

LANTERN

September 2005



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Splendor of China

NARCISSUS KICKOFF RECEPTION

As many of you may know by now, the Chamber's Splendor of China event will be held at Neal Blaisdell exhibition hall on Saturday and Sunday, October 8 and 9. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. There will be food booths, souvenirs and fresh produce, lion dances and performers from China, a Guangdong photo exhibit "Dynamic Guangdong: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," acupuncture demonstrations, a ping pong tournament, a Chinese dog show (perhaps with one or more of **Victor Lim's** beloved *shar peis*), a *manapua* eating contest, a *mah jong* exhibition, an interactive Keiki Korner, a magic show, Chinese folk dancing, and cooking demonstrations. There will also be a drawing for a round-trip ticket to China, courtesy of All Nippon Airways (ANA). Admission is a nominal \$2.00, FREE for children under 12 years of age and for military with I.D. Tickets are available at the Chamber's office at 42 North King Street and on the event dates at the Blaisdell Center box office.

For a change of pace, this year, the Narcissus Festival kickoff reception will be held in conjunction with the Splendor of China on Saturday, October 8. The lovely contestants will make their first public appearance on the main stage at 1:30 p.m., and the reception will be held immediately after in the Pikake Room. Since it's being held after lunch, only light refreshments will be served. Each Chamber member should already have received two (2) complimentary tickets to the Splendor of China. If you plan to attend the reception, please contact the Chamber not later than Friday, September 30, so that we can have an accurate head count. And please note that entry to the reception is through the exhibition hall.

Governor's Welcome Luncheon

Also part of the twentieth anniversary of the Hawaii-Guangdong sister state-province, on Wednesday, October 12, there will be a luncheon to welcome Guangdong Governor **Huang Huahua** and a delegation of seventy officials and businesspeople. The luncheon will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom, starting at 11:30 a.m. Cost is \$35.00 per person, and if you plan to attend, please RSVP by calling the Chamber at 533-3181 not later than Wednesday, October 5. Attire is business/aloha. The luncheon is sponsored by the Chamber, the United Chinese Society of Hawaii, and the Chinese Community in Hawaii.

(The delegation will visit Hawaii October 11-13. About forty people representing travel and tourism destinations and businesses will be here for a tourism seminar on October 12 and to meet with Hawaii companies and organizations interested in partnership opportunities, including travel and tourism, training, and tourism development).

Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra

As part of the twentieth anniversary of the Hawaii-Guangdong sister state-province relationship, the Honolulu Symphony and Governor **Linda Lingle** are presenting the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 11, at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. Pieces by Dvorak, Mozart, Puccini, and Tchaikovsky, along with the Yunnan ballad "Flowing Water by the River" and the Jiangsu ballad "Jasmine," will be performed. Maestro **Long Yu** will conduct and there will be appearances by lyric sopranos **Cui Zhengrong** and **Lea Woods Friedman**. Tickets are \$22.00, \$30.00, \$39.00, \$47.00, and \$60.00, and can be ordered by calling the box office at 792-2000 or Ticketmaster at 1-877-750-4400. There is a twenty percent (20%) discount for seniors, students, and military (on in-person ticket purchases).



President
Ming Chen

The mission of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii is to promote Chinese business, culture, and civic activities in Hawaii. We have done a tremendous job with regard to business, such as the Splendor of China. We have also done a tremendous job with regard to culture, such as the Narcissus Festival. However, we need to do more in the area of civic activities, such as community service, charity, and so on.

To this end, the Chamber Foundation was established in 1994 to specifically raise funds to help the Chamber to promote our civic mission. Since I became president of the Chamber earlier this year, I have been privileged and honored to also be president of the foundation. It means another job outside my medical practice. Nevertheless, I am very interested in the foundation.

The Chamber Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax-exempt foundation. Many government and private sector funds as well as various foundations are able to donate to the foundation to help us in our mission. The Chamber Foundation has contributed funds to our cultural events as well as to the tsunami relief fund and most recently, the hurricane relief fund. It is my intention, through the foundation, to support some medical fair, medical mission, and other societies' civic activities. I believe that if we can do enough acknowledged community service and charitable work, the foundation can grow and may even one day help us get our own building.

We will develop a brochure and add information to our Web site about the foundation and its role in supporting the Chamber's mission. We will invite members of the public to be benefactors of the Chamber Foundation through immediate or deferred contributions. Recognition as a "benefactor" of the foundation would go to anyone who informs the Chamber in writing that he or she has made provision in his or her will, life insurance policy, annuity or other written financial document, naming the Chinese Chamber Foundation as a beneficiary of \$3,000.00 or more. (Details will be provided in a future message). If you believe in the Chamber's mission and would like to make a tax-exempt contribution, the foundation is a worthwhile recipient to consider.

