

**June 24-27**

Minidoka Pilgrimage  
Details at [minidokapilgrimage.org](http://minidokapilgrimage.org).

**June 30 – July 4**

JACL National Convention, Chicago, Illinois. Details at [www.jacl.org/](http://www.jacl.org/)

**July 11**

Portland Japanese Garden Tanabata (Star Festival), 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Details at [www.japanesegarden.com/events/star-festival](http://www.japanesegarden.com/events/star-festival)

**July 30**

Rededication of the Japanese American Historical Plaza 5:00 p.m. in the Plaza

**July 31**

O.N.E. Annual Banquet, 5:00 p.m at the MAC. Honoring Harold Onishi and Eleanor Davis. Keynote speaker: Irene Hirano

**August 6**

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Memorial Service

**August 7**

Obon Fest, Oregon Buddhist Temple. 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**August 15**

Nikkei Community Picnic. Noon to 5:00 p.m., Oaks Park. See flyer inside.

**September 25-26**

Festival of Japan, Uwajimaya, Beaverton, OR

## Honoring Our Graduates

*Member Message by  
Jean Yamamoto*

Congratulations to the high school graduates of 2010! The Japanese American community is pleased to honor and recognize the achievements of our graduating seniors and wish them well as they continue their education or pursue job opportunities. This year we awarded 13 scholarships to outstanding students who shine in their academic records, community service, and school activities. They are:

**Jordan Green, Matthew Masuoka Scholarship.** Jordan has attended the Grant High School Japanese Magnet Program and the Institute of Science and Math since the ninth grade. He has been a member of Unite People, the JACL youth group, for four years and is currently its secretary. His volunteer activities include planting trees with Friends of Trees, preparing and serving food at the Goose Hollow Family Shelter, and working with 4-5 year olds in the Mighty Mites soccer program. He was on the Grant High School soccer, track and field, and swim teams. Jordan plans to attend Concordia University and major in Exercise Science.

**Charlie Iwata, Tsuya Minamoto Scholarship.** Charlie is an exceptional tuba musician, winning numerous OSAA Solo Music district and state championships, and most recently placed first in the Three Rivers League Solo Competition. He is a member of the West Linn High School Symphonic Band and Symphonic Orchestra and the jazz band. In addition to his honors in music, he also is a member of the Debate Team, the International Club, National Honor Society, and Japanese National Honor Society.

Charlie placed second in Medical Science in the District Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. He plans to combine his interest in music and Asian Studies as he pursues higher education.

**Ande Kitamura, Art and Teri Iwasaki Scholarship.** Ande will attend California State University, Long Beach in the fall, majoring in graphic design. She has used her talent in the graphic arts to help save high school sports and hopes to continue to spread good messages through art in her future. Ande was on the JV cross country and track teams and varsity soccer team. She has volunteered in numerous community organizations, including Johnson Creek Clean-Up, the Barack Obama Campaign, Kicking It soccer camp, Pee Wee sports, Eastside United FC Club Teams, and Yes for Oregon Campaign.

**Jonathan Lee, Hideo Naito Scholarship.** Jonathan has been active with Unite People, the Portland JACL youth chapter, since 7th grade and served as secretary and treasurer. He says that being involved with Epworth United Methodist Church and Unite People helps to “bring the community together and do something good for people of the community”. Jonathan was on his high school soccer, track, and swim teams. He volunteered with Mighty Mites soccer program and Goose Hollow Homeless Shelter. Jonathan plans to study engineering “to make the lives of people around me better.”

**Rina Minato, Satsuki Azumano Scholarship.** Rina is an accomplished pianist, having studied piano since the age of 3, and was the district winner of the Junior Bach Festival and winner of the Romantic Festival. She was in the Tualatin High School band, Concert

(Continued)

Choir, and Crimsonaires, a select chamber choir. Rina excels in science, is an IB Diploma candidate, and is a member of the National Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars. She volunteers with the Portland Japanese School, tutors in math, and was the youth representative for Tualatin Tomorrow. Rina plans to attend the University of Boston and double major in biochemistry and music performance in piano.

