President’s Message

This past quarter of 2007 was a very busy one for Hui Okinawa. In September, our members visited the Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii. It was a very interesting visit and we are very proud to have such a facility in our town. Thank you, Patti Taira-Tokuuke for making all the arrangements for us.

We also started our Country Store workshops. I thank all the workshop leaders - Myrtle Zukeran for the Unda Insu, Margaret Torigoe for the cookies, and Nancy Nakaishifor the mochi and manju. A special thank you to all the members who showed up to work on workshop days.

Our Autumn Festival was a huge success, thanks to the leadership of Margaret Torigoe, committee chairs, all the workers, and our faithful members who came out to support us.

In November, we held our Bonenkai at Aunty Sally’s Luau Hale. This year is the 20th anniversary of our Sister City relationship with Nago City. We had a surprise visit from Yoshikazu Shimabukuro, Mayor of Nago City and his entourage. I congratulate Margaret Torigoe, Member of the Year, and the other awardees. Thank you chairs, Roy Hokama, Betty Suetomi and committee members, for all your hard work and patience during the Mayor’s visit.

Ippe Nehei Debiiru

Carolyn Oki
President
KOBUDO TAIKO

The drummers for Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko enjoyed a very active autumn season with a number of performances in October and November.

On October 1, Preston Chibana, Kristen Murota, Troy Sakihara and Marisa Yamashiro performed at the Naniloa Crown Room with Yukio Koma, a professional shamisen player from Japan. Koma was very impressed with the taiko group’s performance at the CU Hawaii annual dinner earlier this year and asked the drummers to be in his show. “Yatai” was the opening number followed by an improvisational number with Koma by Preston on the chu-daiko and Troy on the shime-daiko. The drummers received many compliments from the audience and from Koma’s group.

On October 14, Kobudo Taiko performed at the Hui Okinawa Autumn Festival at the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall. The group was given 45 minutes of stage time to perform the numbers “Medley,” “Miyarabi,” “Yatai” and “Nami.” Drummers included Troy Sakihara, Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, John Chin, Kodie and Kyle Ishikawa, Kellie Iwasaki, Brandon Kekona, Kristen Murota, Aaron and Noah Trepte and Lee Watanabe. This was the first performance for beginner drummers Kellie, Aaron and Noah. This was the debut for “Miyarabi” and the exciting number was performed well.

November was another busy month starting with Hui Okinawa’s annual Bonenkai on November 5 at Aunty Sally’s Luau House in Hilo. The audience greatly appreciated the four numbers that were played by Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, Kristen Murota, Kaizuna Kaohimauna, Aina Dudoit, John Chin, Aaron and Noah Trepte, Chris Simons, Kyle Kosaki, Kyle Koshiyama and Troy Sakihara. This was the first performance for beginner drummers Chris, Kyle and Krystle.

The final performance of the fall season was at the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) conference on November 16. Kobudo Taiko was invited to open the program and drummers Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, Jane Yanabu, Brandon Kekona, Kristen Murota, Aina Dudoit, Krystle Koshiyama and Troy Sakihara performed “Medley,” “Yatai,” and “Nami.” The college audience was extremely enthusiastic and gave the group a standing ovation, which Troy says is only the second time it has ever happened.

2007 SCHOLARSHIPS

Hui Okinawa is once again sponsoring two scholarships of $1,000 each to qualified and deserving young men and women planning to further their education. The applicant or applicant’s parent or guardian must be a current resident of the County of Hawaii. The scholarship application deadline is April 21, 2007.

One scholarship is for a Hawaii high school graduating senior, a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) student, or a past high school graduate. This student must be one who will be attending a 2-year or 4-year college for the first time in the fall of 2007.

The second scholarship will be awarded to a college or graduate school student. This applicant must be enrolled full-time in college or graduate school in the fall of 2007. This scholarship will not be given to any student more than once.

