

# LANTERN

January & February 2009

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The first general membership meeting for 2009 will be on Thursday, March 12. It will be held at the Mandalay Restaurant, starting with no-host cocktails (and networking) at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m. Starting at 7:30 p.m., **Douglas Ho**, owner of Classic Coins of Hawaii, will give a presentation on gold, "Investing in Gold in Turbulent Times." Free (validated) parking is available across the street in the Bishop Square parking structure. The cost is \$18.00 per member or \$160.00 for a table of ten. If you plan to attend, please contact the Chamber at 533-3181 not later than the close of business on Tuesday, March 10.

(For those wanting some advance information, the January 2009 *National Geographic's* cover story, "The Real Price of Gold" by **Brook Larmer**, is on gold production and the environment while **John Waggoner** has an article, "Investors are grabbing for dangled karats," in *USA Today*. [http://www.usatoday.com/money/markets/2009-02-18-karats-invest-gold\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/money/markets/2009-02-18-karats-invest-gold_N.htm)).

## Summer High School Student Program

The Confucius Institute headquarters (*Hanban*) has announced its "Chinese Bridge" summer program for high school students (ages 15-18 years old) in China. Students chosen from applicants are responsible for their own air fare to and from China, but all in-country arrangements and expenses (except for personal purchases) will be covered by *Hanban*. Due to the Hawaii public school schedule, Hawaii students will participate in the program from approximately July 6-26. Deadline for applications is March 15. For more detailed information and applications, contact Dr. **Rosita Chang**, director of the UH Manoa Center for Chinese Studies, at 956-7592 or [rositac@hawaii.edu](mailto:rositac@hawaii.edu).

## Author's China Talk

by Yen Chun

On Friday, March 20, Shanghai-born author **Chen Yuan-tsung** will give a talk on "The Contribution of Overseas Chinese to the Birth of Modern China." She will address the way that overseas Chinese, particularly those in Hawaii, contributed to the birth of modern China by supporting Dr. Sun Yat-sen as well as the 1911 "Double Ten" Revolution. The talk will be at 4:30 p.m. at the Center for Korean Studies Auditorium, 1881 East-West Road. Afterwards, there will be a reception and book signing of Ms. Chen's *Return to the Middle Kingdom: One Family, Three Revolutionaries, and the Birth of Modern China*. For more information, contact **Daniel Tschudi** at 956-8891.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

by Libby Lew

The 2009 Splendor of China (SOC) will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 3 and 4. Preparations for SOC will soon begin. If you or someone you know is interested in helping at SOC, please contact the Chinese Chamber at 533-3181 or send an e-mail to [info@chinesechamber.com](mailto:info@chinesechamber.com), with your name, e-mail address, and an evening or weekend phone number. The SOC chair, **Libby Lew**, will call you in a few days to confirm receipt of your interest.



## NARCISSUS GOODWILL TOUR

by Dennis Hwang

The itinerary for the June 7-23 2009 Narcissus Goodwill Tour has been set, and reservations are now being taken. This year's tour is perfect for the first-timer to China as well as those who have not been there for a while. There are many things to see and experience in China. The sights include cities such as Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong, with historical sites in and around Beijing such as the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Summer Palace, and the Great Wall, and new architectural wonders like the "bird's nest" and "water cube" of the 2008 Summer Olympics as well as the National Grand Theater or "bird egg." You will be able to ride a pedicab in the Houhai district in Beijing or jog at Tiananmen Square, bike on the city wall in Xi'an, cruise down the Li River in Guilin, and get close to the pandas at the Panda Research Center near Chengdu. You will be able to eat Peking Duck, Xi'an dumplings, spicy Sichuanese food, and Shanghai specialties. We will stay at five-star hotels, and there will be government-sponsored "official" dinners as well as goodwill, cultural, business, and technology exchange opportunities. All transportation and meals are included (except in Hong Kong). The price is \$4,688.00, plus tax. For more information or to reserve a space, contact the Chamber at 533-3181.

