Portland JACL Thanks General Eric K. Shinseki

Board Member’s Message by Jean Yamamoto

Five years ago President Obama nominated General Eric Shinseki to be Secretary of Veteran Affairs and was unanimously confirmed by the Senate. General Shinseki came out of retirement and answered the call to serve once again because of his deep commitment to veterans. At that time the Walter Reed Army Medical Center neglect scandal was recently in the headlines and highlighted the pervasive and daunting problems within the military and veteran healthcare systems.

In May of this year Secretary of Veteran Affairs Eric Shinseki resigned amid scandal and corruption in the Department of Veteran Affairs. An honorable man, Secretary Shinseki trusted his senior leaders which was misplaced. Their misconduct and gaming of the appointment system led to long waiting lists and deaths of veterans who died while awaiting care. He said, “That breach of integrity is irresponsible. It is indefensible and unacceptable to me. Leadership and integrity problems can and must be fixed – and now.” However, even Speaker John Boehner said that the problems with the Veterans Affairs wasn’t just about one person but the entire system underneath him.

The Portland JACL will introduce an emergency resolution at this year’s JACL National Convention to recognize and thank General Eric K. Shinseki for his service to his country. Last year we had the privilege of hearing Secretary Shinseki deliver the keynote speech at the American Heroes Luncheon opening the Congressional Gold Medal traveling exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society. The Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor for distinguished achievements and contributions was awarded to Nisei veterans of the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service.

Eric Shinseki was born in Kauai during World War II. His uncles served in the 442 which inspired him to pursue a military career. He graduated from West Point and then completed two combat tours.
Portland JACL Thanks General Eric K. Shinseki continued

in Vietnam where he was awarded three Bronze Stars for valor and a Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster. In 1970, during a fierce gun battle he stepped on a mine and lost half his right foot. Although he could have retired he worked hard to return to active duty the next year.

After Vietnam, Shinseki continued up the military career ladder, serving at Schofield Barracks and Ft Shafter in Hawaii and then as an instructor at West Point. He went on to serve more than 10 years in Europe in a variety of assignments. He had important posts at the Pentagon and in 1991 was promoted to brigadier general, became the commanding general of the 1st Calvary Division in 1994 and then was named the commander in chief of U.S. Army forces in Europe. In 1999 President Clinton named him Army chief of staff.

In February 2003, three weeks before the invasion of Iraq, General Shinseki testified before the Senate Armed Services Committee that it would take “something on the order of several hundred thousand soldiers” to secure the country and he also warned that a post-war occupation could awaken “ethnic tensions that could lead to other problems”. Then-Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and Deputy Paul Wolfowitz scoffed at his assessment and eventually forced him out. History now shows that Shinseki was right.

When General Shinseki retired in 2003 he was the highest ranking Asian American service member.

We are grateful for General Shinseki and his 38-year military service to his country and his 5-year tenure at the Department of Veterans Affairs. Throughout his long career he has served as a positive role model for living a life of integrity and speaking truth to power. We hope that the JACL community will join us in support of a resolution to honor this war hero and inspiring public servant.

Correction to June 2014 Graduation Banquet Article

In last month’s newsletter about the graduation banquet, Consul General Hiroshi Furusawa’s presence at the banquet and his congratulatory speech to the high school seniors was inadvertently omitted. Our apologies to the Consular Office of Japan and Consul General Furusawa for our oversight. The Japanese American community is appreciative of the Japanese government’s support of our graduates.
Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 14th Annual Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, July 27th, 2014 at Glendoveer Golf Course-East (14015 NE Glisan, 503.253.7507). The shotgun start will begin at 7:30 a.m. with check-in at 6:45 a.m. The Japanese Ancestral Society Golf Tournament was renamed in 2001 to honor Jerry Inouye for his many years of service promoting this event.

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

A perpetual trophy is awarded to low net scores in men’s “A”, “B” and ladies flights. Prizes will be awarded for KP’s on all par 3 holes, long drive, and low gross in each flight. Ties will be broken by low score from the 18th hole backward. Everyone will ride a cart, awards and lunch will be served at Chinese Village after the event. If you have a golfing preference for your foursome, please let us know and list the names of each person. Please make sure that the golfer(s) are not duplicated in another foursome.

If you are not interested in golf but would like to donate to this annual event, please call Tom Kuge at 503.254.0231. Due to course requirements, we must collect entry fees by July 20th in order to insure our tee times and allow the course time to set up for the tournament.

Entry fee is $70 which includes
golf, cart and lunch


Please return this form and a check for $70 (consider renewing your membership too!) made payable to: Japanese Ancestral Society — before July 20th, 2014.