Application forms will initially be available at the 2007 Shinnen Enkai. Applications for the high school scholarship will be available at the counselor’s office at all Big Island public high schools. Application forms for the college scholarship are available from Alben Namihira at 191 Hualalai Street, Hilo, HI 96720. For more information, call Namihira at 961-3443 or Nancy Nakaishi at 961-4677.

The high school scholarship has been awarded since 1997 and the past recipients have been LeeAnn Chow, Crystal Kaneshiro, Nadine Yamashiro, Christine Yafuso, Erin Irie, Kevin

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 28  Shinnen Enkai
10:30 a.m.  Cocktails
Hilo Hongwanji Sangha Hall
Chairs:
Kent and Cynthia Inouye

March 15  Student Exchange Potluck
6:00 p.m.  Wailoa State Park
Chair: Lani Yamami
2006 Bonenkai, continued

The Bonenkai concluded with an outstanding performance by the Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko group. Drummers were Troy Sakihara, Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, John Chin, Aina Dudot, Kaimana Kahoimaunai, Kyle Kosaki, Krystle Koshijama, Kristen Murota, Chris Simons, Aaron Trepte and Noah Trepte. The kachashi, led by Kathy Okunami and Sayoko Watanabe, was a signature finish to this traditional event.

Ippe Nihei Debiru to all the members who helped make this year’s Bonenkai a success. Special acknowledgements go to Amy Moyer, George Ito, Glenn and Ellen Okuma, Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko, Warabi Ashibi (Hui Okinawa Summer Cultural Day Camp participants), Kathy Okunami, Paradise Beverages, the Reverend Uejo, Soshin Kai, Sayoko Watanabe, Walter Higa, Katajikya, Brad Kinoshita, Ted Young, Ellie Nishikawa, Gail Fujii, Margaret Enovejas, Pearl Towata, Leroy Chow, Glenn Toyama, Hatsue Mentco, Betty Miwa, Elaine Yamaguchi, Lynn Murota, Kristen Murota, Steffi Stubblefield, Nicolette Low, Jamie Morishita, and Cheryl Camero. All those who helped with Bonenkai but were not mentioned were also acknowledged with much gratitude and appreciation.

The Bonenkai Committee Co-chairs were Betty Suetoani and Roy Hokama. Committee members who worked so diligently on this event were Alex Antonio, Bobby Arakaki, Andrew Gushiken, Ron Iyo, Ruby Maekawa, Kaye Nagamine, Nancy Nagamine, Morris Nakaishi, Nancy Nakaishi, Alben Namihira, Lynn Namihira, Carolyn Oki, Kris Ortogero, Dorothy Taira, Margaret Torigoe, Brian Watanabe and Myrtle Zukeran. Because of our hard-working and dedicated members, our Bonenkai was a huge success!

Thank you everyone!

2006 MEMBER OF THE YEAR

A proven leader in Hui Okinawa, Margaret Torigoe has been selected as the Member of the Year for 2006. With true Uchinanchu Spirit, Margaret has co-chaired Hui Okinawa’s Shinnen Enkai for two consecutive years, chaired the Bonenkai, and the recent Autumn festival held in October. Margaret has been Membership Chair for the past four years overseeing approximately 700 members’ membership status. She has been on Hui Okinawa’s Board of Directors for six years and has demonstrated enthusiastic service and leadership in other Hui Okinawa activities including the annual Children’s Cultural Day Camp, Cookbook, Haari Boat Race and Maintenance Committees, and Katajikya group. We honor Margaret Torigoe for her outstanding commitment to foster our Uchinanchu culture and values.

Thank You

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Hui Okinawa for selecting me as the Uchinanchu of the Year. I love being involved and learning a whole lot about the Okinawan culture, sharing it and working with a group of really hard-working, nice people. So many members help to make Hui Okinawa shine with its many activities and they make us “look good”.

I have been blessed with good health, a healthy and great family, time to give and general “busy-body-ness” that I have been able to share with Hui Okinawa.

