

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it has been more than a year since I got it in my head to start a Chihuahua club. When I got Josephine, about a year and a half ago, I wanted to join a Chihuahua club but found none in Hawaii. I found Lee Ann Lee on the Chihuahua internet mailing list (Chihuahua@onelist.com) and asked her if she would be interested in starting the club. She was, as were other Hawaii Chihuahua owners on the net. I met many of our "regulars" on a good web site called The Chihuahua Kingdom

(http://www.3lbdogs.com). It was my hope that we could meet and socialize our dogs as well as get to know other Chihuahua owners. I imagined that if a person owned the little, comical Mexican dog they probably were pretty interesting themselves. I have not been disappointed! I think our members are some of the nicest dog owners I have met.

We started as a purely social club with not much structure. As we grew we met new members like Lorene Maki who helped us tremendously get organized. As we move toward AKC recognition we will be able to have Chihuahua dog shows as well as other activities to promote the well being of the breed. However, we will not move away from our social roots. I believe our last meeting at the Convalescent Center of Hawaii (Thank you Janet Yoda for suggesting this as an activity) was a great success. I was very happy to hear our guide tell us that her patients were responding extremely well to our dogs' presence at the center. And of course we will have a Second Annual Chihuahua Olympics this year. (Better start practicing!) I have really enjoyed all of our members and dogs at every meeting and it makes me so happy to see members show up for One thing I really like about their first meeting. the Chihuahua is that they come in so many colors and coats, much like the people of Hawaii. I get a big kick out of seeing each unique dog. At the same time we meet the person owned by the dog who is just as interesting and fun. Thank you all for your support of the club and the Chihuahua breed. I hope we continue to interest you with meetings. activities, and soon dog shows. We are on our way to being a well-established and respected dog club in the Islands. Thanks go out to each of you who have brought so much to the club.

Tracy Lehmann
President

A FIRST!!!

The club has voted on its first full slate of officers and board of directors:

President (Continuing)—Tracy Lehmann Vice President—Glen Taniguchi Treasurer—Janet Yoda Recording Secretary—Lee Ann Lee Corresponding Secretary—Lorene Maki Membership Chairperson—Verna Lee

The club has also voted to approve its bylaws and constitution. It will be sent to the AKC for their review and information.

CONTEST—WIN PRIZES!

Hello Members! This is the Chihuahua Club of Hawaii's first newsletter. We are celebrating this momentous event by holding a Name Contest. The members who think up the best names for our newsletter WINS A PRIZE!!! Give us your ideas at the April meeting or by phone or email.

We welcome any and all news items that you may want to contribute. You may submit text or photos, and we will try to get photos scanned and printed in black and white. Volunteers for features are very welcome.

If you happen to read a good book or find great websites while surfing the internet, tell us about it. We'll include it in the next issue. Don't be shy, we're all interested...

The current contact for the newsletter is Lorene at ph. 226-0703, at P.O. Box 4545, Kaneohe, HI 96744 or <u>L_maki@hotmail.com</u>

CLUB LOGO

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Clair Ching has graciously agreed to help us develop a logo for our club. Clair worked on the Miss Universe logo too. Fantastic!! Thank You.

HELP!!! SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The club needs help to organize club activities at our meetings. The club would also be grateful if someone would create and maintain a web site for us. If you are interested or want to volunteer yourself or some other talented person, please call or email Lee Ann Lee at 685-5010 or leeann@hawaii.edu

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT CONVALESCENT CENTER OF HAWAII

The club visited the residents at the center on Sunday, Feb. 28th. It was really a heartwarming experience for the members of the Chi club and residents, who were very happy to see, carry, and play with our wonderful Chihuahuas. Of course they're wonderful...look who trained them, right?

If we want to visit more often we will have to have TB tests done, but maybe we could do this once in a while? Our special thanks to Janet Yoda who arranged our visit.

NOTICES

The State Department of Agriculture (DOA) is proposing to change the fees for Animal Quarantine. As proposed, the fees for a 30-day quarantine will go from \$290 to \$755, and the 4-month quarantine will go from about \$875 to \$1,080. Public hearings will be held on all the islands, and written testimony will be accepted until March 31, 1999. *I am taking a poll of our club members*. If you would like the club to testify on behalf of its members, contact Lorene at 226-0703 or email L maki@hotmail.com

Kauai—Mar. 12, 1999, at 1:00 pm, DOA Conf. Rm., 4398A Pua Loke St., Lihue.

Hilo—Mar. 15, 1999, at 7:00 pm, State Off. Bldg.
Conf. Rm. A,B,&C, 75 Aupuni St.

Captain Cook—Mar. 16, 1999, at 7:00 pm, Civic
Center Conf. Rm., 82-6130 Mamalahoa Hwy.

Maui—Mar. 17, 1999, at 7:00 pm, DOA Bldg. Conf.
Rm., 635 Mua St. Kahului.

Honolulu—Mar. 19, 1999, at 7:00 pm., DOA, Hale
Waiolama Bldg. Conf. Rm., 1428 S. King St.

NEXT MEETING

Please keep April 10th, Sat. open for our next meeting at the dog park fundraiser on 18th Ave. A small donation will be collected. Keep your eyes open for the coming flyer!

CHIHUAHUA CLUB OF HAWAII MINUTES

Meeting 1, February 28, 1999, 1:00 p.m. Convalescent Center of Hawaii

Members present: Tracy Lehmann, Lorene Maki, Terry Olival, Rosemary Kazaoka, Janet Yoda, Wendie Funakoshi, Lee Ann Lee, Kyle Maki, Verna Lee, Marika Hall, Vera Van Verst, Clair Ching, Virginia Decastro, John Decastro

Election of officers and board

Ballots were distributed through the mail and also at the meeting. Completed ballots were turned in to Lorene Maki.

New business

Lorene asked if anyone wants to volunteer to be the Entertainment Chairman. This person would plan the fun/social activities for the club.

Lorene informed us of the proposal to raise quarantine fees. The 30-day quarantine fee would go from \$290 to \$750, four-month quarantine from \$850 to \$1,100. There will be a meeting for public input on March 19, 1999, 7:00 p.m. at the Dept. of Agriculture conference room on S. King Street.

Tracy Lehmann suggested that the April 1999 meeting be held at the Dog Park on 18th Ave. There is a fundraiser but we do not have all the details at this time.

A card for Glen Taniguchi was passed around so everyone could sign it. Glen has cancer and it is being treated aggressively.

Janet Yoda stated that members along with their dogs could continue visiting patients at the Convalescent Center of Hawaii if they have a current TB clearance. A safety issue - not only for the residents but for members too. A TB clearance is needed annually.

Tracy asked if there are any members who want to start a club newsletter or contribute articles, create a website for the club, or create a club logo.

Virginia Decastro (and Ruby) distributed pictures from past meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.