

LANTERN

February, 2001

CHAMBER DIRECTOR ELECTION

Chamber members should have received a notice in mid-February that the annual election of directors will be held on Friday, March 2. To vote, stop by the Chamber office upstairs at 42 North King Street between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

HCTA Dinner and Panel

The Hawaii Chinese Tourism Association will be holding a dinner and panel discussion from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort. "China After WTO/Impact on Hawaii," more specifically, will direct flights follow?, will be the topic of the panel discussion featuring Ms. **Yaying Li**, managing deputy director of the China National Tourist Office in Los Angeles; Mr. **Weijia Liao**, general manager of China Southern Airlines in Los Angeles; **Manuel Medendez**, executive director of the City and County of Honolulu Office of Economic Development; and Ms. **Wei-Wel Ojiri**, vice president of the Hawaii Visitors and Convention Bureau. The cost is \$30.00 per person. For more information or to make reservations, contact **Henry Ou** at 951-7778 not later than Wednesday, March 7.

Farewell Lunch

Jack Huang, special assistant at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office is being re-assigned to Taiwan. A farewell lunch will be held on Saturday, March 17, at the China House II in the Chinese Cultural Plaza. There will be a presentation of gifts and awards. Cost is \$13.00 per person or \$130.00 per table. To make reservations, contact **Henry Lee** at 536-4621.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Date: Thursday, March 29, 2001
 Time: 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 Place: Honolulu Academy of Arts
 900 S. Beretania Street
 Honolulu, Hawaii
 Topics: East is West in Hawaii
 Cost: member \$10.00 per person
 non-member \$12.00 per person
(Heavy pupus and soft drinks included)



See enclosed flyer
 for detail information.



Victor Lim

Hi everyone:

Another month has gone by and the biggest event for us for the month was the Narcissus Fashion Show that took place on February 11, 2001 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Kudos to our festival chairman, **Ban Chan**, his wife **Susanna**, and son **Aaron**. The three of them, along with **Charlotte Vick** and **Michelle Choy** and the many volunteers, really made all of us proud. Not only were the designs by our local designers like **Sig Zane**, **Joyce Arizumi**, Princess Kaiulani Fashions, Local Motion, and Kahala Sportswear outstanding, the presentations from the hula dancers and the Society of Seven to Cathy Foy provided entertainment along the way. What a creative way to mix entertainment with the presentations. Joyce Arizumi's fashions for the physically challenged were a first of its kind for us. Let us also not forget the

cheongsams by **Sandra Chan**, Ban and Susanna's daughter, who flew in from the West Coast to help out the cause. Those of you who were not there really missed out on something special.

A very interesting dinner for our membership will be "China – After WTO/Impact on Hawaii" will be on Thursday, March 15, at the Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort, sponsored by the Hawaii Chinese Tourism Association whose president is **Henry Ou**, a member of our Chinese Chamber. You can call Henry at 523-1837 to make your reservations.

The next function that I would like to recommend is the China Seminar Series, sponsored by the JAIME along with DBEDT, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association of Honolulu, and the Center for University of Hawaii Chinese Studies. This will take place between April 12 and May 4. The seminars are on April 12, April 19, April 26, and May 4. They have scheduled some outstanding speakers who are experts in China as well as doing business in China. For

more information, call **Yen Chun** at 396-7163.

Jack Huang, Special Assistant, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, has been reassigned back to Taiwan. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce is co-sponsoring with the United Chinese Society a farewell luncheon on Saturday, March 17, at 11:00 a.m. at the China House II. Cost will be \$13.00 per person, and you can call Grace at 533-3181 to make your reservation. Come and join us in wishing Mr. Huang and his family a big *aloha* and best wishes from all of us.

Congressman **Neil Abercrombie**, honorary Chinese and a member of our Chamber, recently joined his colleagues of both parties in reintroducing legislation to repeal the inheritance tax at the federal level. Many of us with small family businesses know firsthand how difficult it is to try and plan to see if there is a way to pass our family-owned businesses from one generation to the next. This will surely make it easier. Thanks, Neil, and let's hope that the bill will pass this time.

