

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY 2012 • VOLUME 17, ISSUE 6

## Happy New Year to our Portland JACL Family

**January 22, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.**  
JACL Installation Lunch and  
Annual Meeting - Chinese  
Village. \$15pp. Call or email  
Setsu to attend

**January 29**  
Mochitsuki  
Scottish Rite Center

**February 19**  
Day of Remembrance  
Hoffman Hall  
Portland State University

**February 26**  
Congressional Gold Medal  
Luncheon  
MAC Club

**March 1**  
Deadline for Community  
Scholarships, see [www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships](http://www.pdxjacl.org/scholarships) for application

**March 4**  
Spring Bazaar  
Oregon Buddhist Temple

**March 11**  
Daylight Savings Time Begins

**April 1**  
Sakura Sunday  
100th Anniversary of Cherry  
Tree Gift from Japan

**April 21**  
JACL National Board Meeting  
San Francisco

*Board Members Message by Jean Yamamoto*

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone enjoyed a very happy holiday season which I consider started in October with Halloween (cute costumes and candy!) then on to Thanksgiving (turkey and pie!) and culminating in Christmas (gifts and celebration!). For me, the theme that ties all these events and activities is family.

Growing up my mom always emphasized the importance of family and it was important to her that we nurture a close relationship with each other. I remember the many family reunions in Hilo with all the aunts and uncles, dozens of cousins, the talent show, games, and food. There were many get-togethers throughout the year for birthday parties, holidays, and picnics, all with the extended family. Without naming it, the aunts created this cultural value of family.

How blessed I am to have this acceptance and support from my ohana.

A few months ago a friend and colleague from the Asian Pacific Network of Oregon (APANO) asked if I could meet him to talk about a project he's working on with Basic Rights Oregon called "Our Families". Earlier in the year during the annual Day of Remembrance program Portland JACL featured the human rights struggles of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) community. I thought about the mission of

Portland JACL "to secure and uphold the human and civil rights of Americans of Japanese ancestry and others and to promote and preserve the cultural heritage and values of Japanese Americans". This project sounded very much in line with our mission to promote human rights of people who identify as LGBT with a cultural value of family.

Basic Rights Oregon, Our Families is an education project to raise the visibility, experiences, and public support of LGBT families of color within predominately straight communities of color. They invited straight leaders of color to an exclusive showing of three videos which interviewed families from Latino, African American, and Asian and Pacific Islander communities. The videos highlighted the individuals' personal trials and triumphs, fears and relief in coming out to their families. We broke into small groups to discuss our reactions to seeing the videos, about how the videos resonate with our experience as community leaders, how our communities address or connect the trials or challenges that LGBT people face to our own issues, and ways to support LGBT people of color in our community.

Among the stories was that of a mother and daughter in which the mother asked why the daughter would choose something that would make life harder. As they talked the

(continued on next page)

## Board Members Message Continued

daughter realized that her mom's reaction was her general worry as a parent and not a homophobic response. Another story was of two brothers who lived for years with their own version of don't ask don't tell. The straight brother said that it's not good enough to have an absence of hostility or negativity to LGBT people. He urged straight folks to take responsibility to show their support so that LGBT family members feel that they can come out and be supported. Other stories were heartbreaking to see the fears of losing their family connections if they came out.

So what can we do as straight people to support LGBT people of color? Basic Rights Oregon gave us 10 Ways for Allies to Take Action for LGBT People of Color:

1. Come out as an ally to your family and friends. Tell them why you support LGBT families of color and why you think it's important to stand together with those families when they're being attacked or unfairly judged.
2. If you hear a homophobic joke or remark, speak up and speak out.
3. Educate yourself about the issues that LGBT families of color face in our community.
4. Recognize that there have been LGBT people of color throughout our histories and work to ensure that those histories are brought to light and shared
5. When you're talking with LGBT families of color, be sure to refer to them with the pronouns and relationship titles that they use for themselves. If

you're not sure, ask. For example never assume how someone identifies in term of gender or what pronoun they use. Also, when referencing relationship titles, use gender-neutral terms like "partner" instead of girlfriend/boyfriend/wife/husband, etc

