

LANTERN

November 2009

Narcissus Pageant

The 61st annual Narcissus Queen Pageant will once again be held at the Hawaii Theatre. Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 9, 2010. Tickets at \$34.00 and \$29.00 are available from the Hawaii Theatre Centre (HTC) box office, which is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, by phone at 528-0506 or online 24-hours a day from the HTC Web site. This promises to be a dazzling, entertaining, and suspenseful evening, so don't miss out, reserve your tickets today by calling the Chamber at 533-3181.

CORONATION BALL

The gala 61st Narcissus Coronation Ball will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2010. Once more, the venue will be the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. The evening starts with no-host cocktails at 5:00 p.m., with dinner and the program starting at 6:00 p.m. Tickets for dinner, the coronation of the new Narcissus Queen, and an evening of dancing until 11:45 p.m. are \$68.00 per person. Tables for ten are \$680.00 while wine tables (with one bottle each of red and white wine) are \$780.00. Dress is coat and tie, black tie optional. Don't miss this evening of fine food, camaraderie, and pomp and ceremony.

HAWAII VETERANS GOODWILL DELEGATION

by Wesley Fong

On 20 November 2009, the third Hawaii Veterans Goodwill Delegation (HVGD), led by Colonel **Wesley Fong**, visited China and was again hosted by the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC). The delegation of retired senior officers included Admiral and Mrs. **Ronald Zlatoper** (delegation representative), former Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet; Major General and Mrs. **Vern Miyagi**, former Mobilization Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Pacific Command; and Colonel and Mrs. **Wesley Fong**, former Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Japan.

The delegation continued the promotion of better understanding and friendship between the U.S. and China militaries as did the two



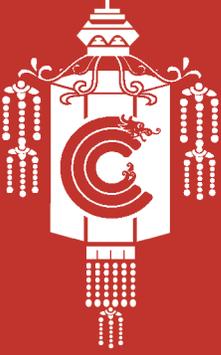
At the Great Hall of the People, Beijing – L to R: COL & Mrs. Wesley Fong, CAIFC Secretary General Chen Zuming, ADM & Mrs. Ronald Zlatoper, CAIFC VP Xing Yunming, MG & Mrs. Vern Miyagi, CAIFC Zhao Lei.

Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 8, is the date for the annual Chamber Christmas party. The party will again be held in the Hale Koa Hotel's Waikiki Ballroom with no-host cocktails and networking from 5:30 p.m., dinner starting at 6:30 p.m., and the program and entertainment beginning around 8:00 p.m. This year, there will be a served dinner for herb-crusted mahimahi with grilled sirloin steak. There is also an alternative vegetarian dinner as well as a dinner for children (4-11 years of age) at \$27.00. Here is a chance to meet and mingle with Chamber members old and new, and Santa will likely make an appearance. The cost is only \$37.00 (the buffet last year was \$39.50) and parking is validated. Because this is a served dinner, there will be no walk-ins allowed, and the deadline for reservations is Friday, December 4. Donations of canned food for the Hawaii Foodbank as well as door prizes will be gratefully accepted.

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

With this Christmas holiday season and the imminent end of the year, thoughts turn to charitable giving, among other things. Whether you have a list of charities to which you donate every year or not, there is a Web site that analyzes the financial health of 5,400 of the largest U.S. charities: Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) is "Your guide to intelligent giving" and is well worth your time, assisting you in deciding on which charities to support.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
Dennis J. Hwang

Along with all of the executive committee, I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season. Although economic times have been tough in the last year, we look forward to improvement, and there is still much to be thankful for: residing in this country and the greatest State in the nation.

Toward the goal of improving the economy, the Chamber can make a difference. On November 25, we partnered with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii to have a roundtable discussion between key legislators **Calvin Say, Brian Taniguchi, Barbara Marumoto, Pono Chang, Marcus Oshiro, Russell Kokubun, Norman Sakamoto**, and our very own member **Suzanne Chun Oakland**, as well as leading business leaders, including our members **Eddie Flores, Jr., and Victor Lim**. The difficult economic conditions were brought up and possible solutions discussed. There will be follow-up in numerous areas to improve the economy. The collaboration with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce shows the importance of partnerships, and where there is a natural fit, we will pursue these in the future. Many thanks go to member **Robert Yu** for helping to coordinate this event from the Chinese Chamber side.

From October 6th to the 14th, I was in China with Governor **Linda Lingle**'s delegation that included DBEDT officials, along with President-Elect **Jeff Lau**, Chamber board members and business owners **Eddie Ngan** and **Alan Ho**, state Representative **Corinne Ching**, business professor **Debbie Halloff** of Chaminade University, and former City Council member **Leigh Wai Doo**. Our mission was to increase business, cultural, goodwill, education, and scientific exchanges, not only for the Chamber, but for the entire State as well. It was a very productive trip that included a meeting with Hainan Airlines

executives. The airline executives are interested in direct flights from China to Hawaii, and the successful courting of the Chinese tourists is an important goal for the State. Hainan Airlines is looking for a strategic partner and the Chinese Chamber maybe able to help facilitate this effort.

