



夏威夷中華總商會

## Palolo Chinese Home

### VISITATION



Mark Sunday, December 2, on your calendars. On that date, the Chamber officers and Narcissus Queen and Court will be making the annual visitation to the residents at Palolo Chinese Home, 2450 10th Avenue. A flyer was enclosed in last month's issue of *The Lantern*, but in case it's not handy, the time is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The program will consist of Christmas songs and *hula* as well as a *dim sum* plate lunch, all provided to the residents by the volunteers. There is no cost, and the deadline to RSVP is November 26, although one or two more people will make things merrier, so just make sure you call the Chamber to express your interest in participating. (Just remember that the volunteers eat last, and a large, surprise influx at the last minute will throw off the headcount).

## CHAMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Chamber Christmas party will be held on Monday, December 17, at the Treetops Restaurant (formerly the restaurant at Paradise Park) in Manoa. According to party chairman **Winfred Pong**, the evening's festivities will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. (and will end around 8:00 p.m.). There will be a buffet dinner, refreshments, and door prizes. All this and an opportunity to spread some Christmas cheer among other Chamber members for a cost of \$17.00 per person. Call the Chamber right away at 533-3181 so that a headcount can be taken.



### ORI FUND-RAISER

Helemano Plantation will be sponsoring an enchanted Fanta "Sea" benefitting the special people of Opportunities for the Retarded, Inc., on Friday, December 14. **Peggy Oshiro**, fund-raising chair, and **Sharon Basso**, honorary chair, invite you to be there at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom for the "very enticing" silent auction beginning at 5:30 p.m. This will be followed by a sit-down dinner at 7:00 p.m. While it's not known what's on the menu, the western food (as opposed to Chinese) will undoubtedly be delicious. There are two levels of tickets: gold at \$65.00 per person and platinum at \$100.00 per person. Reservations will be taken up to December 1 by **Paulette Lee** at tel. no.: 622-3929, fax no.: 621-8227 or e-mail: [helemano@hula.net](mailto:helemano@hula.net). (**Susanna Cheung**, **Ann Higa**, and a number of other people at Helemano Plantation are Chamber members).

THE  
CHINESE  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
OF HAWAII



Ban Chan

Last month was the Chamber's 90th anniversary. Because I had just returned from a visit to China, my message last month was devoted to that trip. Now, I want to make a few comments about our 90th anniversary and what it means to me.

Ninety years is indeed a lifetime, and it is no small feat that the Chamber has been around for that period of time. The great majority of non-profit organizations as well as for-profit corporations in America come and go as the years pass by, and only a small handful are able to survive for ninety years.

So first of all, let us recognize that it is extraordinary that our organization is still around after all these years. During its ninety years of existence, our Chamber's goals and strategies have changed with the times. Our organization has been flexible enough to adapt to

the changing landscape around us, whether it is the local economy or international events. Innovation and creativity have enabled our organization to be a survivor.

This leads to my second point, namely that we all need to keep an open mind to new ideas. We should never allow ourselves to slip into being a complacent and staid organization, falling into the trap of doing the same old thing without getting improved results. An organization is shaped by the shadow of its leaders, and the Chamber is no exception.

As the President of the Chamber, I am just one in a long line of "stewards" who have sought to bring out the very best in our organization for the benefit of its members. Like those who preceded me, I am thankful and honored to be able to serve the Chamber and its members. And like a good steward, I will pass the baton on to those who follow me.

So my third point is that the Chamber is greater than any single individual or personality. This unselfishness on the part of our leaders has been one of the strengths of our organization, for it has made our Chamber cohesive and focused despite many, many different personalities.

This brings me to my fourth point, which is that people make the organization. I hope that each of you as members can renew your commitment to make this organization the best that it can be. The Chamber will only be as good as you and I want to make it. To paraphrase the late President John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your Chamber can do for you, but what you can do for your Chamber!"

Our Chamber commemorated its 90th anniversary with several activities such as sponsorship at the Film Festival and a special exhibit from the Shanghai Museum at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. It was gratifying to see many of you at these events, but they are just events, after all. While participating in these events, I hope that each of you had a brief moment or two to pause and reflect on the long history of our Chamber, the many individuals who have contributed to its successes, and its accomplishments both in Hawaii and in China.

And that brings me to my final point, that we are part of a tradition called the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. It is a tradition for which we all can be proud and hold our heads high!

