

Hawaii Okinawa Center Newsletter May 1990

BANQUET HALL ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS

Reservations are now being accepted by the Hawaii Okinawa Center for usage of its beautiful banquet hall which can accommodate up to 1000 people at a sit-down dinner to 1500 people theatre-style seating for performances.

The banquet hall is available for dates starting

June 23, 1990 through December 1990 and from April through July 1991.

United Okinawa Association Clubs will have priority in selecting weekend dates for their Shinnen Kai parties from January through March 1991.

Up through May 28,

1990, priority bookings for the rest of 1990 will be accepted from United Okinawa Association members only. Thereafter, others will be accommodated.

Any questions or concerns about rates, catering and rental policies, please call 521-1000.

HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER TO HOLD GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION ON JUNE 16 & 17

The Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC), a \$9 million facility located in Waipio-Gentry, will hold its grand opening activities, Saturday, June 16 and Sunday, June 17, according to Albert T. Teruya, chairman of the HOC board and also co-founder of Times Super Markets.

The funds for the cultural center were raised from over 5000 families and businesses from Hawaii and Okinawa. "Over 1000 volunteers sacrificed thousands of



hours to see the project to reality, including Honorary Chairperson Lynne Waihee," said Teruya.

The Hawaii Okinawa Center was established to recognize the sacrifices and courage of the first immigrants who arrived in Hawaii from Okinawa in 1900 in making a better life for later generations. The opening of the Hawaii Okinawa Center coincides with the 90th anniversary celebration

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HOC GRAND OPENING

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of the first immigrants' arrival. "I am excited about the completion and grand opening of the Hawaii Okinawa Center, especially since my own parents were part of the first immigrants to arrive in Hawaii," said Teruya.

The Royal Hawaiian Band will open the celebration at 9 am. Following the band's concert, representatives from 48 United Okinawa Association clubs in Hawaii and their banners will parade through the center's grounds featuring the "Hatagashira," 15-foot bamboo poles with decorative tops at 9:30 am. These symbols of festivity will be the first time it will be seen in Hawaii.

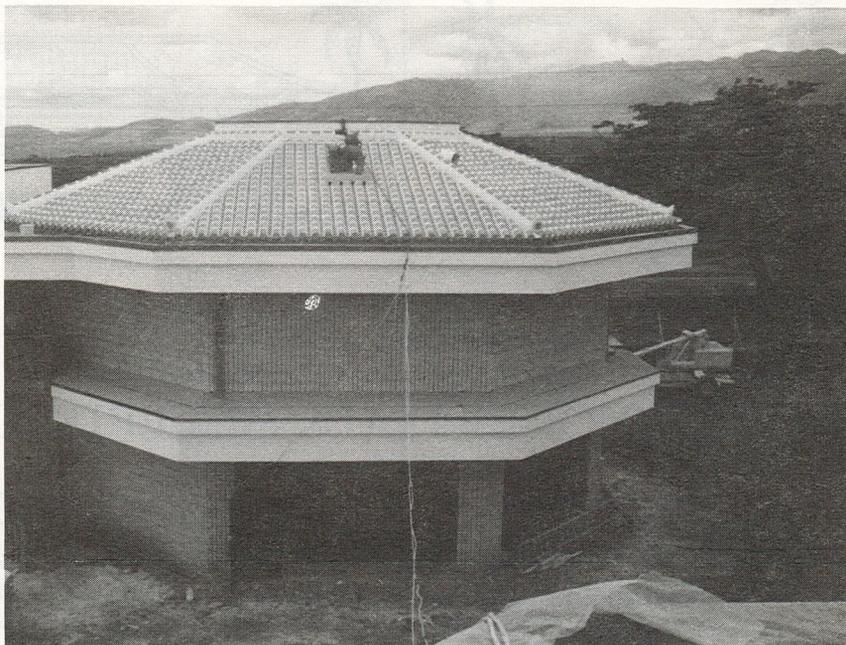
Formal remarks will be made by Governor John Waihee, Governor Junji Nishime of Okinawa and other dignitaries at 10 am. Prior to the untying of the maile lei, the audience will join in singing "Hawaii Aloha."

Entertainment featuring Okinawan song and dance will be performed by local dance academies as well as special dance groups from Okinawa.

Food booths featuring Okinawan specialty foods such as andagi (Okinawan doughnut) and soba (noodles), bento boxes, chili/rice bowls and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Celebration festivities including Okinawan dance, song and food will also continue on Sunday, June 17 from 10 am to 4 pm.

