

LANTERN

October/November 2014



Banquet organized by Palolo Chinese Home "Caring for Generations" honoring Eddie Flores, Jr. on 10/17/14 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.



CHINESE NATIONAL DAY

Each year, the people of China and Taiwan celebrate their respective National Days, their equivalent of our Fourth of July celebration. Wednesday, October 1, 2014, marked the 65th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. On that day in 1949, **Mao Zedong** announced from Tiananmen (the Gate of Heavenly Peace) that "China has stood up." This came after a "century of unequal treaties" and repeated humiliation of the foreign Manchu government by the western powers and Japan, beginning with the 1842 Treaty of Nanking and ending with the Cairo Conference where **Chiang Kai-shek** joined **Franklin D. Roosevelt** and **Winston Churchill** as an equal. Friday, October 10, 2014, marked the 113th anniversary of "Double Ten," the date of the accidental Wuchang Uprising in 1911 and the start of the Xinhai revolution that overthrew the hated Qing dynasty. (Since 1972, the U.S. has followed a "one-China" policy and the Chamber does its best to follow that policy).

Chamber General Membership Luncheon

Members have been notified that there will be a membership luncheon on Thursday, October 30, at the Empress Restaurant in the Chinatown Cultural Plaza, starting at 12:00 p.m. Chamber President-Elect and L & L President and CEO **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, will be the speaker on the topic of "Understanding Chinese Buyers." Eddie has over fifty years' experience in dealing with Chinese buyers, as a real estate broker and as a restaurant franchisor. His talk will include the importance of *mianzi* (face), having the right connections in China (*guanxi*), and Chinese numerology and superstitions, all of which affect prospective and existing business relationships. The cost of the lunch and what is likely to be a very interesting talk is \$20.00 for Chamber members and \$30.00 for non-members. Contact the Chamber at 533-3181 to reserve space for yourself (and your guests).

Mayor of Chinatown Inaugural Dinner

Retired dentist and emeritus Chamber director **Joseph Young** will be recognized as the newest honorary Mayor of Chinatown at a dinner on Friday, November 14, at the Empress Restaurant. Dinner and the program will start after the 4:30 p.m. inaugural ceremony at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza Moon-gate Stage. (With the post-inaugural picture-taking, the dinner will likely start around 5:30 p.m.) The cost is \$55.00 for individuals, Friends of Joe \$500.00, Silver sponsor \$2,000.00, Gold sponsor \$3,500, and Diamond sponsor \$5,000.00. For more information or for reservations, contact **Michelle Wong** by phone at 593-9776 or e-mail at mw.rhlc@yahoo.com.

HCCA Mandarin Ball

The Hawaii Chinese Civic Association will hold its annual Mandarin Ball on Saturday, November 8, in the Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki's Mauna Kea Ballroom. No-host cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. and the dinner and program will start at 6:30 p.m. In addition to installation of officers and directors, there will be the usual contest for Mandarin jacket/dress in traditional and contemporary categories for the women and a jacket contest for the men. There will also be the presentation of the Mandarin of the Year Award to **Wesley F. Fong**, a former Chinese Chamber president. Dinner selection will be either prime rib or vegetarian, but the dinner has been sold out.

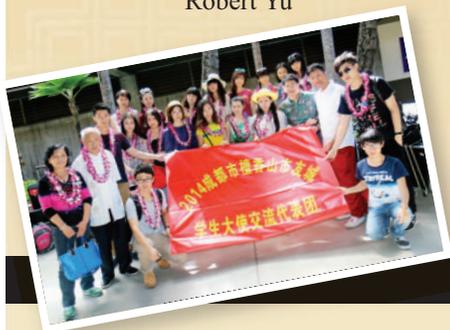


夏威夷中華總商會

THE
CHINESE
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
OF HAWAII



President
Robert Yu



Early November traditionally signals the beginning of the Narcissus Festival. This year, the Festival begins on Thursday, October 30, with a luncheon seminar on “Understanding the Chinese Buyer” featuring **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, president of L&L Hawaiian Barbecue. Eddie offers a valuable perspective, based on his many years of traveling and doing business in China. This seminar is a must for those wanting to do business in China.

