

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY 2014 • VOLUME 19, ISSUE 10

## 100 Years Young!

*Board Member's Message by  
Setsy Sadamoto Larouche*

This summer we'll be celebrating the birthdays of two special ladies in our community who will turn 100 years old. What a wonderful milestone for both of them. **Lilly Yuriko Ono** was born on June 9, 1914 in Clackamas, Oregon and spent some time in Okayama, Japan attending a sewing school prior to WWII. Lilly spent the war years in Tule Lake, California and spent the entire time working at the mess hall. Her hobbies are sewing and cooking. She was married in 1938 and has five children. Ken is the oldest, Wayne, who passed away at the age of 56, daughter, Barbara Morisato, son, Clyde, and the youngest daughter, Pat. Lilly also has seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren. She spent most of her life farming in Vancouver, Washington. While working on the farm, she was known for her great speed and accuracy. She was "Ichiban"—no one could beat her. Lilly drove a tractor and did precision-cultivation of rows and rows of lettuce without "chopping" them. When her husband passed away, so, too, went the means for her transportation. Her husband was from the old school and would not let her drive. Lilly was in her seventies when she decided to learn how to drive. She enrolled at the Sears Driving School and received her driver permit. She

practiced diligently and tried to pass the driving test the first time. Unfortunately she failed. She practiced some more and re-took the test but failed again because she could not back up the car properly. She continued to practice diligently with her son, Ken, who helped her by using the safety cones. Finally, she passed the test and what a joy it brought to her and her family. But in her early 90's, she kept having fender benders and had to stop driving. It was a very difficult time for her as she lost some of her independence. She's retired now and lives at the Royal Anne Assisted Living Center in Portland. Lilly has been very active in her Henjyoji Temple leading in their chanting. Now, she has some health issues but recently attended the Hyakudo Kai (century club) annual luncheon at the Chinese Village Restaurant.

**Alice Etsuko Sumida** was born in Oso Flaco, (Santa Barbara County) California on July 18, 1914. She married Mark Sumida (an Issei) who was 10 years older and moved to Seattle. They had a business selling seeds to farmers all over the West Coast. When WWII started they were herded into the Portland Assembly Center (now the Expo Center). Instead of being sent to Minidoka Concentration Camp in Idaho, they opted to work in Eastern Oregon in Nyssa, Oregon. Once the contract work was completed they

### May 4 1pm

- Graduation Banquet  
MAC Club

### May 10 7pm

- Justice Within Reach  
Castaway, 1900 NW 18th

### May 11

- Mother's Day

### May 16 8am-3pm

- Concordia College  
AAYLC Youth Conference

### May 17 8:30am-4pm

- APANO State of Cultural  
Competency Community  
Forum

### May 26

- Memorial Day Service  
Rose City Cemetery

### May 31

- PNW District Meeting  
Puyallup, Washington

### June 15

- Father's Day

### June 19-20

- Minidoka Swing Band  
PNW United Methodist Church  
Puyallup, Washington

### Now thru June 15

- Photographs of Frank Hirahara  
ONE Legacy Center

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# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

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## 100 Years Young! continued

got a small loan and purchased a small farm and decided to grow potatoes and onions. However, since the market was saturated they could not make a living growing potatoes and onions. So they opted to try growing gladioli bulbs. After sending samples all over the U.S., they were flooded with orders and it took them 5 years to fill all the orders. They became the largest gladioli bulb growers in the U.S. They wanted to pass their business to their nephew but he declined so they sold their business. After moving back to Portland around 1965, they started a Japanese Koi (carp) business. They moved to Woodburn, Oregon and continued the Koi business. After 10 years of Koi business her husband passed away due to a stroke. Alice sold the business and moved to Portland and at 88 years of age started ballroom dance lessons. She traveled the world attending dance competitions and winning each time. Alice is currently the President of the Hyakudo Kai (Century Club) and she remains very

active attending many functions. Her generosity and support is legendary to various non-profit organizations to include, the Japanese Ancestral Society, JASO, the Minidoka Swing Band, Nikkei Fujinkai, the Oregon Buddhist Temple, Oregon Hiroshima Club, the Oregon Nikkei Endowment, Portland JACL, the Portland Japanese Garden, Portland State University, Portland Taiko, Tomodachi-Kai and Unite People, Portland JACLs youth group. She still drives during the day and currently lives at Edgewood Downs Retirement Center. Her advice to us is: "Be patient, accept whatever comes to your life, happy or sad, and make the best you can from every circumstance. Then enjoy every day as it comes!"

