

LANTERN

March, 2001

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING R E M I N D E R

The first general membership meeting of the year will be on Thursday, March 29, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Honolulu Academy of Arts, 900 South Beretania Street. The Academy is currently having an "East is West in Hawaii" exhibition, which includes paintings, works on paper, ceramics, fibre arts, mixed media, and vignette installations by a group of contemporary regional artists living in Hawaii today. In addition, members can tour the Contemporary Art Collection and the Asian Galleries. Heavy *pupu* include crab puffs, honey garlic chicken, stir fry vegetables with char siu, deep fried shrimp, barbecue short ribs, and fried noodles and steamed rice. The food will be provided by **Ronnie Cheung's** Ohana Drive-Inn. (Ronnie is Chamber secretary **Grace Chan's** husband). The cost is only \$10.00 for members, \$12.00 for non-members. It's a chance to meet some of the new members who have joined since the last general membership meeting and to network with members old and new. Please RSVP by March 23.

"China in Transition" talk

Dr. **Thomas Lee Boam**, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing will be the featured speaker on "China in Transition: Opportunities for Hawaii Businesses" on Wednesday, April 4. Dr. Boam's office is responsible for assisting U.S. firms wishing to start operations in China. In addition, there will be a panel of "China hands" who will discuss government assistance programs and the practical aspects of doing business in China. The talk and panel will be held at the East-West Center Garden Room from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 and includes lunch and handouts. Checks should be made payable to Kapiolani Community College. Please RSVP by Friday, March 30. For more information or to make your reservations, call **Trude Pang** at 734-9363 or e-mail her at trude@hawaii.edu.

PEARL HARBOR BOAT TOUR

Thanks to **Stanford Yuen**, Executive Assistant to the Admiral, Navy Region Hawaii, Chamber members have an opportunity to go on a boat tour around Pearl Harbor and Ford Island on Wednesday, April 11. Seating is on a first come, first served basis, limited to the first 30 people who call the Chamber office before April 4. As it is, seats are going fast and may already be completely reserved. Options include the U.S. *Arizona* Museum and Memorial (free), the battleship U.S. *Missouri* (admission \$10.00), and the submarine U.S. *Bowfin* (admission \$5.00). The boat will leave promptly at 10:00 a.m., so make sure you meet next to the Halawa Gate. For those who miss out on this tour, another tour is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23, same time, same place, but the seating will be for twenty people.

ELECTION RESULTS

Elections for 16 directors were held on Friday, March 2. The Board of Directors then had a special meeting on Friday, March 16. The new officers for 2001-2002 are **Ban Chan**, President; **Frank Mow**, President-Elect; **Terrill Chock**, First Vice President; **Winfred Pong**, Second Vice President; **Michele Choy**, English Secretary; **Henry Yu**, Chinese Secretary; **Alvin Wong**, Treasurer; **Sheldon Zane**, Assistant Treasurer; and **Libby Lew**, Auditor. Congratulations to all, and see you at the installation banquet.



Victor Lim

Hi, everyone:

Spring is in the air. We are certainly in the season where many of our Chinese societies are having their annual banquets. Thank goodness for **Ban Chan**, our president-elect, because without him, I wouldn't have been able to represent our Chinese Chamber and attend all of the banquets on some weekends. We have more than one function each night. The spirit of unity and support for our Chinese community is well served by these activities, and Chinese pride is everywhere.

Our Narcissus Festival has come to a successful conclusion for the year with the exception of the China tour which will leave on June 17 and return on July 6. Ban has put together a very interesting itinerary that includes Inner Mongolia. Join the tour for the trip of a lifetime. We could never thank all of the volunteers that gave up their time and talents so unselfishly for the betterment of our Chinese community.

We are putting together a special trade mission to China in cooperation with the State Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. The trip will be from June 1-11, and we will be visiting Guilin, Kunming, and Lijiang. We think that this part of China offers great opportunity for us here in Hawaii for our technical expertise among others. **Vernon Ching**, **Wen Chung Lin**, and I can answer any questions you might have. Call the Chamber at 533-3181.