_____ I will play _____ I will stay for lunch _____ single JAS membership($25) couple($40)

_____ I will not play _____ I will not stay for lunch Please accept donation of $ __________

Golfer’s Name _______________________________ m _ f ___ GHIN# _______________________

USGA Handicap Index as of 7/1/2014 _____________ or last five golf scores ___________________

PHONE# ___________________ Preferred partners _______________________

Mail form to: JAS c/o Chris Shiraishi 5200 SW Macadam #550 Portland, Or 97239
Save the Date!
Sunday, February 22, 2015
Day of Remembrance/Nisei Appreciation Luncheon
MAC Club
More Details to follow....

---

CONTACT: Melanie Scheuermann
msazumano@gmail.com
let’s talk: 503.775.2865  text me: 503.272.8356
Oregon Historical Cemetery Grant from Parks and Recreation

The Japanese Ancestral Society, JAS, has received a small grant of $2600 to improve and maintain the Japanese Cemetery at the Rose City Cemetery. We are very appreciative to receive this grant from the Oregon Historical Cemetery funds through the Parks and Recreation.

The grant will be used to purchase cleaning and painting supplies as well as pay for specialized skill and labor for landscaping, repair of damaged and tilted gravestones, and for reproduction of faded Japanese characters on gravestones.

The Cemetery Committee of JAS will need volunteer assistance throughout the summer to fulfill the portion of Donation In Kind as an active participant. The volunteers will straighten tilting gravestones, scrub gravestones, and may also help in refurbishing faded lettering.

If you wish to volunteer, please contact Fran Sumida Palk, home 503-234-3279 or cell 503-810-3940. A volunteer cleaning and improvement schedule will be sent to you upon receiving your request.

This plea comes from the JAS Cemetery Committee Co-chairs, Ken Ono and Fran Sumida Palk.

2014 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award in History Recognizes
Twice Heroes : America’s Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea

Twice Heroes: America’s Nisei Veterans of WWII and Korea was awarded the 2014 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award in History, regarded as one of the highest national honors for small and independent publishers. The award was announced May 28th at a ceremony in New York City. Twice Heroes is the first book by writer and photographer, Tom Graves, and the first for Nassau & Witherspoon Publishers of San Francisco.

Since 1983, Independent Book Publishers Association, IBPA, the largest not-for-profit trade association of independent publishers, has been the leader for education and advocacy.

IBPA has joined readers in recognizing Twice Heroes as one of the most significant books on the history of Japanese Americans who fought for the United States while their families were interned during World War II. The Nisei became the most decorated soldiers in U.S. military history, and received the Congressional Gold Medal, Congress’ highest civilian honor, in 2011.

Twice Heroes combines the veterans’ experiences with 98 striking portraits taken by the author.

Since completing Twice Heroes, Tom Graves speaks with many groups on Nisei soldiers’ legacy of achievement, and continues his work chronicling under-recognized veterans, and adding their chapters to our history books.
ORDER FORM FOR COMMEMORATIVE LANTERNS
One Order Form for Each Lantern

ObonFest at the Oregon Buddhist Temple will again feature Commemorative Lanterns to celebrate our Kangi-e or “Gathering of Joy”. The lanterns will be hung from lines radiating from the center of the dance area. The WHITE lanterns commemorate the life of a loved one, remembering relatives, friends, or even pets regardless of when they passed away. The RED lanterns honor a living person, organization or company. The names of the honored ones are beautifully written in English and kanji/katakana. You can re-hang a previously purchased lantern to continue this joyful remembrance. The commemorative lantern order form is also available on the OBT website.

Calligraphers would like the lanterns by July 30, 2014; Re-hanging lantern order deadline: August 2, 9 am

WHITE COMMEMORATIVE LANTERN ($25)

Deceased’s Name (English): ____________________________________________________
Japanese Version (kanji/katakana):
____________________________________________________________________________
Date of Passing: ______________________________________________________________

RED COMMEMORATIVE LANTERN ($25)

Name (English): _______________________________________________________________
Japanese Version (kanji/katakana):_______________________________________________

RE-HANGING PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED LANTERN $15 for the 1st order, $10 each additional lantern

Name (English): _______________________________________________________________
Japanese Version (kanji/katakana):_______________________________________________

Purchaser’s Name: _____________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State: _______ Zip:___________________________
Phone: _________________________ email: ________________________________________

Please make checks payable to:
Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 SE 34th Ave. & Powell Blvd.
Portland, OR 97202

