

LANTERN

June 2012



Goodwill Tour Fund-raiser on May 27

Chef Warren Sasaki and his Assistant surrounded by the Court's family and friends who served as volunteers.

Honoring Service Members and Pearl Harbor tour

Memorial Day (May 28 this year) has come and gone, and the birthday of our senior service, the U.S. Army, as well as our nation (June 14 and July 4, respectively) approaches. For most Americans, Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer. However, for about 1% of our population, those who have had the honor to wear the uniform on one of the armed services (yes, the Coasties are the all too often forgotten fifth armed service), Memorial Day was a time to go back in time and remember friends and comrades who had made the ultimate sacrifice, protecting the liberties, particularly the right to vote, that all too many Americans take for granted. At Punahou School, for instance, there is a plaque near Dole Cafeteria listing the names of those connected to the school who lost their lives from World War I to Vietnam. The only faculty member listed is SSG **Charles L. Davidson**, who is also listed among the over 58,000 names on The Wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. A handful of Chamber members, all on the board of directors, are veterans, all but one of us with at least 20 years of commissioned service. The exception is **Daniel Lau**, who may be the only member awarded a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, signifying having been wounded by hostile fire during the Battle of the Bulge.

On a less serious note, the veterans in the Chamber should take notice that Good to Grill in Kapahulu has, for a number of years, offered 50% off any entree on Memorial Day upon presentation of a military ID card. **Jason Kim's** restaurant apparently offers this as one of many holiday specials.

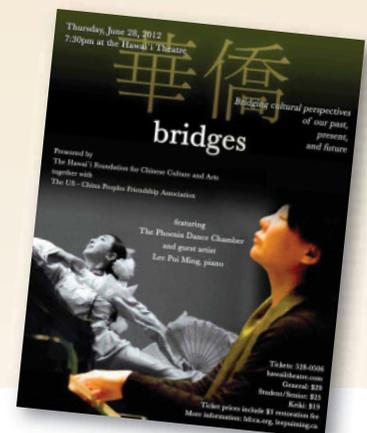
And don't forget that thanks to **Stanford Yuen**, executive assistant to the Admiral, Navy Region Hawaii, a special boat tour of Pearl Harbor will be on Thursday, July 19. Among the highlights will be a close-up of the *Arizona* Memorial. If you want to attend, call the Chamber right away at 533-3181, as the RSVP deadline is July 14.

PANDA EXPRESS PROMOTIONS

From time to time, Panda Express offers promotions *via* Facebook to its many customers. One recent promotion involved its extended summer hours at some (but apparently not all) of its free-standing restaurants. On June 1, upon presentation of a coupon from the Panda Express Web site, customers could get a free single-serving of orange chicken after 9:00 p.m. So keep your eyes open for future promotions.

Phoenix Dance Chamber

The Hawaii Foundation for Chinese Culture and Arts and the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association present a dance and piano concert, "Bridges," at the Hawaii Theatre Center on Thursday, June 28, at 7:30 p.m. The Phoenix Dance Chamber, founded in Hawaii in 1989, performs with masterful pianist **Lee Pui Ming** of Toronto, Canada. This artistic reunion will present traditional and original choreographies of both body and sound. The performance bridges the past, present, and future perspectives of Chinese culture abroad.



夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
Leonard J.K.H. Kam

It is with great pride and appreciation that I greet all of you in my inaugural message.

Let me begin with thanking **John Hui** for a successful year at the helm of the Chamber. Under his leadership, along with the officers and directors, we were able to celebrate the accomplishments of 100 years of service to our community. I would also like to thank

Michele Choy and her installation banquet committee for putting on a first-class event. Much appreciation to our sponsors, the Beatrice Young Foundation, Bank of Hawaii, and Panda Express, for supporting this event.

As we look forward to the coming year, I would like to thank the members and directors for their vote of confidence. At the installation banquet, I finished my dinner by enjoying the Panda Express fortune cookie. The fortune read: "Your luck will be changed today." I thought for a moment and felt that it was quite an appropriate fortune. As some of you may know, this year has brought about much change in my life. Becoming President of the Chamber is but one of those changes.

It was appropriate for the Executive Board as well since we had a strategic planning meeting to plan out the year ahead. This is critical to the operation of the Chamber and to our ability to continue to be a valuable business and community partner for our members and others. In order to accomplish our goals, all of us must embrace the changes that we must make. It is only by adapting to the changing world around us that we will survive and thrive. And thrive we will as we work with our associate members to develop their leadership skills to further the mission of the Chamber.

Through programs and seminars, we will continue to provide members with valuable information on everything from personal development to business development, both domestic and abroad. It is our goal to reach out to our members to involve them in the various aspects of the Chamber. After all, it is only through an active and vibrant membership that we will be able to attract new members and grow the Chamber into a stronger leader in the Hawaii community.

Join me in the beginning of the second century of the Chamber as we embrace change to further improve and accomplish more for our community.

