

# High School All-Stars Visit Okinawa

Peter Iha

Seventeen baseball players, three coaches and 29 parents and supporters participated in the first UOA-sponsored, Hawaii Okinawan High School All-Star Baseball Team Goodwill-Study Tour of Okinawa and Taiwan.

Edward Kiyuna, executive secretary of the Hawaii High School Athletic Association, served as the tour's general manager. Masa Yonamine, Waipahu High School A.D., and Eugene Takaesu, McKinley High School Baseball Coach, were the coaches. Scorekeepers were Michele Goya and Ron Awa.

Three games were played in Okinawa. The first, on June 9, was played at the brand new Itoman City Municipal Stadium against Ryugin, a team comprised of former high school and college players. Ryugin, a member of the Kyushu Commercial League, defeated Hawaii by a score of 5-1.

On Sunday, June 10, Hawaii played Okinawa University at Oonoyama Stadium in Naha. Coming off a disappointing loss on Saturday, the Hawaii Uchinanchu beat their older brothers from Okinawa. Steven Oshiro, of Roosevelt High, hit the first home run of this trip.



Two games were scheduled against the Kubasaki-Kadena High School All-Star team, but because of heavy rain, one had to be cancelled. On June 14, at the brand new Gushikawa City Municipal Stadium, the Hawaii team beat the Okinawan all-stars by a score of 17-1. The highlight of the game came when Lance Suyama of Damien High School hit a bases-loaded home run over the right-field

fence.

Taiwan is a lovely island to visit, "but not to play against their high school teams." On June 18, Hawaii played a very strong Taipei Chung Wah High School team. Playing at night, and being exhausted from all the travel, not to mention facing a pitcher who had been voted most valuable in all of Taiwan, proved too much for the Hawaii boys. The result:

Taiwan 10, Hawaii 0.

There were some heartwarming experiences that I would like to share. All of the players who contacted their relatives never expected to receive so many gifts. Masa Yonamine had an emotional meeting with a nephew that he had never seen. He was the son of Masa's older brother, who left Hawaii while Masa was a baby. His brother gave his life fighting in the Japanese Army during World War II. Ed Kiyuna was reunited with his 93-year-old aunt, whom he had not seen for 10 years.

Hawaii's all-star team was an outstanding group of young Uchinanchu athletes. Their conduct, at all times, during official and unofficial gatherings, was impeccable, gentle and courteous, and showed a lot of aloha. I am certain that we are going to hear a lot more good things about them in the future.

As a closing remark, as one who served as the Dancho, let me express the deep appreciation and *ippeinihei-debiru*, on behalf of the UOA, to the many organizations and individuals here, in Okinawa, and in Taiwan. The generous hospitality and the genuine courtesy extended will be remembered and cherished by all of us for a long, long time.

A special mahalo to Trans-Pacific Tours Inc. for the terrific services rendered. The plane, hotel, food and other services provided was just fantastic.

The All-Star team: STEVEN OSHIRO, Roosevelt; LANCE SERIKAKU, Castle; DALE GOYA, Waiakea; BRIAN OSHIRO, Kaimuki; KOJI HIGA, Farrington; TYSON TAHARA, Mililani; ROSS TAKENAKA, Waiailua; JEFFREY GIMA, Aiea; DUANE MIYASATO, Castle; BRYAN GINOZA, Waianae; STEVEN TAKUSHI, Waipahu; BEAU OSHIRO, Mililani; BRENT SHIMOKAWA, Iolani; LANCE SUYAMA, Damien; STEVEN TAKARA, Pearl City; AARON TERUYA, Pearl City; RANDALL IGE, Aiea.

*Peter Iha, former State Representative and UOA President, served as group leader for this trip. He is a member of Chatan Sonjinkai.*



## Uchinanchu

newspaper for the

united okinawan association of hawaii

July 31, 1984 No. 5

## A First Visit to Okinawa



Beverly with Mayor Toguchi of Nago City

Beverly Tasato

As a first-time visitor to Okinawa there was much to see and learn. My husband, John, who last visited in 1975, acknowledged seeing many changes and new sights. Many situations and sights along the way to tourist attractions make for interesting learning and comparison of Okinawans with Hawaiian and American ways.

Just looking out of a tour-bus window, one marvels at all the mini-sized cars and vans zigzagging through narrow, one-lane streets in busy Naha. Drivers patiently allow space for each other to maneuver

their vehicles. Considering the many buildings and a population of more than one million (about 1250 persons per square mile) on an island 850 square miles in area (or seven times larger than the state of Hawaii) the practicality of minivehicles becomes clearly evident. The average speed limit is 25 mph and rightly so for safety purposes. Imagine the after work rush hour. It took nearly three hours to travel about 14 miles from Zakimi Castle to our hotel in Naha.

The average temperature in Okinawa is about 72 degrees, but summer temperatures hover around 90 degrees and a humidity of 80 percent. Needless to say, we were hot and sticky! Because of cultural practices, Okinawans shunned the shorts, tank tops or slippers which we would consider ideal wear in sunny Hawaii. Men wear long pants, women wear dresses or skirts, and everyone wears shoes. Lucky you live Hawaii folks!

Because we were touring during the rainy season (November to

Continued on page 6

## Associated Scholarship Fund Aids Students

Ray Tengan

Seven students won scholarship grants from the UOA Scholarship Foundation. Two new and seven renewal awards were made for the 1984-85 school year. Entering freshmen get 4-year awards and sophomores get 3-year awards.

New award winner Lance Tokuda achieved a 4.0 grade-point ratio (all As) in his first year in the engineering college at the University of Hawaii. The son of George and Janet Tokuda, Lance's goal is to earn a doctorate in electrical engineering. His father's parents are from Aza Gushikawa and his mother's from Nago.

