

WONG KONG HAR TONG QUARTERLY

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UKULELE ENSEMBLE WOWS RESIDENTS AT PALOLO CHINESE HOME!

CALENDAR

謹訂於二零一五年八月二十二日星期六上午十一時半假座啊里意蘭尼小學校禮堂舉行本年度第三次全體會員大會議.懇請諸位堂兄弟姐妹踴躍出席參與! 謝謝.

Aug. 16 (Sun.) Kapahulu Center Activity 1:30

Aug. 22 (Sat.)-3rd General Meeting –Aliiolani 11:30 a.m.

Sep. 20 (Sun.) Kapahulu Center Activity 1:30

Oct. 18 (Sun.) Kapahulu Center Activity 1:30

Forty members made up the contingent WKHT Team for this year's Visitor Industry Chairty Walk: Jill Wong, Jennifer Wong, Jade Wong, Stephen Wong, Leland Wong, Frank Chee, Vicky Chee, Clarie Santos, Stella Santos, Sherman Wong, Mitchell Wong, Deanna Au-Wong, Jonathan Wong, Georgina Wong, Alisa Wong, Henry LiNan Wong, Laurie Wong, Doretta Wong, Myrtle Wong Kaya, Carolyn Chong, Doreen Shimabuku, Dan Chong, Donna Wong, Alvin Wong, Chadwick Wong, Gayle Wong, Ruth Wong, Annette Wong, Dennis Wong, Trisha Wong, Jacie Oshiro, Brad Tom, Wayne Wong, Cynthia Wong, Alex Dipasupil, Emily Wong, Derek Wong.

The six-mile walk was held on May 16, Saturday, beginning at Ala Moana Park and around Waikiki and Ala Wai, with various oasis stations along the way where walkers were treated with an assortment of goodies such as bottled water, shave ice, strawberries, mini musubis, cookies, ice cream, mini cakes and sandwiches. At the completion, with all the stations' stamps, the walkers were treated to a plate lunch, and waited anxiously for lucky number prizes.

WKHT team was also a contingent of Hilton Hawaiian Village & Spa's walkers.



(As reported by Charles Yang, director of WKHT Ukulele Ensemble)

On Saturday, July 18, 2015, eleven members of the WKHT Ukulele Ensemble entertained over 75 people at the Palolo Chinese Home. Present were Richard J.C. Wong, Yvonne Wong, Florence Wong, Nona Wong, Laurie Wong, Florence Pang-Prescott, Laura Hashimoto, Shirley Yoshida, Marce Aurio and Elaine and Charlie Yang. We did a lot of community singing (16 songs) as well as special music. Shirley sang "Dear Heart" and "Yue Liang Dai Biao Wo de Xin" (The Moon Is My Heart), Marce and Laura sang "This Is My Land" modified with Hawaiian places; and Elaine danced to "Lehua Nani" and "Keep Your Eyes on The Hands".

Afterwards, we celebrated our performance by having lunch at Hung Won Restaurant in Kaimuki. Richard J.C. selected our lunch entrées.

The Ukulele Ensemble continues its community service in showing the benevolence of the WKHT of Hawaii.

(Note: Our Ukulele Ensemble, composing about 15 members, entertains at our annual spring banquet. Members who wish to join the group can contact Charles Yang at 455-9488.)



Part of the WKHT Visitor Industry Charity Walk Team prior to starting time.

Participants in WKHT Palolo Invitational Golf

Eighteen members made up our team this year at the Palolo Dynasty Invitational Golf Tournament held at Ala Wai Golf Course on May 8th. WKHT has participated in this annual tournament for over 20 years.

Group and golfers:

Group 1: Dennis Wong, Peter Chan, Russell Chong; Group 2: Wayne Wong, Danton Wong, Alvin Wong; Group 3: Gayle Lau, Elwin Goo, Jeffrey Lau; Group 4: Harvey Wong, David Wong, William G.K. Wong; Group 5: Jeffrey Wong, Yvonne Wong, Wah Lun Wong; Group 6: Gregory Wong, Fred Wong, Emily McCollum.

The awards dinner was held at Royal Garden Restaurant.

