

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

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



PDXJACL.ORG

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY 2012 • VOLUME 17, ISSUE 10

Indefinite Detention of U.S. Citizens

May 6

- Japanese American Graduation Banquet, MAC Club, 5:00 p.m.

May 13

- Mother's Day

May 28

- Memorial Day Service, Rose City Cemetery, 1:00 p.m.

June 9

- Unite People Chili Feed, Epworth United Methodist Church, 5:00 p.m.

June 17

- Father's Day

June 21-24

- Minidoka Pilgrimage

July 4

- Independence Day

July 5-8

- JACL National Convention, Bellevue, WA

August 6

- Hiroshima-Nagasaki Remembrance, Japanese Historical Plaza, 6:00 p.m.

August 19

- Nikkei Community Picnic, Oaks Park

*Board Members Message by:
John Kodachi*

A wise person once cautioned, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." This is why each year on February 19th, JACL chapters vigilantly hold Day of Remembrance events across the country to remember the signing of **Executive Order 9066**, which led to the forced incarceration of 120,000 of Japanese-Americans, 11,000 German-Americans and 3,000 Italian-Americans during World War II.

All were incarcerated without due process of law--without notice of the charges, without legal counsel, and without a fair trial. With a swift stroke of the pen, President Franklin Roosevelt struck down fundamental constitutional rights.

Tragically, President Barack Obama has not learned from President Roosevelt's mistakes and is repeating them. On December 31, 2011, President Obama signed the controversial **National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)** into law over the vocal objections of the JACL, other organizations, and concerned citizens.

The NDAA codifies and expands the President's powers to detain U.S. citizens indefinitely without due process of law. In other words, the NDAA is the new Executive Order 9066.

To understand the NDAA, you

need to first understand the joint resolution titled "Authorization for Use of Military Force," in which Congress, just days after 9/11, authorized the President to use force against the terrorists responsible for the attacks. Specifically, Congress authorized the President to use "all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed or aided the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2011." The resolution did not expressly grant the President power of indefinite detention.

However, both administrations of President George Bush, Jr., and President Obama have interpreted the Authorization for Use of Military Force as allowing them to indefinitely detain, outside of the U.S and without trial, persons suspected to be enemy combatants.

The NDAA now codifies the President's power of indefinite detention. Section 1021 states, "Congress affirms the authority of the President to use all necessary and appropriate force pursuant to the Authorization for Use of Military Force ... to detain covered persons ... pending disposition under the law of war." The NDAA defines "disposition under the law of war" as including "[d]etention under the law of war **without trial until the end of hostilities** authorized by the Authorization for Use of Military

(continued on next page)

Board Members Message Continued

Force.”

Supporters of the NDAA claim it is limited to “al-Qaeda terrorists.” The plain language of the act, however, states otherwise. Under the NDAA, a “covered person” includes “any person” who “**substantially supported** al-Qaeda, the Taliban, or **associated forces**.” This raises a number of important and unanswered questions concerning the breadth and scope of the law. For example, who or what are “associated forces”? What constitutes “substantial support”? Is the government of Pakistan an “associated force”? Is the reported Red Cross field hospital that treated members of the Taliban an “associated force”? And if you gave money to Pakistan or the International Red Cross, have you “substantially supported” them?

Supporters of the NDAA also claim there’s nothing to be concerned about because it exempts U.S. citizens. Again, the statute says otherwise. Section 1021 states that “[n]othing in this section shall be construed to affect existing law or authorities relating to the detention of United States citizens, lawful resident aliens of the United States, or any other persons who are captured or arrested in the United States.” The problem is that “existing law” is unclear. The circumstances in which a U.S. citizen or other person captured or arrested in the United States may be detained under the Authorization for Use Military Force have not been definitively adjudicated.

Supporters also cite to section 1022 as proof that the NDAA does not apply to U.S. citizens. Section 1022 relates to mandatory detention in that it states that the military “shall” detain captured al-Qaeda members. Section 1022(b)(1), cited to by supporters, only states that the “**requirement** to detain a person in military custody under this section does not extend to citizens of the United States.” In other words, it’s optional. Pursuant to section 1022, the military may,

but is not required, to detain U.S. citizens suspected of being al-Qaeda members indefinitely without trial. To address the concerns about the sweeping powers authorized by the NDAA, Senator Diane Feinstein proposed adding the following section to the bill to clarify that it would not apply to U.S. citizens:

(e) Applicability to Citizens.—The authority described in this section for the Armed Forces of the United States to detain a person does not include the authority to detain a citizen of the United States without trial until the end of the hostilities.

