Ichiro Hall of Fame Event  By Dale Kaku

On August 27th this past season, the Mariners inducted their former superstar, Ichiro Suzuki, into the Mariner Hall of Fame. One of the Mariner events that day was a community event at NVC discussing the “Impact of Ichiro.” Following a tour of our building and museum conducted by Chris Sketchley, the dignitaries assembled on our gym stage for the panel discussion. Japanese Consul General Hisao Inagaki began the event with a short speech about Japan and Ichiro. Lori Matsukawa served as an excellent and entertaining MC for the discussion. The dignitaries on the panel included Robert Whiting, who authored several highly successful books on Japan including the best-selling You Gotta Have Wa (on baseball in Japan); Chuck Armstrong, Mariner president who brought Ichiro to the Mariner; Don Wakamatu, the only Japanese American to manage a major league team; Alvin Davis, Mr. Mariner and American League Rookie of the Year in 1984; Jim Colborn, Mariner scout who discovered Ichiro; and Ted Heid, Mariner International Scout who recruited all of the Japanese league players for the Mariners. To the delight of audience, the Mariner Moose was also in attendance.

The theme of the event was the impact of Ichiro on American baseball. However, all the stories revolved around each panel members’ Ichiro memories. They all recalled their humorous stories about Ichiro and his time with the Mariners. Everyone mentioned Ichiro’s singular focus and dedication to baseball during his career with the Mariners. Former Mariner president Chuck Armstrong recalled the influence of former owner Hiroshi Yamuchi to bring Ichiro to Seattle from the Japanese league. He also stated that the desire of Mr. Yamuchi for Ichiro to play in a World Series led to the Ichiro trade to the NY Yankees.

One interesting story told by scout Ted Heid was the fact that Ichiro diligently studied English and Spanish. He spoke both languages very well and was able to converse with the Latin and American players in private. Ted also stated that Ichiro would give his Mariner Hall of Fame speech in English. That evening, the sellout crowd at T-Mobile Park received an excellent and lengthy speech from Ichiro in English and Japanese. Ichiro will be eligible for the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame in 2025.
Tino said, “I gotta call home.” Many other airmen had the same idea, and all the telephones were occupied, with a long line of homesick airmen behind each one. On our way back to our room, Tino says, “I would have told my family that I’m sorry for not appreciating their company during the holidays.” Regret? Nah, but our first Thanksgiving away from home and family hit us with a genuine appreciation for gratitude. I hope you experience the benefits of gratitude just like my roommate did in 1978. Cicero said, “Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues but the parent of all the others.” We were just beginning to catch-up when Tino unexpectedly passed away a few years ago after a career as an AF flight nurse. I’ll always treasure our crazy days together at Sheppard AFB and the few times we saw each other at Travis AFB too. There are many service members and members of the foreign service at bases and posts all over the United States and internationally. Personally, I’m grateful for the service, but also for the support their families give them too. Please keep remembering them during the holiday season. Be safe, be kind, and may the holiday season bring you joy and happiness as we approach a new year. Oh yes – Go Seahawks!
November is the time to be thankful, a time to remember, and a way to embrace those who enrich our lives. If you seek a break from preparing your Thanksgiving meals the NVC Foundation has just what you need… a jovial gathering at Terry’s Kitchen on November 23rd with fun activities including: Karaoke, a Pool Tournament, and a Raffle for prizes. If that doesn’t float your boat, just stop by to say hello to friends in the community. (See flyer below)

The foundation Mardi Gras fundraiser is just around the corner in February and the committee is diligently planning our first major fundraiser since 2017. The team is putting together a great program and deserves a well-earned thank you for taking on the challenge with gusto and bringing it all together for us.

An extra special thank you goes out to Les Inaba for learning the Greater Giving software program – THANK YOU!

Have a happy food coma and enjoy your family, friends, and the football games!
Planning for the upcoming NVC Foundation (NVCF) Mardi Gras Gala continues and the Fundraising Committee wants to give an update on what you can expect from this event. We know that you will enjoy your experience while raising important funds and crucial support for the programs and services offered by the NVC Foundation.

