



UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

March/April 2013 Issue #143 Circulation 9,790

A Night for Yuntaku

Members Share Experiences and Display Our Cultural Pride

By Mark Higa, HUOA Vice President

Longtime members of HUOA are familiar with the many different annual events we hold for both members and the community to enjoy. There are so many opportunities for us to give back, to learn, engage and practice our culture through song, dance, *Eisa*, *sanshin*, and more. There are also chances for us to learn about our history, language and genealogy.

But do you know *everything* that the HUOA has to offer beyond this and the camaraderie we enjoy through our member clubs? We all know of people who are curious about what we do, but are not currently members... How can we share this information with all *Uchinanchu* and *Uchiananchu* at Heart?

For members, with our dedication and commitment to volunteering at events, where can we talk about these things and learn more about our fellow members and friends?

Sometimes, things are best left for a chance to *Yuntaku*...“*Yuntaku*” – a word often used in *Uchinaaguchi* meaning “chit-chat” or to “talk-story” – was the theme for HUOA’s first social mixer held at Vice Inferno Nightclub on April 3. With over 150 in attendance, almost half the attendees were non-HUOA members who were interested in learning more about our organization, events and the clubs their parents or friends are active in and passionate about.

What started as an idea to gather in a different setting and help engage with members and potential members about the tons of different activities and events we have quickly turned into a sort of buffet for learning and feast for the senses. All members stepped up with ideas and volunteered to share their knowledge and experiences with everyone.

From a generous *Awamori* tasting area provided by Randy Kuba, to two looping slide shows of HUOA events accompanied by a mix of contemporary and traditionally influenced Okinawan tunes, attendees who were greeted at registration immediately knew this would not be your typical event. The lounge-like set up allowed many to mingle and enjoy a mix of pupus and drinks, that included some treats such as Okinawan Sweet Potato, *Sata Andagi* and *Awamori* cocktails.

Everyone proceeded to circulate around the “cultural learning stations,” where they could learn about cultural performances such as *Eisa*, *Shishimai*, *Sanshin* and Dance, as well as Club Events such as Festival, Cooking Classes and the *Haari* Boat Race. They also could learn about the many classes offered at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, in addition to our sports teams and personal experiences of learning, travel and outreach to the community.

Attendees were encouraged to go to all stations to listen to our curators who shared their stories with images, display boards, and show-and-tell



Hai Sai!

Thank you very much for attending the first Social Mixer – *Yuntaku!* We hope you enjoyed yourself, chatted with your friends and met a few new people while learning a little more about HUOA, our opportunities and about being *Uchinanchu* or *Uchiananchu* at Heart. We welcome any comments you may have that will help us with our future outreach events.

If requested during registration, you will be getting the Purple Blast in upcoming months. The e-mail newsletter is sent out every other month. Keep posted on any upcoming events and should you have any questions regarding the organization, opportunities and events, feel free to contact me by email. *Ichariba Chode!* (Once we have met, we are like brothers and sisters)

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President's Message By George Bartels, Jr.



Ukazi Deebiru – Because of You!

Thank you to all the clubs that invited me or members of our Executive Committee to your *Shinnen Enkai*. It is always a pleasure to be a part of your gatherings and especially to meet many new and familiar faces. I was impressed with Hui Okinawa's five *Kajimaya* honorees reaching the age of 97 at their annual *Shinnen Enkai* held at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale in Hilo. The food at Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai's *Shinnen Enkai* was outstanding, starting with their own fresh out of the imu kalua pig, accompanied with dishes that were made with loving care under the supervision of Jane Matsuda. Even the Okinawan sweet potato tempura was grown and picked from their own backyard before frying into tempura. Cyrus Tamashiro, who was unable to attend Kohala's *Shinnen Enkai* last year, made the memorable trip this year, which concluded with many laughs and the hospitality of Ted and Kathy Matsuda and friends to end the evening (see photo, page 14). A couple of weeks later, Cyrus and I ventured to Honoka'a to attend Hui Uruma's *Shinnen Enkai* at the gracious invitation of President Scott Nakahara (see photo, page 13). The weekend concluded with great entertainment and fellowship at Kona Okinawa Kenjin Kai's second annual *Shinnen Kai*. The four Big Island clubs work closely together by supporting each other's events throughout the year and attending each other's *Shinnen Enkais*. *Ukazi Deebiru!*

Twenty-one girls and four boys from Okinawa participated in the 23rd Okinawa-Hawaii Student Exchange Program. The 25 students home stayed with families on Oahu before traveling to Hilo where they were graciously hosted by Hui Okinawa. The students returned to Oahu for one final gathering and dinner at the HOC, where they performed for their host families. Both the exchange students and host families have created bonds and memories that will last a lifetime.

The 25 exchange students from Okinawa, their chaperones, and host families were amongst the 133 HUOA participants in this year's Honolulu Festival Parade. The HUOA contingent carried our colorful club banners and marched to the beat of Chinagu Eisa Hawaii along the parade route from Ft. Derussy to Kapiolani Park. We had so much fun that we would like to encourage all of you to join us in the upcoming Pan Pacific Matsuri Waikiki Parade on June 9, 2013.

President-Elect Chris Shimabukuro, Executive Director Jane Serikaku and I made an *aisatsu* visit to Okinawa in March. Having Jane join us was a tremendous blessing, as warm welcoming faces greeted Jane wherever we went. Jane's welcoming acquaintances included Governor Nakaima, Naha Mayor Onaga, and even Seiichiro Inamine of Jimmy's Bakery in Okinawa, to mention a few. Because the Presidents of HUOA change every year, they do not have much time to know us as individuals, but only as officers of HUOA. Therefore, Jane is the one constant that strengthens our connections with Okinawa.

The trip included attending Begin's "*Buta no Ongaeshi*" concert at Uruma City, which incorporated an actor portraying Taro Higa and others who made the arduous journey with the pigs from the United States to Okinawa and the challenges they faced along the way. The portrayal was greatly enhanced for



HUOA'S greatest supporters: Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai Board of Directors

Chris and I by the interpretive skills of Chisako Oshiro. She not only translated the program in real time, but was able to incorporate the feelings and the emphasis of the speaker and the vocal intonations to make the presentation and concert meaningful for Chris and I. The *aisatsu* visit included meeting with this year's festival attendees from Okinawa: Leilani Hula Group, Yomitan Bojutsu, Radio Okinawa's Miuta Taisho Grand Prix – Lucy Nagamine and Kadena Eisa. We also met with two performance groups that are planning future concerts at HOC.

It was a whirlwind schedule of meetings with the officers and members

of Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai, Governor Hirokazu Nakaima, Speaker Masaharu Kina, Superintendent of the Board of Education Hiroshi Oshiro, Mayor Takeshi Onaga of Naha City, Mayor Toshiyasu Shiroma of Haeburu Town, Mayor Atsushi Sakima of Ginowan City, Mayor Denjitsu Ishimine of Yomitan Village, Mayor Susumu Inamine of Nago City, and the Chairman of Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau, Shigenobu Asato. Along the way, and with the help of Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai President Choko Takayama and Vice President Asami Ginoza, we promoted the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza project to everyone that we met, including the International Exchange Promotion Division of the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

Traveling to Okinawa and finding your roots and relatives is an amazing feeling. This year's HUOA Study Tour to Okinawa in October will include the opportunity for Oroku Aza Jin Club and Ginowan Club members to connect with their relatives in Okinawa. Just like the *aisatsu* visit that Chris, Jane and I



A fruitful visit with Okinawa's Governor: Jane Serikaku, George Bartels, Jr. Governor Hirokazu Nakaima, Chris Shimabukuro, OPG's Daiichi Hirata, Okinawa Hawaii Kyokai President Choko Takayama, and Vice President Asami Ginoza.

returned from, meeting family for the first time is an indescribable experience. The *Uchinanchu* Spirit that gleams from the people of Okinawa create those memorable experiences similar to the Aloha Spirit that makes Hawaii a special place. If you are interested in joining the HUOA Study Tour, please visit our website: www.huoa.org

2013 HUOA STUDY TOUR TO OKINAWA

October 3-14, 2013

By HUOA President George Bartels, Jr.

