UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

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Transitions and Connections are Key to Installation Banquet

By Arnold Hiura

Each year since 1951, the entity now known as the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) has faithfully gathered to install its slate of incoming officers and advisors. It did so again for the 61st Installation on December 11, as close to 800 members and their guests pushed the limits of the Legacy Ballroom at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) to its maximum sit-down capacity.

In typical HUOA fashion, the luncheon event—combining the swearing in of 2011 HUOA officers with recognition of 2010 Uchinanchu of the Year honorees—turned out to be a celebration of the organization's mission filled with renewed energy, emotion and purpose.

(L-R): Incoming HUOA President Norman Nakasone accepts the ceremonial gavel from Paul Komeiji.

As noted by several speakers, all of the Uchinanchu of the Year honorees—selected by each of the 48 clubs that comprise the HUOA—symbolize the volunteer commitment and spirit that keeps each member club going and, in turn, fuels the success of the HUOA itself.

(L-R): After addressing the crowd, Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle chatted with Hawaii Herald Editor Karleen Chinen and past HUOA President David Arakawa, who spoke on behalf of the United Japanese Society of Hawaii.

Other program highlights included the presentation of the annual Sports Awards, which recognize the champions of the HUOA's popular and highly competitive softball, volleyball, golf, and bowling activities. *Karii* (toasts) to and from the organization, congratulatory messages from Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle, Consul General of Japan Yoshihiko Kamo, and incoming United Japanese Society of Hawaii President David Arakawa, along with remarks by outgoing HUOA President Paul Komeiji and incoming HUOA President Norman Nakasone, capped the formal portion of the program.

The audience was also treated to a diverse slate of top-notch entertainment, featuring the thunderous drumming style of Hawaii Eisa Chimugukuru Daiko led by President and Instructor Van Shimabukuro; heartfelt performances by dancers of Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai Hawaii led by Artistic Director and Sensei Frances Nakachi; and stylish dance moves by Dazzman Shoho Toguchi. Live musical accompaniment was provided throughout the program by the masterful musicians of Ryukyu Koten Afuso Ryu Ongaku Kenkyuu Chochi Kai led by Director Grant "Sandaa" Murata.

2011 Officers and Advisors were sworn in by Judge Rhonda A. Nishimura.

Continued on Page 4

Congratulations to HUOA's 2011 Officers and Advisors!

Seated: Executive Secretary Terry Goya, Vice President Chris Shimabukuro, President-Elect Cyrus Tamashiro, President Norman Nakasone, Vice Presidents George Bartels and Courtney Takara, Assistant Secretary Sandra Yanagi.

Standing: Advisors Jon Itomura, David Arakawa, Maurice Yamasato, Vince Watabu and Valerie Kubota, Japanese Secretary Kumiko Yabe-Domingo, Assistant Treasurer Dane Tonaki, Treasurer Byron Okino, Advisor Ford Chinen, and 2010 President Paul Komeiji.

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President's Message
By Paul Komeiji

おかげさまで

Okage Sama De – Because of you, the past, present and future.

To the 2010 Uchinanchu of the Year award recipients – *Okage Sama De*.

Congratulations for being recognized as the Uchinanchu of the Year award recipient by your club. We are all thankful for the hard work and inspiration that you have provided your club and HUOA throughout the years. Please continue to inspire others with your Uchinanchu pride and spirit.

To the HUOA member clubs and club members - *Okage Sama De*.

During this past year, I have been very fortunate to meet, work and have fun with so many Uchinanchu and Uchinanchu at Heart. From the club Shinnen Enkai and Okinawan Festival to the Haari Boat Festival, the Uchinanchu spirit is alive and being shared everywhere. Please continue to share the Uchinanchu spirit with the entire community.

To the Aza Yogi Doshi Kai club and members – *Okage Sama De*.

The Aza Yogi Doshi Kai club members continue to amaze me with the tremendous support and great attitude in supporting HUOA activities. Starting from the planning of the 2010 Installation Banquet, they have continued to step up at each opportunity to show the vitality and strength of the Uchinanchu spirit of Aza Yogi Doshi Kai. Please continue to support HUOA and the Aza Yogi Doshi Kai activities.

To the Hawaii United Okinawa Association staff – *Okage Sama De*.

The entire staff has provided an incredible amount of support at all HUOA activities, whether they are seen or not. Whether attending meetings that go into the late night, helping set up events early in the morning or a simple hello, the staff has provided a great service to the entire organization and Uchinanchu community.

To the 2010 Executive Council – *Okage Sama De*.

I am very fortunate to have an excellent Council that has collaborated to help guide HUOA this year. With much insight and wisdom, the Council has not only set policy and made decisions but the Council members have "walked the talk" , leading by example in many of the HUOA activities.

To 2011 President Norman Nakasone – *Okage Sama De*.

It has been a privilege to have worked with you during 2011. Your friendship and wisdom has been invaluable in helping guide me throughout the year. I'm sure that your leadership ability, thoughtfulness and Uchinanchu spirit will serve HUOA well in the 2011.

To My Family – *Okage Sama De*.

This year has been a hectic one as I have participated in many functions and activities. Because of your support and inspiration that I continue to preserve and promote the Okinawan culture and Uchinanchu spirit. I hope that one day you'll be able to experience the Uchinanchu spirit as I have.

Unigee sabira—onegai shimasu!

After nearly 10 years of service to researchers, those seeking genealogical information about their grandparents, quick copies needed for a meeting in session, and general office use, our humble, originally donated copier is flagging its demise. Sadly, it is beyond any maintenance (there are no longer parts for it) as it quickly approaches its final farewell.

Therefore, we are humbly making a wish for a new basic (black ink) copier that could be placed on a small cabinet—no complex features required. We're hopeful that someone will hear our plea and call the Hawaii Okinawa Center at 676-5400 with a spark of good news.

UCHINANCHU
Ippee Nifee Deebiru... Mahalo!

Uchinanchu is our voice — the voice of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, its members, and the "home" we all built together, the Hawaii Okinawa Center. By sharing information and experiences, *Uchinanchu* keeps us connected as a family, dedicated to preserving, sharing and perpetuating our Okinawan cultural heritage.

Every dollar donated — along with the valuable income from advertising - helps offset the cost of publishing *Uchinanchu*. HUOA sends a sincere *ippee nifee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

Uchinanchu Donors September 16 to November 30, 2010.

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Nancy Sogawa
Thomas Tamayori

This is *Your* Newsletter

Please send us your club news items and photos.

Email us at info@huoa.org Mahalo!

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UCHINANCHU

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HUOA President ..... Paul Komeiji
Executive Director ..... Jane F. Serikaku
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UCHINANCHU SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight: Mamoru 'Mamo' Kaneshiro

In Japanese, there is a word, "*konasu*" or "*konashi*." It is an interpretive word that your movement and thoughts become a natural part of your persona which you carry with dignity and ease. It is a reflection of a cultivated mind which could possibly equate to success and internal peacefulness.

Such is the person that we Spotlight in this issue of Uchinanchu. He is eighty-four years spry, Mamoru "Mamo" Kaneshiro of Hui Alu, Inc., an HUOA club from Kauai. Mamo continues his long and active career as an independent business person, on the Board of the Kauai County Farm Bureau and a charter member of more than half a decade of the Kalaheo Missionary Church.

