



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

夏威夷中華總商會



LANTERN

NEWSLETTER

February, 2017

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68th Narcissus Festival Coronation Ball



NARCISSUS FESTIVAL CONTINUES

Next up is the gala Coronation Ball, which will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom on Saturday, February 4. The gala evening begins with no-host cocktails at 5:00 p.m. and dinner and the program from 6:00 p.m. The cost for the multi-course Chinese dinner is \$88.00 per person, \$880.00 per table of 10. A wine package for an additional \$100.00, which includes one bottle each of red wine and white wine, is also available.

The Narcissus Fashion Show, “East Meets West,” will be held on Sunday, April 2. The venue is the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Boutique sales (and silent auction) begin at 9:30 a.m., lunch is from noon, and the fashion show, with designs from **Lillian Zhang** Couture and **Mae Young** Designs, will be from 1:00 p.m. In addition, there will be door prizes. If you plan to attend, kindly RSVP by March 24. In addition to individual tickets at \$75.00 per person, “Emerald” tables are available at \$750.00 each and “Diamond tables” at \$1,200.00. For more information or to reserve your table, contact the Chamber at 533-3181.

CHINESE NEW YEAR – in Hawaii and Elsewhere

In Hawaii, many Chinese think of Chinese New Year as a one-day event. Elsewhere, however, there is a period of a week or so before the start of the new year to clean the house, take care of debts, get some new clothes, and travel back to the ancestral village. Chinese New Year is also just part of the Spring Festival that runs from Spring Festival (Chinese New Year’s) Eve to the Lantern Festival on the fifteenth day of the first lunar month. So in 2017, the Spring Festival runs from Friday, January 27, to Saturday, February 11. However, the “official” event is shorter, only seven days and ending on February 2. In contrast, in Taiwan, the Lantern Festival started on Saturday, February 4 (local time) and ends on Friday, February 17. This year, it will be held in a new locale, Ximending, “a popular tourist hotspot,” according to the *China Post*, as well as a trendy shopping district in western Taipei. The “official” spring holiday in Taiwan extended from New Year’s Eve to February 1.

Note that the Spring Festival is celebrated not only in China (1.3 billion) and Taiwan (24 million), but also in other Asian countries with large Chinese populations (although not necessarily observed as a holiday): Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, South Korea, Malaysia, Brunei, and Singapore.



President-Elect
Gifford Chang

In lieu of the President’s Message, here’s a message from Narcissus Festival chairman and President-Elect **Gifford Chang**:

Happy Chinese New Year! I am proud to report to our membership that your Chamber presented itself well to the community through a series of

Narcissus Festival events. Our Moon Festival, Narcissus Queen Pageant, *Choy Cheng* and Open House, the Chinese New Year Celebration at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza, and the 68th Coronation Ball did extremely well, particularly given the constraints and circumstances under which your board of directors and committee chairs had to operate and budget for.

For the past several years, we have tasked ourselves to operate the Narcissus Festival within budget and to turn a profit hosting each event. Your current Narcissus Festival Advisory Board, consisting of president **Mona Choy-Beddow**, past presidents **Vernon Ching**, **Eddie Flores**, **Frances Goo**, **Leonard Kam**, **Alvin Wong** and **Robert Yu**, and board member **Michele Choy** and yours truly, has led the Festival successfully. Their driving support and that of many others, including all of our sponsors, are to be commended greatly. (The festival and event sponsor names are printed in the souvenir annual and event programs, respectively).

We still have a wonderful fashion show on April 2 and the Narcissus Goodwill Tour in June to complete our accomplishments for the 68th Narcissus Festival, and I encourage all of our members to participate in any way that they can. Your volunteering of time, donation of monies as a sponsor, purchasing of seats and/or tables in these events as well as going on the Tour to support our Queen and her Court will be greatly appreciated.

In closing, I am humbled, honored, and privileged to serve this year as your President-Elect!

Happy New Year – *sunnin failok/xinnian kuaile* – and may the Fire Rooster bring you health, wealth, and happiness throughout this new year.

CHAMBER NEWS & ACTIVITIES

HKBAH Events

On Sunday, February 12, the Hong Kong Business Association of Hawaii will be holding its Chinese New Year Gala at the Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m. For more information or to sign up, contact **Allan Ng** at 389-0904. Then on Monday, February 13, the HKBAH will host a roundtable discussion, “The 20th Anniversary of Hong Kong’s Return to China, and China’s ‘One Belt, One Road’ Initiative: Opportunities and Risks.” This event will be held at Foreign-Trade Zone No. 9 in the **Homer A. Maxey** International Trade Resource Center, M401. FTZ No. 9 is located at 521 Ala Moana Boulevard (Pier 2). The speakers are **Ivanhoe Chang**, director of HKETO, San Francisco, and Dr. **Richard Vuylsteke**, president of the East-West Center. If you plan to attend, kindly RSVP by Thursday, February 9, by contacting **Barinna Poon** at 383-5008 or bpoon@hawaiiantel.net.

