY STARTED A FULL-TIME POSITION AS THE TEST COORDINATOR AT EDISON HIGH SCHOOL.

CARLY "I LIKE TO GO FAST"-FABER IS SPEEDILY PURSUING HER COMMERCIAL PILOT'S LICENSE AFTER ALREADY HAVING HER PRIVATE LICENSE. KEEP AN EYE ON THE SPEED LIMIT OKAY CARLY?

TRAVIS YAMANAKA WILL BE SPENDING A SEMESTER IN JAPAN DOING SCHOOLWORK AND STUDYING JUDO. BROTHER BRAD MADE A SIMILAR TRIP AND HAD A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.

ON A MORE SOBER NOTE - I SURE MISS TOM OHNO. OUR COMMUNITY LOST A GREAT LEADER, JACL SPOKESPERSON, VOLUNTEER AND TEACHER WHEN HE RECENTLY PASSED AWAY. TOM ALWAYS MADE A POINT OF CONNECTING WITH OUR YOUNG PEOPLE, KEEPING TRACK OF THEIR CAREER PLANS AND THEIR FUTURES. YOU COULD TELL THAT HE WAS GENUINELY INTERESTED IN THEIR SUCCESSES AND HAPPINESS. I WILL NEVER FORGET MY SON JACOB'S QUESTION A COUPLE OF YEARS BACK-"WHO WAS THAT REALLY NICE MAN WHO TALKED TO ME AT THE JACL GRADUATION BANQUET DAD?"-KIDS KNOW! TOM OHNO WAS A ROLE MODEL FOR THE ENTIRE JACL COMMUNITY AND IT IS BECAUSE OF MEN AND WOMEN LIKE HIM THAT I ATTEMPT TO KEEP MY FAMILY INVOLVED IN JACL.

OUR SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT AND THANKS TO REI OHNO WHO IS RECOVERING FROM BACK SURGERY- HOPE YOU FEEL BETTER REI.

MIT'S YONEJI WAS IN THE HOSPITAL. I DIDN'T HEAR WHY. HOPE HE IS ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY.

DID YOU SEE BILLY SUMADA'S PICTURE ON THE COVER OF WOODWORKER'S MONTHLY? NEITHER DID ANYBODY ELSE, BUT IF YOU SAY SO BILL. IN FACT, HAS ANYONE EVEN HEARD OF WOODWORKER'S MONTHLY?

OUR CONDOLENCES TO CARY YAMANAKA WHOSE BROTHER RECENTLY PASSED AWAY.

LIZ HARA (JUNIOR?) AT COLUMBIA IS DOING AN INTERNSHIP AT JIM HENSON STUDIOS AND ENJOYED BEING AT HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS. I BET SHE FEELS COMFORTABLE AROUND ALL THAT PURPLE HAIR.

LISA AND DAVE HINTERMEISTER CELEBRATED THEIR 10<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LAST YEAR BY TAKING A TRIP TO MEXICO -GRANDMA AND GRANDPA MURAKAMI WILL BE BABYSITTING HANNAH.

# NAK NAK NEWZ CONT...

ALSO SOUTH OF THE BORDER, LUCY AND MIKIO KIRIHARA AND REI SUMADA RETURNED FROM MEXICO AND EXPERIENCED AN EARTHQUAKE THERE.

PERSONALLY I WOULD RATHER HAVE BEEN WITH LYNN YAMANAKA, TIM THOMPSON AND MARI WHO WERE IN HAWAII FOR THREE WEEKS VACATIONING AND VISITING FAMILY.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MATTHEW DULAS WHO WON THIRD PLACE IN THE ASIAN HALLOWEEN PARTY COSTUME CONTEST DRESSED UP AS "SCREAM".

AND HOW ABOUT THAT SAM SHIMADA? HE RAISED OVER \$300.00 FOR THE WALK FOR JUSTICE AGAIN THIS YEAR. MY DAUGHTER NATALIE SAID SHE HAD EVERYTHING SHE COULD DO JUST TO KEEP UP WITH HIM. HE HAS THE ENERGY AND PASSION OF A YOUNG MAN. AND DID I MENTION HE'S A PRETTY GOOD SALESMAN? KEEP IT UP SAM-YOU ARE A BREATH OF FRESH AIR AND AN INSPIRATION.