Remarkably, the Senate rejected the amendment 45 to 55.

Moreover, President Obama has stated that while the NDAA authorizes him to detain U.S. citizens indefinitely without trial, he would not do so. In his signing statement, he promised, “Moreover, I want to clarify that **my** Administration will not authorize the indefinite military detention without trial of American citizens.” The President’s promise, however, is not a substitute for the Constitution’s guarantee of due process. I also remember his other promise to close Guantanamo Bay prison.

Make no mistake about it, the future of our democracy is gravely threatened when Congress passes a bill, which the President signs, that effectively makes him, and all future Presidents, the **judge, jury, and executioner** of Americans. Regrettably, the survivors of Minidoka, Tule Lake, and the other incarceration camps know only too well of the resulting injustices.

Yes, President Obama and Congress must keep America safe, but they must not abandon the core rights, liberties, and principles enshrined in our Constitution and Bill of Rights; they swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution. This is precisely what distinguishes Americans from the terrorists—we follow and uphold the rule of law, or at least we did.

Got Your Brick Yet?

The Seattle NVC Foundation Memorial Wall has now sold and installed over 3,400 bricks honoring those who were interned during World War II as a result of Executive Order 9066 as well as Japanese Americans who served served our country during war and peacetime. If you have not ordered your brick yet, there is still an opportunity to honor your grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends, both living and deceased.

We currently have remaining space for 178 veteran and 430 internees bricks for purchase. For information on purchasing a brick and to see photos of the memorial wall, please visit the NVC Foundation Memorial Wall website at: nvcfoundation.org. Or contact Dale Kaku at (206) 280-1524.

CHILI Feed

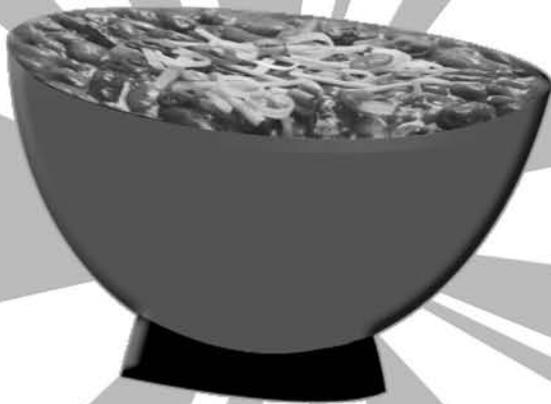
Hosted By: Unite People

NEW DATE: June 9th!!!!

When: Saturday, ~~May 19~~: 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Where: 1333 SE 28th Ave. , Portland , OR 97214

Price: \$8 per person or \$25 family pass,
ages 6 and under are free



Participate in our Silent auction
and our dessert auction.

Eat great food, and meet
new people.

If you are not able to stay at the event, you
may arrange to order takeout by calling
Connie at
(503)-318-5839

