

LANTERN

June 2011

Dragon Boat Races and Picnic

The annual Dragon Boat races will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 30 and 31. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce will have a boat competing in 2 or 3 heats, depending on how successful the crew is that afternoon. For the boat, 16 paddlers, a drummer, and a flag-catcher are needed, and alternates would be helpful. One or more practices are to be scheduled and all crew members should plan on attending so that they can synchronize their paddling. There will also be a picnic open to all Chamber members and their families, with FREE food and soft drinks. If you're interested in paddling or will be coming to the picnic, please call the Chamber right away at 533-3181. In either case (paddling or picnic), the courtesy of a call will be appreciated by chairman **Patrick Graham** since an accurate headcount is needed.

Hawaii National Bank Business Owner Seminar

Business owners are cordially invited to increase their knowledge of financial management at a Hawaii National Bank-sponsored seminar on "Financial Management for the Closely Held Business." The seminar will be led by **Kyle Enger** and **Ryan Schaefer** and be held on Monday and Tuesday, June 27 and 28, at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii in Moiliili. The two-day seminar will explain what financial management is, why it can greatly improve business profitability, and how to pro-actively control business finances through business-tested financial management techniques. Registration is \$395.00, which includes the seminar materials, continental breakfast and lunch both days, and a reception on Monday evening following that day's session. According to HNB executive vice president **Bryan Luke**, the seminar has limited seating, so for more information or to register, stop by any Hawaii National Bank branch.

COMPLIMENTARY HAWAII BUSINESS SUBSCRIPTIONS

As one of his last acts as Chamber President, **Jeff Lau** entered into an agreement with PacificBasin Communications for complimentary one-year subscriptions to *Hawaii Business* magazine for Chamber members. Members who would like to take advantage of this new member benefit should go to www.hawaiibusiness.com/qualified and fill out the online Qualified Subscriber Form – some of the information is required, other information is optional. Scroll down the page to the "Affiliations" where you will note that the Chinese Chamber is one of thirteen chambers of commerce and a host of other Hawaii business organizations that are listed. Put a check mark in "Honolulu Chinese Chamber of Commerce" (We'll get that corrected shortly). Note that there is an anti-spam verification question, a simple matter of adding two numbers. Then press the "Submit" button. That's all there is to it. Chamber members who sign up by Wednesday, June 8, should be receiving the July issue of *Hawaii Business*.

INSTALLATION DINNER

On Friday, May 20, the Chamber held its annual installation dinner. Over 400 people were there to network, meet and greet a variety of dignitaries and politicians, and to see Speaker of the House **Calvin Say** install the Chamber officers for 2011-2012: President **John Hui**, President-Elect **Leonard Kam**, First Vice President **Betty Brow**, Second Vice President **Gerald Chang**, Third Vice President **Sylvia Louie**, English Secretary **Tina Au**, Chinese Secretary **John Zhang**, Treasurer **Michael Ching**, Assistant Treasurer **Michele Choy**, and Immediate Past President **Jeffrey Lau**. Making a brief appearance to greet other members and guests was long-time Chamber member and Governor **Neil Abercrombie**. Other honored guests included PRC LA Deputy Consul General Mme. **Bian Lixin**, TECO Director General **Paul Chang**, former Governor **Linda Lingle**, state Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland**, state Representative **Corinne Ching**, and 2011 Narcissus Queen **Nianjing Miao** and her lovely court as well as members of the previous three Narcissus Courts. Once the seven-course dinner was completed, master of ceremonies **Alvin Wong** kept the program moving. Awards were presented to **Vera Wong** as Outstanding Narcissus Festival Volunteer, **Libby Lew** as Outstanding Chamber Volunteer, **Ted Li** for Outstanding Business Person, and **Neuman Pei** for Lifetime Achievement. Outgoing President Jeff Lau made farewell remarks and incoming President John Hui gave his inaugural address. Overall, it was a fun evening of good food provided by **Kenneth Lee** and the Empress Restaurant cooks and wait staff, as well as a chance to greet old friends and make new ones. A well done and *xiexie* to installation dinner chair **Elvira Lo**.



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THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
John Hui

Aloha,

It is my great honor to be serving as the new president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. I would like to thank the board of directors and members of Chamber to their support and confidence in me.

We have already had a very successful installation banquet on Friday, May 20, at the Empress Restaurant. It was a great pleasure to have Governor **Neil Abercrombie**, a long-time Chamber member, take time out of his busy schedule to stop by to meet the many dignitaries, Chamber members, and guests. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the presence of Deputy Consul General Madame **Bien Lixin**, Consul **Yang Lianchun** and Consul **Wang Hongming** from the PRC Consulate-General in Los Angeles.

