

LANTERN

April, 2008



夏威夷中華總商會

LAST CALL FOR

Flower Drum Song and Nancy Kwan

The final event of the 59th annual Narcissus Festival is the Narcissus Classic, featuring a stage production of Rogers and Hammerstein's "Flower Drum Song." The Diamond Head Theatre production has won rave reviews from **Joseph Rozmiarek** in the March 24 *Honolulu Advertiser* ("You shouldn't miss the show") and **John Berger** in the March 28 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* ("[G]reat musical theater") and has been extended by two shows. Tickets to the Chamber-sponsored show on Wednesday, April 2, are still available, as are a few tickets to the Saturday, April 5, VIP reception at Dr. **Joseph Tseu's** home, an opportunity to meet and greet **Nancy Kwan**, star of the 1961 movie version of the musical. To order tickets, call the Chamber at 533-3181 before they're all gone.

Qing Ming Observance

The annual Qing Ming ceremony at Manoa Chinese Cemetery will be held on Saturday, April 5, beginning at 9:30 a.m. This will be the seventh year that the Hawaii Chinese Qing Ming Celebration will be held by the United Chinese Society and various Chinese societies. This being an election year, there will likely be many politicians in attendance. The public is invited to the elaborate ceremonies honoring our Chinese ancestors and marking the start of a month of family and society observances around the world. **James Young, Jeanette Young, and Harry Wong** are the co-chairs for this event.

Families observing a traditional *Qing Ming* may be aware that an all-inclusive food package is available from Royal Kitchen and can be picked up and taken to the cemetery. For many years, the package put together by **Kwock Nam Lau** and his employees has included five dishes, and this year, it includes oyster roll, *kau yuk*, roast duck, roast chicken, and soft tofu. A set of tea cups and chopsticks are included. The cost is \$41.00, plus GET, and can be ordered by calling 524-2843.

INSTALLATION DINNER

by Ted Li

The annual banquet and installation of officers will be held on Saturday, May 17, at the Waikiki Lau Yee Chai restaurant. A limited selection of beer, wine, and soft drinks will be available beginning at 5:30 p.m., and the seven-course dinner and program will start at 6:00 p.m. You are cordially invited to come to network with other Chamber members and guests, to greet the new officers for 2008-2009, and to hear what my plans for the Chamber for the 2008-2009 fiscal year are. The cost is \$38.00 per person or \$380.00 per table. Reservations should be made by calling the Chamber at 533-3181 no later than Friday, May 2.

NARCISSUS GOODWILL TOUR

by Ted Li

This year, the Narcissus Goodwill Tour will have two special stops, Huangshan (Yellow Mountain) and also Zhangzhou, the home of the narcissus flower. The 18-day tour leaves Honolulu on Sunday, June 8, and returns to Honolulu on Wednesday, June 25. While there are other groups with tours to China, since the first Chamber tour to China in 1981, most people agree that the Narcissus Goodwill Tour is incomparable. In addition to the Narcissus Queen and members of her court, the entire tour group is literally treated royally in China, with numerous official dinners and gifts for everyone in the group. (Just remember to keep track of them for U.S. Customs when you get back to Honolulu International Airport). The Narcissus Goodwill Tour is a trip that you will long remember, and the sights you will see are priceless! For more information, a tour brochure or to make your reservations, contact Skyway Express at 526-1347. (Don't wait too long, especially if you don't currently have a valid U.S. passport since processing times have been quite long).



President
Edward Y. W. Pei

We must be doing something right! Since the beginning of our current fiscal year (June 1, 2007), we have welcomed 58 new members to our organization. At our February board meeting alone, we approved ten new members, the largest in the three years since I have been on the board. The lifeblood of every organization is its membership, and we have been blessed with these wonderful new members, many of whom are eager to participate in our many activities. Unfortunately, we also lose a number of members each year, probably because we have not satisfied their reasons for joining or otherwise have not met their expectations.

So I have a message to you new members, and even to members who have been with our organization for some time. Get involved! Sometimes we do not do a very good job of asking our members to get involved. I hope that if you haven't been asked, you will ask us. Many of you have

joined our organization to meet new people, to make business contacts, and to develop an expanded network of peers. Getting involved is the surest means of achieving these objectives. We are an active organization involved in many different activities, so there are many opportunities.

The Narcissus Festival is our most visible activity. The Splendor of China committee is already planning for this October 4 and 5, recruiting vendors, looking for performers, planning marketing strategies and logistics, and many other activities. This is our biggest undertaking, and we can use many more volunteers. Other Narcissus Festival events include the Queen Pageant, Coronation Ball, Chinatown New Year Celebration, and the Narcissus Classic. And this coming year will be the 60th anniversary, so there may be other events or activities planned. **Dennis Hwang** is the general chairman of the 60th Narcissus Festival, so please contact him if you would like to get involved.