We have a general membership

meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 29, at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. **Terrill Chock** is also arranging for our members, families, and friends to go for a free Pearl Harbor boat tour on Wednesday, April 11. All I can say is to sign up and you can't go wrong. Two other interesting upcoming events will be the JAIDS China seminar series from April 12 to May 4 with some outstanding speakers, and the "China in Transition: Opportunities for Hawaii Businesses" sponsored by DBEDT and the U.S. Department of Commerce, featuring Dr. **Thomas Lee Boam** on Wednesday, April 4. All three are outstanding opportunities for our membership to take advantage of.

Aloha and best wishes to **Jack Huang**, special assistant for TECO, who has been in charge of the Chinatown Cultural Plaza, and who has been reassigned back to Taipei.

C H A M B E R N E W S & A C T I V I T I E S

Special Mission to China

DBEDT, in cooperation with the Chinese Chamber, is sponsoring a trade mission to China, June 1-11. The members of the trade mission will visit Guilin for exhibitions, Kunming for the Kunming Export Commodities Fair, and Lijiang for business exchanges. Travel package cost is \$2,450.00 per person based on double occupancy and travel via Japan Airlines or \$1,800.00 per person for land package only. The travel package includes hotel accommodations, airport/hotel transfers and city transportation, three meals daily in China and breakfasts in Hong Kong, city tours/sightseeing and admissions, group luggage handling and portage, gratuities for China personnel, China visa fee, and airport taxes. The deadline for travel payment and submittal of passport and China visa application form is Friday, April 27. For more information, for the full packet, or to sign up, call the Chamber.

Fore!

For all you golfers out there, the Palolo Chinese Home will be holding its 11th annual PCH Dynasty Invitational Golf Tournament on Thursday, May 3, at the Ala Wai municipal golf course. All proceeds from the benefit tournament will go towards supporting the programs and services of PCH. Chamber members may have received a solicitation letter seeking their support as patrons: Dynasty for \$3,000.00 and 12 complimentary golfers; Platinum, \$1,500.00 and 6 complimentary; Gold, \$750.00 and 3 complimentary; and Silver, \$300 and 1 complimentary. Those not playing under the auspices of a patron may form their own teams for an entry donation of \$110.00 per player. Contributions of lesser amounts or team prizes are also welcomed. Please respond by March 30 so that you can be included in the program and tee recognition. There is also a putting contest at 9:30 a.m. as well as prizes for the first Ace on the second, fifth, eighth (grand prize), eleventh, and fifteenth holes. Call Associate Administrator **Paul Gunter** at 739-6032 for more information.

2001 Queen and Court on the Go

by Michele Choy

Since being crowned this year's 2001 Narcissus Court, the five young ladies have been busy making appearances at various society banquets as well as other events. The most recent event was held on Sunday, March 11, at the Shriner's Hospital for Children. Invited and organized by **Ronald Lee** of Gee Yung Martial Arts Lion and Dragon Dance Association for the third year, the five members of the court as well as three of this year's contestants joined in to wish and bring cheer to the young patients in a belated Chinese New Year celebration by entertaining them with performances. What's interesting is that Gee Yung gives their students, some as young as seven years old, an opportunity to perform the lion dance for the patients using their baby lion heads. The young ones also entertained them with their *gung fu* sets. Head school instructors **Arthur Lee** and his son, **Harlan**, were introduced as were the three contestants. **Colleen Tom** sang the theme song from "Mulan" entitled "Reflections" while **Tina Ling** did a beautiful hula and **Sylvia Zhuang** sang her version of "Amazing Grace." Finally, everyone had a chance to greet the patients and take pictures with them while enjoying a treat of Dave's ice cream provided by Ronald Lee.

Next, the Queen and Court were off to participate in the seventh annual Honolulu Festival Parade. The court met this year's parade Grand Marshal, Mr. **Takashi Kitamura**. Throngs of spectators lined Kalakaua Boulevard, anxiously waiting to see the many interesting floats as well as the young beauties of the Narcissus, Cherry Blossom, and Miss Korea courts as they rode down the street in convertibles. As a first time experience for our Court, they all enjoyed waving to the crowd and spotting some of their family members and friends among the thousands of people.

Many thanks to the Gee Yung Martial Arts Lion and Dragon Dance Association and to the Honolulu Festival Foundation Parade Organizers for including us in their annual festivities.



