



Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii  
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e-Newsletter  
 2020  
 May



**Donna's Word of the Month**

“ Umuiganasa kafuushi deebiru”  
 (thinking of you with deep gratitude)

**Membership Meeting**  
 Saturday, May 16, 2020, **CANCELED**  
 Serikaku Chaya



**Upcoming Activities**

2020  
 June 19 **Cancelled** HUOA Senior Fair  
 June 20 OGSH Monthly Meeting – TBD Zoom  
 June 22 **Cancelled** HUOA Irei No Hi at HOC-TBD  
 Virtual  
 Oct 18 **Cancelled** HUOA Legacy Banquet  
 Sept 5-6 **Cancelled** Okinawan Festival  
 Nov 21 Bonenkai

2021  
 October 28-31 7<sup>th</sup> Worldwide Uchinanchi Festival  
 Naha, Okinawa

**April Report**

Treasurer's Report: No activity

Secretary's Report: Newsletter

OGSH Photos: Curtis S., members and friends

**OKINAWAN FESTIVAL:**

As you may already know, the festival has been cancelled this year in support of everyone's safety and wellbeing. Much discussion was held prior to this decision and more discussion continues on how to create an alternative festival. Each club was asked to submit some ideas for consideration and we suggested that a 10-15 minute video be created to highlight the Serikaku airplane history and concluding with a live demonstration of how to make the paper airplane kits that will be offered for purchase. The Ujimoris have whole-heartedly supported this idea and we are awaiting HUOAs comments, guidance, and support. Another option for consideration is the sale of our short story books. More discussion is anticipated as we collaborate with HUOA to establish protocol for sales, support for distribution of the goods along with price determination and profit sharing percentages. More information to follow as this discussion evolves.



<https://huoa.org/nuuzi/>

**Update:**  
 New initiative being planned for our Virtual Okinawan Experience in the areas of (1) performing arts; (2) food; (3) online marketplace (which will include our short story books); (4) education and (5) tourism. Roll out will begin in July in preparation for culmination of "festival" Labor Day weekend. More to follow . . .

Haitai! Gusuyo! Hi everyone!! I truly miss seeing all of you in person so I am using this newsletter as a way to stay in touch and keep you apprised of what your HUOA and OGSB BOD and IT Teams have been doing since the last time we “spoke”. Here are the updates:



1. **OKINAWAN FESTIVAL:** see above
2. **BONENKAI 2020:** The board commenced discussion regarding this year’s Bonenkai. celebration. As the Board members took into consideration all the uncertainties still remaining in regards to the timeline for A Catering Experience (ACE) to reopen the ballroom, this item was tabled with a deadline of July 31, 2020, for final decision by our membership. I personally would like to see this year-end celebration occur even though the planning timeline is already really compressed. It would be nice to celebrate our successful journey through the harsh realities of what each of us did to support the containment of COVID 19. ACE is currently working with all their clients who have reservations and are exercising a lot of flexibility to eliminate any hardship for clients with booked events and are willing to move the date to the right. If any of you have any comments to share, please feel free to do so and I am hoping that we may be able to meet in June either via a ZOOM conference call or another venue that will allow social distancing.
3. **HAWAII HERALD ARTICLE HIGHLIGHTING OGSB:** Dan Nakasone, in partnership with the Hawaii Herald, is working on an exclusive highlighting our work in genealogy searches. Our database has become highly visible and used more extensively than in the past. With this new visibility, Dan Nakasone decided to do more research and has interviewed several OGSB members for this article. Look for this edition to be issued on June 19, 2020, according to Jodie Ching, the current Hawaii Herald editor who took the place of recently retired Karleen Chinen who shared many valuable years of writing for the Hawaii Herald. I learned that the readership for this newspaper is around 3,000 and extra copies will be printed in hopes that others will want to have a copy of this special edition.



*Hiroaki Hara (left), originally from Okinawa and now studying at the University of Hawai'i, shared his perspective with Emily and Kehaulani. They are students of Kathy Shigemura (right) who teaches media at Kalaheo High School. (Photos by Dan Nakasone)*

This is an excerpt from the April 7, 2020 edition of the Hawaii Herald.  
By Dan Nakasone

“History can teach us to have hope,” said Kalaheo High School senior, Kehaulani Bringas.

“Given the way things are today, this story gives me hope,” agreed Emily Casey, also a senior at Kalaheo. They were responding to my question: “What was your top ‘takeaway’ from your National History Day project?” As juniors, Bringas and Casey had produced a video documentary on the post-Battle of Okinawa World War II relief effort from Hawai’i to Okinawa for their project.

Casey and Bringas produced a 10-minute documentary for their National History Day project. They also produced a three-minute version that was recently aired on PBS Hawai’i Hiki Nō. Although their documentary did not place in the National History Day competition, this piece of history taught them a valuable lesson: Great tragedies birth great kindness.