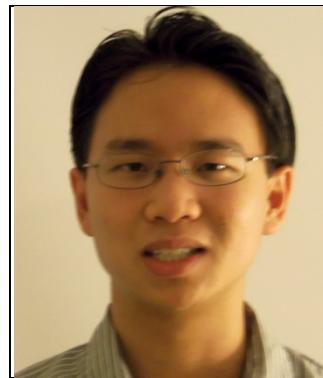
WKHT \$100 Donations

01. To United Chinese Society's annual Hawaii Chinese Qing Ming Celebration at Manoa Chinese Cemetery. (April 6)
02. To Lin Yee Chung Manoa Chinese Cemetery for the use of the lanai at the Memorial Hall. (April 18)
03. To United Chinese Society annual Family Picnic at Kapiolani Park. WKHT members also will help to conduct the picnic games. (August 23). Member Douglas Mar, also a UCS trustee, is one of the co-chairs of the picnic this year.

Welcome New Members!

Shayna Chyun An Wong (sponsor: Marilyn J. Wong. Daughter); *Tim Yui Wong* (sponsor: Scott Yee. Co-worker); *Joseph Ekichi Shimabuku* (sponsor: Doreen H.K. Shimabuku. Spouse); *Jeffrey Kit Yin Chong* (sponsor: Carolyn H. T. Chong. Son); *Myra Tan Chong* (sponsor: Carolyn H.T. Chong. Daughter-in-law, Jeffrey's wife); *Riley Koon Keung Chong* (sponsor: Carolyn H.T. Chong. Grandson); *Kaylee Liana Chong* (sponsor: Carolyn H.T. Chong. Granddaughter); *Charmaine Mei Yin Chong Leatherman* (sponsor: Carolyn H. T. Chong. Daughter); *Rev. Daniel Lee Leatherman* (sponsor: Carolyn H.T. Chong. Son-in-law, Charmaine's husband); *Annaliese Marie Leatherman* (sponsor: Carolyn H.T. Chong. Granddaughter).

New members are encouraged to participate in all activities and to serve on as committee members.



*Christopher's
Crystals*

I recently began a second job at a café where I work alongside one other person to serve coffee and other espresso drinks like cappuccinos, lattes, and mochas. Besides these drinks, we also serve fresh-squeezed juices, Panini sandwiches, salads, soups and pastries. Because we work with just one other person in most shifts, we are also responsible on a daily basis for sweeping, cleaning the grill and juicers, washing dishes, stocking the shelves, prepping the fruits, and keeping napkins, sugar, cream, and utensils in stock. With so much going on-especially when

the café fills for the lunch and after-work rushes-I was surprised to recently find out that one of my coworkers has been doing one additional task.

One day, I was on a shift with this coworker. We were in a bit of a lull between crowds, so we had some time to really focus on giving our best attention to each customer. A man pushed a wheelchair up to the counter and greeted us kindly. He leaned down to gently the woman - who turned out to be his mother - what she wanted to eat from the café. He asked for a sample of soup to make sure that his mom would like it, and then ordered a bowl along with some drinks. He told us that this was the only day that he had a chance to spend time with his mom, since he was working many hours a week. He said that she wanted to try the café and was excited for the food.

At this time, I was working support - meaning I was the one making the food drinks while my coworker handled the money. My coworker was the one who rang the man up at the register. After we had prepared their order and sent it out to them, I noticed something strange. My coworker had grabbed a slice of guava chiffon cake and had taken that out to the man and his mom as well. When she returned back to the counter, I asked her to show me where on the receipt it said to bring them the cake, as I felt badly about "messing up" the order. She told me it didn't. She shared that she chooses one customer each shift to buy - with her own money - a dessert. The customer is usually someone who she feels is kind or needs a little something to brighten his/her day. She said that I was the first person who found out about this. While she doesn't do this any longer, I was affected by this act of kindness and how it reminded me that it is possible to give from a place of abundance without expecting anything in return.

I recently found out that I received a position in the JET program and will be teaching English in Fukuoka, Japan, this August. While I am worried about the language barrier, I know there are many human elements that transcend culture. I am confident that I can handle what comes my way and know that I can ask for help when I need to. I don't have to do everything alone. If I express my needs and that I am imperfect, people

will rally around me to help; they always have. I think this will be especially true in Japan, whether I am in my home province of Fukuoka or traveling in my free time to cities like Tokyo, Osaka, or Sapporo. The world is an abundant place full of giving people and as I come to understand that I am a part of this picture and that I can personally give myself all of the validation I need, I am welcomed to give freely of myself as well. Acts of kindness are always understandable and often done tacitly. The cake doesn't exist anywhere on the receipt and is given without a word.

