



UCHINANCHU

THE VOICE OF THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

www.huoa.org

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2008 OKINAWAN FESTIVAL

By Ford Chinen, Okinawan Festival Chair

The 2008 Okinawan Festival is on its way! Since January, the 2008 Okinawan Festival Committee has been hard at work planning and cross-checking details, as well as analyzing and brainstorming new ideas in order to live up to our organization's reputation in the community of putting on one of the best and well-attended cultural festivals in the State.

Don't forget to circle August 30 and 31 on your calendars! That's two days of back-to-back entertainment from 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m. on Sunday - all staged at the Kapiolani Park Bandstand. Traditional Okinawan music and dance groups from Hawaii are being invited to share their talents on stage. Artists from Okinawa currently include Radio Okinawa's Miuta Taisho Grand Prix winner, Tatsuya Shimabukuro and his Tokonatsu Band, Akira Wakugawa and the Itsumi Band, and the Eguchi Seinen Kai, a dynamic, 30-member eisa taiko group from Chatan. We're also delighted that the dashing Mamoru Miyagi will grace our Festival stage once again with his lilting renditions and original compositions. Please look for more detailed entertainment schedules in the next issue of Uchinanchu, on the HUOA website (huoa.org) and via announcements on Radio KZOO during our HUOA Hour (Sundays at 5:30 p.m.).

Plan to stay a little longer on Saturday night and participate in what has become the State's largest bon dance in the adjoining Kapiolani Park field...and for those who just might need a little energy boost or something to replace calories lost in dancing, our food booth will offer Okinawa Soba, sushi, andagi and drinks after all other food booths close down for the night.

The Okinawan Festival began in 1982 as a way to bring our HUOA member clubs together and plan a fun-filled event to showcase and

introduce the Okinawan culture and our ethnic pride to the community. There is really something for everyone: cultural displays will introduce visitors to our ethnic culture and history; Ti jukuishina-mishimun (our craft gallery) will have a variety of Asian or Okinawan-themed handcrafted items; Heiwa Dori, our marketplace, will be packed with palatable products from Okinawa; Hanagi-machiya gwa (plants) and Machiya gwa (country store) will be sure to please newcomers and regulars alike.

New T-shirt designs are being printed even as you read this article, featuring lots of eye-catching andagi and shiisaa caricatures that you'll want in a variety of colors and sizes. Ever popular Children's Games will keep the keiki occupied for hours and create great Festival memories.

Your favorite Festival foods are on the menu, too. Traditional Pigs'

Feet Soup (or as the natives say, "Ashitibichi"), Yaki Soba (Fried Noodles), Champuru (Okinawan stir-fry), savory Chicken Plate, succulent Lauau Plate, Sushi, and the list goes on. The carte du jour would not be complete without Okidog, Andadog, and ice cold refreshments. Of course, hot and crispy, Hawaii-style andagi tops the list. (sssh...secret: even the Okinawans from Okinawans love our mouthwatering, world-famous andagi!)

The Okinawan Festival is a living, breathing example of one of the Okinawan community's most treasured values - the principle of yuimaaruu, or working together for the successful completion of a

job without expecting any compensation or reward.

While great plans are in the works for the 2008 Okinawan Festival, we are challenged with manpower concerns. Last year, we managed to accommodate more than 34,000 visitors in large part because nearly 2,000 volunteers joined hands to help stage this major cultural event. Skilled trades people, carpenters, electricians, plumbers, and volunteers who

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President's Message

By Jon Itomura



Hai Sai!

Shinai Gukuru – “Hearts in Harmony”

What is culture? If Webster's Dictionary defines the term culture as “man's ability to learn and transmit knowledge to succeeding generations,” does that mean that culture is always subject to interpretation? Can it evolve? Can learning and transmitting knowledge on how to preserve a cultural landmark impact the preservation of culture? I say “Yes.”

The United Okinawa Association was created in 1951, later amended to be known as the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (“HUAO”). HUAO has endured almost 68 years, but no less than six or seven prior attempts failed to bring together and sustain an association of Okinawan Issei and Nisei with their various opinions, perspectives and talents. It took the reality of WWII and the devastating loss of over 130,000 Okinawa civilian lives to bring numerous Okinawa clubs and individuals together to address war relief efforts for family, friends and countrymen back in Okinawa. One could argue that it should not have taken such an atrocity to bring Hawaii Uchinanchu together in support of not only their families in Okinawa but also their friends and fellow Uchinanchu here in Hawaii.

Some 30 years later, in 1980, Okinawa Governor Junji Nishime sponsored and welcomed the Hawaii Leadership group who went on to spur the birth of the Okinawan Festival, the Young Okinawans of Hawaii club and assumingly may have also had a large influence upon the Governor's Nishime's urging to build a legacy of the Uchinanchu heritage and culture here in Hawaii. That idea faced much of the same challenges as the current Capital Campaign but the legacy eventually took the form of opening the Hawaii Okinawa Center in 1990.

Everyone cannot reasonably be expected to agree that any one structure consisting of brick and mortar or kawara tile and mochi is necessary to preserve and promote an appreciation for ethnic heritage and culture but very few can deny that having the Hawaii Okinawa Center over the last 18 years provided an unimaginable number of opportunities to create memories, foster fellowship and strengthen the bond within the Uchinanchu community.

Eighteen years have passed, HUAO and the Hawaii Okinawa Center merged as legal entities in and around 2000. Since then, the reality is that HUAO is struggling to compete for sufficient revenue resources to cover fixed costs and expenses necessary to maintain the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Some say that this reality was foreseen 18 years ago and it was inevitable unless significant measures were taken. The cost of maintaining this legacy crept upon us with each passing year. But with each passing year, there are so many “great ideas” and so many “great events” to promote Okinawa culture that take so much time and energy away from finding answers for how we address the reality of the high cost to preserve our “one kawara tile at a time” legacy.

Some believe that only through adversity do you find strength and unity. This was true in 1951. This is now our generation's adversity. This adversity takes the form of needing to find ways to increase revenues to cover mounting fixed costs and expenses related to the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The effort to pursue the Capital Campaign for the Okinawa Plaza is a dream. What confuses many is not realizing that this “dream” has the same purpose, to preserve the Hawaii Okinawa Center and HUAO. This dream that is to one day become the Okinawa Plaza is just one of many ideas that HUAO needs to be successful in order to meet rising costs and expenses. What was not emphasized clearly enough and possibly not understood by many was that this dream was one of very few alternatives to address the concern of declining and insufficient revenues. While it is, no doubt, a costly dream, so was the dream of building the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

It seems unreasonable to entrust the preservation of one aspect of our culture on whether or not the Okinawa Festival, Winter Craft Fair, Spring Craft Fair, Legacy Banquet and individual donors are able to provide sufficient revenues and it would be equally unreasonable to remove all support for cultural programs and performances just to maintain HUAO and the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

So what do we do? Do we choose to dismiss or ignore this reality because the focus in our daily lives are so diverse, because the local Okinawa culture is so fractured and because it is not a priority to address in this changing time of rising fuel costs, natural disasters and diluted eth-

nic values? Should we burden the cultural performance schools and their talented musicians and dancers along with academic institutions and individual clubs, with the sole responsibility of perpetuating Okinawan culture for the next five generations? OR Do we attempt to rise to the challenge similarly faced by those individuals in 1951 when HUAO was established and in 1990 when the Hawaii Okinawa Center was built? Do we all believe that we can and should lend a hand in preserving and promoting our heritage and culture despite not knowing how to sing or dance with Okinawan music? Does the HUAO and the Hawaii Okinawa Center provide a unique opportunity for some or many to be a part of perpetuating or preserving a culture even if one does not sing, dance or play an instrument? What if somewhere along the shores of time, we want to learn how to sing, dance and play an Okinawan instrument, do visits to the Hawaii Okinawa Center serve as a constant reminder to strive for that goal?

I believe that HUAO and the Hawaii Okinawa Center are among many symbols of the strength of our culture here in and among our local Hawaii Okinawa Community. Allowing HUAO and the Hawaii Okinawa Center to lose its battle with rising expenses will be the start of losing a big part of that strength in our resolve to perpetuate the Okinawan culture here in Hawaii. I ask that you to join me in the spirit of my theme “Shinai Gukuru” (Hearts In Harmony) in seeking and preserving our strength as Uchinanchu / Shimanchu / Uminchu here in Hawaii by asking yourself and others how “WE” can preserve our Okinawa culture and heritage.

Shinai Gukuru-Hearts In Harmony 



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 *ippée niffee deebiru* to the following donors. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

Uchinanchu Donors April – May 15, 2008

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UCHINANCHU

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Remembering Wayne Miyahira

Hundreds Gather to Celebrate the Life of 'Mr. Uchinanchu Aloha'



The sad news of Wayne Miyahira's passing spread quickly throughout the community on the morning of April 15. Many of Wayne's friends and acquaintances knew that he was gravely ill, but few were prepared for his sudden departure.

