

# RICE PAPER



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

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:** It's hard to believe that the school year is already over. Looking to summer, I'm sure you all have many activities planned, but I hope to see you at one or more of our upcoming JACL activities.

Below is a brief summary of the highlights from the past four months:

## February

The Immortal Chaplains Foundation presented Tom Oye, veteran of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, with "The 2003 Prize for Humanity," representing the combat service volunteers of WWII.

Our chapter was a co-sponsor of a community briefing with Lora Jo Foo, author of "Asian American Women: Issues, Concerns, and Responsive Human and Civil Rights Advocacy." We presented Ms. Foo with a copy of our 50th Anniversary Cookbook.

Members of our chapter wrote letters to the media and to legislators to express concern about North Carolina Rep. Howard Coble's endorsement of FDR's decision to incarcerate the Japanese American community during WWII as being necessary for their safety and that of the country (see letter by Albert Tsuchiya). National JACL and others are calling for his resignation or removal as chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security.

## March

The chapter's education committee had an exhibit table at the Minnesota annual social studies teacher's conference, and distributed resources information about the WWII Japanese American experience. Thanks to Sally Sudo, Jan Monson, Mikio and Lucy Kiriara, Lil Grothe, Sylvia Farrells for setting up and manning the booth, and to Jay and Debbie Kiriara for volunteering their time to create another display for our chapter..

Allison Fenimore represented our chapter at the MDC Spring meeting in Cleveland and met with the MDC Education Committee.

We made phone calls, sent letters, and joined other Asian American groups in a broad-based community protest against Chino Latino restaurant's billboard that boasted, "Happy Hour: Cheaper than a Bangkok Brothel." (A smaller scale community reaction three years ago was prompted by their ad, "As exotic as food gets without using dog.") The PC and Asian American Press carried articles that expressed our concerns about advertising themes that perpetuate negative

stereotypes of Asians/Asian Americans and other communities of color. The billboard was removed, and an apology was printed in the Star Tribune, but to date, we have not received a response to the two letters we sent to Phil Roberts, CEO of Parasole Restaurant Holdings, Inc. We also requested that other restaurants under Parasole's ownership or management (Figlio, Good Earth, Manny's, Muffaletta, Oceanaire, Buca di Beppo) refrain from employing derogatory ethnic humor in their advertisements.

I attended the five-day JACL/OCA Leadership Conference in Washington D.C. thanks to the generous funding of the chapter (see report).

## April

We sent a letter to our legislators requesting that proposed budget cuts be reinstated to the Council on Asian-Pacific Minnesotans (CAPM) and the other councils of color. CAPM represents our state's 40+ Asian Pacific American (APA) groups, and serves as a vital link between the APA community and the Governor and legislature. Years ago, the Minnesota legislature created the four councils of color, and to my knowledge, Minnesota is the only state with these distinct state-funded minority councils.

We also sent letters to Fuji Ya Japanese Restaurant expressing concerns about recent billboard and print ads that we feel promote negative stereotypes about Asians/Asian Americans and Asian/Asian American women. The ads feature a photograph of a Japanese woman, Japanese writing in the background, and a "translation" of the writing with pitches such as, "Your regularity is our pleasure;" "Enjoyment of you is extreme priority;" and "The taste of flavor is exceptionally obvious." Fuji Ya owner Thomas Hanson responded by saying that he apologizes if he offended members of our organization, and he graciously offered us the opportunity to give input into future ad campaigns. After our initial letter, the following ads appeared: "Eating us will bring smile;" and "From this position you will receive fun." While we support Asian/Asian American businesses, we felt it important to speak out when ads "push the envelope." If you have any concerns about the ads or our response, please contact me or another board member.

## May

This year's Festival of Nations was our "most successful fundraiser ever" (we have been able to say that for the past several years), thanks to Chuck Tatsuda, Cary and Peggy Yamanaka, Joyce Miyamoto, Sam and Lil Honda, Gloria Kumagai, Linda van Dooijeweert, Kelvin and Annette Lee, John Nakasone, and the many, many volunteers it takes to prepare and man the demonstration and bazaar booths.

# RICE PAPER

## president's message cont...

Our chapter was a community sponsor for the annual CAPM Asian Pacific American Heritage Month banquet. Congrats to Kogen Taiko, Jodie Tanaka and the Dragon Festival planning committee (with members Karen Tanaka-Lucas and Kathy Ohama Koch), who were among the 2003 Leadership Awardees, and to the Yamamoto/Klepp brothers and Adeel Lari who were recognized for their contributions; Senator Mark Dayton presented the awards. Maya Nishikawa served as the emcee, and Dr. Roy Saigo, president of St. Cloud State University, gave an insightful keynote address that included reflections about his experiences as a youth incarcerated at Gila River.

The scholarship committee recognized another outstanding group of high school seniors. Special thanks to Mintahoe (members Kelvin and Annette Lee) for their generosity in providing us with the banquet facility.

Rachel Matsumoto manned a JACL table at the Asian American Festival at Calhoun Square. We donated a plate to the silent auction, which benefitted the Asian Pacific Cultural Center. Sansei Yonsei Kai was one of the many groups that performed.

Natalie Nakasone and her family hosted the children's program with readings of Japanese folk tales and other activities. Leilani Savitt was back from U/W Madison to help out. Bud Nakasone, veteran of the MIS Language School at Fort Snelling, dressed up in his yukata and taught the youth participants how to write their names in Japanese. The Honda, Noonan, Yonekawa and Dulas children spent a fun afternoon in the Nakasone's backyard.

The rain did not deter a crowd of about 40 from attending the Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota (JAVM) memorial service at Fort Snelling National Cemetery and decorating grave sites. Thank you to JAVM officers, Bud Nakasone, Sam Honda, Kathy Ohama Koch and others for organizing the program, and to Chaplain (Major) Kenneth Beale for his mediations and benediction.

Several JACL members attended the second annual Asian American Night at the Dome, Twins vs. Mariners. Season-ticketholder, John Nakasone, had a "Painting by Nakasone" Twins-O-Gram again this year. Also, congratulations to John, Jacqueline and family on the 25th anniversary of "Painting by Nakasone"!

