

# The Asian Reporter

Volume 26 Number 22  
November 21, 2016  
ISSN: 1094-9453

The Asian Reporter is published on the first and third Monday each month.

Please send all correspondence to: The Asian Reporter  
922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 2D, Portland, OR 97217  
Phone: (503) 283-4440, Fax: (503) 283-4445

News Department e-mail: news@asianreporter.com  
Advertising Department e-mail: ads@asianreporter.com  
General e-mail: info@asianreporter.com  
Website: www.asianreporter.com

Please send reader feedback, Asian-related press releases, and community interest ideas/stories to the addresses listed above. Please include a contact phone number.

Advertising information available upon request.

Publisher **Jaime Lim**  
Contributing Editors

**Ronault L.S. Catalani (Polo), Jeff Wenger**  
Correspondents

**Ian Blazina, Josephine Bridges, Pamela Ellgen, Maileen Hamto, Edward J. Han, A.P. Kryza, Marie Lo, Simeon Mamaril, Julie Stegeman, Toni Tabora-Roberts, Allison Voigts**

Illustrator **Jonathan Hill**

News Service **Associated Press/Newsfinder**

Copyright 2016. Opinions expressed in this newspaper are those of the authors and not necessarily those of this publication.

**Member**

Associated Press/Newsfinder  
Asian American Journalists Association  
Better Business Bureau  
Pacific Northwest Minority Publishers (PNMP)  
Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Oregon

**Correspondence:**

The Asian Reporter welcomes reader response and participation. Please send all correspondence to:  
Mail: 922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 2D, Portland, OR 97217-2220  
Phone: (503) 283-4440 \*\* Fax: (503) 283-4445  
News Department e-mail: news@asianreporter.com  
General e-mail: info@asianreporter.com

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES (U.S. rates only)**

Individual subscription (sent bulk rate):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Half year: \$14	<input type="checkbox"/> Full year: \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> Two years: \$40
Individual subscription (sent first class mail):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Half year: \$24	<input type="checkbox"/> Full year: \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> Two years: \$72
Office subscription (5 copies to one address):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Half year: \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> Full year: \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> Two years: \$145
Institutional subscription (25 copies to one address):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Half year: \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Full year: \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> Two years: \$280

**NEW SUBSCRIBER / ADDRESS CORRECTION INFORMATION FORM:**

Subscriber's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail with payment or Fax with credit card information to:  
The Asian Reporter, Attn: Subscription Dept.,  
922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 2D, Portland, OR 97217-2220  
Phone: (503) 283-4440 \* Fax: (503) 283-4445

**For VISA, Mastercard, or American Express payment only:**

Name (as it appears on the card): \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of card (circle): VISA    Mastercard    American Express  
Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Security code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Address of card: \_\_\_\_\_

The last four issues of *The Asian Reporter* are available for pick up free at our office 24 hours a day at 922 N Killingsworth Street, Suite 2D, Portland, Oregon.

**Back issues of *The Asian Reporter*** may be ordered by mail at the following rates: First copy: \$1.50  
Additional copies ordered at the same time: \$1.00 each  
Send orders to: Asian Reporter Back Issues,  
922 N. Killingsworth St., Portland, OR 97217-2220

*The Asian Reporter* welcomes reader response and participation. If you have a comment on a story we have printed, or have an Asian-related personal or community focus idea, please contact us. Please include a contact name, address, and phone number on all correspondence. Thank you.



**MY TURN**

■ **Dmae Roberts**



## What we can do

I'm part of the tail end of the Baby Boomer generation. I've fought to eradicate racism, sexism, bigotry, and discrimination for decades. I believe in women's reproductive rights and the rights of people with disabilities. After this election season, I wonder if the social reforms of my generation may be dismantled.

I won't lie. I've gone through the five stages of post-election grief. I continue to converse with shocked friends on Facebook. People of color, immigrants, refugees, Muslims, and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) community are experiencing fear, yet they aren't as stunned as my white friends. I guess the outcome of the election wasn't as shocking to marginalized people who endure a lot of oppression and intolerance.

The election was one of the most polarizing in American history. According to post-election statistics, rural, white voters without a college education, including about 53 percent of women, turned out in high numbers to vote for Donald Trump, the Republican candidate, which seemingly was unexpected. Apparently journalists somehow didn't cover, and pollsters missed, the class differences the election revealed. In many ways, the results also showed the dissatisfaction Americans feel about the two-party system and the Electoral College. If Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton had won, I think we would have seen the same outrage and protests that have taken place in major cities across the nation, including in Portland.

While I don't agree with the vandalism and violence that has occurred in some cases, for the most part post-election protests have been peaceful. There were some people who wanted to cause havoc, and it only takes a few bad eggs to disrupt a legitimate and peaceful expression of the First Amendment and its accompanying positive message.

After we elected a biracial African-American president, I thought we were making progress. I for one benefitted from Obamacare and a return to a time when race and culture issues could be openly discussed. Funding for the arts and public media, which had seen cuts during the Bush administration, seemed to receive greater support. President Obama didn't make everyone happy — no president can — but he reduced unemployment, expanded hate-crime protections, appointed the most diverse cabinet in history, created job growth, and improved conditions for women, people of color, and those in the LGBTQ community. He accomplished much more, but it would take too long to include all of

them in this column. Whatever party affiliation you may or may not have, one could agree President Obama has been a hardworking and caring president.

**Electoral College**

Perhaps the biggest issue in this election is the Electoral College. For the fifth time in the voting history of the U.S. — and the second time in 16 years — a presidential candidate has won the White House despite losing the popular vote. Electoral-popular vote mismatches in the past took place in 1824 (when John Quincy Adams became president over Andrew Jackson), 1876 (when Rutherford B. Hayes took the presidency over Samuel Tilden), 1888 (when Benjamin Harrison won the office over Grover Cleveland), and 2000 (when Al Gore lost the election to George W. Bush).

Perhaps the dissatisfaction and polarization during the election exposed the need to do more reform not only on the electoral process, but the Electoral College itself, a system with a connection to slavery. James Madison proposed the system in 1787 so states with smaller populations, particularly in the South, had more representation by counting slaves as "three-fifths of a person," according to some constitutional scholars.

Efforts to try to change future election results determined by the Electoral College, such as the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, have received renewed energy.

**Difficult conversations**

I take comfort from a recent conversation I had with Jo Ann Hardesty, president of the Portland branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). She told me she often talks with people who are not like-minded and routinely participates in difficult conversations. According to her, social change only happens in the uncomfortable spaces of differing views. In order to become comfortable and move forward, we have to listen and learn.

Hardesty does training in interrupting what she calls "oppressive language." What I discussed with her will help me be able to have honest conversations with people whom I disagree.

"First breathe, then state what it was you didn't like," she said. "State what you need from the person who said it, and then give them an opportunity to reflect and come back if they'd like." Hardesty said this allows people to know right away you weren't comfortable with their statement, the reason why, and what is asked of them. If it does not work the first time, try again.

*Continued on page 7*