

# LANTERN

November, 2000

## Annual Palolo Home Visitation Reminder

Just a brief reminder that the annual visitation by Chamber officers, directors, and members as well as the Narcissus Queen and her court will take place on Sunday, December 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You are cordially invited to participate. If you're planning to be there, please contact Grace at the Chamber at 533-3181 so that there will be an accurate headcount.

## HELEMANO PLANTATION FUNDRAISER

The gala annual fundraiser, "An Enchanted Evening," will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village's Coral Ballroom on Friday, December 22. There will be a four-course menu prepared by the Hawaiian Village chefs, dance demonstrations, and a silent auction featuring designer bags, brand-name fashion wear, jewelry, and vintage wines. Prices are \$50.00 (Silver), \$75.00 (Gold), and \$100.00 (Platinum). Proceeds of the fundraiser will be used to support Helemano Plantation's non-profit Opportunities for the Retarded, Inc. Located at 64-1510 Kamehameha Highway, just outside of Wahiawa, Helemano Plantation has two lunch buffets – one Chinese, the other American – at just \$8.50 for either one. The hours are 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

## Narcissus Bulb Carving

Once again under the auspices of the Honolulu Academy of Arts, local architect **Gilman Hu** will be offering a series of workshops on growing narcissus plants for Chinese New Year's. Classes will begin on Saturday, January 6, 2001 at the Academy Art Center, 1111 Victoria Street. Students will learn the art of upright and crab-claw narcissus culture in preparation for Chinese New Year's on Wednesday, January 24. For five Saturdays, there will be a morning section from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and an afternoon section from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. There will be two or three instructors for each class, and fees are \$35.00 for new students and \$25.00 for returning students. Register by calling the Academy Art Center at 532-8742. The annual narcissus exhibition will be on February 10 and 11 during the Academy's normal museum hours (and quite likely an appearance by the new Narcissus Queen and her court on one of those days).

## Annual Chamber Christmas Party



Planet Hollywood Honolulu in Waikiki will be the location for this year's Chamber membership Christmas party on Thursday, December 7. The festivities will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a "reception-style" menu of chicken crunch with Creole mustard, onion rings with bacon ranch dip, crispy pork *won ton* with sweet Thai chili dipping sauce, Buffalo chicken wings with blue cheese dip, "Rudolph's" famous Parmesan spinach dip with white *tortilla* chips, crudites of fresh vegetables with dip, and unlimited soft drinks, coffee or tea. The cost is \$15.00 for members and \$18.00 for non-members. Planet Hollywood is located at 1155 Kalakaua Avenue in the triangular-shaped building (formerly the Mitsukoshi and later the ANA Building). The parking entrance is on Beachwalk. Avenue and parking is \$3.00 with validation. Please call Grace at 533-3181 by December 4 if you're planning to attend.

THE

CHINESE

CHAMBER OF

COMMERCE

OF HAWAII



*Victor Lim*

A belated “happy Thanksgiving” to all of you. As the year 2000 winds down, the Narcissus Festival activities are just beginning. The Kickoff Reception, which took place on November 7 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Ballroom, was a rousing success and a full house with over 600 people attending. Yes, we have seventeen beautiful and talented young ladies vying for the title of 52nd Narcissus Queen. The Kickoff was followed by a luncheon appearance at McCully Shopping Center and another appearance at the Windward Mall. We all can look forward to an exciting Queen

Pageant on Saturday, January 13.

All of the contestants will participate in our annual Palolo Chinese Home visit on Sunday, December 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If any of you would like to join us, you are more than welcome. Please let Grace know at 533-3181 so that we can get a proper head count for lunch. Thanks to **Ban Chan** and all the committee members for the great job they are doing.

**Terrill Chock** and his membership committee are planning a Christmas party for all Chamber members on Thursday, December 7, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Planet Hollywood in Waikiki. We plan to also announce the Chinese Chamber’s “Outstanding Businessperson of the Year 2000” at this event. Please mark your calendars to attend this festive occasion and share some holiday cheer with your fellow Chamber members.

For some out-of-town activities, the Shanghai Overseas Exchange Association at its tenth anniversary convention on October 23 named the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii an honorary Overseas Council member. We are one of a few organizations accorded such an honor. We also played host to the Chinese Naval Academy delegation led by Rear Admiral **Zhang Zhan Nan**, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army-Navy.

On a sad note, our community recently lost one of its pillars with the passing of Mr. **Kan Jung Luke**, Chairman of Hawaii National Bank. His many contributions and support for the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Hawaii community as a whole through the years have been unparalleled.