Daeleen Ohigashi, graduate of Pearl City High School, is the second new recipient. Daeleen traces ancestry back to Hiroshima on her father's side and to Haibaru on her mother's side. A member of the National Honor Society, marching band, campus cleanup and other social clubs, she maintained a 3.8 grade-point ratio while also working part-time. She

ranked 9th in a graduating class of 475 students. She's interested in studying engineering at the University of Hawaii.

Renewal scholarships were awarded to: Jody Toyama, sophomore, son of Mr. and Mrs. Takeo Toyama (Ginowan); Shirley Kaneshiro, junior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isamu Kaneshiro (Yokatsu Doshibai); Fay Yamakawa, junior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shinrei Yamakawa (Sashiki); Joyce Hokama, senior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Yoshihide Hokama (Osato); Linda Oshiro, senior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kaoru Oshiro (Kanagusuku); April Oyama, senior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tastutoshi Oyama (Shuri); and Yvonne Takata, senior, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shizue Takata (Gaza Yonagusuku).

*Raymond Tengan is chairman of the UOA Scholarship Committee. He is the principal of Kawanakoa Intermediate School and a member of Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai.*

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# Maui Raises Funds for Janeen

Norman Nakamura

By Board action on March 5 the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai voted to help Janeen Fukuhara, whose recent liver transplant was a success, but whose mounting medical expenses were beyond her family's means.

Kenjin Kai members and friends were approached for donations. Chi Ho Riji (District Directors) worked hard for this project. Among the outstanding solicitors were: Tokuichiro Uehara of Kahului who went door-to-door and contacted 18 members and 128 friends who contributed \$537.25; Matsuo Yagi and Yasuichi Takushi contacted people in Lower Paia Town and any tourist they met on the road, and collected \$309 from 94 persons; Hideyasu Higa of Kahului approached fellow workers at Wailuku Sugar Company and collected \$273 from 53 persons. Reading of the club's effort, as reported in the *Maui News*, readers responded with a total of \$115.

Hard work resulted in a response from 282 Kenjin Kai members contributing \$2,628, and 302 friends of members giving \$1,391.75. The total

amount of \$4,019.75 was sent in two installments to "Friends of Janeen Fukuhara."

The Board expresses appreciation to all contributors for their generous spirit and sense of pulling together. Ronald Fukuhara, Janeen's grandfather, wrote: "The Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai's continued support of Janeen and her family is truly appreciated."

"Janeen's condition has improved so well that she has been home with her sister Lorie and brother Cody since April 13. Her twice-a-week visit to the hospital for tests and treatment, is now down to once a week. The doctors at the hospital are very pleased with her improvement, and have told Pat and Susan that if tests continue to be stable, they will be able to return home to Hawaii probably in June.

"Please extend our gratitude to the wonderful people of Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai — their love, concern and well wishes for Janeen shall always be remembered."

Norman Nakamura, a *Sun Life* agent, is President of the *Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai*.

The 1984 Okinawan Festival is scheduled for Sept. 1 and 2 at McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Beach Park.

The enthusiastic Festival committee members have been planning for this year's activities since December 1983. The Festival will be most exciting and fun for everyone. Okinawan food, dances, cultural exhibits, a Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri competition and much more will be featured.

We sincerely appreciate your untiring support of the UOA, and request your participation during the two-day festivities in September.

Ryokichi Higashionna, 1984 Okinawan Festival Chairman

## Supporting Members

- Agnes T. Asato
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- Haneji Club
- Frank and Tomoko Kuba
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- Albert Teruya
- Jimmy's Market
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- F. Namihira

## A Joint Effort Lt. Gov. and UOA:

Lt. Gov. John Waihee announced that a joint effort with the UOA will be undertaken during the 1984 elections to provide voter services to individuals needing special language assistance.

Waihee stated, "The Voter Education and Registration Division of our office is very pleased to have the opportunity to work with the members of the United Okinawan Society in this major effort."

Waihee asked the members of the UOA to assist in the following areas:

- Serving as volunteer voter registrars
  - Distributing translated voter information
  - Hosting voter education presentations conducted by the Voter Education and Registration staff of the Lieutenant Governor's Office.
- Waihee further announced that the following services will be provided by the Voter Education and Registration Division:
- Translated brochures
  - Voter education presentations conducted by bilingual outreach workers
  - Language assistance on election days
  - Translated slide shows about voting in Hawaii
  - Election information publicized in the various ethnic media.

Additional information about voting services can be obtained by calling Lynn Fallin at the Voter Education and Registration Division in the Lt. Gov.'s Office at 548-3415 or 548-2180.

# Maui's Mr. ILWU, Tom Yagi

Tony Arakaki

Islanders who lived their young adult years in the early '50s connect the name Thomas "Tom" S. Yagi with "Maui" and with "ILWU."

Tom Yagi and the ILWU were a perfect marriage for over 30 years, from the early '50s until Dec. 30, 1983, when he retired from active leadership in the union.

His youthful idealism and sometimes volatile concern for the working man parallel the early union movement on the sugar plantations. By his own admission, he was an "ornery buggah," intent on improving wages and working conditions in Hawaii. Qualities of persistence and leadership, expressed through his unique personality, served the union well.

The community at large also benefitted from his many years of service in government and community organizations. He has held key

positions on the Board of Trustees of Maui Community Hospital; has been a member of the Maui County Board of Adjustment and Appeals, the Maui County Council Ad Hoc Committee on Agriculture, the First Charter Commission of Maui County and the Maui Community College Advisory Committee. Currently, he serves the state Board of Land and Natural Resources and is a member of the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai.

Many accolades were accorded Yagi at a testimonial dinner in January in Kihei. Among the most memorable tributes was one given by Colin Cameron of the Maui Land and Pineapple Company, with whom he has had to deal "across the table." Cameron cited Yagi's honesty and integrity in labor-management negotiations, characterizing him as one "who always kept his word." In jocular spirit, Cameron offered Yagi free use of the Kapalua Golf Course "if he will help

me improve my game."