**Shaun Nakamine, Katagiri-Kornhauser Scholarship.** Shaun's passion is snowboarding. Currently he tests skateboard and casual shoes for Adidas, has seen new innovations, and has assisted with physical testing input to make a better product. Through this experience, Shaun decided that he can combine his passion for snowboarding with a career in improving and marketing products for a snowboard company. Shaun also has been part of the Japanese Magnet Program since kindergarten and wants to continue studying Japanese in college. He is a member of Unite People and Grant High School's JV and Varsity soccer and snowboard teams, and on the yearbook staff.

**Ceone Nojima, Yoshiko Kennedy Scholarship.** Ceone is the senior class vice president at Gresham High School, is a member of the National Honor Society, and has played club volleyball, varsity volleyball, and track. She was a second team all-league selection in volleyball and an all-league honorable mention in high jump. She was named "Most Inspirational Player" by her teammates in volleyball and "Outstanding Field Athlete" in track. She volunteered for Special Olympics Oregon and the Gresham Art Walk. Ceone wants to help repair the damage to, and prevent further destruction of, the oceans, stop global warming and clean up our oceans and beaches. She plans to major in Marine Biology and Environmental Engineering.

**Carly Ogata, Nikkei Fujinkai-Veleda Club Scholarship.** Carly always wanted a career where she could help people in some way. She was inspired by the documentary "Supersize Me", which

told of the growing obesity rate in children and the effect of the American diet on our health. Carly learned about the many paths dieticians can follow in the Advanced Health Careers Program at her school, and now plans to be a registered dietitian to help educate people. She played on the Westview High School volleyball team for four years and won the Varsity Volleyball Coaches Award. Carly's volunteer activities include Common Ground Youth Group and NW Children's Outreach.

**Natalie Rojas, Shokookai of Portland Scholarship.** Natalie is a member of the National Honors Society and currently is the vice president. She also is a member of the Key Club, Chinese Club and Upward Bound, Project Plus. At Franklin High School she lettered in swimming, track and field, and cross country. Natalie had the opportunity to participate in summer programs at UC Berkeley and Harvard and met students from all over the world. She is the co-president of Unite People and has been a member of that group since 2006. Natalie also participated in many competitions at the Portland Athletic Club, the David Douglas Swim Club, Minds Matter Inc, and Big Brothers and Sisters. Natalie has a particular interest in the unique cultures of the world and plans to pursue a degree in International Studies.

**Rachel Seeman, Portland JAFL Scholarship.** Rachel is the co-president of Unite People and also served as the vice president. Through Unite People she competed in the Min Yasui Oratorical Contest and received a National Honorable Mention. She volunteers at the Goose Hollow Family Shelter and went on the Minidoka Pilgrimage in June of 2008. She received many honors including the Coca-Cola National Finalist, Elks Most Valuable Student National Finalist, Rose Festival Queen, Optimist Essay Club Winner, and Consul General of Japan Japanese Speech Contest third and fourth place. She is the Grant High School student body president, is on the Constitution Team, co-captain of the varsity swim team, and JV

cross country team. Rachel plans to major in Biology and enter the health care industry

**Cameron Suyematsu, Roger Okamoto Scholarship.** Cameron plans to attend the University of Portland and major in Mechanical Engineering with a focus on the creation and application of green energy. He is a member of Unite People, and is a docent at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, a student counselor at the Jack, Will, Rob Community Center, a volunteer at the West Columbia Gorge Humane Society, and an Information Technology Assistant intern for the Camas School District. Cameron received many awards including Science Olympiad, second in State and Certificate of Excellence, Best Witness Nomination for Mock Trial, and an invitation to wind ensemble and school play accompaniment in the concert/marching band.

**Andrew Suzuki, Gresham-Troutdale JAFL Scholarship.** Andrew has attended the KURABU Japanese Immersion Program every summer since the 9th grade and is fluent in Japanese. He is also a counselor in the program. Andrew is a member of the Lak-eridge High School Drama Club. He performed in his class production of "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead", "Pirates of Penzance", "Big Mary", and "Beauty and the Beast". He went to Regionals for acting and presented two monologues. Andrew is also in the Acappella choir and Elite Show Choir. In the future he hopes to become a medical professional or an inner-city physician to improve the welfare of others.