My thing is: I do now because I am able to. Someday I won’t be able to for some reason or another. I will cherish this honor and thank you very much.

Ippe Nihei Debiru! Margaret Torigoe

2007 SCHOLARSHIPS CONTINUED

Kaneshiro, Marlene Yafuso, Jonathan Hara and Ann Inouye. The college scholarship, which began in 1998, has been given to Corey Zukeran, Megan Paik, Brad Nakamura, Christine Yafuso, Crystal Kaneshiro, Marlene Yafuso and Jonathan Hara.

JACK AND OTOME MIYASHIRO SCHOLARSHIP

The Jack and Otome Miyashiro Scholarship Fund is offering a $2,000 scholarship to a qualifying senior. The applicant or the dependent applicant’s parent or legal guardian must be a current resident of the County of Hawaii.

This scholarship will be awarded to a student who will be attending a 2- or 4-year college for the first time in the fall of 2007. This student must be a graduating senior or past graduate of a State of Hawaii Department of Education high school. GED students may also apply.

Application forms will be available at the 2007 Shinnen Enkai. Applications for the scholarship will also be available at the counselor’s office at all Big Island, Waimea High School, Hilo Community High School, and Hilo Community College. The application deadline is April 21, 2007.

Jack Miyashiro was a Hilo businessman who founded Jack’s Tours and is a member of Hui Okinawa. He strongly believed that education was a key element to succeed in life. Although his own education ended in the eighth grade when he went to work in the macadamia nut fields to help his family, he continued to study on his own, learning to read, write and speak Japanese as he developed Jack’s Tours.

For more information, contact Alben or Nancy.

2007 SCHOLARSHIPS

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For more information, contact Alben or Nancy.

AUTUMN FESTIVAL A SUCCESS!

The Autumn Festival was held on October 14 at the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall from 8 am to 2 pm. The ever popular Okinawan andagi was a huge hit! There were also a variety of other foods along with ice cold bottled water and soda were sold outside the hall with the plants and produced tucked at the end.

Inside the Sangha Hall were twenty-six crafters with their wonderfully displayed array of wares for sale. The Country Store sold homemade goodies such as cookies, Manju, Nantu, Cinnamon Toast, Anda Insu, and Okinawan products. A newly designed Hui Okinawa T-shirt with a shi-sa print on brown was on sale at the entrance. A “Make It ‘N Take It” table provided kits and lessons to make a Lily Fold Christmas card, Hearty Clay Snowman and/or Hearty Clay Santa Claus.

Thank you everyone!
AUTUMN FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

With all the hustle and bustle of a busy marketplace, Okinawan entertainment was the background music or sitting to enjoy it and relieve tired feet. Entertainers from the Nidaine Teishin Kai with Amy Higa Moyer as instructor included Shoko Nagamine, Reynold Miyashiro, Kathy Okunami and Amy Moyer. Dancers Shaylin Arakaki and Kathy Oyadomari from the Kin Ryo Sho Dance Academy delighted the audience with their dancing. A big hit were the youngsters from the Cultural Day Camp who performed using their own, hand-made Taikos and an Eisa dance. Participants were Nicole Antonio, Brandi Antonio, Nicolette Low, Colby Proctor, Regan Sakai-Kawada, Steffii Stubblefield, Kayla Yamada and Ty Yamamoto. They were instructed by Preston Chibana and Stella Miyashiro.

The talented Ukulele group, Hookanipila with instructor BJ Soriano, entertained with their great ukulele renditions and singing. Completing the entertainment was the robust numbers by the Kobudo Taiko including use of the newly built O-Taiko. The Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko is lead by instructors Troy Sakihara and Preston Chibana. Andrew Gushiken was the emcee for the program as well as gave commercials for the items on sale outside.

