

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### December 25

- Christmas Day

### January 1

- New Year's Day

### January 12, noon

- Portland JACL Annual Meeting & Officer Installation  
Chinese Village Restaurant  
(See details inside)

### January 20

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### January 26, noon

- Mochitsuki Festival  
Scottish Rite Center

### January 30, 6pm

- Dr. Carol Gluck  
Modernity in Common  
Japan and World History  
Lincoln Hall 75, PSU

### January 31

- Chinese New Year

### February 14

- Valentine's Day

### February 23

- Day of Remembrance  
Hoffmann Hall, PSU

### March 2

- OBT Spring Bazaar

### March 16

- Nichiren Mini-Bazaar

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## Asian Heritage Night

*Board Members Message by John Kodachi*

The Portland Trailblazers announced that Thursday, December 12th will be "Asian Heritage Night" at the new Moda Center. That's when Jeremy Lin and the Houston Rockets come into town to take on our Blazers. It should be an exciting game, so be sure to get your ticket!

This will be the second year the Trailblazers have held an Asian Heritage Night. As a life-long Blazers fan, however, we never had a specially designated night for Asians when Geoff Petrie, Sidney Wicks, Bill Walton, Maurice Lucas, Jerome Kersey, or Clyde Drexler were nailing long-range shots or throwing down rim-rattling dunks during the '70s, '80s, or '90s. No, the Trailblazers celebrating the Asian heritage of Portland fans is definitely a new event.

I, like many others, certainly welcome it, but Jeremy Lin—the Taiwanese-American and Harvard graduate whose sensational play with the New York Knicks sparked a world craze known as "Linsanity"—is not the first Asian NBA player or coach.

Back in the '90s, I remember watching Rex Walters, a 6'4" point guard whose mother is Japanese, play for New Jersey Nets and Philadelphia 76ers. There was also Raymond Townsend, a 6'3" point guard whose mother is Filipino, playing for the Golden State Warriors in the late '70s.

However, both Walters and Townsend do not look Asian. Perhaps that's why the Trailblazers didn't have Asian Heritage Night back then.

In 2004, there was Yuta Tabuse, a 5'9" point guard, who played briefly with the Phoenix Suns. Tabuse was the first Japanese-born player in the NBA, but saw the court sparingly and was eventually released from the team. Maybe that explains why the Trailblazers didn't hold a special Asian night when the Blazers played the Suns.

Later, a wave of Asian seven footers came. Leading the charge was Yao Ming, a 7'6" center from China, who played for the Houston Rockets for nine years from 2002 to 2011. Yao was the number 1 pick in the 2002 NBA draft and went on to appear in eight All-Star games. Despite being one of the most popular players in the league, the Trailblazers never held an Asian Heritage Night when Yao played.

There was also Wang Zhizhi, a 7'1" center from China, who played for the Dallas Mavericks, Los Angeles Clippers, and Miami Heat, and Yi Jianlian, a 7'0" power forward also from China, who came off the bench on several NBA teams during his career.

The Trailblazer even got into the mix when we drafted Ha Seung Jin, a 7'3" center from South Korea. While Ha had the size to compete in the NBA, his skills and athleticism were, unfortunately, a

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

## Board Members Message continued

different story. Again, despite the presence of Asians in the NBA, there was no special heritage night for Chinese, South Koreans, Asians, or, for that matter, 7' people to watch Yao, Wang, Yi, or Ha play.

Don't get me wrong. I support and applaud the Trailblazers for celebrating the heritage of Asians, as well as other groups, but I'm just a bit concerned if the organization is embracing Asian fans only when there's an NBA player who (i) physically appears to be Asian, (ii) is born in the U.S., (iii) is not 7' tall, and (iv) is a starter on the team. That's a very select group.

If memory serves me right, the last player to fit that bill was Wataru "Wat" Misaka, a 5'7" Japanese-American point guard, who, in 1947, was the first non-Caucasian player to play in the NBA, known then as the Basketball Association of America. Wat broke the color barrier in the NBA about the same time as Jackie Robinson did in professional baseball, but with much less fanfare. Wat played before my time, so I never saw him play, but he clearly was a true trailblazer in every sense.