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

GOODWILL TOUR FUND-RAISER

by Michele Choy

On May 27, the 2012 Narcissus Court held a fund-raiser at the beautiful home of Michele Choy's aunt and uncle, **Gerald and Gladys Ching**. The home set the scene for a very successful fund-raiser. The venue and weather were just fantastic! Adding to that, Chef **Warren Sasaki** of the Kahala Hotel & Resort planned an exquisite menu specially prepared and arranged for the 53 guests to enjoy. Everyone had a wonderful time starting with *hors d'oeuvres* and wine. The dinner included salad, soup, a *demi-entrée* of *papio*, and a braised beef *entrée*, which required no knife, and topped off at the end with a dessert trio specially baked and donated for this event by Mr. and Mrs. **Thanh Quoc Lam** of Ba-Le and La Tour Café. What a memorable evening! The program was filled with recognition to donors, a special thank you *hula* to the guests by Fourth Princess **Cherie Ching**, door prize giveaways, and lastly, as a thank you, a calendar of the Court, designed by **Paul Hayashi** was given to the guests for their support. A big *mahalo* to all those who helped to make the Court's fund-raiser a success! The court will now be representing the Chinese Chamber and the State of Hawaii as ambassadors on their Goodwill Tour throughout China. [Editor's note: Leonard and the Court left on June 4 and will return on June 19].



FOREIGN RELATIONS REPORT

by Jeffrey Lau



Past President Jeff Lau and his wife Susan and former Narcissus Tour member Nancy Sewahl with new CAIFC Director of American Affairs Mr. Wang Xiaowei and CTS Head Office, General Manager of American Dept. Mark Wang and Deputy General Manager Colleen Xu.

After a week of camel and Mongolian pony riding through the Gobi Desert and the Xilamuren grasslands, staying in a *yurt*, and other activities in Mongolia, Susan and I headed back to Beijing to meet with CAIFC Director of American Affairs, **Wang Xiaowei**, at a dinner hosted by our good friends at CTS Head Office, General Manager of American Dept. **Mark Wang** and Deputy General Manager **Colleen Xu**, at a delightful *hutong* restaurant tucked away off Gujje in Dongzhimennei. Coordinating this effort was **Bobo Wang**, who set up this occasion as well as much of the details for this year's Narcissus Good-

will Tour. Unfortunately, Kobe who is presently leading this year's tour could not attend, but assured us that all the arrangements were set for President **Leonard Kam**'s tour and that he was looking forward to meeting Queen **Tiffany Au** and her court.

Both CTS and CAIFC are excited to assist in arranging the National Association of Attorneys General-sponsored U.S. state attorneys general's tour, a special honor for **David Louie**, Hawaii's and the nation's first state AG of Chinese descent. This tour is made possible through the coordinated efforts of NAAG, CAIFC, CTS, and your Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii.

Assisting behind the scenes for both tours is our hard-working member, **Peggy Luu** of Skyway Travel, and our dear friends and sponsors at China Airlines, who together earlier this week sent on its way the 2012 Narcissus GWT. *Mahalo* to all of you!

Installation Dinner

by Michele Choy

On Sunday, May 20, new officers were sworn in at the installation dinner held at the Empress Restaurant, with 350 guests in attendance. The evening started with the Kuo Min Tang Physical Culture Association giving blessings to incoming President **Leonard Kam**, outgoing President **John Hui**, and Narcissus Queen **Tiffany Au**. Emcee **Alvin Wong** did a great job in moving the evening along in an efficient manner. Mayor **Peter Carlisle** gave us his warm opening remarks before dinner. After dinner, the annual award recipients were each presented with a beautiful trophy, along with certificates from the Mayor, state Senator **Suzanne Chun Oakland**, and state Representative **Corinne Ching**. The well deserving award recipients this year were **Richard Chow**, **Wanda Tse**, **John Zhang**, and **Vernon Ching**. Mayor Carlisle had a busy evening installing the 2012-2013 officers. John Hui and Leonard Kam both gave short speeches and the evening ended with a *hula* by **Jasmine Nip**, 2011 Narcissus 2nd Princess, and a toast by **Betty Brow**. Special thanks go to our generous sponsors, **Douglas Ho** of the Beatrice Young Foundation, **Betty Brow** of Bank of Hawaii, and **John Zhang** of Panda Express. A special *mahalo* to the Chinese Chamber associate members for helping to set up the tables, handling the check-in and *lei* presentations.



Right: Banquet Chair Michele Choy surrounded by the beautiful Associate Members, Chantel Ching, Kristine Duong, Stacey Baba, Ningjin Miao, Selena Qiu, Courtney Sue-Ako, Jasmine Nip, Kimberly Leong, Erica Lee & Christina Soo Hoo. Missing: Emily Moore.

