

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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

JULY 2017 • VOLUME 23, ISSUE 12

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Now thru February 28, 2018
Righting a Wrong: Japanese
Americans and World War II
National Museum of American History
Washington DC

July 4

Independence Day

July 5 - 9

JACL National Convention Washington, D.C.

July 15, 9 a.m. - Noon
Rose City Cemetery Cleanup
and Restoration - Refreshments

July 30

Jerry Inouye Golf Tournament Glendoveer East GC

August 5

OBON Festival
Oregon Buddhist Temple

August 9

Hiroshima/Nagasaki Ceremony
JA Historical Plaza

August 19, 9 a.m. - Noon Rose City Cemetery Cleanup and Restoration - Refreshments

August 20, Noon - 5 p.m. Nikkei Community Picnic Oaks Park

September 2, 10 a.m.

75th Remembrance Puyallup Assembly Center Washington State Fairgrounds

September 4
Labor Day

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

by Jean Yamamoto, Portland JACL Secretary

The Portland JACL Board recently voted to join One Oregon, a coalition of 75 civil and human rights organizations united in our shared values for immigrant and racial justice and the belief that all people should be treated with dignity and respect regardless of their country of origin. Seventy five years ago Japanese immigrants and their American born children were torn from their communities and incarcerated because they looked like the enemy. How different it would have been had we had a coalition fighting for us. The toxic political climate we are in today mirrors the Japanese American experience in our collective memory not too many years ago; just the target is now Muslims, immigrants and refugees. One Oregon's focus is monitoring, tracking, and alerting coalition members of anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim policies and ballot measures affecting Oregonians.

We are seeing an unprecedented level of hate crimes and bias incidents in recent months. What began with a coarsening of language during the 2016 presidential campaign has turned into violent acts. In 1997 the Coalition Against Hate Crimes (CAHC) was formed by the late Emily Gottfried and Professor Randy Blazak. Portland JACL joined the coalition in 2015. CAHC met monthly, then less frequently, then resided on Facebook for the last two years until November 2016. On November 19, Randy Blazak sent an email in which he wrote:

"The media has been full of dramatic stories of hate crimes following the election of Donald Trump. There have also been numerous hate incidents reported, including in Oregon schools. What we do know is the number of hate crimes nationwide increased last year by 7 percent (and anti-Muslim crimes increased by 67%), according to the FBI's Uniform Crime Report.

A wave of fear has struck numerous minority communities this fall. This includes immigrants, Muslims, women, Latinx residents, and sexual minority groups. It important for us to defend our fellow citizens from harassment and attack, even if we are not members of those groups. The CAHC has long taken a "Not in our town" approach to hate crimes, where we stand, visibly and vocally, with those who are the targets of hate and against the agents of hate. Now is the time to be mindful of our neighbors who may feel fearful and vulnerable in this current divided climate."

CAHC is a statewide partnership with community civil rights groups and state, local, and federal agencies supporting non-violent solutions to hate and hate crimes in Oregon by:

1. Connecting community groups with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies to improve the reporting of hate crimes and to aid in the investigation of hate crimes.

Continued page 2

BOARD MEMBER'S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

- 2. Providing resources to victims of hate crimes and hate incidents, including information on neighborhood mediation and proper legal channels to report hate crimes. The coalition helps to respond appropriately to hate incidents in local communities.
- Educating the community about the disruptive nature of hate crimes and the community strengthening value of diversity

At times we may feel overwhelmed by the nightly news and unsure how we individually can make a difference in supporting those who are targeted and traumatized by hate and bias. We can be strong and resilient as we unite with like-minded coalitions. We can continue to tell our story about the Japanese American incarceration to protect the civil rights for all and together we will amplify our voices.

Ravages of Time

by the JAS Cemetery Maintenance Committee

As we all viewed the new wrought iron fence surrounding the gravesites at Rose City, gratitude filled our collective hearts. Thank you, Sam Naito, for your generosity.