6. Ask your employer or your union representative if your work offers domestic partnership benefits and/or transgender inclusive healthcare to LGBT employees. If yes, be appreciative. If not, ask if they would consider changing their policies to be more inclusive.
7. When you go to community organizations, ask if it is an open and affirming place for LGBT families of color
8. If you're a parent, talk to your kids about how LGBT families of color are a part of our community
9. Encourage your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to begin this dialogue in their communities
10. Breathe! It can feel overwhelming to try and be an ally to LGBT families of color, especially if you think you have to be perfect. It's an ongoing learning process for all of us, so mistakes are part of how we learn. Just keep moving forward!

To all our friends and supporters in the Portland JACL community, best wishes for peace, justice, and prosperity in the new year and a renewed commitment to fighting for inclusion and equity for all.

## Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu! (Happy New Year!)

*By Sharon Takahashi*

What would we do without our partners? In our diverse community, we have many partners to help us achieve our goals. On December 14, the Japanese Ancestral Society's volunteer elves visited 34 community members who are unable to get out and about easily. We work with the community and ask for referrals. These partners help us build our list.

I don't know how old the project is or how large its scope used to be. There is never a shortage of elves willing to drive for this project and I can safely say that was true even before GPS systems were available.

We have had grass root support for many years. Koida Greenhouses has donated those premium bright red poinsettias which you find at retail outlets each season. The sushi crew in the kitchen at Hiroshi's

Anzen manages to get our order ready for our early afternoon delivery and does it with smiles. This year Ikoi No Kai paid for the sushi bento's which we included in our gift pack as part of its outreach to the community. Hiroshi and Janie Matsushima add Satsuma oranges to the gift package. Some years attract different talented donors, such as Haru Ninomiya who adds cranes to the sack, or someone who has a case of red delicious apples, and this year baker Hannah Honma added s special mochi to the mix. Thanks, partners!

The holiday project was Haru Ninomiya's baby for many years but I decided to give it a go a few years ago, not realizing all the little intricacies involved. I am still hearing about drivers chasing residents who moved from here to there or drivers who were assigned to visit

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# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

## Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu! Continued

elders who had passed on (that's a really hard task!). Now, we call ahead to let families know when we plan to be out and we can be 100% successful.

With due respect to the families, I won't list our targeted group but I do want to recognize our elves who helped deliver our holiday cheer. Arigato to Al Abe, Kay Endo, Pat Hiromura-Gilman, Mike Irinaga, Don and Diane Matsuda, Shig Oka, Ed Tamiyasu, and Mas Yatabe.



Mrs. Betty Eki lives in Gresham and was able to corral her daughter into snapping a photo of herself with Mas Yatabe, a long time friend.

Having a partner means that someone may be able to do something when you can't. (Jane Kawashima

and Yosh Inahara trade off blood pressure clinic days.) It means that a task you stink at may be someone's passion. (Ed Tamiyasu can diagnose plumbing problems and mechanical failures much better than Gordy Kondo and myself.) A partner takes half the blame when something goes totally wrong.

Being partners makes a day's accomplishments something to take pride in. On December 22, 2011, Ikoi no Kai volunteers served 80 lunches to clients aged 13 to 99; 9 students from St. Mary's College in Nagoya, Japan, led the group in holiday songs and danced Tankobushi, the harvest song. Thank you to Azumano International for bringing the students to sit and chat at all our different tables. As many were begging the students to speak Japanese at the tables, the instructors did the opposite and asked them to "practice English." We accommodated both.

Our day's baker Lynn Yarne handed out a gift bag of cookies to each of the luncheon guests. Our dessert baking partners are Sharon Ogata's crew on Monday and Friday, Jessie and Betty Jean Harry, Lil Kiyokawa on Tuesdays, Kashu Hamada, Lil Okazaki and Lynn Yarne on Thursdays.

So, you out there, what can we do to bring you in as a partner? Come join us for lunch and see what you can add to the mix.

