



PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

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

FEBRUARY 2017 • VOLUME 23, ISSUE 07

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 12, 4:00 p.m.

JAS Annual Meeting
Saylor's Country Kitchen
Meeting at 4:30 p.m.
Dinner at 5:15 p.m.

February 14

Executive Order 9066: *A Specter of the Past in Today's War on Terrorism?*
(see page 4 for details)

February 17

Opening of Smithsonian Exhibit
Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans in WWII
Washington, D.C.

February 19

Day of Remembrance

March 19

Nichiren Annual Spring Bazaar

March 28

Min Yasui Day in Oregon

March 28

Architecture of Internment
Oregon Historical Society

March 28

Never Give Up (Part 1)
Historic Grand Theater, Salem
Event Coord: Jim Azumano

May 6

75th Anniversary of Portland
Assembly Center Incarceration

SHOCK, DEVASTATION & REMEMBRANCE

by Chip Larouche, Portland JACL Treasurer & Newsletter Editor

Happy February!

Hopefully some of the shock and devastation that some of us felt after the election results is ebbing especially after the wonderful Women's March that was held in Portland on Saturday, January 21st. It was an impressive event on every level and if you're an incurable optimist like me, I thought a lot of those messages hit the right mark.

For those of you who receive the Pacific Citizen and still have your Holiday Edition hanging around, I'd invite you to pick it up and turn to the Portland JACL page on page 4 and look it over. Last year we saw the passing of four of our stellar life members, and they were all noted in a few inches of newsprint on that page, but I thought I'd add to that remembrance by expanding a bit on the accomplishments of this foursome. Hopefully the unpopularity of number 4 will not deter you from continuing to read, and also understand that most of the facts that follow were "lifted" from available obituaries without asking permission.

Joan Yasui Emerson lost her battle with Gastric-Esophageal Cancer on Sept. 7, 2016. She lived in Hood River and was the niece of Homer Yasui, himself a long time Portland JACL member who now lives in the Seattle area with his wife Miki. Joan was born in Tule Lake, Calif on July 29, 1942, to Ray and Mickie Yasui, one of the many children to be "born in camp" to start their lives. She graduated from the University of

Oregon, received her Master's Degree in social work from Bryn Mawr, and another Master's Degree in music in the Bay Area. Her travels took her all over the world, but after years away, she returned to Hood River with her husband Chris in retirement. She fought to free Tibet, to assist Haitians, to feed and clothe the homeless, and to assist Native American youth. She was often found with her Oregon Ducks hat on, walking stick in hand, and a smile on her face. Her husband Chris preceded her by a little over a year, so perhaps Joan's demise was also complicated by a broken heart.

Bill Koida left us on August 27th after a heroic battle with cancer. He was born in Portland on Oct. 12, 1936 to Minoru and Mary Koida. He was the eldest of five brothers and was married to Nami for 55 years and they really enjoyed their three children and four grandchildren. As a child he was incarcerated in Minidoka with his family, later coming back to Milwaukie. Bill attended Wichita Grade School, Milwaukie High School, Oregon State University before graduating in Floriculture from Ohio State University in 1958. He returned to the family business, Koida Greenhouse, as a wholesale flower grower and he helped build the business with three of his brothers. The company participated in the Japanese Agricultural Training Council for many years.

Continued page 2

BOARD MEMBER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

Bill held many offices with organizations such as the Japanese Ancestral Society, Oregon Nisei Veterans and Oregon Nisei Golf and he was the Portland JACL President in 1976-1977. He received the Emperors Award, Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays in 2004 for distinguished service in furthering good relations between Japan and America. He enjoyed golfing, traveling, mushroom hunting, movies, reading, pickling vegetables, and sharing his plants. Bill was always generous in many ways, including spending a lot of his time with the organizations previously mentioned. If you have a Nikkei Community Directory in your home somewhere, that wouldn't have happened without a lot of Bill's help.

On August 5th, we lost our "Energizer Bunny", Nobi Masuoka, at the age of 91. She was born April 21, 1925 in Lahaina Maui which was at that time part of the Territory of Hawaii. Nobi was the third of five children born to Ichiroi and Hatsumi Nakagawa. She was raised in Lahaina where she graduated from Lahainaluna High School in 1942 and then went on to Cannon's Business College in Honolulu after which she worked for the Public Health Dept. in Honolulu for eleven years. Nobi married Dr. Matthew Masuoka in November 1957 and moved to Portland. Matt and Nobi worked side by side for forty-plus years operating their dental practice until Matt's death in 1998. Nobi continued to work in the practice with her daughter, Connie, until the day of her death. In addition, Nobi volunteered and worked tirelessly on projects and events to support and promote the local Japanese American community. She was a member of numerous organizations including; the Oregon Hiroshima Club, the Japanese Ancestral Society, Nikkei Fujin Kai, Portland JACL, the Oregon Buddhist Temple and the Oregon Nikkei Endowment (ONE) of which she and Matt were founding members. If you were not a dental patient of the Masuoka's, then you probably fondly remember Nobi being in charge of the food line at the Nikkei Community Picnic, going strong because of her for well over 25 years.