And if Jeremy's career is cut short by injuries, which is something Blazer fans know only too well, I'd rather not wait around for another sixty-six years to celebrate my Asian heritage and professional

basketball. Instead, the Blazers, as well as other professional teams, should host a special night each season because of one simple reason: there are a lot of fans of the team, who happen to be Asian or identify themselves as Asian. It's the love the game, not the player's ethnicity, which causes fans to fill the seats.

Moreover, even if there are no superstar Asian players out on the floor, we can applaud the accomplishments and contributions to the game made by other Asians, such as Erik Spoelstra, who is the current head coach of the Miami Heat.

Erik, whose mother is Filipino and who graduated from Jesuit High in Beaverton, is the first Asian American head coach in the four major professional sports. In 2012 and 2013, he successfully coached the Heat to back-to-back NBA championships (of course, we all know that would be different if Brandon Roy and Greg Oden had healthy knees).

So, mark your calendar for December 12th. Yes, I'll be one of the Asians cheering on Jeremy Lin, but rest assured, I'll be cheering even louder for my Trailblazers to beat the Rockets.



**Mochi order information:**  
Price: \$3.50 per pound

### Oregon Buddhist Temple MOCHI SALE

**Sunday, December 15, 2013**

**MOCHI for your  
NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES**

**Mochi pick-up information:**  
Date: Sunday, December 15, 2013  
Place: OBT Basement

**No phone orders please**

Amount ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ lbs @ \$3.50 per lb

Total amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue (off Powell)  
Portland, OR 97202

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER**

Portland • Oregon  
Sunday, Jan 26, 2014  
11am - 4pm

Scottish Rite Center  
1512 SW Morrison Street  
Near JELD-WEN Field MAX stop

# MOCHITSUKI

18th Annual Japanese American New Year Celebration

Indulge in **Japanese** and **Hawaiian** food, and enjoy the many activities of the cultural fair put on by over 30 local non-profits. Experience **mochi-pounding**, **tea ceremony**, **ikebana** (flower arranging), calligraphy, origami, children's **bento-lunch** making class, New Year's card making, **kendo**, **kimono** dress-up, games, arts & crafts, and much more!

Drop in on ongoing cultural performances throughout the day, featuring **taiko** drumming, Japanese classical dance, and music. Open seating is **first come, first served!**

## Tickets

Advance sale:

\$10 Adults, \$7 Students/Seniors

\$4 Age 12 & under

Age 4 & under free!

At the door:

\$12 Adults, \$9 Students/Seniors

\$5 Age 12 & under

Age 4 & under free!

For more information visit:

[www.mochipdx.org](http://www.mochipdx.org)

Buy tickets online at:

[www.boxofficetickets.com](http://www.boxofficetickets.com)



photo (c) Rich Iwasaki

# PORTLANDJACL

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## NEWSLETTER

### Thank You from Portland JACL!

Portland JACL would like to thank everyone listed below for their generous donations during the past year to our programs which include the Nikkei Community Picnic, our ongoing programs for civil rights advocacy, our youth program and scholarships, the Minidoka Swing Band, the Nikkei Community Directory, our annual calendar, the monthly newsletter, and the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue advertising. Domo Arigato Gozaimashita!

Please note that all donations of \$100 dollars or more are acknowledged by return mail. All others are acknowledged in our newsletter unless the donor requests a mailed acknowledgement which we are very pleased to provide.

