

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

March 6-8

- O.N.E. Cherry Blossom Bazaar
118 NW 3rd Ave, Portland

March 7- June 14

- O.N.E. Sakura Sakura Exhibit
Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center

March 7, 2 p.m.

- Minidoka Swing Band
Community of Christ Church
Hillsboro

March 8

- Daylight Savings Time Begins

March 15

- Spring Bazaar, Nichiren

March 15, 2 p.m.

- Ohanami Sunday, JASO
Portland Japanese Garden

March 21

- Annual Mtg/Luncheon
Hyakudo Kai, Chinese Village

March 28, 10 a.m.

- PNW District Meeting
Holladay Park Plaza

April 11

- Minidoka Swing Band
Newberg Camellia Festival

April 26

- Oregon Buddhist Temple
Salmon Fest

May 2

- National JACL Board Meeting
San Francisco

May 3

- Japanese American
Graduation Banquet
MAC Club

MARCH 2015 • VOLUME 20, ISSUE 8

Day of Remembrance 2015

*Board Members Message by
Heidi Kimiko Tolentino*

This year, for The Day of Remembrance, our board decided an Appreciation Luncheon would be the best way to honor our local Nisei. Held at the Multnomah Athletic Club on February 22nd, The Nisei Appreciation Luncheon was attended by over 70 Nisei honorees.

The program opened with a welcome from the Emcee, **Jeff Selby**, and the pledge of allegiance led by **Ron Iwasaki** of Oregon Nisei Veterans. It was followed by an invocation by **Reverend Anna Cho** of Epworth United Methodist Church. We were also honored to have JACL National President, **David Lin**, in attendance. President Lin graciously came to honor our Nisei. President Lin thanked the Nisei for their service to our country and for the sacrifices that they made for all of us.

The keynote speaker for the program was the esteemed **Linda Tamura**, Professor Emerita of Education at Willamette University and a Sansei who has extensively researched and written about the Issei and Nisei in her books, *The Hood River Issei*, and *Nisei Soldiers Break Their Silence*.

Dr. Tamura's talk was titled, "Lessons From Our Nisei". Dr. Tamura referred to the Nisei as "the bridge" for the Japanese American community. They connect the Japanese traditions

of their Issei parents with the American culture that is their birthright. Thus, they have many lessons to teach us.

Dr. Tamura credits the Nisei with teaching her three valuable lessons. The first is to Know the Full Story. She said that Nisei have taught her to be informed about our past, including all of the different stories that make up Japanese American history. Nisei have reminded her to then educate the public about Japanese American history so that these stories will not be lost. The second lesson Nisei have bequeathed to her is to Know Your Story. Part of knowing your story is understanding your own history, which is why the Nisei stories are so crucial to helping us understand who the Nikkei community is today. The third lesson Dr. Tamura learned from the Nisei is Share Your Story. Nisei have told her to speak up for herself and for others. She gave examples of Nisei who have spoken out. **Segie Nishioka**, **Min Yasui** and **Lury Sato** are three Nisei activists who spoke out against injustice and took action for themselves and for the larger community.

Dr. Tamura then asked the audience to participate in an activity. She asked participants to find a Nisei and take a "selfie" with them. After that, each person was to ask that same Nisei, "What is a lesson we can learn from the Nisei?"

Day of Remembrance continued

During the activity, I had the pleasure of talking with Mr. **Bill Matsuda** of Portland. Mr. Matsuda told me that a lesson we can learn from the Nisei is something he learned from the Issei, "Regardless of whatever hardships you face, never give up". So simple and yet so profound. Mr. Matsuda and I talked further and he modestly told me that his Issei parents were really the ones who had a difficult time. They built a life for themselves and then had it all taken away from them. I asked Mr. Matsuda about his time in camp and he told me that he was very young during camp and he felt it was not as hard for him because he didn't really understand what was happening. His family was first at Tule Lake and then was moved to Heart Mountain. After the war, Mr. Matsuda's family moved to Ontario, Oregon before returning to Portland. I was so appreciative of Mr. Matsuda's willingness to talk with me and share parts of his story and his wisdom.

