

December

2018

eNewsletter

OGSHnews@gmail.com



Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii
c/o HUOC
95-587 Ukee Place
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797



Rodney's Word of the Month
"Yushigutu"
words of wisdom & enlightenment



December 2018

No meeting.

January 2019

19

Saturday, 10 a.m. HUOA Installation
Banquet OGSU Uchinanchu of the Year,
Mac Yonamine (posthumously)
Tickets are sold out.

26 OGSU Meeting

(Fourth Saturday)

9am HOC Serikaku Chaya

メリークリスマス

Merīkurisumasu





Season's Greetings!
from Rodney

Many of you are in the midst of the hustle of the holiday season, preparing to celebrate with friends and families.

This was a remarkable and memorable year for OGS as we remembered the many things that we did and accomplished. We started 2018 with much uncertainties and apprehensions. In March, a few members traveled to Okinawa for genealogy research. The trip was coordinated with the Okinawan Prefectural Library (OPL). We came away with many positive results in discovering new friends and family connections. We re-established and strengthened our working relationship with the OPL staff as they went above and beyond to help us.

The second challenge was at the Okinawan Festival at the Hawaii Convention Center. There were many unknowns moving to a new place. Thank you to Dr Shinye Gima and the Hokuzan group in leading us in organizing our displays. All of you worked together with your knowledge and experiences that contributed towards our successful festival exhibits.

The third event was our 25th Silver Anniversary celebration to end the year. There were many challenges during the planning process, but we all pulled together in making this event jelled into a memorable day. Our theme, "Keishoo, Passing On To The Next Generation", will be our guiding light for the future. Much mahalo to Theresa Tom, Nancy Yogi and the Nanzan group for spearheading this event.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my very best wishes for your good health, happiness and continued success in the new year. May the Okinawan traditional celebration of New Year's, "Uchinaa Sougwachi", be with you.





Holiday Greetings

By Donna

Haitai and holiday greetings to all of you amidst a year that has been a very spectacular and special one as we celebrated our 25th anniversary! What a milestone and achievement! As the sunset of 2018 approaches and the dawn of 2019 beckons us, let's take a moment to consider the last 25 years of our organization's history and where we're headed for the next 25 years. As I think about this miraculous journey we're on, it becomes very clear to me that what we do in genealogy is an important service to ourselves and to others as it provides opportunities to claim our ancestors and for our ancestral roots to go deeper into our family history. In many ways I feel like a treasure hunter because each of our ancestors is a treasured life waiting to be found. I look forward to the day when our family trees and treasure chests are full with ancestral branches and roots that reach out in all directions and under this canopy of family trees, people of our community find a place of belonging.

Wishing you and yours a Joyous and Merry Christmas and a New Year that brings health, wealth and a renewed commitment to claim those ancestral treasures waiting to be discovered. Much remains to be done and I look forward to working alongside each of you next year!

Donna Nakamura





OGSH Silver Anniversary Celebration

By Nancy

A milestone year, OGSB celebrated its 25th anniversary on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at the Hawaii Okinawa Center, Legacy Ballroom II

After a year of preparation, the big day arrived. The journey was bumpy, with many hurdles to cross, challenges to overcome. Much was learned throughout this lively planning period. Through the efforts of all, the outcome was one we can all be proud of- an upbeat, memorable and happy occasion.

To all the leads - a great big THANK YOU!! ... for your hard work and work coming from the heart:

Theresa Tom for the creation of the bold and vibrant anniversary booklet, with matching name tags, and much more etceteras...

Doreen Yamashiro with your extraordinary secretarial skills, keeping us on track with the guests, the numbers and the many responsibilities required at the reception table;

Amy Tsuru and Rodney Kohagura, in coordinating for the delicious meal and in tending to all the logistics of the occasion;

Cindy and Guy Ujimori, displayed their artful skills using her homegrown plants and origami paper. Each table was decorated with a beautifully folded silver crane carrying a gracefully flowing green and growing arrangement, creating the aura of elegance and peace;

To Terry Shinsato, Florence Teruya, Laverne Tanaka, Linda and Richard Teruya who oversaw the sales of Short Story Book VI, the goya plants and seeds;

To Stan Uehara and Wayne Shiroma with assistance from helper elves Jan Kobashigawa, Naomi Tome, June Takeno and Dorothy Nakama, in devising the fun ways of becoming a prize winner throughout the program.

