

# LANTERN

October, 2000

## NARCISSUS KICK-OFF

On Tuesday, November 7, the fifty-second annual Narcissus Festival will be kicked off. Chamber members, family, and friends are invited to the festivities which will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Hilton Hawaiian Village's Tapa Ballrooms 1 and 2. Chamber members are free while additional guests are \$10.00 apiece.



## CHINA TRADE

On September 19, the U.S. Senate approved Permanent Normalized Trade Relations (PNTR), and on October 10, President **Bill Clinton** signed the bill, which had been approved by the House earlier in the year. Former Chamber President **George Chu** was among those interviewed by *The Honolulu Advertiser*, and pointed out the Chamber's role in "building relationships by coordinating training programs." George also mentioned the Chamber's reputation in China "for its work encouraging tourism development." In the same article, Senator **Daniel Inouye** cautioned that the impact on tourism from China would be "rather limited in the initial stages" because of the currently low number of Chinese wealthy enough to travel to Hawaii.



## Chopsticks Series #6

by Lee-Ann Choy

Nineteen Chamber members and friends gathered on Thursday, October 12, at the Kapiolani Community College's Pacific Tamarind Dining Room. The occasion was a four-course meal prepared by **Noreen Lam**, chef/manager of the Contemporary Museum Café on Makiki Heights. According to Chair **Lee-Ann Choy**, the food was "really good." Preparation, presentation, and service were handled by KCC's culinary arts program students, who did an outstanding job in all respects. As many of you may know, the dining room is open for dinner whenever classes are in session, and because of the reasonable prices, reservations are highly recommended and sometimes hard to get. (Lee-Ann says that a membership Christmas party is on the drawing board for early December).



Victor Lim

One of the great honors accorded our Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii was an invitation from the People's Republic of China to celebrate its National Day, October 1, in Beijing this year. Only six people from the United States were invited, and I was one of them. The celebration marked the 51st anniversary of the founding of the PRC and was on a much smaller scale than last year when **Frances Goo** was invited.

In Beijing, we were hosted by the All China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, the group associated with Madam **Tan Wensheng** who visited Hawaii in mid-August of this year. We had meetings, luncheon with the vice premier, two dinners at the Great Hall of the People with the second night being the official National Day Banquet hosted by President **Jiang Zemin**. On the morning of October 1, we participated in the opening ceremonies for the Dragon Boat Race Invitational with teams from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and China. The vice premier was there to do the honors of opening the ceremony, and one of the Sydney Olympic gold medalists in female weightlifting was there also as a torch bearer.

The next seven days were spent playing tourist in Lanzhou and Dunhuang. If you are wondering where these places are, they are part of the original Silk Road where Marco Polo came into China and so did Buddhism from India. There are many Buddhist temples along the way that date back over two thousand years. The Buddhist caves at

Dunhuang were the highlight of the Silk Road. Hundreds of temples were carved into the mountainside with wall murals dating back one to two thousand years. They were definitely a national treasure where one could easily spend a couple of days just examining each one in detail. The whole group consisted of about forty people from around the world, and it was an honor to represent the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii because at all of the formal functions, I was accorded a seat at the head tables.

Back in Honolulu, on October 8, we hosted a dinner at the Hee Hing restaurant for Mr. **Li Baolin**, Chairman of CTS Holdings (Beijing). As many of you know, CTS is more than a travel company. It is a huge conglomerate with businesses and holdings all over China and Asia. Next, we had Mr **Yang Hanyan**, deputy director of the National Foreign Experts Bureau, from China visiting Hawaii. Even though their trip was hosted by the University of Hawaii Chinese studies department, they wanted to meet with the Chinese Chamber because of our reputation from all the various training programs we have conducted in the past. **Ban Chan** and I hosted a luncheon for the group at China House II restaurant. A Jiangsu government delegation led by Vice Governor **Wang Rongping** also visited us from October 19-21.

The Tan Sing Dramatic Association held their 75th anniversary banquet at the Hale Koa Hotel on October 20. **Wally Wong**, past president and emeritus director of the Chinese Chamber, with the help of his three sons, put on a fabulous program that everyone in our Chinese community can be very proud of. Way to go, Wally.

We had two membership activities this month, starting with **Lee-Ann Choy's** Chop Suey Series #6, which was a four-course dinner at the Kapiolani Community College Culinary school. I couldn't attend because I was out of town, but Ban Chan said the food was simply excellent. **Terrill Chock** and **Jon Pang**

arranged a general membership meeting on October 17 at the Dynasty restaurant with **Robert G. Lees** as the guest speaker. Mr. Lees, secretary general of the Pacific Basin Economic Council gave a talk on "China and Hawaii: Forging a New Partnership for Economic Expansion." With the recent signing of the bill for Permanent Normalized Trade Relations between the U.S. and China, Mr. Lees provided many insights into the many opportunities available.

