

# Peace, Harmony, and the Okinawan Spirit

**M**ichael Kazuo Abe, newly installed HUOA President, is a member of the Nago Club. His term began April 1, 1995 and will end on December 31, 1995. Although his term is shorter than usual, because HUOA will switch to a calendar year term in 1996, 1995 is a very significant year. It marks the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II and the Battle of Okinawa. There are several major HUOA events occurring during the year, such as a special Okinawan Shuri Castle performance in June, HUOA Festival in September, and the Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival celebration in Okinawa in November.

Michael has chosen as his theme "*Peace, Harmony, and the Okinawan Spirit.*" He believes, the theme has meanings on so many different levels. "Peace and Harmony" have been guiding values in the Okinawan culture and history. Because Okinawa has few natural resources, it was built on peaceful and harmonious cooperation with all people. The Okinawans in Hawaii have been able to build an organization and a Center because of the same cooperation and spirit. We can't easily define the "Okinawan Spirit," but we know it's there. It's not a question of blood. It's the spirit. It's this spirit that has helped the Okinawans through good and bad times."

Mike, as he prefers to be called, was born on December 18, 1953 and raised in Papaikou, outside of Hilo. He said: "It was a plantation camp. Three o'clock and six o'clock whistles, outhouses, chicken coops, pigs, ducks, vegetable gardens, cutting firewood, big laundry tubs, Bull Durham bags to filter water from streams, sampan buses..." Although Mike is a sansei he grew up almost like the Nisei generation. He says, "I am glad I had the experience."

Mike graduated from Hilo High School, attended the University of Hawaii and received his bachelor's degree in economics from Haverford College, Pa. He earned his Law degree from the University of San Francisco, and a Master's degree, L.L.M. in tax law from Georgetown University Law School in Washington, D.C. Mike has his own law practice specializing in estate planning, wills and trusts, real estate, corporations, and partnerships.

While growing up in Hilo, Mike naturally found himself in leadership roles as an Eagle Scout, Student Body President of Hilo High School, YMCA Youth Model Legislature Statewide Governor. He was also active in student government at the University of Hawaii and received the Outstanding Sophomore Service Award. He has served on the St. Francis Medical Center, Health Service for Senior Citizen's Advisory Board, has donated legal services for various non-profit organizations and has offered free seminars on estate planning. Mike started his legal career on Kauai, and served as Second Deputy County Attorney. He later served as a Deputy Corporation Counsel for the City and County of Honolulu. He received Certificates of Commendation for Outstanding Service from the Mayors of Honolulu and Kauai, and the Honolulu Police Commission.

He is married to the former Audrey Yamamoto of Kauai. Audrey is a CPA and a Certified Commercial and Residential real estate appraiser and currently operates her own business in the same office as her husband. She has been very supportive of Mike's HUOA activities and has co-chaired several



HUOA projects. They have a daughter, Elizabeth, who is 7 years old. Liz, as she is referred to, is in the 1st grade at Punahou, and enjoys singing, drama, dancing, and reading. She has had principal roles in school plays and recently sang at the Okinawan Festival, Kariyushi, and at her dad's Installation Banquet.

Mike and Audrey attended their first Okinawan Festival at Thomas Square in 1985. They were impressed by the Uchinanchu spirit and later joined the Nago Club. "Nago Club members warmly welcomed us and gave us a sense of family and community." Mike served as Nago Vice President for two years and later as President. He later served as UOA Vice President in 1993 and as President Elect in 1994.

Mike sees the principal role of the HUOA as fostering the Uchinanchu spirit and culture by educating people, supporting programs, and keeping the member clubs strong. Mike states, "The HUOA is a model of how a community should be. We're working towards reaching the next generation because we need to get young people involved. We've built the facility (Hawaii Okinawa Center) and now we need to build the organization. Change from a house to a home. The reorganization of the HUOA is intended to make members feel that the HOC is really our home.

(continued on page 3)



## UCHINANCHU

UNITED OKINAWAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII • NEWSLETTER

April 1995

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### HUOA CALENDAR

APR 11	Executive Council Mtg. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
APR 25	Karaoke Hawaii Okinawa Center	6:30pm
APR 29	<b>HUOA CRAFT FAIR</b> HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER	9am
MAY 9	HUOA Board Mtg. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
MAY 27/28	<b>HUOA GOLF TOURNAMENT</b> PALI GOLF COURSE	
MAY 30	Karaoke Hawaii Okinawa Center	6:30pm
JUN 13	Executive Council Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
JUN 17	<b>SHURI CASTLE PERFORMANCE</b> HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER	4pm
JUN 24	<b>LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP</b> HAWAII OKINAWA CENTER	8:30am
JUN 27	Karaoke Hawaii Okinawa Center	6:30pm
JUL 11	HUOA Board Mtg. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
JUL 15/16	<b>HAARI BOAT/SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT</b> HILO	
JUL 25	Karaoke Hawaii Okinawa Center	6:30pm

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**Festival Alert • September 2nd and 3rd • Kapiolani Park • TO ALL VOLUNTEERS:** This year our Festival coincides with the commemorative events for the 50th Anniversary of the end of WWII. Parking at Kapiolani Park and hotel rooms in Waikiki will be at a premium. All volunteers and attendees of our wonderful Festival are encouraged to make their reservations early.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

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**Uchinanchu**

The Uchinanchu is a quarterly newsletter for the members of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Issue dates will depend upon upcoming HUOA events but will generally occur on April 15, July 15, October 15, and January 15 of each year. Volunteers are always welcome. Send your name and telephone number to: Uchinanchu Newsletter c/o Hawaii Okinawa Center, 94-587 Ukee Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797

- |                                     |                 |                    |                  |
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(Abe - continued from page 1) It's an invitation, not only to the Okinawan Community, but to the greater community, to come and see our Okinawan culture and our organization."