The activity was so successful that Dr. Tamura

had trouble quieting the audience because of the passionate discussions that had surfaced around the room. People were then asked to share what they learned from their Nisei interviews. Individuals spoke about interviewing their family members and table mates and the lessons that came from the Nisei.

As her talk came to a close, Dr. Tamura encouraged us to continue asking our Nisei family members and friends to share their stories with us and she again thanked the Nisei for being our bridge.

The day ended with families continuing to share stories and Nisei talking with one another about people they knew and stories they remembered after hearing Dr. Tamura speak. I left feeling thankful for my Nisei grandparents, **Joe and Nellie Saito**, and the numerous lessons they have taught me over my lifetime; they have truly inspired me. Thank you to all of the Nisei for the sacrifices you have made for us; there are no words to express our gratitude.



Day of Remembrance and Nisei Appreciation Luncheon was held at the Multnomah Athletic Club on February 22.

Front Row (Lm to R): Centenarians Bill Otani, Lury Sato, Alice Sumida, Lilly Ono

Back Row (L to R): Linda Tamura, Rev Anna Cho, Sheldon Arakaki, Gordon Kondo, Kirk Tambara, David Lin, Jeff Selby, Lynn Longfellow, Chip Larouche, Setsy Larouche

Photo by Curtis Suyematsu

Note: Additional Luncheon pictures will be in next months newsletter

PORTLAND **JACL**
NEWSLETTER

NICHIREN

BUDDHIST TEMPLE



23rd Annual Spring Bazaar

Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 2025 S.E. Yamhill

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
Special Nichiren Tonkatsu (pork) Bento <small>Available for Pre-order Only</small>	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Chicken Donburi <small>(Chicken Teriyaki over rice)</small>	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
Chow Mein	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
Veggie Chow Mein	\$ 7.50	_____	_____
Tofu Donburi <small>(Tofu Teriyaki over rice)</small>	\$ 6.50	_____	_____
Total \$		_____	_____

Please return this pre-order form with
your check by **March 10, 2015**

Please make checks payable to:
Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple

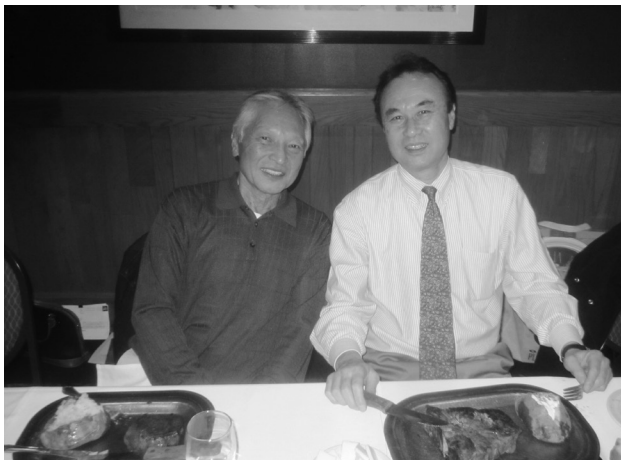
All proceeds benefit:
Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple
2025 S.E. Yamhill
Portland, Oregon 97214

Name _____
Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

Thank you for your order.

(An envelope with your pre-paid tickets will be ready for you at the will-call line.)



Consul General Hiroshi Furusawa and
Gordon Kondo enjoy their steaks at
Sayler's Old Country Kitchen during the
Japanese Ancestral Society's annual New
Year's Luncheon on February 8th.
Photo by Setsy Larouche

Portland JACL Testifies Against Joint Terrorism Task Force

Message by Board Member Susan Leedham

“Portland wises up and joins the JTTF” was the opinion of *The Oregonian*. But a lot of organizations and people showed up at the public hearing of the Portland City Council on February 5th to voice their opposition.

