



IBETEL A KLEBELAU

Quarterly Newsletter

July - September 2011

HISTORIANS FINALIZED THE DRAFT *KLOBAK EL DIL*



Historians in Session

The Palau Society of Historians held their Second Session this year from July 25 - 29, 2011 and finalized their draft booklet entitled "*Klobak el Dil*" (Chief's Counterparts).

The Historians reviewed and finalized the draft booklet which will be published into a booklet.

The finalized compilation will be reviewed by the Bureau of Arts & Culture's Technical Review Committee Members and the female chiefs from each state of Palau before it goes to the print shop.

This booklet, published in Palauan and English, will be the sixteenth in an on-going series of publications on traditional Palauan practices, customs, and common law.

PALAU HISTORICAL & CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD HELD 2ND MEETING

On August 26, 2011, the Palau Historical & Cultural Advisory Board held its second and final meeting for FY10. The Board members discussed ideas and other effective measures that will enhance and increase the awareness of historical sites while at the same time promoting and encouraging states to

nominate their highly significant sites. To date, there are over 150 sites listed on the Palau Register of Historic Places. The sites that were selected for review during FY10 are Wakui Police Station in Ngatpang and Beluu er a Ngerbelau in Angaur. Both site nominations were deferred due to the lack of Board member representing those states. The meeting was adjourned. The board will resume its sessions in January 2012.



2nd Official PH&CAB Meeting Group Photo

STUDENTS IN THE WIA & SWEP STUDENT SUMMER PROGRAMS JOIN BAC



This summer of 2011, five (5) students joined the BAC. Four (4) students from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) student Summer Program and one (1) student from the Summer Work Experience Program (SWEP). This program gives students, at both the high school and college levels, the opportunity to work in an office of their interest. It is meant to serve as training that will help them prepare for their upcoming future careers and goals.

Ms. Jeracie Oiterong, a Palau Community College student; Emmanuel Bismarck, a Sophomore at Mindszenty High School; and Shiphrah O. Tellames, a Sophomore at Palau High School were placed in the Oral History/Ethnography Section. Alsalm Sumor, a Senior at Palau High School was placed at the Administration Section, while Johnny Ray Albis a Sophomore at Mindszenty was placed at the Public Education Section. They worked with the BAC staff for six hours a day, 30 hours a week, for a total of 180 hours in six weeks. They started working at the BAC on June 7, 2011 through July 15, 2011.

The BAC goal was to teach the students both office tasks as well as awareness concerning the importance of preserving, protecting, and promoting Palau's rich and cultural heritage.

BAC PRESENTS AT THE ANNUAL TEACHERS CONVENTION



On August 3, 2011, Staff Historian Lynda Tellames and Public Education Officer Filly Carabit of BAC along with Ann K. Singeo, Chief of Division of Gender and Kiblas Soaladaob, Consultant of MCCA had the opportunity to provide

powerpoint presentations entitled, "BAC & MCCA Overview", "Traditional Education System of Palau (Oral History & Ethnography Section, BAC)", "Kiblas Thesis on Education System", and "Ebiil Program" respectively to teachers during their annual orientation. The orientation occurs prior to the beginning of a new school year. BAC Ethnographer Ms. Kelly Marsh additionally provided a short presentation of the Palau Traditional Village poster to be distributed to classrooms later in the year. Historic Preservation Specialist Errolflyn T. Kloulechad and visiting researcher Nicholas Belluzzo also accompanied the three BAC staff and two MCCA staff to observe and visually document the presentations.

The presentations were important to provide as the Ministry and its Bureau desire to impart the importance of preserving and maintaining Palauan culture and historic sites. BAC staff shared the Bureau's mission with the instructors, showcased many of Palau's unique cultural traditions and accomplishments, provided an organizational overview, and explained many of the services the Bureau can provide to teachers and students.

MEHP AND ANNUAL CONSULTATION MEETING AT MARSHALL ISLANDS



The Bureau's Director/ SHPO, Mr. Dwight Alexander, and two of the Bureau's staff, Ms. Bridget Iyar, Grant Manager, and Ms. Sylvia Kloulubak, Historic Preservation Specialist, attended the Annual Consultation meeting

which coincided with the Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation Meeting (MEHP). The meetings were held in the Marshall Islands from July 25 - 29, 2011.

The Annual Consultation Meeting is a meeting among the US National Park Service Officials and regional Historic Preservation Officers, recipients of the US Historic Preservation Fund Grant. The purpose of the meeting is for the Historic Preservation Officers to present an overview of his/her current program followed by specific issue discussions. Individualized meetings also take place at this time to discuss particular program needs and plans for the upcoming fiscal year.

The purpose for the Annual Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation Meeting is to follow up major issues concerning funding and other technical assistance for the Historic Preservation programs in the Micronesia. The next meeting will be held in Guam, sometime in February 2012, and will be hosted by the Guam Historic Preservation Office.

BAC ASSISTED THE FIRST TARO FESTIVAL



The Bureau of Arts and Culture was pleased to support the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs in hosting the Republic of Palau's first 'A Mesei a Delal a Telid: Taro Festival.' The three day

festival took place from 6-8 July 2011 to promote the cultural, educational, and environmental roles of taro in Palauan lifeways. BAC's entire Oral History and Ethnography Section, led by Lynda Tellames, Staff Historian, produced a poster capturing historical and cultural elements of taro and taro cultivation in Palau. Ms. Tellames also gathered together oral histories, chants, and other significant written material to hand out to festival attendees.

