

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 15

JACL National Board Meeting
San Francisco, CA

April 15

National Veterans Network
Congressional Gold Medal
Design Selection
Seattle, WA

April 30, 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Epworth United Methodist
Church Bazaar

May 1, 5 p.m.

Japanese American Graduation
Banquet
Multnomah Athletic Club (MAC)

May 14, 2 - 4 p.m.

Asian Film Festival
White Stag U of O Building

May 30, 1 p.m.

Memorial Day Service
Rose City Cemetery
Lone Fir Cemetery

June 30 - July 3

Minikoka Pilgrimage
Twin Falls, ID

Jul 7 - 10

JACL National Convention
Los Angeles, CA

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A Glimpse of Hope

*Board Members Message by Kirk
Tambara*

The Portland JACL would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the victims and their families who have been affected by the recent disaster in Japan.

On Friday March 11, 2011 at 2:46 p.m. JST a massive 9.0 magnitude megathrust earthquake lasting over six minutes occurred 81 miles off of the east coast of Japan near Sendai. Destructive tsunami waves triggered by the earthquake over 30 feet high, hit Japan's coastline within minutes. These tsunami waves surged as far as west coast of the United States all the way down to Chile. In Japan, whole towns were swept away without a trace.

The earthquake and subsequent tsunami has left tens of thousands dead or unaccounted for, with many more hundreds of thousands evacuated or otherwise displaced all across Japan's Tohoku region. The devastation has left 4.4 million households without electricity and another 1.5 million households without adequate water. Added into this mix of misery, the Japanese now have radiation containment issues at the Daiichi Fukushima nuclear power station as well as areas to contend with.

In the face of a tragedy like this, it is amazing to see the selfless consideration that the Japanese people have shown one another. Unlike what happened in Louisiana in the aftermath of

Hurricane Katrina, where the ugly side of mankind was exposed for the world to see, it is uplifting to see the exact opposite play out in Japan. Accounts of people lining up in orderly fashion for hours at a time at stores and airports were commonplace. There were no reports of looting, instead the news outlets have had ample opportunity to focus on the magnanimous side of humanity. Stories ranging from acts of outright heroism during the immediate crisis, to the simple gesture of a shopkeeper sweeping broken glass and rubble out of the way of people passing by serve as an example of how differently the Japanese people have coped with this disaster. The one word that comes to mind is, "gaman."

While it is impossible to quantify the impact to families for the loss of their loved ones, estimates of the economic loss for just the Tohoku region alone are currently closing in on two hundred billion dollars. The real damage to property and lives will be added up for months and quite possibly years to come.

Organizations like JACL and the Oregon Japan Relief Fund are working quickly to raise funds for the victims of this devastating disaster. Currently, organizations like Direct Relief International and Mercy Corps are working tirelessly to provide relief to the hundreds of thousands of people in need of aid in Japan. Initial relief efforts focus on providing basic necessities

(Continued on next page)

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Board Members Message Continued

like instant rice, fresh produce, and potable water to providing temporary shelters and distributing blankets and medical aid. The cost of these efforts is enormous.

During a terrible crisis like this, people from all walks of life find themselves thrust into a situation where they have the opportunity to look after their own self interests or help their fellow man. In these moments when no one else is looking, they define their true character. Having seen a behind the scenes glimpse of some of the efforts of our friends and neighbors to help the victims from the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, I am truly humbled. Just like the countless images and stories filtering in from Japan of people selflessly looking out for their fellow man, I have witnessed many members of our own community take it upon themselves to make a difference.

To that end, I urge you each to take a look at what you can do to help out. Whether it is volunteering

your time and efforts or donating what you can to help organizations like Direct Relief International and Mercy Corps carry out their humanitarian relief efforts. Your help is needed now more than ever.

Donations to both Direct Relief International and the Oregon Japan Relief Fund can be made through links on our website at www.pdxjacl.org

Or directly to:

Direct Relief International

27 S. La Patera Lane
Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Mercy Corps

PO Box 2669, Dept W
Portland, OR 97208-2669

Domo Arigato Gozaimasu

Japanese Garden Vigil and Memorial

Photos © 2011 Rich Iwasaki



Rev. Gregory Gibbs of Oregon Buddhist Temple chants a sutra for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan in the East Veranda Pavilion, Portland Japanese Garden, Portland, Oregon. The Japanese Garden sponsored the vigil and memorial on March 18, 2011.