## BIG WAVE HONOLULU FUND-RAISER

The second annual Big Wave Honolulu music festival will be held on Sunday, December 15, at the Waikiki Shell, starting at 7:00 p.m. This year, the feature attraction will be **CoCo Lee**, "Hong Kong's hottest star" whose newest release is the theme song from the Academy Award-winning "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon." For those not familiar with Ms. Lee, you can visit her Website at [www.cocolee.net](http://www.cocolee.net). Ticket prices are \$60.00 and \$40.00 reserved seating and \$20.00 general admission lawn seating, and the Chamber will receive \$10.00, \$7.50, and \$5.00 for each ticket sold in the respective category. Orders must be sent in not later than Friday, November 30, and checks must be made payable to Big Wave Honolulu LLP. For more information, contact **Carol Tsai** at tel. no.: 377-1123, fax no.: 377-1160 or e-mail: [caroltsai@aol.com](mailto:caroltsai@aol.com).

## Christmas Gifts

Retail's annual Black Friday – the day after Thanksgiving when many businesses finally get into the black – has come and gone, and the American stock markets are anxiously waiting to see whether the U.S. consumer is still spending. In both the U.S. and Japan, consumer spending accounts for over 60% of gross domestic product (GDP). If you don't want to fight the crowds at the various shopping centers and malls around Oahu, perhaps you should consider gifts of a book or compact disc (CD), the proceeds of which will go toward preservation in Manoa. Award-winning author James Rumford's lavishly illustrated book, *Kahalaopuna, the Beauty of Manoa*, retells the ancient Hawaiian legend of Kauhi, the sleeping giant atop Wa'ahila Ridge. It is available in English (the Hawaiian version is sold out) for \$12.95 or as part of a set containing both the English and Hawaiian versions for \$39.95. The books in the numbered, slipcased sets have been signed by the author. The CD, titled simply "Wa'ahila," will be released on November 30, and is a compilation of Hawaiian songs and chants dedicated to honoring the preservation of Wa'ahila Ridge and the surrounding valleys of Manoa and Palolo. The price for the CD is \$15.00. By special arrangement, if ten (10) or more items are sold to members, families, and friends, ten percent (10%) of the purchase price will be donated to the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. To order or for more information, contact **Gerald Chang** at 949-5296. Remember, Christmas is fast approaching, Malama o Manoa is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and you can also help the Chamber.



## NARCISSUS FESTIVAL



The Kickoff of the 53rd annual Narcissus Festival has come and gone (and so has Thanksgiving). Right now, the contestants are, among other things, making public appearances. In the runup to the pageant on Saturday, January 12. More details will be given in next month's issue of *The Lantern*. Suffice it say that the proceedings will start at 6:15 p.m. and tickets this year will be \$31.00 and \$26.00 per person. In addition, there is the now traditional post-pageant reception at Hee Hing restaurant. This will be your first chance to meet the new Narcissus Queen and her court as well as to congratulate the other contestants for a job well done. (After all, without all the contestants, there would be no pageant!). The cost is \$8.50 for what will likely be a sumptuous spread.

Also, mark your calendars for the festive Coronation Ball that will be held on Saturday, February 2, at the usual Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom venue. (Due to scheduling conflicts, the coronation ball is being held two weeks after the pageant instead of the usual one week interval). The cost is \$49.00 per person, black tie optional. There will of course be events in Chinatown and the Chinese Cultural Plaza on the weekend of February 8 and 9, with the newly crowned Narcissus Queen and her Court, escorted by the Chamber officers, making an evening-long series of visits to restaurants and shops on Friday, February 8. And let's not forget the Narcissus Fashion Show on Sunday, March 3, again at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. There will of course be the boutique sales and silent auction in the morning as well as the luncheon and show. The cost is \$37.00 per person. (Flyers for the coronation ball and fashion show were enclosed in last month's issue of *The Lantern*).



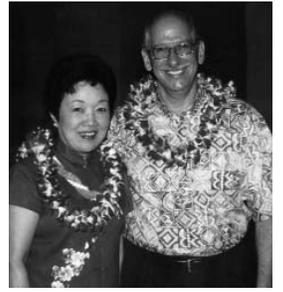
## NARCISSUS KICKOFF

The Kickoff for the 53rd annual Narcissus Festival took place on Thursday, November 8, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Ballroom 1 and 2. Some 350 Chamber members as well as family and friends of the sixteen lovely contestants were there to see their first appearance. There was a great deal of delicious Chinese food, one dish even including what seemed to be beef (?) tendon – no doubt most people who attended left stuffed. (A past Chamber president whose business includes golden arches went through the line twice while a Chamber director whose business has many locations in Honolulu and is now expanding to the mainland also seemed to be enjoying the repast). As part of the introductions, the many people who help prepare the girls for the pageant were introduced, including the *artists* from Shiseido and Salon 808 as well as the various instructors in various aspects of our Chinese culture and heritage.

