

LANTERN

June, 2008



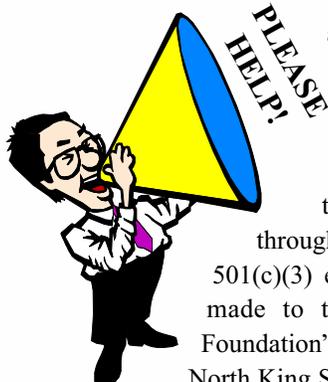
夏威夷中華總商會

Queen Search

Next year's Narcissus Pageant on Saturday, January 10 will be the sixtieth annual one and the Queen Search committee is already at work, looking for candidates to compete for the coveted title of Narcissus Queen. Contestants must be between the ages of 19 and 26 years of age on pageant night, have a Chinese surname and be at least 50% Chinese, single (never have been married or had a child), and been a resident of Hawaii for the last twelve months. If you know a young woman meeting the foregoing criteria and who is interested in learning more about her Chinese heritage, wants to meet new people and to challenge herself, and perhaps travel to China in the summer of 2009, have her contact the Chamber at 533-3181 for an application and fact sheet. Deadline for entries is Thursday, July 31.

DISASTER RELIEF

A month ago, a devastating cyclone struck the Southeast Asian nation of Myanmar, the country formerly known as Burma. Our own **Victor Lim**, who was born in Burma, and members of the Myanmar Association of Hawaii are organizing the "Burma (Myanmar) Cyclone Relief Fund-raiser" on Tuesday, June 3, at the Waterfront at Aloha Tower Marketplace, from 5:30-9:00 p.m. Along with entertainment emceed by **Augie T**, there will be food prepared by **Sam Choy**, **Roy Yamaguchi**, **Chai Chaowasaree**, and others. There will be a silent auction as well as door prizes and other surprises. Regular admission is \$50.00, reserved seating is \$100.00, and gold and silver tables for ten are also available. Due to the "short-fuse" nature of this notice, many readers may not be able to attend. However, donations are being taken and checks should be made payable to "Myanmar Association of Hawaii," with the memo "Burmese Cyclone Victims," and sent to 720 North King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817. For more information, call 851-7010 or e-mail myaing999@gmail.com.



At the same time, the Chamber is also accepting donations for the massive May 12 earthquake in Sichuan province. Over \$100,000.00 was raised at the May 17 installation banquet, but for those who did not attend and who wish to make a donation, they can do so through the Chamber Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) entity. Tax-deductible donations may be made to the "Chinese Chamber of Commerce Foundation" and sent to the Chamber office at 76 North King Street, Suite 202, Honolulu 96817.

Chinese Student Housing Needed

Six top MBA students, two women and four men, from nationally ranked **Sun Yat-sen** University will be attending the University of Hawaii Manoa (UHM) Shidler College of Business's international MBA program from July 2008 through September 2009. For the first month, they will be housed at the East-West Center. Thereafter, they are in need of housing for the rest of their stay in Hawaii. Due to a severe shortage of housing for students, UHM has issued an all-out call for Chinese Chamber members to help the six students with housing. Anyone with an available apartment or room(s) should contact **Grace Chan** at the Chamber at 533-3181 or **Alvin Wong** at 542-5313.

Asia Real Estate Investment Talk

The Hawaii International Real Estate Council (HIREC) will be holding a talk on "Bilateral Opportunities in Real Estate Investment: China, Vietnam, and Japan." The talk will be on Thursday, June 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the Japanese Cultural Center. The speakers will be two lawyers, our Chamber First Vice President **Jeffrey Lau** and **Lorin Hirano**. The cost is \$35.00, which includes the program and buffet luncheon, and there is a \$5.00 surcharge for registrations received after June 6. For reservations or more information, contact the Hawaii Association of Realtors at 733-7060, extension 103.



President
Ted C. T. Li

I am honored to be the 97th President of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and I am very grateful and thankful to so many of you who have helped and supported me throughout the years. To you all, a big *mahalo!*

At our installation banquet on May 17, I was very touched by the outpouring of support for the Sichuan Earthquake Relief Fund. Who would have thought that we would be able to mobilize the attendees at the installation banquet to donate more than \$100,000.00? If you were not at the installation banquet and you want to contribute to this humanitarian cause, donations are still being accepted. Please make your checks payable to "Chinese Chamber of Commerce Foundation" and mail them to the Chamber office at 72 North King Street, Suite 202, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817. The Chamber Foundation is a 501(c)(3) entity and your donations to the Sichuan Earthquake Relief Fund are tax-

deductible.