Soon, the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) office was deluged with phone calls from people eager to help the organization put together a fitting "Celebration of Life" memorial program for Wayne on April 27 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC). "The community's reaction was overwhelming," recalls HUOA executive director Jane Serikaku. "The swift and spontaneous offers

of assistance were heartwarming... the love and respect everyone had for Wayne was so evident not only because of the large crowd that attended, but all of the volunteers who helped."

Amongst those who stepped up were members of Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai, who manned the "choba" table, and Nishihara Chojin Kai, who took on the thankless tasks of parking and security. Wayne was a member of both clubs. Former HUOA Presidents greeted the long line of mourners and well-wishers, and helped to usher them into the crowded ballroom. It soon became evident that the 800 chairs set up by Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu members would not be enough to accommodate everyone. Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu was also responsible for placing the dozens of wreaths and bouquets, manning the office and Serikaku Chaya before and during the service.

"Members of our staff served as coordinators for various tasks and ensured that everything went smoothly," Serikaku adds. "To me, this was a true demonstration of the Uchinanchu heart and spirit, where everyone came together to work side-by-side to ensure the best for Wayne."

In her heartfelt eulogy, Wayne's longtime friend Barbara Tanabe described how his first trip to Okinawa in 1983 "opened Wayne's eyes to the richness of the Okinawan culture," and how he returned from that trip "fueled with a sense of urgency to engage his family in Okinawan culture." He encouraged his daughters to learn Okinawan dance and wanted them to appreciate their heritage.

Wayne himself took on a number of leadership positions with the Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai and Nishihara Chojin Kai, Tanabe noted, and he served as HUOA President in 1990 – the 90th anniversary of Okinawan immigration to Hawaii. As co-chair of the 90th anniversary celebration committee, Wayne helped to oversee the parade, Okinawan Festival, and dedication of the HOC itself. For his leadership, the Okinawa Prefectural Government recognized Wayne as an "Uchinanchu Goodwill Ambassador from Hawaii."

In 2002, Wayne was named executive director of the HUOA. He told Tanabe and others that he was "the luckiest guy in the world," for getting paid to do something he loved so dearly. After health problems forced him to step down from that post

in 2006, Wayne stayed on as a part-time employee. That year, he attended the 4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival on Okinawa.

Another speaker, Roy Tominaga of the United Japanese Society (UJS), described Wayne's dedication as chair of the UJS Youth Committee, which involved volunteering at the Honolulu Marathon. For years, Wayne led a team of high school students in storing and dispersing runners' clothing at the race. The task even required that Wayne spend the night in the tent, sleeping on an old Army cot. For providing this service, the Honolulu Marathon would donate \$1,500 to the UJS – funds that the organization used to support its annual Hanashikata Japanese Speech Festival. "He worked with his whole heart and soul on many of these projects," Tominaga marveled.

HUOA President Jon Itomura recalled Wayne's spirit of warmth and optimism. "He was our cheerful chondara for all our Waikiki parades," Itomura said. "During the 2008 Honolulu Festival Parade, he sat and waved to us from the grandstand as the United Japanese Society President-elect, but I don't doubt that he missed walking with us, smiling at the crowds along Kalakaua Avenue."

Itomura and others keyed in on the intangibles of Wayne's indomitable spirit and personality. "Wayne's signature was his great smile," Itomura pointed out. "His smile... always so warm and so sincere."

Tanabe described Wayne as a "natural storyteller who remembered events and people with a unique perspective.... It is sad to know that we won't be able to see his presence among us. But his voice and his gift of stories, compassion and laughter will always be in our hearts."

Tominaga concluded that Wayne was "a great, wonderful and highly respected man whom we shall always remember as a giant with lots and lots of Uchinanchu and Yamatu Spirit."

And, in a newspaper interview, Serikaku dubbed Wayne, "Mr. Uchinanchu Aloha" – a title so appropriate that it quickly stuck and was repeated by others.

What emerged most clearly from the "Celebration of Life" program was a heartfelt realization that Wayne Miyahira was indeed a cultural treasure. He did not have to be a cultural expert in history, language or the fine arts. Instead, friends preferred to recall Wayne's love for shoyu pork and dancing kachashi. They marveled at how well and how willingly he filled the roles of emcee, greeter, narrator, chondara... and Santa Claus.

Indeed, what Wayne did for others were things others could probably do. He just did it better – with greater conviction and commitment, more joy and generosity, and a deeper kindness and humility than others. Through his example, Wayne showed us that how you did something was just as important as what you did. He made people feel better by simply being who he was, inside, and the power that he used to bring smiles to people's faces in even the most difficult of circumstances was called love.

On April 27, hundreds filled the HOC and sat shoulder-to-shoulder in order to share a smile and embrace the unwavering truth that the essence of Uchinanchu really is a matter of heart... for that is Wayne Miyahira's lasting legacy – a cultural treasure, goodwill ambassador, and forever Mr. Uchinanchu Aloha... 



Wayne proudly marches down the Kokusai Dori in the opening parade of the Fourth Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai, held in Okinawa in October 2006. Photo by Karleen Chinen

Preserving Our Legacy

DONATIONS

Mahalo to the following individuals and organizations who have generously contributed towards the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and its center.

The following donations were received between March 1, 2008 and May 15, 2008

GOLD (\$1,000 AND ABOVE)

Saburo Nishime

SILVER (\$500 AND ABOVE)

Maurice & Nancy Yonamine

BRONZE (\$250 AND ABOVE)

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Elsie T. Kawakone

In Memory of Edwin K. Nakasone by Joyce K. Nakasone

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Dela Cruz and Karleen Chinen

In Memory of Thomas E. Kamiya by Susan (Kamiya) Isa

In Memory of George K. Kobashigawa by Harriet H. Kobashigawa

In Memory of Choyu & Matsuko Shimabukuro by Mitch & Sheryl Shimabukuro

In Memory of Shinsuke & Hatsue Taira by Kiyoshi Taira

In Memory of Sanra & Kana Tamanaha by Ruth & Akira Tamanaha

In Memory of Mrs. Seto Yonashiro by Walter, Sophie & Gerald Yonashiro

SUPPORTER (\$50 AND ABOVE)

Brian Higuchi

Harold Hokama

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Kama Uchima by Mrs. Kay Mitsue Higa (Uchima)

FRIEND (\$25 AND ABOVE)

Carol Tashima 

2008 ANNUAL DRIVE

A Visit From Mayor Gibu Of Kin Town, Okinawa

Hawaii was the last stop on a long, 15-day tour of the U.S. Mainland for Mayor Tsuyoshi Gibu of Kin Town, Okinawa. It's no wonder he beamed so broadly upon arriving at the Hawaii Okinawa Center on May 15 for an informal reception with Hawaii members of Kin Chojin Kai, the HUOA Executive Council, and HUOA members. Mayor Gibu stated that it was the first time he felt so relaxed on this official State Department visit.

The charismatic Mayor Gibu, a steadfast supporter of the HUOA and its Ikuyu Madin Capital Campaign project, was one of the first mayors from Okinawa to step forward with a generous donation toward the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza during the 25th Okinawan Festival.

After an evening filled with ono food, fellowship, and lots of laughter, Mayor Gibu walked briskly across the lawn to the Legacy Hall, where the HUOA sanshin class was in session. He marveled at all the young people learning to play the sanshin and sing Okinawan minyo. The Mayor broke into a huge smile when they began an impromptu kachashi with Dexter Teruya coaxing Mayor Gibu and HUOA President Jon Itomura to join in along



Dexter Teruya demonstrates the big "U" for "Uchinanchu Pride," while Mayor Gibu attempts the smaller "U." Photo by Reid Shimabukuro

Deputy Consul Kido Visits HOC



Deputy Consul Hajime Kido

Mr. Hajime Kido, new Deputy Consul-General, Consulate-General of Japan, honored the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) with a visit to the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) on May 13. In his position, Mr. Kido works directly with the Consul General and is responsible for handling all of the divisions and services provided by the consular office in Honolulu.

While Mr. Kido's assignments on behalf of the Japanese government have principally been in Southeast Asia, one of his major projects was to promote and enhance the relationship between Japan and China through several successful Okinawan music and dance presentations

by the energetic Ryukyu Chimudon Gakudan in China.

The HUOA truly appreciates the interest and encouragement he has extended to our organization. We extend our warm welcome and best wishes to Mr. Hajime Kido as he begins his Honolulu assignment.



Mayor Gibu's greatest joy was to meet with some of the Kin Chojin Kai members who volunteer to maintain the Issei Garden where Kin's Toyama Kyuzo statue proudly stands. Front row: (L-R): Shige Toyama, Mary Toyama, Mayor Gibu and Fumi Oshiro. Back row: (L-R): Kin Chojin Kai President - Dwight Ikebara, Marilyn Tosaki (daughter of Mary Toyama), HUOA President Jon Itomura and Juzo Oshiro. Photo by Reid Shimabukuro

with many others from the sanshin class.

This wonderful evening ended all too soon for Mayor Gibu, who was so touched to witness and enjoy the Hawaii Uchinanchu spirit and hospitality.