Both of Mamo's parents were issei from Gushikawa Village (now Uruma City), Okinawa. His father, Ushi (Aza Kawasaki) arrived in Hawaii in 1909 and his mother, Kana (Aza Iha) in 1912. Mamo was one of 11 children in the Kaneshiro household. From his earliest days, he remembered that everyone worked hard; this was "*atarimai*," a given. First, his parents were assigned to the plantations at Ewa and moved to the plantations at Koloa from 1915 to 1920, until his father began his piggery with an expansion of the business in 1946.

Mamo worked for the HSPA in the early 1950's, then began a grocery store on Kauai in 1953 which included independently peddling his "market" to various remote areas. Ten years later, he became the distributor for Purina chicken feed and in 1966, in a trade with one of his brothers, Mamo officially entered the hog farming industry with his wife, Haruko, and family of two daughters and three sons. Now, nearly a half century later, he sits a bit taller in his chair to say that with his great-granddaughter's participation, five generations of the Kaneshiro Family are connected with the M&H Kaneshiro Farm. Their farm is the largest pork producer in the state.

Sports has always been an important part of Mamo's life on Kauai. Growing up next to Koloa Park, he was part of the infamous "barefoot football" gang. Later, while raising his own children, Mamo served as a Little League coach and umpire and has continued to the present to assist the Pop Warner league's fundraising endeavors. He says that this is where he began his involvement with community activities.

Adding to this heavy load, Mamo was president and an active member of Hui Pono, an Okinawan club on Kauai in 1970 and after the club's merger with Hui Alu, another Okinawan club, he served as the latter's president in 2000.

> Mamo's philosophy, which has enabled him to pursue an active and contributing life, is simple. It is, "One can never forget deeds and benefits bestowed on them and giving back is key."

According to Mamo, it was a very significant year because then-mayor, Maryanne Kusaka of Kauai County, asked Mamo to assist in reaffirming the island's sister-city relationship with Ishigaki City, Okinawa. That year, then-mayor Nagateru Ohama of Ishigaki successfully led a large delegation from Okinawa to Kauai for the ceremonies and celebrations.

Earlier this year, Mamo's granddaughter, Caitlin Towner, and great-grandson, John Medeiros, participated in the Okinawa Prefectural Government's Homestay Program. In their respective essays, both expressed their admiration and respect to the senior Kaneshiros for their values of hard work and family. Their example, also involves the entire Kaneshiro clan to help at the annual Kauai County Fair food booth, Hui Alu's bi-annual Kauai Okinawa Dance Festival and other community endeavors.

Mamo's philosophy, which has enabled him to pursue an active and contributing life, is simple. It is, "One can never forget deeds and benefits bestowed on them and giving back is key." One must maintain the humility of "*Okage Sama De*—Because of You" and expressing one's thankfulness and appreciation adds to the peace, harmony and good fortune to all—stated with a good measure of konashi. For all that you do and the great example you are, *Ippee Nifee Deebiru*, Mamo!

Congratulations 2010 Uchinanchus of the Year!

Never stop pursuing your dreams.
All the best from Ameriprise Financial.

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HUOA STUDY TOUR
2011 WORLDWIDE UCHINA-NCHU TAIKAI

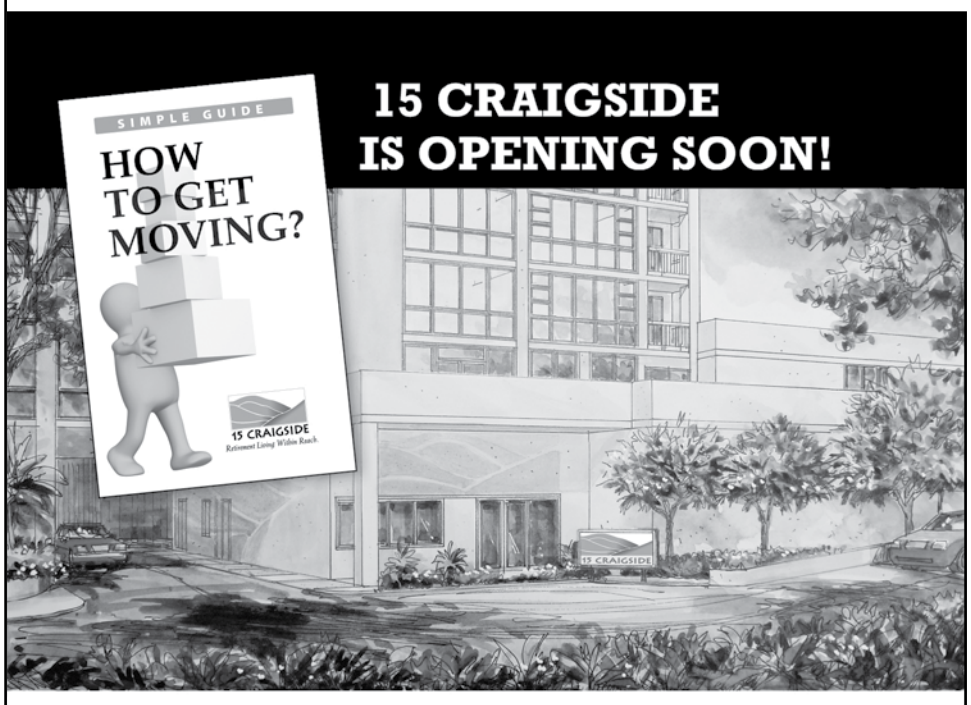
Join 2011 HUOA President Norman Nakasone on the HUOA Study Tour to Okinawa and participate in the 5th Worldwide Uchina-nchu Taikai!

Optional tours will be available for those who wish to travel to Japan after the Taikai, or for those who have been on a Study Tour to Okinawa before and/or if you wish to visit the neighboring islands of Ishigaki and Taketomi.

HUOA Study Tour will leave Hawaii on Sunday, October 9, 2011 and return on Wednesday, October 19th.

Please sign up with Nadine Shimabukuro at
N&K Travel Service : phone – 739-9010
Email – nandktravelservice@hawaii.rr.com

Check our website www.huoa.org for itinerary, cost and application form.



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Continued from page 1

'Hana Nuuzi (Magnificent Rainbow)'

The theme for 2011 is "*Hana Nuuzi* (Magnificent Rainbow): Connecting Our Precious Past to a Bright Future." President Norman Nakasone explained that the theme and calligraphy were crafted by Clarence T. Nakasone after the two had discussed at length Norman's thoughts about taking over the reigns of the dynamic, 40,000-member organization. The theme of a rainbow bridge is all about transitions and bridging change, he said.

The challenge of keeping the HUOA active and viable through difficult economic times has been the focus of the past several administrations. Norman acknowledges that careful fiscal management and a determined fundraising effort will remain high priorities during his tenure—especially the need to keep the organization focused on the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project as the key to the HUOA's future success.

In his remarks, Norman observed, "Over the past several years, HUOA, like many other organizations, has been going through a transition, an evolution, if you will." He views that transition mainly in generational terms and expressed the importance of balancing the organization's past with its future.

It was altogether fitting, therefore, that in introducing Norman to the audience, Emcee Tom Yamamoto also took the time to read a brief but touching message from Norman's son, Brett, commending and encouraging his father to do his best in his new role as HUOA President.

Earlier in the program, at the end of his final message as President, Paul Komeiji was joined at the podium by his three children—Trevor, Kiana and Shane—who sang the song "*Shima Uta*" for the audience.