New Members

At its December 20 meeting, the Board approved the membership applications for **Sunny Hospital**, a Realtor® with LIST Sotheby’s International Realty (recommended by **Wen Chung Lin**) and **Lisa Long**, a Chinese medical doctor and Realtor® with LIST Sotheby’s International Realty (recommended by **Wen Chung Lin**). Then at its January 31 meeting, the Board approved the applications for **Wendell Foo**, president of Wendell K. S. Foo, MD (recommended by **Mona Choy-Beddow**), and **Nicole Shiroma**, a student of health administration at UH West Oahu and a Young Professional member (recommended by **Angie Shiroma**). Welcome to the Chamber and we look forward to meeting you at the next membership event.



From the 2017 Narcissus Queen

by Lesly Lan Yin Goo

Aloha, it is such an honor to have been chosen as 2017 Narcissus Queen and to be a goodwill ambassador for the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and to represent the Chinese community in Hawaii and abroad.

Since becoming the 68th Narcissus Queen, I still feel so shocked and extremely grateful. Growing up as a little girl, my mom would teach me the art of the Tahitian dance and culture, and as I got older, we traveled and taught abroad. However, it wasn't until I found out about all of the amazing opportunities to learn about my Chinese heritage that I really understood how meaningful the Narcissus Pageant could be for me. It gave me the opportunity to more fully explore my Chinese heritage.

During my reign, I plan to spend time advocating and caring for the elderly because I feel that we who belong to the younger generation do not realize how much information we miss out on. It is so important to take time to learn from our elders so that we can better understand and appreciate the history we all share. Not only does this benefit us, but it also keeps their spirits alive as well. For example, my *KungKung* and I shared moments of his life through the stories that he shared with me.

At the *Choy Cheng* event, for the first time, I felt truly comfortable being immersed in my Chinese heritage. Meeting the different Chinatown vendors made me feel so connected. Realizing that I recognized a lot of people and seeing how involved they are with the Chinese community made me feel excited for my year ahead.

One of my favorite events this month was visiting the different schools with my court and seeing how excited the *keiki* were to see us. They lit up at the idea of seeing royalty. I was impressed to see how familiar the children were with the lore of the Year of the Rooster and how strongly our culture is being perpetuated with the youth.

To commemorate the Year of the Rooster, on Chinese New Year's Day, I had the honor of supporting and promoting the L&L Barbecue canned food drive, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and the celebrations of Chinese New Year on KITV4 news and Island 98.5 radio station. What a privilege to be the goodwill ambassador of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii! I pledge to not lose president-elect **Gifford Chang** this year on our tour to China. (Wink, wink).

This new Year of the Fire Rooster is going to bring fresh challenges, requiring quick cleverness and practical solutions filled with inner warmth and insight, which is how I plan on achieving my goal this year as your 2017 Narcissus Queen.



L&L Drive Community Service Events.



Recycling

Some of the more traditional Chamber members, in anticipation of the start of the Year of the Rooster on January 28, may have been house-cleaning prior to that date. For those of you who have various kinds of "stuff" in your home or apartment and you wish to dispose of it without adding to the City's Waimanalo Gulch landfill, there are collection events throughout the year.

The City Department of Environmental Services (DES) has a Web site at www.opala.org where you can get more information. Information on what constitutes "hazardous waste" can be found at http://www.opala.org/solid_waste/Household_Hazardous_Waste.html. The next date for dropping off hazardous waste under the *Aloha Aina* program is Saturday, March 11 (and every two months thereafter). You must call the City Refuse Division at 768-3201 with a list of hazardous waste that you will be dropping off and for a drop-off time and location more. There is also the "Going Green" e-waste program at https://kokuahawaiiifoundation.org/news/detail/schedule_for_2016_2017_aloha_aaina_recycling_drives. There are in-town drop-offs, with no appointment necessary, on Saturday, April 1, at the University lab school in Manoa; on Saturday, April 29, at Moanalua elementary and middle school; and on Saturday, May 13, at Maryknoll School.

