

# LANTERN

September - October, 2003

## *Narcissus Kickoff*

The 55th annual Narcissus Festival Kickoff will take place on Thursday, November 13, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The traditional venue is the Hilton Hawaiian Village, this year at its Coral Ballroom. A flier giving more details is enclosed and Chamber members should be receiving invitations in the mail. This will be your first chance to get a look at the twelve lovely Narcissus contestants and another chance to meet and greet Narcissus Queen **Kathleen Wong** and her court. There will of course be refreshments.

## **DBEDT Opportunity**

Chamber members may have received e-mail notice of the Platinum Key Service Environmental Export Development Mission to Beijing. Sponsored by DBEDT and the U.S. Commercial Service-U.S. Embassy, Beijing (USCS-Beijing), interested Hawaii environmental technology firms are invited to participate in the mission, December 11-18. Planned activities will include participation in the 8th China International Environmental Protection Exhibition and Conference (CIEPEC 2003) with full booths available for a fee, and the Hawaii Environmental Seminar. For more information, contact **Mark Want** at 586-2751 or by e-mail at [mwant@dbedt.hawaii.gov](mailto:mwant@dbedt.hawaii.gov).

## **PEARL HARBOR BOAT TOUR**

Around eighteen Chamber members and friends took the opportunity to take a boat tour of Peal Harbor on Wednesday, September 10. According to executive assistant to the commander, Navy Region Hawaii, **Stanford Yuen**, who arranged for Chamber members to go on the tour, the list was cut off at 105 people, and there were another 100 people on the waiting list. So for those who missed taking the tour this time, remember next time to RSVP as soon as notice appears in *The Lantern*. The next boat tour may be some time next year, depending on international developments.



Guangdong government delegation, led by Mr. Huang Ziqiang, Director General, Guangdong Provincial Foreign Affairs Office, visited the DBEDT's office on August 26, 2003. Mr. Richard Bahar, Business Development Manager and other officers of the DBEDT, and the Chinese Chamber's representatives Terrill Chock, Wesley Fong, and Victor Lim greeted the Chinese delegation.

## **CHAMBER PARTICIPATES IN CHINATOWN TOWN MEETING**

by Wesley Fong

On the evening of September 15, the Friends for Chinatown Improvement (FCI), comprised of representatives of the Chamber, the United Chinese Society (UCS), and the Association of Chinese from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos (ACVCL) partnered with the City and County of Honolulu, and presented a town meeting at the UCS hall to provide a forum for those who live, work and own property in Chinatown. The topic for the forum was the proposed expansion of the Chinatown Special District and to allow one- and two-family dwellings within the "Historic Core Precinct" of the Chinatown district. (On September 17, 2003, the City's Planning Commission heard testimony on the amendments to the Chinatown Special District, and ultimately tabled the matter).

Representing the Chamber were past president **Wesley Fong**, Chinese secretary **Ted Li**, and director Dr. **Joseph Young**. The UCS was represented by president **Keith Lim** while the ACVCL was represented by president **Thomas Sum** and past president **Ted Li**. Also a member of the FCI was Councilman and Chamber member **Rod Tam**. Representing the City were **Eric Crispin**, director of the City Department of Planning and Permitting, and chief of the Urban Design Branch, **Pat Sequerant**.

The event was another project in which the Chamber participated in getting involved with influencing the welfare and future of Chinatown.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE  
CHINESE  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
OF HAWAII



*Terrill S. W. Chock*

As a result of Board member **Stanford Yuen's** efforts, **Anthony Chang, Wesley Fong, Vernon Ching, Walter Chang,** and I enjoyed a reception aboard the U.S.S. *Peleliu*, which is the "mother ship" for America's first naval/Marine strike force. It was a humbling experience to be within the center of this huge ship and to see the weaponry that makes our Armed Forces so potent and effective.

Wesley also accompanied **Victor Lim** and me at a meeting at the State's Business, Economic Development, and Tourism Department where we were introduced to members of a delegation from Guangdong. This visit was part of the delegation's observance of the 20th anniversary of the Guangdong sister-state relationship with Hawaii. During this meeting, we suggested to the Chinese delegation that the relationship does not have to be limited to economic/business issues. We could embark on cultural exchange programs involving

scholars, teachers, and students. Medical facilities could also be developed in Hawaii to assist in the healing process of Chinese patients as well as to train us in traditional Chinese healing practices.

Wesley introduced the subject of developing Hawaii as a venue where contractual disputes that may arise between Western and Chinese parties may be arbitrated or mediated. Hawaii's geographic location and its reputation for being a travel destination area makes it an ideal place to have these problems discussed. The Chinese delegates were enthusiastic about the proposal and promised to promote this idea to the proper authorities in China.