[Editor's note: The upcoming March 2009 issue of *National Geographic* has an article by **Edward Hoagland** on Jiuzhaigou, "China's Mystic Waters," with stunning photographs by **Michael Yamashita**. That may inspire you to see Jiuzhaigou for yourself.]



夏威夷中華總商會

THE  
CHINESE  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
OF HAWAII



President  
Ted C. T. Li

Gung Hee Fat Choy! Sun Nien Fai Lok! 2009 and the year of the Ox started out with a big bang. A good start for the year is a good indicator for a great year ahead of us. First, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 60th Narcissus Queen **Lisa Wong**; First Princess **Tina Ng**; Second Princess **Dan Yuan**; Third Princess **Kacie Pang**; and Fourth Princess **Kristine Duong**. I sincerely believe that the beautiful and talented 2009 Queen and court will be great ambassadors for our Chinese community, both in Hawaii and on the Narcissus Goodwill Tour.

January was a very productive and exciting month. We had a very enjoyable 60th Narcissus Pageant and a very successful Coronation Ball, then we jointly organized and presented the Chinese New Year celebration with the City and County of Honolulu and other Chinese community organizations right in Chinatown. Attendance and participation were phenomenal for all of the events.

On behalf of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and our community, a big *mahalo* to all the volunteers and committee Chairs for a job well done. With your continued support, I am sure activities for this and next year will be even more successful.

I would like to thank all of our hardworking building committee members for the results that we have accomplished so far. Currently, we have started to manage our own building, and are finalizing our renovation plan, finding contractors, looking for tenants, and also developing plans for fundraising. The address for our Chamber future office has now been officially changed to 8 South King Street! And we plan to move into our new home in March.

The Chinatown Community Development Center (CCDC) will be our next focus, now that we have the building acquired. We are planning to offer our first CCDC entrepreneurial training class to the public in April. More business seminars will be offered to the public in the months to come. Currently, we are signing up instructors and lecturers for our business training component. And we plan to work very closely with the City and State to improve the economic vitality of Chinatown. So if you would like to get involved and give back to the community, please let us know.

Mahalo and Aloha!

## Soup Endangers Sharks

Although spring doesn't officially arrive until March 20, several Chinese societies have already held their spring banquets. For those hard-working volunteers planning the menu for other upcoming spring banquets, one can only hope they saw **Lisa Ling's** December 11 CNN documentary on "shark finning," the practice of catching sharks, cutting off their fins, then throwing the sharks back into the water to die. Her writeup, "Shark fin soup alters an ecosystem" (<http://www.cnn.com/2008/WORLD/asi-apcf/12/10/pip.shark.finning/index.html>), points out that while sharks may kill ten humans in a year, humans kill 100 million sharks annually for fins that may sell for \$500.00 per pound. Yes, shark fin soup is a delicacy, one that arguably shows that the person who orders it is wealthy, but it also exhibits a cavalier attitude toward the environment.



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## Narcissus Pageant

The Hawaii Theatre was nearly sold out for the 60th annual Narcissus Pageant on Saturday, January 10. The evening began with the opening number, a dance routine choreographed by 2008 Narcissus Second Princess **Leilani Soon**, who also danced with the eleven lovely contestants. Master of ceremonies **MC Hammer** kept things moving throughout the evening. Following the completion of the talent, gown, and speech phases, there was a special appearance by former Narcissus Queens: **Jade Ing Sen** (1956), **Cecelia Ching Doo** (1960), **Kathleen Kong Wong** (1963), **Queenie Mow Chee** (1971), **Valerie Wong Liu** (1972), **Sandra Chun Wong** (1973), **Cynthia Chun Dela Cruz** (1974), **Renee Quon Yim** (1980), **Susan Ching** (1982), **Lori Kwock Tolentino** (1987), **Maile Loo Ching** (1992), **Lisa Lee Simon** (1995), **Kit Lo** (1998), **Leilani Tan** (1999), **Libby Lum Erickson** (2000), **Kathleen Wong** (2003), **Darah Dung** (2005), **Kristi Sue-Ako** (2006), **Jessica Lau** (2007), and **Catherine Wong Jayne** (2008).

