

ii Sogachi Shimisoichi **RANDALL M. KUBA**
INSTALLED AS 45TH PRESIDENT OF HUOA
SPIRIT OF "KAHUUSHI" TO GUIDE HUOA IN '96



Seven years ago, Randy Kuba journeyed to the homeland of his grandparents: Okinawa. It was a trip that changed his life. "I really didn't know what to expect. It wasn't just the beautiful scenery, or the sub-tropical weather of my grandparents' homeland that impressed me. What moved me the most was the people. As I listened to their stories of hardships, sacrifices and over 100,000 innocent lives lost during World War II, I realized how lucky I am to have had ancestors who cared for me and gave me the quality of life I have today. At that moment, I also realized how precious life is, and that the time for me to give back to the community would be so limited. So I made a commitment then, never to take my heritage for granted. I returned to Hawaii knowing I wanted to be part of a movement to promote and perpetuate the Okinawan culture."

On December 3, the sansei, whose grandparents immigrated to Hawaii from the Shuri and Kita Nakagusuku areas of Okinawa, was installed as the 45th president of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Nearly 1,000 people attended the program, which was held in the Coral Ballroom of the Hilton Hawaiian Village. Kuba selected the site to accommodate the larger audience that had been anticipated. As a result of last year's reorganization of the HUOA, the association consolidated its two annual banquets—the installation and the *bonen kai*—into one.

The luncheon program featured the installation of the 1996 officers, recognition of HUOA's "Uchinanchu of the Year," sports awards and a full entertainment program. The audience was treated to a top-notch show which included performances by guitarist Wayne Takamine; Ryukyu Kobudo Taiko-Hawaii Shibu, led by Calvin Nakama Sensei; and twin singers Carolyn and Marlene Shimamura. Also on the program were a karate *kata* presentation by instructor Zenko Heishiki's Hawaii Matsubayashi Karate-Do, of which Kuba is a student; a

karaoke offering by Kariyushi restaurant owner Steve Yamada; the hula, "Waika," by Kuba's sister, Joann Tanibe; the hot, brassy sound of HNL; and Okinawan music by Grant "Sandaa" Murata Sensei's Afuso-Ryu Gensei Kai-Hawaii Shibu and the Hawaii Terukina Choichi Kai. Kuba and his fellow officers also wowed the audience with a taiko number which they had learned from Calvin Nakama Sensei.

Inspired by his feelings of thankfulness, Kuba selected "Kahuushi," the Okinawan word for utmost gratitude and appreciation, as the beacon that will guide the HUOA in 1996.

He encouraged the entire Okinawan community to work together in the spirit of "Kahuushi." "We, the members of the HUOA, are like a family, working together to reach goals of mutual benefit to ourselves and our community as a whole."

Kuba previously served as president of the Hawaii Shuri-Naha Club and for two years as an HUOA vice president. In March 1995 he was elevated to president-elect. Kuba is also a member of Hui Makaala and treasurer of the Hawaii Uchinanchu Business Group. He chaired the 1994 Okinawan Festival, which netted \$58,000, monies that were used to carry out HUOA programs.

(continued on page 3)



UCHINANCHU

UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII • NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1996 Circulation 10,000 Volume #51

RANDY'S K·A·D·U

Shinnen Akemashite Omedeto Gozaimasu . . . Hauoli Makahiki Hou . . . and in our own beautiful language, *Ii Sogachi Shimisoichi . . .* Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a safe and happy New Year's celebration.

The arrival of a new year is an auspicious occasion, because in many respects, it marks a new beginning. This is a special year for our Hawaii United Okinawa Association, for this year we will celebrate the 45th anniversary of our founding—45 years of serving not only our Okinawan community, but the larger Hawaii community as well, 45 years of heartfelt "Kahuushi" to those who paved the way for us and our organization.

All of us, together, make up the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. You, through your club presidents who make up HUOA's Board of Directors, elected me your 1996 president. I thank you for your faith and confidence in me.

I have assembled a team of officers, advisors and committee chairpersons who are committed to serving our community. We draw our strength from you, our members, as well as from our past presidents, advisors and other Uchinanchus-at-heart in our community. We don't have all the answers. Serving as an officer is a learning process, and so we ask you to share with us your ideas and knowledge and advice based on your experience.

Our agenda for 1996 is an ambitious one. (continued on page 9)

HUOA CALENDAR

JAN 22	HOC TRUSTEES MTG. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
JAN 23	KARAOKE/HOC	6:30pm
JAN 27	BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MTG. LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP/HOC	8am
FEB 7	"Zazen" Introduction Seminar Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
FEB 17-18	MAUI Golf Tournament Waiehu Golf Course	varies
FEB 26	HOC TRUSTEES MTG. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
FEB 27	EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MTG. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
FEB 27	KARAOKE/HOC	6:30pm
MAR 1	MAHALO WAIPIO NIGHT Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
MAR 12	BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MTG. Hawaii Okinawa Center	7pm
MAR 25	HOC TRUSTEES MTG./HOC	7pm
MAR 26	KARAOKE/HOC	6:30pm
MAR 31	HUOA CHILDREN'S FAIR	9am

The Hawaii Okinawa Center will be closed on February 19th.

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UCHINANCHU - would like to express its gratitude to Photographers David Shimabukuro of One Moment in Time and Anke Ishikawa for the use of their 1995 Okinawan Festival photos that were used in our October issue. Mr. Shimabukuro also provided the photos for our installation banquet article.

Changes in the UCHINANCHU have been instituted in an effort to save money. Please call or write to us if you have any concerns or questions regarding the change.

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(OKINAWAN LANGUAGE)

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IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THIS CLASS,

PLEASE CONTACT THE HUOA office at 676-5400.

Thank you . . . The donations to help support the UCHINANCHU continues to grow with each issue. The Hawaii United Okinawa Association, the Hawaii Okinawa Center, and especially the UCHINANCHU staff would like to thank you for such tremendous generosity and support. Donations were received from the following supporters during the months of October, November, and December 1995.

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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 January 15, April 15, July/Aug, and October 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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three issues	\$1,620	810	405	200	135
six issues	\$3,000	1,500	750	375	250

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Call Karen Kuba-Hori at 676-5400 or 677-4414 (fax).

PLEASE KOKUA!

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LITIGATION UPDATE

LITIGATION UPDATE . . . AND MOVING FORWARD

In the closing days of 1995, Hawaii United Okinawa Association members and supporters received a two-page letter from outgoing president Michael Abe informing them that the HUOA had filed a civil lawsuit against former president Wil Hokama on December 15, 1995.

"The complaint states that Mr. Hokama improperly and illegally converted HUOA funds to his personal account, control and use, and breached his fiduciary duty to the HUOA," Abe explained in the letter. He said HUOA attorney Colleen Sakurai had recommended that HUOA file the suit because "Mr. Hokama has refused to cooperate and to voluntarily provide his bank statements and financial records."

Abe detailed HUOA's efforts to resolve the matter internally. He noted that the board of directors at its October 10 meeting authorized, by a 36 to 1 vote, the filing of a lawsuit if Sakurai and the litigation committee deemed it necessary.

When efforts to obtain Hokama's records proved unsuccessful, including one attempt following Hokama's "unannounced appearance" at the November 28 board of directors meeting, attorney Sakurai recommended the filing of the suit.

The lawsuit was filed on December 15 and remains active.

Two members of the litigation committee — Bob Mayeshiro and Pamela Tamashiro — have agreed to continue serving on the panel. They plan to add three more individuals who represent a cross-section of the HUOA membership to the committee. They will then organize themselves as a committee, select a chair and establish procedures.

The committee, or a representative designated by the committee, will then ask Wil Hokama to cooperate with the HUOA litigation committee by signing a release form which gives HUOA's investigator access to any and all of his financial records. The litigation committee needs access to all of Hokama's financial records so it can determine exactly how much money was diverted.

Hokama will be given a deadline for signing the release. If he refuses to sign the release by the designated date, the litigation committee will ask the court to subpoena Hokama's financial records.

MOVING FORWARD . . .

While the litigation committee presses on to recover the diverted monies, Hawaii United Okinawa Association President Randy Kuba says the organization must also move forward with its programs.

"We have to keep pushing forward, keep as positive as we can. The thrust now for the membership is unity," he says.

He believes the members' confidence in the HUOA is wavering and that members are taking a wait-and-see attitude. That is the result of a combination of issues, said Kuba: the revelation of the diverted funds, and the publicity the case generated in the news media.

"I think the confidence is down, but I don't think it's out," he said. The

first thing his team hopes to do is reinstall a sense of dignity in the members.

"The main thrust will be programs, cultural programs. That has to keep going. As much as possible, I really don't want to let go of any of the programs. If only two people show up, at least we made the program available to people. The opportunity is there. If people are interested, they can come. If they have a taste of it, they can continue. But it has to be offered first."

Since assuming the presidency of the HUOA on January 1, Kuba has been meeting with the various committees and encouraging them to keep going and remain positive.