Wesley Fong also moderated a "town meeting" presentation of the City and County's proposed amendment to expand the Chinatown Special District in the Ewa-direction, as well as to allow one- and two-family dwellings within Chinatown's historic core area. The meeting was informational only, with the Chamber and United Chinese Society providing the meeting hall. **Ted Li** served as the Chinese translator during the meeting.

The Chamber co-sponsored a luncheon reception for Tianjin's Mayor **Dai Kianglong** and his delegation. Mr. Dai was the governor of the People's Bank of China, China's Central Bank, with a rank equivalent to Deputy Prime Minister. In 2002, Tianjin and Hawaii established a sister-state rela-

tionship, and Mayor Dai's visit was the first high-level contact between Hawaii and Tianjin. DBEDT hosted the event that was held at the First Hawaiian Bank Bankers' Club.

There were eighty-six participants in the Chamber's Golf Tournament that was held at the New Ewa Golf Club on Thursday, October 2. Although the turnout was less than expected, the results of this tournament were financially successful for the Chamber and a memorable one for Wesley Fong, who carded his first ever hole-in-one that day.

The Chamber's "Taste of China" on Saturday, October 4, was also a first for all those who were involved in planning the event. We definitely learned some lessons and are very pleased with the outcome of this function as we had almost forty vendors participating in this event. The event had 2,500-3,000 attendees who, by and large, were quite satisfied with what the vendors had to offer as well as with the stage performances that occurred throughout that afternoon and evening.

**Michele Choy** has been keeping the twelve contestants in our 55th Narcissus Queen Pageant busy. I attended two of their recent training classes, and the twelve are a very enthusiastic group. They have already begun to do things together. Queen **Kathleen Wong** and her Court did a great job in recruiting these young ladies for the upcoming pageant.



Above: Zhongshan government delegation, led by Mr. Su Weiqing, Secretary General, Zhongshan City People's Government, made a courtesy call to Chinese Chamber's office on August 22, 2003.



Right: Consul General Zhong Jianhua of the Chinese Consulate General in Los Angeles recently, and met the representatives of the Chinese Chamber and the USCPFA at a breakfast on October 8, 2003.



## Chamber Golf Tournament

by Michele Choy

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce recently held its successful golf tournament at the New Ewa Beach Golf Club on Thursday, October 2. Eighty-six golfers took to the course at 1:00 p.m. for the shotgun start and swung away for a chance to win team prizes as well as a chance to win prizes in the putting contest, long drive contest, greenies, and the hole-in-one. Everyone had a wonderful time of good food, good fun, and good golf.

In the long drive contest, **Jonathan Ishikawa** of Okahara & Associates hit approximately 320 yards and won himself a round of golf, and our Narcissus Fourth Princess, **Sue-Ping Kuo**, was the winner in the women's division, hitting approximately 197 yards and winning a ladies golf bag from Aloha Golf Shop.

On greenie hole #8, **Warren Luke** was the fortunate winner of the Fly-Away Holiday Package to Las Vegas or Los Angeles, courtesy of JN Chevrolet, just for landing on the green and having his name drawn by lottery from among many other golfers. A Sylvania 27" color television was also awarded to a lucky winner, courtesy of **Jon Adversalo** of Architects Pacific, Inc.

Top team winners for the day were Chamber second vice president **Alvin Wong** and his team members, **Liane Chong** and **Jim Walters**. But the highlight of the day was when past Chamber president **Wesley Fong** hit a hole-in-one on hole #13 (who said 13 was a bad luck number?). Team members **Bert Fong** and **Gordon Dang** as well as the opposing team of **Walter Chang**, **Dillard Spray**, and **Jason Mashino** watched in amazement as Wes' firm grip and swing pulled off one of the most exciting and talked about shots of the day. Through the generous sponsorship of New City Nissan, Wes won a set of Ping i3 irons.

Many thanks go to the many other generous companies who donated all



Golf Tournament on October 2, 2003 at New Ewa Beach Golf Club



the prizes. Appreciation goes to sponsors Architects Pacific, Inc.; City Bank; Endodontic Specialists, Inc.; JN Chevrolet and JN Automotive Group; Okahara & Associates, Inc; and Sweet Mele's Hawaiian Products for the generous tee sponsorships. Kudos also to New City Nissan for being the hole-in-one sponsor. They sponsored a car, \$250 Pro Shop golf certificate, a set of Ping i3 irons, and a Ping Si3 Titanium driver on all of the par-3 holes. Thanks are also extended to **Victor Lim** for his donation of the McDonalds' coupons; Endodontic Specialists, Inc., for the tubes of toothpaste, Hawaiian Moon for their 20% off coupons to their new factory outlet; the Chinese Chamber for the 2-pound bags of rice; and GBC Boxes and Packaging for the packages used to make the goodie bags for the golfers.

