



The Newsletter

JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

ハワイ島日系人協会

April 2015

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

President's Message — Jan Higashi

Dear members,

Thank you to all of you who attended the 43rd Shinnen Enkai and Installation Banquet.

I'm very humbled to serve as president of this wonderful organization and ask for your support and assistance. I have a lot to learn since I did not have the privilege of serving as V.P. first where I could have gained a much better understanding of what is expected of me. However, "gambare masu" (I will do my best)!

The Shinnen Enkai was held at the Hilo Naniloa Crown and was very well attended with over 220 guests who had the opportunity to listen to our very special keynote speaker, the honorable Governor George Ariyoshi, who celebrated beiju last year. He spoke from the heart about the special Japanese words/terms, words, like: Gaman, okage sama de, on, shikataganai, kodomo no tame ni and, more, which he learned from his parents and these words have guided him throughout his life. His hope is that our generation can practice and share with the generations to come.

In this issue:

| | |
|--|---|
| President's Message | 1 |
| Event Calendar | 1 |
| Nikkei Kigyo Fundraising Event | 2 |
| Pictures: Shinnen Enkai & Installation Banquet | 3 |
| Pictures: Sumo Demonstration | 4 |
| Chigirie Class Schedule | 4 |
| New Members | 4 |

会長挨拶

Honorable and charismatic Mayor Kenoi installed the 2015-2016 Officers and Board of Directors. Also, installed were two newly designated Honorary Directors: Larry Isemoto and Hiroshi Shima. A dynamic taiko performance was provided by Michael Gonhata, Taiko specialist from Oahu and few members of Puna Taiko. Cocktail music was provided by BJ Soriano and Patti Taira Tokuuuke.

On February 22nd a group of sumo wrestlers from Nittaidai University came to Hilo to speak about the sport, demonstrate and then a special session where children of all ages were pitted against a sumotori! Sumo was very popular in Hilo until the late 60's. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all! Mahalo to Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shigeeda and his staff for making this event possible in Hilo!

We are looking forward to awarding the very first scholarships at the upcoming Nikkei Kigyo Fundraiser which benefits our scholarship

fund on May 15 at Nani Mau Gardens where we will honor to longstanding generational nihonjin companies: HPM Building Supply and Isemoto Contracting Co. Ltd.

It is already an exciting year with the many Kenjinkais/Doshi Kais having their New Year's

President, next page



Gov. Ariyoshi, Jan Higashi; 2nd row: Mrs. Ariyoshi, Consul General Shigeeda

Event Calendar

- Nikkei Kigyo Banquet – Friday, May 15, 2015
- Ireito Ceremony at Alae Cemetery – Sunday, August 23
- Bunka No Hi (Japanese Culture Day in Hawaii) – Saturday, November 14, 2015



NIKKEI KIGYO FUNDRAISING EVENT
(a benefit for our Scholarship Program)

honoring

HPM BUILDING SUPPLY & ISEMOTO CONTRACTING CO. LTD.



Friday, May 15, 2015
Nani Mau Gardens
starting at 5 pm

We are very pleased to honor two outstanding Nikkei Kigyo (enterprise of Japanese ancestry) businesses in East Hawaii who have thrived because of their gambare spirit, hard work, perseverance and the very important role both companies continue to play in our community!

HPM Building Supply is a family-run company which has been led by five generations of Fujimotos and was established 93 years ago. Still involved in the company are: Bobby Fujimoto, his son Michael, and Michael's son Jason.

Due to the devastating tsunamis in 1946 and 1960, they were forced to rebuild. In 1961, they re-opened at their current location on Kanoelehua Avenue.

Isemoto Contracting was established 88 years ago and is also a family run business now led by third

generation Leslie Isemoto, president and COO and Larry Isemoto, COB, retired. The company was built on family values and a commitment to quality craftsmanship, workplace safety and innovation.

Isemoto Contracting has become one of the largest general contractors on the island of Hawaii.

We will be recognizing our first scholarship recipient(s) at the event as well.

