



PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

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

DECEMBER 2018 • VOLUME 90, ISSUE 12

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Now thru March, 2019

Righting a Wrong

National Museum of American History

December 1, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Holiday Craft Fair
Oregon Buddhist Temple

December 8, 5 p.m.

Nikkei Holiday Party
Epworth United Methodist
1333 SE 28th, Portland

December 25

Merry Christmas!

January 1, 2019

Happy New Year!

January 17

JASO Shinnenkai
Montgomery Park

January 21

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

January 27, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Mochitsuki 2019
Viking Pavilion
Portland State University

February 2

National JACL Board Meeting
San Francisco

February 22

ACLU Liberty Dinner
Portland Convention Center

February 24, 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Day of Remembrance
Hoffmann Hall
Portland State University

THE FRIENDLY SUPPER CLUB

by Margaret Lieder, Portland JACL Board Member

December seems like the natural time to look back on the preceding months, to review the events of the year. And what a year 2018 has been! So much of it painful to recall – natural disasters, terrible crimes and all sorts of incomprehensible conflict and tension near and far.

But I remind myself that I've seen courage and boundless compassion from good-hearted, ordinary people. They have helped those who have found themselves in harm's way through natural and human-caused catastrophes or simple misfortunes in life.

I have also been inspired by the persistence and patience of the midterm election's voters who have stood in line for hours waiting to cast their votes all across the US. Their efforts resulted in a higher midterm turn out than we've seen since 1974 (the aftermath of the Watergate scandal).

All that electoral energy brought some new milestones: The US House of Representatives will see its first Muslim and Native American women. New York elected the youngest woman to ever serve in Congress. Texas elected its first Latina congresswomen. Arizona and Tennessee are sending their first women to the US Senate.

At the state level, Colorado elected the United States' first openly gay governor while Iowa and South Dakota elected

their first female governors. All are barriers being broken at last.

As I've watched the 2018 midterm elections roll out this fall – with all the bitter words and images pitched by the campaigns here in Oregon and across the US – I admit that I have found myself filled with dismay and anxiousness because of the political divide in our nation. There seems to be no way that the partisan sides can find anything resembling common ground or even common values that can bring us together as a people. It is so easy to feel discouraged!

But I remind myself that in my own life I've known people who would not give in to discouragement and who found ways to make the world a better place in big and in small ways.

In the mid-1980s I was a young adult living in Montgomery, Alabama. It was a community that had been at the very crossroads of the civil rights movement. Dr. Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the March from Selma to Montgomery were very recent memories to both white and black people in that community. Desegregation had been enforced in schools, public accommodations, the work place and in some neighborhoods. But the hearts and minds of so many still held to segregated views – as Dr. King said, "The law cannot change the heart."

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In 1983, in a response to a violent conflict between white police and black citizens in Montgomery that threatened to increase the conflict between the two communities, a series of letters signed by “Jack Smith” were sent to a cross section of people of both races in Montgomery inviting them to gather for a meal once a month – to just break bread together. To have black and white folk at one table to simply get to know one another.

The two requirements were that each attendee bring a person of another race and to pay for one’s own meal. There were no agendas or speeches, just regular folk having a meal together, talking about the events in our lives, sharing laughter and tears over dinner, to become acquainted, to become friends, to become neighbors. I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend and became a regular attendee for several years. It was a simple, humble idea – a way for bridges to be built across what felt like an impossible divide.

As I anticipate turning over the calendar from 2018 to 2019, I find I have the faces and voices of the ordinary heroes I shared meals with back in Montgomery in mind. Perhaps I will give myself the gift of reaching out across the impossible divide in my world: the political, partisan divide. I can create my own small Friendly Supper Club. To share coffee, tea, a meal with someone I might not agree with on one political issue or another. But I know from what I experienced in Montgomery that there will be more things that we will have in common and it can be the start of a small bridge across a divide.

I invite you to do the same!

The photo on the right shows a plaque that will be affixed to the Sato Elementary School that highlights the story of the Sato family that included two sons, Shin & Roy who joined the 442nd Regimental Combat Team who served in Europe during World War II. Shin was killed in action while Roy was wounded but survived. Their sister served as a volunteer military nurse during World War II as well while the rest of the family was incarcerated at Minidoka.