Please join me on the 2013 HUOA Study Tour to discover and immerse yourself in the history, culture and delicious cuisine that Okinawa is noted for. My favorite is the Okinawa Prefectural fish "gurukun" deep-fried and so crispy that you can eat the entire fish!

Be prepared to participate in the world's largest tsunahiki (tug of war) and remember to cut a piece of the smaller strands to bring home for good luck! Enjoy the Naha Matsuri with all its food booths and displays/sale of Okinawan goods. And, of course, many more exciting activities are planned for you.

You will find the itinerary on our HUOA website, www.huoa.org. Call Nadine Shimabukuro at N&K Travel Service, Inc. at (808) 739-9010 to make your reservations.

UCHINANCHU

Uchinanchu is the newsletter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Although subject to change, issues will be published bi-monthly. Volunteer writers are welcome. Send your name, address and telephone number to Uchinanchu Newsletter, Hawaii United Okinawa Association, 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, Hawaii 96797. E-mail articles to huoa@huoa.org. Uchinanchu reserves the right to edit all material for clarity and accuracy.

HUOA President George Bartels, Jr.
Executive Director Jane F. Serikaku
Editorial/Production Services MBFT Media

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Uchinanchu reaches over 9,700 households. For advertising rates and more information, contact us at:

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UCHINANCHU SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight: Judge Herbert Shimabukuro



In Okinawan, there is a term, *kugani kutuba*, which means precious or treasured words of wisdom. Oftentimes, these were words or phrases that captured the essence of how one should cultivate the mind and traverse the pathway of life. No matter that our *issei* traveled to the foreign soil of Hawaii, they carried with them their philosophies and work ethics. *Yuimaru*, helping one another without expecting a reward, *chui shizi*, the importance of supporting one another, *chibariyo*, going for it, *nuchidu takara*, life is a treasure-life is precious, *chimugukuru*, the beautiful heart-a mutual understanding of one another. These are just a

few of the words of wisdom that the *issei* survived on and these are the important beliefs that were bestowed onto their *nisei* children.

Our spotlight for this issue shines brightly on Judge (Retired) Herbert Shimabukuro, a proud *Hanijinchu*, whose *issei* father seemed to have had a great influence on him. As the fifth of 10 children born to Choyu and Matsuko Shimabukuro, hard work and helping out with the hog farm and the family's needs were a way of life in the Shimabukuro household.

In an interview for this article, Judge Herbert shared his father's *kugani kutuba*. He said that his father stressed three principles, which were necessary in life. They were "courage" to go forth with one's goals, "*gakumon*" or education to nurture and broaden the mind, and "compassion" to care and offer kindness and consideration to others.

Looking at Judge Herbert's successful career in the City and County's Office of the Prosecutor and many years on the benches at the District Court and Circuit Court, it would appear that he understood and applied his father's teachings well. Additionally, he and his wife, Lillian, used these beliefs in raising their three sons, Mark, Chris and Jon, who have their own independently successful careers as an educator, administrator and attorney.

The Haneji Club, a member association of the HUOA, was formed in 1928 by

concerned and avid members who descended from the same locality in Okinawa. Judge Herbert's father served as its president in 1949. Judge Herbert also served as Haneji's president in 1987 and for eight years from 2002 to 2010. He also served on HUOA's Executive Council as an Advisor for several terms. With a twinkle in his eyes, Judge Herbert proudly calls himself the "Water Boy" for Haneji's softball team as he and Lillian have provided refreshments and snacks to show their support to their team at every game to date for over 20 years.

Unbeknownst to many, Judge Herbert has been one of the most faithful and diligent volunteers in the history of the HUOA. From the earliest days of the Okinawan Festival at McCoy Pavilion and through the years at Thomas Square and Kapiolani Park, Judge Herbert rolled up his sleeves with fellow Haneji members to fulfill their wide range of assignments. He has served on the committees or chaired various HUOA events including our Evening and Winter Craft Fairs.

The HUOA expresses its *Ippee Nifee Deebiru* to Judge Herbert Shimabukuro for all that you continue to do for our organization. We extend a special mahalo to Lillian and the entire Shimabukuro Family for their support and encouragement that have allowed Judge Herbert's participation in our activities.

We are extremely grateful to Choyu and Matsuko Shimabukuro for instilling their *kugani kutuba* of courage, *gakumon* and compassion to their children as now the next generation continue to live their lives with dignity, benevolence and the *Uchinanchu* Spirit. 🌺

"Judge Herbert has been one of the most faithful and diligent volunteers in the history of the HUOA."

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Warabi Ashibi – Children at Play

Okinawan Summer Day Camp for Children - Scheduled for Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii this June



From the island of Kauai to east side of the Big Island – the sounds of our Okinawan music will be heard throughout the state in the month of June. Children ages seven to thirteen will be able to enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of our culture. This year it may take the form of *Eisa* drumming, *Kobudo-styled* drumming, *sanba* playing, or Okinawan dance our culture will be shared.

“*Warabi Ashibi*” is an Okinawan term meaning “children at play.” The spirit of this theme has governed the Hawaii United Okinawa Association’s Okinawan Cultural Summer Day Camp Program for Kids. Developed in 1996, the program is designed to teach children about the Okinawan culture and heritage in a fun learning atmosphere.

Campers (children from the ages of 8 to 13) are introduced to Okinawan history, dance, language, drumming, martial arts, crafts, flower arrangement, cooking and plantation games. Projects are designed to provide a hands-on fun and educational experience for the participants and will vary from camp to camp.

Projects this year will include: the making and performing of an *eisa odaiko* drum (Oahu); a *daruma* doll (Oahu and Kohala); a *sanba* or *sampan* (Kauai and Maui); a “*shimi-daiko*” or two-sided corded drum (Hilo); and a *kobudo-styled odaiko* drum (Kohala and Hilo). According to HUOA Coordinator Karen Kuba-Hori, “We are very excited this year, camps have preparing for their projects since the beginning of the year. Having the opportunity to introduce such important elements of our Okinawan culture to our children is immeasurable. Every year each program gets better and better. The programming this year is exceptional – lots of fun stuff for the kids play, learn and teach their parents.”

“*Warabi Ashibi*” was first established by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association for Oahu. The program is now offered statewide with the assistance from neighbor island Okinawan clubs and a financial grant from the State of Hawaii, State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Coordinators from each island develop the program that will best suit their population.

For additional and updated information, please visit our website at www.huoa.org or call the HUOA office at 676-5400 or email at kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com.



