

UCHINANCHU OF THE YEAR

2009

THE HAWAII UNITED OKINAWA ASSOCIATION WISHES TO EXPRESS ITS HEARTFELT APPRECIATION TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED UNSELFISHLY TO THE SUCCESS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS. IT IS WITH GREAT PRIDE AND PLEASURE THAT WE HONOR THIS WONDERFUL GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS ON THIS SPECIAL OCCASION. IPPEE NIFEE DEEBIRU

AZA GUSHIKAWA DOSHI KAI

SUNAHO KANESHIRO

Aza Gushikawa Doshi Kai is honored to present our Uchinanchu of the Year, 97-year-old Sunaho Kaneshiro. She is one of our original members and we are truly grateful for her dedication and commitment. She never misses the club's Shinnen Enkai, Annual Picnic or the Okinawan Festival. Sunaho is passionate about sharing the culture with her family, and always encourages them to attend our events. She enjoys watching the younger generation perform, and is excited to see them carry on the Okinawan traditions.

Several years ago, she took Okinawan dance classes at the Lanakila Senior Center and performed with them at several of the Okinawan Festivals. She is a faithful Christian and attended Olive Baptist Church every Sunday for many years. Sunaho worked hard as a farmer, dressmaker and chicken market clerk to provide for her family. She is a devoted mother to Alice (Tokuda), Beatrice (Higa), Kenneth, the late Stanley, Roy and Walter. In addition to her 6 children, she also has 15 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. We always look forward to her smiling face and kind demeanor at our events. Ippee nihei deebiru!



AZA YOGI DOSHI KAI

ROY NAGAMINE

Aza Yogi Doshi Kai is proud to honor Roy Nagamine as our 2009 Uchinanchu of the Year. Roy is a long-time member who was introduced to our organization when he wed his wife, Doris.

Roy fondly recalls the days of yesteryear when he participated in the Hui Makaala softball tournaments which would last all day long ... those were the days! Through the years Roy has been an active volunteer and participant for numerous activities and events. As the New Year rolls around, Roy looks forward to attending the annual Shinnen Enkai where fellowship is shared with the membership of Aza Yogi Doshi Kai.

In his golden years, Roy enjoys spending time with his three great-grandchildren and two great-grand dogs. He also enjoys travelling to Las Vegas with his Karaoke club, singing the night away.

The members of Aza Yogi Doshi Kai extend their gratitude and congratulate Roy as our Uchinanchu of the Year.



BITO DOSHI KAI

NATHAN NOBUO NAKASONE

Bito Doshi Kai is privileged to recognize and honor Nathan Nobuo Nakasone as our 2009 Uchinanchu of the Year. Following in the footsteps of his parents, Toshiko Nakasone and the late Takeo Nakasone, Nathan continues to carry the "torch" of preserving the Okinawan culture.

Currently serving as the Vice President of Bito Doshi Kai, he has been instrumental in the success of our club's involvement with the HUOA Winter Craft Fair, Shinnen Enkai, Okinawan Festival and a variety of other events. With his relentless dedication, eager participation, and humble demeanor, Nathan truly exemplifies the Uchinanchu spirit and has been an inspiration to us all.

