



# Plantation Village News

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**March 2022**

## Construction and Renovation Projects in the works



### **A new covered stage graces the village lawn area**

Funds received from the State Legislature Act 39 Grant-In-Aid are being used for a roofed stage which should be completed in a few weeks. Other projects include a roof for our train Puuloa #7, repair of structures damaged due to weather related conditions and termite destruction (social hall ramp and railing, infirmary railing, doors for saimin stand and plantation store, Korean fence and wooden walkway near the plantation field office due to erosion). In addition to structural work, many of the building interiors are getting a fresh coat of paint. We are open as usual Monday through Saturday with minimal disruption to tours and events.

### **Message from Executive Director Evelyn Ahlo**

*Aloha Everyone,*

*I hope everyone is well and excited for upcoming events as well as for our State being in a good place with COVID.*

*As of March 1, we have the opportunity for HONU (Homeless Outreach and Navigation for Unsheltered persons) returning to Hawaii's Plantation Village. Being here, there are Social Service partner organizations helping residents seek shelter as well as helping them with legal and medical matters, and with obtaining identification. Every bit helps.*

*As for HPV, we are excited to be having an in person Obon festival on Saturday, June 4, 2022. On August 13, 2022, the Portuguese Festa will also be held here.*

*On September 10, 2022, Waipahu Culture Garden Park – Hawaii's Plantation Village will be celebrating 30 years. A festival is in the works.*

*We are getting busy and we hope to see you at the VILLAGE!!*

*Evelyn*

**Important notice:** Until the end of April, staff and volunteers on the premises must wear masks indoors or outdoors. Visitors will have the option to wear a mask or not. At the end of this period, we will review our policy.

#### ***Executive Director:***

*Evelyn Ahlo*

#### **2022 Board of Directors**

**President** Deanna Espinas    **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president** Dan Nelson    **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president** William Rol  
**Secretary** Clement Bautista    Robert Castro    Lorene Ono    John Shockley    Carol Takahashi  
Yoshiko Yamauchi    Stephen Yuen



2022

**As Hawaii's Plantation Village looks forward to celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year we want to reflect on the past years as to how it all started, beginning even before the museum was dedicated in 1992. Articles highlight the eight ethnic groups represented here plus others who contributed to the sugar plantation contract experience.**

## The Japanese, Okinawan, and Korean Houses

Sustained immigration from Japan began in 1885 in which about 180,000 Japanese arrived in Hawaii. Changes in the government from the shogunate to the parliamentary system with the Emperor as the head had a ripple effect in the Japanese society. This caused many second or third sons to immigrate to help their families pay taxes as the Japanese government sought to modernize. The original intent was to fulfill their contracts, send their money home, and then return home. It is estimated that about half of the single men eventually returned home.

The **Japanese Duplex** is representative of the 1910 Hamakua Coast of the Big Island. One reason for this type of structure was to accommodate the picture brides who came as a result of the 1907 immigration law that excluded single men from coming to the U.S. The Japanese single men in Hawaii seeking a wife from his homeland exchanged photographs with the potential bride, and after an agreement, the marriage in Japan was conducted by proxy: someone would stand in for the groom. However, those marriages were not recognized in the U.S., so as soon as the bride arrived in Hawaii the couple would then get married. Immigration law changed again in 1924 ending the picture bride system. It is estimated that about 20,000 picture brides arrived in Hawaii. The kitchen contains a kerosene stove, and residents slept on *futons* in the bedroom/workroom.

**The Tofu-ya.** This structure represents one in 1930 Kahuku Sugar Plantation. The building houses the equipment for making *tofu*, a Japanese soybean staple. Making *tofu* was an extra source of income to support the family and provide an inexpensive source of protein.

The Japanese Christian House, Okinawan and Korean homes represent 1919 homes on the Hamakua Coast of the Big Island. This construction was an effort by the sugar plantations to improve living conditions.

**The Japanese Christian House.** Since there were a large number of single men and because of the loneliness they endured these men soon got into the habit of gambling and drinking, the plantation owners were concerned about workers not being able to work efficiently. Christian missionaries began arriving in Hawaii to help straighten them out. The house displays a bible and hymnal written in Japanese, and western style bedding.

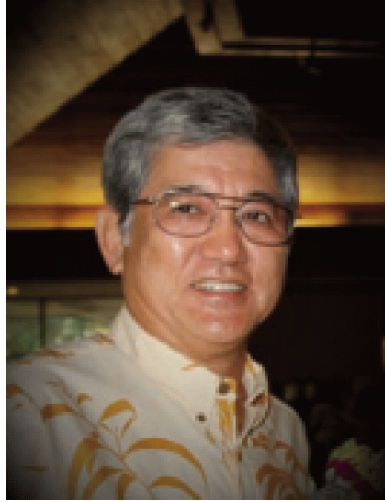
**The Okinawan House.** Okinawans started immigrating to Hawaii in 1900. Initially, the Japanese governor of Okinawa did not want to let their people immigrate to Hawaii. But due to overpopulation they were finally given permission. An asset for the planters in Hawaii was that they were from a tropical climate and used to farm labor. It is estimated that around 25,000 to 30,000 Okinawans immigrated to Hawaii. This house displays a *sanshin*, a stringed musical instrument with snakeskin drum.

