

LANTERN

December, 2007

Narcissus Pageant

Right after the Christmas and New Year holidays, the 59th annual Narcissus Pageant will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2008, at the Hawaii Theatre. This date, very early in the new year, is due to the fact that Chinese New Year comes relatively early on February 7. (In contrast, in 2009, Chinese New Year will arrive on January 26 while in 2015, it won't arrive until February 19). The night's exciting schedule will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Mistress of ceremonies will be **Joann Shin**, formerly of KHNL News 8. The thirteen lovely contestants will show off their gorgeous *cheongsams*, entertain you with their well-rehearsed talent, and demonstrate what they have learned about their Chinese culture and heritage over the last four months. The evening will culminate with the announcement of the talent winner, Miss Congeniality (selected by a vote of the contestants), Miss Popularity (based on ticket and souvenir book sales), and finally, the new Narcissus Queen and her court. After that, family and friends will have a chance to congratulate all of the contestants for all their hard work outside the theater at **Sun Yat-sen** Memorial Park (formerly Gateway Park).



Tickets are \$28.00 and \$33.00, which includes a \$2.00 theater restoration fee, and are available now from the Hawaii Theatre box office. Tickets can be purchased in person from the box office, which is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or charged by phone by calling 528-0506. Please note that NO tickets are available from the Chinese Chamber office.

Family and friends of the contestants are cordially invited to a post-Pageant reception at Hee Hing Restaurant in Kapahulu, starting around 10:30 p.m. You'll have a chance to present *lei* and flowers, as well as to talk with the contestants as well as the new Narcissus Queen and her four princesses. There will be heavy *pupu* and no-host liquid refreshments. The cost is \$9.50 per person. Call the Chamber to reserve your place and so that there can be an accurate head count for ordering the food.

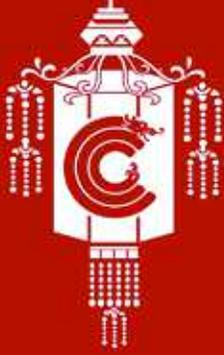
Ballroom Dance Classes by Michele Choy

Lynn and Richard Nakamura will be teaching a FREE crash course in ballroom dancing, open to all Chamber members. The Nakamuras have been instructing the Chamber officers and Narcissus Courts for the past six years in preparation for the First Waltz at the Coronation Ball. In addition, the Nakamuras have been dance instructors for the Hawaii Ballroom Dancing Association as well as at Leeward Community College and for the City and County of Honolulu at Kaneohe District Park.

The classes are scheduled for four Tuesdays – December 11 and 18 and January 8 and 15 – at the recreation room of the condominium located at 1133 Waimanu Street in Kakaako. (On-street parking is available nearby). The classes will run from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. So come with your spouse or significant other and be prepared to have some fun. (Singles are welcome, too). The classes are in preparation for the Coronation Ball on January 26, so take this opportunity to acquire or refresh your dancing skills and to apply them at the ball! If you want to be in the classes, please call the Chamber so that a headcount can be given to the Nakamuras.

CORONATION BALL

The 59th annual coronation ball will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom on Saturday, January 26. The theme this year is "East Meets West at the Summer Palace" and the room will be decorated reminiscent of the Qing dynasty's Summer Palace (*Yihe Yuan*) outside Beijing. There will be a sumptuous Chinese dinner; a variety of Eastern, Western, and Hawaiian entertainment; and to cap the evening, ballroom dancing to suitable music. More information, including prices for individuals and tables (with or without wine) will be provided in next month's *Lantern*.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
Edward Y. W. Pei

Is it December already? Where has the year gone? Our fiscal year is almost half over and this is a good time to reflect upon our accomplishments and disappointments. We realized at the onset that it would be difficult to accomplish all of our ambitious plans in twelve months, so I am pleased that your Executive Committee has pledged commitment and continuity to carry forth these plans over the next three years. Notwithstanding that pledge, we realize that there is much left to do this year. So there remains a sense of urgency to adequately serve the needs of our members as well as serving the needs of our community.

We believe that the reason most of our members join the Chamber is for networking opportunities, and we have had one very successful membership meeting, and one very successful social event. Our second quarterly membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 12, at the Hong Kong Harbor View Restaurant. Two DBEDT experts, working in Beijing and Taipei, will present ideas on "Marketing Hawaii to China." See the enclosed flyer for further details.

