

LANTERN

November, 2008



Christmas Party

The annual Chamber Christmas party will be held on Wednesday, December 10, in the Hale Koa Hotel's Waikiki Ballroom. The evening's festivities will begin with no-host cocktails at 5:30 p.m. The 60th annual Narcissus Souvenir book (with commemorative DVD) will be on sale to those who want additional copies or haven't got one. The buffet dinner, featuring a variety of salads and cold selections, *teriyaki* roast baron of beef, baked poppy seed chicken with spicy peanut vanilla sauce, grilled *mahimahi* medallions on sauteed spinach with black bean orange *vinaigrette*, stir-fried pork with leafy green vegetables and *tofu*, and an assortment of desserts and non-alcoholic beverages, begins at 6:30 p.m. Door prize drawings will begin at 8:00 p.m. And there will of course be Christmas carols. So get ready to network with members old and new, have fun, and enjoy a sumptuous dinner.

Reservation deadline is Friday, December 3, or until sold out. The cost is only \$39.50 per person, and the \$3.00 parking validation (in Waikiki, that's dirt cheap) is good for eight hours. So don't wait, call the Chamber right away at 533-3181 to make reservations for yourself, your friends and family, and your business associates! And any and all door prize donations will be gratefully accepted (and acknowledged during the drawings).

Palolo Christmas Visit

Sunday, December 7, starting at 11:30 a.m., the Chamber will have its annual Christmas visitation to Palolo Chinese Home, 2459 10th Avenue. Chamber members are cordially invited to join Chamber officers and directors as well as Narcissus Queen **Catherine Wong Jayne** and her court and the eleven lovely Narcissus contestants. A *dim sum* plate lunch will be served to the residents, and there will be entertainment for them and also traditional Christmas carols led by former Chamber president **Walter Chang**. If you plan to participate, please call the Chamber office at 533-3181 by Wednesday, December 3, so that a headcount can be taken.

FREE

Dance Classes

Once again, ballroom dance instructors **Lynn** and **Richard Nakamura** will be providing free instruction in the intricacies of the waltz on the first three Thursdays in December (December 4, 11, and 18), from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The classes will be held in the recreation room of the condominium at 1133 Waimanu Street in Kakaako. (On-street parking is available on Waimanu Street). The classes are primarily for the Chamber officers and contestants in preparation for the Coronation Ball in January. However, the classes are open to Chamber members, either singles or couples (spouse or significant other). Because of the size of the room, please call the Chamber at 533-3181 so that the instructors will know how many students to expect. And rest assured that the Nakamuras are very knowledgeable, experienced, and patient, as some of the officers can attest.





President
Ted C. T. Li

Aloha, Members and Friends:

Thanks to the great efforts of the building committee, your Chamber has entered into an agreement to purchase the building located at the corner of South King and Alakea Streets in the Chinatown/Downtown area. (2 South King Street is leased to HomeStreet Bank). Escrow closing is scheduled before Christmas, 2008. I am optimistic that we will celebrate our building ownership during this coming holiday season.

This year, our Christmas party and

general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10, at the Hale Koa Hotel, starting with no-host cocktails at 5:30 p.m. I would like to encourage each of you to invite your family, friends, and colleagues to participate in this fun-filled event. There will be door prizes, an excellent buffet dinner, entertainment, and great networking opportunities. If you have not signed up yet, please do so as soon as possible. If you would like to donate some door prizes for our exciting Christmas party, please call the Chamber office at 533-3181 for delivery or pickup.

Your Narcissus Festival committee has been hard at work for months and has promised to bring you the best and most enjoyable events ever because this is the 60th anniversary of our Narcissus Festival. Our event schedule follows: Saturday, January 10, 2009 is the Narcissus Queen Pageant; Saturday, January 17, is the Coronation Ball; Friday and Saturday, January 23 and 24,

will be *Choy Cheng* (lion dance) night, with the 60th Narcissus Queen and court Chinatown visitation and our Chinese New Year Celebration in Chinatown Cultural Plaza. All of these events were organized by your fellow Chamber members for the community, so please mark your calendar and participate in each of these events! Spread the word and invite your family and friends to be a part of these exciting annual events.

Iolani School dedicated a new statue of Dr. **Sun Yat-sen** on its beautiful campus on Wednesday, November 12, the birthday of Dr. Sun. I was honored and grateful that Iolani School and the Dr. Sun Yat-sen Foundation included the Chinese Chamber in this memorable event. Chamber board member and Dr. Sun Yat-sen Foundation board member **Yen Chun** was responsible for coordinating and organizing the dedication ceremony. A big *mahalo* to those concerned.

Have a great Thanksgiving holiday!

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

Christmas Trees

News reports this weekend mentioned the arrival of this year's shipment of Christmas trees. Once again, Chamber board members **Gifford** and **Kelfred Chang** are selling Noble, Grand, Douglas and Nordman trees, ranging in size from 3'-high for tabletops all the way up to 20', the tallest in the state. In addition, custom-made traditional wreaths as well as candy cane-shaped wreaths and poinsettia plants and a variety of tree stands and lights are also available. Sales will be at four locations: South Beretania just before Keeaumoku (next to Pflueger Acura), Windward Shopping Center (corner of Kamehameha Highway and Haiku Road), Laie Shopping Center (old Mickey Motors site), and 33 South Vineyard Boulevard (next to Pali Safeway). For more information, call 306-4570 or 951-0350 or see the "Santa's Trees" ad in *Midweek*. A \$5.00 discount will be given to Chamber members and family on any tree purchased. At the South Beretania location without the ad, please let Gifford or Kelfred know that you're a Chamber member.