Our chapter's financial health is very sound thanks to our investment committee, Steve Kumagai and Fred Tsuchiya, and treasurer Lisa Hintermeister. The education committee (Sally Sudo, chair) continues to provide speakers and resources, and our membership (Rachel Matsumoto, chair) is on the upswing. Webmeister Allison Fenimore continues to keep our website ([www.tcjacl.org](http://www.tcjacl.org)) up-to-date.

### Upcoming in June/July

Natalie Nakasone, Leilani Savitt, and Emily Faber will be attending the National JACL Youth Leadership Conference in St. Louis (June 20-22); May Tanaka and Kimi Hara are coordinating our boutique booth at the Normandale Japanese Garden Party (June 22); we are co-sponsoring the Super Senior luncheon (June 29); Jan Monson and Connie Fukuda are planning our annual summer picnic (July 13); we are co-sponsoring the first ever Dragon Festival at Lake Phalen (July 19-20); Allison Fenimore will be attending the Tri-District Convention in Omaha, Nebraska as our delegate, along with Ben Ezaki, MDC Governor (July 17-20). Mark your calendars for our other fun events (golf tournament, Walk for Justice, Chrysanthemum Banquet and more).

Thank you to Dr. Joseph Uemura for serving on the board for the past several months. His teaching schedule and other commitments has necessitated his stepping down from the board.

Please feel free to contact the board with any ideas, concerns, or feedback. We are grateful for your continuing support, and we thank our remarkable volunteers for all of their hard work on behalf of our community and our organization. Have a wonderful summer!

### **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 Kirihara 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
Scholarship Committee (holds one seat)	
Lisa Hintermeister (Treasurer - non-board member)	(612) 869-5070

### Newsletter Staff:

Chris Noonan - [noonant@attbi.com](mailto:noonant@attbi.com)  
Connie Tsuchiya - [tsuch002@umn.edu](mailto:tsuch002@umn.edu)



## Calendar of Events:

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

**June 22, 12-6 p.m.** - Normandale Japanese Garden benefit dinner, boutique, entertainment; Normandale Community College, 9700 France Ave. S., Bloomington (see upcoming events for details)

**June 29, 1 p.m.** - Super Senior Luncheon  
New Century Buffet, 78th and Portland Ave.,  
Bloomington (see upcoming events)

**July 13, noon to 5 p.m.** - JACL SUMMER PICNIC  
Rosland Park - 4300 W. 66th Street, Edina (see upcoming events)

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

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

**July 19-20** - Dragon Festival and Dragon Boat Race  
Lake Phalen and Phalen Park, St. Paul (see upcoming events)

### Saturday, July 19

10 a.m. Kick-off parade

10 a.m. Boat practice begins; runs continuous all day

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Festival activities (performances, children's activities, food, arts and crafts, merchandise)

Noon "Awakening the Dragon" opening ceremony

### Sunday, July 20

10 a.m. Boat competition runs continuous all day

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Festival activities

4 p.m. "Putting the Dragon to Sleep" closing and awards ceremony

**August 17** - Obon and Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival, Como Park

**August 19, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting

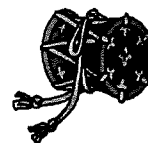
**September 14** - Golf Tournament  
Francis A. Gross Golf Course, Minneapolis  
Tee times begin at noon

**September 16, 6 p.m.** - Board meeting

**September 21** - Headwaters Fund "Walk for Justice" (to benefit TC JACL youth)

**October 21** - Generations Dinner (tentative date)

**November 1** - Chrysanthemum Banquet  
Holiday Inn West, St. Louis Park  
Keynote Speaker Iwao Takamoto (see upcoming events)



## Kogen Taiko Performance Calendar

**Normandale Japanese Garden**  
Garden Party - Japanese Dinner and Entertainment  
Normandale Community College  
Bloomington  
1:30 and 3:30 - Auditorium  
June 22, 2003

**City of Crystal**  
Becker Park Performing Arts Center  
Free One Hour Performance  
July 17, 2003, 7:00 pm

**City of Roseville**  
Central Park Amphitheater  
Lexington Ave.  
Free One Hour Performance  
August 3, 2003, 6:30 pm

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



# NAK NAK NEWZ

By John Nakasone

*YOU KNOW YOU ARE JAPANESE-  
WHEN YOU CAN'T FIND THE SALT AND PEPPER SHAKERS, BUT  
THE SHOYU IS RIGHT THERE ON THE TABLE. AND THERE IS A  
GALLON IN THE CUPBOARD.  
WHEN YOU JUST CAN'T STOP YOURSELF FROM SLICING  
HOTDOGS AND VEGETABLES ON THE DIAGONAL.  
WHEN YOU ARE EATING AT YOUR FRIENDS HOUSE AND FIND  
YOURSELF WONDERING WHERE THEY HIDE THE RICE BOWL.*

CONGRATULATIONS TOM OYE ON RECEIVING THE 2003 PRIZE FOR HUMANITY PRESENTED BY THE IMMORTAL CHAPLAINS FOUNDATION AT ITS 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY AT HAMLINE UNIVERSITY ON FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>. TOM HUMBLY AND GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED THIS AWARD ON BEHALF OF THE NISEI COMBAT VOLUNTEERS OF WWII. TOM'S PICTURE AND A WONDERFUL ARTICLE BY CHERYL HIRATA-DULAS RECEIVED FRONT PAGE ATTENTION ON THE ASIAN AMERICAN PRESS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14. AS YOU ALL KNOW, WE OWE TOM AND ALL OF OUR NISEI VETS A TREMENDOUS DEBT OF GRATITUDE FOR RISKING THEIR LIVES AND MAKING US PROUD TO BE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE DESCENT!

IN THAT SAME ISSUE OF ASIAN AMERICAN PRESS, PRESIDENT DULAS CRITICIZED "CHINO-LATINO RESTAURANT" FOR THEIR RECENT RACIST BILLBOARDS THAT CLAIM THEIR HAPPY HOUR IS "CHEAPER THAN A BANGKOK BROTHEL". DULAS PUT THE RESTAURANT ON NOTICE THAT "THE USE OF DEROGATORY, DEMEANING AND DISTASTEFUL TACTICS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED BY OUR COMMUNITY." ALTHOUGH LETTERS HAVE BEEN WRITTEN TO PARASOLE RESTAURANT HOLDINGS, NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN RECEIVED. STAY TUNED, THIS WHOLE DEAL ISN'T OVER YET...

