



KOKORO KARA

Fall 2012

HEART MOUNTAIN WYOMING FOUNDATION

"from our heart"

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2012 PILGRIMAGE FOCUSES ON OUR FUTURE

When twenty-seven members of the Yoshikawa family arrived in Cody, Wyoming this past August for their family pilgrimage, they were not only reuniting with members of their own family. Their reunion included the Hoshizaki, Uno, Saito, Higuchi, Setsuda and other families as well: the extended family of Heart Mountain, all connected to each other and to the dark time in American history in which 120,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans were incarcerated during WW II.

On August 10 and 11, the Heart Mountain ILC hosted the 2012 Pilgrimage and Multigenerational Arts Festival for internees, their descendants and friends. Although smaller in scale than last year's Grand Opening, this year's Pilgrimage was no less successful. The event featured documentary films, panel discussions with distinguished guests, artwork, book signings, poetry readings, live music and food. In addition, the weekend afforded the roughly 350 people in attendance the opportunity to reconnect with old friends as well as make new ones.

Guests arrived on Friday, August 10, eager to attend the Pilgrimage dinner where they were immediately entertained by a slideshow featuring photos from the Grand Opening, presented by Judge Raymond Uno. Uno also introduced Keynote Speaker Floyd Mori, who spoke about civil rights and his years as JACL Executive Director. Floyd and Irene Mori were honored by the HMWF for their years of service with the JACL. Other special guests attend-

ing the dinner were Deputy Consul General-Japan/Denver; Hiromoto Oyama; Ann and Senator Alan Simpson (ret.) and US Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis (WY).

A welcome sight at this year's Pilgrimage was the number of youth and young adults who attended. With the creation of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Youth Council, the Foundation is reaching out to young people with special connections to Heart Mountain, many of whom attended the Youth Council Reception that kicked off the weekend celebration. Presentations by Bill Collier, Angie Jusino, Aura Newlin, and Lauren Cross urged those in attendance to take on the honor and responsibility of keeping the memory of Heart Mountain alive, as well as to remind others that the story still teaches powerful lessons for today's world as well as tomorrow's.

Ken Watanabe's film *Ken Watanabe's America: Japanese Americans and Post 9/11 America*, was shown on Friday evening and was followed by a panel discussion featuring Senator Alan Simpson (ret.); Floyd Mori; Shirley Ann Higuchi, HMWF Chair; and Doug Nelson, HMWF Vice-Chair. The panel was moderated by Professor Eric Muller, who helped facilitate discussion between the panel and the audience about prejudice, racial profiling, the role and influence of the media on public opinion, and the current Muslim-American experience.

On Saturday, August 11, two other documentaries from young film-makers were shown in rotation throughout the day, each with discussion afterward, Vanessa Yuille's *An American Contradiction* and Keiko Wright's *Hiro: A Story of Japanese Internment*. Also featured on Satur-



Members of the Yoshikawa family gather at the Pilgrimage dinner. (Photo by Doug and Sheila Newlin)



Vanessa and Kathy Yuille pose with former Administrators' family members, Susan Zimmerman, Susan Oldham, Lori Hartman & Lisa Burrow (Photo by Richard Brady)



Panelists: Alan Simpson, Eric Muller, Floyd Mori, Shirley Ann Higuchi and Doug Nelson pose prior to Friday's film screening. (Photo by Richard Brady)



Alan Simpson speaks answers a question from the audience. (Photo by Richard Brady)

day, was Professor Eric Muller's new book, *Colors of Confinement: Rare Kodachrome Photographs of Japanese American Incarceration in World War II*, which showcases rare and never-before seen photographs by Bill Manbo and includes essays from Bacon Sakatani, Jasmine Alinder and Lon Kurashige.

Senator Alan Simpson provided opening remarks at the Center on Saturday morning, where he talked about his long-time friendship with former Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta and their work together to push forward the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 in which the government admitted that its actions were based on "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership." Wyoming Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis was also in attendance and spoke of her father's service in the U.S. military, learning the Heart Mountain story as a child and her disbelief of the imprisonment of American citizens based on race.