The membership area is also very active. Help us plan our quarterly membership meetings or work on some of our networking events. We have a phone tree committee that contacts members about upcoming events. There are committees focused on recruitment, orientation, and retention. Want to help plan our annual meeting/installation banquet in May? Contact Second Vice President **Wanda Tse** if you are interested in any of these activities.

If you have the time, we have a very interesting opportunity. One of the best

kept secrets is that the Chamber conducts a once a week walking tour of Chinatown. Our current guide is **Tony Chang** and he does a marvelous job. But it is a strain for him to meet this weekly obligation. If you like to meet new people and can spare some time, volunteer to be one of our tour guides. If we have several, the burden on all is diminished significantly. In addition to serving as a tour guide, we need to do a much better job of marketing our tours. So there are other opportunities to get involved with this endeavor.

We also have several other areas that are in formative stages. **Winfred Pong** is heading a committee to create a training program for merchants in town to prepare them for the onslaught of visitors from China. We are deliberating about a possible role in the revitalization of Chinatown. We have a not so active committee focused on legislative activities, monitoring bills that may be helpful or harmful to our business or Chinese community. And we have an active and outstanding building committee that is pondering alternatives for a Chamber office, and even a Chinatown Community Center.

So if you have not been asked, please ask us how you might get involved. There are many opportunities, and many wonderful members you can meet along the way. Help us help you get the most out of your organization by participating in our many activities!

See you soon!

ANNUAL CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT

by our Mystery Correspondent

The Chinese Chamber is pleased to once again sponsor a golf tournament featuring a competition between ethnic chambers and organizations in Hawaii. Called the International Chamber Challenge Golf Tournament and now in its second year, this event will be held on Wednesday, May 28, at the MCBH Klipper golf course, located on beautiful Kaneohe Bay. There will be a 12:45 p.m. shotgun start, meaning that all teams will start and finish at approximately the same time. The fee is \$100.00 per player, which includes greens and cart fees, light lunch and on-course refreshments, and an awards reception dinner and prizes. Play will be based on a two-person team and the format is being finalized.

Last year, eight different organizations were represented in this tournament, with one of the Chinese Chamber teams prevailing. We hope to have many more organizations participating this year, and we also hope that there will be more Chinese Chamber members playing as well. The purpose of this event is really for friendship and networking, and the cost per player is a real bargain.

The tournament is open to two-member teams, and at least one member of the team must belong to a local chamber of commerce or ethnic club. But the tournament is open to anyone interested in playing at the beautiful Klipper course. Bring along a friend to form your team or just sign up by yourself, and we will pair you up with another Chamber member. Individual prizes will also be given. An entry form is enclosed and the deadline for entries is Thursday, May 1. Sign up now for a great day of fun and fellowship. (Please note that if you don't play golf, Chamber members new or old can still volunteer to help with the tournament committee in running the tournament).



CHAMBER DIRECTOR AND OFFICER ELECTIONS

The annual election of sixteen Chamber directors took place on Friday, March 7. New directors include **Betty Brow**, **Jeffrey Lau**, **Tim Law**, **Bryan Luke**, and **John Zhang**. Re-elected as directors were **Yen Chun**, **Douglas Ho**, **Dennis Hwang**, **Leonard Kam**, **Elvira Lo**, **Sylvia Louie**, **Alex Marn**, **Henry Ou**, **Lily Tang**, **Yu Shing Ting**, and **Stanford Yuen**.

Then on Friday, March 21, a new slate of officers was elected for a term starting June 1, 2008. Headed by President **Ted Li**, the new officers include President-Elect **Dennis Hwang**, First Vice President **Jeffrey Lau**, Second Vice President **Libby Lew**, English Secretary **Gerald Chang**, Chinese Secretary **Laisin Lee**, Treasurer **Sylvia Louie**, Assistant Treasurer **Gayle Lau**, and Auditor **Michele Choy**. And of course the Immediate Past President is **Edward Pei**.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Friday, March 7, a hundred Chamber members gathered at the Dole Cannery ballrooms for a lunchtime general membership meeting. A few members took advantage of the opportunity to showcase their business with pamphlets while many other members, new and old, were busily networking. The presentation by University of Hawaii professor **Rosita Chang** on the Chinese stock markets in Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Shenzhen was quite interesting. (Unfortunately, the PowerPoint presentation's colors were more suited to a classroom, not the large ballroom). For those who want to know more about the Chinese markets, see "Earnings up, prices down" in the March 22 issue of *The Economist*, and also **Jim Rogers'** book, *A Bull in China: Investing Profitably in the World's Greatest Market*. (Rogers and **George Soros** founded the Quantum Fund in 1970 and he retired ten years later, at the age of 37).