SPEAKING OF PREJUDICE, DID YOU READ THE ARTICLE THAT QUOTED CAROLYN SANDBERG IN THE "MONEY AND BUSINESS" SECTION OF THE STAR AND TRIBUNE? THE PAPER NOTED THAT OUT OF 1006 PARTNERS AT THE TEN LARGEST LOCAL LAW FIRMS, ONLY SIX PARTNERS ARE AFRICAN AMERICANS. CAROLYN TALKED ABOUT THE SUBTLE NATURE OF PREJUDICE AND HOW HARD IT HAD BEEN FOR HER PARENTS TO BUY A HOME IN ST. LOUIS PARK. IT MADE ME THINK OF MY OWN MOTHER TELLING ME THAT SHE WAS CONVINCED THAT SHE AND MY FATHER WERE TURNED DOWN FROM RENTING SEVERAL APARTMENTS IN THE HIGHLAND AREA BECAUSE BUDDY WAS JAPANESE.

ON A FRIENDLIER NOTE, BUD NAKASONE HAD A NICE ARTICLE IN "NIKKEI HERITAGE" WHICH IS PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY- SAN FRANCISCO, DETAILING THE CONTRIBUTION THAT THE MILITARY LANGUAGE SCHOOL AT CAMP SAVAGE HAD IN SHORTENING WWII, AND HOW IT HAD BROUGHT MANY JAPANESE AMERICANS TO MINNESOTA. IN FACT, MANY OF US CAN BLAME THAT SCHOOL FOR GIVING US SNOW AND COLD WINTERS. YUCHHHH!!

THANK YOU TO ALLISON FENIMORE FOR HER FINE WORK ON CREATING OUR WEBSITE-"TCJACL.ORG". CHECK IT OUT!

CONGRATULATIONS TO JARROD YAMANAKA FOR BEING PART OF THE APPLE VALLEY STATE WRESTLING CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM. JARROD HAD THE "LUCK" TO WRESTLE THE EVENTUAL STATE CHAMP AT HIS WEIGHT CATEGORY AND CAME CLOSE TO "STICKING HIM". IN THE END, HE LOST A HEARTBREAKER 6-3.

NEWLY ELECTED TCJACL BOARD MEMBER RACHEL MATSUMOTO CAME TO A RECENT MEETING WITHOUT HER WRITTEN REPORT, CLAIMING THAT "THE DOG HAD EATEN IT". AFTER EXAMINING THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, WE DECIDED TO SEND RACHEL AND THE DOG TO OBEDIENCE SCHOOL.

ALTHOUGH SHE TRIED TO PAY ON HER OWN, TCJACL SENT PRESIDENT DULAS TO A LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE IN D.C.. DULAS NETWORKED WITH A LOT OF "TALENTED AND MOTIVATED PEOPLE", AND GOT TO MEET SENATORS INOUE AND HONDA. CHERYL GAVE A LENGTHY REPORT TO THE BOARD AFTER RETURNING FROM HER FIVE DAY MEETING. I AM GUESSING IT IS SOME OF THE BEST MONEY THIS CHAPTER EVER SPENT. I COULD TELL SHE WAS GONE BY A LACK OF JACL E-MAIL.

LOOK FOR FRED TSUCHIYA'S DAUGHTER ALLISON TO APPEAR IN AN UPCOMING EPISODE OF THE SCIENCE SHOW, "DRAGONFLY TV". IT WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH HOCKEY.

CONGRATULATIONS KOGEN TAIKO ON BEING SELECTED AS A RECIPIENT OF THE 2003 CAPM LEADERSHIP AWARD. THEIR WORK HAS ALWAYS BEEN CHARGED WITH ENERGY AND THE AWARD IS WELL DESERVED. ALSO RECEIVING RECOGNITION WERE JOYCE YAMAMOTO'S FIREFIGHTING SONS JASON YAMAMOTO, JR KLEPP AND TOMO KLEPP. ADEEL LARI (HUSBAND OF JACL MEMBER CHERYL LARI) WAS RECOGNIZED FOR HIS WORK AS CAPM CHAIR ALONG WITH THE DRAGON FESTIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE. DR. ROY SAIGO SPOKE, AND MAYA NISHIKAWA WAS MC. SOUNDS TO ME LIKE THE J.A.'S KIND OF RAN AWAY WITH THE SHOW...

SPEAKING OF SHOW, WHO IS KENT NINOMIYA?

JACL MEMBER JODIE TANAKA OF TANAKA ADVERTISING WAS FEATURED IN AN ARTICLE IN "THE BUSINESS JOURNAL" 3/28/03 ON HOW BUSINESSES ARE AFFECTED BY THE DOWNTURN AT NORTHWEST AIRLINES CORP. SHE HAS SERVICED THE NORTHWEST ACCOUNT FOR MANY YEARS.

TANAKA WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE METROPOLITAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION FOR HER VOLUNTEER WORK AT THAT WORTHY ORGANIZATION AND SHE ALSO RECEIVED A CAPM LEADERSHIP AWARD AS WELL. JODIE WILL HAVE TO BUILD A NEW WALL TO HANG ALL OF HER AWARDS!

SPEAKING OF NORTHWEST AIRLINES, CARY YAMANAKA HAD A NON-SPEAKING, PASSENGER ROLE IN A RECENT IN-HOUSE SAFETY VIDEO.

# NAK NAK NEWZ CONT...



DID YOU SEE LINDA VAN DOOJEWERT'S SMILING FACE ON THE POSTER BOARD THAT IS LOCATED IN THE EAST WALKWAY LEADING INTO THE EXCEL ENERGY CENTER? SHE AND HUSBAND WILLY HAVE ALSO BEEN FEATURED IN THE ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS BUSINESS SECTION AND OTHER BUSINESS MAGAZINES OF LATE. HATS OFF TO THEM FOR THEIR BUSINESS SUCCESS AND GAMBARE SPIRIT!

REI SUMADA HAD A DOCTOR IN THE FAMILY FOR A SHORT WHILE WHEN RESTAURANTEUR SON BILLY SHOT A RECENT VIDEO IN THE ROLE OF DOCTOR.

YOURS TRULY WON THE STATE MASTERS "B" HANDBALL TOURNAMENT. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DON'T KNOW, MASTERS DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE REALLY GOOD, IT JUST MEANS YOU ARE REALLY OLD.