For those interested in an upcoming event this month, Rep. **Scott Nishimoto** and several other members of the Legislature and City Council will be co-sponsoring a "Going Green" recycling event in conjunction with the Honolulu Police Department's Project C.L.E.A.N. The event will be held at Jefferson Elementary School on Saturday, February 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Specifically mentioned for drop-off are computers, monitors, printers, scanners, one TV per vehicle, cell phones, ink cartridges, all kinds of batteries, used cooking oil, eyeglasses, hearing aids, clothing, household items, and canned goods. NOT accepted are tires, paint, microwave ovens, and motor oil and other hazardous fluids.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 4 • Sat

68th Narcissus Coronation Ball

Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom
5:00 p.m.

Feb 13 • Mon

Executive Board Meeting

Chamber Office – 6:00 p.m.

Feb 20 • Mon

President's Day

Feb 28 • Tue

Board of Directors Meeting

Empress Restaurant – 12:00 p.m.

Mar 3 • Fri

Chamber General Election Day

Chamber Office
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Apr 2 • Sun

Narcissus Fashion Show

“East Meets West”
Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom
9:30 a.m.

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MEMBER NEWS

In the January 18 *Midweek* Style section, 2012 Second Princess and 2017 Miss Chinese Hawaii **Stephanie Wang** appeared in five of the seven photos: three times in maxi dresses (is this a throwback to the mini/midi/maxi designs of the 1960s?) and twice in one-piece swimsuits. She also appeared in **John Berger's** “On the Scene” column, answering three questions: The difference between the national Miss Chinatown Pageant and the Narcissus Pageant (answer: a contestant-submitted video bio for MCP and a judges' interview for Narcissus); whether she was concerned about having to wear a swimsuit for Miss Chinatown; and some things about her that might surprise people (SCUBA-certified and loving to play shooter video games as well as loving horror movies). Berger points out in the introduction to his column that since its start in 1958, Hawaii women have been selected Miss Chinatown U.S.A. 14 times, but not once since 2003. Let's hope that Stephanie ends the drought this Saturday, February 4. The Pageant will once again be held at the Palace of Fine Arts, located in San Francisco's Marina district, and Stephanie will be competing with eleven other contestants from around the country. [Update: unfortunately, the seeming anti-Hawaii bias is still there and Stephanie was not selected as Miss Chinatown U.S.A.].

Chamber members have been captured in *Midweek's Pa'ina* section over the last three issues. As noted, Stephanie Wang appeared in the January 18 *Midweek*. In the January 28 *Midweek*, UH Regent and long-time Chamber director **Stanford Yuen** was photographed at a Corporate Partner *Paina* at **Gordon Biersch**, hosted by the UH Athletic Department. In the same issue, **Yu Shing Ting's** Xposure gallery covered the Sony Open in Hawaii Official Pro-Am, and former Chamber president and Hawaii National Bank chairman and CEO **Warren Luke** was one of those there. Finally, in the February 1 *Midweek Pa'ina*, **Gabe Lee** (and wife **Shirley** and daughter **Kelly Ann**) was also photographed at the Sony Open and again at the Hawaii Retailers' get-together, and 2017 Narcissus Queen **Lesly Goo** favorably reviewed a **Vin Diesel** action movie.

To start off the Year of the Rooster, L & L Hawaiian Barbecue collected 2,000 pounds of food for the Hawaii Foodbank on Saturday, January 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The result of the effort garnered over 1,800 pounds of canned goods donated, along with some cash donations that will be converted by the Hawaii Foodbank into food and will be factored into the total donation. As part of the celebration, donors of ten canned goods or more received a free plate of L & L's signature chicken *katsu*. Also, the first 100 people in line received a limited edition L & L 2017 Year of the Rooster t-shirt. In the tradition of Chinese New Year festivities, children at the event also received a *li see*. A chicken mascot and the 2017 Narcissus Court and Queen also appeared at the event to take photos with those in attendance. The event was held as a joint event by L & L Hawaiian Barbecue, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Foodbank.

Please note that food donations can be made throughout the year at NAPA and Ruby Tuesday locations around Oahu as well as at the Hard Rock Café in Waikiki, <http://www.hawaiifoodbank.org/year-round-collection-sites>. The Foodbank's “Top 5 Most Wanted Foods” are: 1. Canned proteins: tuna, chicken, beef, etc.; 2. Canned meals: soups, pasta; 3. Canned vegetables; 4. Canned fruits; and 5. Rice. And of course there's the Foodbank's 28th annual Food Drive Day, which will be on Saturday, April 15, and food (and monetary) donations will be accepted by volunteers at various locations around Oahu. (According to the Foodbank, \$10.00 can provide food for 25 meals).



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