After dinner, annual awards were presented. The Outstanding Narcissus Festival Volunteer went to **Vera Wong**. Thank you, Vera, for your contribution to Fashion Show, which was marvelous, and for your support of the Chamber over the years. The Outstanding Chamber Volunteer was **Libby Lew**, who has been a great volunteer over some 35 years. **Ted Li** was recognized as

Outstanding Business Person. As we all know, Ted had been very successful with his business, Crack Seed Center in Ala Moana Center, for over 25 years. And the Lifetime Achievement Award went to **Neuman Pei**. Neuman is a former Chamber president and has been a supporter of Chamber activities for many years.

I would like to thank **Jeff Lau** for the great job he did as president over the past year. I know that as Immediate Past President, he will continue to advise and give us the benefit of his experience.

2011 is indeed a year of special significance to the Chamber, the year of the centennial of its founding. In October 1911, a group of young Chinese merchants in Honolulu formed the "Chinese Merchants Association," the forerunner of today's Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

Planning for events celebrating the Chamber's centennial are ongoing under the centennial committee chaired by past president **Vernon Ching**. We will have a 100 Year Xinhai revolution photo exhibition at the State Capitol starting on Thursday, September 22. A group of 40 performers, including well-known actors and national-level cultural performers, will perform at Neal Blaisdell Concert Hall on Saturday, September 24. A Centennial banquet will be at Hilton Hawaiian Village on Saturday, November 26. And there will also be a hard-cover centennial souvenir book as well as a souvenir silver coin.

I will be leading the Narcissus Goodwill Tour, representing the Hawaii Chinese community while visiting Taipei, Guangzhou, Shantou, Chaozhou, Shanghai, Nanjing, Beijing, Chengdu, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong. This is an opportunity to carry on our Hawaii Chinese culture and heritage while also promoting Hawaii. At the same time, I foresee that we will have lot of fun on this trip.

During the visit to Chengdu, Mayor **Peter Carlisle** will join Narcissus Goodwill Tour for the signing of the cooperating agreement between Honolulu and Chengdu. With that agreement as a platform, we anticipate further exchanges for business, commerce, culture, tourism, education, etc. The sister city relationship is fully supported by Chamber, which will act as a liaison for the City & County of Honolulu.

To be specific about my goals, I will be working with the executive committee and members to focus on the area of business and commerce.

In our role as a business organization, a salient target for this year will be helping local businessmen and professionals to take advantage of globalization and attracting foreign investments to the State of Hawaii. Also, to increase the scale and scope of communication with members through a members' forum.

In addition to these efforts, our government affairs and public policy team will continue to be a leading advocate for the Chinese business community at the state and county level. We will set the course for finding new ways to provide value-added opportunities in this new political and economic era so that we can continue meet the basic covenants of membership fulfillment, service, advocacy, and value.

I firmly believe that with the support of the Chinese community, and given the collective hard work and unity of purpose of our members, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii will lead our members and local community toward even greater hallmarks of achievement.

As we look forward to this exciting year, I wish all of you a prosperous, healthy, and happy Year of Rabbit! *Mahalo*.



Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii Annual Installation Dinner held on May 20, 2011 at Empress Restaurant.





Chengdu visit photos

MESSAGE FROM IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

by Jeffrey D. Lau

Aloha!

This Memorial Day finds me in China, thinking of you and Hawaii. It is with much pride that I write this last President's message to all of you.

It's been a great ride this past year. The highlight was our Narcissus Goodwill Tour last summer, meeting up with Governor **Linda Lingle** and also signing the sister city agreement in Qinhuangdao. In October, we had a nicely done golf tournament and then Splendor of China, where we hosted 8 mainland Chinese delegations in a matter of days. In January, thirteen terrific contestants competed in the Pageant, and a wonderful Queen, **Ningjin Miao**, and Narcissus Court, who will represent us well during the tour led by incoming President **John Hui**, were chosen. Later that month, working with Chinatown merchants, we had a successful *Choy Cheng/Night* in Chinatown, which was highly praised by the City, and our Narcissus Queen and Court as well as some former contestants participated with the Mayor in the Chinatown parade. The Narcissus Fashion Show in March was a financial success. In April, it was an honor to participate in the Qing Ming ceremony at the Manoa Chinese Cemetery and to represent the community of Chinese societies and organizations. Then in May, we congratulated our Chamber annual award recipients **Vera Wong**, **Libby Lew**, **Ted Li**, and **Neuman Pei**, and turned over the president's gavel to John at our installation banquet.

In the area of membership, we have welcomed over 130 new members over the last two years, and the associate program is going full swing. We also had a record four wonderful general membership meetings, highlighted by **Brenda Foster** and an insightful panel at the newly opened Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant in December. In foreign relations, we sold out the Hawaii Theatre for the Sichuan University performers in January; welcomed new PRC LA Consul General **Qiu Shaofang** in February and then Deputy Consul General Mme. **Bian Lixin** in May; and emceed Taiwan's Torch of Peace welcome banquet in March.