It is not a coincidence that both Norman and Paul share a strong parental bond with their children and use it as an important motivational tool to drive their efforts to see the HUOA achieve a successful future. "We are ourselves transitional figures," the two agreed after the formal ceremony was over. "We get our inspiration from the sacrifices of those who came before us and see our role as passing our legacy on to the next generation."

In addition to the emphasis on family, Norman and Paul managed to forge a very strong bond over the past year, often traveling and attending functions together. They vowed from the outset to do things together, they explained, in order that Norman be introduced to the many events that take place in Hawaii and abroad. The transition is made all the more seamless, because Norman has experienced so much of it already.

Both men also like to describe their experiences with the HUOA in terms of a journey. Norman explained that he chose an abstracted design of a swallow to adorn the wooden chopsticks that were given out as favors at the luncheon. Swallows are migratory birds, he explained, who find their way home. In his case, Norman was born in Japan, raised in Hawaii, then, through his involvement with the HUOA, found his way back "home" to Okinawa.

Paul's HUOA experience could likewise be described as a journey, although of a different nature. A year ago, he was installed as the first non-Okinawan president in the organization's history. It was a historic moment—and one that stirred considerable conversation.

A year later, the end of Paul's term of office was met with almost complete silence—a silence that speaks volumes of the level of acceptance that he had earned through his hard work and effective leadership. Being "Uchinanchu at heart" is obviously much more than just a fancy catch phrase.

No matter where he went throughout the year, Paul said, he felt completely accepted. In fact, there were a couple of times that people would refer to someone else in his presence as a "non-Okinawan," causing Paul to raise his hand, smile and say, "Hey, that's me, too!" It led to many a good laugh, he recalls.

Change is constant, and the fate of any non-profit organization is often determined by its ability to successfully transition from year to year and to bridge the past with the future. It is reassuring to know that the HUOA can rely on such forward-thinking leaders as Paul Komeiji and Norman Nakasone—true architects of the *Hana Nuuzi*.

2010 Uchinanchu of the Year

Hawaii United Okinawa Association wishes to express its heartfelt appreciation to the following individuals who have contributed unselfishly to the success of their respective clubs and organizations. It is with great pride and pleasure that we honor this wonderful group of individuals. *Ippee Nifee Deebiru*.

Photo by Tyson Yamada

Individual photos and bios available at: www.huoa.org.

- Alice Terumi Narimatsu ..... Awase Doshi Kai
- Kenny and Stella Shimabukuro .....Aza Yogi Doshi Kai
- Kay Mitsue Higa..... Bito Doshi Kai
- Senki and Florence Uyeunten.....Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai
- Kent E. Billings.....Club Motobu
- Darryl Shiroma ..... GazaYonagusuku Doshikai
- David Funakoshi.....Ginowan Shijin Kai
- Lisa Nakama.....Ginoza Sonjin Kai
- Cheryl Tanaka .....Gushichan Sonjin Kai
- Chiyoko Kaneshiro.....Haebaru Club
- Chikako Yamashiro .....Haneji Club
- Senjin and Mary Ueunten ..... Hawaii Sashiki-Chinen Club
- Tina Matano .....Hawaii Shuri-Naka Club
- Jerome Hew..... Hui Alu, Inc.
- Lisa Shishido..... Hui Makaala
- Wendy Yoshimoto ..... Hui O Laulima
- Mildred "Millie" Nakasone Uchima .....Hui Okinawa
- Edwin and Kathleen Toyama .....Kin Chojin Kai
- Katherine Kinue Higa..... Kuba Rosei Kai
- Toshiko Cindy Nishihara .....Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai
- Jean and Stan Seki.....Nago Club
- Ian Tamashiro .....Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai
- Haruko Arakawa.....Nishihara Chojin Kai
- Edwin Kamida.....Okinawa City-Goeku Son
- Roy Kino .....Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii
- Alice M. Masutani ..... Oroku Azajin Kai
- Barbara Akamine.....Oroku Doshi Kai
- Masato and Lynn Tamashiro .....Osato Doshi Kai
- Lorraine Nakamura ..... Urasoe Shijin Kai
- Gene Tadashi Higa.....Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai
- Warren and Elva Furuya .....Yomitan Club
- Arlene Yamamoto ..... Yonabaru Chojin Kai
- Elaine Maemori.....Yonashiro Chojin Kai
- Morris Moribee..... Young Okinawans of Hawaii

Sennin no Sanshin (The Sanshin of a Thousand People)

Imagine 1,000 sanshin players from Hawaii, the mainland USA, and Okinawa marching down Kalakaua Avenue led by Grand Marshal Choichi Terukina Sensei, a famous National Living Treasure of Japan!

As you can guess, we hope there will be 1,000 uta-sanshin participants performing a rendition of Terukina Sensei's composition, "*Mensore*," at the Honolulu Festival on Sunday, March 13, 2011.

We are appreciative of the Honolulu Festival Foundation and its executive director, David Asanuma, for featuring our Okinawan culture through its art of music and, especially, the sanshin.

We invite all Hawaii sensei and leaders of uta-sanshin to participate and share in this historic undertaking. Afuso-ryu Gensei Kai-Hawaii Shibu, Grant Sandaa Murata Sensei, will be coordinating with Terukina Sensei to provide sheet music and a recording of "*Mensore*." There is no more appropriate song to welcome everyone to Hawaii. So, to all of you sanshin players, grab your sanshin and start practicing! We all look forward to an awesome parade of *Sennin no Sanshin*!

Ryukyu Shimpo Geinoo Konkuuru Awards

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) congratulates the following members of our community who competed in the annual *Ryukyu Shimpo Geinoo Konkuuru** in the summer of 2010 and excelled in their respective art and category of award (Shoo):

Ryukyu Shimpo Newspaper Company
Uta-sanshin (Nomura Style):
Saiko Shoo (Supreme/Excellence Award): Seiichi Yagi
Uta-sanshin (Afuso Style)
Yuushuu Shoo (Award of Distinction): Chikako Shimamura & Sean Sadaoka
Buyoo (Classical Dance; Tamagusuku Style)
Yuushuu Shoo (Distinguished Award): Mina Tamashiro
Shinjin Shoo (Newcomer Award): Melissa Uyeunten

The HUOA congratulates each award recipient and their respective instructors for their efforts and sterling achievements. We extend our best wishes for your continued success in carrying on the legacy of our Okinawan community. You are truly our bright hope for the preservation and perpetuation of the Okinawan culture in Hawaii and you've made all of us very proud!

**geinoo*; performing arts
konkuuru; Romanization for and Japanese pronunciation of the French word, concours, which means "a musical competition or contest."