Unfortunately, an increase in crime in our neighborhood has threatened the safety of our members, volunteers, and guests. This fundraiser will help offset the cost of a security fence with an automated gate erected around the parking lot, which provides safer access to our facilities and protects our property from vandalism.

Support from local business leaders, community leaders, and friends of the NVC Foundation will be invaluable to reach our fundraising goal of $110,000.

The NVC Foundation invites you to join us in our efforts by supporting the Mardi Gras Gala fundraiser. The event includes a dinner and dance, live entertainment, and silent and live auctions. You can support our event and our mission in several ways:

- **Become a Sponsor:** Choose among four levels of sponsorship, which include event tickets for 10 people and varying levels of brand visibility and advertising. Details on each level can be found on the Mardi Gras Sponsorship form. Please contact Dale Kaku at (206) 280-1524 or email: dandskaku@comcast.net for more information.

- **Place an Advertisement in the Program:** Four levels of advertisement are available, with Ad size and cost posted on the Mardi Gras Advertising form. Please contact Keith Yamaguchi at 206 390-1253 or k.yama1948@gmail.com for more information.

- **Donate an item for the Live Auction or Silent Auction:** Donors to the auction will be highlighted in the Mardi Gras Gala program. Your donation will help make our fundraiser a success and will help our efforts to grow a safe, inclusive community that empowers everyone to thrive. Suggested contributions may be gift cards to restaurants or stores, hotel stays, tickets to events (music, sports, theater, etc.), a gift certificate for services you offer, or beauty and wellness packages. We welcome other donations as well. Please contact Denise Inaba at inabald@aol.com for more information.

- **Donate a Dessert:** For those with the talent and skills to bake, you might consider this -- donate a cake, cookies, or something sweet for the Dessert Dash at our event. Basically, in a Dessert Dash each person (or couple) at a table bids an amount for “dessert”, bids are totaled for the entire table, and an MC announces the winning tables. The table with the highest amount of money collected chooses their dessert first, then the second highest, and so on. Please contact Danielle Higa at dmhiga@gmail.com or Kristen Pomper at kristenmpomper@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to see you at the NVC Foundation Mardi Gras Gala!

For more information and registration please go to our website: www.nvcfoundation.org
The Twelve Midgets  By Terry Shibata*

*This article was originally written by Terry in 2019; he passed on in 2021.

9:48 AM, Sunday, December 7, 1941. Imperial Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on that day. That began the hysteria of the Seattle community and the United States against the people of Japanese ancestry.

On February 19, 1942, the 32nd President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, issued Executive Order 9066 which enabled the military broad powers to incarcerate these people who lived on the West Coast.

Twelve young boys, from different backgrounds, who were in these concentration camps, moved to Seattle after the war, where they met and formed a sports club named “The Midgets”. They played basketball, baseball, and football together and enjoyed a lifelong friendship.

By 2019, only three of the original twelve “Midgets” remained: Yosh Nakagawa, Terry Shibata, Tom Kusakabe. To honor their club and its memories, bricks with their names were laid on the Nisei Veterans Memorial Wall on Saturday, October 19, 2019.

Please view the bricks and names of “The Midgets”: Keishi Echigo, John Susumi Fujii, George Hiroshi Kobata, Tomio Tom Kusakabe, Sekio Glenn Matsumoto, Kenzo Moriguchi, Yoshitada Yosh Nakagawa, Bob Takakatsu Namba, Teruo Terry Shibata, Arthur Watanabe, Robert Haruo Yamada, and Tom Minoru Yamaguchi.

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### NVC Foundation • Membership Form

(Please do NOT use this for donations.)

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To: NVC Membership Chair

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☐ Enclosed are Annual NVC FOUNDATION Membership Dues for _____ years at $35 per year; or Student Membership Dues at $20 per year. (25 & Under)

☐ Enclosed is $150 for an NVC FOUNDATION Life Membership.

Veterans please use the NVC Membership Form.

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(Use this form for donations only.)

