



# Uchinanchu

The Voice of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association

May-June

2002

Issue #87

Circulation 10,200

## HAWAI'I UCHINANCHU BID ALOHA TO KAMESUKE NAKAMURA

by Karleen C. Chinen  
Bito Doshi Kai

He was remembered as a spry and feisty man who never sugar-coated the truth — he called it as he saw it. But Kamesuke Nakamura was remembered also for his deep love for his family and his fond aloha for his adopted home — Hawai'i — and its Uchinanchu community.

Mr. Nakamura died Feb. 26 in Okinawa at the age of 100. Following funeral services in Okinawa, the Nakamura family decided to hold a memorial service in Hawai'i, where he had many relatives and friends. They chose to hold it at the home he helped build: the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

About 300 Hawai'i Uchinanchu and Uchinanchu-at-heart — relatives, friends and even those who had never met him but knew of his contributions to Hawai'i — turned out for the late afternoon service on April 14 in the Center's Teruya Pavilion. The Buddhist service was conducted by Rev. Bruce Nakamura of the Jikoen Hongwanji Mission. Several speakers shared memories of Nakamura-san and thoughts on his long and full life.

Mr. Nakamura was born in Omine, Naha City, on April 25, 1902. He immigrated to Hawai'i in 1919 at the age of 17. Mr. Nakamura was one of the original founders of Oroku Doshi Kai in the late 1920s. He and his Kohala-born wife Ayako had six children, all of whom were born in Hawai'i.

Mr. Nakamura assisted in Hawai'i's efforts to aid Okinawa after the war. He also helped to organize the Okinawa Kenjin Kai Federation, one of several early attempts to establish an Okinawan association. All were short-lived, oftentimes hampered by internal bickering . . . until September 1951, when Kamesuke Nakamura and other Issei and Kibei-Nisei formed the Hawaii Okinawa Kenjin Rengo Kai.

In an interview two years ago, Mr. Nakamura recalled that effort. "We did UOA — Okinawa people — we have to have, so everybody heart together. We build up UOA with Dr. Gima. Everybody together . . . we need," he told former UOA President Stanley Takamine.

Organizing the group was no easy task, but Mr. Nakamura remained focused on the mission.

"They all the time they fight. No can get together. I was the one that stop the fighting all time. If you fellah all time like this," he said, raising his fist, "Okinawa people never get together. I ask them, you want us do like you fellah? They say no. Well, we think about make Okinawa group together. So, we start (with) sonjin kai. And then sonjin kai people pick up one and join to the UOA. See? No more higher then. Everybody equal."

Mr. Nakamura owned and operated Beach Home Laundry in Kailua. In 1960, with their children grown, the Nakamuras decided to return to Okinawa, where

he also made it possible to have a fundraising committee organized in Okinawa to help solicit funds. Whenever representatives of HUOA went to Okinawa to campaign for the Center, Mr. Nakamura and members of the Okinawa-Hawaii Association were always there to give us a helping hand. Through his efforts, we were able to get an office space from the Prefectural Government to conduct our campaign activities," he recalled.

At one point in the campaign, Takamine lived in Okinawa for 40 days while soliciting support for the Center. Mr. Nakamura arranged for the loan of an apartment as well as a car so Takamine could drive himself to the office in Naha.

"I will never forget Mr. Nakamura's dedication and support of this project. He is 'Mr. Hawaii Okinawa Center,'" said Takamine.

"Mr. Nakamura, you have done very well and we are proud of what you have accomplished throughout your life. Now is the time for you to rest in peace and enjoy your life in the hereafter."

Although the Nakamuras settled into a new life in Okinawa, their hearts were always with Hawai'i's Uchinanchu community. Their entire family visited Hawai'i every year, staying at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel: Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura flew in from Okinawa, and their children from California.

Kamesuke Nakamura is survived by a family who is left with many wonderful memories of a patriarch who lived a full and colorful life and who taught them the importance of family by his example: wife Ayako; sons George (Jean) and

David (Joyce); daughters Joyce (Satoru) Terada, Doris (Chicayoshi) Nakamura, Rachel (Paul) Tomita and Marion Sue Jueterbock; 17 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Nakamura's grandson, Michael Tomita, said his grandfather enjoyed traveling to Las Vegas, where he and his wife visited about a month-and-a-half before his passing. "I think he deposited more than he got back," said Tomita.

His grandfather always reminded his children and grandchildren to never forget where they came from. "His fondest wish was to forever link the two islands: Okinawa and Hawai'i," Tomita said. "He was an inspiration to us all and I'll miss him very much."

Satoru Terada said his father-in-law was a stern but soft-hearted man who had a kolohe sense of humor that wasn't always apparent to outsiders. "When you are with Papa, there is never a dull moment," he added. "We are thankful for having had a father who enriched our lives and taught us the importance of family." Terada also thanked the HUOA for helping to organize the memorial service.

State Rep. Dennis Arakaki presented the Nakamura family with a memorial certificate signed by Hawai'i's Uchinanchu legislators.

Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono, representing the State of Hawai'i, recalled meeting Mr. Nakamura at the closing banquet of the Okinawan Centennial Celebration. He was "one of those rare individuals who transcended generations," said Hirono. She said his decision to name his business in Okinawa "Aloha Laundry" "speaks volumes" of the man's love for Hawai'i. "He kept that aloha always in his heart." 



Mr. and Mrs. Nakamura with Akira Sakima at the Year 2000 study tour aloha party in Naha.

they opened a new laundry business in Ginowan City. True to his love for his adopted home, he named the new business Aloha Laundry.

He also helped establish the Okinawa-Hawaii Kyokai and served as its chairman for over 20 years. He lived every day of his life fostering good relations between his two homelands, bridging the two island communities. In 1977, Mr. Nakamura was presented Okinawa Prefecture's Distinguished Service Award.

Edward Kuba, who served as 1986-87 UOA President, recalled his "wake-up-call, cold-water-in-the-face" meeting with Mr. Nakamura in Okinawa prior to becoming president. "I visited certain of our friends in Okinawa and government officials, and again I mentioned the idea of an Okinawan center here in Hawai'i. Our closest friend in Okinawa at the time, Kamesuke Nakamura, longtime president for the Hawai'i club in Okinawa, said, 'Ey, you guys come over here year after year and you're talking about building a center, nothing happens — the people here in Okinawa are starting to think that you folks are all mouth, no action.' That shocked me."

Kuba returned to Hawai'i, served his term as president and then committed the next five years of his life to chairing the fundraising campaign to build the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Kamesuke Nakamura came forth with the first donation from Okinawa — a \$150,000 cash gift.

In Okinawa, he opened countless doors for the project team, recalled Stanley Takamine, who co-chaired the Hawaii Okinawa Center project with former UOA President Gary Mijo.

"Not only did he get the ball rolling here in Hawai'i,

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**UCHINANCHU**  
Ippe nihei deebiru . . mahalo . . .

*Uchinanchu* is our voice — the voice of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, its members, and the “home” we all built together: the Hawaii Okinawa Center. By sharing information and experiences, *Uchinanchu* keeps us connected as a family, dedicated to preserving, sharing and perpetuating the Okinawan cultural heritage.

HUOA received a total of \$1,255.00 in contributions for *Uchinanchu* during the months of February and March. Every dollar donated — along with the valuable income from advertising — helps offset the cost of publishing *Uchinanchu*. HUOA sends a sincere ippe nihei deebiru to the following donors, including two from the Big Island, two from Maui and one from Kaua’i, and one from New Mexico. Mahalo for keeping *Uchinanchu* alive and thriving.

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Please contact Karen Kuba-Hori at 676-5400 or 676-7811 (fax) for more information.

**Uchinanchu**

*Uchinanchu* is the newsletter of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Although subject to change, issues will be published bi-monthly. Volunteer writers are welcome. Send your name, address and telephone number to *Uchinanchu* Newsletter, Hawaii United Okinawa Association, 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, Hawaii 96797.

- E-mail articles to [Kchinen@lava.net](mailto:Kchinen@lava.net)  
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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

by Gladys Tokunaga-Asao  
Tamagusuku Club

I remember reading Jimmy Iha’s message last June. He said that he couldn’t believe how quickly time goes by for the HUOA President. We are now in the fifth month of “Ichimadin Kanaganatu — Forever Embracing,” an appropriate theme to help us look back, live today, and look to our future.

Yes, Jimmy Iha, time has gone by very quickly, and yet so much has been accomplished. I have enjoyed every moment as your President and feel very honored to have this opportunity to serve the HUOA and the member clubs and their members.

Soon after my installation, President-elect George Tamashiro and I left for Okinawa for the annual aisatsu. We called on 29 individuals, thanked them for their past support and asked for their continued support of HUOA. Although we were not able to meet with Governor Inamine, who was not in Okinawa at the time, we did meet with the Vice-Governor and a number of key department heads.

In March, student participants in the 12th DOE Okinawa Student Exchange arrived in Hawai’i and were met by their local host students and their families at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The students spent the next two weeks living with local families and attending local high schools. The students also traveled to Hilo, where they were hosted by Hui Okinawa members during their overnight visit. The friendships forged between the Hawai’i and Okinawa students was evident at the Aloha Party on March 15. This program, which HUOA co-sponsors, is important for it helps students from our two worlds build bridges that will last a lifetime.

In March, the Okinawa Prefectural Government sent a delegation to Hawai’i to present certificates of commendation to those recipients who were not able to attend the World-wide Uchinanchu Festival, or Taikai, last November. The special commenda-



Okinawa commendation certificate recipients: (seated, from left) Shinsuke Nakamine, Seian Hokama, Seisho Nakasone Sensei, Arlene Kozuma and Lorraine Yoshioka (representing their father Albert Teruya) and Akira Sakima. Standing behind them are the recipients’ family members and Okinawa Prefectural Government officials.

tion certificates were presented to retired Okinawan dance instructor Kikue Kaneshiro Sensei and to Seian Hokama and Shinsuke Nakamine at a special ceremony at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Also present for the ceremony were the daughters of Albert Teruya, who was represented last November in Okinawa by his nephew, former HUOA President Dexter Teruya. Commendation certificates were presented to community leader Akira Sakima, sanshin instructor Harry Seisho Nakasone and businessman Yasuo Uezu in Okinawa.

