

KOCHINDA NO GUKURU

"THE SPIRIT OF KOCHINDA"

June 2004 • Volume X. No. 1



PICNIC AT TWILIGHT



ALA MOANA PARK
AREAS 16 & 17 (same as last year)
Saturday July 31, 2004
3:00 – 8:00 pm

This year, in an effort to accommodate those who may have other commitments during the day on weekends, Kochinda members voted to try a picnic during twilight hours to see if that would increase attendance. Please take this opportunity to reunite with your Kochinda friends and relatives.

Though the picnic program will start at 3:00p.m., Kochinda members will be there early in the morning to set up and reserve the area. Please **call President Derek Kobayashi at 455-4055** if you are able to come early to help set up.

If you are planning to attend the Okinawan Festival, please purchase your scrip from Kochinda.

Tentative Picnic Schedule:

3:00 – 5:00	Dues Collection/ Scrip Purchase*
3:00 – 5:00	Games**
4:00 – 6:00	Kamau Tournament***
6:00 – 6:15	Meeting
	Uchinanchu of the Year nominations
6:15 – 7:15	Dinner
7:15	Lucky Number Drawings *****
7:45	Clean up
8:00	Drive home safely!

* Dues and money for Festival Scrip will be collected during this time only. Please **call President Derek Kobayashi (455-4055)** to reserve your Festival scrip and make arrangements for pick up if you will not be coming to the picnic.

If you are not able to come to the picnic at this time, dues and scrip purchases may be sent to:

Joy Yamauchi, Treasurer
1584 Piikea St.
Honolulu, HI 96818

*** To save time, please try to find your own partner before signing up

**** Lucky number tickets will be given only to members present at the picnic. Please do not ask for tickets for other members.

Kochinda installs new officers

New Kochinda officers for 2004 – 06 were installed at the Shinnen Enkai on February 7, 2004 at Victoria Inn. Kochinda extends a gracious MAHALO to these members who have volunteered to serve for the next two years.

President – Derek Kobayashi (455-4055)

Vice-President – Art Wilson

Secretary – Jan Ashlock

Assistant Secretary – Alan I sara

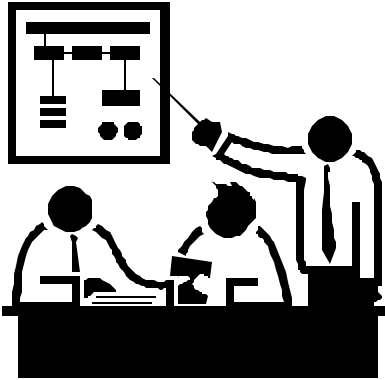
Treasurer – Joy Yamauchi

Representatives – Dianne Fong, Evelyn Gushiken, Donald Hirai, Evelyn I sara, Carol Nohara, Bobbie Saito, Ron Tokuda, Sara Uchihara

Advisors – Henry I sara, Irene Hino, Dean Kaneshiro

Newsletter Editor – Irene Hino

New Kochinda Membership Committee



At the last Kochinda Board meeting, members decided to form a new Membership Committee to keep the membership roster current and updated and to establish ways to recruit new members. Current members are Henry Isara and Alan Isara.

The committee reported that Kochinda Chojin Kai was formed in 1934 by seven members from Kochinda who immigrated to Hawaii in the early 1900's. Kochinda Chojin Kai does not have any living issei any more and our nisei are now in their seventies and eighties. Our membership from the original families has been decreasing and there are fewer members participating in activities and in planning. The committee would like to encourage our members to encourage their families to join and attend the two main club functions—the Shinnen Enkai and the Picnic.

The Shinnen Enkai, or New Year's celebration used to be held at various teahouses and other restaurants. It is now held at Victoria Inn on the second Saturday of February. The picnic was always held on a summer Sunday at Ala Moana Beach Park. This year, for the first time, Kochinda will hold a Saturday night twilight picnic in an attempt to increase participation.