In addition to networking and business development, we believe that our members also want training and educa-

tional opportunities. Although we have not sponsored any training and educational sessions ourselves, we have shared such opportunities with all of you as they have surfaced. And we have had preliminary discussions with Hawaii Pacific University about partnering to provide educational opportunities for our members, as well as special programs to assist our members with their business endeavors.

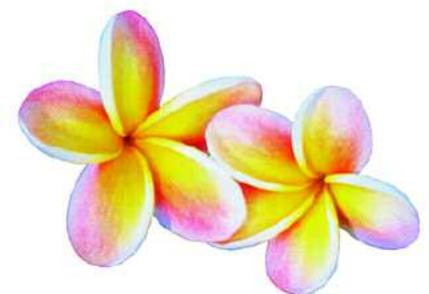
Another area of focus for our organization is public advocacy. We are currently working with the other chambers of commerce in Hawaii to set an agenda for the upcoming legislative session that begins in January, 2008. Beyond the legislative agenda, we have established a basis for working with the other major ethnic chambers in town and will be meeting with them shortly to determine how we can work more closely together to achieve our mutual objectives. And finally, we have taken the first steps in assessing the needs of Chinatown and will be forming an *ad hoc* committee to ascertain the role the Chamber should play in the revitalization of Chinatown.

In terms of our community and cultural activities, the Narcissus Festival was off to a roaring start with the very successful Splendor of China in early October. Planning has begun for next year's event and local vendors have already been submitting reservations to participate next year. (We have already scheduled it on October 4 and 5, 2008, at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall, so mark your calendars). The Queen Pageant on January 5, 2008 will feature thirteen lovely contestants. The January 26 Coronation Ball will showcase many surprises and will once again be the social event of the

year for the Chinese community. The Chinese New Year celebration will take center stage on Maunakea Street and at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza on February 1 and 2, and the Festival will culminate on April 2 with the Narcissus Classic. This year's event will feature the stage production of "Flower Drum Song," and we are delighted that **Nancy Kwan**, who starred in the movie version, will be in Hawaii for our pre-show reception.

One other community activity deserves our serious attention. For the last three years, **Anthony Chang** has conducted the weekly Chamber-sponsored walking tours of Chinatown for fascinated visitors and residents. We have been approached by the Hawaii Theatre Center to partner to enhance the walking tour so that it will showcase all of Chinatown. They will be marketing these walking tours to our visitors in Waikiki, and we can begin to expect a much larger audience. But we need additional tour guides to complement Tony and to handle a greater number of visitors. If you are interested or know of someone who might make an entertaining and engaging guide, please let the Chamber office at 533-3181 know.

Our family wishes all of you a wonderful and joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy, and prosperous new year! See you soon.



CHAMBER MIXER

A social networking mixer was held for members on the evening of Wednesday, November 14. Over fifty members new and old, as well as several guests and prospective members, gathered at the Hawaii Loa recreation center. There was a variety of scrumptious *pupu* and liquid refreshments for those attending, as well as a breathtaking view of the Honolulu city lights from high on Hawaii Loa ridge. The chair for this successful event was **Linda Louie** and thanks to new members **Stephanie** and **Eddie Lee** for arranging for use of the recreation center.



CHINATOWN EXHIBIT

There will be a "Chinatown, HI" exhibit at The ARTS at Marks Garage, January 4-February 16, 2008. The gallery is looking for the loan of artwork, artifacts or hand-crafts representative of Chinatown organizations and societies. These could include traditional Chinese costumes, jewelry, sculpture or small pieces of furniture. Deadline for exhibit submissions is 6:00 p.m., December 21. For more information on the exhibit or what items are particularly desired for showing, contact **Wiwik Bunjamin-Mau** at 203-9509 or wiwik@artatmarks.com.

DOH Compliance Assistance

The State Department of Health (DOH) has a non-regulatory Compliance Assistance Office to help local small businesses understand and comply with applicable environmental regulations. They also help investigate and mediate complaints against DOH environmental programs. Their services are confidential and free. For a brochure, contact environmental ombudsman **Patrick Feeling** at 586-4528 or download the business assistance brochure by visiting the CAO Web site at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/environmental/compliance/index.html>.



MEMBER NEWS

Some recent good news/bad news for **Li May Tang**. The bad news is that she recently closed her restaurant operation, Shanghai Bistro, in Discovery Bay Centre. Then on Sunday, November 4, her daughter, **Theresa**, competed in the Miss Chinatown Hawaii pageant at the Hawaii Theatre and was awarded the title of Miss Popularity.

