

WONG KONG HAR TONG QUARTERLY

Volume XXIII No. 02 A PUBLICATION OF WONG KONG HAR TONG OF HAWAII Feb. 16, 2019
ARTHUR WONG TAKES OVER THE GAVEL AS 2019 PRESIDENT JAN. 05!

CALENDAR

謹訂於二零一九年二月十六日星期六上午十時
假座 Mandalay 开本年度第一次全體會員大會
議. 懇請諸位堂兄弟姐妹踴躍出席參與! 謝謝.

Feb. 05 (Tue..) Year of the Pig

Feb. 10 (Sun.) Ukulele and mah jong

Feb. 16 (Sat.) First General Mtg. of 2019

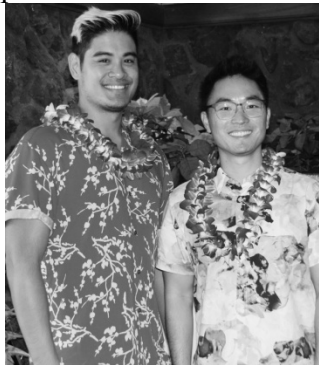
Apr. 13 (Sat.) Qing Ming Baisan



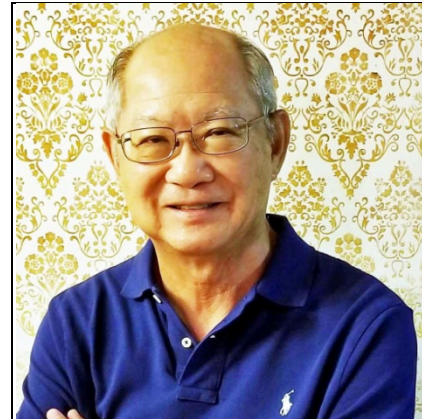
Christy Wong Yee emceed the Christmas party.

Christmas Party Merry and Fun This Year

The rollicking Bingo games, conducted by Matthew and Wade, got the members and guests into the cheer of the Christmas spirit. Winners claimed their prizes in broad smiles.



Masters at conducting Bingo games, Matthew and Wade are all smiles. (see p. 2 *Christmas Party*)



President Arthur Wong

In 1902, six men in Hawaii from Zhongshan, China, with the common surname of Wong (黃), got together to form the Wong Society. The main purpose for organizing the society was for fellowship among the clansmen, provide service to the Chinese community, Hawaii's community at large, and our country, including doing charitable works.

Today, roughly 116 years later, the Wong Kong Har Tong purpose is "to provide an association for it to fraternize, support and preserve cultural, charitable, educational, and literary pursuits."

With the sale of the Siu Building in 2017, and the purchase of two properties, the Huna and Hauoli Street, and with the existing University property, WKHT will have a steady income to finance the purposes of WKHT once the current renovations are finished.

WKHT is filled with activities throughout the year. The yearly calendar of events has been published; we have an activity in every month of the year. One of our goals is to enrich our programs with the addition of activities for select groups, such as adding more activities for young- (see p. 2 *Arthur*)

contin. fr. p. 1: Christmas Party)

Members and guests cheered Arthur when he sang some solo numbers. Likewise, they marveled at our humorous and jolly Santa Claus as well as his witty responses.



Arthur captivating the audience



Santa interviews gift recipient.

Charles Yang and his Ukulele Ensemble's Christmas theme songs enchanted everyone. Christy's emceeing charmed the audience.

Gordon and Winona's orchid plants donations for lucky numbers had all agog. Poinsettias came from Glenn's Nursery in Waimanalo. Orchids on the tables were donated by Harvey.

(cont. fr. p.1: Arthur)

-er children and their parents. In addition, we will pursue more cultural activities such as Chinese cooking classes, and special cultural performance for our banquets. We can invite

speakers to our General Meetings to talk on topics of interest to all.

Communication between our members is so important. A goal is the creation of an email address list to inform members of last minute program activities or events, or cancellation or changes of meetings. Other means of communication include attendance at the WKHT Quarterly General Meetings at Mandalay Chinese Restaurant, or visit our improved website at wkht.org.

We are one of the most active Chinese Societies. I am honored to serve the WKHT association and its enthusiastic membership.



Tina Wong Au, UCS Citizen of the Year

A Model Citizen for All

by Alvin C.P. Wong

The United Chinese Society proudly recognized Wong Kong Har Tong member Tina Wong Au as the 2018 Model Chinese Citizen of the Year during the Installation Banquet of its 2019 Officers and Trustees. Many government and community leaders, including Governor David Ige, Speaker Emeritus Calvin Say, Council Member Carol Fukunaga, and TECO Director General Michael Tseng, attended the sold out event at the Jade Dynasty Seafood Restaurant on December 8, 2018. Newly installed 2019 President Henry H. Ou welcomed more than 300 guests and thanked Michael Choy, last year's Model Chinese Citizen of the year, for representing Hawaii's Chinese community.

