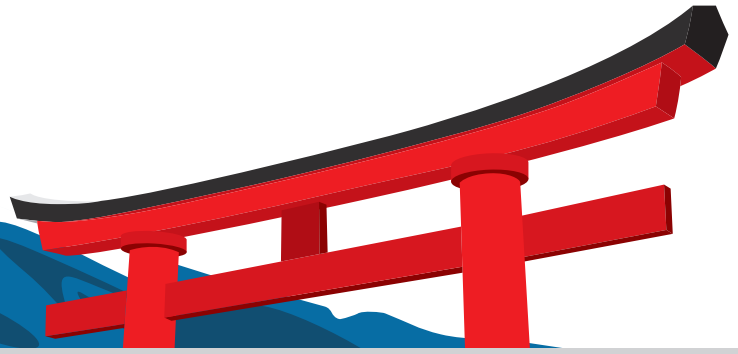




PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Portland JACL - Supporting Civil Rights Since 1928



• DECEMBER 2023 | VOLUME 29 ISSUE 12 •

Board Member MESSAGE

by Jeff Matsumoto

The year has passed by so quickly. In a few days, 2023 will close with our annual community Holiday Dinner and visit from Santa. Looking back I think of all the people I have met in our reemerging Nihonmachi. From tabling at Oregon Rise's Above Hate, sprucing up our beloved Japanese American Historical Plaza or sponsoring a SOLVE clean-up in Old Town and being the chief sponsor in bringing the transformative ***hapa.me*** by Kip Fulbeck to the Japanese American Museum of Oregon, we may have lost a landmark (Yamaguchi Hotel - [koin.com/news/civic-affairs/old-towns-historic-yamaguchi-hotel-set-for-demolition-on-monday](https://www.koin.com/news/civic-affairs/old-towns-historic-yamaguchi-hotel-set-for-demolition-on-monday)) but our community bond is strong.

Time and time again, I witnessed this bond at the Graduation Banquet, the Annual Community Picnic, our Day of Remembrance screening of No No Girl and most recently a memorable luncheon honoring our communities centenarians.

I have seen you at Thorns' matches cheering on Hina Sugita, Tiger Tiger, Min Yasui Day, and events honoring our veterans. In this ever changing world, now more than ever, I find solace in who we are and the commitment we have to one another. Thank You.

May we all find Peace in our Hearts.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 2

Portland JACL Holiday Party

Oregon Buddhist Temple | 5pm

December 12

Mochi Order Deadline for Oregon Buddhist Temple

(Mochi Pick-up at Oregon Buddhist Temple)

3 - 4:30pm

December 7-15

Hanukkah

December 15

Konko Church Mochi Fundraiser Deadline

(Pick-up orders December 28 - 30th)

December 17

Appreciation Service

Konko Church

December 25

Christmas

December 26

Kwanza



Seattle JACL Condemns the Alarming Increase of Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia, Calls for an Immediate Ceasefire

Our nation and our local area have seen an alarming increase in hate and bias incidents involving the Jewish and Muslim communities. In Seattle, in an instance of anti-Semitic intimidation, several synagogues have been targeted by mailings of unidentified and potentially hazardous white powders. Violent threats have been made to members of the Jewish community on campuses and neighborhoods across the country. We are also witness to anti-Muslim attacks, such as the murder of six-year-old Wadea Al-Fayoume and assault of his mother in Illinois, and the injuries sustained by a Muslim Stanford University student who was hit by a car while the driver shouted anti-Islamic epithets.

JACL has long condemned and opposed anti-Islamic racism, especially since 9/11. We similarly stand in solidarity with local Jewish community organizations as both anti-Semitic and anti-Asian hate incidents have surged in the past several years. We join with Muslim Americans and Jewish Americans to forthrightly state: hate and bias have no place in our society. We urge all

who support justice to unite in defense of those subjected to attacks based on race, ethnicity, and religion.