To John Tasato, Fred Shinsato, and Evelyn Takara in coordinating the diverse, educational, entertaining and action packed Program;

To Joy and Michael Schoonover who directed the sound system, working very closely with the Program planners;

To veteran Ronald Miyashiro for the creation of yet another video production highlighting OGSB activities for the past 25 years;

To Wayne Shiroma, for offering the Grace;

To Curtis Shinsato and Renee Nakama for the group photo and capturing the activities of the day through the lens;

...And to Amy Shinsato, for overseeing the pupu table.

To our emcees—Mark Higa and Joy Schoonover- great job!

To our member performers and guest performers,--you all shined!

With much appreciation, to all Donors, for the generous gifts received.

And mostly, to you -- who honored us with your presence to make this occasion happen.

During this season of gift giving, may I share these gift giving thoughts shared by June Arakawa many years ago that you can give throughout the year?

The Gift of a Cheerful Deposition

Be cheerful around your loved ones. No complaining, no feeling sorry for yourself, no nasty comments, no pessimistic predictions. Your gift of cheerfulness will be great for all of your loved ones and yourself.

The Gift of a Compliment

Give your loved one a compliment. A simple "I like the way you smile."

The Gift of Laughter

Just clip a cartoon, a joke, a riddle, or save a clever article. Your gift will say "I love to laugh with you."

The Gift of Prayer

Don't forget how valuable a prayer can be. Praying for someone is saying, "You are so special to me that I often talk to God about you."

The Gift of Listening

One of the greatest things we can do for one another is to listen to him or her.

The Gift of a Note:

Write a note to a loved one. It can be as short as "I love you" or as long as a sonnet. Surprise your loved one; put the note in a lunch box, or a purse or maybe in the sock drawer. Though the note may be a surprise, the message will not.

Ippee nifee deebiru!

With best wishes to you and your ohana for a happy holiday season!

Nancy Yogi

co chair, 25th anniversary celebration





“Never pass up an opportunity to learn something new.”

“Never fear the unknown.”

By Theresa

From a co-chairperson’s viewpoint, first thought I had about the Anniversary Bonenkai was that a bonenkai was easier to man than the Okinawa Festival. With the OF, manpower is needed for roughly 9 hours a day for two days. So the first obvious fact that hits you is, “We need help!”

But we’re talking about bonenkai, and for this, the first thing you realize is “We need leaders”. The major categories where leaders are needed are,

- 1) Registrar- Collects Attendance Registration & Cash, Checks In Attendees & Collects Unpaid at the Door, Updates Designer, Publication Person, Food Person, and Chairperson.
- 2) Designer- Creates Centerpieces, Favors, & Decorates Venue. Updates Publication Person and/or Chairperson for any particular needs. Relies on Accurate Information from Registrar, Food Coordinator & Chairperson.
- 3) Entertainment Agent- Procures Entertainers, Arranges Staging requirements, & Audio System. Updates Publication Person, Food Coordinator & Chairperson regarding Entertainment Schedule, Chair & Table Needs for Entertainers & Audio Equipment.
- 4) Publications Officer- Sends Registration Forms, Invitations, Prints Name Tags, Produces/Prints Programs, Sends “Thank You Cards”. Relies on Accurate Information from Group Leaders.
- 5) Food Coordinator- Orders Menu Items, Updates Attendance with ACE, (? Sign Contract ?), Makes Payment. Relies on Accurate Information from Registration & Entertainment Group Leaders.
- 6) Prize Coordinator- Procures Prizes/Gifts, Disperses Prizes/Gifts. Solicits for Goods, Devises Award Methods.
- 7) Chairperson- Produces Invitation List, Ensures Accurate Information is Dispersed to Each Group Leader; Procures Leis for Invited Guests, Officers, & Honorees, Decides on Attendance Cost Per Person, Budgets and Tracks Expenses, Monitors Each Group Leader & Assists When Needed.

It’s a fortunate situation that many folks in OGSB willingly volunteer to help, but quizzically, no one wants to take on the challenge of leading a group. I’ve found that taking on new experiences enhances one’s personal growth, & builds self-confidence and overall awareness of being a leader.

