



# Ka Leo O Palama

"The Voice of Palama"

Palama Settlement

Winter 2002

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Since 1896: Serving The Individual, The Family, The Community

## Golfers tee off for Palama Settlement

The weather was perfect for a great round of golf at Palama Settlement's **First Annual Charity Golf Tournament** held on August 9. 198 eager golfers including many "Palama alums" took the opportunity to give back to the community by challenging the links at Kapolei Golf Course in the hopes of winning some grand prizes. One of the lucky winners was *Wendell Duarte* who walked away with a Hawaiian cruise for two from Norwegian Cruise Lines. Other prizewinners earned television sets, DVD players, trips to Las Vegas and the neighbor islands, hotel and dinner certificates, and many other fabulous items.

But the truly big winner in the tournament was Palama Settlement and the many children, youth, and families who benefit from our programs. In all the tournament raised \$48,000 for the agency. The funds will go far in helping us to sustain and extend our work in the community.

Assisted by their committee members, Tournament Co-chairs **Donna Mercado Kim** and **Robert Wu** organized a first-class event that left the golfers enthusiastic to play in next year's tournament. Special thanks go to the following major sponsors who stepped forward and provided substantial support:

- Title Sponsor **First Hawaiian Bank:** \$10,000
- Contributing Sponsor **Laborers' Union, Local #368:** \$9,000
- Contributing Sponsor **Verizon Hawaii:** \$7,000

In addition, several businesses and organizations contributed \$1,000 each to serve as *Gold Tee Sponsors*. The response to the tournament was so great that golfers who wanted to play were turned down because the registration was filled. Co-chair Robert Wu commented: *"We were overwhelmed with the tremendous show of support from the community. It's clear that Palama holds a special place in the hearts of many people."*

During the tournament players enjoyed a number of refreshments at the various holes including waffle hot dogs from KC Drive Inn, Blue Bunny Ice Cream, Samurai ice treats, fruits, and many other goodies. Thanks to the



Including donations received after the tournament, the net total raised was \$48,000. From left to right: Donna Kim, Bob Wu, Bob Omura, Glenn Kimura, Joel Matsunaga of Verizon Hawaii, Tony Guerrero of First Hawaiian Bank, and Ben Saguibo of the Laborers' Union happily display the tournament check.

generosity of our friends no one went hungry. After completing their round of golf, the players feasted on a delicious Hawaiian buffet dinner while listening to the music of *Brother Noland* and his daughters.

Emcee for the evening **Kimo Kahoano** kept the crowd laughing as they awaited the announcement of the prizewinners. Golfers were also given a rousing round of thanks from our Palama youth cheerleaders who dazzled the audience with a special cheer. All the players went home that evening with a bag full of prizes and the satisfaction of knowing that their participation in the tournament had raised sufficient funds to help these youngsters. *What a great reason to tee off for Palama Settlement!*

**Mahalo** to the many people, businesses, and groups that supported our tournament. Special thanks to the following:

**Gold Tee Sponsors <\$1,000>:** Alexander & Baldwin, Belt Collins, James Campbell Estate, HMSA, Hawaiian Building Maintenance, International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District Council 50, Kaiser Permanente, Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, RM Towill Corp, RMY Construction, Richard Mamiya Charitable Foundation, Servco Lexus, Sukanto Foundation, Verizon Hawaii, Wu Group

**Silver Tee Sponsors: <\$400>** ECS, Inc, Homestreet Bank

**Special Prize Donors:** Norwegian Cruise Line, Sony Hawaii

*"We were overwhelmed with the tremendous show of support from the community. It's clear that Palama holds a special place in the hearts of many people."*

--Robert Wu  
Tournament  
Co-chair



Member, Aloha  
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of America

## Volunteers make a difference at Palama

Taking care of a facility like Palama Settlement is no easy task. Our buildings and grounds are in constant need of repair or clean-up work. So when soldiers from our military community volunteered to help, we took them up on their offer.


