THE COST OF OUR CAMPAIGN

You would be amazed at how little money was used to carry on this campaign. I think the bulk of our fundraising was that we would make annual calls for membership dues and donations. Each time we did that, we would get a good response from our base of supporters. That's how we did it. Most of our costs were communication costs - typically printing and mailing. When we sent people on lobbying efforts, Bert Nakano, our National Spokesperson, went on a lot of them. This was because Bert was also a travel agent and he could often go at reduced fares or even free. We did everything we could on the cheap! I mean super cheap! I think our budgets each year were barely enough to report to the IRS as a non-profit organization. We didn't have a staff, so there were no costs involved in that. We didn't even have an office! We had to have a "shoe string" approach to things. What money we had was used to get the word out to people about the different things that were going on.



Volunteer power! Richard Katsuda & Tom Hayashi work the NCRR information table

By Alan Nishio (Oral History Project, 2001