Please join us in a community wide celebration honoring their birthdays with a luncheon on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at noon at the Chinese Village Restaurant. Please see the flyer enclosed. Please RSVP promptly as seating is limited.

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## Keep Oregon Free from Discrimination

by Marleen Wallingford



The Portland JACL has become co-sponsors of efforts by Basic Rights Oregon to fight discrimination against gay and lesbians. The Oregon Family Council is working to qualify an initiative that would allow businesses to deny commercial services to people based on their sexual orientation.

The ballot title for IP 52 is up for review by the Oregon Supreme Court. A decision will be made in late April or early May.

This measure weakens our current anti-discrimination laws so that corporations and commercial businesses can discriminate against gay and lesbian couples because of who they are and who they love. Treating people differently based on race, religion, or sexual orientation is discrimination. Religious beliefs don't entitle any of us to discriminate against others. Freedom means freedom for everyone.

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PORTLAND**JACL**  
NEWSLETTER

HYAKUDO KAI CLUB  
AND  
PORTLAND JACL



INVITE YOU TO A LUNCHEON AND  
**100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**  
FOR

**LILLY ONO & ALICE SUMIDA**

**SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2014 AT NOON**

**CHINESE VILLAGE RESTAURANT**

**520 SE 82<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE, PORTLAND**

**COST \$25 PER PERSON**

**PLEASE RSVP BY JULY 9, 2014 -- SEATING LIMITED**

**NO GIFTS!**

**Questions? Call Setsy at 503-698-4656 or email [setsy@pdxjacl.org](mailto:setsy@pdxjacl.org)**

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

JACL c/o Setsy Larouche  
12811 SE Hawks Crest Place  
Happy Valley, OR 97086

Cost is \$25 per person

Make Checks Payable to **Portland JACL**

**No Gifts! RSVP by July 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Questions?**

**Call Setsy at 503-698-4656 or  
email [setsy@pdxjacl.org](mailto:setsy@pdxjacl.org)**

## 2014 Gladys McCoy Award winner Dr. Connie Masuoka

(article reprint from Multnomah County website)



Dr. Connie Masuoka is honored by Multnomah Co. Chair Marissa Madrigal for being the 2014 Gladys McCoy Award winner. Photo by Curtis Suyematsu

Dr. Connie Lei Masuoka is the twentieth winner of the Gladys McCoy Award for lifetime volunteer achievement. She was honored at the Multnomah County Volunteer Awards Ceremony on April 16. Dr. Masuoka is a dentist who volunteers free dental services to the homeless and people in need. She has been president of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and the Oregon Nikkei Endowment, which advocates for civil rights and civil liberties protections, and educates people about the history of Japanese Americans in the Pacific Northwest. Dr. Masuoka also leads Unite People, the youth affiliate of the Portland Chapter JACL, currently one of the largest youth groups in the organization and a model nationally. Members serve meals to the homeless, attend leadership conferences, volunteer at community events, and fundraise through various events to support their activities.

The projects Dr. Masuoka has taken on have had significant impacts. One example is revitalizing an event to commemorate Japanese internment during World War II. It included educating TriMet about how the Expo Center MAX stop was an internment camp site. Art was subsequently installed to memorialize the site. Other examples include creating a fund to assist youth groups to travel to conferences, and organizing three annual Japanese cultural events that are highly attended.

“Dr. Masuoka is an ideal recipient of the McCoy Award given her exceptional generosity, mentorship, and advocacy for the health and civil rights of Multnomah County youth, minorities and people in need,” said Sue O’Halloran, Chair of the County’s Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC). The CIC makes the Award each year to an outstanding nominee who has given exemplary time and service to the county community.

Along with her other work, Dr. Masuoka serves on the boards of Ikoi So Terrace, OHSU Dental School Alumni Association, and Multnomah Dental Society. She is also active with numerous Japanese churches and temples and Friends of Creston School Dental Clinic. Further, she provides funding to support many organizations she volunteers with and activities she puts on. Her colleagues believe that she either doesn’t sleep or has been blessed with eight more hours a day! To all her volunteer service, Dr. Masuoka brings incredible vision, compassion, problem-solving, and a commitment to justice.

The Gladys McCoy Award was established in 1994 to honor those who have given outstanding service in the area of community service and citizen involvement. Dr. Masuoka certainly fits that criterion both through her inspiring example and legacy. Her name will appear on a plaque with past winners on permanent display in the Multnomah County Boardroom.

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## Gladys McCoy Award Celebration



Dr. Connie Masuoka receives the Gladys McCoy Award for Citizen Involvement from Multnomah County, pictured here with Michelle Sugahiro, Rich Iwasaki Setsy Larouche and Kay Endo.