Ambassador **An Wenbin**, Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Los Angeles, came to Hawaii to say goodbye to his many friends on October 18. He has been reassigned back to Beijing as China's ambassador to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which China will be hosting when it meets in Shanghai in two years. The Chamber and the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association hosted the farewell dinner for Ambassador An and his wife, attended by many members of our Chinese community who came to wish him well and future success in his new assignment. We at the Chamber appreciate the support we had from him over the past three years, his service and support to our Chinese community, and almost a dozen personal trips he took to bridge the gap between Los Angeles and Hawaii, attending and participating in many activities here in Hawaii. Aloha and mahalo.

Hold onto your seats. Our 52nd Narcissus Festival is ready to get into full swing. November 7 is the kickoff reception for our Queen contestants, taking place at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. We have seventeen very beautiful and talented contestants competing to become our next Narcissus Queen and ambassador overseas for our Chinese community. Mark your calendars and come out and support them. You will be very proud of each and every one of them.

## An Wenbin Farewell Dinner

A farewell dinner for PRC Consul General **An Wenbin** was held on Wednesday, October 18, at the Sea Fortune Restaurant. The dinner was co-sponsored by the Chamber and the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association. One hundred twenty Chamber and USCPFA members, various Chinese society officers, and friends joined to bid Consul General An and his wife a fond farewell prior to their return to China. Among the guests was Rear Admiral **Robert Conway**, Commander, Naval Region Hawaii, and his wife.



Farewell Dinner for Consul General An Wenbin on October 18, 2000.



Ban Chan and Elvira Lo at Washington Place following presentation of Governor's awards for exporting.

### CHAMBER'S VISITORS

(October 5-9, 2000)

- Mr. Li Baolin, Chairman  
CTS (Holding) and delegation of 2

(October 15-17, 2000)

- Mr. Yang Hanyan, Deputy Director  
National Foreign Experts Bureau and delegation of 5

(October 18-19, 2000)

- Consul General An Wenbin  
The Consulate General of People's Republic of  
China and delegation of 4

(October 19-21, 2000)

- Mr. Wang Rongbin, Lt. Governor  
Jiangsu Government and delegation of 8

## China Management Training Program

by George Chu



During the past five years, more than fifteen management groups from different cities and districts of China have attended our seminars here in Hawaii. But we feel the need to further our efforts to grow this successful and gratifying project.

As a result, our committee has just finished putting together an attractive four-color brochure aimed at reaching more of China's business managers to take advantage of our training program. This new booklet is printed entirely in Chinese, and is designed to clearly spell out the many features of our program and the wide range of study topics available.

We owe a lot of thanks to the committee, led by **Lishan Chong**, and members **Yen Chun**, **Kenneth Kwak**, **Kenneth Chong**, and **Wen Chung Lin**, who put in a lot of time and effort to develop this excellent marketing tool. We also received fine assistance from **Angela Wu-Ki** on graphics design and **Ding Ye** who did the Chinese translation.



Above: The Chinese PLA Navy ends 4-day long goodwill visit to Hawaii. The US Navy holds a grand farewell ceremony at Pearl Harbor on September 7, 2000.



Right: Ambassador and Mrs. An Wenbin are taking picture with Chinese society representatives on farewell ceremony at Pearl Harbor.



China Central TV crew who come to Hawaii in making a documentary film on Dr. Sun Yat-sen interview Chamber's officers and Larry Ing on Sept. 21, 2000.



Shanghai delegation led by Mr. Shen Ronghua visits Hawaii for Sept. 14-16, 2000.



Right: Zhongshan delegation headed by Mr. Cui Guo Chao comes to Hawaii to participate in the 3rd World Zhongshan Convention held in Honolulu Sept. 22-25, 2000.

Left: Chamber President Victor Lim and Vice Governor Wang Rongbing of Jiansu Province .

Below Left: Jiansu Delegation of 8, Oct 19-21, 2000.

Below Right: National Foreign Experts Bureau delegation of 5, Oct 15-17, 2000.



## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Tuesday, October 17, some sixty old and new Chamber members got together for the food at the Dynasty Restaurant in Discovery Bay and to network. The lunchtime speaker was **Robert G. Lees**, Secretary General of the Pacific Basin Economic Council, who spoke about "China and Hawaii: Forging A New Partnership for Economic Expansion." His remarks were very optimistic, following the recent approval of PNTR between the U.S. and China, and the end of the annual fight in Congress over renewing what used to be called "most-favored nation" status. For example, Mr. Lees feels that Hawaii is "critical" for matchmaking between the U.S. and China. At the same time, he felt that there would be more Chinese tourists coming to Hawaii, but Congressional restrictions are the problem.



General Membership Meeting at Dynasty, October 17, 2000.

### NEW MEMBERS

At its September 26 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the applications for **Jose Guevara**, Assistant Vice President and General Manager of the Philippine National Bank (sponsored by **Randall Chang**); **Danny Lam**, manager of the Jewelry and Watch Collection (sponsored by **Randall Chang**); and **Gino Paglaicetti**, a teacher of international education at Kalani High School (sponsor not listed).