**Lena Yamasaki, Mabel Shoji Boggs Scholarship.** Lena will attend the University of Portland nursing program. In high school she joined the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) and Health Careers Pathway in order to gain knowledge of what it is like to be part of the health care community. She is also a tutor in math and Japanese, a member of the national Honors Society, and LINK, a leadership group helping incoming freshmen feel welcome in the school. She also

(Continued)

2010 Japanese American Graduation Banquet



**Above and right** Keynote speaker Aki Mori speaks at the 2010 Japanese American Graduation Banquet, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon



**Left** Scholarship recipients introduce themselves at the 2010 Japanese American Graduation Banquet.

**Bottom left** Portland JACL co-president Jim Kennedy awards the Portland JACL scholarship to Lena Yamasaki.

**Bottom Right** Portland JACL vice-president Susan Leedham awards the Portland JACL scholarship to Ceone Nojima.

**Photos by Rich Iwasaki**



## Robbie Tsuboi

In every community there are always a few people who give enormously and selflessly of their time and energy as volunteers. Over the years, the Portland area has been blessed with an abundance of these very special people. Sadly, we recently experienced the great loss of one such individual who was an impassioned volunteer, supporter, and dear friend.

The whole community is deeply saddened by the passing of Robbie Tsuboi, and our hearts go out to George and Nobi and the entire family. Robbie was truly an extraordinary person who touched many lives with her compassion and generosity. I am profoundly grateful and privileged to have known her over the years. She has been an inspiration to me and countless others through her dedication and commitment to the community and in her work for the numerous causes and organizations she supported. In her low-key, straight-forward manner, Robbie accomplished a tremendous amount for the community, whom she regarded as an extended family. I was always impressed by the unconditional love she possessed for "her kids" and oth-

ers, as well as the hours and energy she devoted to her many volunteer projects.

Some will recall her keen and sometimes irreverent sense of humor. At times, it seemed no one was immune from her well-intentioned (or in my case, well-deserved) wit. But with a proverbial heart of gold and an incredible optimism, clearly she was loved by everyone who knew her. I'm sure there are many memorable and inspirational stories about Robbie waiting to be shared by others.

It's a great tragedy, of course, that the life of such a spirited and giving person is cut so short. But I'm quite sure that her spirit of generosity, humanity, and the way she has inspired so many people will continue as her legacy.

To say she will be greatly missed is a huge understatement. But for our memories of Robbie, and all that she's done, it cannot be more true.

With gratitude and sympathy on behalf of the Portland JACL Board,

*Rich Iwasaki*



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### Comments from Oregon Nikkei Endowment (O.N.E.)

Henry Sakamoto

Mark your calendars for the free community event on July 30, 2010 at 5 p.m. The 20th anniversary of the dedication of the Japanese American Historical Plaza will be celebrated with a rededication. Special guests include Justice Michael Gillette of the Oregon Supreme Court, Past Poet Laureate Lawson Inada and Japanese Consul General Okabe. Entertainment will be provided by the Minidoka Swing Band, Portland Taiko and others.

The 20th Anniversary celebration continues on July 31 as O.N.E. holds its annual fundraising banquet. Honorees at the dinner include Eleanor Davis, Harold Onishi and the original O.N.E. Board of Directors. Make your reservations early with O.N.E. at 503-224-1458.

The current exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center is about the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. It will be followed by an exhibit on the Japanese

American Historical Plaza opening July 30, 2010.

*Henry Sakamoto is Vice-President of O.N.E. and may be reached at 503-233-2001 or by email at hcsak@comcast.net.*

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### Honoring Our Graduates continued

has varsity letters in the Drill/Dance Team and Indoor Girl's Lacrosse.

Congratulations also to the awardees of the **Mrs. Mark (Alice) Sumida awards:** **Sean Campbell** (Sherwood High School), **Haley Hirata** (Grant High School), **Naomi Saito** (Grant High School), **Yuki Sakai** (Cleveland High School), **Midori Samson** (Grant High School), **Erika Schmidt** (Franklin High School), **Emily Sono** (Grant High School), and **Emily Zou** (David Douglas High School).

The Buddhist Daihonzan Henjyoji Temple Japanese Art Award recognizes excellence in traditional Japanese art forms and was presented for the first time this year to **Leigh Nishi-Strattner** of Wilson High School. Leigh studied classical Kabuki Japanese dance for 11 years under Sensei Sahomi Tachibana, and performs in the community for various events throughout the year. She is also a member of Unite People, co-editor

of her school newspaper and is a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist.