March was a busy month as HUOA participated in the JTB Honolulu Festival. Our colorful club banners fluttered proudly as members of the various clubs walked down Kalākaua Avenue.

In April, students from Okinawa Women’s Junior College arrived for a special English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Leeward Community College (LCC). HUOA members hosted the seven students for a weekend homestay. This partnership with LCC began many years ago when the late Lorraine Kaneshiro worked there. It is in Lorraine’s memory that we continue to work with LCC and Okinawa Women’s Junior College.

On March 18, the HUOA, in partnership with the University of Hawai’i, sponsored the first Okinawan Discovery Series program at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. The program consisted of presentations by entomologist Dr. Kenneth Kaneshiro on the “living treasures” of Okinawa and Hawai’i, and Hamilton Library Japan specialist Tokiko Bazzell. Dr. Kaneshiro is well-known in Okinawa for helping to eradicate the fruit fly there. He shared some spectacular slides of a variety of insect species found nowhere else in the world except Okinawa and Hawai’i.

Tokiko Bazzell took the audience through the Sakamaki/Hawley Collection of books, documents and artifacts. These Okinawan “treasures” are housed in UH’s Hamilton Library. Ms. Bazzell noted that funds need to be raised to conserve several of the items in the collection. Upon hearing that, Urasoe Shijin Kai member Lynn Miyashiro, who received the 2000-01 Geidai scholarship from the Okinawa Prefectural Government, got the fund drive off to a start with her \$25 donation.

HUOA held its annual Spring Craft Fair in April, which was a huge success, thanks to the efforts of Hawaii Shuri-Naha, Hawaii Sashiki-Chinen and Hawaii Katsuren Chojin Kai members. For the first time in three years, all of our booth space was sold out. Many thanks to these three clubs and all the volunteers who helped to make the 2002 Spring Craft Fair a success.



2000-2001 Geidai scholarship student Lynn Miyashiro holds her check — the first donation for the Sakamaki/Hawley Collection — which she presented to UH librarian Tokiko Bazzell.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Okinawan Festival. Co-chairs President-elect George Tamashiro and Vice President Keith Kaneshiro are working hard to make this a special and memorable festival. Volunteers are needed for many areas. If you can volunteer, please call the HUOA office and leave a message

*continued on page 3*

# “PRESERVING OUR LEGACY” NEEDS YOUR KOKUA!

by Jon Itomura  
Chair, HUOA Fund Development Committee  
Young Okinawans of Hawaii, Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai

The Hawaii United Okinawa Association's third annual "Preserving Our Legacy" fundraising letter drive is already in its sixth month and the Fund Development Committee would like to express a sincere "Ippe Nihwe Debiru . . . mahalo" to everyone who has made a generous donation. Words cannot adequately express the importance of your support for our HUOA programs and the Hawaii Okinawa Center through the "Preserving Our Legacy" fund drive.

Much more work still needs to be done, however.

Two years ago, we embraced the Okinawan Centennial Celebration. Last year, we observed the HUOA's 50th anniversary. Both milestones gave us a reason to remember the hardships our Issei pioneers endured and the value of our Uchinanchu heritage. We recommitted ourselves to continue preserving, perpetuating and promoting our Okinawan culture and to maintaining our home, the Hawaii Okinawa Center, for future generations of Hawai'i Uchinanchu.

Every penny donated to the annual fund drive represents a real commitment to this mission. The goal for this year's "Preserving Our Legacy" fund drive is \$120,000. This amount reflects the funds necessary to operate the Hawaii Okinawa Center (HOC) this year. The funds generated from craft fairs and the annual Okinawan Festival are used to fund the numerous cultural programs offered by HUOA. Administrative and facility maintenance costs, although included in the general budget, are funded primarily through donations.

In 1990, the HOC opened its doors — paid in full, mortgage-free — thanks to the efforts of many dedicated individuals and businesses who supported the vision to build an Okinawan legacy. In spite of that head-start, the Hawaii Okinawa Center, like any home, has annual operating costs that cannot be ignored. Three years ago, it was determined that without additional fundraising, HOC would struggle to meet its basic administrative and facility expenses.

At this half-way point in the 2002 campaign, the drive is \$36,000 short of its goal. According to data from the last two fund drives, most of the donations are made within the first six months. Although the number of individual donors has increased, the individual amounts and the number of repeat donors has dwindled. The Fund Development Committee is currently focusing its efforts on educating the Uchinanchu community and Uchinanchu-at-heart on the importance of supporting the "Preserving Our Legacy" fund drive. Without your continued support for the Hawaii Okinawa Center, we face the possibility of losing the most important resource for all of our HUOA cultural and educational outreach programs.

Mahalo nui loa for your continued support for the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. On behalf of the HUOA, its officers, Board of Directors, members and invaluable volunteers, the Fund Development Committee urges you to remember our Okinawan Issei to whom the Hawaii Okinawa Center stands as a living tribute and how you can continue to honor their legacy by ensuring that the doors to our cultural home remain open for future generations of Uchinanchu and Uchinanchu-at-heart.

Please make your checks payable to: Hawaii Okinawa Center and mail them to the HUOA office: 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, HI 96797-4214. Donations can also be made in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special person or occasion. Call Karen Kuba-Hori at HUOA at 676-5400 for details.

President's message continued

for Keith. Let's come out and make this a festival we'll never forget.

Thank you all for volunteering your time and effort to all of our HUOA projects and events. Without you, we would not be as successful as we are. The HUOA was built on the Uchinanchu values of yuimaruu, ukazi deebiru, ichimadin kanaganatu and so many others that we need to continue passing on to our future generations. Your coming out to each event ensures that we are doing this.

And finally, the HUOA is sponsoring a special golf tournament on Friday, July 19, at the New Ewa Beach Golf Course as a benefit for the Okinawa-Hawaii Kyokai (OHK). The OHK is our sister organization in Okinawa. It exists to encourage and support the HUOA and to develop closer ties between Okinawa and Hawaii. It has done this for decades to ensure the perpetuation of our heritage and culture.

The OHK golf tournament committee is seeking businesses and individual sponsors for the tournament. "Gold" sponsorship is \$500 and includes entry fees for four golfers valued at \$400. "Silver" sponsorship is \$250 ("hole" sponsorship only). The gold and silver sponsors will be recognized on tee boxes as well as in the golf program and in our *Uchinanchu* newsletter. Besides sponsorships, donations of prizes are also welcome. All donations are tax-deductible; however, sponsors should check with their tax consultant regarding the qualified amount.

This tournament is limited to the first 200 golfers. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. with a shotgun start slated for 12 noon. The \$100 entry fee includes green fees, cart fees and the awards banquet, which will be held at the conclusion of the tournament. Checks should be made payable to HUOA.

Please join HUOA in supporting the Okinawa-Hawaii Kyokai. For more information on the tournament, feel free to call me at 832-0822. Ukazi deebiru and Ippe Nihwee Deebiru.

## PRESERVING OUR LEGACY

The following donations for the Hawaii Okinawa Center "Preserving Our Legacy" annual fund drive were received between January 1 and March 31, 2002. Thank you very much for preserving our legacy by supporting the Hawaii Okinawa Center and Hawaii United Okinawa Association.

### GOLD (\$1,000 – \$2,499)

In Memory of Seitoku & Haruko Yonamine

### SILVER (\$500 – \$999)

In Honor of Parents John & Takako Mizokawa

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In Memory of Mrs. Ushi Kaneshiro

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In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Sujin Yeda  
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## “RYU NO MAI - NANA WUDUI NO YUBE”



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OKINAWAN  
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SATURDAY  
JUNE 22, 2002

5 P.M.  
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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT BOB TOGUCHI  
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## OUR CLUBS, OUR FUTURE

### YOUNG OKINAWANS OF HAWAII . . . by Jodie (Tomas) Ching

Young Okinawans of Hawaii (YOH) invites everyone to join our Okinawan bon dance practice sessions on Friday evenings at the Jikoen Hongwanji Mission. People of all skill levels are welcome, from absolute beginners to very experienced dancers. The remaining practices are scheduled for Friday evenings, May 24 and 31, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Jikoen.

YOH will kick off its bon dance season at Hawaii's Plantation Village in Waipahu on June 8, and wrap up the season at the HUOA's Autumn Okinawan Dance Matsuri on Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

For more information, call Jinnah Nakatani at 223-0354, or e-mail YOH President Jodie Ching at jodie\_ching@hotmail.com

### HUI MAKAAALA . . . by Lisa Shishido

Hui Makaala installed its 2002 officers and directors at a dinner banquet in the Honolulu Suite of the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel on Jan. 14. The Suite provided a window to a beautiful sunset.

The new officers and directors were installed by retired Federal Bankruptcy Judge Jon Chinen, a long-time member of Hui Makaala. The club's 2002 leaders are: President Ryan Okunaga, President-elect Reid Yamashiro, First Vice President Liz Teruya, Second Vice President Lisa Shishido, Recording Secretary Lisa Tobar, Corresponding Secretary Miki Fujimoto, Treasurer Eric Nitta and Assistant Treasurer Dan Dick. Serving as Hui Makaala's directors are: Patrick Arakaki, Al Kakazu, Lloyd Higa, Robert Kamemoto, Mike Ito and Pam Tamashiro.

In his installation message, President Ryan Okunaga said he will strive to uphold Hui Makaala's tradition of supporting its members, the Okinawan community, and the community at-large.



