



PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

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

JANUARY 2017 • VOLUME 22, ISSUE 06

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Now – January 15, 2017
Exhibit: Captain Hardy and
the Black Ship Scroll
Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center

January 19, 5:30 p.m.
JASO Shinnenkai
Montgomery Park

January 20
Inauguration Day

January 22, 1 p.m.
Portland JACL General Meeting
Chinese Village Restaurant

January 29 2017
Mochitsuki
Portland State University

February 12, 4:00 p.m.
JAS Annual Meeting
Sayler's Country Kitchen
Dinner at 4:30 p.m.

February 19
Day of Remembrance

February 20
President's Day

March 6
Salmon Dinner
Oregon Buddhist Temple

March 12
Daylight Savings Time Begins

VISION AND VIGILANCE

by Marleen Ikeda Wallingford, Portland JACL President

This year, 2017 marks the 75th anniversary of the defining event in the history of Japanese immigration to this country. The United States went to war against Japan and its allies in Europe. Since the government said they could not tell who was loyal or not; in the interest of national security, all of the ethnic Japanese were forcibly removed from the west coast. We were incarcerated in "camps" in the interior of the country in isolated, forlorn regions. We were vilified by the media and false rumors were spread that hard-working Japanese farmers were buying land

day in court. In fact after the war, not a single person of Japanese ancestry was found to be guilty of espionage or subversive activity. Korematsu vs the United States which questioned the constitutionality of using race to determine loyalty was upheld in 1944. The need to "protect our country against espionage outweighed Korematsu's individual rights." His case was overturned in 1983. However it has never formally been challenged and still stands.

All of the rumors were fear mongering and the desire of special interest

groups to get the Japanese, 70% who were U.S. citizens, out. It was discovered many years after the war that the government hid evidence that investigations into the Japanese community found no credible evidence of



Wajdi Said is one of many inspirational speakers that addresses over 200 people assembled at the Japanese Historical Plaza during the Vigil. -- Photo By Rich Iwasaki

close to airports and military installations in order to be the fifth column in support of the Japanese invasion of the United States. We were told we couldn't travel more than five miles from our home. We could not leave our homes between the hours of 8 pm to 6 am. We had to turn in our radios and weapons. We were never charged with a crime. Most Japanese Americans never had their

sabotage. The federal government carried out a policy of incarcerating 120,000 ethnic Japanese because of war hysteria. That was in 1942. We cannot let fear take over. In 2017, we are facing new challenges terrorism, concerns over the civil rights of LGBTQ individuals and our response to refugees and immigrants.

Continued page 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

We are deeply concerned about the harassment and intimidation that has been unleashed this election cycle. The FBI has documented an increase of 7% of hate crimes. Most concerning that there has been an increase of 67% in hate crimes against persons perceived to be Muslim as well as increases of hate crimes against African Americans, Jewish and LGBTQ individuals. The Portland JACL is a member of the Coalition Against Hate Crimes. This is a local community group which partners with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to improve the reporting of hate crimes and to aid in the investigation of hate crimes. It provides resources to victims of hate crimes and hate incidents, including information on neighborhood mediation and proper legal channels to report hate crimes. Their other mission is to educate the community about the disruptive nature of hate crimes.

The Portland JACL the Japanese Ancestral Society and the Oregon Nikkei Endowment stood in solidarity with targeted communities on December 11. Our co-sponsors were: ACLU of Oregon, Albina Ministerial Alliance, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), Augustana Lutheran Church, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Familias en Accion, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), Jewish Voice for Peace, Know Your City, Latino Health Coalition, Living Earth, Muslim Educational Trust, Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, Physicians for Social Responsibility, The Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, Unit Souzou, Unite Oregon, Vanport Mosaic, Veterans for Peace, Western States Center, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Arts Foundation.

We held a candle light vigil at the Japanese American Civil Rights Memorial on the waterfront with a group of 200 people who joined together to stand against bigotry. We have reached out to our community partners but this is only a first step.

The Portland JACL challenges our members to become engaged in the issues that affect us. Not only do we need to vote, we need to contact our legislatures about issues that you care about. We need to become informed about what government policies are being proposed and the long-term effects of those policies. We need volunteers to help us carry out our mission. We need you.

Please join us at our annual General Meeting at 1 pm on January 22 at the Chinese Village Restaurant, 520 SE 82. We will be talking about what we can do to support our civil rights in the future.



Photo by Curtis Suyematsu

CALLING ALL MEMBERS: GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, January 22, 2017, 1:00 pm
Chinese Village Restaurant | 520 SE 82nd Ave., Portland

Please join your Portland JACL Board at our annual meeting for a light lunch at the Chinese Village on Sunday, January 22, 2017. We will be discussing our path forward in light of the election of Donald Trump.