Good luck and best wishes to all our youth for a future filled with promise and hope. Always remember that we are your connection to your rich heritage and a resource for you. Stay in touch - we'd love to hear from you!

# 日系コミュニティー・ピクニック

## NIKKEI COMMUNITY PICNIC

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2010**  
**OAKS PARK**  
(SOUTH PARK AREA - UNDER THE LARGE STRIPED TENT)  
**NOON TO 5PM**

**Join us for an afternoon of food and fun! The picnic is sponsored by organizations of the Nikkei community to celebrate our ethnic heritage.**

**We will provide at no cost:**

- Main dish: Fried Chicken
- Beverages: hot tea, soda, and beer
- Eating utensils: plates and napkins
- Watermelons
- Games and prizes and ride bracelets for kids high school and younger
- Parking

Please bring a side dish to share. In order to ensure a variety we suggest that you bring a side dish that corresponds to the alphabetical groupings listed below:

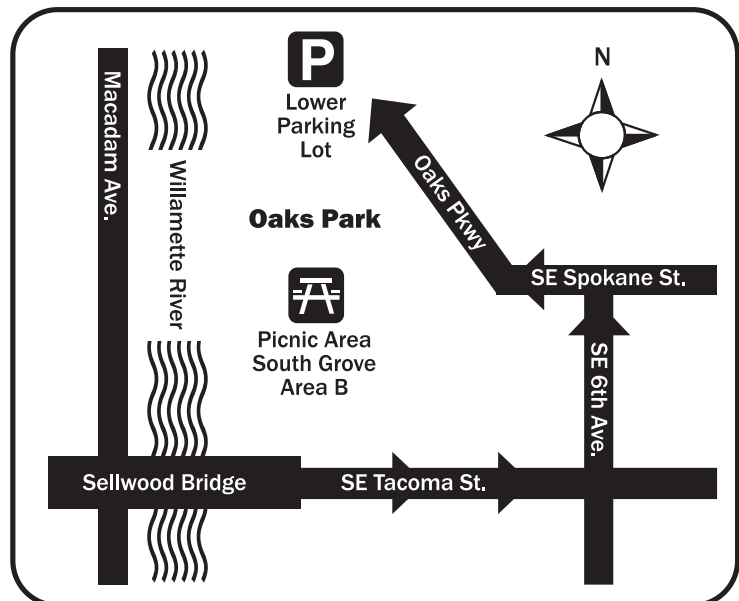
- A-Ki Rice or a noodle dish
- KI-Sa Salad or Vegetable dish
- Sc-Z Dessert or Bread

### 主催方からの供給

焼き鳥  
お茶、ソウダ、ビール  
西瓜  
遊芸と遊技の賞品  
駐車場

### 持ち合わせ品

A-Ki サラダ  
KI-Sa ごはん  
Sc-Z デザート



**Performances by Portland Taiko's Camp Kids and Youth Camp!**

**Please RSVP by August 2: Connie Masuoka at 503-243-3291.**

# JAPANESE ANCESTRAL SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

June 2010

Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, August 1, 2010 at Glendoveer Golf Course-East (14015 NE Glisan, 503.253.7507). While the JAS has hosted this event for over 20 years, the tournament was renamed in 2001 to honor and recognize Jerry for his many years of service in promoting this event. This shotgun start will begin at 7:30 a.m. with check-in starting at 6:45 a.m.

**You must be a JAS member to participate. You can include your membership dues along with your entry fee.**

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the lowest net scorer among the men's "A" and "B" flights and also to the "ladies" flight. Prizes will be awarded for KP's on all par 3 holes, a longest drive hole, and low gross honors in each flight. In case of a tie, players score cards will be evaluated from the 18<sup>th</sup> hole backwards with the first low score winning. Everyone will ride a cart, and lunch will be served at Chinese Village following the tournament. If you have a golfing preference for your foursome, please let us know and list the names of each person of your group. If a foursome is requested, please make sure that a golfer(s) of a group is not duplicated in another foursome.