THANK YOU SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR PUTTING ON THE RECENT SUCCESSFUL GRADUATING SENIORS BANQUET. I HEAR IT WAS ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS. I ALSO HEARD THAT CONNIE TSUCHIYA WAS IN SUCH A HURRY TO PRESENT THE AWARDS, SHE GOT A SPEEDING TICKET. NO CONNIE, SPEEDING TICKETS ARE NOT A REIMBURSABLE EXPENSE.

ALEX NOONAN, SON OF CHRIS AND TERRY RECENTLY RECEIVED HONORABLE MENTION AS ONE OF EIGHT FINALISTS AT THE STATE HISTORY DAY, A NATIONAL COMPETITION. ALEX DEVELOPED A VIDEO ON GORDON HIRABAYASHI AND HIS COURT CASES CHALLENGING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE CURFEW AND INTERNMENT DURING WWII. ALEX CREDITS THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR LOANING HIM THE VIDEO AND CURRICULUM GUIDE "A PERSONAL MATTER: GORDON HIRABAYASHI V. THE UNITED STATES." ALEX IS A SEVENTH GRADER AT SUNRISE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL IN WHITE BEAR LAKE. WAY TO GO ALEX!

THANKS JAY AND DEBBIE KIRIHARA FOR DONATING YOUR TIME TO MAKE A DISPLAY ON THE JA INTERNMENT EXPERIENCE FOR THE MN COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHERS CONFERENCE.

KATHY OHAMA KOCH IS BACK ON HER FEET AFTER HAVING KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY IN FEBRUARY. SHE IS TAKING ON THE MAJOR TASK OF ORGANIZING THE CHRYSANTHEMUM BANQUET AND THE UPCOMING DRAGON FESTIVAL IN JULY WITH KAREN TANAKA LUCAS.

MAY TANAKA SPENT TWO WEEKS IN MARCH VISITING CONNIE FUKUDA'S MOM IN SAN JOSE. NEXT TIME YOU SHOULD VISIT YOUR CALIFORNIA FRIENDS IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY MAY!

CONGRATULATE JAN KIRIHARA MONSON ON BEING THE NEWEST MEMBER OF THE 4-0 CLUB. YOU MIGHT NOT LOOK FORTY JAN, BUT YOU'RE STILL OLD. JAN SPENT SOME TIME IN COLORADO VISITING HUSBAND MITCH WHO WAS WORKING THERE. SHE ALSO SPENT TIME SKIING AND WATCHING THE WILD HOCKEY TEAM IN THE PLAYOFFS, BUT FLEW BACK JUST IN TIME TO HELP ON THE FESTIVAL OF NATIONS. SHE AND MITCH SHOULD BE COMING HOME SOON.

AT THE FORT SNELLING NATIONAL CEMETERY JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS OF MINNESOTA MEMORIAL SERVICE, MANY PEOPLE WERE IMPRESSED TO SEE THAT TOM HARA CAN STILL FIT IN HIS UNIFORM. WAY TO GO TOM!

HATS OFF TO SAM SHIMADA WHO BECAME A GRANDPA FOR THE FIRST TIME AT EIGHTY FOUR YEARS YOUNG. ...SAM HAS A NEWBORN GRANDSON NAMED ALLEN KIYOSHI HAYWARD. CONGRATULATIONS SAM!! WE ARE ALL VERY HAPPY FOR YOU.

DID YOU HEAR WE HAD A RECORD BREAKING YEAR AT THE FESTIVAL OF NATIONS? \$8676.15 PROFIT VS. LAST YEARS, \$8428.08. A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE AND THANKS TO CARY AND PEGGY YAMANAKA WHO TIRELESSLY SETUP, ORDERED, PRICED, AND TORE DOWN-CHUCK TATSUDA COMMITTEE CHAIR, WHO HELPED SETUP AND MASTERMINDED THE WHOLE ORDER, JOYCE MIYAMOTO WHO PLAYED A BIG ROLE IN ORDERING AND PERFORMED ALL OF THE STAFFING AND ANNETTE AND KELVIN LEE WHO SUPPLIED A DELIVERY VAN AND LABOR TO MOVE THE SUPPLIES FROM NAKASONE'S JACL BASEMENT STORAGE RACKS TO THE ROY WILKINS AUDITORIUM, LINDA VAN DOOJEWERT AND THE SANSEI YONSEI KAI DANCERS, GLORIA KUMAGAI AND SAM AND LIL HONDA WHO RAN THE RIBBON FISH BOOTH LIKE A SWISS ARMY WATCH, JAN KIRIHARA MONSON, CAROLYN AND CHRIS SANDBERG WHO ALL HELPED WITH SETUP AND PRICING, AND CHERYL WHO HELPED SET UP AND IS ALWAYS THERE TO HELP EVERYBODY-(SHE HELPED CARY, PEGGY AND MYSELF MOVE EVERYTHING TO MY SHOP IN A DRIVING RAIN). AND A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO SO GRACIOUSLY CONTRIBUTED YOUR TIME TO WORK SINGLE AND MULTIPLE SHIFTS. SINCE FESTIVAL OF NATIONS IS OUR MAIN YEARLY FUNDRAISER, ITS SUCCESS IS ESPECIALLY CRITICAL TO THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF TCJACL. GREAT WORK EVERYBODY-IT WAS REALLY NEAT TO SEE HOW WELL AND HOW HARD WE ALL PULLED TOGETHER!!!

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST-SILENT AUCTION IS COMING TO THE ANNUAL CHRYSANTHEMUM BANQUET, NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup>! PLEASE BE SURE AND START SETTING ASIDE THOSE ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THIS YEARS SILENT AUCTION. WE WANT TO TOP LAST YEAR'S SUCCESS SO GIVE GIVE GIVE!!! IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS ON HOW TO MAKE THINGS BIGGER AND BETTER, OR ANY QUESTIONS ON WHAT TO GIVE, CALL GLORIA KUMAGAI OR JOHN NAKASONE 651-646-6999. SEE YOU THEN- JN

# RICE PAPER upcoming events



## SUPER SENIOR LUNCHEON

Sunday, June 29th, 1 PM

New Century Buffet

78th and Portland Ave., Bloomington

Chinese buffet is located south of I-494

Parking in Valley Square Strip Mall

East side of Portland Ave. between 78th and 79th

This event is sponsored by TC JACL, TC Buddhist Association and the Nikkei Project. If you are 75 plus years old (75 in year 2003) you will be our guest. Spouses, Nikkei Project, TCBA and JACL members under 75 years old, you are welcome to join our Super Seniors. Buffet lunch is \$11.60 for 59 years old and under, \$10.50 for seniors 60 to 74. (Sunday price) Includes Tax, Tip and drinks (hot tea, ice tea or pop).