Photo by Chip Larouche



Dr. Connie Masuoka with her mother, Nobi, at the Gladys McCoy Award celebration.

Photo by Curtis Suyematsu



Dr. Connie Masuoka celebrates with friends after her receiving the Gladys McCoy Award for Citizen Involvement on April 16th.

Photo by Curtis Suyematsu

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## Help the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission Identify People in Photographs of Farm Labor Camps During World War II



Farm labor camp near Rupert, Idaho. July 1942. *Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA-OWI Collection, LC-USF34-073586-D.*

The Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission (OCHC) is producing “Uprooted: Japanese American Farm Labor Camps During World War II,” a traveling photography exhibition, which will feature the work of Farm Security Administration photographer Russell Lee.

Between 1942 and 1944, approximately 33,000 Japanese Americans left incarceration centers for seasonal farm labor. In the summer of 1942, Lee documented four farm labor camps, located near the communities of Nyssa, Oregon and Rupert, Shelley, and Twin Falls, Idaho. People came to these camps initially from the temporary assembly centers in Portland, Puyallup, Sacramento, and Stockton and later from Heart Mountain, Manzanar, Minidoka, Topaz, and Tule Lake.

We are seeking assistance in identifying people in a set of photographs that will be included in our exhibition, which we have uploaded to our [Flickr account](https://www.flickr.com/photos/119596064@N05/sets/72157643223510795/)<sup>1</sup>. Please help us spread the word about these images, as we work to determine the names of most, if not all, of the individuals Russell Lee photographed in 1942.

The project can be contacted via email at [uprooted@gmail.com](mailto:uprooted@gmail.com); by phone at 503.333.4914; or by mail at Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, PO Box 3588, Portland, OR 97208.

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<sup>1</sup> Full Flickr link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/119596064@N05/sets/72157643223510795/>

# PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

## Community Partners for Your Health

*Portland JACL, a community partner with the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, announces APANO's sixth annual State of Cultural Competency Community Forum, "Stronger Communities, Stronger Families".*

*When: Saturday May 17th, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM*

*Where: Center for Health and Healing, Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU)  
3rd Floor Conference Center, 3303 SW Bond Ave, Portland, OR 97239*

*Cost: \$25.00-\$50.00, with scholarships available*

*Register online at [www.apano.org/scc14/](http://www.apano.org/scc14/)*

**APANO's State of Cultural Competency Community Forum** is a day-long gathering of Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community members, leaders, health professionals, students and decision-makers centered on health equity policy and community organizing.

*This year's theme, **Stronger Communities, Stronger Families**, highlights social and environmental determinants on our families' health. Strong communities are communities with real opportunities, equal access and a higher level of civic engagement. From affordable health care and good schools, to family wage jobs and a toxic-free environment with places to play, our communities are shaped by the way we make policy and allocate resources. APANO works for strong communities in order to support strong families, which are at the center of our Asian and Pacific Islander cultures.*

## YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

### President:

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## **Iko no Kai at Epworth May 2014 Menu**

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

**Thursday 1** - Omu-rice /  
shrimp fry

**Friday 2** - Chicken  
parmesan / lemon basil  
pasta

**Monday 5** - Cod fish &  
chips

**Tuesday 6** - Ramen

**Wednesday 7** - Closed

**Thursday 8** - Teriyaki  
donburi (pork)

**Friday 9** - Shrimp lotus  
bun / shumai

**Monday 12** - Seafood  
chowder / Thai pork salad

**Tuesday 13** - Oyako  
donburi

**Wednesday 14** - Closed

**Thursday 15** - Tilapia

**Friday 16** - Chicken stro-  
ganoff

**Monday 19** - Ginger  
chicken / fried rice

**Tuesday 20** - Baked pork

**Wednesday 21** - Closed

**Thursday 22** - Sweet &  
sour meatballs

**Friday 23** - Tomato beef  
chow mein

**Monday 26** - Memorial Day  
- Closed

**Tuesday 27** - Birthday  
sushi

**Wednesday 28** - Closed

**Thursday 29** - Soba noodle  
salad

**Friday 30** - Mar far chicken

### **Menu Notes:**

- Meals include salad or side dish and dessert
- **Mondays 12:30-2:**  
hanafuda and bridge
- Mon-Tue 11:30:**  
chair exercises
- May 8 10:30:** Hyaku-  
dakai Meeting
- May 13 10:30:** Fujinkai  
Board meeting
- May 15:** Sing Along  
with Reiko and Jerry

**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.