The event was chaired by Margaret Torigoe. Committee chairs were Patti Taira-Tokuuke - Craft Fair, Roy Hokama and Joni Urasaki - Food Concession, Kent Inouye - Beverages, Bernard Sagawa and Bobby Arakaki - Okinawan Soba, Jean Okuma - Photographer, Carolyn Oki and Myrtle Zukeran - County Store, Dorothy Taira - Entertainment, Leroy Chow and Morris Nakaishi - Setup / Breakdown, Alben Namihira - Finance, Nancy Nakaishi - Andagi, Lani Yamami - T-shirts, Ruby Maekawa - Make It 'N Take It, Mark Kyuna - Plants/Produce, Alma Yogi - Posters, Amy Shiroma - Publicity, Melody Uyehara and Thomas Bello ably manned and First-Aid station.

Proceeds will be used to help fund and support Hui Okinawa’s major activities throughout the year, such as the Shinnen Enkai/Keieokai, Bonenkai, Okinawa Student Exchange Program, Hui Okinawa Scholarship Program, Children’s Cultural Day Camp, Haari Boat

2006 Bonenkai, continued

HATALACHA AWARD
Milton Cruchfield, Dianne Kawamoto, Raymond Kawamoto, Colleen Miyasato, Lynn Murota, Jean Okuma, Jeane Yanaba.

CHIBAYAA AWARD
Dennis Miyashiro, Troy Sakihara, Betty Suekami, Mildren Uchima.

HATALACHA AWARD
Milton Cruchfield, Dianne Kawamoto, Raymond Kawamoto, Colleen Miyasato, Lynn Murota, Jean Okuma, Jeane Yanaba.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
To honor those individuals who, with dedication and diligent service, have shown leadership among our membership.

CHIBAYAA AWARD
Dennis Miyashiro, Troy Sakihara, Betty Suekami, Mildren Uchima.

HATALACHA AWARD
Milton Cruchfield, Dianne Kawamoto, Raymond Kawamoto, Colleen Miyasato, Lynn Murota, Jean Okuma, Jeane Yanaba.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR
To honor those individuals for their loyalty, dependability, dedicated service and commitment to Hui Okinawa.

HATALACHA AWARD
Milton Cruchfield, Dianne Kawamoto, Raymond Kawamoto, Colleen Miyasato, Lynn Murota, Jean Okuma, Jeane Yanaba.

WARANBINCHA AWARD
For service and participation in Hui Okinawa’s activities during the year.
AUTUMN FESTIVAL
A SUCCESS!

2006 Bonenkai

This year was Hui Okinawa's 60th Anniversary and we ended a whole year's celebration by hosting a successful Bonenkai at Aunt Sally's Luau house on November 5th. The event was well attended and everyone had an enjoyable time. Kris Ortogero was a fantastic Mistress of Ceremonies and commenced the event with an invocation by the Reverend Richard Uejo. Laverne Higa-Nance, HUOA President, addressed the members with a heartwarming message.

Delicious pupus donated by our members were served before the main meal. Assorted beverages and sake tasting were offered at the bar with nine different varieties to sample from. A table was set aside to sell some items from the Country Store such as Hui Okinawa tee shirts, kumih, hijiki and and insu. This year's lunch was bento-style and catered by KTA. The food was excellent and easy to serve. Scrumptious desserts overflowed the tables and the members were offered many sweets to choose from. A heartfelt thank you goes to all those who generously donated the pupus and desserts for our Bonenkai.

We were honored this year with a very special visit by a delegation from Nago City, Okinawa. This was the 20th anniversary of the sisterhood relationship between Hilo and Nago City. The three sabani boats stored at Liliuokalani Gardens were donated to Hui Okinawa by Nago City. This VIP delegation was composed of the Mayor of Nago City, Yoshikazu Shimabukuro; the President of Meio University, Dr. Eiki Senaha; the Director of the Office of Mayor, Kazukuni Asato; the Interpreter/Staff of the Mayor, Akari Yamakawa, and their travel agent. Our members listened attentively as Mayor Shimabukuro presented a speech in English. He spoke about the 4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival which was held in Okinawa in October. It coincided with the Worldwide Nago-shu Homecoming with a total of 500 guests (locals and 420 participants from overseas). He looked forward to the 2008 Haari Race in Hilo and pledged his city's support and involvement. As gifts to Hui Okinawa, they presented us with a commemorative lacquer bowl displaying a mission boat, symbolizing their visit to Hilo, and also a CD of the theme song for the 4th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival.

