

LANTERN

June 2007



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HKBAH luncheon

The Hong Kong Business Association of Hawaii (HKBAH) will be holding its monthly luncheon on Friday, June 15, at the Empress Restaurant. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., lunch starts at 12:00 p.m., and a panel discussion will run from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. The topic for the three-person panel, featuring **Alex McGehee** of Enterprise Honolulu, **Dexter Suzuki** of Bedrock Branding, and **Melissa McFerrin** of Hawaii Superferry, is "Rediscovering Honolulu – Chinatown." The cost for the lunch is \$25.00 for HKBAH members and \$30.00 for guests. Reservations for the lunch should be made by Tuesday, June 12. Call 564-0011 for more information or to make reservations.

Spirit of China

On Saturday, June 23, "Spirit of China," a dance concert featuring the Phoenix Dance Chamber, will be held at the Hawaii Theatre Center, starting at 7:30 p.m. The dance concert will showcase artistic diversity, ranging from the serenity of Dunhuang to the athleticism of Anhui. The Mayor's Office of Culture and Arts has underwritten the return of renowned ethnic folk dance specialist **Liu Youlan** of the Beijing Dance Academy to teach Phoenix Chamber members new choreographies. State Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** is honorary chair. Tickets are \$27.00 general admission, \$22.00 students and seniors, and \$17.00 children. For information or ticket reservations, call the Hawaii Theatre box office at 528-0506, Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Phoenix Dance Chamber is also looking for sponsors interested in tax-deductible donation packages. For more information, call 595-6004.

HIREC luncheon

The Hawaii International Real Estate Council (HIREC), which is made up of National Association of Realtors (NAR) members who hold the Certified International Property Specialist (CIPS) designation (like **Gerald Chang**, **Phoebe Chrisman**, and **Laisin Lee**) and others interested in international real estate, will also be holding a luncheon on Friday, June 15, at the Japanese Cultural Center in Moliili. The guest speaker will be none other than **Philip Wang**, director general of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu. His talk will be "Economic Overview and International Real Estate Practices in Taiwan." Registration starts at 11:00 a.m. and the buffet lunch and program will run from 11:15 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$23.00 for HIREC members and \$28.00 for guests. To make reservation, call **Crystal Lancaster** at the Hawaii Association of Realtors at 733-7060 as soon as possible.

Hurricane Season Preparations

The annual hurricane season began on June 1 and runs through November 30. Emergency preparation or disaster kits are available from the American Red Cross's store (www.redcrossstore.org) or from the ARC's Hawaii chapter (www.hawaii-redcross.org), either online or downtown. However, the local kits seem to be limited to one-person packages, and the recommendations on how to build a disaster kit cannot be printed out. The recommendations do point out that you should stockpile a gallon of water per person per day (two quarts for drinking and two quarts for food preparation and sanitation). On that score, the Red Cross kits don't have nearly enough water. In addition, the Hawaii chapter should update its information – its "disaster preparation information" links to a 2002 national ARC hurricane Web page. An alternative for disaster supplies is The Hurricane Store (www.hurricane-store.com). Hawaiian Electric has a free 96-page *Handbook for Emergency Preparedness*, which may be available at City Mill as well as HECO offices on Ward and Richards Streets. And remember that the three-day guidelines for supplies are for time spent in a shelter. Prudent planning would consider stockpiling 7-10 days of food and water for each person since that's the time needed to ship supplies from the West Coast.



President
Edward Y. W. Pei

It is indeed an honor and privilege to be the 71st President of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. (While our organization is ninety-six years old, earlier presidents served multiple terms). I am humbled to follow the many great leaders who have preceded me and hope to be able to fill their large shoes, as well as those of our immediate past president, **Alvin Wong**.

I have had the pleasure of working with Alvin for three years, and I have learned a great deal from him. He has been an effective leader, with great people skills, directing and supporting the many volunteers who are involved with our organization. He has been a devoted servant, willing to do anything necessary to ensure our success, from rolling up his sleeves to pack and unpack lanterns to generously donat-

ing his time and money to the Chamber. He is leaving the Chamber stronger than ever, and we should be very grateful for his devoted service.

Last month, we assembled a group of Chamber members to talk about the future of the Chamber. There was general consensus that we should be devoting more energies to serving the needs of our members, and to focus more on business issues. This would not be at the expense of our wonderful Narcissus Festival, but will complement our successes with cultural activities. Here are our goals for the year:

Serving Our Members

1. Networking opportunities: Provide more networking opportunities for members to interact with each other, to promote their businesses, to develop important business and personal relationships.
2. Business development: Create opportunities for members and their organizations to develop new business opportunities and to expand their sales and marketing networks.
3. Training and education: Assess the training needs of our membership and create workshops and seminars to provide the necessary training.
4. Public advocacy: At least initially, focus on those matters that concern our

membership. As we develop these capabilities, we want to be a more active and vocal voice in the community.

