



UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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Turning Trash Into Cash, While Helping Our Environment

By Courtney Takara, HUOA Vice President

Tons of scrap metal, trash bags full of HI-5 beverage containers, gallons of used cooking oil, and much more trash was collected in the HOC parking lot on Saturday, April 30. This was the HUOA's first ever Aloha 'Aina Earth Day!

The concept behind this event is to help keep our community clean by offering an alternative for people to get rid of trash instead of dumping it illegally and filling up the landfills.



Some volunteers with Rene, collecting magazines.

These items can then be recycled, decreasing our carbon footprint. As a result, various recycling companies pay HUOA for some of the items collected.

It's still too early to tell how much money was made, but HUOA will be receiving checks from four different companies. Schnitzer Steel will pay HUOA for each ton of scrap metal. Honolulu Recovery Systems will pay for the HI-5 beverage containers. Intrade Corp. will pay for all the used cell phones and printer/toner cartridges. Pacific Biodiesel Inc. will pay for each gallon of used cooking oil.



Unloading scrap metal from the curbside pick-up truck.

This was the HUOA's first ever Aloha 'Aina Earth Day!

paper. Goodwill Industries was there to collect usable clothing and household items, and volunteers even collected canned goods to help the Hawaii Food Bank.

All of this wouldn't have been possible without the help of all our wonderful volunteers! Thank you to the 50+ volunteers that came out and slaved in the hot sun all day.



Greeters and traffic directors at HUOA's Aloha 'Aina Earth Day.

We also want to acknowledge the three teams that provided curbside pick-up service: Dwight Ikehara, Darrin Goya, Corey Shibata, Ryan Ishizu, Chris Shimabukuro, Blaine Hamamura and George Bartels.

Thank you to Rep. Ryan Yamane for sponsoring one of our Penske trucks, used to provide the curbside pick-up. We would also like to thank Rene Mansho of Shnitzer Steel for helping us coordinate this event, as well as all the recycling vendors that came out to participate. Most importantly, thank you to everyone who gave HUOA your trash!

Please check the next issue of the Uchinanchu to find out how much money HUOA raised. Also, for those who are still interested in recycling, go to http://www.opala.org/solid_waste/pdfs/Aloha_Aina_2011_Events.pdf for more Aloha 'Aina Earth Day event dates.



Used cooking oil will be recycled into fuel.

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President's Message By Norman Nakasone



*Hana Nuuzi –
Magnificent Rainbow...
Connecting Our Precious Past
to a Bright Future.*

As busy as the first three months were, this past quarter was even busier for HUAO and its many dedicated and energetic volunteers.

We held our first ever Aloha Aina Earth Day recycling project at the end of April. While it served as a fundraiser for HUAO, we looked at it more as a way to help the community's cleanup efforts by serving as a collection point for recyclable items. Volunteers were treated to a nice little surprise as they got to taste-test two new menu items we'll be offering at this year's Okinawan Festival – taco rice and "fundagi" (funnel cake made with andagi batter). Based on preliminary reviews, both might be big hits among festival attendees in September.

In May, we reached out to the residents of Weinberg Village, a transitional shelter in Waimanalo and shared some of our Okinawan culture and spirit with them through a traditional Okinawan-style picnic. Residents learned dances commonly performed at bon dances; played several different games we play at our own club picnics; cooled themselves down with refreshing bowls of cold shave ice; and were treated to a yummy lunch – chili frank plate and andagi for dessert. At the end of the day, each family received a generous bagful of household items, fruits and vegetables, and a dozen eggs. It was gratifying to see the residents having so much fun as they enthusiastically participated in the different activities throughout the day. In turn, residents truly appreciated the efforts of HUAO in making the day a very special one for them.

Thank you goes out to VPs Courtney Takara and Chris Shimabukuro for heading up the community service projects. Thank you also to the donors who made it possible for us to provide prizes for the games and the "goodie" bags.

We held the 41st Annual HUAO Invitational Golf Tournament over the Memorial Day weekend at Pali Golf Course. I had the pleasure of greeting each group at the first tee and was able to experience the camaraderie the golfers shared as they headed out for the day. A big mahalo goes out to Neal Takara and Wes Teruya for chairing another successful tournament and the HUAO office staff for supporting them.

We were privileged to have Okinawa's Governor, the Honorable Hirokazu Nakaima, visit us with his "Taikai Caravan" in early June to promote and share information about the upcoming Taikai. The 300 or so people who attended the meeting were treated to an informative video presentation of the 4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai held in 2006 and lively performances by the dynamic Daiichi Hirata. For those who may not remember, Hirata-san brought the very powerful production, Kimutaka No Amawari, to HOC back in 2008. He is now a member of Governor Nakaima's administration and is Director General of the Department of Culture, Tourism & Sports. I'm sure everyone at the meeting is now looking forward to October with even greater anticipation. I know I am.

Last, but in no way least, I'd like to thank all of the volunteers who helped out with each of the events above. I've said it before and I'll say it again: the spirit of volunteerism in this organization is absolutely remarkable. It is because of you that HUAO is able to do as much as we do during the course of the year in pursuing our mission and giving back to the community.

In closing, the deadline for contributing to the Aloha For Japan fund through HUAO was May 31. In the past two and a half months, HUAO members and friends donated a total of \$36,750. We will be presenting our second, and final, check to the Japan America Society of Hawaii later this month. Thank you, once again, to all who contributed to this worthwhile cause. This is another example of what makes HUAO the special organization it is.

Ippee Niffee Deebiru!

Burglars Strike Hawaii Okinawa Center

Unfortunately, the Hawaii Okinawa Center was burglarized in the middle of the night of June 12. The thieves used a crowbar to wrench open a locked storage cabinet and cut through a chain link that secured other equipment. The equipment stolen included three gas-powered blowers, a gas-powered hedge trimmer, 100-foot extension cord, a pump to clean the koi pond, and two gas-powered pressure washers. Lily plants from the koi pond were stolen as well. Luckily the koi remain unharmed and all are accounted for.

For the volunteers who come in every Tuesday and Friday to take care of HOC, it was disheartening to see the storage locker in disarray. Tom Nakamatsu was unable to clean the pond and, without the power equipment, sweeping the parking lot became a much more laborious task.

Although the Honolulu Police Department is investigating the burglary, it is unlikely we will be able to recover our equipment. Even though the stolen equipment were secured in locked cabinets and chained, it was not sufficient to prevent the burglary. We are taking additional measures to better protect our property.



UCHINANCHU

Ippee Niffee 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*. HUAO sends a sincere *ippee niffee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

Uchinanchu Donors April 1 to May 31, 2011

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Production costs for *Uchinanchu* have escalated due to increases in circulation, labeling expenses and postage. Your contribution to help defray some of the expenses is greatly appreciated.

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UCHINANCHU

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HUAO President Norman Nakasone
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UCHINANCHU SPOTLIGHT

Nancy and Morris Nakaishi From Hui Okinawa



Hui Okinawa has had many, many dedicated members throughout the years. Nancy and Morris Nakaishi are two examples of the kind of members we are privileged to have. Together they total about 120 years of service to the club.

Nancy has been an able leader that has held all the offices for the club and served as president for four years. She still serves on the Board of Directors. Hui Okinawa nominated Nancy for the Older American Award in 2008. She has been chairperson of the Keirokai and knows all of the over 200 *Koreisha* (over

80-year olds) in the club. Nancy was also andagi-making organizer for many years. Not only is she a leader, she is talented in classical Okinawan dance which she learned from Sensei Merrill Kanna.