Other testimonials were offered by Lt. Gov. John Waihee, Susumu Ono, chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, former Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho and ILWU Regional Director Thomas Trask, and other ILWU officials. They were among 500 gathered to honor Yagi.

Maui Okinawa Kenji Kai's president, Norman Nakamura, made a special presentation. A beautiful dance "Udui Kufa Disha," by June J. Konno, was dedicated to him. Roy Yonahara's interpretation enhanced the meaning of the dance. A congratulatory message from Gov. Gunji Nishime of Okinawa was conveyed by Yonahara.

Tony Arakaki is the recording secretary of the *Maui Okinawa Kenjinkai*. He was formerly the principal of *Kahului Elementary-Intermediate School*. This forthcoming September, he'll be the principal of *Wailuku Elementary School*.

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**Uchinanchu**

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# Night Life By Eric Wada

## UOA Enjoys Sadao China Concert

UOA members, young and old, "turned on" to the "home-grown" music of Sadao China in a rare concert appearance in the Garden Lanai of the Ala Moana Hotel on May 6. China graciously agreed to the UOA's request performance during what was intended as a vacation-golfing trip in Hawaii.

Sadao China and his musical group, with a guitar and taiko player, presented various *minyo* numbers and *koten*, or classical music. Only the tinkling of ice in glasses could be heard as the audience sat enthralled by the show. "Njuga Nasakedu Tanumariru," written by China, was one of the crowd's favorite.

Debbie Tamashiro seemed like she was in heaven, as she listened to the concert; later, she remarked "he is so cute, too bad he's married."

The first and more formal part of the show was followed by an equally enjoyable portion of spontaneous dancing by performers and audience members, led by Mr. Oshiro of College Walk Diner. More *kachasi* music enticed people to the dance floor, and everyone "turned on."

The concert also added to the UOA scholarship fund which received all donations for the event. A big *Ippei Nihe Debiru* to China Sadao and his group, and *Mata Mensoree!*



Our columnist on stage in Okinawa



Sadao China at the Ala Moana Americana

## Letter from Okinawa

Night life in Okinawa seems to start on "Okinawan" time; that is, whenever there is an audience. The *minyo* supposedly starts at 9:30 p.m., but the crowd usually arrives at 10 p.m. or later. I guess I've been to all the popular night spots. Nakada Sachiko's club is the most popular, offering a variety show of *minyo*, *buyo* (dance) and comedy plays. Uehara Seikichi's is another in-spot.

The 300th birthday anniversary of Tamagusuku Chokun, who wrote and preserved the classical dances and *kumi udui*, is the inspiration of weekly performances of dances of Okinawa and classical or historical plays. The latter tell about the days of the Ryukyu Kingdom before the Satsuma take-over.

An exhibit of Tamagusuku Cho-

kun's work is on view from June through August. Okinawans hope the performances and the exhibit will mark a renewed interest in the Okinawan cultural arts. The Okinawan will and love of their unique culture is helping the revival after years of suppression and following conformance to Naichi ways.



*The Uchinanchu is proud to introduce a new column, Night Life, featuring Okinawan song and dance events in Hawaii. Eric Wada, a long-time student of the sanshin and odori, will be our columnist. Eric is presently sharpening his talents in Okinawa, and is scheduled to return in August.*



## Japan Air Lines' 30th Anniversary Celebration

Japan Air Lines is celebrating its 30th anniversary of trans-Pacific flight service. Various events are being planned for the community throughout this year in appreciation of the tremendous support given JAL over the many years. The performance of the great Okinawan classic dance master, Yoshiko Majikina, and her troupe will climax all the events. This performance will be on Oct. 6, 1984, at the Neal S. Blaisdell Center

Concert Hall beginning 7 pm. The feature master, Majikina, is the recipient of the Shijuhosho, The Medal with Purple Ribbon, from the Imperial Household for her cultural achievement. She has also performed for Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko. The admission fee will be a nominal \$2 or \$3. Proceeds from this exciting event, sponsored by JAL, will be donated to the UOA.

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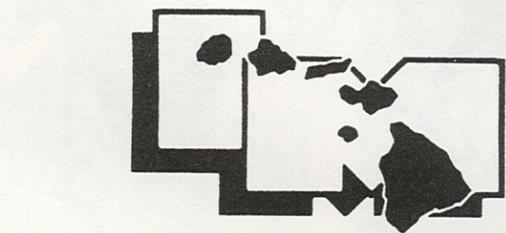


