

# LANTERN

April 2007



夏威夷中華總商會

## CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT

by Edward Pei

As Chamber members may know, an e-mail was sent out several days ago announcing the Chinese Chamber's first annual "International Chamber Challenge Golf Tournament." This exciting new tournament will be held on Wednesday, May 23, at the Navy-Marine Golf Course. The Navy-Marine Golf Course is quite exclusive, and this is an opportunity to play on the recently renovated course, one of the finest on Oahu. The price is right at only \$175 per two-person team, which includes a light lunch, golf and cart fees, on-course snacks, and the awards dinner. Check-in starts at 11:00 a.m., tee time is at 11:45 a.m., and the format is a modified scramble. Participation is limited to 54 players, and entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. An invitation has been extended to the ethnic and regional affiliated chambers of commerce on Oahu. Each organization has been guaranteed at least two teams if entrants have submitted their entries and fees by the April 30 entry deadline. Don't miss this opportunity to play some great golf, enjoy the fellowship, meet new friends, and compete against teams from the other ethnic chambers. And for those who just want to attend the awards dinner at Sam Snead's, the cost is \$25.00.

## Narcissus Goodwill Tour

by Edward Pei

The beautiful mountains of Guilin. The fabulous Three Gorges of the Yangzi River. The terra cotta soldiers, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, and the historic as well as contemporary skyline of Shanghai. Great Chinese food and fabulous shows. These are the sights and sounds of this year's Narcissus Goodwill Tour. Join Narcissus Queen **Jessica Lau** and her court as we sightsee and eat our way through some of the greatest cities in China. The tour leaves on June 3 and returns on June 20.

The tour this year will feature visits to Shenzhen, Guilin, Xi'an, Chongqing, Yichang, Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. One of the highlights of the tour will be a three-day cruise down the Yangzi River. The tour will also feature five-star accommodations, gourmet experiences, and some of the most extravagant shows China has to offer. And, yes, there will be time allotted for shopping, and even a round of golf.

Travel accommodations from Hawaii are being handled by Skyway Express, and by China Travel Service in China. The cost for the tour is \$3,908.00, which includes all travel, deluxe hotels, three meals a day in China, and all entertainment. For further information, contact the Chamber office at 533-3181 or Skyway Express at 526-1347.

## Chamber Annual Meeting and Officer Installation

by Edward Pei

The annual meeting of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii will be held on Thursday, May 31, at the Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom. Unlike past years, this meeting will be a luncheon, to encourage all Chamber members to attend and to emphasize the business aspect of the Chamber's mission. As a very special added feature, interested Chamber members will have an opportunity to set up a display table to promote their business to fellow members and other meeting attendees. The fees are \$25.00 for a display-only table and \$50.00 for a merchandise item sales table. There will be 36 tables: 19 in the ballroom and 17 in the foyer. With a limited number of tables, you are encouraged to make your reservation early. This is a great opportunity, at minimal cost, to promote your company or business to fellow Chamber members and the three hundred or so attendees.

The meeting will begin at 11:00 a.m. with networking and the member exhibition. The Chinese lunch and program will commence at 12:00 noon. The program will feature the installation of new officers for the coming year, the annual recognition of key business leaders and volunteers, and an exciting keynote speaker. The cost of the luncheon is \$30.00 per person or \$275.00 for a table of ten. This event is the culmination of a great year and the start of an exciting new year. With a renewed focus on promoting member businesses, we hope all our members will attend. See you there!



President  
Alvin C. P. Wong

A year of planning and hard work finally came to fruition as the Chamber unveiled to an eager public the much-awaited Narcissus Classic on March 10 at the Hawaii Theatre. Led by Chair **Linda Auyoung Louie**, **Wanda Tse**, and **Michele Choy**, the Narcissus Classic committee promised an elegant night of music and delivered a show that the public is still talking about.

Virtuosos **Yun Deng**, **Cinderella Liao**, **Kewei Wang**, and **Xu Le** wowed the audience by performing a demanding repertoire of music that included opera, Broadway, Chinese folk songs, and Hawaiian numbers. Accompanied by Hawaii's premier music producer, **Beebe Freitas**, these four international superstars graced the stage of the Hawaii Theatre and delighted their fans by signing autographs after the concert. **Ori Ann Li**, the evening's mistress of ceremonies, brilliantly provided a short synopsis in English and Chinese of each song.

