PORTLAND**JACL** NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 18, 5 p.m.

Oregon Nikkei Endowment (O.N.E.) Annual Banquet In honor of Al Abe and Homer & Miki Yasui

June 30 - July 3 Minidoka Pilgrimage Twin Falls, ID

July 7 - 10 JACL National Convention Los Angeles, CA

August 6

Obon Fest Oregon Buddhist Temple

August 7

Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Event Japanese American Historical Plaza

August 21, Noon - 4 p.m. Nikkei Picnic Oaks Park, Portland

September 24 -25Festival Japan
Uwajimaya, Beaverton

October 15

Membership deadline for 2012 Community Scholarships Sign up you graduating grandchildren at www.pdxjacl. org JUNE 2011 • VOLUME 16, ISSUE 11

Japanese American Graduation Banquet

Board Members Message by Marleen Wallingford

Congratulations to the class of 2011. The Japanese American Graduation Banquet was held on the first of May with a dinner and celebration at the Multnomah Athletic Club. All graduating high school students of Japanese heritage as well as family and community members are invited to this annual event. This is an opportunity for us to come together and celebrate a significant milestone in our young people's lives. This year's Master of Ceremony responsibilities were shared by Todd Yuzuriha and Terry Nishikawa. Rev. Obata of Nichiren Buddhist Temple gave the invocation. Consul General Takamichi Okabe congratulated the graduates on their achievements.

This year's keynote speech was given by a former scholarship winner, Lisa Hoashi. When she graduated from Tigard High School, Lisa was awarded the Hideo Naito Scholarship. Lisa is the Public Information Officer of Mercy Corps has had the opportunity to support its work in Haiti and Japan. Lisa spoke about the three values that have helped shape the decisions in her life: integrity, love and compassion and exploration. Lisa talked about her choices and how Japanese cultural values had shaped her behavior and the way she views the word. She challenged the graduates to pay attention to their values and by

staying true to those values; they will find their own path. Lisa's words were very inspiring and she is so fortunate to feel so fulfilled with what she describes as her dream job.

This year the Scholarship Committee headed by Chip Larouche of Nikkei Jin Kai gave almost \$15,000 in scholarships to deserving students. The following students were recognized at the banquet:

Katherine Acterman, St. Mary's Academy, Portland JACL and State Farm Scholarship, University of San Franciso, daughter of Marilyn and Mark Acterman. Katherine has written for her school newspaper since her sophomore year and served the last two years as co-editor. She has been a staff member of St. Mary's literary magazine, Escribe Maria. Katherine has been a Model United Nations delegate and participated for four years on St. Mary's Academy dragon boat team. She has served as Youth Minister Assistant for Oregon Buddhist Temple. She also was selected to give the Graduate Response. She thanked the community and talked about how the Japanese culture has affected her life. Katherine is planning on studying journalism.

Kalia Bistolas, Wilsonville High School, Satsuki Azumano Scholarship, Occidental College,

(Continued on next page)

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Board Members Message Continued

daughter of Christi Irinaga Bistolas and John Bistolas. Kalia has participated for several years in the Intel Science and Engineering Fair. Her last topic focused on dye retention in silica isolated from diatoms. She has a weighted gpa of 4.2 and is a member of the National Honor Society. Kalia has worked as an editor and writer for her school's literary journal, Soliloquy. During the summer of before her junior year, she was a foreign exchange student in Kitakata, Japan. Kalia has worked as an intern in the Solar Energy Research Project at Portland State University's Department of Chemistry. She is also a member of her school's varsity soccer and track team. Kalia plans on majoring in biology and physics.

Naito Scholarship, UO, son of Jenny and Kurtis Inouye. Kurtis has been a member of his school's baseball team since his freshman year and has played on community teams year round. He works as a part time umpire for the 3rd through 8th grade leagues. Nicholas has taken Advanced Placement classes and is a member of the National Honor Society. He was one of the founders of his school's Asian Club. He is student counsel treasurer. Nicholas has volunteered for Konko Church, Vernonia Flood clean-up, the Oregon Food Bank and Mochitsuki. He will be working towards a degree in business.

Kristen Jung, Beaverton High School, Gresham –Troutdale JACL Scholarship, Linfield College, daughter of Karen Sachiko Jung and William Jung. Kristen has been a member of her school's marching ensemble, playing clarinet and was the drum major her senior year. She is a member of National Honor Society, Key Club and Health Occupations Students of America. Kristen has taken advanced placement classes She has volunteered for Meals on Wheels and he Oregon Food Bank. Kristen plans on studying nursing.