Tetsuo "Ned" Takasumi passed away on March 20, 2016, in Portland at the age of 90. Ned was born and raised in Hood River. During high school, he and his family were incarcerated in camp during World War II like so many other Nikkei's but he got to finish his GED there. After his release, Ned went into the U.S. Army and was stationed in Japan. When his tour was over, he enrolled in college, graduating from the University of Oregon with a degree in history. After college, Ned rejoined the Army, entering as a commissioned officer. His Army career took him to many parts of the United States, as well as several tours overseas, including Germany and Vietnam. Ned was in the first group of advisors to go to Vietnam in 1962. During his time in the Army, he became an Airborne Ranger, and also spent three years on the All-Army Pistol Team. He rose to the rank of major and received several decorations including the Bronze Star. Midway through his military career, Ned met and married his wife Jean. He retired from the Army in 1970, settled in Portland, where he began his "second career" at Key Bank before retiring in 1990 as vice president of Building and Planning. During those years, he also served on several boards, including the Clackamas County Design and Review Board and the Happy Valley Planning Commission. Ned's interests included flying a plane, climbing Mt. Hood, hunting, fishing and golfing. He also travelled to Scotland, Alaska, Canada, The Baja and throughout the West to pursue his favorite outdoor activities.

Now that we're in a new year, I was given the bad news that Art Iwasaki, another longtime member of Portland JACL, had passed away on January 12th at the age of 97. Art Iwasaki was drafted in April of 1942. He took basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and then learned that he, along with thousands of other young Americans born to Japanese parents, that had been reclassified as 4-C, or "enemy aliens". Ultimately it was decided they could serve and Art became a member of the famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most decorated Army unit for its size in American history, making him and all the other Congressional Gold Medal vets, personal heroes for me forever. Setsy and I had the privilege of attending a viewing for Art on January 21st and learned that he will have a celebration of life that will be held a little later in February 2017.

So I'm running out of space so I need to end this remembrance with a look forward and a quote from President Obama. In his last press conference he said "At my core, I think we're going to be OK." Being that incurable optimist, I'm pretty sure he's right. Thanks for listening.

MINIDOKA SWING BAND PLAYS CLACKAMAS



Photo by Chip Larouche

The Minidoka Swing Band played on January 20th at the Clackamas Town Center Village for over 150 residents of that Center. The band is managed by Laura Baxter, lead by Larry Nobori with lead singers Shig Sakamoto, Nola Bogle and Andy Streich helping the band really "swing".

JASO ANNUAL SHINNEKAI



Photo by Setsy Larouche

The JASO Shinnenkai was held on January 19th at Montgomery Park. Pictured here (L to R) are Karen Uchiyama, Lynn Longfellow, George Nakata and Consul General of Japan in Portland, Kojiro Uchiyama

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Annual General Meeting January 22, 2017



← In attendance were Rich Iwasaki, Gary Terusaki, Nami Koida, Jean Takasumi & Setsy Larouche.

Also attending were Tami Koida, Tina Koida, → Bob Matsunaga, Janice Okamoto, Fran Palk, Marleen Wallingford & Roger Wallingford.



← Also there were Naomi Tsurumi, Lynn Longfellow, Chris Leedham, Susan Leedham, Heidi Tolentino and Connie Masuoka.



President Marleen Wallingford runs through a → short agenda reviewing many upcoming Civil Rights events and discussing reactions and actions resulting as an aftermath of the election results.



Executive Order 9066: A Specter of the Past in Today's War on Terrorism?

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

9 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (tentative ending time)

Oregon State Bar Center

16037 SW Upper Boones Ferry Rd., Tigard, OR 97281

Open to the Public.

RSVP to the CLE Service Center at (503) 431-6413

Can 2017 Be Better Than 2016? U Betcha!

By Sharon Takahashi, President, Japanese Ancestral Society

As we welcome 2017 in, I want to thank all of you who have supported the projects of the Japanese Ancestral Society in the past. We certainly couldn't have accomplished so much without the individual "get up and go" from each of you.

