

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 1-3

- JACL Youth Summit,
Portland State University

June 9

- Unite People Chili Feed,
Epworth United Methodist
Church, 5:00 p.m.

June 17

- Father's Day

June 21-24

- Minidoka Pilgrimage

July 4

- Independence Day

July 5-8

- JACL National Convention,
Bellevue, WA

August 4

- OBON Fest, Oregon
Buddhist Temple

August 6

- Hiroshima-Nagasaki
Remembrance, Japanese
Historical Plaza, 6:00 p.m.

August 10

- JASO Golf Tournament,
Resort at the Mountain,
www.jaso.org

August 19

- Nikkei Community Picnic,
Oaks Park

JUNE 2012 • VOLUME 17, ISSUE 11

Japanese American Graduation Banquet

*Board Members Message by:
Marleen Wallingford*

The 65th annual Japanese American Graduation Banquet honored the high school graduating class of 2012. The first recognition of Japanese American high school seniors occurred in 1948, just after the Japanese returned to the Portland community after their forced incarceration. Returning to a hostile environment created a close knit community where Japanese Americans looked to their community to find support. More than half a century later, our community has changed. We no longer live in Japantown. We no longer are excluded from school activities. We are proud of our cultural heritage and we want our children to understand that there is a larger Nikkei community who wants to help support their aspirations and education.

The Honorable Lynn Nakamura, the first Asian American appointed to the Oregon Court of Appeals, gave the banquet address. Judge Nakamoto talked to the graduates about the small and large decisions that they will be confronting now that they are moving into adulthood. She talked about the mistakes that she had made but that failure also provided life lessons and taught her that she needed to be true to herself.

Saori Erickson, one of the graduates who plans to pursue a career in music, sang the *Star Spangled Banner*. Rev. Gregory

Gibbs of the Oregon Buddhist Temple gave the invocation.

This year the Scholarship Committee headed by Chip Larouche of Nikkei Jin Kai gave 13 scholarships to students who showed academic excellence as well as participated in athletic and community service activities.

Saori Erickson, Grant High School, Yoshiko Kennedy Scholarship., UO. Saori is a member of the National Honor Society. She has participated in the Japanese Magnet Program since she was in kindergarten and has attained pre-Advanced level proficiency in Japanese. She participated in the Consul General's Japanese Speech Contest her freshman and sophomore years. Saori has been a member of the school band for four years. She plays the flute and is the section leader. She placed third in the Oregon State Music Educators competition. She sings with the honor choir, the Royal Blues. She placed first for soprano solo in the state competition this year. She is a member of Trinity Fellowship Church.

Christopher Funaki, Westview High School, Mabel Shoji Boggs Scholarship, USC. Christopher is one of the top 5% of his high school class. He is enrolled in Advanced Placement classes and has been honored as an AP Scholar with distinction. He is a National Merit Scholar Finalist.

(continued on next page)

Board Members Message Continued

Christopher is a member of Key Club and plays the violin in the symphonic band. He is a varsity soccer player and his team won the state championship. Christopher has volunteered at OMSI.

Raiko Green, David Douglas High School, Mathew Masuoka Scholarship, Oregon Nisei Vets Athletic Award, UO Honors College. Raiko is in the top 5% of her class. She plays the clarinet and is a member of Wind Ensemble, symphony orchestra and has played in the school musicals. She has played in the basketball pep band and was selected Drum Major. Raiko was also selected to play in the All State Honor Band. Raiko is a member of her school's water polo and swim team. She was honored as the Mt. Hood All-Conference Most Valuable Player for water polo this year. Raiko was selected to be on the Junior Olympics Water Polo Team.

Karyl Kanada, Tigard High School, Shokookai of Portland Scholarship, University of Washington. Karyl is the valedictorian of her class with a 4.0 GPA. She is a member of National Honor society and

the Japanese national Honor society. She helped plan Japan Night at her school which raised cultural awareness and funds for the victims of the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. She is a member of the National Art Honor society. She was elected as the Human Relations officer at Tigard during her junior and senior years and volunteered over 270 hours organizing and putting on community events. She is on the varsity soccer team and the senior captain. Her junior year she was the Key Club president.