Narcissus Queen **Kathleen Wong** and Fourth Princess **Sue-Pin Kuo** helped with the awarding of prizes during the awards ceremony, and Third Princess **Allison Tai** helped with the putting contest earlier in the day. Special thanks to **Mark Taketa** of Charles Taketa Graphic Design for making the tee sponsor signs as well as the program. A big *mahalo* to **Bernard Choy**, husband of Chamber Secretary **Michele Choy**, for doing an outstanding job in putting the golf tournament together in just four months. He and Michele thank **Mark Taketa**, **Jonathan Ishikawa**, **Brandon Kim**, **Ray Terame**, **Juliet Ching Garcia**, **Leynette Leong**, **Kathleen Wong**, **Allison Tai**, and **Sue-Ping Kuo** for their help that day and to President **Terrill Chock**, **Dr. Ming Chen**, and **Gordon Au** for their support.

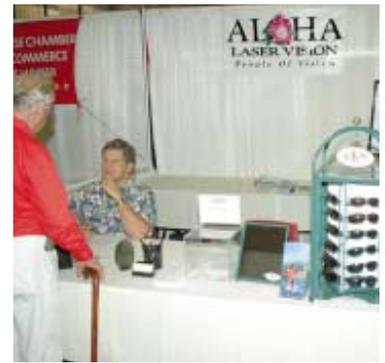
# "Taste of China"

by Elwira Lo

This new Chamber event was held on Saturday, October 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall Suites. There were thirty-nine vendors with forty-three booths as well as a display of cars by JN Automotive Group. The Chamber had three booths, one staffed by **Wen Chung** and **April Lin**, another with the Narcissus contestants selling various beverages, and the third with various arts demonstrations from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Classic Coins Hawaii, Helemano Plantation, and Mufi's Country Kitchen had two booths each.

Various food selections like *jin dui*, noodles prepared in various ways, potstickers, fresh eggplant, and barbecue meat or chicken sticks were available from 3600 on the Rise (sauces and desserts), caterers AKYTH, Inc., Ba-Le Sandwiches, the Coffee Mill, Inc. Dynasty Restaurant, Helemano Plantation, Hong Kong Harbour View Restaurant, King's Inn, Mufi's Country Kitchen, New Century Restaurant, and Newtown Happy Day. The food sellers had *ono* food available and were selling a lot, the jewelry stores were doing well, other arts and craft stores were happy with the traffic and sales, the bubble tea booth attracted the most attention and sales, and Ba-Le Sandwiches had tasty traditional Vietnamese coffee.

Scheduled events started with a lion dance performed by members of the Chinese Physical Culture Association at 1:00 p.m. and continued to well after 8:00 p.m. In addition to appearances (twice) by Narcissus Queen **Kathleen Wong** and her Court, entertainment was provided by Sing Sing Dance Studio, Hawaiian Moon, the Hawaii Chinese Association, the Guangzhou Chinese Music Club, the Chinese Dancing and Song Theatre, and the Phoenix Dance Chamber. Approximately 3,000 people attended, with about 2,400 of them paying the \$2.00 admission charge.



Continued from page 4

Special thanks to Wen Chung who spent many additional hours to call and coordinate among the exhibitors, performers, volunteers, etc; our Narcissus contestants who helped out at the Chamber beverage booth; and of course our president **Terrill Chock** and immediate past president **Reuben Wong** with their spectacular leadership to make

this event successful. Next year, with more time to prepare and coordinate, "Taste of China" will be bigger and better to bring Chinese food, arts and crafts, culture, and living all under one roof. And finally, a special thanks to Title Sponsors Hawaii National Bank and Loyalty Enterprises, Ltd., and Program Sponsor Aloha Laser Vision.



"Taste of China"—A Cultural and Trade Show on October 4, 2003, 10 a.m.- 9:00 p.m. at the Neal Blaisdell Center Hawaii Suites.



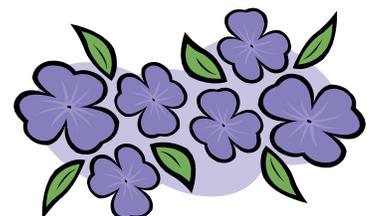
Shenzhen government delegation, led by Mr. Zhang Shengxuan, Director General, Shenzhen Overseas Chinese Affairs Office, visited Hawaii for September 19-21, 2003. During the stay in Hawaii, the delegation had received warm hospitality accorded by the Chinese Chamber and the USCPFA.