(Michael Abe's Installation Banquet speech printed below, was delivered on March 29, 1995 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, and edited for publication)

In his inaugural address, Mike begins by conveying the following thoughts, "Words cannot express my gratitude to all the people who have helped me to be here tonight. Thank you.

In Uchinaguchi, the Okinawan language, we have a saying, "Ashibinu churasaa ninju nu sunawai," which means, "The more participants we have, the more enjoyable the gathering. " Ippe nihei debiru. There is also another saying, "Ichariba choodee," which means, "Once we meet and talk, even by chance, we are brothers and sisters.

My last name is Abe, a Yamatunchu name. My father's parents came from Niigata and settled in Papaikou on Big Island and worked for the sugar plantation. My mother's parents, Shojo and Masako Yaka, came from Nago, Okinawa and settled in Hanamaulu, Kauai. Yaka Ojiji was a barber and Yaka Obaban took in laundry, mostly from the single Filipino men. They passed away when I was 6 years old. I did not grow up with a much Uchinanchu culture and tradition. But my mother would occasionally make andagi, which she said Yaka Obaban would make all the time for guests.

I want to thank my parents, Howard and Violet Abe, Audrey's parents, Mitsuo and May Yamamoto, for their support. And, I want to especially thank my wife, Audrey, and our seven year old daughter, Elizabeth,

for their love and support. Without our families' support and sacrifice, our participation in our clubs, the HUOA and the Center would not be possible or as much as we do. Thank you, and your families.

My theme this year is "Peace, Harmony and the Okinawan Spirit", "Heiwa to Uchinagokoro". To visualize this feeling I have utilized the Japanese symbol of the tsuru (Japanese crane) flying over the world spreading its message of peace, harmony, and the Okinawan spirit.

The Okinawan Festival gave Audrey and I that first exposure to the "Okinawan Spirit". It's difficult to describe what that is. I guess we know what it is. It's not a question of blood, but of the spirit. ... of the heart. It's this spirit that has helped the Uchinanchus get through the bad and good times.

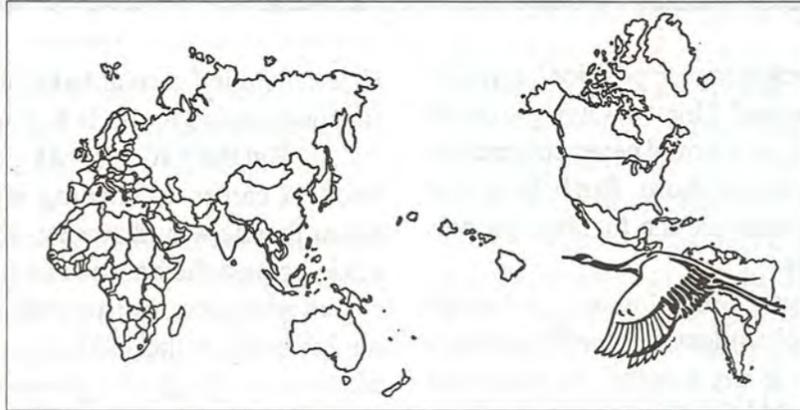
One thing about the Okinawan spirit is that you have to experience it to know it. You cannot watch from the outside, you have to experience it from the inside. What do I mean? It's like dancing with someone, rather than watching everybody else dance. That is

experiencing it. So, I invite you, your family, and your friends, to come dance with us.

This year is an appropriate time to emphasize "Peace, Harmony and the Okinawan Spirit". Our country is celebrating the 50th anniversary year of the end of World War II. Our world is becoming smaller. Our communities are growing more interdependent, and the challenges are becoming greater. We are all travelling in the same boat. Let us share this message of "Peace, Harmony and the Okinawan Spirit".

**"Thank you very much. Ippe nihei debiru."**

**"Come dance with us"**



## HUOA Welcomes New Officers

Assisting HUOA President Micheal Abe will be a slate of experienced bright young leaders from our Okinawan community. Working together with Michael includes President-Elect Randall Kuba, Vice-Presidents Earlyn Koizumi, Grant Murata, and Dexter Teruya. The new Vice-Presidents are elected to serve one administrative term and are not obligated to rise into the ranks of President-Elect and President as practiced in the past. Each new President -Elect chairs the Nominating Committee for his/her presidency year and determines those officers who can best work with him in service to the Association.

**PRESIDENT - ELECT • RANDALL M. KUBA** graduated from Kailua High School and the University of Hawaii. "Randy" is a Consultant for both Pilot Service USA-International, Inc., a Pacific Rim company, and Overnite Transportation Company.



RANDALL KUBA

He has been in the shipping business since 1979 in various capacities. Randy has devoted many hours to the HUOA, serving on various committees and volunteering in many programs and activities. Randy served as President of the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club in 1992, he presided as chairman of the 1994 Okinawan Festival, and in February of 1995,

Randy was chairman of the First Annual Children's Fair. Randy is single, and the son of Richard and Marjorie Kuba.

Medical Center since 1976 as a Registered Dietician. She is supported in her activities by her husband, Myron Koizumi and two children, Michael (16) and Trisha (13).