**The Korean House.** Koreans began arriving in Hawaii in 1903. Most were Christians and were likely leaving Korea due to incursions by Japan. About 7,000 Koreans eventually made their way to Hawaii. Hawaii was also the place where opposition to Japanese occupation could be mounted. This house depicts a child's one year old birthday celebration and the custom of having the child chose items that would foretell their future.

### Honoring Ancestors

April is the time for a cultural tradition that many Asian sugar plantation immigrants brought with them to Hawaii. **Ching Ming** (Chinese), **Shimi** (Okinawan), and **Hansik** (Korean) have their roots in the ancient Confucian practice of filial piety, honoring one's ancestors: that they influence the fortune and misfortune of a person; they still have physical needs as when they were living; and the departed can assist their relatives in this world.

As generations passed in Hawaii, Chinese descendants have continued with this observance. Family members gather to sweep, wash, trim the grass around the tomb or grave. **Ching Ming** includes the burning of incense, offering of prayers, burning symbolic paper money, and placing foods on the grave that may include fruit, rice, wine, chicken, pork, and fish. It is a time to reflect, remember, and commune with the deceased. **Shimi** and **Hansik** follow a similar ritual, differing in food items and presentation.



## Remembering Glenn K. Ifuku

Key mentor of Hawaii's Plantation Village, Glenn Kazuo Ifuku passed away on January 10, 2022. He was 74 years old. Glenn was a man of integrity and intelligence.

Glenn leaves behind his wife, Gail; a son, Cleary and a daughter, Tana. He was the second son of Yasushige and Hideko Ifuku.

Glenn graduated from Radford High School in 1965. He was the Junior Class Vice-President in 1964. He attended the University of Hawaii where he received his Master of Economics degree.

His career was with the State of Hawaii as a Research and Statistician Officer at the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Glenn also found joy and pride teaching Economics at Leeward Community College.

Glenn's father-in-law worked at the Kohala Sugar Company on Hawaii Island. Glenn became interested in Gail's "plantation roots." His curiosity about plantation life increased as he read and built an extensive collection of books about immigrants to Hawaii.

In the 1990's, HPV Executive Board members Richard Hirata, Faith Evans, and Moana Espinda asked Glenn to become a volunteer Board Member, and he readily said "Yes." He was elected Treasurer on the Executive Board. As Treasurer, he advised HPV regarding financial matters and organized and converted the financial status into charts and graphs that people could easily visualize and understand.

For a few critical years, 2004-2007, Richard and Glenn were volunteer Co-Directors of HPV. Richard and Glenn, together with the HPV staff, Board of Directors, volunteers and friends, community leaders, organizations, schools, Alan Wong Restaurants, and K's Bento-Ya all helped Hawaii's Plantation Village move forward towards success.

Glenn volunteered for many work projects to improve the Village. He helped construct the Hawaiian planter's hut, "Hale Noa" on the Village walk with Moses "Uncle Moke" Pakaki and James Yamauchi in 2012.

The HPV "Legacy Award" in 2013 honored Glenn for his outstanding contribution and work at Hawaii's Plantation Village.

Glenn enjoyed traveling, gardening, reading and spending time on the computer. He planted various strains of sugar cane in his backyard. His niece and others affectionately called him "Sugar Cane Uncle."

Life-long friends will have many stories to share about Glenn. In high school, Glenn picked up the title: The Lone Wolf. Over his lifetime, The Wolf drew love, respect and admiration from us, the pack. We all miss him.



# Hawaii's Plantation Village Gift Shop

Regular store hours: Monday to Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

and  
Country Store



Mask holder

Our Gift Shop has unique one of a kind gifts made by our dedicated Village Crafters who meet each Wednesday in the Gentry Room. HPV members receive a discount on all items made by the Village Crafters. New items on our shelves include beaded lanyards for keeping your masks on you at all times. Available as a clip on accessory or around the neck version.

We continue to offer great bargains on vintage items in our Country Store. We recently received a large donation of Asian wares and artwork. 100% of sales from both the Gift Shop and Country Store go to help sustain Hawaii's Plantation Village.