Maria Kojima, Beaverton High School, Nikkei Fujinkai Scholarship, PSU. Maria is a member of the National Honor Society and Key Club. She has played varsity tennis. She has worked as an assistant to the Japanese class. She is vice president of the Japanese Club. She attended the Saturday Japanese School through her junior year.

Emi Lee, Cleveland High School, Tsuya Minamoto Scholarship, Smith. Emi is a co-president of Unite People, the Portland JACL youth group. She has danced for 14 years with Oregon Ballet Theater and the Portland Ballet. She is a member of National Honor Society, the school choir and was on the Cleveland High School Rose Festival court. She is a member of the Grant swim and tennis teams and has worked at Body Vox as a dance camp counselor and at Portland Parks and Recreation as a lifeguard.

Amy Li, Westview High School, Roger Okamoto Scholarship, Pepperdine. Amy is a member of National Honor Society and in the top 5% of her class. She has taken advanced placement classes and is a member of Key Club. She has worked as a teacher assistant in her school's Japanese language class. She is a member of the Japanese International Baptist church.

Tyler Nagae, Central Catholic High School, Gresham Troutdale JACL Scholarship, Oregon Nisei Vets Athletic Award, Loyola Marymount. Tyler is in the top 5% of his high school class. He has taken advanced placement classes. He volunteers with Special Olympics and the Oregon Food Bank. He has also volunteered as a tutor with struggling students. Tyler has played football all four years of high school. His team was the state quarterfinalists. He plays center and has played the offensive and defensive positions. He received an Honorable Mention for the All-State Team.

Stephanie Nakamine, Grant High School, Art and Teri Iwasaki Scholarship, University of Portland. Stephanie has taken advanced placement classes.



Photo © 2012 Rich Iwasaki

Oregon Court of Appeals judge Lynn Nakamoto gives the keynote address at the 2012 Japanese American Graduation Banquet, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon

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Board Members Message Continued

Photo © 2012 Curtis Suyematsu



The Class of 2012 graduates pose for a quick photo at this year's Japanese American Graduation Banquet, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon

She is a member of Key Club and the photography editor of the yearbook. She was the JV Soccer team captain in 2009 and also assistant coach. Stephanie has played on the JV tennis team. She is on the varsity swimming team and snowboard team.

Sean Sakaguchi, Tigard High School, Azumano Scholarship, Claremont McKenna College. Sean is a member of the National Honor Society. He is president of the Japanese National Honor Society. He worked on the school's Japan Night which was a cultural event and fundraiser for the earthquake and tsunami victims in Japan. He is a member of the Student Council and the Tigard High School Site Council. He was the Future Business Leaders of American, 2011 State Champion and Tigard High's nominee for the US Senate Youth Scholarship Program. He is president and founder of the Literacy Initiative in Tigard and founder of the Tigard High Young Democrats. Sean has worked as an intern for US Senator Ron Wyden. Sean was selected by the Scholarship Committee to give the Graduate Response at the banquet.

Ross Seeman, Grant High School, Hideo Naito Scholarship, Pepperdine. Ross is a member of National Honor Society. He was selected to participate in the Business Leadership program at his school and used the skills acquired to help market and design school apparel for the student store. He has been enrolled in the Japanese Magnet Program

since kindergarten. He is one of the co-Presidents of Unite People, the Portland JACL youth group. He is the founder and vice-president of the Grant Key Club. Ross was the Consulate General's Japan Trip Scholarship recipient. He was able to take a two week, all expense paid trip to Tokyo and Kyoto his sophomore year in high school. Ross also traveled to Selma, Alabama and took the civil rights walk from Selma to Montgomery. He was the only non-African American student selected to attend. Ross is a varsity swimmer

and he has been a coach and instructor for novice swimmers. He has swum across the Columbia River for the past nine years in the Roy Webster Cross Channel Swim.

Jordan Shellmire, Grant High School, State Farm Scholarship, Warner Pacific. Jordan is a Unite People co-president. He is the Black Student Union Community Outreach Coordinator and co-president. He was the class vice president his junior and senior years. He is a member of the National Honor society. He has played on the Grant football team. This year he participated in the school musical, *Hairspray*. Jordan has volunteered at Goose Hollow and plays Ultimate Frisbee.