Sam Naito addressing attendees on **Memorial Day**

The work of upkeep continues. As we are doing the inventory and trying to be good owners of the Japanese Cemetery, our attention is drawn to the gravestones. Some of you may have missed the two Hawthorne trees at the entrance. They were not healthy and their root systems were causing damage to the entry's walking area.

Some family graves have bases that have suffered some damage due to earth settling and root damage. The committee will be contacting those owners to discuss repairs. If your family plot is one of those, please contact Fran Sumida Palk (503)810-3948.

Rose City Cemetery Sermon by Reverend Eisei Ikenaga

We gather here today in appreciation for our ancestors, many of whom persevered through the hardship of immigrating to a land and culture, which at first must have been mysterious and daunting. While all immigrants are confronted with the need to relearn a new language and to accustom themselves to a new culture, the immigrants who are interred here were further burdened by the precipitous reality of a war that was not of their choosing.

Despite the harrowing experience of internment, these immigrants managed to provide for their families and contributed to rebuilding a civil society after the war. We must here recognize the harsh physical and mental trial that they had undergone and appreciate their precious lessons from which we today can draw and build, to carry on the torch to make our society

But, what exactly are the lessons of our ancestors? I am told that Executive Order 9066 allowed but two weeks for many of the Japanese in Portland to sell off all that they owned or to abandon them outright, and report to an assembly point such as the Expo Center with nothing more than what they could fit into a suitcase. How much could one fit into a suitcase? In reality, the most that they could manage to salvage was the shirt on their backs. Nonetheless, this is just as well, because it was not the material things, as precious as they may have been, that was important. Our parents and grandparents were careful not to forget their real treasures, things that cannot be packed in a suitcase. These were things tucked away deep within their hearts, such as their ideals, values, and attitudes passed on to them from their parents. I am referring to what the Japanese would call kokoro or "heart", the feelings of deference, respect, and empathy for others.

The early immigrants staunchly upheld virtues such as trustworthiness, kindness, fairness, generosity, compassion, modesty, and altruism, even when faced with the reality of losing their lawful rights as citizens. All of this, they did without grievance or dissension. Despite everything against them, no one, not even the guards pointing guns at them at Minidoka could take away their confidence and pride that what they stood for was not wrong. Stripped of everything, the only aim of each of our ancestors interred here was but to dedicate their lives to present a pure and beautiful example to the next generation, something that their children could keep with them forever.

We are living in a tumultuous point in time in which much of what we have come to believe as honorable are ignored or marginalized. We live in a hightech world that appears faster and better than that of our parents, yet much of cyberspace is fraught with dubious information, which has helped to cause havoc in elections across the globe. There are leaders who frantically try to maintain power by exterminating their own citizens with sarin gas without an ounce of remorse. There are persons seeking positions in office who should know better, but easily lose control of themselves, erupting in brutality as has happened in the assault of a reporter by a candidate on the eve of his election. There are those who see victory in the taking of innocent lives as an apparatus for publicity, as was the motive of the most recent bombing in Manchester. There are people who seek to silence and eradicate those who support equality and justice just as has happened locally at the Hollywood MAX station on Friday. Instability, deceit, and anger pervades our society. Disrespect and negligence of life is possibly the most arrogant act that can be committed by humans. Despite all our advancements in science and technology, nothing has improved man's partiality for discord and violence.

We, as descendants of those who quietly opposed ignorance and irrationality fueled by hate and racism seventy-five years ago, are uniquely qualified to pass on our ancestor's lessons that are now more relevant than ever. The sacrifice of our parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends who had undergone so much suffering during the war should not be forgotten. We owe it to them to lead our generation to create a society of peace and harmony, and to assure that the generations who follow us will know what were in the minds and kokoro of our ancestors. This is why we are here today--to show our appreciation for our ancestors' strong conviction of decency, justice, and leadership, and to reaffirm that we will continue to preserve the legacy of their endeavors.