Stanford and **Lynette Yuen** were pictured in "Honolulu Pa'ina" section of the November 7 *Midweek* while attending the grand opening of Kaiwa, a new Japanese restaurant in the Waikiki Beach Walk project.

The Cancer Research Center of Hawaii had a full-page ad in the November 19 *Honolulu Advertiser*, thanking the many sponsors and donors to its October "The Mauka Makai ... Voyage of Discovery" fund-raiser. One of the pictures featured the **Chung** family: **Tai Yau** and **Norah**, daughter **Adelia**, and her husband, **Stephen Dung**.

A smiling **Susanna Cheung**, founder of Helemano Plantation and ORI (Opportunities for the Retarded, Inc.), was pictured in an article on Helemano Plantation in the November 16 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin's* "Food for Thought" supplement. The article noted that for Helemano Plantation's Thanksgiving lunch buffet, most of its fruits and vegetables are grown in the plantation's gardens. Also mentioned were the plantation's "sensational" made-to-order pineapple pies. (Helemano Plantation is located just outside Wahiawa, on the road to the North Shore, and is surrounded by Dole pineapple fields). For the holiday season, there are the pineapple pies as well as seasonal all-butter pound cake from the plantation's bakery, perfect for holiday gifts or parties. And there is their annual black-tie fund-raiser at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom on Friday, December 7. The silent auction starts at 5:00 p.m. and the dinner and program start at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$80.00 for Gold seats and \$100.00 for Platinum seats. Seats may still be available when you read this. If you have questions or want to order the seasonal baked goods, call Helemano Plantation at 622-3929.

Where the Locals Eat: The 100 Best Restaurants in the Top 50 Cities is designed to help travelers overwhelmed by restaurant recommendations in a myriad of guidebooks to cities around the United States. According to **Nadine Kam's** review in the "Dining in & out" section of the November 25 *Star-Bulletin*, for each of the cities, ninety restaura-

Merry Christmas



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 11 Tue **Executive Board Meeting**
Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
- Dec 18 Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**
The New Empress Restaurant
– 12:00 noon
- Dec 25 Tue **Christmas Day**
- Jan 1, '08 Tue **New Year Day**
- Jan 5 Sat **59th Narcissus Queen Pageant**
Hawaii Theatre Center – 6:30 p.m.
- Jan 21 Mon **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- Jan 22 Tue **Executive Board Meeting**
Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
- Jan 26 Sat **59th Narcissus Coronation Ball**
Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral
Ballroom – 5:00 p.m.
- Jan 29 Tue **Board of Directors Meeting**
The New Empress Restaurant
– 12:00 noon

rants are “dispatched with a phone number and a word or two describing type of cuisine” while the “top 10” receive longer reviews in the book. (With one hundred restaurants in each of fifty cities, there would be 5,000 short entries alone). Among those singled out for a longer review is “Ba-Le Sandwiches & Bakery” as “best Vietnamese.” Kam writes that the book is actually a companion to a FREE Web site, www.wherethelocalseat.com. At the Web site, Assaggio, “L& L,” and Little Village Noodle House are included among Honolulu’s 100, and thirty-four restaurants are recognized as bests (including Assaggio as “best Italian”) and have a “read more details” review. And oddly, there are actually 113 Honolulu listings on the Web site because L& L Drive-Inns are shown a total of twelve times (each with a picture of the original Liliha Street location) and Roy’s is included three times. (In contrast, Assaggio, with four locations; Ba-Le, which has 19 locations; and Zippy’s, which has 23 locations, are each listed only once). But despite the Web site’s anomalies, the restaurants and eateries included in the guidebook and the Web site should have an increase in patronage, both locals and visitors.

Condolences

On November 15, **Charles Ma** died after being hit by a car while in a cross-walk on Kalanianaʻole Highway. Mr. Ma had a varied business career, having worked in the marketing department for Long & Melone Ltd., a local title and escrow company, and in charge of residential loans at International Savings & Loan. Mr. Ma was a Chamber director from 1972 to 1988 and also conducted the Chamber’s weekly Chinatown walking tours. He is survived by his wife **Pearl**, sons **Kent**, **Peter**, **Gene**, and **Charles**; daughter **Jacklyn**; brother **Richard**; sister **Rose Yoshimura**; and eight grandchildren. Our deepest sympathies and sincere condolences to his family.

The LANTERN a monthly publication
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76 North King Street • Suite 202 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
(808) 533-3181

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



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76 North King Street • Suite 202 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817