We also must acknowledge that world events have a huge impact on the treatment of communities here in the United States. We know this all too well as the history of racist incarceration and xenophobia targeting our own Japanese American communities was a direct result of the conflict between the U.S. and Japan in World War II.

The horrific attacks by Hamas on October 7 and the Israeli military's ongoing relentless siege of Gaza have deeply affected us all. We are appalled by the immense loss of human life in the region, and condemn the targeting and killing of civilians, whether Israeli or Palestinian. We are outraged at the kidnappings and murder of over 1,200 Israeli civilians including children and the elderly that occurred on October 7, 2023. And we decry the ongoing mass killings, indiscriminate bombing, and forced displacement of civilians in Gaza that have resulted in over 11,000 deaths, nearly half of them children. The Israeli government's disproportionate use of force and harming of innocent civilians violates basic tenets of morality, human decency, and international

law. This unmitigated violence must stop. Our U.S. government, which maintains a major diplomatic and military presence in the region, must demand that the Israeli government immediately cease its military operations in and bombing of Gaza, advocate for direct negotiations for the safe release of all hostages, and insist on swift delivery of urgently needed humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza. Any further action or assistance by the U.S. government on behalf of the American people should be aimed solely at stopping further death and destruction in Gaza and Israel.

Here in America, we are witnessing how violence descends into more violence. The unmitigated bloodshed and human suffering in Israel and Gaza have reverberated throughout all of our communities, with Jewish American and Muslim American communities especially experiencing

deep pain and harm. Conversely, a just peace that protects the humanity of all Palestinians and Israelis with a long term, constructive resolution of conflict in this region will contribute to uniting our communities so we can eradicate hate and bias here in the U.S.

In the face of a surge in anti-Semitic and Islamophobic bias and attacks locally and throughout the U.S., we call upon everyone to be a voice for safety, support, and protection of Israeli, Palestinian, Muslim, and Jewish communities during this time of devastating international crisis.

If you agree with this statement, please share it with your Members of Congress ASAP with a request that they demand the Biden Administration support an immediate ceasefire, send humanitarian aid, and stop all financial and military support for the war.

❖ Omiyage Holiday Shop at JAMO ❖

For November and December, the Japanese American Museum of Oregon's gift store transforms into the Omiyage Holiday Shop, with even more treasures than usual. Come by Thursday-Sunday, 11am-3pm to shop all the unique handcrafted, local, and Japanese-inspired goodies we'll have in stock only for the holiday season. Omiyage runs November 24 through December 23 this year. Read more at jamo.org/omiyage-holiday-store/

Omiyage Holiday Shop

At the Japanese American Museum of Oregon

411 NW Flanders St STE 100
Portland, OR 97209
Thurs-Sun, 11am-3pm
(Open through December 23)



Thank you for Many Years of Giving

By Terry Nishikawa and Sharon Takahashi

In 2015, the community joined together to host a Nisei appreciation luncheon for community Members who were seen as treasures, helping build our strong Japanese American community. Portland is a great example of organizations, small and large, coming together to accomplish missions, sometimes deemed impossible. October 28 at the Airport Embassy Suites was a crowning event which moved an idea from the back burner to “must do” status.

We suffered many losses since 2020, but the biggest was the theft of “gathering” that the villain Covid put us through. Bazaars, golf tournaments, church gatherings, typical funerals where we hug and say goodbye and comfort families, graduation banquets with families beaming with pride—we missed them all. So, we felt liberated as “normal” started returning. The most fragile group that Covid attacked in many ways were the **seniors**. Their names were on our tongues often and we wondered how they were all doing.

So, two months ago, under Terry Nishikawa's cheerleading, we started planning the **Greater Portland Centenarian Luncheon** to identify, recognize and thank the elders who built our community with their participation. We have missed some, I know, but Terry's hope is to grow this event into one which is repeated, but not with an 8 year gap.

