#### PRESIDENT'S MAHALO AND FAREWELL

Dear Fellow See Dai Doo Society Members:

My congratulations to the new officers, directors and trustees. I wish them success in the coming year of the Rooster.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for giving me the opportunity and honor of serving as the President of our society.

19 years ago, when I was President of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, See Dai Doo President Betty Leong told me that I should get involved with my society. I complied.

Two years ago I had three goals in mind:

- 1. Amend the by-laws
- 2. Change the way the society did business
- 3. Cool down the society hall

Amend the by-laws. The by-laws were last amended in 1991. We are now in compliance with our 501(c) (4) tax exempt status. The by-laws now allow children of female members to join the society.

<u>Change the way to do business</u>. "Give out and not just take in" in keeping with our 501 (c) (4) tax status. Besides taking care of our members, our mantra is to give back to our community, our culture and our country.

We had 23 activities and events for the members and guests which included: Bingo, Bowling, Chinatown Parade, Ching Ming, Christmas Caroling, Christmas Party, Cooking Demonstration, Education, Historical, Installation, Mandarin Class, Membership, Model Mother and Father, Movie Night, Newsletter, Palolo Chinese Home Visitation, Photography, Picnic, Spring Banquet, Tai Chi Class, Veterans Appreciation Day, Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, and Welfare.

We provided \$20,000.00 for scholarships for students who academically qualified and find their roots in the See and Dai Districts of Zhongshan, Guangdong, China.

<u>Community Service</u>. We had 60 members participate in the Hospitality Industry Charity Walk and gave a donation. We visited Palolo Chinese Home with entertainment and a generous donation in addition to Christmas caroling at the Rehab Center with another donation.

In promoting our culture, we made donations to Mun Lun and Sui Wah Chinese Schools, which teach our children Mandarin and Cantonese. We also made a generous donation to the Hawaii Chinese History Center that preserves our Chinese heritage and history.

This year, we were the host venue for the Chinese Medical Seminar and the Dr. Sun Yet Sen's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday lectures at our society hall.

Recognizing our veterans, I was proud to have initiated our Veterans Appreciation Day that recognizes all of our See Dai Doo Society veterans from WWI to the Iraq War. They served in uniform to protect and defend the freedoms and liberties that we often take for granted as Americans.

We did all of this within the program budget.

<u>Cool down the hall</u>. After nearly fainting during my installation two years ago, we decided to install large ceiling fans in lieu of costly retrofitting with air conditioning.

There was more: I led a society roots tour to find our villages and reestablish our relationship with the Zhongshan and Nanlong (formerly See Dai Doo District) governments.

We have a model mother of the year and a Miss Chinatown.

We now have new official uniforms – a casual polo shirt and a formal aloha shirt.

The society was even featured in China Central TV and Hawaii Chinese TV (3 parts).

After 50 years you can now enjoy our new chairs and tables. I guarantee no rust on your bottom.

All of these accomplishments could not have been achieved without the dedication and support of our officers, directors, trustees and committee chairs all working together as a team and I thank them. I was proud to have been the captain of the team.

I would especially like to thank my two mentors, Past Presidents Baldwin Au and the late Betty Leong (she is with us in spirit), my Vice President Leonard Kam and my right and left hand person, our Executive Secretary, Vida Pang.

In 1945 a famous American General, Douglas McArthur stood before the U.S. Congress upon his retirement and said: "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away." So just like that old soldier, this old president must now fade away into the ranks of presidents past.

Again my sincere thank you for giving me the opportunity and honor of serving as your President.

In closing may I wish each and every one of you continued good health, prosperity and long life in the coming year of the Rooster?

Mahalo,

Wesley Fong

#### 2016 SEE DAI DOO COMMITTEEE CHAIRPERSONS



Photo submitted by Robert Kurahara

#### 2016 SEE DAI DOO CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Photo submitted by Robert Kurahara

# PRESENTING SEE DAI DOO SOCIETY'S 2017 OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

President	Mr. Leonard J.K.H. Kam
Vice President	Dr. Lucy M. H. Fong Wong
Treasurer	Mr. Kevin S.W. Chun
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. Kenneth K.S. Lai
Chinese Secretary	Mr. Patrick T, H. Lam
Assistant Chinese Secretary	Mr. Raymond B.H. Leung
English Secretary	Ms. Vivian B.Y. Ing Loo
Assistant English Secretary	Ms. Beverly M. Wong
Auditor	Mr. Robert W.C. Wong
Assistant Auditor	Ms. Norma S.I. Yim Acopan
Trustees	Mr. Kin Ming Ching
	Mr. Clifton K.Y. Yim
	Ms. Carol K.S. Lum Lau

Please join us for the See Dai Doo Society's Installation Luncheon on **January 1, 2017 at Noon at SDDS's Great Hall** 

### **2017 UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chinatown Parade

January 21, 2017





### 2017

## See Dai Doo Society Spring Banquet

Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017

Time: 5:30 p.m. Social Time

6:00 p.m. Program / Dinner

Place: Empress Restaurant, Chinatown Cultural Plaza

Remember to bring your See Dai Doo Society membership card to the banquet.

If you need a new card call SDDS (808) 533-4756 from 0800 am to 1200 noon

Monday through Friday for a lost card application. There is a \$10.00 charge.

More information will be in the January 2017 newsletter.

Chairperson: Norma Acopan

Phone: (808) 247-8903

#### **2016 SEE DAI DOO CHRISTMAS PARTY**



Photo submitted by Robert Kurahara