Morris is our valuable carpenter, all-around handyman, keeper of the sabani (Haari boats) after they were gifted to the County of Hawaii in 1990, and a 10-year helper for the Children's Cultural Day Camp. He has prepared the materials to make the musical implements such as the taiko drums, shime daiko, paranku, yotsudake and kankara sanshin for this year's camp. He also stores the woks and other supplies used for andagi cooking (after being scrubbed). Morris serves on the Board of Directors and also has time to help at his church and does Bonsai with a group at his home once a month. Such a willing person to share his talents, Morris was also nominated for the Older American Award several years ago.

Morris is retired but Nancy is still working as a public accountant. And they are in their mid-eighties! Way to go, Nancy and Morris! *Ippee Niffee Deebiru.*

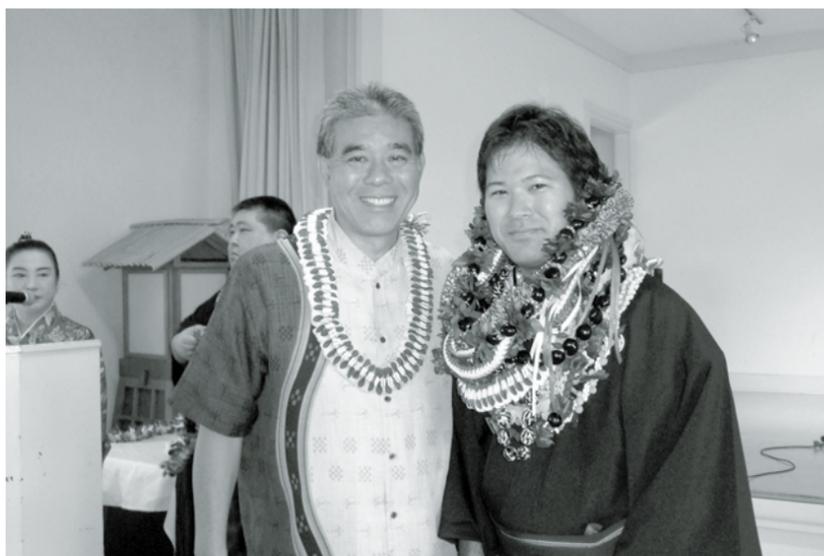
Norman Kaneshiro Sensei Nidaime Kaishu of Nakasone Seifu Kai

April 24 marked a historic day in the life of Norman Kaneshiro Sensei and the Ryukyuan Performing Arts in Hawaii.

The Nakasone Seifu Kai was founded by Harry Seisho Nakasone Sensei, the late uta-sanshin master who passed away in March at age 99. While he was still well, Seisho Sensei requested that Norman Sensei become his successor as the *Nidaime Kaishu* or *Second-generation Director* of the Nakasone Seifu Kai, a school he founded in 1953. In accepting the role of *Nidaime*, Norman Sensei is now the artistic and administrative director of the organization. The Nakasone Seifu Kai continues to be a member of the Hawaii Chapter of the Nomura Ryu Ongaku Kyo Kai.

Norman Sensei's designation as the *Nidaime Kaishu* is also acknowledged by the parent Nomura Ryu organization. At its 24th gathering, Asao Sakuda Sensei represented the Okinawa headquarters in a presentation of a formal certificate recognizing Norman Sensei in his new role.

The HUOA heartily congratulates Norman Kaneshiro Sensei as the newly designated director of the Nakasone Seifu Kai. We applaud your accomplishments and the path that you will illuminate brightly for the preservation, perpetuation and promotion of Nakasone Sensei's legacy and the legacy of the traditional performing arts in Hawaii and abroad.



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Bon Dance: 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 4: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

www.okinawanfestival.com

MANPOWER NEEDED!



We really need your help at the Okinawan Festival!

PRE FESTIVAL CONSTRUCTION & SET UP
Tuesday, August 30 to Friday, September 2:
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, we need strong, able bodied people to help unload equipment and supplies from two huge containers. Construction will begin after containers are unloaded. We especially need carpenters and extra helpers to assist. We also are in need of plumbers and electricians as well.

POST FESTIVAL CLEAN UP
Monday, September 5: starts 8 a.m.

Help needed to breakdown, load the containers, clean up the entire festival grounds. Men, women and youth, please join us!

If you can volunteer for one or more days, please call us at 676-5400 or email to huaa@huaa.org.



We Need You...



*Doctors and Nurses
 with Uchinanchu Spirit*

to help with Blood Pressure Screening and First Aid at the Okinawan Festival. Your assistance is NEEDED. If you can volunteer please contact **Eleanor Miyasaki at 455-9882.**



Taikai Caravan Stirs Excitement in Hawaii

On June 8, the Legacy Ballroom was filled to standing room only capacity with an energy generated unlike most Okinawan gatherings. It was obvious that everyone greatly looked forward to Governor Hirokazu Nakaima and his North America Caravan's visit because they would bring much anticipated news about the 5th Worldwide Uchina-nchu Festival (Taikai). Hawaii was the last stop of a whirlwind promotional 8-day tour of Canada and North America for the Taikai.

The program truly underscored the essence of *ichariba-choodee* (once we meet, we become siblings of one mind and spirit). The evening opened with messages from HUOA President Norman Nakasone and remarks by Governor Nakaima. Uplifting traditional *uta-sanshin* was provided by members of Hawaii's Afuso Ryu Gensei Kai, a blend of solo hula renditions by



Above: Hawaii Taikai participants join Governor Nakaima and his Taikai Caravan.



Left: Members of Ryukyu Koku Matsuri Daiko entertain at the Taikai Caravan.

Hawaii's Iris Yafuso and Okinawa's Tae Tengan. The talented Daiichi Hirata of Okinawa combined his flute, vocal and pahu performances in a representation of traditions. Later, he was joined in unison to the tune of Miruku Munari by other members of the Caravan team, multi-generational taiko members of Ryukyu Matsuri Daiko Hawaii and a *shiiisaa* choreography by Jon Itomura and Eric Nitta.

Informational packets were distributed to each attendee that included an explanation about the Taikai, the tentative schedule of events, and other information.

Governor Nakaima generously presented President Nakasone with a donation of \$1,000 to help our community prepare for the Taikai.

At the end of the evening, amid the broad smiles and flurry of promises to meet at the Taikai, we knew that the HUOA community will unfurl its colorful banners high in the winds of Okinawa to create a magnificent rainbow from Hawaii to fellow Uchina-nchu of the world!

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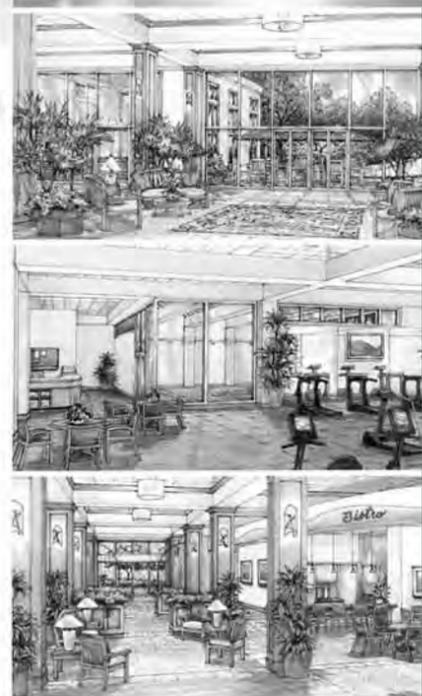
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A Special Day in Waimanalo...HUOA's Community Outreach Picnic

By Chris Shimabukuro, HUOA Vice President

Whoever said, "In life, it is better to give than to receive" really knew what they were talking about. Those words were proven true on May 21st as volunteers of the HUOA spent a fun and meaningful day with the wonderful families of the Weinberg Village Waimanalo for our annual Community Outreach Picnic. The thirty families in Waimanalo are part of a program called Holomua Na `Ohana (Families Moving Forward to a Better Life) which provides service enriched transitional housing for homeless families on the Windward side.