NARCISSUS FESTIVAL

Following the successful 6th annual Splendor of China in early October, the Narcissus Festival calendar has been largely empty except for a number of public appearances by the Narcissus contestants at several locations around Honolulu. However, events come fast and furious in January with the Narcissus Pageant on Saturday, January 10; the Narcissus Coronation Ball on Saturday, January 17; and Chinese New Year events in Chinatown on Friday and Saturday, January 23 and 24. It's not too early to make your reservations for the Pageant or Coronation Ball. Pageant tickets are \$28.00 and \$33.00, which includes a \$3.00 restoration fee, and will be available beginning Tuesday, November 25, from the Hawaii Theatre Center box office. Tickets for the gala Coronation Ball are available at \$70.00 for individuals and \$650.00 for a table of ten or \$750.00 for a table with a bottle of red and a bottle of white wine. More details on both events will be found in next month's issue of *The Lantern*.

Chamber Building Purchase

by Alvin Wong and Wesley Fong

After many years without a building of its own, the Chamber has entered into a contract to purchase the two-story brick building located at 2 South King Street. (That's the building occupied on the ground floor by HomeStreet Bank on a triple-net ten-year lease, with step-up rent increases). Each floor has about 27,000 square feet of rentable space. There are nine offices on the second floor, and the basement was waterproofed this past year. There is no elevator although in the future, the board may want a chair lift or elevator installed.

The purchase price is \$1,700,000.00. Financing is being provided by Hawaii National Bank on very favorable terms. A motion authorizing President **Ted Li** to sign any and all loan documents with Hawaii National Bank and to pay all expenses related to the building purchase was approved by the Chamber board at its October 28 meeting. In addition, a motion to elect three more directors to the Chamber Foundation was approved and the nominees elected were **Alvin Wong**, **Walter Chang**, and **Victor Lim**.



*Happy
Thanksgiving*

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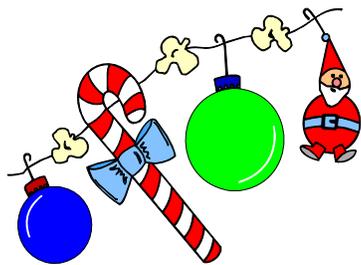
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ORI Anuenue Hale Fund-raiser

Last call for the annual ORI Anuenue Hale fund-raiser, "Tomorrow Begins Today," on Friday, December 12. Once again, it will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The bountiful silent auction begins at 5:00 p.m. and dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. This year's honorary event chair is Mrs. **Vera Wong**, and Dr **Lawrence Tseu** is the 2008 Humanitarian Award honoree. Founded by **Susanna Cheung**, ORI Anuenue Hale, Inc. is a non-profit agency providing much needed services to the elderly and persons with disabilities on Oahu. The cost is \$125.00 per person and ten-person table sponsorships are also available. For reservations, monetary or silent auction donations or more information, call **Yvonne de Luna** at 622-3929.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 25	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon
Nov 27	Thu	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 10	Wed	Membership Christmas Party Hale Koa Hotel Waikiki Ballroom 5:30 p.m.
Dec 16	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
Dec 23	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon
Dec 25	Thu	Christmas Day
Jan 01	Thu	New Year Day

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The *Honolulu Advertiser's* "Hawaii's Best Restaurants 2008-2009" was recently published. As in previous years, a number of food services operated by Chamber members were included. Ilima Award winners were **Kenneth** and **Jennifer Chan's** Little Village Noodle House for Best Chinese and **Thomas Ky's** four Assaggio locations for Best Italian. Winners in other categories were **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, and **Kwock Yum Kam's** ubiquitous L & L Drive-Inns in Hawaii and on the mainland (Best Cheap Eats – Burgers, Plate Lunch, Takeout), **Raymond Siu's** Pah Ke's Chinese Restaurant in Kaneohe (Best Chinese), **Kwock Nam Lau's** Royal Kitchen in the Chinatown Cultural Plaza (Best Chinese – Manapua and Other Takeout), and **Thanh Quoc Lam's** multiple location Ba-Le Sandwich Shops (Best Vietnamese). Congratulations to each of the winners.

On Saturday, November 1, the Hawaii Chinese Civic Association held its annual Mandarin Ball at the Sheraton Waikiki. The November 6 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* had pictures of several Chamber members attending the event: **Wesley** and **Linda Fong**, HCCA president and Mandarin Ball chair **Elvira Lo**, and **Gordon Au**. Wes and Gordon were wearing Mandarin jackets and Gordon was the men's winner in the Mandarin jacket competition.

Chamber president **Ted Li** was pictured in the November 13 *Star-Bulletin* placing a lei on the statue of Dr. **Sun Yat-sen** following its dedication at Iolani School's center courtyard the day before. Then on November 19, a number of Chamber members were pictured in various publications: **Sandra Fong** and board member **Daniel Lau** were pictured in *Midweek* while attending an American Judicature Society Hawaii gathering honoring former Hawaii chief justice **William S. Richardson**, and board member and Hula Preservation Society director **Maile Beamer Loo** was mentioned in **Ben Wood's** "Wood Craft" column in the *Star-Bulletin*.

And last but not least, board member **Alan Ho**, owner of Seafood Village and Atlantis Seafood & Steak in Waikiki and Pacific Resources LLC, has been selected as the United Chinese Society's 2009 Model Citizen of the Year. The full page write-up in the *Advertiser's* "East Oahu People" insert mentioned that in addition to running his businesses, Alan "donates to between 10 to 20 local organizations." Alan will be honored at a December 7 dinner at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom.



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

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