

# LANTERN

December 2010



夏威夷中華總商會

## Donor Plaque Dedication

Donors of \$500.00 or more to the Chamber building fund will be honored at a ceremony on Wednesday, December 1. Plaques honoring their contributions will be prominently installed in the Chamber building. Former Chamber President **Frances Goo** is chairing the event.

## MEDAL OF HONOR PRESENTATION

**Francis Brown Wai** was born and raised in Honolulu. A graduate of Punahou School and UCLA, he joined the Hawaii National Guard after graduation and earned a commission upon graduation from officer candidate school (OCS). A member of the 34th Infantry Regiment, he made two assault landings in New Guinea before participating in the Leyte invasion. On October 20, 1944, he was killed in action and was posthumously awarded a Distinguished Service Cross. In 2000, that DSC was upgraded to a Medal of Honor, which was presented to his family by President Clinton. To learn more about this Hawaii born and raised, but largely unknown Chinese-American hero, come to the presentation at the Chamber on Saturday, December 4. This event is free and open to the public, with sign-in starting at 9:30 a.m. and the presentation at 10:00 a.m. Due to limited seating, please contact the Chamber at 533-3181.

## China-Taiwan ECFA Presentation

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office Director General **Paul Chang** will be our guest on Wednesday, December 15. He will give a presentation on the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement, which was signed on July 29, 2010 and went into effect on September 12. With ECFA, there already have been and will be more economic cooperation agreements between China and Taiwan. This has possible implications for you and your business, whether an existing one or a potential one, so it behooves you to find out more. Call the Chamber at 533-3181 since seating in the Tseu multipurpose room is limited.

## Christmas Events

The Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association is hosting a Christmas party from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Ocean 808, 500 Ala Moana Boulevard, on Thursday, December 16. The cost of \$20.00 includes heavy *pupu* and one drink. There will also be dancing to "light Chinese music" of the 80s, 90s, and 00s. Then on Friday, December 17, ORI/Helemano Plantation will hold its annual fund-raiser, themed "Marching to a Different Drummer," at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel's Monarch Room. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the organizations founding by **Susanna Cheung**. No-host cocktails begin at 6:00 p.m. and dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets for individuals are \$150.00. Cash donations are welcome and table sponsorships may still be available. For reservations or more information on sponsorships, call **Yvonne de Luna** at 622-3929.

## Santa's Trees



Once again this year, **Gifford and Kelfred Chang**, doing business as Santa's Trees, are selling premium, plantation-grown and sheared Oregon Christmas trees. Sales started after Thanksgiving and Douglas and Noble firs and some wreaths are still available. A percentage of the purchase price of sales to Chamber members will be donated to the Chinese Chamber, so please identify yourself as a Chamber member. Located across the street from Blaisdell Arena at 975 Kapiolani Boulevard, you can check on availability and prices by calling 593-9776.

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Tuesday, December 28, there will be a general membership meeting. It will include a discussion on "Building Business Bridges to China," with a panel featuring American Chamber of Commerce Shanghai President **Brenda Lei Foster**. Sign-in and registration will begin at 11:30 a.m., lunch begins at 12:00 noon, and the presentation begins at 12:30 p.m. The location is the brand new Jade Dynasty restaurant on the top level/*mauka* at Ala Moana shopping center. While ample parking is available on the third level, the parking spaces are "compact" at best, so park on another level or at the adjacent Nordstrom building. The cost is \$35.00 for this chance to hear a knowledgeable, well qualified panel and to sample the cuisine at the newly open Jade Dynasty. Contact the Chamber at 533-3181 for reservations. More information on the panelists will be provided soon.



## Chamber Christmas PARTY

This year, we are again getting together at the Hale Koa Hotel for the Chamber Christmas party. The seasonal festivities, including a sit-down dinner, will be on Wednesday, December 8. There will be an opportunity to meet and greet not only Chamber members, new and old, but also the 2011 Narcissus Pageant contestants. The evening's fun starts with no-host cocktails at 5:30 p.m., and includes many door prizes, a return of strolling singers, a challenging game or two, Christmas carols, and perhaps a visit by Santa. Validated parking is available across the street. The cost is \$48.00. If you plan to attend, call the Chamber right away since the final headcount deadline is Monday, December 6, and due to the sit-down dinner, there will be NO walk-ins allowed by the hotel.