We had over 100 attendees, with 18 honorees in that group. Representing the Consular Office of Japan in Portland, Consul Yuzo Yoshioka presented certificates to the centenarians and also, to those achieving the 95 year milestone. Our eldest honorees were 104 year olds Teruko Arima, Rose Kasahara and Misao Minagi. Misao went matsutake hunting to Zigzag on Sunday. The youngest was Henry Ueno, who will turn 95 on December 28, 2023.

Two “almost there” seniors, Janet Kakishita and Sharon Takahashi, worked with June Schumann

and James Rogers, Japanese American Museum of Oregon stalwarts, on getting pictures, honoree data, and personal comments to put in a short (was it ever!) slideshow. It could have lasted a few hours as the 40 plus referrals had many highlights in their century (+ or – a few years). Three offspring, Verne Naito, Heidi Nishida and Becky Fujii captured the honorees' spirit in three minute slots. They were awesome!

Honorees were easy to spot as they wore leis made by JAMO volunteers taught by Hanako Wakatsuki-Chong, JAMO's executive director. They were Lynn Fuchigami Parks, Connie Masuoka and Val Itamura. Lincoln Hirata, Grant High School senior, was the designated wheelchair and walker aide.

A proclamation was read by Eryn Mitchell of Mayor Ted Wheeler's staff, declaring October 28 to be honored seniors day in Portland.

We had partners/sponsors whom we would like to recognize: Gresham Troutdale JAACL (financial guarantor), Portland Japanese Ancestral Society, Portland JAACL, Veleda Club, Japanese American Museum of Oregon, Kern Park Floral (centerpiece creation and support), Nikkei Fujinkai (head table flowers), Mayor Ted Wheeler and staff, Reverend Eisei Ikenaga of Nichiren Buddhist Temple, Rich Iwasaki (for chronicling the event) and some special financial donors.

Precious volunteers doing hands on tasks on that Saturday: Linda Nishikawa, Val and Carl Itamura, Rick, Karen and Rob Shiraishi, Linda Guerber, Vicki Onchi, Lynn Fuchigami Parks and Connie Masuoka.

We look forward to hearing from all, helping us find future honorees, giving us encouragement for the next event and suggestions on how to make it better. (A pat on the back is more appreciated than a kick in the pants, but they both get your attention.—Mom's wisdom.) Together, we can create another successful event.

Photo Corner



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

Sahomi Tachibana was able to attend with her daughter, Elaine Werner.



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

Yoshio Tokiwa is a 442 military veteran.



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

Sam Naito still going strong at 102 is greeted by a guest.



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

Jeanne Shioishi and Fumi Itami enjoyed the festivities. Can you believe these ladies are over 100?



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

Henry and Atami Ueno are greeted by Tom Fujii whose 95th birthday is next year.



Photos by Rich Iwasaki

A Group photo from the Centenarian Luncheon.

❖ Thank You from Portland JACL! ❖

Portland JACL would like to thank everyone listed below for their generous donations during the past year (November 9, 2022 to November 8, 2023) to our programs which include Day of Remembrance, the Nikkei Community Picnic, our ongoing efforts for civil rights advocacy, Unite People (youth program), scholarships, monthly newsletters, annual calendar, the Minidoka Swing Band, and the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue advertising. **Domo Arigato Gozaimashita!** Please note that all donations of \$100 dollars or more are acknowledged by receipt. All others are acknowledged here in our newsletter, in alphabetical order.