It was a very interesting and informative debate. There was testimony from US Attorney Amanda Marshall who testified that her prime focus is to build cases, so she testified she has oversight of the JTTF to make sure the evidence gathered will hold up in court. She stressed that the focus is on outreach to the Muslim community, but it was clear from later testimony that there is widespread mistrust of the FBI, especially after the FBI's handling of the Mohamed Mohamud Pioneer Square Christmas Tree fake bombing.

Portland Police Chief O'Dea testified about assigning two Portland Police officers to work full-time on the JTTF with the FBI. They would still report to their Portland Police Sergeant and Lieutenant and to the Police Chief. He said he would pick two officers that would speak up if they thought the FBI's tactics went against Oregon law. You have to wonder, though, how much sway two local police officers would have and if they would really feel comfortable enough to speak up.

Board Member Chip Larouche wrote a letter to the City Council voicing his concern about the expense of assigning two officers at a cost of roughly \$250,000 per year who would not be doing City work, and wondered in these times of budget constraints, wouldn't that fix a lot of potholes?

Chief O'Dea testified that the benefit of joining would be that the City would get advanced warning of any threats to our community. If we don't join, we will get much later notice.

One of the concerns the City Council had in the past was the lack of oversight. The FBI will grant security clearance to only sworn law enforcement officials, which our Mayor is not. In the past Memorandum of Understanding there was language to grant the Mayor security clearance, but Amanda Marshall testified that according to FBI rules, you are either in or you're out. You abide by all FBI rules, and there are no exceptions.

David Fidanque, Executive Director of the Oregon ACLU, gave a very detailed, informative presentation

pointing out how the FBI guidelines and the proposed agreement to join the JTTF are inconsistent with Oregon law. He noted that the contract would make all JTTF files the property of the FBI which means that unlike the records created by the Portland Police Bureau, these files are not subject to review or destruction if there is no reasonable suspicion of criminal activity.

Mr. Fidanque also pointed out that the FBI can open files on people without a suspicion of criminal activity and that they can attend political events so long as they have an “anti-terrorism” effort in mind, threatening our First Amendment right of freedom of assembly.

There was testimony from many individuals and groups including Kayse Jama of the Center for Intercultural Organizing; JoAnn Hardesty, NAACP Portland Chapter; Maxine Fookson of Jewish Voice for Peace-Portland, and Brandon Mayfield, Portland attorney wrongly accused in the Madrid train bombing. They all testified about their grave concerns with FBI tactics in the past and present.

Jean Yamamoto from our chapter testified in place of our chapter president, Kirk Tambara, who could not attend. Jean did a great job relating the story of Kirk's grandfather, Asakichi Tambara, who came from Japan to work on the railroads. Leading up to World War II he owned a restaurant called Nikko and other businesses in Portland's Japantown and was very involved in the Buddhist Church. The day after Pearl Harbor was bombed he was arrested by the FBI. Never having committed a crime, he was taken from his family and community for the entirety of the war in a detention camp in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The rest of the family was sent to the Portland Stockyards and then to Minidoka where they were incarcerated until the end of the war. The family lost the business and had to start over completely, as did many other Japanese Americans.

Jean went on to testify that, “We are at that crossroads now where fear of terrorism is creating hysteria that is justifying the sacrifice of our civil liberties, especially if it affects The Others. Seventy years ago Japanese people like the Tambara family and people who look like me were The Others. Portland is better than this and must be held accountable to all our residents. The Portland police are here to protect and serve and not engage in secret surveillance and other tactics that are against

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

our values.

It took forty years of advocacy by the Japanese American community before the US Congress and President acknowledged and apologized for the unlawful violations of the civil rights of Japanese

Americans during World War II. Let's not repeat a sad and regrettable history. We ask that the Portland City Council vote to keep Portland out of the JTTF."

Unfortunately, Mayor Hales cast the deciding vote and gave in to fear and voted to join the JTTF.