Another highlight was signing an Agreement of Cooperation (or memorandum of understanding) between the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and the Guangdong Council of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade ("CCPIT"). The Guangdong Council is essentially Guangdong's chamber of commerce. Since so many Chinese in Hawaii are from Guangdong province, it is especially significant to formalize an agreement that fosters increased exchange and cooperation between the state of Hawaii and Guangdong.

We were able to participate in meetings with many important organizations, such as the CCPIT in Hainan, the Guangdong Research Institute for International Strategies, and the Consul General for the American Consulate. Discussions included cultural exchange and participation in our Splendor of China, easing visa issues so that it is not such a burden on Chinese travelers, and educational and scientific exchange in the areas of clean energy, agriculture, food safety, and environmental and hazard risk reduction. We also fostered increased relations with the San Francisco Chinese Chamber of Commerce, which had a delegation of over ten people attending the 30th anniversary of sister state-province relations with Guangdong province. After Guangdong, a few Chamber members went to Taiwan and again met with business and scientific organizations interested in commerce, alternative energy, and hazard risk reduction.

The trips are already bearing fruit as on Saturday, December 5, a Taiwanese delegation of 26 business leaders in the alternative energy field will be meeting with similar business leaders in Hawaii. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Chinese Chamber right away. Early next year, Governor Lingle will have a briefing on the trip that the Chinese Chamber will organize. Later in the year, there will be a forum on doing business in China, and the Chamber will work with DBEDT on this. The forum will be open to Chamber members and the community in general. Finally, it is likely that the governor will be participating in a portion of the Narcissus Goodwill Tour next year and the tour will

include a stop at Expo 2010 in Shanghai.

The information on contacts established during these trips will be kept on file at the Chinese Chamber under the Center for Foreign Relations. In this way, future delegations or members can use this information to further grow our relationships in the future. Also under the Center's efforts is a military delegation led by past president **Wes Fong** who is currently in China to increase cooperation and understanding between the U.S. Department of Defense and the People's Liberation Army.

On November 18, the Chinese Chamber sponsored a very important seminar on social networking that was co-sponsored by the Small Business Development Center. Over 50 people attended to learn about Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other forms of Internet communication, which are becoming so common in the business world. I would like to thank **Libby Lew** and her committee for continuing to develop an active, well attended, and important curriculum for the Chinatown Community Development Center.

In closing, we hope you have a wonderful holiday seasons, and we look forward to seeing you at our Christmas party on December 8th at the Hale Koa Hotel.



Dennis Hwang, Alan Ho, Xie Yuan - Director General of The China People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Governor Linda Lingle, Jeff Lau, Eddie Ngan, Representative Corinne Ching, Debra Halloff



Signing the Guangdong Agreement of Cooperation (front, from left): P-E Jeff Lau, President Dennis, CCPIT Guangdong Council President Chen Wenjie, unidentified woman, (back, from left) Debbie Halloff, Corinne Ching, and Alan Ho

HAWAII VETERANS GOODWILL DELEGATION

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previous delegations. As a result of last year's HVGD visit, there has been an exchange this year with two Chinese representatives coming to the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii and an APCSS representative going to China.

This year, the delegation visited Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, and Guangzhou. In Beijing, besides visiting Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, the Great Wall, and a few Olympic sites, the delegation visited the Beijing Military Museum and met with General **Liu Zhenqi**, the Director of the Political Department of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) at the Bayi Building. For the first time, the meeting was televised and reported in the PLA's national military newspaper. The delegation was also hosted at dinner by CAIFC Vice President **Xing Yunming** at the Great Hall of the People.

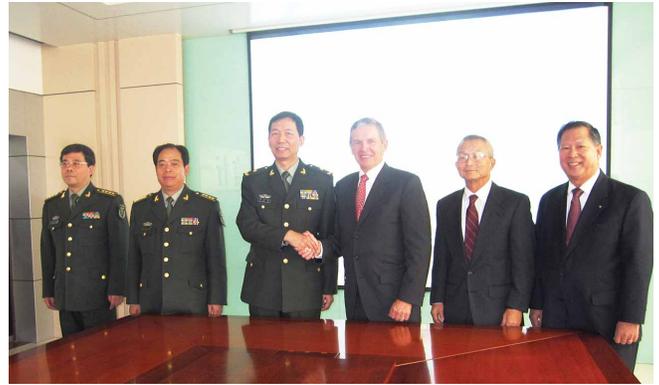
Next stop was Xi'an, home of the famous *terra cotta* warriors. After seeing the museum and the Wild Goose Pagoda, the delegation was invited for the first time to participate in a joint meeting and informational military exchange at the Xi'an Political Academy, an academy for political officers, who are an integral part of every military unit and hold the same rank as the unit commanders. The meeting and exchange between the delegates and the faculty was led by Major General **Qi Sanping**, President of the Academy. The academy is noted for its curriculum in military law and personnel matters. Therefore, the discussion and exchange centered on these two topics and how each military handles these matters. It was a first for the delegation and proved very successful in furthering the delegation's understanding of the role of the political officer in the Chinese military and matters germane to both militaries in the field of military law and personnel matters.