JAIMS China Seminars

RE M I N D E R

Members were sent a descriptive brochure with the last issue of the *Lantern*. There are four sessions – April 12, April 19, and April 26 (all Thursdays), and May 4 (Friday). The sessions start at 1:00 p.m., break for half an hour at 2:30 p.m., and conclude at 4:30 p.m. The sessions will be held at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, Room 102, 2454 South Beretania Street. Parking is \$2.00 with validation. For more information or to register, contact **Yen Chun**, JAIMS business Mandarin program manager, at 396-7163 or yechun@jaims.org.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Installation Banquet, Friday, May 18, at the Waikiki Lau Yee Chai. Limited cocktail service (wine, beer, and soft drinks) will start at 5:30 p.m., and the formal program begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$29.00. Parking is validated and remember that the restaurant is on the fifth floor. Call Grace at the Chamber to reserve your place at this festive occasion.

Top: Queen & Court, contestants, Gee Yung Int'l Martial Arts Lion & Dragon Dance Assn. with patients of Shriner's Hospital for Children at Chinese New Year celebration.

Middle: Tina Ling & Colleen Tom with Court after performance at Shriner's Hospital. Missing from picture: Sylvia Zhang.

Far Left: Queen Ying Ying Lee riding in the convertible for the Honolulu Festival Parade.

Bottom: Posing with President & Grand Marshall of Honolulu Festival Parade, Mr. Takashi Kitamura.



China House owner **Henry Chan** was pictured on the cover of the “Dining Out” section in the March 11 issue of the *Sunday Advertiser*. The cover story focused on China House’s second location in the Chinese Cultural Plaza and the \$19.99 two-in-one seafood dinner buffet, which allows you to select from the buffet as well as the all-you-can-eat *shabu shabu* (or what Chinese guests would call *da bin lu*). (An ad indicates that this offer is a “limited time only” offer). In addition to the daily dinner buffet, there is a \$7.99 business lunch buffet available Monday through Friday between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. *Dim*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 27 • Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Wo Fat Restaurant - 12:00 noon
April 5 • Thur	Ching Ming
April 11 • Wed	Boat Tour Around The Pearl Harbor 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
April 17 • Tue	Executive Board Meeting Wo Fat Restaurant - 12:00 noon
April 24 • Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Wo Fat Restaurant - 12:00 noon

sum items are available from roving pushcarts daily from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

According to the March 13 issue of *The Honolulu Advertiser*, State Senator **Rod Tam** has introduced legislation to regulate use of cellular phones in automobiles. Under Senate Bill No. 679, drivers would be required to use cell phones equipped with headphones or “hands-free” devices to minimize distractions while driving. However, the bill has been held in committee following a February 8 hearing. In addition, CNN recently reported that a far greater distraction is people eating while driving.

On a happy note, congratulations to former Chamber president **Wah Chan Thom** who was honored at a 100th birthday celebration at Hee Hing Restaurant on Friday, March 16. Wah Chan was born on April 4, 1901. As a young man, he saved a life during the 1926 Chinatown fire and was given a scholarship by Hawaii Chinese businessmen. As Chamber president in 1949, he founded the Narcissus Festival. An entrepreneur and retired businessman, Wah Chan has served as president of a number of Chinese community organizations, has been recognized nationally and interna-

tionally as a Chinese calligrapher and poet, and has been honored as a Hawaii Chinese Living Treasure (1982), Model Chinese Father (1983), Hawaii State Cultural Treasure (1988), and Chinese Citizen of the Year (1995). He and his late wife Jannie have three children, nine grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Happy 100th birthday, Wah Chan, and may you enjoy many years in good health.

On a sadder note, 1978 Narcissus Queen **Janice Yee** Edgerton returned to Honolulu for the funeral of her father on Sunday, March 18. **James K. J. Yee** was 85 years old when he was struck down by a speeding moped. Our deepest condolences to Janice, her mother, and her brother and sister on their loss.

NEW MEMBERS

At its meeting on February 27, the Board of Directors approved the application for Dr. **Ming Chen**, a physician and owner of Ming Chen, M.D., Inc (sponsored by **Tai Yau Chung**). Welcome aboard and we look forward to meeting you at the upcoming general membership meeting.

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