Jean Yamamoto testifies at the Portland City Council hearing on JTTF on Thursday, February 5, 2015.
Photo by Chris Leedham



JASO Ohanami Sunday 2015

Ohanami is a traditional way of celebrating the arrival of *sakura*, signaling the beginning of Spring. JASO is hosting an Ohanami Sunday at the Portland Japanese Garden on March 15. Seasonal food, *saké*, tea, music, and activities are included with admission. Your ticket also admits you to the Garden and we invite you to tour at your leisure. Children are welcome; bring the young ones for a fun afternoon.

March 15, 2015, 2pm-5pm.
Portland Japanese Garden
611 SW Kingston
Portland OR 97205

Only \$8 for adults 21 and older, \$4 for all under 21.
Tickets available at [EventBrite](#). No tickets sold at the venue.

Mochitsuki 2015



Mochitsuki 2015, Smith Memorial Student Union,
Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Photo by Rich Iwasaki



Calligraphy demonstration at Mochitsuki 2015, Smith Memorial
Student Union, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Photo by Rich Iwasaki



Tea ceremony demonstration at Mochitsuki 2015, Smith Memorial
Student Union, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Photo by Rich Iwasaki



Michelle Sugahiro performs at Mochitsuki 2015,
Smith Memorial Student Union, Portland State
University, Portland, Oregon
Photo by Rich Iwasaki



Members of Portland Taiko perform at Mochitsuki 2015, Smith
Memorial Student Union, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon
Photo by Rich Iwasaki

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

Cherry Blossom Bazaar on March 7 and March 8, 2015.
A rummage sale of Japanese treasures to help raise funds for the Oregon Nikkei Endowment!



The Oregon Nikkei Endowment (O.N.E.) is proud to present its third annual Cherry Blossom Bazaar. This large rummage sale consists of Japanese treasures donated by the greater Japanese American community to benefit O.N.E. All of the proceeds raised will help support our museum, the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center located in Portland's Old Town/Chinatown neighborhood, and our Japanese American Historical Plaza and Bill of Rights Memorial in Portland's Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

The sale features an eclectic array of Japanese items including dolls, furniture, fans, kimonos, ikebana, Kokeshi, jewelry, books, dishware, and much more! There's something for every age, taste, and budget. Over one thousand antiques and collectibles will go on sale with prices starting as low as 25 cents.

The Cherry Blossom Bazaar is free and open to the public. Come hunt for hidden treasures on Saturday, March 7 and Sunday, March 8 running each day from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The location of the sale is 118 NW 3rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97209.

For early shoppers, we will be offering a Special Preview Night Benefit on Friday, March 6 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. To beat the crowds, the admission for this exclusive sneak peek opportunity is \$50 general. For one night only, attendees will have the privilege of a first pick while enjoying food and drinks!

Again, all proceeds benefit Oregon Nikkei Endowment. All of the funds raised help share and preserve Japanese American history and culture. **For more information on this fundraising event be sure to call us at 503-224-1458 or check out our website www.oregonnikkei.org.**

Invitation to Stories from Tohoku

The US-Japan Council would like to invite you to the viewing of the film, *Stories from Tohoku*, on April 17, 2015. The film was made by two of our members, Dianne Fukami and Debra Nakatomi. After the showing of the movie (55 minutes), we will have a short question and answer session with the filmmakers and several members who visited Tohoku after the Earthquake four years ago.

We hope that you are able to attend this event. If you are able to attend, we ask that you register at the following link:

<http://www.usjapancouncil.org/portland>

There is no charge to attend this event.

Your spouse/better half are welcome to attend the event as well.

I look forward to seeing you at the event.