Please call to R.S.V.P. - Todd and Connie Tsuchiya (952) 975-0047. Please leave the names of those attending the luncheon and indicate if they are super seniors.

## Normandale Japanese Garden Committee

### GARDEN PARTY

Sunday, June 22, 2003



Benefit Japanese Dinner and Entertainment  
Tour of the new Science Center 11:30 a.m.

Dinner Buffet 12-6 p.m.

Yakitori Domburi with Rice, Japanese Salad  
Fortune Cookie and Ice Cream, Green Tea

Boutique 12-6 p.m.

Professional photographer available in the Garden 12-6 pm

Kogen Taiko Drummers 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. - auditorium  
Dancers in the Garden 2:30 and 5 p.m.

Leo Hanson, shakuhachi 12-6 p.m. in the Garden

Tickets:

In Advance: Adults \$9/Children 10 and under \$4.50

At the Door: Adult \$10/Children 10 and under \$5.00

Call Pat Kirsch 612-866-5322 or May Tanaka 952-934-9238 or Toshi Nishida 763-588-1742

## TWIN CITIES JACL ANNUAL PICNIC – JULY 13

The Twin Cities JACL is sponsoring its annual picnic! Mark your calendars for this fun event on Sunday, July 13, which will include great homecooked foods, beverages, games for all age children, and – of course – our traditional bingo game (with prizes).

The picnic is free to all JACL members and their families. Each family is asked to bring a food item (including Japanese cuisine). New JACL members are especially welcome to come to the picnic to meet others and participate in the fun. Thanks, and we'll see you at the picnic – rain or shine!

### Date:

Sunday, July 13

### Time:

12 noon to about 4 p.m.

### Place:

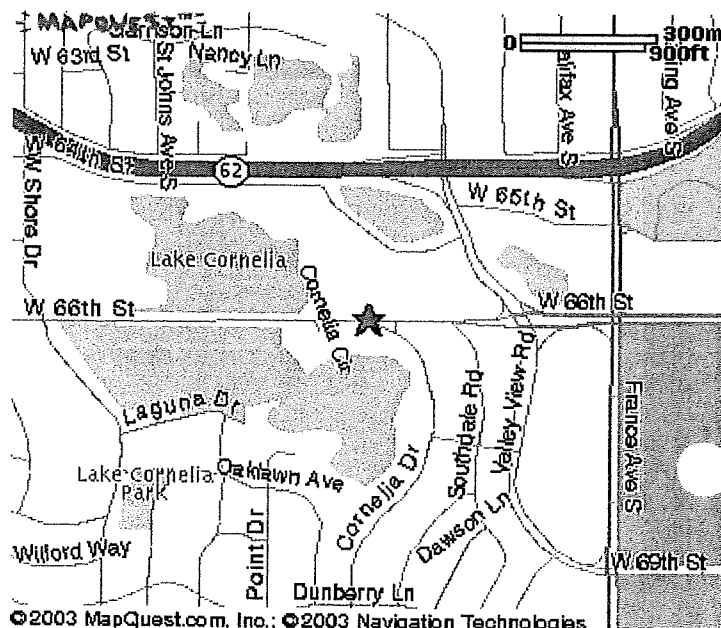
Rosland Park

(same place as last year; watch for posted signs)

4300 W. 66th Street, Edina

## RSVP information

If you plan to attend the picnic, please RSVP no later than Tuesday, July 8, to Connie Fukuda (952-927-9126) or send her an e-mail: [connie.beanies@mindspring.com](mailto:connie.beanies@mindspring.com) Be sure to provide your name; phone number; what dish you'll be bringing (salad, main dish, or dessert); and – if applicable – the number of children who will attending and their ages.



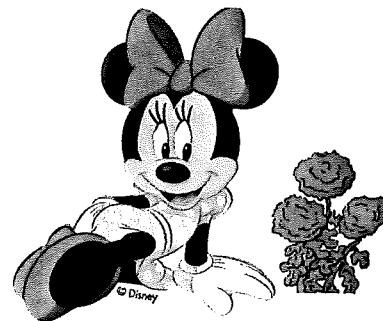
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# RICE PAPER

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## Chrysanthemum Banquet 2003

This year's annual Chrysanthemum Banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn West, St. Louis Park, 6:30 p.m., Saturday, November 1, 2003. We will also be hosting an afternoon program for the children at 1:00 p.m. on the same day.



We are very excited about this year's keynote speaker, animator Iwao Takamoto. He is responsible for some of the most popular cartoon characters in history. Takamoto's animation career started in the late 1940's where he worked for the Disney Studios under the tutelage of the legendary "nine old men". With this experience and his talent, Takamoto's efforts have been used in Disney classics "Cinderella", "Peter Pan", "Lady and the Tramp", "Sleeping Beauty", and "101 Dalmatians". In fact, Takamoto's ability was so trusted that in "Lady and the Tramp", he was put in sole charge of Lady's design.

In 1960, Takamoto joined Hanna-Barbera where his design acumen created many of what are still considered some of the most popular cartoon characters on the small screen. Although there can be little doubt that Takamoto's most famous claim is Scooby-Doo, his design efforts have nonetheless touched almost every animated figure to come out of the Hanna-Barbera studio. This includes "Jonny Quest" and "Josie and the Pussycats", as well as the space-aged landscape found in "The Jetsons". In the early 70's, Takamoto's talents were again put on the big screen when he directed the animation of the award winning theatrical release of "Charlotte's Web". Takamoto, is a recipient of the Windsor McKay's Lifetime Achievement Award for his animated work. He is currently Vice President of Creative Design at Warner Bros. Animation (formally known as Hanna Barbera Studio) and is still active in the animation field today.

In addition to our esteemed guest speaker, we will be holding the very popular and successful silent auction again. The auction has become one of our new fund-raisers. We're hoping that you are looking forward to participating in it.

Another new fund-raiser is our corporate table program. We are asking for assistance from our members to ask your company to become a sponsor, or if you know of another company that we can contact, call coordinator Jamie Ishio Cork at (651) 450-9459 for details. Please be sure to mark your calendar for the banquet. We will be sending out more information at a later date.