Then came the awards. Miss Popularity (based on contestant sales of souvenir books and Narcissus Pageant tickets) was **Dan Yuan**, Miss Congeniality (based on a vote among the contestants) was **Kacie Pang**, and Miss Talent was **Lisa Wong**, who did a clever on-stage painting performance, a portrait of **Bruce Lee**. Finally came the moment that everyone in the audience had been waiting all evening for, the announcement of the 2009 Narcissus Queen and her court. In order of the announcement: **Kristine Duong** as Fourth Princess, **Kacie Pang** as Third Princess, **Dan Yuan** as Second Princess, **Tina Ng** as First Princess and **Lisa Wong**, 60th Narcissus Queen.

## CORONATION BALL

As in previous years, the Hilton Hawaiian Village was the site for the gala Narcissus Coronation Ball. However, due to a large convention using the Coral Ballroom, the Coronation Ball was held in the smaller, cozier Tapa Ballroom. There were 838 Chamber members, family, and friends present for the festivities as well as the six-course dinner prepared by **Steve Chiang** and two chefs from Shanghai. One of the highlights of the evening was a thirteen minute video, prepared by **Daniel Chun** and narrated by **Queenie Mow Chee**, recounting the sixty years of the Narcissus Festival.

Since this was the 60th anniversary of the Narcissus Festival, former Chamber presidents and Narcissus Queens were invited to attend and were introduced to the audience by emcee **Al Waterson**. The past presidents were **Ban Chan**, **Walter Chang**, **Anthony Ching**, **Norman Ching**, **Vernon Ching**, **Wallace Ching**, **Terrill Chock**, **Kenneth Chong**, **George Chu**, **Peter Chun**, **Tai Yau Chung**, **Wesley Fong**, **Frances Goo**, **Victor Lim**, **Renton Nip**, **Wendell Pang**, **Edward Pei**, **Neuman Pei**, **Winfred Pong**, **Alvin Wong**, **Reuben Wong**, **Wallace Wong**, and **Ronald Young**.

The former Narcissus Queens were **Vivian Choy Chang** (1957), **Carolyn Tong Chee** (1955), **Queenie Mow Chee**, **Susan Ching**, **Pansy Chun** (1991), **Cecilia Ching Doo**, **Darah Dung**, **Libby Lum Erickson**, **Sandra Chun Eu** (1958), **Aileen Lee Fong** (1965), **Debra Chun Hiramoto** (1977), **Lorna Ho** (1967), **Catherine Wong Jayne**, **Carol Liu Kokame** (1984), **Jessica Lau**, **Valerie Wong Liu**, **Kit Lo**, **Coralie Chun Matayoshi** (1976), **Peggy Sen Mau** (1975), **Lissa Ing Rodriguez** (1988), **Jade Ing Sen**, **Lisa Lee Simon**, **Lisa Ontai Stone**, **Leilani Tan**, **Lori Kwock Tolentino**, **Kathleen Kong Wong** (1963), and **Renee Quon Yim**.

## MODEL FATHER AND MOTHER

The United Chinese Society is apparently accepting nominations for its annual Model Father and Model Mother of the Year. For more information on criteria and nomination deadline as well as nomination forms, contact **Henry Lee** at 536-4621.

## LISA WONG ON NATIONAL TV

Narcissus Queen **Lisa Wong** was featured on February 10 in a 4:33 minute taped segment on the **Ellen DeGeneres Show**. Lisa performed her Narcissus Pageant talent number, "Enter the Flower," for a national audience. For those who have not seen Lisa perform during the recent Pageant, you can go to the "Ellen" Web site, then the "Video Gallery" (<http://ellen.warnerbros.com/videos/http://ellen.warnerbros.com/videos/>), and then click on the "video search" icon (a magnifying glass). Then type "narcissus" in the "dialogue" box, and once the thumbnail photo appears with the caption, "An Unbelievable Speed Painting Demonstration!," appears, click on that.