As stated in their program description, families at the Weinberg Village receive one-on-one support on a variety of issues which gives them the encouragement to move their families forward to permanent housing and a more stable life for all. They provide case management with Social Service Plans that focus on the areas of housing, employment, education, debt reduction, sobriety support, parenting and children support and improving health issues.

The day started off with a bang as the Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai performed traditional Okinawan music and dance and set the mood for the 100 plus children and adults in attendance. Opening remarks by HUOA President Norman Nakasone helped everyone understand the goals of the day which were to have fun, eat some good food, learn and enjoy a little Okinawan Culture, and embrace the company and fellowship of everyone involved. A bon dance helped to achieve many of the day's goals as children, adults, volunteers, and staff members all participated in the bonding experience.

Next up on the list of fun activities was games. Thanks to the creativity of HUOA President Elect Cyrus Tamashiro, kids and adults alike had a blast. Whether it was kids feeding their blindfolded parents chocolate pudding, passing cups of water over their heads and then under their legs, tossing water balloons, or competing in a watermelon eating contest, laughter and joy filled the air. Of course, the kids loved not only playing the games, but also winning many of the prizes donated by the generous HUOA supporters.

It wouldn't be a great picnic without good food and this event had several. Many thanks go out to Dwight Ikehara for coordinating all the food, Junior (Howard) and Liko Eguchi for making the Andagi, and Gary Jitchaku and Laura Ajimine for serving up the refreshing shave ice.

In addition, each family was given two gift bags. One bag consisted of household items and canned goods, and the other a variety of apples, oranges, potatoes, onions, carrots, and pineapples. Special thanks go out to Armstrong Produce and Ham Produce for donating all of the fruits and vegetables.

Overall, it was a magical day where the reward of watching children and families laugh and play without a care in world made everything worth it. We would like to offer a special thank you to all the HUOA volunteers who worked so hard to make this day so memorable and successful.

We are fortunate that such programs like the transitional center at Weinberg Village exist in Hawaii and would like to thank the families and staff members in Waimanalo for allowing us to share a small piece of our Okinawan culture and goodwill with them... we thoroughly enjoyed it.



Members of Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai have provided music and bon dance opportunities at our annual community outreach events for the past five years.



Some of the volunteers at the Community Outreach Picnic.



The Andagi Gang led by "Mr. Andagi" Jr. Eguchi (far right).

Youngsters enjoying the novelty of walking on stilts.

Ehime Maru Memorial

By *Cyrus Tamashiro, HUOA President-elect*

On the morning of June 4, 2011, HUOA representatives Norman Nakasone, Renette Nakasone, Cyrus Tamashiro, George Bartels, Courtney Takara and Dave Arakawa gathered at the site of the Ehime Maru Memorial at Kakaako Waterfront Park. There was a thunderstorm earlier that morning, but the cleansing rain made the air fresh and the sun peeked through the clearing sky. On this day, we were privileged to perform the meaningful task of cleaning the Ehime Maru Memorial. The Memorial is maintained through the efforts of many community organizations and volunteers.

On February 9, 2001, the U.S. Navy submarine USS Greeneville collided with Ehime Prefecture's Uwajima Fisheries High School training vessel Ehime Maru about 10 miles south of Oahu, sinking the Japanese ship. Four students, two teachers and three crewmembers lost their lives as a result of the accident.

Earlier this year, on the 10th anniversary of the tragic incident, family members of deceased students, teachers and crewmembers of the Ehime Maru had gathered at the site of the Memorial to participate in a touching ceremony of remembrance. While many tears were shed, it helped the families to heal as Hawaii residents reached out to them through friendship and prayer.

After 10 years, the memorial is still frequented by visitors from Hawaii and abroad. There was a multi-strand garland of colorful origami cranes left on June 2, 2011 by the cadets and students from the Shonan Maru, the training vessel for the Kanagawa Prefectural Marine Science High School. To the right was a flower arrangement from the crewmembers of the ship. Various other fresh floral bouquets and a lei had been placed around the monument.

To visit the Ehime Maru Memorial, take the Kakaako Waterfront Park footpath and walk uphill to the right. The monument is near the top of the hill facing the blue Pacific Ocean. Join us next year when it is again our turn to perform this meaningful service.



Deputy Consul General Tanaka Visits HOC



HUOA President Norman Nakasone greets new Deputy Consul-General Kazunari Tanaka (right) and Consul Kazuo Tsukada (left) on their recent visit to the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Governors Reaffirm Bonds of Friendship



Okinawa Governor Hirokazu Nakaima and Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie recently celebrated the Okinawa-Hawaii Sister State Relationship and promotion of the 5th Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai (Okinawan Festival) to be held in Okinawa in October 2011.

David Arakawa Heads UJS



Outgoing United Japanese Society of Hawaii President Gary Kobashigawa gleefully hands over the reins to newly installed President David Arakawa at a recent installation ceremony.

Sponsored by Hawaii United Okinawa Association



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Ikuyu Madin

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

REALIZING A DREAM.....

By Jon Itomura, Capital Campaign Chair

The time has come to move swiftly and earnestly to realize the dream of establishing a means to financially support the Hawaii Okinawa Center for future generations. Back in 2005, the HUOA chose to seize the opportunity of a lifetime by purchasing the adjacent property so there would be a possibility for HUOA to have a self-sustaining revenue source. Thus, the journey to realize a dream started with our second major "Capital Campaign" since the construction of the Hawaii Okinawa Center in 1990. With very little time to prepare long-term fundraising strategies, the challenge would be to figure out how to sustain the energy of such a monumental fundraising campaign.

A warm "Ippai Nihwee Deebiru" to Alan Chinen for his unmatched leadership in coordinating the "Chibariyo" charge for the last several years. He has recently turned the reins over to me but has vowed to continue his unwavering support to realize this dream. The campaign has arguably slowed down due to a multitude of reasons, including a slumping economy and worldwide natural disaster relief efforts such as the Japan Earthquake Relief effort. Like many struggling organizations, HUOA is a non-profit cultural based organization made up of individuals and clubs who are constantly being asked to donate generous time and money, not only to HUOA, but to their Okinawa locality club and to their Okinawan cultural performance clubs throughout the entire year. Contributions must be pared from portions of their earnings typically reserved to provide support for other charities, churches, educational pursuits and family obligations. HUOA, however, must address ever increasing utility rates, facility repair and maintenance costs and many other fixed costs to avoid losing the legacy of those who worked so hard to establish, fund and construct the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Time is still critical and while construction has begun with partial lot improvements and the goal to clear title is close to being a reality, the necessary effort to raise an additional \$5 million to finish construction of the Okinawa Plaza's initial phase is overwhelming and soon overdue. So how do we get there?

The mission going forward is to "Reinvigorate the Capital Campaign" project by instilling the spirit of "YUIMARU" (Coming Together) to breathe new life into the Land Acquisition fundraising effort. This can only be done by involving the HUOA club leadership at the most basic levels so that knowledge is open and shared. The "Clubs" must take ownership and responsibility in this quest to bring financial stability and support for HUOA. The concept is simple... one spirit-one mind. The clubs are HUOA...there is no line of separation between "HUOA" and 49 member clubs.