## *Deepest Condolences*

**Kan Jung Luke** passed away on Saturday, November 11, and funeral services were held on Tuesday, November 21. “K. J.” was a graduate of St. Louis College (now St. Louis High School), the University of Hawaii, and Harvard Business School where he earned a master’s in business administration. Following service in the U.S. Army at Ft. Shafter during World War II, he returned to his bookkeeping and real estate interests, joining with Clarence Ching to develop the 233-acre area between the airport and Nimitz Highway into the airport industrial area. In 1960, K. J. founded Hawaii National Bank, which has been a sponsor for the Narcissus Festival for fifteen years and has provided financing for many Chamber members (**George Chu**, **Thanh Quoc Lam** and **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, have been featured in the bank’s radio advertising). In addition to serving on numerous corporate boards, he was active in community service and philanthropy, establishing the Luke Center for Chinese Studies at Punahou School, the Luke Chair for International Finance and Banking at the UH, and a student center at St. Louis High School. K. J. is survived by his wife, **Beatrice**; son and past Chamber president, **Warren**; and daughters **Loretta Yajima**, **Sharlene Mau**, and **Janice Loo**. He will be greatly missed, and our deepest sympathies and sincere condolences go out to his family.

NARCISSUS  
KICKOFF

On Tuesday, November 7, over six hundred Chamber members and friends gathered at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Ballroom to get a first look at the seventeen lovely contestants vying for the title of 52nd Narcissus Queen. Given the size of the crowd, the venue was a lot more roomy compared to the Tropics Showroom used over the last few years. There were two lines, which made it easy for everyone to sample the tasty *pupu*. Mistress of ceremonies and 50th Narcissus Queen **Leilani Tan** introduced Festival Chair **Ban Chan** and Contestant Coordinator **Michele Choy** as well as Queen **Libby Lum** and three of the four members of her court. Michelle introduced nine of the eleven Chinese cultural instructors as well as representatives of Shiseido and Salon 808, who handle the contestants' makeup and hairdos. And then came the moment everyone had been waiting for: Leilani introduced the seventeen contestants to cheers from their families and friends. After each of the contestants was introduced, and they reassembled on stage as a group for the benefit of the audience and the photographers, they had an opportunity to mix and meet with the crowd. Just think, there are only about six more weeks before the Pageant on Saturday, January 13.

## Meet the Contestants

by Michele Choy

Seventeen beautiful, charming, and intelligent Narcissus contestants have been diligently attending Pageant training and Chinese cultural classes since early September in preparation for the upcoming Narcissus Queen Pageant in January. According to Contestant Coordinator **Michele Choy**, these young ladies have been very enthusiastic about attending their classes. "This is probably one of the best years as far as attendance goes. This is the largest number of contestants we've ever had running, and out of seventeen classes so far and more to go, I've had 98-100% attendance."

The ladies have expressed to her how much they enjoy the classes and have made many new friends. Michele is featuring eight contestants in *The Lantern* this month and the other nine will be featured in the December issue. She asked the contestants several questions such as, "What do you think of being a contestant so far in this pageant? What do you think you have gained or learned from the pageant training or culture classes? Would you recommend this pageant for future young ladies?" Here are the thoughts of eight of the contestants.

**Tina Ling:** "When I received a picture of my grandparents from Douglas Chong in the history class, that sparked my interest and energy to find out more about my roots." Tina is now able to reminisce about where she came from as her family shares more about the past with her.

**Kimberly Dang:** "I learned a lot more about the Chinese culture and made a lot of new friends. I love the fact that I now know how to write and say my Chinese name." Kim also feels that running in this pageant is a good experience for every young woman of Chinese ancestry.

**Layla Chen:** "I would recommend this pageant to lots of friends as it's a challenge. Win or lose, it's a great experience. You learn more about yourself and your abilities." Layla feels you build confidence from the classes.

**Colleen Tom:** "This has given me the opportunity to learn more about the Chinese culture and heritage. As a fourth generation Chinese, I never understood why I did the things I did. Now I have a chance to learn it straight from the source."

**Michelle Loo:** "I would definitely recommend this pageant even if you're half Chinese. I grew up Americanized. Through this whole experience, I learned about myself and I built confidence. It was the first time I ate *jai*. I would share with my family members what I accomplished after each class. I am proud to be Chinese."

**Marjorie Wu:** "I would definitely recommend this to anyone because it's a good way to learn about your culture. I enjoyed the classes a lot and had the opportunity to meet a lot of girls who share the same background as me."

**Natasha Lum:** "I am doing things that I never thought I would have done had I not run in this pageant. I think it's challenging and I think it will be rewarding. I am learning more about my culture than I would do otherwise."

**Racyne Young:** "I like the classes. It's enriching, enlightening, and I would recommend this pageant to any young woman who's interested in learning more about their culture."

# CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL MART 2000 REPORT

by Frances Goo

Vernon Ching and I, along with an entourage of nine people, attended the China International Travel Mart (CITM) in Shanghai. Our group included a food importer/exporter specialist, his attorney, a travel agent, and a Realtor®. All were first-time China travelers.

