



# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

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

AUGUST 2017 • VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Now thru December 31, 2018**

*Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II*  
National Museum of American History  
Washington DC

**Now thru October 15**

*American OBON: Dancing in Joy and Remembrance*  
Oregon Legacy Center

**August 5, 3-9 p.m.**

OBON Festival  
Oregon Buddhist Temple

**August 9, 6 p.m.**

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

**September 17, 11:30 - 2 p.m.**

Nichiren Fall Take-Out Bazaar  
2025 SE Yamhill

**October 28, 10 a.m.**

JACL PNW District Meeting  
Holladay Park Plaza

## 2017 NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

*by Susan Leedham Portland JACL Vice President*

Resilience, Remembrance, Resolve was the theme for this year's national JACL convention in Washington, D.C. Since the two-year budget and national board members were elected to their two-year terms last year, there wasn't much business to conduct.

Our first night on July 6 we went to a private reception at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History to view *Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II*. It was a very powerful, well-done exhibit, and we received news that due to its popularity, the exhibit will run through December 2018, extending its one-year run another year.

We were introduced to our long-awaited executive director, David Inoue. His last position was administrative director for Christ House, which provided healthcare to the homeless in Washington, D.C. He was very energetic and, hopefully, will be able to bring new ideas to energize our organization.

On July 7 we had an interesting plenary entitled: *Resolve: A Dialogue on the Current State of AAPI Civil Rights*. One of the panel participants was Zaki Barzinji, who was President Obama's liaison to Muslim-Americans, Arab-Americans, Sikh-Americans and other minority faiths. He was offed with the liaisons to the other minority groups and told us that since they shared the same office they were able to share stories and discovered how much they all had

in common and how more powerful they were when they supported each other. And like Redress, all of the advocacy stories were integral to killing the Muslim Registry.

Also on the panel was Heather Skrabak, Associate Director of Policy and Advocacy with the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations. She pointed out that she believes healthcare is a civil right. And it's no accident that Medicare, Medicaid and the Civil Rights Act were passed so close together in 1964-1965, helping end the segregation of hospitals in certain areas of the country where black doctors could only practice in black hospitals, and separation of white and black patients was common, by making compliance with the Civil Rights Act a condition of receiving federal Medicare and Medicaid funds.

The panel also pointed out that it is vital that we have a long-range plan and not the current whack-a-mole mentality of responding to the latest tweet. The evening was spent at the Ambassador of Japan's residence, a beautiful property which has three huge dining rooms, which were all filled with wonderful food, including one sushi chef and a soba bar, plus a tea room, koi pond and a huge backyard, and, in the distance, a large swimming pool, pool house and tennis court!

At this reception JACL honored Wade

*Continued page 2*

## BOARD MEMBER’S MESSAGE CONTINUED...

Henderson with the Ralph L. Carr Award for Courage. Mr. Henderson was the former president and CEO of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights which was instrumental in the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, passage of the Fair Sentencing Act, Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay, the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, Dodd-Frank, the Consumer Protection Act, to name a few. In his remarks he commented on the political courage of Governor Carr and how that is so lacking today.

On July 8, our final day, at the Sayonara Banquet we honored two people whose roles on the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians were instrumental to its success.

The first awardee was Angus Macbeth, who was special counsel and primary author of the final report: Personal Justice Denied. Unfortunately, he died last January, so his wife JoAnn and one of his sons Hampden were there to accept his award. JoAnn Macbeth told us that her husband accepted the position on the commission out of curiosity and how that evolved to outrage as he heard the testimony of over 750 witnesses. He continued to speak passionately about the injustice of incarceration long after his work on the commission was completed.

The other awardee was attorney Joan Bernstein. She was the only woman on the commission, and she was selected to be head of the commission because, as she said, the men felt that, since she was a woman, she would be able to meet the deadline of two years, and she did! She was an entertaining speaker, and I wish we could have heard more stories.

The takeaway was reinforcement that we are stronger and more effective working together with other groups; healthcare is a civil right, and how we are in desperate need of political courage. We need to push our elective officials to show leadership now or replace them with people who will.

\*\*\*\*\*



**EXHIBIT - Now thru September 23rd**

*“Courage and Compassion: Our Shared Story of the Japanese American WWII Experience”*

Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill Street SE, Salem,  
Oregon



Pacific Northwest District voting on Resolutions



Ruth Shimomura with Marleen and Chip at the Ambassador’s reception.



The food at the Smithsonian reception was great!





Former Congressman Mike Honda was at most Convention activities including the reception at the residence of the Ambassador of Japan to the United States

## BOARD MEMBERS

### PRESIDENT

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The Pacific Northwest District was well represented in Washington DC with all seven chapters sending delegates



Secretary Mineta and his wife Deni are always regulars at the National JACL Convention

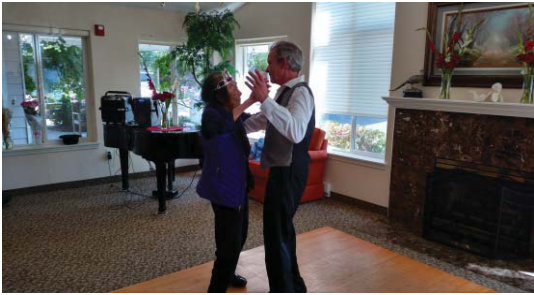


All the participants of the Kakehashi Program took a moment for a group shot during the Sayonara Banquet at the National Convention





## Around the Community and More Convention



Our very own 103 years “young” Alice Sumida enjoys ballroom dancing with her instructor, and several parties hosted by many of her friends and family during the week of July 18th



← Marleen introduces Director Jason Matsumoto at the Hidden Histories showing at the Hollywood Theater.