On a different subject, I am happy to inform you that we had a sold-out

golf tournament at the prestigious Waialae Country Club on Wednesday, September 14, to raise funds for the Chamber foundation to donate to the Hurricane Katrina relief fund. About \$1,000.00 was raised for the American Red Cross. I would like to thank honorary chair **Warren Luke** and chairs **Richard Chun-Hoon** and **Howard Kam** for making this tournament possible. Special thanks to the host members of the Waialae Country Club for their warm hospitality. This was one opportunity for members of the Chamber to network with members of the country club while having fun golfing.

Finally, I would like to close this month's message by sharing a word of wisdom from **Leonard Nimoy**. He said, "The miracle is this – the more we share, the more we have."

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

Twelve Girls Band

On Friday, November 4, promoter **Tom Moffatt** will present the PRC's Twelve Girls Band at the Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall. The choice of a dozen members has a basis in Chinese numerology: the twelve years in the zodiac cycle, and in ancient mythology, twelve *jinchai* or golden hairpins, which represent womanhood. Further inspiration came from Yue Fang, the female chamber orchestras that played for the Tang dynasty royal court. Each member of the band is classically trained, and play multiple traditional Chinese instruments as well as Western electronic keyboards and percussion. Tickets are now on sale for \$35.00, \$45.00, \$55.00, and \$75.00 in-person at the Blaisdell box office and all Ticketmaster outlets or charge by phone by calling the box office at 792-2000 or Ticketmaster at 1-877-750-4400.

Lion Dance Competition

The 2nd annual Hawaii World Invitational Lion Dance Championship will be held at Blaisdell Arena on Sunday, October 2, starting at 2:00 p.m. Last year's champions, the Khuan Loke Dragon and Lion Dance Association, will return to defend their title. Other clubs from Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Gee Yung Dragon and Lion Dance Association of Hawaii will be competing for the championship. The competition will be in a single-round format with all tams competing for the championship in a single round. Tickets are \$35.00 and \$50.00, with a \$10.00 discount for children 12 years of age and under as well as for seniors.

CAR SALES OPPORTUNITY

JN Chevrolet has been quite supportive of the Narcissus Festival over the last few years. They have an opening for a Chinese-speaking sales executive. If you're interested, contact **Danny Kim** at 831-2500 or apply in person.

The Last Flying Tiger

by Douglas Ho

World War II veterans from China, the former Soviet Union, and the U.S. gathered in Beijing early in August to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the victory in what is known as the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the World Anti-Fascist War. It was awe-inspiring to say the least as I witnessed my friend, 84-year old **Ed Leung**, being decorated on August 15 by President **Hu Jintao**, along with several hundred other veterans for their heroic achievements during World War II. As expected, I was invited to several banquets celebrating this historic event and met many veterans, including 90-year old **J. Richard "Dick" Rossi**, the top surviving ace of the Flying Tigers who shot down six enemy planes over China.

As I mentioned in my last report, Eddie is the last surviving Chinese pilot who flew for Major General **Claire Chennault's** legendary Flying Tigers. In addition to over 2,100 hours flying transport missions, Eddie flew B-24 bombers for Chennault during the closing months of the war.

Eddie Leung is known as the "hero of the Himalayas" for his daring transport missions over the world's most treacherous mountain range, called "the Hump" during WWII. Nearly 600 transport planes crashed in the Himalayas, killing over 3,000 pilots, crewmen, and passengers while trying to supply the Chinese and American forces under the command of General **Joseph W. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell**. If you ever have the opportunity to visit Chongqing, make sure to visit the Flying Tiger and Stilwell museums which are located across from each other.

After a tumultuous week in Beijing, I was able to get together with Eddie Leung in his hometown of Chongqing to plan for his trip to Hawaii. Mr. Leung recently cancelled a trip to Hankou to celebrate the signing of the Japanese surrender in that city sixty years ago. Mr. Leung was the first to arrive in Hankou to accept the surrender of Japanese troops. However, the ceremony in Beijing took such a toll on him that he decided to return home for a well-deserved rest. I hope to have Mr. Leung recognized in Hawaii for his achievements next year through the efforts of the Chinese Chamber.

DISASTER PREPARATION

With Hurricane Katrina hitting the Gulf Coast on August 29 (with Hurricane Rita following several weeks later) and at one point in mid-September, Hurricanes Jova, Kenneth, Lidia, and Max heading toward Hawaii, most Hawaii residents have focused on preparing for a hurricane (or tsunami) one day hitting Hawaii. The *Honolulu Advertiser* had a series of articles from Sunday, September 18, to Thursday, September 22; the article on power and communications was rather superficial, especially our highly vulnerable electricity supply. Similarly, the *San Francisco Chronicle* had a multi-part series of articles "Are we ready?" on September 18 and 19, along with a four-page listing so you can "Make Your Own Preparedness Kit" (<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/earthquakes/archive/ready.dtl>). Also, the *Seattle Times* Web site has a very useful disaster tip sheet (<http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/news/local/links/disaster/prepare.pdf>), with three pages on "How to prepare for a disaster" and two more pages on "How to survive a disaster." And finally, various disaster preparedness kits are available from the American Red Cross and the Hawaii Chapter (selections are not the same at their respective Web sites).

