



THE CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF HAWAII

夏威夷中華總商會



LANTERN

NEWSLETTER

March, 2017

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2016-2017

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Eddie Flores, Jr.

Executive Vice President

Wen Chung Lin



Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc. delegation made a courtesy call to Chinese Chamber on February 17, 2017.



Capital Campaign

As you know, the Chamber has launched a 2017 capital campaign to raise funds for needed renovations and repairs to the Chamber building. These include a new air conditioning system, re-roofing, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) renovations, and upgrade of equipment in the multipurpose room. Officers and directors especially are asked to donate at suggested amount of \$200.00 – \$500.00. Pledges with a pay-in period of up to five (5) years are acceptable. So far, donations or pledges have been made by **Tina & Richard Au, Betty Brow, John Chang, William Chang, Walter Chang, Vernon Ching, Kenneth & Lishan Chong, Michele Choy, Mona Choy-Beddow, Jonathan Cook, Eddie Flores, Jr., Wesley Fong, Patrick Graham, Douglas Ho, HomeStreet Bank, Joseph Hu, Dennis & Rena Hwang, Leonard & Lori Kam, Gabe & Shirley Lee, Bob & Libby Lew, Victor Lim, Wen Chung Lin, Elvira Lo, Linda Louie, Sylvia Louie, Wendell Pang, Angie Shiroma, Yu Shing Ting, Sherman Wong, Cynthia Yamasaki, and James Young.** Thank you and *xiexie* to those who have already stepped forward; Hawaii community foundations can be more readily solicited for grants if there is 100% participation by Chamber Directors.

Upcoming Seminar

On Monday, March 20, there will be a FREE financial workshop, “Introduction to Color Accounting.” It will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the second-floor multipurpose room at the Chamber building. Seating is limited, so if you plan to attend, please call **Lucia** at the Chamber at 533-3181 right away.

Narcissus Festival

The Narcissus Festival winds up with the Fashion Show on Sunday, April 2, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. Boutique sales and silent auction will begin at 9:30 a.m., the luncheon begins at noon, and the fashion show will begin at 1:00 p.m. (There will also be a silent auction and door prizes) Special appearances will include award-winning actress **Nancy Kwan**, Miss Hawaii USA **Julie Kuo**, former Miss Hawaii USA **Chelsea Hardin**, and 2016 Narcissus Queen **Ashley Fu**. There are apparently still openings for boutique vendors and donations of items for the silent auction and door prizes are welcome. Contact the Chamber at 533-3181 for tickets at \$75.00 per person or to make a donation.



3rd Vice President
Sherman Wong

In lieu of the President’s Message, here’s a message from Membership Committee Co-Chair and 3rd Vice President **Sherman Wong**:

There is no doubt that the success of our Chamber is dependent upon the service and contributions of our members. The Membership Committee comes under the Third Vice President. This past year, a co-chair was added to the committee, with an

extended term to bring continuity to the committee, as vice presidents move up the ladder of succession every year.

On behalf of the executive committee, I express my sincere appreciation for my co-chair, **Sarah Moy**, in helping to develop a very action-packed year of membership activities.

This year, the Membership Committee worked closely in conjunction with Development Committee, led by Second Vice President **Tina Au**, and the newly-created Curriculum Committee, under the leadership of **Cynthia Yamasaki**. Together, we mapped out a steady series of organized Chamber events, aimed at opportunities for social networking and professional education.

For the first time in years, a membership survey was conducted in the fall and dozens of responses were returned. Members were able to tell us which committees they were interested in volunteering for. We also received a lot of interest from members wanting to play a part in the planning efforts for the Chinatown neighborhood—including ways to boost tourism in Chinatown and affordable housing opportunities. Other members expressed a desire for training workshops in a variety of topics including leadership, business opportunities in Asia, and doing business over social media.

Over the past year, we also saw the emergence of a large new group of Junior Professional members. Many members hold dual membership with the Chamber and the Chinese Jaycees. Under the leadership of 2016 Narcissus Queen **Ashley Fu**, the Junior Professionals bring youth and energy to our organization.

Our next Chamber general membership meeting is coming up on Saturday, April 22. A masquerade-themed event promises to be a fun-filled social experience for all. Stay tuned for more details about the event in upcoming Chamber notifications.