Raffle!
Hand made quilt

PORTLANDJACL

NEWSLETTER

Clark Center Loaves & Fishes May 2012 Menu

2740 SE Powell Blvd., Portland OR

Tuesday 1 - Turkey pot roast or Chinese chicken salad

Wednesday 2 - Chicken breast or spinach lasagna

Thursday 3 - Spaghetti or open face turkey sandwich

Friday 4 - Battered fish w/ tartar sauce or chicken enchilada casserole

Monday 7 - Ginger chicken or veggie chili

Tuesday 8 - Meatloaf w/ gravy or veggie pizza

Wednesday 9 - Veggie lasagna or shrimp salad

Thursday 10 - Pork stroganoff or tuna sandwich

Friday 11 - Baked fish or chicken fajita

Monday 14 - Ravioli or grilled chicken sandwich

Tuesday 15 - Baked chicken w/ gravy or taco salad

Wednesday 16 - Meat lasagna or bean'n'rice burrito

Thursday 17 - Sloppy joe or seafood sandwich

Friday 18 - Chicken stroganoff or broccoli quiche

Monday 21 - Baked fish w/ tartar sauce or tortellini

Tuesday 22 - Meat loaf w/ gravy or fish filet sandwich

Wednesday 23 - Turkey or breakfast casserole

Thursday 24 - Meatball goulash or turkey

Friday 25 - Chicken enchilada casserole or Greek salad

Monday 28 - Closed for Memorial Day

Tuesday 29 - BBQ chicken or Mediterranean sandwich

Wednesday 30 - Swedish meatballs or veggie burger

Thursday 31 - Pork tips or chicken enchilada casserole

Portland State University, A New Home for Portland JACL Collection

Portland JACL Co-Presidents Susan Leedham and Jean Yamamoto were treated to a tour of Portland State University's Millar Library with Jennifer Wilkerson, Director of Development. The 21st century library with website access to databases, e-books, e-journals, media equipped study rooms to practice powerpoint presentations, family-friendly study rooms, and a coffee cart - it's OK to drink coffee inside the library(!), is not the college library we remembered. Our tour ended at the Special Collections & University Archives where we met Archivist, Cris Paschild.

Over two years ago Portland State University graduate student, Robert Hedgwood, contacted Portland JACL for any records we might have on civil rights or redress efforts during the period of 1945-1955. We had a storage unit filled with documents in various stages of organization. Robert was excited to find the information he needed for his research project. Last year the Chapter donated the materials to PSU's Special Collections so that it can be available to other students and the public.

Cris Paschild was thrilled to show us the Portland JACL Collection, which includes the original receipt from the Chapter's purchase of a flag set from Meier & Frank for \$1.75, dated December 8, 1941. There are scrapbooks, photographs, programs, minutes from meetings, and much more dating from pre-World War II to the 1980s.

Of great concern is the condition of the boxes and

folders that contain these treasures. Some may remember what onion skin or mimeographed paper is. It is important to properly store these fragile materials to preserve them for future generations of researchers. It's also necessary to catalog and put it on a searchable database so that people can find the information they need. PSU recently announced the addition of the Portland JACL collection and it is available for students to access the Collection now. But to be in better condition for access and preservation, it needs to be properly archived and that takes money.

Fortunately Jennifer and Cris are applying for an Oregon Cultural Trust grant for this project which they estimate will require \$10,000 to preserve the existing Collection. The grant matches donated funds 1 to 1. This means that Portland JACL will need to raise \$5,000 and the OCT grant will provide the matching \$5,000.

We hope that you agree that this is an important project and that you will consider doing the following things:

- Send a monetary contribution to Portland JACL for this specific purpose
- Consider donating any materials to add to the Portland JACL Collection
- Come to a celebration gathering at PSU later this year and help identify people in photos and see the Collection

PORTLANDJACL NEWSLETTER

Minidoka Swing Band Travels to the 2012 National JACL Convention

The Minidoka Swing Band has been invited to represent the Portland Japanese American Citizens League at the National JACL Convention on July 7, 2012 in Bellevue, WA. The National JACL convention happens once a year at various locations around the U.S., and this opportunity is going to be a great way for the Portland Metro area to be represented on a national stage.

The late Roberta "Robbie" Tsuboi created and formed the Minidoka Swing Band in 2007 and Larry Nobori, a retired Portland music teacher and an accomplished jazz musician, volunteered to be the MSB director. The all-volunteer band consists of 17 musicians and 3 vocalists including Henry "Shig" Sakamoto and Nola Sugai Bogle. As a tribute band, the Minidoka Swing Band exemplifies the spirit and strength of the internees who held Saturday night dances to help them forget that they were inside the barbed wire. The band specializes in the 40's era Big Band style music.

The Minidoka Swing Band will play for the Sayonara Banquet and Dance, culminating the 4 day convention. Participating at the National JACL Convention will be a great way to showcase the band and the band's purpose to a national audience. The makeup of the band is mostly musicians of Japanese ancestry or musicians who have a relationship with the Japanese community in Portland.

The Minidoka Swing Band has had several media

write-ups nationally. They include the Wall Street Journal, KING TV5 Evening Magazine (a story which was nominated for an Emmy), and the Pacific Citizen Magazine as well as local write-ups in the Oregonian, Hillsboro Argus, and OregonLive.com. All of these press stories plus pictures, musician bios, past and upcoming performances, music videos, and MP3 files are available on the MSB website at www.minidokaswingband.com.