*Lathy Ohama Koch*  
*Chrysanthemum Banquet Chair*

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## Interesting Facts about Cancer from "Asian American Women: Issues, Concerns, and Responsive Human and Civil Rights Advocacy" by Lora Jo Foo

Few studies on health in Asian American women have been carried out, and even less data is available on subgroups; however, it is established that significant health disparities exist between Asian American women and the general population for preventable and treatable illnesses.

Breast cancer is the leading cause of death in Asian Pacific American (APA) women aged 45 to 54, but it occurs at varying rates for different Asian ethnicities. Among APA women, those of Japanese ancestry have the highest breast cancer incidence, followed by Filipinas. Breast cancer is also the most common cancer among Chinese and Korean women.

Breast cancer death rates for white, African American, and Latino women decreased or stayed the same from 1990-95, but the incidence of breast cancer for APA women increased during that period. Furthermore, APA women are at risk for cancer at younger ages and of more aggressive types than non-Asian women, and the risk of death is 1.5 to 1.7 times that of white women.

To order a free copy of the book, contact: Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy at [www.aapip.org](http://www.aapip.org), or at 225 Bush Street, Suite 580, San Francisco, CA 94104; phone 415/273-2760.

*Cheryl Hirata-Dula, Laura Jo Foo and Joyce Miyamorot at a  
Community Briefing in St. Paul last February*





# RICE PAPER

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## **2003 DRAGON FESTIVAL and DRAGON BOAT RACE**

Celebrate Minnesota Asian Pacific Heritage

Lake Phalen and Phalen Park, St. Paul

July 19-20, 2003

10 AM – 5 PM



Thundering drumbeats and dragons in the land of 10,000 lakes? You betcha!

Dragon boat racing is an ancient sport originating in China over 2000 years ago and is still practiced around the world, including in many major cities in the U.S. Dragon boat racing is being introduced to the Twin Cities as part of the 2003 Dragon Festival to be held July 29-30. Thirty teams of 20 paddlers each will be competing in heats on Lake Phalen in St. Paul. Forty-foot elaborately decorated, dragon-headed boats will carry teams stroking to the driving cadence of a boat drummer with synchrony being critical to the competition. Steeped in tradition and cultural lore, the race will be wrapped in the Dragon Festival, a two-day event with parade, pageantry, cultural performances, children's activities, ethnic foods and arts and crafts vendors. The festival is a vehicle to promote Asian culture and to bring together diverse communities. The opening and closing ceremonies will incorporate the elaborate legend-filled rituals of "Awakening the Dragons" and "Putting the Dragons to Sleep." For more information, visit [www.DragonFestival.org](http://www.DragonFestival.org).

Saturday, July 19

10 a.m. Kick-off parade

10 a.m. Boat practice begins; runs continuous all day

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Festival activities (performances, children's activities, food, arts and crafts, merchandise)

Noon "Awakening the Dragon" opening ceremony

Sunday, July 20

10 a.m. Boat competition runs continuous all day

11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Festival activities

4 p.m. "Putting the Dragon to Sleep" closing and awards ceremony

Sponsors include: Wells Fargo, Twin City Federal, City of St. Paul, American Express, Health Partners, KFAI Radio, Japanese American Citizens League and Japanese American Veterans of Minnesota, Asian American Press, and China Insight. For more information contact: Karen Lucas at [LucasSKGL@aol.com](mailto:LucasSKGL@aol.com), 952-431-1740 or Leo Treadway at [let@mtn.org](mailto:let@mtn.org), 651-646-7717



*Rachel Matsumoto at the display table at Calhoun Square's Asian American Festival*



**Welcome new members:**

Linda Van Dooijeweert - Arden Hills

Steven Bastin - Lakeville

Thomas Kurihara - Arlington, VA

Danielle Miyazaki - Loretto

Gary Miyazaki - Loretto

Laura Taketa - Eden Prairie

Paula Arai - Northfield

Leonard and Hiromi Hodgeman - Richfield

Reminder: Please send the names and ages of your children for the youth directory to [rachel.matsumoto@mpls.k12.mn.us](mailto:rachel.matsumoto@mpls.k12.mn.us) or 5310 Harriet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419.





**Education:** Did you know that the JACL Education Committee has resource materials available to loan on the subject of the Japanese American experience during World War II? If you or someone you know is doing a term paper, history project, or research related to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II or the role of the Nisei soldier, you may find our materials useful. We not only have books and videotapes, but also pictures from the national archives. A complete list of available resources can be obtained by contacting Sally Sudo (Tel. 952-835-7374 or email: Ssudo10716@aol.com).

One of our other commitments is to provide volunteer speakers to schools and community groups on the subject of the internment. We are also getting requests for interviews of people who were in the camps. As the numbers of people with first-hand experience are dwindling, we are looking to the next generation to get involved. We will be sponsoring a community forum sometime early next year. We look forward to having those with personal experience passing on their stories to their children and grandchildren. We will also conduct a training session for those who are interested in learning more about being part of the speaker's bureau.



## 2003 High School Graduates Honored by JACL

The Twin Cities JACL's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards Program was held on Thursday, May 15, 2003 at The St. Anthony Event Centre in Minneapolis, MN. The banquet was exquisitely catered by member, Kelvin Lee's, Mintahoe.

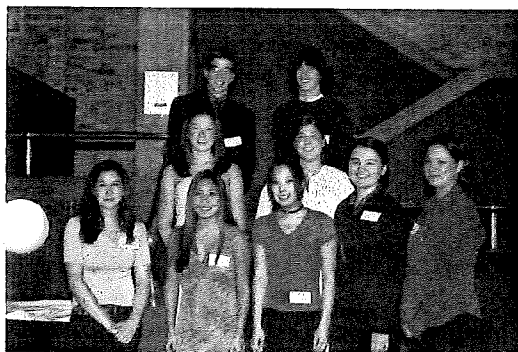
Scholarship awards exceeded \$8000.00. The following 2003 scholarships were awarded:

Kimi Hara Scholarship (presented by Kimi Hara) - Elizabeth Rui Motoyoshi, Lakeville High School  
Martha Oye Memorial Scholarship (presented by Tom Oye) - Anne Arakawa, Burnsville High School  
Phyllis Kimitch Memorial Scholarship (presented by Mike Kimitch) - Mariko Austin, Lakeville High School  
George Yamane Memorial Scholarship (presented by Alice Yamane) - Jarrod Yamanaka, Apple Valley High School  
Earl Tanbara Memorial Scholarship (presented by Tom Kurihara) - Steve Bastin, Lakeville High School  
Ethel Umeda Memorial Scholarship (presented by Reiko Ohno) - Ashley Takekawa, Eden Prairie High School  
Tom Ohno Memorial Scholarship (presented by Reiko Ohno) - Danielle Miyazaki, Buffalo High School  
Betty Hirabayashi Memorial Scholarship - Alyssa Lubet, St. Paul Central High School  
Frank Yanari Memorial Scholarship (presented by Kimi and Dean Yanari) - Lianne Aoki, Eden Prairie High School  
Susan Matsumoto Memorial Scholarship (presented by Helen Tsuchiya) - Laura Taketa, Eden Prairie High School

The evening began with dinner followed by greetings and introductions by chapter president, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas. Fred Tsuchiya acted as the evening's Master of Ceremonies. Mariko Austin entertained the group with a humorous dramatic interlude.

Congratulations and best wishes to the 2003 graduates!

If you know of any 2004 high school graduates, please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 or dagob001@tc.umn.edu. Local scholarship applications will be sent in January. JACL membership is required of scholarship applicants. Some of the known 2004 high school graduates are: Justin Aoki, Eden Prairie High School; Sarah Bissonnette, Minnesota Business Academy; Jennifer Judkins; Jenna Kresa, Maple Grove High School; Jacqueline Lehman, Simley High School; Alicia Munson, Blaine High School; Hayley Tsukayama, Jefferson High School; Angela Umeda, Apple Valley High School.



*Graduates Pictured from l to r:  
top: Jarrod Yamanaka, Steve Bastin  
middle: Ashley Takekawa, Elizabeth Motoyoshi  
bottom: Danielle Miyazaki, Lianne Aoki, Laura Taketa, Mariko Austin, Anne Arakawa  
not pictured: Alyssa Lubet*

# RICE PAPER events

## Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth at the **FESTIVAL OF NATIONS**.

Colorful paper cranes and ribbon fish adorned the demonstration booth at the annual Festival of Nations. Once again, the success of the booth was due to the many volunteers, who made items and demonstrated the art of paper and ribbon folding during the Festival's four days.

Thanks to demonstrators Jean Takeshita, Sakaye Hinataya, Ken Oyanagi, Jennifer Wagner, Sam Shimada, Sam, Ben, and Alex Honda, Allison Fenimore, and Rachel Matsumoto.

Thanks to Linda Van Doojiweert who donated the sticks, Jean Takeshita who made the origami irises, Carolyn Sandberg who made ribbon fish, Hisashi Kumagai who strung mobiles, fish and swans, and Sam Honda, who picks up my pre-made inventory and helps to set up and take down the booth.

Finally, a big thank you to Lil Honda, my co-chair, who makes a large supply of origami and ribbon items and then staffs the booth for four days. Her energy is amazing!

*Gloria Kumagai, Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth Co-chair*

## Thank You

The following volunteers staffed the bazaar booth. Thanks to you it was another record breaking year!

*Submitted by Joyce Miyamoto, Volunteer Coordinator*

Chuck Tatsuda  
Cary and Peggy Yamanaka  
Jan Kiriha Monson  
Carolyn and Chris Sandberg  
Cheryl Hirata-Dulas  
Luci Kiriha  
Jan Kurata  
Sharon Miyamoto  
Tom Scott  
Ardith Ohka

Chris Noonan  
Lynn Yamanaka  
Allison Fenimore  
Scott Sepple  
Gail and Ben Wong  
Lisa Tsuchiya  
Jamie Cork  
Katie McGiffin  
Sudie Hoffman  
Reiko Koyama

Chelsey Johnson  
Ariel Torborg  
Jackie Pasanar  
Rachel Matsumoto  
Mary Matsumoto  
Connie Fukuda  
Sachi Williamson  
Lisa Shakerin  
Sam Shimada  
Natalie Nakasone  
John Nakasone



*The set-up crew l to r: Chris Sandberg, Jan Monson, Carolyn Sandberg, Joyce Miyamoto, Chuck Tatsuda, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas and Cary Yamanaka*



*Joyce Miyamoto*

*Event photos courtesy of Cheryl Hirata-Dulas*

# RICE PAPER events

Win Cities JACL recently nominated Kogen Taiko for the Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans Leadership Award for 2003. The award for community service was presented at the Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Dinner in May. The dinner and event, which included Asian-American entertainers, was held at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel, downtown Saint Paul. WCCO News Reporter Maya Nishikawa served as the event emcee and the award was presented to by Senator Mark Dayton.

Other recipients of this year's award were: Jasmine Dinh, president, Vietnamese Community of Minnesota; the Committee of Asian American Renaissance Festival and Dragon Boat Races; and Jody Tanaka of Tanaka Advertising. Also, men and women of public service were honored at the banquet including the three Yamamoto/Klepp brothers, all local firemen-paramedics; Michelle Stevens, who served in the U.S. Navy during the Gulf War of 1990-91; and Minneapolis Police Officer Duy Ngo.

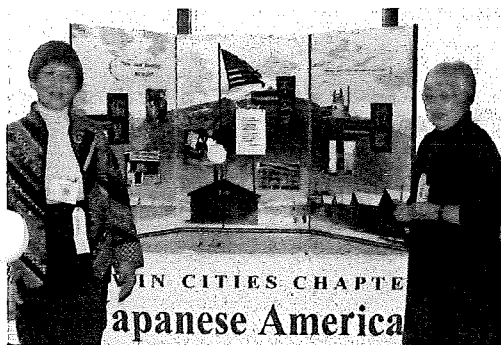
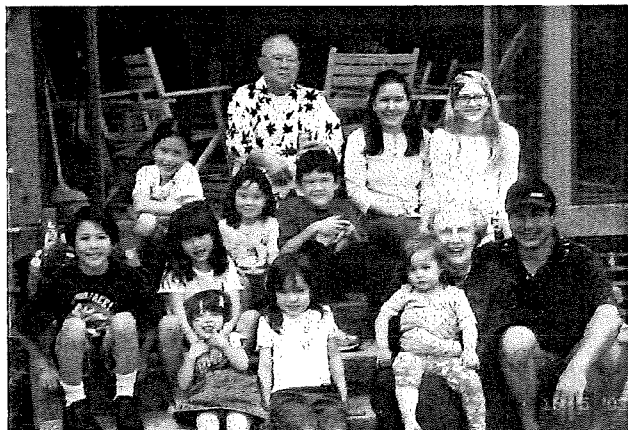