GRANT MURATA

**VICE PRESIDENT • GRANT "SANDAA" MURATA** is the son of Clarence and Judith Murata. A 1980 graduate of Kalani High School, Grant is known in the Okinawan community as an accomplished Sanshin Sensei and Okinawan dancer. His training in the cultural arts afforded him the opportunity to study under the guidance of many of the top local and Okinawan instructors. Notably from Okinawa, Sadao China, Shoyei Kina, and Shuukun Maekawa. In 1986, Grant continued his Sanshin studies under the tutelage of world famous Afuso-Ryu Virtuoso Sensei Choichi Terukina and through his support established the Afuso-Ryu Gensei Kai - Hawaii Shibu.

When not assisting the Okinawan cultural community, Grant is employed as a Tour Coordinator by Uniquet Hawaii Corp.

**VICE PRESIDENT • EARLYN C. KOIZUMI** has played an active part in HUOA activities since 1991, first serving on the 1991 Bonen Kai planning committee. Since then she has served as HUOA Recording Secretary under Warren Higa and Jane Serikaku and last year as HUOA Advisor with Wil Hokama.



EARLYN KOIZUMI

Throughout her involvement with HUOA, Earlyn has volunteered and chaired many different committees.

Earlyn is the daughter of Haruko and the late Earl Ishiara and is a member of Gushichan Sonjin Kai. She has been employed by Kuakini



DEXTER TERUYA

**VICE PRESIDENT • DEXTER T. TERUYA** was born and raised in Honolulu, the youngest of three sons and a daughter of Wallace and Ethel Teruya. (continued on page 8)

# CHASING A DREAM BUILT AROUND THE LOVE OF ICE

Steel Blades! Miles of Ice! Ruthless jockeying for position! Straightaway speeds up to 30 miles per hour! Broken bones! Thirst of Olympic Gold! If you were given three guesses and a time limit, you would never connect the above items to Ryan Shimabukuro. But believe it or not, all of the above items are the fuel that propels Ryan's day-to-day life.



Speedskater Ryan Shimabukuro, a former Moanalua High School student, will suffer through all infirmities and 'go to any lengths' to make it to the Olympics in 1998. NAGANO, Japan is the "hot-spot" filled with ice on his mind right now.

Shimabukuro was but a child when he was afflicted with his Olympic dream. It was 1980 and Eric Heiden had captured five Olympic medals and Ryan's heart was 'frozen' to the sport. He fell in love with the grace, power, and precision of the sport. Five years later, Shimabukuro got his first opportunity to step into a pair of skates. Like all other newcomers, he clung to the walls of the arena for support at the Ice Palace in Aiea. Within a short time, he had graduated to speedskating classes. The spark of years ago was once again a full-fledged fire!

Yet, this native of Hawaii knew that to become a world-class skater, he would have to leave Hawaii. So Ryan and his mother packed-up their belongings and moved to Waukesha, Wisconsin. His step-father followed shortly thereafter. Just a few miles away was the West Allis Olympic Ice Rink—Speedskating U.S.A. "If I would have stayed in Hawaii, I wouldn't have gone beyond what I was before. I'd just be a mediocre skater forever," said Shimabukuro. Shimabukuro's training schedule is rigorous. He trains seven days a week between three and four hours a day. Ryan credits just about everyone in the sport with his development. "I really can't single out one person. Everybody in this sport, and I mean everybody, had really helped me out."

However, his parents do deserve special mention. "I'm really in debt to both of them. My

*"I'm trying so hard to chase my dream, even though it is something foreign in Hawaii. But I think so long as you set your mind to something and pursue it, you can do it." Ryan Shimabukuro*

mom sacrificed a lot for me to move up here. She had to quit her job, find another one here and then get used to the new climate here. They've been a real big motivator for me and they just stand by me the whole way," said Shimabukuro.

Shimabukuro has proven himself to be a real threat on the ice. In January 1991, he made the U. S. Junior National Speedskating Sprint team. In March 1991, his third place finish in a Cleveland meet qualified him for the

U.S. Olympic Festival held later that year in St. Louis. That same year, he finished second in the U.S. National Sprint Championships as a junior.

But the 5-foot-7, 145-pounder knows well the dangers of the short ice track. A career-threatening injury on June 28, 1991, led Shimabukuro to swear that he would never compete in the event again. He shattered his left ankle against the boards in a training-camp in Cleveland. The accident occurred when a competitor collided with Shimabukuro in a corner. This wiped out his berth in the 1991 Olympic Festival. This accident came just a year after the tip of a rival's 16-inch skate blade pierced his chest during a race in the National Junior Team trials in Chicago.



Shimabukuro, whose career has been plagued by injury and illness, was back on the ice in time for the Olympic trials in December 1991, but pneumonia knocked him out of the outdoor long-track trials after one week. He bounced back to make the U.S. Junior World Team and traveled to Germany, Italy, and Austria. He tried out for the 1992 Albertville Games, but withdrew because of illness. "My bronchitis turned to pneumonia," he observed. Still, Shimabukuro remains focused, determined and in a positive frame of mind.

Reluctantly, the Kimuras (Ryan's parents) had to move back to Hawaii, leaving Ryan to live with a host family in Wisconsin. Ice skating, like most winter sports is expensive. Now living with a sponsor in Wisconsin, Shimabukuro works part-time at a health club to help defray the costs. "Four years of training (to Nagano '98) takes a lot of money," sighs Ryan. The fact that budgets have been cut for the U.S. national team makes it more important for individual skaters to get personal sponsors. "Skaters have always looked to friends and family for help.. My parents have gone above and beyond the call. My entire family, my brother and sisters—and friends have done as much as they possible can. I'm in debt to them all." "They all pitch in," he said. He is looking for sponsors both in Hawaii and in Wisconsin.

No matter how tough it is, Shimabukuro will continue his quest to be the first skater from Hawaii to be in the Winter Olympics. "I'm trying so hard to chase my dream, even though it is something foreign to Hawaii. But I think as long as you set your mind to something and pursue it, you can do it," he said.