Please check the most appropriate heading:

☐ In Memory of    ☐ In Honor of    ☐ In Appreciation of

☐ In Memory of    ☐ In Honor of    ☐ In Appreciation of

Please direct my donation toward the:

☐ NVC/WAC Scholarship ☐ Scholarship

☐ Endowment Fund ☐ Other:____________________

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City/State/Zip:

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Thanks! $ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please send check payable to: NVC FOUNDATION
1212 S. King Street, Seattle, WA 98144
TED TETSUO NAKANISHI
October 6, 1925 – August 29, 2022

Ted Nakanishi, 96, passed away gently at his home in Bellevue after being discharged from the hospital following his third bout with pneumonia. He had time with his partner, Betty Yoshitake, and his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren before he passed.

Ted was born in Kent, WA to Masataro and Ume Nakanishi, who owned a dairy farm. He was the ninth child of ten. His father passed when Ted was 7, leaving Ume to raise 10 children. He was 16 when Executive Order 9066 ordered the family to be incarcerated in Tule Lake Incarceration Center where he graduated from Tri-State High School in 1943. He also, fortunately, met his future wife, Kimiko Mitsui, there.

After leaving Tule Lake, Ted attended Montana State University where he played on their basketball team. He then enlisted in the army and served in Korea. After returning, he and Kimiko married in 1948 and settled on Beacon Hill. They were married for 56 years until Kimiko passed in 2004. Ted and his friends met every Saturday in their home on Bayview Street, where they formed the Bayview Golf Club. Golf was one of his passions.

After working in the floor covering business, he started his own floor covering distribution company in Duwamish. He sold the business after 18 years and retired at age 71. He enjoyed Hawaii and lived there part of the year after his retirement. He continued golfing into his 90’s and also learned to play the ukulele. He almost always had a smile on his face and enjoyed talking to people whether he knew them or not. He enjoyed learning about their lives, work, experiences and successes.

Ted and Kimiko were active members and supporters of Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church. He was also a life member of the Nisei Veterans Committee and served as commander in 1961.

Ted is survived by his partner of 16 years, Betty Yoshitake; his daughter Sharon (Terry), son Gary, daughter-in-law Diana, 4 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. A third great-grandchild was born two months after Ted passed.

Ted was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Kimiko, his son Steve, his great-grandchild Christian, and all 9 of his siblings (3 brothers and 6 sisters). Ted was the last Nisei of the Masataro Nakanishi family. He was loved and respected and is greatly missed. May he be blessed and rest in peace always.

A private memorial service for immediate family was held at Evergreen Washelli Memorial Park. Remembrances may be made to Blaine Memorial UMC, 3001 24th Ave. So, Seattle, WA 98144 or Nisei Veterans Committee, 1212 S. King St., Seattle, WA 98144.
The NVC Foundation 2022 - 2023 Scholarship Program

By Brianna Ishihara, Scholarship Committee

The NVC and NVC Foundation 2022 - 2023 Scholarship Program will award five (5) $3,000 higher education scholarships in March 2023. Students may apply to multiple scholarships however, only one scholarship will be awarded per student.

Priority for all three scholarships will be given to those who submit a completed application by March 11, 2023, by 11:59 p.m. PST. Consideration will be given to those who demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, and community service.

Please see below for specific scholarship information and criteria. Applications are available at the NVC Scholarship website: https://www.nvcfoundation.org/education/scholarship/

Completed applications and all supporting documents should be sent to: b.ishihara12@gmail.com

NVC Women’s Auxiliary Scholarship

Amount: $3,000

No. of Scholarships: 1

Prior to the establishment of the Women’s Auxiliary Committee (WAC), the Nisei Veterans Committee (NVC) began as a “boys club” before evolving into the veteran, family, and community-oriented organization it is today. According to former Women’s Auxiliary member and lifetime NVC member, Louise Kashino Takisaki, the WAC supported the NVC men in, “...patriotic, social, charitable, educational, and public service within the community”.

This scholarship is open to all high school seniors, undergraduate, or graduate students of all genders, racial, and ethnic backgrounds.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship should be prepared to engage in a critical reflection in relation to community and service.