Jessica Aiona
Byron Akita
Alice Sumida Living Trust
Rachel Alm
Amazon Smile Program
Roberta Ando
Anonymous
Alan and Misao Aoki
Samuel Asai
Jessica Asai
Paul Ase
Avangate Inc
Jim and Lois Azumano
Dave Bachelor
Jonathan Bebe
Judith Briney
Shion Britten
Waka Brown
Nancy Clayton
John Crull
Naomi Diffely
Kristen Dozono
Tara Dunlop
Susan Endecott
Kay Endo
Tom Fujii
Janet and Frank Fujitani
Lisa Fujiwara
Jeanine Fukuda
Karen Fukushima
Florence Fukushima
Nancy Furumasu
Joyce Gee
Lynne Gordon
Lynn Grannan
Linda Guerber
Debbe Hamada
Marcia Hara
Diane Harder
Etsuko Harvey
Chisao Hata
Curt Hayashi
Ame Hayashi
Dan Hinatsu
Mae Hirata
Lincoln Hirata
Marisa Hirata
Gary Hongo
Robin Hopkins
David Hopper
Scott Ikata

Alain Ikeda
Kenneth Ikeda
Joyce Iliff
Racheal and Robert Inouye
Kurtis Inouye
Mike Irinaga
Shoun and Grace Ishikawa
Gail Ishimatsu
Valerie Itamura
Rich and Yoko Iwasaki
Ron Iwasaki
Christi Iwasaki
Japanese American Museum of Oregon
Japanese Ancestral Society
Erika Jennings
Dale Johnson
Fude Kagawa
Yoshie Kagawa
Tamao Kai
Mari Kai
Dana Kakishita
Janet Kakishita
Daniel Kalapsa
Alan Kamada
May Kambara
Sachi Kaneko
Valerie Katagiri
Robert Katsuno
Terry Kawamoto
Dale Kawata
Michael Kawata
Kern Park Flower Shoppe
Jennifer Kimura
Charlie Kirihara
Stuart Kitayama
Ronald Kobata
Shohei Kobayashi
Michiko Kornhauser
Weston Koyama
Tiffany Koyama Lane
Tomomi Kubota
Sharon Kuroda
Coleman Lambo
Chip and Setsy Larouche
Christopher Lee
Thomas Lemieux
Margaret Lieder

David Lin
Mariko Locke
Lynn Nakamoto and Jocelyn White
Madeline Masog
Connie Masuoka
Cinclair Mathies
Christine and Jerold Matsui
Jeffrey Matsumoto
Yoji and Martha Matsushima
Mark Matsushima
Emy McGowan
Anne McLaughlin
Taro Miura
Kaoru Miyanaga
Jim Nagae
Verner Naito
Peter Nakamura
Keiko Nakata
Nichiren Buddhist Temple
Nikkei Fujinkai
Daniel Nishina
Kenji Nobori
Olivia Norrish
North Studios, LLC
Carver Oblander
Dale Ogata
Ken Ogawa
Kohki Ogawa
Susan Okada
Jere Okada
Janice Okamoto
Ryoko Okamoto
Cherie Okano Yokota
Gary and Karen Fujimoto
Okino
Tamiyasui Orchard
Oregon Buddhist Temple
Oregon Hiroshima Club
Oregon Nisei Veterans
Etsuko Osaki
Susan Oshiro-Zeier
Gayle Otoole
Alyce Ozaki
Marc Ozawa
Frances Palk
Hatsumi Park
Matt Park
Lynn Marie Parks

Cristine Paschild
Bryan Pawlowski
Clara Pawlowski
Jonathan Payne
Rae Piesner
Patricia Ralston Ellis
Amy Reyes
Larry Richardson
Rose City Park
Acupuncture, LLC
Erin Ryono
Chika Saeki
Chris Saito
Lolita and Henry Sakamoto
Naomi Sakamoto
Suzanne Sato
Wendy and Mark Schares
June and John Schumann
Aimee and Alexander Scribner
Rachel Seeman
Jeffrey Selby
Jack and Patricia Semura
Jason Setera
Amanda Shannahan
Tuesday Shellmire
Jeannine Shinoda
Ann Shintani
Seiji Shiratori
Katrina Shoda-Iwasaki
Nancy Soga
Kenji Spielman
Peter Stephens
Sarah Stevenson
Willem Stoeller
Lunarcart Studios
Bill and Ida Sugahiro
Michelle Sugahiro
Robert Suzuki
Carol Suzuki
Kenji Tachibana
Sharon and Wayne Takahashi
Ann Takamoto
Jean Takasumi
Melissa Takasumi
Becky Talus
Kirk Tambara
Katie Tamiyasu