The racist and exclusionary rhetoric has created a 400% rise in hate crimes, and we are very concerned about policies that will further marginalize people of color, immigrants, women and the LGBTQ community.

Carl Higbie's shocking statement that the incarceration of 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry during WWII could be used as a precedent to allow registration of Muslims living in our country should ring alarm bells in all of us.

We would appreciate hearing from all of you. Please RSVP: susan@pdxjacl.org.

JASO New Year's Celebration

Shinnenkai 新年会

5:30pm to 8:30 pm, Thursday, January 19, 2017

Montgomery Park, 2701 NW Vaughn Street Portland, OR 97210
Music by Takohachi Taiko, Mizuki Dazai, Mitch Iimori

Tickets: \$50 for Members (Use code NEW2017)

<http://tinyurl.com/hgzbkmv>

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Visuals of Vision and Vigilance





We thank Rich Iwasaki and Curtis Suyematsu for their continuous photographic contributions to Portland JACL and specifically we are grateful for the great way they captured the essence of the Vision and Vigilance event held at the Japanese Historical Plaza on December 11, 2016.

Around the Community



Gresham-Troutdale JACL held their annual Nisei Appreciation Lunch recently at the Super King Buffet on 82nd Avenue. – Photo by Setsy Larouche

Despite the weather issues in December, the Unite People dinner for the elders happens to a smaller but energetic group at the Cherry Wood Center. –Photo by Chip Larouche



The Tomodachi Kai group held their holiday luncheon in December. Pictured (L to R) are Co-Chair Lisa Okada, Karen Uchiyama, wife the Consul General of Japan to Portland, and Setsy Larouche, Membership Chair of Portland JACL. – Photo by Sanae Ota

MOCHITSUKI 2017

21st Annual Japanese American New Year Celebration

Sunday, January 29, 2017 - 11 AM-4 PM

**Smith Memorial Student Union (SMSU)
Portland State University
1825 SW Broadway • Portland, OR 97207**

Usher in the Year of the Rooster!

Join us for the 21st annual celebration of the Japanese American New Year featuring a feast for the senses. Enjoy traditional foods, art, performances, and many exceptional hands-on cultural experiences, displays, family-friendly activities, demos, and games.

- Calligraphy
- Children's bento making
- Food demos
- GO (board game)
- Ikebana
- Kendo
- Mochi-pounding
- New Year card making
- Origami
- Tea ceremony
- Games and more!

Stage Performances

- Taiko drumming
- Traditional dance & music
- Robert Kikuchi-Yugajo
- The Slants and many more!

Presented by Portland JACL
Co-produced by:
Konko Church of Portland
Oregon Nissei Endowment
Portland Taiko



www.mochipdx.org

Advance Ticket Prices

\$10 Adult

\$7 Student (w/ID), Senior (62+)

\$4 Child (ages 4-12)

Day of Event Ticket Prices

\$12 Adult

\$9 Student (w/ ID), Senior (62+)

\$5 Child (ages 4-12)

Free Admission: Children 3 years of age and younger, Honored Seniors 88+



PORTLAND JACL
PO BOX 86310
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IKOI NO KAI AT EPWORTH MENU FOR JANUARY **1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland, 503-238-0775**

Mon. 2 - Closed	Fri. 13 - Tsumire-nabe	Masala
Tue. 3 - Tempura Udon	Mon. 16 - Mar Far	Tue. 24 - Clam Chowder/ Somen Salad
Thu. 5 - Chuko-don	Chicken/Singapore ndles	Thu. 26 - Sukiyaki-nabe
Fri. 6 - Mushidori Donburi	Tue. 17 - Roast Pork/Fried Rice	Fri. 27 - Atsuage Fukume-ni
Mon. 9 - Tomato Beef Chow Mein	Thu. 19 - New Year Bento Reservation Required	Mon. 30 - Birthday sushi
Tue. 10 - Peanut Chicken/Pad Thai	Fri. 20 - Iridofu	Tue. 31 - Wor Wonton Soup
Thu. 12 - Katsudon	Mon. 23 - Chicken Tikka	

Menu Notes:

- Meals include salad or soup and dessert
- Closed Wednesdays
- **Mondays, 12:30-2:** hanafuda and bridge
- **Mon-Tue-Fri, 11:30:** chair exercises
- **Jan 10, 12, 20, 11:15:** Blood pressure
- **Jan 5, 12, 26 11:30:** Qi Gong
- **Jan 10, 10:30:** Fujinkai Board
- **Jan 16, Ohana Lunch** Bunch

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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.