

Sakura

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Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 1105 Aiea, HI 96701
www.hjjcc.com info@hjjcc.com
808.949.2255



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President's Letter

Dear Friends,

This is my last message as President of the HJJCC, and I write it with a mix of pride, gratitude and optimism. I'm proud of what we've accomplished together – the 57th Cherry Blossom Festival, our On the Nines event at Aloha Tower, growing our membership, and strengthening our relationships with the Honolulu Japanese Chamber of Commerce and our sister chapters from Kobe, Odawara, Kurashiki, Kojima and Tamashima.

I'm proud of, and grateful for, the HJJCC Board of Directors and you, our members, for making the extra effort, and taking the extra step to grow as a person and contribute to our community. I'm grateful for all the people I've met, the opportunities granted, and especially the friends I've made.

Finally, I'm optimistic for the future. Times are tough, but history shows us that the human spirit endures and triumphs. Things will get better, not by themselves, but by dedicated individuals and organizations putting in an extra effort. I have every confidence that Kris Miyamoto and the 2009 – 2010 HJJCC Board of Directors will work hard to provide the best events and opportunities possible. Please join me in giving them our full support.

Sincerely,
David Kaneko
59th President, HJJCC



Odawara Jaycee Visit

- Cheryl Sora

From June 10 - 14 the Odawara JC's came to Hawaii to spend time and strengthen relations with our HJJCC members. This year's trip was especially meaningful as it is the 25th anniversary of sister-chapter relations.

Aloha Party

Our members had a great time hosting them to a number of events which included a welcome party, dinner at the George's house, BBQ and aloha party. In addition to that, we also had a visit to the governor's office where the Odawara JC's got to meet and greet the governor herself.



Circle Island Tour

Their visit to Hawaii was short but we were able to create many lasting memories during those few days that we will always cherish. They are looking forward to October when they will be able to see us again. This time in Japan!



Winners of the Odawara-Honolulu stocking challenge at the Aloha Party

Making gyotaku print shirts



*For more pictures
check out our
gallery at
www.hjjcc.com !*

HJJCC Election

- Kris Miyamoto



Thank you to all for your support and words of encouragement. The election of the 2009-2010 HJJCC Board of Directors was held on May 27, 2009 at Ruth Chris Steak House in Restaurant Row. The menu offered a "build your own burger" bar, pasta salad and ended with their delectable bread pudding. A big MAHALO to Merrissa Uchimura for coordinating this event. I would like to take this time to say congratulations to the new board members and I look forward to working with each of you to make the upcoming year memorable for all.



HJJCC members enjoyed the good food, drinks, and company

2009-2010 HJJCC Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board: David Kaneko
 President: Kris Miyamoto
 Executive Vice President: Darren Ota
 Treasurer: Colin Touchi
 Secretary: Leighton Hara
 Vice President Community Development: Lauren Honbo
 Vice President Management Development: Cheryl Sora
 Vice President Membership: Shauna Goya
 Vice President International Relations: Kathi Nakayama
 Queen's Advisor: Cheryl Shintani
 Director-at-Large: Staci Yoshihara



2009-2010 HJJCC Board of Directors

*For more pictures
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 gallery at
www.hjjcc.com !*



HJCC Members honored in 2009 PBN “Forty Under 40”

- Jonathan Murai



James Kaneshiro

On Thursday June 25, 2009, Pacific Business News honored the 2009 class of their annual “Forty Under 40” awards ceremony, at the Hawaii Convention Center. Among the 40 awardees were HJCC members James Kaneshiro (Young Business Roundtable Chairman), Toby Tamaye, Seiji Aspengren, Kristi Hirota-Schmidt, and Scott Kamiya. Also named was Tanna Dang of The Wedding Café, a silver sponsor of the Cherry Blossom Festival.

The “Forty Under 40” awards recognize nominees from private, public, and non-profit sectors who meet the following criteria: 1) Less than 40 years of age. 2) A recognized industry leader with a consistent “take charge” attitude and with the overall respect of his/her colleagues. 3) A commitment to the community beyond the requirements of his/her job and industry. 4) A high degree of business acumen and sharp business like approaches to efficiency and change.