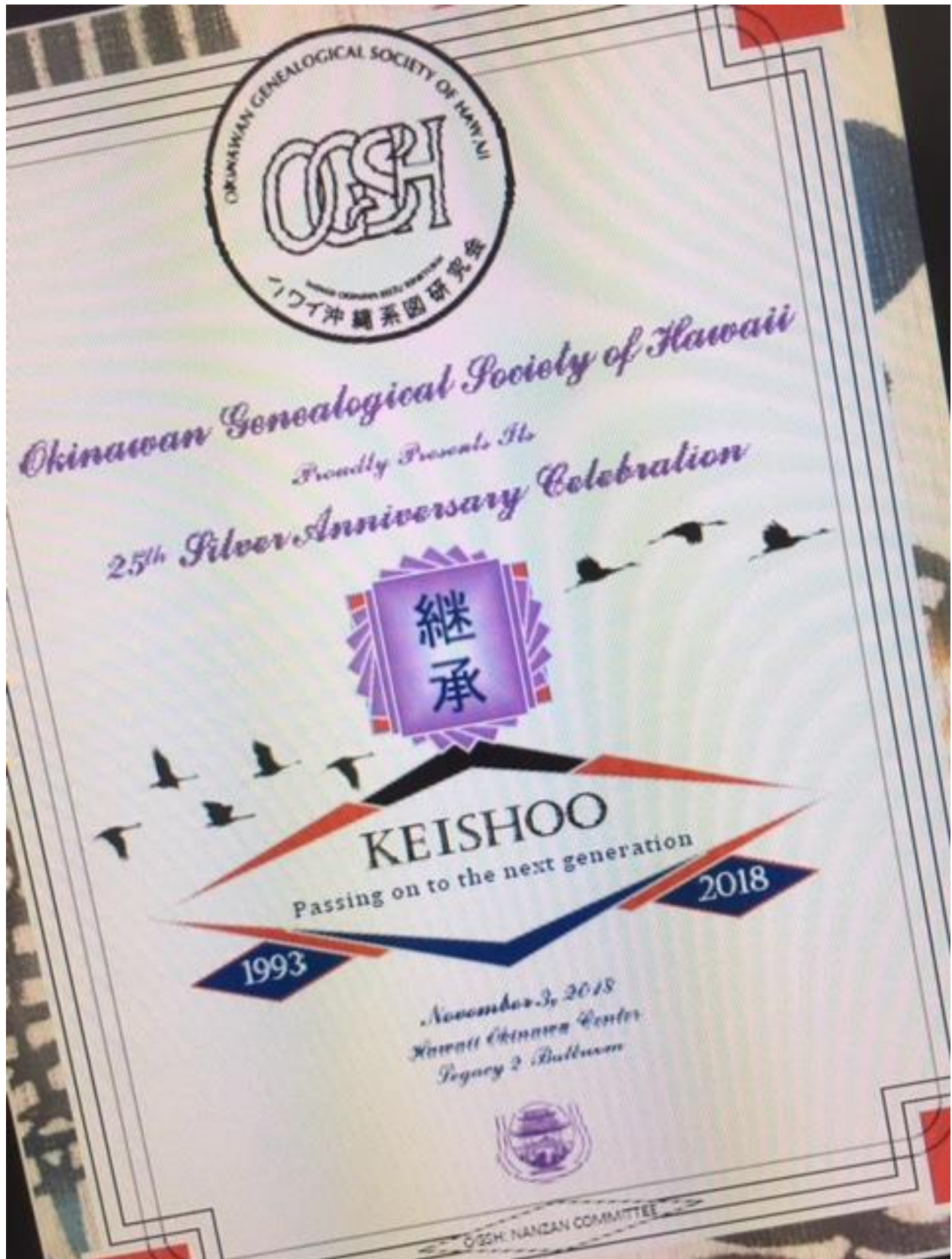
There are other benefits of accepting new challenges, too. You learn new things, you learn about other people and you learn about yourself. And, best of all, you build new bonds with like-minded people.

A piece of advice I recently heard was “Never pass up an opportunity to learn something new”. And, one that I learned years ago was, “Never fear the unknown”.

So, with all these lessons and benefits, I hope to encourage those who’ve never had the experience of leading a group or committee to broaden your skills, talents, and character. Give it a try. There’s always plenty of people willing to advise and help. And you’ll gain the great satisfaction of accomplishment.