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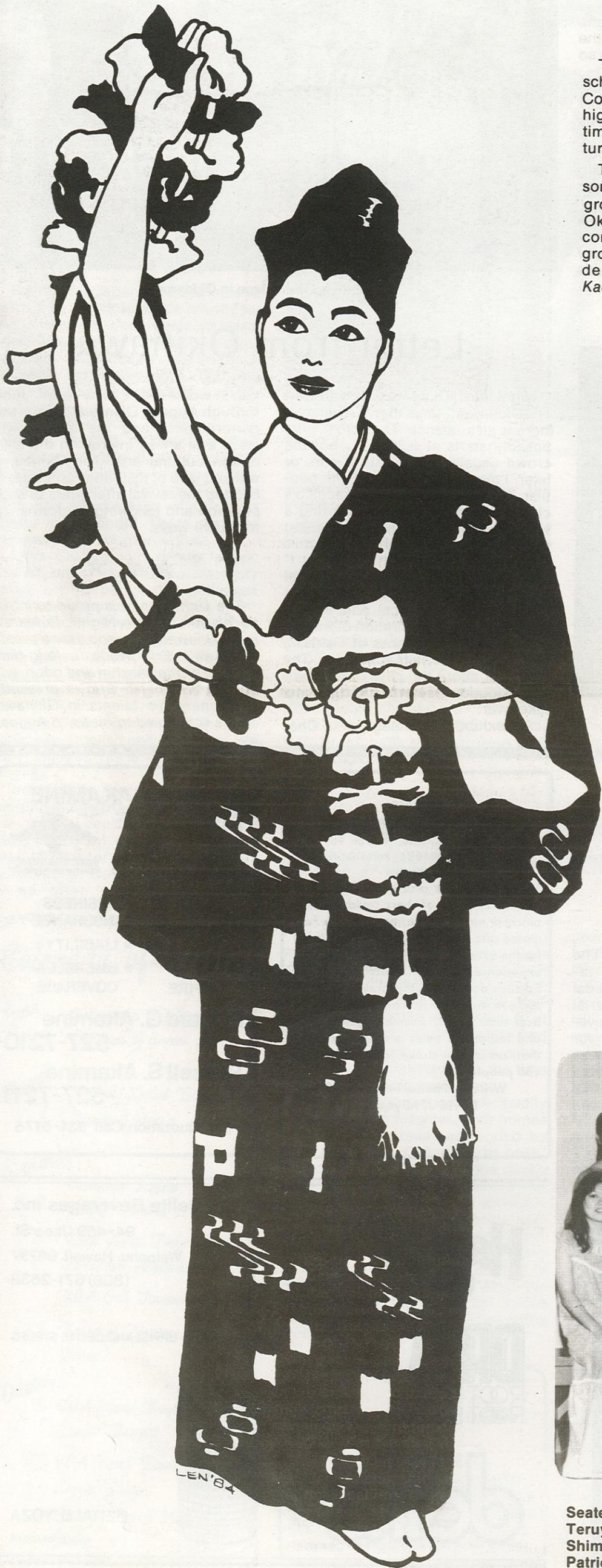
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# 25 YEARS OF STATEHOOD A LIFE TIME OF ALOHA



## General News

The 1984 Okinawan Festival, scheduled for Sept. 1 and 2 at the McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Park, will highlight 25 years of Statehood, a lifetime of Aloha, and "Sharing our culture with Hawaii."

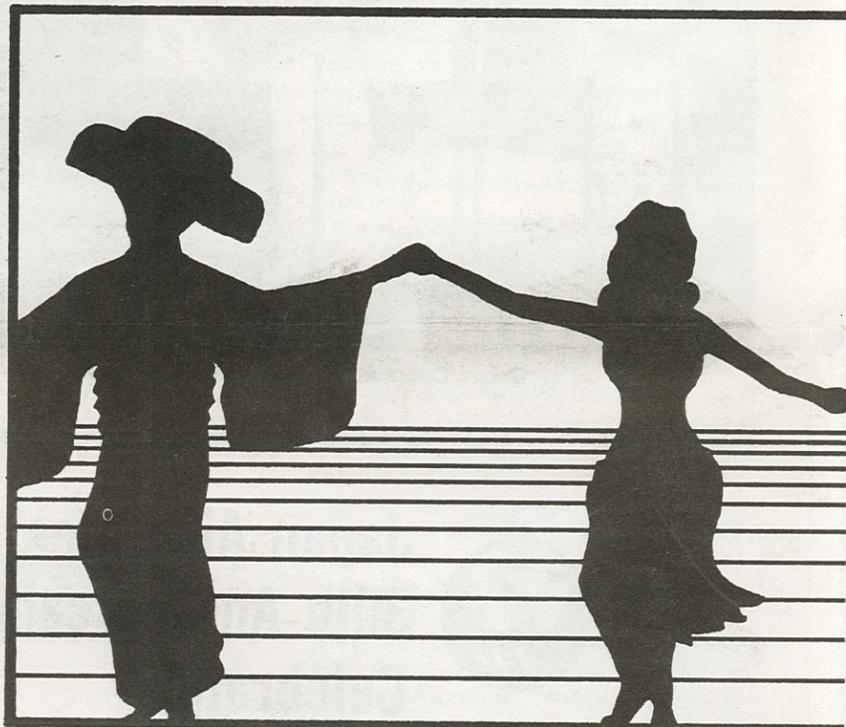
This year's festival will have something of interest for all age groups, including dance groups from Okinawa, a Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri competition, local Okinawan dance groups, various cultural exhibits and demonstrations, Okinawan food, *Kachashi*, an Okinawan drinking

contest, *Matsuri Ondo*, and many others.

Admission is free. Gates will open at 9 am and close at 8:30 pm on Saturday, Sept. 1. On Sunday, Sept. 2, gates will open at 9 am and close at around 6:30 pm.

With over 700 Uchinanchus volunteering their help, a record crowd is expected. *The Okinawans are sure to share their culture with Hawaii, particularly in this 25th year of Statehood.*

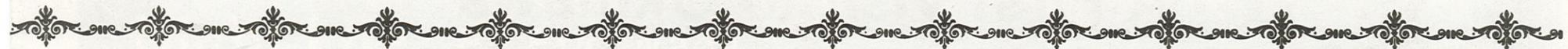
## 1984 OKINAWA "Sharing Our Culture"



*McCoy Pavilion*



Some of the Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri contestants  
Seated (L-R): Susan Mizo, Georgette Gaza, Deborah Tasato, Kellie Gibo, Lori Teruya, Karleen Shiroma, Trudy Nakasone. Standing (L-R): Lani Sadoyama, Jill Shimabukuro, Loree Kaneshiro, Julia Nakasone, Velvet Agena, Janet Kishida, Patricia Tanji, Mayuri Nakasone.



## Food News

Preparations for the food for the Festival are well underway. In addition to last year's extensive menu, we are adding two new items: a barbecue chicken bento and (if available) Okinawan purple sweet potatoes.