## Clark Center Loaves & Fishes January 2012 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

**Monday 2** - Closed, Holiday

**Tuesday 3** - Baked chicken w/ gravy or taco salad

**Wednesday 4** - Swedish meatballs or open face seafood sandwich

**Thursday 5** - Open face sloppy joe or bean & rice burrito

**Friday 6** - Cheese ravioli or broccoli quiche w/ tomato slices

**Monday 9** - Chicken w/ orange glaze or veggie chili

**Tuesday 10** - Meatloaf w/ gravy or veggie pizza

**Wednesday 11** - Veggie lasagna or shrimp salad

**Thursday 12** - Sliced roast pork w/ gravy or tuna salad sandwich

**Friday 13** - Baked fish w/ cucumber dill sauce or chicken fajita

**Monday 16** - BBQ chicken or tortellini w/ creamy tomato sauce

**Tuesday 17** - Turkey pot roast or fish filet sandwich

**Wednesday 18** - Sweet & sour pork or breakfast casserole

**Thursday 19** - Spaghetti w/ meatballs or turkey cranberry cream cheese sandwich

**Friday 20** - Baked fish w/ creole sauce or greek salad

**Monday 23** - Salisbury steak or tortellini salad

**Tuesday 24** - Dijon turkey or mediterranean sandwich

**Wednesday 25** - Meat lasagna or tomato basil veggie burger

**Thursday 26** - Swedish meatballs or chicken enchilada casserole

**Friday 27** - Chicken provence or veggie lasagna

**Monday 30** - Beef & macaroni casserole or grilled chicken breast sandwich

**Tuesday 31** - Battered fish w/ dill sauce or curry pork

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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January 1, 2012

On October 4, 2010, President Obama signed S-1055 into law to award the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service (MIS), honoring their service, sacrifice and heroic deeds in defense of the United States during World War II. The official ceremony was held on November 2, 2011 in Washington D.C. to award the medals to the living vets or next of kin.

Because many of the veterans and their families were unable to make the journey, the Oregon Nikkei Endowment (O.N.E.) and the Oregon Nisei Veterans (ONV) are holding a tribute luncheon on **Sunday, February 26, 2012, 11:30 a.m. at the Multnomah Athletic Club** to commemorate the bestowing of this historic award and to recognize and celebrate our local honorees (invitations forthcoming).

We hope that you will join with us to show your appreciation for their remarkable service and sacrifice by attending the tribute luncheon and by considering one of the **sponsorship or donation opportunities** listed below. All sponsorship forms must be submitted by **January 16, 2012**.

The storied units of the 100<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service never hesitated to answer the call of duty to defend our country and we ask your participation in honoring our local representatives of these outstanding military units.

Thank you so very much for your attention---your consideration and support on behalf of this special event is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Lynn Longfellow  
Chair, CGM Event, Portland



Mari Watanabe  
Executive Director, O.N.E.



Setsy S. Larouche  
Commander, ONV

## OREGON'S CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CELEBRATION

**Sunday, February 26, 2012, 11:30 a.m., MAC Club**



### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

#### **TITLE SPONSOR - \$5,000**

- One (1) premier-level table of ten (10)
- Full page color ad in program booklet
- Sponsor acknowledgement in program booklet, press releases, announcements

#### **PLATINIUM SPONSOR - \$2,500**

- One (1) premier-level table of ten (10)
- 1/2 page ad in program booklet
- Sponsor acknowledgement in program booklet

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**GOLD MEDAL SPONSOR - \$1,500**

*Sponsors cost of replica medals for all attending medal recipients*

- 1/2 page ad in program booklet
- Sponsor acknowledgement in program booklet

**DIAMOND SPONSOR - \$1,000**

- One (1) table of ten (10)
- 1/4 page ad in program booklet
- Sponsor acknowledgement in program booklet

**TABLE SPONSOR - \$750**

- One (1) table of ten (10)
- Sponsor acknowledgement in program booklet

**VETERAN SPONSOR - \$50 PER VETERAN**

- Acknowledgement in program

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE IN COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET - \$35**