NVC COL. Jimmie Kanaya Scholarship

Amount: $3,000

No. of Scholarships: 1

The Colonel Jimmie Kanaya Memorial Scholarship commemorates a highly decorated 442nd Regimental Combat Team medic, known for his leadership and role as an educator. Among several awards, COL. Kanaya received a battlefield commission while serving with the 442 Regimental Combat Team. This award is granted to enlisted soldiers who are promoted to the rank of commissioned officer for outstanding leadership on the field of battle. After WWII, COL. Kanaya attended Military Intelligence Service Language School and continued to serve his country during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. In the evening, he attended night courses and received a Master’s Degree in Education.

The COL. Jimmie Kanaya Scholarship is open to high school seniors residing in the greater Seattle area.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship should be prepared to demonstrate a critical reflection in relation to their Japanese American identity, the WWII Japanese American experience, and future educational and/or career goals.

NVC Foundation Okagesama de Scholarship

Amount: $3,000

No. of Scholarships: 3

Okagesama de in Japanese means, “I am what I am because of you”. The unconstitutional incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II inspires the mission of the NVC Foundation (NVCF): “Honor the past and educate the future”. By “honoring the past” or remembering our ancestors who faced discrimination based on race and hysteria, our goal is to “educate the future”.

This scholarship is open to all high school seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students pursuing a degree at a community, technical, or 4-year university in Washington State.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship should be prepared to demonstrate a critical reflection in relation to this theme or traditional saying. For questions or further information, please contact Brianna Ishihara at: b.ishihara12@gmail.com
Commissary Shopping Privileges for Eligible Veterans

The Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) has been hard at work spreading the news to Veterans about their ability to shop at Department of Defense commissaries. Engaging with Veterans, DeCA has learned that while many are now utilizing this benefit, others still are unaware.

In the U.S., you may be eligible for commissary and exchange privileges if you meet one of the requirements listed below.

If you’re a Veteran or service member, one of these must be true. You:

- Have a service-connected disability rating and were honorably discharged, or
- Are retired from military service, or
- Are a former prisoner of war, or
- Are a member of the Reserves, or
- Have received a Purple Heart or the Medal of Honor

If you’re a family member, one of these must describe you. You’re the:

- Surviving spouse of a service member (if you haven’t remarried), or
- Primary family caregiver of an eligible Veteran (recognized under the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers), or
- Dependent or survivor of an eligible service member, or
- Dependent of an eligible member of the Reserves

How Your Commissary benefits you

- A shopping environment that exclusively serves the military community, with a workforce that understands your needs and strives to save you even more
- Prices that can save our customers thousands of dollars per year on their purchases, on average, when compared to prices at commercial stores
- Commissary Store Brands that offer just as much quality as national brands, if not more, and even greater savings
- The convenience of using CLICK2GO for online shopping and curbside pickup

Find your commissary location, here: https://www.commissaries.com/shopping/store-locations/find-a-store

JAMO Seeks a New Executive Director

From Japanese American Museum of Oregon

The Japanese American Museum of Oregon (JAMO) in Portland is charged with preserving and sharing the history and culture of the Nikkei community. Their mission is to preserve and honor the history and culture of Japanese Americans in the Pacific Northwest, educate the public about the Japanese American experience during WWII, and advocate for the protection of civil rights for all Americans.

The Executive Director (ED) serves as JAMO’s chief executive officer, overseeing all operational and administrative functions and embodying and advancing our mission, vision, values, and philosophy. The ED’s top priorities include the following:

- Fundraising.
- Relationship-building with board and community partners.
- Ensuring the organization remains mission focused.

Please review the Executive Director position description on JAMO’s Careers page (https://jamo.org/careers/) or contact JAMO’s search consultant, Joseph Wahl at Wahl & Associates, joseph@wahlandassociatesllc.com

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Greg Chin
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Seattle, WA 98104
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Fax: (206) 382-8852
NVC Memento for CID Time Capsule

The NVC was asked to provide a memento for the Uncle Bob time capsule located in the Chinatown International District . . . The NVC challenge coin is prominently displayed near the lower right portion of the photo.

“The Minidoka Story”

A publication from the NVC Foundation.

