

LANTERN

September, 2007

Sichuan Troupe at *Splendor of China* by Dennis Hwang

In celebration of the 5th annual Splendor of China, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and title sponsor Panda Express are pleased to announce that the Sichuan Provincial Chinese Folk Art Performance Group will perform for Honolulu audiences at the trade and cultural show, Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6. The troupe of ten from Sichuan features face-changing magicians, acrobats, and traditional Chinese dancers. In particular, the face-changing magicians are rarely seen in the United States, and the art was featured in the popular 1996 movie, "The King of Masks." Audiences will be amazed as masks are changed instantly. The group is expected to perform four times per day during the Splendor of China.

The Splendor of China is a dual trade and cultural show featuring booths with unique Chinese products ranging from food to fashion. There will also be many interesting and one-of-a-kind products, including antiques, fashions, jewelry, souvenirs, gifts, crafts, and fresh produce as well as food booths offering everything from crack seed to *dim sum*.

Booths are still available, so please sign up. This is an excellent way to display the goods and services that your company offers to the thousands of people that are expected to attend the show. Heavy promotion in print and broadcast media is planned, and this means exposure for your business.

Guests can also enjoy special performances throughout the event, including acrobatic lion dances, dragon dances, Chinese folk dances, and *kung fu* demonstrations. There will also be special activities, such as a *keiki* corner, the Panda Express mascot, the popular Chinese dog show, a "Fear Factor" eating contest, a *tai qi* demonstration, chop carving, Chinese genealogy, and calligraphy. Information will be provided about Sichuan province and the 2008 Beijing summer Olympics. Please let your friends, family, relatives, and co-workers know about this exciting event that they will not want to miss. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for military with ID, and free for children under 10 years of age.

The Splendor of China will be held on Saturday, October 6, from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Sunday, October 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Neal Blaisdell Center Exhibition Hall. Contact the Chamber office at 533-3181 for more information or go to www.splendorofchina.com. Contributions are still being accepted to help defray the travel costs of the Sichuan troupe.

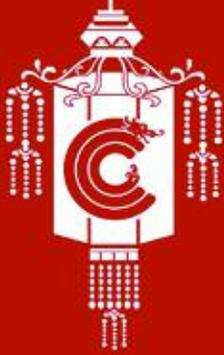


GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

by Linda Louie

Mark your calendar for Thursday, September 20, because you will not want to miss the Chamber's general membership meeting. We are delighted to have as our guest speaker, **Janet Liang**, the new president of Kaiser Permanente, Hawaii Region. The topic of her presentation is "Good Health is Good Business." Before she joined Kaiser earlier this year, Ms. Liang had a successful career at Group Health in Seattle, where she was executive vice president for a division with 180,000 members in Washington and Idaho, and she was credited with bringing a more competitive cost structure to the organization. Kaiser's Hawaii region is the largest multi-specialist medical group in the state, with 400 physicians, and includes 219,000 members, 4,000 employees, and a hospital in Moanalua and 18 clinics throughout the state.

The meeting will be held in the Hawaii Prince Hotel Captain's Room (next to the Prince Court Restaurant). Networking is from 11:00 to 11:45 a.m.; the fabulous Prince Court buffet is available from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and the program runs from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Please make your reservation by Monday, September 17.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
Edward Y. W. Pei

Our year has gotten off to an active start and there are many more Chamber activities in the offing to serve the needs of our members. Congratulations to **Daniel Chun, Kristi Sue-Ako, Laisin Lee, and Pearl Yuen** for a very successful Dragon Boat race and picnic. While our team did not win, we certainly dazzled others with out teamwork, race attire, and picnic offerings. Thanks also to **Stanford Yuen** for hosting Chamber members to a boat tour of Pearl Harbor.