Gala Fund-raiser LUNCH

Also at lunchtime on Saturday, March 17, the Hawaii Foundation for Chinese Culture and Arts (HFCCA) will be holding a fund-raiser at the Pacific Beach Hotel Grand Ballroom. Since its founding in 1989, HFCCA has been serving the community by sponsoring classes in *qigong*, Chinese philosophy, and Chinese dance. Tickets include a sumptuous buffet, artistic works performed by the Phoenix Dance Chamber, a lion dance demonstration, a silent auction, a raffle, and much, much more. Tickets are \$30.00 for general seating, \$15.00 for children 3-10 years old, and \$45.00 for Gold Circle seats. A portion of the ticket price is tax-deductible, and proceeds from the fund-raiser will enable HFCCA to continue its efforts in serving the community. A special prize will be given to those who purchase a whole table. And finally, parking is \$2.50 with validation. For tickets and information, contact **Yen Chun** at 550-0509 (home) or 396-7163 (mornings at JAIMS).

JAIMS China Seminars

A series of four seminars will focus on fundamental and advanced concepts for doing business with and within China. Sponsors include the Chinese Chamber, Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, DBEDT, and the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association. Featured will be eight speakers, experts in their fields with extensive experience in working with the Chinese market in various ways. These fields include law, architecture, culture, political science, and Chinese business practices. The seminars will be held at the Japanese Cultural Center in Moiliili over four weeks – three Thursdays and a Friday – on April 12, 19, and 26, and May 4. For more information, visit the JAIMS website at www.jaims.org/china or contact **Yen Chun**, JAIMS business Mandarin program manager at 396-7163 or ychun@jaims.org.

WORLD CONGRESS ON QIGONG

The Fourth World Congress on Qigong will be held May 4-7, at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn in San Francisco. Sponsored by East West Academy of Healing Arts, the Congress will focus on *qigong* through clinical, educational, and research activities and programs. Renowned *qigong* masters, scientists, and speakers will share their knowledge and expertise. For information on an air, hotel, transportation, and registration package with departure from Honolulu via Delta Airlines, departing on the evening of Thursday, May 3, and returning on the evening of Monday, May 7, contact **Lori Tom** at Travel Boutique, tel. no. 592-0202.

Business Mission to China

by Vernon Ching

The Chinese Chamber, in cooperation with the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), is planning a ten-day mission to China in the latter part of May. The areas of focus are business investment projects, tourism, and environmental protection. Management training programs by DBEDT and the Chinese Chamber will also be offered.

Seminars will be held and mutual counterparts from China and Hawaii will be able to discuss specifics. Possible programs are presentations of tourist potential and environment, and tourism development cooperation in joint venture tourist theme parks, joint ventures in tourist souvenir production, and tourism promotion.

Cities scheduled for this mission are Guilin in Guangxi province and Kunming and Lijiang in Yunnan province. Besides business meetings, participants will have the chance to see the scenic sights in each city. Anyone interested in participating in this mission should contact **Wen Chung** at the Chamber office. A trip itinerary will be available soon.



U.S. Management Training Program
 Zhongshan Medical Delegation of 17 members, led by Mr. Liang Hou-xiang, Director of Zhongshan City Department of Health is warmly welcomed and nicely treated by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce during their visit in Hawaii. The delegation members successfully complete a seminar focusing on American Hospital Management, held for January 9-13, 2001 in Honolulu under the sponsorship of the Chinese Chamber in cooperation with the DBEDT, State of Hawaii. The delegation members are delighted to receive the certificate in recognition of their achievements at the farewell party.

Fashion Show report

by Michele Choy

On Sunday, February 11, the 52nd annual Narcissus Fashion Show, "All in the Ohana," was a success. Festival Chairman **Ban Chan** and his wife, **Susanna**, worked very hard since the beginning of last year in preparation for the fashion show. This year's Hawaiian theme allowed us to change the menu to Hawaiian food. From what I hear, it was a very pleasant change from the usual Chinese food. We were also very fortunate to get a lot of major publicity in the *Star-Bulletin* and the *Honolulu Advertiser* as well as the Channel 4 morning news, all of which helped to boost ticket sales.

Besides featuring fashions from eight designers, this year's show also featured a myriad of talented entertainers as well as notable celebrities as models. **Sig Zane's** designs featured **O'Brien Eselu** and Ke Kai O Kahiki as models while dancing several hulas with his "fashions in motion." Next, the Society of Seven entertained us in Kahala Sportswear shirts as they sang a *capella*-style. The audience was awed by their singing voices. Also modeling the Kahala Sportswear designs were Honolulu Deputy Fire Chief **John Clark** and actor **Ka'lae Miller** of Baywatch Hawaii and the spokesperson for Destination Stardom. Next in line were Baywatch Hawaii local extras modeling clothes by costume designer **Katherine James**. The clothes worn were garments featured on the television series, Baywatch Hawaii.