On Saturday, October 26, designated *Make a Difference Day* nationwide, 21 soldiers from *HHC 65<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion at Schofield Barracks* and one soldier from *Fort Shafter* spent the day at Palama carrying out several work projects including cleaning, scrubbing, making minor repairs, and cutting the grass on our football field.

Joining the military personnel that day were three volunteers from *Hawaiian Building Maintenance* who spent the morning disinfecting and cleaning out our gym bathrooms and members of our teen club who spruced up the Leland Blackfield Youth Activity Center. After a morning of hard work the volunteers feasted on a delicious lunch generously provided by *Ige's Catering Service*.



22 soldiers and several other community volunteers joined our staff to get Palama ready for the holidays. We are grateful for their hard work!

To help us celebrate Halloween volunteers from the *Grace Bible Church of Honolulu*, led by Pastor Billy Pacarro, came to Palama on October 24 to entertain the more than 400 keikis and parents who gathered for a night of fun and treats. The children waited patiently to have their faces painted by professionals from the church as well as our own trustee *Mary Ann Changg*. They also enjoyed musical entertainment, carnival games, bobbing for doughnuts, and a traditional Halloween costume contest. Prizes for the contest were donated by *Ani's Bakery* and *Debbie Ige* of *Ige's Catering Service*. <Debbie has become part of the Palama ohana thanks to her cousin Sandra Smith, our new executive secretary. Thank you, Debbie and Sandra!>

In the summer we also welcomed members of the *Honolulu Lions Club* who came to Palama to paint the Blackfield Center. The gameroom now looks great for the coming holiday season! During the year more than 200 volunteers donated almost 33,000 hours of service to Palama as teachers, coaches, tutors, maintenance helpers, clerks, and much more. With their help, we have been able to expand our services to the community. There's no doubt that volunteers make a difference at Palama! 

Ka Leo O Palama is a newsletter published three times a year by Palama Settlement, 810 N.Vineyard Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96817.

## Greetings from our Executive Director



2002 is rapidly coming to a close! For all of us at Palama this has been a challenging and busy year. The aftermath of 9/11 has made it difficult for many individuals, businesses, and social service agencies. At Palama we were faced with a decrease in funding, loss of staff, and an increase in the demand for services. I am proud to say that our Board of Trustees and staff rose to the challenge!

- The first task we faced was to cut our expenses. This meant eliminating some positions and not filling others that were vacant. Secondly, we needed to handle the increase in families asking for help and the dramatic rise in the number of youth participating in our programs. Through creative staffing we not only avoided cutting back on programs but we actually increased our services. Credit goes to our dedicated and committed staff who doubled-up on responsibilities, worked longer hours, and scheduled additional intramural activities for our community.

- Furthermore, our administrative staff pitched in and assumed some of the duties performed by staff who had retired or resigned. By sharing responsibilities and working together as a team, we were able to keep activities and programs running smoothly.


- Thirdly, our Board of Trustees undertook the challenge of raising additional funds for Palama by organizing our first *Palama Settlement Charity Golf Tournament* held in August. The tournament committee, co-chaired by trustees *Donna Mercado Kim* and *Bob Wu*, worked extremely hard and raised approximately \$48,000 for Palama.

- Our special thanks to our underwriting sponsor *First Hawaiian Bank* and our contributing sponsors--the *Laborers' Union, Local 368* and *Verizon Hawaii*--for their generous donations. Mahalo also to our Board President *Glenn Kimura* for his steadfast support of the tournament and all the sponsors and participants who contributed to making the event a phenomenal success. We hope the tournament will become another proud Palama tradition.

- I also want to recognize and thank our *Palama Manor Task Force Committee*, chaired by *Richard Lau*, for renegotiating the rental lease for our Palama Manor property. The major part of the additional income will be utilized for vital capital improvements for our aging buildings, facilities, and grounds. A limited amount of the funds will be used to support emerging programs.