SATO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

by Marleen Wallingford, Portland JACL President

One of Beaverton's newest schools Sato Elementary which opened in 2017 has been named for the Japanese American family who settled there. Yoshinosuki, his wife Asano and their four children: Lois, Marie, Shin and Roy lived and worked on their Bethany area farm. They also attended the nearby Bethany Presbyterian Church. It was their connection to the community that helped save their farm once their world was thrown into chaos after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Everyone with Japanese ancestry were forced to leave the west coast. The Sato family was incarcerated at Minidoka in Idaho. The members of the church visited them at the Portland Assembly Center and made sure the taxes on the farm were paid so the family had a home to come to after the war. This story would have been lost without the diligent efforts of Col. Mike Howard who heard about the family from his friend, Gene Zurbrugg who is a longtime resident of the area and was a boyhood playmate of the Sato boys. After he shared the story, Col. Howard went to visit the school but there was no information about the family. He felt that the students and the Bethany community should be reminded of the sacrifice that the family suffered. Both Shin and Roy joined the segregated Japanese American unit the 442. Roy was wounded (twice) and his brother, Shin was killed in France as part of the legendary battle to free the trapped Texas battalion. Over 800 Nisei soldiers died saving 211 men.

On November 15, 2018 a special ceremony was held at the school to dedicate a chestnut tree donated by the Sato Family and a soon to be constructed historical plaque. The chestnut tree is significant for the family. On their farm, there was a chestnut tree whose fruit was used as a special addition to meals. The tree and the farm are only a memory now but the plaque will tell their story.

Their daughter Lois, was the last to live on the family land. She sold part of the property to the Presbyterian Church that had treated her family so well.

Years later, the church sold the plot to a developer and used the proceeds to establish the Lois Sato Memorial Mission Fund which is used for projects in Bethany and around the world.

When school names were proposed, the Bethany community overwhelmingly supported naming the school, Sato. The beautiful school is close to the original farm and across the street from where family members are buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery on Kaiser Road.

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AROUND THE COMMUNITY



Left: Valerie and Bill Jr. pose with a picture of the 106 year old Bill Otani Senior on the occasion of his celebration of life that was held at Ikoi No Kai last month. Photo by Setsy Larouche

Below: Debbie Kaye (C), Vice President Development/Services of the League of Women Voters poses with JACL board members and Gloria Lee (L) from CACA after an informative discussion of the Oregon Ballot measures prior to the mid-term elections.



Left: Consul General Teraoka & his wife (left, center) pose with all the veterans who enjoyed the Veteran's Day lunch at Ikoi No Kai on Monday, November 12th.

Photo by Veteran Kay Endo

Right: Marleen Wallingford (L) and Ron Iwasaki (R) pose with Karen Sato at the recent dedication of the Sato Elementary School in Beaverton Oregon.

Photo by Setsy Larouche





Above: It was a full house at Iko No Kai for the annual Veteran's Day Lunch. Veterans and their families enjoyed Tonkatsu with soup, salad and dessert! Photos by retired US Army Major Setsy Larouche



Above: Karen Sato accepts a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal, that was awarded to the 442nd Combat Regiment and the MIS, from Nisei Veterans Commander Ron Iwasaki as Colonel Mike Howard, the emcee of the event looks on. Both Shin Sato and Roy Sato were in the 442nd RCT and were wounded in action with Shin's wounds proving to be fatal on the battlefield.

Photo by Setsy Larouche

Thank You from Portland JACL!

Portland JACL would like to thank everyone listed below for their generous donations during the past year (through November 12, 2018) to our programs which include the Nikkei Community Picnic, our ongoing programs for civil rights advocacy, our youth program and scholarships, the Minidoka Swing Band, the Nikkei Community Directory, our annual calendar, the monthly newsletter, and the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue advertising. Domo Arigato Gozaimashita!

Please note that all donations of \$100 dollars or more are acknowledged by return mail. All others are acknowledged in our newsletter unless the donor requests a mailed acknowledgement which we are very pleased to provide.