Governor David Ige described Tina Wong Au as a "rare and exceptional individual who goes beyond the call to make a difference." Her record of community service spans over 20 years and includes such endeavors such as cleaning up Chinatown three times annually, assisting the Lanakila Senior Center and Children's Youth Festival, and promoting voter registration through the Chinese Community Community Action Coalition.

In addition, Tina is an active member of numerous community associations, including Hawaii Chinese Civic Association, U.S. China Friendship Association, Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, See Dai Doo Society, Hawaii Mainland Chinese Overseas Association, and Hawaii Chapter of the Organization of Chinese American Women.

Despite her busy schedule, Tina has successfully her time to combine family and career. While she is currently an Assistant Vice President/Loan Underwriter with Territorial Savings Bannk, Tina and Richard Au are proud parents of three daughters and three grandchildren. Her impressive list of awards and accolades include Outstanding Chamber Volunteer Award, Outstanding Leadere Award from the Girl Scout Council, Chairman's Club from Territorial Savings Bank, and Outstanding Employee of the Year.

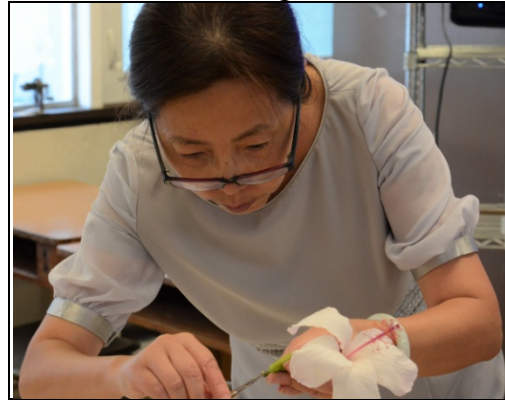
Tina thanked her loving family for their support and the audience by performing hula dance, entitled "Aina Hau." City Council member Carol Fukunaga summed up Tina's golden moment by saying that "she is a shining example of a person that is not satisfied with the status quo." Tina is certainly a model and inspiration to all.

Potpourri Palate

by Alvin C. P. Wong

For centuries, the Chinese and Japanese have practiced the ancient art of pressed flowers and leaves to create colorful masterpieces. Today, there is serious internationa competition among several nations, including the United States,

United Kingdom, France, China, Japan and Australia. While the process begins with gathering and drying various floral materials, the competitors will also augment their inventory through commercial suppliers. Using a ptopourri of floral and other plant materials as the "palette of colors," the artist will then start the meticulous task of carefully creating a picture. The entire process consists of positioning thousands of minute fragments to create a shape or form. It is similar to the millions of pixels that are found in modern digital cameras.



Creating a shape or form



Another shape or form created at workshop



More creations of colorful masterpieces

About a dozen members of Wong Kong Har Tong were fortunate to learn the fundamentals of pressed flowers. On Saturday, October 13, 2018, Ms. JoJo, a Mun Lun School instructor, started the class with a photo array of her masterpieces. She then challenged each student to create a simple book page marker using some of her pressed flowers. The tools are simple - tweezers, toothpick, some glue, and a lot of patience.

Yet, despite the short introduction, the students produced some amazing and impressive creations. Everyone left the class with some sense of accomplishment. President Harvey Wong said that "Everyone can now repurpose the thousands of flower leis into pressed flowers. Imagine the possibilities."

Author's notes: This class is the final chapter in Chinese cultural trilogy offered to Wong Kong Har Tong members. It was made possible by a grant from Joseph and Cathy Wu. Mahalo for their contribution.

Legacy Monument Completed

The Legacy Monument for our tombsite has been completed in China. Made of and carved in black granite, the monument is waiting for shipment from China to Hawaii. It is hoped and projected to be ready for our Qing Ming Baisan day for 2019 slated for Saturday, April 13, at 10:00 a.m.

The Changing of the Guard

Whereas WKHT never had a news bulletin before, twenty-three years ago Harry C.Y. Wong embarked on producing one. At first, during its rudimentary stages, the news bulletin had some articles translated into Chinese. As the dwindling numbers of members don't read Chinese, it was turned into an all-English bulletin.

Now it is time for the changing of the guard and allow the younger generation to carry on the legacy. Christy Wong Yee, a talented writer will be carrying on the legacy and be our editor-in-chief as of the May 2019 issue. She has a free hand to make changes and infuse new ideas. On her staff as reporters and news gatherers will be Alvin Wong, Amanda Wong, and Harry C.Y. Wong.