Your new Executive Board has been working diligently to plan programs for the new fiscal year, which started on June 1. We invite you to assist us in this planning process by providing your valuable input to me or any other executive officer or better yet, you can join us at our planning meeting on Saturday, June 7. The meeting will be conducted at **Dennis Hwang's** office at 733 Bishop Street, Suite 2400, starting at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will finish by noon, and coffee, juice, and pastries will be provided. If you plan to attend, please call Grace at 533-3181. Together, we hope that we can deliver programs that will meet your needs and expectations while we are shaping our community to be a better place for us all.

For the past several years, your Chamber has been trying to develop some new programs and to improve existing programs to meet the challenge of the ever changing global economy. As a result, a new event, the Splendor of China, was created five years ago, and it has been very successful in providing business opportunities for our members as well as vendors on an international level.

Your Chamber's By-laws have been revised and were approved at a general membership meeting on May 27. I believe that your Chamber now has all the right tools, talent, and a good structure to meet our needs as well as the needs of the community. Of course, peri-

odic updates and maintenance are always required to put your Chamber in the forefront as a vibrant business organization.

While we were exploring creating new programs, we found that our existing programs have been largely meeting or exceeding our members' expectations and that they are well received by the community. Perhaps we need to market some of our programs more aggressively. This year, we are planning to develop programs to allow the community to have greater participation in our events, and we will also actively participate in programs offered by other organizations.

This year, we plan to actively participate in the Chinatown revitalization project with the City and County of Honolulu, and we are hoping to recruit more merchants from Chinatown to become Chamber members.

Next year, we will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Narcissus Festival. It is my hope that from now on, we can work more closely with local as well as overseas public and private Chinese entities to expand our economy beyond the boundaries of our shores, to diversify our industries, and to bring more visitors to our islands. Through our various Narcissus Festival events, I believe that we can perpetuate our culture and heritage, develop community harmony, promote world peace, and enhance our business opportunities.

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

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The last general membership meeting of the fiscal year was held on Tuesday, May 27, at the Ala Moana Hotel. Seventy Chamber members gathered to hear a lunchtime talk by **Marsha Wienert**, the state's tourism liaison officer. She pointed out that the agreement signed between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China was not a grant of approved destination status (ADS) for the U.S., but rather was a memorandum of agreement (MOU). Under the MOU, Chinese citizens must still get a U.S. visa to travel to the mainland or Hawaii. At the same time, U.S. companies can now market U.S. tours in China. Also mentioned was an article in that day's *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* that Beijing-based Mega Global Airway would be using 220-240 passenger Boeing 767s for charter flights to Las Vegas, with a stop in Hawaii. There would be three charter flights a week from Tianjin, beginning around July 28, and three more charter flights from Hangzhou, starting in October. (Hainan Airlines, partly owned by billionaire **George Soros**, will begin non-stop service between Beijing and Seattle on June 9). Members had an opportunity to display their goods and services, and **Rick Mikami** was the only one with a table, displaying bio-photonic scanner for measuring antioxidants, which helps you to eat better and decide on nutritional supplements. He also has a galvanic treatment that can help you look younger in ten minutes.



