

HUI O LAULIMA COMMUNITY SERVICE

Leahi Hospital, May 21, 2011, 10:00 am



Sherry Nushida & Diane Kawakami

Community service co-chairs Diane Kawakami and Sherry Nushida, and their committee of dancers provide nursing homes, adult day care and other similar facilities with good will and entertainment at least four times a year. They have spread the Okinawan culture at the Franciscan Adult Care, Salvation Army Adult Day Care and the Maunalani Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. This performance was held on May 21 at Leahi Hospital and their last visit for 2011 will be in November at the Lanakila Senior Center. The HOL Churakaagi Angwatas (Beautiful Aunties) spend their Sundays practicing their hula and Okinawan dances for their performances.

The odori group at Leahi Hospital were: Thelma Arakawa, Ele Hu, Thelma Ho, Diane Kawakami, Lorraine Kodama, Gerri Maeda, Shirley Miyahira, Sherry Nushida, Virginia Takara, Val Teruya, Nancy Yeda, and Wendy Yoshimoto.



Guest performers were the Warabi Ashibi Wannabees: Jan Pearson, Margot Sarae, Sharon Fujino, Paula Kurashige, Wendy Yoshimoto and Sharon Miyashiro. Jean Yamasato also did the "Nuchibana" and Karen Kuba-Hori was the MC.

Val Teruya coordinates the events with the various facilities and sends the following program:



The Program:

1. God Bless America – song and hand motions led by Nancy..
2. Haitai Yushiriti Chabitan – a lively, happy dance to welcome and greet everyone.
3. Urizun – a dance through poem to welcome late spring and early summer...about remembering Okinawa.
4. Honen Debiru – by the Warabi Ashibi Wannabes
5. Nada Sou Sou – Okinawan song danced as a hula, which tells the story of our loved ones who have passed away....old

photos remind us that they will always be remembered and in our hearts.

6. Nuchibana – by Jean. The 1st part is danced with the Okinawan flower lei called the “nuchibana”. The 2nd half is danced using bamboo castanets called “yotsudake”, which are used for happy occasions.
7. Boy from Laupahoehoe – Big Island boys can become manly by climbing hills, fishing, canoeing, etc.
8. Holo Holo Ka’a – This song, written when cars were a phenomenon, is about joy riding around the island.
9. Flag exercise led by Diane – The senior members are given flags and encouraged to participate in this exercise.
10. Kachashi – Okinawans end a happy occasion by dancing the kachashi where everyone’s dance style is accepted and enjoyed.



The Community Service Committee provides a wonderful, worthwhile service by spreading a little aloha and the Okinawan culture to the seniors in adult care facilities. At the end of the performances, a spokesperson tells how much the HOL “aunties” are appreciated... “Thank you, and please come back” is a phrase often repeated!