Spring Craft Fair 2008

200 volunteers! That's the magic number of people who helped towards the success of the 2008 Spring Craft Fair. HUOA members are always willing to step up to the task and help. Yagaji Doshi Kai, Yomitan Club, Yonabaru Chojin Kai and Yonashiro Chojin Kai extend a heartfelt IPPEE NIFEE DEEBIRU to the following clubs that assisted us:

Chatan ~ Ginowan ~ Gushikawa ~ Hawaii Shuri-Naha ~ Hui O Laulima ~ Ishikawa ~ Kitanakagusuku ~ Nago ~ Nakagusuku ~ Nishihara ~ Urasoe ~ Tamagusuku ~ Yagaji ~ Yomitan ~ Yonabaru ~ Yonashiro

(The committee apologizes for any volunteer club inadvertently omitted from this list, your contribution was greatly appreciated and attributed to the success of this event.)

The production of a Craft Fair is always exciting and does entail a lot of hard work. Just talk to Gainor Miyashiro and Ronlynn Arakaki, chairpersons for the event, and their steering committee Dale Nakasone, Robert Nakasone, Terry Taira, Larry Higa, Harold Higa, Laverne Higa, Konrad Ikei, Eunice Hirata, Morris Moribe and Karen Kuba-Hori - they can share some personal tales that could curl your volunteering toes. However, in retrospect, the committee members will always tell you it was a fun and worthwhile experience and it is because of all the support and camaraderie they experienced.

With that in mind, remember HUOA does have another craft fair scheduled for November 29 and 30. So please put those dates down on your calendar - and you, too, can experience the warmth and "funness" of putting on a worthwhile fundraiser.

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Lunch: Mon-Sat: 11am-2:30pm
Dinner: Mon-Sun: 5pm-10pm

UCHINANCHU SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight: Victor Yamashiroya



A few days before construction begins, Victor Yamashiroya, a member of Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai has already begun his vacation from his City job to get ready for the Okinawan Festival at Kapiolani Park. By then, Victor has actually been in action for months, mapping out the Festival site and getting the necessary permits.

Victor is always one of the first volunteers on-site to receive the huge containers that hold our Festival equipment and construction materials. He remains on-site throughout the entire construction phase, handling logistical details to get the Okinawan Festival ready. Throughout the Festival, Victor is one of the most-often called upon troubleshooters, too. It's amazing that he still has time to take a variety of wonderful, memorable photos during the Festival. After the Festival is over, he is there with the breakdown crew to clean-up and help store the equipment into containers until the following year's Festival... but it doesn't stop there. Victor even returns the next day to help fill the countless number of puka made by tent stakes driven into the ground for the tents used during the event. There is absolutely no reservation in saying that Victor Yamashiroya is the first and last man at each successful Okinawan Festival at Kapiolani Park.

Victor's keen eye for detail and talents at the computer are the reasons why the HUOA has had the benefit of working with scaled layout drawings of the Festival grounds that are prepared for the Festival Committee and edited many times over with changes that emerge. He knows every nook and cranny of Kapiolani Park and could tell you where everything was located blindfolded. Victor is the one who can

Continued from page 1

Festival



The annual Okinawan Festival is HUOA's opportunity to put its best foot forward and show the community the true meaning of pride and cooperation.

understand the importance of yuimaaruu make up a great team that is the foundation of the Festival. We need your help and we're putting out a call to all who want to be part of our great team of volunteers. Please call the Hawaii United Okinawa Association at 676-5400 to offer your help or email huaa@huaa.org. We welcome your interest and participation! 

give the best advice on the Park and its amenities for optimum results. He knows exactly what kinds of permits are needed for the Festival and gets them for the Committee, too.

Victor Yamashiroya is as a leader in other areas of the HUOA, too. He is presently the chair of our Culture and Education Committee. However, in an earlier administrative structure of our organization, Victor served as the chair of HUOA's Program Committee. He personally went on air during our HUOA Hour on Radio KZOO to announce the different cultural activities and events in our community. He has served as a HUOA Advisor and has fulfilled the presidency and various leadership positions for his Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai. Victor continues to be asked to chair or serve in other leadership positions in countless number of Okinawan performances, including several successful fundraising concerts at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, too.

Victor's personal memory bank is packed with information about the Center and he could chart out the Center with his eyes closed. Whenever detailed diagrams for events at the Hawaii Okinawa Center are needed, you can be sure that Victor Yamashiroya's number is the first one everyone will be dialing. He knows what it takes to tackle challenges and does them well.

A good number of years ago, Victor was asked why he participated so much in the activities of the HUOA. He replied that he admired how everyone worked together to get the job done, and how everyone's input was valuable. In retrospect, it is the Hawaii United Okinawa Association that is so fortunate to have a treasure like Victor Yamashiroya, whose pure heart and quest for perfection is a living example of yuimaaruu. Victor, you are what makes the HUOA special and successful. To Victor Yamashiroya, we say, Ippee Niffee Deebiru - Mahalo Nui Loa! 

MANPOWER NEEDED!

We really need your help at the Okinawan Festival!

Tuesday, August 26

Strong, able bodied people needed to help unload equipment and supplies from two huge containers, 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Wednesday, August 27

Construction begins. Carpenters and helpers needed on August 27, 28, 29 to help Masa Shiroma and his crew.

Also looking for people to assist in the installation of plumbing and electricity.

Monday, September 1

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 the Hawaii United Okinawa Association at 676-5400 or email to huaa@huaa.org.

26th Okinawan Festival Special Issue

Want to advertise in our most popular issue?

Special issue readership of 11,500 households + 5,000 distributed at Festival grounds

ad reservation deadline: July 1, 2008
contact us at 676-5400 or laura@huaa.org



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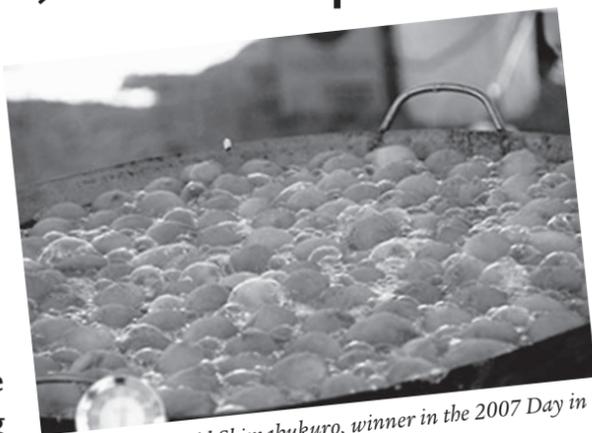
To help with Blood Pressure Screening and First Aid at the Okinawan Festival. Your assistance is **NEEDED**. If you can assist please contact the HUOA Office at 676-5656 or email to huaa@huaa.org.



OKINAWAN COOKING CLASS 101

July 10, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Attention Young Adults – this cooking class is meant for you! Join us if you would like to get involved in a fun, informative and delicious hands-on experience – preparing, cooking and eating your own creations.



“Andagi!” by Reid Shimabukuro, winner in the 2007 Day in the Life of the Okinawan Festival Photo Contest.

On the menu for Thursday, July 10:
Andagi, Jushime, Tofu Champuru and Yakisoba.

This class is the result of the many suggestions made by participants of the April 4th Chibariyo! talk story session, which was held by the HUOA Leadership Group. Registration is limited to the first 50 people. Who knows, if there is a flurry of interest, there might be an Okinawan Cooking Class 201 later on per Chibariyo! Chair, David Tokuda!

DEADLINE TO REGISTER – JULY 1.

Class size is limited to 50 students – don't be left out! Email your name, phone number, and name of your club to huaa@huaa.org or call the HUOA office at 676-5400.

LooChoo nu Kwa, Children of LooChoo

LooChoo nu Kwa is a unique presentation of traditional Okinawan music and dance aimed at awakening the desire for finding one's cultural identity and the need for preserving things of the past. The show begins with the story of a grandson who returns home to Maui for his grandmother's funeral. Being brought up by both his Hawaiian tutuwahine and his Okinawan baban (grandmother), only after going away to the continent does the young man begin to realize the special treasures that were showered upon him. Once at home, he is flooded with memories of his grandparents, but filled with regrets for not knowing more. By recalling the music and dance that surrounded him in his youth, he begins to understand the true meaning of his baban's sacrifice and wisdom.

The show wraps up with the three featured artists – Norman Kaneshiro, Keith Nakaganeku and Eric Wada – presenting Okinawan folk music that brings back nostalgic memories of historical events, and ending with the Hawaiian connection and example of realizing that the road to finding your culture is really already with you in your heart. This production aims to stir memories of times that are being quickly forgotten, and arouse a hunger for stories that need to be passed down.

LooChoo nu Kwa will be presented on Sunday, August 24, 2008, at 2 p.m. at the Mamiya Theatre on the St. Louis School Campus.