Toshi Abe	Cyndi Furukawa	Japan Garden Society	Joyce Mayeda
Marilyn Achterman	Kip & Diann Furukawa	Johrei Fellowship	Richard -Yumiko Mayeda
Malia Acohido	Joyce Gee	Fude Kagawa	Dale & Lily Meiners
Yosh & Atsuko Akagi	Karen Grange	Yoshie Kagawa	Mary & Mas Migaki
Charles Akiyama	Lynn & Scott Grannan	George & Lily Kajiwara	Misao Minagi
Ruth Akiyama	Linda Guerber	Dana Kakishita	Emiko Mishima
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Roberta Ando	Laila Hajoo	Setsuko Kamida	Taro & Wanda Miura
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Hiroshi's Anzen	Mary Hamada	Terry Katayama	Jim & Martha Mizuta
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Bessie Asai	Ethel & Richard Hedlund	Katie & Ken Kawazoe	Irene & Floyd Mori
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Boggs	Eisaku & Alice Hiromura	Misako Kodama	Kiyo Nagae
NJ Bogle	Pat & Tom Hokama	Emi Koe	Peggy Nagae
Teresa Brandon	Craig Hondo	Bill & Nami Koida	Mary Naganuma
Betty Brooks	Joseph & Misako Hosch	Peter & Karen Koida	Sam Naito
Carol & Charles Brunner	Hyakudokai	Jerry Koike	Verne Naito
Buddist Daihonzan	Sumiko Ikata	Mary Komachi	Jim Nakadate
Henjyoji Temple	Fusako Ikeda	Janice Kondo	Lynn Nakamoto
Hugh Burleson	Kyoko Ikeda	Kim Kono	Harry & Betty Nakamura
Sharon Yasui Carrell	Ikoi no Kai	Michiko Kornhauser	Calvin & Kay Nakao
James & Lynn Charriere	Shig Imai	Richard & Edna Koyama	G Nakashima
Randy Choy	Kurtis Inouye	Chip & Setsy Larouche	John & Sandi
Nancy Clayton	Robert & Racheal Inouye	Michael J. Lee	Nakashimada
Danielson's	Ben & Sumie Ishida	Sherri Lee	Dr. Gail Nakata
Jeno Davidson	Michael & Janice Ishii	Chris & Susan Leedham	Frank & Ruth Nakata
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Dan & Patty Durgan	Mary Iwasaki	Patricia Locke	Mark Namba
Joan Yasui Emerson	Rich Iwasaki	Lynn Longfellow	Nichiren Shu Minori Kai
Kay Endo	Iwasaki Brothers	Makani Foundation	James & Linda Nigo
Epworth United	Makoto, Kyoko Iwashita	Ryohei Masuda	Rose Niguma
Methodist Church	Richard & Sammy Iwata	Connie Masuoka	Teruko Nishikawa
Shig & Frieda Fujikawa	Yoko Iwata	Nobuko Masuoka	Frank & Irene Nishimoto
Janet & Frank Fujitani	JACL Legacy Fund	Yoji & Martha	Richard Nishimoto
Karen Fujimoto	JACL PNWDC	Matsushima	Akira & Yoko Nishioka
Kay Fujita	Japanese Ancestral	George & May Matsuda	Debbie & Nick Nozaki
Janet Fujitani	Society	Jean Matsumoto	Kazumi Oda
Lori & Ray Fukunaga	JASO	Amy Matsushita	

