

LANTERN

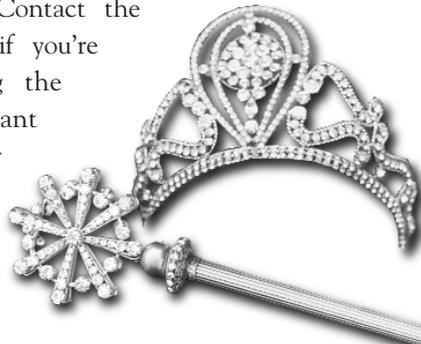
December, 2004

Narcissus Pageant and Coronation Ball

Saturday, January 15, will see the selection of the 56th Narcissus Queen from among the twelve lovely contestants. As has been the case for many years, the Narcissus Pageant will be held at the **Neal S. Blaisdell** Concert Hall. The evening will begin promptly at 6:15 p.m. There are still some \$31.00 tickets for seats in the balcony and there are also \$25.00 tickets.

The pageant usually ends around 10:00 p.m. so that the names of the new queen and her court can be printed in the Sunday newspapers. At the conclusion of the pageant, family and friends are asked to meet and greet the contestants outside the Concert Hall rather than lingering inside. Shortly after the end of the pageant, there will be a get-together at Hee Hing, 449 Kapahulu Avenue. There will be heavy *pupu* and liquid refreshments, all for the nominal price of \$8.75 per person.

Then on Saturday, January 29, the new Narcissus Queen will be crowned at a gala dinner at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The Coronation Ball will have no-host cocktails, starting at 5:00 p.m., and the program and dinner will be kicked off by the traditional lion dance at 6:00 p.m. Tickets for the gala seven-course Chinese dinner, ceremonies, entertainment, and dancing are \$60.00 per person or \$550.00 per table. Contact the Chamber at 533-3181 if you're interested in attending the Pageant, the post-pageant reception at Hee Hing, or the Coronation Ball, but don't wait too long because tickets are going fast!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Hong Kong Harbour View Seafood Restaurant was the site for the latest general membership meeting on Wednesday, November 17. Forty-nine members took time out for the lunchtime meeting. In addition to the introduction of new members, estate and trust attorney **Rowen N. Young** gave a presentation of "Personal Thoughts on Estate Planning."

Kickoff Reception

The Kickoff Reception for the 56th annual Narcissus Festival took place on Thursday, November 4, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Tapa Ballroom. A multitude of Chamber members, family, and friends were there to sample the variety of free food provided through the efforts of **June Tong** and the Hilton Hawaiian Village, and oh, yes, to get a look at and to support the twelve lovely Narcissus contestants – **Helen Hoi Yan Ching**, **Roberta Ann Chai Sin Ching**, **Carolyn Bow Yuk Chun**, **Christine Mei Gin Doo**, **Darah Annette Kwai Mei Dung**, **Cecilia Ann Shi Mei Fong**, **Shirley Shiuly Lam**, **Caroline Cheung Wing Lau**, **Courtnee Ying Xing Lee**, **Janelle Siu Ling Leong**, **Sharilyn Sau-Jun Pang**, and **Jerilyn Lin Choy Young**.

The evening began with a lion dance performed by the Gee Yung International Martial Arts Dragon and Lion Dance Association. Dr. **Timothy Choy** served as master of ceremonies, introducing President Winfred Pong and Festival Chairman Dr. **Ming Chen**, who each made welcoming remarks. Before the introduction of the contestants, 55th Narcissus Queen **Kerri Ching** was introduced along with her princesses – **Rosalynn Chan**, **Sonja Tam**, **Julie Wong**, and **Kristina Chang** – and introduction of the instructors who have shared their knowledge of various aspects of Chinese culture and history in classes for the contestants. Some 500 people were present and this year, there was more than enough food for everyone. Also, the JN Automotive group had a new Chevrolet and motorcycle on display.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



President
Winfred Pong

We often greet each New Year with new resolutions and new goals for the year. As the Chamber of Commerce for the Hawaii Chinese community, we will continue to strive toward implementing the goals of our mission statement by continuing to rely on the support of our membership to share ideas and efforts to promote business development in Hawaii with an emphasis on the Chinese community.

As we enter another new year, we will continue our efforts to work on projects to market and promote Chinatown. Although numerous community leaders have offered various ideas on how to develop Chinatown, the only clear sentiment shared by everyone is that Chinatown is an economic development engine that is waiting to be ignited. Chinatown is not only a place where the Chinese and Asian community shop, work, and play, it is an attraction for our visitors to spend money and thereby support the economic development of our Chinese

community. The implementation of projects to market and promote Chinatown are an integral strategic objective for the economic development of Chinatown.

We are currently negotiating with the City and County of Honolulu to obtain funds that will assist us toward achieving this objective. If we are successful, we will be able to work with other business and Chinese cultural organizations to develop strategic objectives and action plans to market and promote Chinatown as a place of cultural diversity where the Chinese community shops, works, and plays. As we prepare for this opportunity, the Chinese Chamber will once again need to call upon its membership for assistance. We will need your ideas and efforts to participate in a committee of your officers to develop strategic objectives and to evaluate projects that will promote Chinatown.