Chinaware, ginger jars, tureens, teapots



Cambodian  
hammered  
silver hen



Japanese vintage ceramic pieces



Ming style footstool



Hand crafted Easter bunnies and toys



Okinawan pottery



Taiwanese rosewood chairs with side table;  
Korean chest; decorated Chinese tureen



Wedding kimono

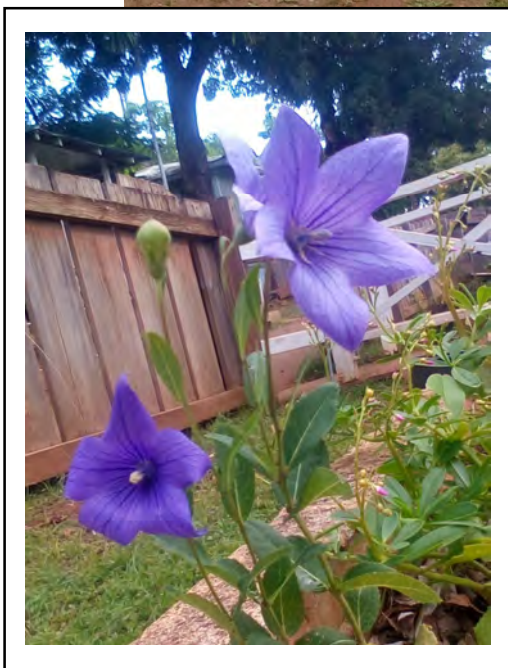
## New Item:



Special purchase:  
Sugar cane T-shirt (navy)  
S M L XL - \$8  
2XL-3XL - \$10



## What's Blooming in the Korean Garden:



We are thankful for hardworking volunteers who tend to the houses and gardens in the village. Each ethnic group had plants brought from their homeland that kept them in touch with their cultural roots. The Korean yard displays raised beds of vegetables and flowers among the *kim chee* pots.

At left, the balloon flower (*platycodon grandiflorus*) **doraji**, is also known as Chinese bell flower. The medicinal value of this plant is found in the tuberous root, which has been used to treat colds, sore throat and pains in the intestines. The root is harvested in the second or third year. A popular dish is **doraji namul** ( root stir fried with garlic, salt and sesame oil).

Also growing in the garden (left foreground in top photo) is a bed of mugwort (*Artemisia vulgaris*), known as **ssuk** by Koreans, and **yomogi** by Japanese. Young leaves are a common ingredient in soups, rice cakes, teas, salads, and pancakes. **Ssukguk**, a traditional soup contains mugwort and clams. Koreans add mugwort to their diet because it is believed to have medicinal properties as a blood thinner and cleanser. It's primary use is moxibustion: dried leaves burned on pressure points on the body.



If you or your group would like to adopt a house or yard to care for, please contact our office. Join the community of HPV volunteers who help our village thrive.

### Kim Chee Pancake

- 1 ½ cup flour
- 1 cup *kim chee* (not freshly made), chopped
- 1 cup chives or green onions, chopped
- 1 egg
- 1 ½ cup water

Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Heat 1 T vegetable oil in a frying pan over medium heat. Add ½ cup of mixture into pan. Flatten out mixture so that you have a round “pancake” shape that’s not too thick. Turn once, fry until both sides are golden brown.

## Become a member or renew today!

If you are already a member, we thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at our future events and staying in touch through our emails and newsletters. If you haven't become a member yet, now is the ideal time to join our ohana and learn about ways you can contribute to keeping the legacy of our plantation fore-bearers alive. You can call us (808) 677-0110 to charge or send your check to 98-695 Waipahu Street, Waipahu, HI 96797.

### We welcome you to our ohana!

Become a member of Hawaii's Plantation Village! Not only does your membership help sustain the daily operations of the Village, but your participation in our events throughout the year keeps the Village a lively and vital institution in our community. Benefits for membership levels are the following:

#### Individual (\$25) or Senior (\$20)

Free admission and guided tour for one year for one person.  
Invitations to special events, exhibits, and cultural and heritage celebrations.  
10% discount on purchases of our crafters' products

In addition to the invitations and discounts noted above, higher level memberships have the following additional admissions/tour benefits:

#### Family Plus (\$45)

Free admission & guided tour for 2 adults & children under 18 years at your address.

#### Double Seniors (\$25)

Free admission & guided tour for 2 guests (62 years or older)

#### Hoe Hana (\$100-\$249)

Free admission & guided tour for 5 guests

#### Wai Hana (\$250-\$499)

Free admission & guided tour for 6 guests

#### Luna (\$500 -749)

Free admission & guided tour for 7 guests

### Volunteers Needed:

We have many opportunities for volunteer service at Hawaii's Plantation Village. We need docents to lead tours; grounds keeping and general house cleaning; computer savvy volunteers; and everyone who wants to offer their services to us.

Please call our office Monday to Friday.

News from:



Hawaii's  
**PLANTATION  
VILLAGE**

Friends of Waipahu  
Cultural Garden Park  
94-695 Waipahu Street  
Waipahu, HI 96797