The Diva section featured all twelve of this year's 2001 Narcissus contestants, all modeling the Junior Sportswear line of clothes. It was great to see all twelve of them on stage.

The next designs were by **Joyce Arizumi** and the models were in wheelchairs. Being disabled herself, Joyce understands the needs of the physically challenged and designs clothes that make it easier for them to dress themselves.

Returning home just for the fashion show was Ban's daughter and former Narcissus Second princess, **Sandra Chan**, who featured one-of-a-kind, beautifully designed *cheongsams*. Among the models were former Narcissus Queens **Pansy Chun**, **Karen Lee**, **Lisa Ontai**, and **Maile Loo**.

Ending the show were Princess Kaiulani Fashions, modeled by the famed Anderson family, including the grandchildren (I hear that it is rare that they make an appearance as an entire family, so we were really fortunate to have all of them appear together). During this phase, noted celebrities such as **Jade Moon**, Miss Hawaii 2000 **Billie Takaki**, Mrs. Hawaii 2001 **Pohai Au**, and 1999 Miss Hawaii Teen **Lianna Green** made their appearance modeling PK Fashions. Also in this segment, vocalist **Cathy Foy** entertained us with a beautiful song as Pohai Au danced the hula. To top all of this off, KGMB-9 weathercaster **Ku'ualoha Taylor** did an excellent job in carrying out her emcee duties.

Those who attended certainly got their money's worth and enjoyed an afternoon filled with fashions and entertainment. Special thanks to the sponsors, silent auction donors, models, committee volunteers, and the Fashion Show Committee, all of whom helped bring this year's show to fruition and a very successful conclusion.

FROM THE NEWSSTAND

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In the January 15 issue of *Business Week*, "Shining A Light on China's Dark Side" is a review of Jasper Becker's recently published book, *The Chinese*. Becker is the Beijing bureau chief for the *South China Morning Post*. "Made in China" is a twelve-page article on the Pearl River delta in the January issue of *Travel and Leisure*. And this week's *Business Week* (March 5 issue) has a commentary on the Bush budget, opining that the spending plans and tax cut don't add up. That same issue has an editorial, "The Estate Tax: Mend It, Don't End It." The editors point out that "[V]ery few Americans currently pay estate taxes... Of all Americans who died in 1998, only 46,000 of their estates paid any tax; 44,000 had estates of \$4 million or less, and 2,000 paid about half the total. Estate tax insurance policies were used by many small-business heirs to pay their share." It may be well for Chamber members concerned about the impact of the federal estate tax on their children inheriting their small-business to contact their insurance agent and check into "estate tax insurance policies."



MEMBERSHIP NEWS



According to news reports early in February, State Representative **Lei Ahu Isa**, chair of the Economic Development Committee, has proposed eliminating the general excise tax (GET) on food purchases made by people age 65 years or older. In addition, she proposed raising the GET from four to five percent for all purchases of “luxury” items such as cars and jewelry valued at \$20,000.00 or

more, and increasing the food tax credit for low-income people to \$100.00. People may be surprised to find that many popular sport utility vehicles (SUVs), such as the Jeep Grand Cherokee and the Nissan Pathfinder, which sell for more than \$20,000.00 are “luxury” vehicles like the Mercedes and Lexus SUVs, which sell closer to \$30,000.00.

On Saturday, February 24, Chamber President **Victor Lim** swore in the 2001 officers and directors of the Chang Wing Yong Tong. Chamber members include **Gerald Y. Y. Chang**, first vice president; **Randall O. Chang**, second vice president; **Walter T. C. Chang**, treasurer; and **Ian Ho Chang**, auditor.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb 27 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**
Sea Fortune Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Mar 2 • Fri **General Election**
Chamber's Office - 9:00 a.m to 4:30 p.m.
- Mar 16 • Fri **Election of Officers 2001-2002**
Sea Fortune Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Mar 20 • Tue **Executive Board Meeting**
Yong Sing Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Mar 27 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**
Sea Fortune Restaurant - 12:00 noon

NEW MEMBERS

At its January 30 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the application for **Kevin Lui**, a financial consultant with Merrill Lynch (sponsored by **Wen Chung Lin**). Welcome aboard.

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of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
42 North King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
(808) 533-3181

CHINA INVESTMENT AND TRADE FAIR

The 6th China Chongqing Investment and Trade Fair and Three Gorges International Tourism Festival or “One Fair and One Festival” will be held April 25-May 5 in Chongqing. The fair and festival is sponsored by relevant state departments and the Chongqing People’s Municipal Government. Further information is available by calling the Chamber.

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