He said he also wants to work on re-establishing a healthy relationship with the various cultural senseis in the Okinawan community. "Some of them may have lost confidence in HUOA because the cultural end wasn't really emphasized last year."

Restoring confidence in HUOA also extends to how the organization conducts its business now and in the future, he said. The leaders must put more thought into their projects, and meetings should be run efficiently and be fun for the group. He said HUOA needs to get as many people as possible involved in projects. HUOA activities must be better-managed, particularly in finances.

Kuba concedes that the potential for outside financial support for the organization suffered a setback as a result of the Hokama issue and the publicity it generated. "I think it hurt," he says. "We're human like everybody else. But I think it's the way we handle things that people look at. And I think the outside community has always looked at the Uchinanchu community as people who work well together, and who have a sense of gratitude for one another. They work unselfishly on things that are community-oriented."

Kuba believes the Okinawan community is being tested. "It's a test to see how strong this community really is. The older generation has been through hardships tougher than this. This is nothing compared to their hardships. I think this is also a test of the younger generation. They have a choice now to really get involved and push the organization further and higher, or become indifferent and slowly let it die."

Despite the mountain of work that lies ahead, Kuba remains optimistic. "I'm pretty confident; this community is strong."

He says the leadership team must continually instill in the membership that they are the source of power in the HUOA and that they should not let one person control the entire organization.

"Look at how much we've accomplished as a group. We've done so much. The Hawaii Okinawa Center is debt-free. I don't know of any organization that can do something like that. And the way we work on the festival and stuff like that . . . It's actually the membership that makes HUOA strong, not the leaders."

Kuba believes, "The membership is worth more than they think. That has to be the thrust in 1996."

(continued from page 1) Kuba - Spirit of Kahuushi



RANDY PREPARING HIMSELF FOR HIS TAIKO DEBUT

Kuba graduated from Kailua High School and the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he majored in education. He is a transportation consultant for the Overnite Transportation Company and Managing Director of Pilot Service USA-International, Inc., an import-export firm in partnership with the Nakada Corporation of Okinawa.

The officers were installed by Circuit Court Judge Herbert Shimabukuro. Serving the HUOA membership as 1996 officers will be Kuba, President-elect Dexter Teruya; Vice Presidents Roy Irei, Pamela Tamashiro and Wesley Waniya; Executive Secretary Gladys Tokunaga-Asao; Assistant Executive Secretary Jane Yuri Uyehara; Recording Secretary

Thelma Lam; Corresponding Secretary Marion Arakaki; Japanese Corresponding Secretary Shigeko Asato; Treasurer Randall Kumabe; and Assistant Treasurer Lillian Takata.

Congratulatory messages were offered by state Personnel Services Director James Takushi, City Managing Director Bob Fishman, Consul General of Japan Kishichiro Amae and United Japanese Society President Bob Nakasone.

In his speech as outgoing president, Michael Abe cited the two highlights of his term: President Bill Clinton's visit to the 1995 Okinawan Festival during the 50th anniversary commemoration of the end of World War II, and a November program which honored Okinawan issei who were 87 years of age and older. He also commented on a *Honolulu Advertiser* story about an HUOA internal investigation into missing funds that had been traced back to 1994-95 President Wil Hokama. Abe said he was certain the HUOA would continue to grow under Kuba's leadership. "I know Randy, in this following year, will follow through with the growth and make the dreams come true."

Kuba also addressed the issue of the missing funds. He said the association had tried to "correct the situation as a private, family matter." He assured

the audience that the HUOA and its finances are "in good shape" and that a detailed report would be made available to members after the final accounting is completed. "In the meantime, the association has already adopted stringent new fiscal policies that will ensure that problems do not occur in the future," he said, adding that other pro-active measures would be instituted to improve operation of the HUOA.

"Under my administration, I can assure you that we will not abandon our course because of troubled waters. We have come this far fueled by one thing: an abiding respect for our shared cultural legacy, forged by our ancestors." With that has come the support of others in Hawaii's multi-ethnic community and in Okinawa. "We must not lose sight of these simple truths or lose the fire of our passion, our Uchinanchu spirit," he said.

"This organization belongs to you," emphasized Kuba. He said the HUOA needs to continually groom "quality" leaders who are committed to perpetuating the Okinawan culture and to maintaining unity within the HUOA.

"The strength of any leader comes from the strength of the membership," Kuba told the audience. He called on HUOA members to share their *kiai* (life energy) in bringing the community together. "With our hearts together, we can realize our dream and make a difference in our community."

The new president concluded his talk by expressing gratitude to his late grandparents for having the strength to leave their homeland in search of a better life in Hawaii. "We, the sansei and yonsei, are the beneficiaries of their lives of hardships and sacrifices." He also thanked his parents, Richard and Marjorie Kuba, sisters Joann and Naomi and other family members and friends for their unwavering support.

(Please see page 12 for additional information about your new officers)



(FROM L TO R) TAMASHIRO, IREI, TERUYA, WITH PRESIDENT KUBA

1996

UCHINANCHU WELCOMES IN THE NEW YEAR

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association has developed and grown immensely during the past fifty issues. With this issue, the HUOA celebrates the publication of the 51st edition of the official publication of our organization. On April 30th, 1983, issue I was published, under the guidance of Editor Ruth Adaniya and Asst. Editor Lorraine Oda. Her staff included Maurice Yamasato, Jean Seki, Florence Nashiro, Lillian Hokama, and many talented writers. Their dedication to establish and maintain communication between the United Okinawan Association and its membership, helped the HUOA to become a stronger and more unified organization. As we enter a new year and administration, the staff of UCHINANCHU wanted our readership to reflect on the past and present, and consider the future of HUOA. To accomplish this task, we asked our most experienced members, our former Presidents, to consider these issues. The following article, reflect their thoughts.

PAST What do you think has been HUOA's greatest accomplishment? (If you have an idea other than the building of the Hawaii Okinawa Center, please share it.)



CHOZEN KANETAKE

CHOZEN KANETAKE (1954-55):
"Our greatest accomplishment was finishing the Hawaii Okinawa Center."

CHOKI KANETAKE (1958-59):
"There are many accomplishments, but I consider the following as stand-outs:

1) The friendship mission initiated by the U.S. Army's RYCOM (Ryukyu Command) in 1958 invited the participation of the earlier UOA to become goodwill ambassadors between the U.S. Army government in Ryukyu and the people of Okinawa. Each year, newly elected officers were guests of the Army as well as the civilian government, which provided orientation of the governance and policies of the Ryukyus. I believe the personal contact with the Ryukyu officials reinforced the close ties and kinship between the Hawaii Okinawans and the homeland Okinawans. This 'people-to-people' program worked marvelously. The warm reception of the Okinawans has remained steadfast over the many years."

2) Publication of 'Uchinanchu'—an important book which recorded the history of the Okinawans in Hawaii. It was a joint project of the Ethnic Studies Oral History Project of the University of Hawaii and the United Okinawan Association."

FUMIO TERUYA (1973-74):

"Hawaii Okinawa Center was great, but having brought all the *kenjin kai* together, statewide, is another accomplishment, in my opinion."

STANLEY TAKAMINE (1979-80):

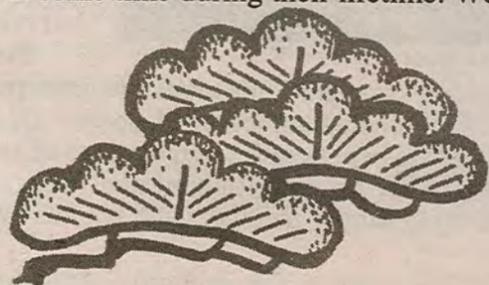
"The membership and the community at-large have been the fortunate recipients of many meaningful activities sponsored by HUOA, such as the year-round celebrations we held in 1980 and 1990 in honor of our courageous *issei* who left their beloved homeland and loved ones to settle in Hawaii, the Okinawan Festival, sponsorship of many cultural performances, etc."

ROY KANESHIRO (1982-83):

"HUOA's greatest accomplishment was unifying its clubs and solidifying its membership. As a result, activities such as the jubilee, sports program, study tours, festivals, craft fair, construction of the Hawaii Okinawa Center and many other activities have successfully evolved. These activities have helped HUOA achieve its goal of promoting and perpetuating the Uchinanchu culture."

WAYNE MIYAHIRA (1990-91):

"HUOA's greatest accomplishment was the creation and maintenance of our system of volunteering. Our system is based solely on the simple premise that if we expect anyone to help us in the future, we must honor the obligation to help others today, whether it is an individual request or a request for help at an event like the Okinawan Festival. Each of our members is allowed to get involved as much as or as little as they choose. We honestly feel that all Uchinanchu and Uchinanchu-at-heart will do their share of volunteering for our community at some time during their lifetime. We are patient. We will wait for you."



PRESENT AND FUTURE

What should HUOA's role be for its members and the Okinawan community—now, and in the future? What should HUOA's major concern be?