The Hawaii Okinawa Center is the first building outside Okinawa to feature the special Kawara roof tile with a ceramic shiisa (lion) on each rooftop.

The center also features the Takakura Okinawa Gardens, landscaped with native Okinawan trees and flowers. Cascading waterfalls, tranquil ponds, earthen jars, stone bridges, lanterns and



KAWARA ROOF ADDS SHIISA FOR FINISHING TOUCH

The red rooftops of Hawaii Okinawa Center's new pavilion and library/complex were recently completed. Builders added a ceramic shiisa or lion atop each roof to ward off evil spirits and bring prosperity to the cultural center.

basins all add to the authenticity of the gardens. Takakura landscapers have also created a special moss rock wall to represent Hawaii and a Kawara tile wall to represent Okinawa.

The Pavilion's banquet hall/auditorium will provide needed space for banquets, conferences, receptions, cultural shows and performances for the community. A special luncheon to honor some 500 isseis is also planned for Saturday, June 16 at noon, and will be the first time the pavilion and its professional light and sound stage will be used.

Later that evening, a gala reception is planned with a special program featuring karaoke & minyo (folk) singers, dancers and comedians from Okinawa and Hawaii. It will also feature a special performance from Young Okinawans of Hawaii. Some 1000 guests from Okinawa are expected to fly to Hawaii for this special occasion. Also, First Lady Lynne Waihee and Mayor Frank Fasi will participate. Cost of tickets for the

evening reception are \$15. Tickets for both functions are available through UOA club representatives or the Hawaii Okinawa Center office.

The center also features a library/museum complex which will house historical/cultural books on Okinawa or books authored by Okinawans, an Okinawan language center and display artifacts. Private meeting rooms located above the library/museum will be available for seminars and community groups.

The Hawaii Okinawa Center is located on 2.5 acres in Waipio-Gentry. Architect for the center is Maurice Yamasato. General contractors were S&M Sakamoto.

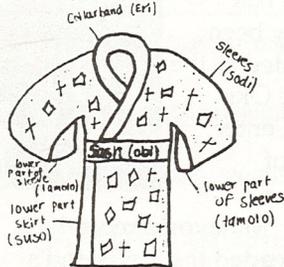
Ample parking for the grand opening will be available in adjacent vacant lots and on the street.

MY OKINAWAN CULTURE

By Karyn Nunes, Seventh Grader
 Pearl City Highland Intermediate School

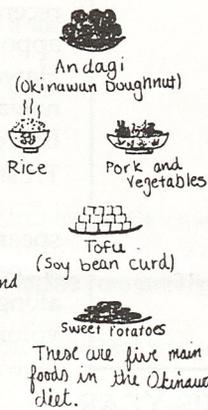
MATERIAL THINGS

CLOTHES



The kimono was used by the Japanese and Okinawans. Men and women both had different colors and prints on their kimonos.

FOOD



These are five main foods in the Okinawan diet.

SHELTER



This is what an 18th century house looked like in Okinawa. Its roof was made of clay. A mezzai of a lion was placed on the roof to chase evil spirits away.

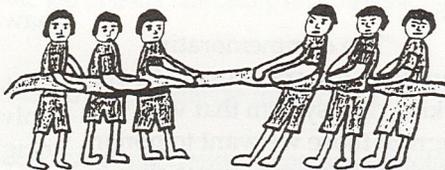
ACTIONS

TEA CEREMONY



The Tea Ceremony was used by the Okinawans and the Japanese. This ritual was practiced monthly. There is also a certain pattern which has to be followed when drinking.

TUG-OF-WAR

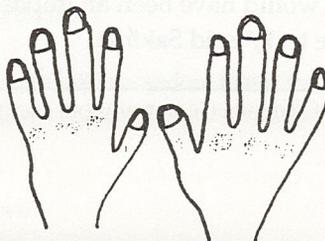


Tug-of-war is a traditional custom followed annually in Mid-June. All the youths of the village participated in it.

VALUES / BELIEFS

TATOONG (HAJICHI)

Tatoong the backs of women's hands who were married, according to folk beliefs, prevented Japanese officials from carrying off the women.