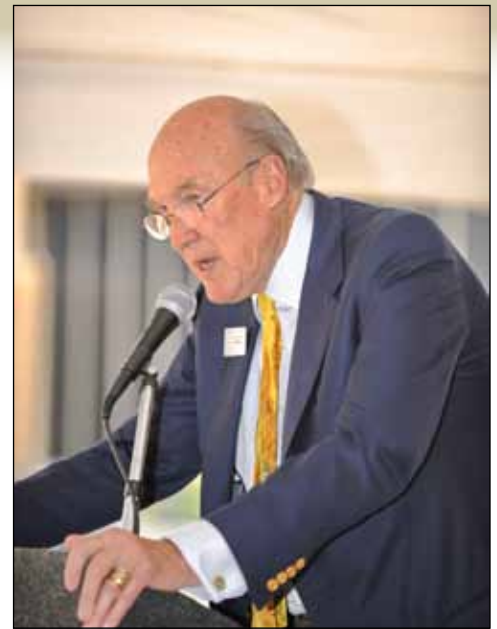
Other events on Saturday included presentations by artists and authors outside the Center, under the tent. Artist Mary Higuchi, poet Jodi Hottel

and authors Don Hata and Shig Yabu each spoke about their art and projects to guests throughout the day. Music was provided by flutist Michael Gould.

Special thanks to our event sponsors: Blair Hotels/Buffalo Bill Village Resort; The Powell Tribune; The Cody Enterprise; Marathon Oil; Zann Liljegren, MSSW, LCSW; Party Time Plus (Billings, MT); Powell and Cody Chambers of Commerce; Marquis Awards & Specialties, Inc; and Pirate's Booty.

SAVE THE DATE:

Plans for the 2013 Pilgrimage have begun, with a date set for July 19, 2013. Once more details are available, we will include them on our website: www.HeartMountain.org. ■



Alan Simpson speaks at opening ceremony on Saturday (Photo by Richard Brady)



Kim Barhaug helps attendees check in for Pilgrimage events. (Photo by Richard Brady)



Floyd Mori (L.) receives honor from HMWF chair, Shirley Ann Higuchi and the Honorable Raymond Uno. (Photo by Richard Brady)



Boy Scouts salute the flag to kick off Saturday's opening ceremony. (Photo by Richard Brady)

Heart Mountain Foundation LAUNCHES ENDOWMENT FUND

At its August meeting, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Board of Directors approved the creation of a “Memory and Justice Endowment Fund” to help ensure the Foundation’s long term financial sustainability. “The Foundation has ambitious goals for this endowment,” noted the Foundation’s Vice Chair Douglas Nelson. “Over the last three years, we have succeeded in building a world class museum in Park County Wyoming; now our task is to make sure it thrives, grows and inspires visitors for generations to come.” The Foundation’s Board unanimously authorized raising the \$2 million plus endowment to provide a permanent revenue stream for facility maintenance, land acquisition, research and enhanced Center programming. According to Foundation Board Member Tak Hoshizaki, “the Endowment Fund will go far to guarantee that what happened at Heart Mountain to 14,000 Japanese Americans will not be forgotten, and the memory of those events will help ensure it never happens again.”

Hoshizaki and Nelson will co-chair the fundraising campaign for the Endowment. They will be joined in this effort by long

time Heart Mountain Foundation backers, Senator Alan K. Simpson (ret.) and Former Secretary of Transportation Norman Y. Mineta. “I am fully supporting this campaign because this Heart Mountain Interpretive Center is such an extraordinary new cultural asset for this region, and I want to see that it – and the powerful message it conveys – grow ever stronger well into the future,” explained Simpson. Mineta added that “preserving what has been created in Heart Mountain is not only important for Japanese Americans, it is important for all Americans who believe this country is at its best when it honors the Constitution and defends the basic human rights guaranteed by that sacred document.”

The Foundation has already secured some significant pledges to its new fund, and is now asking for all of its supporters to pitch in with contributions large and small. “We hope to reach our base goal of \$2 million within the next 24 months,” Nelson said. “Everyone who contributes will be helping to secure a legacy of remembrance and justice that will endure beyond our lifetimes,” he added.