## Palolo Chinese Home Fundraiser

You can show your support for the Palolo Chinese Home (PCH) and at the same time help with the purchase of special beds and bedding for PCH elders in need of special care. This can be done by purchasing two customized license plates and two four-color decals (1) in-person from full-service Division of Motor Vehicle locations on Oahu or the Neighbor Islands or (2) by mail on Oahu. The Oahu locations are Ala Moana Center; 1000 Fort Street Mall; 1090 Keolu Drive in Kailua; 46-056 Kamehameha Highway in Kaneohe; Pearlridge Center Uptown; 330 North Cane Street in Wahiawa; 94-144 Farrington Highway in Waipahu; and 85-670 Farrington Highway in Waianae. For the Neighbor Island DMV locations, go to PCH's website at [www.assistguide.com/palolo-home](http://www.assistguide.com/palolo-home). Detailed information is available at the website.

The initial cost of the plates and decals is \$30.50, and annual renewals are \$25.00. \$20.00 of the cost is given to PCH as a contribution from you, and goes toward purchasing ten healthcare-designed low beds to be used by residents with extra care needs in the PCH Expanded Care Unit. Each of the beds costs \$1,000.00. And as an added incentive, for each set of customized license plates/decals you buy, you get an entry into a drawing for a round-trip for two to Las Vegas!

## FUN COOKING

by *Elvira Lo*

**Just in time for the holidays are Italian Fritters:**

*1 cup water*

*7 Tablespoons unsalted butter*

*dash salt*

*1 cup unbleached all-purpose flour*

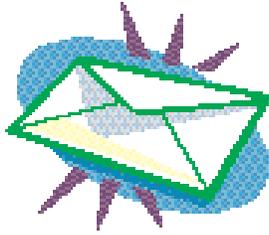
*3 eggs*

*2 cups cooking oil*

*1/2 cup granulated sugar*

Boil 1 cup water in saucepan, add butter and salt. Add flour all at once and stir. Reduce to medium and stir occasionally until the mixture pulls away from the bottom and sides of the pan. Transfer to a mixer bowl and cool. Add the eggs at once, beat with the dough until mixed thoroughly. Heat the oil and spoon the batter in and cook until golden brown. Remove fritters from oil and blot dry on paper towels

Serves: 8



Congratulations to **Linda** and **Larry Chan**. Their four Eastern Garden restaurants were selected as “favorite Chinese” in the annual *Honolulu Advertiser* Ilima Awards. (The *Advertiser*’s Ilima Awards supplement listed only the locations on Waialae Avenue, the Waikiki Terrace Hotel on Kalakaua Avenue, and the Westridge Shopping Center in Kane-ohe). The awards are based on votes from *Advertiser* readers.. Linda and Larry received their award on October 9 at a

gala dinner dance benefitting the Diamond Head Theatre.

Congratulations also to **Elvira Lo**, President of Hibiscus Aloha Corporation, who received the Governor’s Exporter of the Year Award in the manufactured products category. Elvira’s company makes and markets chocolate-covered macadamia nuts, pineapple macadamia nuts, dried fruits, fortune cookies, rice crackers, snacks, and other hand-made confections. The products are exported to Japan, China, and Taiwan, and are also sold on television through QVC and the Home Shopping Network.

Another recipient of the Governor’s Exporter of the Year Award was **Charles Lau**, President of AM Partners, Inc., in the professional services category. His fifteen year old company offers architecture, interior, and planning and design services in the mainland U.S. and in China. The company has a multicultural and multilingual staff and also uses the Internet to assist its clients. AM Partners is the third-largest architecture firm in Hawaii.

[Editor’s note: The information on the Governor’s Exporter of the Year recipients

was provided by the September 29 issue of *Pacific Business News*].

New member **Richard Lee** is running for an Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) at-large trustee seat with a two year term. Rick is apparently part of an “Aloha for All” slate, and they are running ads in the daily newspapers listing their five candidates. [Editor’s note: this is NOT an endorsement of Rick or any of the other members of what may be a slate of candidates for OHA. At the same time, the editor is not a “potted plant” and does have opinions about the election].

Chamber Businessperson of the Year 2000 and Helemano Plantation CEO, **Susanna Cheung**, was pictured on the cover of the October 29 “Dining Out” section of *The Honolulu Advertiser*. According to the article on page 3, Helemano Plantation will be having its annual fundraiser on Friday, December 22, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village’s Coral Ballroom. More information will be provided in next month’s *Lantern* if you haven’t read the article yet.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Nov 07 • Tue **52nd Narcissus Festival Kick-Off Reception**  
HHV - Tapa Ballroom - 6:00 p.m.
- Nov 11 • Sat **Veteran’s Day**
- Nov 21 • Tue **Executive Board Meeting**  
Yong Sing Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Nov 23 • Thur **Thanksgiving Day**
- Nov 28 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**  
Sea Fortune Restaurant - 12:00 noon

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