Chinese Language Classes by Yen Chun

The Mandarin classes set up by the Confucius Institute at the University of Hawaii Manoa (CIUHM) for Chamber members in February are a great hit. Many Chamber members, including Narcissus Queen **Catherine Jayne**, several of the princesses, and Catherine's parents are taking them in preparation for the upcoming Narcissus Goodwill Tour. Due to popular demand, CIUHM will continue these classes after the first session ends on April 20. The new sessions will start on Saturday, April 26, and Sunday, April 27 ("novice" and "beginner/intermediate," respectively). In addition, there is a list of Chinese language programs in Hawaii (as of March, 2008) as well as information on a three-week-long residential Chinese immersion language sports camp for thirty youths (ages 12-17), with little or no knowledge of Chinese. For more information on any of the classes, visit CIUHM's Web site at <http://chinesestudies.hawaii.edu/confucius/events>. (For the youth class, substitute "program" for "events" in the URL).

Pearl Harbor Boat Tour

From time to time, **Stanford Yuen**, executive assistant to the Admiral, Navy Region Hawaii, arranges for Pearl Harbor boat tours. This year's boat tour will be on Friday, May 23. These tours are not open to the general public, so you should take advantage of the opportunity. More details will be provided in next month's *Lantern*.



The discussion topics will include:

- Defining and avoiding the expenses of probate
- Benefits of living trusts
- Estate and gift tax
- Strategies for controlling and funding tax liability
- Legal and efficient wealth transfer
- Other considerations such as long term care insurance

Monday, April 14, 2008 (Mandarin presentation)

Tuesday, April 15, 2008 (Cantonese presentation)

Wednesday, April 16, 2008 (English presentation)

9:45 – 11:00 a.m.

Please make reservations early as seating is limited.

Chinese Cultural Plaza
Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall
100 N. Beretania Street
Suite 306
Honolulu, HI 96817

Bank of Hawaii
Private Client Services

- For reservations (Mandarin/ English), please call **Kenneth M. Sheffield** at 694-8318
- For reservations (Cantonese), please call **Natalie K. Tse** at 531-8831

HAWAII FOODBANK

With the economic concerns here in Hawaii and the rest of the U.S., it's appropriate that the Hawaii Foodbank is conducting its 19th annual drive. This will take place on Saturday, April 19, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at locations around Oahu. For more information on drop-off sites and what items are most needed, go to the Web site at www.hawaii-foodbank.org.

Honolulu Marathon

Early registration for the December 14 Honolulu Marathon is Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, at Niketown. (Hours to be announced). Ordinarily, the fee is \$80.00, but early registrants pay only \$30.00! (This early notice is courtesy of **Libby Lew**, who completed the 2007 marathon with husband **Bob**).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 4	Fri	Ching Ming Festival
Apr 22	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
Apr 29	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon
May 11	Sun	Mother's Day
May 17	Sat	Installation Banquet Waikiki Lau Yee Chai Restaurant 5:30 p.m.

MEMBER NEWS

Betty Brow was pictured in the March 5 *Advertiser's* "Honolulu People" insert, enthusiastically participating in a Japanese *sake* ceremony as part of the grand opening celebration for Bank of Hawaii's International Banking Center in Waikiki.

Condolences to **Lily Tang**, whose son passed away late in February. **David Tang** was pictured in a tuxedo in the March 7 *Friday Midweek's* "MW Rides," along with four of his cars. He was a graduate of Mid-Pacific Institute and the University of Hawaii Manoa, and had a master's degree in information systems from Hawaii Pacific University, and had played volleyball for both Mid-Pac and the UH. Writer **Jerrette Kamaka** noted that "If the world had more Dave Tangs, it would surely be a better place."

Former Chamber president **Wesley Fong** is one of the five recipients of the annual Jefferson Award for public service. Wes was recognized for his tireless efforts on behalf of Palolo Chinese Home, initially as fund-raising chair, personally raising \$1 million of the \$13 million needed to renovate the **Lani Booth** building and to build another building, and then as president of PCH from 2004-2007. And just think, all that from someone who's just "55" years old, according to *Advertiser* writer **Suzanne Roig**.

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

Honolulu Festival Parade 2008



NEW MEMBERS

At its March 21 meeting, the board approved the application for **Lac Long Tam**, Bank of Hawaii vice president and manager for trade services (sponsored by **Edward Hu**). Welcome to the Chamber, and we look forward to meeting you at the next general membership meeting.

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



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