

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

November 13, 1 p.m.:
O.N.E. Volunteer Tea

November 25:
Happy Thanksgiving!

December 3, 4 p.m.:
Japanese Garden Holiday
Show & Sale Opening

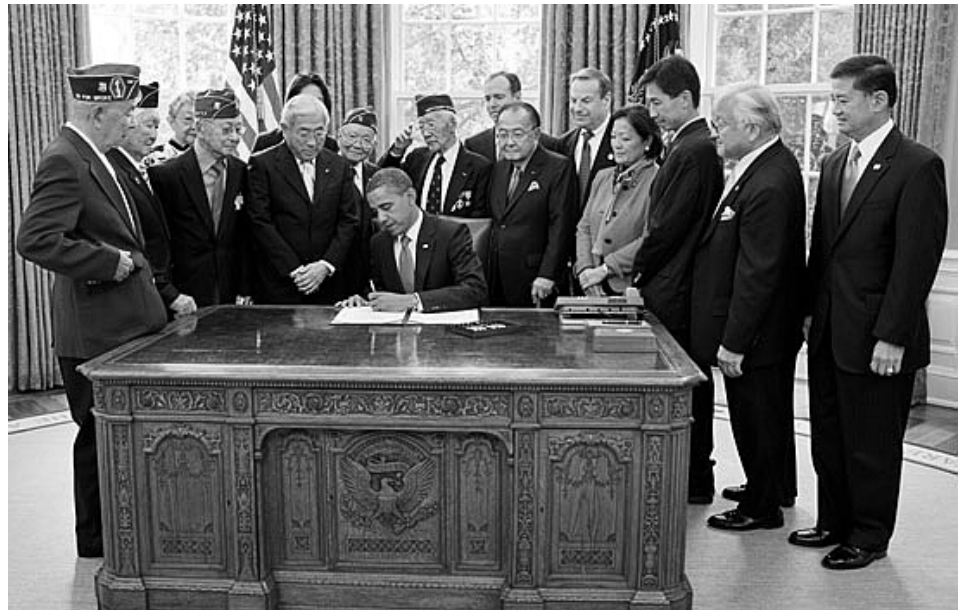
December 25:
Merry Christmas!

January 1:
Happy New Year!

January 30, Noon - 4 p.m.:
Mochitsuki Celebration
Scottish Rite Center
Ticket information coming soon!

NOVEMBER 2010 • VOLUME 16, ISSUE 4

The Congressional Gold Medal is a reality!



White House photo by Pete Souza

Board Member's Message by Chip Larouche

On October 5, 2010, President Obama signed a bill authorizing the award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service, to honor the predominantly Nisei units for their service during World War II. Floyd Mori, the executive director of the Japanese American Citizens League, was among the small group who joined President Obama for the intimate signing.

"I became very emotional, because there were only 15 of us there, with the President in the Oval Office," Mori said. "He greeted each one of us and made some very nice comments, about things like being from Hawaii and being close

to some of the families of some of the veterans. He also said that we stand today on the shoulders of those soldiers who served us." Mori explained that the visitors surrounded the presidential desk and that President Obama—as is customary—used several pens to put his name to the document.

Now that the bill has been signed, planning has started for the presentation ceremony that will be held next year, either in the summer or fall. The medal design is being worked on and will be produced by the U.S. Mint. Replicas of the medal will be available for sale to veterans, their families and the general public. As part of the planning process, data on veterans who served in the 100th, the 442nd, and the MIS is being collected as

(Continued on next page)

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Board Members Message continued

well as information about next of kin for those veterans who are deceased, as well as information about family members who may accompany the veterans to the ceremony. It is hoped that a large contingent from the Pacific Northwest will be able to attend the festivities in Washington, D.C. when the Congressional Gold Medal is presented to the predominantly Nikkei units of the 100th, the 442nd and the MIS.

For all veterans from the 100th, the 442nd and the MIS and their next of kin, please find in this newsletter, a letter from the Oregon Nisei Veterans and an information collection sheet that can be filled out by any veteran of those units or anyone who knows of a veteran who served in those units. Incomplete data is acceptable and can be sent to the email or the postal address that is included in the letter. This is a wonderful recognition for such decorated units and the board of Portland JACL joins me in congratulating all veterans who have served in these units during the World War II timeframe.