These activities proved excellent opportunities to share BAC historical and cultural work collected over the years with the general public. The poster included BAC photographs of significant historic and cultural sites including: Kukau el Bad (Stone taro patch), Sual el Illuochel (Taro Basket of Illuochel [who taught Palauans how to cultivate taro]), and Bedengel el Illuochel (Stone body of Illuochel).

FY' 10 ILIUD ER A MESIUAL SITE RESTORATION COMPLETED



The Ngchesar State Government was the recipient of the Site Rehabilitation Fund Grant through the Bureau of Arts & Culture and the US National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

From March to April 2011, the community

of Ngersuul hamlet in Ngchesar began the rehabilitation project which involved clearing vegetation that was covering the stone platform and restoring fallen and loose stones that are part of the feature.

The trail leading to the site was also cleared so that it can serve as a visitor-friendly hiking trail while providing a natural, aesthetically pleasing view of the terrain and landscape and beautiful flora. Ngchesar State hopes that the rehabilitation project of Iliud er a Mesiual will draw in eco-cultural and adventure tourists as a means to grow and stabilize the state government economy.

The Iliud er a Mesiual rehabilitation project concluded on August 2011.

BAC ANNUAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION SYMPOSIUM HELD



The Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC)/Palau Historic Preservation Office held its 7th Annual Historic Preservation Symposium on September 1 & 2, 2011 with a theme “A Dikese a Didil a Kerruul” (Heritage Leads to Economic Prosperity).

The symposium had several objectives. First was to educate the public and make them aware of the importance of protecting and preserving Palau’s cultural heritage and historic and cultural resources. Second, to publicize the Bureau of Arts and Culture’s programs and mission. Third, to continue to educate the key community leaders and gain their support in regards to policy issues of related areas. And fourth, to continue to create innovative ways to entice and motivate our young generation to respect and practice our customs and traditions to ensure they be passed on from generation to generation.

The first day, September 1st, the symposium events were held at D’ Multi-Function Meeting Hall in Koror. A total of 68

participants representing different agencies, including various non-government agencies, and traditional groups. The panel presentations from affiliated agencies along with BAC sections presentations and discussions on key issues took place that first day of the symposium.

The second day, September 2nd, was a field day used to visit cultural and historical sites in Ngaraard State. The field day concluded with a closing ceremony at Ngaraard State Office vicinity with a total of 37 participants. Four sites in Ngaraard State were visited. These included: (1) Bai er a Ngkeklaui; (2) Olbaklderai (petroglyph marking the burial of part of Surech’s body); (3) Beluu er a Elab; and (4) Beluu er a Ngebuked. The site visits exposed the participants to the cultural values and significance of each site.

Since this symposium is held annually, it is the intent of the Bureau to hold the second day of the symposium in a different state each year.

HISTORIANS CORNER

Ke Medengei?

Chellubes - A chellubes a chedecholl ma lechub e ng bar el mlangai er a kldmokl el omedokel se el lemedei a chad. E tiang a obang a tang er a mechas el ngii a kot el kmeed er a bedengel a medei el nga er a sar el mo lmuut er a omeluosu. A ltebedang a medei el kirel el mo er a debull, e tia el chellubes a le kedmeklii el ilii el oltirakl er a kldmokl el teletelel. E ngikei el obang el mechas a mo oldubech er ngii er a ulaol el mo er a medal a tuangel, e mekull el chisngekl el me bedul a chelsel a blai. Ngikei el melai er tia el klalo el mo er a debull a kuk tang er a mechas el nga er a medal a tuangel er a ubeng el dirrek el diak el omes el mo bedul a chelsel a blai, e nguu el me merekedii er a omertechelel er a katur. E dirrek el mekull el diak el chisngekl el mo er a ullel ma ka el onger ma re nga er a blai me ng mekull el diak el oleker er ngii. Me ng uaisei a blekerdelel e merael el mo er a debull, ma lebong e ng mengiil el mo er se el lenguu a medei el mo sumecheklii er a chelsel a debull, engii a nguu tia el chellubes el mo merekii er a bebul a beldokel el blitokl. A uldidellel a mo bedul a rsel a ochil, ea ulisul a mo bedul a bdelul e chebecheb er bebul a beldokl.

BANK OF GUAM DONATES TO PRINT POSTERS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN OF PALAU



(Left to Right: Ms Kelly Marsh and Mr. Matt Cruz)

Mr. Matt Cruz, Vice President Palau Branch Manager, Bank of Guam presented a check for \$925.00 on September 13, 2011

to Ms Kelly Marsh of the Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC) made out to the printing company in order to print copies of Palau Traditional Village poster produced by the BAC. The main goal of Bank of Guam and the BAC is to get these posters to the classrooms so that teachers can teach schoolchildren about the way of life in Palauan Traditional Villages.

The BAC also thanks the Micronesian Area Research Center at UOG, the Northern Mariana Islands Historic Preservation Office, PALARIS, and the National Park Service who each also supported the printing of posters for their offices to distribute in Guam and the NMI and to the states and government offices of

REGULATION FOR HISTORICAL/CULTURAL PROPERTIES

It is illegal to take, remove, alter or damage any historical or cultural properties, including artifacts, sunken WW II vessels and parts thereof, WW II relics, historic landmarks, and cultural properties. Detailed information on Public Laws regarding historical and cultural properties can be obtained from PNC Title 19 and its subsidiaries. To ensure compliance with these laws you may contact the Bureau of Arts and Culture/ Historic Preservation Office at (680) 488-2489 or email to hispres@palaunet.com.

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