The new year also brings with it our celebration of the Chinese New Year of the Rooster and the 56th annual Narcissus Festival. This year, there are twelve contestants who have dedicated themselves to learning more about our Chinese culture and are vying for the title of Narcissus Queen. They will be demonstrating their poise, talent, and beauty at the Queen Pageant on Saturday, January 15, at the Neal Blaisdell Center Concert Hall. With the support of their friends and family, we know we will be proud of their efforts and their desire to represent our Chinese community.

After much anticipation and anxiousness, the 56th Narcissus Queen and Court will be selected at the Queen Pageant, and the Queen will be crowned at the Coronation Ball on Saturday, January 29, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The Coronation Ball will once again be a grand and gala affair.

After her coronation, the Narcissus Queen and Court will preside over their first official function by appearing at the Chinatown New Year Celebration on Saturday, February 5. The Queen and Court will be escorted to the various shops in Chinatown while lion dances are being performed and firecrackers are being exploded in the streets. Food booths and Chinese culture and entertainment will also be provided for our enjoyment.

The pageantry will continue as the Narcissus Queen and Court preside over this year's production of the Fashion Show on Sunday, March 20, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. If you enjoy seeing current fashions of Hawaii, this is a must-attend event.

On behalf of the officers and directors of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, we extend our best wishes to you and hope that all of your resolutions for the new year will be fulfilled. We also hope that you will be able to join us as we renew our efforts to fulfill our mission of promoting business development and Chinese culture in Hawaii.

Kung Hee Fat Choy!

CHAMBER NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Palolo Chinese Home Visitation

Led by former Chamber Presidents **Vernon Ching** and **Walter Chang**, a group of over forty Chamber members and friends made the annual visit to the Palolo Chinese Home on Sunday, December 3. The group included Narcissus Third Princess **Julie Wong**, all twelve Narcissus contestants, Chamber Board members **Daniel Lau**, **Edward Hu**, **Michele Choy**, **Chian Leng Chia**, Chamber Executive Vice President **Wen Chung Lin**, and Chamber members state senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** and **Leigh-Wai Doo**, among others. After plate lunches were served to the appreciative residents, everyone joined in singing a number of Christmas carols, led by choirmaster **Walter Chang**. A good time was had by all, and if you couldn't make it this year, there's always next year.



CHONGQING REVISITED *by Douglas Ho*

Many exciting events happened during my latest trip to the municipality of Chongqing, a city of 31 million people and potentially the most explosive developing area in China. A major accomplishment was my securing an official invitation from **Wang Hongju**, the mayor of Chongqing, for Mayor-elect **Mufi Hanneman** to attend the 5th Asia Pacific Cities Summit in Chongqing from Tuesday, October 11th to Friday, October 14, 2005. With a

theme of "City, Man and Nature," the summit will include roundtable meetings of mayors from all over China and Southeast Asia, keynote speakers, panel discussions, business forums, and sight-seeing.

In addition, I was also invited as a guest speaker and special guest at another summit meeting between the mayors of Chongqing and Zeiyang, another city of over five million people, located halfway between Chongqing

and Chengdu. This televised event documented the signing of letters of intent and trade agreements between these two industrial power bases. I am also happy to report that the mayor and officials from Zeiyang have extended an open invitation for me to visit their city along with any Hawaii people who may be interested in perhaps doing business there. For further information, please contact me at 591-9799.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS



The word is spreading about L & L Hawaiian Barbecue. **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, and **Kwock Yum "Johnson" Kam** and their Hawaiian plate lunches were prominently featured by **Julie Tamaki** in a December 13 *Los Angeles Times* article, "Hawaiian Food's New Mainland Fan Base." The article on L & L and some of its Southern California imitator-competitors is now archived on the *Times'* Web site and available for purchase for \$2.95.

On Saturday, December 11, **Joseph Young**, was honored as the United Chinese Society's 2005 Citizen of the Year. The dinner, which also saw the installation of UCS officers, was held at the Waikiki Lau Yee Chai. In addition to being a Chamber director since 1997, Joe has contributed his time and efforts to a number of organizations, including serving as president of over half a dozen Chinese organizations, the latest being head of Mun Lun School Mo Hock Ke Lock Bo (1997-2000); a member of the Washington University Board of Governors, the East Honolulu Neighborhood Board, Palolo Chinese Home Heritage Fund Drive (co-chair), the task force to have Chinatown street signs translated into Chinese characters, and Chee Kung Tong (director); and being selected as UCS 1998 Chinese Model Father of the Year.