CONGRATULATIONS CHRIS SANDBERG FOR BEING ELECTED TO "THE BOY SCOUTS VIGIL OF HONOR OF THE ORDER OF THE ARROW"- (NOW THAT'S A MOUTHFUL EVEN FOR AN ATTORNEY), AND BEING SELECTED AS ONE OF THE ADULTS TO ATTEND THE WORLD SCOUTING JAMBOREE IN THAILAND!

NOW THAT I AM OFFICIALLY AND PERMANENTLY RELEGATED TO BEING- "MARIKO'S DAD"-I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CONGRATULATED ME ON MARIKO'S WONDERFUL MPLS. STAR AND TRIBUNE ARTICLE ON HER ACTING CAREER. YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED TO NOTE THAT MARIKO AND HER MOTHER JACQUELINE RECENTLY PULLED UP STAKES, LOADED UP THE TRUCK "AND THEY MOVED TO BEVERLY...HILLS THAT IS, BRIGHT LIGHTS, SWIMMING POOLS, MOVIE STARS." THEY DID THIS IN AN ATTEMPT TO GARNER A JOB DURING THE UPCOMING "PILOT SEASON". THEY HAVE AN APARTMENT AN AGENT AND HIGH HOPES. WE WISH THEM WELL! BUT I AM BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT A DRAG IT IS TO BE A SINGLE PARENT. IT IS GOING TO BE A LONG THREE MONTHS.

YOUR JACL BOARD RECENTLY COMPLETED OUR ANNUAL FOUR HOUR MARATHON PLANNING SESSION AT BLACK BEAR CROSSING ON LAKE COMO. CHERYL CALLS IT A "BOARD RETREAT", WHICH I THINK IS KIND OF SNEAKY, BECAUSE IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE WE ARE GOING TO GET AWAY SOMEPLACE NICE TO RELAX. INSTEAD WE LOCK OURSELVES UP IN A BASEMENT ROOM AND FIGURE OUT WHAT WE DID WRONG LAST YEAR.

RUTH TANBARA HAD A BIG 95TH BIRTHDAY BASH AT AFTON CARE CENTER IN OCTOBER. CONGRATS!

KATHY OHAMA KOCH CELEBRATED THE 3RD ANNIVERSARY OF HER LIVING-RELATED KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.

STEVE AND KAREN TANAKA LUCAS HAVE BEEN SEEN CRUISING AROUND ON THEIR BMW R 1100RT MOTORCYCLE, A DOCTOR-PRESCRIBED CURE FOR E.N.S. (EMPTY NEST SYNDROME).

PRESIDENT CHERYL DULAS DID A WONDERFUL JOB OF EXPLAINING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2002- AND BELIEVE ME, WE ACCOMPLISHED MUCH FOR AN ALL VOLUNTEER BOARD. WE HAVE A LOT OF SEASONED VETERANS RETURNING AND THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS WHO ARE EAGER AND WILLING TO SERVE. CONGRATULATIONS TO JAN MONSON, JOSEPH UEMURA AND RACHEL MATSUMOTO. THE ENTIRE BOARD WELCOMES THEM AND LOOKS FORWARD TO HEARING THEIR INSIGHTS ON JACL. THE BIGGEST TASK I HOPE WE ACCOMPLISHED IS MAKING CHERYL'S BURDEN MORE BEARABLE. BY ATTEMPTING TO DELEGATE MANY OF THE DETAILS THAT SHE HAS BEEN LEFT TO DEAL WITH, WE HOPE THAT SHE WILL NOT GET "BURNED OUT" AND QUIT. SO DON'T QUIT JUST YET CHERYL, WE LOVE YOU!!! JN