Robert Kakesako, Tigard High School, Yoshiko Kennedy Scholarship, OSU, son of Kathy and Randy Kakesako. Robert works as a volunteer at the Veteran's Administration Hospital. After he graduates college, he is interested in joining the Peace Corps. Robert has played baseball, been a member of the track and field team and swim team. He's also sung with the Men's Concert Choir. He's been a member of Gaarde Christian Youth Group and participates in Young Life. Robert is interested in the field of public health.

Kevin Kawasaki, West Linn High School, Matthew

Masuoka Scholarship, Linfield College, son of Pam and Ed Kawasaki. Kevin is a member of National Honor Society and has played basketball and varsity baseball He's participated in the West Linn Baseball Association. He tutors students at his school and is a member of Young Life. He became interested in the medical field after a serious back injury where he saw firsthand how physicians and specialists functioned in a clinical environment.

Satoshi Kosaka, Sourthridge High School, Roger Okamoto Scholarship, OSU, son of Takashi Kosaka. Satoshi attends the Portland Japanese Saturday School and has received a diploma. He's a member of the Key Club where he tutors all ages of children in math and Japanese. He moved to the United States when he was in the fifth grade and is fluent in both Japanese and English. He's an avid soccer player, lettering on the Varsity team and has played for the Tualatin Hills United Soccer Club. His high school team was the OSAA State champions. He's interested in the field of mechanical engineering.

Kyle Nishida, Clackamas High School, Shokookai, WSU, son of Lynn and Duane Nishida. Kyle is a member of National Honor Society and has worked as a news reporter, writer and photographer for his school newspaper. Kyle has take honors classes at his school. He has been a member of the 2010 State Champion Baseball team and a member of the 2010 Football team that completed its season without winning a game. He has volunteered as an after school tutor for high school students and participated in campus clean-up activities and distributed food to needy families. Kyle wants to study broadcasting and communications.

Regan Nishikawa, Reynolds High School, Art and Teri Iwasaki Scholarship, OSU, son of Vanessa Chakrallah and Terry Nishikawa. Regan is a member of National Art Honor Society. He has worked a swim meet timer and has participated in his church's youth ministry. Regan is interested in pursuing a degree in the arts.

Madeline Ragozzino, LakeridgeHigh School, Mabel Shoji Boggs Scholarship, WOU, daughter of Chikako and Matt Ragozzino. Maddie has volunteered at the Lake Oswego Library and has been a Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation District Counselor. She has worked in plays as both a behind the scenes tech and performer. She enjoys tutoring in her classes and plans to major in elementary education.

Kohei Sugimoto, Westview High School, Tsuya

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Board Members Message Continued

Minamoto Scholarship, OSU, son of Temyo and Koi Sugimoto. Kohei arrived in the United States from Japan seven years ago knowing no English. He has now become a fluent English speaker and writer. He has been a four year member of his high school soccer team and has run on the track team. For fun, he's a member of the school's breakdance club. He has participated in the technology education and engineering program at his high school and is working as the teacher's assistant in the Computer Assisted Design class. Kohei wants to major in civil or architectural engineering

Mrs. Alice Sumida has been a supporter of the Japanese American Graduation. Banquet. She is interested in encouraging our youth to continue their studies.

Mrs. Mark Sumida Awards were given to:

Schafer Durgan, Southridge High School, PSU, son of Patty and Dan Durgan. Schafer has been copresident of Unite People. He's participated in his school's drama department. Schafer was a last minute replacement for a lead role in his school's performance of a Midsummer Night's Dream. He's interested in studying Japanese and education.

Connor Johnston, Oregon Episcopal School, New York University, son of Lynne and Craig Johnston. Connor played the role of Ichiro in Portland Center Stage's production of Snow Falling on Cedars last year. This year he was the Scarecrow in OES's production of the Wizard of Oz. Connor has taken classes at Oregon Children's Theater. He wants to pursue a career in the performing arts.

Marcus Kirlin, International School of Beaverton, PSU, son of Masayo and Mark Kirlin. Marcus is a fluent Japanese speaker. He has taken International Baccalaureate classes at his school and is a candidate for the IB diploma. He's interested in attending Waseda University through the PSU exchange program. He plans to major in mechanical engineering and continue his Japanese studies.

Lucas O'Donnell, Tigard High School, Grand Valley State University, son of Sharon and Brian O'Donnell. Lucas plays the trumpet with the Portland Youth Conservatory. He has also been a member of his school orchestra. His career goal is to be a professional musician.

Sandy Reid, Westview High School, OSU, daughter

of John and Masayo Reid. She attends the Portland Japanese School and received her diploma. Sandy has taken piano lessons for 10 years. She has volunteered at the Bonnie Hayes Animal Shelter. She's interested in the medical field.