**If you are not interested in golf but would like to donate to this annual event**, please call Kurtis Inouye at 503 627-0740 or Merianne Nagae 503 256-2776. Due to course regulations, we must collect your entry fee by July 21, 2010 to reserve our tee times. No exceptions! **Entry fee is \$65 which includes golf, cart, and lunch.**

Best Regards from your Golf Committee

(Al Abe, Jackie Alderman, Kay Endo, Pat Gilman, Marian Hara, Kurtis Inouye, George Kanegae, Scott Kato, Terry Kawamoto, Wimpy Kawata, Bill Koida, Gordon Kondo, Chip & Setsy Larouche, Yoji Matsushima, Merianne Nagae, Lynn M. Nishida, Lynn N. Nishida, Ken Ogawa, Katie Tamiyasu, Lew Tomita, Henry Ueno, Skip Yamamoto, Jeff Yoshida, Shig Yuzuriha)

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Please return this information from and a check for \$65 (consider renewing your membership too!) made payable to Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland, **no later than July 21, 2010**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will play      \_\_\_\_\_ I will stay for lunch      \_\_\_\_\_ Single JAS membership (\$19)

\_\_\_\_\_ I will **not** play      \_\_\_\_\_ I will **not** stay for lunch      \_\_\_\_\_ Couple JAS membership (\$29)

\_\_\_\_\_ Please accept my tax deductible donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer's Name \_\_\_\_\_ (circle) Male Female

Golfer's Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ USGA GHIN Number \_\_\_\_\_

USGA Handicap Index as of July 1, 2010 \_\_\_\_\_ or List last 5 golf scores (18 holes) \_\_\_\_\_

If playing with a group, please add names \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail form to: JAS, c/o Chris Shiraishi, 5200 SW Macadam #550, Portland, OR 97239**

## A Message From Fred Mori, Graduation Banquet Keynote Speaker

Being selected by the JACL to present the keynote address at the Japanese-American graduate banquet is among the greatest honors I have ever received. During the three months that elapsed from the time I was notified of my selection in February to the event in May, scarcely a day went by where I wasn't either drafting or fine-tuning my presentation in my mind.

I intuited from the start that the most challenging aspect of addressing the banquet audience would also be its most delightful—namely, the immense diversity of the people assembled. Every generation would be evenly represented, from young to old. Attitudes towards Japan would range from love to curiosity to no interest whatsoever. A sizable percentage of the listeners would have a military background. Some, including the Consul General, would be Japanese citizens. Religious diversity was a given.

When, at the conclusion of the event, people from across this very diverse spec-

trum approached the podium to shake my hand and express their thanks to me, I could feel for the first time that evening a great sense of relief and accomplishment. It was truly an honor.

I often like to look back at my life in terms of the handful of key turning points that helped to define it. The first event on this list occurred even before I was born—when my parents decided to immigrate to the United States. I have always been thankful to be able to live in the United States. I guard my individualism with great passion. I cherish the ability to take my own destiny into my own hands. I have changed careers numerous times without penalty. And now, past the age of 40, I find myself at the start of some kind of personal renaissance. My selection as banquet keynote speaker embodied all of this.

What impresses me most about the Japanese-American community in Portland is how it feels so organic to the area. Even for those organizations that,

like the Portland JACL, are branches of a larger national apparatus, roots into the Oregon soil are deep and broad. Perhaps it takes a well-traveled outsider like myself to appreciate how remarkable this is.

As bright and cheerful as the young high school students were at the banquet, I don't believe they are yet able to appreciate the value of the Portland JA community. And this will be the case for some time to come, as they explore the exhilaration of their independence and adulthood for the first time. But these kids are unquestionably smart, and when they reach the point in their lives when their accumulated knowledge and experiences start translating into wisdom, I can assure you that their JA roots will suddenly begin to bear amazing fruit.

I extend my hand of friendship to you all, and welcome any correspondence at [aki\\_mori@yahoo.com](mailto:aki_mori@yahoo.com).

## JACL Joins Lawsuit

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) joined with other national civil rights groups in filing a lawsuit against the implementation of SB 1070, the recently signed Arizona law that authorizes local law enforcement officers to detain those who may be suspected to be in this country without legal authorization.

This lawsuit challenges the new Arizona law that was recently passed through the Arizona State Legislature and signed into law by Arizona Governor Brewer.