Going forward, we must remain united. The purpose of pursuing this specific dream is to relieve members and future generations of the burden to personally sustain the Hawaii Okinawa Center. This is not a luxury add-on, this is an issue of survival. The Hawaii Okinawa Center arose 22 years ago as a result of a tremendous collective effort. We need to summon that effort once again.

This summer, we will unveil the "Legacy Wall," which represents those who have generously made sacrifices to contribute to the dream. This wall will serve as a reminder to all that we believe in each other, that we support one another, and that we can accomplish the goal of realizing the dream - that the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza may one day sustain and support the Hawaii Okinawa Center for all who follow in "our" footsteps to enjoy. Also, look forward to another fun and exciting 11/11/11 campaign to supplement our Ikuyu Madin Capital fund drive.

Please join me and many others as we "Reinvigorate" this effort by having Clubs educate and support each other and develop a strategy to spur participation from others. If you would like to volunteer your expertise and time to assist with one of various committees, please contact the HUOA at 676-5400. 

Our Supporters



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 niffee deebiru* - from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed below were received from April 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011.

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In Memory of Seisuke Serikaku by Ethel Serikaku

In Memory of Masa Shinsato by Richard & Jane Takayasu

In Memory of Toshiko Yagi by Kazue Tanaka 

Preserving Our Legacy

2010 TO 2011-ANNUAL FUND DRIVE



Mahalo to the following individuals and organizations who have generously contributed to the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and its center. With your assistance we have raised over \$89,605.00 from 690 donors.

The following donations were received from April 1, 2011 to May 31, 2011.

SILVER (\$500 TO \$999)

Jiro & Mabel Y. Mitsuyasu

BRONZE (\$250 TO \$499)

Members of Yonashiro Chojin Kai

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In Memory of Masako Tamashiro by

Larry & Nancy Yogi

Jean Toyama

J. Wheeler



ALOHA

FOR JAPAN

Aloha For Japan Fund – HUOA Supports Japan Relief Efforts

In response to the unimaginable damage caused by the massive earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on March 11 (JST), the HUOA has collected donations in support of the Aloha for Japan Fund. The fund is a coordinated effort led by Lt. Governor Brian Schatz and Japan Consul General Yoshihiko Kamo, along with other organizations.

HUOA will bear all administrative costs, so that 100 percent of all donations will go to aid disaster victims. Letters will be provided to donors to serve as a receipt for their tax deductible donation.

The HUOA ended its collection on May 31. A total of \$36,750 was collected, \$10,000 of which has already been turned over to Japanese Red Cross Society via Japan America Society of Hawaii. The remaining \$26,750 will be donated to the Japanese Red Cross Society.

ALOHA FOR JAPAN DONORS – April 1, To May 31, 2011

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HUOA DONATIONS

April 1 to May 31, 2011

HUOA sends a sincere ippee niffee deebiru to the following donors:

Howard Asato (designated for Club Development)

Ford A. Chinen (designated for Club Development)

Susanne T. Gibo

Laverne Higa (designated for Club Development)

Rosaline & David Horiuchi

Toyoko Kinjo

Lynn Miyahira Masuda

Toshiko & Takeo Nakasone

James & Lillian Shimabukuro

In Memory of Lillian Miyashiro Shimomoto

by Itoman Shinjin Kai

Shigeko Taira



KOKUA IN KIND DONORS

(Used car donation)

Ricky A. Davison • Bruce Gushiken • Kurt Uyehara



Hawaii Eisa Drum Festival at Kapi'olani Community College

By Shari Tamashiro

Four things come to mind when I think back on the Eisa Drum Festival. The first is that the event seemed almost magical. After weeks of incessant rain and gray skies, the weather cleared up just in time for the festival (with the assistance of a dozen *teru teru bozusu*) on May 14th.

Blessed with a full moon and perfect weather, an estimated 3,000 people gathered on the Great Lawn at the heart of Kapi'olani Community College's beautiful campus to celebrate Eisa.

Things just fell into place thanks to an incredible team effort. The result was amazing performances imbued with so much energy by Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, Hawaii Eisa Chimugukuru Daiko, Paranku Clubs of Hawaii, the gathering of Shisa, Taiko Center of the Pacific, Urizun Minyo Group, and the Young Okinawans of Hawaii.

Live music was provided by a *jikata* led by the talented Norman Kaneshiro, Derek Shiroma, Derek Fujio, and David Miyashiro. The dynamic MCs Cyrus Tamashiro and Dave Arakawa kept the program lively and informative.

The Live Yuimaru Team (Shari Tamashiro, Dorene Niibu, Karen Kuba-Hori, Howard Asato, Cy Carnate, Chris and Stan Higa) managed the event.

The second thing is the educational aspect. We were able to explain and highlight aspects of Okinawan culture and arts to give those in attendance a deeper understanding and appreciation for things like Eisa, whistling, and shisa. I loved watching kids and adults trying to whistle Okinawan style because they were inspired after they heard Nicole Hori, Judy Takaki, and George Tamashiro perform.

For those who missed the festival, Eisa is a form of folk dance unique to the people of Okinawa. It is typically danced to folk songs played on the *sanshin*, with the accompaniment of singing, chanting and drumming by the dancers. It originally had an important religious function of giving repose to the dead. In Okinawa and Hawaii, Eisa continues to be performed at Obon ceremonies.

Today, some groups also do stage performances. Some groups do traditional dances, while others experiment with contemporary styles. We saw a spectrum of Eisa styles and performances at the festival. This was the first opportunity for people to learn about and see the complete range performed in Hawaii, from traditional to contemporary.

The third thing that comes to mind is the saying, "The Journey is the Destination." As spectacular as the event was, the journey to it was just as incredible. From our first rehearsal, there was a lovely spirit of cooperation and camaraderie between "traditional" and "contemporary" and "Japanese taiko." You could see hands extending beyond each group as eisa leaders worked together on the choreography for the finale, as they taught the taiko drummers eisa, at each rehearsal, as they started talking and sharing. *Ichariba Chode*.

I still cannot stop myself from smiling with joy when I see the video of the finale. It represents that wonderful spirit of cooperation and unity. Each group played two verses of *toshindoi* in their own style (including a taiko interpretation) and then everyone started drumming and moving in sync. There was just so much joy and energy. A lot of people got "chicken skin" watching that incredible finale.

A music sensei in attendance at the festival remarked that she could feel the respect and friendship each group had for each other emanating from the stage and spilling out into the audience. She was overwhelmed by the atmosphere, the feeling that she was seeing the younger generation stepping forward.

I have heard from many who were in attendance that this was the first time they've felt such pride in being a part of this community. A college student told me, "Wow. Being Okinawan is cool!" Our hope is that they will subsequently want to learn more about the history, arts, and culture.

Lastly, I have to mention the Paranku Clubs of Hawaii leading a gathering of over 100 paranku accompanying *Sanshin no Hana* (performed by Urizun Minyo Group). The ladies (and gentleman) were joined by a "Paranku Brigade" who learned their choreography thanks to a series of youtube videos of Lisa Tamashiro providing instruction. How cool is that?

Mahalo to Kapi'olani Community College, Chancellor Leon Richards, Keith Kashiwada and the Office of Student Activities for sponsoring this special event.

If you missed it, Hawaii Okinawa Today (HOT) TV was there filming and will broadcast the event on HOT TV. You can also go to <http://www.pigsfromthesea.com> for links to videos and photos from the event. See the HOT schedule on the last page of this newsletter.  Photos by Reid Shimabukuro



CLUB NEWS

our clubs, our future

Haneji Club Wins Softball Championship

Finally! After playing in the HUOA slow pitch softball league for over 25 years, the Haneji Club won its first-ever league championship on June 12 at Halawa Park. It was a day that many old time Haneji players admitted they thought might never happen. In the league's history this is only the second time the Haneji team has played in the championship game. "For some of us, it is really cool to play with the next generation of Haneji players after first playing with some of their fathers and uncles," recalls Charlie Miyashiro.



