



Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii
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e-Newsletter
 2020
 April

Donna's Word of the Month

"chimujurasan"
 kindhearted, compassionate, beautiful in mind

Upcoming Activities

2020

- April 18 **Canceled** -OGSH Monthly Meeting
- May 16-17 **Canceled** -Ukaji Deebiru – Celebrating 120 Years of Uchinanchu in Hawaii, HOC
- Sept 5-6 Okinawan Festival
- Nov 21 Bonenkai

2021

- October 28-31 7th Worldwide Uchinanchi Festival
 Naha, Okinawa

Membership Meeting
 Saturday, April 18, 2020, **CANCELED**
 Serikaku Chaya



April Report

Treasurer's Report: Income –donations
 Expense: none

Secretary's Report: Newsletter

OGSH Photos: Curtis S., members and friends

Chaa ganjyuu,

May everyone be fine and healthy as we practice stay-at-home and social distancing.

Thank you to all the first responders and healthcare workers. Thank you to all who continue to maintain the day to day operations of businesses. Thank you to all of you who make it possible to have a meal on the table.

Stay safe, stay positive, and keep calm.

Ippee Niffee Debiru



Sumie shares her COVID-19 stay-at-home.

I am trying to live a normal life in home quarantine by continuing my daily exercises and regular chores, though the frequency of grocery shopping and life outdoors has decreased.

I have taken up a new hobby, mask making, and I am taking advantage of my time at home by clearing out old files from my business and gardening a lot more, which I am really enjoying.

I'm also planning to do home projects, including touching up the paint throughout the house. Keeping busy has helped me cope with the situation and maintain sense of normalcy in my life.

Let's do our part so we can get back to our normal life soon. I miss you all at the OGSB meeting.

Stay safe,
 Sumie

Mahalo 



A hui hou



2018, Hiroaki Hara at the Okinawan Festival.



2019, Hiroaki Hara and his family in Hawaii. Hiroaki, Riko "Carolyn", Ibuki "Ivan", and Chiharu "Claire".



2020, the Hara's last day in Hawaii. Hiroaki, Claire, Riko, Ivan, and Glen Kogachi.

April 11, 2020

Okinawa Prefectural Library's Hiroaki Hara and OGS friend abruptly left Hawaii on April 9, 2020 on the LAST flight to Japan where they will quarantine for 14 days before returning to Okinawa. Hiroaki was instrumental in enhancing OGS's immigration data base and assisting members with genealogical research.

The family is grateful for the members hospitality and generosity shown them upon their arrival two years ago with the goal of attaining his Masters in Library Science.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, no school for the children, on-line classes for him, no graduation ceremony and STAY AT HOME mandate, a decision was made to leave sooner than later. Because of the pandemic, a farewell get-together was not possible.

The Hara's felt the next best thing was to see everyone at Taikai 2021 and marching down Kokusai-dori with OGS/HOC members in the Taikai parade. Pictured is wife Claire, children Riko and Ivan along with Glenn Kogachi who generously offered his van for transportation to the airport.

(4-10-2020 - Claire wrote that after arriving at the airport in Japan, reported to the quarantine station and taking the mandatory covid-19 test for a time span of three hours, they are now hunkering down at Hiro's parent's home in Saitama, Japan. They are still awaiting results of the covid-19 test.)

Amy Tsuru



Umuiganasa OGSB!

Thinking of you and checking in to let you know that I am surviving this crisis of epic proportion. I have my days and days where I have hit the wall with emotions and feelings that have turned me upside down and inside out. I know we each have experienced some challenge in navigating these uncharted waters as there is no “play book” that gives us step by step instructions. It has become a juggling act for me to remain balanced and positive. Remember the toy from hanabata days which had some weight in the bottom and no matter how you hit it or threw it, it still landed right side up? That will give you a visual of what I have been feeling. Some days I took a little longer to bring myself upright; other days I bounced back right away. But enough of that because I want to provide some positive news and the one thing that comes immediately to mind is that we are making incredible progress on our updated web site project. The team had a ZOOM meeting this past Saturday and after some issues in trying to get started, we actually had dialog that lasted around 2 hours. That was groundbreaking in many ways. For now, we will have to depend on technology to bridge the gap while we exercise social distancing.



Additionally, the placement of our OGSB database link on the homepage of HUOA website has produced hits from all over the world including NY, SF, LA, Oregon, Sao Paulo, Berlin and Santa Clara. Thanks to the hard work of Al Toma and his OGSB database team, the increased visibility has piqued the interest of people wanting to discover their roots. We will continue to improve the experience by tweaking the search as we learn from this testing phase.

I read a very interesting article in the latest edition of the Hawaii Herald written by Chef Alan Wong and was titled “COVID-19: A Restaurant Owner’s Perspective”. In this article he talks about restaurants being “our immigrant plantation history” and “Some of the restaurants are generations old, trying to survive and this crisis may be the straw that “broke the buggahs’ back”. “He said the restaurant industry will survive, but what it will look like after this is unknown. Chef Wong also sees us pulling through this with our Aloha and the “ability to come together to help each other out. It’s rooted in our ancestry. . . . Our spirits, and hope, need to remain positive and optimistic, that together, we will see better days.” I cannot describe my hopes for all of us more eloquently than how he has phrased this article. If you subscribe to Hawaii Herald, please read the article. If you’re not a subscriber, you might want to consider becoming one. Our local newspapers are also in need of our support.

After having said all this, I want to wish all of you safe and sane passage through this crisis and remind each of you (myself included) that reaching out with a spirit of CHIMUJURASAN (compassion) is essential in bringing humanity into our everyday lives. My daily goal recently is to display this quality of compassion and kindheartedness.

Donna

October 2021

Joy is collecting names to form an OGSB group to be part of a JTB Tour. Email: ogshnews@gmail.com.

7th Worldwide Uchinanchu Festival Tour
Okinawa's Largest International Event - Once in 5 Years!
October 24th (Sun) ~ November 3rd (Wed) 2021
**Tentative itinerary - schedule subject to change*



*Escorted from Hawaii by
 Sumie (Oshiro) Consillio
 (formerly Naka's Travel Service)*

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Pre-Register Now!

Tour package includes the following:

- Roundtrip international air.
- Licensed professional English speaking local guide.
- 9 nights in deluxe hotel accommodations.
- Sightseeing by chartered motor coach.
- Daily breakfast and meals as per itinerary.
- Festival registration.
- Transfer & entrance to festival opening and closing ceremonies.
- Guided sightseeing in North, South and Central Okinawa.
- Participation in pre-festival opening parade down Kokusai-dori.
- A chance to experience a unique, once-in-five years event!
- Pre-departure briefing with lunch
- Escorted from Honolulu by Sumie (Oshiro) Consillio.

Inquiries / Reservations



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