



WAHIAWA OKINAWA KYO YU KAI

ALAN M. CHINEN

Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai selects Alan M. Chinen as its 2007 Uchinanchu of the Year.

As a third generation (sansei) Okinawan, Alan recalls attending club picnics and the annual Shinen Kai parties with his parents and siblings through the Sashiki Chinen club for many years.

Busy raising a family (Alan and his wife Florence have four sons, Grant, Clint, Michael and Bronson) and building his business: Chinen & Arinaga Financial Group, Inc., Alan lost touch with his club. It was after his first visit to Okinawa in 2001 that Alan reconnected with his family club and joined the Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai. He immediately became active, helping with

the Okinawan Festival. With the addition of his daughter-in-law, Michelle and the arrival of his first grandchild, Lillia who just turned 1, Alan is determined to do what he can to perpetuate the culture for his family and future generations.

For the past two years, Alan has been actively working on the Hawaii Okinawa Plaza Fundraising efforts as the committee's Co-Chairman. The Wahiawa Okinawa Kyoyu Kai is proud to see Alan's efforts towards a goal that will benefit all of us and future generations. He has given so much to this campaign through his time and generous financial support as well! Thank you Alan!

YOMITAN CLUB

SHAYNE AND CLAUDIA ONAGA

Our 2007 Uchinanchus of the year are Shayne and Claudia Onaga, who have worked very hard with our annual picnic and the Okinawa Festival. This couple's behind the scenes support has made our annual picnics very successful with donations and other great prizes. During the Okinawa Festival, Shayne, with his expertise in merchandising, has helped us in the Country Store, setting up our products in a "store like" atmosphere with an oriental flair. Shayne has gotten us vendors with new items of oriental flavor and assisted the club in getting the equipment needed for some items.



Claudia is known as a terrific cook and we have been enjoying her cooking at the Okinawa Festival, for breakfast and desserts. She cooks for all the morning volunteers so they have something to eat before setting up for the day.

Yomitani Club members would like to thank Shayne and Claudia for all their support, generosity and their time as we honor them as our Uchinanchus of the year for 2007.



YONABARU CHOJIN KAI

DENNY HIGA

Our 2007 Uchinanchu of the Year is Denny Higa. Denny's dedication to the Yonabaru Club is demonstrated by his chairing our annual summer picnic for the last 2 years. He is always available to assist at the Annual Okinawan Festival and any other event that requires assistance.

Truly a family affair, Denny is following in the footsteps of his father, Larry Higa, our current President and Yonabaru's 2005 Honoree. Denny is always assisted by his wife Claire and his 2 children Miyo and Mason. Future Yonabaru Uchinanchus of the Year. A great example for all families to continue the Okinawan spirit and tradition. Congratulations Denny!

YONASHIRO CHOJIN KAI

FRANCES "PIX" KANAYAMA

She is known for being organized, creative, thoughtful, dependable and most of all, a person our club can count on to assist with our activities. During festival time at the Yonashiro's Plant Tent—Hanagi Machiyagwa, "Pix" is affectionately known as the "box captain." She oversees the volunteers who cut boxes-to-size so that our customers can easily carry home their plant purchases. Her time-saving ideas and recommendations make each festival go smoother than the year before. At our annual picnic, she recruits club members, families and friends to help set up our picnic site for maximum use of the grassy and shady areas. She's been involved in countless activities involving the Yonashiro Chojin Kai and the HUOA. She is the daughter of Mitsuko Tsukenjo and the late Tetsu Tsukenjo. Pix is married to Stephen Kanayama and has two daughters and 1 granddaughter. Congratulations, Pix—our club appreciates your dedication and commitment. Mahalo and Ippe Nihei Debiru!



YOUNG OKINAWANS OF HAWAII

WILLIAM S. AKAMINE JR.

"Bill" has been an active member of YOH for over 9 years, and has tirelessly served in several leadership positions, ranging from secretary to treasurer as well as being the president of YOH for 2 consecutive years. For the past 7 years, Bill has served as the Chairperson or Co-Chairperson for YOH's annual Holiday Senior Luncheon. Planning and coordinating YOH's largest event is a huge task, one which Bill always took on without hesitation. Whether it is a fundraiser, a community service project, a bon dance or a social, we can always count on Bill to be there, willing to do whatever it takes to make each event a success.

Bill's thorough knowledge of club by-laws and history has greatly helped YOH make sound and prudent decisions to perpetuate YOH's mission statement.

The Young Okinawans of Hawaii proudly honor William "Bill" Akamine as their 2007 Uchinanchu of the Year!