Scholarship Essay by Lindsey Shibata

During the middle of 5th grade, my family picked up everything and moved to Kansas City, Missouri. It's a place I'll always remember because it was the first time I ever felt ashamed of being Japanese American.

Within the first week of my new school I was sitting in front of an overly excited ESL teacher who constantly shook with excitement whenever I did something correct. She handed me Kindergarten level storybooks and screeched after I read simple sentences. I was awarded condescending claps and candy, the candy didn't taste as sweet after being praised for knowing something that I'd known since grade school. I began to believe that there was something wrong with the way I spoke. My self-confidence hit rock bottom, and I managed total silence for the entire week.

I was in constant conflict with myself; I started to blame my culture and ethnicity for my feelings. I started to throw away the "Japanese" part of myself by making sure people only knew the "American" part of me by telling kids I was from California. I believed that because of my Asian roots, people assumed I couldn't speak proper English.

I despised the way I was choosing to live; I hated being known as "the girl who couldn't talk." I loathed saying that I was born in California and tossing aside my Japanese culture. I knew I needed to change. Speaking out loud wasn't an option yet, so I started to think of ways that I could express myself without using words: Japanese Origami. I brought in some origami one day and began to construct different things. As I started to build cranes and irises, people were lighting up with interest. I was spreading this Japanese art form throughout my class, and by the end, they were starting to make things too; I was able to leave them with a little part of my culture in the form of a small iris.

I am a Japanese American, and right now, I embrace this identity. I love being different from everyone else; I enjoy telling people that I was born in Japan. I don't let this fear and feeling of degradation get in the way of being proud of who I am. Through this experience, I've gained self-pride in my identity and continue to cherish my Japanese culture by expressing it without shame. Today, I don't let anything make me feel ashamed of what it means to be a Japanese American girl.

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JAPANESE ANCESTRAL SOCIETY

June 2017

Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 17th Annual Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, July 30, 2017 at Glendoveer Golf Course-East (14015 NE Glisan, 503.253.7507). While the JAS has hosted this event for over 25 years, the tournament was renamed in 2001 to honor and recognize Jerry for his many years of service in promoting this event. The shotgun start will begin at 8:30 a.m. with check-in at 7:30 a.m.

You must be a JAS member to participate. You can include your membership dues along with your entry fee.

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the lowest net scorer among the men's "A" and "B" flights and also to the "ladies" flight. Prizes will be awarded for KP's on all par 3 holes, a longest drive hole, and low gross honors in each flight. In case of a tie, players score cards will be evaluated from the 18th hole backwards with the first low score winning. Everyone will ride a cart, and lunch will be served at Chinese Village following the tournament. If you have a golfing preference for your foursome, please let us know and list the names of each person of your group. If a foursome is requested, please make sure that a golfer(s) of a group is not duplicated in another foursome.

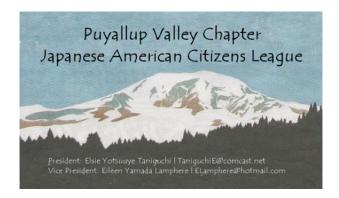
If you are not interested in golf but would like to donate to this annual event, please call Nancy Kajitsu at 503.665.4589. Due to course regulations, we must collect your entry fee by July 15, 2017 to reserve our tee times. No exceptions! Entry fee is \$75, which includes golf, cart, and lunch.

Best Regards from your Golf Committee

(Jacquelyn Alderman, Kay Endo, Pat Gilman, Ron Hiromura, Kurtis Inouye, Nancy Kajitsu, Carl Kato, Terry Kawamoto, Fred Kimura, Gordon Kondo, Bob Kurimoto, Chip & Setsy Larouche, Mike Luke, Don Matsuda, Merianne Nagae, Kurt Nakashima, Andrea Nitta, Ken Ogawa, John Ollerenshaw, Sharon Takahashi, Katie Tamiyasu, Lew Tomita, Henry Ueno, Jeff Yoshida and Shig Yuzuriha)