Kickoff co-chairs **Sylvia Louie** and **Randall Kondo** would like to thank **Glenn Wakai** of KHNL News-8, who served as master of ceremonies; **Chun Wah Wong**, who provided *erhu* music that evening; **June Tong** and King's Inn Restaurant for the food; **Michele Choy** and **Janet Maduli**, program coordinators; **Henry Chu** and his security people; and **Warren Lung** and his committee of escorts who also provide transportation for the contestants.

The 90th Anniversary Celebration of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii & The Opening of “Collections from the Shanghai Museum” Art Exhibition at the Honolulu Academy of Arts October 27, 2001.





## Have A Leftover Piece of Moon Cake? How About Some China Tidbits?

According to a *New York Times* report published in the October 1 issue of the *Star-Bulletin*, Chinese are eating less moon cake and it's becoming like a Chinese version of the American fruitcake – exchanged as gifts, but hardly eaten. The report said that China's Central Television, after a one-year investigation of a famous moon cake maker, Nanjing Guanshengyuan, found "tons of unsold moon cakes were recalled to the factory, where the pastry was removed and inside part was pooled, reprocessed and frozen for use in next year's cakes. If some paste got moldy, it was simply re-baked a year later before being used." Then again, doesn't sourdough "starter" go on forever?

Speaking of food, the Sunday *New York Times* had a pair of travel articles. Daisann McLane's November 18 article "Digesting Guangzhou in Bite-Size Pieces" covered her two-day stay in the city. She noted that according to her Cantonese language instructor, "the food in Guangzhou is better" than in Hong Kong and "The best Cantonese cooking is in Guangzhou." (Those with longer memories or knowledge of recent Chinese history may remember, however, that during the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution from 1966-76, the Red Guard attacked old or traditional things, including Chinese cooking). The reporter also stated that the five-star White Swan Hotel is referred to as the "White Stork" because it is located next to the U.S. consulate, convenient for Americans adopting Chinese babies to get their paperwork handled. The other article gave information on getting around in Guangzhou, the White Swan, a couple of the restaurants visited by Ms. McLane, and the Guangdong and Guangzhou Museums of Art. (With the

reporter's name, it's fairly easy to track down the articles on the *NYT's* Website).

Earlier this month, the *Los Angeles Times* had a piece by David Atherton. "China's Magic Mountain" was written after a trip to "the misty slopes" of Wudang Mountain or Wudanshan in Hubei province. Atherton notes that the scenes of Wudang in Ang Lee's Academy Award-winning "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" were actually filmed at Huangshan in Anhui province.

And finally, James Brooke has a piece in the November 20 *New York Times*, "Tokyo Fears China May Put an End to 'Made in Japan.'" The article should be accessible on the *NYT* Website. Also of interest is a report prepared in conjunction with the People's Daily Online, "China's Entry Into WTO: What Lies Ahead," which should be accessible at the Wharton Business School Website (<http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu>, note that this URL does NOT include the usual "www."). And Taiwan is also joining the WTO, see "Can Two Chinas Live Together in the WTO?" in the November 19 issue of *Business Week*.

Readers with access to the Internet wanting to read some of the articles mentioned above should be aware that the *NYT* and the Wharton Websites both allow access to their respective home pages. However, registration is required to actually read the articles. Registration is painless. Also, after seven days, news articles (but apparently not Op-Ed pieces such as those by economist Paul Krugman and *Times* columnist Thomas Friedman) are charged for at the *NYT* Website.

## Chinese Business Website

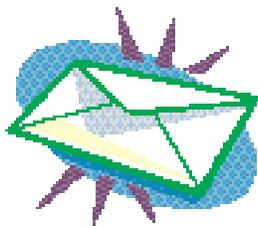
With the mention of so many articles on travel in and business with China available on the Internet, it's appropriate to mention a Website coming in December. AlohaConnect.com will be an English/Chinese Website dedicated to providing information about business and educational opportunities in Hawaii. (Presumably, there will be a hotlink to the Chamber Website). Information will also be provided about government services for Chinese considering Hawaii as either a training ground or a base for business operations.

The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), which is well-known to the Chamber, will provide the main marketing channel through its corporate membership of some 70,000 companies spanning a variety of industries. Site information in both English and simplified Chinese (*pinyin*?) will be provided on interested business, travel, educational, training and conferencing, and health and wellness companies in Hawaii. For further information, contact Chamber members **Liwei Kimura** or **Ted Sturdivant** at tel. no.: 222-6938, fax no.: 630-2084 or e-mail: [liwei@alohaconnect.com](mailto:liwei@alohaconnect.com) or just visit [www.alohaconnect.com](http://www.alohaconnect.com).

## HAWAI'I ETHNIC HERITAGE SERIES

The year-long, presumably taxpayer funded series continues at Honolulu Hale. The Japanese will be featured on January 11, the Chinese on February 22, the Cambodians, Thai, and Lao-tians on March 15, the Afro-Americans on April 26, and last but not least, the Vietnamese on May 17.