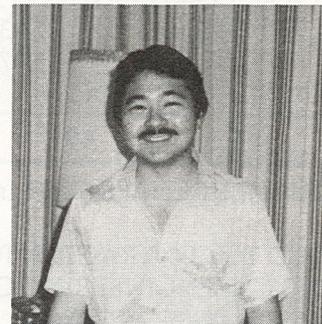


Conclusion

In doing this project I have learned that the Okinawan people are hard-working and peace-loving people. They had to endure many hardships. Their culture was influenced by China, Korea, aboriginal Taiwan, and Japan. In my family, we retain our Okinawan culture by going to special Okinawan gatherings like the Okinawan Festival, donating money to the Okinawan Cultural Center, and by eating many Okinawan foods such as andagi, pork dishes, sweet potatoes, rice, and tofu. The reason we still retain this part of my ethnic culture is because of my grandparents. They stress the importance of our culture and always talk about it. It was through our ancestors' hard work and endurance that we have a good life today.

PROFILE:

PHIL UYEHARA



Phil Kanji Uyehara, age 33, is one of the youngest members of the original Hawaii Okinawa Board, serving as treasurer.

Uyehara, the youngest of four children of Ted Tadamasu and Mabel Akiko Uyehara, took on an early interest in accounting because his father had an accounting business.

Uyehara helped his father at the office during his high school days and then went on to attend the University of Hawaii and graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is currently working toward his CPA license.

The first time Uyehara visited Okinawa was with the United Okinawa Association (UOA) Study Group in 1983. A member of the Itoman Club, he was overwhelmed by the heart-warming welcome he received by his Okinawan relatives. Uyehara, a sansei, also participated in the October 1987 UOA Study Tour.

Over the past years, Phil Uyehara has given many hours of his time keeping HOC's records in order and making financial reports. His contribution to the Okinawan community is immeasurable and like other HOC volunteers, comes from their heart and dedication.

Thank you Phil Uyehara for all your help these past years!

Project to Seek \$2 Million Endowment by 1995

The Board of Trustees has chosen to secure the long-term financial future of the Hawaii Okinawa Center by achieving a \$2 million endowment by 1995 for operations and maintenance.

"The budget clearly shows that it will be necessary to have an endowment," said Bob Nakasone, Executive Director.

Budget projections indicate that the project will operate about \$100,000 to \$150,000 in the deficit each year.

Instead of raising this amount each year through special events and annual giving, the Trustees are looking toward long-term giving to build this endowment.

"We are not planning a campaign or any intensive fund raising effort. What we want to do is make the Okinawan community aware that there is a wide assortment of gift possibilities besides cash and pledges," said Nakasone.

Such gifts include:

Life Insurance provides a donor with the opportunity to make a major gift without incurring a substantial cost. The premiums that a donor pays on a policy that is owned by the project are tax deductible the same way as if that donor had given those premiums in cash.

An insurance gift will provide the Hawaii Okinawa Center with a major

gift in the future, when it is needed.

Cost for an insurance gift is based on the age of the donor and can be as little as \$25 per month for five years (\$1,500) for \$25,000 worth of insurance. There is no need for a physical examination and acceptance is guaranteed.

Pooled Income Funds allow a donor to actually receive income from the gift for as long as the donor and selected beneficiaries are living.

For example - A pooled income fund contribution of \$10,000 could enable the donor deduct as much as 50% of the donor's adjusted gross income, and would

provide the donor with an annual income equal to 7% to 10% of the gift.

Upon the death of the donor and beneficiaries the project will receive either the \$10,000 or income off of the pooled income fund.

Wills and Bequests - Supporters of the Hawaii Okinawa Center could arrange to make a gift from their estate. Any portion of their estate can go to the Hawaii Okinawa Center, from \$5 to the entire estate.

Cash and Pledges - The easiest way to build the endowment is to make an additional gift to it with cash or pledges similar to how funds were raised for the capital campaign.

Ways You Can Help to Preserve the Future of the Hawaii Okinawa Center

Return to: 1188 Bishop Street, #2903, Honolulu, HI 96813

Please send me information on the following "planned giving" possibilities.

_____ **Insurance** - I would like to find a way to make a gift to the Hawaii Okinawa Center without incurring large costs at this time.

_____ **Pooled Income Funds** - I am interested in learning how I can support the Hawaii Okinawa Center for the future and still receive both a tax deduction now and income for the future.

_____ **Wills and Bequests** - I would like to know more about leaving the Hawaii Okinawa Center endowment fund money in my will.

_____ I would like to make the following pledge to the endowment fund \$ _____ each month for the next _____ months.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

March Study Leads Board To Action

In March, the Trustees conducted a survey to learn the attitudes of the donors of the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Below is a summary of each question of the mail survey.

The Board was very pleased that the response rate was 20% instead of the expected 8%. Overall, the response is very positive. Most of those responding were very encouraging. Several people made

suggestions which the board is in the process of implementing.