CHOZEN KANETAKE (1954-55):

"HUOA is a leader in the community in sports, business, politics and community service. If we can start educational programs in the Japanese language, our young people will be able to communicate better with Japan and Okinawa."

CHOKI KANETAKE (1958-59):

"I would like to see the continuation of the Okinawan Festival, held annually, primarily for the following reasons:



CHOKI KANETAKE

1) It is a good source of fund-raising for worthwhile projects, such as providing scholarships to college students requiring financial assistance. It also provides resources for the various *sonjin kai* to carry on their own functions.

2) Provides real examples of Okinawan culture, ranging from dances and music to native costumes and prepared foods. Not only does it educate its own membership, but disseminates information about the Okinawan culture to the general public.

3) More importantly, the spirit of cooperation and special bonding among the Uchinanchu has been showcased since the inception of the Okinawan Festival. It serves as a role model for the younger generation—*sansei*, *yonseis*, etc.

Because of the tight bond and close cooperation among the local Uchinanchu, there is a fear that we're becoming ethnocentric. We should reach out to other ethnic groups and learn about their culture. In spite of the wide diversity, we have to learn to co-exist harmoniously. A good symbol is the rainbow, which has distinct colors and yet is connected tightly."



AKIRA SAKIMA

AKIRA SAKIMA (1972-73):

"We should continue the educational tours to Okinawa which started in the 1980s, student exchange program, and cultural programs. It provides our members with a greater understanding of our cultural origins, which will make us a stronger and greater organization.

We should become more active, globally. We should keep our communications open with all our counterparts. Our membership with the United Japanese Society is one example.

At this time, our relationship with Okinawa is very good. I feel it shows mutual respect and this we should maintain—also, with our congressional delegation. The mere fact that President Clinton visited our festival shows our acceptance within the greater community."

HENRY UYESHIRO (1976-77):

"HUOA should continue its efforts to provide cultural dances, festivals, recitals, and activities such as the craft fairs to get our community more involved. We should continue to keep Okinawans in the forefront by appreciating our own heritage. We must upkeep and maintain the Hawaii Okinawa Center and continue to utilize it. Unity and goodwill are a must."



HENRY UYESHIRO

SEIAN HOKAMA (1964-65):

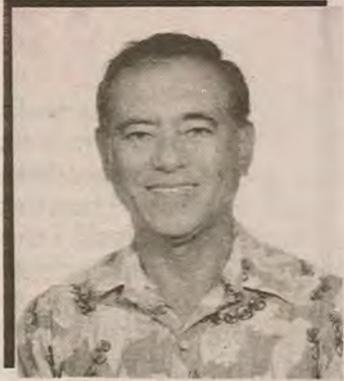
"I am satisfied and happy with what HUOA is doing. Keep up the good work, everyone; you are doing a good job."

(continued on the next page)

(continued from page 4)

FUMIO TERUYA (1973-74):

"HUOA should not be dragged into politics."



STANLEY TAKAMINE

STANLEY TAKAMINE (1979-80):

"The members of HUOA are the key to whether the association will still exist in years to come. Our children, grandchildren and succeeding generations must carry on the traditions we inherited from our parents and grandparents. That is to promote and preserve the Okinawan history, culture, arts and crafts and other activities to maintain the identity of our rich heritage.

As an offspring of HUOA, HOC is trying to make its facilities more accessible to the membership. Just to stir your mind, what would be your thoughts on purchasing the property across

HOC for \$4.5 million? Seem far-fetched? Well, think about this! If the lot is sold to someone else, we will lose our parking lot for events such as the craft fairs, large banquets, special celebrations, etc. If we purchase the lot, we can build a small shopping center, negotiate with a banking institution and/or other businesses to lease office space, lease parking space, etc. Naturally, to accomplish this, we will need to tap your pocketbooks for additional *jingwa*. Just think about this!"

ROY KANESHIRO (1982-83):

"HUOA is a large, unified and active organization and has the capability to effectively help the community. It should, therefore, expand and diversify its activities to include more community services. For example, activities could include helping with the Food Bank, working with the disadvantaged or elderly, cleaning up or adopting a highway or park. By reaching out into the community and diversifying our activities, we may be able to involve more Uchinanchus, grow as an organization, and help better our community.

Major concerns for HUOA should include:

- 1) sustaining the interest and enthusiasm of our membership;
- 2) getting the younger people (fourth and fifth generations) involved in order to maintain HUOA's goal to promote and perpetuate the Uchinanchu culture; and
- 3) ensuring the financial viability of the Hawaii Okinawa Center."

EDWARD KUBA (1986-87):

"The organization of festivals provided the foundation for building the HOC. Making HOC financially secure should be our major concern."



EDWARD KUBA

JOHN TASATO (1989-90):

"I think HUOA's responsibility, now and in the future, is to perpetuate the Okinawan culture for all generations to follow. HUOA's role is to assist member clubs:

- to generate interest and encourage club involvement,
- pass on experiences to new and younger club members,
- join in the fun of participation, fellowship, and experience different tasks,
- foster special talents or skills from club members;
- by understanding our own culture, we may then be able to understand and contribute to Hawaii's unique multi-ethnic community.

The demands of this age are extraordinary. To meet them, we need to seek out devoted and energetic 'amateur' leaders. The true Uchinanchu spirit is to accept a task, not for money or to please the crowd, not for professional prestige or promoting oneself, but for the love and fun of it. We must grasp the concept of 'Kanaganatu (Simply Together)' and strengthen our Uchinanchu identity in pursuit of the true essence of our culture. Kanaganatu . . ."

JANE F. SERIKAKU (1993-94):

"HUOA's role to tie in with our third generation of HUOA is a major concern now and in the future—the concerted effort to involve our sansei, yonsei, etc. in leadership roles at the club and HUOA level.

I believe that we need to continue/accelerate our effort in providing opportunities for our younger generations to understand and appreciate our culture/traditions to ensure the preservation and perpetuation of what we believe to be most precious.

We need to be creative in documenting the 'heart and soul' of our issei's experiences to ensure that their legacy lives on (more oral history on video, compiling written documents, etc.)."



WAYNE MIYAHIRA (1990-91):

"The HUOA's strong foundation has always been based on the strength of our member clubs. The clubs, in turn, draw their strength from individual members and families that make up our 51 member clubs we have statewide. HUOA's role is to continue to foster the growth of each member club through leadership and training. Only through the cohesive umbrella organization that



WAYNE MIYAHIRA, JOHN TASATO, AND ISAAC HOKAMA

HUOA has become can we continue to strive for the preservation, promotion and perpetuation of the Okinawan culture in Hawaii.

HUOA's current and future concern has to be the preservation of the strength and cohesiveness of our community through new energy and new ideas from

an increasingly larger circle of committed, experienced club leaders."

ISAAC HOKAMA (1991-92):

HUOA's main role is to pass on the Okinawan culture to the younger generation. Get the younger generation involved. It must continue with the cultural activities, and transfer the leadership roles to upcoming new leaders."

Note: When the idea for this article was conceived, we did not realize the complexity of our seemingly simple questions. We apologize to the past presidents who did not have time to respond to our request. This article was originally scheduled to be printed to celebrate our 50th issue, and reflect the thoughts of past HUOA Presidents previous to 1995.





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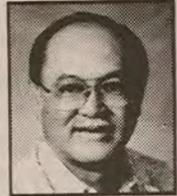
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Warabi Ashibi

HUOA'S CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL
MARCH 31, 1996
9am - 3pm

On Sunday, March 31st - Hawaii Okinawa Center will be the gathering place for the Hawaii United Okinawa Association's second Children's Festival. Named "Warabi Ashibi" or Children at Play - this affordable fun filled event is designed to provide our young children and their families activities that are associated with our Okinawan culture and fun. Activities include:

- Games with an Okinawan flavor - prizes
- Hands-on Craft Activities
- Children's Club Competition, a mini Uchinanchu Olympiad
- Keiki Showcase II

Balloons, clowns, hot dogs, popcorn, hamburgers, and other surprises will make this day special for children of all ages. Scripts will be sold at the door. Contact Karen Kuba-Hori at 676-5400 for further details.

MAHALO GENTRY NIGHT

MARCH 1ST - HOC - 6PM

HUOA would like to thank its neighbors, the businesses and residents of the Waipio-Gentry community for their ongoing support and goodwill throughout the years. On March 1, 1996 - Friday, from 6 pm to 9:00 pm the HUOA membership and community residents are welcome to an open house featuring displays from businesses and organizations within the Waipio Gentry community. Entertainment and light refreshments will be provided.

Come and join us to help thank the Waipio Gentry Community for their support. For additional information, please contact the HUOA office at 676-5400.

Keiki Showcase II

KEIKI SHOWCASE II will once again highlight the talent and artistry of our youngsters in the performing arts as part of "Warabi Ashibi" - Children's Fair - to be held on Sunday, March 31, 1996 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Sign up your keiki now!