Our next membership event will be our first general membership meeting of the 2007-2008 year. This meeting will

feature **Janet Liang**, the young and dynamic new president of the Kaiser Permanente, Hawaii Region. Hawaii is very lucky to welcome Janet to our community as she leads an organization of 4,000 employees serving 219,000 members. Despite her youthful age, Janet is an experienced healthcare professional and her presentation, entitled "Good Health is Good Business," is relevant for all of us. This luncheon meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20, at the Hawaii Prince Hotel. See the article in this issue of *The Lantern* for further details.

One of our goals this year is to provide opportunities for our members to keep abreast of important events in our business world. To this end, we want to inform you of seminars and workshops that you might find interesting and relevant. There are several upcoming seminars that may be of great interest to many of you. These are detailed elsewhere in this edition of *The Lantern*.

This is an exciting time of the year for our organization as we kick off the 59th annual Narcissus Festival. The Narcissus Festival is the Chamber's vehicle to pro-

mote and perpetuate our rich Chinese cultural heritage. It has also become very important for our community. As we all know, it is much more than a beauty pageant, as we have tried in recent years to evolve this Festival into a series of events with wide appeal to the entire community, including our very important visitor industry. It all begins with the 5th annual Splendor of China, a cultural and trade exhibition in early October. It will end with the Narcissus Classic in March, which this year will be a stage production of "Flower Drum Song" at the Diamond Head Theater. Narcissus Festival chairman **Ted Li** has assembled an exciting team to head up all of our Narcissus Festival events. See his article in this issue for further details.

Wanda Tse and her membership committees are working very hard to plan activities for the remainder of the year. We hope that you will participate in many of these activities, along with all of the events of the Narcissus Festival. But, first things first. Make your reservation now to come to our lunchtime general membership meeting on Thursday, September 20. See you there!

CHAMBER NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Confucius Day China Speaker

On Confucius Day, Wednesday, September 19, the Chinese Chamber is co-sponsoring Dr. **Randall Peerenboom**, who will give a talk on "China Modernizes: Threat to the West or Model for the Rest." Dr. Peerenboom has an extensive *curriculum vitae* and received his master's degree in Chinese religion and doctorate in philosophy from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. (He also has a *juris doctor* degree from Columbia University Law School). Dr. Peerenboom's talk and book are particularly timely in view of the opposing views of China in the news. CNN's **Lou Dobbs** has had a number of pieces on his weeknight show on the threat of the "Red China" in "Red Storm Rising" while University of Michigan China expert **Kenneth Lieberthal** says in the July 23 *Business Week* cover article, "Can China be fixed?," that "Instead of the Chinese Communist Party, it ought to be called the Chinese Bureaucratic Capitalist Party." (And readers of the *BW* article may be interested in a complementary op-ed piece by professor of political economy **T. M. Sell**, "China's balancing act," that appeared on the August 26 issue of the *Seattle Times*).

The program (and a buffet style luncheon) will be at the 20th floor Plaza Club downtown, with networking and the buffet luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., the program from 12:15 to 1:15, and questions and answers from 1:15 to 1:30 p.m.. Dr. Peerenboom will be available to sign copies of his new book from 1:30 to 2:00 p.m. The cost ordinarily would be \$25.00 for non-members and walk-ins, however, since the Chamber is a co-sponsor, Chamber members will be charged only \$15.00. Reservation deadline is Monday, September 10, and those interested in attending should contact **Daniel Tschudi** at 956-8891. Checks should be made payable to "East Asian Outreach."

PRC NATIONAL DAY

The Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association, the Chinese Tea Association, and the Chinese Students and Scholars' Association of the University of Hawaii is organizing a "Moon Festival and Chinese National Day" celebration. It will be held on Sunday, September 16, at the Ala Moana Hotel Hibiscus Ballroom, 410 Atkinson Drive. Seating begins at 6:30 p.m. and the program begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$38.00 per person and are available at the Chamber office.