Haneji Club softball team members and supporters: Kneeling (L-R): Reid Okaneku, Ricky Takushi, Charlie Miyashiro, Lloyd Nakata and Vince Kanaeholo. Standing (L-R): Jan Kaneshiro, Lillian Shimabukuro, Chris Shimabukuro, Terrence Shibata, John Kaneshiro, Herbert Shimabukuro and Mark Shimabukuro.

Haneji reached the championship game by defeating perennial powerhouse Nagakusuku 13-9 in the semi finals. Nagakusuku (formerly Minami Nagakusuku) has won the league championship a record eight times. In the championship game against Wahia, Haneji held a 15-5 lead going into the bottom of the 9th, but surrendered 8 runs before recording the final out to preserve a 15-13 victory.

Haneji Team members include: Jarrett Miyaji, Mark Shimabukuro, Charlie Miyashiro, Tyler Kimura, Ricky Takushi, Alan Miyashiro, Jason Ikehara, Terrence Shibata, David Miyashiro, Lloyd Nakata, Reid Okaneku, Blaine Umeda, Vince Kanaeholo, Ryan Ishizu, Chris Shimabukuro, and John Kaneshiro (Manager).

Congratulations to Gushikawa Blue Team who won the Consolation Championship. Special thanks go out to Morris Zukeran, Aaron Nakashima, Abe Tengan, and all the umpires and scorekeepers that make this league so special and enjoyable for all participants.

41st Annual HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament

More than 100 Meager golfers drove past the colorful HUOA Club banners as they headed to the first tee where they were greeted by HUOA President Norman Nakasone and presented with complimentary golf balls on Saturday, May 28, and Bob Tanaka's popular golf towel on Sunday, May 29.



2011 Golf Tournament Winners: Kneeling- Brent Taguma. Standing (L-R): Kenyu Tokuda, Kent Tamashiro, Mark Gaza, Sanae Vierra, Colin Saito, Mark Fukeda (not present: Thomas Teruya).



Mahalo to co-chairs Wes Teruya and Neal Takara and everyone who helped out at Pali Golf course and at Jikoen, where the awards banquet took place. It takes a large number of volunteers to ensure the success of this golf tournament. Special thanks to Joanie Gushiken, who spearheaded the registration, collection of fees and many other duties.

Tournament Champ Mark Gaza receives the Governor's Trophy from Lt. Governor Brian Schatz.

HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament Results

Tournament Champion	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Mark Gaza - Low Gross:	69	77	146
Champion Flight: Handicap: 0-9	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Kent Tamashiro	71	68	139
"A" Flight: Handicap: 10-19	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Mark Fukeda	68	67	135
"B" Flight: Handicap: 20-30	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Brent Taguma	63	69	132
Senior Flight: Handicap: 0-30	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Thomas Teruya	64	68	132
Super Senior Flight:		Sun	
Kenyu Tokuda		75	
Women's Flight: Handicap: 0-38	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Sanae Vierra	75	68	143
Guest Flight: Handicap: 0-30	Sat	Sun	Low Net
Colin Saito	69	65	134

Mahalo! HUOA extends its sincere appreciation to the following firms, organizations and individuals for their generous donations and support:

- The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor of the State of Hawaii - Governor's Trophy
- The Honorable Peter B. Carlisle
Mayor of City and County of Honolulu - Mayor's Trophy
- City and County of Honolulu
Pali Golf Course—Sean DeMello & Staff
- Foot Joy
- Jikoen Temple
- Kiahuna Golf Club
- Olomana Golf Links
- Pro Am Golf Shop
- Gladys Tokunaga-Asao
- Waikole Country Club
- WEBCO
- Grove Farm
- Kapalua Resort
- KLC Catering
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- Roger Dunn Golf Shops
- Turtle Bay Golf
- Waikoloa Kings Course
- Seiji Oshiro/Maruhana Hawaii
- Henry Loui's
- Kauai Lagons Resort
- Ko'Olina Golf Club
- Poipu Bay Resort
- Bob Tanaka Realty
- Uptown Café
- Wailea Golf Club
- Zippy's



Every year, Bob Tanaka generously donates golf bags to the "Closest to the Hole" winners for each flight. Bob (right) and Neal Takara of Titleist Hawaii congratulate the lucky winner in the Women's Flight - Erin Matsuoka.

Hawaii Shuri Naha Club Captures Inamine Cup

After an impressive 13-year reign by the great golfers representing Nakagusuku, Hawaii Shuri-Naha managed to win the coveted Inamine Cup at the 41st Annual HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament in a very closely contested battle.

Addressing HUOA club presidents and members, Ed Kuba of the victorious team said, "Regarding the Inamine Cup, if Hawaii Shuri-Naha can put together a competitive team, your club can also do it! You should start recruiting players for your team starting at your summer picnics. Hope to see you all at next year's golf tournament!"



Hawaii Shuri Naha Club members present at the golf tournament banquet (L-R): David "Roger Dunn" Shiroma, Neal "Titleist" Takara, Sanae "Surfer Girl" Vierra, Ed "Grandpa" Kuba, Ron "Professor" Matayoshi, and Jerry "Bengoshi" Matayoshi.

Wahiawa Kyo Yu Kai Celebrates Pineapple Festival

By Alan Kakazu, President

On May 14 and 15, the Wahiawa Kyo Yu Kai participated in the 2011 Wahiawa Pineapple Festival. It was the perfect opportunity to promote the club and the HUOA.



We had less than two weeks to prepare but thanks to the stellar efforts of club members and the HUOA staff, we were able to set up a plantation style display. The tent also featured live Okinawan music. Annette and Donna Kakazu provided sanshin music with a "guest" appearance by Tom Yamamoto. Mrs. Yoshiko Higa provided Koto music both days and drew a lot of interest.

Overall, the booth was a success and was a great way to meet new people and talk story with old friends. We even got two members to sign up. We're already looking forward to next year.

Thanks again to all the club members who helped get it together at the last minute! I also want to thank the great staff at the HUOA for allowing us to borrow the tents and a variety of display items. We couldn't have done it without all your help.



11TH ANNUAL KAUAI OKINAWAN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Hui Alu, Inc. cordially invites all golfers to participate in the 11th Annual Kauai Okinawan Golf Tournament, which will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2011, at the Wailua Golf Course.

Registration will start at 6:00 a.m., followed by a 7:00 a.m. shotgun start. Entry fee is \$85 per player, which includes cart, green fees, greenies, and awards luncheon (\$40 of entry fee is tax-deductible). The awards luncheon will be held at the Kapaa Hongwanji Hall immediately following the golf tournament. Additional lunch tickets are available for \$10 each.

Additional information:

- Mulligans will be sold two at \$5 each. (Note: Mulligans do not qualify for closest to the pin.)
- Maximum handicap allowed – Men 30, Women 36 (handicap must be current as of July 2011)
- Prizes shall be awarded to Ladies and Men Flight (Must be present to win)
- Lucky Number: Open to all present at the luncheon. Donation of \$2 per ticket. \$500 Travel Voucher and other prizes. (Must be present to win)

The registration deadline is Saturday, August 13, 2011.

The first 144 players will be eligible.

You don't need to be Okinawan to play!