On a related note, Setsy and I went to visit the Nisei Veterans Committee Memorial Hall in Seattle. We were given a tour of the facility by Yuzo Tokita (pictured

below) who is a former Commander of the Seattle Nisei Veterans and an Air Force F-4 fighter pilot who served in Vietnam. We spent almost two hours visiting the newly renovated Memorial Hall as well as the Memorial Wall located just outside the facility which honors over 100 years of service of veterans and their families from the Pacific Northwest. The Seattle Nisei Veterans are also engaged in contacting all of the 100th, 442nd and MIS veterans in their area concerning the Congressional Gold Medal that will be awarded next year.

Spearheading the effort here in Portland is Setsy Sadamoto Larouche, representing both Portland JACL and the Oregon Nisei Veterans, and Mari Watanabe from the Oregon Nikkei Endowment who is on the National Steering Committee for the Congressional Gold Medal planning.

And lastly, speaking of planning, the Mochitsuki Committee is hard at work putting together the best Mochitsuki Festival ever! Note the save the date flyer included in the newsletter and please make plans to come to the Mochitsuki celebration at the Scottish Rite center for the New Year on Sunday, January 30, 2011!



JACL Board Member
Setsy Larouche with
Yuzo Tokita

PORTLANDJACL
NEWSLETTER



OREGON NISEI VETERANS, INC.

October 5, 2010

Dear Fellow Veterans, Families and Friends:

The US Congress has passed a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) collectively to the 100th, 442nd and MIS. Personnel in the Military Intelligence Service who qualify for the CGM are those who “intercepted radio transmissions, translated enemy documents, interrogated enemy prisoners of war, volunteered for reconnaissance and covert intelligence missions, and persuaded enemy combatants to surrender” while they served overseas or in the US during WW II. All members and families of the 100th, 442nd and MIS and the Japanese American community are deeply grateful and humbled to receive the highest civilian honor Congress can bestow on an individual or group.

The National Veterans Network (NVN), www.nationalveteransnetwork.com is an organization of 22 Japanese American veterans and civic organizations which was organized to assist the US Congress as appropriate to organize a two-day program in Washington, D.C. to celebrate this important event.

Congressional sources have informed us that priority for seating will be given to living veterans of the 100th, the 442nd, and the MIS. NVN believes that widows or next of kin of Nisei killed in action or deceased veterans also should be recognized for priority seating. We will strive to achieve that goal.

The date of the award ceremony will be announced by the Speaker of the House. Because of the extensive preparatory work that must be done, e.g. the minting of the medal, we believe the award date will be in Summer or Fall of 2011. Also, we have been advised that there is only one gold medal that will be presented to all three units. Replicas of the medals will be available for sale at the time of the congressional ceremony.

The first step in this endeavor is to take a headcount of those in the following categories who are planning to come to Washington, D.C. for the two-day award festivities. Would you please provide the information (form enclosed) as soon as possible to Setsy S. Larouche at larouche@msn.com , or at 12811 SE Hawks Crest Place, Happy Valley, OR 97086.

Please use the enclosed envelope to send back the important information.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 503-698-4656.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Setsy S. Larouche'.

Setsy Sadamoto Larouche
Commander

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

Information for veterans and family of the 100th, the 442nd, and the MIS

Congressional Gold Medal

We would like to reach the maximum number, if not all of the 100th, 442nd, and MIS veterans who served during WW II and the Occupation. Feel free to call your 100th, 442nd, and MIS friends, send them a copy of this letter, and suggest to them to respond or please let us know the names and contact data and we will contact them.

Again, please let Setsy Sadamoto Larouche know as soon as possible if you plan to attend or plan to attend if transportation and accommodations are provided. For further information, please contact me at 503-698-4656 or email at larouche@msn.com.