Listing of Camps and General Information:

Continued from previous column

OAHU

Location: Hawaii Okinawa Center
 Date of Camp: June 4th – 7th
 (sleepover at the Hawaii Okinawa Center scheduled on Thursday)
 Hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
 Friday: 8:30 am – noon
 Coordinating Club: Hui O Laulima
 Directors: Wendy Yoshimoto and Jean Tsuda
 Registration: \$100 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 80
 Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age
 Contact: Karen Kuba-Hori, (808) 676-5400
kuba-huoa@hawaii.rr.com
 (see application form provided on this page)

Director: Ruby Maekawa
 Contact: Ruby Maekawa, (808) 959-4855
rmaekawa@hawaiiantel.net

HAWAII – KOHALA

Location: Kohala Intergenerational Center (KIC)
 Date of Camp: June 29th – June 30th
 Hours: Saturday - June 29th – June 30th
 Sunday – 8:30am to 3:00pm
 Coordinating Club: Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai
 Registration: \$40 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 24
 Ages: 7 years to 13 years of age
 Director: Kathy Matsuda
 Contact: Kathy Matsuda, (808) 895-2025
Kathy@hialoha.net

HAWAII – KONA

Location: Hualalai Academy School
 Date of Camp: June 22nd – 23rd
 Hours: Saturday – 8:30am to 3:30pm
 Sunday – 8:30am to 4:30pm
 Coordinating Club: Kona Okinawa Kenjin Kai
 Registration: \$40 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 20
 Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age
 Directors: Doris Grace and Pat Nagy
 Contact: Doris Grace, gracedoris48@gmail.com
 Pat Nagy, (808) 325-0060 or pnagy808@hotmail.com

MAUI

Location: Maui Okinawa Center
 Date of Camp: May 28th – May 31st
 Hours: 9:00am – 3:00pm
 Coordinating Club: Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai
 Directors: Laurie Omuro-Yamamoto and Debbie Kiyabu
 Registration: \$95 for MOKK members; \$120 for non-members,
 includes one year MOKK membership.
 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 30
 Ages: Entering 1st grade – 8th grade
 Contact: Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai, (808) 242-1560
 MOKK
 P O Box 1884, Wailuku 96793
 Laurie Omuro-Yamamoto, (808)243-9467
 Debbie Kiyabu

KAUAI

Location: Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall
 Date of Camp: June 11th – June 13th
 Hours: 8:30am to 4:00pm
 Coordinating Club: Hui Alu, Inc.
 Registration: \$75 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 50
 Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age
 Director: Gloria Hiranaka
 Contact: Gloria Hiranaka, (808) 652-1223 gjhiranaka@hotmail.com

HAWAII – HILO

Location: Honpa Hongwanji, Hilo Betsuin
 Date of Camp: June 2nd – 7th
 (Excursion scheduled for Thursday – with a Wednesday Fun Night)
 Hours: 8:30am – 2:30pm
 Coordinating Club: Hui Okinawa
 Registration: \$90 (discount for multi-child households)
 Number of Kids: 48
 Ages: 8 years to 13 years of age

Continued on next column

Registration Form on page 5

Continued from page 4

**REGISTRATION FORM –
DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2013
Enrollment limited to 80 participants**

Name of Child _____

Age _____ Sex _____ T-shirt size: Adult/Youth _____
circle one indicate size

Returning Child: [] Yes [] No No. of Yrs Participating: _____

Name of Child _____

Age _____ Sex _____ T-shirt size: Adult/Youth _____
circle one indicate size

Returning Child: [] Yes [] No No. of Yrs Participating: _____

Name of Child _____

Age _____ Sex _____ T-shirt size: Adult/Youth _____
circle one indicate size

Returning Child: [] Yes [] No No. of Yrs Participating: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian's Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Home _____ Parent/work _____ Parent/Cell _____

E-mail Address: _____

Registration Fees:

One child (\$100)

*Two children (\$180)

*Three children (\$260)

Addition T-shirts:

(youth) ----- \$7 quantity ___ size ___

(adult) ----- \$10 quantity ___ size ___

Total Amount Enclosed _____

** To receive the multi-child discount, children must belong to the same household.*

Make checks payable to HUOA. Mail to:

HUOA
Children's Day Camp
94-587 Ukee Street
Waipahu, HI 96797



Warabi Ashibi
children at play

Ippee nifee deebiru!

HUOA use only _____

_____ Input completed

(Date) _____ (Initial) _____ Rev. 6/30/11, 2/24/12 CDC-F #1

Taste of Marukai

By Chris Shimabukuro

I had heard about the Taste of Marukai before, but had never attended. On April 11, I finally had the opportunity to experience it for the first time – and what an experience it was! It helped me understand the thinking behind the saying, “Ignorance is bliss.” For years, I didn’t realize what I was missing out on, but after experiencing the event first hand, I never want to miss another one.



From the moment you enter the Marukai Wholesale Mart on Dillingham Boulevard, you hear and feel the excitement and enter into a very surreal world.



I arrived at the start, but already hundreds of people were eating or standing in line for the many gourmet dishes that had been prepared. Live music can be heard throughout the store, introductions and speeches are being made, lucky numbers are being called, people of all ages are talking and laughing and having a blast all in the confines of a shopping mart.

“Where am I?” “What world is this?” It’s the Eighth Annual Taste of Marukai and I’m only attending this for the first time?” In addition to the wonderful food, many tables consisting of a variety of sake and beer are spread out all over the store.



A 100 pound ahi is being cut and sashimi slices are served to all, *oishii* to say the least.

Maybe it’s because the Marukai Wholesale Mart feels a little like the old Arakawa’s store in Waipahu, where you can find almost anything and everything, or maybe it’s because you run into so many happy familiar faces, but the store and event, although very crowded, feels very comfortable and familiar.

At any rate, the event was thoroughly enjoyable and we need to thank the Marukai ownership and management for putting on such a first-class event that is a fundraiser that benefits the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce, the Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce, and the Hawaii United Okinawa Association.



We also need to thank many of our own HUOA members that volunteered to help work at the event. An event like this would not be possible without the time, effort and energy of so many people.



Thank you all and I look forward to seeing you all again next year at the Ninth Annual Taste of Marukai.



Third Eisa Drum Festival at Kapi'olani Community College on May 11

By Shari Tamashiro

Kapiolani Community College (KCC) and the Office of Student Activities are pleased to announce that the Third Eisa Drum Festival will be held on Saturday, May 11, on KCC's Great Lawn. Food booths will open at 5:30 p.m. and the program will run from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The event is free and open to the public, with ample free parking on campus.



Yes, I know I said last year would be the last but I just couldn't say no to that fabulous stage and the chance to work with the incredible Daiichi Hirata again. So, join us on May 11 and spend an evening under the stars with friends and family, surrounded by the beauty of the KCC campus, eat some andagi, and enjoy some seriously good entertainment. I would also like to ask for your kokua in helping to spread the word about this event. We rely on word of mouth and the assistance of organizations like HUOA to publicize the event, so your help is greatly needed and appreciated!

Eisa is a form of dance and drumming unique to the people of Okinawa. It is an exhilarating combination of singing, chanting, dancing, and drumming. It originally had an important religious function of giving repose to the dead. In Okinawa and Hawaii, Eisa continues to be performed at Bon Dances. Today, some groups do traditional dances, while others experiment with contemporary styles. This year, we will have contemporary styles of drumming, with Okinawan taiko, karate, lions, and contemporary folk music.



The first two festivals have been described as "magical" and we hope to continue that tradition in our 3rd year. Performers include: Chinagu Eisa Hawaii, Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts, Hawaii Taiko Kai, Okinawa

Shorin-Ryu Karate Club/Shinden Ryu Karate Association, and Urizun Minyo Group. We are working on bringing in special guests from Okinawa like the acclaimed artist, choreographer, and director Daiichi Hirata.