4. **WEB PAGE DEVELOPMENT:** Your IT Team is working really hard to keep up with the energy and foresight of the team headquartered in San Francisco. Sometimes I feel like the little old lady from Pasadena with her little Nash Rambler (please see note below) trying to keep up with this supercharged energy that is so typical of youth! I have forgotten what it was like to have that kind of energy and find myself “eating” their dust as they travel down the internet highway in their “souped” up muscle car with the TACH redlining as they keep their pedal to the metal. WHEW! It’s not the easiest way to build stamina but we’re all trying with different levels of success. So far, the “building” of our site is looking incredibly exciting as we bring our thinking and visual composition updated to meet and greet the future. You will find the slides that were shared with us during our last ZOOM conference meeting. It was really exciting to see the concept becoming reality and I am so looking forward to the day when it goes live. I will suggest that we all get a period where we can view the new page before it goes live. The date for this “live” launching looks like it will be moved to the right as both OGSB and HUOA continue to provide the team with the information and process they need to finish the “building”. As we encounter each aspect of our new look, we find ourselves having to address things that were not anticipated and it is a tremendous learning experience for all of us! appreciate all the support from our membership as we seek guidance and information needed to navigate the future reality.

Search OGSB's database for your Issei families who emigrated to over 29 countries around the world in the 1900's. [Click on the photo-->](#)



OGSB Website: <https://lewchew.warubozo.com/main.php>

**Okinawan Genealogical Resources**  
Databases and Web Sites

Home Migration Databases Migration Statistics **Find Kanji Names** Cemeteries Genealogical Resources Newspapers Links History Associations Associations Embassies Okinawa Websites

Kanji Readings of Romaji Names  
 Romaji Readings of Kanji Names  
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 Look Up Kanji Names (En/Jp)  
 Look Up Kanji Words & Names (En/Jp)  
 Kanji Name Search (Jp)  
 Google Translate

**World did Okinawans Emigrate?**

databases as well as other genealogical resources and web sites. Migration Databases] and then [Okinawa Emigrants] in the upper over 50,000 records<sup>1</sup> of Okinawans who emigrated to over 29 The [Migration Statistics] menu option contains an aggregation database. Use Chrome browser to translate external web sites.

Country	Count
Russia	22
Canada	340
America	534
Mexico	785
Cuba	153
Hawaii	16,905
Panama	2
Brazil	6557
Peru	9955
Bolivia	42
Argentina	2271
Uruguay	4
Chile	2
Australia	22
New Caledonia	844
Fiji	20
Kiribati	344
Vanuatu	1
Papua New Guinea	4
Indonesia	685
Malaysia	296
Singapore	2058
Philippines	8974
Vietnam	3
Thailand	8
Myanmar	1
China	58

<sup>1</sup> Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan  
 Okinawa Kenshiro 1900-1911 Vols: 5, 6  
 Okinawa Kenshi Shirohen 1912-1926 Vols: 6, 8, 11, 19  
 Total Visitors:164 Successful Searches:204



Until the next time we “talk story”, stay safe and healthy! I am truly thankful for each of you and the special qualities and talent (yes, listening is a talent too!) you bring to our group.

Umuiganasa kafuushi deebiru (thinking of you with deep gratitude)

(Someone please correct me if I have not worded this phrase correctly!!)

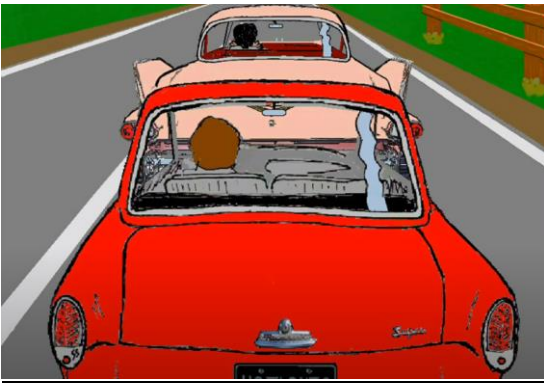
Donna Nakamura

NOTE: if you are inclined, please go to YouTube and watch “Beep, Beep”. . . it made me laugh and brought back fond memories. Yes, even the “Little Old Lady from Pasadena” is a song from the past. Those were the simple days . . .

Copy and paste the hyperlink to your address bar.

*Beep Beep*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=enqNI7tdLR4>



*Little Old Lady From Pasadena*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6MhiHZvq8zc>



*Asadoya Yunta*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfZ\\_1DxQ\\_hU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfZ_1DxQ_hU)



*Don't Worry Be Happy*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWXUWepSak4&pbjreload=101>



**STAY SAFE**