No one club or individual can put on a festival, but together, in unity, with many hands helping, we can demonstrate the Okinawan *kokoro* to the community through our Festival.

We are again appealing for your help in the following areas in getting the food ready to be served during the Festival:

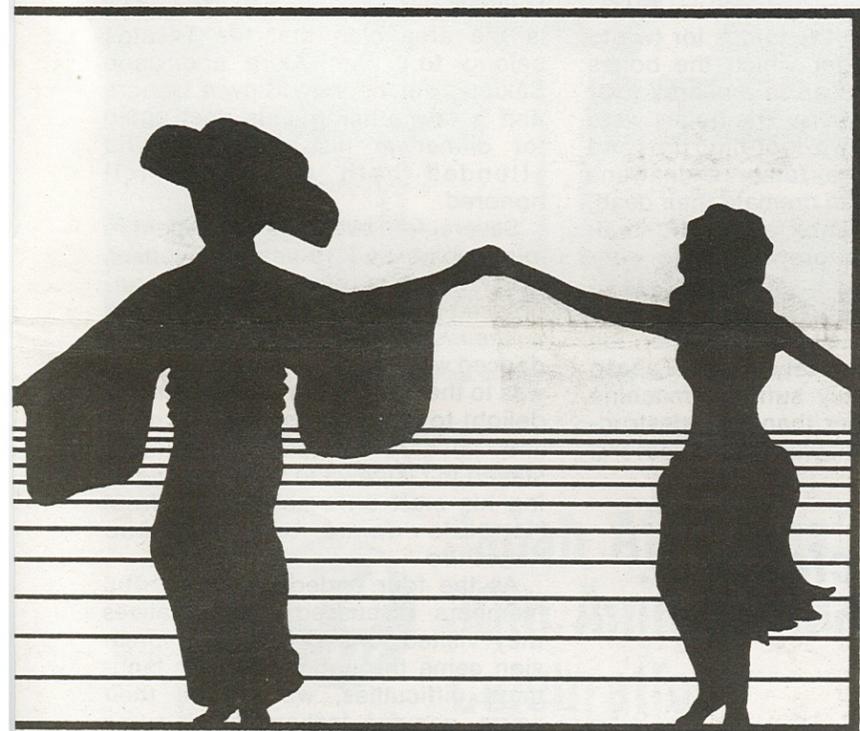
- Cutting and bagging vegetables
- Deboning chicken
- Cleaning *ika*
- Making and packing nantu
- Sushi-making (maki and cone)

**Please volunteer your services!!!**

Call Maxine Nagamine at 373-1943.

## OKINAWAN FESTIVAL

*ture with Hawaii"*



*n • Sept. 1 & 2*

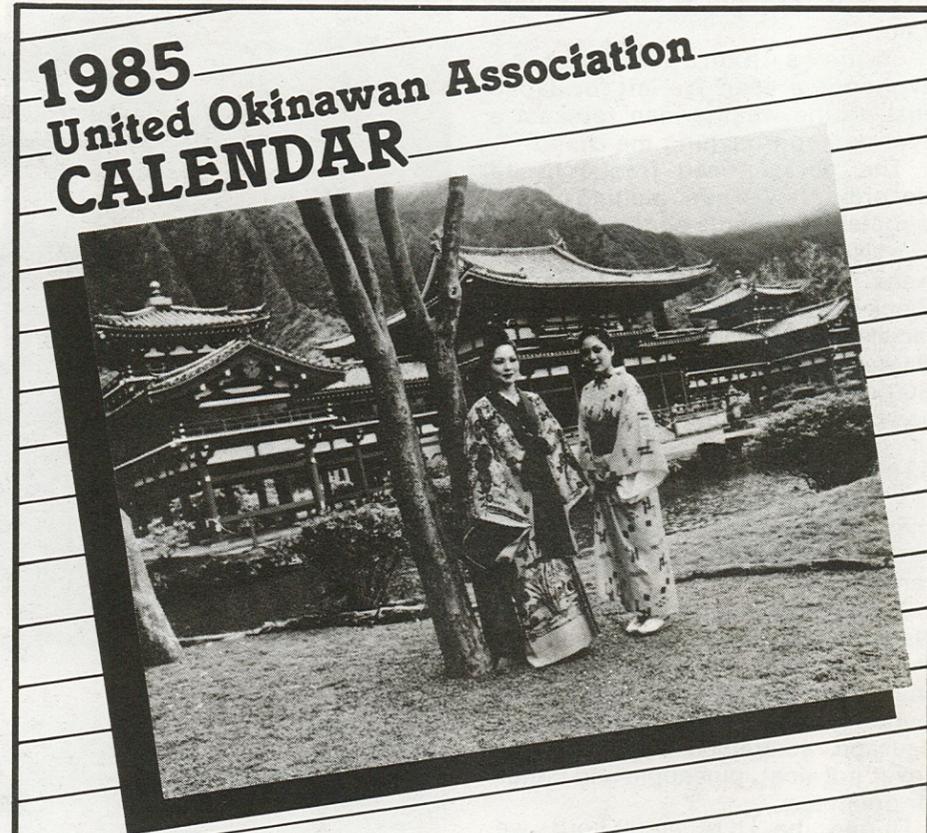
## Talented Contestants to Highlight Unique Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri Cultural Competition

The Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri Competition, to be held on Sept. 1 and 2 at the McCoy Pavilion, is the 1984 UOA Okinawan Festival's unique and colorful feature. This competition highlights the knowledge of Okinawan culture. Each contestant represents a specific village in Okinawa and is required to share her knowledge of the village or of Okinawan culture through dance, music, poetry or creative movement.