Matthew Staib, Sunset High School, UO, son of Sharon Inahara. He has taken classes in the International Baccalaureate Program. He was an intern at an ad agency in Honolulu. He has done sports modeling for Nike and Adidas. Mathew has participated in fundraising for Doctors Without Borders. He is interested in studying business and accounting. Peter Wilson, Sunset High School, University of Montana, son of Christi Iwasaki. Peter plays lacrosse and was a member of the Mock Trial Team at his school. He is a skilled yo-yo player and has taught others special tricks. He is interested in the field of psychology.

Allen Yoshinaga, Sam Barlow High School, Oregon Nisei Veteran's Athletic Trophy, OSU, son Dr. Derrick and Alison Yoshinaga. Allen has been a four year member of his high school wrestling team and is this year's team captain. He has won numerous matches and participated in the state tournament. He plays varsity tennis and was selected as the most inspirational player of his team. Allen has a third degree black belt in TaeKwondo. He plans to study microbiology.

The Japanese Banquet Committee has worked for many months to organize and plan this event. Sponsoring organizations include: Buddhist Daihonzan Henjyoji Temple, Epworth United Methodist Church, Gresham-Troutdale JACL, Japanese Ancestral Society, Nichiren Buddhist Temple, Nikkei Funjinkai, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Nisei Veterans, Portland JACL, Shokookai of Portland and the Veleda Club.

We are proud of our youth. Graduating from high school marks the beginning of new challenges and choices. Your family and community are here to encourage and support you.

Photos of the event have been posted on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/pages/Portland-Japanese-American-Community-Graduation/282481274740

Also, select photos of the event taken by Rich Iwasaki can be seen on the next page!

JAPANESE ANCESTRAL SOCIETY

June 2011

Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 11th Annual Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, July 31, 2011 at Glendoveer Golf Course-East (14015 NE Glisan, 503.253.7507). While the JAS has hosted this event for over 20 years, the tournament was renamed in 2001 to honor and recognize Jerry for his many years of service in promoting this event. The shotgun start will begin at 7:30 a.m. with check-in at 6:45 a.m.

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

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the lowest net scorer among the men's "A" and "B" flights and also to the "ladies" flight. Prizes will be awarded for KP's on all par 3 holes, a longest drive hole, and low gross honors in each flight. In case of a tie, players score cards will be evaluated from the 18th hole backwards with the first low score winning. Everyone will ride a cart, and lunch will be served at Chinese Village following the tournament. If you have a golfing preference for your foursome, please let us know and list the names of each person of your group. If a foursome is requested, please make sure that a golfer(s) of a group is not duplicated in another foursome.

If you are not interested in golf but would like to donate to this annual event, please call Kurtis Inouye at 503 627-0740 or Merianne Nagae 503 256-2776. Due to course regulations, we must collect your entry fee by July 20, 2011 to reserve our tee times. No exceptions! Entry fee is \$65 which includes golf, cart, and lunch.

Best Regards from your Golf Committee

(Al Abe, Jackie Alderman, Kay Endo, Pat Gilman, Marian Hara, Ace Hiromura, Kurtis Inouye, George Kanegae, Scott Kato, Terry Kawamoto, Wimpy Kawata, Bill Koida, Gordon Kondo, Chip & Setsy Larouche, Yoji Matsushima, Merianne Nagae, Bill Nakamura, Lynn N. Nishida, Ken Ogawa, John Ollerenshaw, Sharon Takahashi, Katie Tamiyasu, Lew Tomita, Henry Ueno, Skip Yamamoto, Jeff Yoshida, Shig Yuzuriha)

Please return this information from and a check for \$65 (consider renewing your membership too!) made payable to Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland, no later than July 20, 2011

_____ I will play _____ I will stay for lunch _____ Single JAS membership (\$19)

_____ I will not play _____ I will not stay for lunch _____ Couple JAS membership (\$29)

_____ Please accept my tax deductible donation of \$______

Golfer's Name______ (circle) Male Female

Golfer's Phone #______ USGA GHIN Number______

USGA Handicap Index as of July 1, 2010 ______ or List last 5 golf scores (18 holes) ______

Mail form to: JAS, c/o Chris Shiraishi, 5200 SW Macadam #550, Portland, OR 97239

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Japanese American Graduation Banquet Photos

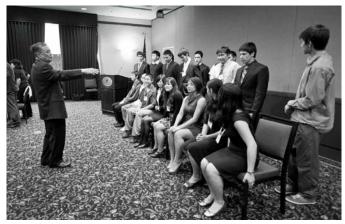
Photos © 2011 Rich Iwasaki



Keynote speaker Lisa Hoashi speaks at the 2011 Japanese American Graduation Banquet, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon. Looking on at the head table were (left to right), co-Master of Ceremonies Terry Nishikawa and Todd Yuzuriha, Consul General of Japan Takamichi Okabe, and Rev. Myosho Obata.



