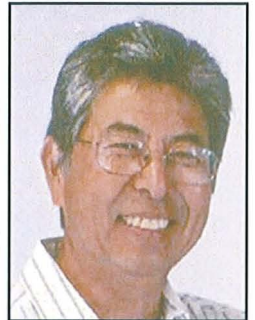




Richard Yeiko Nakasone has been among the most active participants in the traditional activities of Wahiawa Kyoyu Kai for many years. His enthusiasm, reliability and hard work, coupled with his quiet and effective leadership, clearly stands out as he volunteered for several club related assignments including the perennial transport of Okinawan Festival equipment and supplies between the Hawaii Okinawa Center and Kapiolani Park. He was among the first sansei members to take leadership positions to provide relief for our revered Issei founders. Yeiko is always giving of his time and talent, while asking for nothing in return. Perhaps this and his lack of time for practice account for his not so good scores at our annual WOKK fellowship golf tournaments. We proudly proclaim Richard Yeiko Nakasone our 2008 Uchinanchu of the Year. Thank you, Yeiko!

YOMITAN CLUB

HAROLD HIGA



This year we are proud to submit Harold Higa for this honor. He is the son of the late James and Annie Higa with ancestral ties to the Aza, Namihira (Hanza). Harold has served as our club's 2nd Vice President and is currently the club's Treasurer. He is a low keyed helpful man who has been very supportive in our ventures. This year, he: was in charge of the food booth for the HUOA Winter Craft Fair; volunteered at the Okinawan Festival Country Store for three days; and assisted in all of our club events. Documenting our club happenings via video or still photos is one of the things he enjoys doing when he is not participating in the actual endeavor. The members of Yomitan Club extend their gratitude to Harold for his many years of support and continuing service. Congratulations, Harold! Ippe Nihei Deebiru

YONABARU CHOJIN KAI

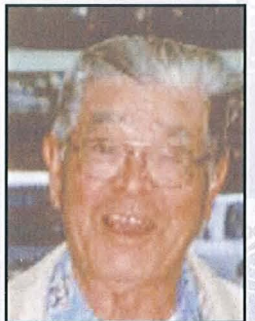
STACI A. ARAKAWA



Yonabaru Chojin Kai is proud to announce Staci A. Arakawa as our 2008 Uchinanchu of the Year. Staci is instrumental in preparing our flyers for our annual summer picnic and Shinnen Enkai. She also prepares the center pieces for our Shinnen Enkai to be taken home by our members. Yonabaru Chojin Kai was also part of the planning committee for the Spring Craft Fair, and Staci and her family were part of the volunteers working at the fair. She has been a volunteer in the Yonabaru Club Okinawan Festival booth since High School and has recruited her husband and cousins to help in recent years. Congratulations Staci! We look forward to your continuing dedication to the Yonabaru Chojin Kai and its preservation of the Okinawan culture.

YONASHIRO CHOJIN KAI

JAMES OKUDARA



At the young age of 90, Jimmy Okudara is a renaissance man or the perpetual energizer bunny. Whichever picture comes to mind, you can count on Jimmy wearing a baseball cap, a smile a mile wide, and some humor in his greetings. His volunteer work at the Hawaii Okinawa Center spanned many years. We are proud to honor Jimmy as Uchinanchu of the Year. He proudly volunteered his time and knowledge towards the upkeep of our beautiful HUOA building and grounds for all of us to enjoy. As a club member, he faithfully attends all functions so he can sit back, relax and watch the next generations "take charge" and "take care" of our precious resources, our seniors and our Uchinanchu heritage.