Designed and created especially for elementary school students

This picture story book was designed specifically to tell the experience of the WWII Japanese American incarceration through the actual words of a camp survivor. The book’s colorful graphics and simple but poignant words can be easily appreciated by all.

Available Through the NVC Foundation

1150 5th Ave, #400, Seattle, WA 98101

Email: info@nvfoundation.org

Community members submitted items for the time capsule. Photo by Leslie Morishita

Attorney General’s Office MEDAL Program

“Through the Military Engagement & Directed Advocacy by Lawyers (MEDAL) Program, the Attorney General’s Office facilitates direct representation for military service members and veterans. The MEDAL Program receives requests for legal assistance and refers qualified requests to registered volunteer attorneys who can offer assistance with self-selected civil legal issues. This work relies on the generosity of volunteer attorneys and advocates willing to answer their own call to fight for our service members and veterans.”

If you are interested in requesting assistance or wanting to volunteer for the program please visit our website at:

https://www.atg.wa.gov/veteran-and-military-resources

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In Appreciation of Nisei Lunch Program and Keith and Mary Ann Yamaguchi
Hank and Rose Fukano

In Appreciation of NVC Newsletter
Etsuko Osaki

In Memory of Yae Funai
Kay Fukuma

In Memory of Mickey Hiroo
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In Memory of Woody Kokita
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In Memory of George “Joker” Shimizu
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Sandy Ishihara
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Community NEWS

Japan America Society of the State of Washington (JASSW) holds its 99th Holiday Celebration and Auction on Tuesday, November 29, 5:00pm – 8:45pm PT at the Westin.

Save the Date for JASSW’s biggest fundraiser with great company and fantastic auction items. Registration and Silent Auction open at 5:00pm; Ballroom opens at 6:45 pm with entertainment, games, Raise the Paddle, a Raffle, and a Live Auction. For registration and information: https://jassw.org/events/

BIJAC hosts an in-person Mochi Tsuki on Saturday, January 7, 2023, at Woodward Middle School, Bainbridge Island.

Save the Date! After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community is planning its 2023 Mochi Tsuki celebration at Woodward Middle School on Saturday, January 7th, 2023. Check back for details! https://bijac.org/event/mochi-tsuki-2023/


The exhibit leads visitors through a historical narrative beginning with the experience of Japanese American incarcerated in the 1940s and the complicated feelings of shame, anger, fear, and varied faces of resistance from within the community. Through the following decades, the story illustrates the generational trauma and cultural aftershocks of incarceration, while highlighting the lingering sense of injustice and awakening to justice movements at home and abroad. The exhibit draws parallels between the stigmatization of Japanese Americans and modern-day anti-Muslim, anti-Arab, anti-Indigenous, anti-Black, and anti-immigrant policies. Visitors leave with a final prompt to consider: In the pursuit of justice, how will you show solidarity for movements today and into the future? Through art, first-person accounts, historical material, and artifacts, this exhibit connects Japanese American resistance movements during the WWII era to modern BIPOC justice movements and activism today. https://www.wingluke.org/exhibit-resisters

Donate to the NVC Foundation Endowment Fund to Help Continue the NVC Legacy!

☐ Check is enclosed in the amount of: ____________________________ $ ____________
☐ Transfer of stock, bonds, other securities (Please contact one of the persons below for a transfer): ____________________________ $ ____________
☐ Planned gift in my will, insurance, or other plan (Please specify) ____________________________ $ ____________ (optional)

Name ____________________________ Date ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City/State/Zip ____________________________

Phone: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________

Please make check and gifts payable to: NVCF Legacy Endowment

Mail check and form to: The NVC Foundation • 1212 S. King Street • Seattle, WA 98144

For More Information, Please Contact: Leslie Inaba at info@nvcfoundation.org or leave a message at NVC Hall: (206) 322-1122
Enclosed are Annual NVC Membership Dues for ________ years at $35 per year; or ROTC Membership Dues at $20 per year (25 & Under).

For Non-Military NVC Foundation Membership please use the NVC Foundation Form.

Thanks! $ __ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please send check payable to:
NISEI VETERANS COMMITTEE
1212 S. King Street, Seattle, WA 98144