Contributions to Nagano '98 can be sent to: Nagano '98 Inc., 95-1072 Haalohi St., Mililani, HI 96789

## OKINAWAN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, ALISON EBISU AND DARREN KONNO

Congratulations and best wishes to Alison Sachie Ebesu on her selection as the recipient of this year's scholarship to the Okinawa Kenritsu Geijutsu Daigaku or "Geidai," Performing Arts University. As you read this article Ali will be beginning her year of study with fellow students from Okinawan communities all over the world, including Canada, Brazil, Peru, and Argentina. Studying in small classes Ali will be able to learn in depth the traditional Okinawan music instruments of sanshin, taiko and fue. She will also study traditional Okinawan odori. Ali also plans to become much more proficient in the Japanese language and thus be able to learn even more about her Okinawan heritage.

While studying Okinawan dance classes at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, Ali, the daughter of Betsy and Robert Ebesu Jr., continued her odori classes with Majikina Honryu Buyo Dojo. With the Young Okinawans, Ali learned and later taught Okinawan-style bon odori. During these fun times, Ali also learned to play the sanshin with Grant Murata Sensei, who provided the lively music at summer-time events. For good measure, Ali studied with the Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko Honbu at Ishikawa City, Okinawa, to learn still another tradition of Okinawa. Alison, we are all proud of you! Learn as much as you can and upon your return we look forward to your sharing your new found knowledge.



Omedeto, to Darren Shoichi Konno, a graduate in International Business from the University of Hawaii, Manoa for his selection as this year's Okinawan Prefectural government scholarship winner. Darren the son of Dick and June Konno of Kahului, Maui, will be attending the University of the Ryukyu for one year, all expenses subsidized by the Okinawan government. Proficient in Japanese language, Darren was active as an officer of UH's Inter-Business Council and the American Marketing Association. He still pursues his athletic pastimes of basketball, golf and weightlifting.

Darren's interest in his Okinawan heritage comes with the whole-hearted support of his mom June, who was born in Yomitan, Okinawa. She is an instructor in Okinawan dance and is a student of the sanshin and koto.

Darren writes, "In today's society, children and parents are losing touch with their cultural background and customs. As students, we have an obligation to learn about our heritage, which makes us who we are today. As adults, we have an obligation to pass this knowledge on to future generations."

Darren will also be studying with other international Okinawan students. Congratulations Darren.





# Shurijo Emaki

# Shurijo Emaki

*A special cultural variety performance for the people of Hawaii.*

*Featured artists includes:*



- Setsuko Tamagusuku
- Masao Hachiki • Taeko Yoshida
- Yuki Taira
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A benefit sponsored by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association.

(HUOA Officers - continued from page 3) After graduating from Mid Pacific Institute, Dexter attended the University of Hawaii where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Education. Dexter currently resides in Aiea with his wife, Valerie, and their two teenagers, Natalie and Roland. Dexter is currently employed as a Corporate Tax Manager for Amfac/JMB Hawaii, Inc. having worked for Amfac and its various subsidiaries in various positions for the past 18 years. Dexter serves as Club President for the Oroku Azajin Kai and is also a member and past chapter president of the Hawaii Chapter of the Tax Executives Institute; a board member and past president of the Tax Foundation of Hawaii and a member of the Board of Counselors of Mid-Pacific Institute.



LILLIAN TAKATA

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY • LILLIAN TAKATA** is the daughter of Haruko (Kishimoto) Arakaki and the late Matsuichi Arakaki. A graduate of Kaimuki High School, she is currently the Vice President and Manager of City Bank's Charge Card Center. Lillian is a member of Nago Club and served as their President from 1993 - 1994. She has faithfully served the HUOA as its Recording Secretary from 1991-92 and Executive Secretary from 1992 to 1995. She also serves as secretary to the Hawaii Okinawa Ken Heritage Club and is a member of the Hawaii Uchinanchu Business Group, Financial Women International - Honolulu Chapter, and is the treasurer for the Credit Professionals International, Honolulu Chapter.

**TREASURER • RANDALL KUMABE** is a proud member of Minami Nakagusuku. Randall is serving his second term as Treasurer for the Hawaii United Okinawan Association. He is a graduate of Hawaii Baptist Academy and Whittier College in Business Administration.

His dedication to assist non-profit organizations extends to his current position as Director of Accounting for the YMCA. Randy resides in Kaneohe with his wife, Lorna, and two children, Marissa Grace and Jason Andrew.



RANDALL KUMABE

**RECORDING SECRETARY • SHEILAH SACHI KOMESU YAMAMOTO** was born in Honolulu. She is the daughter of Roy Seiji Komesu and Betty Toshie (Isa) Komesu an a proud member of Hui Makaala.



SHEILAH YAMAMOTO

Sheilah has a daughter, Samantha Sayuri Yamamoto, who is 6 years old. She is a legal secretary, enjoys bowling and golfing (tries to anyway!). However, what she enjoys the most is spending her spare time with Samantha doing various activities.

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY • PATTI MIYASHIRO**, is the daughter of Tadao and Ruby Miyashiro. She is a member of Haneji Club and currently serves as their Asst. Treasurer. Patti is employed by the State of Hawaii.