Visitors offer incense for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan.



Visitors tie condolence messages onto the "Wish Arbor" for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan.

EPWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2011 SPRING BAZAAR

SATURDAY
April 30, 2011



11:30 AM
to 3:00 PM

Please come and join us for bento lunch,
plant sale, baked goods, & rummage sale.

*All food items are take-out. Please use the following order form and make checks payable to Epworth United Methodist Church. Please mail by April 25 to: Epworth United Methodist Church
1333 SE 28th Avenue
Portland, OR 97214
Phone #: (503)232-5253*

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hoisin Chicken Bento	\$7.50	_____	\$_____
Chinese Chicken Salad	\$7.00	_____	\$_____
Chowmein	\$6.00	_____	\$_____
Inari	\$5.00	_____	\$_____
TOTAL AMOUNT			\$_____

Name_____ Phone Number_____

Address_____

*You may pick up your tickets on the day of the bazaar at the Pre-Sale ticket area.
All proceeds benefit Epworth United Methodist Church.*

Spring Greetings from Ikoi No Kai

By Sharon Takahashi

Our thoughts are with you who have relatives and friends in Japan in areas affected by the earthquake, tsunami and damaged nuclear facility. Their losses are devastating. I know most of us are in awe of the strength exhibited by the Japanese citizens. At Ikoi No Kai, we are collecting donations for Mercy Corps and hope to send good thoughts via our crane folding project. Hiroshi's Anzen donated origami paper and we are teaching visitors to fold cranes. Some of the tiny, colorful cranes became lapel pins which people are wearing to show support of our relief efforts. An *Oregonian* reader saw our folding project in the paper and donated hundreds of cranes which a granddaughter had folded for the reader's husband when he was diagnosed with cancer. Because he is now cancer free, she says these cranes have very good karma.

Good karma was also felt at our anniversary lunch attended by 117 and staffed by many volunteers. Kashu Hamada pulled out all the stops and had 14 items on our bento plate. The eyes feasted, and then the tummies. Consul General Takamichi Okabe

commended the program and praised the elders who had the foresight to start it. We were pleased to have some of the "birthing crew" (George Azumano, Lury Sato, Henry Ueno), early nurturer (Yoneko Dozono) and long time "nannies" (Takae Okazaki, Nobi Azumano, Sumi Murakami) attend. There are many others who have given time and energy to our project and we cannot thank them enough. To name them all would make this article pages too long. Their faces were captured in the wonderful slide show put together by Masaru Yatabe, Henry Senephansari and Azumano Travel. If you saw a photo of which you would like a personal copy, please give me a call and we will see if we can get it printed.

Looking ahead, we've applied for a grant and have been thinking about a once weekly meal delivery to those not able to get to Ikoi No Kai. Please call me if you know of someone who would benefit from this program or if you want to help in the delivery. We have a lot of information gathering and organizing to do before we can get started. If you have other ideas, come share them with us at lunch or call (503) 639-4061. Spring is a time to think of growing!

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

Oregon Nikkei Endowment's annual fundraising banquet will be held Saturday, June 18 at the Multnomah Athletic Club. O.N.E. will be honoring Dr. and Mrs. Homer Yasui and Mr. Albert Abe for their vision, service and dedication to the community. Call (503) 224-1458 or visit www.oregonnikkei.org for additional details and ticket information.

April 16 [rescheduled from March]: Attend a workshop led by National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) staff who will demonstrate how to research and retrieve records, including FBI files, from sources including NARA and footnote.com. Assistance and instruction with accessing records on-line, as well as how to obtain copies of records will be addressed. Laptop computers will be provided for hands-on research, and knowledge of navigating websites is a plus. Participants are encouraged to bring a partner or pair with an attendee with differing skill level. Held on April 16 from 1 - 3:30 p.m. in Room 150 at the University of Oregon in Portland at 70 NW Couch. Free and open to the public, but seating is

limited. To reserve your spot, please rsvp to info@oregonnikkei.org. Hosted by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Oregon.