Hui Makaala's 2002 President Ryan Okunaga (back row, far left) with the club's officers and directors: (back row) Dan Dick, Patrick Arakaki, Bob Kamemoto and Lloyd Higa. Front row: Eric Nitta, Miki Fujimoto, Liz Teruya, Lisa Shishido, Lisa Tobar and installing officer Judge Jon Chinen.

In his professional life, Ryan is the human resources manager for a local nursing home. Last year he traveled to Okinawa for the first time on HUOA's Leadership Study Tour. Ryan chairs the HUOA's Information Subcommittee and is in the process of developing an informational brochure on HUOA and its home, the Hawaii Okinawa Center.

Hui Makaala also recognized Howard and Grace Awakuni for their many contributions to Hui Makaala and for their selection as our club's Uchinanchu of the Year for 2001. The Awakunis' longtime friend, George Miyashiro, presented the award to them and shared his memories of their many contributions to Hui Makaala and its annual scholarship fashion show.

Entertainment was provided by Keith Nakaganeku's

group, Calabash. They played a combination of Okinawan, contemporary and Hawaiian songs. Everyone enjoyed the entertainment and stayed until the end to listen to the wonderful music of Calabash.

### HAWAII TAMAGUSUKU CLUB . . . by Nobuo Takeno

Hawaii Tamagusuku Club will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2003. To mark the occasion, a commemorative booklet will be published and distributed at our shinnen enkaï in February 2003. The booklet will contain a history of Tamagusuku Club with a list of charter members and presidents; a description of Tamagusuku village in Okinawa; information on the 18 aza (hamlets); a genealogical chart of members' families with photos, essays and family histories written by the family members and much more.

The deadline for pre-sale orders of the booklet is May 31, 2002. The pre-sale price is \$25 per copy, \$30 each after May 31. If you haven't yet ordered your copy, please mail your check, payable to Tamagusuku Club, to: Nobuo Takeno, 46-261 He'eia St., Kāne'ohe, HI 96744-4117. Please include your telephone number so that we can acknowledge receipt of your check.

### KANEGUSUKU SONJIN KAI . . . by Ed Kino

Kanegusuku Golf Club held its first Blind Man Tournament of the year at Olomana Golf Links on March 20, for 20 golfers and one non-golfing rider on a hot, sunny day. The individual net score winner of "A Flight" was Noby Tamayose with 71, and Norman Fukumitsu's 67 for "B Flight." The two-man team "Blind Partner" was won by Norman Fukumitsu and Ken Tome with a net 143.

The Blind "B" team members' net score of 753 easily beat the "A" team's 772. A sleeve of Top-Flite balls donated again by Harold Tome was given to the nine unlucky golfers.

Coordinator Ken Tome will reserve times at least two more times this year.

Kanegusuku Sonjin Kai celebrated its 76th anniversary at Victoria Inn on Feb. 10 with over 145 people in attendance. The program consisted of balloon sculpturing by Ken Komoto of Hawaiian Flying Balloons; Okinawan music and dance by Grant Murata Sensei's Afuso Ryu Hawaii Sandaa Kai and the Tamagusuku-ryu Senju Kai Frances Nakachi Dojo; group singing of "Hana" led by Ed Kino, president for the 22nd year; "Hana" sung by Joyce Shimabukuro; sisters Yoshiko Ishiki, Shizue Shingaki and Carol Tamayose singing an Okinawan song; Yoshiko dancing "Kanayo;" and Hideo Kaneshiro of Itoman Shijin Kai playing sanshin and singing his amusing compositions in different dialects.

The program was emceed by Masuo Kino. Ronald Oshiro called out the lucky numbers for the Toshiba VCRs, which were won by David Shima and Mrs. Yaeko Shimabukuro, and table barbeque grill won by Marc Nakagawa. Ed Kino drew the lucky number for the 21-inch Panasonic stereo TV, which was won by Ron's wife, Kiyoko. Capping off the evening was kachashi by Kanegusuku members.

From Jan. 15-29, Itoman City researchers Komei Ishiki, former Assembly chairman and Emigration Data Collection Committee member, and Yumiko Kashima, editor, Culture Division, Itoman City Board of Education, traveled to Hawaii to conduct the first overseas research for a historical book about Itoman emigrants who went overseas to look for work. They inter-

viewed Kanegusuku members and collected relevant materials from kibe members Shigeru Gibo, Dennis Oshiro, Seikichi Shimabukuro, Shoyei and Shomei Yamauchi; nisei Roy Kino; and Kanegusuku women members Suzuko Yamauchi, Kiyono Nagamine and her sister Mitsue Yoza; and issei Yoshi Oshiro. The researchers also flew to Hilo to interview Kanegusuku emigrant Toshio Gibo and Itoman emigrants Sadako Kaneshiro at Food Fair and Shizue Yafuso at her appliance store.

Itoman Board of Education director Masayasu Kinjo compiled a list that included emigrants who were deceased, declined to be interviewed, or who could not be contacted.

The researchers also toured the Hawaii Okinawa Center, Bishop Museum, Hawaii's Plantation Village, Windward O'ahu, Wai'anae, 'Ewa, Waipahu, Pearl Harbor, Sand Island, Kewalo Basin, Farmers Road in Kahala, and businesses such as markets, Menehune Mac, Aloha Tofu and Yamauchi Produce Company. They did not have much time for shopping after reviewing their interview data every night.

### HUI OKINAWA . . . by Amy Shiroma

With a myriad of things to be done and the "Haari! Haari! Haari!" chant still resounding in their heads from the last races, 2002 Haari Boat Races committee chair Dorothy Taira announced that the big Hui Okinawa event will take place on Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Wailoa State Park. The opening ceremony will begin at 8 a.m.

Assisting Taira as co-chair is Thomas Ortegero. Many committees are already planning, among them the Country Store, food concession, andagi, refreshments, produce, t-shirts, pupu party, etc. Also being planned for Sunday, Aug. 18, are softball and golf tournaments.

Interested paddlers and entrants are encouraged to sign up for the big event. According to Mel Kaneshiro, who is in charge of entries and prizes, the races have already attracted entrants from O'ahu and other islands, and even Okinawa. Mel can be reached at 935-5451, or by fax at 969-3187.

### MAUI OKINAWA KENJIN KAI . . . by Michael Honda

The Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai held its 74th annual shinnen enkaï on March 2 at the Maui Okinawa Cultural Center. MOKK President Clarence Uehara welcomed members and their guests to the party, which featured two tables full of delicious homemade goodies and great home-grown entertainment by the club members. MOKK sanshin students played two songs — "Ii Sogwachi Yaibin Ya" and "Asatoya Yunta" — and invited club members to sing along. Okinawan dances were performed by June Konno, Lynn Araki and Ryu Shiroma.



Two-and-a-half-year-old Ronson Ishikawa was fascinated by the sanshin performance by MOKK sanshin students.

The Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai is an active club with approximately 550 member families. This year the club is increasing the amount of the three scholarships it offers graduating seniors from Maui from \$750 each to \$1,000 each.

MOKK's second Okinawan Festival will be held Aug. 23 and 24 at the Rinzaï Zen Mission in Paia. The festival is being co-chaired by Michael Hondo and Koki Tamashiro.

Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai held our 24th annual Maui State Okinawan Golf Tournament Feb. 16 and 17, at the Waiehu Golf Course. We had over 180 golfers from

J D Pomer

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# “Ryu no Mai — Nana Wudui no Yube”

by Marjorie L. Bray Toguchi  
Member, Ryusei Honryu Yanagi no Kai, Hawaii Chapter

“Last fall I saw a dream that I was on a dragon, wearing a hagoromo (a robe of feathers), rising into the sky. Interesting . . . I thought. A few nights later, I saw the same dream. Hmmm . . . how enchanting. A few more nights later, I saw it again . . .

“This is how it all began. I felt like I needed to make something of it. How would I portray this? What do I do best? Dancing has been my life . . . I asked Seisho Nakasone, the uta-sanshin master to write me a song of a maiden wearing a hagoromo, rising into the sky on a dragon. Along with the song, I choreographed a dance in the old style,” explained Mitsuko Toguchi Sensei, head of the Hawaii chapter of Ryusei Honryu Yanagi no Kai.

This is how this recital came to be — a tribute to women’s classical dances. Toguchi Sensei would introduce her sokyoku, her recurring dream, at this recital.

As Sensei began planning the recital, she realized that there has never been a recital featuring

only classical dances. In Okinawa, there is a format known as “nana wudui,” which means “seven dances.” This format usually features seven women’s classical dances. Toguchi Sensei felt it would be a wonderful opportunity to present this Okinawan format in Hawai’i as “Nana Wudui no Yube — An Enchanting Evening of Seven Classical Dances.” Her creation, “Ryu no Mai — the Dragon’s Dance,” would highlight the program.

On Saturday, June 22, at the historic Hawaii Theatre, the audience will be treated to numerous masters of the Okinawan arts during a recital titled “Ryu no Mai — Nana Wudui no Yube.” Uta-sanshin master artists Harry Seisho Nakasone and Masao Shimabukuro (from Okinawa) will provide the music. Both have been designated national treasures: Master Nakasone was named a National Heritage Fellow in 1992 by the National Endowment for the Arts and was decorated by the Japanese government. Master Shimabukuro was designated an Intangible Cultural Asset by the Japanese government and the Okinawa Prefectural Government. Also scheduled to perform is Fumiko Nakasone Sensei, a master dancer in Okinawa and Toguchi Sensei’s teacher.

Besides the masters, there will be several teenagers featured in the performance — among them Toguchi Sensei’s granddaughter. Another is the granddaughter of her main understudy, and the third teen aspires to participate in the newcomer level of the Ryukyuan dance competition in Okinawa. Meanwhile, Toguchi Sensei’s children and her many friends are helping to plan the recital, which is the culmination of Sensei’s hard work, demonstrating the closeness of Okinawan families in Hawai’i.