## JACL/JACLers in the News



### Asian American Press:

- June 7, 2002: "Nisei Veterans Remember Camp Savage Language School"
- Sep. 20, 2002: "Macalester Honors Memory of Esther Suzuki"
- Oct. 11, 2002: "Congressman Mike Honda Visits Saint Paul"
- Oct. 11, 2002: "Dr. Gloria Kumagai is Minnesota's 2002 National Distinguished Principal"
- Oct. 25, 2002: "Astronaut Daniel Tani to Keynote JACL Banquet"
- Oct. 25, 2002: Article about Tom Ohno
- Oct., 2002: "Mariko Nakasone returns to play Anne Frank"
- Nov. 1, 2002: Quote from JACL in article on community responses to the Wellstone tragedy
- Nov. 15, 2002: "Astronaut (Tani) Feels Fortunate and Proud"
- Nov. 15, 2002: "Education Standards and Communities of Color" (Gloria Kumagai was a panelist)

### Star Tribune:

- October 14, 2002, p. B6: Article about Tom Ohno
- Nov. 3, 2002, p. F1, F4: Article about Mariko Nakasone

### St. Paul Pioneer Press:

- October 12, 2002, p. 7B: Article about Tom Ohno

### Sun Current (Edina):

- November 7, 2002, p. 11A: "Astronaut Tani to be featured at Chrysanthemum Banquet"

## Dedication of the Lealtad-Suzuki Center at Macalester College



*Esther Suzuki's family, some traveling from as far as Chicago and Massachusetts, came to dedicate the center along with many friends and colleagues. Pictured are: Jan and Mitch Monson, George Suzuki, Joe Suzuki, John and John Keenan Suzuki, Debbie Kiriara, Nami Vizanko, Jay Kiriara, Kae and Kathy Suzuki, Lucy and Mikio Kiriara, and Bruce Erickson.*



*George Suzuki with his son John Suzuki and daughter Nami Vizanko at the reception to honor Esther Torii Suzuki. Macalester College posthumously gave tribute to her and another pioneer and champion of social justice, Catharine Deaver Lealtad, by honoring them with the Board of Trustees Award for Meritorious and Distinguished Service. The Lealtad-Suzuki Center, which provides services to students of color, was named in their honor.*



## 7th Annual Headwaters Fund Walk For Justice

*Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, Lora Evinger, Chelsea Votel, Mary Wyatt, Natalie Nakasone, Sam Shimada, and Mariko Nakasone taking a pose before embarking on the 3.5 mile walk this fall, joining over 800 walkers from 87 organizations. They took turns holding the sign created by Natalie that read, "If you want peace, work for justice" and the JACL banner created by the late Min Yoshida for the first walkathon in 1996. Over \$450 was raised to benefit the JACL youth group, including the 19 pledges for over \$300 collected by Sam Shimada, who has participated in the walk for the past 3 years in a row.*

## Asian Pacific Endowment for Community Development (APECD) Annual Banquet



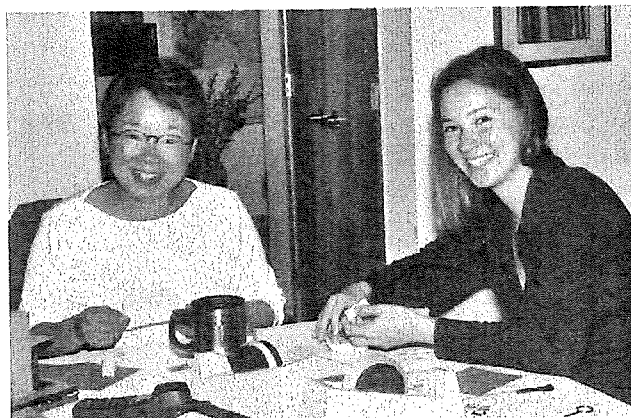
*Cheryl Hirata-Dulas with then-Governor Jesse Ventura, who was honored as the APECD 2002 Award Recipient at the 7th annual community celebration and fundraiser in September.*



