



Honolulu Chapter 56 /www.ikebana-hawaii.org

Issue 127, December 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOYCE KANESHIRO

MELE KALIKIMAKA 2023!

To our Ikebana Members and Ohana,

Writing this message on Thanksgiving Day, I thank all of you who attended our fall luncheon and encourage everyone to come to the January 14, 2024 New Year luncheon. We will celebrate the year of the dragon at Natsunoya Tea House.

Wow! Fragrant Christmas trees and greenery have arrived not only on Oahu, but to our members on Kauai, the Mainland, and in England. May you enjoy creating Ikebana arrangements for your home and give gifts of Ikebana. This is our unique way of sharing friendship through flowers. The November 11, 2023 Ways and Means sale held at the Japanese Cultural Center was successful with very affordable vases to give as gifts with flowers.



May you all treasure and enjoy time together with your family and friends this holiday season. Chapter 56 mourns the passing of two of our faithful and hardworking members. In June, Paulette Stone suddenly passed away. We will miss the generosity of her time and 'can do' attitude. On November 16, Darryl Tagami, past President and current Board member unexpectedly passed away. Darryl brought us joy with his quirky sense of humor and limitless dedication to our Chapter.

Please keep Program Committee member, Malina Kaulukukui in your thoughts and prayers as she continues her cancer battle. The Hawaii Business Magazine November issue featured her and six others in the article: 'Sages-Over-70-Hawaii - Kupuna.' As a Hawaiian cultural practitioner, Malina created a more holistic approach to teaching social work and mental health treatment while at the University of Hawaii. She is a kumu hula at her Kaka'ako halau and her Women's Community Correctional Center halau in Kailua.

May you all have a blessed Christmas!

With Peace, Joy, and Aloha Blessings,

Friendship through Flowers,
Joyce



Figure 1: watercolor sketch by Barb T.

Ikebana International Honolulu Chapter 56



New Year Luncheon

Date: Sunday, January 14, 2024

Time: 10:30 am - 2:00 pm

Place: Natsunoya Tea House
1935 Makenani Drive
Honolulu, HI 96817
First floor

Parking: Car pooling, drop-off
or Uber are encouraged

Limited Valet Parking: \$6.00

Attire: Red

Program: Pat Kubo will demonstrate
the ribbon dance and tell
fortunes

Menu: Deluxe Japanese Menu

Cost: \$55.00/person
Event will accommodate
50 people, so please hurry.

R.S.V.P. by December 25, 2023
(No refunds after this date)

For more information, please contact Charmaine Yee-Hollison (charh@hawaii.rr.com).

I.I. 2024 New Year Luncheon

Name: _____

Guest(s): _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Number of attendees: _____ x \$55.00/person = Total \$ _____

Check payable to: I.I. Chapter 56

Mail form and check to:
I.I. Chapter 56
Charmaine Yee-Hollison
P.O. Box 61306
Honolulu, HI 96839-1306

BUTTON WORKSHOP

KAREN KIRK

A kimono fabric covered button workshop for jewelry and refrigerator magnets was attended by 14 people at Moanalua Gardens Missionary Church. The event was held on Sunday, September 24 with Audrey Tanaka and Karen Kirk conducting this workshop.

Ellen Carson generously donated a huge collection of kimono fabrics which she had organized according to color. Participants had a grand time selecting colors and pattern designs for their creations. Many made necklaces and earrings. Others prepared for Christmas by making refrigerator magnets for gifts and to sell at the November 11, 2023 Chapter 56 Ways and Means Sale at the Japanese Cultural Center. It was exciting to see members proudly displaying their creative designs.



FALL LUNCHEON

KAREN KIRK

Honolulu's Natsunoya Tea House was the scene of a party on Sunday, October 15, 2023. Natsunoya's second floor Nigo Room was the site of the Honolulu Chapter 56 Fall Luncheon. Asian inspired attire, *ono* Japanese buffet, and music performed by Kaniela Nakashima elevated this luncheon to a fun-filled party. Exhibitors placed their elegant arrangements in Japanese designed niches and tokonoma. These artists were: Marsha Curnyn, Shisho Kikuta, Gwen Nagata, Barbara Tinius and Charmaine Yee-Hollison. Gorgeous centerpieces arranged in *chawan* (tea bowl) containers were created by Caroline Abe, Grace Kam, Gale Kobayashi, Debra Lau Shiroma, Carol Murakami, Joyce Nakamura, Selma Pang, Sandra Peltzer, and Linda Tanaka.