For more information on the endowment fund and how you can help, please contact Stevan Leger, Executive Director of the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, at 307-754-8000 ext. 100. ■



Tak Hoshizaki, co-chair of the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund (Photo by Richard Brady)

Tax-Deductible Donations, Pledges and Bequests can be directed to:

Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
Memory and Justice Endowment Fund
1539 Road 19, Powell, WY 82435

YES! I would like to help ensure the long term sustainability of the HMWF by making a donation to the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund.

Name: _____ Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ H W C Email: _____

Amount of tax-deductible gift to the HMWF Memory and Justice Endowment Fund: \$ _____

Method of Payment: Cash Check Visa Mastercard

Name: _____
(exactly as it appears on your credit card)

CC#: _____ Exp Date: _____ Signature: _____

Advisor-In-Residence Program: A Great Experience

BY BACON SAKATANI

Earlier this year, the HMWF started the “Advisors in Residence” program to have former Heart Mountain internees at the Interpretive Center discuss their experiences at the camp and interact with visitors. I was asked to be one of the advisors.

During my stay at the camp from August 1942 through June 1945, I just assumed that our confinement there for the duration of the war was a natural result of my parents being citizens of the enemy country. When the redress movement started in the late 1970’s and early 1980’s, I started to study our stay at Heart Mountain and was shocked to learn how the government deceived us to get us away from the West Coast. I went to the University of Wyoming six times to look at original administrative papers of the camp and State, and even went to the Bancroft Library at the University of California. I became quite angry at this deception and wrongdoings and strived to get what I had learned out to the Heart Mountain people.

At my first presentation at the Center on July 12, most in attendance were travelers stopping by with some local people who read about or were told of my appearance. I went through the history of the camp and how we functioned as a city behind armed guards, guard towers and barbed wire fence for three years until the end of World War II in September of 1945. I showed newspaper headlines showing many usages of “Japs” in reference to us in the camp, as if we were the enemy. The term “concentration camp” was freely used as a place where an ethnic minority were confined, and even used twice in state laws to deny American citizens the right to vote and purchase fishing and hunting licenses in the state.

Then forty years later, it was found that we were not put into the camp as a military necessity, as we were told, but through “race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership.” This resulted in an apology from President George H.W. Bush

in 1990, and in the year 2000, an official acknowledgement from the City of Powell and State of Wyoming for the hardships we faced during our stay at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center.

I was quite surprised by the many in attendance who came to thank me for telling the story of the camp and how wrong our confinement was. They wanted to meet an actual internee in person, ask questions, take photos and even get autographs.

The next day, I gave another presentation and again, many thanked me for the history of the camp. It made me think that the Advisors program should be expanded and have more internees there at the ILC, especially during the busy summer months. Most of those visiting already had some feelings of the injustices we faced and were very friendly and eager to learn from me.

The next morning on Saturday, 5:15 a.m., I was on the first vehicle to the base of the Heart Mountain peak for the Crow Pipe Ceremony. I found out that Heart Mountain was the former home of the Crow people and has been part of their history and culture, and looked upon it with reverence. They have come back to Heart Mountain to renew their relationship from their current home in Montana.

They had drummers and dancers in

their native clothing. A bowl of cedar chips was lit; then this bowl was brought in front of the crowd so that the smoke would keep the evil spirit away. The pipe ceremony was then held and explanations given, some in their native tongue, of the significance of this ceremony. While lunch was served, which included their native dried meat cooked as they used to, all in attendance got acquainted with each other.

I am very appreciative of being invited to this most impressive and rare event and glad my visit to Heart Mountain coincided with this ceremony. I learned that we were not the only ones who developed a great fondness for this peak. I look forward to my next visit to the Interpretive Center and encourage other Heart Mountain internees to visit the Center to learn what is there, and to add your experiences to our history. ■



Bacon Sakatani speaking at the Crow Pipe Ceremony (Photos by Stevan Leger)



Bacon Sakatani enjoys cicle dance with other attendees at Heart Mountain Pipe Ceremony event.