- Entrant must be 14 years old or younger
- Group performances are welcome. Please complete one application per child.
- Each performance should be limited to no more than three (3) minutes.
- A mandatory rehearsal will be held on March 21st. at the Hawaii Okinawa Center from 6:30-8:30 pm
- Each child should be accompanied by an adult at the rehearsal and on the day of the performance.
- KEIKI SHOWCASE II is scheduled from 1:00 - 2:30 pm on March 31, 1996.

Call Pam Tamashiro at 528-3332, for more information.

KEIKI SHOWCASE II ENTRANT APPLICATION

NAME _____ DOB _____
 NAME OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN _____
 ADDRESS _____
 HOME PHONE _____ DAYTIME # _____
 CLUB NAME/AFFILIATION _____
BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM/ACTIVITY:

 (SINGING, DANCING, PIANO, B ALLET, MAGIC SHOW, ETC...)
 INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE: YES _____
 GROUP PERFORMANCE: YES _____
 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: _____
 NAMES OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS: 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 EQUIPMENT NEEDED: _____

 MAIL APPLICATION TO: WARABI ASHIBI
 C/O PAM TAMASHIRO
 46-349 NAHEWAI ST.
 KANEHOE, HAWAII 96744
 OR FAX TO PAM TAMASHIRO AT: 536-0458

ZAZEN Introductory Seminar

Hawaii Okinawa Center
February 7th - 7pm

"Zazen" - to sit - to zazen well one must harmonize body, mind, and breath. Only when the three are realized as one will it be possible to succeed in stabilizing and tranquilizing the body and mind at the same time.

- wear loose fitting clothing
- bring a zabuton

Seminar will be conducted by Sensei Zenko Heshiki of the Matsubayashiryu Karate-Do. Please join us!!!!



FUMIKO YOSHIMOTO

"I SOOGACHI SHIMISOCHI !!!" "HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!" — OKINAWAN STYLE

BY KARLEEN CHINEN

(Reprinted from the January 1, 1988 edition of The Hawaii Herald—revisited with permission)

I was well into my 20's before I even heard of, much less tasted, a New Year's tradition of many Japanese.

Ozoni. What's that, you put mochi into a soup and eat it first thing New Year's Day? Hmmm, never heard of such a strange thing.

Heck, I thought everyone was like me and drank *ashitabichi* (pig's feet soup) on New Year's eve. And they probably thought everyone ate ozoni on New Year's morning, just like they did.

One hundred eleven years of Japanese presence—including 96 by people from Okinawa—sure has made life in our Hawaii interesting, colorful and *tottemo oishii*, wouldn't you agree? Hey, this is worth a story, I thought.

Many of the reference books published in English were, at best, vague in their explanation of how New Year's is celebrated in Okinawa—probably because the celebrations vary from place to place. So I switched gears and began asking local Okinawans about their New Year's celebrations. Interestingly enough, some practices were consistent; others were very different.

In his essay in the book, "Okinawan Cookery and Culture," published in 1975 by the women of Hui O Laulima, now retired University of Hawaii professor Dr. Mitsugu Sakihara noted that the commoners and the court people in Okinawa prepared their meals differently. The court cuisine of Shuri, Okinawa's ancient capital, was influenced by China and Japan.

Yasuko Takamine, who will turn 105 years old this year, is a "living treasure" in Shuri court cuisine. She learned the art first-hand. As a child growing up in Okinawa, Takamine was forced to sit for hours beside her paternal grandmother and learn the refined art. Her grandmother always reminded her of how ashamed she would be if a Yasumoto girl didn't know how to prepare the special dishes for the nobles, merchants and diplomats who often visited Shuri.

Yasuko Yasumoto grew up and married Seikin Takamine, also from Shuri—and put her early training to good use. She has passed on her knowledge of Shuri style cooking to her daughters, particularly her second daughter, Elinore Fujii, who headed the food services program at Kapiolani Community College until her retirement. After retiring, Fujii began baking ceramic pots instead of glazed hams and pies.

New Year's at the Takamine household was never complete until the family had enjoyed their *inamuruchi* soup—made from the stomach of the pig. Her Hawaii-born children found it easier to call the stomach soup by its Hawaiian name: *opu* soup. The light-colored soup stock was taken from pork and *chikuwa* (fishcake) that had been cooked together. *Takenoko* (bamboo shoots), *shiitake* mushrooms and the *opu* were then added to the soup. According to Fujii, all of the ingredients were sliced julienne style—long and thin. A touch of *miso* was added to the soup just before it was served to enhance the flavor.

Takamine used six pig stomachs for her *inamuruchi* soup. Cleaning the *opu* was a job in itself. "She used to scrub it with Hawaiian salt in a basket and scrape it all clean. Then she would put it in hot water, rinse it off and do it again," explained Fujii, noting that the smell of an uncleaned *opu* could ruin the soup. After cleaning it thoroughly, Takamine singed the *opu* and then froze it, making it easier to slice for the next day's cooking.

Takamine made two big pots of *inamuruchi* soup, which her family drank on either New Year's Day or its eve. She continued to make the traditional soup every *oshogatsu* until Fujii took over the job, albeit on a smaller scale, about 12 years ago. "My kids have grown up eating it every year, so they expect me to make it," she said.

Those family members that had *inamuruchi* soup on New Year's eve, enjoyed *sparerib* soup on the first day of the new year—and vice versa. Preparing the *sparerib* soup was also a tedious task. The *spareribs*, *konbu* (seaweed) and *daikon* (radish) were cooked and then decoratively arranged in a bowl with a few slices of deep fried tofu. The *sparerib* soup stock was then poured over the ingredients and garnished. "It's a very tedious kind of presentation," noted Fujii.

Soups weren't the only foodstuffs cooking in the Takamine kitchen around New Year's. Her menu also included a variety of traditional Okinawan dishes, such as *kubu irichi* (sliced boiled pork, konbu and fishcake), *rafute* (glazed pork cooked in a sugar, *shoyu* and *awamori* sauce), *awabi namashi* (abalone and cucumber *namasu*), *sekihan* (red colored rice cooked with *azuki* beans) and *kasutera kamaboko* (egg fishcake).

These days, Fujii supplements the menu with a baked ham, a salad, plus other Japanese favorites—*kamaboko*, *yokan* and *kanten* (gelatin), *kuromame* (good luck black beans), *kazunoko* (herring roe symbolizing fertility) and *sashimi*.

Fujii learned to prepare traditional Okinawan and Japanese foods by helping her mother in the kitchen every New Year's. Because her mother had lived and experienced court life in Shuri, entertaining guests was nothing to get flustered over. "She used to have parties galore and would serve all of these things for Shuri people." Takamine's expertise in Okinawan cooking is highly regarded to this day. Mother and daughter were valuable resources for Hui O Laulima's extremely popular Okinawan cookbook.

Fumiko (Higa) Yoshimoto never experienced *oshogatsu* in Okinawa. She grew up in a plantation camp in Amalu on the Big Island of Hawaii with her two sisters and two brothers. "As far as I knew, girls weren't allowed in anybody's home first (on New Year's Day). If my girlfriends came over, my mother used to tell

me, "Tell them don't come in, because no male has come in the house yet." So they had to wait outside. It was always a male that entered the home first."

The women in Fumiko's family were only allowed to visit their relatives and friends later in the week. And again, there were rules to follow. "When we went out house-visiting, we had to visit our relatives according to age—the oldest first—and pay our respects. That was tradition. After we visited all the relatives, then we would go to our friends' homes, one by one," she recalled.

Yoshimoto's parents were farmers who had emigrated from Gushikawa village in Okinawa's countryside. Their New Year's table was very different from that of city people like Yasuko Takamine.

"We ate pig's feet soup . . . the whole camp," says Yoshimoto. "Three or four families raised pigs, and they would come house-to-house and take orders. We would *kompan* (share) the pig. They would slaughter the pig and split it up, usually on the 30th." She says she never heard of *ozoni* until she moved to Hawaii and married Brian Yasuhide Yoshimoto. There was *togan* (squash) and *konbu* in the Higa family's pig's feet soup, which was flavored with *miso* and salt.

"We all had to sit down according to age. My father used to sit at the head of the table. Prior to eating, we had something like a service. We had to have pig's liver with salt on it." Yoshimoto never asked what the special foods symbolized.

"After that, he would serve *sake* to each of us, mumbling something in Okinawan." He was probably asking the gods to keep his family safe and healthy during the year, she says. "I remember when my sister was really young, he put the *sake* on her forehead." The Higa children thanked their father and reciprocated by pouring *sake* for him. "Every New Year, that was the thing to do. The whole family had to be there. No excuses."

Nowadays, Yoshimoto calls her own children a few days before the year is over, reminding them of the family's decades-old tradition and encouraging them to set aside a few hours of their New Year's eve for pig's feet soup with the family. "They're supposed to come. I tell them to come, and most of the time, they do." Still, she isn't very optimistic that her children will carry on and continue to practice some of the tedious New Year's traditions that were a part of her childhood.