HOT Viewers– Please Take Note

Hawaii Okinawa Today's Air Time and Days Change in 2011

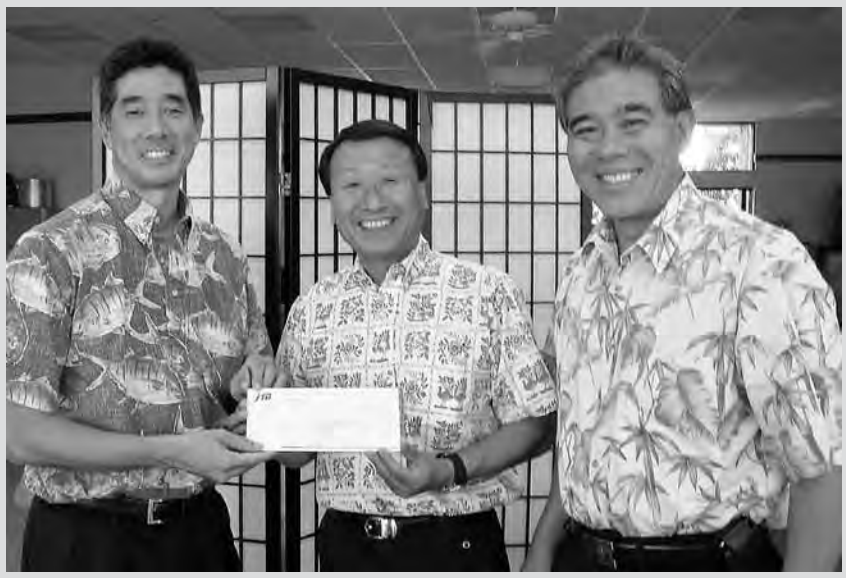
(See new schedule on page 16)

Olelo Community Media has changed the time slot for HUOA's one-hour television program, Hawaii Okinawa Today (HOT). Beginning January 2011, the regular weekly air days for HUOA's HOT shows is changed to Saturdays at 5 p.m. In addition to this time slot, we will also have Premiere or new shows on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. These Premiere shows will repeat the same week in our regular weekly time slot on Saturday. The channel has not changed and our shows will still be aired on Oceanic Channel 53.

This schedule change gives many of our viewers—who have commented that they missed seeing our HOT shows because of work or meetings on Monday evenings—a chance to see our shows. This schedule change also gives us two additional airdates per month. Please inform your relatives and friends of these changes.

We hope you enjoyed our inaugural showing of our new series, *Omoide: Down Memory Lane*, presented on November 22. This short segment featured memorable artistic performances from the 1984 Okinawan Festival held at McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Park. Future *Omoide* segments may include some oral history interviews and more memorable artistic performances that have been nearly forgotten.

JTB Makes Donation to HUOA



(L-R): HUOA President Paul Komeiji accepts a donation check from JTB's David Asanuma, as President-elect Norman Nakasone looks on. Ippee Nifee Deebiru to Japan Travel Bureau Cultural Exchange Corp. for their $2,000 Grant Award to HUOA!

Festival Financial Update

Thank you, again, to everyone who made the 28th Okinawan Festival possible. The following is an update on the festival's financial results. Please keep in mind that the figures below are only estimates at this time. Although most invoices have already been paid, some are still trickling in that will ultimately impact the bottom line.

Gross Revenue	$690,400
Total Expenses	$534,250
Net income	$156,140
Less:	
Club Grants*	$ 62,640
Net to HUOA	$ 93,500

The $93,500 compares favorably to the $83,254.95 netted by HUOA in 2009.

Congratulations to all on another financially successful event!

*Amount distributed to clubs for their share of pre-festival sale of scrips.

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Winter Craft Fair Attracts Holiday Shoppers

By Cyrus Tamashiro, Chair

One hundred thirty-five customers were in line at 8:30 a.m. on Purple Saturday, November 27, gladly donating $5 to gain early admission to the HUOA's Winter Craft Fair at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. These experienced shoppers knew that they would have an easier time maneuvering among craft fair vendors with a 30-minute head start. Within minutes of the official opening at 9, the Legacy Ballroom was filled to capacity! Our Winter Craft Fair enjoyed good crowds, undeterred by intermittent showers, on both November 27 and 28.

In our parking lot, vendors under tents and canopies were doing a brisk business selling clothing, jewelry, plants and food. Iliahi Elementary School teacher Tom Yamamoto and students from Leilehua High School sold coffee products and gift items as a fundraiser. Masako Nishihara enlisted husband Larry Nishihara and daughter Laura Nakasone to sell her home sewn "happy wear" using Okinawan print designs. Our HOC volunteer gardeners proudly displayed lush greenery at their plant sale and HOC crafters offered their handiwork as well. Members of Ginowan Shijin Kai, Urasoe Shijin Kai, Oroku Azajin Kai and Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai cooked/sold delicious andagi for shoppers. The eclectic mix of vendors offered a wide array of merchandise. Some of the unique products included nursing and infant clothing and accessories, pet clothes and treats, handcrafted jewelry, calligraphy art and gourmet items.

Craft fair shoppers came to buy–not just look.

Vendors are happy to return to our craft fairs because of the wonderful atmosphere and service we provide. Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club members helped vendors to unload their vehicles and transport merchandise to their selling spaces upon arrival. Bento delivery service was offered to crafters so that they could concentrate on selling. Ladies from Hui O Laulima served as greeters and assisted shoppers with baby strollers. Our "disc jockeys" Jon Itomura (Saturday) and Dave Arakawa (Sunday) promoted businesses and kept shoppers in a buying mood with their friendly "on air" patter. Live entertainment was provided by Wayne Takamine, Bobby Ingano and Derek Asato. Santa Claus (Fred Shinsato) delighted the keiki as he passed out candy canes and posed for photos. In keeping with our tradition of community service, we collected canned goods for the Hawaii Foodbank and had a tent for the Bone Marrow Registry.

A common observation by vendors is that the customers at our craft fairs come to buy, not just window shop. Thank you customers! Our vendors are very loyal to our craft fairs and generously donated nearly 200 items for the Silent Auction, which helped to raise funds for the HUOA.

Members of Kita Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai, Kochinda Chojin Kai, Kuba Rosei Kai and Nago Club worked well as a team to plan, organize and present the 2010 Winter Craft Fair. Committee members included Stan & Chris Higa, James & Shari Higa, David Tokuda, Jane Martin, Loretta Tokuda, Bob Asato, Franklin Yogi, Daniel Arakaki, Sakaye Nomura, Pat Nohara Ho, Steve & Linda Kunihisa, Wayne Miyashiro, Kristin Higa, Helen Ginoza, Gloria Takara and Cyrus Tamashiro. The Committee thanks Advisor Karen Kuba-Hori for providing us with the guidance, support and "game plan" to help us successfully carry out our mission.

The Winter Craft Fair provides clubs with a great opportunity for its members to bond by working together on a worthwhile and fun project. It's also wonderful to work with Uchinanchu and Uchinanchu-at-Heart from our sister clubs.

Happy Holidays!

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The Hawaii United Okinawa Association would like to acknowledge the following individuals, organizations and companies who have donated or pledged to our Capital Campaign. We are grateful for your support and the confidence you have displayed through your generous donation. *Magukuru kara ippee nifee deebiru* – from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed were received from September 16, 2010 to November 30, 2010.

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September 16 – November 30, 2010

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(Thank you for donating your vehicle to HUOA.)

Robert & Edith Araki

2009 to 2010–Annual Fund Drive

Preserving Our Legacy

Okage Sama De – simple words with a powerful message, "because of you."

Because of you, twenty years ago the members of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association built our Hawaii Okinawa Center, to honor our Issei. We wanted to create a testament to honor their legacy and to build a gathering place for the preservation and perpetuation of our Okinawan culture.

In November, President Paul Komeiji alongside sixty members of our organization labeled, stuffed, licked and organized over 10,000 annual fund drive letters – their goal, to remind our membership and friends that the Hawaii Okinawa Center and the HUOA needs their tax-deductible financial assistance.