Like in previous years, we will be showcasing Okinawa-style whistling in a guys vs. girls whistling competition. The girls have won for the past two years. If you are skilled at whistling Okinawan style and would like to participate, please contact me at: sharit@hawaii.edu



The last two festivals drew crowds of over 3,000 each year and were truly magical events. Some of the performances were so beautiful, like the *Chant of Island Peoples* that featured Daiichi Hirata and Nawaa Kawika Napoleon, I got chicken skin. We were blessed with so many amazing performances and an incredible crowd. To see videos and photos from the past festivals, please visit: www.pigsfromthesea.com

Food will be provided by KCC's famous culinary program and celebrity Chef Instructor Grant Sato. Detailed menu will be posted on our facebook page.

NOTICE: Alcohol is strictly prohibited at the event.

TIP: Bring lawn chairs to sit on, blankets, and jackets (it can get chilly on the lawn). Parking is free but please carpool if possible to ensure finding a stall.

Up to date information on program, schedule, parking, maps, and food items on sale will be posted at www.facebook.com/eisahawaii.

Begin Thrills HUOA's Ichigo ichi e

HUOA's *Ichigo ichi e* class members had the honor of playing for and with the famous *BEGIN* group from Okinawa. This fantastic group has held "Buta no Ongaeshi" concerts to express their appreciation to the Uchinanchu in Hawaii who raised funds to send 550 pigs to war-torn Okinawa. The Hawaii Okinawan community also banded together to send two boatloads of goats to provide milk for the children, clothing, medical and school supplies, cash donations, and more in those crucial times following the war.



"This was the first time we tried hosting a 'potluck' for 300 people," noted HUOA Executive Director Jane Serikawa. "It was amazing," she said of the response, for no sooner were the tables set up than they were filled with rice, main dishes, salads, desserts, pupu and "all sorts of ono stuff."



Ippee Nifee Deebiru to all of our HUOA members and friends who joined together for a fantastic potluck dinner and fellowship with *BEGIN*. They were amazed at the wonderful array of food and were especially excited about the variety of desserts.

Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu

Directors: Ryosei Oshiro, Junko Bise, Allison Yanagi, Harris Shiroma, Setsuko Tamaribushi

Presents

Tii Atu ~ 手跡

"Reminiscing the past while looking toward the future"

Honoring Kiyoshi Kinjo and Shoei Moriyama

Special Guests from Okinawa include:

- Sadao China - Toru Yonaha - Tatsuya Shimabukuro
- Yasuko Yoshida - Norie Shimabukuro - Kanako Horiuchi
- Ikuko Gushiken - Toshiko Chinen - Ritsuko Tamaki
- Etsuko Ikehara - Junko Uehara

With a special appearance by Kazufumi Miyazawa

Leeward Community College Theatre

Saturday, October 5, 2013

Performance starts at 2 p.m.

General Admission \$35 ~ Premium Admission \$75

For ticket information please contact

Sandy Yanagi @ 286-2220 or Wally Onuma @ 620-3023

Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange



Okinawa students with their Hawaii high school host students.



After a two-hour hula lesson, Okinawa high school students relax and enjoy pizza!

They Could have Danced All Night

By Dwayne Miyashiro, Chair

On the night of March 3, Church of the Holy Cross's Building of Faith was energized by 25 Okinawa High School Exchange students, Waiakea High Japanese Club and Hui Okinawa members & friends, with dances to the Electric Slide, Macarena and Gangnam style, as they ended a night of ono food, great entertainment and lots of aloha. Over 100 people attended this annual potluck event, in its 23rd year, to welcome the Okinawa students to Hilo.

The 21 female and 4 male students were chaperoned by Mr. Hiroshi Tamaki, Okinawa Prefectural Government Board of Education, English Teacher Consultant and Exchange Coordinator, and Ms. Keiko Kakazu, Naha Kokusai High School English teacher. Ms. Kakazu was an exchange student many years ago and was happy to make a return trip to Hilo. Mr. Tom Yamamoto of HUOA accompanied the group and Mr. Derek Miura of Hilo provided the Robert's bus transportation.

Welcome addresses were given by President Roy Hokama, Hawaii County East Hawaii Managing Director, Randy Kurohara (representing Mayor Kenoi) and J Yoshimoto, Hawaii County Council Chair.



The entertainment featured Chrissy Sugiyama, singing *karaoke* including a Chinese song. *Hana hou* could be heard from the Okinawa students when Chrissy performed. Jack Musick and Cody Yamaguchi did ukulele numbers, one featuring a hula dance by co-emcees Taylor and Megan Escalona. Cody displayed his mastery on the uke with a solo of one of Jake's song. Then to the delight of the Okinawa students, the Waiakea High Japanese Club debuted a hula number that they will perform on their trip to Japan at the end of March.



The Okinawa students then took the stage, opening with a professional rendition of *Kagiyadefu*, the traditional *Ryukyuan* opening dance. That was followed by singing of popular pop songs, accompanied by a guitar and 2 *sanshin* played by the students.

Saki Toguchi volunteered her services as the Japanese translator and show cased her fluency and professionalism. Along with Taylor and Megan, Saki made sure everyone was able to enjoy the entire program.

The students appeared disappointed to have to end the festivities. It was already past the "official" ending time but they kept on dancing bringing smiles to all in attendance.

Many thanks to all the groups and individuals who contributed food and drinks, decorations, instruments, entertainment, *kimonos*, sound system, goodie bags and logistical support in setup and cleanup. The Okinawan teamwork always assures success.

A special thank you to Waiakea High Japanese Club and teacher/adviser Jaime Gusman who willingly undertook the role of hosting the Okinawa students and assisting in every way they could. *Ipee Nihee Debiru.*

CPB Donates to Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program

Central Pacific Bank Foundation's Donna Takeda presents a \$5,000 grant to CHUOA's High School Student Exchange Program with the Okinawa Prefectural Government. HUOA Treasurer Norman Nakasone and President George Bartels, Jr., gratefully accept the CPB Foundation's grant.

In its 23rd year, Phase I of the Hawaii-Okinawa High School Student Exchange program involved 25 Okinawan students immersing themselves in our rainbow of cultures in Hawaii with their host students and families in March. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the students and their families who opened up their homes and hearts to the students from Okinawa. Phase II in June offers the opportunity for Hawaii students to go to Okinawa for a two-week homestay adventure with families in Okinawa.



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Bridging from Generation to Generation - For Our Children!

Ikuu Madin

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association would like to acknowledge the following individuals, families, 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. *Magukuyu Kara Ippee nifee deebiru* – from our hearts, thank you very much.

Donations listed below were received from February 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013.

Kenneth & Nancy C. Chen	In Honor of Terry Tengan Agena (Mrs. James) by Eva & Jerry Bohannon	In Memory of Denny Eckenrode by Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club	In Memory of Helen Miyashiro by Ginowan Club
Ryokichi & Hiroko Higashionna		In Memory of Mr. Matsumori Higa by the Nago Club	In Memory of Shigeru & Soyo Serikaku by George's Auto Parts and the George Shigeto & Emiko Serikaku Family
The Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts Program for Jason Tokuda	In Memory of Joe Acohido by Ginowan Club	In Memory of Mr. William "Bill" Higa by Kita Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai	
Takeo & Betty Y. Shimabukuro	In Memory of Harue China by Yomitan Club	In Memory of Soichi & Doris Kaneshiro	In Memory of Takashi Uyehara by the Ginowan Club
Senki & Florence H. Uyeunten			



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 February 1 to March 31, 2013.