New Taipei Consul General Arrives



Wallace M.G. Chow 处长周民淦

Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Honolulu (TECO) has a new consul general. He is Honorable Wallace Minn-gan Chow, who arrived in June 17 to begin his tour of duty in Hawaii. A Chinese community reception where upwards of 200 leaders of the community attended was held at Jade Dynasty Restaurant on June 28th. Consul General Chow, a hobby-ist singer, also entertained the audience with several songs that were well-received by the jocund attendees. Since his arrival, he has been busy visiting Chinese societies and meeting members and key leaders of our Chinese community.

Chow Chu-zhang (or Consul General Chow in Chinese) was born in Hualien, Taiwan and earned a M.A. degree in International Relations at National Taiwan University (1994) and a B.A. degree in International Relations at National Taiwan, Department of Political Science, National Taiwan University (1986).

He's been working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for a number of years in various capacities.

We welcome TECO's Wallace Chow to his Hawaii post and look forward to working with him.

Our Brigade of Newsletter Collators

At this junction, we thought we would like to mention our brigade of newsletter collators, both (retired) and the new team. The former team, having served quite a number of years and doing the collating at our clubhouse, was getting on in senility and was having difficulty in negotiating the ascent and descent of 45 steps. We thank the "retirees" for their years of volunteerism. They include: Edna May Wong Liu, Rowena Tanaka, Paul Tanaka, Patricia Wong Mar, Wah Lun Wong, Lena C.Q. Wong.

Our new brigade and backups now include William K.C. Wong, Matthew Wong, Chadwick Wong, Jeffrey Wong, Yvonne Wong, Christy Wong Yee, Scott Yee, Henry LiNan Wong, Laurie Wong, Harry C.Y. Wong, coordinator.

This year, Mid-Autumn Full Moon (Lunar Year Eighth Month Fifteenth day) falls on Sunday, September 27th. It is supposed to be the biggest and brightest moon of the year.

The Moon Goddess, Chang O, lives in the moon along with other mythological characters.



Kreesty's
Kolumn
by Christy Wong
Yee

"Are you ready?"

People have been asking us this innocuous-sounding question since Scott and I shared that after 5 years of waiting to be blessed with a baby, we were finally pregnant.

Are you ready?" Well, of course (we thought). Of course we were ready! We had waited, hoped, prayed and tried for five years. We had imagined every scenario. We had explored all avenues of having children. We had agreed that whatever, whomever, God sent us, however and whenever, we would accept and embrace him or her with open arms and joyful hearts.

Were we ready? Cue laughter.

Jameson William Satoshi Yee entered our lives at 6:48 p.m. on April 10, 2015. His long-awaited birth was wonderful, complicated, and difficult - a beautiful page in the growing story of our lives. We took a class, so we were "ready" for labor, but not 30 hours of uneventful waiting and a scary c-section. We were "ready" to meet our son but were still so unprepared for our first night alone with him. We were "ready" to take him home-but still shocked at how much space a 7-lb baby and all his stuff can take up in your house and heart.

Nothing you read in a book or see on TV will prepare you for parenthood. Neither will anyone else's experiences, although those definitely offer more insight than books and TV. Nothing will prepare you for how tired you will feel at the odd hour of 3 o'clock in the afternoon, how vexed you will feel when you try to swaddle a squirming, wailing infant at 2 a.m., or how light and yet full your heart will feel for the first time the munchkin smiles at you.

Can one ever be "ready" for the stabbing feeling of helplessness when you two-month old screams inconsolably after you've fed him, burped him, changed his diaper, rocked him, - lather, rinse, repeat. Can you be ready for the startling sound of his first giggle and the lengths you will go, plus the dignity you will shed, in countless attempts to get him to laugh again? Can you truly be prepared for the strange emptiness you'll feel the first time a wonderful, well-meaning friend or family member babysits and sends you out for some "me-time" which you spend walking aimlessly around the mall wondering what your baby is doing?

Once upon a time, going to the store meant grabbing my purse and jumping in the car. I can't say that I was really ready for how complicated going to the store has become. No more grabbing or jumping- now we painstakingly pack and gather diaper bag and car seat carrier, and we hobble to the car under its bulk. Buckle, strap, zip click. Drive. Unload from car. Load stroller. Shop. Buy only as much you can fit in the basket that hangs from the stroller handle. Load car. Put the kid back in the stroller and go back into the store because you forgot to pay for the tomatoes you put on top of the carrier canopy. And so on.

Were we ready? Yes. And yet, no-we were no more prepared for the beginning of parenthood than we are now for Jameson's impending childhood. We are armed with books, advice and the stories of others - and still, we can never be ready for the joys and trials that await. But, true to our promise, we are accepting and embracing the whole adventure with open arms and joyful hearts.