## Craft Class



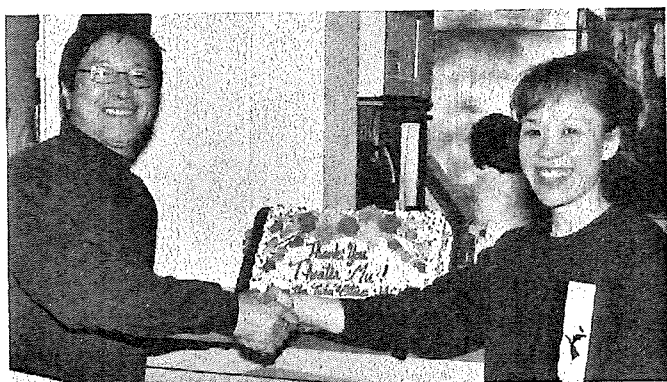
Carolyn Sandberg opened her home to a group of JACLers interested in learning techniques to make Asian-motif greeting cards. Attendees had a fun time creating several cards, using stamping, outlining, embossing, hole punching, and other techniques. Carolyn has an amazing and highly organized collection of stamps, pads, inks, punches, paper, samples, instructions, ideas...you name it! Thank you to Kathy Ohama Koch for coordinating this second class in our crafts/culture class series, and to Carolyn's teacher, Amy Case, for donating some of the supplies.



Joyce Miyamoto and her daughter, Emily Faber, who was home for the weekend, joined others for some right brain creativity development.



## JACL Youth Fundraiser



Many thanks to Theater Mu's Rick Shiomi and Iris Shiraishi for providing our youth group with the opportunity to raise funds through group ticket sales for "Of Hope and Courage," two one-act Asian folktales. Over 20 adults and youth from the JACL enjoyed the colorful costumes, entertaining story lines, and meaningful messages in "Distant Song" and "Demons of Noto Hanto."

John, Natalie and Mariko Nakasone enjoyed cake and punch at a reception after the performance.



# RICE PAPER volunteers page8

## Roster of Committee Overseers and Chairs

"Administrative" Overseer - Cheryl Hirata-Dulas - 952/925-2429:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Membership	Rachel Matsumoto	612/827-5280
Nominations	Carolyn Masami Sandberg	763/417-0887
Newsletter	Connie Tsuchiya	952/975-0047
Directory/Mailings	Chris Murakami Noonan	651/486-9150
Website	Allison Fenimore	651/636-3044
E-mail listserve/ JACL message line	Cheryl Hirata-Dulas	
Community Networking	Jamie Ishio Cork	651/450-9459
Chapter Delegate	Allison Fenimore	651/636-3044
Education	Sally Sudo	952/835-7374
Hate Crimes Liaison	Ben Ezaki	952/472-1985
Historical Records	Joyce Miyamoto (scrapbooks) Cheryl Hirata-Dulas (documents)	651/636-3222
Sunshine	May Tanaka	952/934-9238

"Finance" Overseer - Lisa Hintermeister - 612/869-5070:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Treasurer	Lisa Hintermeister	
Auditing	Peggy Yamanaka	952/432-2055
Tax Reporting	Tom Hara	763/420-9562
Investment Committee	Steve Kumagai	952/944-2683
	Fred Tsuchiya	952/934-8162
Scholarship	Pam Ohno Dagoberg	763/557-2946

"Fundraising" Overseers - Gloria Kumagai (763/377-5602) and John Nakasone (651/698-3647)

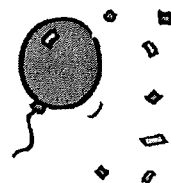
Festival of Nations - Chair: Chuck Tatsuda - 612/724-7264  
Board liaison: Cary Yamanaka - 952/432-2055  
Shift coordinator: Joyce Miyamoto - 651/636-3222  
Silent auction - Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone

For information on "Programs," see article below

## Guaranteed Fun!

Thanks to the following members for volunteering their time to chair the various 2003 events. If anyone is interested in organizing the Children's Holiday Party or Community Forum, please contact Jan Kiriara Monson @ 952-924-0957 or Rachel Matsumoto @ 612-827-5280. If you would like to join a committee, please contact the appropriate chairperson. It's always Guaranteed Fun!

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Committee Chair(s)</b>	<b>Phone #</b>
Children's Holiday Party	Dec.	open	
Community Forum	TBA	open	
Picnic	July/Aug.	Connie Fukuda	952-927-9126
		Jan Kiriara Monson	952-924-0957
Golf Tournament	Fall	Jay Yamashiro	651-686-7283
Chrysanthemum Banquet	Fall	Kathy Ohama Koch	952-884-1560
Craft/Culture Classes	TBA	Kathy Ohama Koch	
Generations Dinner	TBA	Kathy Ohama Koch	
		Cheryl Miyazaki Lund	952-884-7420







TC JACL is sponsoring a community briefing of a recently published book. The book is titled Asian American Women: Issues, Concerns and Responsive Human and Civil Rights Advocacy by Lora Jo Foo. The book reveals the struggles of Asian American women at the bottom of the socio-economic ladder where hunger, illness, sweatshop labor, exposure to hazardous chemicals and even involuntary servitude are everyday realities.