The United Chinese Society's 2004 Citizen of the Year, Chamber Board member **Daniel Lau** was recently selected as Hawaii's Outstanding Older (65 and older) Worker by the national employment training firm, Experience

Works, in Washington, D.C. Danny is a graduate of McKinley High School and the University of Hawaii, Manoa, who served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was awarded a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster. (For those who aren't familiar with the U.S. military award system, the Purple Heart is awarded for injuries sustained as a result of enemy action and the oak leaf cluster indicates a second or subsequent award). In addition to still serving as chairman and secretary of Finance Factors, Limited, he has been a volunteer and financial supporter of Junior Achievement, Multiple Sclerosis, Meals on Wheels and others as well as a member of the East-West Center board. In his spare time, Danny has been a softball player and coach, who led his over-75 seniors team to world championships in 1995 and 2000, and still coaches Little League Baseball. Articles on his award appeared in the December 6 *Advertiser* and December 18 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*.

On a light note, **Li May Tang** was pictured in both the "Today" and "Food for Thought" sections of the December 17 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* and then in the December 19 *Honolulu Advertiser* "Dining Out" section. According to **Ruby Mata-Viti's** article, "Building a better bathroom," at Li May's recently opened Shanghai Bistro, the state-of-the-art bathrooms are attracting almost as much attention as the restaurant's food, drinks, and decor. The reason is the "touchless" features activated by infrared sensors on the flush mechanisms, water faucets, paper towel dispensers, and air fresheners. The major attraction for first-time patrons though are the motion-activated toilet seat covers, with a push-button backup. (However, the toilet paper dispenser is the conventional roll, with a backup). Li May's criteria for deciding whether a restaurant is worth patronizing again: whether the bathroom is clean or messy. In contrast, **Jo McGarry's** article concentrates on chef **Chih-Chieh Chang's** food: "Shanghai Bistro is a restaurant where almost every dish deserves a mention." Finally, the "Dining Out" article had a picture of Li May and Chef Chang showcasing some of the intriguing "fusion" dishes on the Shanghai Bistro's Christmas menu.

Elvira Lo was recently installed as 74th President of the Associated Chinese University Women on November 12 She will be heading the ACUW in 2005.

Although not a Chamber member (as is true for almost all former Narcissus Queens with the exception of **Maile Loo**, who is a Chamber member and director), 1974 Narcissus Queen **Cynthia Chun** was in the news recently. For a number of years, she has been principal of **Samuel W. King** Intermediate School in Kaneohe. According to the December 22 *Honolulu Advertiser*, Cynthia has been named the 2004 Citizen of the Year by the Kaneohe Neighborhood Board for helping her students improve academically and socially by establishing a mentoring program for students, by working with the community to create better relations with the school's neighbors, and by persevering in dealing with an aging school facility and inadequate resources. Congratulations, Cynthia.

NEW MEMBERS

At its meeting on November 30, the Board of Directors approved the applications for **Tracy Chiang**, CPA, branch manager for World Financial group, a financial services firm (sponsored by **Gordon Au**); **Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock**, principal broker, president, and general manager of ABC Mortgage (sponsored by **Gordon Au**); and **Donna Tso**, a financial representative with New England Financial, an insurance and investment firm (sponsored by **Wanda Tse**). Welcome and we look forward to meeting you at the next general membership meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 1 • Sat	NEW YEAR DAY
Jan 6 • Thu	Chinese Lunar Stamp Celebration Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom 11:00 a.m.
Jan 15 • Sat	56th Narcissus Queen Pageant NBC Concert Hall - 6:15 p.m.
Jan 17 • Mon	Martin Luther King Day
Jan 18 • Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
Jan 25 • Tue	Board of Directors Meeting New Empress Restaurant - 12:00 noon
Jan 29 • Sat	56th Narcissus Coronation Ball Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom 5:00 p.m.



Chamber Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 19, the annual Christmas party was held at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii Officers' Club from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This was a new venue as well as a new time since most Chamber Christmas parties have been held in the evening. In any event, members had the opportunity to enjoy the view of the Klipper golf course and a panoramic view of Kaneohe and Kailua bays. Eighty-five Chamber members as well as family members and friends enjoyed a relatively cool, cloudy, but rainless day. There was a wide selection of food – salads, entrees, side dishes, and desserts – to satisfy all but the most discriminating diners. Following the buffet lunch, there was the traditional Christmas carol singing (although the usual choirmaster, **Walter Chang**, had another engagement and could not be there, so **Wanda Tse** ably filled in for him) as well as a number of door prizes. **Ted Li** was chair of the event, and acknowledged the hard work of his committee members – **Wesley Fong**, **Wanda Tse**, **Leonard Kam** (who also served as master of ceremonies), **Joseph Young**, and **Thong Songvilay** – as well as the contributions from donors – **Elvira Lo** of Elvira Chocolat (chocolate-covered tiki cookies), **Roger and Lynn Lam**, **Victor Lim** (McDonald's certificates), **Michael Chan**, **Phoebe Chrisman**, **Wesley Fong**, **Dennis and Rena Hwang**, **Wanda Tse**, **Vera and Reuben Wong**, **Alvin Wong**, **Winfred Pong**, and **Joseph Young**. Many thanks to each of the members of the committee as well as to each of the door prize and Christmas bingo prize donors.

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