PATTI MIYASHIRO

**JAPANESE LANGUAGE SECRETARY • KAZUMI MIYAGI TRIPP** was born and raised in Naha, Okinawa. Her parents came to Naha from Iheya Island, the most northern tip of Okinawa Prefecture. She came to Hawaii in July 1985 and earned her B.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language from Hawaii Pacific University in 1989. She is married to Anson Tripp and resides in the Pearlridge area. After graduation, she has been working in the insurance industry. Presently, she is employed by Rollins Hudig Hall (formerly known as Frank B. Hall), the world's second largest commercial insurance brokerage firm. She and Anson joined Nago Chojin Kai in January 1991 and has been involved with the Hawaii United Okinawa Association's various activities ever since. She enjoys tennis and their pet dog "Woody" in her leisure time.



KAZUMI TRIPP

**ASSISTANT TREASURER • DOUGLAS YOSHIO MIYASATO** is the oldest and most established member of our slate of officers. Douglas was born on August 11, 1923 in Waianae, Hawaii. He is married to the former, Gladys Nakasone and is the proud patriarch of three sons and three grandchildren. He was employed as an accountant with the State Department of Personnel Services (Human Resources), until his retirement in 1987. A member of Aza Yogi Doshi Kai, he has served as their President since 1960.



DOUGLAS MIYASATO

Hawaii United Okinawa Association  
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- Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai • Kenyu Tokuda
- Aza Yogi Doshi Kai • Annie Shimabukuro
- Bito Doshi Kai • Reynold Shimabukuro
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- Club Motobu • Kay Wada
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- Ginoza Sonjin Kai • Sharon Miyashiro
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- Gushikawa Shijin Kai • Wayne Uejo
- Haeburu Chojin Kai • Charles S. Ikehara
- Haneji Club • Kay Okaneku

- Hawaii Shuri - Naha Club • Randall Kuba
- Hui Makaala • Karen Shishido
- Hui O Laulima • Geraldine Maeda
- Hui Okinawa • Conrad Hokama
- Hui Pono • Yachiyo Nakamatsu
- Ishikawa Shijin Kai • Judy Nakamura
- Itoman Club • Kevin Uyehara
- Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai • Mike K. Shimabukuro
- Katsuren Chojin Kai • Tammy Inafuku
- Kin Chojin Kai • Kameyo Ginoza
- Kita Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai • William Higa
- Kochinda Chojin Kai • Arthur Wilson
- Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai • Roy Fusato
- Minami Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai • Larry Senaha
- Miwa Doshi Kai • Kenichi Kaneshiro

- Nago Chojin Kai • Harold Higa
- Nishihara Chojin Kai • Noboru Yonamine
- Okinawa City - Goeku Son • Kamazen Shimabuku
- Oroku Azajin Kai • Dexter T. Teruya
- Oroku Doshi Kai • Masaru Akamine
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- Urasoe Shijin Kai • Mildred Uchima
- Wahiawa Kyoyu Kai • Allan Hashimoto
- Yomitani Club • Hiroshi Okuhara
- Yonabaru Chojin Kai • Terry Taira
- Yonashiro Chojin Kai • Alvin Tohara
- Young Okinawans of Hawaii • Wesley Waniya

The UCHINANCHU staff apologizes to any Honoree and their club, if it failed to print an Honoree's name, due to time constraints.



# Club News

## HUI ALU INC. AND HUI PONO

Hui Pono and Hui Alu will hold their annual dinner on April 22, 1995, at Kauai Veterans Center. Cocktails will begin at 5:50 p.m. and dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m. Children's tickets (6 - 12 yrs)—\$7.00, Adult tickets—\$15.00.

Hui Alu members please contact your officers for tickets. Hui Pono members are to contact Nobu Kobashigawa, Charley Ishihara, Boxer Matsuda, Brian Nagamine, Choko Hamamoto, Kenneth Yamauchi, Yasuo Taba, Shoki Yamauchi, Mamo Kaneshiro, James Gushiken, Bob Iha, or Morris Shinsato for information regarding purchase of tickets.

Uchinanchus who moved to Kauai, are not members of our clubs and are interested in attending, please contact "Big Boy" Oyasato at 332-8668. Entertainment will be provided by Afuso Ryu Gensei Kai - Hawaii Shibu, Terukina Choichi Kai, Grant "Sandaa" Murata, Sensei.

We would like to congratulate the new officers of Hui Pono. They are: President Kenneth Yamauchi; Vice President Dan Momohara; 2nd Vice President Marvin Taba; Secretary JoAnn Kaneshiro; Treasurer Robert Iha; and Advisor Morris Shinsato.

## YONABARU CHOJIN KAI

This year marks Yonabaru's 70th Anniversary. Special activities planned this year are a special membership memorial service, a trip to Okinawa in July, a special 70th Anniversary commemorative booklet, and a banquet in October to celebrate the past, present and future of Yonabaru Chojin Kai. If you are interested in any of these wonderful activities, please contact Yonabaru's President Shirley Kuma.

## KITANAKAGUSUKU SONJIN KAI & MAUI OKINAWA KENJIN KAI HOST VISITORS FROM OKINAWA

On March 1st, 43 Okinawan visitors from Kitanakagusuku Son arrived for a tour of Honolulu and a one day visit to Maui. Over 55 Kita members and friends greeted them at a dinner reception at Wisteria Restaurant on the 2nd of March. A letter of appreciation was presented to Mayor Kiyan's representative by HUOA President Wil Hokama. In turn, a representative of Mayor Kiyan presented Mr. Hokama with a letter of Greeting and Appreciation. The visitors also participated in a Goodwill Golf and Gateball Tournament.

On Maui the visitors from Okinawa performed a famous stage play entitled "Oka No Ippon Matsu" made famous by Ogimi Kotaro to an audience of 100 guests. A potluck dinner hosted by the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai followed the show. The entourage returned to Okinawa on March 6th after a whirlwind tour of Oahu and Maui.