Please return this form and a check for \$75 (green fee) a	and your i	member	rship fee, unless you are already a JAS		
member, made payable to the Japanese Ancestral Society	y of Portl	and, <u>nc</u>	later than July 15, 2017		
I will playI will stay for lunchI will <u>not</u> playI will <u>not</u> stay for lunchI (We) will come for lunch only. (\$15 per attendee)Please accept my tax deductible donation of \$		_	Single JAS membership (\$25) Family JAS membership (\$40)		
Golfer's Name	_ (circle)	Male	Female		
Golfer's Phone #	_	USGA	GHIN Number		
USGA Handicap Index as of July 1, 2017 or List last 5 golf scores (18 holes) For golfers without established GHIN, maximum handicap allowed is 40 for women and 36 for men. If playing with a group, please add names					

Mail form to: JAS, c/o Sharon Takahashi, 7610 SW Cherry Drive, Tigard, OR 97223-8043.



April 24, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Project Manager: Sharon Sobie Seymour (206) 841-7814 or ssproevents@comcast.net

75th Remembrance of Puyallup Assembly Center, "Camp Harmony" The Puyallup Valley Chapter of JACL (Japanese American Citizens League) will honor those incarcerated on the Puyallup Fairgrounds in 1942

Puyallup, WA – April 24, 2017 – The Puyallup Valley Chapter of JACL, in conjunction with the Washington State Fair, will host the 75th Remembrance of Puyallup Assembly Center, "Camp Harmony" on Saturday, September 2, 2017, on the Coca Cola Stage, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Following Executive Order 9066, over 7500 Japanese and Japanese Americans from Washington and Alaska were incarcerated on the Puyallup Fairgrounds, from April to September 1942.

Keynote Speaker is Tom Ikeda, Executive Director of Densho. Lori Matsukawa of KING 5 News will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies.

This day will be dedicated to honoring those impacted by the Puyallup Assembly Center (PAC). Dedication of a new sign for the George Tsutakawa sculpture, *Harmony*, will follow the main event. The fair museum will house interactive exhibits and displays, including a replica of a horse stall and family barrack room. The video, *The Silent Fair*, with personal recollections of living on the fairgrounds, will play continuously inside the museum. A permanent historic marker is being planned with installation on inside the fairgrounds.

This community event is open to the general public. All Japanese American survivors and their families from all assembly centers, camps and detention facilities are invited. Acknowledgement will be given to those in attendance who were incarcerated at PAC. If you know a living survivor, please contact Sharon Sobie Seymour at sproevents@comcast.net.

Supported By:











For more information and updates, visit www.puyallupvalleyjacl.org

Around the Community



The **Friends of Ranald MacDonald** held their annual gathering in Astoria, Oregon on May 20th. Ranald MacDonald was the first native English-speaker to teach the English language in Japan, including educating Einosuke Moriyama, one of the chief interpreters to handle the negotiations between Commodore Perry and the Tokugawa Shogunate. Photo by Mas Yatabe



← Board Members of the Oregon Hiroshima Club entertain a visiting professor from Hiroshima prefecture.

Pictured left to right are Professor Masanori Kobayashi, Katie Kawazoe, Chip Larouche, Ken Kawazoe and Connie Masuoka.

Photo by Setsy Larouche



←Consul General Kojiro
Uchiyama addresses the
attendees gathered to honor
the community's fallen
veterans at the Memorial
Day services at Rose City
Cemetery on May 29th.

Photo by Chip Larouche

The Chinese, Japanese and Korean communities in Portland, Oregon cooperated to bring this musical *Drums of* Three Nations to the larger Portland community on June 11th at the World Trade Center. Shown right are Portland Taiko preparing for their number as Consul General Kojiro Uchiyama welcomes the crowd.

Also included in the presentation were drum acts from Korea and the always popular lion dance presented by the Chinese community.

Photo by Chip Larouche







The "Great
Skippini" (a.k.a. Roy
Yotsuuye) performs
magic for the Ikoi
No Kai audience as
part of the
entertainment
portion of the
senior lunch
program.