- Finally, we were blessed this year with unexpected support from the community in the form of generous grants and donations from individuals, foundations, and businesses. We've also received the help of many volunteers from our military community, the Grace Bible Church of Honolulu, Hawaiian Building Maintenance, the Honolulu Lions Club, our teen clubs, parents in our various recreational programs, and others who have given unselfishly of their time and talents.

- What looked like a dismal year has turned out to be a truly exciting and fruitful year! This was all accomplished through a community of people and institutions working together. We are now looking forward to hosting our final event for 2002, our annual *Christmas concert* on December 14.

Our thanks to all of you for your gifts of aloha that sustain our work through the year. Have a joyous and safe holiday season! 

*Bob Kimura*



# Palama offers horsemanship program

Palama is the place to be if you enjoy sports. Besides the usual activities of football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, cheerleading, and swimming, Palama is introducing the sport of equestrianism <aka horseback riding> to our young people this year. Working with the *Hawaii Equestrian Foundation* and the *Koko Crater Equestrian Center*, we have started a program to develop horsemanship among youth particularly those who come from at-risk communities like Kalihi-Palama.

*What will our youth gain from this program?* In addition to learning how to ride and handle a horse, the goals of the program include helping youngsters to:

- Develop empathy and compassion for horses and other animals
- Learn to care for animals
- Become aware of their bodies, learn body control, and develop their reflexes
- Focus on a task and persevere in reaching their goals
- Build self-esteem by learning new skills
- Develop personal responsibility and work as a team with others

The equestrian program will be incorporated into our *Pakolea Sports/Academic Program* and will thus include an emphasis on the youths' educational progress. Participants will take riding classes at the Koko Crater Equestrian Center and will also be required to attend our *Learning Center* for tutoring and homework assignments.

The Hawaii Equestrian Foundation and the Koko Crater Equestrian Center will be underwriting the major cost of the initial program. The Foundation will be writing grants to fund the program in the



Dr. Bob Nakamura of the Hawaii Equestrian Foundation and Dr. Emogene Yoshimura of the Koko Crater Equestrian Center met with Pakolea Program Director Larry Sweets, Bob Omura <not pictured>, and Bette Uyeda to develop a horsemanship program for Palama youth. The first series of riding classes will begin in December.

future. The Palama youth and staff will also conduct fundraisers to support the project.

Palama has long been a pioneer in developing different programs to encourage learning among our young people in particular. We hope to provide this unique experience to youth who otherwise may not have the opportunity to take part in this type of activity. If you would like to make a donation to support this program or you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Larry Sweets at ☎ 848-2521 or Bob Omura at ☎ 848-2502. 🦅

## Christmas is coming!



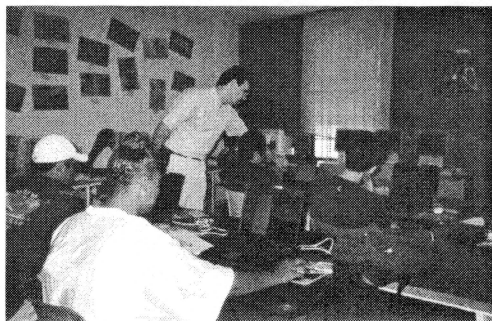
The magic of Christmas is coming to Palama again. On Saturday, December 14 we will host our *4th Annual Christmas Concert* for the community. This year our featured entertainer will be *Amy Hanaiali'i Gilliom* whose music has captured the hearts of many of us in Hawaii. We also expect a visit from Santa Claus, a juggler, and a magician.

Many food items, prepared by our Palama chefs, will be offered for purchase. For information on tickets, please call Sandra Smith at ☎ 848-2501. 🦅

## ICTP Wish List

Students in the In-Community Treatment Program go on regular camping trips as part of their alternative learning activities. They are in need of some camping equipment and supplies. Can you help?