## HANEJI CLUB

Our Club Picnic will be held on July 30, 1995, Sunday at Kapiolani Park, section 14 (same place as previous year). We will have lots of games and prizes. Call your section leaders for more information.

## MAUI OKINAWA KENJIN KAI

Two curators from the Okinawa prefectural museum, together with two professional photographers visited the MOCC on November 26th, 1994 to photograph the 17 items that will be used for the special showing at the Museum from June 20th to the end of July, 1995. Titled "Okinawa Reborn-Postwar Life Amid the Ashes of War and the Loss of Cultural As-

sets" the exhibition shall feature artifacts found outside Okinawa.

The curators spent about 20 hours photographing these items plus some photographs which we had assembled at the Kaikan. The photographs will be used for the catalogue that will be published for the showing.

## KANEGUSUKU SONJIN KAI

Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai's 69th Shinen Enkai was held February 5, 1995 at Flamingo Chuckwagon. President Ed Kino handled the program to Yamauchi, and Mr. Ryuzo Fukumoto; 90-year olds honored: Mrs. Kameko Kaneshiro and Mrs. Yoshi Oshiro. Kanegusuku's Uchinanchu of the Year for 1994 is Mike Shimabukuro. Karaoke entertainment and magic was provided by Fred Ishihara, Ellen Imamura, and Natalie and Cary Jay Toyama, with Mrs. Chiyo Jitchaku dancing to Okinawan songs.

Kanegusuku Golf Club's second tourney of 1995 on January 22nd at Kunia resulted in; Toshi Simabukuro netting 63; Michelle Kino-69 (78 gross); Kiichi Oshiro and Shoyei Yamauchi with 71. The 3rd tourney on Feb. 19th resulted in 69-Toshi and 71-Nobu Tamayose at Kunia. The 6th tourney will be held April 30 at 7:10 a.m. at the links in Kuilima and the 7th club play will be on May 14, at 10:48 a.m. at Olomana. We would like to thank the 21 volunteers who come out on a very chilly morning on February 12th to clean the Hawaii Okinawa Center and the grounds.

We would like your continued support serving bentos and refreshments at the April 29th Spring Craft Fair at the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

## KIN CHOJIN KAI

Almost 400 club members celebrated the new year and the birthdays of those born in the Year of the Boar. Issei's present at our Shinnen Enkai were: Uta Ikehara(94), Goze Nakata(90), Kami Nakata (90), Zenshi Okuma (92), Maka Yonashiro (98), and Seto Yonashiro (95). Birthday honorees were: Raymond Arakaki, Sam Ige, Shizuko Maeda, Lincoln Maeda, Sally Nakata, Takeo Nakata, Ted G. Nakata, Theodore Onishi, June Onishi, Harry Oshiro, David Takahashi, and Shinyei Yonashiro

Special congratulations to the Kin's Uchinanchu of the Year: Mrs. Kameyo Ginoza.

Ippe Nihei Debiru to all our Kin volunteers for working so hard throughout the year and for your generous monetary and material donations.

## OKINAWA CITY - GOEKU SON

Thank you to all volunteers assisting with the HUOA Children's Fair and our Shinnen Enkai. A special mahalo to all the children that participated in the first HUOA mini Children's Festival games: Jordan Bradley, Jessie Hori, Nicole Hori, Daniel Kuba, Jarin Takamatsu, Angela Thompson, Eric Thompson, and Michael Thompson. (Especially Angela Thompson who won the "Oki"saurus Says contest) Our team finished 3rd overall and won the best spirit award. They were well coached by LeeAnn Morikami and Eli.

Graduating seniors going on to college or technical school, you are eligible to receive a congratulatory grant from Goeku. Please contact President George Kamimura or Karen Kuba-Hori (676-5400) for additional details.

A special thank you to Past President Karen Kuba-Hori and her officers Rae Higa, Margaret Thompson, and Ty Fukuhara for their wonderful job of leading Goeku during 1993 and 1994. We would like to welcome our new President George Kamimura, Vice President Rae Higa, Secretary Mae Chung, and Treasurer Cheryl Chung and wish them a successful New Year.

Congratulations to the following Goekuans for their recent recognitions:

Harry Seisho Nakasone - "The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays," this Imperial decoration was presented in November by the Consul General of Japan in Honolulu, from the Japanese Government.

Isis Higa - "Gold Award," presented by the Girl Scout Council of America. The Gold Award is Girl Scout's highest achievement for a scout, it is the equivalent to an Eagle Scout award for a Boy Scout.

Kamazen Shimabuku - Okinawa City - Goeku Son's, "Uchinanchu of the Year."

Don't forget our wonderful Picnic scheduled for July 30th - Sunday - Kapiolani Park.

**To all HUOA Members,** the Young Okinawans of Hawaii - Would like to invite you to their **BON DANCE** practice at HOC on May 7, 21, and 28 • 11am - 1pm. To confirm practice schedule please contact Ralen Yamashiro at 586-3396.

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# HUOA SPORTS PAGE

## GATEBALL . . . . Strokng towards Life's Basic Values

Have you visited a park recently and saw a group of senior citizens playing a game like croquet, but it was not quite the same as the croquet you remembered playing as a child? The game you saw played, was probably Gateball . . . . . a new emerging sport from Japan. Staff writer Amy Higa writes about this unique game.



Mr. Suelo Shojinaga of Aloha Kumamoto Gateball Club - Sunshine Tournament/1991

Gateball everyone? Gateball is a team sport which originated in Hokkaido, Japan 48 years ago. Gateball is the brain child of Kazunobu Suzuki whose desire was to create a sport that combined croquet, cricket and golf and required technique, teamwork and discipline. In 1980, Gateball made its way to Hawaii when a group of Japanese visitors presented a set of gateball equipment to the City and County of Honolulu's Parks and Recreation program. A demonstration was held at Ala Wai Park, and shortly thereafter, more people became involved in Gateball.

