

# LANTERN

November & December 2012



Former Chamber President Ming Chen (left) was named UCS Citizen of the Year performing hula at the award banquet. Right: Leonard Kam presenting Chamber Award to Ming Chen.



## Christmas Party

The annual Chamber Christmas party will be held on Wednesday, December 12. The location this year is the Willows Restaurant, 901 Hausten Street, in Moliili. Sign in and no-host cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner and program are scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Ample parking is available directly across the street. The cost for the buffet dinner is \$50.00 per person.

## CHINESE HISTORY CENTER PRESENTATION AND BOOK SALE

On Saturday, December 29, the Hawaii Chinese History Center will unveil a newly published book by **Kee Fun Lee**, *Chinese Community Leaders of Early Hawaii*. Mrs. Lee is a centenarian and sister of the late **Wallace Wong**, and her book also touches on the origins of the Chinese Chamber and United Chinese Society. Her book will be specially priced at \$4.00 per copy. There will also be a presentation by **Nicole Choy** on The Chinese Exclusion Act. In addition, rarely available copies of *Echoes of Old China* by **K. S. Tom** will be available at the special price of \$20.00. The FREE presentation and book sale will be held at the United Chinese Society meeting hall, 42 North King Street, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.



## NARCISSUS FESTIVAL

The upcoming Year of the Snake begins on Sunday, February 10. As a result, with major Narcissus Festival events traditionally scheduled before the new year, the 64th Narcissus Queen Pageant will be held on Saturday, January 12. The eleven lovely contestants will each perform a talent number as well as showing off their gorgeous *cheongsams* and demonstrating their poise and personality. The venue will once again be the historic Hawaii Theatre. Two weeks later, on Saturday, January 26, the new Narcissus Queen will be crowned at the Coronation Ball. This will take place following no-host cocktails, a grand procession, and fine Chinese dinner at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. A week later, there will be the Chinatown Open House and *Choy Cheng*, Friday, February 1, and the Chinese New Year Celebration at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza, on both Friday and Saturday, February 1 and 2. Mark those events on your calendar and welcome the Year of the Snake!



夏威夷中華總商會

THE  
CHINESE  
CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE  
OF HAWAII



President  
Leonard J.K.H. Kam

At a recent Board of Director's Meeting, there was a very noticeable void in the room. As I scanned the room, it was very obvious that two very dedicated, long-time Board members were absent. And it's very sad for me to acknowledge the passing of **Tai Yau Chung** and **Anthony Chang**. These individuals dedicated themselves to furthering the goals and mission of the Chamber and continued their efforts even as their health deteriorated. I salute them both and thank them and

their families for the sacrifices that they made on behalf of and for the benefit of our Chamber.

In honor of them and the many former Directors of the Chamber, we continue to fulfill our mission. One such event is the Narcissus Festival. Now, in its 64th year, it continues to promote the Chinese culture to the people of Hawaii as well as to perpetuate that culture for the Chinese community. The recently held 10th Splendor of China provided the perfect time to kick off this year's festival. A big *mahalo* goes out to **Douglas Ho** for stepping up to be our event sponsor and to **Robert Yu** for steering the event to a successful outcome. We were so fortunate this year to have been able to present a fabulous performance of "Cultures of China – Colors of Yunnan." This performance would not have been possible without sponsorship from the China Overseas Exchanges Association, the Yunnan Provincial Overseas Exchanges Association, and the Sino-US Performing Arts Organization. For those of you who were able to attend the performance, I'm sure you'd agree with me that this was truly one of the most entertaining and impressive Chinese performances that have come to Hawaii.

January 2013 will be a very busy month for us as we have the Narcissus Queen Pageant on Saturday, January 12 and the Coronation Ball on the 26th. Please plan on joining us at these two showcase events for the Narcissus Festival. Eleven lovely contestants have been hard at work for months, attending classes and learning more about the Chinese culture. See for yourself how they will blossom into their own narcissus flowers.

Don't forget about our Chinatown New Year's Celebration on Friday, February 1 and 2, at the Cultural Plaza. Bring your family and friends to Chinatown on February 1 to enjoy the firecrackers and colorful lion dances that make up *Choy Cheng* and we usher in the Year of the Snake.

On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year!