The convention filled three full floors of the Shanghai Everbright Convention and Exhibition Center. CITM is the largest professional travel mart in Asia, and the gathering place for international travel-related organizations, including travel agencies, hotels, airlines, and other travel-related institutions. The exhibitors were world-class and their booths were eye-catching and creative; none were skirted tables with brochures piled on. Some exhibitors build pavilions that resembled the regions they represented. The first floor consisted of travel agencies from foreign countries. DBEDT and the China Travel Association were exhibitors there. The top two floors were reserved for China companies. We presented China Travel Service (CTS) with 1,000 loose orchids which they were happy to receive and use.

Besides the trade show, there were a multitude of activities such as receptions, banquets, and seminars sponsored by different organizations in attendance. We were hosted at a reception given by Mr. **Gong Wan Chun**, General Manager of CTS. Our entire group was brought up on stage and introduced to more than two hundred managers of CTS offices throughout China, which was quite an unexpected honor. We were also hosted by the Shanghai municipal government at a luncheon, which consisted of twenty-three dishes!

While in Shanghai, we were privileged to visit the Shanghai City Planning Museum. You really have to see this in person to fully appreciate the awesome displays. Picture yourself looking down on the floor and seeing the layout of the city in miniature in front of you. Tiny scale structures represent buildings from



CCCH Special Mission to China International Travel Mart 2000, October 15-25, 2000.





two to 80 stories high, houses, stores, streets, and even trees on the layout. Apparently the city's planning committee is very diligent and dedicated in strictly adhering to their master plan. Now how many cities comparable in population to Shanghai can make the same claim? On the ground floor of the building, there is an actual street scene of Shanghai depicted for visitors to stroll through. Everyone was so impressed with the museum.

In Suzhou, we had an opportunity to visit Zhouzhuang and Tongli. These quaint and ancient towns have many well-preserved old buildings with one lane roads with rickshaws running along the riverside. The past is ever present in the town and its scenic beauty makes it a popular choice for painters, photographers, and filmmakers.

In Beijing, we were honored at a two hundred year old restaurant specializing in duck dishes with a lunch hosted

by CTS's Chairman. The food and the ambiance of the restaurant, along with the satisfaction that the tour was a success, added to the enjoyment of the meal.

One sightseeing attraction that I would like to recommend for the Narcissus Goodwill Tour is the Sandalwood Furniture Museum, which opened last year in Beijing. Here, red sandalwood is used to recreate Qing dynasty furniture. There are three floors of different types of wood. Each floor features a different type of wood: sandalwood, cedar, and ebony. There is also a room where you are shown how to make the furniture with only mortised joints and no nails! The founder of the museum is a descendant of a Qing dynasty emperor. When fleeing the country, her ancestors tried to bury as much of their treasures as possible, but many were destroyed. She has devoted her life to recreate her ancestor's furniture. I am certain the museum founder

would make it a point to greet the Narcissus Tour.

All in all, it was a very successful special mission. I know that all of the participants had a wonderful time, and the first-timers couldn't ask for a better introduction to China. CTS superbly handled all our travel arrangements, and there were no glitches anywhere during the trip. In addition, when we were in Shanghai, **Wen and April Lin** were on vacation there, and came to help arrange for special receptions, shopping tours, etc. I would like to specifically thank our Emeritus Director, **Vernon Ching**, for his leadership; CTS's head office and **Collie Xu** for their travel arrangements; and Wen and April for their hospitality.



Honolulu attorney **Marvin Dang** has been appointed to a three-year term on the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Group and Prepaid Legal

Services with a term which began in August, 2000. As one of seven members of the standing committee, he serves on the Board of Directors of the American Prepaid Legal Services Institute. A graduate of the George Washington University Law School, Marvin has been an attorney in Hawaii since 1978.

Tuesday, November 7, was general election day. While the identity of the forty-third President of the United States is still unknown, and a matter of increasing rancor and legal actions, the results are known for a number of Chamber members. Congratulations to State Representatives **Jerry Chang**, **Nestor Garcia**, and **Lei Ahu Isa**. And thanks to **Kenny Goodenow** for his past services and who will be devoting full-time attention to his law school studies. (State Senators **Suzanne Chun Oakland** and **Rod Tam** will be up for reelection in 2002).

At its October 31 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the applications of **Trevor Benn**, Director of Sales and Marketing for Parallel 21, Inc., an Internet website development company (sponsored by **Kwock Nam Lau**), and **Becky Goo**, an account executive at Finance Insurance, Ltd. (sponsored by **Wen Chung Lin**).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- Dec 7 • Thur **Membership Christmas Party**  
Honolulu Planet Hollywood, 6 - 8 p.m.
- Dec 13 • Wed **Executive Board Meeting**  
Yong Sing Restaurant, 12:00 noon
- Dec 19 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**  
Sea Fortune Restaurant, 12:00 noon
- Dec 25 • Mon **Christmas Day**



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