

WONG KONG HAR TONG

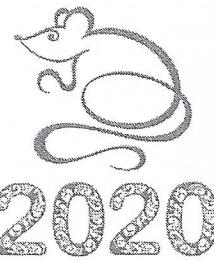
黃江夏堂 Quarterly Newsletter

EDITOR'S CORNER

新年快樂 and 恭喜發財!

Welcome, Wongs, to the Year of the Rat! When I learned that Rats are treasured in certain cultures and represented with affection, rather than disgust, in much folklore from around the world, it felt like a great reminder to always take a step back and remember that there are perspectives other than the ones we are accustomed to. A former colleague of mine once pointed out that rats make amazing pets because they are smart, empathetic, and most surprisingly, they are very concerned with cleanliness! So think twice before you call someone a dirty rat or scold someone for “ratting” you out. Rats are remarkable creatures and apparently are good company for adults and children alike. Happy 2020 - don't get lost in the rat race this year!

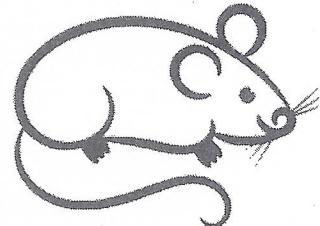
-C.W.Y.



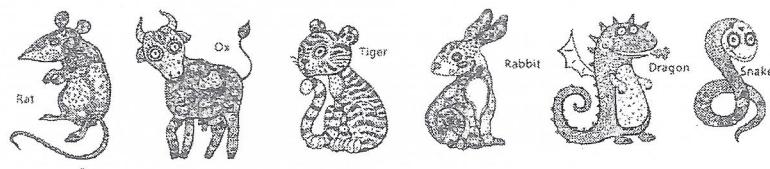
2020

The Rat is the first of all the zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the legendary order of animals would be decided by the order in which they each arrived to his party. Quite the thinker, Rat tricked Ox into giving him a ride to Jade Emperor's soiree. Then, just as they arrived at the gates, the cunning Rat scampered down and landed ahead of Ox, securing his own place as the winner.

The Rat is also associated with the midnight hours of the day, and in terms of yin



(internal energy) and yang (physical strength), the Rat is yang. In addition, Rat represents the beginning of a new day. Western culture and media tend to scorn the Rat as a dirty animal who lives in the shadows and scavenges off others, but in Chinese culture, rats are held up as a sign of wealth, surplus, and fertility.





Hi WKHT Members,
Xin nian kuai le! Happy New Year! Welcome to the Year of the Rat.

As we look back at last year, the Year of the Pig, we remember the highlights: We had our first

Open House at the new clubhouse on Hauoli Street; completed the Legacy Monument at Manoa Chinese Cemetery, and initiated it with our first Ching Ming ceremony; we also had interesting new activities including a ride on the Hawaiian Railway Society train from Ewa to Ko'olino, an exclusive viewing of "The Lion King," and a special tie-dye workshop, where shirts, towels, and other materials were turned into decorative works of art. Last but not least, we are financially stable. Our apartment rentals continue to provide revenues for our activities, general meetings, and banquets, even though we are upgrading electrical lines in our University apartments.

As we transition into the Year of the Rat, WKHT will continue to bring you activities and events that you can participate in. Please check your yearly calendar to see the monthly activities. One of the special activities this year we hope will be to rent an entire theater for an exclusive WKHT movie, this time Mulan, with live actors and actresses - a treat you and your

family cannot miss. Our social committee will be coming up other unique and interesting activities later. Stay tuned!

Aloha,

Art

Teacher Tidbits

by Emily Wong, Education Award Chair



It's the start of another decade and another year to focus on growing as a person. 2020 can be the year where you think about a quote, phrase, or theme that will motivate you to live your best life. Change starts with you!

EDUCATION AWARD NEWS

Information about applying for an education award, including the activity checklist and updated Terms and Conditions, can be found on our society's website:

wkht.org

***** General Meeting Reminder *****

February 15, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m.

*Mandalay Restaurant
1055 Alakea Street
Honolulu, HI 96813*



71st Narcissus Queen Crowned by David Ige By Alvin Wong

More than 600 attendees witnessed Governor David Ige crown Jamie Ming See

Lee as the 2020 Narcissus Queen at the Coronation Ball on Saturday, February 1, 2020. The venue for this year's Ball, sponsored by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, was the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. In addition to the title of Narcissus Queen, Jamie won the Miss Talent and Miss Photogenic awards. Her court includes 1st Princess Sabrina Chong Ming Young, 2nd Princess Amanda Rumi Leilani (Young) Kurose, 3rd Princess Melody Leilani (Kang) Kaohu (also Miss Congeniality), and 4th Princess Venessa Megan Wong.

Hawaii News Now's Mahealani Richardson served as Mistress of Ceremonies. Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii President Michele Ching Choy welcomed everyone to the event and conveyed best wishes to all in the Chinese New Year of the Rat. President-elect and General Chairperson Elvira Lo listed the featured events for this year's festival, including the annual Goodwill Tour to China. While the China Tour has been delayed due to the coronavirus situation, the Queen and Court will make numerous appearances at various Chinese community celebrations.

WKHT President Arthur Wong represented the society with members Dennis and Annette Wong, Jeffrey and Yvonne Wong, Alvin and Donna Wong, Harvey Wong, Charles and Elaine Yang, Edna Wong McKenna, Beverly H.K. Wong, Gwen Wong, Emily Wong, and Jasmine Wong. On Saturday, February 8, 2020, the newly crowned queen and court will make their first appearance at the WKHT Open House. All WKHT members are invited to personally meet and greet Jamie Lee and her court.



Official Court Photo courtesy of Paul T. Hayashi



United Chinese Society President Ted Chong, wife Barbara, Gwen Wong and WKHT President Art Wong at the 71st Annual Narcissus Coronation Ball

A little levity ...

一个小孩儿问他的爸爸：“爸爸，结婚需要花多少钱”

爸爸说：“儿子，我不知道。我还在付款！”

Kid: "Dad, how much does it cost to get married?"

Father: "I don't know, son. I'm still paying!"

FIVE COOL THINGS - RODENT EDITION

A few more Rat Facts that you can impress your friends with!

1. Rats are social and empathetic creatures! They take care of sick and injured rats in their group. Rats become lonely and depressed without companionship.
2. Studies show that rats have excellent working memories and can problem solve like pros!
3. Rats can swim or wade in water for up to three days without drowning.
4. The Gambian Pouch Rat can measure up to three feet in length, from nose to tail.

5. Rats have strong teeth that enable them to chew through glass, cinderblock, wire, lead, and other tough materials.