The Chamber’s signature event, the Splendor of China (SOC) Trade and Cultural Expo, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 1 and 2. The SOC celebrates and promotes the rich Chinese culture through interactive exhibits and cultural demonstrations and performances. Because of the Chamber’s established relationships with the Chinese government, we are able to bring in a wide range of cultural experts, practitioners, and performers. They have shared their talent and skills in martial arts, cooking, fashion, music, and the always popular lion dance. This year, we are fortunate to have 19 student ambassadors from the Chengdu College of Arts to perform ethnic dances and songs. With more than 150 merchandise and food vendors at the SOC this year, there promises to be something for everyone. Take in a demonstration or two, then shop for fun Christmas gifts. As in the past, the SOC will also be the first public appearance of this year’s Narcissus Queen Pageant contestants. Come and meet the young professionals who will represent the Chamber in 2015.

A big *mahalo* goes out to all of our volunteers, sponsors, and donors who have dedicated countless hours and provided funding to make the 2014 SOC a success.

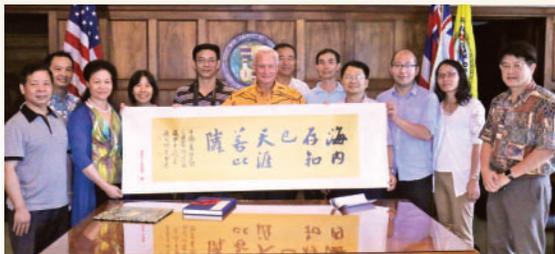
Lastly, don’t forget to mark your calendar for our annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 11, at the Willows Restaurant. More information will be coming soon.

Left: Student ambassadors from the Chengdu College of Arts to perform at SOC.

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

PAAC China Seminar

The Pacific and Asian Affairs China seminar this month will be held at noon on Thursday, November 13, at the Maple Garden Restaurant, 909 Isenberg Street. The topic this month is “Hong Kong and Macau: Beyond the Headlines,” quite topical in light of recent unprecedented student protests that have shut down key parts of the city and reports of a sharp decline in casino revenues in Macau. The speaker is Dr. **Cathryn H. Clayton**, a cultural anthropologist of China and Associate Professor in the Asian Studies Program at the UH Manoa, who has lived in mainland China, Hong Kong, and Macau for a total of more than nine years since the mid-1980s. Luncheon will be served after the talk, and seminar seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. The seminar is \$20.00 for Friends of the East-West Center members and EWC and UH students and \$25.00 for non-members. Payment may be made in advance or at the door. Checks should be made payable to “Friends of the East-West Center.” Reservations must be made by noon of the day before (November 12). For more information or to RSVP, call **Deanna O’Brien** at 944-7111.



Zhangzhou Delegation for Splendor of China 2014

TAX SEMINAR

The end of the year is fast approaching and what better time to take last minute tax-saving steps? Accordingly, “Year-end Tax Planning for Small Businesses” will be presented on Thursday, November 13, at a Fresh Café, 1111 Nuuanu Avenue (the former location of Indigo Cafe). Tax experts **Alan Yee** and **Johnnell Nakamura** will cover topics such as the latest updates on 2014 Hawaii and federal tax laws; common mistakes made on Hawaii General Excise Tax (GET) and how to avoid them; and advantages of year-end tax planning for businesses. The program and lunch run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and the cost for both is \$20.00 for Chamber members and \$25.00 for non-members. To register, please do so by November 6, by calling the Chamber at 533-3181.

Community Clean-up Day

Originally scheduled for Saturday, October 18, the approach of Tropical Storm/Hurricane Ana resulted in “cancellation” of the event. Instead, the 11th annual Community Clean-up has been rescheduled to Saturday, November 22. It will be held at Kaimuki High School, 2705 Kaimuki Avenue, just off Kapiolani Boulevard. This is your chance before the holidays and the end of the year to rid your home or apartment of a variety of items that would just end up in the landfill: unwanted TVs or computer monitors (1 per car), batteries of all kinds, appliances, used household cooking oil, and incandescent light bulbs in exchange for CFLs. Some items are accepted in the monthly bulky item pickups in your neighborhood, but some are otherwise hard to dispose of. Sponsors include Gov. **Neil Abercrombie** and Councilman **Stanley Chang**. To get a copy of the otherwise difficult to find flier from the City’s user-unfriendly Web site with a complete listing all the items being collected, go online to http://www.opala.org/solid_waste/pdfs/GG_10-18-14.pdf. Mother Nature will thank you.