We were humbled and extremely grateful of your response. In a few short weeks over 350 individual donations were received, representing $36,335. To our donors below thank you for joining our "preserving our legacy" family and helping us to ensure our culture for future generations. Our campaign is just beginning – because of you, we have a wonderful beginning.

A special *"mahalo"* to the following individuals and organizations that have generously contributed towards the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and its Center.

The following donations were received from October 1, 2010 to November 30, 2010.

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Preserving Our Legacy

2009 to 2010–Annual Fund Drive

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Continued on page 11

Book Review: 'The Promise to Hokuzan' Blends History, Culture

Combining recorded and oral history with deductive theories, Pattie H. Miyashiro recently authored the publication, "*The Promise to Hokuzan*."

The book begins with the goddess Amamikyu's creation of the islands of the Ryukyu. Then, the chapters open to a time, 600 years ago, and follows the life of Lady Makadogane, consort to King Han Anchi. The King dies at the fall of the Hokuzan Kingdom, but Lady Makadogane relentlessly fights to overcome betrayal and unexpected obstacles for the survival of her children.

Interwoven throughout the story is what Pattie believes is the foundation of what can be defined as the Okinawan ethnic identity. Specifically, this belief includes what our ancestors respected and valued: family, nature and the spirit that embraces everyone and everything.

This fascinating book includes Pattie's personal encounters and photos taken on her trips to Okinawa. She was also provided with extensive information by the Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii (OGSH), an affiliate member of the HUOA that has been instrumental in connecting families and providing information about villages that the first immigrants called home. The initial reaction to the book has been positive and enthusiastic. It may encourage the reader to consider the ancient beginnings of their own families.

"The Promise to Hokuzan" is available at the HOC Gift Shop for $21 per copy. A portion of its sales will benefit the operations of the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Aiea High School Senior Presents: Preserving Our Performing Arts

Carly Namihira is a yonsei whose paternal and maternal great-grandparents immigrated to Hawaii from Tomigusuku, Oroku and Aza Gushikawa. Carly, a senior at Aiea High School, is taking on an ambitious project of presenting a unique fundraiser on behalf of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association while fulfilling a DOE high school requirement to qualify her to graduate with honors.

On January 30, 2011, Carly will present, *UCHINAA JI-NO-GUKURU MAMUTI IKANA* (Protecting the spirit of the Okinawan performing arts), which combines a premiere showing of her video-documentary, *The Struggle to Preserve Our Identity*, and a presentation of a live concert of Hawaii's traditional Okinawan performing arts to support her project.

Carly has been an avid and longstanding member of the Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko Hawaii Shibu and the Afuso Ryu Ongaku Choichi Kai-Hawaii Shibu. In June 2010, she participated in the Okinawa-Hawaii High School Exchange Program and spent two weeks with a host family and three weeks with family in Okinawa. She said that a prevalent observation made on this trip and in attending classes with her counterparts in Okinawa was that very few of her peers had any interest or strong conviction to the traditional performing arts. Rather, the younger people there, especially of her age group, were more concerned with becoming "Westernized." This prompted Carly to begin interviewing various performing arts sensei in Okinawa. After returning to Hawaii, she continued interviewing and recording sensei in Hawaii for their comments and concerns about the perpetuation of the performing arts.

To support her endeavor, Carly has enlisted the generous assistance of the Afuso Ryu Ongaku Choichi Kai-Hawaii Shibu, the Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai-Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo, and the Young Okinawans of Hawaii Shishimai group for volunteering their performances to fulfill yet another goal in this project which is to help fundraise for the care of HUOA's home, the 20+ year-old Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Carly's project mirrors HUOA's goals which are to preserve, perpetuate and promote the Okinawan culture. *UCHINAA JI-NO-GUKURU MAMUTI IKANA* is being sponsored by the HUOA. Tickets for this presentation are $10 per adult and $8 per student and are available at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Please call the Hawaii Okinawa Center at 676-5400 for more information.

HOST STUDENTS NEEDED! APPLICATIONS DUE JANUARY 14

The HUOA is seeking 25 Oahu high school students who would like to host one or two students from Okinawa (10th and 11th graders) from Saturday, February 26-Wednesday, March 9, 2011. There are 21 girls and 4 boys in the group. The Okinawan students will be on the Big Island from March 9-11, 2011. They will return On March 11 and stay overnight at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) before flying back to Okinawa on March 12. There will be an Aloha Party for the students and host families on Friday, March 11, at the HOC.

For the past 20 years, the Hawaii State Department of Education has participated in the Hawaii-Okinawa High School Student Exchange Program with the Okinawa Prefectural Government. This year, however, since there has been no funding allocated from the State Legislature for this Sister-State Project, the HUOA has adopted this 21st Annual Student Exchange Program.

We anticipate that the cost of this project will be approximately $6,000–$8,000 to provide all bus transportation, field trip costs to the Polynesian Cultural Center and other sites, hosting the Welcome Luncheon, Aloha Dinner, and to serve our guests breakfast on their last day before departure, along with other expenses. If you know of any individual, group or business that would consider joining us in sponsoring this very, very worthwhile High School Student Exchange Program, please encourage them to email:

edhuoa@hawaii.rr.com, or call Jane Serikaku at 676-5400. Mahalo for your help.

Application forms and information about the High School Exchange Program are on our website: www.huoa.org. Deadline to register to be a host student: January 14, 2011.

2009 to 2010–Annual Fund Drive

Preserving Our Legacy

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Sports Corner

HUOA Sports Trophies Presented at Installation Banquet

(L-R): Hui Alu's Royce Ebesu accepted the award for Layne Morita, HUOA Goodwill Golf Tournament Champion; Inamine Golf Cup – Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai, represented by Kaaren Takara; Mixed Handicap Bowling League Champs – Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai, Team II, represented by Tomomi Shimabukuro; Invitational Softball Slow-Pitch – Itoman Shijin Kai, represented by Kazuo Uyehara; Mixed Volleyball Team Champs – Nakagusuku Sonjin kai, represented by Denise Liu.

HUOA Bowling Banquet

HUOA bowlers shed their red bowling shirts and arrived at Natsunoya Tea House dressed to celebrate the end of another successful Bowling Season. Mahalo to the hard-working officers: President Ellen Ishikawa, Vice President Carl Nakata, and Secretary-Treasurer Germaine Kiyomoto-Isara for ensuring that the League ran smoothly. In fact, since they did such a fabulous job all season, they were voted in to continue as next season's officers!

Nakagusuku II walked off with the coveted trophy as the Champs, followed by Umaku Dushi, Aza Gushikawa III, Go-Tama, Katsuren, Onna, Nakagusuku I, Young Nakagusuku, Dushi Guata and Aza Gushikawa.

Bowling season has begun again – come down to Leeward Bowl on Sundays 1:30 – 4 p.m. to cheer your team on or check us out – perhaps you want to join us as a sub bowler!

HUOA Mixed Handicap Bowling League

HUOA Bowling champs: Nakagusuku II receive their trophy from President Paul Komeiji: Emma Ahakuelo, Alan Kroll, Vanessa Kroll and Roberta Abe. Missing: Thayer and MaryAnn Goya

Final Individual Results October 2010

MEN–

Handicap Average	Masao Shiroma	204.36
High Handicap Series	Howard Kaneshiro	793
High Handicap Single	Wally Yoshitsugu	292
Scratch Average	George Tamashiro	201.92
High Series	Carl Nakata	660
High Single	Edgardo Olegario	265

Club News

Our Clubs, Our Future

Surprise Performance by Iha 4 Sisters Highlights YOH Senior Luncheon

The energetic and dedicated members of the Young Okinawans of Hawaii (YOH) arrived at the Hawaii Okinawa Center at 10:30 p.m. Friday to set up the tables, chairs and decorations to get ready for the ever popular annual YOH Holiday Senior Luncheon.