Father's Day

Well, Mother's Day has come and gone, but Sunday, June 15, is Father's Day. Restaurateurs and food service people love both days. As it happens, the *Honolulu Advertiser's* 2008 "Best of the Best" insert was released a last week. In the "Food & Dining" category, congratulations go to **Raymond Siu** (Pah Ke's Chinese Restaurant – 1st place, Chinese Food), **Thomas Ky** (Assaggio with 5 Oahu locations – 1st place Italian Food), **Eddie Flores, Jr.** and **Johnson Kam** (L & L Drive-Inn/Hawaiian Barbecue with 59 locations statewide – 1st place, Loco Moco and Plate Lunch, 2nd place, Spam Musubi), **Thanh Quoc Lam** (Ba-Le Sandwiches & Bakery with 21 locations statewide – 1st place Sandwich, 2nd place, Deli), and **Victor Lim** (7 Oahu McDonald's franchises – 2nd place, Salads). Not to be forgotten are **Jennifer Chan** (Little Village Noodle House and Chan's Gourmet Buffet), **Linda and Larry Chan** (The Mandalay, located on Alakea, not Waiialae Avenue), **Susanna Cheung** (Helemano Plantation), **Alan Ho** (Seafood Village and Atlantis Seafood & Steak), **Kwock Nam Lau** (Royal Kitchen), **Li May Tang** (Hong Kong Harbor View Seafood Restaurant), and **Alan Zhang** (8 Oahu Panda Express locations). So for those considering taking Dad out to lunch or dinner, there are a variety of Chamber member restaurants to select from.

Chinese Language Classes

The Confucius Institute at the University of Hawaii Manoa will be offering a new series of Mandarin language classes. The classes will be for two hours, once a week, for ten weeks at St. John Hall, starting July 5 and ending on September 6. Saturday classes are Kuailei/Happy Chinese II (intermediate-low level students) and Mandarin for Daily Life (beginning level) while Sunday classes are Happy Chinese I (novice level) and Mandarin for Business Communication (beginning/intermediate level). The fee per class is \$100.00, which includes tuition as well as a textbook and teaching materials). On-campus parking is \$3.00 on Saturdays and free on Sundays. For more information, contact **Meiping Zhu** at 944-7256 or meiping@hawaii.edu.

INSTALLATION DINNER

The Waikiki Lau Yee Chai was the venue on Saturday, May 17 for the installation of officers for 2008-2009. Some 360 Chamber members, family, and friends gathered for the inauguration of President **Ted Li** and the transfer of responsibilities from outgoing President **Edward Pei**. Those attending partook of a mouth-watering seven-course dinner of Peking duck; straw mushroom and stewed scallop soup; ground pepper *filet mignon* with asparagus; scallops and vegetables in *taro* basket; honey glazed walnut shrimp; black bean sauce steamed fillet of sole; steamed *yingyang* chicken; and *lee hing lychee* sherbet. Ted outlined his plans for the new fiscal year, and Ed received a gift for his service.

CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT

by Edward Pei

Wednesday, May 28, was a bright, sunny day at Kaneohe Klipper Golf Club that greeted the players in the Chinese Chamber of Commerce's 2nd annual International Chamber Challenge. There were 56 golfers representing many ethnic organizations who turned out to enjoy the fun and fellowship, and to meet and network with representatives from other organizations. There were teams from the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Japan-America Society of Hawaii, the Hawaii Okinawa Association, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, the Hong Kong Business Association, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, the Wong Kong Har Tong, the 2007 Narcissus Goodwill Tour, and of course, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. There were also corporate teams from Finance Factors, First Hawaiian Bank, Hawaii National Bank, Architects Hawaii, Manson Products, Panda Express, and John Hancock that competed for the beautiful trophies and great prizes.

At the awards banquet following the tournament, the following were recognized for their golfing skills: first place team – Chinese Chamber of Commerce (**Vernon Ching** and **Bertrand Fong**), second place team – Okinawan Church (**Wilbert Toma** and **Herbert Hong**), third place team – Hong Kong Business Association (**Ping Wai Wong** and **Brian Suzuki**), fourth place team – Chinese Chamber of Commerce (**Dick Chun-Hoon** and **Jay Chrisman**), and fifth place team – Japanese Cultural Center (**Ron Ushijima** and **Wayne Muraoka**). Par 3 closest to the pin went to **Brian Suzuki**, **Wilbert Toma**, and **Bernard Choy**.

Event chair and tournament director **Dick Chun-Hoon** was ably assisted by **Angie Shiroma**, **Alvin Wong**, **Jay Chrisman**, **Carolyn Chun-Hoon**, **Linda Louie**, **Gerald Chang**, **Kendall Wong**, **Irvin Wong**, **Ed Keyes**, and our 2008 Narcissus Queen, **Catherine Wong Jayne**. Special Thanks to **John Zhang** and Panda Express for returning a second year as title sponsor of this event. Thanks also to **Nelson Wang** and John Hancock Insurance for providing a putting contest prior to the start of the round.