Laura Baxter, the Minidoka Swing Band manager estimates that this performance will cost about \$5,000 for transportation, meals, and lodging, to travel to Bellevue to represent the Portland Metro area. The band would like to secure sponsors and donations to help with the expenses of traveling and performing at the National JACL Convention in Bellevue, Washington. As a sponsor, you would be recognized on the MSB website and on all related program literature.

If you are interested in sponsoring or supporting the Minidoka Swing Band, please complete the form below and send your tax deductible donation to:

Minidoka Swing Band
c/o Japanese American Citizens League
PO Box 86310, Portland, OR 97286

All donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law and would be appropriately acknowledged by their parent organization whose EIN is 20-1116631

We are pleased to support the Minidoka Swing Band as they travel to the National JACL Convention in Bellevue, WA on July 7, 2012 to represent the Portland JACL and the Portland Metro Area.

Company/Individual _____ Contact name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Please indicate the sponsorship level:

PLATINUM \$1000-\$4999 SILVER \$200- \$299 DONATION \$50-\$99
 GOLD \$ 500- \$999 BRONZE \$100- \$199 DONATION \$20-\$49 OTHER _____

In-kind donation of items:

Food/Snacks _____

Beverages (soft drink, juice, water): _____

Other: _____

Any Questions – Contact Laura Baxter, 503-640-0120, or Laura@minidokaswingband.com

Additional Congressional Gold Medal Pics



Dear Friends of the Nisei Veterans:

Thanks to the generosity of Curtis Suyematsu, the picture to the left as well as 289 others are available for free download from these two links: <http://goo.gl/kfJY3> & <http://goo.gl/LY4TX>

The password to access these two online photo albums is CGM. Prints, including those taken in the family picture room, are available for purchase for as little as 50 cents each. Contact Curtis Suyematsu, Reflections Photography LLC, for additional details on how to order: Reflectionsphoto1@gmail.com

Making a Difference in May, One Person at a Time

By Sharon Takahashi

The 24th Annual Japanese Speech Contest organized by the Consulate General of Japan for students who are studying Japanese in high schools, middle schools and immersion programs in Oregon was held on Saturday, April 21, at the World Trade Center in Portland. Twenty one students from 10 schools participated. In the audience were Japanese language teachers and families. The contest had 3 divisions: (I) middle schools, (II) high schools and (III) immersion programs for middle and high school level students who are from homes where Japanese is spoken.

The Japanese Ancestral Society is a sponsor and is joined by Portland General Electric, Delta Airlines, Shokookai of Portland (Japanese Business Association), Chef Naoko and the Association of Teachers of Japanese in Oregon.

Division I winners were Tomas Ramirez and Austin Ketterer of Valley Catholic Middle School, first and second respectively, and Bridgett Zahniser of Sheridan Japanese School, third.

Division II: Leah Klass of Valley Catholic HS, first, Olivia Hay of the International School of Beaverton, second and Annie Cao of Southridge HS, third.

Division III: Effie Purcell of Mt. Tabor Middle School, first, Alexandra Erickson of Grant HS, second and Rie Hurnil of Mt. Tabor Middle School, third. I participated in the award ceremony in place of President Kay Endo, along with Yoshio Oda of

Shokookai and Masayuki Itomitsu, Ph.D., of Linfield College. Consul General Takamichi Okabe presented the certificates and prizes. I was impressed by the students' dedication to this difficult language, their perseverance, and their pursuit of excellence.

What is most impressive to me, an old time school teacher, is that the ceremony ends with a judge's critique. This year Dr. Suwako Watanabe of Portland State University presented a "map" of strong areas and suggestions on how to strengthen their next endeavors. It was not a dismissal at day's end but a challenge for the next outing. The competition climaxed as a true learning experience, a well organized showcase.

The Japanese American Community's Graduation Banquet will be history by the time you get your newsletter. This year, sixteen students made up the scholarship pool. Each year, the challenge of identifying students gets harder and the committee asks if there is another way to recognize students and get more scholarship money into their college accounts. We'd like to hear from the community members who are not part of the planning committee. Please share your ideas/reflections with us.