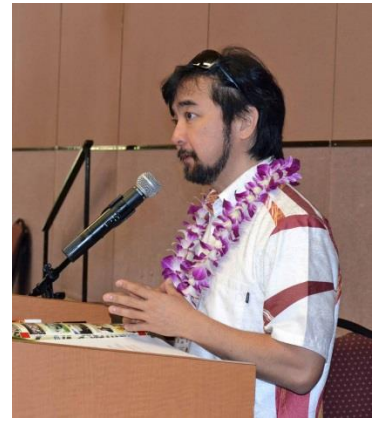
To those who like to “advise”, do it early on, practice positive reinforcement along the way, and in the end, if you are not getting things the way you want it, let it go. Realize that the reward of being the Lead, is that you can do things in ways that you like. Don’t expect your leaders to chuck everything they’ve worked on during the year, just to please you. If you must have things “your way”, here’s a lesson for you: “next time around, you be the leader.”

November 3, 2018

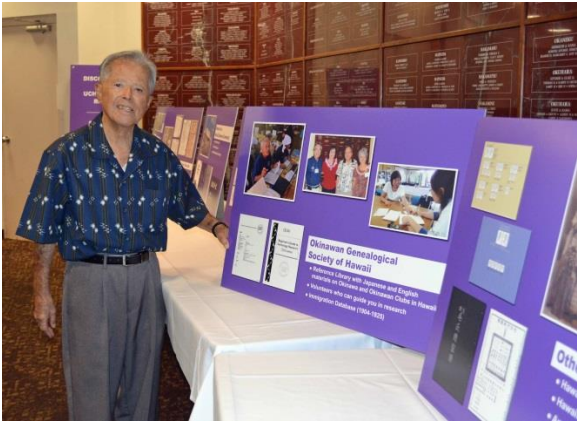


Photos by Curtis and Renee

















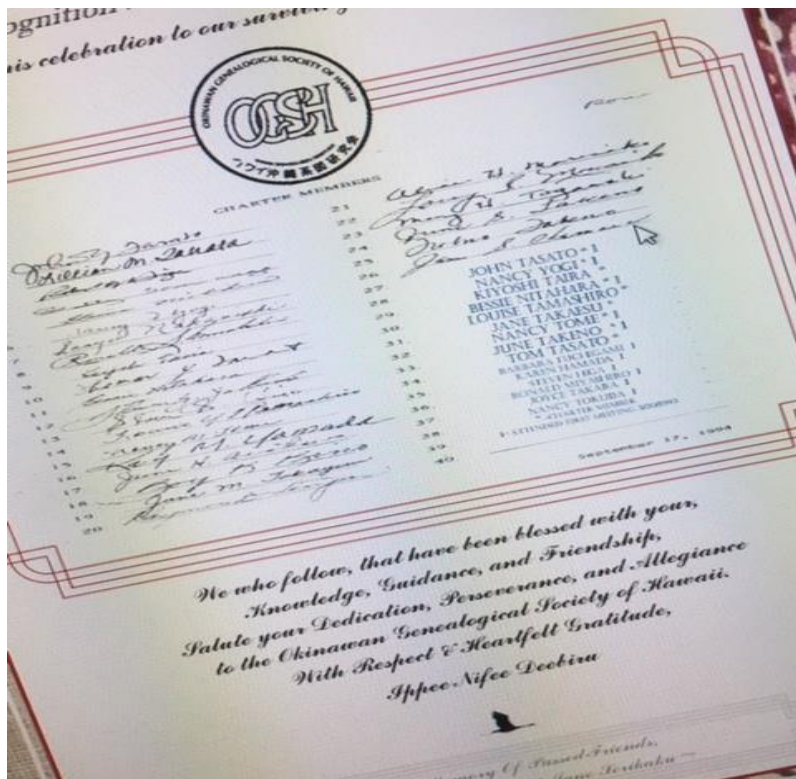








*Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii
25th Silver Anniversary Celebration
November 3, 2018*





明けまして
おめでとうございます

Happy New Year

2019

May the coming year bring new happiness, new goals, new achievements, and a lot of new inspirations on your life.

Wishing you a year fully loaded with happiness.

Year of the Pig

2019 is a Year of the Pig according to the Chinese zodiac, and it's an Earth Pig year. Years of the Pig include 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, and 2031. In Chinese astrology, each year belongs to a Chinese zodiac animal according to the 12-year cycle.

The Pig's Personality: Diligent, Compassionate...

Pigs are diligent, compassionate, and generous. They have great concentration: once they set a goal, they will devote all their energy to achieving it. Though Pigs rarely seek help from others, they will not refuse to give others a hand. Pigs never suspect trickery, so they are easily fooled.

General speaking, Pigs are relatively calm when facing trouble. No matter how difficult the problems are Pigs encounter, they can handle things properly and carefully. They have a great sense of responsibility to finish what they are engaged in.

