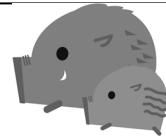




# The Newsletter

JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

ハワイ島日系人協会



January 2019

714 KANOELEHUA AVE. #202, HILO, HI 96720 | TEL: 969-6437  
E-MAIL: JCAHAWAII@YAHOO.COM | HTTP://WWW.JCAHAWAII.ORG

## Outgoing President's Message — Ivan Nakano

## 現会長退任挨拶

AKEMASHITE OMEDETO GOZAIMASU, yes, we bid Aloha to 2018 and welcome the New Year 2019 the year of the BOAR, we also welcome Michael Miyahira as the new President of our organization.

The past two years have been an exciting learning experience for me. I truly appreciate all the hard work and effort by each Officer, Director and Committee Chairs in making 2017 and 2018

To all of the officers and directors of the JCAH, DOMO ARIGATO GOZAIMASU for your hard work and dedication over the past 2 years you have served. This past year 2018 was a very special year because of the Gannenmono Celebration, the 150th year of the First Japanese Immigrants to Hawaii. The activities we participated in truly exemplified the meaning of Okage Sama De.



successful and memorable years. I would also like to extend our appreciation to Arnold & Elo Hiura and the Hawaii Japanese Center for being a great support to the JCAH.

To our secretary, Jane Miyasaki, a special thank you for being the back bone of our organization and providing us your knowledge and guidance to enable the organization to be a viable asset to our

community. Thank you.

To incoming President, Michael Miyahira, let's provide him the support and commitment for the next two years.

Respectfully yours,

Ivan I. Nakano, Outgoing President

## Incoming President's Message — Mike Miyahira

## 新会長就任挨拶

Many thanks to outgoing president Ivan Nakano for his leadership over the past two years. Thanks also to all of the presidents who have come before us and have contributed towards the building of our association to what it is today. Many hands have helped to build the Japanese Community Association of Hawaii.

broader community. We do this to help our future generations and others understand and celebrate with us, our heritage, our culture and our traditions.

A special thanks to Linda Nakano; who made sure that our empty stomachs wouldn't rumble too loudly during our late afternoon board meetings!



The Japanese Community Association of Hawaii plays an important role by sharing our Japanese cultural heritage and traditions with our next generation and others in our community. This sharing helps others to have a better understanding of who we are; the Nikkei or the descendants of immigrants from Japan. This sharing also offers others opportunities to participate and enjoy our many different celebrations and traditions, which in turn helps us to better connect with all people.

The Mission of the JCAH is to share our cultural heritage and traditions with our children and our

President's Message, to Page 2

### In this issue:

Outgoing President's Message / Incoming President's Message	1
45th Shinnen Enkai & Installation Banquet	2
Friendship with Shibukawa City	3
The 79th Annual Ireito Memorial Service / New Members	4

### Event Calendar

- January 19 – Shinnen Enkai

### President's Message, from Page 1

2019 is the Year of the Boar. The boar attracts success in all the spheres of life. It should be a year of joy and a year of friendship. So we look forward to continuing the work of the JCAH; making new friends in the process and have a great time while doing so.

If anyone wants to help with any of our projects or events, please let us know. We will always

welcome your assistance. It takes many volunteers to plan, organize and carry out the various events and activities of the JCAH. And many hands make quick work of what needs to be accomplished.

I look forward to serving all of you.

Gambatte!

## 45th Shinnen Enkai & Installation Banquet

### Features

**Colbert Matsumoto**  
as the guest speaker

Saturday, January 19, 2019  
Hilo Hawaiian Hotel  
Moku'ola Ballroom

4:30 p.m.—No host cocktails

5:30 p.m.—Program, Buffet dinner and Entertainment

\$50—Special JCAH member price

\$55—Non-JCAH member price

Information and payment slip for the banquet and for the membership dues was mailed to JCAH members. Reservation and payment are required in advance. Please contact JCAH ([jcahawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:jcahawaii@yahoo.com)) for details.

Our upcoming biennial event celebrates the successful term of outgoing president Ivan Nakano. It will also feature the installation of our new officers and directors who will continue the work of the Japanese Community Association of Hawaii.

### Guest Speaker: Colbert Matsumoto

Active in business and civic affairs for more than 40 years, Matsumoto has served in leadership roles addressing challenges facing various for-profit and non-profit organizations.

He is credited with leading the ad hoc Committee to Save the Center in a desperate campaign to save the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii from foreclosure in 2002. In 2009, at the urging of the late U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye, Matsumoto helped found and lead the US-Japan Council as a director and later as its vice-chair. In 2011, Matsumoto was asked by U.S. Senator Brian Schatz, who was then Lieutenant Governor, to coordinate the organization of the "Aloha for Japan" relief campaign that raised \$8 million from citizens of Hawaii for victims of the Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami.

Matsumoto is a graduate of the University of San Francisco. He went on to earn a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley School of Law in 1978. Upon returning to Hawaii he then spent 6 months training as a Zen monk at a Rinzai Zen temple before initiating his legal career. He credits that period of training as having the most significant impact on the course of his life.