# PORTLANDJACL

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## NEWSLETTER

Dr. Dale Ogata	Ben Sato	Tokyo Ohka Kogyo-	Skip Yamamoto
Ken Ogawa	Karen Sato	America	Takako Yamazaki
Kim Ogawa	Victor Sato	Heidi Tolentino	Judy & Hiroshi
Dale & Nancy Oishi	John & June Schumann	Lew & Jean Tomita	Yamauchi
Roy & Jere Okada	Toshiko & Dan Seeman	Sue Tomita	Cathy & Jeff Yarne
Janice Okamoto	Jeff Selby	Mitchell & Emma	Frank & Amy Yasui
Lillian Okazaki	June & Stanley Shiigi	Tomita	Homer & Miki Yasui
Myrtle Okazaki	Ann Shintani	Thomas Tone	Kenneth Yasutome
Takashi Okazaki	Kiyu Shioishi	Frances Toyooka	Yokota International
Setsuko Okino	Shokookai of Portland	Tread Water	Steve Yokota
Mary Okita	Jeff & Marilyn Sholian	George Tsugawa	Norman Yoshida
Fumiko Okubo	Tadako & Yukiko	Himeko Tsugawa	Anne Yoshitomi
Joe Onchi	Simmons	James & Amy Tsugawa	Roy & Tracey Yotsuuye
Harold & Elsie Onishi	Mitzi Stansbury	Dr. James & Lolita	Minnie Young
Oregon Buddhist	Michael J. Strassmaier	Tsujimura	Donna Yount
Temple	Bill & Ida Sugahiro	Henry & Atami Ueno	Fred Yuasa
Oregon Hiroshima Club	Michelle Sugahiro	IMO Etsu Ueno	Kiyoko Yumibe
Oregon Nikkei	Alice Sumida	Uwajimaya	Shig & Yo Yuzuriha
Endowment	Etsu & Tokiko Sumida	Barbara Uyesugi	Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
Oregon Nisei Veterans	Robert Sumoge	Sy Uyesugi	
Lilly Ono	Tom & Kazue Sumoge	Nobuko Uyetake	
Herb & Etsuko Osaki	The Sunamoto Family	Lisa Uzunoe	
Ota Family Tofu	Keiichi & Nahoko Suzuki	Aiko Vail	
Valerie Otani	Matti Suzuki	Veleda Club	
William Otani	Kay Sweeney	Kaneko Wagar	
Robert & Fusako	Sahomi Tachibana	Michael Walcott	
Ouchida	Sharon & Wayne	Marleen & Roger	
Dr. Albert & Masuko	Takahashi	Wallingford	
Oyama	Gregg & Laura	Del & Beti Ann	
Oya No Kai	Takashima	Wantroba	
Fran & Keith Palk	Ned & Jean Takasumi	Alice Watanabe	
Hatsumi Park	Ernest Takeda	Alvin & Tamara	
Wendolyn Thea Peace	Minoru & May	Watanabe	
Amy & John Peterson	Takemoto	Dale Watanabe	
Portland Japanese	Kirk & Judi Tambara	George Watanabe	
Women's Club	Katie Tamiyasu	Ruth Sono Watanabe	
Joel & Carole Remme	Linda Tamura	May Watari	
Atsuko Richards	Robert & Kazumi	Tamiyo Watari	
Larry Richardson	Tamura	Wayne Nishimura	
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Carrie Saito	Henry Tanino	Carolyn Woody	
Fumi Saito	Alice & Benny Tano	Jimmy & Grace Yabuki	
Henry Saito	Chisato Tara	Sara Yada	
Ken & Beatrice Saito	Constance Tarazawa	Kan & Miyeko Yagi	
May Saito	Sandra Tashima	Kenji Yaguchi	
Henry & A. Julianne	Tenrikyo Portland	Terry Yamada	
Sakai	Church	Mary Yamaguchi	
Shiuko Sakai	Hajime & Shizumi Terao	Grace Yamaki	
Henry Sakamoto	Gary Terusaki	Ralph & Jean	
Scott Sakamoto	Jeffrey Tobias	Yamamoto	
Sake One	Jess & Kumiko Toda	Michael Yamamoto	

PORTLAND **JACL**  
NEWSLETTER

# Osechi Ryori

Japanese New Year's Food



Jubako box style  
and food content  
may vary

IN SUPPORT OF  
OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

Order at [www.oregonnikkei.org](http://www.oregonnikkei.org)

## ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ boxes at \$130 each

\_\_\_\_\_ boxes at \$100 each (provide your own jubako)

Checks: Make payable to Oregon Nikkei Endowment

Credit card:  MC  Visa  Amex  Discover

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Security code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

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*). Drop off your *jubako* marked with your name at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 NW 2nd Avenue, Portland by Friday, December 13.

The traditional foods will include: nishime, kimpira gobo, kazunoko, makizushi, sekihan, and more...

**Cost:** \$130.00 include the jubako box and foods OR \$100.00 if you provide your own jubako box. (\$60 is tax deductible).

**DEADLINE to order:** Friday, December 13, 2013

**For more information:** 503-224-1458 or [info@oregonnikkei.org](mailto:info@oregonnikkei.org)

**Mail order form to:** Oregon Nikkei Endowment, 121 NW 2nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97209

**Or order online:** [www.oregonnikkei.org](http://www.oregonnikkei.org)

**ORDER PICK-UP:** available on Tuesday, December 31, 2013, from 2:30-3:30 PM, at the Oregon Buddhist Temple (3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland)



OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

## Help Needed to Find Antique Radio's Owner

Portland JACL recently received this request from Pat Kagi, Northwest Vintage Radio Society, to locate a Japanese American family who lived in Gresham at the time of the World War II incarceration in order to return an antique console radio believed to belong to the family. Do you know who lived at 129 NE Liberty Avenue in Gresham? Or at 109 NE Liberty Avenue, Gresham? Any information will be greatly appreciated even if it doesn't go all the way back to the war years as any clues may lead to the rightful owners. Please email any of the JACL Board members listed below or call at 877-843-6914.