- Limited to 25 words or less

*All copy and camera ready ads must be submitted by January 16, 2012.*

## CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL CELEBRATION SPONSORSHIP FORM

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I would like to be a sponsor or donate at the following levels:

- ☐ Title Sponsor \$5,000      ☐ Platinum Sponsor \$2,500      ☐ Gold Medal Sponsor \$1,500  
☐ Diamond Sponsor \$1,000   ☐ Table Sponsor \$750   ☐ Congratulatory message (\*submit below) \$35  
☐ Veteran Sponsor \$50 x \_\_\_\_\_ List name(s) if sponsoring specific veterans:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a general donation in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my Visa/MC Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*Congratulatory message (25 words or less):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Please remit by Monday, January 16, 2012 to Oregon Nikkei Endowment (O.N.E):**

121 NW Second Avenue • Portland, OR 97209 • (503) 224-1458

For more information, please contact Lynn Longfellow at [cgmevent@gmail.com](mailto:cgmevent@gmail.com)

*It's time for the 16th annual*

# MOCHITSUKI!

Sunday, January 29th  
from 11 am to 4 pm

∞

Scottish Rite Center



Usher in the Year of the Dragon with a mix of your favorite traditions, like *mochi-pounding* and *ikebana*, with new ones like learning how to *make bento lunches* and *sampling locally-made sake*. Indulge in sumptuous Japanese food by chefs from restaurants Shigezo and Kale, and enjoy the many activities of the cultural fair. Different from last year, drop in on ongoing performances throughout the day, with drumming by *Portland Taiko* and *Takobachi*, classical Japanese dance by Sahomi Tachibana and Fujinami-kai, and many other exciting performers.

Advance tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students, and \$4 for children 12 and under.

Tickets on the day are \$12 for adults, \$9 for seniors and students, and \$5 for children.

The Scottish Rite Center is conveniently located near the  
JELDWEN Field MAX stop at 1512 SW Morrison.

*Please visit [www.mochipdx.org](http://www.mochipdx.org) to learn more.*

**Day of Remembrance**  
**70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
of the Signing of  
**Executive Order 9066**  
by  
**President Roosevelt**

*Everyone is cordially invited to attend*

- *Hoffman Hall, Portland State University*
- *Sunday, February 19, 2012, 2-4 p.m.*
- *Panel Discussion Moderated by Linda Tamura*
- *Performance by the Minidoka Swing Band*
- *Special Presentation to former internees attending*



## Ikoï no Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

**Monday 2** - Closed,  
Holiday

**Tuesday 3** - Beef Don-  
buri

**Wednesday 4** - Closed

**Thursday 5** - Satsuma  
Tonjiru

**Friday 6** - Kahlua pig

**Monday 9** - Salad rolls /  
hoisin chicken wings

**Tuesday 10** - Shumai

**Wednesday 11** - Closed

**Thursday 12** - Nabeyaki  
Udon

**Friday 13** - Not yet de-  
cided

**Monday 16** - Tilapia fish  
fry / potato pancake

**Tuesday 17** - Omelet and

chicken rice

**Wednesday 18** - Closed

**Thursday 19** - New  
Year's Special Lunch

**Friday 20** - Singapore  
soup, black bean chicken

**Monday 23** - *Chinese*

*New Year!* Egg roll /  
shrimp potsticker

**Tuesday 24** - Croquette

**Wednesday 25** - Closed

**Thursday 26** - Simmered  
pork

**Friday 27** - Baked potato  
soup, enchiladas

**Monday 30** - Thai chick-  
en red curry

**Tuesday 31** - Birthday  
Sushi

## YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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### Ikoï no Kai January 2012 Menu Notes:

Only the main dish is listed. Menu also includes soup or salad, side dish, and dessert.

January 19th - Traditional New Year's foods for good fortune and long life: Ozoni (rice cake soup), Kuchitori (traditional appetizers), Assorted sushi. Regular prices. Reservations by January 17th.

# 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.



**PORTLAND JACL**

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