Ambassador Nagae and Thomas Lauderdale play at the JASO Dinner →



(Left) Portland contingent to the convention included Janice Okamoto, Susan Leedham, Mitzi Loftus, Setsy Larouche, Marleen Wallingford, Chip Larouche and Fran Sumida Palk. (Below) Stephanie Nitahara, Associate Director of JACL, addresses the attendees at the Smithsonian reception. National fireworks at the Mall were a bonus at convention.



**Oregon Nikkei Endowment Presents**  
***American Obon: Dancing in Joy and Remembrance***  
**July 29 – October 15, 2017**

The summer obon festival is an eagerly anticipated event within Nikkei communities throughout North America. People come for the memorial observance, camaraderie, cultural performances, and food, but perhaps the most iconic element of the obon festival occurs when participants gather in a circle for the bon odori (obon dancing).

Reverend Yoshio Iwanaga introduced this tradition to numerous Nikkei communities along the West Coast in the 1930's, and now, his pioneering activities will be celebrated in an exhibit at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center.

***American Obon*** will trace the development of bon odori in North America through archival photographs, audio, and rare video footage on loan from the Iwanaga family, dance scholar Linda Akiyama and Buddhist Churches of America.

**Preview for Friends of O.N.E.** – Friday, July 28, 4-6:30pm, RSVP by July 26.

**Obon Dance Workshop** – Saturday, July 29, 6-8pm, Japanese American Historical Plaza  
Free and open to the public.

**First Thursday** August 3, 4-7 pm  
Free and open to the public.

**The Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center** is located at **121 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland, Oregon**. The exhibit will be open **Tue-Sat 11AM-3 PM and Sun 12-3 PM**. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and students, and free to members of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment. Updates on affiliated exhibit programs can be found on the organization's website at [www.oregonnikkei.org](http://www.oregonnikkei.org). For more information, call **(503) 224-1458**.



*Bill Manbo, Heart Mountain, 1944, American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming*



## NICHIREN BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2017 Fall Take-Out Bazaar

	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
<i>Combination Bento</i>		
<i>Chow Mein, Chicken</i>		
<i>&amp; Sushi</i>		\$15.00

Please Pre-order      Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday, September **17**, 2017

**PICK-UP** 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

2025 S.E. Yamhill

Please return this pre-order form with  
your check by **September 10, 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

Thank You for your Order

# Save the Date!

## Portland JACL

# 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash

## February 17, 2018

## More details to come!



# 日系コミュニティ・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:

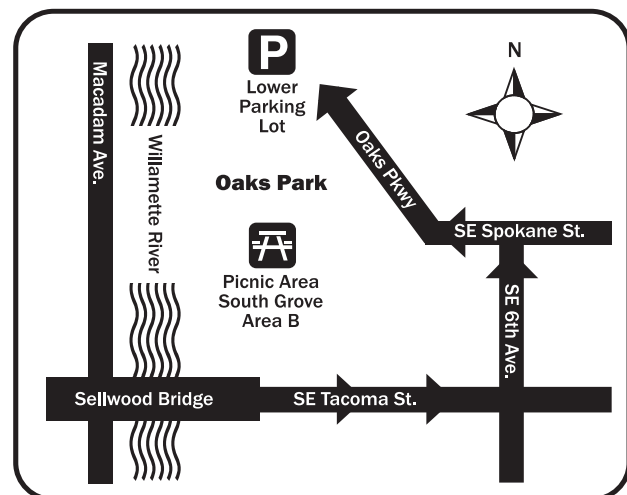
A-Ki Rice or a noodle dish  
Kl-Sa Salad or Vegetable dish  
Sc-Z Dessert or Bread

### 主催方からの供給

焼き鳥  
お茶、ソーダ、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  
Kl-Sa ごはん  
Sc-Z デザート



**Please RSVP by August 8: Connie Masuoka at 503-243-3291**



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## **IKOI NO KAI AT EPWORTH MENU FOR AUGUST**

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

**Tue. 1** - Shumai/Pork

**Thu. 3** - Tori Soboro-Meshi - Chicken with sweet sauce on rice

**Fri. 4** - Chicken Katsu

**Mon. 7** - Calamari Salad/Mapodofu

**Tue. 8** - Crispy Beef Bibimbap

**Thu. 10** - Shoyu Ramen

**Fri. 11** - Ingen Shinodamaki - Green bean w/bean curd roll

**Mon. 14** - Cioppino - Seafood Stew

**Tue. 15** - Hoisin Chicken/Singapore Noodles

**Thu. 17** - Chu-Ka-Don, Chinese Stir Fry - Meat, Seafood, Vegetables

**Fri. 18** - Bo-Gyoza

**Mon. 21** - Lemon Grass Chicken/Thai Noodle Salad

**Tue. 22** - Tempura Shrimp

**Thu. 24** - Buta-Niku Kaori-

Age, Fried Pork w/sauce

**Fri. 25** - Gomoku-Kamameshi, Meat, Seafood, Vegetables, rice  
**Mon. 28** - Clam Chowder/Somen Salad

**Tue. 29** - Tomato Beef Chow Mein

**Thu. 31** - Birthday Sushi

- **Aug 15, 10:00:**  
Sage Circle w/ Hiroko Stacey

- **Aug 14, 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
- **Aug 8, 12 11:15:**  
Blood pressure
- **Thursdays 11:30:**  
Qi Gong w/Kathleen
- **Aug 17, OHSU**  
Nursing Students
- **Aug 21, Ohana Lunch**  
Bunch

**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.