HUOA DONATIONS: April-May 15, 2008



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

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| H. Asato | Yoshinobu & Nancy Oshiro In |
| Stan Asato | Memory of Wayne Miyahira |
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| Hatsuko & Daniel S. Morales In | Carolyn P. Tengan |
| Memory of Wayne Miyahira | K. Toyozaki |
| L.M. Nakasone In Jon Itomura's | Dr. Sensuke Ueunten |
| Honor | Koa Bowl |

LooChoo nu Kwa

CHILDREN OF LOOCHOO

A Journey of Identity Through Story, Music, and Dance

Dr. Richard T. Mamiya Theatre
(St. Louis School Campus)

August 24, 2008 (Sunday)
2:00 PM



Tickets on sale at honoluluoffice.com or by calling 550-TIKS (8457)

\$25 ~ General Admission
\$20 ~ Seniors (60 and older) & Children (12 and younger)

Tickets purchased through honoluluoffice.com are subject to a \$2.50 service fee.

Produced by the Ukwanshin Kabudan, Ryukyu Performing Arts Troupe.
For more information, visit us online at ukwanshin.org/blog



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HUOA 'Shinai Gukuru' Study Tour 2008

By Jon Itomura

The excitement of Naha Matsuri and their famous Tsunahiki (Giant Tug-O-War) is right around the corner. I am gearing up for a fun-filled and interesting tour and hope that many of you will want to join me! I have found so many interesting activities off the normally traveled paths and want you to experience them with me. These include a stay at the new Chatan Beach Hotel, fronting a beautiful beach, next to a comprehensive pool and spa center and across the street from Jusco, Okinawa's version of WalMart; a night with Rinken Band; a visit to Katsuren to see the rehearsal for Kimutaka Amawari by the children of Katsuren; a visit to a special handcraft center where they create the original Okinawa "Kokeshi" doll figures; hands-on crafts for tour participants; visits with government dignitaries; tours of the Prefectural offices; walking tours of Heiwa Dori; monorail tours; and the experience of scenic beauty that will bring an understanding of why Okinawa continues its crusade for peace and the preservation of its natural beauty and resources.



Thousands gather for Naha Matsuri - Tsunahiki (Tug of War).

The HUOA 2008 Study Tour will be departing Honolulu on October 4 and returning on October 13. Nine days is not enough to see and do as much as I want to show you, but Barbara Maeshiro, TransPacific Tours (Chatan member) and I will do our best to provide as much sounds, flavors, tastes and sights of Okinawa as we can.

Many people will tell you that one can never appreciate the unique and distinct culture of Okinawa until you step off the plane. You will never appreciate the values and battles that were honed and fought for without visiting these historic sites. You will never treasure family and new friends until you meet face to face in the true sense of "Ichariba Choodee (Once we meet and talk, we are brothers and sisters)." The hearts and souls of the cultural performance artists here in



Handcrafted Okinawa kokeshi dolls.

Hawaii, many of them so young, are filled with the spirit of Okinawa because they travel there as often as they can to learn and absorb their culture and heritage to bring back and pass on to their friends and family here.

I am a true believer and have spoken to many individuals who unexpectedly experienced the same. We may not all bring back the same memories, values and experiences but "If you never go, you will never know!"

Spaces are filling up fast and reservations need to be confirmed. The deadline is June 30, 2008 to register. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or HUOA. 

HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

presents the

"Natsumero Festival"

Nostalgic Melodies

WITH SINGERS FROM OKINAWA AND HAWAII

Join our 14 singers from Okinawa and 67 singers from Hawaii to a fantastic day of song

JULY 20, 2008 - SUNDAY

HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER

94-587 UKEE ST. - WAIPIO GENTRY BUSINESS PARK

10:30AM (DOORS TO OPEN AT 10:00AM)

COST \$25.00

(MINI BENTO AND BOTTLED WATER INCLUDED)

GENERAL SEATING

ALOHA RECEPTION - TO FOLLOW

COST: \$15.00

Proceeds to benefit the Hawaii United Okinawa Association - Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Project.

Tickets are available from participating

Karaoke schools and the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

For additional information, please contact us at 676-5400.

Frances and Randy Kuba

Honoring tradition, building legacy of values and trust



Our culture and community have taught us respect, honesty, integrity and the importance of helping others with sincerity. The same values apply when making an important decision in buying and selling a home. Honoring our heritage, performance built on perpetuating our culture of high values.

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日本語でどうぞ。



Bridging from Generation to Generation

Ikuyu Madin

A Capital Campaign of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association

WHEN THE FIRST 26 OKINAWAN IMMIGRANTS SET FOOT IN HAWAII, THEY CARRIED THEIR OKINAWAN HOMELAND WITHIN THEIR HEARTS, BRIDGING THE GULF BETWEEN THE TWO ISLAND STATES WITH A SENSE OF COMMUNITY THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY BE WOVEN INTO THE FABRIC OF HAWAII'S SOCIETY. THEIR PRIDE AND DETERMINATION WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN HELPING TO LAY THE FOUNDATION OF A UNIQUELY OKINAWAN COMMUNITY IN HAWAII, ONE OF WHICH WOULD, NEARLY A HALF CENTURY LATER, GIVE BIRTH TO THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION.

Okinawa-Hawaii Song Festival and Golf Tournament planned for Ikuyu Madin

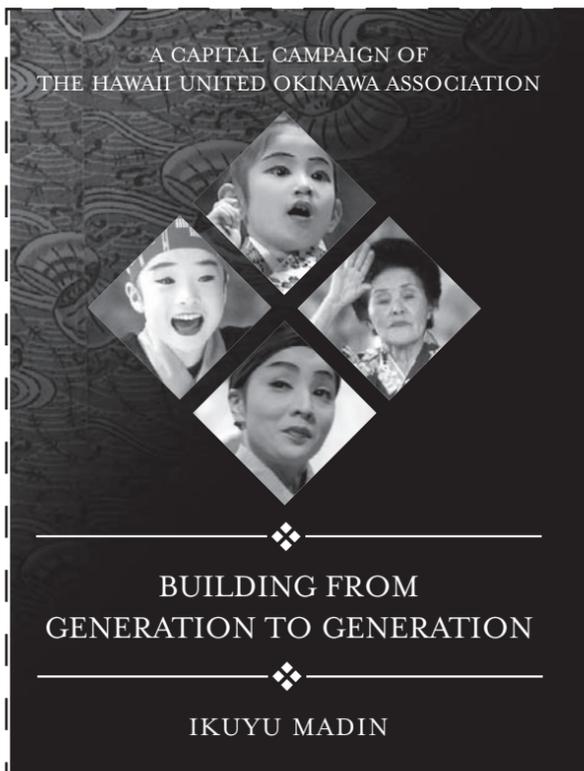
For the next few weeks, Ikuyu Madin is preparing for two major fundraising efforts for our Capital Campaign. On July 20, the Legacy Ballroom will be resonating with the melodic sounds of Okinawan song and music. Fourteen singers from Okinawa will take the stage alongside 60 singers from Hawaii in a "Natsumero Festival."

The program, scheduled to start at 10:30 a.m., will include special video accompaniment to the songs. Local sensei and noted singers committed to program include Marion Arakaki, Elsie Kawamoto, Brian Suzuki, Dennis Oshiro, Craig Shimizu, Ted Shimabukuro, Richard Shimabukuro, Itsuko Tagawa, Clyde Mikuni, Jon Sakai, Nelson Yoshioka, Chiyoko Aoyagi and Haruo Aoyagi. The \$25 ticket cost will include a mini-luncheon bento with bottled water. An Aloha Party to thank our guests is scheduled to follow the performance.

Three days following the "Natsumero Festival," HUOA will host its first Ikuyu Madin Golf Tournament at Pearl Country Club (shot gun tee-off to start at 12:30 p.m.). One hundred golfers are expected to participate in this event. We would like to thank Tournament title sponsors Tamura Super Market, Chinen & Arinaga Financial Group, Inc., and Armstrong Produce for supporting us.

According to Fund Development Chairman Alan Chinen, these events are just the start of many special events the committee is developing to make this a fun and financially successful year for the campaign. The goal for all of our efforts has been and will always be for the financial independence of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Ultimately, the success of the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Project will ensure the continued perpetuation of the Okinawan culture in Hawaii.

READY TO MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO OUR FUTURE, PLEASE USE THE PLEDGE FORM BELOW. YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION WILL ENSURE THE PERPETUATION OF OUR OKINAWAN CULTURE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.



Name _____ Club Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

My gift to the Hawaii United Okinawa Association Capital Campaign of: \$ _____ For a period of _____

Is enclosed. Please bill me: Quarterly Bi-annually Annually

Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Card holder name _____ Card holder signature _____

My gift is in memory of _____

My gift is on behalf of _____

My gift will be matched by _____

(Please enclose your matching gift form)

Please make checks payable to **HUOA Capital Campaign Fund**. For more information please contact Karen Kuba Hori by phone: 808-676-5400 by fax: 808-676-7811 by email: huoa@hawaii.rr.com or by mail: **Hawaii United Okinawa Association** 94-587 Ukee Street Waipahu, Hawaii 96797-4214.

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 were received from April 1, 2008 to May 15, 2008.

