

PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1928,
Portland JACL is one of
the most respected civil
rights organizations in
the country.



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2010 • VOLUME 16, ISSUE 3

Check Out the New Website

October 15: Scholarships

Last day to join one of the 11 sponsoring organizations for high school seniors to qualify for local scholarships! Students can join Portland JACL for only \$30 and qualify for thousands of dollars of local and national scholarships. Call Setsy Larouche for details.

October 23: Pacific NW District Meeting

6840 Fort Dent Way
Tukwila, WA
Hosted by White River Chapter

October 24: Epworth Fall Bazaar

October 29-30:
National JACL Board Meeting
San Francisco, California

November 4, 6:00 p.m.:
Lecture: "Intensifying the
Japan-Vietnam Relationship"
by Dr. Yoshiharu Tsuboi,
Waseda University
Portland State University SMSU
327/8
www.cjs.pdx.edu

November 7:
Veterans Day Observance
Rose City Cemetery at 2 p.m.
Followed by Observance at
Willamette National Cemetery
and Dinner at Chinese Village

Co-president's Message by Jim Kennedy

It's been another busy summer for Portland JACL and our community but I'm excited about October. This is a big month for Portland JACL because we are launching our new website and hopefully improving the way we communicate. Last month we introduced the updated newsletter and hopefully you found it to be just as informative as ever and easier to read. The newsletter has long been the cornerstone of news for community issues and events and our new editor Michael Yamamoto is committed to uphold that tradition. In an all out effort to update and improve our communications, we have also updated our website as the next step and new direction for the Portland JACL community. In addition to delivering community news as with the newsletter, the goal of the new website is to create a forum for community dialog in which you can add your thoughts and information to the mix.

We hope you will find the new website informative, easy to navigate and easy on the eyes. Eventually we hope it will become your primary source of information for community events and activities. With that in mind we have a dedicated page for event notifications and reflections. We also added an easy to access event calendar to keep you abreast of upcoming activities. Similarly there is a dedicated page for news concerning the community

and civil rights in keeping with the newsletter tradition. You will also be able to download past issues of the newsletter.

We are also proud to provide dedicated space for Unite People to keep us all up to date with youth activities and plans. Unite People are without question the best JACL youth group in the country and it's about time they had a voice. In fact, it's fine time that any of our members have the opportunity to reach the community at large. With that in mind, the new website contains a blog in which anyone can contribute news or thoughts pertinent to the community. This is a game changer that transforms the website from being an alternative newsletter to being a vehicle for community conversation.

In my time working with the Portland JACL board I've enjoyed the opportunity to meet with members at the various community events. It's fun to go to the events and comforting to see familiar faces. However, events are filled with activities and we rarely find time to talk about issues that concern us. Further, good conversational topics can pop up and fade away before we have the opportunity to talk at a gathering. I hope the website can serve as a means to talk about issues that concern us as they happen and while passions run high.

So, like I said, it's a big month for Portland JACL and we are

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PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

Board Members Message continued

excited. We're excited about the new website and about the opportunity to better provide information to our members, about giving Unite People a voice, and for the potential community dialog. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank former Chapter President Scott

Sakamoto and Ronin Studios for developing the new website and giving us the ability to better communicate. So please go to: www.pdxjacl.org to check out the website, find the blog and let us know what you think.

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

October found Oregon Nikkei Endowment helping to celebrate Oregon Days of Culture and Archives Month. October 1-8 were Oregon Days of Culture and on the 8th we offered free admission to the Legacy Center. O.N.E. also participated in an Archives Crawl on October 2nd in conjunction with October being archives month. The crawl featured access to four institutions, the new home of the Portland Archives & Records Center, Portland State University Millar Library, Multnomah County Central Library and the Oregon Historical Society. Other participating archives were part of an open house at either OHS or the library and included institutions such as O.N.E., Oregon

Jewish Museum, Willamette University, Lewis & Clark College, the Oregon State University, the Mazamas, the Washington County Museum and many more. O.N.E. also hosted an archives open-house here at the Legacy Center on Saturday, October 9th where visitors learned what we collect, how we take care of our objects and get the chance to meet the Collections Committee.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Volunteer Tea at O.N.E., November 13th 1:00 p.m. If you are a volunteer for ONE, please join us at our Volunteer Tea to thank you for your contributions over the last year. Sponsored by the ONE Board and Staff. RSVP at (503) 224-1458 or info@oregonnikkei.org

JACL Applauds Passage Of 1055 Gold Medal Bill

Washington, DC - The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil and human rights organization, applauds the passage of S 1055, the Gold Medal Bill, which passed the House of Representatives today. The JACL acknowledges the leadership and work of Senator Barbara Boxer and Congressman Adam Schiff in passage of the bill.