Survey and focus group results can be obtained by calling 521-1000 and asking for a copy of the report of the survey results.

Question	Yes	No	Maybe
1. Was the Hawaii Okinawa Center a success?	99%	1%	0%
2. Was the fund raising campaign a success?	99%	1%	0%
3. If we had to do it again, would you?	82%	4%	14%
4. Did the project have a positive effect on the Okinawan community?	93%	1%	6%
5. Did the fund raising campaign bring the community together?	91%	2%	7%
6. Is the current commemorative system the best way to recognize donors?	54%	10%	36%
7. Would you consider another commemorative system?	78%	22%	0%
8. Should donors be recognized by the club they belong to?	39%	41%	20%
9. Have the Trustees done an acceptable job of communicating the financial picture of the project to the donors?	90%	10%	0%
10. Have the Trustees done an acceptable job in spending the funds raised?	98%	2%	0%
11. Should UOA members receive preferential consideration in cost and scheduling?	82%	18%	0%
12. Would you consider using the facility for a non-Okinawan event?	66%	9%	25%
13. How many times annually do you attend an Okinawan event?	N/A	N/A	N/A
14. How many times annually would you use the facility?	N/A	N/A	N/A
15. Would you serve on a committee to raise funds to operate and maintain the project?	47%	10%	43%
16. Would you consider a gift of life insurance?	9%	41%	50%
17. Would you consider a bequest or gift in your will?	4%	56%	40%
18. Would you be interested in a trust or pooled income fund?	4%	58%	38%

No Construction Loan Needed???

We have the opportunity to build the cultural center without having to borrow money for construction. Currently, the project owes the contractor \$1,245,141, payable in three installments. So far, cash received from Hawaii and Okinawa has been sufficient to make the payments without borrowing money from our consortium of banks. This has saved thousands of dollars in interest expense.

In order to avoid borrowing funds, we need to generate \$150,000 in May from pledge payments and new gifts.

If you are able to make an extra payment this month, we may be able to build the cultural center without interest cost. We will credit your payments to the pledge you have made. Your cooperation and support are deeply appreciated.

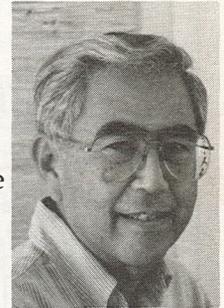
FINANCIAL REPORT

(Estimated as of 5/3/90)

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO DATE	9,012,827
Hawaii	7,039,474
Okinawa	1,973,353
TOTAL PAID PLEDGES	7,299,457
CASH ON HAND	297,042
LAND PURCHASE COST (net)	2,142,656
PAID TO CONTRACTOR TO DATE	3,820,361
DESIGN/ENGINEERING COST	294,077
FUNDRAISING COST	497,806
OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE	58,508
ADMINISTRATION & OTHER COST	189,006
TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT	5,065,502
UNPD CONTRACT AMOUNT	1,245,141
NEXT CONTRACT PAYMENT	389,540

MATAYOSHI NAMED NEW TRUSTEE

Herbert Matayoshi, former Big Island mayor, has recently been appointed to the Hawaii Okinawa Center Board of Trustees.



Matayoshi recently spearheaded the Big Island's successful fund raising campaign along with his team of dedicated volunteers to raise funds for the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

A graduate of the University of Michigan, Matayoshi received his MBA degree from the University of Hawaii. He has also been past president of Hui Okinawa.

As the newest trustee, Matayoshi will bring greater involvement and representation for neighbor island UOA clubs and members.

He and his wife, Mary, are owners of a boutique in Kahala Mall and have four children.

WALL OF HONOR TO BE UNVEILED LATER THIS YEAR

Due to the very large number of donors and the massive job of processing grid sheets for the "Wall of Honor," Akira Sakima, chairman of the commemorative committee has announced the "Wall of Honor" will not be ready for unveiling for the grand opening.

"Since the 'Wall of Honor' is important, we must have sufficient time to do this correctly. We are pleased to have many thousands of donors. This shows the tremendous grass roots support we have for the Hawaii Okinawa

Center. We expect the wall to be completed during our 1990 Okage Sama De celebrations," said Sakima.

"The commemorative committee has spent many hours working on a system that will recognize those we want to honor. The advisory council, your club representatives are working very hard to obtain the necessary information, corrections and revisions. Without these HOC supporters, this would have been an impossible task," said Sakima.

HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER
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