Anonymous

Ronlynn U.L. Arakaki

Ruby Arii

Neal & Vera Arita

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert T. Asato

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai by Pam Akeo, Ronald & Amy Miyasato and Albert T. & Matsuye Miyasato

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai by Doreen Miyasato and Edward & Ruby Miyasato

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai by Roy & Doris Nagamine and Kiyoshi Nakasone

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai by Myles Nakasone and Steve & Sumi Ortane

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai and in Memory of Yae Miyasato by Shea Miyasato

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai and in Memory of Douglas Miyasato by Nelson & Jacquelyn Miyasato

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai and in Memory of Kana & Seiichi Nakasone by Hiroshi & Kazuko Nakasone

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai and in Memory of Samson Shimabukuro by Annie Shimabukuro

Sueko & June T. Goya

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In Memory of Kay Kimiko Adaniya by Tsuruyo & May S. Asato, Mitzi & Stanley K. Nakamura, and the members of Hawaii Sashiki Chinen Doshikai

In Memory of Kameju & Hatsue Akamine by Annie Chang

In Memory of Masaichi Arashiro by Sumiko Arashiro

In Memory of Yonenaga & Chiruko Arashiro by Royden Arashiro

In Memory of Tsuruko Asato by Members of Kita Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai

In Memory of Yeihan Asato by Tsuruko Asato

In Memory of Koho & Kana Higa by Grace Bush

In Memory of George C. Y. Chang and Taketa & Yaye Miyasato by Ruth Miyasato Chang, Emi Chang Espinda, Sumi Chang-Ortanes & Yuri Chang Rhoden

In Memory of Ginei & Kane Kamiya by Tom & Jan Dobiesz

In Memory of Yoshimori & Ernest Higa by Frederick T. Higa

In Memory of James J. Inafuku & Tokujiro Matsuda by Carol Inafuku

In Memory of Jiro & Kame Kaneshiro by Barbara M. Takata

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Cornell & Shirley Alos, Brian Alos, Yukio & Sadako Tokuda, and Colin & Donnelle Alos

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Donald & Carol Esperitu, John & Jane Fukuhara, and Jim & Fay Hickerson

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Minoru & Helen Kaneshiro, Jerry & Sharon Kaneshiro, and Warren & Lou Ellen Kaneshiro

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Sandy Kaneshiro, Tammy A. Namihira, June Neumann, Betty Oshiro

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Rosemary & Charles Shinsato with parents, the late Jack & Masae Shinsato

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro by Bill & Stella Speed, Natsuko Tamashiro, and Reynold & JoAnn Tamashiro

In Memory of Kame & Kamato Kaneshiro in Recognition of the late Shizue Iha by Cathy Iha, Eunice Brown, Irene Iha, and Mike & Susan Bannister

In Memory of our grandparents Shonkichi & Kamado Matsukawa by Mitchell S. Higa

In memory of our grandparents Shonkichi & Kamado Matsukawa by Gregory & Laura Ikehara-Martin

In Memory of Wayne Miyahira by Members of the Hawaii Sashiki Chinen Doshikai and Ronald & Agnes Ushijima

In Memory of Dr. Albert Hajime Miyasato by Shizue Miyasato, Leigh-Ann K. Miyasato/Hoyt Zia, Mernie & David Miyasato-Crawford, Scott & Alison Colby

In Memory of Harry Y. Nakamura by Members of Hawaii Sashiki Chinen Doshikai

In Memory of Dr. Nobuyuki Nakasone by Yoshino Nakasone

In Loving Memory of Mrs. Dorothy Oganeku by Members of the Nago Club

In Memory of my parents Ryoshun & Kame Oshiro and brother Ryosei Oshiro by Alice Matsui

In Memory of Toka and Nabe Oshiro

In Memory of Choyu Shimabukuro by Casey & Alice Oshiro

In Memory of Ronald Y. Takara by Susan H. Takara

In Memory of Agnes Tengan by Members of the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club

In Memory of Harry Kazuo Tokashiki by Craig & Veda Tokashiki

In Memory of Takeichi & Shizue Tokunaga by Laverne Tokunaga-Tarumoto & Harold Tarumoto

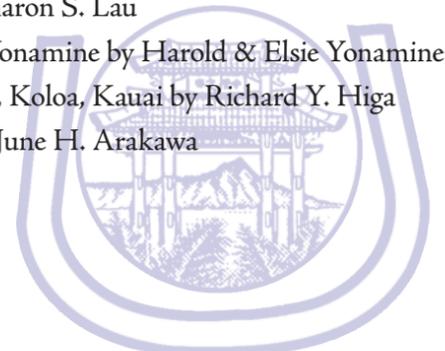
In Memory of Edward Minoru Tonaki by Betty Y. Tonaki & Family

In Memory of Sujin & Tsuru Yeda by Sharon S. Lau

In Memory of Kogoro & Kana (Asato) Yonamine by Harold & Elsie Yonamine

On Behalf of Mrs. Masei Higa & Family, Koloa, Kauai by Richard Y. Higa

In Appreciation of Friday Volunteers by June H. Arakawa



HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION

PRESENTS

IKUYU MADIN

(“GENERATION TO GENERATION”)

GOLF TOURNAMENT

PEARL COUNTRY CLUB

JULY 23, 2008



EVENT SCHEDULE

10:30 AM Registration/Check-In
 12:30 PM Shot Gun Tee-Off
 Lunch & Beverages provided
 5:30 PM Banquet Dinner
 (No-Host Cocktails)
 6:30 PM Awards & Prizes

TITLE SPONSORS

Tamura Super Market
 Chinen & Arinaga Financial Group, Inc.
 Armstrong Produce

FORMAT:

Three player Team Modified Scramble
 Men and women play from respective tees
 Soft spikes only

MAXIMUM HANDICAP:

Women: 36
 Men: 30

REGISTRATION

Deadline to register is June 23, 2008
 Open to the first 144 players

THE PURPOSE

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) is faced with critical present and future challenges related to the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC). This tournament supplements fundraising efforts to develop the property across from HOC. The goal is to offer additional space for the Okinawan cultural performing arts, language and children’s education. This effort will also enable HUOA to seek revenue-generating opportunities to continue its mission to preserve, perpetuate and promote the Okinawan culture and history in Hawaii.

To download registration form, please go to the HUOA website (www.huoa.org). Or, you may contact Gladys Asao at 832-0822 (Bus) or 235-2184 (Home) for more information.

IKUYU MADIN (“Generation to Generation”) GOLF TOURNAMENT

IKUYU MADIN Golf Tournament

July 23, 2008 – Wednesday
 Pearl Country Club

INDIVIDUAL GOLFER **\$250**
 Includes: Round of golf, goody bag, lunch, beverages, banquet dinner and prizes

HOLE SPONSORSHIP **\$1,500**
 Includes: Tee signage of your company name and one team of three golfers which includes all of above

DONATIONS
 I am interested donating the following item(s):

- Cash \$ _____
- Door Prize
- Goody Bag Items
- Team Prizes (3 per item)
- Hole in One Prize
- Other Donation (List type of donation) _____

Please contact the following for my donation:

 Phone Number: _____

REGISTRATION

Deadline: June 23, 2008

Open to the first 144 players

INDIVIDUAL GOLFER **\$250**
 (Please complete information below for Players 1)

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

TEAM OF 3 GOLFERS **\$750**
 Company: _____

Team Captain: _____

Phone Number: _____

HOLE SPONSORSHIP **\$1,500**
 Company: _____

Team Captain: _____

Phone Number: _____

To ensure your team of three plays together, please use one registration form to list all players’ names

Player 1: _____

Company: _____

Handicap: _____

Player 2: _____

Company: _____

Handicap: _____

Player 3: _____

Company: _____

Handicap: _____

Please mail the completed form with your check made payable to:

Hawaii United Okinawa Association
 ATTN: Golf Tournament
 94-587 Ukee Street
 Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

Contact Gladys Asao at 832-0822 (Bus) or 235-2184 (Home) for more information.



SPORTS CORNER

Morita Captures 38th Annual HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament Title

Kauai-born Layne Morita started golfing at the age of 8. He dreamed of winning the coveted Governor's Trophy when he first began playing in the HUOA Invitational Golf tournament with his grandpa, Yoshio Awakuni, from Kapaa, Kauai. Unfortunately, Grandpa Awakuni was not able to play in the tournament this year, but grandson Layne, now a 21-year-old student at Chaminda, realized his dream by capturing the 2008 title of TOP GOLFER with a low gross of 142 in HUOA's two-day golf tournament at West Loch Golf Course.



Layne Morita, winner of the Governor's Trophy, is congratulated by hard-working golf tournament coordinators (L-R): Wes Teruya, Neal Takara and Les Tamashiro.

Tournament Co-chairs Wes Teruya and Neal Takara declared the tournament a huge success with 119 golfers enjoying golfing and fellowship. They extend their sincere mahalo to all those who volunteered to assist in this tournament and the fabulous

"19th hole" party at Jikoen - especially the Tamashiro clan: Les, Neal, Nelson, Kent and Ricky, the three Janes (Okamura, Takara & Serikaku), Dorothy Chinen, Leanne Eguchi, Bonnie Miyashiro, Richard Shiroma, Marie Komoda and Joan Gushiken.

A special mahalo to the Honorable Linda Lingle for the Governor's Trophy, the Honorable Mufi Hannemann for the Mayor's Trophy, and all of the firms, organizations and individuals for their generous donations. We appreciate your continued support.