Information about the VETERAN

Last Name of Veteran:		First Name:	Middle Name or Initial:
Nickname or Preferred Name:		Is the Veteran deceased:	
Address:			
City:		State:	ZIP:
Email or Fax#:		Phone:	
For members of the 100 th and 442 nd :	Company	Date of Service	
For members of the MIS:	Year Attended Language School:	Did you attend another language School?	
Location Served:		Date of Service	

Are you Planning to attend Washington DC Activities? (Yes, No, Maybe)	
Total People in Party	Special arrangements: (Wheel Chair, Honor Flight, etc.)
Please provide first and last names and relationship of all in your party. This is needed for seating and to facilitate entry in US Capitol Building	

Information on Widow or Next of Kin of a 100th, 442nd, or MIS Veteran

Last Name of family member:		First Name:	Middle Name or Initial:
Nickname or Preferred Name:			
Address:			
City:		State:	ZIP:
Email or Fax #:		Phone:	
Are you Planning to attend Washington DC Activities? (Yes, No, Maybe)			
Total People in Party	Special arrangements: (Wheel Chair, etc.)		
Please provide first and last names and relationship of all in your party. This is needed for seating and to facilitate entry in US Capitol Building			

Mochitsuki is coming!

15th Annual Japanese American New Year Celebration

Mochitsuki 2011 - Portland, Oregon

**COME
CELEBRATE!**

Sunday, January 30, 2011

Noon - 4pm

Scottish Rite Center

709 SW 15th Ave, at Morrison Street

- Traditional Mochi Pounding
- Three Stage Performances
- Hands-on Family Activities
- Japanese Arts & Crafts
- Community Groups & Vendors
- Japanese Cuisine



Questions?

Is your group interested in participating?

Contact the event coordinator:

Malia Acohido

email: malia@eightbridgesdesign.com

tel: 503-333-9926

Stay tuned for info coming on our website,
facebook, and twitter

**TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF PRE-SALE
TICKET PRICES!!**
*tickets will cost more
at the door on day
of the event*

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

Join us for **TAKEN: FBI, a first of its kind exhibit opening this December at Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center!**

Portland, OR - October 19, 2010 - Oregon Nikkei Endowment's celebration of its 20th year in 2010 culminates with the opening of the exhibit, **TAKEN: FBI** opening December 8, 2010 and running through May 30, 2011. This exhibit brings to light the experiences of the families of 118 individuals in the Portland area and 17,477 in the western United States taken into custody by the local authorities, then imprisoned by the FBI and Department of Justice directly following the bombing of the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

A little known prelude to the internment, prominent members of the Japanese American community—mostly men—were rounded up by FBI agents just hours after the bombing. Shackled and whisked away, often after dark with no explanations given to them or

to their bewildered and stunned families, they were then sent to “special” camps in remote, secret sites across the United States, different from the ones their families would begin to occupy from the summer of 1942. Who were these individuals? How was the FBI able to target them so soon after the surprise attack? How was this possible in a nation founded by and built on the toil and personal sacrifices of immigrants? What did it mean for a country that claimed, and was internationally recognized for, its democratic principles of “liberty and justice for all?”

In support of the mission of Oregon Nikkei Endowment, the Center for Japanese Studies and the Center for Public Humanities at Portland State University will also be sponsoring special lectures and programs relevant to this exhibit.



Oregon Inmates at the Santa Fe Department of Justice Camp, ONLC 01751

All dates listed are 2011

January 13: Dr. Brian Hayashi of Kyoto University speaks on Asian Americans in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) during World War II. Lecture at Portland State University.

February 11: Day of Remembrance, held yearly on February 19th, commemorates the signing of Executive Order 9066 which led to the incarceration of over 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. In conjunction with Day of Remembrance activities, on February 11th Dr. Lon Kurashige of USC will present “From Yellow Peril to Multiculturalism: Chester Rowell and Japanese Immigration Exclusion.” Lecture at Portland State University.

March: A two-part workshop will demonstrate how

to research and request records including FBI files from the National Archives and Records Administration. Assistance and instruction with looking up records on-line as well as how to obtain copies will be addressed. Time, dates and location to be announced.

April 22 & 23: Join Neil H. Simon, award-winning filmmaker and journalist for a director's cut screening of his new film on the Santa Fe detention camp. The film documents the Department of Justice internment camp in Santa Fe as well as the internment experience in Lordsburg and Fort Stanton in the state's south. From 1942 to 1946 (six months after the war's

(Continued on next page)

Join us for TAKEN continued

end), the Santa Fe camp held more than 4,500 men – mostly community leaders, teachers, Buddhist ministers and others – people who the U.S government most feared would organize Japanese loyalty during World War II. Time and location to be announced.