Haruko S. Ajifu	Roy Kaneshiro
Millie K. Arakaki	Mildred Kataoka
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Heidi Hideko Ishibashi	Seiko Shiroma
Juliet Jakahi	Kiyoshi Taira

HUOA DONATIONS

February 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013

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

CHATAN-Kadena Chojin Kai	S. Toma
Sachiko Irei	U International Corp
Itsuki Matayoshi	Zenichi & Sayoko Yoza
Setsuko Miyashiro	In Memory of James Nagahama by Yomitan Club
Okinawa Women's Junior College	
Johanne Poulsen & Thomas Lundtofte	

Kokua In Kind
Keith & Celeste Yamaguchi
Ashley Moe

Yuntaku (continued from Page 1)
with items such as a *shishi*, *kankara sanshin* and *ichigo ichi e*. All were encouraged to fill a card with stamps at the various stations to submit for prizes drawn at the end of the night.

Buzz and excitement were taken up a notch with a sampling of Alton Chung's story telling as he shared with us the *Legend of the Shiisa*. To close the program, Chinagu Eisa engaged everyone in a rousing performance that resonated through the club and everyone in attendance.

Finally, aside from a chance to win gift packages that included certificates, goodies and *awamori*, what would a close of an exciting *Uchinanchu* event be without everyone engaging in and learning how to *kachashi*? After the program, the excitement carried on as everyone continued to mingle, meet and enjoy the night.

There are so many things we can share with everyone, but this event provided a “sampler tasting menu” for those who might be interested in HUOA. For those of us who are already members, it was a great opportunity to mingle, reflect and potentially find what we can do to add and improve to our programs. Equally as important, we were able to think about how exactly we go about sharing with our friends and family about the great efforts we all contribute to and the fun we have as an organization.

As always, *Ippee Nifee Deebiru* to everyone who dedicated their time, ideas and people-power to make this first mixer event an exciting success. Many ideas have come out of this effort, so stay posted on news for follow up events and other activities planned for the year.

Despite the diversity of our different clubs, organizations and missions, we all have a common bond and strength which is our *Cultural Identity*, with a pride and desire to perpetuate this. The HUOA Club Development and Sustainment Committee's purpose is to gather your ideas that will assist us in engaging with potential new members, and provide continued opportunities for learning, fellowship and community outreach for our current members. Upcoming events include the *Shimanchu* Cooking Class and a Community Outreach event for a homeless shelter in West Oahu.

If you are interested in these events or have any comments and suggestions, feel free to email me at: gajimaru808@icloud.com

Please Kokua

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.

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss _____
First Name Last Name

Address _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$ _____ Home Tel: _____

Please include this form with your donation and send to:
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Preserving Our Legacy

2012 TO 2013-ANNUAL FUND DRIVE



The Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) would like to acknowledge all of the individuals, families, organizations and companies who have donated towards our annual giving program. Our campaign, launched on November 19, 2012, has raised gifts totaling \$112,285. To our 857 donors, thank you for your generous contributions and display of confidence in HUOA. We are truly grateful to your commitment of our culture. *Ippee Niffee Deebiru!*

Our list of donors below reflects gifts received from February 1, 2013 to March 31, 2013.

SILVER (\$999 TO \$500)

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| Thomas M. Ikehara | Pat & Candace Fujioka | In Memory of Jon Fusao Kubota
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Yonamine | Mr. & Mrs. Richard M. Itoh | In Memory of my husband,
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Senior Health & Fitness Fair

Friday ☺ June 21, 2013

9am to 1pm

Free Admission

Hawaii Okinawa Center

94-587 Ukee St.,

Waipio Business Park

Open to the public

Door Prizes ☺ Giveaways ☺ Fun

Health, Safety, Financial, Cultural Booths

Workshops throughout the day

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For Additional Information, call 676-5400

www.huoa.org

Sponsored by Hawaii United Okinawa Association

We are very happy to announce... the revival of the Kariyushi Program after 7 years

Kariyushi XVII

Sunday, July 4th - 10am to 2pm

Hawaii Okinawa Center

“Kansha-no-Kariyushi”

“Gratitude to the seniors for the feeling of serenity and happiness” in sharing the Okinawan culture and performance arts in years past. This year’s Kariyushi is dedicated to our senseis past and present.

Program:

- Songs and Dances from various dance “odori” and karaoke schools.
- The popular Red and White Song Contest will be held
- An exciting and lively “Lunch Hour” performance will include

****Talented young performers ****

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Tickets - \$20.00

includes a bento lunch and a drink

For Ticket Information contact:

The Hawaii Okinawa Center - 676-5400

Betsy Miyahira at: 888-8036 or 218-5690

Ellen Higa at: 841-3075 or 352-4089

2013 Niseta Tour Program in Peru

By Rachel Miyazaki

“*Ichariba chode!*” In January, I participated for two weeks in the Niseta Tour program in Lima, Peru. I arrived feeling like an outsider, anxiously questioning my participation in a program where all of the other participants spoke only Portuguese or Spanish; English for them was a second language. However, I was able to reach a sense of belonging through means surpassing language. I am now part of a Niseta ohana that I will cherish for life.

The Niseta Tour program is organized by Uchinanchu youth in an effort to revive and instill interest in Okinawan culture in future generations of Uchinanchu descendents. In the past, the program has been hosted in Brazil, Bolivia and Argentina. This was the first year that the U.S. was invited but because of conflicting school schedules, it was difficult for more U.S. participants to attend the program. I was the first and only student from the USA/Hawai`i to participate.

For the 2013 Niseta Tour Peru program, participants stayed at the Okinawan Association of Peru Center. The center is spacious and in addition to an auditorium and conference room, it boasts two kitchens, a dining area, a pool, a soccer field, and activity rooms. Our meals were prepared by youth members of the Okinawan Association and varied from Okinawan *soba* to *chicharron*; everything was very delicious!

The Niseta Tour presents Okinawan culture in a fun, interactive approach that appeals to young people. For example, we had classes on how to cook *andagi*, how *sanshins* are made, and how to dance *eisa*. There were field trips to important Japanese-Peruvian cultural sites, such as Cerro Azul (the port where immigrants

Niseta participants played instruments on stage. Music, especially that of Okinawa, has a way of transcending language, culture and generational barriers, bringing people of all ages and backgrounds together.

I admit that I was intimidated at first. Being the only native English speaker and only having very basic knowledge of Spanish, I often found myself lost in translation. However, there were a handful of students who spoke English as a foreign language and were enthusiastic about helping me. In the end, despite the language barrier, I found that I was able to bond with my peers through our common love for our heritage. By learning about Okinawan culture together, I was able to establish many lasting friendships and I have countless memories that I will cherish and never forget.

I was further motivated by the Niseta Program to learn more about my heritage and to share it with others. Especially in

Hawai`i, which shares a similar history with Okinawa of kingdom overthrow and forced cultural assimilation, having a sense of knowing your roots and perpetuating your cultural heritage is an important value. It seems that most visitors know both places mainly from the tourist’s perspective of Waikiki Beach or Kokusai Dori, remaining ignorant about the true history and the rich culture of these lands and their people. It is especially important to get the younger generation inspired and interested. Learning about Okinawan culture does not have to be through reading textbooks or watching documentaries. With the right initiative, it can be made into an entertaining, unforgettable experience.

This summer, the Okinawa Association of America will host the 2nd Worldwide Youth Uchinanchu Festival (*Wakamono Taikai*). It will be held from July 18th- July 21st at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center in Torrance, California. It will be four fun-filled days of cultural workshops, lectures, presentations, performances, and an international conference. The first *Wakamono Taikai* was held in Brazil last year; it would be a great opportunity if representative students from Hawaii are able to attend!



Group photo of students from Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia and Peru.



Hawaii’s Rachel Miyazaki (front-right).

from Japan first arrived in Peru), the Museum of Japanese Immigration to Peru, and the Japanese Peruvian Cultural Center (where we celebrated the New Year festival).