Ken Nakamatsu and Dennis Shinsato patiently wait for Jon Itomura and Ford Chinen to get on their cart and move to the next tee.



M.C. Wes Teruya announces the winner of the Inamine Cup: Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai. (L-R): Akio Tamashiro, Gary Higa, Lester Higa, Howard Asato, Katrina Higa, Les Tamashiro, Kristine Higa, Neal Tamashiro, Kent Tamashiro, Nelson Tamashiro and Ricky Tamashiro.

HUOA Invitational Golf Tournament Results (Top three finishers in each flight)

Tournament Champion:

Layne Morita - Low Gross 69 - 73 Total 142

Championship Flight (Handicap 0 - 9)	Low Net
1. Akio Tamashiro 67 - 64	Total 131
2. Neal Tamashiro 70 - 66	Total 136
3. Wes Teruya 68 - 68	Total 136
"A" Flight (Handicap 10 - 19)	Low Net
1. Joe Akima 69 - 68	Total 136
2. Mark Fukeda 67 - 70	Total 137
3. Mel Kaneshiro 72 - 69	Total 141
"B" Flight (Handicap 20 - 30)	Low Net
1. Hilton Lau 66 - 64	Total 130
2. Thomas Teruya 64 - 67	Total 131
3. Roy Yasuda 62 - 70	Total 132
Seniors' Flight (Handicap 0 - 30)	Low Net
1. Walter Chur 62 - 61	Total 123
2. Chester Tatsumura 71 - 58	Total 129
3. George Kaneshiro 71 - 66	Total 137
Super Seniors' Flight (Handicap 0 - 30)	Low Net
1. Richard Sonomura 74	Sunday only
Women's Flight (Handicap 0 - 38)	Low Net
1. Helene Toya 68 - 66	Total 134
2. Katrina Higa 70 - 68	Total 138
3. Amy Higa 69 - 69	Total 138
Guest Flight (Handicap 0 - 30)	Low Net
1. Chris Igami 64 - 62	Total 126
2. Walter Yim 59 - 70	Total 129
3. Gee Ebana 62 - 70	Total 132



Hui Makaala Golf Tournament August 23, 2008

The 2008 Hui Makaala Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, August 23, at the Kapolei Golf Club and Resort, 91-1156 Farrington Highway.

The event will tee off at 10:58 a.m. with groups to follow in seven-minute intervals. Deadline to register is August 9, 2008.

Cost for the event is \$95 per golfer (\$380 per four-person team). Fees include green fee, cart, pupus and prizes. Cocktails are no host.

Tournament format is four-person modified scramble (minimum three drives); men's maximum handicap is 28; women's is 36. Donations of goods or services are also being accepted.

For more information or questions, contact Ryan Okunaga at 741-1797 or email - Okunagar001@hawaii.rr.com

To download a registration form, go to the HUOA website (www.huoa.org)

Hui Okinawa Gears Up for 2008 Haari Boat Festival

By Patti Taira-Tokuuke, President

Hui Okinawa is counting down the days until our Haari Boat Festival, which will be held August 15-16 at the Wailoa State Park and River.

We are excited to report that Mayor Yoshikazu Shimabukuro of Nago City will be attending the festival and bringing along his championship team. There will also be a group of Eisa dancers from Meio University. Margaret Torigoe, chairperson of the event, promises an exciting couple of days. There is a golf tournament happening on Friday, August 15. Besides the races, there will be cultural exhibits, food booths, and Okinawan products for sale. A luau will culminate the event.

If you haven't made your travel arrangements you're encouraged to do so now, as we expect a large number of visitors. For more information, check out our website at: www.haariboatfestival.com. See you at the races!



2008 Club Picnic Dates

Summer is here and that means it's time for games, prizes, cook-outs, homemade bento, shaved ice and – perhaps – even some ice cold watermelon!

Here are confirmed club picnic dates as of May 15, 2008:

* Club Name	Picnic Date	Location
* Awase Doshi Kai	8/10-Sun	Kapiolani Park-#13, 14, 15
* Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai	7/20-Sun	Ala Moana
* Bito Doshi Kai	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana
* Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana
* Club Motobu	7/13-Sun	Ala Moana High Rise
* Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai	7/12-Sat	Ala Moana
* Ginowan Shijin Kai	7/20-Sun	Ala Moana-#8
* Ginoza Sonjin Kai	7/6-Sun	Kapiolani Park
* Gushichan Sonjin Kai	6/22-Sun	Ala Moana
* Gushikawa Shijin Kai	7/20-Sun	Kapiolani Park-#24~26
* Haeburu Club	7/20-Sun	Disabled Veterans Facility
* Hawaii Katsuren Chojin Kai	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana #2-3
* Hawaii Sashiki-Chinen	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana
* Hawaii Shuri - Naha Club	6/29-Sun	Section 28-The Risers
* Hui Okinawa	9/7-Sun	Wailoa State Park Large Pavillion
* Itoman Shijin Kai	7/13-Sun	Ala Moana High Rise
* Kin Chojin Kai	7/20-Sun	Kapiolani Park
* Kochinda Chojin Kai	7/26-Sat	Ala Moana #26-27
* Kohala Okinawa Kenjin Kai	7/26-Sat	Kamehameha Park Concession
* Kuba Rosei Kai	7/13-Sun	Sand Island
* Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai	7/27-Sun	Velma McWayne Santos Center
* Nago Club	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana
* Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai	7/27-Sun	Kapiolani Park, #9-10
* Nishihara Chojin Kai	7/13-Sun	Ala Moana
* Okinawa City-Goeku Son	7/13-Sun	Kapiolani Park
* Oroku Aza Jin Kai	7/13-Sun	Ala Moana Park
* Oroku Doshi Kai	7/13-Sun	Kapiolani Park-across tennis courts
* Osato Doshi Kai	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana
* Tamagusuku Club	7/27-Sun	Kapiolani Park-#4-5
* Tomigusuku Sonjin Kai	7/27-Sun	Ala Moana Park
* Urasoe Shijin Kai	6/29-Sun	Ala Moana Park-#9
* Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai	8/10-Sun	Waialele Community Park
* Yagaji Doshi Kai	6/29-Sun	Ala Moana Park
* Yomitan Club	6/22-Sun	Ala Moana Park #8-9
* Yonabaru Chojin Kai	6/15-Sun	Ala Moana Park
* Yonashiro Chojin Kai	7/20-Sun	Ala Moana Park #9



CLUB NEWS

our clubs, our Future

Ginowan Shijin Kai

By Patrick Miyashiro, President

It's Spring Craft Fair day, Saturday, 6 a.m. – the HOC kitchen was bustling with activity with 14 energetic Ginowan members mixing the andagi batter.

Mahalo to: Claire Matsumoto, Clinton & Karen Chung, Lorraine Funakoshi, Wilma Ogimi, June Zakimi, Nancy Arizumi, Jane Nakamura, Kathleen Kaya, Nona & Pat Miyashiro, Larry & Alice Morisako & Ernest Funakoshi.

At 7 a.m. the next day, 16 Ginowan members volunteered to do a major clean up of the Hawaii Okinawa Center...



Ginowan members mixing the andagi batter



Ginowan members volunteered to do a major clean up of the Hawaii Okinawa Center

scrubbing the bathrooms, cleaning all those big picture windows, the staging area, the mezzanine and all those stairs, and those wooden boxes that house the trash cans. Nifee deebiru to: Pat Miyashiro, Ernest Funakoshi, Don Yamashita, Karen Chung, June Zakimi, Claire Matsumoto, Linda & Steven Kunahisa, Betty Shimabukuro, Wilma

Ogimi, Clinton Chung, Owen Iha, Takeo Shimabukuro, Jane & Carl Nakamura and Lawrence Funakoshi. Special thanks to coordinator, Garrett Iha who unfortunately had National Guard duty that day.

Our next event is our Annual Picnic, scheduled for July 20 at Ala Moana Park, Area 8.

See you there! Don't forget to buy your festival scripts from Ginowan!

Yonashiro Chojin Kai

By Gainor Miyashiro, President

At its 2008 Shinnen Enkai held at Masa's Cafeteria, fifth generation members of the Yonashiro Chojin Kai celebrated the "Year of the Rat." Our newsletter announced a contest to create a mask, hat, or other head attire using the "Year of the Rat" theme and to model it on stage at the party. These young members came to the party prepared with their mouse ears and mask – all were declared winners. Everyone won McDonald's gift certificates.



Yonashiro Chojin Kai youngsters celebrate the Year of the Rat – Chiemi Kamaka, Zachary Talioaga, Naiyalyn Ikei, Elizabeth Talioaga and Audrey Shoji.