Jane Sakima, on the other hand, is a bit more hopeful that her *sansei* daughter will carry on some of the Okinawan New Year's traditions she has practiced. However, she admits that there are times when the mere thought of all the work required to celebrate *oshogatsu*, Okinawan style, prompts her to tell her daughter, Ellen Higa, "Next year, I don't think I'll have a celebration like now.... I think I'll just go away on a trip and enjoy myself." "You can't do that, Mom; you've been doing this for so many years," replies Higa.

Like Yoshimoto, pig's feet soup has been a New Year's eve tradition in the Sakima household for as long as she and husband Akira can remember. But she also cooks up a steaming batch of *hekk* for those who prefer to take only a few sips of the soup, just for the sake of tradition. Jane and Akira concur: their New Year's just wouldn't be complete without pig's feet soup.

That was true for most Okinawan families. The Sakimas were hog farmers in Kalihi valley in the 1930s. In fact, he co-founded Island Pork Producers (since renamed Hawaii Food Products), a hog farmers' co-op, where Jane worked with him. She remembers the demand for pig's feet at New Year's. "One week before New Year's eve, we were short on pig's feet. It was all the Uchinanchus buying for their New Year's eve. There were lots of pork chops. On other days, pork chops were short. But at New Year's, the intestines and the pig's feet were sold out."

It isn't hard to understand why Jane Sakima would consider going away for New Year's. After all, packing a suitcase is a lot less work. "If you had an older person living with you, you had to have the food ready at 8 or 9 o'clock in the morning. If my father-in-law was the oldest among the Ginowan people, they used to come to our house. So we had to have the food ready," she recalls.

If preparing the traditional New Year's dishes wasn't enough work, Sakima remembers working feverishly for days, trying to finish her laundry and house cleaning before the stroke of midnight in order to ward off a bad omen. "In the olden days, they used to say if the house is dirty on New Year's, it's going to be dirty throughout the year," recalled Akira. Several years ago, Jane gave up trying to be Superwoman. "The house can stay dirty. In fact, if I want to clean the house on New Year's Day, I'll clean the house."

These days, she has help with many of the household chores. Akira—raised a traditional Okinawan man who never cooked or cleaned—now helps with the laundry and the dishes. "I'm domesticated now," he chuckled. He still goes out every New Year's morning to pay his respects to the Ginowan elders, whose numbers have dwindled with each passing year. There are now only 5 *issei* women remaining, he says.

Sansei Wesley Ueunten, currently pursuing his doctorate in sociology at the University of California at Berkeley, spent three New Year's celebrations with relatives in Okinawa—two of them while a student at the University of the Ryukyus.

Much of what he saw and ate was representative of Okinawa after reversion to Japan. One of his uncle's friends commented that reversion had given some Okinawans a new freedom. "He said before reversion, Okinawa was more traditional. He came from a samurai family, and the samurai could only visit their patrilineal relatives."

(Continued on page 8)

Ueunten got his first taste of *nakami* soup, made from the stomach of the pig, and loved it. His Yonabaru relatives didn't have pig's feet soup on New Year's eve, but they did have lots of spirits. He and his uncles began their celebrating with beer and then moved on to awamori, finally ringing in the new year with that yankee favorite, scotch.

The women worked late into the night, preparing food what he described as "finger foods"—sashimi, rafute, *sushi*, bacon wrapped around *gobo*. The men didn't seem to be in a great hurry to go out and pay their respects to their elders on New Year's Day. Ueunten said his uncles slept in on New Year's morning.

"The traditional fishing and farming communities don't really celebrate on the western New Year's," he said. They follow the lunar calendar and celebrate New Year's the same time as the Chinese, who so heavily influence Okinawan culture.

Oshogatsu is an interesting time for Hawaii's Uchinanchu, for while they hold fast to some traditions from the old country, their celebrations have also been influenced by the diversity of cultures here in our Islands.

1996 Cultural Calendar

January 21, 1996 • Sunday • 2 pm • Kaimuki High School
Toma Toyoko Sokyoku Kenkyu Kai

First Formal Koto Recital—"Kahuushi — In Appreciation"
From Okinawa: Isa Tsuru Sensei, Tawata Sumi Kaicho, Arashiro Seiko Shihan and others, and Minoru Miyagi DanceStudio.
Also featured from Hawaii: Kikue Kaneshiro Ryubu Kai, Yoshiko Nakasone Ryubu Kenkyusho and Majikina Horyu Buyo Dojo.
Please see corresponding article on this page for additional information.

April 20, 1996 • Saturday • 6:30pm • Blaisdell Concert Hall
Jinpoo Hoge Kai -

Nakasone Yoshiko Ryubu Kenkyusho

"Hoge No Mai—40th Anniversary Recital and Concert to Commemorate Nakasone Sensei's 57th Anniversary in the Performing Arts". Ticket details to follow.

May 4, 1996 • Saturday • 3 pm • Farrington High Auditorium
Toguchi Mitsuko Ryubu Kenkyusho

10th Anniversary Recital
Sponsored by the State of Hawaii, Kalihi-Palama Culture Center with participation from invited Hawaii and Okinawa senseis.
Ticket details to follow.

HUO A SPORTS

Kauai Golf Tournament - August 17th and 18th

Kauai's Uchinanchus are extending an invitation to all golfers, islandwide to participate in their 2nd Annual Okinawan Invitational Golf Tournament. Come and enjoy fellowship and beauty of Kauai.

This premier sporting event will be held on August 17th - 18th, at the Wailua Municipal Golf Course, and will be based on 36 hole play. If you are interested in attending, please contact Yuki Arashiro on Kauai at (808) 822-4270.

HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION MIXED HDCP BOWLING LEAGUE

The combination team of Go-tama captured top honors for our bowling league that ended recently. With cold determination, this team of rock steady bowlers used their handicaps to good advantage as they won important games throughout the 32 weeks of league play... to wind up the best of 18 teams. Katsuren II took runner-up honors and Kochinda, Katsuren I and Nago finished third, fourth and fifth, respectfully.

INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE LEADERS WERE:

Handicap High Average:	Shea Kusahara (207) Aggie Tamashiro (210)
High Average:	Dave Kitashiro (184) Jackie Phillips (165)
Handicap High Series:	Duane Yamaguchi (777) Dawn Tamanaha (728)
High Series:	Carl Nakata (672) Wanda Solano (574)
Handicap High Single:	Clarence Wong (293) Janet Oshiro (278)
High Single:	Harry Oshiro (257) Naoko Kirihara (235)

KARATE - Classes offered at Hawaii Okinawa Center

"No matter how you may excel in the art of te, and in your scholastic endeavors, nothing is more important than your behavior and your humanity as observed in daily life."

Teijunsoku, Okinawan Scholar

The art of Karate or Te was developed as a method of self defense and preservation. Its history is primarily based on oral history and miscellaneous historical records, as definitive documentation

is unavailable. The Okinawans developed their own unique art of self-defense called Te, literally meaning hand or hands. The unique characteristic of Okinawan Te, from kempo or other martial arts from China, is the emphasis on **makiwara** practice to develop the fists, toes, elbows, and **shuto** (knife hands).

Based on Ryukyuan (Okinawan) literature the artform of Okinawan Te predates that of Chinese Karate or To-Te (to is read in Chinese character as **kara**, empty). However, in the late 17th and early 18th century Te did merge with the Chinese style of martial arts to form the present day Karate.

During the subjugation of the Ryukyus in 1609 by the Satsuma clan in Japan, Te was practiced and refined, despite the enforcement of a ban of the use of all weapons and the practice of the martial arts by the Ryukuans. This forbidden art was passed down from father to son in secret for 350 years.

Because of the secrecy in which Te was practiced, there exists no clear evidence as to the various styles and classifications of Karate during its formative years. Presently, however, Karate is divided into two main groups: Shorei-ryu or Naha-te and Shorin-ryu or Shuri-te. Naha-te is divided into two styles: Goju-ryu and Uechi-ryu. Shuri-te is divided into three styles: Matsubayshi-Ryu and two Shorin-ryus.

In Hawaii, three Karate schools are active participants with the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. They include: Hawaii Senbukan Karate Dojo, under Head Instructor Tomu Arakawa; Matsubayashi-Ryu Karate Do, under Head Instructor Zenko Heshiki; and Nuuanu YMCA Okinawan Shorin-Ryu Karate, under Head Instructor Tommy Morita.

The HUOA in its efforts to promote cultural programs in Hawaii has developed Okinawan Karate classes under the guidance of Sensei Heshiki at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Offered on Tuesday and Thursday nights, and Saturday mornings these classes offer students the philosophy, discipline and beauty of Karate.