Entertainment was provided by our talented members and guests. The members of Shoshinkai (Shizuko Akamine, instructor, Camille Scofield, Carter Scofield and Kaylee Harada) gave a beautiful kutu performance. Kathy Okunami and Sayoko Watanabe delighted us by singing some wonderful Okinawan songs. Warabi Ashibi (Children's Cultural Day Camp) members Nicole Antonio, Brandi Antonio, Nicolette Law, Ian Sanborn, Steffi Stubblefield, Kayla Yamada and Ty Yamamoto splendidly performed an eisa dance and taiko routine.

Hui Okinawa President Carolyn Oki read the President's Report and called the general membership to order. Lynn Namihira presented the secretary's report for the 2006 Bonenkai, continued

2006 Bonenkai, continued

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Hui Okinawa President Carolyn Oki read the President's Report and called the general membership to order. Lynn Namihira presented the secretary's report for the 2006 Bonenkai. The treasurer's report was given by Alben Namihira and copies of the report were available to the general membership upon request. Bernard Segawa read us the results of the nomination committee. The following people were nominated as the new Directors for 2007-2008: Preston Chibana, George Ito, Conrad Hokama, Kaweo Kanoho, Howard Shiroma and Milton Yafuso. The nominees were unanimously elected. The following members agreed to serve as Directors for another two-year term: Ken Inouye, Ruby Maekawa, Nancy Nakaishi, Kris Ortogero, Bernard Segawa, Dorothy Taira, Patti Taira-Tokueke, Margaret Torigoe, and Lani Yamami. The 2007 holdover directors were: Andrew Gushiken, Roy Hokama, Nozomi Kanoho, Mark Kiyuna, Kaye Nagamine, Morris Nakaishi, Alben Namihira, Lynn Namihira, Carolyn Oki, Betty Suemoto, Glenn Toyama and Myrtle Zukeran. The new officers for 2007-2008 are Patti Taira-Tokueke (President), Margaret Torigoe (1st Vice President), Kris Ortogero (2nd Vice President), Roy Hokama (3rd Vice President), Lynn Namihira (Secretary) and Alben Namihira (Treasurer).

Various awards were also presented for Warabinchaa (Youth Service and Participation), Hataracha (Extraordinary Effort and Time), Chibayaa (Dedicated and Diligent Service), Distinguished Service (Dedication and Loyalty), and Uchinanchu of the Year (Leadership, Dedication, Commitment, and Loyalty).

WARABINCHA AWARD

Tahirih Ajimine, Brandi Antonio, Nicole Antonio, Shaylyn Arakaki, Alexa Britton, Megan Escalona, Taylor Escalona, Kyle Kosaki, George Morishita, Jamie Morishita, Kristen Murata, Cara Nakayama, Devon Nakayama, Kathy Oyadomari, Kolly Proctor, Jessica Sagawa, Steffi Stubblefield, Ryan Taniguchi, Caden Yamamoto, Ty Yamamoto, Kaylee Yamashiro, Marisa Yamashiro
2006 Bonenkai

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2006 Bonenkai, continued

AUTUMN FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

Continued

With all the hustle and bustle of a busy marketplace, Okinawan entertainment was the background music or sitting to enjoy it and relieve tired feet. Entertainers from the Nidaine Teishin Kai with Amy Higa Moyer as instructor included Shoko Nagamine, Reynold Miyashiro, Kathy Okunami and Amy Moyer. Dancers Shaylin Arakaki and Kathy Oyadomari from the Kin Ryo Sho Dance Academy delighted the audience with their dancing. A big hit were the youngsters from the Cultural Day Camp who performed using their own, hand-made Taikos and an Eisa dance. Participants were Nicole Antonio, Brandi Antonio, Nicolette Low, Colby Proctor, Kegan Sakai-Kawada, Steffi Stubblefield, Kayla Yamada and Ty Yamamoto. They were instructed by Preston Chibana and Stella Miyashiro.