CHAMBER'S VISITORS

September 9-11, 2005

- Honorable Wu Bangguo, Chairman
The Standing Committee of the China National
People's Congress and his delegation

September 9-11, 2005

- Mr. Zhong Jianhua, Consul General
The Consulate General of the People's Republic of
China and delegation

KENNETH KWAK

by George Chu

It was very sad and shocking to learn of the sudden passing of Director **Kenneth H. S. Kwak** on September 15 in South Bend, Indiana. Kenneth had been serving on a special committee for Notre Dame University for a number of years and was there to attend a meeting and the Notre Dame-Michigan State football game.

Our Chamber was fortunate to have had Kenneth's cooperation and support when he was with what was then the State Department of Business and Economic Development almost twenty years ago. At that time, he coordinated with our Chamber to stage the first ever China Trade Show in Hawaii and the United States. This was eventually followed by several such trade exhibitions in Hawaii from various Chinese cities.

Upon Kenneth's early retirement from the State of Hawaii about ten years ago, he became very active with our China Management Training Program. Kenneth, together with four other committee members, handled all the program agendas and arrangements of this most successful undertaking for our Chamber. Altogether, there were seventeen China management groups from many different cities, which benefited greatly from this experience.

Kenneth was always willing to assist in whatever needed to be done for our organization. In fact, he was ready to work with us on an upcoming project covering expected Chinese tourists to Hawaii in the near future.

Kenneth Kwak was never too busy to pitch in with his extensive knowledge, experience, and dependable assistance. We will all miss him. Our condolences and sympathies to his family: wife **Charlene**; sons **Gavin** and **Kale**; brothers **Anthony** and **Michael**; and sister **Carol Wong**.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Belated congratulations to Honolulu Councilman **Charles Djou**. The August 10 issue of *Honolulu Weekly* recognized "The Best of Honolulu 2005." Charles was runner-up as "Best Politician" according to the Weekly's readers and was also the editor's pick as "Best Politician."

All aboard! According to an ad for Air & Sea Travel Center in the September 18 *Honolulu Advertiser* travel section, **Wesley Fong** will be leading a thirteen-day tour (December 27, 2005-January 8, 2006) to Angkor Wat in Kampuchea (Cambodia) as well as to Bangkok, Thailand, and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Hue, and Hanoi in Vietnam. Cost of the tour is \$2,788.00, plus tax.

Stanford Yuen, executive assistant to the commander, Navy Region Hawaii, has been very busy lately. On August 22, he participated in the ceremony in which the 5.6 acre parcel *makai* of the

Nimitz Spur was formally transferred to the City & County of Honolulu as the Charles. H. Thurston fire training center, as authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act of 2004. Then on September 1, Stan testified before the City Council Transportation Committee on a council proposal to build a bridge across Pearl Harbor or Ford Island to alleviate Leeward traffic gridlock. (Apparently none of the City officials have recognized the need to synchronize the City's stop lights, which would have a salutary effect, a "traffic smoothing" effect, rippling outward from the city's central business district). As of this writing, Stan is in China.

Li May Tang's Shanghai Bistro is among the Hawaii Restaurant Association member restaurants participating in "Dine for America" on Wednesday, October 5. The event is a nationwide, industry-wide initiative, a fund-raiser for victims of Hurricane Katrina (and now presumably for Hurricane Rita as well). What participating restaurants will contribute varies from restaurant to restaurant – a percentage of that day's sales or profits, diners' cash donations, etc. At Shanghai Bistro, a percentage of sales that day will be donated. Also, on

Saturday, October 8, chef **Chih Chieh Chang** will demonstrate cooking shrimp sticks at the Splendor of China at 3:45 p.m. Finally, on Saturday, October 15, there will be a 10:00 a.m. cooking class at Shanghai Bistro featuring shrimp dishes, and the cost of \$15.00 per person includes lunch. To sign up for the cooking class, call 955-8668.

With some retail stores not waiting for Thanksgiving to put Christmas-related items on sale, **Raymond Siu**, owner of Pah Ke's Bakery & Deli in 99 Ranch Market, will have gift baskets with its desserts and breads available for sale. Custom baskets can also be ordered. Just call **Sharon** or **Stacy** at 836-0273. Also, at his restaurant in Kaneohe, Raymond has some of his innovative dishes like *ahi sashimi* salad and tempura Dungeness crab with salt and pepper sauce. (Ten pieces of his Chinese *taro mochi* for \$3.75 are worth trying).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct 8 • Sat **Splendor of China**
Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Oct 9 • Sun **Splendor of China**
Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Oct 10 • Mon **Columbus Day**
- Oct 18 • Tue **Executive Board Meeting**
Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
- Oct 25 • Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**
New Empress Restaurant - 12:00 noon

NEW MEMBERS

At its August 30 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the application for **Fung Yang**, director of VR Business Broker (sponsored by **Frances Goo**). Welcome to the Chamber.

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42 North King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
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Editor: Gerald Chang
Graphic Designer: Angela Wu-Ki
Staff: Wen Chung Lin, Grace Chan



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII
42 North King Street • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817