The committee needs more members to achieve their goals, especially from other families. Those interested, please **call Henry Isara at 595-2773**.

President's Message

Mensore! I wish to thank all of our members for the great honor and pleasure to serve as President of Kochinda Chojin Kai for 2004-06. I was "volunteered" by some of the Isara family members (Aunty Irene and Uncle Henry in particular) to serve; to a certain extent prevailed upon with notions of guilt that without serving, the vitality of our club may be lost.

In fact, I am proud and enthused to ensure you that each of us, the officers and members I have spoken with, share a commitment to preserving the appreciation of Okinawan culture and family bonds -- the foundations of our club -- well beyond my own yonsei generation and into the future. Some of my happiest memories from childhood "hanabata" days are playing games and winning fabulous prizes at the summer picnic in Ala Moana park and enjoying the food, music and entertainment at the Shinnen Enkai. For these memories, we are indebted to our parents, grandparents, extended families and the entire Kochinda clan. It is my hope to continue nurturing, with your continued support and participation, the same kind of fulfilling experiences for ourselves; our children and theirs.

Please come out and enjoy all of the activities Kochinda and the HUOA have to offer. As important, at every opportunity, let your officers and me know how we may improve those activities and expand participation. Again, I look forward to an enjoyable term. Thank you.



Kochinda President Derek Kobayashi with wife Kathy and sons Kian, Kelsen, and Kendal

PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE OKINAWAN FESTIVAL!

September 4 - 5, 2004
Kapiolani Park



Please call **Carole Nohara (833-1995)** to volunteer. Shifts are 8 to 1 and 12 to 5 on Saturday and 8:30 to 1:30 and 12:30 to 5:30 on Sunday.

SCRIP WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE PICNIC. Call **Derek Kobayashi** for scrip if you will not be attending the picnic.

ALSO COMING SOON!

June 13, 2004

Pan Pacific Festival Parade on Kalakaua Avenue. Anyone who would like to march or carry the Kochinda banner, please call **Derek Kobayashi**.

July 4, 2004

Brazil Okinawan Ryubu Kyokai Dance Performance at HOC. Pre-sale tickets \$10, Aloha Party to follow, \$15. This recital will also include performances by **Chieko Tamagusuku Sensei** of the Tamagusuku Ryu Teda No Kai. Call **Derek Kobayashi** before **June 25th**, or **Victor Yamashiroya** at **527-5472**.

Henry's a Musician?



Kochinda's Henry Isara (front right) made his sanshin debut at the Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu recital at Leeward Community College Theatre on April 17th. The performance, Uta Ya Sanshin Udui Hanekachi (A Celebration of Okinawan Music and Dance) was the Hawaii chapter's first formal recital and commemorated its fifth anniversary. Henry participated in a sanshin, koto, taiko, and fue ensemble that played Asadoya Yunta.

Chapter President Kiyoshi Kinjo wrote in his opening message: Long ago in times of great joy, Okinawans celebrated with words of jubilation. In times of despair, the people consoled one another with words that expressed the emotions in every teardrop that flowed. These expressions of joy and comfort were put to melodies and transformed into songs that have given strength and hopefulness through the ages. These songs, our shima uta, are the heart and soul of our ancestral homeland. It is the goal of the Nidaime Teishin Kai Hawaii Shibu to honor our ancestors, the late founding master of the Teishin Kai, Teihan China Sensei, and his successor, Sadao China Sensei, by preserving and perpetuating their beautiful shima uta.

KOCHINDA NO GUKURU

is a bi-annual publication of Kochinda Chojin Kai, a member of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association, whose purposes are: to promote, preserve, and perpetuate the Okinawan culture; to perform community service; to support and encourage education; to participate in cultural shows, arts and crafts exhibits, demonstrations, and athletic and social activities; and to disseminate information related to Okinawan culture and history. Kochinda members may submit contributions to Irene Hino at 2551 Manoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96822. For additional information, please contact the Hawaii United Okinawa Association at 94-587 Ukee St., Waipahu, HI 96797.