President  
Jeffrey D. Lau

Aloha,  
First, in wishing everyone a slightly belated Happy Thanksgiving, I'd like to thank **Wen** and **Grace**, the executive committee, the building committee, the directors, and all of the committee chairs and the members and volunteers for the terrific job they have done for the Chamber this past year. With all of the ambitious projects that we embarked on, it made this a very hectic, rewarding, and fun-filled year. I would also like to thank and recognize all of our sponsors and especially our foundation contributors who believed in our vision for the Chamber. Congratulations on your success this year. I am grateful to all of you!

Secondly, the year is not over as we enter the Christmas season, looking forward to our Medal of Honor project on the fourth;

the caroling at the Palolo Chinese Home on the 5th; our very own fun-filled Christmas party, with our Narcissus contestants on the 8th; our Narcissus contestants' last public appearance at Ala Moana Center on the 12th; TECO Director General **Paul Chang's** thoughts on the cross-Strait business opportunities on the 15th, and our general membership meeting on the 28th, highlighting **Brenda** and **Larry Foster** on "Building Business Bridges to China," which will be held at the new Jade Dynasty restaurant.

Third, this edition of the *Lantern* will report on some of the many visits that some of our members have made throughout China. Be sure to check them out. Besides the earlier trips that I have personally made, I would like to report on my most recent trip to Hainan in November to witness the budding outdoor sports lifestyle activities that China is promoting to its citizenry. The 2010 Wanning International Surfing Festival, featuring the O'Neill Surfing Hainan Open at Riyuewan Bay, included many international surfing pros and several amateurs from Hawaii who did very well in the competition. Over thirty thousand people attended the opening ceremonies! Greetings and welcomes were sent by the Party Secretary General and the Mayor and Vice Mayors of Wanning, and in particular, Director **Zhou Ping**, Hainan Provincial Tourism Development Commission Director, at the Le Meridien Hotel farewell ban-

quet to all of his friends in the Chamber and in Hawaii. Like Zhongshan and Qinhuangdao, Haikou/Sanya are Honolulu sister cities, while the entire province is a sister state to Hawaii. They really want to maintain our exchanges, whether it is through continuing law, agricultural, business, sport or tourism. For those who wish to partake, I can report that the doors are wide open and the welcome mat has been extended.

Fourth, I do need to thank Mayors **Peter Carlisle** and **Mufi Hannemann**, Director **Ann Chung** and **John Chang** who helped the Chamber, the City Council, and HMOCA establish our new sister city relationship with Qinhuangdao, and our special thanks goes to the Chamber's Associate Members Chair **Dan Yuan** who single-handedly arranged the outstanding November 1 reception that was a tremendous success. It was held at the Sheraton Moana Surfriider during their delegation's visit here during Splendor of China. First VP **Leonard Kam**, former Narcissus Queen **Catherine Wong Jayne**, Princesses **Jacklyn Ma**, **Selena Qiu**, **Megan Chun**, and Past Presidents **Walter Chang** and **Ted Li**, thank you so much for your assistance and support.

Fifth, I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays as we look forward to our upcoming Narcissus Pageant and Coronation Ball in the New Year!

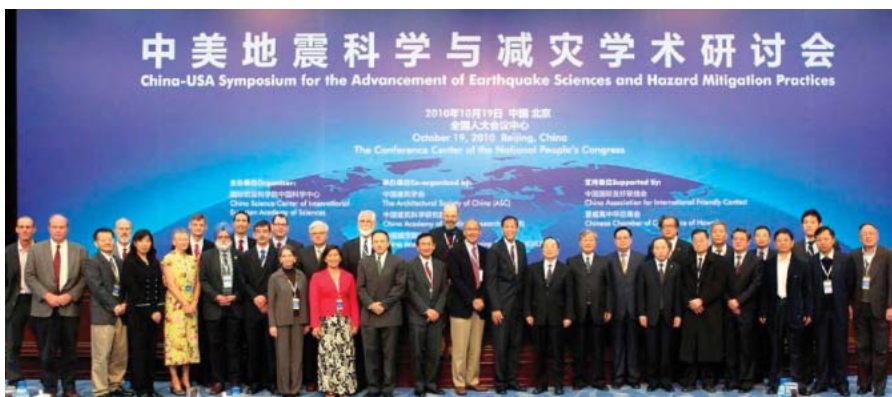
*Mele Kalikimaka e Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!*