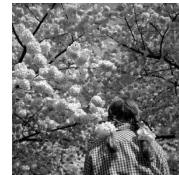
Sincerely,

Kaz Maniwa, Senior Vice President, US-Japan Council



OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

Sakura Sakura: An Exhibition of Photographs by Motoya Nakamura March 7 – June 14, 2015 at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center



Over the course of a year, celebrated local photographer Motoya Nakamura trained his camera lens on the *sakura* (cherry blossom) trees that frame the Oregon Nikkei Endowment's Japanese American Historical Plaza and Bill of Rights Memorial. With the changing of the seasons, *Sakura Sakura* shows how these blossoming gifts from Japan bring Portland's Tom McCall Waterfront Park alive each year. Come see *sakura* in a way that has never been seen before!

Oregon Nikkei Endowment is proud to open this exhibit at our museum, the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, to help kick off the 25th anniversary celebration of our Japanese American Historical Plaza and Bill of Rights Memorial.

Sakura Sakura will be on exhibit between March 7 and June 14, 2015. The Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center is located at 121 NW 2nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon. Museum hours are Tue-Sat, 11am-3pm, and Sunday, 12-3pm. Admission is \$5, \$3 students/seniors, and free for children 11 and under. **For more information on this exhibit and related programming be sure to call us at 503-224-1458 or check out our website www.oregonnikkei.org.**

National JACL 2015 Scholarship Program

The JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, and those specializing in law and the creative/performing arts. There are also two student aid scholarships to address the challenge students face in meeting rising tuition costs.

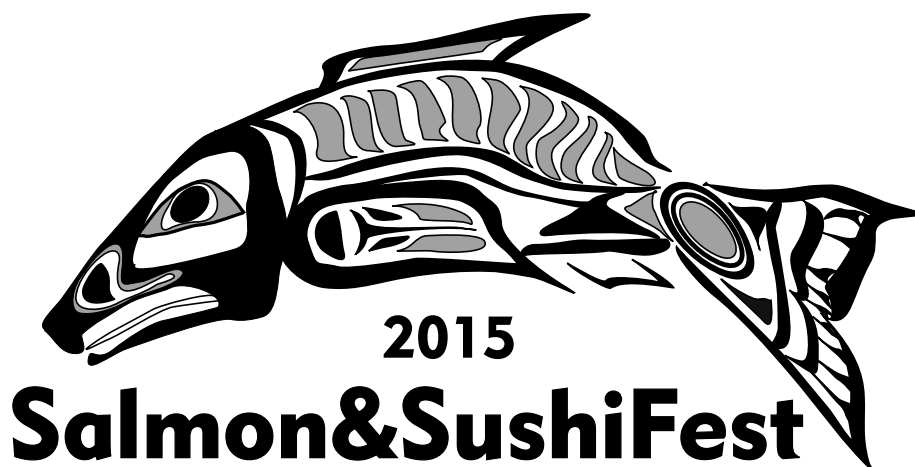
JACL, in partnership with Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, also offers a U.S.-Japan Scholarship for an incoming college junior who wishes to study in Japan. Meiji Gakuin University, founded in 1863, is one of the oldest universities in Japan. This two-year scholarship will lead the recipient to a bachelor's degree in International Studies. All classes are taught in English.

A scholarship program brochure and applications for 2015 can be found on the JACL website at www.jacl.org, and clicking "Education" on the menu bar. The National JACL Scholarship Program requires that all applicants be a student or individual member of the JACL. Membership under a parent will not fulfill this requirement.

The Meiji Gakuin-JACL Scholarship involves two completely different applications, which can be requested directly from Meiji Gakuin University via the JACL website.

For more information on the National JACL Scholarship Program, contact Regional Director Patty Wada at pwada@jacl.org, or National JACL Vice President for Planning & Development Chip Larouche at clarouche@jacl.org.