The committee is currently seeking corporate sponsors as follows: Sakura \$1500; Matsu \$1000; Ume \$750.

SPECIAL JCAH MEMBER BENEFIT:

\$50 per person

Non-member pays \$75 per person!!
(reservation form attached)

President, from previous page

parties and soon the delegation from our sister city Shibukawa City will be arriving to partake in the Merrie Monarch Festival as well as present the winning halau the grand prize of a trip to the Annual King Kalakaua Merrie Monarch Festival in Japan! Hilo Chigiri-e students, Roanne Tsutsui, Thais (Miguel) da Rosa, John (Karen) Tyler and I (Roland) will accompany Lily Nakao Sensei with a few of her students from Oahu as well, to Japan in early April for the Annual Hakubi Washi Chigiri-e

Academy, Spring Grand Exhibition in Ueno Park with over 600 pieces on display by the talented Japanese women amidst the falling cherry blossoms!

I humbly ask each of you to get involved, call our office and leave a message that you'd like to help or to make a suggestions.

Isshoni Yarimashou!
Jan Higashi, President ■

*43rd Shinnen Enkai & Installation Banquet
Held on Sunday, January 25, 2015
At Hilo Naniloa Hotel—Crown Room*



President Jan Higashi presents plaque to Hiroshi Suga, outgoing president.



Officers 2015-16: L-R; Immediate Past President Hiroshi Suga; Treasurer Mike Miyahira; President Jan Higashi, Secretary Jane Miyasaki; Auditor Lillian Watanabe; 2nd VP Jon Arizumi. Missing: 1st VP Ivan Nakano; Japanese Secretary Naomi Menor and Auditor Tsuneo Akiyama.



Consul General of Japan Toyoei Shi-geeda (above) and Honorable governor George R. Ariyoshi



Board of Directors 2015-16: L-R, 1st row: Dennis Taniguchi, Jere Usui, Glenn Hirata, Lillie Tsuchiya, Janet Fujioka, Sada Aoki, Reiko Hamano, Audrey Takamine, Paul Sakamoto, Art Taniguchi, Dwayne Mukai. 2nd row: Junichi Noumaru, Shoko Kuki, Jimmy Arakaki, Roland Higashi, Arnold Hiura, Barry Mizuno, and Tommy Goya.



Honorary directors Hiroshi Shima and Larry Isemoto, L&R With Mayor Billy Kenoi.

Sumo athletes from Nittaidai University demonstrated at dohyo in Waiakea Recreation Center.

Sunday February 22, 2015

Eight sumo athletes from Nittaidai (Japan Sport Science University) visited Hilo and Douglas Arruda was back in the dohyo or sumo ring twenty-four years after he retired from sumo. Athletes held a workshop and played with kids. This event attracted more than two hundred people.



HILO WASHI CHIGIRI-E CLASS

Sponsored by
The JCAH & Hakubi Chigiri-e Gakuin of Japan

Saturday, May 9

Time: 10:30—3:00 p.m.

**Place: Culture & Arts Dept.
28 Shipman St., Hilo
(Hilo Armory-ocean side)**

BYOB - bring your own bento

Class fee: \$10-JCAH member;
\$15-non-member—per class
Basic Kit: \$10-JCAH member;
\$12-non-member—per kit

Contact:
JCAH 969-6437
jcahawaii@yahoo.com



Welcome new members who joined since last newsletter

Frances Hamabata
Arnold and Eloise Hiura

Joyce Higashi-Ikeda and Charles Ikeda
Joy and Gene Madriaga
Ron Nakamoto

REMINDER:

Just in case you haven't paid your 2015 dues, \$15, please send to JCAH as soon as possible.
Also, please share your e-mail address by writing to: jcahawaii@yahoo.com.
We welcome new members, so please ask your friends and relatives to join JCAH!

Submitted by: Lillie Tsuchiya and Jill Atwal, Membership Committee, co-chair



JAPANESE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII
714 KANOELEHUA AVE. #202
HILO, HI 96720