To download an application form, go to huoa.org. or contact:
Blaine Agena at 335-0397 or 635-6604
Kent Yamauchi at 742-2646 or 639-4867
Eric Agena at 246-4475 or (808) 383-4733 (Oahu number)

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CLUB NEWS

our clubs, our future

News from Hui Okinawa

By Roy Hokama, President

Hui Okinawa had a successful andagi scholarship fundraiser project on May 14. It was a labor of love, rewarding and fun.

Children's Day Camp was held from June 5-10 – a busy but fun week! Camp Director Ruby Maekawa and her volunteers were ready for the children to have fun and learn about the Okinawan culture.

The Graduates Luncheon honoring eight graduates from high school and college was held on May 28 at the Naniloa Volcanoes Resort. Graduates are Brandi Antonio, Megan Escalona, Taylor Escalona, Kylie Ishikawa, Nicolette Low, Samantha Maesato, Caden Yamamoto, and Kristen Uchima.

Taylor Escalona is the recipient of the \$1,000 Hui Okinawa and the \$2,000 Jack & Otome Miyashiro scholarships. She will be attending the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Congratulations, Taylor! Her parents are Daniel and Sue Escalona.

As part of our service to community, Hui Okinawa will be manning the canteen at the Blood Bank drive, providing refreshments to the blood donors. This activity will be held on Monday, July 18, at Auntie Sally's Luau Hale. The donors appreciate the generous array of refreshments that we share.

To honor our elders and for fellowship, we will have our club picnic on Sunday, September 18, at Wailoa State Park. Games, prizes, ono food!

The next Haari Boat Races will be held next year—so mark your calendar for August 17-18, 2012.

2012 Hui O Laulima Cultural Grant Applications

Hui O Laulima (HOL) is pleased to announce that applications for the 2012 Cultural Grant are being accepted. All prospective grant projects/activities should take place from January through December 2012 and recipients of this grant must expend their money within that calendar year. Grants and scholarships totalling more than \$125,000 have been awarded by HOL since 1984. **Deadline for submission is August 31, 2011.**

Hui O Laulima is a women's organization promoting the Okinawan culture and true to its spirit of "giving a helping hand," it has continued to perpetuate and preserve its culture by awarding grants to individuals and groups that share the same desire. These qualities will be considered of all applicants as well as leadership ability and participation in community service.

Criteria for selection include:

- * Interest in the study, perpetuation and promotion, including goodwill projects of Okinawan culture (music, dance, art, or other forms of artistic expressions), language and history;
- * Leadership ability;
- * Community service;
- * Acceptance to study under a recognized instructor of Okinawan culture, language and/or history;
- * Participation in programs for the promotion and perpetuation of Okinawan culture;
- * Financial need;
- * Overall potential for success;
- * Clarity of goal(s); and
- * Two letters of recommendation from individuals other than relatives.

Inquiries and/or requests for application go to:

Karen Fuse, Cultural Grants Committee Co-chair
1525 Ahuawa Loop
Honolulu, Hi. 96816
kcfuse@hawaii.rr.com

Additional Picnic Information

A HUOA club picnic schedule was published in the previous issue of Uchinanchu. The following list contains additional picnic information provided by clubs as of June 1, 2011.

Date	Club	Location	Time
6/26	Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai	Ala Moana Beach Park #24, 26, 27	9am-4pm
7/10	Nishihara Chojin Kai	Ala Moana Park	10am

Ginowan Shijin Kai

Submitted by: Jane Nakamura

OFFICERS: President, Ellen Higa; Vice President, Kathleen Kaya; Treasurer, Alan Kunihisa; Recording Secretary, Sandra Nishimoto; Corresponding Secretary, June Zakimi. **Advisors:** Janyce Miyashiro, Christine Higa, Rodney Kohagura, Patrick Miyashiro, Guy Miyashiro, Alice Morisako, Larry Morisako, John Tasato.

HOC CLEAN-UP: Chairperson Claire Matsumoto and Wilma Ogimi gathered a crew of over 16



First Row (standing, L-R): Wilma Ogimi, Brennen Tamashiro, Trevor Tamashiro, Camryn Miyashiro; (kneeling) Clinton Chung, and Carl Nakamura. Middle Row: Eileen Tamashiro, Claire Matsumoto, Janyce Miyashiro, Eleanor Miyasaki and Steven Miyashiro. Back Row: Sean Tamashiro, Laurence Funakoshi, Karen Chung, Rodney Kohagura and Richard Iha.

er a crew of over 16 Ginowan Club members who reported at 7 a.m. on April 17 for clean up duty of the Hawaii Okinawa Center. All dug in and scrubbed windows, bathrooms, stage and performed many other chores. Children, full of energy, also helped complete the list of chores assigned and assisted by a very cheerful Laura Nakasone. "How does the shower get so dirty?" "Where is the disinfectant?" "I need a rag!" "I need a mop!" Laura responded cheerfully,

helping with assignments and supplies. Experienced members Clinton and Karen Chung brought their own window washing equipment and quickly cleaned the huge glass plates with the help of Richard Iha. Everyone worked quickly to complete tasks and relaxed with snacks and a little chit-chatting by 9 a.m.

ANNUAL PICNIC: The annual Ginowan Shijin Kai picnic will be held at Ala Moana Park, Section 8 (near the footbridge from Ala Moana Blvd). Fun activities begin at 9 a.m., but come early to set up your spot and visit your friends. This year's planning responsibilities are with Ginowan, Futenma and Maehara aza's. Contact your aza representative and help with new ideas, planning and enjoying the picnic. Flyers will be sent to members.

SCRIPSALES: Roberta Umeno has scrips for the Okinawa Festival in September. Get your scrips early and see the newly designed pictorial scrips. The scrips are attractively printed and you can get these from the club at the picnic! If unable to go to the picnic contact your aza representative or any of the club officials. Ginowan Shijin Kai receives a percentage of the sales made by the club so support the Ginowan club while supporting the festival!



Brennen Tamashiro, Trevor Tamashiro, Camryn Miyashiro and Evan Miyashiro help clean up.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Okinawa Festival in September. Ginowan Club will cook andagi and help in other preparations. Make new friends and keep the old. Sign up at the picnic, noting the dates and times you'll be available. Contact your aza representative if you are unable to attend the picnic.

OKINAWA TAIKAI: Ginowan club will be well represented at the taikai which will be held in October 13 to 16, 2011 in Naha.

100th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION: Ginowan Shijin Kai will celebrate its centennial at the 2012 Shinnen Enkai at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Plans are underway to make it a very special remembrance of the club's history and generations of Ginowan members who created and carried this organization. 100 years! Remember March 2012 and plan to attend.

This is Your Newsletter

Please send us your club news items and photos.

Email us at info@huoa.org

Mahalo!

2011 Kauai Okinawan Dance Festival—Another Successful Event for Kauai

The weekend of May 13-14, 2011, was a celebratory weekend for the Kauai Uchinanchu and their guests with the biennial Kauai Okinawan Festival hosted by the Hui Alu Club at the Kauai Veterans Center in Lihue. Kauai's festival differs from both the annual Oahu and Maui festivals. Instead of all-day affairs, the Kauai festival is held in the evenings on Friday and Saturday. Every other year, the Hui Alu Okinawa Club of Kauai holds a dance festival that showcases the Okinawa culture. Performances include traditional Okinawan music, drumming, sanshin performances and dances. There are also games, Okinawan food, a country store and cultural exhibits.



Kent Yamauchi, President of Hui Alu, launched the festivities and Jonathan Chun hosted the programs for both evenings as the master of ceremony. Several entertainers from Oahu joined the local entertainers to provide a special treat for local community with outstanding traditional Okinawan music and dances. One must note that the elder Uchinanchu on Kauai look forward to this festival because for most, this is the only time they are entertained by traditional Okinawan music and dances. Thanks to the following entertainers, the local audience was superbly entertained on both evenings.