Al Abe	Misako Harris	Sachi Kaneko
Toshi Abe	Etsuko Harvey	Kathy Kato
Rebecca Albiani	Jackie Hasegawa	Terry Kawamoto
Michelle Amano	Landen Hashimura	Michael Kawata
Amazon Smile Donation	Chisato Hata	Ken & Katie Kawazoe
American Online Giving	Hilltop Mall (Danielson's)	Laila Hajoo & Jim Kennedy
Anonymous	Sally & Kendall & Dave	Alice Kida
Alan Aoki	Hinatsu	Joan Kimoto
Sheldon Arakaki	Mae Hirata	Jennifer Kimura
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Joyce Fedler	Paul Iwasaki	Jean Matsumoto
Tom Fujii	Gresham-Troutdale JACL	Bob Matsunaga
Wendy Fujioka	Japanese Ancestral Society	Yoji & Martha Matsushima
Janet Fujitani	Johrei Fellowship	Amy Matsushita
Diann & Kip Furukawa	Fude Kagawa	Anne McLaughlin
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Marcia Hara	Dana Kakishita	Gerry & Ann Migaki
Yoneko Hara	Janet Kakishita	IMO Robbie Tsuboi
	Lisa Kakishita	Dale Minami
	Jim Kamikawa	Terry Mishiro

PORTLAND **JACL**
NEWSLETTER

Taro Miura
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Taka Mizote
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Peggy Nagae
Sam Naito
Verne Naito
Ryan Nakano
Tina Nelson
Nichiren Buddhist Temple
Nikkei Fujinkai
Eileen & Michael Ninkovich
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Ogata Eyecare
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Oregon Buddhist Temple
Oregon Nikkei Endowment
Oregon Nisei Veterans
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Etsu & Herb Osaki
Sanae Ota
OTA Family Tofu
IMO Bill Otani
Gayle O'toole
Kevin & Karen Oyama
Frances Sumida Palk
Dr. Hatsumi Park
Lynn Fuchigami Parks
Pather Motors
Bryan Pawlowski
Picnic Raffle Participants
Amy Pisano
Portland Taiko
Atsuko Richards
Larry Richardson
Carolyn Saiget
Carrie Saito

Shiuko Sakai
Henry Sakamoto
Lolita Sakamoto
Scott Sakamoto
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Dale Watanabe
Kelly Watanabe
May Watari
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Yoshiro Yagi
IMO Terry Yamada
Jean & Ralph Yamamoto
Skip Yamamoto
Judy Yamauchi
Craig & Lisa Yanase
Homer & Miki Yasui
Linda S. Yogi
Cherie Yokota
Grant Yoshihara
Minnie Young
Yumibe Memorial Trust
Shig & Yo Yuzuriha



Portland, Oregon
Sunday, January 27, 2019
11 AM - 4 PM



もちつき

MOCHITSUKI 2019

23rd Annual Japanese American New Year Celebration | Year of the Boar

Demonstrations & hands-on activities!



!! New Venue !!

Portland State University
Viking Pavilion at the
Peter W. Stott Center
930 SW Hall Street
Portland, Oregon 97207

Advance Ticket Sales:

\$10 Adults
\$7 Students/Seniors (62+)
\$4 Child (ages 4-12)

Tickets at the Door:

\$12 Adults
\$9 Students/Seniors (62+)
\$5 Child (ages 4-12)

Free Admission:

Children 3 and under
Honored citizens (88 +)

Family-friendly festival filled with exciting cultural experiences, tastes, and entertainment! Experience **mochi pounding**, ikebana, tea ceremony, calligraphy, children's bento making class, yukata photo booth, games, arts & crafts and much more! Take a picture with Hello Kitty!

Enjoy various **demonstrations** in martial arts, ikebana, giant calligraphy writing, and "how to" food demos. Get in line for **free mochi samples**, and explore flavors as food vendors present favorite traditional and contemporary **Japanese cuisine**.

Stage performances of taiko drumming, koto, Japanese dance, storytelling, acoustic rock band A-Key Kyo, and singer-violinist Joe Kye.

Live stage performances!



Buy tickets online at www.brownpapertickets.com | mochipdx.org



Left: Portland Taiko Opens their "Sticks and Strings" concert with heart pounding rhythm and precision!

Photo by Chip Larouche

Right: Member of the Portland JACL Board give up their Sunday to attend a retreat to go over what efforts went well in past years and brainstorm what improvements can be made to make the Chapter more effective in protecting civil rights, cultural preservation and improving the attraction and retention of younger members.



Photo by a member of the MAC staff



Left: Members of the Pacific Northwest District Council met in Chehalis, Washington for their fall meeting, discussing various challenges that face the JACL and planning for the next convention that will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah in 2019.