Ways and Means sold kimono fabric covered earrings and refrigerator magnets for bargain prices. Myrone and Carol Murakami brought two boxes of their farm's papaya for everyone. He instructed us on how to determine the ripeness of a papaya and when to refrigerate it.

This intimate venue made it easy for everyone to socialize and renew friendships. Without a doubt, Kaniela's professional entertainment experience was apparent as he regaled us with his ukulele skills and songs from Elvis melodies, Hawaiian songs, and Japanese sing-a-longs tunes. To honor the place, he tuned his ukulele to sound like a Koto and played the enchanting *Sakura*.



SPREADING CHRISTMAS CHEER WITH LITTLE GIFTS OF APPRECIATION

Our chapter participated in this year’s Kahala Mall Very Merry Event Fundraiser for the first time, and thanks to your enthusiastic support, I received orders for 180 tickets. Each ticket was \$5.00, and since Kahala Mall does not take any “commission,” a grand total of \$900.00 was deposited into our treasury.

It was an easy way to raise funds, and a “win-win” situation for all. I hope that the recipients of your tickets--your friends and family--make good use of the many discounts that will be available on December 8 - 10, 2023.

Happy Shopping!
Susan Hirate



Figure 2: Ikenobo Rikka Shimputai by Darryl Tagami

BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR

KAREN KIRK

Koko Crater, one of the last volcanic activities on Oahu, was formed 100,000 years ago. The terrain is ash and tuff solidified into layers of cinder eventually becoming sedimentary rock. The climate of this area is hot and dry and ideal for dry-land plants.

On Saturday, November 4, 2023, six Chapter 56 members and friends were treated to a guided tour of the Africa section of this 200-acre crater site where plants grow on 60 acres of the inner slopes. Our group, including a photography club, was treated to a guided tour by Naomi, a botanist with Honolulu Botanical Gardens. We were blessed with trade winds and cooler weather on our walk. There are ten plants/trees indigenous to Africa within this garden area. Several are becoming extinct in Africa due to lack of rain. Many of these plants provide medicine, food, and fiber to the people and animals of Africa. Some of the plants we observed were: Sausage Tree, Myrrh, Henna, Baobabs, and a Sycamore Fig tree. One unusual tree was the Transvaal Gardenia which has pumpkin shaped fruits. For us ikebanists, the grounds were our pickings. We left with fallen bark slices, fiber, leaves, and pokey weeds. We all agreed, lucky us to have had this unique experience. (photos by Karen Kirk)



VASE SALE



With many helping hands and happy spirits, our last vase sale of the year was held on November 11 at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii and was a successful blowout. A handful of large donations accumulated through the year were quickly snapped up, largely due to the good variety and good pricing. Items included miniature vases that would be useful for the upcoming SPLENDORS Exhibit, black vases for our Chinese themed luncheon in January and iron/bronze/metal art pieces and vases to accent beautiful arrangements. Together with everyone's kokua in helping set up, sell, clean up, and all those purchasing items, we were able to add another \$942.00 to our treasury. The fun comment at the end of tabulation was, "Everyone can have two pieces of shrimp tempura at our next luncheon at Natsunoya!" So, members, be there to enjoy!

Throughout the past 3 years, I have worked with our late brother

Darryl Tagami in coordinating the collection and return of the boxes of vases to I.I.'s rental storage space. He was a great salesperson, pointing out to potential buyers the features of the vase/knick-knack and suggesting how the flowers and greenery could be arranged. Sold! Always lending his strong arms and strength, always ever so accommodating and helpful in every way. I will honor Darryl's memory in my own fun way by trying to sell all our merchandise and not having to take any back to the storage!