Hui O Laulima 2008 Cultural Grants \$7,000 in Grants Awarded

Hui O Laulima has provided grants to individuals and organizations in our local Okinawan community with the greatest potential for the preservation, promotion, and perpetuation of the Okinawan culture. This year, a total of \$7,000 was awarded to seven applicants. This year's grantees are:

- **HAWAII OKINAWA FUE KENKYUKAI, EARL M. IKEDA**
Purpose: To preserve the art of Okinawan flute playing. Purpose of the grant is to create a group that will continue to enhance and perpetuate music using the traditional flute and playing techniques of Okinawa.
- **HILO OKINAWAN CULTURAL CLUB, GAIL MAESATO AND GEORGE YOKOYAMA**
Purpose: To provide for folk dancing, sanshin and drum instruction for the club from Master Okinawa instructors Kina, Keiko and Oshiro, Tsuruko in preparation for the Hilo Okinawan Cultural Club 30th Anniversary celebration.
- **HUI OKINAWA KOBUDO TAIKO**
Purpose: To support Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko participation in the 26th Annual Okinawan Festival in Honolulu.
- **CHIKAKO SHIMAMURA**
Purpose: Ms. Shimamura has qualified to take the second level exam (Yuushuusho) for Okinawan dance, which will bring her one step closer to her goal of attaining a Kyoshi Menkyojo or Teaching Certificate. Her award will assist with her travel to Okinawa.
- **TAMAGUSUKU RYU SENJU KAI, FRANCES NAKACHI KUBA**
Purpose: The grant will support the school's 10th anniversary recital to be held at the Hawaii Theatre on November 16, 2008.
- **TERUYA KATSUKO SOKYOKU KENKYUKAI, HAWAII KYOSHITSU, CHIEKO MIYAZATO AND KAZUMI CUTTER**
Purpose: To assist with the travel expenses for the group to travel to Los Angeles to further their koto studies and refine their art under the direction of Katsuko Teruya.
- **MELISSA UYEUNTEN**
Purpose: To assist in the travel expenses for Ms. Uyeunten to participate in the Ryukyu Shinpo Gei no Konkuuru examination for Okinawan fine arts. She will be testing for the Odori (dance) shinjinsho (1st level exam). The shinjinsho exam is the first of three tests, which can only be achieved by traveling to Okinawa and taking the exam in front of the judging panel.

We congratulate all of the 2008 grant awardees and extend our best wishes for a very successful and fruitful year!

This is *Your* Newsletter
Please send us your club news items, member spotlights, and photos. Email us at info@huoa.org
Mahalo!

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Okinawan Restaurants are 'Key Ingredient' in Hawaii's Food Culture

The proud history of Okinawan-owned restaurants in Hawaii will be recognized and celebrated as part of the broader story of food and culture in America, when the traveling exhibition, "Key Ingredients: America by Food," opens its Hawaii run at Kapiolani Community College (KCC) on June 28. The exhibit will remain on public view at the Lama Library on KCC's Diamond Head Campus through August 23. It will then move to the Kapolei Public Library (8/30 - 10/20) and Lyman Museum (10/31/08 - 1/31/09) before concluding its Hawaii tour at Maui Community College (2/14/09 - 4/12/09).

Through the use of artifacts, photographs and illustrations, "Key Ingredients" explores the fascinating topic of food in America and the cultural, historical, regional, ethnic and social traditions that it reflects. For more about the "Key Ingredients" project, check out the website: <http://www.keyingredients.org>.



Sam, Matsunobu, Johnny and Masaji Uyehara, Smile Cafe, Honolulu.
Photo courtesy of Masaji Uyehara

the Oroku Restaurant exhibition will be displayed in an area near the "Hawaii by Food" exhibit in the KCC Library. The Okinawan restaurant legacy will also be the focus of a special Okinawan Celebration Day at KCC on Saturday, July 26, featuring a panel discussion about Okinawan restaurants in Hawaii, performances by Akemi Martin and Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko, and that ever-popular icon of Okinawan food in Hawaii... andagi! For updated information regarding this and other KCC programs related to "Key Ingredients," please visit the KCC project website: <http://kcc.hawaii.edu/object/keyingredients.html>.

The Oroku Restaurant Project was launched in early 2002 by Howard Takara and his late daughter Holly, then the president of the Oroku Azajin Club. The project's goal was to inventory Hawaii's Okinawan-owned restaurants, past and present. The group began by focusing exclusively on restaurants owned by individuals from the small village of Oroku. Phase One of the project concluded with no less than 74 restaurants dating back to 1923. Phase Two of the project is ongoing, and expands the study to include restaurants run by individuals from all parts of Okinawa.

The Oroku Restaurant exhibit will remain on display throughout the exhibition's run at KCC. The Oroku exhibit will also accompany "Key Ingredients" and "Hawaii by Food" to Kapolei Library. Plans to send the Oroku display panels over to the Neighbor Island venues have not been determined, due to concerns over shipping costs and other logistical issues.

"Key Ingredients: America by Food" is produced by Museum on Main Street, a partnership of the Smithsonian Institution and state humanities councils. Its Hawaii tour is co-sponsored by the Smithsonian and HCH. The exhibit is free to the public. Hours at KCC are Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Closed on holidays. Please call Louise Yamamoto at (808) 734-9513 to arrange for large group tours.



"Key Ingredients" explores the fascinating topic of food in America and the cultural, historical, regional, ethnic and social traditions that it reflects.

Wherever it travels across the country, the exhibit also incorporates a local component that specifically addresses food topics from that area. "Hawaii by Food: A Celebration of Hawaii's Food Culture," is the title of the local component that was created by KCC with the support of the Hawaii Council for the Humanities (HCH). The Oroku Restaurant Project, a joint effort of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA) and Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH), will be included as part of the Hawaii program.

Due to space limitations,



Smile Cafe, Kalakaua Avenue, Honolulu. Photo courtesy of Masaji Uyehara

Congratulations to Marcie!

Since 2000, the Okinawa Prefectural Government (OPG) has sponsored a Junior Study Tour to Okinawa and has asked various overseas kenjinkai to recommend candidates to participate in this prestigious program.



Marcie Miyuki Moribe

The selected students will be immersed in learning about Okinawa's natural resources and its history. They will be provided with hands-on experiences in traditional crafts and the performing arts, escorted on tours that will provoke reflection on the importance of peace, society and more.

Junior Study Tour participants will also have unique opportunities to connect with relatives through the homestay portion of the program. Additionally, OPG's important goal is for students to network with peers from overseas as well as youth living in Okinawa and mainland Japan. OPG offers this program to create a foundation for the development of leaders who will not only impact their respective countries, but the world community as well.

OPG has accepted the HUOA's recommendation of Marcie Miyuki Moribe to be Hawaii's participant in the 2008 Junior Study Tour Program. Marcie, the daughter of Morris and Ann Moribe (Yomitan Club and Young Okinawans of Hawaii), is a 10th grader attending the Pacific Buddhist Academy. She has done well in school and has a bright, positive disposition and an eagerness to develop friendships, while absorbing the merits and significance of Okinawa's culture and history. Marcie has the potential of becoming a future leader in our community and we believe that she will represent us well in Okinawa this summer.

Best wishes, Marcie.

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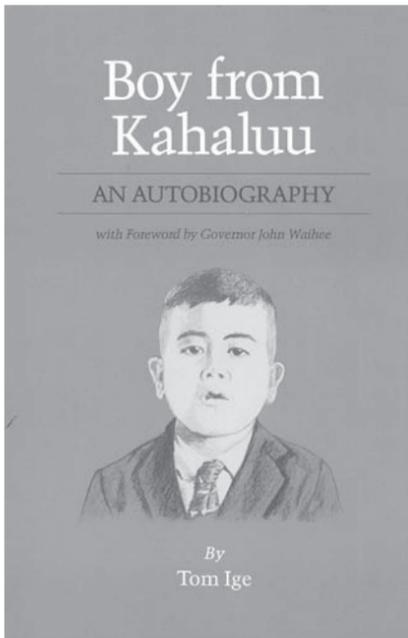
Did you know that there is a collection of great reading at the Hawaii Okinawa Center's Gift Shop?

Here are just a few of the informative and entertaining books that are available for purchase. The Gift Shop is open Monday through Saturday, so please stop by – your purchases will not only help to support the HUOA, but our local authors as well. Please call us at 676-5400 if you have any questions!

Boy from Kahaluu

By Tom Ige

This autobiography details Thomas H. Ige's life from his early years in Kahaluu Valley, playing baseball in the Japanese Senior Baseball League, as an economist with the U.S. Government in the War Labor Board in Detroit and the Wage Stabilization Boards in Minneapolis and Washington, D.C., to his political involvement in Hawaii's statehood. He received the Purple Heart while serving with the U.S.

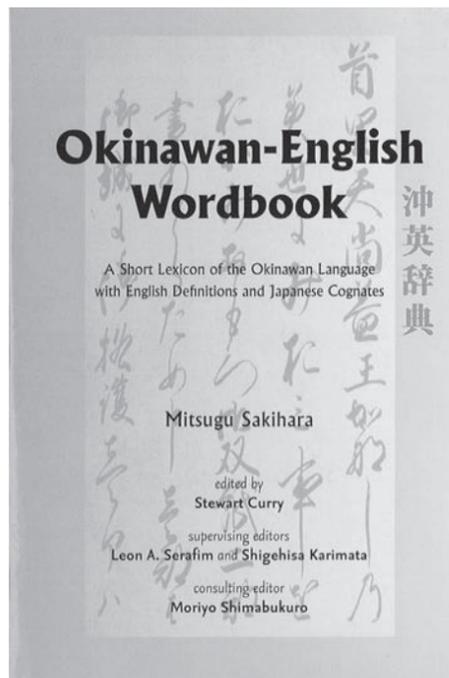


Army in 1945 while stationed in Okinawa. Ige spent the majority of his career as a professor of economics for 30 years at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He is also a member of the Kin Chojin Kai. "Boy from Kahaluu" reminds us of the hardships Okinawan and Japanese issei and nisei faced racially, ethnically and politically.