Corey Suyematsu, Camas High School, Portland JACL Scholarship, University of Portland. Corey is a member of the National Honor Society and one of the top 10% of his class. He is a member of Key Club and a member of the Camas High School Marching Band and Wind Ensemble. He plays in the High School Drum Line which requires hours of practice to perform at all sporting events of the high school. He has volunteered at Ikoi No Kai senior lunch program and is a certified referee for the Camas-Washougal Soccer Club.

The following students received the Mrs. Mark Sumida Awards:

Kianna Green, Grant High School, Central Washington U; **Andrew Koida**, Riverdale High

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Board Members Message Continued

School, UO; **Kelly Martin**, Glencoe High School, UO; **Koichi Omara**, Catlin Gabel, UO; **Kyle Onchi**, Grant High School, PSU; **Disney Sato**, International School of Beaverton, Pacific U; **Ada Thatcher-James**, Cleveland High School, Stanford; **Kenny Tsunenaga**, Sunset High School, OSU; and **Carolyn Wilson**, Sunset High School, Washington and Jefferson College.

Mrs. Sumida has been a generous supporter of the Japanese American Graduation Banquet for many years.

Many thanks to the Japanese American Graduation Banquet Committee headed this year by

Kay Endo of the Japanese Ancestral Society. Eleven sponsoring organizations help organize and support the annual Japanese American Graduation Banquet: Buddhist Daihonzan Henjyoji Temple, Epworth United Methodist Church, the Gresham-Troutdale JACL, Japanese Ancestral Society, Nichiren Buddhist Temple, Nikkei Fujinkai, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Nisei Veterans, Inc., Portland Chapter JACL, Shokookai of Portland and the Veleda Club.

This year we had an outstanding group of graduates. We are proud of your accomplishments and the Nikkei community wants to support you as you move on to your next challenge.

JACL Community Snapshots!

Submit photos of you and your family at community gatherings to michael@pdxjacl.org to be featured in an upcoming JACL Newsletter!

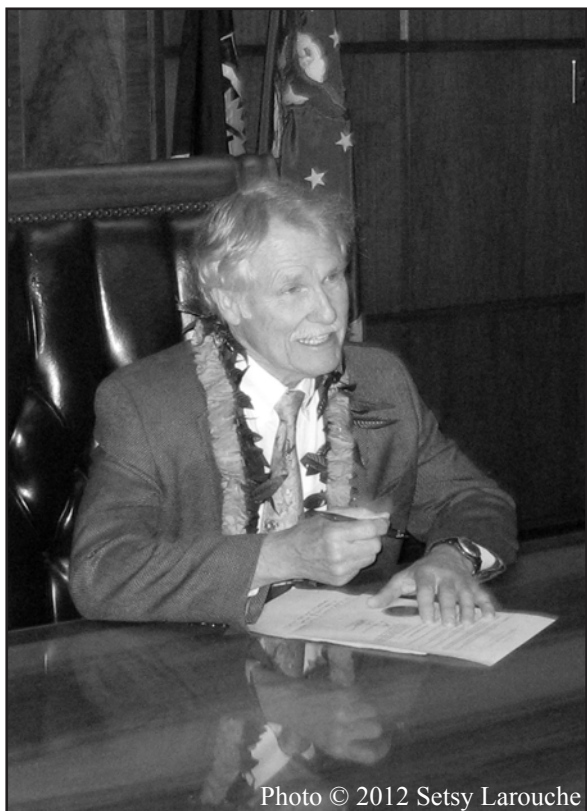


Photo © 2012 Setsy Larouche

Governor Kitzhaber signed the Proclamation of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month of May in Salem on May 11, 2012.

Roy Maeda receives his Congressional Gold Medal from Senator Wyden on April 11, 2012 in Eugene, OR.



Photo © 2012 Setsy Larouche

Dr. George Hara was presented the Congressional Gold Medal by Senator Wyden on April 30, 2012 at his residence.



She Knew Frank Sinatra

By Sharon Takahashi

Ikoi no Kai lost a cherished volunteer on Friday, May 18, 2012, when Marian Hara lost her battle with cancer. She had beaten the enemy before but this time, she was sorely challenged. She asked her friends and relatives to give her space and because it was HER WAY, and they had complied. At the lunch site, her good friend Jane Kawashima decided that we could invade her "air space" and we made cassette recordings to send her our good wishes and cheer.