April 22 & 23: Join Neil H. Simon, award-winning filmmaker and journalist for a director's cut screening of his new film "Prisoners and Patriots: The Untold Story of Japanese Internment in Santa Fe, New Mexico." 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 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. A conversation with the filmmaker will follow the screening. Held on Friday, April 22 at 6:30 p.m. and again on April 23 at 1:30 p.m. at the University of Oregon in Portland, Room 142/44. Free and open to the public. Hosted by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Oregon.

Vincent Who?

What does it mean to you?

Vincent Chin was 27 years old when he was brutally killed in 1982 due to anti-Japanese sentiments. His killers went through the United States justice system but still got away with murder.

Join us for food, a film screening and a panel discussion to learn why his case is so important today, how it affects people of all diverse backgrounds, and what you can do to stop it from happening again.

Film screening of “Vincent Who?”

Followed by panel discussion featuring:

Wajdi Said, President and Co-Founder of Muslim Educational Trust

Joseph Santos-Lyons, APANO Coordinator

Hyeok Kim, White House Initiative on API Commissioner

Food catered by Art de Cuisine

Free & Open to the Public

Saturday, May 14, 2011, 2-4 p.m.

University of Oregon, White Stag Building

70 NW Couch Street, Portland, OR

Presented by:



Supported by:



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
PORTLAND

Art De Cuisine

Reflections on the 2011 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit

By Mariko Newton

Held on March 5-8 in Washington D.C., the 2011 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit provided an opportunity for thirty JACL and OCA National members to learn about leadership development and national policy issues facing the Asian Pacific American (APA) community. Along with Portland JACL Board member Linda Tanaka, I had the privilege to attend the summit in hopes of better understanding the political and legal framework of our government, which undoubtedly influences the advancement of civil rights in the United States.

This rigorous three-day summit introduced us to the national policy-making process by allowing us to meet with members of the White House, Congress, federal agencies, governmental administrations, and other grassroots organizations. Throughout the summit, we explored various legislative issues within the context of APA interests and how civil rights organizations including JACL and OCA National could shape public policy and promote civil rights legislation at the federal level.

The summit led the way on Sunday morning with a leadership training workshop by Linda Akutagawa from Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP). It involved an exercise that helped us define our unique leadership styles within our respective organizations. Following the workshop was "Congressional Insights Simulation" facilitated by State Farm representatives Leslie Moe-Kaiser, Maria Jackson, and Art Ruiz—this interactive exercise immersed us into the world of a federal legislator where we actually made decisions and voted on legislative policies in a high-pressured, fast-paced environment. The first full day

culminated with dinner accompanied by former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta. It was an honor to meet such a distinguished leader who truly inspires me for his accomplishments in the political arena.

During the White House Briefing, we met with government officials such as Bryan Jung, Director of Special Programs in the Office of Public Engage-



2011 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit Participants at the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in Washington, D.C.

ment; Jon Carson, Director of the Office of Public Engagement; Will Jawando, Associate Director in the Office of Public Engagement; Ronnie Chatterji, Senior Economist in the Council of Economic Advisers; Shin Inouye, Director of Specialty Media in the Office of Communications; and Chris Lu, Cabinet Secretary and Assistant to the President. The energy resonated into the next session where Bruce Yamashita shared his past experiences fighting against racial discrimination in the military. After presenting the documentary film, "A Most Unlikely Hero" which portrayed his victory for civil rights in our society, he stressed the idea that the issue of discrimination is not limited to just one institution, but has permeated multiple spheres of our lives even to this day.

As the theme for this year's summit, anti-bullying was addressed through a panel consisting of Michael

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Reflections on the 2011 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit Continued

Lieberman from the Anti-Defamation League, Amy Berman from the Department of Justice, and Mou Khan from South Asian Americans Leading Together. Several instances of bullying were noted, such as the 2009 anti-Asian violence in the Philadelphia School District as well as bias incidences against Sikh students in New York City's public schools. This session helped us learn about the anti-bullying efforts of both federal and non-profit agencies. Moreover, it equipped us with necessary educational and advocacy strategies to respond to bullying in our own communities.

On the last day of the summit, we visited the Capitol Hill for a briefing with several members of the Congress. My personal highlight of the day was the opportunity to meet with individual staffers in Congressional offices to whom we presented our policy agendas on anti-bullying legislation. Specifically, we asked for the Congress members' support for the legislation and suggested that JACL and OCA National could assist with outreach to the APA community.