Preserving our stories through the Memory and Justice Endowment Fund

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF) leadership believes that the powerful lessons embedded in the suffering and sacrifice of thousands of Japanese Americans at Heart Mountain during World War II must be passed on to future generations as a reminder of the enduring importance of American's commitment to tolerance and human rights. In the spirit of that goal, the Foundation recently hosted our 2nd Annual Pilgrimage, which attracted over 350 former internees and other supporters, who came together to share memories, view documentary films, and exchange ideas across generations about the relevance of the Heart Mountain story for today's America. Like our previous 2011 Grand Opening Event, participants in this year's pilgrimage experienced their weekend together as a time for learning, reflection, and renewed commitment to the work of the Foundation. Many thanks to all our dedicated volunteers and staff for executing such a wonderful event!

One of the Board's particular aspirations for this year's event was to deepen the engagement of young people in the development and shaping of the Foundation's future. The weekend festivities kicked off with a Friday night reception sponsored by our newly minted Youth Council. The Council, which is currently composed of about 40 members and is open to all interested young people, is already increasing the Foundation's social media presence and creating an awareness and understanding of the World War II experience of Japanese Americans among



PHOTO BY KEVIN J. MIYAZAKI

younger generations. The Board also looks to the new Youth Council as a potential source of future leaders and key contributors to the Foundation's growth and success in the decades ahead. Throughout the weekend these dedicated young people highlighted their special connection to Heart Mountain and their commitment to helping tell the stories of their parents and grandparents, who made tremendous sacrifices to enable these young people to be who they are today. Kudos to the Youth Council organizers and speakers who made youthful energy and idealism one of the highlights of this year's Pilgrimage!

Despite the busy Pilgrimage weekend at Heart Mountain, Board members did find time to get together for a quarterly Board meeting, where we were delighted to welcome two new members to our ranks: Kris Horiuchi and Dana Ono. An accomplished landscape architect, Kris joins the Board with a strong desire to create a multi-generational legacy within her own family to honor her parents. Her father, Katsuhiko Horiuchi (Heart Mountain) and her mother Barbara (Hirata) Horiuchi (Poston) live in Los Angeles, California and attended the 2012 Pilgrimage, along with Kris and her daughter. Dana, our other newcomer, brings over 20 years of senior management experience in public and private biotech companies, as well as important volunteer work on behalf of the Japanese American community. Dana played a leadership role in the successful movement behind the California Nisei College Diploma Project. His father,

Frank Ono, was confined at Manzanar and his mother, Fumi Yokoyama Ono, was sent with her family to Heart Mountain. Like hundreds of other Nisei young people, the college careers of both his parents were cut short by the forced removal of Japanese Americans during World War II. Thanks to the Diploma Project, which Dana actively supported, his parents and scores of other Japanese Americans who were robbed of their chance to finish school were belatedly recognized and awarded honorary degrees in 2010.

The HMWF Board also took another critical action during its August meeting. By unanimous vote, we formally authorized creation of a permanent endowment to ensure the sustainability of our world class Interpretive Center and the Foundation's educational programs for many years to come. This new fund, which we have named "The Memory and Justice Fund," is designed to make certain that the Foundation will long be able to both honor the WWII sacrifices of the Issei and Nisei generations, and to fight against any future attempt to impose the injustices suffered by them onto any other group of Americans. Today, I am asking all our supporters—all those who have supported us in the past and all of those who believe in our mission—to make a contribution to help us secure, preserve and strengthen what we have built together. We have already received over \$100,000 in donations, pledges, and planned bequests, and with the generous help of people like you, we will reach our goal of \$2 million by 2014. Please give what you can to make sure that the lessons learned through the hardships and heroism of the men and women who were sent to Heart Mountain live long after they have passed away. On behalf of the Heart Mountain Board, and on behalf of the children, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Heart Mountain internees, I thank you for joining us in this important cause. ■

Today, I am asking all our supporters—all those who have supported us in the past and all of those who believe in our mission—to make a contribution to help us secure, preserve and strengthen what we have built together.