Narcissus Contestant Orientation

On Thursday, August 23, the 59th annual Narcissus Pageant contestants, their parents, 58th annual Narcissus Queen **Jessica Lau** and three members of her court (**Sibyl Wong**, **Jennifer Lam**, and **Julia Chen**) as well as a number of Chamber officers gathered at the South Pacific Room for the first meeting and orientation for the contestants. Emcee was 57th Narcissus Queen **Kristi Sue-Ako**. Brief remarks were made by Chamber president **Edward Pei**, Narcissus general chairman **Ted Li**, and Pageant producer **Michele Choy**. The members of the transportation/escort committee were also introduced so that the contestants and their parents would know who would be driving the young women to public appearances and other appointments. The contestants – **Kristine Ayson**, **Stephanie Chun**, **Chantel Ching**, **Jessica Chiu**, **Tiffany Chun**, **Catherine Jayne**, **Helen Lau**, **Shaelyn Lin**, **Teresa Lu**, **Jacklyn Ma**, **Jasmine Nip**, **Christina Say**, and **Lani Soon** – were introduced and given a chance say a few words. Refreshments of cake and punch were served before the girls met with Michele in a separate room to get detailed information of what was ahead of them in the coming months, leading up to the January 5, 2008, pageant. Michele would like to thank Kristi for handling the emcee role, **Libby Lew** and **Gayle Pei** for checking everyone in and handing out name tags, **Jin Zhao Li** for helping set up the display tale, and **Stan Okada** for his pictures.

HONG KONG ECONOMIC PROGRAM

The Hawaii International Real Estate Council, comprised primarily of real estate professionals holding the certified international property specialist (CIPS) designation, is presenting “Economic Overview on Hong Kong and Its Neighboring Regions.” The program will be held on Friday, September 28, at the Hilton Waikiki Prince Kuhio Hotel. Check-in starts at 9:30 a.m., the program runs from 10:00 a.m. to noon, and is fol-

Dragon Boat Races and Picnic by Kristi Sue-Ako

On Saturday, August 11, the Chinese Chamber team raced against teams from the Organization of Chinese Americans and the Hong Kong Business Association of Hawaii. Our team included triathletes, Narcissus princesses, and Chamber members alike. That morning, we left shore full of optimism, with one goal.

Three weeks of practice made our team strong in the technical aspects of paddling: swinging together, feeling the paddle, and breathing as a single unit. With a proven race plan, we knew we would have a successful race.

We left shore in the infamous red dragon boat. When the gun sounded, we started strong, keeping pace with the HKBAH boat. Throughout the entire race, we beat our way down the racecourse into the sun. By the end of the race, we were tired, but happy to have gone through the experience as a team.

Daniel Chun and **Kristi Sue-Ako** were captains for this endeavor. We would like to thank **Jennifer Louie** for her gracious coaching and **Emily Chan** as her stroke partner. Other paddlers were **Ryan Marn**, **Dave Lo**, **Daniel Chung**, **Rick Mikami**, **Louis Soon**, **Greg Jim**, **Jennifer Lam**, **Shawntell Tan**, **Jodie Miyagi**, **Leah Peterson**, **Julia Chen**, **Juliann Chen**, and **Alex Chen**. Our flag-catcher was **Courtney Sue-Ako**.

After all of that hard work, we were all happy to return to shore for a feast. Thus, we are grateful to **Laisin Lee**, **Pearl Yuen**, and **Rena Hwang** for feeding us and for having cheered us on. Grillmasters **Alvin Wong**, **Dennis Hwang**, and **Kevin Lam** were also supportive. And lastly, thanks to **Ed Pei** and **Wanda Tse** for providing the ample food. (Editor’s note: *Xiexie* also to the picnic committee which had a separate recycle bag for plastic bottles and aluminum cans. As noted in an August 24 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* article, discarded plastic bottles represent 30 percent by volume of all solid waste.)