On Sunday, more than 400 seniors were treated royally by volunteers from YOH, the HUOA Executive Council, Hui O Laulima, Punahou Japanese Okinawan Club, and others who continuously served hot tea, water and bento to everyone. The guests also enjoyed the special red and green Christmas andagi mixed and cooked by Hawaii Taiko Kai.

The appreciative seniors enjoyed the odori performance by Tamagusuku Ryu Senjukai Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo, lunchtime entertainment by Okinawa Minyo Kyokai Wakugawa Dojo, Derek Ichiro Shiroma Kenkyusho with Urizun, Nuuanu Okinawa Shorinryu-Shindenryu Karate Club, and, of course, YOH's own Shishi mai performers.

The surprise for day was the appearance of the Iha 4 Sisters from Okinawa who volunteered their time to the delight of the audience. Of course, the day ended with the 4 Sisters engaging everyone with their lively kachashi music!

President David Miyashiro and the members of YOH did a fantastic job treating our seniors to a fabulous Holiday Luncheon. Mahalo, YOH!

Hui Okinawa News

By Margaret Torigoe, President

Our Bonenkai was postponed to December 19. We look forward to a nice Christmasy gathering. Club awards will be presented as well as the election of our Board of Directors.

The Shinnen Enkai and Keirokai for 2011 will be held on January 23 at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. We look forward to honoring our new Koreisha and installing the new officers of the club.

Please check the HUOA website for our latest newsletter, which includes additional information on all that we are doing. If you have any questions, or want to join us for events, please contact Margaret Torigoe at 895-0994, or email: matori58@msn.com.

WOMEN–

Handicap Average	Kathy Kageno	203.67
High Handicap Series	Ashley Shimabukuro	729
High Handicap Single	Charlie Nakama	291
Scratch Average	Debra Hirata	163.56
High Series	Jane Serikaku	569
High Single	Tomomi Shimabukuro	226

HUOA bowlers had fun dressing up for our Halloween Bowling Day. How can they bowl a 300 game dressed like that?

2011 Shinnen Enkai (New Year's Celebration) Schedule

(as of 12/3/10)

Member Club	Date	Day	Time	Location
Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai	1/29/11	Sat	5:30pm	Jikoen Temple
Aza Yogi Doshi Kai	3/13/11	Sun	4:30-registration, 6pm-dinner	Masa's Cafeteria
Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai	3/5/11	Sat	5:00pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai	3/12/11	Sat	6:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Ginowan Shijin Kai	3/26/11	Sat	5:00pm-hospitality, 5:45p-dinner	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Ginoza Sonjin Kai	2/27/11	Sun	5:30pm	Ige's 19th Puka
Gushichan Sonjin Kai	2/26/11	Sat	6:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Gushikawa Shijin Kai	1/29/11	Sat	5:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Haneji Club	2/20/11	Sun	5:00pm-registration	Victoria Inn
Hawaii Katsuren Chojin Kai	3/5/11	Sat	6:00pm-dinner	Natsunoya
Hawaii Sashiki-Chinen Doshi Kai	3/19/11	Sat	5:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Hawaii Shuri - Naha Club	2/27/11	Sun	10am-2pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Hui Alu Inc.	2/20/11	Sun	11:30am	Kauai Veteran's Center
Hui Okinawa	1/23/11	Sun	10:30am-2pm	Aunty Sally's Luau Hale
Hui Uruma	3/5/11	Sat	11:30am	Honokaa Hongwanji
Ishikawa Shijin Kai	2/26/11	Sat	5:00pm	Pearl Country Club-Pavillion
Itoman Shijin Kai	3/5/11	Sat	5:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai	2/13/11	Sun	4:00pm	Victoria Inn
Kin Chojin Kai	2/5/11	Sat	6:00pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Kita Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai	2/20/11	Sun	5:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Kochinda Chojin Kai	2/5/11	Sat	5:30pm	Victoria Inn
Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai	2/26/11	Sat	4:30pm-cocktails, 5:00pm-honorees, 6:00pm-dinner/entertainment	Hawaii Jodo Mission Hall
Kuba Rosei Kai	3/20/11	Sun	11:00am-lunch	Masa's Cafeteria
Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai	3/12/11	Sat	5:00pm-dinner	MOKK
Nago Club	1/16/11	Sun	5:00-10:00pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai	1/30/11	Sun	10:00am-2:00pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Nishihara Chojin Kai	2/5/11	Sat	4:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Okinawa City-Goeku Son	3/19/11	Sat	4:30pm	Natsunoya
Onna Sonjin Kai	2/26/11	Sat	5:00pm	Pearl Country Club-Pavillion
Oroku Aza Jin Kai	3/6/11	Sun	10:00am-2:00pm	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Oroku Doshi Kai	3/19/11	Sat	11:00am	Tree Tops
Osato Doshi Kai	3/6/11	Sun	11:00am-2:00pm	Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii
Tamagusuku Club	3/6/11	Sun	4:30pm-cocktails, 5:30pm-dinner	Masa's Cafeteria
Tomigusuku Sonjin Kai	2/26/11	Sat	5:00pm-start, 6pm-dinner	Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii
Urasoe Shijin Kai	2/12/11	Sat	5:30-10:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai	2/27/11	Sun	11:00am-2:00pm	Dot's Inn Wahiawa
Yomitan Club	2/20/11	Sun	5:00pm-dinner	Hawaii Okinawa Center
Yonabaru Chojin Kai	2/20/11	Sun	5:00pm	Masa's Cafeteria
Yonashiro Chojin Kai	2/19/11	Sat	5:30pm	Masa's Cafeteria

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Wishing you a Happy New Year!

Senator Jill Tokuda, with her husband Kyle Michibata and their sons Matt Akira Michibata (2 yrs) and Aden Kenjiro Michibata (10 mos)

As a yonsei with roots that proudly trace back to Gushikawa, Oroku, Goeku & Tomigusuku, I once again look forward to sharing our rich history and culture with my two young sons!

Mahalo,
Senator Jill Naomi Tokuda
District 24
Kaneohe, Kailua & Enchanted Lakes

Paid for by the Friends of Jill Tokuda, PO Box 6068, Kaneohe, HI 96744
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Successful '*Ukaji Deebiru*' Concert Benefits HUOA

HUOA President Paul Komeiji (left) and President-elect Norman Nakasone with Frances Nakachi Sensei. The men are holding dance implements called jinnai that were used in the Finale. These red-and-white striped sticks have bells tied to them, although the bells were originally coins. When sounded, they symbolize the emergence of good fortune, wealth and happiness. The red-and-white represent the auspiciousness of the implement and occasion where it is used.

The HUOA expresses its heartfelt appreciation to Frances Nakachi Sensei and members and supporters of the Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai-Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo for their successful charity dance concert, *Ukaji Deebiru~Because of You*, on November 7 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

The concert was staged to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Hawaii Okinawa Center and to feature two members who competed in the Ryukyu Shimpo's performing arts konkuru (concours) and to celebrate the recognition they received at that prestigious event. Members Mina Tamashiro received the *Yuushuu Shoo* (Distinguished Award) and Melissa Uyeunten received the *Shinjin Shoo* (Newcomer Award).