Ebola Fever “Panic”

As President **Franklin D. Roosevelt** said in his first inaugural address in 1933, “We have nothing to fear but fear itself – nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror...” But despite only one person in Dallas having recently died from Ebola and two of his attending nurses having recovered, there is a great deal of misinformation, if not downright disinformation, being spread by some politicians and a certain cable news network, regardless of what medical experts say.

According to available information from reputable sources (such as the World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and WebMD), Ebola can be quite deadly, but so far, only one person has died in the U.S. Compare that to some 30,000 Americans who die each year from influenza or the flu, yet there is no outcry for mandatory vaccination, travel shut-downs or appointment of a flu czar. (By the way, have you gotten your flu vaccination yet?).

Ebola is contracted through direct contact with the bodily fluids (blood, saliva, sweat, breast milk, semen, vomit, urine, and diarrhea) of an infected person or someone who has died from Ebola. According to **Michael Kinzer**, an epidemiologist with CDC, the “Big Three” are: (1) direct, intimate interactions with sick people or bodies; (2) taking care of someone at home or in the hospital without the proper protective clothing and equipment; and (3) preparing the body of an Ebola victim for burial. It is not an air- or waterborne – spread through the air or water – virus. The incubation period ranges from 2-21 days, and supposedly a person is not infectious until symptoms appear, such as high fever (104.9), muscle pain, headache, and sore throat early on. Consequently, an infected symptomatic person will be so sick, he or she will not be in any condition to be going to the airport (or on a cruise), let alone on a flight

Yes, the Ebola virus is highly infectious, even in small amounts, but it is also not very transmissible, being less contagious than a cold, the flu or measles, and is harder to catch. This is apparently because the Ebola virus is “relatively fragile,” vulnerable to direct sunlight, heat, dryness, or bleach, soap or alcohol (such as in alcohol-based wipes). So for Americans, the risk of contracting Ebola is “virtually zero,” according to **Andrew Pekosz**, a professor at **Johns Hopkins University’s Bloomberg School of Public Health**. If in doubt, do your own research online or at a library, such as the Hawaii Medical Library, 1301 Punchbowl Street, or the Health Sciences Library at the **John A. Burns Medical School**, 651 Ilalo Street.

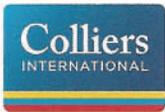
Health Care Insurance Update

For those who are 65 years of age or older and currently have Medicare coverage, the open enrollment period begins on October 15 and ends on December 7. The seven-week open enrollment period is a time for you to review your Medicare coverage, see whether it still covers your needs, and look at options. For example, this is a time when you can change or modify your coverage, such as adding prescription drug coverage under Medicare Part D to your basic coverage under Medicare Part A **Tara Siegel Bernard’s** “Your Money” column in the Oct 3, 2014 *NY Times*, “Beware of Shifting Options Within Medicare Plans” is very helpful and informative, easy to understand, and includes some resources, including a reference to the *Medicare and You* booklet that was sent out to enrollees several weeks ago and 1-800-Medicar(e) (633-4227) to talk to a live person.

Recently, there have been newspaper ads and inserts as well as fliers in the mail for Medicare Advantage as an alternative to “regular” Medicare coverage. (For example, HMSA offers Aka-mai Advantage, Kaiser has Senior Advantage, AARP Medicare-Complete, USAA Medicare Advantage, etc.). Medicare Part C may seem attractive compared to regular Medicare Part A, but you should carefully consider the pros and cons of coverage under each. HMSA is offering information sessions at various Oahu locations and also has contract consultants like **Dallas Kajihiro-King** (738-4505 [office] or 368-3165 [mobile]) who will come to your location. Whatever the case, if you’re curious about Medicare Advantage, check with your current health insurer to see whether they offer such a plan, then find out the pluses and minuses before changing; you owe it to yourself to make an informed decision, not just jumping blindly!.