Narcissus Festival is Coming

by Ted Li

The Splendor of China will mark the start of the 59th annual Narcissus Festival. Things will really get active with the start of calendar year 2008. On Saturday, January 5, the thrilling Narcissus Pageant will again be held at the Hawaii Theatre where thirteen lovely young women will vie for the title of Narcissus Queen. Then on Saturday, January 26, the new queen will be crowned at the glamorous Coronation Ball in the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The queen and her court will make an appearance on Friday, February 1, visiting many Chinatown businesses, restaurants, and societies to extend new year best wishes as part of that evening’s Chinatown Open House. The Narcissus Queen and Court will also make an appearance at the Moongate Stage on Saturday, February 2, the second evening of the two-day Chinese New Year Celebration at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza. (Chinese New Year’s Day is on Thursday, February 7). The festival will conclude with the Narcissus Classic on Wednesday, March 26, with a musical stage production of “Flower Drum Song” at the Diamond Head Theater. We cordially invite all Chamber members, their family, and friends to attend as many of the 59th annual Narcissus Festival events as possible. See you there!

lowed by a buffet lunch. Featured speakers are **Paul Brewbaker**, Bank of Hawaii chief economist, and Chamber Chinese Secretary **Laisin Lee**. The cost of the program and lunch is \$35.00 for HIREC members and \$40.00 for guests, and registrations received after September 21 will be assessed a \$5.00 surcharge and taken on a space-available basis. Call **Crystal Lancaster** at 733-7060, extension 103, or mail your checks payable to “HIREC” to her at the Hawaii Association of Realtors, 1136 12th Avenue, Suite 220, Honolulu, HI 96816.



MEMBER NEWS

The Sunday, August 12, *Honolulu Advertiser's* "Dining Out" supplement's "back-page story" featured **Linda** and **Larry Chan's** Mandalay Restaurant and its ability to handle large groups, including a 450-person baby party. Reading further, there was information on Chamber director **Yen Chun's** planned party the following week for her father, **Walter**. According to the writer, Yen "gushed" about the salad with shredded chicken and duck, garnished with assorted fruits and vegetables.

First Vice President **Dennis Hwang** is now a published author with the recent release of his book (co-authored by **Darren Okimoto**), *Homeowner's Hand-book to Prepare for Natural Hazards*. The hazards include tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, and flooding. With approach of Hurricane Flossie, Dennis was interviewed by at least one local TV station on August 12, just before he and wife **Rena** departed for a short vacation on the West Coast. Once again, we were fortunate that Flossie only came close. Had the storm track been 100-150 miles further north, she would have swept right along the Hawaiian islands, from Hawaii to Kauai, causing billions in damage. Keep your fingers crossed that Hawaii's luck holds – hurricane season ends on November 30.

Condolences

According to an article in the August 23 *Honolulu Advertiser*, **Lawrence S. L. Ching** passed away on Tuesday, August 21, at the age of 71. In addition to serving as Chamber president (1989-90), he was president of Liberty Bank from 1975 to 1993 when it was purchased by Bank of America Hawaii. The article notes that when he took over Liberty Bank at 39 years of age, Larry was the youngest-ever president of a Hawaii bank. He was a past president of the Hawaii Bankers Association, a member of Chaminade University's board of regents, a trustee of the Clarence T. C. Ching Foundation, and president of Kukui Gardens Corporation. He is survived by wife Frances "Mimi" Ching, sons John and Paul, daughters Cathy Ching and Ann Ching, and two grandchildren. Our deepest sympathies and sincere condolences go out to Larry's family.

The LANTERN a monthly publication
of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
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

CONVERSATIONAL MANDARIN CLASS

The Hoo Cho School will be holding basic conversational Mandarin classes for adults. The Sunday classes will start on September 16, and continue through November 11, and be held from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. The classes are geared to those who may be traveling to China for the first time, and will cover travel, shopping, eating, business, etiquette, social situations, technology, and any topics that the students want to learn. The cost is \$50.00 for the nine sessions. The Hoo Cho School is located at 1342 7th Avenue in Kaimuki. For more information or to sign up, call **Steven Li** at 387-3389 or via e-mail at hoochoschool@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 18	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office - 12:00 noon
Sept 20	Thur	Chamber General Membership Meeting Hawaii Prince Hotel Captain's Room - 11:00 a.m.
Sept 25	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon



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