*Senator Mark Dayton presents the CAPM award to Todd Tsuchiya and Kogen Taiko*



*TC JACL and Kogen Taiko member Joyce Yamamoto and her firemen-paramedic sons Jason Yamamoto, J.R. Klepp and Tomo Klepp*

**JACL YOUTH EVENT** - Children learn about Japanese customs and listen to Japanese stories at the home of John and Jacqueline Nakasone on May 18. Sitting with the children are Bud Nakasone (top center), hosts Natalie Nakasone (top right) and John Nakasone (bottom right), and Mary Nakasone (bottom second from right).



*Lil Grothe and Lucy Kiriara stand at the JACL social studies display at the Minnesota State Social Studies Teacher's Conference held in March.*



## Reflections on the 2003 JACL/OCA Leadership Conference, Submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

Being a part of the JACL/OCA Washington DC Leadership Conference was an intense and inspiring experience. I had the opportunity to work with 29 other people from around the country, all of them articulate, dedicated, and bright. When it ended, I left motivated and filled with ideas, yet sad that I had to say goodbye to the colleagues with whom I had spent the past five jam-packed days.

I was very impressed with the level of commitment and dedication that our organizers, Kristine Minami (JACL Washington DC rep), Christine Chen (OCA Executive Director), and Keith McAllister (OCA Director of Technology), put into making this conference a valuable experience for us. Their depth of knowledge and strength of their relationships with others was amazing. The schedule of speakers they assembled was also quite remarkable.

Conference highlights included:

- meeting Senator Daniel Inouye, Representative Mike Honda, and other APA officials and activists serving their local communities, and hearing their stories about how and why they choose to serve,
- getting immersed in learning about the most pressing issues affecting the APA community, including the Patriot II act, immigration, affirmative action, and the Coble issue,
- gaining information on strategies and approaches to: lobbying for non-profit organizations, working more effectively with Senators and Representatives, building coalitions on the local level, handling the media and interviews, and running for local appointed positions or elected offices,
- attending a White House briefing with John Quoc Dong, from the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and hearing his perspective on the issues we learned about during our conference sessions, and
- getting a personalized tour of the Japanese American Memorial by Warren Minami, Kristine's father and chair of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation.

I took away several important lessons from the conference. First, I learned that developing relationships and building coalitions with other groups is key to getting things accomplished. The conference has opened doors for collaborative efforts with our local OCA chapter, and I hope to be able to strengthen relationships with other APA groups in my area. Secondly, it was eye-opening to hear different perspectives and positions on the same issue, such as immigration and national security, and how easy it is for the general public to take an opposing view depending on how the issue is presented. Lastly, I realized how important it is that the APA community be vigilant and attentive, be integrally involved with creating public policy, and be vocal in speaking out against injustice. We are fortunate to have APA elected and appointed officials and JACL and OCA representatives in Washington D.C. to keep us informed about the issues, but activism from the broader community is essential.



*Letter submitted to the Star Tribune and St. Paul Pioneer Press by Al Tsuchiya:*

I have recently been made aware of racist remarks made by Rep. Coble of NC. His remarks on a radio talk program were prejudicial, fictitious and crowd inciting. Either he is uninformed, not concerned with facts or has blind allegiance to his own biased opinion or all of the above.

His constituents are among highly opinionated in the country and any high profile figure normally would be careful in choosing his words but I strongly suspect his motive in this instance.

His remarks/opinions regarding Arab Americans and particularly Japanese Americans open a wound that took 50 years to heal. He violated the unwritten code to not use minorities as political fodder.

I was one of 120,000 Japanese Americans on the West Coast subjected to mass hysteria following Pearl Harbor. We were victims of President Roosevelt's hatred of the Japanese people (his remarks in 1925, 1936 and the 40's plus his signing executive order 9066 that gave him authority to place all people of Japanese ancestry in concentration camps can be traced to his hatred.) References can be provided.

President Roosevelt did nothing to discourage the hate headlines published by the Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Examiner and McClatchy Bee groups. In addition well known journalists, newscasters and governors of western states picked up on this hysteria. Rep. Coble can't be naive when he makes racist and reckless remarks. He can easily cause crowd and mob reaction that can lead to violence.

I write this to ask your newspaper to renounce Rep. Coble's irresponsible remarks. In today's tension filled political and economic times, we don't need gas-on-flame politicians like Rep. Coble.

Sincerely,  
Albert T. Tsuchiya

# RICE PAPER

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The Asian American Journalists Association congratulated KSTP-TV in Minneapolis today for choosing a Japanese-American man to anchor its 5 p.m, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. newscasts. The hiring of Kent Ninomiya, 36, for KSTP's main weekday newscast is an important step, given the paucity of Asian-American males in broadcasting, and the even smaller number who occupy the anchor desk. A recent AAJA study conducted by the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California found that in the top 25 markets there are only 19 Asian-American males on the air in television news. Minneapolis is the 14th largest market in the country.

Kent comes to Channel 5 from KCOP in Los Angeles where he has served as weekend anchor since 2001. Prior to KCOP, he served as weekday morning anchor at KGO in San Francisco. Kent spent five years in the midwest reporting on the streets for news powerhouse WLS in Chicago. His reporting/news career also includes positions at KGTV in San Diego; KFSN and KJEO in Fresno, California; KIEM, Eureka, California; WGGB, Springfield, Massachusetts; and the Washington, D.C. bureau of CNN.

He is a graduate of the University of California in Berkeley where he studied history, political science, and mass communications. Kent is a native of California and grew up in San Diego.



*Japanese-American Veterans of Minnesota are honored at an annual service on Memorial Day. Pictured l to r: Bud Nakasone, Sam Honda, Sam Shimada, Kimi Hara, Chaplain Beale, Jim Kiriara and Mikio Kiriara.*

*Tom Oye receives the Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity in February. Pictured l to r: Dean Johnson - US Army Chaplain and Minnesota Senator, Tom Oye, and Captain Kenneth Beale - Chaplain at Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel.*



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