The 19 women to vie for the title of Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri who meet the qualifications of female, 18-28 years of age, at least part Okinawan and associated with a club are: Velvet Ann Agena, Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai; Julia Nakasone, Chatan Sonjin

Kai; Deborah Tasato, Ginowan Shijin Kai; Susan Kaneshiro, Goeku Sonjin Kai; Linda Kubo, Gushichan Sonjin Kai; Jill Shimabukuro, Gushikawa Shijin Kai; Mayuri Nakasone, Haneji Club; Lani Sadoyama, Ishikawa Shijin Kai; Judy Uehara, Itoman Nisei Club; Iris Nishihira, Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai; Susan Mizo, Katsuren Chojin Kai; Janet Kishida, Kobashigawa Club; Loree Kaneshiro, Kochinda Sonjin Kai; Patricia Tanji, Minami Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai; Jeanne Furuto, Osato Doshi Kai; Kellie Gibo, Sashiki-Chinen Doshi Kai; Trudy Nakasone, Yagaji Doshi Kai; Lori Teruya, Yomitan Club; and Georgette Gaza, Yonabaru Chojin Kai.

The criteria for selecting the winner



## 1985 United Okinawan Association CALENDAR

PHOTOGRAPHERS  
Rod Kuba • Bruce Lum  
Ricky Shimomura • Michael Young

DESIGNER/ART DIRECTOR  
Lillian Hokama  
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT  
Lynnette Uyesato

This beautiful full-color calendar has been produced in conjunction with the 1984 Okinawan Festival. The 12-page calendar features:

- Historical background of the UOA
- 85th Anniversary of the Okinawan Immigration to Hawaii
- Breathtaking color photos of Okinawan culture and heritage

This is a souvenir you will want to keep or share with others as a gift. The cost is \$3.00 and calendars are available through UOA member clubs and other clubs participating in the festival. Although the club fundraising campaign ends August 18th, calendars will be available through other sources.

If you wish to order by mail, send a check or money order for \$4.00 (\$3 calendar + \$1 postage & handling) to: UOA Calendar/P.O. Box 2076/Honolulu, HI 96805. Checks should be made payable to "UOA Okinawan Festival 1984" and the word "calendar" written on the check. Please allow two weeks for delivery.

JEFF ITOMAN is the chairman of the Calendar Committee. Assisting him are Ruth Adaniya, Warren Higa, Ryokichi Higashionna, Lillian Hokama, Rod Kuba, Judy Nakamura, Akira Sakima, Stanley Takamine, Wayne Takamine, Lynnette Uyesato, Karen Wright, Maurice Yamasato and Lynn Yamashiro.

## HELP!

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SITE: Tom Toma  
524-5143 (b)  
373-9381(r)

of the competition shall be poise, appearance and presentation. Twelve semi-finalists, selected during the first day of the competition, Sept. 1, will compete in the finals on Sunday, Sept. 2.

Forthcoming public appearances to publicize the intent of the competition, which is to promote and perpetuate our unique Okinawan culture, and to increase interest, and participation in the Festival, are Aug. 12 at Ala Moana Center and Aug. 26 at Pearlridge Center, at noon. The women have participated in four major training sessions with outstanding community resources to prepare them for the public appearances and the competition.

# A First Visit to Okinawa

Continued from page 1

June) we all had to buy umbrellas which we used throughout much of the tour through drizzle and light rain.

Okinawa averages over 12 typhoons a year. We left for Japan just as the weatherman forecast a typhoon approaching the island.

The phrase used frequently to describe Hawaii as a "melting pot" of peoples is strongly confirmed when you visit Okinawa and see only Okinawans. The rarely seen Caucasian or Black is probably from a U.S. military facility such as Kadena Air Force Base or Futenma Marine Corps Air Station. There are about 33,000 U.S. service members (or about 5 percent of the total population), and the 62,000 acres used by the U.S. Forces is 20 percent of the total land area of the island. However, wherever we traveled, service personnel were rarely seen.

Eating only Japanese breakfasts at Nansei Kanko Hotel was a novelty for me: miso soup, rice, vegetable salad, fried fish, cooked cabbage, konbu, pickled plums and cucumbers, sausage, scrambled eggs, raw egg (over hot rice), pineapple and coffee or green tea.

During the UOA study tour, we attended lectures on Okinawan history, economy and industry, and arts and crafts by Ryukyu University professors Yoshihiko Teruya, Teruyuki Higa and Etsuko Higa of Christian Junior High School. These sessions definitely proved informative.

Akira Sakima, our group leader, shared much colorful commentary based on his personal experiences and knowledge from previous visits. We often marveled at his ability to speak, and lib, to audiences ranging from government officials to businessmen to tour guides and to us Hawaii folks, and to put everyone at ease through humorous statements and anecdotes spoken in Okinawan, Japanese, English and Hawaiian. We truly enjoyed his commentary and singing!

Incidentally, there were 68 people ranging in age from 16 to 83. Many of the young people came on their own, and most everyone had relatives to visit for first-time meetings or reunions. Older members of the group often shared information



Author with husband, John, at Royal Mausoleum in Shuri

which expanded learning for the young or first-time visitors.

Spunky and witty 83-year-old retired farmer Kohan Agena, from Kula, Maui, enlivened many a bus ride with his singing and lively tales of his youth from horse races to *obake* stories.

Many arts and crafts are still hand-crafted. We saw pottery being made and fired in large outdoor kilns at Yachimun-no—Sato, and beautiful silk kimono cloth-weaving done on floor looms at Haebaru. The multi-colored *bingata* fabric is done similarly to the batik method using wax-resist and different dyes.

The original practice required placing the dead in the tombs for two to three years, after which the bones were washed clean in a nearby river by family members. The bones were then placed in two-foot-high urns and returned to the tomb. Okinawans today more often cremate their dead, and smaller tombs are being built side-by-side in graveyards to conserve land.