I miss Darryl tremendously, may he fly with the angels.
Much mahalo, Ailyn Lum and Dawn Sur
(photo below by Joyce Kaneshiro)



Last July Japanese TV news showed a scene in which some people and deer are taking shelter under the large eaves of a building, avoiding the sudden torrential rain. This is the typical scene you can see only at the Deer Park in Nara prefecture. According to the Manyoshu (万葉集 the oldest collection of Japanese poems compiled in 750 – 800 AD) there were already deer in Nara in 750. (photos of Nara by Roger Tinus)



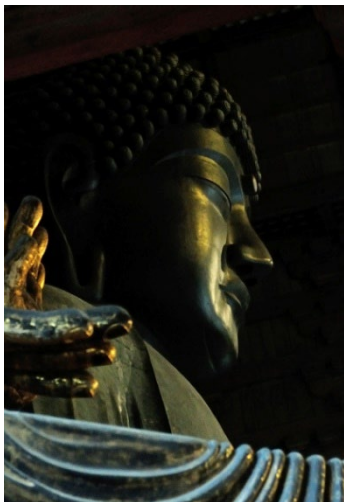
The deer at the park are wild animals designated as a natural treasure by the Japanese Government. When you want to feed the deer in the park, you bow first, then the deer bows to you. Then you give them Shika senbei (deer cookies).

Prior to Kyoto capital, Nara, once known as Heijo-kyo, was the first capital of Japan.

Question: when was Nara the capital?

- A) 510 - 594
- B) 610 - 694
- C) 710 - 794

The answer is C) 710 – 794. The capital Nara (Heijo-kyo) flourished originally through cultures from Europe, China and Korea via the Silk-Road, it is said that Nara is a living Museum with 1300 years of art and architecture. There are 8 world heritage sites as a historic Monument of Ancient Nara. Among them the most well-known structure is Todaiji temple which is the largest wooden building in the world in which the 15 meter (about 50 feet) high giant Buddha statue sits. Inside the hall near the Great Buddha statue there is a pillar which has a hole to pass through. If you can pass through the hole, it is said that you will be granted good health and protected from bad luck.



I could go through the hole a couple of times when I was a grade school student. The hole is small for children. If you are curious, you can try when you go to the Todaiji temple next time. Good luck.

IN MEMORY OF DARRYL TAGAMI

GALE KOBAYASHI



Darryl Tagami's unexpected passing brought tears and floods of happy memories to his ikebana friends.

He began studying Sogetsu ikebana under Ellen Sayegusa. He fondly recalled the relaxed atmosphere of Sayegusa sensei's classes. Perhaps the snacks also enticed him to classes.

Sayegusa sensei suggested that Darryl study Ikenobo ikebana under Elsie Tanaka. He continued to study both Sogetsu and Ikenobo until Sayegusa sensei stopped teaching. When Tanaka sensei was no longer teaching, he continued Ikenobo lessons with May Hiraoka-Tomita.

At Wednesday night Ikenobo class Darryl often used "bowling ball" vases. He took frequent breaks while arranging to eat, pass out snacks, and chat. The beautiful curves he created for shoka arrangements were made with gentle hands.

Darryl served with wit and wisdom on the I.I. board on the program committee, as recording secretary, and as chapter president from 2018-2020. His favorite position was as storage keeper!

He enjoyed shopping for bargain vases from ways and means. Despite having many beautiful vases, he happily used the discounted chipped vases in class.



Darryl was carefree and cheerful. He was carefree and caring. He was carefree and respectful.



Let's remember our friend by slurping a bowl of char siu ramen (no onions), savoring shave ice with ice cream topped with condensed milk, having seconds from the buffet (skip the vegetables), and indulging in dessert of any kind.

More importantly, let's be kind to others in the same spirit as Darryl.

Aloha, Darryl.





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Honolulu, HI 96839-1306



Figure 3: Sue Shimabukuro

NIPPON CULTURE DAY

On October 20, Sogetsu sensei Shisho Kikuta led Joyce Nakamura, Pat Kubo and two student volunteers in running an introductory workshop on Ikebana for Nippon Culture Day at the University of Hawaii Manoa campus. The event drew more than 850 people. The Ikebana workshop was limited to two sessions of 15 students each, who had registered in advance. Pat Kubo provided an introduction to the history of Ikebana and Shiso demonstrated a free-style arrangement. Participants were then helped in creating their own make-and-take free style arrangements in spray-painted tofu containers using carnations, baby's breath, statice and greens from several yards. The II members were surprised that about 1/3 of participants were male and one could hardly wait to send a photo of his arrangement to his mother. (photos by Pat Kubo)