TC JACL is co-sponsoring with several other Asian associations and invites our members to attend a discussion with Ms. Foo regarding the book Thursday, February 13, 2003 from 5:30 to 8 at the International Institute, 1694 Como Avenue (two blocks west of Snelling), St. Paul, MN. For directions, call 651-647-0191.

Please RSVP by Monday, February 10 contacting Ms. Jovita Bjoraker by e-mail at [jovita.bjoraker@state.mn.us](mailto:jovita.bjoraker@state.mn.us) or by leaving your name and phone number at 651-296-0538. To request a copy of the book, please e-mail [aapip@aapip.org](mailto:aapip@aapip.org). The book is also available at AAPIP's national website at [www.aapip.org](http://www.aapip.org).

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Japanese American Citizens League will be celebrating its 75th anniversary next year. Ryan Chin, National Vice President for Membership, has volunteered to take on a major task to assemble and publish a JACL 75th anniversary book documenting the organization and its membership. The purpose is to tell the story of such a dynamic organization over its 75 year history.

Ryan seeks your help in providing the photos to tell the story of the JACL. The best photos lie within the photo albums of the general membership. They need members to lend pictures across the entire life of JACL. Photos should be submitted to national headquarters. Please mail your photos to national headquarters at: 1765 Sutter St., Attn: 75th Anniversary Picture Book, San Francisco, CA 94115. Along with your photos, please include the following details per each photo: the name of the owner of the photo, owner's mailing address, contact info (phone or e-mail), approximate year of the photo, brief description of photo, and the names of any known individuals. All photos will be returned. The deadline for photo submission is March 30th.

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## 2003 High School Graduate Scholarship Applications Available



Scholarship applications for 2003 high school graduates will be available in early February. Please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 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  
Ben Kurata, Burnsville High School  
Alyssa Lubet, St. Paul Central High School

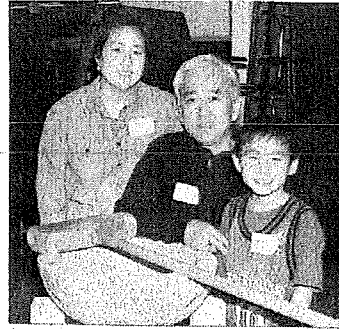
Danielle Miyazaki, Buffalo High School  
Elizabeth Rui Motoyoshi, Lakeville High School  
Ashley Takekawa, Eden Prairie High School  
Laura Taketa, Eden Prairie High School  
Jarrod Yamanaka, Apple Valley High School

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.

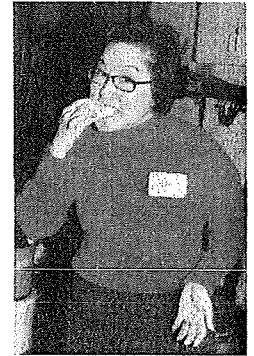
**Children's Holiday Party:** A BIG thank you to Les and Karen (and Alison) Suzukamo for coordinating the children's holiday party. Les came up with the great idea for a mochi-tsuki, very timely with the upcoming new year. Over 50 attended the annual event, including special guest Maya Nishikawa, WCCO-TV morning news reporter (also our Chrysanthemum Banquet emcee). It was fun to watch children and adults enjoy making mochi, listening to the gifted storyteller, and waiting patiently for their turn to meet Santa.

Our appreciation to Sam and Lil Honda for lending the mochi machines and sharing their expertise, and to Todd and Connie Tsuchiya for showing how to make mochi the old-fashioned way with their family usu and kine. Thanks also to Karen Suzukamo's mom, Erna Clifford, Ken and Michi Ushio, Linda Hashimoto van Dooijeweert, and many others for helping with setup and cleanup. Our gratitude to everyone who came for participating and for donating Toys for Tots. A culturally enriching time was had by all.