The Battle of Okinawa in 1945 caused near-total devastation on the island. Fortunately, the Tasato family tomb only suffered machine gun holes, rather than total destruction. The Okinawans built several

Mayor Ashitomi in Hawaii. (Ginowan is the area club that the Tasatos belong to.) With Akira and Jane Sakima, our nephew Steven Uehara and a few other friends, met again for dinner at his home. All who attended both receptions felt honored.

Several free evenings were spent in *minyō* bars and 19-year-old yonsei, Eric Wada, of our tour group impressed audiences whenever he took a *shamisen* in hand and sang and danced with the regular performers. It was to the performers' and audiences' delight to come across such a young and talented Hawaii person! Eric stayed in Okinawa to continue studying his craft on a scholarship from Honolulu dance teacher Kikue Kaneshiro.

As the tour ended, and as group members discussed their relatives they visited, one prevailing impression came through. Even with language difficulties, we all felt their warm, genuine feelings of welcome and their overwhelming generosity.

Through the Okinawans government's efforts to expose more Hawaii Okinawans to their history and culture, and through Masaru Nakama's (Naka's Travel) friendship with many Okinawan people, we were accorded special lectures and meetings with notable people. Indeed, the tour met its objectives in being culturally and historically informative, as well as thoroughly enjoyable.

Beverly Tasato is a counselor at Honowai Elementary School, and a member of Ginowan Sonjinkai.

*Our warmest aloha to our supporting members who have so generously given to the Uchinanchu fund. It is truly gratifying to receive their strong support and best wishes. Ippe nihee debiru!*

**“...bones were washed clean... then placed in 2-foot-high urns...”**

At the lacquerware shop, the strong smell of lacquer forced some people to rush for fresh air in other parts of the factory. The craftsmen sit on old, low wooden chairs and tables equidistant from each other, working at their specialties. Many pieces had paste-on designs. Understandably, the wares are expensive for the time and effort put into each piece.

Totally new to me were the family burial tombs in hillsides, near homes or in isolated areas surrounded by trees and grass. Called “turtle back” tombs because the tops of the tombs resemble a turtle, these tombs are as large as a one-room house and internally large enough for the body, plus urns of bones of past generations. The tombs have low walls extending forward from the sides, and are said to represent a woman's legs. When the deceased are placed in the tombs they are symbolically returned to the womb.

peace memorials to warn against all future wars. The three-month Battle of Okinawa caused the death of about 100,000 Japanese. We visited memorials at Mabuni-Ga-Oka (“Suicide Hill”) and Himeyuri-No-To, where mass suicide occurred.

We enjoyed two dinner receptions given by Mayor Toguchi of Nago and Mayor Ashitomi of Ginowan. Toguchi had all of us to dinner at the Okura Hotel, where we met local businessmen and his cabinet members. Our palates were exposed to several foods which are traditionally reserved for special occasions or royal families during the Ryukyu Dynasty. Peanut tofu, *mimi-gwa* (thin, slivered pigs' ears in sauce), and pig intestines in clear broth were new foods for some of us. Toguchi had much aloha for Hawaii folks. His daughter, Chikako, is attending the University of Hawaii, majoring in Chinese language.

John and I recently met Ginowan

## Calendar of Events

- July**  
31 Uchinanchu Newsletter  
(1st issue of current year)
- August**  
7 Festival/Special Board of Directors Meeting
- September**  
1-2 Okinawan Festival  
McCoy Pavilion  
3 Naha Dance Performance  
Farrington Auditorium  
UOA Golf Tournament  
11 Board of Directors Meeting  
Gikoen
- October**  
1 UOA Mixed Bowling  
League Banquet  
6 UOA Mixed Bowling  
League Starts  
16 Executive Council Meeting  
Gikoen

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Darlean Kiyokane

# Club News Roundup

News of annual summer picnics and other club events which bring together members, their families and friends enhance the unity among Uchinanchu. Thanks to club reporters for keeping everyone informed a club activities.

**Bito Doshi Kai** welcomes two new families: Ronald and Patricia Higa, and Wayne and Lois Chinen. They'll join members at a picnic on Sunday, Aug. 25, at Kapiolani Park, picnic area 5, next to the tennis courts.

Pres. Dwight Yoshimoto asks members to help in the Okinawan Festival. His numbers are 537-8382 (work) and 941-2979 (home).

**Hawaii Shuri Club's** entry in the Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri competition, Kathy Sumida, is the granddaughter of club founder Seichin Nagayama. Her advisors are Gayle Takamine and Frances Shimabukuro.

Shuri members recently placed first in the Fun Run Division of the Hawaii Festival of Running. Teaming up with Kapiolani Children's Hospital's personnel must have helped!

Shuri proved its power on the volleyball court, too, as its team won its first game in the UOA volleyball league. Coordinator and captain Wayne Takamine and coach Ethan Toyama are proud of members Reuel Toyama, Daryl Hara, Dick Matsumoto, Kent Okano, Dusten Ebesu, Glenn

Shimabukuro, Karen Gushigen, Lynn Yonanza, Shevon Sherod, Denise Higa and Susan Harris.

The club will again be active in UOA Festival activities, manning the pig's feet soup booth on Saturday, Sept. 1, and selling scrips. Volunteers for the booth are asked to call Louise Tamashiro at 841-8047 or 845-1737. Scrips may be purchased by calling Nora Toma at 737-2997.

The club looks forward to awarding an educational scholarship in 1985, as work on a scholarship fund goes forward. More information on this will be given to the members.

The club's annual picnic on Sunday, July 8, at Ala Moana Park was enjoyed by all, thanks to the planning and hard work of the picnic committee.

**Ishikawa Club** had two attractive events — a club picnic on Aug. 12 at Ala Moana Park, and a golf tournament on July 22 at Turtle Bay Hilton, Kuulima.

**Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai's** annual picnic is Aug. 5 at Ala Moana Park, areas 22 and 23. The club's distinctive T-shirts will be sold at \$5 for children and \$6 for adults.