Zenko Heshiki, a 7th Dan Karate Master and Zen priest shares his "way of life" as he teaches Karate Do to his students. It has always been Heshiki sensei's vision to teach at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. He believes that "all youngsters of Okinawan ancestry must be encouraged to participate and rekindle the culture of Okinawa. The Hawaii Okinawa Center is a place of sharing and perpetuating the unique culture of the Okinawan people and fostering goodwill and understanding between people of Hawaii, United States, and other world nations.

We need you

We need your understanding

We need your support to instill cultural activities at the Hawaii Okinawa Center."

Heshiki Sensei would like to open his classes to more children. If you are interested in participating, please contact the Hawaii Okinawa Center at 676-5400, or Mel Gushiken (488-6957)/John Tasato (455-7888).



Leon Burton from the Matsubayashi Ryu Karate-Do

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(continued from page 1) - Randy's KADU. There is so much we need to do in order to ensure the HUOA's fiscal, organizational, cultural and spiritual stability for generations to come.

While the Hawaii United Okinawa Association is financially sound, I must be honest with you. We don't have much money to work with this year. The HUOA traditionally uses the proceeds from the previous year's Okinawan Festival to fund its programs for the year. That has been the practice since the HUOA began sponsoring the Okinawan Festival. However, despite all your hard work, last year's festival profits were about \$14,000, some \$43,000 less than 1994. We expect to get the final numbers in a few weeks.

As much as possible, we do not want to dip into our savings accounts to fund projects. That being the case, we must all pull together, and wherever possible, seek outside sources of funding and/or in-kind donations, and work hard to make each event or endeavor as successful as possible for our community.

While we're on the subject of finances, I also want to let you know that we plan to keep you abreast of our financial status. Via our UCHINANCHU newsletter, we will keep you informed of the revenues and expenditures of every activity or event sponsored by the HUOA, beginning with the 1995 Okinawan Festival. This is your money, and I truly believe that we must be accountable to you, our members.

We also need to work on improving communication within our organization. You should not have to learn about problems within our organization from the news media. It is our responsibility as your officers to keep you informed, whether the news is good or bad. Should something beyond our control happen that requires an immediate response, be assured that I will respond with the best interests of HUOA in mind.

It's really important that we communicate with each other. If you have concerns or ideas, we want to hear them. I can't promise that everything will go your way. We live in a democracy and the majority must prevail. But please feel free to call our HUOA office and leave a message for me, or write to me here. Our HUOA address is 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, HI 96797.

Besides the full slate of cultural and community activities we have planned for this year, we need to move full speed ahead on a number of very important items: completing the 501(c) (3) non-profit tax exempt status for our HUOA member clubs; fund-raising for the HOC Endowment; planning for the year 2000, marking the 100th anniversary of the arrival in Hawaii of our first Okinawan immigrants; and looking 50 years into the future and laying the groundwork for a long-range plan for the HUOA. We also need to continue to inspire our up-and-coming leaders and provide them with the tools and insight to be good leaders who are committed to serving our community. These are all seeds that need to be planted now, and nurtured in the years to come.

First and foremost, however, we must resolve, within the HUOA, the issue of the monies that former president Wil Hokama diverted into his own personal accounts. Make no mistake about my position: when I talk about resolving the problem "within the HUOA," I don't mean "sweep it under the rug" and pretend it didn't happen. We have a financial and a moral responsibility to you, our members, to pursue the return of those funds. And we will. Our litigation committee will keep you informed of developments via the Uchinanchu newsletter.

To Wil Hokama, I say this: if you truly understand the pain and embarrassment the Okinawan community is going through because of this situation and the negative publicity it has generated, please cooperate, so we can

resolve this issue and get back to doing what we do best: celebrate our culture and serve our community.

Our treasury will balance again once the funds are returned. I am certain of that. What worries me more is whether our Okinawan community will ever be whole again — trusting, happy, committed and united in our efforts to keep our Okinawan culture and heritage alive.

If I was given only one wish this year, it would be that we all come together again as a family, doing what is right, not just for a few individuals, but for our entire community.

These past few months, while driving home late at night after meetings, I've asked myself why I'm involved in HUOA. Why do I spend so much time meeting with people and with committees? I have a business that I've neglected because of the problems we have experienced, and family and friends who I rarely see.

The answer came to me eight years ago during my first trip to Okinawa with my cousin, Ed Kuba. Visiting the area where my grandparents had come from, meeting relatives, hearing stories about my family, and seeing the pride my relatives felt for what I had made of my life . . . I made a promise to myself then: that I would never take my heritage for granted, and I would do all I could in the short time I have to help other Okinawans in Hawaii — particularly young Okinawans — realize the beauty of our cultural heritage.

We always talk about how courageous our isseis were, how much they sacrificed for their children and grandchildren and the generations that would follow. They really were courageous. People like my grandparents left their homes in Okinawa in the early 1900s to come to a land they knew nothing about. They did back-breaking work from sun up to sun down for mere pennies a day so they could feed and clothe and educate their children. They endured the discrimination and ridicule of being Okinawan — and yet they remained proud Uchinanchus who lived their culture every day of their lives.

We have come this far in our lives because of the courage and sacrifices of our isseis. We have good jobs;

many of us are government and community leaders. Some of us have our own businesses. We live comfortably and drive nice cars. We send our children to the best schools.

The problems we experienced last year are nothing compared to the adversities the isseis faced and overcame to give us our proud Okinawan heritage.

The Okinawan community has always felt blessed that so many young people have gotten involved in the culture — learning dance, koto, samisen, taiko, paranku, and other aspects of our culture. In our young Okinawans, we saw our future. They would keep the Okinawan experience alive for generations to come, long after we are gone.

But each generation stands on the shoulders of the generation before it. If the shoulders are strong, the next generation will also be strong and secure. If the shoulders are weak, the foundation will crumble, and the next generation will fall.

We need to give our Uchinanchu community and our young Okinawans a reason to keep the faith and carry on. And with your help and support, I know we will.

Again, on behalf of your HUOA officers and our hard-working staff at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, I wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 1996. With our hearts together, let's all go for it!



SPORTS - CONTINUED

YOUNG OKINAWANS OF HAWAII Charity Golf Tournament

Saturday - March 2, 1996
KAPOLEI GOLF COURSE

Entry Fee: \$100.00

Includes green fees, cart, Awards Banquet and
a 40% deductible gift.

Grand Prize: Round Trip Air Fare to Las Vegas
Other Major Prizes !!!

For More Information, contact:
Calvin Nakama - 577-3104 (pager)
Kevin Uyehara - 833-7770

Maui Okinawa Golf Club *invites you to participate in their* 18th Annual Invitational Golf Tournament

February 17th - 18th
Waiehu Golf Course
Waiehu, Maui

This 36 hole, tournament is open to any golfer of Okinawan ancestry or their spouse; or is a member or guest of a member of Maui Okinawa Golf Club. Entry fee is \$60.00 per person, which includes green fees, an awards banquet, over \$5,000 in prizes, and a \$25.00 tax deductible donation to the Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai. (Please note: Cart Fees are not included with your entry fee)

Entry forms are available at all municipal golf courses in Hawaii, at Trans Pacific Tours (808 737-5547), and at the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (808 676-5400). Entry deadline is February 10th. For additional information, please contact Chairman Jack Gushiken, at (808) 244-5964.

Club News



YOUNG OKINAWANS OF HAWAII SENIORS HOSTED AT YOH CHRISTMAS BASH

Young Okinawans of Hawaii presented its annual Christmas luncheon program for senior citizens on December 9 at the Jikoen Social Hall. More than 500 seniors attended the event, themed, "Okage Sama De." They were treated to a *rafute* (shoyu pork) bento lunch that had been prepared by YOH members; door prizes, including several inter-island airline tickets; and a lively program of Okinawan entertainment. YOH's Santa Claus (Larry Dolan) also had a gift for every senior who attended the party.



EVEN SANTA CAN KACHASHI! YOH'S SANTA CLAUS LARRY DOLAN JOINS MEMBERS OF THE YOUNG OKINAWANS OF HAWAII IN THE KACHASHI FINALE.

The event was chaired by member Mitchell Shimamura. It began with welcoming remarks from YOH President Kevin Uyehara, which were read by President-elect Jay Ogawa, because Uyehara was in Okinawa. The invocation was offered by Rev. Chikai Yosemite of the Jikoen Hongwanji Mission. Those attending the program enjoyed Christmas-colored *andagi* that had been cooked up and donated by the Hawaii Taiko Kai. YOH members also kept their guests refreshed by serving them hot tea and cool water. Newly installed 1996 HUOA President Randall Kuba joined YOH members in passing out cups of water to seniors.

YOH has been sponsoring the Christmas luncheon program for senior citizens since 1982. What began in 1982 as a modest Christmas luncheon program for about 50 seniors at the Lanakila Senior Center has ballooned into a major event that brings great joy to many Okinawan seniors. Although the group organizes numerous projects for its members and the community during the year, the seniors' Christmas luncheon is its most ambitious undertaking.