One person's idea or elbow grease can make a difference. The community's Memorial Day Service will take place on May 28, at 1:00 p.m. at Rose City Cemetery. It is followed by a short ceremony at Lone Fir Pioneer Cemetery. Ken Ono heads the Cemetery

(continued on next page)

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Making a Difference Continued

Committee and he commended new JAS board member Fran Palk for noticing some headstones which were in need of some TLC. She has undertaken a targeted clean up for those markers whose families no longer are able to maintain gravesites. Thank you, Fran.

Our JAS and Iko no Kai Committee Secretary Pat Gilman is a baker extraordinaire. She will be spearheading a volunteer cookie baking effort for the Richmond School Fair on May 12 to benefit Iko no Kai and the Richmond PTA. Please plan to come taste the fruits of another "one person making a difference" campaign.

May is Asian Pacific American Month and we will see many events this month that celebrate our different Asian communities. Wouldn't it be grand if each one of us could learn something about our heritage and share it with someone who is not familiar with our culture and vice versa? New insights can always create new behaviors in our diverse society.

Take a moment on May 13, Mothers' Day, to think, do or support something that would make (or would have made) MOM proud. It will make your day!

ONE Strawberry Golf Tourney

ONE will host the inaugural Strawberry Golf Tournament on 05/12/12 at Langdon Farms Golf Club, Aurora, OR. A \$100 registration includes green fees, range balls, box lunch, and post tourney BBQ. Check-in begins at Noon with a shotgun start at 1:45 p.m. for the four person team scramble. To register and for additional details, go to strawberrygolf.golfreg.com.

Host a student from Japan!

ANDEO, a local non-profit organization, is looking for great host families to welcome a student from Japan for a few weeks this summer!

Most programs are based at PSU and feature classes & activities M - Fri. The students look forward to sharing their evenings/weekends practicing their English with their host families. ANDEO pairs families with students based on age, gender, & interests. The final decision to host a particular student is always yours! Hosting is free and a small stipend is provided to help cover expenses like activities, food, & utilities. For more information, or to apply to host, please visit ANDEO's website at www.andeo.org, or contact Kellie Irish at kellie@andeo.org or (503) 274-1776.

JACL Community Snapshots!

Submit photos of you and your family at community gatherings to michael@pdxjacl.org to be featured in an upcoming JACL Newsletter!



Saburo Akiyama and Taylor Tomita received their Congressional Gold Medal from Senator Wyden at the Hood River Town Hall Meeting on Sunday, March 18, 2012.



Alice Sumida and Wim Wiewel, President of PSU attend a lecture by Dr. Greg Robinson of University of Quebec at Montreal who spoke on "Japanese Redress in North America and its Larger Legacy"

Ikoï no Kai at Epworth

1333 SE 28th Ave, Portland

Tuesday 1 - Mapodofu
(tofu in meat sauce)

Wednesday 2 - Closed

Thursday 3 - Chicken
kara-age

Friday 4 - Tomato beef
chow mein

Monday 7 - Grilled
shrimp / somen salad

Tuesday 8 - Sukiyaki

Wednesday 9 - Closed

Thursday 10 - Veggie &
pork nishime

Friday 11 - Singapore
soup / chicken stir fry

Monday 14 - Seafood &
chicken paella

Tuesday 15 - Meatball &
nappa soup

Wednesday 16 - Closed

Thursday 17 - Daikon &
pork in miso sauce

Friday 18 - Pad thai

Monday 21 - Korean
beef plate

Tuesday 22 - Saba

Wednesday 23 - Closed

Thursday 24 - Nagasaki
champon

Friday 25 - Black bean
chicken

Monday 28 - Closed for
Memorial Day

Tuesday 29 - Birthday
Special**

Wednesday 30 - Closed

Thursday 31 - Yakisoba

Ikoï no Kai May 2012 Menu Notes:

- ** Birthday Special: Sushi!
- May 8: Ride Connection speaker at 11:30 a.m.
Come learn about this transportation choice
- May 21: Hanafuda lessons after lunch
- May 24: Sing Along w/ Reiko Isono, Henry Ueno,
Jerry Basinger and friends!

YOUR PORTLAND JACL BOARD

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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.



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