CHAMBER NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Pearl Harbor Boat Tour

As long-time Chamber members are aware, from time to time, **Stanford Yuen** helps organize special boat tours of Pearl Harbor. These are not to be confused with the shuttles during the day between the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center and the U.S.S. *Arizona* Memorial. These boat tours are offered from time to time several times a year to a select group, and 20 seats are being made available to Chamber members on a first-come, first-served basis. The 90-minute tour leaves the boat dock, sails counterclockwise around Ford Island, and various sights are pointed out along the way. On its return from the harbor entrance, the boat passes the U.S.S. *Missouri* and makes a stop at the *Arizona* Memorial before returning to the boat dock. This boat tour is being offered on Friday, April 21, and leaves promptly at 3:30 p.m. If you and family members and friends are interested in going, please contact Lucia at 533-3181. You will be provided with step-by-step driving instructions (if you miss the turn for the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, you could end up at Pearlridge shopping center) as well as instructions on what you can (photo ID, cameras) and cannot (backpacks, bags) bring.

Annual Golf Tournament

Coming up on Thursday, May 18, is the golf tournament sponsored by the Chinese Chamber and the Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association. It will be held at the Pearl Country Club. More information—registration form with more details on the format and donation form—are being sent out to members. Entry deadline is Thursday, May 4.

<p>Tournament Entry Form & Payment</p> <p>Team Name / Sponsor Name: _____</p> <p>Team Member: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Team Captain Contact Information:</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Payment Method:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard</p> <p>Name on Card: _____</p> <p>Credit Card#: _____</p> <p>Expiration Date: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____</p> <p>Please make checks payable to: Chinatown Community Foundation</p> <p>Hangout Only: \$35 _____</p> <p>Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____</p> <p>Sponsorship Level: _____</p> <p>ENTRY DEADLINE: May 4, 2017 Entry fee includes green fees, cart, lunch, beverage, and prizes.</p>		<p>Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association present 2017 Chinese Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament</p> <p>Thursday, May 18, 2017 Pearl Country Club 12:00 p.m. Shotgun Start</p>
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Narcissus Queen Goodwill Tour

Once again, the Chamber is conducting a Narcissus Queen Goodwill and Trade Tour to China, which will depart Honolulu on June 4 and return on June 18, a total of 13 days and 12 nights. The Chamber delegation will be led by **Gifford Chang** and will include 68th Narcissus Queen **Lesly Goo**. (Round-trip air will be via Hawaiian Airlines and the delegation should get royal treatment since Lesly is a Hawaiian Air flight attendant). The tour will visit Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai, and Wuzhen. The cost is \$3,030.00 per person (double occupancy), which includes round-trip air, four-star hotels, meals,

ground transportation, and taxes. Compared to previous Goodwill Tours in recent years, this year's Tour will be shorter and less expensive. There is also an optional extension to Yang-zhou and Nanjing from June 17 to 21. Both are cities in the Jiangnan region. The cost is \$535.00. For more information or to sign up, contact **Peggy Luu** at Skyway Express, telephone 526-1347 or e-mail info@skywayexptravel.com.

For those deciding whether to go on the NQT, please remember the need for specific paperwork to be completed in a timely manner. If you don't have a valid U.S. passport, you need to apply for one from the U.S. passport agency in the Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Federal Building and it takes several weeks for the application (with passport photos) to be processed. (This has especially been the case for passports needed for summertime travel). In addition, there must be a PRC tourist visa stamped in the passport in order to enter China. There is also the matter of deposit (early March) and payment in full (early April) deadlines. For more information on any of the foregoing, contact Peggy Luu.



Narcissus Plants

While the Year of the Monkey ended on January 28, and the Year of the Rooster is in its earliest days, there may be some farsighted individuals who are already planning for the Year of the Dog, which begins on February 16, 2018, and more importantly, lining up a source for narcissus plants. For a number of years, Au In Kwai Social Club sold narcissus plants during the Chinese New Year Celebration at the weekend event, held in the Chinatown Cultural Plaza. For the last couple of years, however, **Ke Hou Sin** has been growing, cultivating, and selling narcissus plants at the Chinese New Year Celebration as well as at his shop, I.D.A. Wholesale, at 1319 River Street (on the ground floor of the Lum Sai Ho Tong building). Mr. Sin's narcissus plants are available beginning about a month before Chinese New Year, so be on the lookout for them in mid-January 2018. (The narcissus or *sui sin fa* plants will bloom after 30-45 days under cultivation).

One of the many pre-Pageant classes that the contestants can participate in is learning how to carve narcissus bulbs. Not so long ago, there was concern that this was a dying art, but **Gilman Hu** was one of those who rekindled interest in the art. In light of the many months before narcissus bulbs may be available again for carving, those interested in learning how to do so may be interested in a book by **Cyrus Won**, *Clyde's Guide to Carving the Crab Claw Narcissus*. The book is available for \$20.00 from the Foster Botanical Garden gift shop, 180 North Vineyard Boulevard.