ERIC MULLER BOOK AVAILABLE AT ILC

In August, Professor Eric Muller presented his new book, *Colors of Confinement: Rare Kodachrome Photographs of Japanese American Incarceration in World War II* at the 2012 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage. The book, which includes sixty-five stunning images from photographer Bill Manbo, shows the dichotomy of life in Heart Mountain's sparse surroundings as internees engage in celebrations, parades, and leisure. Muller's book elegantly shows Manbo's documentation of both the bleakness and the beauty of his surroundings using Kodachrome film – a technology then just seven years old – to capture life at Heart Mountain as internees struggled to maintain normal lives behind barbed wire.

Muller's book has been featured in both the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, and his presentation at the Pilgrimage was broadcast on C-Span. With essays from leading scholars and commentary by Bacon Sakatani, *Colors of Confinement* is an important work of art and history.

"The color photographs of Bill Manbo

are at once beautiful, poignant, and stinging with irony...These are pictures of resilience and fortitude from a dark chapter of American History." – George Takei.

All proceeds from the sales of *Colors of Confinement* go to the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation. To purchase your copy, please call our gift-shop at (307)754-8000. ■



Do You Know? Questions From Our Archives

As we collect information and artifacts, several questions and objects leave us stumped. We would love your help solving some of the mysteries. If you can answer the following questions, or have additional information, please email LaDonna Zall at lzall@wir.net.

Question: Last spring, while discing his field, a local farmer unearthed this gravestone. We were fortunate to have it translated by a gentleman visiting the ILC. The stone belonged to Hanayoshi Shinjiro Honda from Seattle, whose date of death was September 3, 1942. Mr. Honda was the second person to pass at HMRC. He arrived September 1, 1942 and died of bronchial pneumonia two days later.

The only family member that we were able to connect to Hanayoshi was Teresa Yoshi Honda from Yakima, Washington. She left the Center on May 26, 1943 for Yellow Springs, Ohio.

I have contacted Antioch College and found that she was not enrolled there. Does anyone know where she might be? We want to handle the gravestone properly but need more information. Any information will be much appreciated. ■



The V3 Historic Garden Project

Construction is underway for the V3 Historic Garden located along the south side of the Interpretive Center. With support from the Wyoming Department of Agriculture, the Garden will be a place for reflection while also serving as a living history resource, educating visitors about the crops and farming methods used by Japanese farmers who were imprisoned at Heart Mountain. The V3 Historic Garden celebrates three victories: the end of WWII, the challenges of farming inhospitable land, and upholding everyone's constitutional rights. Master Gardener Bob Prchal is currently laying the groundwork for fencing that will surround the garden. Fencing is scheduled to be installed this fall, with a small number of garden boxes to be planted in the spring of 2013.

The HMWF hopes to accomplish three goals with this

Historic Garden Project. The first is to create the garden that illustrates the growing techniques used in camp to extend the 109 day growing season in Wyoming. Second, we will collaborate with schools, asking classrooms to adopt sections of the garden, growing and maintaining their own crops in order to learn about plant science, the importance of agriculture, and the his-

tory of agriculture here at Heart Mountain. Finally, we will engage the public through educational presentations while offering volunteer opportunities within the garden, ensuring the continuation of the project for years to come.

The V3 Garden Historic Project was spearheaded by HMWF board member Tak Hoshizaki, who has worked with Pr-



Master Gardener Bob Prchal (Photo by Stevan Leger)

chal since the spring of 2011 to ensure that the garden will be historically accurate and aesthetically pleasing. In addition to "hot beds" and raised garden beds producing flowers and vegetables, the Garden space will include rock, rough lumber, benches and gravel stream beds. Using historic photos, we know that many different materials were used to create small gardens outside of individual barracks. This will be replicated as much as possible, while still being accessible to our visitors. ■

Friend us on Facebook/Follow us on Twitter!

One of the charges given to the newly created Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation's Youth Council was to increase our social media presence. By being active in the virtual worlds of Facebook and Twitter, we are able to connect with our members and friends daily about the latest news surrounding the Foundation and the ILC.