Bali Is All About Batik

by Alvin C.P. Wong



Donna Wong, far right, at batik warehouse sale

Bali, Indonesia, is home to the batik fabric. It is an ancient art form of fabric printing that involves hot wax, dyes, copper stamps, and bleach. By using these simple tools, master artisans are able to create fabric with intricate designs and colors. Although the technique of batik printing was practiced during the Tang Dynasty, the art form was highly developed on the island of Java. Bali is perhaps best known for the highly prized Indonesian batik.



Processing batik fabric

In November 2018, Donna and I had the opportunity to visit Bali. While the 10-day trip included the monkey park sanctuary, elephant

ride, Balinese silver jewelry, Ikat weaving, wood carving, and traditional Indonesian painting, the visitation to the batik factory-factory warehouse coupled with the hands-on workshop was the highlight of the tour. The owner of the factory, which produces 3,000 yards of batik fabric daily, personally provided instructions on how to make this ancient art form. The batik workshop made Bali an unforgettable experience.

Iceland - Land of Fire and Ice

by Arthur Wong

Iceland is called the Land of Fire and Ice. And for good reason, in April 2010, the eruption of the volcano Eyjafjallajökull, and its massive ash cloud caused the disruption to air traffic in western and northern Europe with the cancellation of 95,000 flights. This one event increased Iceland's visibility to the world and it became one of the most desired places to visit! While Iceland continues to be one of the most active volcanic areas due to its location of two divergent tectonic plates-North American tectonic plate in the west and the Eurasian tectonic plate in the east, it also has the largest glacier in Europe - Vatnajökull Glacier! Twelve percent of Iceland is covered by glaciers.

With only approximately 334,000 people living on an island the size of Kentucky, this is one of the most sparsely populated countries in the world. Outside of Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland, people live in remote, isolated areas, along the only road that runs below craggy cliffs and the sea, or in fjords providing harbor for small fishing villages, or on the cold barren, ash covered plateau in the Icelandic highlands surrounded by majestic snow-tipped mountain ranges. About the only animal roaming almost everywhere on the island is Icelandic sheep.

Into this land of contrasts, Gwen, Aaron, and I spent 12 days completing a circle tour of the island on a tour from Hawaii. We discovered that it is the most expensive country we have visited. The price of a hamburger with French fries cost between \$20 to \$25 USD.

It is one of the few countries without a McDonald's. In the city of Reykjavik, we dined at a restaurant that served Icelandic gourmet specialties, such as fermented shark (hakari), served in small square chunks, which tasted like cheese with urine after taste. Another delicacy we ate was gilled puffin - it was marinated - just several slivers of it cost around \$15 USD. We also tried fin whale steak. The meat is very dark red, and very tender - it tastes more like a mild, oily beef steak.



At Iceland Glacier Lagoon



At Iceland Godafoss Waterfall

The old town part of Reykjavik is where most tourists visit. Restaurants and souvenir shops populate several streets. But outside of Reykjavik is where the natural wonders of Iceland take place. The Blue Lagoon is one of Iceland's main attractions, being featured in countless magazines. It is a natural warm water pool rich in minerals like silica and sulfur. The Thingvellir National Park is where you can see the valley between the American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon is where icebergs are formed by breaking off from the glacier and drift through the lagoon and out to sea. Several movie scenes were shot here,

including a speed boat chase scene among the icebergs in a James Bond movie. Then there are the countless waterfalls through the island due to melting glaciers. On the other hand, geysers, sulfur beds, boiling mud pots, and steam vents can be seen on certain parts of the island. Finally, if the conditions are right, the aurora borealis, or northern lights, can be seen in these remote areas.

Four WKHT Members On United Chinese Society Board

As of 2019, there are four WKHT members who have been or recently elected on the Board of Trustees. Harry C.Y. Wong (fourteen or so years ago) and Marsha Au-Maxwell (two years ago) are the first two. Next came Edna McKenna, and most recently, former president of WKHT, Harvey M.H. Wong.



Chinese societies presidents, standing, and on the front row VIP guests including Governor Ige and Lieutenant-governor Green

2019 UCS Presidents' Tea a Grandiose Event

The chitter-chatter at the Sun Yat-sen Hall of the United Chinese Society resounded with positive vibrations as VIP guests and 2019 Chinese societies presidents mingled among themselves waiting for the formalities of this year's Presidents' Tea.

Unique and awesome this year was the first time our state Governor Ige and Lieut.-governor Green who came to join in the auspicious event.