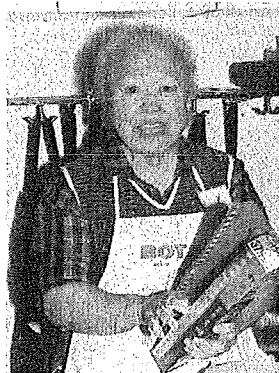
*Connie, Todd and Kyle with the Tsuchiya family "usu," a 100 year old family heirloom.*

*TV celebrity Maya Nishikawa came and enjoyed a bite of fresh mochi.*



*Santa making his annual visit and listening to Evan Hamamoto's holiday requests.*

*Lil Honda ran the automatic mochi making machine.*



*Karen Suzukamo and her mother, Erna Clifford, who was visiting from out of town and being recruited to help on her birthday.*



*Les Suzukamo checking on how mochi is made the modern way.*



*Ken and Michi Ushio use the "kine" and muscle to pound mochi the traditional way, while Todd Tsuchiya adds water to keep the rice at the right consistency.*



All event photos courtesy of Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

## Chrysanthemum Banquet

This year's Chrysanthemum Banquet was definitely one to remember. We're still talking about how much fun it was! Daniel Tani gave a fantastic video presentation of his December space shuttle mission to the International Space Station. Jan Kirihara Monson made wonderful origami rockets and "Daniel Tani" look-a-like astronaut table decorations for everyone to take home. And the silent auction chaired by Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone was a big hit. The entire evening was a blast!



*WCCO-TV reporter, Maya Nishikawa (emcee) and Daniel Tani holding Tani's gift to our chapter, shown with the Twin Cities JACL Board.*

While we presented Tani with a few items from the local chapter, including a cookbook, cooking videotape set, Asian-motif stationery by Carolyn Sandberg, and a Minnesota sweater, he surprised us by presenting the our JACL chapter with a board exhibiting an American flag that flew 4.8 million miles on the Endeavour, photos of the mission crew, and a mission patch.

Thank you to: special guest Daniel Tani, Maya Nishikawa, WCCO-TV reporter who served as emcee; Kathy Ohama Koch, banquet chair, who pulled the many details together; Chris Murakami Noonan, publicity and corporate sponsors chair; Connie Tsuchiya, printed program coordinator; Cary Yamanaka, speaker coordinator; May Tanaka, banquet transportation coordinator; Gloria Kumagai and John Nakasone, silent auction co-chairs; Jan Kirihara Monson, table decorations coordinator; Mariko Nakasone, children's program coordinator; Arthur Van Horne, NASA; corporate sponsors (Bloomington Electric Company, Ecolab, Lindquist & Venum, Marketplace Home Mortgage, Medtronic Asian Resources Group, and Wells Fargo Bank Asian Connection-Minnesota); silent auction donors and bidders; colorguard from the Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota, Edwin (Bud) Nakasone and Sam Honda; Governor Jesse Ventura and Ilean Her, Executive Director of the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans, for welcome letters; the Holiday Inn West and the many, many volunteers who made the program possible, and who gave us license to boast about having the fastest silent auction check out in the Midwest.

We'll have to see what the banquet committee comes up for this year...this one will be hard to beat!

## "Meet the Astronaut" Children's Program

JACL members and corporate sponsors and their children got a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet a real, live NASA astronaut. Daniel Tani appeared in his blue space suit for an hour-long afternoon children's program, and enthralled a crowd of more than 60 adults and children. After showing the video of his space shuttle trip to the International Space Station, he took lots of time to answer questions by inquisitive children (and adults). With humor and insight, he talked about how astronauts eat, sleep, shower and exercise in space, and what they do on the shuttle and at the space station.

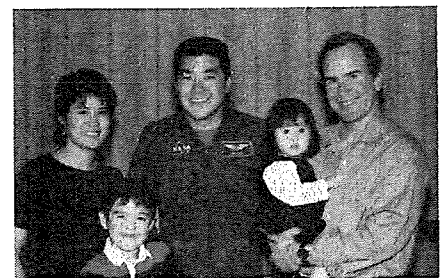


Later, he autographed photos and took Polaroids pictures with the children. Maybe the event would inspire one of the attendees to become an astronaut someday?