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

## New Cookbooks

**June "Popo" Tong** has a new cookbook out: *Popo's Kitchen, Volume 2*. The book had its debut at Splendor of China in November, and buyers then could get it autographed as well as saving themselves the \$3.25 shipping and handling fee. Like the first volume, this volume is in its second printing, so if you want a copy, you can call June at 734-1063 and order the \$16.75 book. Also new is *\$266 Million Winning Lottery Recipes* by long-time Chamber



board member and L & L Hawaiian Barbecue President and CEO **Eddie Flores, Jr.** (For those with inquiring minds, the title refers to a winning lottery ticket purchased at a California L & L location, the franchisee presumably receiving an "incentive" payment from the California Lottery). Eddie's book costs \$9.95 and is available at Costco, your local L & L or from the L & L corporate office on the second floor of the University Plaza Building, 931 University Avenue. The recipes were vetted by L & L executive chef **Richard Cheng**.

## CHARITABLE DONATION SAFEGUARDS

This being "the season of comfort and joy" as well as the end of the year, people will be making charitable contributions, sometimes considering organizations they have not donated to in the past. **Veronica Dagher's** "How You Can Be a Smarter Giver This Holiday Season" appeared in the December 9 *Honolulu Star-Advertiser* as part of The Wall Street Journal Sunday section. Online resources that you can use to check the *bona fides* of purported charitable organizations include GuideStar.org, CharityNavigator.org, and of course, the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance at [bbb.org/us/charity](http://bbb.org/us/charity). There are many worthy charities deserving of our support.

## Condolences

On a sad note, **Tai Yau Chung** passed away on October 23. He served as Chamber President and was a long-time Emeritus Director. A successful insurance agent, Tai Yau built and was the retired president of the Chung Insurance and Investment Group. He was active in the Chinese Chamber for many before and after becoming its president in 1972, and was a familiar and smiling face at the monthly Chamber board meetings. That presence will be missed. Our deepest sympathies and condolences go out to his family.



Welcome Cultures of China, Colors of Yunnan to Hawaii



Above Left: Consul General Qiu Shaofang, Chinese Consulate General in Los Angeles and Mayor Peter Carlisle of the City and County of Honolulu.



Right: Sister Cities Student Ambassadors from Chengdu, Haikou, Qinhuangdao and Zhongshan with Consul General Qiu Shaofang, Jeff Lau, Ted Li, and Dan Yuan.



## China in the News

The 18th National Party Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held November 8-15, 2012, in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. Among other things, **Xi Jinping** replaced **Hu Jintao** as CPC General Secretary (and apparently also as chairman of the Central Military Commission), the CCP 18th Central Committee was selected, and seats on the powerful Politburo Standing Committee were reduced from nine to seven. Further changes in national leadership will come when the National People's Congress meets in March, 2013, and selects a new president and prime minister/premier. For some understanding of the decennial leadership transition, there is "Changing guard" in the November 17 issue of the London-based *Economist* as well as a Leader (or op-ed) on Mr. Xi, "The man who must change China," as well as a briefing on China's new leadership in "Vaunting the best, fearing the worst" in the October 27 issue.

There are a variety of sources for information on modern China. *Current History's* September issue focuses each year on China and East Asia. (The October issue focuses on Russia and Eurasia and before that, on the Soviet Union). This year, two articles of interest are "China's 18th Party Congress: What's at Stake?" by **Joseph Fewsmith** and "The China Threat and the [United States'] 'Pivot' to Asia" by **Hugh De Santis**. Since some see a rising China as a "threat," a view from the Chinese side is "How China Sees America" by **Andrew Nathan** and **Andrew Scobell** in the September/October issue of *Foreign Affairs*. For a broader view of China's recent history, there is the newly released (November 13) paperback edition of **Michael Dillon's** *China: A Modern History*, with an April 2012 Preface to the paperback edition. On the Amazon.com Web site, Dillon's 520-page book seemingly focuses on China's turbulent history over the last two centuries.

## COURT INTERPRETERS WANTED

The State of Hawaii Judiciary will be holding a basic orientation workshop in February or March for people interested in serving as court interpreters. If you are bilingual (speak English and a second language), the first step is to attend the two-day workshop. Court interpreters are independent contractors who are paid at the rate of \$25.00-55.00 per hour, with a two-hour minimum pay even if the session lasts less than that. Applicants must (1) submit a Court Interpreter Certification Program Application; (2) attend the mandatory workshop; (3) pass written English and basic ethics exams; and (4) clear a criminal background check. Deadline for submitting the application, registration form, and a check for \$75.00 is Tuesday, January 15, 2013. For more information or to receive the information packet, contact the Office on Equality and Access to Courts at 539-4860.