Members of Unite People (UP) cheer for graduating seniors. UP is the youth chapter of Portland JACL.



Official photographer Kay Endo arranges graduates for the group photograph at the conclusion of the 2011 Japanese American Graduation Banquet.



Katherine Achterman speaks after receiving the Mabel Shoji Boggs Scholarship. Ms. Achterman also presented the Graduates Response at the banquet.

Congratulations, Class of 2011

By Sharon Takahashi

The 64th Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet was held at the Multnomah Athletic Club on Sunday, May 1, 2011. Though more than a month "premature," twenty graduates were honored by those in attendance as they begin the next chapter of their life's journey.

This annual affair is sponsored by the Buddhist Daihonzan Henjyoji Temple, Epworth United Methodist Church, Gresham-Troutdale JACL, Japanese Ancestral Society, Nichiren Buddhist Temple, Nikkei Fujinkai, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Nisei Veterans, Inc., Portland JACL and the Veleda Club. Shokookai of Portland, a group of Japanese companies, also participates as a scholarship donor. This year's chairing organization was Gresham Troutdale JACL.

The planning committee selected Lisa Hoashi, the Hideo Naito scholarship winner in 1997, to deliver the keynote. Lisa graduated from New York University in

(Continued on next page)

NEWSLETTER

Congratulations, Class of 2011 Continued

2001 and is now working for Mercy Corps, the Portland based agency at the forefront of many humanitarian relief efforts. Her responsibilities as the Public Information Officer for Haiti have broadened with the recent earthquake/tsunami/nuclear disaster to include

Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) Photo Op



Senator Ron Wyden presented the replica of the congressional gold medal law to (L to R) Taylor Tomita, Mark Namba and Shig Imai, all Nisei Veterans of World War II.

fundraising and relief efforts in Japan.

Though I sat at a back table, I noticed how so many were mesmerized by what she had to say. She held the audience in the palm of her hand as she told them how proud she was to be involved in the Haitian relief effort, though it seemed daunting at first, and she knew she had found her dream job--helping others. As the media focused on Japan's crisis and praised the dignity, respect and stoicism the Japanese exhibited to the rest of the world, she was proud that this was her heritage, too. Modestly, she said she felt she had achieved her position because her superiors felt she worked well with others and was well disciplined. She knows that that work ethic and perseverance will be seen as Japan recovers and rebuilds.

Lisa Hoashi's address was a gift for all of us. She exudes pride in her roots, her career choice and achievements, makes time for her avocations (yes, she is also an accomplished writer of fiction) and radiates enthusiasm.

A big thank you goes out to the organizations, scholarship sponsors and individuals who work to keep this tradition going. Special thanks to Kay Endo for the group photograph which all graduates receive as a memento and to Chip Larouche who captures award winners and their sponsors for our community history.

Vincent Who? What does it mean to you?

By Susan Leedham

The makers of this moving, inspiring film went to a college campus and asked Asian students if they knew who Vincent Chin was. Nobody knew.

Vincent Chin was a Chinese immigrant who was brutally murdered in 1982 in Detroit, Michigan. Two laid-off white autoworkers beat Vincent Chin with a baseball bat, believing him to be a Japanese autoworker and thus responsible for taking away their jobs when Hondas and Toyotas were outselling US-made cars.

The two men were arrested and went before a judge, and, shockingly, the judge found them guilty of manslaughter and not murder because Vincent Chin died five days later. They received a \$3,000 fine and three years' probation. After protests throughout the country, the men were re-tried. One was found not guilty, and one was let off on a technicality. No jail time was served.

But the point of the film was to show how this injustice was a call to action, uniting not only the

Chinese community but other Asians and people of color. It was clear that the judge found that a Chinese man's life was not as valuable as a white man's life. That begs the question, how much is a Japanese man's life worth or that of a Korean man or a Mexican man? Unfortunately, we know how poorly our black population has fared in our justice system.

The film focused on how young people, after learning of Vincent Chin's tragic story, were so moved that they are now community organizers and activists and speaking out for all of us.

After the film, we had an excellent panel featuring Hyoek Kim, commission member of the White House Initiative on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; Wajdi Said, president and co-founder of the Muslim Education Trust; and Joseph Santos-Lyons, coordinator for the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon aka APANO.