Mitsuko Toguchi Sensei has been dancing for 35 years. She has taught in Hawai’i for over 20 years, ever since Sensei and her late husband left Okinawa to retire in Hawai’i. She has been very active in teaching Okinawan dance to young and old, holding classes in Mō’ili’ili, Kalihi, Pearl City, Waipahu, Kāne’ohe, Maui and Kaua’i. Sensei even makes time to fly to San Francisco to teach. She has over 100 students and is committed to preserving the Okinawan performing arts.

Tickets for the recital are \$17, of which \$2 will go towards the restoration fee of the Hawaii Theatre Center. For more information, contact Pat Koki at 537-5343. 📞

## KAUA’I DANCE FESTIVAL SET FOR MAY 17-18

A full slate of Okinawan entertainment, culture and fun activities are on tap for the Kaua’i Okinawan Dance Festival, set for Friday and Saturday evenings, May 17 and 18, at the Kukui Grove Pavilion in Lihue. The festival, which is sponsored by Hui Alu, Inc., is being dedicated to the Issei generation and to U.S. military personnel.

Music and dance will be provided by Allison Arakawa, Afuso-ryu Hawaii Sandaa Kai, Young Okinawans of Hawaii, Paranku Clubs of Hawaii, Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii and Ryusei Honryu Yanagi no Kai. The program will run from 5 to 11 p.m. both days.

According to Hui Alu President Gary Ueunten, the dance festival will also feature an Okinawan cultural booth, children’s games, a bonsai display, photo booth, country store with local produce for sale — and of course, authentic Okinawan food.

### OUR CLUBS *(continued)*

O’ahu, Kaua’i, Maui, Wisconsin and even Okinawa. The six golfers from Okinawa included Masashi Otomo, owner of the Wa-No-Ichi restaurant, which we visited last November while attending the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Taikai. Mr. Otomo graciously invited us Hawai’i Uchinanchus to his restaurant for free food, refreshments and entertainment right after the tremendous parade of all participants at the Taikai.

This year’s tournament featured the largest turnout in recent years. We also had a packed house at our kaikan, where we held the Awards Banquet on Saturday night with golfers, friends and tournament helpers. The golfers enjoyed the fellowship and good food and refreshments and were highly impressed with our great prizes!

A successful tournament can only be achieved through the hard work of lots of people. Congratulations to co-chairmen Ron Gibo and Michael Hondo and their committee members.

To the Low Gross Winner went a set of Irons (Taylor Made) and the Governor’s Trophy; the Low Net Winner, a set of irons (845s) and the Lieutenant Governor’s Trophy. A list of the winners is published at the end of this article.

Thank you everyone for your tremendous support, especially the Neighbor Island golfers who made time in their work schedules to attend our tournament. See you again next year at the same President’s Day weekend in February for more golfing.

### TOURNAMENT RESULTS

• Low Gross: Ronald Ishikawa

**A Flight:** George Tengan, Byron Shimabukuro, Randy Nakama, Roy Villanova, Henry Matsuda (O’ahu), Patrick Miyahira

**Senior Flight:** Takeo Nakama (O’ahu), Shoye Katena, Chuck Ajimine, Rick Medina, Kiyoshi Miyahira, Clarence Miyasato

**Women’s Flight:** Sharon Seiki, Kathy Oura, Faith Nakamoto, Rose Pagan, Eunice Shiratori (O’ahu), Francine DeRego

• Low Net: Sam Kiyabu

**B Flight:** George Uyehara, Oscar Matsui, Gelvin Isa, Ray Endo, Ronald Ige (O’ahu), Don Shimabukuro

**Guest Flight:** Ed Nakashima, Kelvin Kinoshita (O’ahu), Mark Tiwanak (O’ahu), George Kimura, Mike Davis, Sadao Yanagi

### CLOSEST TO THE HOLE RESULTS

Saturday, Feb. 16

#2 Hole - MOKK Sponsors: Kathy Oura, Michael Suzuki, Don Shimabukuro, Allen Uyematsu (Kaua’i), Sam Kiyabu

#16 Hole - Maui Jr. Golf Sponsors: Alan Yagi, Alan Nakamoto, Ron Ishikawa

Sunday, Feb. 17

#2 Hole - MOKK Sponsors: Allen Uyematsu (Kaua’i), George Tengan, Jeff Chin, Kelvin Kinoshita (O’ahu), Gerald Takamura (Oahu), Richard Takayesu (O’ahu)

#16 Hole - Sadao Yanagi, Randy Yamanuha, Clarence Miyasato



## WARABI ASHIBI — CHILDREN AT PLAY

### Okinawan Cultural Day Camp Big Island • O’ahu • Kaua’i • Maui

Age: For children 8 – 13 years old

Activities: Okinawan cooking • paranku drumming • music • pottery • Okinawan/plantation games • Okinawan/Japanese arts and crafts • language

Fee: Varies by island — includes Camp T-shirt and most supplies

**BIG ISLAND** (Sponsored by Hui Okinawa)

Dates/Time: June 10 - 14, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Hilo Hongwanji Betsuin (YBA Hall)

Fee: \$50

Contacts: Ruby Maekawa @ 959-4855; Carolyn Oki @ 935-3518 or 961-9666

**O’AHU** (Sponsored by HUOA)

Dates/Time: June 10 - 14, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Hawaii Okinawa Center

Fee: \$60

Contact: Thelma Arakawa @ 395-7769

**KAUA’I** (Sponsored in part by Hui Alu, Inc.)

Dates/Time: June 17 - 21, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: Kukui Grove Pavilion

Fee: \$40

Contacts: Bernadette Sakoda @ 245-6968; June Munoz @ 245-3771

**MAUI** (Sponsored in part by Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai)

Dates/Time: June 21 - 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: Maui Okinawa Cultural Center

Fee: \$25

Contact: Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai @ 242-1560

The Big Island, Kaua’i and Maui programs are sponsored in part by the Hawaii United Okinawa Association and supported by the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts through an appropriation from the Hawai’i State Legislature. For more information, call HUOA at (808) 676-5400.

# taikai memories

*Editor's note: The first essay Uchinanchu received following our call for submissions of special Taikai memories came from 10-year-old Kristen Takushi, who asked her mother to e-mail it to us. A few days later, we received an e-mail submission from Kristen's 12-year-old brother Brandon. Kristen and Brandon are gosei (fifth generation) and the children of Shannon and Michele Takushi. Kristen is a fifth grader at Wai'ala School; her brother is in the seventh grade at St. Louis School. Their very proud grandparents are Clayton and Linda Takushi (Yomitan Club, Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai) and David and Masako Takara (Oroku Azajin Club). Ironically, the children's maternal grandmother, Linda Takushi, had e-mailed a submission from her niece, Courtney Warashina, prior to leaving on the recent Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai tour. After returning from her trip, Linda called to ask whether she could still submit a Taikai memory, never dreaming that three generations of her family would be sharing memories of — as Brandon so aptly described — “a once in a lifetime” experience. We hope you enjoy their stories and the others on Page 8.*

## MY MEMORIES FROM THE THIRD WORLDWIDE UCHINANCHU FESTIVAL by Kristen Takushi Yomitan Club, Oroku Azajin Club

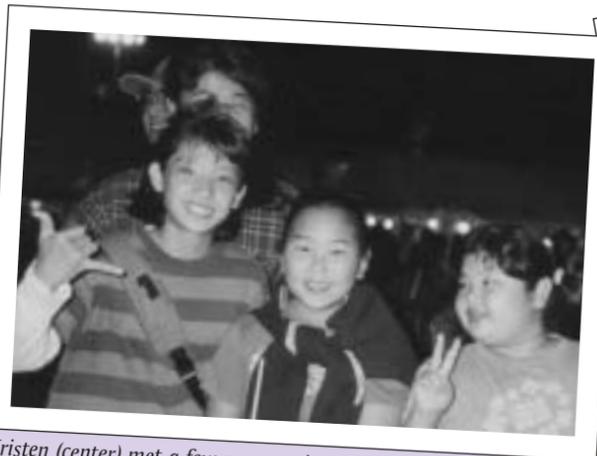
I was very lucky and fortunate that my grandmother, Linda Takushi, encouraged my parents to take me to the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival in Okinawa. It was my first visit to Okinawa, and I did not know what to expect, but once I got to Okinawa I felt very comfortable because it was a lot like Hawai'i. The people were friendly and some of them even looked familiar, even though I did not know them.

There were so many things that I enjoyed from the Worldwide Festival, but some of the things that stand out most was participating in the parade, meeting family members, and visiting the areas in Okinawa that my ancestors came from. I was able to visit both my father's and mother's sides of the family in Yomitan and Oroku.

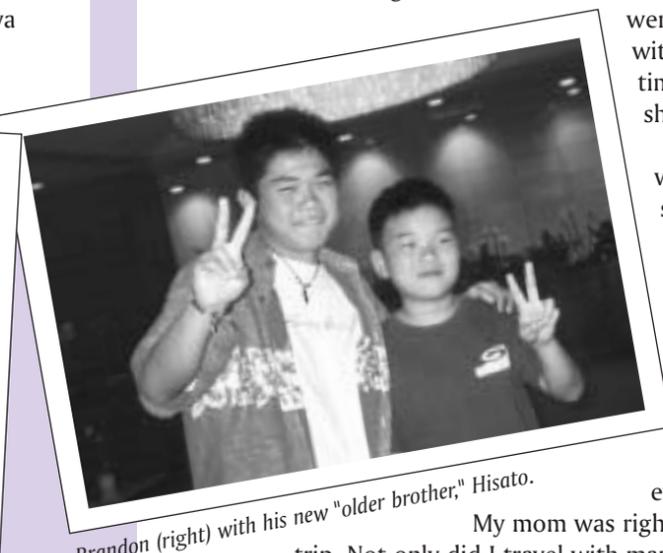
At the parade, I was also amazed to see so many Okinawans from all over the world in one place. They were all coming back to their homeland for one thing, their culture. I felt proud to be part of this special event.