Our big mahalo to Nakachi Sensei and her members; the HUOA is grateful your efforts and extend our best wishes that the good fortune and happiness will return in manifold to all who participated and supported the *Ukaji Deebiru* concert.

Okinawan-owned Restaurants Reap 'Hall of Fame' Honors

In 2007, the Hawaii Restaurant Association (HRA) celebrated its 60th anniversary by establishing a Hawaii Restaurant Hall of Fame. Four of the original 10 inductees included in that very first group of "legacy" establishments were owned and operated by individuals or families of Okinawan ancestry.

A new class of inductees has been selected each year since 2007, based on the restaurant's contributions to the image and quality of the restaurant and food- service industry in Hawaii; service to the industry through civic, philanthropic or educational outreach; and dedication and commitment to the growth of the industry. Okinawan-owned restaurants that have been inducted into the Hawaii Restaurant Hall of Fame are:

2007: Roy and Jane Asato, KC Drive-In and Wisteria Restaurant; Steve Nagamine, Flamingo Restaurants; Tosh Kaneshiro, Columbia Inn; Charlie and Francis Higa, Zippy's

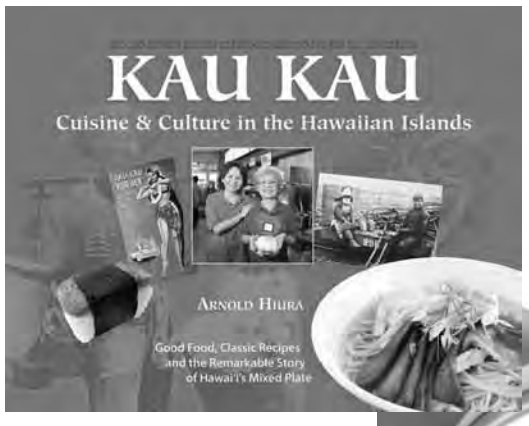
2008: Robert Taira, King's Bakery

2009: None

2010: Seiichi & Sachiko Toguchi, Highway Inn; Seiju & Ayako Ifuku, Rainbow Drive In; Roy Yamaguchi, Roy's; Lynne, Charles & Kirk Toma, Sam Sato's

Zippy's: A Mixed Plate Of Tradition And Innovation

Excerpted, with permission, from Kau Kau: Cuisine and Culture in the Hawaiian Islands, by Arnold Hiura, Watermark Publishing, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2009.



In an informal email poll, college students from Hawaii attending schools on the Mainland were asked, "Where is the last place you go to eat when you're leaving Hawaii?" and "Where is the first place you go to eat when you return?" The poll resulted in a list of diverse places, but the clear winner—not surprisingly—was Zippy's. While many longtime local establishments struggle to survive, Zippy's has evolved from its origins as a single McCully area eatery in 1966 to a chain of 24 restaurants in 2009. Founded by brothers Charles and Francis Higa, Zippy's has thrived on a simple-yet- effective formula melding tradition and innovation.

Charles, who continued to lead the company after Francis' death in 1999, reflects on his family's humble roots with great appreciation. His father, Yeiko Higa, worked at a Chinese market, while his mother, Kameko, stayed home to raise the couple's four boys. They ate what they could get back then, Charles explained. His father brought home less-than-premium items like pork fat, beef tongue, pig's feet or chicken feet from his job at the market.

There was enough room behind their Nu'uanu house for the boys to raise goats, rabbits and chickens. "All parts of the animal were used," Charles said. And, always, a little meat was mixed with lots of vegetables to stretch what they had. "All kinds of soup," Charles recalled. "Chicken soup ... goat soup ..."

Rather than shame or regret, Charles said, "I feel glad that I had such a background. I think we were fortunate, really, because today's kids didn't go through that. I think it makes you strive to do better."

In 1946, his father purchased the market he worked for and started Higa Market, a wholesale meat and pork distributor still in operation today. Working with their father and brothers, however, it was apparent to Charles and Francis that the family business could not support all of them and their growing families. After briefly considering a carwash, they decided to open a drive-in restaurant with a saimin stand in back—naming it Zippy's after the still-new U.S. ZIP code system.

According to Charles, their business plan was simple: Serve good, straightforward local food, such as beef stew, saimin, hamburger curry, chili, fried chicken and teriyaki beef at reasonable prices. Charles credits his wife, Helen, for her work on the menu items, and chef Shiro Matsuo for helping them during the all-important start-up period. Keeping the restaurant open 24 hours a day since they started, Charles and Francis took turns running the operation around the clock, getting little sleep and limited time with their families.

In addition to hard work and good food, Zippy's success over the years has also hinged on its ability to adapt to changing times—freely adding and removing menu items as customers' tastes dictated. "Older folks concerned about high blood pressure and diabetes wanted healthier, low-sodium menu items," Charles explained, "and more fish, like salmon. Young folks' tastes change—and they can eat whatever they like."

Still, Zippy's success is fueled by the enduring popularity of its core menu items, led by its chili and fried chicken. Charles—who recently handed over the reins of the company to his nephew, Jason Higa—believes in trying new things. He tweaked and updated as basic an item as the restaurants' teriyaki sauce, because he had never been completely satisfied with it over the years. Even Zippy's famous chili—all 220,000 pounds of it served each month—can now be enjoyed with or without beans, with turkey, and even vegetarian-style. A significant portion of Zippy's chili is sold online and shipped off to displaced Islanders overseas.

Charles and Helen Higa at "Charlie's Bar" on Vineyard Boulevard.

Charles "craves the foods that he grew up with," said Helen, who admits that it took her a little while early in their marriage to learn how to cook her husband's favorite foods. Perhaps that is one thing that has helped Zippy's to keep the old—oxtail soup, local-style beef stew (with soupy gravy) and Zip Pac bentos—along with the new throughout the years. "It's perfect for families," Helen said of Zippy's menu. "There really is something for everyone."

Shinkou Ohmine Gift to HUOA

In commemoration of Ryuufuu-An Hawaii's inaugural event and in appreciation for HUOA's support and assistance in presenting "*Earth Exhibit of the Ryukyu Kingdom*," at the Hawaii Convention Center from November 19-21, visiting Okinawan ceramist, Shinkou Ohmine Sensei, presented the HUOA with one of his esteemed works. It is a very large ceramic vase with three rope loops and fired in the namban or *arayachi* (unglazed) style. To this ancient type of firing, Ohmine Sensei has developed a unique method in the final process, which results in distinctive gradations of hues on his pieces. Pictured left: HUOA President Paul Komeiji accepts the exquisite vase from Ohmine Sensei on behalf of HUOA. Thank you very much Ohmine Sensei for your most generous gift!

Okinawan Proverbs

Uchinaa nu Kugani Kutuba

うちなーぬ　くがに　くとぅば　(沖縄の黄金の言葉 (格言))

Okinawa's Precious Words of Wisdom

Okinawans have a treasure chest of proverbs that are part of the legacy of Uchinanchu. Some were intentionally created to teach their children and grandchildren. Others were applicable to keep a person on the right path of thought and action. They reflect and reveal the psyche or consciousness of the people. These proverbs are timeless.

Nmarijima nu kutuba wasshii nee, kuni n washiin.