Photo by Setsy Larouche



Sahomi Tachibana and her students presented a Japanese Dance *Yukata Kai* on June 17th.

Pictured to the left are Angela Kanegae, Wynn Kiyama, Kimi Kimura, Sensei Tachibana, Ann Shintani and Yoshiko Kamata.

Below are Angela, Ann and Yoshiko performing OGI ZUKUSHI, one of the ten dances in the recital, which highlighted intricate movements of the dancers and their fans.

Photos by Chip Larouche



OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

COMMEMORATIVE LANTERN ORDER FORM TO CELEBRATE OBONFEST 2017

WHITE Lanterns

Commemorate the life of a loved one, remembering relatives, friends or even pets.



RED Lanterns

Honor a living person, organization or business.

<u>RE-HANG</u> a previously purchased lantern to continue this joyful remembrance.

Please use one form for each new lantern. This order form is also available on the OBT website.

Our Calligraphers would like the lantern order forms by: Monday, July 31, 2017.

Re-hang	ing lantern order dead	dline: Thursday, August 3,	2017.	
	COMMEMORATIVE LA d's Name (English)	<u>NTERN</u> (\$25)		
Japanese	e Version (kanji/kataka	ana)		
Date of P	Passing: *******	*******	*******	******
	//MEMORATIVE LANT	<u>ERN</u> (\$25)		
		nna) *********************************		
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Name (E	nglish)			_
Name (E	nglish)			_
Name (E	nglish)			_
	PURCHASER'S NAM	ME		
	Email:			
		Checks Payable to: Ore	egon Buddhist Temple	
		3720 SE 34th Avenue,	Portland, OR 97202	

Lanterns to be re-hung in 2018 can be stored at the temple <u>OR</u> purchased lanterns can be picked up Sunday following the ObonFest. Lanterns inactive for two years will be discarded.

Lanterns OBT Phone contact: 503-234-9456

The Clovis Story by Marleen Wallingford

The Portland JACL just recognized the 75th Anniversary of the Portland Assembly Center. We are familiar with our story but some of our Japanese American residents who moved here in the diaspora after the war have other stories. Fred Kimura and Lillie Kiyokawa, siblings, from Clovis, New Mexico have another sad tale of prejudice and displacement. Their father, Tamon Kimura, had found a job as a machinist with the Santa Fe Railroad. Their mother, Harue, raised the family and took on the backbreaking work of washing the railroad workers grease covered clothing. They and their 13 children lived in a small Japanese American segregated community close to the stockyards and railroad tracks which the local community called the "Jap Camp." Fred and Lillie attended the local elementary school with the white children and in the days of segregation, the African American students attended another school.



Baca Ranch, named for its Spanish owner. This was a month before President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066. Lillie remembered that the former CCC camp was in a beautiful location with lots of trees but that bedbugs were crawling all over the place. Her father put tin cans of kerosene at the bottom of the bed legs but she said the bedbugs were so smart, they crawled on the ceiling and dropped down to the beds. One advantage of that place was that families were able to cook their own meals but it is in a very isolated, south, central area of New Mexico. Living conditions were harsh. The place had been abandoned and as in a state of disrepair.

In December 1941, Lillie was 13 and her brother, Fred was eight. A vigilante group came to burn down the town. The local law enforcement and INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) told them to get out of town and so they had to quickly gather up their belongings and the entire town of 32 residents were taken to a military facility, Fort Stanton which held German detainees. It was quickly decided that the Japanese needed to be moved to another facility. They were transferred 12 miles away to the Old Ratan Ranch Camp in New Mexico formerly called the



After spending about a year at the old Ratan Ranch Camp, the family moved to the incarceration center in Poston, Arizona. Lillie remembered that her father was able to design a room air conditioner so their family was able to enjoy the coolness of air conditioning in the hot Arizona summer. After the war, the family relocated to Nampa, Idaho and Tamon was able to get a job again with the railroad. Fred said his father never talked about his experience which is a typical story we hear about many of the Issei. Shirley Glos, Lillie's daughter attributes that the Japanese philosophy of *Shikata ga nai* which was a phrase her grandmother used often. *Shikata ga nai* is loosely translated as it cannot be helped, helped her grandparents and parents accept what had happened and move on with their lives.