Meeting family members in Okinawa was special, too. Although we could not speak each other's language, we were still able to communicate and build a good relationship. It is amazing how in such a short period of time, a lifetime relationship was built.

I had a great time and will always have fond memories of Okinawa because of the cultural experience and meeting family members in Okinawa. I would encourage others to go and visit Okinawa.



Kristen (center) met a few new cousins in Okinawa.



Brandon (right) with his new "older brother," Hisato.

## MY OKINAWA EXPERIENCE by Brandon Takushi Yomitan Club, Oroku Azajin Club

In November 2001, I went to Okinawa for the first time in my life. My mom said that it would be a once-in-a-lifetime trip because I traveled with my family, grandparents from both sides, uncles, aunts, and cousins. There were 22 of us all together and we were all going to Okinawa to participate in the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival, and learn more about our heritage. Mom called it a “back to your roots” trip.

Okinawa was full of many experiences that could have only been experienced there. I got to touch a real-live snake, see historical monuments and sites, blow my own Ryukyu glass cup, and participate in one of the steps for the Kawara Tile. There were also experiences that I would not consider doing here, such as the Kachashi, but did in Okinawa several times and even on stage in front of an audience at the Yomitan Festival.

These were all fun experiences, but I think the one that stands out the most is meeting a cousin, Hisato, in Okinawa that looked just like me! My entire family agreed that we looked alike, and that he could pass as my long-lost older brother. By the end of our first meeting we had gotten along well, and every chance after that we would hang out together. The neat thing about the whole thing was that we could not speak the same language, but

were still able to communicate with each other. Although our time spent was brief, the friendship will last a lifetime.

The saddest part was when it was time to leave; I wish I could stay longer. I had a good time, experienced new things, and now have a better appreciation of my heritage. I think everyone, if given the opportunity, should go back to their homeland and experience their heritage. No book, class, or school could ever give you that experience.

My mom was right; this was a once-in-a-lifetime trip. Not only did I travel with many members of my family and learn about my heritage, I also met new family members, too.

## EMBRACING THE SPIRIT by Courtney Warashina Yomitan Club

Gazing out over the sea of people, my cousin Kanoe Uemura and I are but two faces amongst the crowd of Okinawans of all ages and nationalities. We scurry through the schoolyard, which has been turned into the staging ground for the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival eve parade. Our mission is to take pictures with and talk to people from different countries, particularly Latin American countries, because I speak Spanish and would like to someday go to South America.

Immediately in front of us we notice a young gaucho (Argentinian cowboy) and his sister standing next to the rest of the group from Argentina, proudly displaying their blue and white flag.

“Con permiso (Excuse me),” I say, “Puedo sacar una foto con Ustedes (Can I take a picture with you)?”

“Si, claro (Yes, of course),” they respond shyly, and here begins our adventure of snapping photos with could-be relatives from far across the sea.

After we take our quick souvenir picture, I impart a hearty “Muchas gracias (Thank you very much),” and Kanoe and I continue navigating our way through the crowd. We soon find a whole contingent of Brazilian samba dancers and later some Mexican men with grand sombreros and women with beautiful floral dresses. Besides the ornate costumes, the signs with the names of the countries represented in the parade also catch our attention. We see Cuba, France, Bolivia, and even Zambia. The migration of Okinawans has spanned the globe, as we ourselves are evidence of.

Soon we're off with the rest of the HUOA mass, cheering, waving and hollering, “ALOOOHA!” to all of the anxious spectators along Kokusai-dori (“International Street”). And tonight the street lives up to its name, for it boasts the rich flavors of countries and cultures from around the world. While we dance and sing in the street with Aunt Linda and the rest of the Yomitan crew, the crowd of on-lookers energizes us as they scream and make shaka back at us. Young, old and everyone in-between, they all smile and clap as we pass by. It doesn't matter that we don't speak the same language, or that we have different passports, because we share a same history and tonight we share the aloha/Uchinanchu spirit.

Along the parade route we notice the Quonset hut-looking, trendy restaurant where people are holding a sign outside that says something like: “Aloha! Mensore! Please come here for food and drinks after the parade.” Reading the invitation hypes us as we erupt into more cheers and shouts.



Courtney with some new Uchinanchu friends from Mexico.

# taikai memories

(Courtney continued from page 6)

When we reach the end of the parade route, everyone scatters, and Kanoe and I head back toward the people-lined street where the procession of countries continues. The sidewalks and the streets are packed as even restaurant patrons in buildings above are dancing and waving to people below. The festive mood infuses the air and leads us back to the "WA-NO-ICHI" restaurant. There, owner Masashi Otomo and his staff have prepared an elaborate array of food and entertainment in warm Okinawan style.

People steadily stream through the restaurant and fill the tables and chairs. In no time, the sanshin players get the music going and kachashi and kampais are lighting the night. Although the political and socio-economic situation of the world may not be perfect, we can lay our worries aside for a moment and embrace the spirit of generosity and joy. The people of Okinawa teach us the importance of savoring the moment. Whether we taste the sweetness of laughter, or the saltiness of tears, it's all a part of the experience of life.

*Courtney Warashina, a 25-year-old yonsei, is an ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher. She is the daughter of Wesley and Sharon Warashina. Her cousin Kanoe is 22 and works in sales. Kanoe is the daughter of Beverly Uemura and Roy "China" Uemura.*



Connecting family roots: Brandon Takushi (center, making "V") next to his new "older brother" Hisato (making shaka), and the three Hawai'i girls (far right) — Courtney (wearing sunglasses), Kristen and Kanoe (long hair with shades)

## CONNECTING WITH OUR FAMILY ROOTS

By Howard K. Takara (yago: Miufuya)  
Oroku Azajin Club

In October 2001, my wife Jane, daughter Holly and I visited Okinawa as part of the HUOA tour contingent participating in the Third World Uchinanchu Festival, or Taikai.

The Taikai was great and made us all very proud that the Okinawan people could present and conduct such a great Festival for the world to witness. Some 4,000 Uchinanchus from 30 countries attended the Taikai. Hawai'i's contingent, nearly 700 strong, was very visible wherever we went as we dressed in distinctive aloha shirts and hapi-coats.

The HUOA tour scheduled free time for its members to visit their relatives and their hometowns. Previously, my dad told me that our closest relatives were living in Brazil, South America. Accordingly, on our first visit to Okinawa in 1997, we did not meet any close relatives.

However, on this trip, we had a big surprise as my Uncle Chusei Takara from Sao Paulo, Brazil, also participated in the Taikai. On meeting my uncle, I learned that his older sister relocated from the Philippines to Okinawa, and now I have an Aunt Toyo Takara in Naha. My aunt has a son, Jerry, who speaks Japanese and English, so we had an interpreter and we were able to communicate in some detail about our family.

On meeting our relatives, we asked to visit our family butsudan (Buddhist altar) and ohaka (grave) so that we could offer our senko (incense). At this gathering, to our great surprise, my Uncle Chusei unrolled a 10-foot long chart of our Takara family tree that went back 16 generations and 400 years to 1604.

The family tree clearly depicted my grandfather and my father, but needed to be updated to include the recent generations. My uncle said that Jerry would update the Okinawa Takaras, and he would work with his nephew Lincoln on the Brazil Takaras, and that I should take care of the Hawai'i Takaras. All of this would be done on the computer via e-mail.

Today, I am connected halfway around the world to Naha, Okinawa, and Sao Paulo, Brazil, with my relatives via the computer. More important, my uncle has translated the family tree from Japanese to English, and we have a draft of the 16 generations of Takaras, with four (13th through 16th) currently living in Hawai'i (my dad, myself, my son and my grandson). Until last year, I was could not name my great-grandparents. Now I can identify my ancestors all the way back to the year 1604. I never dreamed that something like this existed or could happen, but it did for my family. Now we're looking forward to our next Taikai.

## MEMORIES OF THE HEART

by Linda Takushi  
Yomitan Club, Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai

In 1986, many isseis and niseis from the Yomitan Club took their children to Yomitan, Okinawa, to introduce them to their relatives and to pass on stories about their ancestral homeland. Now, it is the niseis and the sanseis who are taking their children and grandchildren to Okinawa.

Our Yomitan Club tour to the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival last November consisted of 85 people. What made this tour so special was that many in our group were between the ages of 10 and 30. It was heartwarming to see the excitement of the younger generations as they met their relatives and the people of Yomitan, participated in the Taikai activities, and learned about their heritage. Their faces reflected curiosity and excitement and it made my heart tingle.

But the memories I hold dearest are those of my family: my husband Clayton; son Shannon; his wife Michele; their two children Brandon and Kristen; and my two nieces, Courtney and Kanoe. The opportunity for the children and young adults to experience Okinawa with our relatives in Yomitan and their children created beautiful memories.

Our relatives left us with priceless and unforgettable memories. We went to Kougeimura Glass Factory, where a relative who works there let our youngsters blow their own glass cups. They took Kanoe surfing with the owner of Island Brothers Surf Shop on Kokusai Dori. We also toured Okuhara Kawara (Tile) Co., which is owned and operated by our relatives. We watched the process of tile-making and learned that this company provided the roof tiles for Shuri Castle and even our own Hawai'i Okinawa Center.

We got together on our free time and the younger ones really got along. Communication was hard for them, but doing things together, like playing soccer on the beach, helped to break the ice. At the Yomitan Matsuri, the children were inseparable. At the Matsuri, the Yomitan Club members were introduced on stage. We danced a hula, "Puka Puka Pants." When we danced kachashi, the youngsters joined us. It was fun because they were not shy at all. Later, they were all seen hanging out with each other and having a good time. The girls had their arms around each other, while Brandon and Hisato, his newfound fourth cousin who is two years older and his splitting image, really bonded. Hisato now calls Brandon "my little brother."