Serving Our Community

1. Showcasing our culture: Continue and enhance the Narcissus Festival, providing cultural entertainment to the entire community, including our very important tourism industry.
2. Relations with China: Foster excellent relationships with business and governmental leaders in China to promote free trade and tourism.
3. Relations with other Chambers of Commerce: Develop closer relationships with other chambers of commerce in Hawaii to work together on issues of importance. Develop ties with Chinese Chambers on the West Coast to further common interests, business opportunities, and visitors to Hawaii.
4. Relations with other Chinese organizations in Hawaii: Where there is an opportunity to do so, work with the other Chinese organizations in Hawaii to achieve our mutual objectives.

It will be an exciting year and I hope you will play an active role. Thank you again for the opportunity to lead our great organization.

CHAMBER NEWS & ACTIVITIES

FONG-LONG SCHOLARSHIPS

Act 112 was signed into law by Governor **Linda Lingle** on the occasion of the Chamber installation luncheon. Introduced with bipartisan support (the twenty-two sponsors included Representatives **Jerry Chang** and **Corinne Ching**), House bill 1529 honors Republican **Hiram Fong** and Democrat **Oren Long**. Act 112 establishes two endowment trusts and scholarship programs at the University of Hawaii and \$50,000.00 is appropriated to each trust. Each trust will fund two scholarships each year. The Long scholarship will be awarded to a male and female graduate of Hawaii public schools who are upperclassmen at a University of Hawaii campus and who submit the winning essay on the senator's contributions to Hawaii. The Fong scholarship adds requirements that the recipients must demonstrate a commitment to local community issues through volunteer work and participation in community organizations, and also demonstrate interest and knowledge of the history of immigration to Hawaii. The one-year stipend may be used for tuition and fees, the cost of texts and instructional materials, room and board at a UH dorm or apartment, or the difference between student need and the cost of school attendance. Act 112 becomes effective on July 1.



Trans Fat-Free

Those who shop at their friendly neighborhood supermarket for food may have noticed that many packages are now labelled “zero trans fats.” (Note, however, that the FDA’s regulation allows “trans fat-free” labels on foods with up to 0.5 grams of trans fats per serving). Many fast food chains have eliminated trans fats or partially hydrogenated oils from their cooking or at least their deep fat frying. In Tiburon, California, eighteen restaurants voluntarily switched to rice bran oil in “Project Tiburon.” In an article in *U.S. News & World Report*, **Brian Wilson** of Sam’s Anchor Café answered the reporter’s questions. He indicated that rice bran oil is neutral (adding no flavor, unlike vegetable, grape seed or avocado oils), higher-quality (so that it doesn’t break down as rapidly as other oils do), and has a higher burning point (unlike olive oil) for deep fat frying. With that oil, it wasn’t necessary to raise prices and customers didn’t notice the change from trans fat oils. Wilson also pointed out that with frozen French fries, the processor may have already pre-cooked them in trans fat oils. Anyway, for some of our restaurant owner-members who may be looking for a trans fat-free oil, especially for deep fat frying, check the Web site for California Rice Oil Company at www.californiariceoil.com.

Chamber Installation



For a change this year, the Chamber departed from a long tradition of installation banquets in the evening to a lunchtime event. So on Thursday, May 31, some 320 Chamber members and friends gathered at the Hibiscus Ballroom of the Ala Moana Hotel. Starting at 11:00 a.m., fourteen individuals and companies had display tables in the foyer. They took advantage of the opportunity to showcase their services to

those moving from the check-in table to the receiving line. The exhibitors included ABC Wireless, Best Mortgage, China Airlines, **Corinne Ching**, John Hancock, Pacific Resources LLC, Pacific Wealth Management LLC, Panda Express, Principal Financial Group, Sturdivant Publishing, Sui Wah School, Sunrise Group, and the U.S. Department of Labor, which had a number of brochures and other handouts for business owners.

The sit-down lunch featured Chinese chicken salad, seven kinds of *dim sum*, and long-life noodles. Dignitaries present included Governor **Linda Lingle**, Mayor **Mufi Hannemann**, TECO Director General **Philip Wang**, state Senate President **Colleen Hayabusa**, and state House speaker **Calvin Say**. Both state Representative Corinne Ching and Councilman **Rod Tam** brought resolutions. Governor Lingle gave a brief recap of recent pro-business legislation and used the occasion to sign House Bill 1529 (now Act 112), which established endowments and scholarships named after **Hiram L. Fong** and **Oren E. Long**, Hawaii’s first U.S. senators. A big *mahalo* to installation chair **Libby Lew** and her committee for a job well done.



Chamber Golf Tournament by Richard Chun-Hoon

On Thursday, May 23, the Chamber held its first International Chamber Challenge Golf Tournament at the Navy-Marine Golf Course. The purpose of the golf tournament was to bring together various ethnic and international business groups in Honolulu to have fun and for networking. There were eight different organizations represented at this tournament, with a total turnout of sixty players (thirty two-person teams). There were two categories of players: those who represented international organizations and chambers of commerce and those who were not of any affiliation. First place in the international and chamber organization category, with the lowest combined net scores, were

John Zhang and **Allan Woo**, who represented the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. The teammates in the non-affiliated category, with the lowest net score, were **Bernard Choy** (husband of our director and Narcissus Pageant chair **Michele Choy**) and **Shane Adversalo**.