In my opening remarks, I pointed out several interesting items that were not listed in the program. First, these stars were Chinese, but their performances were sung in eight different languages. Second, this was the first time that they were performing together, despite having had less than a week for rehearsals. Third, the effort to coordinate their busy schedule and bring them to Hawaii was nothing less than a CIA-type operation. Cinderella trains and lives in Europe, Yun Deng is on contract with New York's Metropolitan Opera, Kewei lives and teaches in Taiwan, and Xu Le is a recording artist in China. Finally, I mentioned to the audience that my voice and the emcee's were the only two amplified voices. The performers

were all trained to perform "unplugged."

In addition, we were very fortunate to have **Harry Winston** provide the beautiful jewelry that was worn by our star sopranos, Yun and Cindy. I also noted that security was increased for the evening because the jewelry had a retail value of over one million dollars.

Perhaps the real "star" of the concert was the Chinese community. I felt a tremendous amount of pride in seeing Chinese artists performing at the highest level. The Chamber should also be proud in knowing that this event is a bold and creative move that no other Chinese organization would consider or attempt. The event dramatically demonstrates our ability to excel in many different disciplines. Nevertheless, people have told me that this is just the tip of a "mountain of Chinese talent." With that in mind, I am looking forward to seeing Narcissus Classic II. Bravo to all who worked on this year's event.

The election of new officers on March 16 reminds me that my term in office ends soon. Plans have already started for our installation luncheon at the end of May. In keeping with our effort to make the event "member-friendly," the Executive Committee has decided on a new look. This year, we are committed to encouraging and increasing membership attendance. Accordingly, we plan to showcase our membership with display tables and exhibits. While past installations have become somewhat ostentatious, we will not ignore our bonds with the various societies, and all Chinese organizations will continue to be on our honored guest list. I have requested that the Chamber invite the U.S. Small Business Director as our keynote speaker in light of our emphasis on commerce.

While a recent Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan meeting that I attended offered various definitions of sustainability, it appears that we also need to pay more attention to the future. For the Chamber, this is certainly true. As such, on April 21, the Executive Committee plans to set aside some time to discuss various long-term issues at an Executive Retreat. The officers and directors are prepared to discuss various core issues, such as our mission and goals, by-law changes, revenue enhancing strategies, and inter-

organizational and society relationships.

Finally, at the Lung Kong Kung Shaw installation, I marveled at the efforts of President **Mavis Chong**, daughter of Chamber director **Henry Chu**, in the recent renovation of their organization's headquarters. She told me that most of the money was borrowed, but the renovation will help to retain and attract the younger generation. In her installation speech, she said "It's an investment in the future." I believe that the Chamber needs to adopt the same attitude in finding a permanent office location.

## PASSPORT ALERT

Starting on January 23, 2007, Americans who have traveled overseas and are returning from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Latin America by airplane have been required to produce a valid U.S. passport. One unintended consequence of that requirement has been a dramatic increase in the time needed to process applications for passports. Instead of the previous six weeks, "routine service" may take as many as ten weeks. For those considering going on the Narcissus Goodwill Tour with **Ed** and **Gayle Pei** and **Jessica Lau** and her court, the June 3 departure date is less than ten weeks away. And while a visa may not be necessary for entry into Hong Kong, it is necessary to get into China. That means additional time since the PRC consulate is in Los Angeles.

A passport application (Form DS 11) is available at numerous locations on Oahu and also can be downloaded from the Internet ([www.travel.state.gov/passport](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport)). In addition, one of the thirteen regional passport agencies is located in the Prince **Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole** Federal Building on Ala Moana Boulevard, and is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Applicants for a new passport must pay a \$67.00 application fee and a \$30.00 execution fee. In addition, "expedited service" is available for an additional \$60.00, but the former processing time of two weeks may be four weeks or longer. In either case, remember that Mrs. Murphy's law – "if something can go wrong, it will" – can delay your paperwork. So a word to the wise: Do it now!