Losing a benefit but extending support

By Sharon Takahashi, President, Japanese Ancestral Society

The Japanese Ancestral Society's far reaching projects are the cemetery, lunch program and graduation banquet for our area's high school students. All of these programs have become dear to our community. Ikoi No Kai, the newest, will be celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2019 and has served a large number of clients in the community for many years.

They are governed by an advisory team of volunteers led by board member Don Matsuda. At its October meeting, they discussed the discount of \$.50 that JAS members receive. When greeting and collecting money, it is time consuming to have to check membership status to verify who gets a discount and who doesn't. Our membership letters promote the discount as a benefit. I thought it was a nice benefit until the meeting continued on. Although we charge seniors \$6, the actual cost of that meal is quite a few dollars more. Consider the rent, salaries and payroll taxes, raw food cost, insurance, etc., and that meal served is a true bargain at \$6. Because the discount was lost during my watch, (the president attends the advisory meeting but cannot vote), I have been thinking about it a lot. Gordon Kondo, the past president, stated that most of the clients are JAS members. Since we are operating at a loss, they would understand the price change and the need for it. The advisory committee and I agreed with him.

So, you JAS members have lost the \$.50 saving but I want to assure you that your added contribution is being allotted carefully. We are trying to keep costs down and value up. Every day that you attend, you are extending that trust and support. I am hoping that all of you will renew your membership for 2019 and keep supporting the Japanese Ancestral Society and its projects.

JAPANESE ANCESTRAL SOCIETY OF PORTLAND

Complete the application form and mail it along with your annual dues to:

The Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland, P.O. Box 82443, Portland, OR 97282

I would like to join/renew my membership. Enclosed is my check for: ___\$25 individual ___\$40 family

Enclosed is my donation to:

___ Cemetery endowment

___ Ikoi No Kai

___ scholarship/education

___ General

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please make your check payable to the Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland at the address above.

Your membership will help support this historic organization in promoting and assisting with activities benefitting the Japanese American community in Portland.

Visit us at www.JapaneseAncestralSociety.org

PORTLAND JACL
NEWSLETTER

Ikoi no Kai, December 2018

1333 SE 28th, 503-238-0775

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Stu Sawai: Classical violin Gyoza (KA) <i>Hanafuda & Bridge: 12:30-2</i>	4 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Chicken yakisoba (KA)	5 X	6 <i>Qi Gong: 11:30</i> Mabo Tofu <i>Mah jong: 12:30-2</i>	7 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Oyako don (JY)
10 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Cioppino fisherman stew <i>Hanafuda & Bridge: 12:30-2</i>	11 Fujinkai Board: 10:30 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Holiday Meal** Res.	12 X	13 <i>Qi Gong: 11:00</i> Sing Along: 11:30 Fried cod <i>Mah jong: 12:30-2</i>	14 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Yaki Udon (HT)
17 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Frances Doo & company Ohana Lunch Bunch I fried rice	18 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Birthday Sushi	19 X	20 <i>Qi Gong: 11:30</i> Ebi chili <i>Mah jong: 12:30-2</i>	21 <i>Chair Exercises: 11:30</i> Sukiyaki (JY)
24 XXX	25 Closed	26 For	27 Holidays	28 XXX
31 XXX	1 XXX			

Cooks: Sharon Ogata M-Tu except Dec. 3&4-Kyoko Adcock Rieko Shimada Th-Fri

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE ARE CLOSED Dec. 24-January 3, 2019

Dec 3: Stu Sawai & Megumi: Classical violin - noon

Dec 11: Fujinkai Board: 10:30

Dec 11: Holiday Meal** featuring Huber's turkey, \$9, Reservations required

Dec 13: Sing Along with Reiko & Jerry: 11:30, Qi Gong at 11

Dec 17: Francis Doo & company for holiday fun: 11:45

Dec 17: Ohana Lunch Bunch: 11:30

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays: Chair Exercises with Nobuko Kaji: 11:30

Thursdays: Qi Gong with Kathleen Kuba: 11:30



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Colonel Michael C. Howard speaks at the Chestnut tree dedication ceremony at Sato Elementary School, Beaverton Oregon. The event featured the dedication of the tree and plaque (center) honoring the Sato family and brothers Shin and Roy Sato, who were US Army soldiers of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II.

Photo by Rich Iwasaki

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.