Here's what they need--tents, canvas tarps, lanterns, coolers, pots and pans, eating utensils, and other camping equipment. If you can donate any of these items, contact Donna Taniguchi at ☎ 848-2510. 🦅



Ohana Komputers, a non-profit branch of Future Kids, received a grant to offer computer classes to our ICTP students. Here a representative from Future Kids teaches the ICTP students computer skills at Palama's Computer Center.

## A Look at What's Happening at Palama

♦ Welcome aboard to *Sandra Smith*, our new *executive secretary*! Since she arrived in September, we have been putting Sandra to work on a number of projects including our grant request to the Aloha United Way and coordinating our Halloween community celebration. Sandra has come through like a trooper and we appreciate the enthusiasm she brings to the job.

♦ We're also happy to report that *David Yaw*, a resident of Ka'ahumanu Homes and a loyal volunteer at our Family Service Center, has been hired as a recreation specialist in our Pakolea program. David enjoys working with the youngsters and is excited about being part of the Palama ohana.

♦ Some of our Palama seniors attended seminars held this fall on estate and financial planning. Trust attorney *Rowen Young* and financial planner *Ken Ikeda* from the Hidaka Financial Consulting Group at UBS Paine Webber reviewed strategies for protecting one's assets and making wise decisions during unpredictable economic times. Based on the comments from the seniors, we hope to offer more sessions like these.

♦ We're pleased to announce Palama received a \$10,000 grant from the *Waterhouse Charitable Trust* to support the Kukui Gardens youth program. The funds will be used to provide recreational, educational, and cultural activities for the many youth who live in the moderate income housing project. 🦅



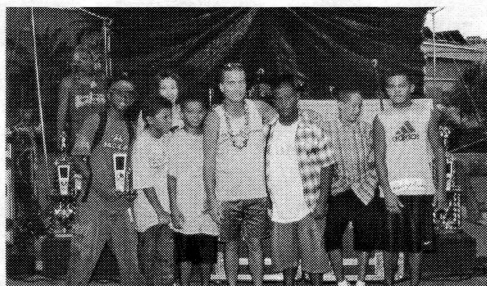
Bob Omura gratefully accepts a check of \$10,000 from Lloyd Kaneshige from the Waterhouse Charitable Trust.

## Sports offer youth positive outlets for their energy

**N**early 500 youngsters took to the courts at Palama in August during our annual **Brother Noland Goodwill Basketball Tournament**. Teams came from our neighborhood, including Mayor Wright and Ka'ahumanu Homes, as well as from areas around the island. After the tournament, the youth enjoyed a scrumptious banquet of food and a rousing concert featuring the *Opihi Pickers*.


This year a number of people, groups, and businesses supported the event through cash, food, and other donations. *Mahalo to the following for their generous gifts:* Lei Ahu-Isa, Bob's Barbecue, Carole Kai Charities, Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Friends for Isaac Hokama, Dr. Candace Furubayashi, HMSA, Mufi Hannemann, Iva's Catering, JN Automotive Group, Donna Mercado Kim, Mike McCartney, Mount Kalihi Productions, Mountain Apple Co., John Nordin, and Sam Choy's Restaurant.

Girls love to play basketball too! The tournaments give them a chance to show their stuff. Some of them even play on the same team as the boys.



Coach David Yaw poses with his team from Ka'ahumanu Homes that played in the tournament.

Another popular sport among youth in the neighborhood is volleyball. Later this month they will be playing in Palama's **Volleyball Intramural League**. The practice sessions and actual games provide the youngsters with the opportunity to learn skills, develop fitness, and relate to other youth from different areas.

Offering young people these kinds of activities also gives them an alternative to some of the negative influences that abound in our community. Organizing these tournaments and leagues requires coaches, referees, score/timekeepers as well as financial support. If you can help in any of these ways, please call Recreation Director Vince DeBina at 848-2503 or Bob Omura at 848-2502. 



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