- Kauai Sanshin Club (Grant "Sandaa" Murata Sensei)
- Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii (Kauai and Oahu Chapters) Akemi Martin Director
- Afuso-Ryu Gensei Kai Hawaii Shibu/Ryukyu Koten Afuso-Ryu Ongaku Kenkyu Choichi Kai (Grant "Sandaa" Murata Sensei)
- Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai (Melissa Uyeunten, President) provided Eisa drummers and dancers from Oahu
- Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai (Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo)
- Taiko Kauai (Fukushima Ondo)

This year's festival held a special significance that will affect the Kauai Uchinanchu community for years to come. Grant "Sandaa" Murata, President of the Afuso-Ryu Gensei Kai Hawaii Shibu, announced the debut of the Kauai Sanshin Club. Alan Hiranaka, club president, had been encouraging other Hui Alu members to take advantage of Sandaa's interest in developing sanshin talent on Kauai. In September

2010, the Kauai Sanshin Club was established and began learning traditional Okinawan minyo with Sandaa sensei. This humble beginning culminated in a proud moment for Sandaa when the group performed in public for the first time.

Sandaa's strong commitment to Kauai was intended to generate focus back on the Okinawan culture, especially after Hurricane Iniki devastated Kauai. He had wanted to raise the spirits of Kauai Uchinanchu and, to that end, he worked closely with the Aloha Airlines international marketing director at the time to sponsor groups from Oahu to perform on Kauai. With his personal involvement, this year's festival was a landmark for him. He can feel confident that the Okinawan spirit on Kauai has attained full recovery with the debut of the Kauai Sanshin Club.

The festival ended with an enthusiastic and competitive match. As we Okinawans normally do, we end our festivities with Kachashi. Sandaa challenged all comers by emphatically stating that he would continue playing the sanshin until the last dancer quits. The festival attendees took his challenge to heart and made him play for at least 20 minutes. Since it was evident that attendees would force Sandaa to "play forever," a generous and thoughtful person finally placed a bottle of beer at the front of the stage that convinced him that he had met his match.



Another well organized, exciting festival completed! The Hui Alu Club of Kauai wants to thank all of the volunteers and attendees for making this year's festival a resounding success. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru!* See you in 2013!

Congratulations and Mahalo, Carly!



Remember Carly Namihira? Earlier this year, this very active Aiea High School senior did a special Senior Project, which included a big benefit event for HUOA on Preserving our Okinawan Performing Arts. Carly, who also served as Drum Major for Aiea High School's Marching Band, recently graduated with honors and is now in Japan participating in the Japan Wizards competition. Thank you, Carly for your generous donation of \$5,402 to HUOA.

HUI O LAULIMA COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

Led by its community service co-chairs Diane Kawakami and Sherry Nushida, the Hui O Laulima committee of dancers shared their Okinawan culture at the Leahi Hospital Nursing Home on May 21. The group performs at least four times



The Hui O Laulima Churakaagi Angwatas (Beautiful Aunties) spend their Sundays practicing hula and Okinawan dances in order to prepare for their performances. The odori group at Leahi Hospital (pictured below), are: Thelma Arakawa, Ele Hu, Thelma Ho, Diane Kawakami, Lorraine Kodama, Gerri Maeda, Shirley Miyahira, Sherry Nushida, Virginia Takara, Val Teruya, Nancy Yeda, and Wendy Yoshimoto.

a year at various nursing homes, adult day care centers and other such facilities to entertain the residents and spread goodwill.

The Hui O Laulima group has also performed at the Franciscan Adult Care, Salvation Army Adult Day Care, and the Maunalani Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. The group's last visit for 2011 will be in November at the Lanakila Senior Center.



Guest performers were the Warabi Ashibi Wannabees: Jan Pearson, Margot Sarae, Sharon Fujino, Paula Kurashige, Wendy Yoshimoto and Sharon Miyashiro.

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Scholarship Opportunity to Study in Okinawa

We have just gotten word from the Okinawa Prefectural Government (OPG) that their scholarship (*kenpi*) program is now being offered for the period extending from October 2011 to March 2012 to study as an auditor or research student at the University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa Prefectural University of Arts, or Meio University.

Initially, due to financial circumstances in government, the overseas program was cut from the budget. However, due to strong voices from overseas as well as within Okinawa, OPG has re-evaluated their budget and is now able to offer a six-month scholarship to the overseas communities.

Please visit the HUOA website (www.huoa.org) for details, including requirements and special guidelines. Please contact Bonnie at 676-5400 or e-mail (bonnie@huoa.org; bonnie-huoa@hawaii.rr.com) if you have questions.

The application deadline, including all required forms to the HUOA for all qualifying applications, is June 30, 2011. 🌺

Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange

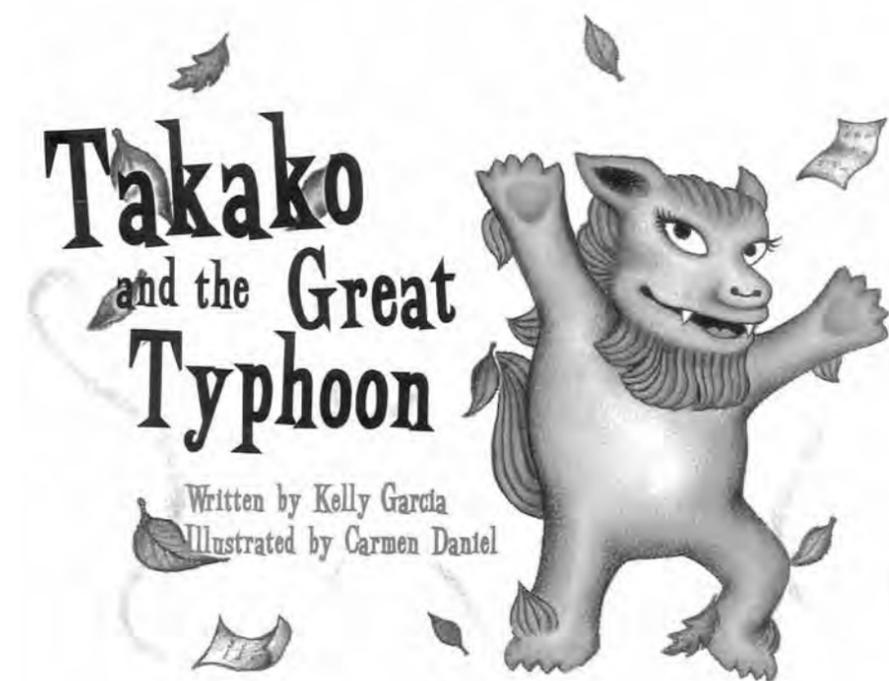
Fifteen high schools students escorted by teachers Stacy Kawamura (front-left) and Tom Yamamoto (back-right) left on a two-week Student Exchange experience in Okinawa. The students will be hosted by families in Okinawa and will be attending high schools with their host students. We look forward to their reports in the next issue. 🌺



Takako And The Great Typhoon

A children's book by Kelly Garcia

For a limited time and while supplies last, the Gift Shop at Hawaii Okinawa Center is selling "Takako and the Great Typhoon," by Kelly Garcia. Living in Yomitan, Garcia was inspired to publish a hard cover children's picture storybook capturing the wonderful and unique culture of Okinawa for the world to enjoy.