WWII CHINESE AVIATOR HONORED

by Douglas Ho

April 17, 2012, was a memorable day for Chamber president **John Hui** as he visited Chongqing, China's largest city, with a population of 32 million people. He was met there by director **Douglas Ho** and China's iconic World War II hero, **Eddie Leung**, the last of China's Flying Tigers and a member of the Chinese-American Composite Wing, 14th U.S. Army Air Force. John was thrilled to listen to Mr. Leung's war stories at the Flying Tiger Museum. His exploits as a transport and bomber pilot as part of the 14th Air Force, commanded by Major General **Claire Chennault**, are legendary. Doug was present in Beijing in 2006 when President **Hu Jintao** awarded his friend of ten years the Chinese equivalent of the U.S. Distinguished Flying Cross. In 2011, China issued a limited-edition commemorative stamp sheet (only 350 sheets were issued) depicting Eddie Leung. During the May 20 installation dinner, Doug presented autographed photos and one of the commemorative stamp sheets to John as a surprise memento of John's unforgettable meeting with China's premier surviving aviation hero of World War II.

NEW MEMBERS

At its April 24 meeting, the board of directors approved the membership application for **Yong Shi**, an engineer and estimator at construction company, Nan, Inc. (recommended by **Selena Qiu**). Then at its May 29 meeting, the board approved the applications for **Kevin Chinn**, an account executive at health insurer HMAA (recommended by **Wen Chung Lin**) and **Lee Stack**, owner and president of Kaimalino Designs (recommended by **Angie Shiroma**). Welcome and we look forward to meeting you at the next member event.

Late May and early June is graduation time. **Catherine Wong Jayne** and **Courtney Sue-Ako** graduated from the UH Manoa Richardson School of Law with *juris doctor* (J.D.) degrees on May 13 and will be studying for the Hawaii bar examination in July. **Emily Moore** received a master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) from Hawaii Pacific University on May 17. **Jennifer Lau** graduated from the Fordham Law School in New York on May 20 with a J.D. degree and will be studying for and taking the New York and New Jersey bar examinations this summer. Congratulations, ladies!

The May 11 issue of *Pacific Business News* reported that former Chamber president **Edward Pei** has been named executive director of the Hawaii Bankers Association, starting at his new job on June 1. Both Ed and his predecessor as HBA executive director were with First Hawaiian Bank for over three decades. Congratulations, Ed.

According to a May 11 press release, **Warren Luke**, Hawaii National Bank CEO

and chairman and also Punahou class of 1962, was honored at a special luncheon on May 10 as the latest recipient of the Punahou Alumni Associations's "O in Life" award. (For those who may not know much about Punahou, it was established by Congregational missionaries in 1841 and known as "Oahu College" from 1853-1934). The award has been given annually since 1954 to an alumnus or alumnae who exemplifies the ideals of service to Punahou School and the Hawai'i community.

Not to be outdone, the May 18 issue of *Pacific Business News* announced that Warren's son, **Bryan Luke**, Hawaii National Bank executive vice president, was selected as one of *PBN*'s 2012 "Forty Under Forty" class, which annually includes forty of "Hawaii's best and brightest young businesswomen and businessmen." The award will be presented on June 21 at the Hawaii Convention Center. The price of \$85.00 includes the awards program as well as a reception with heavy *pupu* and a complimentary beverage. Online registration can be made at www.pacific.bizjournals.com/pacific/event/63961. For more information, contact **Rosanna Costales**, *PBN*'s director of events, at 955-8074.

Gail Ann Chew, formerly executive director of the Hawaii Restaurant Association and now the executive director of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Hawaii chapter, was picture in the May 23 *Midweek*'s "Honolulu Pa'ina" while attending the JRDF's "Neighborhood Noshing" benefit dinner.

Dennis Hwang was pictured at the top of the May 24 *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*'s Local section, holding up a copy of *Homeowner's Handbook to Prepare for Natural Hazards*. He is co-author of the book, which is now in its second edition; while not available from Amazon.com, it is available as a free .pdf download from the Sea Grant Program, School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) or as a hard copy from their office in the Hawaii Institute of Geophysics building on Correa Road. Dennis spoke at the news conference the day before, held at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) offices. The Central Pacific Hurricane Center is predicting a milder hurricane season this year in the central Pacific, with two to four tropical cyclones compared to the average of four to five. The season runs from June 1 to November 30, and already there has been a category 2 hurricane (Hurricane Bud) in the eastern Pacific. Not mentioned in the article is that National Hurricane Preparedness Week began on Sunday, May 27.

And finally, in the "better late than never category," **Marvin Dang** was featured in the April 27 issue of *Pacific Business News* article, "Foreclosure attorneys making changes after Act 48 [SLH 2011] gets OK." As a result of the act, which was passed last year, Marvin's "boutique law firm," with three of its five attorneys handling judicial foreclosure cases, is considering adding at least one more attorney to handle such cases.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4	Mon	2012 Narcissus Queen Goodwill Tour departure
June 17	Sun	Father's Day
June 19	Tue	2012 Narcissus Queen Goodwill Tour return
June 25	Mon	Executive Board Meeting Chamber Office – 6:00 p.m.
June 26	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Empress Restaurant – 12:00 p.m.
July 4	Wed	Independence Day

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