When she retired from teaching at Lincoln High School, Marian began volunteering at Ikoi No Kai and she continued until summer 2011. Almost two decades went by swiftly. Takae Okazaki is one of our longest tenured volunteers and she remembers the assertive way Marian came on the scene and started "directing." There was a way to do things and Marian told you how it had to be. Her way was THE WAY.

When she started volunteering, because she was so physically fit, she took on the shopping chores, lifting boxes and heavy items and putting everything in its place. Last summer, she decided she had to give up that job and she took me on a training mission. We trekked off to the Cash and Carry and she explained why this was the place to shop. The fellows there always loaded the goods into the car and they put them where she directed. Heavy things had to be on the car seat since it was a better height and caused less strain on the back. (HER WAY.) When picking up needed items, she recommended checking out the prices of luxuries. She knew Chef Kashu liked using larger frozen shrimp but Marian had a price point. We were lucky if she stumbled upon a bargain and tucked it in the freezer. She lived close to Epworth United Methodist Church so she often would stop by to put away groceries and if she ever found the church unlocked, she would definitely raise a ruckus.

Chef Kashu and the other kitchen helpers called Marian "General." (The General loved carrots and would often tell her to put more carrots in the dishes she prepared. She liked to sit next to Takae at mealtime because Takae always shared her carrots with Marian.) The General challenged everyone to do things her way and that kept the kitchen producing. I remember being invited to watch special meals being prepared and packed, but not to eat. She was proud of the volunteers.

Ikoi No Kai was always on her mind. Spirit Mountain Casino ran a promotion for Easter 2011 - Green

Eggs and Spam. Everyone got a small can of SPAM and a green plastic egg with free slot dollars. Late in the evening, Marian went to ask the Coyote Club helper what they were going to do with those eggs. When he said he didn't know, she asked if she could get 80 for her Thursday lunch guests. I don't think he believed she was having 80 people to lunch so he gave her about 30 so she talked Jane Kawashima and myself into going up to get more green eggs. "Mottainai (What a shame to waste)," she said. We followed the General's orders but as Easter 2012 came around, I had put them away so carefully I couldn't find them to take to Ikoi No Kai. A task for Easter 2013 - find those eggs.

On the golf course, Marian was known as the rules person. She knew all the new rule changes, protocols and penalties and was very conscious of course etiquette. If you shared a cart with her, you played fast - no marshal would be on your tail barking "pace of play." She was very competitive and willing to golf in community events like the Goodwill Tournament, even if her game was "lousy."

She had a special group of friends with whom she played poker and bridge. When she played poker with her buddies, she never lost. Her favorite game at the casinos was 3 card poker - and though she claimed to have lost each outing, I bet she came away a winner more often than not.

Her sister in law Yone Hara told me about Marian's custom of giving five dollars of lottery tickets to every adult at her Christmas gatherings. You can hear the smile in her voice as she says "The adults really looked forward to this treat."

Frank Sinatra may have sung the song "My Way" but Marian made it hers. She definitely lived her life HER WAY and she may have taught us a thing or two.

Our condolences to Marian's family and friends.

The Ikoi No Kai Family

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JAPANESE ANCESTRAL SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

June 2012

Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 12th Annual Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, July 29, 2012 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 Pat Gilman 503 317-2939. Due to course regulations, we must collect your entry fee by July 18, 2012 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, Joe Dyer, Kay Endo, Pat Gilman, Marian Hara (IMO), Ace Hiromura, Joann Hiromura, Kurtis Inouye, George Kanegae, Terry Kawamoto, Wimpy Kawata, Hideo Kobayashi, Bill Koida, Gordon Kondo, Chip & Setsy Larouche, Yoji Matsushima, Merianne Nagae, Bill Nakamura, Kurt Nakashima, 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 18, 2012**

_____ I will play _____ I will stay for lunch _____ Single JAS membership (\$25)

_____ I will **not** play _____ I will **not** stay for lunch _____ Couple JAS membership (\$40)

_____ 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, 2012 _____ or List last 5 golf scores (18 holes) _____

If playing with a group, please add names _____

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

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A Message from the Japanese Cemetery

To Our Community:

Last month, April, a clean up project was started by the Cemetery Committee for our JAPANESE CEMETERY. Our hope is to do as much as we can to make our cemetery as clean and respectful as possible. We have had professional people come in from, Lone Fir Cemetery and Grave Matters In Oregon, to aid us in the proper methods of caring for the cemetery stones. We were shown the ecologically safe techniques to use in this meticulous task.