Everyone took home a prize due to the generosity of our donors. Our title sponsor for this tournament was Panda Express, whose general manager for Hawaii just happened to be the same John Zhang whose team placed first in his category. Panda Express donated a significant amount of money, and also provided all of the lunches for our players and volunteers. Other sponsors who generously donated prizes were: the Hawaii Prince Hotel; Mid-Pacific Country Club; Ko Olina Golf Club; Turtle Bay Golf Club; Hawaii Air Cargo; Aloha Petroleum, Ltd.; First Hawaiian Bank; KTM Services, Inc. (Enjoy brand); Pure Golf Academy; Pro-Am Golf; Market City Shopping Center; Maui Divers of Hawaii; Ito-en USA, Inc.; Costco Wholesale Hawaii; CCCH director and former Chamber president **Clinton Ching**; and **Jay Chrisman** (husband of our director **Phoebe Chrisman**). Our thanks to all of our sponsors.

Thanks also to our directors, our military hosts (active and retired, who got us on the neatly manicured and newly renovated Navy-Marine Golf Course); **Todd Nicely**, Director of Golf at Navy-Marine; and our volunteers (**Gerald Chang**, **Mona Choy-Beddo**, **Jay Chrisman**, **Linda Louie**, and **Nelson Wang**). Without their collective help, we would not have had such a nice time.





Golfers can enjoy their pastime in Hawaii year around, but the fund-raisers seem to occur most often during the summer. Pictured in the May 9 issue of *Midweek*, a number of Chamber members participated in the Palolo Chinese Home Dynasty Golf Tournament at the Pearl Country Club: **Wallace Wong, Wilbert Chee, Francis Goo, Wesley Fong** (and wife **Linda**), **Clinton Ching, Daniel Auyoung, Gordon Au** (and wife **Lana**), and **Daniel Lau**. Former Chamber president **Warren Luke** was pictured at the American Diabetes Association's golf tournament at the Hawaii Prince golf course in the May 23 *Midweek*. And the "kokua calendar" in the June issue of *Honolulu* magazine had a picture of former Chamber president **Alvin Wong, Richard Chun-Hoon, Jay Chrisman**, and newly installed Chamber president **Edward Pei**. They were all smiles, perhaps because each was holding a trophy, apparently at last year's 24th annual

Pacific and Asian Affairs Council International Golf Classic. (The 25th annual PAAC golf tournament will be held on July 20 at Leilehua golf course).

State Representative **Jerry Chang** (D-South Hilo), chairman of the House Higher Education Committee, invited the University of Hawaii Manoa athletic director to meet with members of his committee. So for four hours, **Herman Frazier** was "cross-examined" or "grilled" on Monday, May 21, according to the daily newspapers. In the aftermath, **Strother Martin's** tagline from the 1967 movie, "Cool Hand Luke," is appropriate: "What we've got here is a failure to communicate." Jerry was also pictured in the May 23 *Midweek*, attending the Goodwill Industries of Hawaii fund-raising auction last month.

In a May 29 editorial, the *Honolulu Advertiser* favorably mentioned state Representative **Corinne Ching's** efforts to get debit cards for teachers, so that they would not have to use their own money to buy school supplies for their students or classrooms in the seemingly cash-strapped Hawaii public school system. Corinne's idea would be to have the cards with a \$250.00 annual allowance.

Yu Shing Ting's "xposure" column in the May 23 *Midweek* included a picture of former Chamber president **Ban Chan**

(and his wife **Suzanna**) and his son **Aaron** (and wife **Carolyn**), president of Hawaiian Moon, at the grand opening of their store in the Waikiki Beach Walk store on May 11.

According to a list of the 2007-2009 Neighborhood Boards and their members, which appeared in the May 30 *Midweek*, **Stanford Yuen** and **Wesley Fong** are serving on Boards 13 (Downtown/Chinatown) and 14 (Liliha/Puunui/Alewa/Kamehameha Heights), respectively.

At its May 29 meeting, the board of directors approved the application for **Charles Steden**, dean of the Hawaii Pacific University College of Business Administration (sponsored by **Lei Ahu Isa**).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 17	Sun	Father's Day
June 19	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
June 26	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting The Arts At Mark's Garage 12:00 noon
July 04	Wed	Independence Day

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Pearl Harbor Boat Tour

Also on May 23, there was one of the occasional boat tours of Pearl Harbor, arranged by **Stanford Yuen**, executive assistant to the admiral, Naval Region Hawaii, **T. G. Alexander**. There were a dozen Chamber members who took this opportunity to get a closer look at Navy activities at Pearl Harbor. At this point, Stan is tentatively planning another boat tour in August. Keep an eye open for more information in *The Lantern* if you've never taken the boat tour and would like to go, perhaps with your family. Please be aware that these boat tours are not open to the general public, so you should take the opportunity to go.



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII
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