The most evident achievement happens four out of seven days each week (excluding holidays and weather closures) and that is the Ikoi No Kai community lunch program. Loen Dozono, our site manager, has done a phenomenal job of growing the program into the extended social setting of activity and friendship. There are exercise groups, sing-a-long groupies, puzzle fanatics, hanafuda and bridge learners, and a growing group of younger retirees who have energy to do all kinds of good works (cards, giveaways, bingo, and magic shows). Though Loen is worth her weight in gold, (sigh), we are a nonprofit and pay accordingly. Her corps of volunteers is something to behold. A very big thank you to all. The month of May highlights two events which command more helping hands. The graduation banquet held early in the month brings organizations and families out to cheer on our community's finest resource—our youth. Together, the sponsoring organizations honor all graduates in the community in grand form. Look for a change in venue but not purpose this year and join us. If you haven't attended a banquet recently, make it a point to come and check it out. We will be at the Monarch Hotel in Clackamas on Sunday, May 7 for brunch.

Later in the month we trek out to the Memorial Day Service at Rose City Cemetery. So many volunteer hours have put sparkle and shine on our Japanese Cemetery. Board members Fran Palk and Ken Ono started the ball rolling a few years ago with the first two grants and now, families and individuals have kept the improvements funded. Ken reminded me this year that he was brought into the cemetery committee by George Azumano many years ago and it was time for him to "move over" for others to take the leadership role and Fran has proven to him that she can build a strong cemetery improvement/maintenance committee. An aside to share: In November, a visiting family came to inter a relative's ashes and they were so pleased with the appearance of the site that they made a sizable donation to continue the work. Again, thank you to our volunteers and supporters.

Because we are owners of that section of the cemetery, we formed an advisory committee, chaired by Mike Irinaga, to ensure our actions are prudent. Look for more announcements in the coming months. Terrence Yamada has served as our pro bono legal advisor in cemetery affairs for many years and has decided to streamline his workload (six days a week rather than seven). We cannot thank him enough for all he has done—and continues to do when we knock on his door. But, we understand his desires and are currently seeking someone who can help us. If you are interested in this area, or know someone who is, please refer him/her to us so we may make contact.

Our board meetings are open and our next will be February 12 at 4 p.m. at Saylor's Country Kitchen. Our annual general meeting will begin at 4:30 pm., with our New Year dinner at 5:15 pm. Everyone is invited to join us for the meeting and/or dinner. This is a no host dinner and Saylor's allows participants to order from the menu. Just let us know you are coming by February 7.

RSVP to Sharon Takahashi, stakahashi509@gmail.com 503.330.1935 or Sho Dozono, shodozono@gmail.com, or Gordon Kondo, gordonkondo@hotmail.com. On behalf of the Japanese Ancestral Society, have a fabulous new year.

Akemashite omedetto gozaimasu!

Around the Community



Celebrating New Year with the Oregon Hiroshima Club on January 15th wasn't easy this year as you can see by the parking lot condition at the Chinese Village Restaurant!

There were 19 brave souls who made the event including Chip Larouche, Setsy Larouche, Connie Masuoka, Karen Uchiyama, Consul General Kojiro Uchiyama and Shigeji Maehara



As with many Japanese Organization functions in Portland, the Oregon Hiroshima Club never lets the guests leave empty handed!

All photos by Todd Yuzuriha

NICHIREN BUDDHIST TEMPLE



25th Annual Spring Bazaar

Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 2025 S.E. Yamhill

ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
Special Nichiren Tonkatsu (pork) Bento (Available for Pre-order Only)	\$ 9.00	_____	_____
Chicken Donburi (Chicken Teriyaki over rice)	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Chow Mein	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Veggie Chow Mein	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Tofu Donburi (Tofu Teriyaki over rice)	\$ 8.00	_____	_____
Total \$			_____

Please return this pre-order form with
your check by **March 12, 2017**

Please make checks payable to:
Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple

All proceeds benefit:
Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple
2025 S.E. Yamhill
Portland, Oregon 97214
503-235-8292

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IKOI NO KAI AT EPWORTH MENU FOR FEBRUARY

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

Thu. 2 - Hamburg Steak

Fri. 3 - Tofu-don

Mon. 6- General Tso's
Chicken

Tue. 7 - Crispy Beef
Bibimbop

Thu. 9 - Tempura Donburi

Fri. 10 - Hakusai no
Bacon

Mon. 13 - Kahlua Pork
Hawaii Day!

Tue. 14 - Garlic Chicken/
Lemon Basil Pasta

Thu. 16 - Nasu Gratin
Sing Along with Reiko &
Jerry at 11:30

Fri. 17 - Beef Teriyaki w/
Kathryn Work on Piano

Mon. 20 - Sukiyaki

Tue. 21 - Cod Fish & Chips

Thu. 23 - Chicken in
Tomato Sauce

Fri. 24 - Birthday Sushi

Mon. 27- Burmese
Chicken/Tea Leaf Salad

Tue. 28 - Shrimp Fried Rice

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
- **Feb 7, 21, 11:30:**
Blood pressure
- **Feb 2,9,23 11:30:**
Qi Gong
- **Feb 14, 10:30:**
Fujinkai Board
- **Feb 20, Ohana Lunch**
Bunch

DocuMart
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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.