

2009 UCHINANCHU OF THE YEAR

CHATAN-KADENA CHOJIN KAI

FAY UYEMA

Fay Uyema has been involved in Chatan-Kadena Chojin Kai for over ten years. Among her many talents is the creativity in planning fun filled entertainment for numerous Shinnen Enkai. Her enthusiasm to perpetuate the Okinawan culture via our organizational infrastructure has been evident in her participation and leadership skills in facilitating "Hoshin" planning sessions (identifying root causes to find solutions & direction), and assisting in developing club's vision & mission statements.

As editor and writer for many articles of our club's newsletters, she has communicated and disseminated critical information to keep our members informed. She has coordinated clubs work shifts at the Okinawan Festival & Craft Fairs as well as activities at our annual picnics and participated in fund raisers at KCC Outdoor Concert selling andagi, and hot beverages. She currently serves as Secretary and has served under two previous Presidents. Her most recent accomplishment is co-chairing two Senior Fairs in December 2008 and July 2009 as a community service function and fund raiser for HUOA. She is also co-chairing the May 2010 HUOA Senior Fair.



CLUB MOTOBU

MAVIS K. GUSHIKEN

Club Motobu proudly recognizes Mavis K. Gushiken as its Uchinanchu of the Year for 2009. Mavis is the daughter of the late John M. Gushiken, a lifelong member of Club Motobu. Following her father's example, she continues to keep the Okinawan spirit strong.

Serving as club treasurer for the last 10 years and assuming some of the Club President's responsibilities due to its vacancy, Mavis is instrumental in the success of all club activities. Every year she is directly involved in the planning and organizing of the Shinnen Enkai, Club picnic, Festival andagi sales booth, scrip and t-shirt sales, and just about everything else that happens during the year! A tireless volunteer, a strong leader and role model, she always has a kind word for all and maintains a pleasant, cheerful, and calm demeanor.

Mavis is an invaluable asset to our club and epitomizes the Uchinanchu spirit. Thank you Mavis for your many years of selfless service to Club Motobu and the HUOA!



GINOWAN SHIJIN KAI

FRANCIS TOYAMA

Ginowan Shijin Kai is proud to honor Francis Toyama, an outstanding member who has contributed unselfishly of his time and energy in keeping the club active and progressive. Francis has been both a leader and supporter of numerous projects and activities for Ginowan Shijin Kai. He served as Ginowan's President in 2003 and 2004 and is always willing to help with club activities and share his valuable wisdom and knowledge with younger members. Francis continues to perpetuate the Okinawan culture as an active club member and performer of Eisa taiko.



GINOZA SONJIN KAI

YUKIO TOGUCHI

Ginoza Sonjin Kai is proud to present its Uchinanchu of the Year, Mr. Yukio Toguchi. Yukio is a long time member and is dedicated and supportive of Ginoza Sonjin Kai. He has been an active member since 1960 and served as president in 1978-1980. Yukio currently serves as an advisor and has been serving in this capacity for years. He attends all meetings as called by the president and is involved in major activities of the club.

Yukio's association with the HUOA (then United Okinawan Association) dates back to the 1960's. He served as chairman of the scholarship committee under President Robert Taira and Tommy Toma in 1965 & 1968. In 1968, Yukio represented UOA as one of the four delegates on the Hawaii-Okinawa Friendship Mission to Okinawa.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated and special person like Yukio in our club.