## Commemorative Narcissus Festival DVD

Thanks to **Daniel Chun**, a thirteen minute-long DVD narrated by **Queenie Mow Chee** has been produced, surveying the sixty years of the Narcissus Festival from its start in 1950 to the present. The DVD was first shown at the Coronation Ball on February 17, and shares the Coronation Ball's theme, "Remembering the Source: 60 Years of Narcissus History." A limited number of copies are available at \$10.00 a piece from the Chinese Chamber. To secure your own personal copy, contact the Chamber at 533-3181.

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Hawaii Veterans Goodwill Delegation 1 and 2 hosting a dinner for the CAIFC at the Royal Garden on 14 January. Left to right: President Ted Li, Admiral Ronald Hays, Hon. Xu Jialu, LTG Allen Ono and COL Wesley Fong.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 16	Mon	<b>President's Day</b>
Feb 17	Tue	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
Feb 24	Tue	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon
Mar 06	Fri	<b>Chamber Election Day</b> Chamber's Office 9:00 am - 4:30 pm
Mar 12	Thu	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Mandalay Restaurant – 5:30 pm
Mar 17	Tue	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> Chamber's Office – 12:00 noon
Mar 20	Fri	<b>Special Board Meeting</b> <b>- Election of New Officers</b> The New Empress Restaurant 12:00 noon

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According to the January 22 *Honolulu Advertiser*, U.S. Representative **Neil Abercrombie** was one of a select few—around 70 “early supporters,” mostly from Illinois—invited to a post-inaugural balls (there were ten “official” galas) gathering at the White House, hosted by President **Barack Obama**. With the favorable vote in the House and Senate on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Neil had an op-ed piece, “Recovery bill represents major change,” in the February 15 *Advertiser*.

Chamber President **Ted Li**, 2009 Narcissus Queen **Lisa Wong**, and Princesses **Tina Ng**, **Dan Yuan**, and **Kacie Pang** were pictured (twice each) modeling fashions from **Shanghai Tang** in the January 28 *Midweek*. Their appearance in the photo spread was publicizing a January 29 Shanghai Tang benefit for Feed the Hunger Foundation. The entire court—Lisa, Tina, Dan, Kacie, and **Kristine Duong**—was pictured in **Yu Shing Ting**'s “xposure” photo gallery in the January 30 *Midweek Friday*. And earlier in the month, the January 6 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* had an article, “Blossoming beauty,” on the then-Narcissus contestants, and Tina, Dan, and **Lori Chong** were pictured. On the next page, **Nancy Arcana**'s article, “Memories linger after reigns end,” included coverage of Narcissus Queens **Janet Chun** (1950), **Carolyn Tong Chee** (1955), **Linda Tom Klein** (1959), **Lisa Ontai Stone** (1986), and **Catherine Wong Jayne** (2008).

Among those enjoying the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin/Midweek* “skybox view” at the Sony Open were **James Schaefer** (and wife **Winnie**), who was pictured in the February 4 *Midweek* “Honolulu Pa’ina.”

According to the February 10 *Star-Bulletin*, the University of Hawaii recently presented the 2009 UH Founders Alumni Association Lifetime Achievement Award to Chamber board member **Daniel Lau**, who is also a co-founder and chairman of Finance Factors. Danny was a member of the UH class of 1941.

**Stanford Yuen** was pictured in **John Berger**'s “One the Scene” in the February 17 *Star-Bulletin*, wearing one of his twelve red-and-yellow U.S.C. Reyn's aloha shirts. The event was the opening of Wolfgang's Steakhouse in the Royal Hawaiian Center.

## NEW MEMBERS

At its January 27 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the applications for **Randy Lu**, an American Savings Bank vice president (sponsored by **Sylvia Louie**); 2008 Narcissus Second Princess **Leilani Soon** (sponsored by **Michele Choy**); and recent UH graduate **Ivy Yeung** (sponsored by **Michele Choy**). Leilani and Ivy are the first associate members. Welcome, all of you to the Chinese Chamber.

## LANTERN ADVERTISING RATES

Chamber members wishing to publicize their services or goods to our 300-plus members should be aware of the following rates: \$150.00 full-page, \$75.00 half-page, \$40.00 quarter-page, and \$25.00 for business card-size ads. To run your ad, contact the Chamber at 533-3181.



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

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