Qinhuangdao Delegation at city hall



Chamber officers and members welcome CTS Colleen Xu, Mark Wang, and Wenquan Zhang, Assistant to President (sitting in the middle).

Chamber members have attending quite a few fall community events, according to *Midweek*. In the October 3 issue, **Lester Leu** participated in the **Tanioka's** golf tournament; October 17 issue, **Jennifer Lam** attended the Filipino Nurses Association Banquet; and the October 31 issue, **Wilson Loo** attended the Taste of Kick Start benefit. The November 7 issue showed Governor **Neil Abercrombie** and state Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** at the grand opening of the IHS Center. The next issue showed **Patrick Graham** at the Caldwell Banker Pacific Properties' Town Hall Meeting, and **Daniel Lau, Leonard Kam, Linda Louie, Betty Brow, Yen Chun, and Elvira Lo** at the Chinese Women's Club fashion show; **Frances Goo, Jeff Lau, and Russell Lau** were present when Daniel Lau received Palolo Chi-

nese Home's "Caring for Generations Award"; **Eddie Flores, Jr. and Betty Brow** attended the Filipino Community Center's *Bayanihan* gala dinner; Neil Abercrombie attended the *Na Kama Kai* inaugural *Pa'akai* benefit; and **Lee-Ann Choy** was at the Honolulu Firefighter Foundation Chefs Food Festival. The November 21 issue showed Narcissus Queen **Tiffany Au** at St. Louis School's Distinguished Achievers dinner, and the November 28 issue showed Betty Brow at the Girl Scouts of Hawaii's annual Women of Distinction dinner.

According to the November 21 *Honolulu Weekly*, state Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland** co-hosted a public meeting with **Matthew Doherty**, western regional coordinator, U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. The November 9 meeting afforded local individuals, non-profit groups, and government agencies an opportunity to interact with Mr. Doherty, who provided more information on the "housing-first" model for ending homelessness.

For those who make use of some Honolulu's more popular municipal beaches, one irritant (over and above the deplorable state of the public restrooms and people letting their dogs run loose and turning the beach into doggie restrooms) is people smoking and leaving their cigarette butts all over the beach. City Councilman **Stanley Chang** recently introduced Bill 72, which would ban smoking at five beaches: Kapiolani Park and its environs, Kuhio Beach Park, Duke Kahanamoku Beach Park, the beach portions of Ala Moana Regional Park, and Sandy Beach Park. According to the December 6 *Star-Advertiser*, the bill was approved by a 7-2 vote and will have another committee meeting and a final vote before the new, full Council in January, 2013.

At a banquet at Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant on Sunday, December 2, former Chamber President and practicing ophthalmologist **Ming Chen** was named UCS Citizen of the Year.

The 40th annual Honolulu Marathon was held on Sunday, December 9. Former Chamber President **Dennis Hwang**, who was out of town for over a week and unable to train, nevertheless ran his 24th marathon (the last 20 of them in a row), albeit a bit slower than last year. **Libby Lew** participated in her seventh marathon (and will be stepping down – no pun intended – as president of the Honolulu chapter of the Project Management Institute). Realtor® **Brandon Lau** also ran the marathon, his third. Congratulations to each of you for being willing to test (or tax) your bodies and also for the months of training in preparation for the Big Event.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 11	Tue	<b>Executive Board Meeting</b> Chamber Office – 6:00 p.m.
Dec 12	Wed	<b>Christmas Party</b> Willows Restaurant – 5:30 p.m.
Dec 18	Tue	<b>Board of Directors Meeting</b> Empress Restaurant – 12:00 p.m.
Dec 25	Tue	<b>Christmas Day</b>
Jan 1	Tue	<b>New Year's Day</b>
Jan 12	Sat	<b>64th Narcissus Queen Pageant</b> Hawaii Theatre Center – 7:00 p.m.
Jan 26	Sat	<b>64th Narcissus Coronation Ball</b> Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom – 5:00 p.m.

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