Our Twitter account (@HeartMountainWY) is currently followed by approximately 100 people and we are getting new followers daily. Twitter allows other interested parties to send us messages while helping us to spread the word about upcoming events, new exhibits in the ILC, special guest speakers, and other items of interest.

On our Facebook page, the ILC currently boasts 654 "likes." This means that

these subscribers get updates and notifications whenever there is a HMWF update posted on our Facebook page. Our Facebook page is a great way to gain visibility since Facebook friends and networks can easily extend to a national and even international level. Our page also allows interested and involved individuals to tune into the latest news surrounding the ILC,

its exhibits, and other related stories. The graph below gives details about the number and demographics of those whom we have been reaching via Facebook. ■

Please take a moment to follow us:
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Heart-Mountain-Interpretive-Center>
Twitter: @HeartMountainWY

People Who Like Our Facebook Page (Demographics and Location)

Female 58.3%	0.5%	2.6%	8.6%	15.3%	15%	10.7%	5.7%
	13-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Male 39.7%	0.2%	2.1%	3.7%	8.6%	13.2%	8.9%	3.1%

Countries

618: United States	1: Thailand
10: Japan	1: Pakistan
4: United Kingdom	1: Australia
3: India	

Cities

50: Cody, WY	17: Chapel Hill, NC
42: Powell, WY	17: Laramie, WY
27: Los Angeles, CA	16: Washington, DC
25: Seattle	

HMWF Elects Directors & Appoints Advisor

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Board of Directors elected Kris Horiuchi and Dr. R. Dana Ono to the Foundation Board and Dr. Amy Iwaski Mass was appointed to the Advisory Council at its August 10 meeting in Cody. Board Chair, Shirley Ann Higuchi said “We are delighted to have Dana and Kris

as board members and Amy on our Advisory Council at this critical time in our development. They bring great experience and talent to the table.”

Kris is a landscape architect and founding principal of Horiuchi Solien Inc. She received an undergraduate degree in Biology from Amherst College, a Masters in Forest Science from Yale University, and a Masters in Landscape Architecture from Harvard University. She is the daughter of Heart Mountain internee Katsuhiko Horiuchi. Raised in Los Angeles, she now lives in Falmouth, Massachusetts. Together with partner Daniel Solien, she has designed award-winning landscapes throughout New England, including the 9/11 Memorial at Logan Airport in Boston. She is a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects and a LEED accredited professional by the US Green Building Council. In 2011, Horiuchi Solien Inc. was inducted into the New England Design Hall of Fame.

Dana is co-founder and Managing Di-



Kris Horiuchi



Dana Ono



Amy Mass

rector of the VIMAC Milestone Medical Fund LP, a Boston-based early stage life sciences fund co-sponsored by VIMAC Ventures LLC and RBC Technology Ventures, Inc. He currently serves on the board of Mimetogen Pharmaceuticals, Inc. He is the son of a Heart Mountain internee Fumi Yokoyama. His experience includes almost 30 years of general management at public and private biotech companies in addition to venture capital. A founding director of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, Inc., Dana is a frequent spokesperson for the industry. He has authored a number of scientific articles and edited the book, *The Business of Biotechnology – From the Bench to the Street*. A marine biologist by training, he serves on the Board of Trustees of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA. He also served on the board of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund, Inc. He received his AB in Earth & Planetary Sciences from The Johns Hopkins University and his AM and PhD in

Biology from Harvard University where he also completed a program in business administration.

Dr. Mass is Professor Emerita at Whittier College, where she taught for 25 years. She was born and raised in Los Angeles, except for the years she spent in Heart Mountain from age seven to ten, when she lived with her family in 1-9-B. She has been a social worker for over 50 years and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors including a Fulbright Teaching Award, Irvine Foundation Grant, Institute of American Cultures Fellowships and Phi Beta Kappa from U.C. Berkeley, where she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree. Amy also holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California, and a Doctorate in Social Work from UCLA. She has made numerous presentations and published many articles about the psychological impact of the concentration camp experience on Japanese Americans, including “At Home in 1-9-B,” in the *Nikkei Heritage*, Spring 2004 and “Psychological Effects of Internment” in *A Matter of Conscience: Essays on World War II Draft Resistance Movement*, 2002. Her time in Heart Mountain was a pivotal experience for her, and she is honored to be able to help educate the public about the injustice of race-based detention through her service on the HMWF Advisory Council. ■

THANK YOU

The HMWF would like to thank our summer staff for all of their hard work throughout the season, and especially during the August Pilgrimage. Part-time staff members included Callie Atkinson, Trista Ostrom, Kathy Lemmon, and Sharyl McDowell.