The Hawaii Gateball Association was established on July 1, 1982 with a total of 4 clubs as charter members. Aloha Kumamoto Gateball Club, Hui O' Halawa Gateball Club, Lanakila Gateball Club, and Makua Alii Gateball Club continue to be loyal members today. The Association has grown to approximately 500 members, and currently there are a total of 17 clubs. There are 11 clubs on Oahu, 4 clubs on Maui, 1 club on the Big Island of Hawaii, and 1 club on Kauai. The Association's first president was Gunki Shodai who presided until 1983. Mr. Shodai's successor, Satoshi Migita, has been president since 1983.

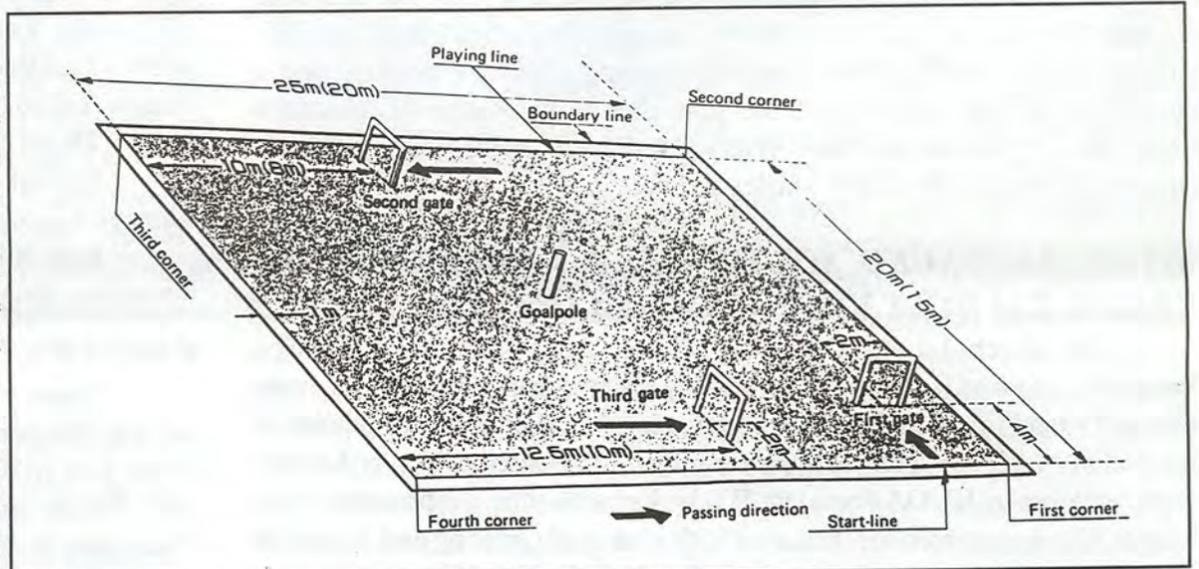
Gateball is played on a grass field or a turf court. The equipment needed in Gateball are mallets, balls, gates and a goalpole. The objective of Gateball is to hit the ball through 3 wicket-like gates positioned counterclockwise, and ultimately, hitting the goalpole. There are 2 teams consisting of 5 players each, a red team and a white team. Each team member must complete the course to receive maximum points. Strategy occurs by the placement of your ball blocking the gates or hitting your opponent's ball out of the field of play. Your team goal is to reach a maximum of 25 points first,

within 30 minutes of play.

Gateball is a global sport for all age groups, cultures, and national origins. It has become popular among the younger generations as well as the deaf and hearing impaired. It promotes fun, good health, goodwill, solidarity, and harmony among the members.

The future holds great things for the Hawaii Gateball Association. Mr. Migita indicated that one of the Association's goals is to construct an indoor facility and create outdoor Gateball courts for all generations and visitors to enjoy. In recent years, the Hawaii Gateball Association sponsored many International Goodwill Tournaments in which players from Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Canada, South America, and the continental United States participated. During the past 13 years, thousands of gateball players and fans have visited Hawaii.

If you are interested in becoming a gateball player, you may contact: Hawaii Gateball Association, Satoshi Migita, President, 2373 Kuahea Street, Honolulu, HI 96816 - Phone/Fax no. 737-5708.



Official Gateball Course

## Warabi Ashibi . . . . "Children At Play"

HUOA would like to thank the following individuals, clubs, and businesses for their support of our 1st Annual HUOA Children's Fair.

- Bobbie N' Guy Beauty Salon
- Epiphany Girl Scout Senior Cadet Troop 910
- Butch Corcoran
- C&W Tents - Clarence Ching
- Chatan Sonjin Kai
- Clifford Goya
- Dorothy and Ivan Hoo
- Gaza Yonagusuku
- Gerald Kaneshiro
- Ginowan Shijin Kai
- Gushikawa Shijin Kai
- Hawaii Shuri - Naha Club
- Herbert Hee Sportswear
- Hui O' Laulima
- Ingram Paper
- Itoman Club
- Keith Tasato
- Keizo Oshiro
- Kilauea Ladies
- Kin Chojin Kai