## M E M B E R S H I P N E W S



The State Reapportionment Commission has completed its work, finally getting things more or less right the second time around. Initially, the commission planned to increase the number of "canoe districts" in which a legislator would represent people from separate islands and to include military dependents, most of whom live on Oahu and in the vast number of cases are residents of other states, in determining the voter base. When it was pointed out that these proposals violated the Hawaii State Constitution as well as applicable case law, the commission voted down the proposals. The commission also apparently drew up district boundaries without regard to where incumbent legislators live. As a result, ten incumbent Oahu senators – eight Democrats and two Republicans – would face off in five districts. In Senate District 13, Chamber members and State Senators

**Suzanne Chun Oakland** and **Rod Tam** will compete for the single seat unless there are further changes to the boundaries.

The November 6 issue of *Honolulu Weekly* had an ad for the November 3 tribute to Auntie **Nona Beamer** at the Honolulu Academy of Arts. A picture of Nona showed her with "hanai daughter and apprentice" **Maile Loo**, who was also 1992 Narcissus Queen and is also a Chamber director. (A similar picture and an accompanying article also appeared in the "tgif" insert in the November 2 edition of the *Honolulu Advertiser*). Since a list of some of Maile's distinctions was given in last month's issue of *The Lantern*, we won't repeat them this month. Suffice it to say that at her young age, Maile has a whole bunch of them.

In the Sunday, November 18, edition of the *Honolulu Advertiser*, the "Hawaii's Best 150 Restaurants" pamphlet was released. Among the sixth annual *Ilima* award winners, based on the votes of some 6,000 readers, nearly three times as many as in any previous year, was the always growing L&L Drive Inn chain. It was recognized as "the Favorite

Plate Lunch" and also garnered a "People's Choice" award, meaning that it was one of the top three vote-getters in the "casual dining" category. The dynamic duo behind L&L's success are Chamber director **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, and **Kwock Nam "Johnson" Kam**.

An article by **Johnson Choi** appeared in the Sunday, November 18 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. Johnson attended a public presentation to a standing room-only crowd earlier in the week by local-born and educated **Guy Kawasaki**, CEO of Garage Technology Ventures. Entitled "To succeed in business in Hawaii, you must understand the isles," Johnson focused on the third topic of the Kawasaki presentation, dealing with the difference between what non-resident businessmen consider are important compared to what local boosters consider Hawaii's "advantages." The gist of what a knowledgeable expatriate local boy had to say about Hawaii could best be summarized in the title of an old B. J. Thomas song, "Everything is Beautiful." To paraphrase a line from the song, "There are none so deaf as those who will not hear."



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 27-Dec 16 **Collection from the Shanghai Museum Art Exhibition**  
Honolulu Academy of Arts
- Dec 1 • Sat **52nd Narcissus Queen Tour Reunion**  
11:30 a.m. - Chamber's office
- Dec 2 • Sun **Palolo Home Annual Visitation**  
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Dec 11 • Tue **Executive Board Meeting**  
Wo Fat Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Dec 18 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wo Fat Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Dec 25 • Tue **Christmas Day**
- Jan 1 • Tue **New Year Day (2002)**
- Jan 12 • Sat **53rd Narcissus Queen Pageant**  
6:15 p.m. - NBC Concert Hall



## CONDOLENCES TO YOUNG FAMILY

**George Chew Kai Young** passed away on October 31. Services on Saturday, November 10, were held at the jam-packed sanctuary of the Community Church of Honolulu. Interment on that beautiful sunny day followed at Manoa Chinese Cemetery. For years, George was active in revitalizing the Manoa Chinese Cemetery, and one of his many accomplishments there was the pair of stone lions erected at the entrance in 1998, thanks to contributions from the officers and directors of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce as well as other Chinese organizations. Among other things, George had been one of the instructors for the Narcissus contestants; for the past three years, he had taught them about the significance of Ching Ming and the related ceremonies, and had shown them notable places within the cemetery. Thanks to George, it seemed that every year, the Ching Ming observance in April got bigger and bigger. He served as president of more than half a dozen charitable organizations, and received many honors, including the Lin Yee Chung Association's Chinese Citizen of the Year (1996), the Chinatown Merchants' Man of the Year (1996), and the United Chinese Society's Model Chinese Father of the Year (2000). George's willingness to give freely of himself, his generosity, and his impish good humor will be greatly missed by those fortunate enough to have known him. Our deepest and sincere condolences to his wife, **Jeanette**; sons, **Wesley**, **Clayton**, and **Curtis**; and brother, long-time Chamber director **James**.

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