WKHT Dragon Boat Teams Fully Charged

(Note: the following report is written and contributed by our WKHT Dragon Boat Teams helmsman and energetic coordinator, Fred M.C. Wong, whose dedication as helmsman since its inception has become legendary and iconic. Kudos.)



Beautiful day in Hawaii for the 2015 Chinese Dragon Boat Races with over 60 competing teams from three different countries, 40 local teams, of which 15 were local city government offices. The water was calm in the Ala Moana's inner reef area but the outside surf was pounding 8-10 feet due to a storm last week in New Zealand! Nice Hawaiian breeze and sunny skies without a trace of clouds.



The excitement was building up fast when I arrived on Saturday at Ala Moana Beach Park 6 a.m. to set up the food supplies which were loaded the day before but I could not find the supply van or Sherman Wong.

Back up one day. Sherman had come to my rescue yesterday for I was struck by the anger of Madam Pele casted upon my foot with the burning Chinese lava flow called "GOUT". I could not step on the gas pedal without Pele's anger shoot up my leg with sharp pain! I had to make a quick decision, die in the field of servicing WKHT society, bite the bullet to get the tent, food, grill, watermelon, drinks or call 911. ELECTED to call SHERMAN WONG. Quickly I changed all the reservations, marching orders, and focused on a new plan. So I sat back, and didn't panic because I had Sherman in the driver's seat.

But now it was 6 a.m. on race day and Sherman was not to be found! Did he have an accident, get lost, or get hijacked? Quickly I called. "Hello, this is Sherman". He had parked the truck at Ala Moana Beach, and ran home to Manoa to get his family to the races. Of course, not wanting to feed the homeless in Kakaako, he hid the key to the van under the "garbage can" near the multitude of tents which had sprung up from who knows where over night like Mayor Kirk Caldwell's Sand Island Homeless shelter. So which garbage can? Did you ever see how many garbage cans there are in Ala Moana? Again, Sherman to the rescue as he showed up and walked up to the hidden key! Our paddlers started to arrive and in a short time they had the supplies out of the van and under the 40x20 foot shelter provided by WKHT.



First Dragon Boat out into the water and the races began at 8:00 a.m. right on schedule. With

18 paddlers, Emily Wong McCollum pounding the drum, a novice flag catcher Fred, Sherman giving direction from the stern, and our number one paddler stroking smoothly at 60 strokes a minute only to come in second place in the first heat. But WKHT was not finished. Three hours later after hot dogs, hamburgers, watermelon and extra drinks, WKHT was back on the water with the same crew of healthy paddlers. An important crew change as Christy Wong Yee returned to her original position as Head Flag Catcher. What can you say about someone who inspires many.



(Flag catcher Christy, son Jameson, and Christy's dad, William K.C. Wong.)

Mothers. Yes, Christy brought 3 months old Jameson to witness mom in action. But, in the second race, WKHT placed third out of three. With Gunggung holding the baby, there were three generations represented this year's race. "Tart them early, said Waterbill K.C. Wong.



(Paddler Stephen Wong at the grill oasis.)

Tear down, pack up, and WKHT will be back next year. Thanks to all the Wongs who showed up with spirit, heart, and had a wonderful day at the beach. (Plenty of photos available on our WKHT web page.)



(Sherman relaxes in between heats.)



(Alvin Wong with wife Donna and daughter.)



(Old-timers Warren Wong and Wilfred "Willie" Wong. Warren spent many year paddling for WKHT Dragon Boat Races teams. "Willie" not only paddled for some years, but was helping in doing chores and setting up area.)



(Yvonne, Henry LiNan, Annette and Laurie were among the paddlers and team supporters as well as picnickers.)



(Our loyal and younger generation of paddlers, full of vim, vigor, and vitality.)



(Wah Lun and Lena's daughter, Wah Lun, and Lena C.Q. enjoy the picnic menu of hot dogs, hamburgers, drinks and snacks at this year's event. Wah Lun has been paddling for our team quite a few years.)

Wongderful News

Douglas Mar is now a trustee of the United Chinese Society and is one of the trustees in charge of the United Chinese Society's Community Picnic on August 23rd at Kapiolani Park.



(Jeffrey, our membership chairman, takes a break and breather in between heats.)



(Mitchell and his mother, Sherman's family, enjoy the day's events and camaraderie.)



(WKHT's gung-ho and "never gives up" team forges on the course.)

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