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HATARACHA AWARD
Milton Cruchfield, Dianne Kawamoto, Raymond Kawamoto, Colleen Miyasato, Lynn Murota, Jean Okuma, Jane Yanaba.

CHIBAYAA AWARD
Dennis Miyashiro, Troy Sakihara, Betty Suetomi, Mildren Uchima.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
Rev. Richard Uejo

MEMBER OF THE YEAR
Margaret Torigoe

CHIBAYAA AWARD
To honor those individuals who, with dedication and diligent service, have shown leadership among our membership.

HATARACHA AWARD
To honor those individuals who, during the year, gave of themselves extraordinary effort and time in furthering our projects and goals.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
For outstanding, sustained and superior service to Hui Okinawa.

WARANBINCHA AWARD
For service and participation in Hui Okinawa’s activities during the year.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR
To honor those individuals for their loyalty, dependability, dedicated service and commitment to Hui Okinawa.
The Bonenkai concluded with an outstanding performance by the Hui Okinawa Kobudo Taiko group. Drummers were Troy Sakihara, Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, John Chin, Aina Dudot, Kaimana Kahoimaunaui, Kyte Kosiak, Krystle Koshiyama, Kristen Murota, Chris Simons, Aaron Trepte and Noah Trepte. The kachashi, led by Kathy Okunami and Sayoko Watanabe, was a signature finish to this traditional event.

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The Bonenkai Committee Co-chairs were Betty Suetomi and Roy Hokama. Committee members who worked so diligently on this event were Alex Antonio, Bobby Arakaki, Andrew Gushiken, Ron Iyo, Ruby Maekawa, Kaye Nagamine, Nancy Nagamine, Morris Nakaiishi, Nancy Nakaiishi, Alben Namihiro, Lynn Namihiro, Carolyn Oki, Kris Ortogero, Dorothy Taira, Margaret Torigoe, Brian Watanabe and Myrtle Zukeran. Because of our hard-working and dedicated members, our Bonenkai was a huge success!

Thank you everyone!
KOBUDO TAIKO

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On October 1, Preston Chibana, Kristen Murota, Troy Sakihara and Marisa Yamashiro performed at the Naniloa Crown Room with Yukio Koma, a professional shamisen player from Japan. Koma was very impressed with the taiko group’s performance at the CU Hawaii annual dinner earlier this year and asked the drummers to be in his show. “Yatai” was the opening number followed by an improvisational number with Koma by Preston on the chu-daiko and Troy on the shime-daiko. The drummers received many compliments from the audience and from Koma’s group.

On October 14, Kobudo Taiko performed at the Hui Okinawa Autumn Festival at the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall. The group was given 45 minutes of stage time and performed the numbers “Medley,” “Miyarabi,” “Yatai” and “Nami.” Drummers included Troy Sakihara, Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, John Chin, Kodie and Kyle Ishikawa, Kellie Iwasaki, Brandon Kekona, Kristen Murota, Aaron and Noah Trepte and Lee Watanabe. This was the first performance for beginner drummers Kellie, Aaron and Noah. This was the debut for “Miyarabi” and the exciting number was performed well.

November was another busy month starting with Hui Okinawa’s annual Bonenkai on November 5 at Aunty Sally’s Luau House in Hilo. The audience greatly appreciated the four numbers that were played by Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, Kristen Murota, Kaikama Koohimauna, Aina Dudoit, John Chin, Aaron and Noah Trepte, Chris Simons, Kyle Kosaki, Krystle Koshiyama and Troy Sakihara. This was the first performance for beginner drummers Chris, Kyle and Krystle.