## China Earthquake Symposium

by Dennis Hwang

While Chinese Chamber President in 2009, I proposed a U.S.-China earthquake symposium, which was accepted by **Lu Yongxiang**, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Vice Chairman of the China National People's Congress. The goal was to advance earthquake science and hazard practices to reduce future risks to life and property in China, the U.S., and worldwide. The exchange in mid-October, 2010, consisted of a one day symposium, two days of site visits to four towns in the area of the May 12, 2008 Wenchuan earthquake (where there were over 70,000 casualties), and meetings with over ten Chinese agencies and organizations.

The Chinese were impressed by the level of U.S. expertise in building design, building codes, and implementing hazard risk reduction practices in the development process. While large magnitude 7 earthquakes in China occur on average once every year, in the U.S., it is about once every five years. Due to more seismic activity near large population centers, China has experienced many more devastating events. We also learned how China could rapidly recover from large events, such as the Wenchuan earthquake. While it takes five-ten years in the U.S. to recover from major natural hazards, a new Beichuan was built within 2.5 years of the Wenchuan earthquake. An increased emphasis is clearly being placed by the Chinese on seismic design, construction quality, and siting in reconstruction efforts, evidenced by the relocation of Beichuan Town to a flat site away from seismic faults and potential landslides and with improved building techniques.



# HUANG HUA

by Yen Chun

**Huang Hua**, former Foreign Minister for China (1976-1982) and a good friend of many people in Hawaii, died on Nov. 24, 2010, at the age of 97.



Huang Hua was instrumental in helping China restore diplomatic relations with the United States during the cold war period. He and Secretary of State **Henry Kissinger** negotiated and prepared for President Richard Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972 and the subsequent normalizing of relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China.

In late 1971, Mr. Huang was named China's first permanent representative to the United Nations, taking up the post shortly after Beijing gained a United Nations seat. He also negotiated with a series of American presidents, including **Jimmy Carter**, **Ronald Reagan**, and **George H. W. Bush**. He also served as China's first ambassador to Canada. As foreign minister, he held talks that led to the signing of a peace and friendship treaty with Japan.

Huang Hua was a graduate of Yenching (Peking) University. In 1936, at the request of American journalist **Edgar Snow**, Huang became Snow's interpreter on his visit to Communist headquarters in Yan'an. With Huang's help, Snow wrote a series of newspaper articles that created a sensation and led to the publication of *Red Star Over China*, a best seller and one of the first detailed accounts of Mao and the Chinese Communists.

As a senior diplomat who spoke excellent English, Mr. Huang was known for his knowledge of the world, his wit, and his outstanding negotiation skills. Henry Kissinger called him "one of the ablest public servants I have ever met" and considered him a "trusted friend."

Huang Hua was also Chairman of the China Welfare Institute, the **Soong Ching Ling** Foundation, and the China Association for International Friendly Contact (CAIFC), among other organizations. He and his capable wife, **He Liliang**, hosted many Narcissus Goodwill Tours at the Great Hall of People in Beijing. The Huangs visited Hawaii many times and have many close friends in Hawaii. Their last trip to Hawaii was in 1997 when they were house guests of the **Walter Chee Kwon Chuns**. They attended a dinner hosted by the Chinese Chamber honoring them. Introduced by **Warren Luke**, Huang Hua met with President **Jim Scott** of Punahou School, and through the Soong Ching Ling Foundation, arranged for many summer camps for Punahou students in China.

He is survived by his wife He Liliang, three children, and several grandchildren. He will be truly missed by friends from China and all over the world.