- Kochinda Chojin Kai
- Kristine Yamaki
- Larry's Bakery
- Malolo Beverages and Supplies Ltd.
- Nadine Shimabukuro
- Okinawa City - Goeku Son
- Oroku Azjin Kai
- Osato Doshi Kai
- Over the Rainbow
- Paranku Clubs of Hawaii
- Picnics in Paradise - Lance Abe
- Russell Kaneshiro
- Taiyo, Inc.
- Tamashiro Market Inc.
- Times Supermarket Ltd.
- Tomigusuku Sonjin Kai
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- Urasoe Shijin Kai
- Violet Ogawa
- Young Okinawans of Hawaii



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**OUR NEW NUMBER: 833-7770**

# News from Hawaii Okinawa Center



The first three months as Executive Director has been an enlightening experience. To see the many countless number of volunteers coming to the Center to provide their support as gardeners, office assistants, gift shop coordinators, clean-up crews, carpenters, painters, and other areas of service is very heartwarming. Their part is greater than any hired help since they do it because they want to and have pride in their effort to help. Ippe nihei debiru, mahalo, arigato and thank you are words we use to convey our feelings of appreciation while their deeds are actions from the heart. To fully acknowledge the services the volunteers render, we would like to convey our very deepest feelings of gratitude.... KOKORO KARA IPPE NIHEI DEBIRU.

The mission of the Hawaii Okinawa Center is to provide a place where the member clubs of HUOA can promote, preserve, and perpetuate the Okinawan culture; a place to conduct cultural shows, arts and crafts exhibits, demonstrations and social activities. In order to support these activities, we must maintain a source of income. Revenues are realized through rentals, gift shop sales, HUOA contributions, interests and pledges/donations. Our current revenues vs. expenses look pretty good with an outlook to end the fiscal year in the black. We hope we can continue with this trend.

## Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference

The 2nd Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference will be the International event in November. Uchinanchus from all over the globe will converge on tiny Okinawa island to help their brethren celebrate the uniqueness of being Uchinanchu.

The four day Festival will take place from November 16th to 19th, 1995. The theme for this event will be, "Across the Seas, Across Language Barriers." Okinawans locally and abroad will present a festival of arts, culture, sports, education and industry across a wide spectrum of interests.

### Highlights of the Festival will include:

**Traditional Arts Festival:** Participants from Okinawa and abroad will perform various traditional dances and music.

**Goodwill Ambassadors' Conference:** Okinawan Goodwill Ambassadors from around the globe will discuss and plan for future international exchange programs. Simultaneous translations will be available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Japanese.

**World Uchinanchu Forum:** Workshops to build concrete plans for international exchange programs in the fields of economics, education, and culture.

**Okinawan Performing Arts:** Okinawan folk music, stage plays, traditional music and dances, and contemporary Okinawan music will highlight this three day event.

**Soccer Workshops and Games:** Youths 18 years and below will be able to attend workshops taught by professional Uchinanchu soccer players.

**\*Junior Summit:** Children between the ages of 15 and 18 from all over the world will be able to meet and communicate their concerns facing Uchinanchu youths.

**World Uchinanchu Bazaar:** Products from all over the globe will be represented in this international tent.

The following information is a report on HOC hall rentals from April 1, 1994 to February 28, 1995:

Catered rentals	127	or	28.9%
Non-catered rentals	51	or	11.6%
Mission oriented rentals	262	or	59.5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>or</b>	<b>100%</b>

Catered and non-catered rentals to outsiders involve scheduled rental fees; mission oriented rentals are provided to HUOA member clubs at discounted rental fees or without rental fees (usually prior arrangements are made to have the renters provide in-kind services to the Center). We are proud to announce that 59.5% of the hall usage is to HUOA member clubs.

If you have any questions or require information on HUOA or HOC activities, do not hesitate to contact the office staff at 676-5400.

Until next time, "Duugan'juusa shimisoori yoo" (Please take care of yourself).

**Gateball Tournament:** Over 120 teams from Okinawa, Japan, and around the world will compete in this game of strategy. (There will be a representative team from Hawaii.)

### Municipal and prefectural sponsored events.

HUOA has scheduled its 1995 Study Tour to encompass many of the Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference events and festivities. Leaving on November 8th, tours of Northern and Southern Okinawa, Shuri Castle, and many other historical sites will be included. If you are interested in joining our Study Tour, please contact Nadine Shimabukuro of Naka's Travel at 523-6402. Other travel agencies arranging tours to the Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference, includes:

Honolulu Tourist	Trans Pacific Tours
Takeru Fukushima	Barbara Maeshiro
737-1144 732-6562	737-5547
Naka's Travel	Royal Adventure Travel
Nadine Shimabukuro	Wally Kiyabu
523-6402	735-2894

If you are interested in joining the Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference, but plan to handle your own travel arrangements, please contact Karen Kuba-Hori, at 676-5400 to register your name as a Hawaii delegate. The HUOA will forward all participant's names to the Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference Committee. *All attendees must register with the HUOA Conference Committee. HUOA is responsible for the registration of all Hawaii Attendees.*

**\*Students wishing to participate in the Junior Summit, please contact the HUOA Office. The Okinawa conference Committee will select delegates for this conference based on a 750 word essay written by the student on the subjects of, "21st century and Me," or "Okinawa and Me." Participants will be subsidized by the Okinawan government. All essays must be submitted to the HUOA office no latter than June 15, 1995.**

**Traditional performing arts group (need not be Okinawan/Japanese) wishing to participate in the traditional arts festival, must apply with the Okinawan Conference Committee. Please submit a 5 minute (VHS) performance video to the HUOA Office by June 15, 1995. HUOA will forward your tape to the Worldwide Uchinanchu Conference Committee.**

For additional information, please contact Karen Kuba-Hori at the HUOA office, at 676-5400.



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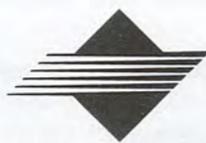
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