*"My name is Pat Kagi and I am an American born citizen of Japanese descent and also a member of the local Portland antique radio club. A Mr. William Barnett approached our radio club wishing to sell his radios. One of them was a 1938 Zenith console radio that was obtained from a Japanese family that was interned during World War II. When I heard about this, I wanted to obtain this radio and restore it and return it to its rightful owner as my mother was interned at Heart Mountain in Wyoming. When Mr. Barnett heard about my plan, he decided to gift the radio to me to help fulfill my journey. Also, when the members of the radio club heard about this, many of them offered to restore and provide any parts needed to restore the radio electronically and cosmetically."*

*"What I need from your organization is help in locating this family so that we can gift this radio back to its rightful owner. Mr. Barnett thinks that the radio was involved in a house fire at 109 NE Liberty Avenue and that the original owners were at 129 NE Liberty Avenue in Gresham, Oregon. One of our club members is researching property records to locate the family, but has not been successful yet. He also has Japanese friends when he was in high school in Gresham during this time, so he is trying this path as well."*

### Portland JACL Annual Meeting and Officer Installation at Chinese Village Restaurant

Sunday, January 12, 2014 at Noon  
Chinese Village Restaurant

Cost \$15 per person.

RSVP to Setsy@pdxjacl.org (or 503-698-4656) no later than January 8, 2014

Pay at the door. Short annual meeting program and great food.  
Please come and enjoy meeting your new board!

## YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

**Co-President:**  
Susan Leedham  
susan@pdxjacl.org

**Co-President:**  
Jean Yamamoto  
jean@pdxjacl.org

**Vice President:**  
Kirk Tambara  
kirk@pdxjacl.org

Rich Iwasaki  
rich@pdxjacl.org

Connie Masuoka  
connie@pdxjacl.org

**Newsletter:**  
Ralph Yamamoto  
ralph@pdxjacl.org

**Membership:**  
Setsy Larouche  
setsy@pdxjacl.org

**Treasurer:**  
Chip Larouche  
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Jim Kennedy  
jim@pdxjacl.org

Verne Naito  
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John Kodachi  
john@pdxjacl.org

Heidi Tolentino  
heidi@pdxjacl.org

**Secretary:**  
Marleen Ikeda Wallingford  
marleen@pdxjacl.org

Lynn Longfellow  
lynn@pdxjacl.org



**PORTLAND JACL**  
PO BOX 86310  
PORTLAND, OR 97286

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## **Ikoï no Kai at Epworth December 2013 Menu**

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland, 503-238-0775

**Monday 2** - Beef broccoli

**Tuesday 3** - Satsuma-  
jiru (pork in miso soup)

**Wednesday 4** - Closed

**Thursday 5** - Tempura  
udon

**Friday 6** - General Tso  
chicken

**Monday 9** - Holiday Meal  
featuring Huber's turkey

**Tuesday 10** - Beef curry

**Wednesday 11** - Closed

**Thursday 12** - Saba

**Friday 13** - Chinese pork  
tenderloin

**Monday 16** - Korean  
Beef & noodles

**Tuesday 17** - Chicken  
katsu

**Wednesday 18** - Closed

**Thursday 19** - Birthday  
sushi

**Friday 20** - Chicken  
lemon basil pasta

**Monday 23** - Clam chow-  
der / cod

**Tuesday 24** - Closed

**Wednesday 25** - Closed

**Thursday 26** - New Year's  
Soba

**Friday 27** - Thai shrimp /  
fried rice

**Monday 30** - Chicken ra-  
men

**Tuesday 31** - Closed

### **Menu Notes:**

- Meals include soup or salad and dessert
- **Dec 5,6:** Wreath making; signup necessary
- Dec 9:** Holiday Meal; reservations required
- Dec 10:** Fujinkai Board meeting 10:30
- Dec 12:** Sing Along Reiko and Jerry
- Dec 16:** Lunch Bunch
- Dec 23:** Kathryn Work on the piano

**DocuMart**  
Copies & Printing

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.