JACL has expressed strong opposition to the legislation because it is seen as open season for local law enforcement officers to prey upon people of color, particularly the Hispanic population who are often the target of discriminatory detention practices of local police. Asian Americans, who have seen a long history of anti-immigrant politics, also fear the threat of detention simply because this group of American people are often mistaken for visiting foreigners.

Floyd Mori, the National Executive Director of the JACL, stated today that,

“Japanese Americans are all too familiar with law enforcement actions that have targeted their communities simply because of their ethnicity and nothing else. While there are alleged protections in the new law, we have seen the terrible impact of over zealous law enforcement who ignored the basic protections of the Constitution in the past. It was wrong to racial profile then and it is wrong today.”

The National JACL President, Larry Oda commented, “We feel it our duty and obligation to stand with our friends in the civil rights area to challenge the Constitutional validity of this new law. JACL members are at risk because Asian Americans are often seen as the perpetual foreigner and assumed to be immigrants when many are now fourth and fifth generation Americans.”

Among the other national organizations that have joined in the lawsuit are the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, the Mexican Legal Defense and Education Fund, the NAACP, the ACLU, and many other groups and individuals.

The Obama Administration has also

indicated serious reservations about the new law and is actively looking at it legally.

The JACL is the largest and oldest Asian American civil and human rights organization in the country. There are over 100 chapters throughout the United States including their Arizona chapter. The JACL held its national convention in Arizona in 2006. The members of their Arizona chapter are part of a coalition of concerned citizens who have been actively engaged in opposing the law.

# IRO IRO

## Ikoï no Kai Menu for June

### Tuesday 1

Baked Pork

### Wednesday 2

Egg Salad Sandwich  
Blood Pressure Checks

### Thursday 3

Niku Jaga  
Tai Chi Class 11:15 a.m. - noon

### Friday 4

Baked Chicken

### Monday 7

Skip's Chicken Pasta

### Tuesday 8

Maze Gohan

### Wednesday 9

Asian Chicken Wrap

### Thursday 10

Eki Bento  
Tai Chi Class 11:15 a.m. - noon

### Friday 11

Lil Okazaki's Mar Far Chicken

### Monday 14

Skip's Hamburger Curry

### Tuesday 15

Udon

### Wednesday 16

Chicken Fried Steak

### Thursday 17

Beef Teriyaki  
Tai Chi Class 11:15 a.m. - noon

### Friday 18

Baked Salmon

### Monday 21

Skip's Pork-Nishime

### Tuesday 22

Bok Choy and Beef

### Wednesday 23

Roast Beef and Cheese

### Thursday 24

Chicken Katsu  
Tai Chi Class 11:15 a.m. - noon

### Friday 25

Lil Kiyokawa's Taco Pie

### Monday 28

Skip's Calamari Steak

### Tuesday 29

Sushi Happy Birthday!

### Wednesday 30

CLOSED

## JACL Board Members

Portland JACL, PO Box 86310  
Portland, OR 97286 1 (877) 843-6914

**Jeff Selby**, Co-president  
president@pdxjacl.org

**Jim Kennedy**, Co-president  
member\_JK@pdxjacl.org

**Susan Leedham**, Vice President  
vp@pdxjacl.org

**Chip Larouche**, Treasurer  
treasurer@pdxjacl.org

**Tim Rooney**, Historian/Newsletter Editor  
newsletter@pdxjacl.org

**Setsy Larouche**, Membership Chair  
membership@pdxjacl.org

**Rich Iwasaki**, Member  
member\_RI@pdxjacl.org

**Diane Akasaka**, Secretary  
dakasaka@hotmail.com

**Kirk Tambara**, Member  
member\_SL@pdxjacl.org

**Dr. Connie Masuoka**, Member  
picnic@pdxjacl.org

**Lynn Longfellow**, Member  
llongfellow@jaso.org

**John Kodachi**, Member  
member\_JS@pdxjacl.org

**Linda Tanaka**, Member  
member\_LT@pdxjacl.org

**Marleen Ikeda Wallingford**, Member  
scholarship@pdxjacl.org

**Jean Yamamoto**, Member  
member\_JY@pdxjacl.org

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And a big thank you to **Chris Onchi**. Chris has been printing our labels and making data entry changes. Chris has her own business called Chris's Mailing Service, at (503) 452-6864.

## JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE (JACL)

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