ぅんまりじま　ぬ　くとぅば　わっしーねー　くにん　わっしーん
(生まれ島　の言葉を忘れたら　国も　忘れる)

Explanation: Forgetting your native tongue means forgetting your native country.

Language and culture are regarded as an inseparable entity. They are closely knit and interconnected with each other. We have to strive to preserve Uchinaaguchi and shima-kutuba in order to keep Okinawan culture, including Okinawan theatrical dramas, dances, songs, and so forth.

Hawaii has a similar proverb. Native Hawaiians continue to make tremendous strides in maintaining and preserving their ancestral language in their communities.

I ka ʻlelo no ke ola, i ka ʻlelo n ka make.

"Life is in speech; death is in speech."

It means that words can heal, and words can destroy. Language is a powerful tool that can affect people's relationships depending on how it is used; therefore, speakers should use it properly. This idea is similar to our belief of "*kotodama*" (language having its own spirit).

Hawaiian people have been making tremendous strides in maintaining and preserving their communities. This proverb now gained the following meaning as well: In the Hawaiian language, people find the life of the Hawaiian people, without it, the Hawaiian culture will perish. Therefore, the Hawaiian people should not forget their own language. Likewise, Okinawan people should be learning their *shima-kutuba*, so that they would not lose their heritage language and native culture.

Uchinaaguchi Class at Hawaii Okinawa Center

By Nobuo Takeno

Dr. Kyoko Hijirida, recently retired UH professor of Okinawa Language and Culture, teaches the Uchinaaguchi class on the 4th Thursday of every month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Hawaii Okinawa Center's Higa Building.

Class members are blessed to enjoy this special language and culture course with such an experienced and highly regarded instructor. Dr. Hijirida shares her sincere concerns about the plight of the unique and endangered "*Uchinaaguchi*" or "*Shima Kutuba*." Her gentle, soft-spoken mannerism belies her deep belief and strong conviction to protect and propagate this invaluable language.

Language is one of the main ingredients of any society and its culture. In this Uchinaaguchi class, members study not only the enchanting language of Okinawa, but also learn more about the traditional ways and customs of holidays and annual events that have been carried out in that special place called "*Uchinaa*."

Class members are also exposed to learning and interpreting *Ryuka*, Okinawan songs, and poems. The *Ryuka* are considered to be the bases of Ryukyuan dances. Thus, the students learn and appreciate the meaning of gestures and movements performed by the dancers.

Furthermore, in studying famous proverbs of Okinawa, students can actually experience and feel the warmth, friendliness and uniqueness of Okinawan people while appreciating their ways of seeing and describing what's happening or putting things in order in their own native tongue.

Come and join the class on every 4th Thursday evenings. Please call 676-5400, if you have any questions.

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Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language) Word of the Month

November

gan-juu, n. [ganjoo] Being strong; being healthy.

December

chii-kaki, n. New clothes, clothes that have been worn only once or twice.

(Excerpted, with permission, from the Okinawan-English Wordbook, by Mitsugu Sakihara, edited by Stewart Curry, University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu, 2006)

HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Mark Your Calendar!

January 2011

6	Communications & Information Committee meeting, 7pm
10	Club Development Committee meeting, 7pm
11	Executive Council meeting., 7pm
18	Board of Directors meeting., 7pm
20	Administration Committee meeting, 7pm

February

1	Executive Council meeting, 7pm
3	Communications & Information Committee meeting, 7pm
9	Okinawan Festival Committee meeting, 7pm
14	Club Development Committee meeting, 7pm
17	Administration Committee meeting, 7pm
21	HOC Office Closed--Presidents Day Holiday
26	Okinawa-Hawaii Student Exchange Orientation

HOC Office Holiday Hours:

12/23	Office Hours – 8:30 am – NOON
12/24	OFFICE CLOSED – Christmas Holiday
12/30	Office Hours – 8:30 am – NOON
12/31	OFFICE CLOSED – New Year Holiday

Classes · Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm*
Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 8-9pm*
Ikebana: 3rd Wednesday, 7pm*
Karaoke nite: last Tuesday, 6:30pm*
Kobudo Taiko: every Monday, 7pm, contact Calvin Nakama 224-7374
Monday Crafters: every Monday, 9am*
Okinawan Genealogical Society mtg: 3rd Saturday, 9am*
Uchinaaguchi: every 4th Thursday, 7pm*

*for more information, please call 676-5400
Subject to Change (entries as of 12/1/10)

HOT
"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

NOTE: Olelo has changed the air day and time for Hawaii Okinawa Today. Beginning January 2011, HOT will air on Saturday at 5 pm. In addition to this new time slot, we will also have premiere shows on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 pm. These premiere shows will repeat on the Saturday of the same week. Shows will be still be aired on Oceanic Channel 53.

Jan 1, Saturday, 5 pm, Jon Shirota's "Leilani's Hibiscus" preview night May 2000 at Kumu Kahua Theatre; highlights of the September 2000 HUOA Autumn Okinawa Dance Matsuri at the HOC; and congratulatory dinner for Choichi Terukina Sensei, on being named a National Living Treasure of Japan, held at Natsunoya Teahouse in June 2000.

Jan 3, Monday, 7 pm, and Jan 8, SATURDAY, 5 pm, Part 2 of Katsuko Teruya Sensei's 40th Anniversary Recital "Koto Rainbow", held at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center October 26, 2008. (Premiere)

Jan 15, Saturday, 5 pm, HUOA Year 2000 end of year show, featuring mochi pounding with Minoru Teruya; interview with President Albert Miyasato and his officers on activities for year 2000; interview with Dexter Teruya, HUOA Okinawan Centennial Celebration Chairperson; interview with Edward Kuba, State of Hawaii Okinawan Centennial Celebration Commission Chairperson; and interview with James Iha 2001 HUOA President.

Jan 17, Monday, 7 pm, and Jan 22, SATURDAY, 5 pm, HUOA 61st Installation Banquet, held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on December 11, 2010. (Premiere)

Jan 29, Saturday, 5 pm, Part One of "Hokori". A special performance by Hooge Kai, Nakasone Dance Academy at the Okinawa Prefectural Dance Theater in Naha, Okinawa, on June 15, 2001, in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Reversion of Okinawa to Japan.

Feb 5, Saturday, 5 pm, Part Two of "Hokori" A special performance by Hooge Kai, Nakasone Dance Academy at the Okinawa Prefectural Dance Theater in Naha, Okinawa, on June 15, 2001, in celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Reversion of Okinawa to Japan; and an interview with Jane F. Serikaku the new HUOA Executive Director.

Feb 7, Monday, 7 pm, and Feb 12, SATURDAY, 5 pm, Part 3 of Katsuko Teruya Sensei's 40th Anniversary Recital "Koto Rainbow", held at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center October 26, 2008. (Premiere)

Feb 19, Saturday, 5 pm, Part 1 of the HUOA Study Tour to Okinawa, November 2000, featuring Toyama Kyuzo Statue; Kin Shonudo Cave; Nago Pineapple Park; Nago Glass Factory; Busena Terrace Beach Resort; Ogimi Bashofu Factory; Hedo Misaki; Kunigami Busan Center; Bankoku Shinryokan; Manzamo Cape; Zakimi Castle and Ryukyu Mura.

Feb 21, Monday, 7 pm, and Feb 26, SATURDAY, 5 pm, Okinawan Karate by Charles Goodin. (Premiere)

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