The final performance of the fall season was at the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) conference on November 16. Kobudo Taiko was invited to open the program and drummers Preston Chibana, Marisa Yamashiro, Jane Yanabu, Brandon Kekona, Kristen Murota, Aina Dudoit, Krystle Koshiyama and Troy Sakihara performed “Medley,” “Yatai,” and “Nami.” The college audience was extremely enthusiastic and gave the group a standing ovation, which Troy says is only the second time it has ever happened.

2007 SCHOLARSHIPS

Hui Okinawa is once again sponsoring two scholarships of $1,000 each to qualified and deserving young men and women planning to further their education. The applicant or applicant’s parent or guardian must be a current resident of the County of Hawaii. The scholarship application deadline is April 21, 2007.

One scholarship is for a Hawaii high school graduating senior, a GED (General Equivalency Diploma) student, or a past high school graduate. This student must be one who will be attending a 2-year or 4-year college for the first time in the fall of 2007.

The second scholarship will be awarded to a college or graduate school student. This applicant must be enrolled full-time in college or graduate school in the fall of 2007. This scholarship will not be given to any student more than once.

Application forms will initially be available at the 2007 Shinnen Enkai. Applications for the high school scholarship will be available at the counselor’s office at all Big Island public high schools. Application forms for the college scholarship are available from Alben Namihira at 191 Hualalai Street, Hilo, HI 96720. For more information, call Namihira at 961-3443 or Nancy Nakaishi at 961-4677.

The high school scholarship has been awarded since 1997 and the past recipients have been LeeAnn Chow, Crystal Kaneshiro, Nadine Yafuso, Christine Yafuso, Erin Irie, Kevin

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

January 28  Shinnen Enkai
10:30 a.m. Cocktails
Hilo Hongwanji Sangha Hall
Chairs:
Kent and Cynthia Inouye

March 15  Student Exchange Potluck
6:00 p.m. Wailoa State Park
Chair: Lani Yamami
President’s Message

This past quarter of 2007 was a very busy one for Hui Okinawa. In September, our members visited the Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawaii. It was a very interesting visit and we are very proud to have such a facility in our town. Thank you, Patti Taira-Tokuuke for making all the arrangements for us.

We also started our Country Store workshops. I thank all the workshop leaders - Myrtle Zukeran for the Unda Insu, Margaret Torigoe for the cookies, and Nancy Nakaishifor the mochi and manju. A special thank you to all the members who showed up to work on workshop days.

Our Autumn Festival was a huge success, thanks to the leadership of Margaret Torigoe, committee chairs, all the workers, and our faithful members who came out to support us.

In November, we held our Bonenkai at Aunty Sally’s Luau Hale. This year is the 20th anniversary of our Sister City relationship with Nago City. We had a surprise visit from Yoshikazu Shimabukuro, Mayor of Nago City and his entourage. I congratulate Margaret Torigoe, Member of the Year, and the other awardees. Thank you chairs, Roy Hokama, Betty Suemitsu and committee members, for all your hard work and patience under the Mayor’s visit.

Ippe Nehei Debiru

Carolyn Oki
President

2007 SHINNEN ENKAI

The 2007 Hui Okinawa Shinnen Enkai will be held on SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2007 at the Hilo Hongwanji Sangha Hall. The food will be catered by Nori’s Saimin and will include rice, shoyu pork, chicken, tossed green salad and chocolate mochi. Ticket prices are $12 for adults, $10 for children ages 6-10, free for children under age 6 and Koriesha members, and $15 for non-members. Be sure to purchase your tickets early to guarantee your meal. The co-chairs for this event are Kent and Cynthia Inouye. If you would like to help out with this event in any way that you can, please call either Kent or Cynthia at 981-2236.

Special guest entertainer will be Traci Toguchi, former Miss Hawaii.