Special thanks to prize donors **Sandra Au Fong** (Market City Shopping Center), **Robert Maynard** (Aloha Petroleum), **Ann Nagahiro** (Maui Divers of Hawaii), **Greg Nichols** (Ko'Olina Golf Club), **Thomas Jones** (Gyotaku Restaurant), **Robert Loomis** (Costco Wholesale), **Kendra Murray** (Dave & Buster's), **Dawn Wong** (Hawaiian Electric), **Brian Suzuki** (Hawaii Air Cargo), **Mark Sousa** (Mid-Pacific Country Club), **Warren Luke** (Hawaii National Bank), **Nelson Wang** (John Hancock Financial Services), **Alan Ho** (Seafood Village), **Abe Mariano** (Abe Mariano Pure Golf Academy), Pro-Am Golf, **Kwock Nam Lau** (Royal Kitchen), **John Zhang** (Panda Express), **Jan** and **Phoebe Chrisman**, and **Gabe Lee** (American Savings Bank).



CITM 2008

Hawaii Tourism China (HTC) invites Hawaii businesses to participate in the Hawaii booth at the China International Tourism Mart in Shanghai this November. HTC is an exhibitor in the Travel Industry Association's "Discover America" pavilion, with booths with a Hawaiian design and Hawaiian entertainment. A CITM brochure and booth application, which must be returned by June 15, are available from the Chamber. For more information, contact **David Sun** (dsun@aviareps.com).

NEW MEMBERS

At its May 22 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the applications for **Olivia Ng**, a Realtor-Associate with Kahala Associates (sponsored by **Edward Hu**), and **Dennis Su**, assistant branch manager for Hawaii U.S.A. FCU. (sponsored by **Wanda Tse**). Welcome to the Chamber, we look forward to meeting you at the next general membership meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 1 Sun **Father's Day**
- June 17 Sat **Executive Board Meeting**
Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
- June 24 Thu **Board of Directors Meeting**
The New Empress Restaurant
12:00 noon

MEMBER NEWS

According to the "East Oahu People" insert in the May 21 *Honolulu Advertiser*, **Victor Lim** recently traveled to Orlando where he received McDonald's coveted 2008 Golden Arch Award. With some 5,800 franchisees worldwide, there have been only 35 recipients of the biennial award, 12 of them in the U.S. He has seven franchises – Fort Street Mall, Queen Street, Kailua, Enchanted Lakes, Waimanalo, Dole Cannery, and Ala Moana shopping center. This year, Victor also was named the United Chinese Society's 2008 Chinese Citizen of the Year and Small Business Hawaii's Civic Leader. Congratulations on all the well-deserved awards.

Veronica Kaneko, President and Managing Director, Hawaii Region, McDonald's Restaurants of Hawaii, was briefly mentioned by **Erika Engle** in her "The Buzz" column in the May 22 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. The article was about this year's recipient of the American Marketing Association's Marketer of the Year award. It seems that Veronica won the award back in 2002. (And the *Lantern* editor apologizes for accidentally using the wrong first name in mentioning her in last month's *Lantern*).

Economist and businessman **Puongpun Sananikone**, like Veronica, is another Chamber member who all too often doesn't get mentioned in print. He was pictured in the June 4 *Midweek* with his wife, **Thanhlo**, while attending the East-West Center's "An International Affair," honoring the well-loved Thai King **Bhumibol Adulyadej**, who has reigned since June 9, 1946. Also pictured at the event was former Chamber president **Warren Luke** and wife **Carolyn**.

Narcissus Queen **Catherine "Cat" Wong Jayne** was pictured in the Spring 2008 *Punahou Bulletin* at the end of pageant night, wearing a tiara and her sashes as the new Narcissus Queen and Miss Talent. She and Narcissus Fourth Princess **Chantel Ching** were there (in casual dress) for the May 23 Pearl Harbor boat tour. And then on May 28, Catherine spent much of the day and evening at the Kaneohe Klipper Golf Club, helping the tournament committee. She'll be leaving town on the Narcissus Goodwill Tour in the early morning hours of June 8, and will unfortunately miss her Punahou class of 2003 reunion at the Alumni Luau on Saturday, June 14.

The LANTERN a monthly publication
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