Lanterns will be stored at the temple. Please call the temple if you want to pick up your lantern.
OBT Phone: 503-234-9456
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

Please RSVP by August 8: Connie Masuoka at 503-243-3291
Picture Gallery

Reverend Gregory Gibbs (left) Leads the community service at the Rose City Cemetery on Memorial Day commemoration to honor our veterans who paid the ultimate price to guarantee our freedom and way of life. Photo By Setsy Larouche

Consul General of Japan, the Honorable Hiroshi Furusawa, addresses the Nikkei Community at the Memorial Day Service at Rose City Cemetery, highlighting the honor and respect of the soldiers that we commemorate and expressing appreciation and gratitude for the special friendship and cooperation that continues to be enjoyed by the Citizens of Japan and those of the United States. Photo By Setsy Larouche

On June 4, Portland JACL supported the PSU Center for Japanese Studies Third Annual Taiko Boom performance. Pictured here is a scene from the Dance Azuma Hakkei performed by Professor Wynn Kiyama with support from Angela and Akemi Kanegae, students of Sensei Sahomi Tachibana. Photo by Setsy Larouche

The Pacific Northwest District Council held a pre-convention meeting on May 31st. They were honored to have the National President, David Lin (front row left) in attendance who shared his vision for JACL in his quest for re-election to that position. Also running for National Office is Chip Larouche (front row, 2nd from left) who is running for Vice President for Planning and Development, and Nicole Gaddie (front row, 3rd from left) who is running for National Youth/Student Council Chair.
The International Celebration is a free, fun, family-friendly event showcasing our many cultures through music, dance, interactive activities, food, art and more! In 2013, more than 8,000 people attended Party in the Park, many of whom came especially for the Beaverton International Celebration.

This year, over 40 exhibitors and 11 stage performers from local cultural groups and organizations will showcase crafts, music, dance, art, traditional dress, food and more!

The 4th Annual Beaverton International Celebration showcases the many cultures of our community on Saturday, July 26, 2014 from 11 am to 5 pm, THPRD Rec Complex 158th & Walker Rd.

**Stage Performance Schedule for 2014: Stage 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 to 11:30 am</td>
<td>NW Dragon and Lion Dance Association</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 to 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Hula Halau 'Ohana Holo'oko'a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 to 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Mathias Galley African Dance Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 to 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Cambodian Dance Troupe of Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 to 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Koto Melodies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Jayanthi Raman’s NATYA Dance Academy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Stage Performance Schedule for 2014: Stage 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 to 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Rio Con Brio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 to 1:00 pm</td>
<td>Grupo Ritual Azteca Huitzilopochtli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 to 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Stage 2 S&amp;A Irish Entertainment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 to 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Chayag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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

**Vice President:**  
Marleen Ikeda Wallingford  
marleen@pdxjacl.org  

**Secretary:**  
Jean Yamamoto  
jean@pdxjacl.org  

**Treasurer:**  
Chip Larouche  
chip@pdxjacl.org  

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

**Christopher Lee:**  
chris@pdxjacl.org  

**Connie Masuoka:**  
connie@pdxjacl.org  

**Verne Naito:**  
verne@pdxjacl.org  

**Heidi Tolentino:**  
heidi@pdxjacl.org
Iko no Kai at Epworth July 2014 Menu
1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland, 503-238-0775

Tuesday 1 - Ramen
Wednesday 2 - Closed
Thursday 3 - Chicken tonkatsu
Friday 4 - Happy July 4th! Closed

Monday 7 - California Chirashizushi
Tuesday 8 - Beef donburi
Wednesday 9 - Closed
Thursday 10 - Nishime
Friday 11 - Hoisin chicken / chowmein

Monday 14 - Shrimp in lobster sauce
Tuesday 15 - Chicken yakisoba
Wednesday 16 - Closed
Thursday 17 - Assorted deep fry (fish,chicken,chikuwa)
Friday 18 - Ginger beef

Monday 21 - Dim sum plate
Tuesday 22 - Baked fish
Wednesday 23 - Closed
Thursday 24 - Somen noodles
Friday 25 - Roast pork / Singapore noodles

Monday 28 - Thai peanut chicken & salad rolls
Tuesday 29 - Birthday sushi
Wednesday 30 - Closed
Thursday 31 - Beef curry

Menu Notes:
• Meals include salad or side dish and dessert
• Mondays, 12:30-2: hanafuda and bridge
• Mon-Tue, 11:30: chair exercises
  July 8, 10:30: Fujinkai Board meeting
  July 17, 11:30: Sing Along
  July 24, 11:30: Samisen Show

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.