One night, we had a “Survivor”-type game that included challenges about Okinawan culture (a trivia game and a pictiary game) in addition to the typical tests of strength and wit. We began every meal by saying, “*Kwatchiisabira!*” During the Niseta Tour, cultural learning was not limited to that of Okinawa. We also had many opportunities to learn about Peruvian culture, such as playing the *cajon* (a Peruvian percussion instrument), a field trip to a pisco farm (the drink of Peru), and a double-decker bus tour of downtown Lima. We also did presentations of our respective home countries, our Okinawan associations, and how the Okinawan community perpetuates Okinawan culture. There were many integration activities and icebreakers like pool/field “Olympics” for students to interact and get to know one another in a fun and relaxing way.

Throughout the scheduled events and activities I have fond memories of bonding with my peers even through simple means. For example, on the bus rides to places, everyone would often break out in to song. Though this is typical for youth to do on school buses in the states, the Niseta Tour version had a uniquely Okinawan twist to it: *sanshin* instead of a guitar, Okinawan folk songs instead of American songs. We also sang these songs as a way to give back to the community. For our social work, we visited a Japanese senior home and sang “*Nada Sou Sou*” and “*Shimanchu Nu Takara*.” At our closing ceremony and the Okinawan Festival, we sang “*Shima Uta*” and “*Egao No Manma*” as other



The Okinawan Association of Peru Center

ATTENTION: Calling for Donations and Volunteers

We’re returning to share our Uchinanchu spirit with our friends in Waianae. As in previous outreach events, we humbly ask again for your support in providing Donations for Families & Game Prizes, Monetary Contributions and Volunteers



TYPES OF DONATIONS NEEDED:
Juices and Healthy Snacks
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AT OHANA OLA O’ KAHUMANA
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FACILITY IN WAIANAE
SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2013



Donations can be delivered to the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Please contact Mark Higa at gajimaru808@icloud.com for more information on how you can lend a helping hand.

SHARING OUR UCHINANCHU SPIRIT & HEARTS
CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE FOR SOMEONE....

Sharing Our Uchinanchu Spirit at the Honolulu Festival Parade!

By Valerie Kato, Parade Chair

Walking with a spring in their step to the energetic beat of Chinagu Eisa, and with brightly-hued club banners waving in the light breeze, 133 HUOA marchers enthusiastically shared their infectious *Uchinanchu* spirit at the JTB Honolulu Festival Grand Parade on March 3, 2013.

Representatives of HUOA's member clubs were joined by HUOA Executive Council members; 25 members of Chinagu Eisa; *Chondaras* Dexter Teruya, Mel Gushiken, Warren Kotani and Hachi Higa; and the students of the Hawaii-Okinawa Student Exchange Program. It was a multi-generational gathering, composed of the littlest marchers in strollers alongside marchers two generations older, all proudly wearing turquoise *bingata*-printed *uchikake* (vests) and deep purple sashes.

The one-mile route from Ft. DeRussy to Kapiolani Park went by in a whirl and was completed in only 22 minutes. But thanks to all the supportive participants and their faces beaming with *Uchinanchu* spirit, HUOA's marchers surely made a long-lasting impression on the *kama'aina* and visitors lining parade route.





CLUB NEWS

Our Clubs, Our Future

Ginowan News

President Ellen Higa led a happy group of 200 celebrants, ages one to 91 gathered at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) to celebrate the New Year of the Snake on March 24, 2013. Rodney Kohagura was Master of Ceremonies and Pastor Russell Higa of the Manoa Christian Church delivered the Invocation. Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) President George Bartels returned from his "aisatsu" trip to Okinawa that morning and traveled directly to HOC to address the gathering.

Officers, directors and *aza* representatives were introduced. (We will name the directors and representatives in the next newsletter). Ellen Higa is President; Roberta Umeno, Vice President; Alan Kuniyama, Treasurer; June Zakimi, Corresponding Secretary; and Sandra Nishimoto, Recording Secretary.



Larry Morisako and Takeo Shimabukuro led "karii." Recent graduate from Santa Clara University, Ashley Morisako, daughter of Randall and Leigh Morisako, was recognized. Other honorees were those born in the Year of the Snake and 59 members age 70, 80 and 90 years old in attendance.

A special treat was that seven children from the Tahiti Tamarii Ginowan of the

Puahinano School gave a lively 15-minute presentation. The group was in Hawaii to compete in the Tahiti Nui International Heiva I as the winner of competition in entire Japan. Puahinano did very well in this competition. Takafumi Gima won the overall solo male completion and he and Yoshichika Gima won first and third in the male ages 22 to 26 competition. Puahinano won second place in the overall Children Division. Other winners were Yuri Kyan, Naoshi Aniya, and Maru Irei, Okuto Horiuchi and Herenui Ayuka Hattori.

The Tahiti Tamarii Ginowan tour included Tohru Shokita, representing the Mayor of Ginowan City, Makoto Irei, Yasuko Pualani Horiuchi, teacher at Puahinano and many other parents and families. It was a short but great meeting of Ginowan Hawaii and Ginowan Okinawa groups.

Our local entertainment was led with *Gasho* music: koto by Sunny Tominaga, Shizu Stamm, Roberta Umeno and Tylar Umeno; *sanshin* with Seiichi Yagi and Kenneth Higa; taiko Patrick Miyashiro. George Bartels sang "Nifaiyu" as Betsy Miyahira and Diane Kawakami danced. Misako Yaki danced "Sake Jin-jin"; John Tasato did an impressive *karate* dance; Sunny Tominaga and Misako Yaki did a cute "Abujiyama Bushi." Joy Shimabukuro Schoonover sang "Hana" and several other Okinawan songs. The day with audience participation "kachashi."



Christine Higa with the help of many members, ran the popular Children's Craft Corner and exhibited cultural information about Ginowan, Okinawa. To keep children informed of their culture, Chris began a "folder" to which she has annually added fun and educational information.

Planning committee for this event was chaired by Rodney Kohagura and included Carol Kohagura, Joy and George Kaneshiro, Beverly and John Tasato, Eleanor Miyasaki, Kathleen Kaya, Jane Nakamura of Aza Futenma and Aza Maehara.

Coming events. Our annual picnic is on August 4, 2013! The Okinawa Festival is in early September and the HUOA Study Tour is from October 3 to 14, 2013. Plan to be a part of all of these events. Contact your *aza* representative. (Jane Nakamura)






HUI ALU presents the

2013 Kauai Okinawan Dance Festival

Friday, May 10th and Saturday, May 11th

Kauai Veteran's Center

5:30-10:30 pm

FREE ADMISSION, OPEN TO ALL!!

Okinawan Food

Okinawan Dance

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MORE CLUB NEWS

Seven Kajimaya Honored at 2013 Hui Okinawa Shinnen Enkai and Keirokai

Hui Okinawa celebrated its 2013 *Shinnen Enkai* and *Keirokai* on January 27 at Aunty Sally's Luau Hale in Hilo. Nearly 300 members, community leaders, and invited guests turned out to honor the club's newest *kajimaya* and witness the installation of officers and directors.

"This year we were blessed with honoring seven *kajimaya*," said Taryn Yogi, chairperson of the *Shinnen Enkai* and *Keirokai*. "*Kajimaya* translates into 'windmill or pin-



HUOA President George Bartels, Jr. joined Hui Okinawa to honor its newest *kajimaya* including Mitsue Namihira, Richard Oshiro, and Kiyoko Miyashiro.

wheel.' Okinawans believe that the older a person becomes, the more childlike they become. The pinwheel symbolizes the 97-year-olds coming full-circle in life to the point of being a newborn again."