The following day, Hisato and his parents and several other relatives met us at Zakimi Castle Site and Museum in Yomitan. They brought drinks and homemade castella for the entire group. It was so delicious. Hisato and the other children joined our tour to our next destination. At that point it was time to say good-bye as we were scheduled to return to Naha. Because of the communication gap, they could say only a few words. But it was clear that they didn't want to leave each other. The expressions on their faces struck me: the next generation had bonded and the beautiful and touching sight, once again, made my heart tingle. I know in my heart that if the younger generations go to Okinawa and experience "Ichigo Ichie" — a once in a lifetime experience that can never be duplicated — they will feel the love we all share for our homeland and, hopefully, will take a greater interest in our club. Then they, too, will continue perpetuating the "Yomitan Spirit" and my heart will continue to tingle for years to come.



The Takara clan at the Oroku reception: (from left) Uncle Chusei from Brazil, Howard from Hawai'i, Aunt Toyo from Okinawa, and Holly and Jane from Hawai'i.

more memories on page 8

## taikai memories

MISSION: UCHINAA GOODWILL AMBASSADOR  
by Ken Kiyabu, 2000-02 Goodwill Ambassador  
Yagaji Doshi Kai, 1981-82 HUOA President

Last November, over 800 Uchinanchus from Hawaii journeyed to Okinawa for the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival. I had been selected as one of three Uchinaa Goodwill Ambassadors by Governor Keiichi Inamine of Okinawa; Hawai'i's other two ambassadors were dance master Yoshiko Nakasone Sensei and Mamoru Kaneshiro from Kaua'i. We joined 97 other goodwill ambassadors from around the world.

This was my third Taikai — I attended the first Taikai in 1990 as a special guest of the Okinawa Prefectural Government, and the second in 1995 as a tour member.

What is an Uchinaa Goodwill Ambassador? That's a good question. In fact, it was a hotly debated subject at a meeting of ambassadors during the Taikai. Actually, many of us didn't know what was expected of us as ambassadors. The Okinawa Prefectural Government viewed as bridges to and promoters of Okinawan culture in our respective countries.

During the Taikai discussion, some people felt that the ambassadors should be afforded more status and recognition. Others asked what we should be doing during the rest of our term, which, for Nakasone Sensei, Mamoru Kaneshiro and me, ended on April 30. This question is difficult to resolve unless the Okinawa Prefectural Government establishes some guidelines and provides for continuity. During the First Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival, the ambassadors were given more recognition and the meetings were more organized.



Hawai'i's 2000-2002 Uchinaa Goodwill Ambassadors: (from left) Ken Kiyabu, Yoshiko Nakasone Sensei and Mamoru Kaneshiro from Kaua'i.

During last year's Taikai, I attended several meetings; 2001 HUOA President James Iha was a panelist at one of the meetings. It was a very lively meeting as much of the discussion

centered on the role of kenjin kai like the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. Some countries wanted more assistance from the Okinawa Prefectural Government; others felt just the opposite: that we should be helping the Okinawan people and the government. In fact, when the late Governor Junji Nishime organized the first Taikai, his intention was to welcome "home" Uchinanchus from all over the world so there could be discussions on how overseas Uchinanchus could help Okinawa since many of the participants had become successful in their respective countries.

I came away from last November's discussions with the feeling that a great deal of misunderstanding exists about the various kenjin kai worldwide. These Okinawan associations vary in terms of membership size, activity level and prominence in their respective communities. Some associations are very small; some countries have only a few members. Others, like HUOA, have many members and many activities.

HUOA is indeed very different from most Okinawan associations because it serves as an umbrella organization for primarily locality clubs. While other associations are made up of only Issei or at best Nisei, membership in the HUOA clubs spans five generations in a few cases — from issei to gosei (fifth generation).

With the Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival meeting only once every five years, I proposed the development of a "World Congress." Working committees would meet annually in different countries and hold a worldwide festival every four years. This suggestion did not fly very far. Nothing was really resolved at the meeting, so we will have to wait until the Okinawa Prefectural Government decides what it really hopes to accomplish with the Taikai and the goodwill ambassadors. What we did agree on was that everyone enjoyed coming to Okinawa to celebrate and meet other Uchinanchus.

A MORE-THAN-SPECIAL TRIP  
by Nobuo Takeno  
Tamagusuku Club

We were fortunate to attend the Third Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival, or "Taikai" last November. In spite of the events of September 11th and the subsequent downturn in the economy everywhere, including Okinawa, we were treated extremely well by the Okinawan government. They sure did not spare expenses when it came to welcoming home all the Uchinanchus from all over the world. Although the number of attendees seemed a little less than the second Taikai held six years ago, we noticed that the enthusiasm of all involved equaled and even surpassed the second Taikai. We thoroughly enjoyed our experience, from the opening parade to the closing ceremony.

In conjunction with the Taikai, many individual villages, towns, and cities held their own festivals to welcome their returnees from abroad. Our ancestral village of Tamagusuku had one, too. There, we were all treated royally as their VIP visitors. There were almost 50 Taikai attendees from the United States and South America. Not only did we enjoy authentic Okinawan cuisine, music and dances — we also experienced a sincere, heartfelt welcome by our relatives and fellow Tamagusuku people.

In addition, a few days later, there was a welcome party given by the people of the aza, or hamlet, for just the four of us who were descendants of immigrants from Aza Oh. The intimate aza party attended by 60-or-so people enabled us to mingle with relatives and locals without any inhibition. We sang and we danced, as well as met many, many people who said they were our relatives. We were kept so busy that we could hardly sit and eat our dinner. The fellowship and genuine friendship was overwhelming. The spirit of Uchinanchu was so thick that night you would have needed a knife to cut through it.

This trip was more than special for us. It turned out to be a spiritually moving and emotionally fulfilling trip. At so many occasions, without warning, tears welled in our eyes — not from sadness, but from gladness — glad that we were there! Glad that we had a chance to meet our elder relatives while they are healthy and able, as well as the younger generations to build a bridge between us. Somehow, we truly felt we were back in our "furusato," or homeland, and felt we made a spiritual connection with our ancestors. It was a chickenskin kind of experience, big time!

FROM MAUI, WITH ALOHA  
by Eileen E. Taketa  
Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai

One of the highlights of my Okinawan trip was seeing Keiko perform at her nightclub along with her brother Sadao and father, Shoyei Kina. My parents, Howard and Masayo Oshiro, had met Keiko when she visited Maui and she had told them to look her up when we came to Okinawa. So, we did.

About 12 of us Mauians walked about six blocks from our hotel, the Sun Okinawa, to her nightclub. For pupus, we ordered chicken, French fries, soybeans and what we thought was a tofu dish. We were so surprised when the dish turned out to be one small 1 1/2-inch square of tofu. Little did we know that we had ordered tofu soaked in awamori. It was to be eaten with toothpicks. We all had a good laugh about this, had a taste, and passed the awamori tofu to the drinkers at the next table.

We thoroughly enjoyed the show put on by the Kina family. Some of us even stayed for the second show and were rewarded by an American from the audience who got up and played the samisen and sang Okinawan songs, too. He was really good. My parents were so impressed that a gaijin could play and sing so well.

After their performance, the Kinas came to our table to talk story and we ended the evening by dancing kachashi before heading back to our hotel.



Eileen Taketa (far left) and her parents Howard and Masayo Oshiro (far right) enjoy catching up with Keiko and her father Shoyei Kina.

*Uchinanchu will wrap up the series of "Taikai Memories" in our next issue. If you would like to share a memory or photo, e-mail it to [kchinen@lava.net](mailto:kchinen@lava.net).*

# OKINAWA “THROUGH NEW, CLEAR EYES”

by Allison Yanagi  
 Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai

When the officers of the Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai decided to organize a study tour as part of the club’s 75th anniversary celebration, they did so with the intent of creating an opportunity for those who had never been to the “homeland” to visit the land of their ancestors. For the majority of the participants, this was the case. For me and my family, however, it was not. In fact, I had spent the greater part of last year in Okinawa, studying at the University of Ryukyus. And not six months earlier, my mother Sandy (Kaneshiro) Yanagi and I had been on a whirlwind trip to Okinawa, departing just two days after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C. Although I was excited about visiting Okinawa again and seeing friends and family there, I had no expectation of seeing or experiencing anything new. After all, the trip was supposedly for people who had never been to Okinawa before.

Luckily, my expectation, or lack thereof, was completely off the mark. This trip to Okinawa presented many wonderful experiences and opportunities that I could not have imagined. First of all, I was given the opportunity to perform on stage at China Sadao’s 45th anniversary concert with Kiyoshi Kinjo and members of the Hawai’i branch of the Teishin Kai. A day trip to Yaeyama gave people a glimpse of the diversity of the Ryukyu Islands. Most importantly, people were able to connect — or reconnect — with friends and family.

As the label “study tour” would indicate, our group’s trip to Okinawa was an eye-opening, learning experience for everyone, including myself. Everyone was astounded and moved by the generosity and kindness of the people we met, especially the people at the Chatan and Kadena town offices. The tour itinerary initially scheduled a tour of Chatan and Kadena, with the possibility of tours of the town offices and a fellowship party with the townspeople. However, our reception at both towns went above and beyond anyone’s expectations.

Work in both buildings came to a halt as we were greeted with tremendous applause, formal speeches by town officials, entertainment and presentations. Town officials said the graciousness of our reception was inspired by the generosity of the people of Hawai’i, who donated money and various essentials to the suffering people of Okinawa after the war. It was their way of showing us how grateful they were for all that they had received in past years. We were showered with gifts of chinsuko, assorted candies, andagi and awamori. Our group was given a rarely offered tour of Kadena Air Force Base, sponsored and arranged by the Kadena Town Office, and a private eisa and Okinawa minyo concert by the Izumi Group at the Chatan Town Office. The visit to Chatan and Kadena concluded with a party at Kalahai, Teruya Rinken’s “live house” and restaurant.