HUI O LAULIMA THELMA ARAKAWA INCOMING PRESIDENT

Hui O Laulima installed its 1996 officers and directors at a December 10th program attended by about 100 members and supporters. The Christmas luncheon and installation program was held at the Pacific Beach Hotel. Lunch was served after a moving rendition of "The Queen's Prayer" by emcee Tina Kaneshiro.



1996 HUI O LAULIMA PRESIDENT THELMA ARAKAWA (R) PRESENTS AN APPRECIATION PLAQUE TO JEAN AGENA.

Outgoing President Jean Agena presented monetary gifts to the Hawaii Okinawa Center and the Jikoen Hongwanji Mission for their support during the past year. Accepting the gift on behalf of the HOC was its executive director, Stanley Takamine. Chihoko Yosemite, wife of Rev. Chikai Yosemite, accepted the gift on behalf of Jikoen. Ethel Kawakami, who has helped Hui O Laulima with its *andagi* sale at the State Farm Fair for many years, was recognized as an honorary member. Agena also introduced Hiroko Higashionna, Hui O Laulima's "Woman of the Year" and 1995 "Uchinanchu of the Year."

Agena thanked her fellow officers and Hui O Laulima members for their support. During her term, members had several opportunities to learn more about the Okinawan culture through such activities as the cultural workshop, which was held at the HOC in August. Hui O Laulima also organized and operated the Cultural Tent at the 1995 Okinawa Festival. Members participated in community service projects and got better acquainted with each other during a hike into Diamond Head. And, for the first time, Hui O Laulima and the Young Okinawans of Hawaii teamed up in operating the *andagi* booth at the State Farm Fair.

(continued on next column)

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(Hui O Laulima - continued) The 1996 officers, led by President Thelma Arakawa, were installed by Past President Ella Teruya and 1996 HUOA President Randall Kuba. He congratulated the new officers and thanked Hui O Laulima members for their outstanding work with the festival's cultural tent.

Serving with Arakawa will be Bobbi Kuba, 1st v-president; Elsie Kawakone, 2nd v-president; Joy Ige, Recording Secretary; Hiroko Higashionna, corresponding secretary; Doris Yamashiro, treasurer; Arleen Paek, asst. treasurer; and Jean Yamasato, auditor. Dorothy Hoe, Gerri Maeda, Myrtle Kaneshiro and Jean Agena will serve on Hui O Laulima's Board of Directors.

Arakawa thanked the members for their involvement in Hui O Laulima activities and urged them to get to know each other - and their culture - by participating in club projects.

The afternoon ended on a festive musical note, with the presentation of Christmas tunes by the Tradewinds, a contemporary barbershop quartet.

HUI ALU, INC. KAUAI'S HUI ALU TO STAGE DANCE FESTIVAL

For the first time in a decade, Hui Alu, Inc., an HUOA member club on Kauai, will stage an Okinawan Dance Festival. The Festival will be held Friday and Saturday, May 17 and 18, at the Kapaa Beach Park. It will feature Okinawan music and dance, an exhibit of Okinawan culture, and games and food. Music will be provided by the Hawaii Terukina Chochi Kai, led by Grant "Sandaa" Murata.

According to Hui Alu President Alan Hiranaka, the event is open to everyone. He said Hui Alu members hope Uchinanchus and Uchinanchu-at-heart from throughout the state of Hawaii will treat themselves to a weekend on the Garden Island and join in Hui Alu's Okinawan Dance Festival. More details will be available in the next UCHINANCHU newsletter.

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OUR NEW NUMBER: 833-7770

Club News

AZA YOGI DOSHI KAI

Happy New Year to all members: Thank you for participating and supporting the Aza Yogi Doshi Kai and the Hawaii United Okinawa Association's activities.

1996 will be an exciting year for Aza Yogi, which includes our participation in the Spring Craft Fair at HOC on April 27, 1996. We will be responsible for the Hospitality section. Also, the cleaning of the Hawaii Okinawa Center is scheduled for July 21, 1996. Please don't forget the HUOA Festival to be held on August 31 - September 1, 1996.

Special congratulations to Doris Nagamine for being selected Aza Yogi's Uchinanchu of the Year for 1995 and to Roy Nagamine for being appointed as an officer of the Lanakila Senior Club.

Don't forget our annual Shinnen Enkai on Sunday, March 3, 1996 at Masa's Cafeteria.

OKINAWA CITY - GOEKU SON

Our 1996 Shinnen Enkai will be held on February 17, 1996 - 5:30pm at Victoria Inn. Please join us and ring in a successful New Year for our Club. Events scheduled include a Dessert Contest, special 80 Year Old Birthday recognition and wonderful entertainment.

In 1997, Goeku will be celebrating its 70th Anniversary. Chairman Melvin Uesato and his committee are planning a very special event for us. If you wish to participate in the planning, fund raising or have some wonderful ideas to make 1997 a banner year, please contact Melvin at 537-1167 or Karen Kuba-Hori at 235-1243 or 676-5400.

At this time we are trying to raise revenues for our 1997 celebration. Therefore, we are sad to announce the cancellation of our Children's Day, which was scheduled for early this year. However, for those members who were planning to participate in our Dessert Contest, you can enter in our 1996 Shinnen Enkai Dessert Contest. Just bring in your favorite dessert - please provide enough samples for judging and to share with others. Entrants are requested to share their recipes. Prizes to be awarded.

KANEGUSUKU SONJIN KAI

Kanegusuku's 70th New Year's Party will be on Sunday, February 18, 4:30 pm at Victoria Inn. The evening promises to be a happy event for children as well as adults.

Kanegusuku Golf Club held its October 8th tournament at Makaha East with Ronald Oshiro winning with a net 72. The October 15th play at Olomana was also won by Ronald with a net of 62. November 12th had Nobu Tamayose winning with net 71 at Hawaii Prince. The last tournament of the year was won by Morio Tamayose with net 68 at Kunia.

The first tourney for 1996 will be on January 21st, 7:12 am at Pearl. The Club will then play on February 4th, 10:14 am at Hawaii Prince.

Thank you to Masuo and Roy Kino, Henry Nagamine, Ronald Oshiro and Mike Shimabukuro for helping the vendors unload at the HUOA Winter Craft Fair on Saturday, November 25th.

Roy Yamauchi was recognized as Kanegusuku's Uchinanchu of the Year on Sunday, December 3 Bonenkai/Installation Banquet at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom.

KIN CHOJIN KAI

Happy New Year! Hope all of you enjoyed the holidays. This is the year of the Rat...so we will be celebrating your birthday year at Kin's Annual Shinnen Enkai on Saturday, January 27th, at the HOC, 6:00pm dinner.

We will also be honoring our 1996 Uchinanchu of the Year, Mrs. Mitsue Matsumura, who has contributed much of her time in helping our club through the years... very much appreciated.

Dwight Ikehara and Dan Fong will be presenting a slide show of their exciting trip to Okinawa. We will be selling Kin Tee Shirts and playing BINGO. Since this will be our second alcohol free party...no liquor will be served. Mahalo for your support.

ITOMAN CLUB

Itoman Shinnen Enkai
Saturday - February 24th
Flamingo Chuckwagon

URASOE SHIJIN KAI

Happy New Year! Just some brief announcements: HOC clean-up will be held on February 4th at 8am. Please contact George Miyashiro at 621-0931. Our Shinnen Enkai will take place on Sunday February 18th, 9am - 2pm., at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Please contact George Miyashiro at 621-0931 or Horace Awa at 737-2079, for additional information.

YONASHIRO CHOJIN KAI

Culture • Fun • New Faces • Familiar Faces • Food • Bingo • Door Prizes
The Yonashiro Chojin Kai's 1996 Shinnen Enkai is scheduled for Saturday, February 24th at Masa's Cafeteria in Mapunapuna. Registration and fun begin at 5 pm, with dinner starting at 6 pm. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

HUI MAKAAALA

HUI MAKAAALA CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY IN STYLE

More than 500 Hui Makaala members and friends packed the Hibiscus Ballroom of the Ala Moana Hotel on January 13 to celebrate the golden anniversary of the organization's founding.

It was a festive event which was made even more special by the outstanding program. Dr. George Takushi and his 16-piece Big Band Hawaii took the audience on a musical stroll down memory lane. Among the featured vocalists sharing their talents were Lorraine Kaneshiro, Dennis Oshiro, Galen Takushi, Alison Arakawa and Steve Dulce and Hui Makaala members Marion Arakaki, Patrick Arakaki and brothers Ted and George Shimabukuro. Another highlight of the entertainment program was the premiere of local musician Dale Senaga's synthesizer arrangement of a medley of Okinawan tunes. Senaga arranged the music specially for the anniversary program.

The evening provided a good opportunity to look back and reflect on Hui Makaala's 50 years of community service.

Hui Makaala was organized on January 11, 1946 by seven Hawaii men of Okinawan ancestry: Dr. Francis Kaneshiro; Tokuichi "Dynamite" Takushi; Clarence Uechi; Dr. Bunkichi Uesato; John J. Uyehara; Dr. Yoshio Yamashiro, who was elected Hui Makaala's first president; and Dr. Shoyei Yamauchi. Of the seven, three have passed on: Takushi, Uyehara and Yamashiro.