This bill recognizes the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service with the nation's highest civilian honor by the United States Congress. The recognition extends not only to those who are living but to those who were killed in action and those who have passed on.

JACL National Executive Director, Floyd Mori, commented on the debate. "It was very emotional to listen to Congressman after Congressman extol the valor of the Japanese American soldiers during World War II in spite of the fact that their families were incarcerated behind barbed wire for no reason other than their race. Many referred to the similarity of then and today's hatred aimed at loyal Muslim Americans. We thank the veterans, and we commend the Congress for the

unanimous support of a measure that provides a great lesson that patriotism is beyond color and ethnicity." Congressman Adam Schiff, who introduced the House version of the bill, had stated: "... Man for man they were the most highly decorated combat units of the war. I can't imagine a group more deserving of Congress' highest honor."

Terry Shima and Grant Ichikawa, who are World War II Veterans and leaders of the Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA), worked tirelessly with JACL staff in visiting Senate offices on Capitol Hill to ask for co-sponsorships of the bill. The Senate had passed S 1055 unanimously and also passed the amendment to include the Military Intelligence Service to the bill. With the passage of the amended version in the House, the next step is for the President to sign the bill.

David Kawamoto, JACL National President, stated: "The Japanese American veterans of World War II are absolutely deserving of this recognition with the nation's highest civilian honor. Their patriotism during difficult times is exemplary. This honor is long overdue but welcome. We are very happy that this bill has passed so overwhelmingly."

Unite People Announcement

Find Treasures and Support Youth

Please join us Friday and Saturday, October 22nd and 23rd for Unite People's first fundraising event of the year, a huge garage sale. The money earned from the sale will go towards defraying the costs of Unite People attending the Minidoka Pilgrimage and Civil Rights Symposium in Twin Falls, Idaho in July 2011.

The garage sale will be held at 15145 SW Copper Court, Beaverton, 97007. The major cross streets are Murray and Weir. The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Please check the website pdxjacl.org for highlighted items.

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GARAGE SALE

To benefit Unite People (JACL Youth)

When: October 22nd and 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Where: 15145 SW Copper Court, Beaverton, OR 97007

For more information check the website pdxjacl.org or call Connie (503) 318-5839

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Letter to the Editor

On the anniversary of the destruction of the World Trade Center, we are reminded that the differences among us can both enrich and demean our lives and society. Our differences in faith, race, and ethnicity can be celebrated, or can serve as a focal point of distrust, discrimination, and harm. Worse, in a prejudicial effort to punish others, we not only violate the rights of a few, we weaken the civil rights of all.

We are distressed but not surprised by the recent misplaced hostility toward the Muslim community in New York City. Their proposed building of a Muslim Community Center two blocks from the former World Trade Center site is an echo of the anti-Muslim sentiment our nation experienced in the days after 9/11. We

are reminded of a time when the Japanese American community was also the victim of misplaced blame and hostility. The attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan in 1941 led to the forced incarceration of 120,000 people of Japanese descent, 2/3 of whom were US citizens. Oregon Nikkei Endowment strives to foster education and learn about the mistakes of the past, because we believe our society must never forget the importance of civil rights for all people—of every background and of every faith.

- Oregon Nikkei Endowment Board



Ikoï no Kai Menu for October

Friday 1
Colombian Chicken/Potato
Soup

Monday 4
Mac & Cheese

Tuesday 5
Green Cabbage & Pork in
Broth

Wednesday 6
Closed

Thursday 7
Yaki-butã

Friday 8
Lil Okazaki's Mar Far
Chicken

Monday 11
Picadillo

Tuesday 12
Udon

Wednesday 13
Closed

Thursday 14
Chicken Katsu

Friday 15
Spaghetti

Monday 18
Clam Chowder, Bread
Pudding

Tuesday 19
Autumn Harvest

Wednesday 20

Closed

Thursday 21
Niku Jaga

Friday 22
Closed

Monday 25
Cheese & Egg Souffle

Tuesday 26
Birthday Sushi

Wednesday 27
Closed

Thursday 28
Donburi

Friday 29
Kielbasa & Sauerkraut

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Your Portland JACL Newsletter comes to you thanks to DocuMart on SW Main in Portland, who prints it at a greatly reduced cost. Please consider them for your printing needs: 503-228-6253.

A big thank you to Chris Onchi, as well, Chris has been printing our labels, making data entry changes, and assisting with the annual calendar for many years. Her business is Chris' Mailing Service: 503-452-6864.



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