Overall, the 2011 JACL/OCA Leadership Summit in Washington D.C. was an educational, empowering, and remarkable experience. I truly appreciate JACL and OCA National for organizing a successful summit, State Farm Insurance for its continued support as a sponsor, and the Pacific Northwest District and the

Portland JACL Chapter for making it possible for me to attend. Also a special thank-you to the Executive Directors and staff of JACL and OCA for the amount of time dedicated to planning and implementing this program. In closing, my participation in the JACL/OCA Leadership Summit has enhanced my knowledge of policy issues pertaining to the APA community and has inspired me to continue my work in JACL alongside other emerging leaders across the nation.

2011 JACL Nikkei Community Directory

The board is hard at work on the 2011 directory. Of course, residential listings are free, but we are offering business listings for \$40, and advertising at three levels: half-page black and white for \$200; full-page black and white for \$400, and \$500 for a full-page color ad. Since we only publish the directory every five years, that works out to \$40 per year for the half-page black and white; \$80 per year for the full-page black and white, and \$100 per year for a full-page color ad.

Please contact me, Susan Leedham, if you have any questions. I can be reached at (503) 684-1357 or by e-mail at leedhamreporting@comcast.net.

Clark Center Loaves & Fishes April 2011 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

Friday 1 - Baked fish w/ tartar sauce or chicken fajitas

Monday 4 - Chicken w/ noodles or canadian bacon & cheese quiche

Tuesday 5 - Turkey pot roast or chicken salad wrap

Wednesday 6 - Egg drop soup or chicken fried steak

Thursday 7 - Butternut squash soup or BBQ meatball sandwich

Friday 8 - Sweet & sour chicken or baked salmon w/ dill sauce

Monday 11 - Beef & macaroni casserole or roasted ham w/ cranberry sauce

Tuesday 12 - Sliced roast turkey w/ gravy or roast beef & cheese sandwich

Wednesday 13 - Cod w/ ginger lemon sauce or seasoned sour cream chicken

Thursday 14 - Beef curry w/ rice or tuna salad sandwich

Friday 15 - Roast pork w/ gravy or chili dog

Monday 18 - Vegetable lasagna or breakfast casserole

Tuesday 19 - Bread tilapia or ham & cheese sandwich

Wednesday 20 - Yakisoba w/ chicken or vegetarian pizza

Thursday 21 - Stir fry w/ ground beef & daikon or sliced turkey sandwich

Friday 22 - Dijon turkey or swiss & mushroom burger

Monday 25 - Open faced sloppy joe or chicken basil sausage

Tuesday 26 - Meat loaf or submarine sandwich

Wednesday 27 - Soba noodles w/ fish or crab & cheese sandwich

Thursday 28 - Baked cod w/ lemon ginger sauce or corned beef sandwich

Friday 29 - Baked fish w/ cucumber dill sauce or liver & onions

Ikoï No Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

Friday 1 - Rolled, stuffed Pork Baked w/ Ginger Sauce
Friday 15 - Mar Far

Monday 4 - Manicotti & Baked Chicken

Tuesday 5 - Nabeyaki Udon

Wednesday 6 - Closed

Thursday 7 - Cabbage Roll

Friday 8 - Country Fried Steak

Monday 11 - Tofu Loaf w/ Fish & Shrimp

Tuesday 12 - Halibut Sake Kasu-zuke

Wednesday 13 - Closed

Thursday 14 - Pork

Monday 18 - Bibimbop

Tuesday 19 - Satsuma Tonjiru

Wednesday 20 - Closed

Thursday 21 - Beef & Daikon w/ wine sauce

Friday 22 - Chicken Stuffed Abura Age

Monday 25 - Calamari

Tuesday 26 - Birthday Sushi

Wednesday 27 - Closed

Thursday 28 - Salmon

Friday 29 - Tomato Soup Macaroni & Cheese

Ikoï No Kai April 2011 Menu Notes:

On Tuesdays, join us to learn or play hanafuda after lunch. Win table prizes!

April 15, play checkers, rummikub, cards, and more! We're stocking up on games!

YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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jim@pdxjacl.org

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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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