Narcissus Fashion Show "East Meets West"

Sunday, April 2, 2017
Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom
Boutique Sales – 9:30 a.m.
Lunch – 12:00 p.m.
Fashion Show – 1:00 p.m.
Silent Auction & Door Prize
R.S.V.P. by March 24, 2017
Ph: 533-3886 • info@chinesechamber.com

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Owned and Operated by NRT Incorporated



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 3 • Fri
Chamber General Election Day
Chamber Office – 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mar 20 • Mon
Financial Workshop
“Introduction to Color Accounting”
Chamber Office – 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mar 21 • Tue
Executive Board Meeting
Chamber Office – 6:00 p.m.

Mar 24 • Fri
Board of Directors Meeting
Election of 2017-2018 New Officers
Empress Restaurant – 11:30 a.m.

Apr 2 • Sun
Narcissus Fashion Show
“East Meets West”
Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom
9:30 a.m.

May 18 • Thu
2017 Narcissus Queen
Golf Tournament
Pearl Country Club – 12:00 p.m.

Jun 4 • Sun
2017 Narcissus Queen
Goodwill Tour departure

Jun 18 • Sun
2017 Narcissus Queen
Goodwill Tour return

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MEMBER NEWS

The cover story for the February issue of *Honolulu* magazine was about Chinatown. Quoted in the ten-page main article, “The Insiders’ Guide to Chinatown,” were “Chinese Chamber of Commerce” president **Mona Choy-Beddow**, former Chinese Chamber of Commerce president **Eddie Flores, Jr.**, and current honorary “Mayor of Chinatown,” Dr. **Joseph Young**. (For those who have even passing knowledge of Chinatown and apparently unlike the *Honolulu* writers, there have been previous honorary mayors of Chinatown, including the Chinatown Merchants Association’s **Sun Hung “Sunny” Wong**, who served in that capacity for several decades). There were shorter articles on “How to Eat Chinese Food in Chinatown” and “New Places to Eat Now.”

After a relative drought in recent weeks, the March 1 issue of *Midweek* had no less than eleven pages in the *Pa’ina* section. Chamber director **Gabe Lee** was photographed at the February 17 Hawaii Foodbank’s 13th annual Golf Classic at the Hawaii Prince Golf Club. Celebrating the Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant’s sixth anniversary and the Chinese New Year were **Alan Ho** (and wife **Sylvia**), **Victor Lim**, **Linda Louie**, **Tina Au** (and husband **Richard**), **Betty Brow**, **Ted Li**, **Eula Chu**, **Stanford Yuen**, **Yen** (misspelled as “Yon”) **Chun** (and husband **Dick** misspelled as “Vick”) **Ching**). Then on February 12, the Hong Kong Business Association of Hawaii celebrated Chinese New Year at the Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant and **Suzanne Chun Oakland**, **Eddie Flores, Jr.** (and wife **Elaine**), **Tina Au**, and **Jeff Lau** attended.

According to an article in the March 6 *Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, market expansion plans are in the works for La Tour Bakehouse. Ba Le Sandwich founder and patriarch **Thanh Quoc Lam** and sons **Trung** and **Brandon** were photographed with a dozen or more bags of their popular *furikake* Puffs. (The headline is apparently misleading since the Puffs come in three flavors: Whole Grain, Savory, and Furikake, according to the company’s “blog” or Web log at <https://latourbakehouse.wordpress.com/2010/07/28/puffs-a-bite-that-wont-bite-back/>). The Puffs became available in Hawaii Costco stores at the end of February and a distributor will help get it into the 52 Costco stores in the western region. (According to an online map, Costco stores are located in the western U.S., the Mississippi River Valley, and East Coast as well as Canada, and another map accompanying a 2014 Huffington Post article shows just California with 120 stores. http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/05/16/sams-club-vs-costco_n_5332306.html). This expansion is due in part to a grant from the Hawaii-based High Technology Development Corporation’s Manufacturing Assistance Program (MAP). The maximum grant for Hawaii manufacturers is \$100,000.00, and La Tour received a \$27,000.00 grant for two ovens and conveyor and cooling belts to increase production of what been small batches with quite a bit of hand labor. Those interested in MAP grants should be informed that the deadline for 2017 grants is April 30 (which is a Sunday). The HTDC is located in beautiful Manoa valley and can be contacted at 539-3806.

The March 8 *Midweek Pa’ina* included a photo of Chamber board member and Realtor® **Brandon Lau** attending the February 10 Locations awards banquet at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. It may have had a masquerade theme since some of Brandon’s colleagues were in costume, including one in a Pan Am flight attendant uniform.



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