## CHAMBER ELECTIONS

The Chamber's annual election of sixteen directors for a three-year term (2007-2010) was held on Friday, March 2. New members of the board are **Gifford Chang**, **Alan Ho**, **John Hui**, **Kevin Lam**, **Linda Louie**, and **Pearl Yuen**. At the same time, **Gerald Chang**, **Chian Leng Chia**, **Michele Choy**, **Henry Chu**, **Richard Chun-Hoon**, **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, **Edward Hu**, **Libby Lew**, **Edward Pei**, **Melvyn Yap**, and **James Young** were reelected. Then on Friday, March 16, at a special board of directors meeting, elections for officers for 2007-2008 were held. Elected to serve a one-year term were **Edward Pei**, president; **Ted Li**, president-elect; **Dennis Hwang**, first vice-president; **Wanda Tse**, second vice-president; **Gerald Chang**, English secretary; **Laisin Lee**, Chinese secretary; **Sylvia Louie**, treasurer; **Kevin Lam**, assistant treasurer; **Michele Choy**, auditor; and **Alvin Wong**, immediate past president. Congratulations to all of you. The installation of officers will be held on Thursday, May 31.

## OCA INSTALLATION AND FUND-RAISING DINNER

The Hawaii Chapter, Organization of Chinese Americans, is holding its installation dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 14, at the Sheraton Waikiki ballrooms. The incoming OCA president is none other than **Victor Lim** and one of the three honorees is **Wesley Fong**. Tickets for the multi-course Chinese dinner are \$75.00 per person, and Jade (\$750), Emerald (\$1,000), and Ruby (\$3,000) sponsorships are available. To RSVP, contact OCA Hawaii treasurer **Jay Zhu** at 922-8102.

## HPU Intercultural Day

The 23rd annual Intercultural Day will be celebrated by Hawaii Pacific University's multi-cultural student body on Friday, April 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Fort Street Mall. The students' ethnic and cultural diversity will be highlighted in exhibits, an 11:30 a.m. parade, and stage performances of the dances and music of their native countries from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the HPU Office of Student Life at 544-0277.

## Palolo Chinese Home Golf Tournament

On Thursday, April 26, the Palolo Chinese Home will hold its 17th annual Dynasty Invitational Golf Tournament at the Pearl Country Club, a new venue. Shotgun start is at 12:30 p.m., format is best ball 3-person team scramble, and minimum three drives per golfer. Tee (\$300), Silver (\$500), Gold (\$1,000), Platinum (\$2,500), and Dynasty (\$5,000) sponsorships are available. There are a variety of prizes for longest putt (9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon) and on four hole (3rd, 6th, 13th, and 16th) prizes. For more information, call **Katy Castillo** at 737-2555.

## HRYF Fund-raiser

The Hawaii premiere of "Ray of Sunshine," a film starring **Nancy Kwan** as "Miss Lily," will be at 6:00 p.m. at the Hawaii Theatre, on Sunday, April 15. Tickets are \$28.00 each or \$175.00, which includes a VIP reception for Ms. Kwan at the Plaza Club. Proceeds will benefit the Hawaii Rotary Youth Foundation (HRYF) Scholarship Fund. To order the \$28.00 tickets, contact the Hawaii Theatre box office at 528-0506, Tuesday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To order VIP tickets, contact the HRYF office at 735-1073.

## COMPACFLT TALK

Admiral **Gary Roughead**, commander, US Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT), will give a talk on "The Pacific Fleet and Asia," on Tuesday, April 17, at the First Hawaiian Bank Centro, 6th floor. The COMPACFLT area of responsibility (AOR) stretches from the West Coast of the United States westward across the Pacific and Indian Oceans to the eastern shore of Africa. The AOR covers 60% of the earth's surface and includes 55% of the earth's population. ADM Roughead recently returned from China and may have some new insights into U.S.-China relations. The talk and a buffet lunch are sponsored by the Hawaii chapter of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association. The event starts at 11:30 a.m. and the cost is \$15.00 per person. Free parking is available in the building (parking entrance is on Merchant Street), with validation. To reserve a place, call **Kathy Jay** at 941-3714 or **Lenora Leu** at 239-9157 by Thursday, April 5. Checks made payable to "USCPFA-Honolulu" should be mailed to **Sylvia Louie** at 1813 Hunnewell Street, Honolulu 96822 and received by her not later than April 7.