The seven *kajimaya* who were honored for entering their 97th year of life this year are Kiyoko Miyashiro, Masako Motobu, Janet Nakamura, Jinsei Nako, Yoshiko Nako, Mitsue Namihira, and Richard Oshiro.

Mayor Billy Kenoi presented a Certificate of Congratulations to the three *kajimaya* in attendance.

More than 200 members were also recognized for having attained the status of *koreisha* when they turned 80 years of age.

HUOA President George Bartels, Jr. installed Hui Okinawa's 2013 officers and board of directors: Roy Hokama, President and Director; Lloyd Sanborn, 1st Vice President and Director; Troy Sakihara, 2nd Vice President and Director; Ruby Maekawa, 3rd Vice President and Director; Lynn Namihira, Secretary and Director; Alben Namihira, Treasurer and Director; Margaret Torigoe, Past President and Director; and Directors Kathy Antonio, Leroy Chow, Natalie Higa, Conrad Hokama, George Ito, Shirley Ito, Darlene Mendonca, Dwayne Miyashiro, Lynn Murota, Kaye Nagamine, Morris Nakaishi, Carolyn Oki, Bernard Sagawa, Milton Yafuso, and Taryn Yogi.

Attendees enjoyed the celebration with Okinawan music, dance, and food. 🍷

Hui Uruma Kenjin Kai Holds Shinnen Enkai



Keith Nakaganeku joins the Hui Uruma Kenjin Kai members in food and fellowship at their *Shinnen Enkai* in Honokaa. 🍷

Hui O Laulima Celebrates Its 45th Birthday

It was 45 years ago that Hui O Laulima (HOL) got its start as the official *fujinkai* of the United Okinawan Association of Hawaii. Today, HOL fosters an all-female membership of over 230. The organization prides itself for being an active member in the Okinawan and Japanese communities in Hawaii, and, as our name implies, for always giving "a helping hand." From publishing three cultural cookbooks to its annual cultural grants program, Hui O Laulima remains in the forefront in the education, perpetuation and preservation of Okinawan culture in Hawaii. (They even paddled in the past three *Haari* Boat races in Hilo.)



"Giving a Helping Hand"

To help celebrate this special anniversary, HOL has planned an active and fun-filled calendar for its membership. Starting with a day at the theatre - Laulima attended in force the Kumu Kahua play "A Cage of Fireflies" in February and plans later this month to attend "All That Remains." March Madness started with a celebration for Girl's Day - with a High Tea Luncheon paired with a Make and Take craft. Iris Yafuso Toguchi and her committee made Jikoen Community Hall look extra special with spring colored table cloths and flowers. Other Make and Take events, an old fashion Okinawan Picnic, and on August 24 a special 45th Anniversary Luncheon are planned.

On Good Friday, 32 members participated in a Spa Day at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Members were given massages, facials and manicures - learned a dance choreographed for them by Lynn Shiroma - made a Spring Floral arrangement - Jazzercised - ate throughout the day - and of course closed with a Hagan Daaz chocolate bar. Thank you to events chairman Paula Kurashige for coordinating the Theatre events and Wendy Yoshimoto, Jean Tsuda and Ruth Chun for Spa Day. Of course there are many other members that are assisting with the production of these events. HOL President Laura Ajimine and 45th Anniversary Chairman Karen Kuba-Hori are appreciative to all the planning committees that will make this year extra special for their extra special members. And then...

As a special community service project HOL will take a Sunday to help JCCH/Honouliuli Committee help clear the Honouliuli Internment Camp site. If you enjoy gardening and don't mind clearing weeds and bush - please join us. If you wish to assist, please contact Karen Kuba-Hori at 389-6482 (text ok - and - you don't have to be female). 🍷



**Banner
Carriers!
Parade
Marchers!**

Let's Show Our Uchinanchu Spirit!

Hawaii United Okinawa Association
is invited to participate in the Pan-Pacific Festival Parade!

Parade Information

Date: Sun, June 9, 2013
 Assembly Time: 4:15 pm
 Staging Area: Ft. DeRussy (Saratoga & Kalakaua)
 Parade Start Time: 5:00 pm
 Parade Route: Kalakaua Ave. (ends at Kapiolani Park)

What to Wear

Long black pants or black Bermuda shorts (length right above knee) and any HUOA logo or club t-shirt. Vests (*uchikake*) and purple sashes will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Don't forget to wear comfortable shoes and apply sunscreen!

Free Bus Service

Bus to and from the parade courtesy of the Pan-Pacific Festival.

- ✿ Leaves Hawaii Okinawa Center 3:15 pm
- ✿ Leaves Pearl City Rec Center 3:30 pm
- ✿ Leaves Jikoen Temple 3:30 pm
- ✿ Leaves Waikiki 6:30 pm

To participate and to ride the bus, please contact the HUOA Office at 676-5400 or email: bonnie@huoa.org by **May 24**
Ippee Niffee Deebiru - Mahalo Nui Loa!

A Final Resting Place

By Mac Yonamine

It has been a long journey for Katsu Ishiki since the day she died on August 12, 1997 at the Oahu Care Facility. At age 96, Katsu had no known family in Hawaii or Okinawa, so her unclaimed remains were kept on a shelf in the morgue for three years before being placed in a mortuary. Her ashes were later moved to a vault at the Williams Funeral Services crypt at Oahu Cemetery. The vault resembled a closet with about 307 boxes and urns stacked neatly one on top of the other.

The goal to have Katsu Ishiki's ashes released was paramount in maintaining the Okinawan spiritual beliefs. Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii (OGSH), working in partnership

with Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) and Jikoen Temple, was able to overcome the strict governmental and legal regulations regarding unclaimed ashes being released to non-family members. The scarcity of immigration documents and an explanation of Okinawan culture and its beliefs and practices for the dead were important



to the case presented to obtain a favorable decision from the State.

On March 24, 2013, the Reverend Shindo Nishiyama conducted services for Katsu Ishiki in the presence of OGSH, HUOA and Jikoen members. We extend our warmest and heartfelt *ipee nifee deebiru* to Reverend Nishiyama and Jikoen for accepting and storing the koa urn holding the ashes of Katsu Ishiki.

The journey from Oahu Cemetery in Nu'uuanu to Jikoen Temple in Kalihi has taken Katsu Ishiki 13 years to complete. The opportunity for her spirits to exist in a familial environment of harmony, peace and tranquility has also been accomplished, and for this we are most grateful. 🍡

Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai Celebrates Shinnen Enkai



George Bartels, Jr. and Cyrus Tamashiro with honorees and their family at Kohala Shinnen Enkai. (Seated): Myles Arakaki and Kikue Nakamura. (Standing): George, Jean Matsuda, Joyce Hamada, Rachel Hirano, Harue Koyama and Cyrus. 🍡

This is *Your* Newsletter

Please send us your club news items and photos.

Email us at info@huoa.org Mahalo!

43rd Annual Hawaii Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament

The HUOA is pleased to announce that its 43rd Annual Hawaii Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 25, and Sunday, May 26, 2013, at the Pali Municipal Golf Course.

ELIGIBILITY:

Open to all members and guests of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and affiliated Okinawan clubs.

FLIGHTS:

CHAMPIONSHIP 0-9 36 holes One low gross, all others net

"A" 10-19 36 holes Low Net

"B" 20-30 36 holes Low Net

Women 0-38 36 holes Low Net

Seniors (60 & over) 0-30 36 holes Low Net

Super Seniors (75+) 0-30 18 Holes Sunday Low Net Sunday

NOTE:

Championship Flight golfer with the lowest 36-hole gross total will be declared the Tournament Champion. In case of a tie, the winner will be determined by sudden death play off. For net scores, ties will be decided by matching cards or by other methods as determined by the Tournament Committee.