Sharyl McDowell with Administrative Assistant Bethany Sandvik.



Kathy Lemmon and Trista Ostrom with Facilities Manager Kim Barhaug (Photos by Richard Brady)

From The Executive Director: Stevan Leger

The last few months at the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center have been both exhilarating and sometimes difficult. When the Heart Mountain Foundation Board of Directors voted to install an art exhibit entitled *Esse Quam Videri – Muslim Self Portraits* in the Ford Foundation Special Exhibition area, I was delighted and enthusiastic. After all, one of the important elements in our mission is to encourage thoughtful reflection so that future generations can benefit from the still relevant lessons of the Japanese American incarceration experience. As former Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta has said, “It’s not about the past; it’s about the future, because history always has the ability to repeat itself. What we’re doing here is drawing a line in the sand to say, Never Again.” In America, the bigotry and anti-Japanese attitudes and hateful words prior to December 7, 1941, made fertile ground for the tragic and unlawful imprisonment of 120,000 people, simply because they “resembled” the enemy.

So, displaying the images of Americans who are Muslims seemed like a great fit with our on-going mission. Like Japanese Americans in World War II, Arab Americans today are too often targeted for suspicion because they too resemble an enemy. For all these reasons, I thought everyone would understand what we were trying to do. I probably should have known bet-



ter. Shortly after announcing our plans for the photo exhibit, I began receiving angry telephone calls and emails and several visitors also came to the Center to give me an earful in-person. “What does such an exhibit have to do with Heart Mountain?”; “Don’t you know that these people are taking over our country?”; “We are fighting these people in Afghanistan.” Most of these folks seemed to believe that many Muslim Americans deserve to be lumped in with the nation’s terrorist enemies, despite all the warnings against coming to such conclusions by President Bush after 9/11 and by President Obama in recent years.

But what really surprised me was my own reaction to the vitriol directed at me and the Interpretive Center. A little doubt started creeping into my mind. After all, I also am fearful of the dangers of religious extremists wreaking havoc on the innocent and threatening our country and the world. I began to feel doubt creeping into me like a poison. I was learning firsthand how bigotry, hate, war hysteria, and political opportunism can undermine even our most important ideals and principles, much as they must have done for many decent Americans who went along with Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066 some 70 years ago.

I also became more aware of how terribly difficult it must be to be a Muslim American in the face of wholly baseless assaults on their patriotism and motives that

followed the attack on the World Trade Center and other acts of terrorism. In a very profound way the controversy over the exhibit actually helped me to more personally and deeply appreciate the unfairness and hardship endured by Japanese Americans at Heart Mountain, as well as to appreciate how hard it was for ordinary Americans to stand up for Japanese Americans in the face of the anti-Japanese racial stereotypes that were intensified after Pearl Harbor.

As it has turned out, I am grateful for the discomfort that I experienced this past summer. This exhibit was not just for everyone else to learn from; it was for me too. I am also grateful for a Board of Directors that had the wisdom and courage to unapologetically move forward with the *Esse Quam Videri – Muslim Self Portraits*. The Foundation, our members, and hundreds of our Wyoming friends across the state found the courage to speak out against ungrounded suspicion and unfair stereotypes aimed at Americans solely because of their ancestry or faith. This is what the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation is all about. This is what we are talking about when we say “Never Again.” ■

The ILC’s First Year: at a Glance

The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center opened on August 20, 2011. In our first year, we have welcomed people from all 50 states; several countries including Russia, Germany, England, France, Indonesia, Australia, Italy, Japan, China, Iraq, Lebanon, Israel, Venezuela, Canada, Mexico; and hundreds of people from our own backyard.