Although the visit occurred on the second day of the tour, many of us were overwhelmed with appreciation for all that the people of Kadena and Chatan had done for us. The warmth, kindness and generosity of the people of the Chatan and Kadena Town offices taught us the importance of remembering and maintaining ties with people. They showed us that one act of kindness can create years of fond remembrance, even for people who have never met. Although the people of Chatan and Kadena felt a great debt to us as representatives of Hawai’i, I realized that we are indebted to these kind and generous people who cared for us without even knowing who we were. It was a wonderful lesson in what “Ichariba chode” truly means and a powerful reminder of the importance of the Aloha spirit.

The tour also gave me a special chance to connect with distant relatives. My mother’s cousins and aunt were first-time visitors to Okinawa. Although their ancestors were not from Chatan or Kadena, the tour was a wonderful chance for the family to travel together and possibly visit Nishihara, where their grandparents had emigrated from.

On a free day, a group of us journeyed to Onaha in Nishihara for what turned out to be one of the most memorable days of the tour. My mother’s cousins met

an uncle whom they had never met before. He, on the other hand, knew their faces well because he had a drawer full of their pictures from important occasions and events: wedding pictures, birthday pictures, formal family pictures. They didn’t know that their mother had sent pictures to Okinawa, documenting major events in the family. Because of his dislike for flying, the uncle had never come to Hawai’i, although he had always wanted to meet his relatives who lived so far away. Then, one day, they all appeared at his front door. Although unable to communicate due to the language

barrier, the man’s happiness came through in his tear-filled eyes. A few handshakes and an arm over someone’s shoulder were all that he could do to express his feelings to his Hawai’i relatives. But they were more than enough to communicate a lifetime of love.

Here, I mention only two specific examples of moving and inspiring moments that happened on the tour. Of course, there were many more, and we all have our own precious moments stowed away in our hearts as fond and cherished memories that will be shared over pictures and during get-togethers. For people experiencing Okinawa for the first time, the study tour was an eye-opening experience. For me, it was a chance to “re-see” Okinawa through new, clear eyes that were not clouded by visions of the same old streets and the

same old buildings. It was an opportunity for me to experience Okinawa as a new person, refreshed by the thoughts and impressions of fellow tour members. I got the unique opportunity to experience Okinawa for the first time, all over again, and I relearned why Okinawa is such a special place.

*Allison Yanagi, a 27-year-old yonsei, recently completed work on her master’s degree in Asian Studies — specializing in Okinawa — from the University of Hawai’i at Mānoa. She is the daughter of Carl and Sandy Yanagi.*



At a party hosted by the Chatan-Kadena town governments, Hawai’i tour members (from left) Barbara Maeshiro, Ron Kaneshiro, Roy Kaneshiro, Sandy Yanagi, George Kaneshiro and Linda Takushi entertained the audience with their “Hukilau” hula. (Kiyoshi Tamanaha photos)



Hawai’i Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai President Sandy Yanagi presents a certificate to Kadena Vice Mayor Yamaguchi.



The Hawai’i Kaneshiro/Tamanaha family with relatives in Nishihara, including Uncle Isao Tamanaha (back row, second from left), who knew his Hawai’i relatives through photos sent from Hawai’i.

P.C.  
 Florist

# OROKU AZAJIN RESTAURANTS PROJECT OFF AND RUNNING

By Holly Takara and Howard Takara  
Oroku Azajin Club

Here's a trivia question for you: What was the first entrepreneurial venture brothers Albert and Wallace Teruya entered into together in Honolulu? Read on for the answer.

In January of last year, it was announced that one of Hawai'i's most popular restaurants, Columbia Inn, would be closing its doors for good. For decades, Columbia Inn had been a colorful gathering place for local residents, newspaper reporters, politicians, sports personalities and VIPs. Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH) President Susan Kodani wanted to document the restaurant's history and closing, so she arranged for a videotaping of the closing and an interview with Eugene "Gene" Kaneshiro, whose family opened the original Columbia Inn.

Gene said there had been many restaurants owned and operated by Okinawans. He suggested that the Cultural Center pursue a more comprehensive Uchinanchu restaurants project. Kaneshiro suggested that Kodani consult with the Hawaii United Okinawa Association (HUOA).

Susan Kodani presented the idea to the HUOA's Executive Council, which supported it. The project was assigned to the Program Committee, chaired by Victor Yamashiroya. Because Eugene Kaneshiro is a member of the Oroku Azajin Club, Yamashiroya asked Holly Takara, President of the Oroku Azajin Club, to head up the Uchinanchu restaurants project. As a result, Holly and her father Howard Takara are co-chairing the project.

A committee was formed and the project's scope of work was drafted. It was determined that to tackle all Uchinanchu restaurants as a single project over the past 100 years would be too large a "first bite." Rather, the project should be phased in manageable pieces. Since the committee was well aware that emigrants from Oroku had owned and operated many of the early restaurants, this seemed like a natural first phase. Accordingly, the committee determined that in the initial phase, only Oroku Azajin restaurants which

had been in operation from 1920 to 1959 (pre-statehood) would be pursued.

The project scope of work includes:

- Identify restaurants, owners, locations and start and end dates.
- Determine how and why they got into the restaurant business.
- Collect photos, menus and other memorabilia associated with the restaurants.
- Through JCCH, secure funds and contract with the University of Hawai'i for the collection of oral histories,
- Identify 10 – 12 persons to be interviewed as part of an oral history document on Oroku-owned restaurants.
- Upon successful completion of this phase, pursue all other Uchinanchu restaurants.
- Assuming sufficient artifacts are collected, develop an exhibit.

Over 60 Oroku Azajin restaurants have thus far been identified. They range from small family operations to large businesses like Columbia Inn. Photos and other materials are being collected. An important part of the project is to collect oral histories. JCCH secured a grant to conduct the oral histories and has contracted the University of Hawai'i Center for Oral History (COH), whose director, Warren Nishimoto, is working with the Oroku Azajin Club and HUOA.

The Oroku Azajin Restaurants Project committee consists of Eugene Kaneshiro (Columbia Inn), Wallace and Ethel Teruya (Times Grill), Masaji Uyehara

(Smile Cafe/Ilima Drive Inn), Richard Takara (George's Inn), David Takara (Kaimuki Inn), Fred Takara (Ramona Cafe/Cafe Paris), Susan Kodani and Karleen Chinen (JCCH) and Holly, Jane and Howard Takara (Oroku Azajin Club). The committee has been meeting monthly since September of last year and regularly updates HUOA on the status of the project.

Oh yes, the answer to our trivia question . . . In 1935, Albert and Wallace Teruya embarked on their first entrepreneurial venture together in Honolulu: a lunch counter the brothers opened inside Griggs Pharmacy on King Street, near Alakea. They purchased the business for \$600 and called their business T&W (the "T" for Takeo, Albert's Japanese name) Lunch Room. 🍷



In 1939, Albert and Wallace Teruya built a new restaurant next to the News Building on Kapi'olani Boulevard which they named Times Grill. In 1964, brothers Gentaro and Toshi Kaneshiro moved their Columbia Inn restaurant from Beretania and Tin Pan Alley in Chinatown to the former Times Grill site. The Kaneshiro family ran Columbia Inn until 1984. (Photo courtesy of Wallace and Ethel Teruya)

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## KARII! . . . CONGRATULATIONS!!

Kris Miyashiro has been awarded the 2002-03 Okinawa Prefectural Performing and Fine Arts University (Geidai) scholarship. Kris is the daughter of Urasoe Shijinkai members **George and Joyce Miyashiro**, whose older daughter, Lynn, was awarded the Geidai scholarship two years ago. A graduate of the University of Hawai'i, Kris Miyashiro, 24, earned her bachelor's degree in family resources — with an emphasis on gerontology. She was working at UH when she was selected for the scholarship. Miyashiro is a 1995 graduate of Moanalua High School.



Kris Miyashiro

As a child, she took Okinawan dance lessons from Kikue Kaneshiro Sensei, who is now retired. Prior to leaving for Okinawa, she had been studying dance with the Tamagusuku-ryu Senju Kai Frances Nakachi Dojo.

In her first e-mail to the HUOA after getting together with relatives and settling into her apartment in Shuri, she wrote:

“ . . . I met my fellow exchange students this past Monday. Angel Shashiki, 22 years old, is from Peru, and speaks Spanish and decent Japanese. Cristina Omine, 23 years old, is from Argentina and speaks Spanish, English and a little Japanese. Maria Hernandez, 29 years old, is from San Francisco and is fluent in Japanese. I, on the other hand, know only English and am very poor with Japanese. So when Angel, Maria and I want to communicate, Cristina is our translator, and when someone else is trying to communicate with us, Maria translates it for Cristina and I, then Cristina translates it for Angel (when it's complicated Japanese).

“So, we have our own little network going. It's really neat. Now Maria and I are trying to learn Spanish from Angel and Cristina . . .”

And after a month in Okinawa, she wrote:

“ . . . I miss my chicken long rice and hamburger steak from L&L's, and corned beef cabbage and my grilled Italian chicken filet from Zippy's . . .”

**Dorothy Shiroma Hoe, Wayne Miyahira and George Uyema** have named Uchinaa Goodwill Ambassadors from Hawai'i by the Okinawa Prefectural Government.

Dorothy Chiyoko Shiroma Hoe — affectionately known as “Auntie Dot” — is a member of Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai, Nishihara Chojin Kai and Hui O Laulima. She has been actively involved in HUOA for

nearly two decades; she created the fundraising Kariyushi variety show, which has raised thousands of dollars for capital improvements for the Hawaii Okinawa Center and now serves as advisor to the program. “Auntie Dot” has served as an advisor to three HUOA past presidents and is an advisor to current President Gladys Tokunaga-Asao.

“Auntie Dot” retired from a long career of bringing health and human services to the elderly and poor. She also shares health and human service information via a radio show she hosts on KZOO Radio. She and her husband Ivan are the parents of three adult children.