This clean-up is done, especially, for the benefit of the older burial plots which were heavily covered by decades of old moss. Also, to show respect for the hardship the early-time Japanese must have endured in those pioneer days in the late 1800's and early 1900's. More than likely, these people courageously journeyed from Japan with hopes for a new life in America only to succumb to age and time, then were interred in unknown places... not only here in the JAPANESE CEMETERY. There were babies, too. Some have inscriptions written on their gravestones by someone who cared... now weathered

by time. It is to those individuals, that we owe our respect for their bravery. With this in mind, we would like to, respectfully, tidy up their monuments.

The clean up task has been done on Fridays from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Our aim is to keep up this schedule until Memorial Day and, then, pause during the summer months. We will notify in the Fall, the day and time when we will resume. This interlude will allow committee persons to pursue other interests uninterrupted.

Also, there is an added attraction for those unaware. Our cemetery now boasts a brand new sign over the entry-arch signifying it as the, "JAPANESE CEMETERY". To protect the metal letters against the elements, they have been powdered coated. The color is a natural metallic hue and displays a kaleidoscopic effect depending on the angle it is viewed.

Thank you,

Ken Ono
Japanese Cemetery

Clark Center Loaves & Fishes June 2012 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

Friday 1 - Teriyaki chicken or veggie lasagna

Monday 4 - Beef & macaroni casserole or mushroom veggie burger

Tuesday 5 - Savory baked chicken or French dip sandwich

Wednesday 6 - Baked fish w/ lemon dill sauce or veggie pizza

Thursday 7 - Chef Lynne's TexMex chicken enchiladas or roast pork w/ gravy

Friday 8 - Pork & broccoli or tuna stuffed tomato

Monday 11 - Sweet & sour chicken or mushroom & cheese omelet

Tuesday 12 - Turkey pot roast or Chinese chicken salad

Wednesday 13 - Kaori's yakisoba or spinach lasagna

Thursday 14 - Spaghetti w/ meat sauce or open face turkey sandwich

Friday 15 - Breaded tilapia w/ tartar sauce or chicken enchilada casserole

Monday 18 - Ginger chicken or veggie chili

Tuesday 19 - Meatloaf w/ gravy or veggie pizza

Wednesday 20 - Pork stroganoff or shrimp salad

Thursday 21 - Pollo con carne or tuna salad sandwich

Friday 22 - Baked fish w/ cucumber dill sauce or chicken fajita

Monday 25 - Cheese ravioli or grilled chicken breast sandwich

Tuesday 26 - Baked chicken w/ gravy or taco salad

Wednesday 27 - Yoji-san's world renowned beef curry or bean & rice burrito

Thursday 28 - Open face sloppy joe or open face seafood sandwich

Friday 29 - Chicken stroganoff or broccoli quiche w/ tomato slices

June Menu Highlights - Asian menu items on the 13th and 27th!

Ikoï no Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

Friday 1 - Orange peel chicken

Monday 4 - Breaded shrimp

Tuesday 5 - Chikara udon w/ tempura & mochi

Wednesday 6 - Closed

Thursday 7 - Baked pork

Friday 8 - Spaghetti

Monday 11 - Thai chicken Fried rice

Tuesday 12 - Satsuma tonjiru (pork in miso soup)

Wednesday 13 - Closed

Thursday 14 - Tilapia kôgame yaki (baked tilapia)

Friday 15 - Crispy beef donburi style

Monday 18 - Gyoza dim sum

Tuesday 19 - Teriyaki chicken

Wednesday 20 - Closed

Thursday 21 - Somen w/ chicken and shrimp (cool noodles)

Friday 22 - Fish fry Tofu salad

Monday 25 - Clam chowder / chicken salad

Tuesday 26 - Tonkatsu (breaded pork cutlet)

Wednesday 27 - Closed

Thursday 28 - Birthday Special **

Friday 29 - Baked chicken Singapore noodles

Ikoï no Kai June 2012 Menu Notes:

- ** Birthday Special: Rolled Beef Teriyaki, Takikome gohan (pilaf)
- Only the main dish is listed. Each day's menu includes soup or salad, side dish, and dessert.

YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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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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