*Daniel Tani explained what it feels like to fly like Superman in space and other astronaut space phenomena.*

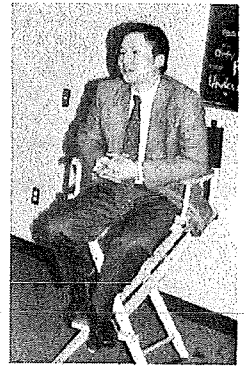


*Children listening intently to Tani's explanations of his experiences as a NASA astronaut.*



*Cheryl, Matthew, Dan and Marissa Dulas with Daniel Tani.*

In December, the Twin Cities JACL co-sponsored, along with the Hennepin County Libraries and the Japan America Society of Minnesota, a private **reception for Frank Wu**, author of "Yellow: Race in America Beyond Black and White," and co-author of the textbook "Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment." Wu is the first Asian American law professor to be tenured at Howard University.



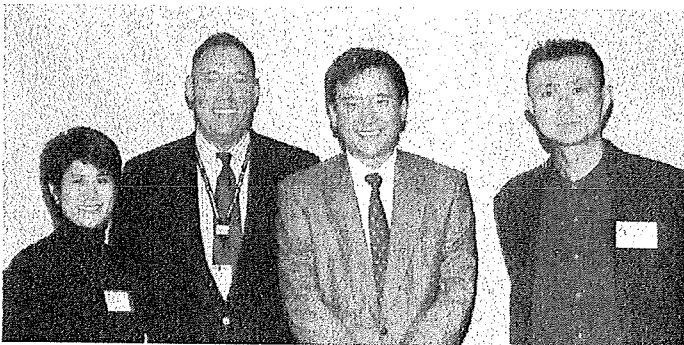
"...if I didn't speak for other Asian Americans, then others would assume that we didn't have anything to contribute. People would say, 'where were you?'" Articulately spoken with humor, at the public "Emerging Voices" program Wu talked about his experiences, including those not uncommon to other Asian Americans. He discussed the "Model Minority" myth, defined by the oversimplified statement, "You Asians are all doing well," and how each attractive stereotypical trait can be turned around. To be "polite" is to know one's place, to be "good in math and science" is to lack interpersonal skills and leadership potential, to be "hardworking" means that others cannot compete.

The other stereotype Wu discussed is the "Perpetual Foreigner" syndrome, denoted by questions and remarks such as, "Where are you really from?" "How long have you been in this country?" "You speak English so well." He described how this syndrome can also work against Asian Americans by depriving them of their civil rights and transforming the group into a racial threat, as exemplified by the internment and more recently the 1996 campaign finance scandal.

In addition to these challenges for Asian Americans, he discussed issues in relating with other communities of color. In his conclusion, he asserted, "I'd like to propose that it's never done.... Diversity is like democracy. Democracy is a process, and the idea is to participate." He gave some practical suggestions for civil rights activists: to ask what would be best for society as a whole, that rather than taking sides on the basis of race, be on the side that's right. Wu's hope is for us to be open-minded and to build bridges and reform coalitions in order to achieve racial justice.

I was grateful that the presentation, discussion, and book put words to some of my own feelings, experiences, and observations about race relations. I think others also left enlightened and inspired to continue educational programs and advocacy work in the broader community.

Submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas



*Cheryl with John Sugimura, Program Manager for Community Relations at the Hennepin County Libraries, author Frank Wu, and Seigo Masubuchi of the Japan America Society of Minnesota.*

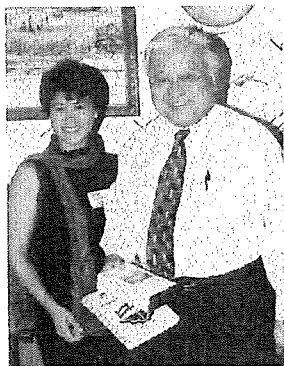


*Rei Sumada and Jan Kiriara Monson enjoy a moment with Frank Wu as he signs their "Yellow" books.*



## Repr. Mike Honda Visits Minnesota

The Twin Cities co-sponsored, along with the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans and the Sikh Community of Minnesota, a community reception for California Congressman Mike Honda in October.