Lillie and Fred have the distinction of being practically the only Japanese Americans from the sparsely populated interior west to suffer mass incarceration. Their story is unique and thankfully it is being remembered by the residents of Clovis. The community is now trying to make amends. For the 44th annual Pioneer Days Parade (2014) in Clovis, town officials selected the theme "Welcome Back to

the Homestead." The festivities were dedicated to the Japanese American residents who were removed from the town at the onset of America's entry into World War II. After the war, none of the former Clovis residents returned. The New Mexico JACL and Colorado State University Public Lands History Center have developed a traveling exhibit, "Confinement in the Land of Enchantment," which tells New Mexico's story of their treatment of the Japanese so this shameful history will not be forgotten.



日系コミュニティー・ピクニック

NIKKEI COMMUNITY PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017 OAKS PARK

(SOUTH PARK AREA - UNDER THE LARGE STRIPED TENT)

NOON TO 5PM

Food, Fun, Rides for the Kids; Prizes and Performance by Portland Taiko

Join us for an afternoon of food and fun! The picnic is sponsored by organizations of the Nikkei community to celebrate our ethnic heritage.

We will provide at no cost:

- Main dish: Fried Chicken
- Beverages: hot tea, soda, and beer
- Eating utensils: plates and napkins
- Watermelons
- Games and prizes and ride bracelets for kids high school and younger
- Parking

Please bring a side dish to share. In order to ensure a variety we suggest that you bring a side dish that corresponds to the alphabetical groupings listed below:

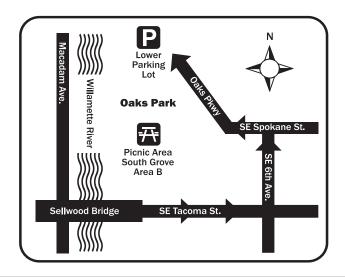
A-Ki Rice or a noodle dish KI-Sa Salad or Vegetable dish Sc-Z Dessert or Bread

主催方からの供給

焼き鳥 お茶、ソゥダ、ビール 西瓜 遊芸と遊技の賞品 駐車場

持ち合わせ品

A-Ki サラダ KI-Sa ごはん Sc-Z デザート





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IKOI NO KAI AT EPWORTH MENU FOR JULY 1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland, 503-238-0775

Mon. 3 - Picnic Chicken Tue. 4 - Closed - Happy Independence Day! Thu. 6 - Niku Yasai Itame - Stir Fried Pork & Veggies Fri. 7 - Hiyamugi - Cold Noodles w/gyoza stick Chicken Tue. 11 - Korean Beef & Noodles

Thu. 13 - Kaki-Age Don -

Fri. 14 - Beef Nira-Itame - Stir-Fried Beef, Leek, Sprouts Mon 17 - Sweet & Sour Pork **Tue. 18 -** Codfish Fry Thu. 20 - Beef Curry Udon Mon. 10 - Ginger Scallion Fri. 21 - Chicken Karaage Mon. 24 - Black Bean Chicken/Salad Rolls

Shrimp & Veggie Tempura

Tue. 25 - Chinese Walnut Shrimp Thu. 27 - Kaba-Yaki - Eggplant w/Teriyaki Chicken Fri. 28 - Hanbagu Suteki Mon. 31 - Birthday Sushi

- Jul 18, 10:30: Sage Circle w/ Dr. Wang
- Jul 13, 11:30 Sing Along with Reiko & Jerry!

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
- Jul 11, 18, 25 11:15: Blood pressure
- Thursdays 11:30: Qi Gong w/Kathleen
- Jul 11, 10:30: Fujinkai Board
- Jul 17, Ohana Lunch Bunch



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.