Okinawan-English Wordbook

By Mitsugu Sakihara

A great resource for anyone learning Okinawan, the Okinawan-English Wordbook translates Okinawan to English and English to Okinawan in Romanized format familiar to those who have studied Japanese. It provides a guideline to grammar, pronunciation, and at times Japanese word equivalent. The Okinawan used in this wordbook is based on the spoken

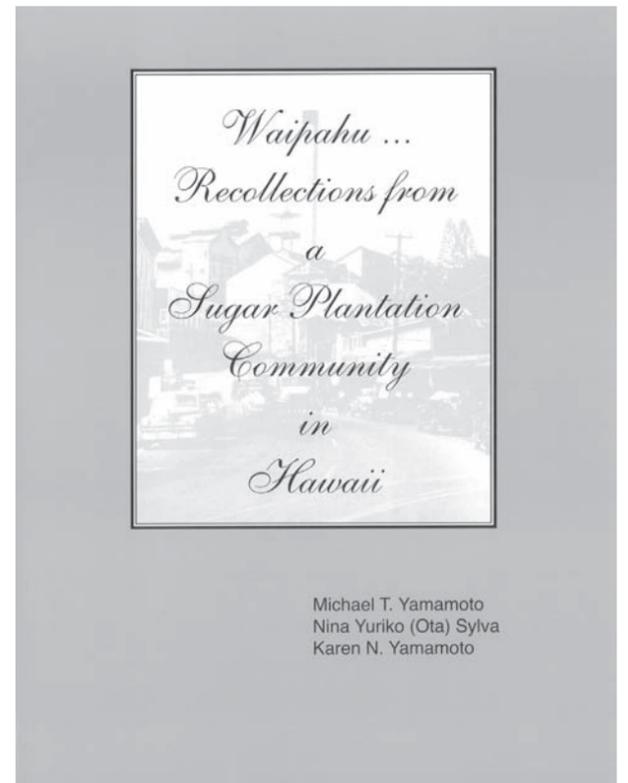


language of Shuri/Naha. It has been cross-referenced by linguistic scholars at the University of the Ryukyus and University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Waipahu...Recollections form a Sugar Plantation Community in Hawaii

By Michael T. Yamamoto, Nina Yuriko (Ota) Sylva, Karen N. Yamamoto

A collection of fond memories of old Waipahu Town, this book reminisces the simpler times. Many Waipahuans contributed with their stories of the Oahu Sugar Plantation, Waipahu Street and Depot Road, the mixture of cultures, World War II, Tatsuichi Ota, and life in Waipahu.



Iju no hana – Beautiful Flowering Trees

Near the red roof tile wall of the Takakura Okinawa Garden at the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC), there are two wooden signposts. One has an inscription of a presentation by Mayor Kousaku Uehara of Kunigami Village, and the other has inscriptions identifying the Okinawa Hawaii Kukui Kai. The signs help to commemorate several iju plants that are growing next to them.

An iju is a tree that grows in Okinawa, with flowers that bloom in Spring. Even on young plants like those at the HOC, you will find narrow, densely growing, dark green leaves with small, whitish flowers with slightly yellow centers that contrast sharply with its leaves.

Beautiful in its simplicity, it is no wonder iju is the theme of many classical Okinawan poems.

As told by volunteer gardener Minoru Teruya, in the early 1960s a group of young men from Okinawa arrived in Hawaii to learn farming from local Okinawans, living with their host families for about six months. After returning to Okinawa, these men formed the Okinawa Hawaii Kukui Kai. There are now only about six or seven members in the group, but as an extension of their legacy and appreciation to the Hawaii community, they donated several plants to the Takakura Okinawa Garden in August 2003. Mayor Uehara is credited with providing the original iju for the garden from his region of Okinawa. Mr. Teruya used his special touch to nurture and stabilize the plants for their transition and growth at the HOC.

While this year's blossoms have passed, we look forward to next year's radiant iju. 



Uchinaa-guchi (Okinawan language) Word of the Month

May

wugan-ju, n. A holy place of worship including sacred groves and other places of worship. Also ugwanju.

June

yakusuku, n. [yakusoku] 1 A promise; an engagement; a date; an appointment; a contract; a stipulation. 2 A promise; a prospect. 3 A convention; a rule; regulations. 4 One's destiny; one's fate.

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

The Okinawan-English Wordbook (softcover) can be purchased for \$13 at the HOC gift shop.

HUOA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar!

July 2008

- 3 Communications & Information Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY -- HOC Office Closed
- 8 Executive Council meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 14 Club Development Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 20 Natsumero (Nostalgic Melodies) Benefit Concert, Legacy I/II, 10:30am & Aloha Reception, 4pm
- 22 Board of Directors meeting, Legacy I, 7pm
- 23 HUOA Ikuyu Madin Golf Tournament & Banquet, Pearl Country Club
- 29 Administration Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm

August 2008

- 5 Executive Council meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 7 Communications & Information Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 11 Club Development Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 24 Annual wok cleaning, behind Legacy Hall, 7am
- 26 Administration Com. meeting, Serikaku Chaya, 7pm
- 28 Festival T-shirt Folding, Legacy I/II, 6:30 pm
- 30 Okinawan Festival -- Kapiolani Park, 8:30 am - 9pm
- 31 Okinawan Festival -- Kapiolani Park, 9:00 am - 5 pm

Classes · Meetings at Hawaii Okinawa Center:

HUOA Sanshin: every Thursday, 7pm*

Ikebana: every third Wednesday, 7pm*

Karaoke nite: last Tuesday, 6:30pm*

Kobudo Taiko: every Monday, 7pm, contact Calvin Nakama 224-7374

Monday Crafters: every Monday, 9 am

Okinawan Festival mtg: 3rd Wednesday, 7pm*

Okinawan Genealogical Society mtg: 3rd Saturday, 9am*

Uchinaaguchi: every 3rd Monday, 7pm*

*for more information, please call 676-5400

Subject to Change

HOT

"HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" SCHEDULE

Watch "Hawaii Okinawa Today," Monday evenings at 7 p.m. on 'Olelo-Oceanic Cable Channel 53. You can also view our shows on Oletonet - simultaneous Web streaming. For updated information contact; hot@huoa.org or visit our website; www.huoa.org for detailed information.

>IMPORTANT NOTE: OLELO IS IN THE PROCESS OF STARTING A NEW SERIES SEASON FROM JULY 1. HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY MAY BE SHOWN ON A DIFFERENT DAY AND TIME SLOT THAN LISTED BELOW. CHECK THE HUOA WEB SITE FOR THE LATEST SCHEDULE, OR CALL HUOA AT 676-5400. WE ARE SORRY FOR THIS INCONVENIENCE.

- July 7 Part One of Eyes of the Future, "Toyama Kyuzo Story," a musical drama performed by the Toyama Kyuzo Romance Theatrical Group of Middle and High School Students from Kin Town, Okinawa Prefecture, at Hawaii Okinawa Center on August 30, 2007. (Premiere)
- July 14 Part Two of Eyes of the Future, "Toyama Kyuzo Story," a musical drama performed by the Toyama Kyuzo Romance Theatrical Group of Middle and High School Students from Kin Town, Okinawa Prefecture, at Hawaii Okinawa Center on August 30, 2007. (Premiere)
- July 21 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Four featuring Tamagusuku Ryu Senju Kai - Frances Nakachi Ryubu Dojo, Urizun, and Daiichi Hirata. (Premiere)
- July 28 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Five featuring Ryusei Honryu Ryuko Kai - Toguchi Mitsuko Ryubu Kenkyusho, Paranku Clubs of Hawaii, and excerpts from the musical, "Pigs From the Sea." (Premiere)
- Aug 4 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Six featuring Tamagusuku Ryu Kansan Kai, Ryusei Daiko, and Naha Daiko. (Premiere)
- Aug 11 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Seven featuring Okinawa Buyo Club, Royal Hawaiian Band, and Radio Okinawa's Miuta Taisho Grand Prix winner and other performers from Okinawa. (Premiere)
- Aug 18 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Eight featuring Afuso Ryu Gensei Kai Hawaii Shibu, Kikue Kaneshiro Ryubu Kenkyu Kai, and Buyo Shudan Hanayakara. (Premiere)
- Aug 25 25th Okinawan Festival 2007 at Kapiolani Park - Show No. Nine featuring Uta-Sanshin Ensemble (HUOA Sanshin Class & Nidaime Teishin Kai - Hawaii Shibu, Nidaime Teishin Kai - Hilo Shibu), Majikina Honryu Buyo Dojo, and Sosakudaiko Ryukyu Yuihana. (Premiere)

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