- **Number of visitors to the ILC in our first year:** 17,736
- **Estimated number of visitors to the site:** 23,000
- **Number of active Members:** 840 and growing
- **Other Donors:** 1,269 and growing

HONORARY ADVISORS

Norman Y. Mineta
Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation
Alan K. Simpson
U.S. Senator (ret)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shirley Ann Higuchi - *Chair*
Douglas W. Nelson - *Vice-Chair*
Claudia Wade - *Treasurer*
Rick Ewig - *Secretary*
Kris Horiuchi R. Dana Ono
Takashi Hoshizaki Pete Simpson
Alan Kumamoto Shigeru Yabu
Eric Muller Kathleen Saito Yuille
Allyson Nakamoto LaDonna Zall

STAFF

Stevan Leger - *Executive Director*
Bethany H Sandvik - *Administrative Assistant*
Kim Barhaug - *Facilities Manager*

Show Your Support: Giving Opportunities

BUY-A-BRICK: Put your name in history for only \$250 per brick. Commemorative bricks are inscribed and placed permanently at the entrance to the ILC. Each brick is 4" x 8" and will be permanently etched. Maximum of 3 lines per brick, 17 characters (alphabet, number, and symbols such as "&" or "-") per line. All letters will be capitalized. Each line will be centered unless otherwise specified. Japanese symbols can be used for an addition \$50 charge. Please contact staff for instructions if interested.



Brick #1:

Brick #2:

DONATIONS: Yes, I want to do my part to **help sustain** the Interpretive Learning Center at Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

MEMBERSHIP: Thanks to our generous donors, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation officially opened our Interpretive Learning Center August 20, 2011. We need your help to continue our journey toward assuring a world-class Interpretive Learning Center. We invite you to join our membership at the most generous level with which you feel comfortable.

General Membership Benefits

- Free Admission to the ILC
- Subscription to the newsletter
- Free admission for receptions and previews
- 10% discount on ILC store purchases

Senior/Student (\$30)

General Membership benefits for one

Individual (\$35)

General Membership benefits for one

Family/Dual Membership (\$60)

General Membership benefits for two adults at the same address and children or grandchildren under the age of 18

Friend (\$100)

All the benefits of Family/Dual *plus*:

- 2 one-time-use guest passes

Contributing (\$250)

All the benefits of Family/Dual *plus*:

- 5 one-time-use guest passes

Sustaining (\$500)

All the benefits of Family/Dual *plus*:

- 10 one-time-use guest passes
- Discount on use of Multi-purpose room (by appointment)

**(Valid for one year and renewable annually)*

Heart Mountain Circle (\$1,000-\$4,999)

All the benefits of Family/Dual *plus*:

- 20 one-time use guest passes
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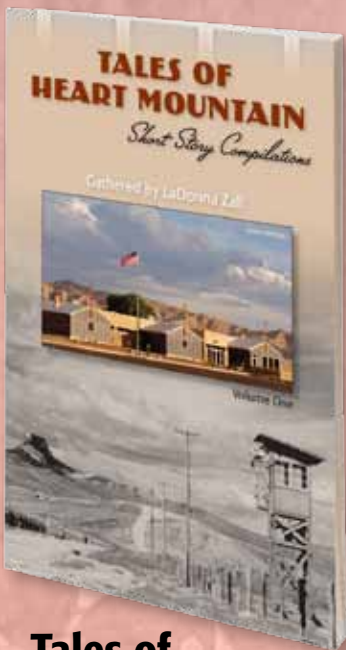
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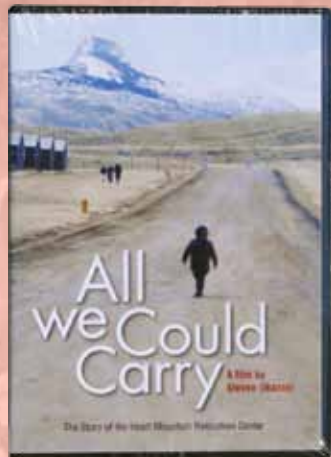


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