In Guilin, the delegation could now relax as they cruised down the beautiful Li Jiang and marvel at the majestic mountain scenery. The last stop was Guangzhou where the delegation was hosted at lunch by Secretary General **Zhao Haiming**, of the Guangdong Provincial Association for International Friendly Contact.

It is the hope of the delegation that in the future, more military exchanges like that initiated by the CAIFC with the Xi'an Political Academy can continue and expand in scope. It is through such face-to-face exchanges that better understanding and friendship can be fostered between the two nations' militaries.



At the PLA HQ, Bayi Building, Beijing – L to R: COL & Mrs. Wesley Fong, CAIFC VP Xing Yunming, ADM & Mrs. Ronald Zlatoper, PLA GEN Liu Zhenqi, MG & Mrs. Vern Miyagi, CAIFC Secretary General Chen Zuming (between two PLA officers).



President (MG) Qi Sanping shaking hands with ADM Ronald Zlatoper with MG Vern Miyagi and COL Wesley Fong at the Xian Political Academy of the PLA, Xian.



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Lee Cataluna's column in the November 6 *Honolulu Advertiser*, "Getting a head start on council campaign," covered new member **Stanley Chang**, who started in September in canvassing Council District 4 (Ala Moana Beach Park to Makapuu Point). He is a graduate of Iolani School, Harvard University, and Harvard Law School, and plans to walk the district more than once over the next year. Stanley says that canvassing is his "favorite part of the campaign." Good luck, especially where (from past canvassing experience), some of the Hawaii Kai houses have dogs and entries around the side of the house.

On November 11, a hole in one was shot by Chamber director **Gordon Au** at the Navy-Marine Golf Course. Witnesses in the

foursome were Chamber director and China Airlines general manager **Hamilton Liu**, and former Chamber presidents **Wesley Fong** and **Alvin Wong**.

Perhaps coincidentally, **Victor Lim** and 1982 Narcissus Third Princess **Tracy Wong** were in the same picture in November 25 *Midweek*. Both were among the many people attending the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce's annual Chopsticks & Wine event at the Sheraton Waikiki.

The following week, *Midweek* had extensive photo coverage of a large number of events. **Eileen Tokita** was pictured at the Honolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States' annual American Patriot Awards dinner, again at the Sheraton Waikiki. (If you're interested in Eileen's various decorative art classes, check her Web site at www.eileentokita.com). At the Hawaii Council on Economic Education's annual benefit dinner, U.S. Representative **Neil Abercrombie** and state Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** were both pictured twice. The cover article, "To Save the Tower," detailed efforts by the Pacific Air Museum's staff and volunteers to save the nearby Ford Island airfield control tower. According to the article, Neil, who is chair of the House armed services committee's subcommittee on air and land forces, is credited by museum executive director **Kenneth DeHoff** for securing "\$4.8 million of earmark money." So while others criticize congressional earmarks, at least one is being used to preserve a neglected landmark, part of Hawaii's December 7 Pearl Harbor attack heritage.

Associate members and former Narcissus Third Princesses **Kacie Pang** and **Teresa Lu** were respectively questioned in and photographed for the November 25 and December 2 *Midweek* Poll.

Board members **Gifford** and **Kelfred Chang** are selling a variety of Christmas trees and wreaths. This year, they're located at the former Rainbow Chevrolet lot at 1391 Kapiolani Boulevard, between Keeaumoku and Kona Iki Streets. Prices start at \$25.00 and with brisk sales, the varied stock is rapidly dwindling. To make sure they haven't sold out or for more information, call Gifford at 306-4570.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 8	Tue	Chamber's Christmas Party Waikiki Ballroom Hale Koa Hotel – 5:30 p.m.
Dec 15	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office – 5:30 p.m.
Dec 22	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Empress Restaurant – 12:00 noon
Dec 25	Fri	Christmas Day
Jan 1	Fri	2010 New Year Day
Jan 9	Sat	61st Narcissus Queen Pageant Hawaii Theatre Center – 6:30 p.m.
Jan 18	Mon	Martin Luther King Day
Jan 19	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber's Office – 5:30 p.m.
Jan 26	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Empress Restaurant – 12:00 noon
Jan 30	Sat	61st Narcissus Coronation Ball HHV Coral Ballroom – 5:00 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS

At its November 24 meeting, the board approved the applications for **Debbie Hallof**, president of the Business Advisory Group, Inc. and also a small business professor at Chaminade University (sponsored by **Dennis Hwang**); and **Jenny Takemoto**, director of operations for Asia Pacific Hawaii (sponsored by **Ted Li**). Welcome to the Chamber and we look forward to meeting you at the next Chamber membership event.

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