PORTLAND **JACL**
NEWSLETTER



Sunday, April 26th, 2015

11:00 am to 7:00 pm

\$15.00



Oregon Buddhist Temple

3720 SE 34th Ave

Portland, OR

www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com



(preorder form)

Salmon Sushi Fest

Sunday, April 26th 11 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

meal includes: salmon, marfar chicken, vegetable, salad & rice

*also available for purchase: SUSHI (makisushi, inari sushi, & CA rolls),
dessert, wine & beer*



Salmon Dinners _____ X \$15 = \$ _____
quantity total \$ salmon

name : _____
please print

Sushi Assortment _____ X \$7.50 = \$ _____
quantity total \$ sushi

phone # : _____

email (optional): _____

TOTAL \$ amount enclosed = \$ _____

Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 S.E. 34th Ave. Portland, OR 97202
www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com

submit orders by April 17th:

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

THE NATIONAL VETERANS NETWORK

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL DINNER

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015

6:00 PM COCKTAIL RECEPTION 7:00 PM DINNER

THE FAIRMONT 170 SOUTH MARKET STREET SAN JOSE, CA 95113



Support the Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition which will highlight the stories of the World War II Nisei Soldiers at the Smithsonian Institution in 2016.



Join us to express a special thank you to General Eric K. Shinseki, former U.S. Secretary of Veteran Affairs and 34th U.S. Army Chief of Staff, for his service to his country.

To purchase tickets, sponsor veterans or leave a thank you message, please visit <http://nationalveteransnetwork.givezooks.com/events/congressional-gold-medal-dinner-san-jose-ca>.

For information about the dinner, please contact Reiko Iwanaga at riwanaga@ecopiafarms.com.

For more information about the exhibition, visit www.nationalveteransnetwork.com or email Christine Sato-Yamazaki at christine@nationalveteransnetwork.com.

YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

President:

Kirk Tambara
kirk@pdxjacl.org

Secretary:

Jean Yamamoto
jean@pdxjacl.org

Membership:

Setsy Larouche
setsy@pdxjacl.org

Vice President:

Marleen Ikeda Wallingford
marleen@pdxjacl.org

Treasurer:

Chip Larouche
chip@pdxjacl.org

Newsletter:

Ralph Yamamoto
ralph@pdxjacl.org

Rich Iwasaki

rich@pdxjacl.org

Jim Kennedy

jim@pdxjacl.org

John Kodachi

john@pdxjacl.org

Christopher Lee

chris@pdxjacl.org

Susan Leedham

susan@pdxjacl.org

Lynn Longfellow

lynn@pdxjacl.org

Connie Masuoka

connie@pdxjacl.org

Verne Naito

verne@pdxjacl.org

Heidi Tolentino

heidi@pdxjacl.org



PORTLAND JACL
PO BOX 86310
PORTLAND, OR 97286

NON PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND, OR
PERMIT #579

Iko no Kai at Epworth March 2015 Menu

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland, 503-238-0775

Monday 2 - Salmon
chowder / somen salad

Tuesday 3 - Chicken
karaage

Wednesday 4 - Closed

Thursday 5 - Ramen

Friday 6 - Miso chicken

Monday 9 - Mar far
chicken

Tuesday 10 - Calamari
steak

Wednesday 11 - Closed

Thursday 12 - Shrimp
curry

Friday 13 - Tomato beef
chow mein

Monday 16 - Corned beef
and cabbage

Tuesday 17 - Nappa soup
& taki-komi rice

Wednesday 18 - Closed

Thursday 19 - Baked pork

Friday 20 - Cod fish &
chips

Monday 23 - 36th Anniver-
sary bento

Tuesday 24 - Shumai

Wednesday 25 - Closed

Thursday 26 - Birthday
sushi with marinated saba

Friday 27 - Chicken tikka
masala

Monday 30 - Chinese wal-
nut shrimp

Tuesday 31 - Pork katsu-
don

Menu Notes:

- Meals include salad
or soup and dessert

Mondays, 12:30-2:

hanafuda and bridge

Mon-Tue, 11:30:

chair exercises

Mar 10, 10:30:

Fujinkai Board

Mar 12: Sing along

with Reiko & Jerry

Mar 19, 11:

Hyakudokai

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.