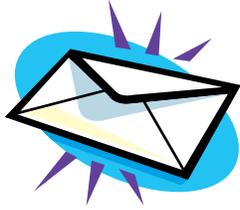
# Taiwanese Food Festival

On Sunday, September 28, the Hawaii Taiwan Association held its 2003 Taiwanese Food Festival at McCoy Pavilion in Ala Moana Park. Admission to the 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. event was free. There were art demonstrations, fruit carving, jewel designs, and food sales. In addition, there was a "Taiwan Pass" for \$10.00 which foodies like your editor could use to taste twelve different food samples from various counties in Taiwan. In numerical order, it included Keelung (fried mochi balls), Taipei (tea-leaf hard boiled egg), Taoyuan (sauced, dried bean curd), Hsinchu ("crunchy" meat ball), Taichung (kidney-shaped taro rice cake), Yunlin (steamed sticky rice), Chiayi (sweet bean curd jelly), Tainan (steamed rice topped with stewed pork), Kaohsiung (pan-fried rice noodle), Yilian (candied plum and fruits), Hualien (glazed yam), and Penghu (crunchy peanut candy). **Dick Allgire** covered the festival for that evening's KITV news. All in all, a nice lead-in to the Chamber's own "Taste of China" on October 4.

## CONDOLENCES

Our sincere condolences and deepest sympathies go out to former Chamber president **Vernon Ching**, whose father, **Edward**, a retired restaurateur, passed away on October 2, and to Skyway Express president **Edward Ngan**, whose son, **Andrew**, passed away on October 13.





According to the Saturday, September 13 *Honolulu Advertiser*, L & L Drive-Inn owners **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, and **Kwock Yum "Johnson" Kam** are in the enviable position of having eager, would-be franchisees for their mainland brand, L & L Hawaiian Barbecue, inundating them with unsolicited \$30,000 checks in hopes of getting a franchise. At press time, there were 49 L & Ls in Hawaii and 25 Hawaiian Barbecues in California, Nevada, Washington state, and

Connecticut with 18 more coming on the mainland—Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New York—and 10 more mainland outlets in the works. All of this without any advertising—just word-of-mouth, sort of like Krispy Kreme donuts. Eddie noted that there are already three or four “Hawaiian barbecue” knock-offs in Los Angeles.

*Elvira Chocolat* owner **Elvira Lo** and other chocolate-lovers are looking forward to the opening of the “Chocolate” exhibit at the Bishop Museum on Saturday, October 18. Elvira, whose chocolate goodies have been featured on QVC, was asked to provide items for display. There will be a historical and interactive tour where you can examine a life-size *cacao* tree, explore chocolate-inspired artifacts, and discover the history of chocolate in Hawaii. The exhibition will run through Sunday January 4, 2004. Admission is \$14.95 for adults, \$11.95 for children from 4-12 years of age, seniors and military, and free for children under 4 years old.

**Rod Tam** has been busy working to save financially troubled Honolulu Memorial Park. Rod and fellow City

Council members **Nestor Garcia** and **Charles Djou** have been busy coping with the bus strike and the need to raise fares to get the buses running again. In the last few weeks, arbitrators have added to their headaches by awarding the police a 16% pay raise over four years. (Rod, Nestor, and Charles, as well as the rest of the Council, should remember that if and when the \$1 billion BRT boondoggle is ever fully implemented, they and successive Councils will have a \$154 million—\$71 million in operations and maintenance, plus \$83 million in debt service—headache *every year ad infinitum*).

Chamber board member **Stanford Yuen** is serving on the Chinatown Action Plan Project advisory committee. Other Chamber members on the advisory committee are past president **Warren Luke**, and board members **Ted Li** and **Dr. Joseph Young**.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov 11 • Tue **Verteran's Day**
- Nov 13 • Thur **55th Narcissus Festival Kick-Off Reception**  
Hilton Hawaiian Village  
Coral Ballroom - 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 18 • Tue **Executive Board Meeting**  
Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
- Nov 25 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**  
New Empress Restaurant - 12:00 noon
- Nov 27 • Tue **Thanksgiving Day**

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

## CHAMBER'S VISITORS

September 19-21, 2003

- Mr. Zhang, Sheng-xuan, Director General  
Shenzhen Overseas Chinese Affairs Office and  
delegation of 7

Editor: Gerald Chang  
Graphic Designer: Angela Wu-Ki  
Staff: Wen Chung Lin, Grace Chan



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42 North King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817