AWARDS & BANQUET:

Prizes and awards to be presented on May 26, 2013 at Jikoen Temple, 1731 North School Street, with cocktails starting at 5:30pm and dinner at 6pm.

ENTRY FEE:

\$125.00 includes green fees, cart fees, City and County of Honolulu user fees, and awards banquet. Additional banquet tickets are available at \$15.00 each.

Super Seniors: \$60.00, green fees & cart fees, Sunday User fees & awards banquet.

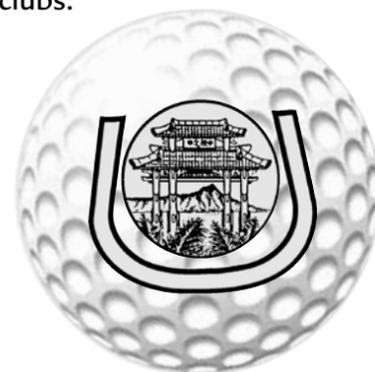
STARTING TIMES:

Starting times for all flights will be from 6:30am to 9am. Tee times will be posted at the Starter's Booth at Pali Municipal Golf Course. All participants will be grouped according to flights: Seniors, Women, A, Championship, and B.

ENTRY DEADLINE:

First 120 players or May 15, 2013, whichever comes first. Entry forms are available at Hawaii Okinawa Center, Municipal Golf Courses and on HUOA website: www.huoa.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL WES TERUYA AT 235-3117 or 228-8696, NEAL TAKARA 291-9672 or HUOA 676-5400



Hui O Laulima Accepting 2014 Cultural Grant Applications



"Giving a Helping Hand"

Hui O Laulima is pleased to announce that applications for its 2014 Cultural Grant program are being accepted. All prospective grant projects/activities should take place from January through December, 2014, and grant recipients must expend their money within that calendar year. Deadline for submission is August 31, 2013.

Hui O Laulima is a women's organization dedicated to the promotion the Okinawan culture. 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. Since 1984, it has awarded grants and scholarships totaling more than \$138,000. 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.

Monies cannot be used for purchase of costumes, equipment and supplies for personal use. The club or organization shall retain ownership of said costumes, equipment and/or supplies.

Please direct inquiries and/or requests for application to Karen Fuse, Committee Chairperson, at the contact information above.

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Hatoma Family in Hawaii

Please join us for an evening of fun and superb music from Yaeyama!



When: Monday, May 13, 2013

Where: Hawaii Okinawa Center

Time: 7:00 pm

Admission: Donations to "HUOA" accepted at the door

For more information, please call 295-3828

The Hatoma Family is a lively and charming family of musicians from Ishigaki Island in Yaeyama.

Parents, Takeshi and Chiyoko own and run a well-known "live house" in Ishigaki, named *Bashofu*. Son, Yoshiaki, runs a hostel on Hatoma Island, where his grandmother still lives. Daughter, Kanako, began her career as the protégé of famous singer/songwriter/producer China Sadao, founder of Nidaime Teishin Kai. The Hatoma Family will make their first international appearance here in Hawaii!

Come and see this special event!!

Okinawan Proverb

Submitted by the Uchinaaguchi Class Members

Instructor: Dr. Kyoko Hijirida

Machushi ga ru, ufu iyoo tuyuru

まちゆし が る、うふ いよー とうゆる

English equivalent: One who waits patiently will catch a big fish.

If patience equates or is akin to wisdom, then "everything comes to him who waits." The application of patience may reap benefits such as "catching the big fish" or success in attaining a goal.

The underscored is an actual English proverb.

Japanese equivalent: がまんのあるものがこそ 大きな魚をとるのだ。

Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language)

Word of the Month

March

nuchaashi*i*, n. A potluck-style party when everyone brings some food or pays for his own share.

April

shiji-daka-dukuru, n. A place that harbors great spiritual power, often a sacred grove. See utaki.

(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!

- May
- 8 Administration Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
Executive Council mtg, 8pm, HOC
 - 11 & 12 Hui Alu's Kauai Okinawa Dance Matsuri; 5:30-10:30pm, Kauai's Veterans Center, FREE
 - 12 Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Concert on Kauai; 3pm, Kauai Community College Performing Arts Center
 - 13 Kanako Hatoma Concert; 7pm, HOC
 - 14 Okinawan Festival Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
 - 16 Club Development & Member Sustainment Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
 - 22 Okinawan Festival Food Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
 - 25, 26 HUOA's 43rd Annual Invitational Okinawan Golf Tournament, Pali Golf Course
 - 26 HUOA's Okinawan Golf Tournament Awards Banquet, 6:30pm, Jikoen Temple
 - 27 MEMORIAL DAY-Office is closed
 - 28 Board of Directors mtg, 7:00pm, HOC
- June
- 4-7 Children's Cultural Day Camp, HOC
 - 9 Pan-Pacific Festival Parade, 5-7pm, Ft. Derussy to Kapiolani Park
 - 11 Okinawan Festival Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
 - 12 Administration Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
Executive Council mtg, 8pm, HOC
 - 15 Community Outreach -Okinawan-style picnic at Ohana Ola O'Kahumana; 10am-1pm
 - 20 Club Development & Member Sustainment Com mtg, 7pm, HOC
 - 21 Senior Health & Fitness Fair; 9am-1pm, HOC, NO ADMISSION COST
 - 26 Okinawan Festival Food Com mtg, 7pm

Classes · Other Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

- HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm*
- Ichigo Ichi E: 1st & 3rd Tuesday, 7pm*
- Ikebana: 3rd Wednesday, 7pm*
- Karaoke nite: 3rd 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 4/15/13)

HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

Our television shows premiere on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. on Olelo Community Media channel NATV 53 (Oceanic). The shows repeat on following Saturdays at 5 p.m., except on any fifth Saturday of the month (such as June 29).

All Olelo shows are also streamed live on the Internet at www.olelo.org. Some of our latest shows are available on-demand on the same website at: What's On - OleloNet Video On Demand - Culture and Ethnic.

MAY 6, MONDAY, 7PM/MAY 11 & 18, SATURDAY, 5PM -
Show Three of the 30th Okinawan Festival held at Kapiolani Park on September 1 and 2, 2012. This episode features the dancing of the Kilauea Okinawa Dance Club, the koto of Ryukyu Sokyoku Koyo Kai Hawaii Shibu, and the drumming of the Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii.

MAY 20, MONDAY, 7PM/MAY 25 & JUNE 1, SATURDAY, 5PM -
Show One of the HUOA 2012 Legacy Award Banquet held at the Sheraton Waikiki Ballrooms on Sunday, November 4, 2012. This episode features legacy award honorees Terry Higa and Mike McCartney.

JUNE 3, MONDAY, 7PM/JUNE 8 & 15, SATURDAY, 5PM -
Show Four of the 30th Okinawan Festival held at Kapiolani Park on September 1 and 2, 2012. This episode features the charming dancers of the Pauahi Okinawa Buyo Club, the classical sanshin of Nomura Ryu Ongaku Kyokai Hawaii Shibu, and dancing of Ryusei Honryu Ryuko Kai.

JUNE 17, MONDAY, 7PM/JUNE 22, SATURDAY, 5PM -
Show Two of the HUOA 2012 Legacy Award Banquet held at the Sheraton Waikiki Ballrooms on Sunday, November 4, 2012. This episode features legacy award honorees Mitsuko Toguchi Nakasone, Stanley Takamine and Mark Teruya. [NOTE: There is no show on the fifth Saturday of the month, June 29. So this show repeats only once.]

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