Shibukawa is located in Gunma Prefecture. Centrally located to the north of Tokyo, Shibukawa is known for its many onsen or hot spring baths. Hawaii County's sister city relationship began with Ikaho-machi, a village that was later merged with other villages to form Shibukawa. Ikaho is known for their sponsorship of the King Kalakaua, The Merrie Monarch Festival. An annual hula festival that draws hālau from all over Japan. More than 5,000 performers participated in this past year's festival.

## Friendship with Shibukawa City

Shibukawa



This past August, president Ivan Nakano and vice president Mike Miyahira, traveled with Council Member Sue Lee Loy and her husband Ian to Ikaho-machi, Shibukawa City, to represent the Japanese Community Association of Hawaii at the King Kalakaua, The Merrie Monarch Festival. JCAH member Reiko



### Ikaho Hawaiian Festival

Hamano was there to assist us with translation and general 'getting around' help. The festival is an annual event that draws hula dancers and enthusiasts from all over Japan. It was estimated that over 5,000 performers attended this year's event.



We attended the festival's Opening Ceremonies, the Welcome Reception hosted by newly elected Mayor Tsutomu Takagi at City Hall, and the evening performances each night. We visited the Ikaho Green Bokujo, a farm-like enterprise owned by the Hara family. And no visit is complete without a visit and tour of the Robert Walker Irwin summer home and museum. Irwin was the Kingdom of Hawaii's Consul General in Japan and was later

appointed the Kingdom's Minister to Japan. The museum contains many artifacts and items dating back to his occupancy of the home.



The JCAH recently assisted with the exhibit of student artwork from 14 elementary schools in Shibukawa City, Japan. The exhibit ran from October 30 through November 23 in the walkway at the County of Hawaii's offices at Aupuni Center. The artwork depicts their city from the eyes of their 5th graders. 56 pieces of artwork were on display for the public to see.

In May 2017, the City of Shibukawa invited students from Hawaii County to participate in their Student Artwork Exchange

### Shibukawa Artwork

program. With the support of the Mayor's Office and the County Council, the program was initiated that fall with 4th grade students from Waiakea Elementary School being the first group from the Big Island, to send their artwork to Shibukawa for display this past February.

Waiakea Elementary School's students will also be participating again this fall, with their artwork on display in Shibukawa next February. If other elementary schools are interested in participating, they should contact the Japanese Community Association of Hawaii for more information at [jcahawaii@yahoo.com](mailto:jcahawaii@yahoo.com) or 969-6437.



## The 79th Annual Ireito Memorial Service

The Japanese Community Association of Hawai'i made a hard and safe decision toward cancelling the 79th Annual Ireito Memorial Service scheduled for August 26, 2018. This was on a weather alert of impending arrival of Hurricane Lane expecting to bring hurricane conditions to the north facing communities of Hawai'i Island. The Japanese Community Event, was than rescheduled to Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 'Alae Cemetery, starting at 2:00 pm.

An event of immeasurable participation, of all involved. Starting with the County of Hawai'i logistical support to the final bouquet placed on the base of the memorial by the Boys Scouts and Junior YBA members. An event we all need to be proud and honored to undertake toward perpetuating and honoring our AJA pioneers, our Issei's. We had a record number of participation and flower bouquet presentation at the service.

Mrs. Pat Abe and Mr. Nathan Abe both family members of the late Senator Sanji Abe, whose inspiration help erect the monument toward honoring the efforts of the many deceased immigrants who made Hawai'i a better place for their descendants.

The Consulate General of Japan, Honorable Koichi Ito, com-

mented to, "Remembering and perpetuating our gratitude to the first generation Japanese immigrants of their significant sacrifice and contribution".

"In hope of greater appreciation to our Issei's and the significance of this forever memorial at 'Alae Cemetery", commented Hawai'i County Managing Director Mr. Wil Okabe, representing Mayor Harry Kim.

"A monument paying tribute to persons of Japanese ancestry, honoring and remembering those who have gone before us and giving those, who still remain, a sense of closeness and belonging", commented Vice-President Michael Miyahira.



Representatives from each Big Island Buddhist Federation Temples, Japanese Prefecture Organizations, and Hawai'i County Council members offered incense and floral bouquets at the Ireito Memorial. Including the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawai'i, Hawai'i Japanese Center, and National Astronomical Observatory of Japan.

Big Island Buddhist Federation, Toban Temple assisted in the Memorial Service. Toban Temple this year was Taishoji Soto Mission. Reverend Tatsunori Hata officiated the service. Taishoji Soto Mission Women Association provided delicious snacks, dessert, and refreshments.

After the service, graves of the two Japanese Training Ship cadets who passed away during their voyages to Hawai'i were visited by the Consulate General of Japan, Ministers and participants. There were short services and floral bouquets presentation at each respective grave sites.



Welcome new members who joined since last newsletter

John Akagi  
Kameanani & Aaron Blackman  
Susie Dill  
Emi & James Marika  
Alan & Ellen Okinaka  
Aya Shehata

Jordan Arizumi  
Doreen & Curtis Canario  
Yuko Kakazu  
Misae & Kazuya Moro  
Sharon & Dennis Saniatan, Sr.  
Debbie Shigehara



Enter "@jcahhilo" in a search box of Facebook.