## Narcissus Classic

This new event, held at the Hawaii Theatre on the evening of Saturday, March 10, concluded the 58th annual Narcissus Festival. The four entertainers, mezzo soprano **Yun Deng**, soprano **Cinderella Liao**, baritone **Kewei Wang**, and rising actor, pianist, and singer **Xu Le**, were well received. Despite the newness of the event, it was well attended and those who attended were glad that they had chosen to be there for the Classic's inaugural. Chair **Linda Louie** should be congratulated for a tremendous job, but she feels that a great deal of credit should go to the unstinting efforts of **Wanda Tse**, **Michele Choy**, mistress of ceremonies **Ori Ann Li**, and piano accompanist **Beebe Freitas**. Well done, ladies.



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Pictured in the March 8 *Midweek* while attending the Hawaii Chinese Civic Association's Mandarin Ball were **Peter and Daisy Chun, Linda and Wesley Fong, Ann Higa, Susanna and Ho Ming Cheung, Yvonne De Luna, Frances Goo, Elvira Lo, and Linda Louie**. And Linda Louie was again pictured in the March 14 *Midweek* while attending the press conference for the "Month in Chinatown" event, along with **Gifford Chang, Yun Soon and Vernon Jim**, and Councilman **Rod Tam**.

On March 8, L & L Drive Inn and L & L Hawaiian Barbecue co-founder and president **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, was honored by the Honolulu chapter, Sales and Marketing Executives International as their 2006 Salesperson of the Year. Eddie had occasion to write an article, "Popularizing Plate Lunch," for the Business Roundtable column in the February 28 *Midweek*.

State senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** was pictured no less than four times in the March 21 *Midweek* while presenting awards at the UH School of Social Work's 70th anniversary dinner at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Also pictured (but only once) was State representative **Jerry Chang**.

## NEW MEMBERS

At its monthly meeting on March 16, the Board approved the applications for attorney **Jonathan Lai** (sponsored by **Reuben Wong**) and attorney **Ronald Leong** (sponsored by **Nelson Wang**).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 5	Thur	<b>Ching Ming Festival</b>
Apr 8	Sun	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
Apr 17	Tue	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
Apr 24	Tue	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> The Arts At Mark's Garge 12:00 noon

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(808) 533-3181

## LANTERN Advertising

The Chamber board recently approved a rate schedule for a one-month/issue ad as follows: \$150.00 full-page, \$75.00 half-page, \$40.00 quarter-page, and \$25.00 one-eighth page/business card size. Those interested in advertising in *The Lantern* should contact the Chamber at 533-3181.

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

## MEMBER BENEFITS

by Dennis Hwang

Recently added to businesses offering discounts to Chamber members are Best Mortgage, Inc.; the Hawaii Chinese Yellow Pages, Web services company Opihi Net LLC, and Yummyland. To be added is Café Oriente. Thanks go to **Justin Goo** and **Audra Chun** of Opihi Net for putting the benefits Web page together and including the logos of participating companies. Mahalo also to **Greg Jim, Nelson Wang, Nicolas Longpre, and Thomas Wong** for helping to gather the list of participating companies. Please check the Chamber Web site for regular updates to the membership benefits and discount program. Many new restaurants will be added in the next month.

## Choir Concert

The Brigham Young University-Hawaii choir will give a concert on Saturday, April 28, at the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Tabernacle, 1500 Beretania Street. A reception and refreshments will be from 6:00-6:45 p.m. and the concert will be from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The choir will soon leave for a three-week tour of China, and will perform in Urumqi, Xi'an, Beijing, and Tianjin. Their repertoire includes both Western and Chinese numbers. There are a limited number of tickets available from the Chamber.



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII  
76 North King Street • Suite 202 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96817