Garcia's appreciation for *shisaa* and life in Okinawa is reflected in the adventures of a mischievous *shisaa* named Takako. Takako's adventures give us a glimpse into everyday Okinawa, as she races through her beloved village on a mission to save her brother from a great and scary typhoon!

As we only have 25 copies of the book available for purchase, don't wait to get your copy at the Gift Shop for \$15. 🌺

Okinawan Proverbs

By HUOA Uchinaaguchi Class Members

Sensei Dr. Kyoko Hijirida

Uchinaa nu Kugani Kutuba

うちなーぬ くかに くとうば (沖縄の黄金の言葉 (格言))

(Okinawa's Precious Words of Wisdom)

Okinawans have a treasure chest of timeless proverbs which are part of the legacy of Uchina-nchu. These were written to teach children proper behavior, and to keep a person in the right train of thought. They reflect and reveal the values of the Okinawan people.

During the months of May and June we celebrate many traditional events relating to our loved ones: Children's Day (in Japanese culture), Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Memorial Day. On these days we take a break from our busy lives to remember our loved ones and to show our appreciation for them.

親の恩は 毛筋ほども 返せない

うやぬ うんや きーしじん うくららん

Uya nu un ya kiishijin ukuraran.

(Our debt of gratitude to our parents is greater than the number of strands of hair)

This proverb conveys the depth of our parents' unconditional love and care to their children. We can never demonstrate enough, our appreciation to our parents for what they have provided, their valuable teachings and sacrifices they have made for us.

Sometimes our realization of what our parents mean to us comes too late. There is another saying which reflects this, "Uya ushinati aturu, uya nu kutu umuyuru." (It is only after we lose our parents that we think about them and realize the extent of their love and care to us.)

Concerning the importance of teaching by parents, a Hawaiian proverb says as follows: *Mai kape i ke a'o a ka makua, aia he ola malaila.* (Do not set aside the teachings of one's parents for there is life there (Pukui #2065).

This reminds us of the famous *Ryu-ka* (Ryukyuan poem) "Tinsagu nu Hana," which conveys the importance of our parents' teachings. The English translation of the first and second verses follows:

"(1) As you dye your fingernails with Balsam flowers, dye the teaching of your parents into your heart."

"(2) It is easier to count the twinkling stars in the sky than to count the wise teachings of your parents."

The late spring season is a time to remember the love that our parents have shown for us. However, we should not wait for particular holidays to show our appreciation to them. We should strive to always remember our parents, as our parents have always remembered us, and to keep them close in our hearts, just as we are close in theirs. 🌺

Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language)

Word of the Month

May

joo-yee, n. [jooai] Affection; love; tenderness. See also *nasaki*, joo 2 (make the "2" smaller and raised), *chimu*.

June

kanai, vi. [·(r)an, ·ti; kanau] 1 To be strong and healthy; be able to work. 2 To be fulfilled; be realized. 3 To be equal in a fight. 4 To become favorite.

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

29th Okinawan Festival Scrip

Don't stand in line this year for your Okinawan Festival scrip! Get them early and support your club, contact your Club President to purchase.

HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar!

June 2011

- 24 4th HUOA Senior Fair, 9am-1pm
- 25 Maui Okinawan Festival, Maui Mall, 10am-3pm
- 28 Club Development com. Meeting, 7pm

July

- 4 Independence Day-Hawaii Okinawa Center Office closed
- 5 Executive Council meeting, 7pm
- 10 Kita Nakagusuku-HOC clean-up, 7am
- 13 General Festival meeting, 7pm
- 14 Communications & Information Committee, meeting, 5:30pm
- 14 Festival Food Committee meeting, 7pm
- 19 Board of Directors meeting, 7pm
- 23 Okinawa City-Goeku-HOC clean-up, 7am
- 26 Club Development, 7pm
- 28 Administration Committee meeting, 7pm

August

- 4 Festival Food Committee meeting, 7pm
- 6 Kochinda Chojin Kai-HOC clean-up, 7am
- 9 Executive Council meeting, 7pm
- 10 General Festival meeting, 7pm
- 11 Communications & Information Committee, meeting, 7pm
- 18 Administration Committee meeting, 7pm
- 28 Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai-HOC clean-up/wok-cleaning, 7am

September

- 3 & 4 29th Okinawan Festival-Kapiolani Park
- 5 Labor Day-Hawaii Okinawa Center Office Closed

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 6/1/11)

HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

REMINDER: Since January 2011, the regular airtime for our HOT shows has been changed to Saturday at 5 p.m. In addition to this time slot, we also premiere (new) shows on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. These premiere shows are reshown on the Saturday of the same week. Our shows will still be aired on Oceanic Channel 53.

Jul 2, Sat, 5pm—"Shinasaki," Part Two. A recital by Jane Kaneshiro Sozan Kai, held at the Leeward Community Theatre on April 19, 1998.

Jul 4, Mon, 7pm (Premiere) & Jul 9, Sat, 5pm—Part One of the Inaugural Hawaii Eisa Drum Festival held at The Great Lawn of Kapiolani Community College on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Part One features the Young Okinawans of Hawaii, the Paranku Clubs of Hawaii, the Shiisaa lion-dogs, and Derek Ichiro Shiroma.

Jul 16, Sat, 5pm—Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Hawaii Okinawa Center – Part One, held on June 10, 2000 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Part One highlights the Nishihara High School Marching Band, ceremony and presentations, golf tips by Les Uyehara, performances by Nakasone Hooqe Kai – Nakasone Yoshiko Ryubu Kenkyusho, Kaneshiro Kikue Ryubu Kenkyu Kai, Majikina Honryu Buyo Dojo -Yoshino Majikina, Nomura Ryu Ongaku Kyokai-Hawaii Shibu, Ryukyu Sokyoku-Koyo Kai-Hawaii Shibu, Afuso Ryu Hawaii Sandaa Kai, and Hawaii Taiko Kai.

Jul 18, Mon, 7pm (Premiere) & Jul 23, Sat, 5pm—"Nenes," Part Two, presented by Sadao China in a benefit concert celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The "Nenes" are Yasura Terumi, Higa Mayuko, Uehara Nagisa, and Nakamoto Maki. The performance was held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on June 29, 2010. Also performing are Sadao China and Yasuko Yoshida

Jul 30, Sat, 5pm—Part One of the 14th Annual Tobe! Uta Sanshin 2007 in Hawaii - Afuso Ryu Gensei Kai 80th Anniversary Commemorative Performance, held at the Hawaii Theatre on November 27, 2007.

Aug 1, Mon, 7pm (Premiere) & Aug 6, Sat, 5pm—Part Two of the Inaugural Hawaii Eisa Drum Festival held at The Great Lawn of Kapiolani Community College on Saturday May 14, 2011. Part Two features Kenny Endo and The Taiko Center of the Pacific, Hawaii Eisa Chimugukuru Daiko, the Urizun Minyo Group and the Shiisaa lion-dogs.

Aug 13, Sat, 5pm—The 4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival in Okinawa, October 12-15, 2006, Commemorative Video, produced by the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

Aug 15, Mon, 7pm (Premiere) & Aug 20, Sat, 5pm—Kariyushi XVI, Part One, held at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 1, 2005. Featuring the 4th Annual Red and White Kariyushi Karaoke Taikai. Also performing in Part One is Ryusei Honryu Yanagi No Kai Hawaii Shibu.

Aug 27, Sat, 5pm—Part One of "Okinawan Dance: The Beauty of Tradition" by Sensei Lynne Yoshiko Nakasone and the Nakasone Dance Academy. Performed at the Orvis Auditorium on the campus of the University of Hawaii at Manoa on July 29, 2000.

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