A few days ago, representing the Chamber and Hawaii in Chengdu, **John Chang** and I received the new panda "ambassador" to Honolulu, Kung Zai Boy Panda. (The Goodwill Tour members will meet this four-legged ambassador on June 13 at the Panda Research Base when Mayor Carlisle will sign a cooperating agreement, moving things on to signing the sister city agreement with Chengdu officials in Honolulu during our Sister City Festival in September).

These achievements could not have been possible without our great employees, **Wen Chung Lin** and **Grace Chan**; our terrific executive committee; the guidance of our wonderful board of directors; our travel partners **Peggy Luu** at Skyway Express and **Mark Wang** and **Colleen Xu** at China Travel Service Beijing Head Office; our dear friends with the China Association for International Friendly Contact; and China Airlines. Thank you all. I would also like to thank the Ket On and the Kam Societies for inviting me and the Queen and Court to their wonderful banquets this past month. Many more successful years to the both societies!

It has been just a wonderful experience these past four years for me to meet and make so many new friends. Please stay in touch, and should you wish to chat, feel free to call or to visit me at my office for a hot cup of coffee or tea.

Bon voyage to the Narcissus Goodwill Tour. Enjoy yourselves, and we will greet you in Guangzhou and Chengdu. Have a safe and happy tour! And best wishes to President John Hui and the Chamber as we embark on an ambitious Fall calendar of activities during our Centennial year!

With that, I bid all of you a fond *adieu* and farewell. *Mahalo nui loa*, *xiexie*, and Aloha!

WITH GRATITUDE NARCISSUS FUND-RAISER

by Stacey Baba

The 2011 Narcissus Court – **Ningjin Miao**, **Christina Soo Hoo**, **Jasmine Nip**, **Stacey Baba**, and **Erica Lee** – and **Kimberly Leong** want to extend a sincere thank you to our volunteers, family, friends, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and guests for their support in making our "Club Night" fund-raiser at Stage Restaurant on Friday, May 13, a huge success. We could not have hosted the event without our wonderful volunteers who modeled, manned the check-in table, and helped with our silent auction. We are so grateful that we could share this experience with all of you!

The night was eventful - from the models strutting down the stage in contemporary clothes to the live DJ to the silent auction and numerous raffle prizes. A photographer from the *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* also came to our event; our pictures were posted on the on-line *Star-Advertiser* the next day! We will use the profits from this fund-raiser for the upcoming and much anticipated 2011 Narcissus Goodwill Tour. China, here we come!

More Chengdu photos



MEMBER NEWS



Sun Yat-sen lei ceremony

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 1	Wed	2011 Narcissus Queen Goodwill Tour Departure
June 17	Fri	2011 Narcissus Queen Goodwill Tour Return
June 19	Sun	Father's Day
June 21	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber Office – 5:30 p.m.
June 28	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Empress Restaurant – 12:00 p.m.
July 4	Mon	Independence Day

For very early birds, L&L Hawaiian Barbecue, formerly L&L Drive-Inn in Hawaii, will have its annual 76¢ plate lunches available *only* at its Keeaumoku Street location on Tuesday, June 7. Hungry customers will have a choice of full-plate *kalua* pig and cabbage, chicken *katsu* or hamburger steak, and can also purchase a Pepsi beverage for another 10¢. (At such fire-sale prices, it's ONE plate lunch and drink per customer, folks). In addition to the food and beverage, the first ten customers will get a month's supply of Pepsi drinks, and the first hundred customers will get a free L&L t-shirt. So if you're around and about at 4:00 a.m., you may want to get in line for the plate lunches, which will be available from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. As usual, proceeds from the plate lunch sales go to charity, this year to Goodwill Industries of Hawaii. (In case you're wondering, L&L Drive-Inn started in Honolulu and »has expanded to the mainland as "L&L Hawaiian Barbecue." In order to avoid confusing mainland visitors who are now familiar with Hawaiian Barbecue brand or name, the Hawaii locations are gradually switching their signage to "L&L Hawaiian Barbecue." Just another example of **Eddie Flores, Jr.**'s philosophy of "impact marketing").

The May 29 *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* ran a human interest story in advance of Memorial Day. A half-page color photo showed Dr. **Joseph Young** and his wife Barbara decorating the grave of **John Leroy Dains** at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific on Saturday, May 28. 2LT Dains, the older brother of a dental school classmate of Joe's, was a pilot assigned to the 47th Pursuit Squadron based at Wheeler Army Airfield and was killed by friendly fire on his third sortie of the day on December 7, 1941. For the last 55 years, Joe and Barbara have been visiting the Dain grave at Memorial Day and Christmastime. Since his classmate **David Dains** passed away last year, Joe may now end his long-standing commitment.



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