Iris Tamayose Nishihira is representing Kanegusuku in the Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri competition. She's a good representative of the beauty and culture of Okinawan women.

Pres. Ed Kino needs volunteers to

make *nantu* for Okinawan Festival '84. He also asks members to buy scrips which will be sold at the picnic.

**Katsuren Cho Jin Kai's** picnic was Sunday, July 29, at Ala Moana Park.

Representing the club in the Ms. Uchinanchu Matsuri competition is Susan Mizo, daughter of Zensho and Mie Mizo. Susan is a Cannon Business School student.

**Osato Doshi-kai's** summer picnic is set for Sunday, Aug. 5. A fun-filled day is planned from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ala Moana Park, area 13. President David Ishikawa encourages all members to attend and enjoy themselves.

Congratulations to member Karen Oda, recipient of a Hui Makaala one-year scholarship to the University of Hawaii. She is the daughter of Patsy and Harold Oda. Mr. Oda, incidentally, is the cartoonist who does *Chiburu Tales* for the UOA newsletter.

Further congratulations to Isaac Hokama, who is the editor of *Uchinanchu*, the UOA newsletter.

The club is also proud of immediate past-president Lillian Hokama, art director and designer of the 1985 UOA Calendar. The children of Judy and Kenneth Matsumoto—Shirley and Ivan—are shown smiling in the photo for the month of April.

The Hui Makaala Scholarship Fashion Show, "Whispers," will feature fall and holiday fashions by Amos Kotomori on Sept. 23, with a 10 to 11 a.m. boutique and an 11:30 a.m. luncheon/fashion show at the Sheraton Waikiki. General chairperson: Nora Asato. For tickets, call Miyo Takushi at 373-3612 or Clarice Takushi at 373-3387.

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# Isaac's Corner



Isaac Hokama

**UOA Softball.** Yomitan defeated Minami to capture the Second Annual UOA Softball Championship. Coach Norman Arakaki rallied his team for an 11 to 2 victory. Congratulations to both teams for an outstanding season.

Awards were presented at a banquet held at Victoria Inn on May 11. There were more than 250 players and supporters attending, to cap off another successful season under the leadership of Frank Arakaki, Billy Tokuda and their hard-working committee.

**UOA Mixed Handicap League.** Awards banquet will be held on Oct. 1, Monday, at the Pacific Beach Hotel. No-host cocktails start at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:30, and dancing to follow. The league invites anyone wishing to attend. Tickets are \$17. The new league is scheduled to start Oct. 7, 1 p.m., at Classic. For more information call Jan Yokoyama at 455-5209 or 941-7766. The league stats as of July 7 are as follows:

1. Minami Nakagusuku
2. Itoman
3. Young Okinawans (A)
4. Awase
5. Yomitan (B)
6. Kochinda
7. Shuri (A)
8. Hui O Lailima
9. Shuri (B)
10. Nago
11. Onna
12. Yomitan (A)
13. Club Motobu
14. Young Okinawans (B)

**Individual stats:**

- High Average (Men): Shinko Kuniyoshi 175  
(Women): Amy Matano 163
- High Average handicap (Men): Bernie Matano 195  
(Women): Renee Iinuma 192
- High Series (Men): Alex Ikehara 684  
(Women): Cassandra Sherod 671
- High Series 2 (Men): Butch Tohara 462  
(Women): Shirley Senaha 442
- High Series 1 (Men): Loren Goto 271  
(Women): Tracy Ishikawa 260



Les Uyehara receives Governor's Trophy from James Takushi

**UOA Golf.** Another Memorial Day Tournament saw 390 + Okinawan golfers "hacking away" at the Pali and Olomana Golf links. Again, good weather and super course conditions produced some outstanding scores. Average net of all flight winners was 63.6.

Once more, a hole-in-one surfaced, but this time at stake was the use of a brand new Toyota Camray, donated by Servco Pacific. Eddie Shinsato of Osato Doshi Kai aced the 17th at Olomana to claim the car. Congratulations.

Mahalo to Larry Nakama, his committee, and all the sponsors. Special *ippei nihei debiru* to Jimmy Inamine of Okinawa for the 400 golf shirts.

**Special Recognition.** Two prestigious tournaments held annually at the Oahu Country Club were dominated by Okinawans this year. Casey Nakama of Kin Chojinkai took low gross honors at the O.C.C. Invitational, and recently, Les Uyehara of Oroku Azajinkai took match play honors to win the Manoa Cup. Unreal! Keep it up!

**Announcing.** The Labor Day Tournament will be held on Sept. 3, at Olomana. Look for applications at Pali, Ala Wai, Olomana, and Wisteria Restaurant.



Eddie "Ace" Shinsato

**UOA Mixed Volleyball League** opened its second season on June 3 with 16 teams. All games are held at the YBA gym on Pali Highway. Good looks and some talent combine for heavy action, so come down and support your favorite team. The standings as of July 15 are:

DIVISION A	WON	LOSS
Yomitan	4	0
Kochinda	3	1
Urasoe (A)	3	1
Young Okinawans (A)	3	1
Gushikawa (A)	2	2
Aza Gushikawa	1	3
Awase	0	4

DIVISION B	WON	LOSS
Urasoe (B)	4	0
Gushikawa (B)	3	1
Nago	3	1
Naha	2	2
Shuri	2	2
Itoman	1	3
Young Okinawans (B)	1	3
Goeku	0	4

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Masa Ige 146	Masa Ige 122
<b>B Flight:</b>	
Bert Kikuyama 158	Bert Kikuyama 126
<b>C Flight:</b>	
Michael Goya 168	Yasutaka Tengan 120
<b>Women's Flight:</b>	
Jan Shiroma 168	Yoshie Kaneshiro 138
<b>Seniors Flight:</b>	
Fumio Teruya 157	Harry Nakasone 129



1982 UOA Softball Champs

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