Stunned by the energetic teamwork of UCS's trustees, the presidents were awed and inspired, if not well-impressed at this year's splendid tea and program. Everything worked smoothly, glitch less, and super coordination was obvious to the VIP guests.

Trustee and WKHT treasurer Edna McKenna, as emcee, was aplomb and glowing.

As each president was introduced in alphabetical order according to the society he/she represented and asked to come on stage to assemble for the group picture by trustee Marsha Au-Maxwell (a WKHT member also), each president felt honored, including our president, Arthur Wong.

Everything worked well, fine, and dandy.

It seemed that the United Chinese Society, is entering an era of a new renaissance, considering the positive vibrations that rumbled throughout the Sun Yat-sen Hall on Sunday January 6, 2019.

Kudos and accolades to the United Chinese Society.

Qing Ming Baisan Reminders (2019)

April 5 Qing Ming season begins
 April 6 UCS Qing Ming Observation at Manoa Lin Yee Chung Chinese Cemetery, 9:30 a.m. for Chinese community
 April 13 Saturday, WKHT Qing Ming Baisan at 10:00 a.m. (New members and old timers are encouraged to attend and participate.)

HAPPY NEW YEAR OF THE PIG (Gung Hee Fat Choy)

New Year, Fresh Start

by Amanda Wong

Everyone has their own traditions associated with the New Year. Whether it's visiting the temple for a New Year's blessing, popping fireworks, or making *jai*, each is significant to the beginning of the year. For WKHT, the New Year starts off with the annual Installation lunch. It gives our society an opportunity to say thank you to the current officers while welcoming in the new officers for the year.

Our 2019 Installation Luncheon was held on Saturday, January 5th at The Mandalay Restaurant. We all joined in saying a big mahalo to our out-going president Harvey M.H. Wong as he passed the gavel on to our current president, president Arthur K.C Wong. Lots of laughter was heard and some tears were shed as Harvey handed over the clubhouse keys. Harvey was presented with a token Mandalay gift card for an unlimited amount as a special remembrance gift for all his hard work as

president and the special menus he arranged for our meetings at the Mandalay. The out-going officers were acknowledged for their jobs well done and the new officers were officially sworn in by Winston Wong.

Members were treated to a delicious seven-course luncheon that consisted of: fresh Seasonal Fruit Bowl, Cold Shredded Sesame Chicken Salad, Steamed Rice, Stir-fried Vegetables with Black Fungus, Deep-Fried Tofu with Fresh Steamed Enoki Mushrooms and Broccoli Florets, Chinese steamed Whole fish, Char Siu Spareribs, and Hot Peanut Soup with Mochi Balls. In addition, Harvey ordered extra desserts of coconut peanut mochi balls, custards tarts, and black bean pastry for each table to share and take home! Everyone left full of food and excitement for what is to come for WKHT in 2019.

Special thanks to the Planning Committee, Kimberly Wong Balisacan for being the Mistress of Ceremonies, and Winston Wong for conducting the oath of office to the in-coming officers.

2019 WKHT Officers

President: Arthur K.C. Wong

Vice President: Wayne K.C. Wong

Treasurer: Edna Wong McKenna

Assistant Treasurer: Annette Wong

Secretary: Amanda Wong

Corresponding Secretary: Myra Wong Chun

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Installation of Officers and Committee chairs



President Arthur K.C. Wong and V-P Wayne K.C. Wong



Emcee Kimberly Wong Balisacan



Appreciation certificate to Harvey Wong by president Arthur K.C. Wong

Tang Dynasty Poem

Song of a Traveling Son

by Meng Jiao (751-814, Tang Dynasty)

*Kind mother hand inside thread
Traveling son body upon clothes
Before leave closely stitch
Feel afraid late late return
Who say inch grass heart
Thank enough three springs' sunshine*

Caring for aging parents was a son's duty. Leaving home, even to serve his emperor, was never a man's top choice as long as his parents were alive. He would be considered unfaithful to the people who gave him life. Also, travel was dangerous. A son who left home might never be seen again.

In this poem, a mother stitches her worries and love into her traveling son's clothing. Warm clothes might protect him might protect him from the weather, but not disease or bandits. The son feels guilty, knowing he can never pay

Wong Kong Har Tong
c/o Jeffrey C.M. and Yvonne Wong
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mother's love and care. The spring sun symbolizes a nourishing mother and the inch-tall grass, the son. A Chinese spring is divided into early, middle, and late spring - the *three springs*.



Photo credits for this issue: David M. Wong, Kevin Wong, Alvin C.P. Wong, Karl Kao, Luther Chong, Arthur K.C. Wong

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back what he owes.

For centuries, this poem has been used to teach Chinese children to be grateful for their