May 12: Book signing and reading by Dr. Priscilla Wegars from her book *Imprisoned in Paradise: Japanese Internee Road Workers at the World War II Kooskia Internment Camp*. The book describes a unique, virtually forgotten, World War II detention and road building facility that was located on the remote, wild, and scenic Lochsa River in north central Idaho. Between mid-1943 and mid-1945 the Kooskia

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

By Henry Sakamoto

Echoes of Struggle and Hope: 20 Years of the Japanese American Historical Plaza, the current exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, closes November 14, 2010. Come see and appreciate the dedication and determination of supporters of the Historical Plaza from the inception of the plan to its dedication on August 3, 1990.

Our next exhibit, *Taken:FBI*, opens December 7, 2010 with a special members preview. Following the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii by the Government of Japan, the FBI commenced arresting and detaining people of Japanese ancestry. These arrests were made on the basis of ancestry not on the basis of a crime. It has been reported that the Census Bureau provided the FBI with information on the Japanese population in each county on the West Coast in violation of the United States privacy laws. Exhibit opens to the public on December 8, 2010.

Osechi Ryori (Japanese New Year's food) on sale now! Support the Oregon Nikkei Endowment and enjoy traditional Japanese New Year's foods (osechi ryori) prepared by Nikkei community cooks, displayed in a three-tiered lacquer box (jubako). Cost is \$125 with jubako box, \$100 if you have your own jubako box. Order deadline is December 17, 2010. Buy on line www.oregonnikkei.org or call 503-224-1458.

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

(KOOS-key) camp held an all-male contingent of some 265 so-called "enemy aliens" of Japanese ancestry. Book signing and reading held at 5pm at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center. Free and open to the public. This program was made possible in part by a grant from Oregon Humanities (OH), a statewide non-profit organization and an independent affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which funds OH's grant program.

Sponsored in part by the Oregon Heritage Commission, Portland State University, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, and Target.

Clark Center Loaves & Fishes November 2010 Menu



Monday 1 - Vegetable Lasagna

Tuesday 2 - Breaded Tilapia

Wednesday 3 - Chicken a la King

Thursday 4 - Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce

Friday 5 - Dijon Turkey

Monday 8 - Open Faced Sloppy Joe

Tuesday 9 - Meat Loaf

Wednesday 10 - Chicken Provence

Thursday 11 - Closed Veteran's Day Holiday

Friday 12 - Baked Fish w/ Cucumber Dill Sauce

Monday 15 - Cheese Ravioli

Tuesday 16 - Tuna Tetrazinni

Wednesday 17 - Chicken w/ Orange Glaze

Thursday 18 - Swedish Meatballs

Friday 19 - Roast Turkey w/ Gravy

Monday 22 - BBQ Chicken

Tuesday 23 - Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce

Wednesday 24 - Sweet & Sour Pork

Thursday 25 - Closed Thanksgiving Day

Friday 26 - Baked Fish w/ Tartar Sauce

Monday 29 - Chicken w/ Noodles

Tuesday 30 - Turkey Pot Roast



Monday 1
Shrimp Foo Young

Tuesday 2
Oden

Wednesday 3
CLOSED

Thursday 4
Buta Dofu

Friday 5
Chili con Carne

Monday 8
Spanokopita

Tuesday 9
Beef & Veggie Stir Fry

Wednesday 10
CLOSED

Thursday 11
Tempura

Friday 12
Lil Okazaki's Chow Mein

Monday 15
Swedish Meatballs

Tuesday 16
Pan Fried Noodles

Wednesday 17
CLOSED

Thursday 18
Birthday Sushi

Friday 19
Ginger Pumpkin Soup

Monday 22
Hoisin Chicken

Tuesday 23
Croquets

Wednesday 24
CLOSED

Thursday 25
CLOSED

Friday 26
CLOSED

Monday 29
Skip's Calamari

Tuesday 30
Chicken Teriyaki

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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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