For those younger than 65, on November 15, open enrollment for 2015 Affordable Care Act health insurance coverage will open and will continue until February 15, 2015. Uninsured Americans (and those who got insurance through the federal or state exchanges last year) have a revamped Healthcare.gov to work with while Hawaii residents have the HawaiiHealthConnector.com. Both Web sites were problematical last year, to say the least, when initially rolled out, although the Hawaii Web site eventually enrolled 10,746 residents and directed another 43,000 to Medicaid, according to an article in the October 22 *Honolulu Star-Bulletin*. (They were both roaring successes, however, compared to Cover Oregon, which was unable to sign up a single person online). Late this summer, the *Star-Advertiser* reported that UnitedHealth Group, the nation’s largest medical insurer, which had repaired

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Chamber Pau Hana get together at Ice Garden of the Honolulu Design Center. Left: Rena Hwang, Sarah Moy, Robert Yu, Russell Lau. Below: Jeff Lau, Sarah Moy, Daniel Lum, Nobe Zhu, Eula Chu



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov 1	Sat	12th Annual Splendor of China Trade & Cultural Expo Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Nov 2	Sun	12th Annual Splendor of China Trade & Cultural Expo Neal Blaisdell Exhibition Hall 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Nov 11	Tue	Veterans Day
Nov 13	Thu	Tax Planning Seminar Fresh Café 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Nov 18	Tue	Executive Board Meeting Chamber Office – 6:00 p.m.
Nov 25	Tue	Board of Directors Meeting Empress Restaurant 12:00 p.m.
Nov 27	Thu	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 11	Thu	Christmas Party The Willows Restaurant 5:30 p.m.
Dec 25	Thu	Christmas Day

continue from Health Care Insurance Update on p.3...

Healthcare.gov, had taken over the Hawaii exchange. It should be remembered that while it is not necessary for an individual to go through HawaiiHealthConnector.com, a possible subsidy to reduce your monthly premiums is apparently available ~~only~~ through the exchange. (An HMSA representative did say though that they would run the numbers to see if an individual qualified for a subsidy under its Individual Health Plan).

For those concerned about their health care costs, *Consumer Reports* (Nov. 2014 issue now on newsstands) “Health insurance plans that help hold down costs” is available online and is part of a larger article “It’s Time to Get Mad About the Outrageous Cost of Health Care.”

MEMBER NEWS

2012 Narcissus Second Princess **Stephanie Wang** was crowned on October 26 as 2015 Miss Chinatown Hawaii and will be competing in the 2015 Miss Hawaii Scholarship Pageant next May. At present, she and the other contestants are raising funds for Hawaii children’s hospitals through the Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals. You can help Stephanie reach her goal of raising at least \$1,000.00 (or more) by going to <http://missamericaforkids.org/Donate/stephaniewang>. Once there, you can click on the “Donate” button to either contribute online or get the donation form and address to send in a check.

NEW MEMBER

At its September 30 meeting, the Chamber board approved the applications for **Julia Chan**, training and business development advisor at Transpacific (recommended by **Jan Leu**); **Derrick Pei**, president, KRH Construction Co. (recommended by John Zhang); and **Sam Willis**, business development manager, Bank of the Orient (recommended by **Mona Choy-Beddow**). Then at its October 28 meeting, the board approved the applications for **Amy Cheung**, a senior business banking officer at Central Pacific Bank (recommended by **Avery Lam**), and **Omeo Fan**, a Realtor®-Associate at Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties (recommended by **Lucia Liang**). Welcome to the Chamber and we look forward to meeting you at the next membership event.

Coming in the Next Month

Sunday	November 23	Narcissus public appearance, Windward Mall, 12:00 p.m.
Sunday	November 30	Narcissus public appearance, Kahala Mall, 12:00 p.m.
Sunday	December 7	Palolo Chinese Home visit, 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday	December 10	Narcissus public appearance, Ala Moana Center, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	December 11	Christmas party at the Willows Restaurant, no-host cocktails at 5:30 p.m., buffet dinner and program at 6:00 p.m., price \$50.00 p.p.

The LANTERN a monthly publication
of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
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