Wayne Tadashi Miyahira, who served as an Uchinaa Goodwill Ambassador during the first Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival in 1990, is a member of Gaza Yonagusuku Doshi Kai and Nishihara Chojin Kai. He presided over the opening of the Hawaii Okinawa Center during his term as HUOA president in 1989-90 and previously served on the HOC's board of trustees. Miyahira currently chairs HUOA's sports program.

Miyahira is an account manager for Quality Graphics & Printing. He graduated from Baldwin High School on Maui and the University of Hawai'i. He also served as a Russian linguist with the U.S. Army in Hokkaido. Besides the Gaza and Nishihara clubs, Miyahira is a member of the Worldwide Uchinanchu Business Group, a vice president of the United Japanese Society of Hawaii, and lends his support to the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. He and his late wife Pat are the parents of two adult daughters and have one grandson.

George Masatoshi Uyema is a member of Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai and has been involved in the HUOA for more than 20 years. Last year he served as an advisor to HUOA President James Iha. He chaired the program for the first Okinawan Festival in 1982. Uyema also chaired the Hawaii Okinawa Center's planning and construction committee and served on the first HOC board of trustees.

A retired civil engineer, he worked for the City and County of Honolulu for more than 30 years. From 1980-94, Uyema headed the City's Wastewater Management Department. He is a member of the American Public Works Association, the Federal Water Pollution Control Association and the Mahinui Community Association in Kaneohe.

Uyema and his wife Aileen are the parents of three adult children.

Three Okinawan Issei treasures were honored by the Lanakila Multi-purpose Senior Center's Okinawa Nenchosha Club on March 28. All three — **Kenichi Kaneshiro, Chiyoko Kochi and Kame Teruya** — were born in 1903 and are celebrating their 100th birthday by Asian tradition, which maintains that a baby is

already a year old when he or she is born.

The lei-bedecked celebrants were brought onto the stage where Okinawa Club members sang a rousing “Happy Birthday to you . . .” to them. Mrs. Teruya represented the honorees in blowing out all of the candles on the cake.

Chiyoko (Onaga) Kochi was born November 1, 1903, in Shuri, where she attended school until the age of 15. She



Happy 100th birthday to (from left) Mrs. Kame Teruya, Mrs. Chiyoko Kochi and Mr. Kenichi Kaneshiro.

arrived in Hawai'i in 1919 with her mother and younger brother and joined her father on Maui. She was married to Chosoku Kochi and gave birth to nine children. Mrs. Kochi was a pantry worker at her brother's restaurant in the Blaisdell Hotel and later worked in the kitchen at Suehiro Restaurant. She retired when she was in her late 70s.

Her fourth daughter, Jane Eckenrode, recalled that her mother was an accomplished seamstress who sewed all of her children's clothing with patterns she had drafted herself from sight. She also did volunteer work at Maluhia Hospital for many years. Mrs. Kochi has been a member of Lanakila's Okinawan club for more than 30 years.

Kenichi Kaneshiro has lived a full and adventure-filled life that has included tending cows for Waialae Ranch, running Kokohead Saimin Stand and later a self-serve diner called Koko's Restaurant — and working as a greenskeeper for Waialae Country Club. A self-taught man, he also served as a professional emcee for many Japanese parties and programs.

Mr. Kaneshiro was born August 14, 1903, in Makabe, Itoman. He came to Hawai'i in 1920 to join his father. He has five daughters, all of whom live in southern California, and one son, who lives in Honolulu.

Kame Teruya, who was born December 17, 1903, in Ishikawa, has five children. She was an entrepreneur in her early years, working as a seamstress for Kunia Plantation, sewing clothing for the laborers. From 1948 to 1953, she operated Walter's Delicatessen, an okazuya she purchased from its previous owner, Walter Miyagawa, located off Kalākaua Avenue on Paoakalani Avenue. After selling the business, Mrs. Teruya worked as a sushi-maker for Beniya Shokudo until retiring. Retirement gave her the opportunity to pursue hobbies such as raising flowers.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GARY HONDA TENDERS RESIGNATION

Gary Honda, the Hawaii United Okinawa Association's Executive Director for the past five years, tendered his resignation at the HUOA's April 22 Board of Directors meeting.



“This is not an easy decision and one that I have not arrived at without considerable thought and reflection. I have enjoyed the five years that I have been the Executive

Director of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. I will forever cherish the friendships that I have made and the knowledge that I have gained about Okinawan culture. However, for my health and for personal reasons, I feel that I need to make this change,” he told the Board.

“I want to thank all of the officers, Executive Council and Board members with whom I have worked over the last five years. I want to thank you all for teaching me what the Uchinanchu

Spirit is and why the spirit has helped to bring this community together. I will never forget what I have learned here and will use it to make my life and the lives of others better.”

Honda was the fifth person to serve as executive director of the Hawaii Okinawa Center since its opening in 1990. During his tenure, the Center was merged with the Hawaii United Okinawa Association. The annual “Preserving Our Legacy”

fund drive was launched while he was E.D.

Honda, who created the Autumn Okinawan Dance Matsuri — O'ahu's only in-door bon dance — and launched the “Hawaii Okinawa Today” program on 'Olelo, was also the lead staff person for the highly successful Okinawan Centennial Celebration in the Year 2000.

The Board accepted Honda's resignation. His last day on the job is May 15. 🇺🇸

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## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- May 13: Executive Council meeting. 7 p.m. @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion).
- May 17-18: Kaua'i Okinawan Dance Festival. 5 – 11 p.m.  
@ Kukui Grove Pavilion.
- May 18: Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii meeting.  
9 a.m. – 12 noon @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion mezzanine).
- May 25-26: HUOA Golf Tournament @ Pali Golf Course.
- May 27: HOC closed for Memorial Day holiday.
- May 28: Communication & Information Committee meeting.  
6:30 p.m. @ HOC (Higa Building).
- May 28: Administration Committee meeting. 7 p.m. @ HOC (Higa Building).
- May 28: Karaoke Club. 6:30 p.m. @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion).
- June 3: HUOA Programs Committee meeting. 7 p.m.  
@ HOC (Higa Building).
- June 9: Kintetsu "Matsuri in Hawaii" parade. 5 p.m., Kalākaua  
Avenue to Kapi'olani Park.
- June 10-14: Children's Day Camp on O'ahu. 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. @ HOC.
- June 10-14: Children's Day Camp in Hilo. 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
@ Hilo Hongwanji YBA Hall.
- June 10: Executive Council meeting. 7 p.m. @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion).
- June 11: HOC closed for Kamehameha Day holiday.
- June 12: Flower arrangement class. 7 p.m. @ HOC (Higa Building).
- June 15: Toma Takezo charity performance. 10:30 a.m. @ HOC  
(Teruya Pavilion). Admission: \$25 (includes buffet brunch).
- June 16: Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii meeting.  
9 a.m. – 12 noon @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion mezzanine).
- June 17-21: Children's Day Camp on Kaua'i. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
@ Kukui Grove Pavilion.
- June 17: Board of Directors meeting. 7 p.m. @ HOC (Teruya Pavilion).
- June 22: "Ryu no Mai — Nana Wudui no Yube" (The Dragon's Dance –  
An Evening of Classical Okinawan Women's Dances).  
5 p.m. @ Hawaii Theatre. Admission: \$17.
- June 24: Administration Committee meeting. 7 p.m.  
@ HOC (Higa Building).
- June 25: Communication & Information Committee meeting.  
6:30 p.m. @ HOC (Higa Building).
- June 28-30: Children's Day Camp on Maui. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
@ Maui Okinawa Cultural Center.

## "HAWAII OKINAWA TODAY" (HOT) SCHEDULE

The following is the tentative program schedule for "Hawaii Okinawa Today" through June. "Hawaii Okinawa Today" is a production of the HUOA's video team. Programs air Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. on 'Olelo: The Corporation for Community Television (Oceanic Cable channel 52).

The latest schedule information for "Hawaii Okinawa Today" programs is available on HUOA's website — [www.huoa.org](http://www.huoa.org) — or by tuning in to Keiko Ura's radio program on KZOO on Sundays from 4:30 to 5 p.m.

For more information on the HUOA video team or "Hawaii Okinawa Today" programs, call Henry Isara at 595-2773, or e-mail him at [henryisara@hotmail.com](mailto:henryisara@hotmail.com), or e-mail the video team at [hot@huoa.org](mailto:hot@huoa.org).

- May 8: Repeat showing of 2001 year-end show with 2001  
HUOA President James Iha.
- May 15: Repeat showing of Part 1 of Year 2000 HUOA study tour to Okinawa  
(held in November 2000).
- May 22: Part 2 of Year 2000 HUOA study tour to Okinawa  
(held in November 2000).
- May 29: Repeat showing of January 2002 Hawaii United Okinawa  
Association Installation Banquet (held Jan. 26 at the Hawaii  
Okinawa Center).
- June 5: Repeat showing of Part 5 of the 2000 Okinawan Festival, featuring  
performances by Ryukyu Koku Matsuri Daiko, Okinawa Buyo Club  
and Majikina Honryu Buyo Dojo (held Sept. 2 & 3 at Kapi'olani  
Park Bandstand).
- June 12: Repeat showing of Part 1 of "An Evening with Jon Nakamatsu"  
recital (held Sept. 8, 2000 at Blaisdell Concert Hall).
- June 19: Part 2 of "An Evening with Jon Nakamatsu" recital  
(held Sept. 8, 2000 at Blaisdell Concert Hall).
- June 26: Repeat showing of Maui Okinawa Kenjin Kai's first Maui Okinawan  
Festival (held June 29, 2001 in Pā'ia).

\* ALL PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### *Got some free time on your hands?*

The Hawaii Okinawa Center needs volunteers for a variety of tasks. Call 676-5400.

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