## MEMBER NEWS

At its October 26 meeting, the board of directors approved the membership application of **Marsha Rose Joyner**, a City Council staffer (recommended by **Gerald Chang**). At its November 30 meeting, the board approved the membership applications of **Peter Chen**, president of Omni Capital Group, Inc. (sponsored by **Gayle Lau**); **Raphael Ong**, a renewable energy consultant (sponsored by **Wesley Fong**); Kamehameha Schools Vice President **Chris Pating** (sponsored by **Linda Louie**); and associate members **Alexandra Chen**, **Nina Feng**, **Jo-Hsuan Hung**, **Tia Jay**, **Erica Lee**, **Emily Leong Moore**, **Kimberly Leong**, **Jasmine Nip**, and **Yan Yu So** (all recommended by **Michele Choy**). Welcome to all of you and we look forward to meeting you at the next membership event.




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# Miss International 2010

by Leilani Soon



Nelly, me, and Dilay at Jiezi

I arrived in Shanghai on October 20. While there, some preliminary matters were taken care of, including photo shoots and dividing us into groups of 10 girls each. Most girls spoke and understood English.

I have been studying Chinese for the past two years, and it proved to be very useful during this trip. I was able to help girls who didn't speak Chinese interact with the Chinese staff. Hearing and speaking Chinese every day strengthened my desire to improve my Mandarin even more.

Out of seventy girls, thirty-eight girls signed up to perform a talent. I was privileged to share my ballet and sign dance to Celine Dion's "Power of the Dream" in the ancient town of Jiezi. It was truly an honor to be able to dance for the people there and to encourage them to reach for their dreams.

We were warmly received by the general public, and I was even more impressed by the Chinese people we interacted with on a daily basis. They all went out of their way to make sure that we were comfortable and taken care of at all times. They went above and beyond the call of duty and made me proud that I was part Chinese too.

Miss International is truly special, bringing people together from all over the world to create something magical. When I first heard about it, I was excited by a chance to do what I love: share Hawaiian culture and the *aloha* spirit with the world and promote peace and goodwill through international cultural exchange. It proved to be an amazing experience, beyond anything I had imagined. I am so grateful for all of the love and support I received, especially from my Chamber family. Thank you for believing in me and encouraging me to step out and embrace this experience. I will cherish these memories as long as I live. *Xiexie, da jia!*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 4	Sat	<b>Francis Brown Wai Presentation</b> Chamber Office – 9:30 a.m.
Dec 8	Wed	<b>Chamber Christmas Party</b> Hale Koa Hotel – 6:00 p.m.
Dec 12	Sun	<b>62nd Narcissus Queen Contestant Appearance</b> Ala Moana Centerstage – 2:00 p.m.
Dec 14	Tue	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> Chamber Office – 5:30 p.m.
Dec 15	Wed	<b>Presentation on Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement</b> Chamber Office – 5:30 p.m.
Dec 21	Tue	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Empress Restaurant – 12:00 p.m.
Dec 25	Sat	<b>Christmas Day</b>
Dec 28	Tue	<b>General Membership Meeting</b> Jade Dynasty Restaurant 11:30 a.m.
Jan 1	Sat	<b>2011 New Year Day</b>
Jan 8	Sat	<b>62nd Narcissus Queen Pageant</b> Hawaii Theatre Center – 6:30 p.m.

## MEMBER NEWS

In the November 17 *Midweek Pa'ina*, **Reuben and Vera Wong** were pictured at the dedication of the Chaminade University nursing center; **Daniel Lau** and wife were at the Shidler College of Business Hall of Honor Awards; and **Michael Ching** and wife **Joyce** attended the Friends of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii benefit gala. The following week's *Midweek Pa'ina* had photos of HRA executive director **Gail Chew** and **Victor Lim** at the Hawaii Restaurant Association's 4th annual Hall of Fame induction; **Michael Ching** at the Boy Scouts' Aloha Council golf tournament, and Miss Hawaii International 2010 **Leilani Soon** at the Sacred Hearts Academy scholarship fund gala. Mike was undoubtedly getting ideas for making next year's Chamber golf tournament even bigger and better than this year's tourney.

According to the November 18 *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, Coldwell Banker Realtor-Associate **Patrick Graham** was recently elected to the Honolulu Board of Realtors' board of directors as Windward/North Shore Regional Director. Congratulations, Patrick.

The Honolulu City Council has been reorganized with **Nestor Garcia** as Council Chair, and **Stanley Chang** as chair of the Public Works and Sustainability committee and vice chair of the Safety, Economic Development and Government Affairs Committee.

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