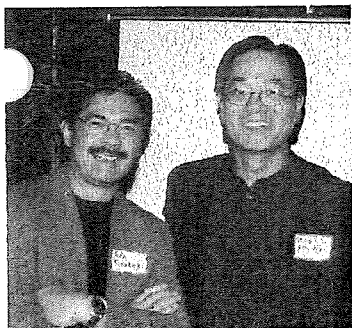


*Cheryl presented Repr. Honda with a 50th Anniversary Twin Cities JACL cookbook and a set of our cooking videotapes in appreciation for his visit.*

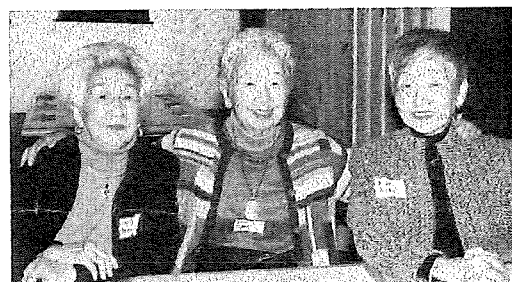


*Sam Shimada, Carolyn Masami Sandberg, Gloria Kumagai, State Senator Satveer Chaudary, Repr. Mike Honda, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, and State Senator Mee Moua gathered with others at Cheng Heng Restaurant in St. Paul. Carolyn was moderator of a panel with Honda, Chaudary and Moua, where Honda spoke about community involvement and praised the leadership, courage, and dedication of Senators Chaudary and Moua.*

## TC JACL Seminar on "Adding Meaning to Your Success Through Charitable Contributions"



*Steve Kumagai and his partner John Schubert gave an informative presentation to JACL members on approaches to charitable giving in October.*

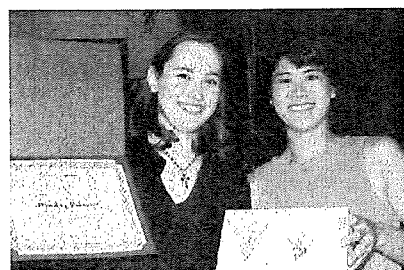


*Kazie Onemiya, Yoshi Tani and Kiyo Mazie learn about current gifts, future giving, and ways to transfer assets today and benefit.*



*Outgoing board member and chapter youth rep, Mariko Nakasone, receives a certificate and gift for her service from Cheryl Hirata-Dulas at the annual meeting in October held at Kikugawa Restaurant. Other outgoing youth board members, Leilani Savitt and Jessica Lehman, were unable to attend.*

*Ben Ezaki, MDC Governor, installed the new board, Allison Fenimore, Jan Monson, Natalie Nakasone, John Nakasone, Carolyn Sandberg, Rachel Matsumoto, Joyce Miyamoto, Cary Yamanaka, and Cheryl Hirata-Dulas (not pictured, Jamie Cork and Joseph Uemura).*



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**The Festival  
of  
Nations**

is May 1-4, 2003.

JACL will be  
sponsoring their bazaar  
booth, which is one of our  
biggest fundraisers.

We will be needing  
volunteers for mornings,  
afternoons and evenings.  
Joyce Miyamoto (651-636-  
3222) is coordinating the  
shifts -- please call her if  
you can help volunteer for  
a shift! As thanks,  
volunteers receive a \$5 gift  
certificate for a purchase at  
our booth.



**Education Committee to Meet**

Our chapter's Education Committee will meet at Sally Sudo's home  
on Saturday, February 22, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Agenda items  
include:

- 1) Report by Allison Fenimore on the MDC Education Committee meeting in Chicago on January 18,
- 2) Preparing for our chapter's information booth at the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies Spring Conference at the Thunderbird Hotel on March 6-7,
- 3) Brainstorming ideas on how to get Sansei, Yonsei, and others involved in the speaker's bureau,
- 4) Discussing ways to let educators know we have resources available to loan (videotapes, books, teacher guides, classroom book sets, photographs, speaker's bureau).

We welcome you to join us. Contact Sally Sudo (committee chair) at 952/835-7374 for more information and to RSVP.