Helen Ying did a wonderful job as moderator leading the discussion on the meaning of the film, racism

(Continued on next page)

Vincent Who? What does it mean to you? Continued

today and what we can do. All of the panelists were very articulate, and each had a story to tell and a fresh perspective.

This was a collaborative effort. Many thanks to the University of Oregon for providing the wonderful space in the White Stag Building, Art de Cuisine for excellent food, The Duck Store for providing coffee, and the sponsoring organizations: CACA Portland Lodge, APANO, and Portland JACL.



Helen Ying (left) moderates a panel discussion following the screening of the film "Vincent Who?" in the auditorium of University of Oregon Portland campus, Portland, Oregon. Panel members were (left to right) Joseph Santos-Lyon, Hyeok Kim, and Wajdi Said.

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

Congratulations to our Executive Director, Mari Watanabe, for her appointment to the Commission on Asian Affairs by Oregon Governor Kitzhaber and confirmed by the Oregon Senate. For Asian Americans in Oregon, the Commission advocates for the development of economic, social, political and educational opportunities; identifies and examines their needs; develops and sponsors programs to inform them of available services and resources. The Commission also supports the Economic and Community Development Department's efforts to promote trade, tourism and economic development between Oregon, the United States and Pacific Rim countries. This is a voluntary position.

Dates to remember:

salad

- May 29, 2011: "Taken: FBI" exhibit closes.
- June 10, 2011: An exhibit by Kip Fulbeck: "Part Asian, 100% Hapa", photographic portraits of Hapa of all ages and walks of life.
- June 18, 2011: Annual banquet at the Multnomah Athletic Club, 5 p.m., honoring Al Abe and Homer and Miyuki Yasui. Keynote speaker is Oregon Attorney General John Kroger.

Clark Center Loaves & Fishes June 2011 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

Wednesday 1 - Yoji's pork fried rice or veggie chili Thursday 2- Yoji's beef curry or crisper summer salad Friday 3 - Breaded tilapia or tortellini salad

Monday 6 - Open faced sloppy joe or bean & rice burrito

Tuesday 7 - Meatloaf w/ gravy or shrimp salad Wednesday 8 - Sasha's cold soba noodles w/ bay shrimp or veggie pizza

Thursday 9 - Sasha's pork loin w/ apricots or chef salad

Friday 10 - Baked fish w/ cucumber dill or chicken grape salad

Monday 13 - Cheese ravioli or mushroom veggie burger

Tuesday 14 - Chicken spaghetti or taco salad Wednesday 15 - Sasha's chicken tagine w/ squash or veggie lasagna

Thursday 16 - Sasha's salad nicoise or greek salad

Friday 17 - Baked chicken w/ country gravy or trio salad

Monday 20 - BBQ chicken or tortellini w/ pesto sauce Tuesday 21 - Meatloaf w/ gravy or chicken caesar

Wednesday 22 - Sasha's tomato soup w/ cheese croutons or veggie lasagna

Thursday 23 - Sasha's Turkish meatloaf or river house salad

Friday 24 - Baked fish w/ tartar sauce or crisper summer salad

Monday 27 - Chicken w/ noodles or veggie pizza Tuesday 28 - Turkey pot roast or chicken caesar salad

Wednesday 29 - Sasha's yakisoba or tomato basil salad

Thursday 30- Sasha's curried chicken or tuna stuffed salad

Ikoi No Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

Wednesday 1 - Closed Thursday 2- Nikujaga Friday 3 - Stuffed Aburage w/ chicken

Monday 6 - Thai noodle salad & thai chicken Tuesday 7 - Char siu pork Wednesday 8 - Closed Thursday 9 - Takikomi & chicken teriyaki Friday 10 - Mar Far

Monday 13 - Mexican soup & beef fajitas Tuesday 14 - Chikara udon

Wednesday 15 - Closed Thursday 16 - Mabodofu Friday 17 - Roast pork w/ special sauce

Monday 20 - Shumai & BBQ pork buns Tuesday 21 - Curry Wednesday 22 - Closed Thursday 23 - Onigiri bento on plate Friday 24 - Tofu loaf w/ seafood

Monday 27 - Calamari steak Tuesday 28 - Birthday sushi Wednesday 29 - Closed

Thursday 30 - Tempura

Ikoi No Kai June 2011 Menu Notes:

Cooking Schedule:

Kashu Hamada: Tuesdays and Thursdays Skip Yamamoto: June 3, 17, 24 and 27 Sharon Ogata: June 6, 13, and 20

Lil Okazaki: June 10

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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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