Linda Tamura and Michael Lee
Linda and Paul Tamura
James Tanabe
Sandra Tashima
Angie Tashima
Gary Terasaki
Jillian Toda-Currie
Heidi Tolentino
Lewis Tomita
Sue Tomita
Emma Tomita
Amy and James Tsugawa
Yukiko Uehara
Spencer Uemura
Tom Urushitani
Uwajimaya
Veleda Club
Marleen Wallingford
Bet Ann Wantroba
Alice Watanabe
Dale Watanabe
Jenna Watanabe
Lauren Waude
Erin Werner
Elaine Werner
Mark Wilson
Kevin Wong
Veronica Wright
Jenny Yamada
Russell Yamada
Jean Yamamoto
Dean Yamamoto
Jean and Ralph Yamamoto
Joyce Yamamoto
Masanori Yamazaki
Homer Yasui
Carolyn Yasui
Sharon Yasui-Carrell
Alice Yatabe
Allison Yee
Jenna Yokoyama
Robert Yoneda
Minnie Young
Henry Young
Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha



Iko no Kai - DECEMBER 2023

1333 SE 28th Ave / 503-238-0775

MON	TUES		THURS	FRI
				1 Menchi Katsu Minced Meat Cutlet <i>Wreath Making</i>
4 Agedashi Tofu w/ Mushroom <i>11:30am Chair Yoga</i> <i>12:30pm Mahjong</i>	5 Clam Chowder <i>Kinfe Sharpening</i> <i>11am Blood Pressure</i> <i>12:45pm Sing a Long</i>	X	7 Shrimp Gyoza <i>11am Blood Pressure</i> <i>11:30am Aikido Stress Relief</i>	8 Teriyaki Chicken w/ Tartar Sauce <i>Bingo</i>
11 Tonkatsu <i>12:30pm Mahjong</i>	12 Chicken Curry Udon <i>12:45pm Sing a Long</i>	X	14 Mapo Tofu <i>10:45 Move On Class</i>	15 Fish Nanban <i>Ohana Lunch</i>
18 Turkey Holiday Meal <i>*Reservations required</i> <i>seniors \$10 / Adults \$12</i> <i>12:30pm Mahjong</i>	19 Miso Salmon <i>11am Blood Pressure</i> <i>12:45pm Sing a Long</i>	X	21 CLOSED	22 CLOSED
25 CLOSED	26 CLOSED	X	28 CLOSED	29 CLOSED

Cooks: Naomi Molstrom-M Kyoko Adcock-Tu Rieko Shimada-Th/F

Suggested Lunch Donation: \$9 for seniors 65+ / \$11 for adults under 65 / \$ 6 kids

Reservations preferred / Indoor Dining Limited

*** For reservations please call and leave a message or email:**

(ph) 503-238-0775 (email) ikoinokai7@gmail.com

Seating at 11:30 am with lunch served promptly at noon

**** vaccination card and signed COVID waiver will be required in order to dine indoors**



PORTLAND JACL
PO BOX 86310
PORTLAND, OR 97286

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Portland JACL Holiday Party



Join the Portland JACL for our Holiday Party

December 2nd, 5pm
Oregon Buddhist Temple

Pot luck or if you don't have time, a donation
would be appreciated



OBT Mochitsuki



Oregon Buddhist Temple Mochitsuki

December 17th
(Mochi pick-up will be between 3 - 430pm
at Oregon Buddhist Temple)

Please use forms below for the orders.

Deadline: Tuesday, December 12th.

Online Form :

<https://forms.gle/84u8KKshY6u1VxjMA>