Kristi Hirota-Schmidt and Toby Tamaye

Congratulations James, Toby, Seiji, Kristi, Scott and Tanna!

58th Contestant Search



*54th CBF Contestants at
the Windward Mall
Public Appearance*

The 58th Cherry Blossom Festival is currently accepting applications for the Queen Contest Program. From September through January, the Queen Contestants are given the opportunity to learn about their Japanese heritage, improve their poise and public speaking and develop leadership skills through numerous cultural and training classes. From January through March they will participate in the Festival's wide range of events, from Fashion Show to Festival Ball - where the 58th Cherry Blossom Festival Queen and Court will be selected.

Applicants must be of at least 50% Japanese ancestry and between the ages of 19 and 26 years old. A completed application form, proof of Japanese ancestry and \$30 application fee are required and must be postmarked by August 1, 2009. Please see our website for printable applications! www.hjcc.com

57th CBF Court Update



This month we participated in events with everyone and everything from toddlers to puppies. We cheered on youth competitors at the Meadow Gold Dairies Kids Triathlon.

We ran the fishing booth at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i's Kodomo no Hi Keiki Fun Fest. On Kid's Day we sold newspapers with Parents and Children Together. We joined the Japanese Women's Society for an Adopt-a-Mom lunch at Hale Pulama Mau.



Tanya Masunaga, Janelle Uchida, Traci-Ann Miwa and Kristine Wada with Buster the beagle at the June 5th Pan-Pacific Festival Ho'olaule'a in Waikiki.



The 57th Court with the newly crowned Seattle Court.

The 57th Court at the Special Olympics Summer Games.



We attended our sister Cherry Blossom Festival in Seattle. We handed out awards at the AJA Baseball League Dinner and Special Olympics Summer Games. We greeted people at the Pan-Pacific Festival and rode in the parade. We met Pomeranians, Pit Bulls and their owners at the 5th Annual Hui 'Ilio Dog Walk in Hawai'i Kai. We most recently welcomed visiting Jaycees from Odawara. We are excited about the many wonderful events planned for the summer.

-Kristine Wada, Traci-Ann Miwa, Kristen Chung, Gina Maeda, Janelle Uchida, and Tanya Masunaga -



YOUNG BUSINESS LEADERS

July

Shauna Goya
Hiromi Ito
Austen Ito

June

Seiji Aspengren
John Esdicul
Kristi Hirota-Schmidt
Caprice Itagaki
Jeffrey Taylor
Wendy Yamamoto
Tiffany Mitani

August

Taryn Hamamoto
Jeanelle Howard
Steven Kaneko
Radford Nakamura
Brenda Nomura

Dawn Kawada
Jason Kenjo
Brandon Kim
Wedge Lee
Kris Miyamoto
Jodi Nagata
Becky Ogata
Neysa Park
Ryan Sanada
Chelsea Soares
Taryn Yano
Staci Yoshihara



Dave Kaneko, Cheryl Sora, Wendy Yamamoto and Mike Chong at the HJJCC booth.

Past presidents Jon Murai and Lori Fujikawa-Casey come out to support the HJJCC booth at the Super Mixer



Board members volunteered at the Japanese Culture Center for Kodomo no Hi on May 3, 2009.

Upcoming Events

YBR - 2nd Annual Member Showcase –

We are inviting members of the HJJCC to present and promote their respective businesses/professions. Similar to last year, this is an excellent opportunity to expand your network and resources and learn the best practices of successful young business professionals. Please email James Kaneshiro at jamesk92121@yahoo.com if you are interested in being a presenter. Consideration will be given to first responses and the mix of professions.

Check out our monthly HJJCC email for updated events and announcements, or contact us at info@hjjcc.com for more info!

The Jaycee Creed



We believe:

That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;
That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;
That economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;
That government should be of laws rather than of men;
That the earth's greatest treasure lies in human personality;
And that service to humanity is the best work of life.