The organizers had lofty goals. They wanted to bring together young Americans of Okinawan ancestry and provide them with activities that would help them learn about their culture. The group also sought to organize social, recreational and educational activities and assist those pursuing higher education through a scholarship program.

Over the years, Hui Makaala's scholarship program has been a cornerstone of the community organization. Hui Makaala has awarded scholarships to several hundred Hawaii students of Okinawan ancestry. Past recipients include former CNN and CBS News correspondent Linda Taira. Proceeds from the group's annual fund-raising fashion show are earmarked for the scholarship program.

Hui Makaala has also sponsored many other community, cultural, family and sports activities which have benefitted not only the Okinawan community, but the Hawaii community at large.

The program, which was chaired by member Patrick Arakaki, also included a slide show retracing Hui Makaala's 50-year history. It was produced by Karen Shishido, an active member of Hui Makaala and the daughter of the late Dynamite Takushi, as a tribute to her father. Dr. Robert Oshiro, a longtime member of the group, also recalled some of Hui Makaala's milestones, including its active involvement in the relief effort for Okinawa following the war. Banzais were offered by founding members Dr. Bunkichi Uesato and Clarence Uechi.

The program also included the installation of the 1996 officers and directors by retired U.S. Bankruptcy Judge and longtime Hui Makaala member Jon Chinen. Honolulu architect Maurice Yamasato, who served two terms as president, turned over the reigns of leadership to Al Kakazu.

Yamasato looked back on Hui Makaala's numerous accomplishments during its 50-year history. In 1946, the group awarded two scholarships; last year it awarded 10 totalling \$20,000. In 1949, Hui Makaala sponsored 16 softball teams. A year later, that number had more than quadrupled. "Projects such as those made the organization stronger," Yamasato said. He thanked Hui Makaala's members for their energetic participation and the officers for their hard work and dedication. Yamasato said Hui Makaala must learn from its past, live fully now, and pass on its legacy to the future generations.

Yamasato presented Kakazu the president's gavel—and a large bottle of awamori, commenting that it would make him "smarter."

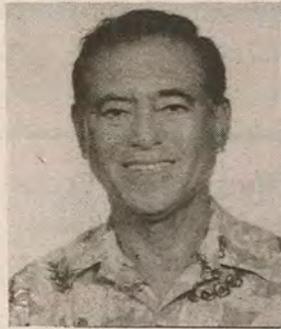
Kakazu, an accountant by trade, referred to himself as a "genuine rookie" on Okinawan culture. "I have a lot to learn," he conceded. Kakazu pointed out that the anticipated tuition hike for University of Hawaii students will pose a financial challenge to Hui Makaala's scholarship program.

Serving with Kakazu will be first Vice President Myles Shimabukuro, second Vice President Lloyd Higa, Recording Secretary Amy Nishihara, Corresponding Secretary Michelle Itomura, Treasurer Mike Ito and Assistant Treasurer Vaughn Arakaki. Patrick Arakaki, Takejiro Higa, Robert Kamemoto, Tina Kaneshiro, Dennis Nakasato and Pamela Tamashiro will serve on the Hui Makaala's Board of Directors.

Past officers of Hui Makaala have included such prominent government officials as Honolulu City Prosecutor Keith Kaneshiro, former State Senators Patsy Young and Dennis Nakasato, former State Representative Akira Sakima and former Deputy Corporation Counsel Pamela Tamashiro.

News from the Center

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT BY STANLEY TAKAMINE



May your New Year be Filled with lots of Happiness and much Prosperity

How time flies! Here we are entering another CHAPTER in the history of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and its subsidiary the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Yes, initially my involvement as your Executive Director (ED) was for three (3) months. A full year has gone by and I am still here as your ED. Truthfully, although there were hard times during my tenure, the past year was an interesting and exciting experience for me.

I enjoyed working with the office staff and volunteers who are not only experts in their respective fields of endeavors but overflowed with the UCHINANCHU SPIRIT. They are so dedicated in whatever they do. They went out of their way to be sure that the volunteers are well taken care of. For the gardeners who came on Tuesdays and Fridays of each week, they would be sure there was coffee and pastries for their morning break. They would take orders for lunch and make arrangements for pick up in time for the gardeners' lunch break.

The gardeners were not the only ones who received this hospitality. The other volunteers such as monitors, office helpers, carpenters, painters, etc. also benefitted. The staff made sure that Mat Arashiro and the HUOA Club clean up crews on Sundays were also provided with lunch and refreshments.

To all of you, I say, "IPPE NIHEI DEBIRU" from the bottom of my heart for taking on this task in a pleasant and devoted manner.

HELP • HELP • HELP

HELP WANTED!!! Anyone interested in working for the HUOA/HOC office as a Reservations/Recording Coordinator, please contact Executive Director Stanley Takamine at 676-5400.

HELP • HELP • HELP

BETTY KUWAYE, the Reservations/Recording Coordinator terminated her full-time employment with HOC at the end of 1995. Betty was part of our original staff who began her tenure with HOC after our grand opening in 1990.

Betty was a hard worker who was not afraid to take on any responsibility that was assigned to her. On many occasions, she would work beyond her regular hours to accommodate the renters without complaining and unstintingly contribute her time and resources to HOC and HUOA. She was dedicated and thorough in her work assignments and I have received many favorable compliments on how she handled her job and serviced our HUOA/HOC family. Betty was a pleasant person to work with. The office staff, HOC and the HUOA will surely miss her, especially her cheerful personality.

Although Betty has graciously offered to work on Saturdays for the next few weeks, it has been difficult to accept her termination. We appreciate her many years of fine service "beyond the call of duty" and wish Betty the very best in her new employment.

Wish List

If I had a wish I would ask the Uchinanchu fairy to gift to the Hawaii Okinawa Center the following dreams

IBM Selectric Typewriter
Hewlett Packard Laser Printer
(maybe if I'm good it will be a color printer)

But, Gift Fairy the Hawaii Okinawa Center really - really needs Volunteers, in the following areas

Gardeners • Office Workers • Bi-Lingual Assistants

Mahalo Gift Fairy

INTRODUCING HUOA'S NEW OFFICERS YOUNG LEADERS TO GUIDE US INTO '96



PRESIDENT-ELECT: DEXTER T. TERUYA (YAGO UYEHANJAME)

Dexter Teruya is a member and past president of Oroku Azajin Kai. He and his wife, Valerie, have two teenage children, Natalie and Roland. Teruya, who was born and raised in Honolulu, is the youngest of Wallace and Ethel Teruya's four children.

Teruya is a corporate tax manager for Amfac/JMB Hawaii, Inc. He is a member and past president of the Tax Executives Institute, Hawaii chapter, as well as a board member and past president of the Tax Foundation of Hawaii and a member of the Board of Counselors of Mid-Pacific Institute, his alma mater.

Teruya has served as an HUOA vice president for the last two years. He served as general chair of the 1995 Okinawan Festival.



Honolulu. Tamashiro graduated from St. Andrew's Priory, the University of Hawaii at Manoa and Lewis and Clark College, where she met her husband while they were law school students.

VICE PRESIDENT: ROY K. IREI

Roy Irei is a member and past president of Miwa Doshi Kai. He is also a member of Hui Makaala and the United Japanese Society, and is president-elect of the Hawaii Uchinanchu Business Group.

Irei has two daughters: 12-year-old Kariann and 8-year-old Jeralyn. He is the son of Senichi and Shizue Irei.

Irei is president of Hawaiian Home Lifestyes, Inc., an importer/exporter of building materials. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii.



VICE PRESIDENT: PAMELA E. TAMASHIRO

Pamela Tamashiro is a member and past president of Hui Makaala. She served as an HUOA vice president in 1992-93, during the term of the late Warren Higa.

Tamashiro and her husband, Family Court Judge John Bryant, are the parents of two daughters, Reiko Ann and Chiemi Jan. Her parents, Janet and Tsuneo Tamashiro, are members of Nishihara Chojin Kai. Her mother is an avid paranku dancer who is a member of the Paranku Club of Hawaii.

Tamashiro is an attorney in private practice. She recently opened her own law firm, the law office of Pamela E. Tamashiro. She is a former deputy prosecuting attorney and a former deputy corporation counsel for the City and County of



VICE PRESIDENT: WESLEY H. WANIYA

Wesley Waniya is a member of Minami Nakagusuku Sonjin Kai, Oroku Azajin Kai and the Young Okinawans of Hawaii, of which he served as 1994 president. He is the son of Wallace and Helen Waniya.

In 1993, he was one of 13 young people who participated in the HUOA's Leadership Tour to Okinawa. Waniya is interested in all aspects of Okinawan culture, particularly the music and dance.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Waniya is a partner in Tsunami Sports Hawaii, Inc., a sports uniform and T-shirt design company.