



IBETEL A KLEBELAU

Quarterly Newsletter (First Edition)

July - December 2010

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Presentation at Ngiwal Elementary School



Ngiwal Elementary School Summer English Reading Camp Students with their teachers and BAC staff

On June 29, 2010 upon request from the Ngiwal Elementary School teacher Ms. Melinda Wasai, the BAC Cultural Anthropologist/Ethnographer Ms. Kelly Marsh presented as a guest speaker to Summer English Reading Camp students. Ms. Marsh gave a brief overview of the work of the Oral History Section, a show and tell of a BAC poster on Intangible Cultural Heritage, and had students read along to the Palauan legend, "The Good Grasshopper and the Bad Grasshopper." Ms. Sylvia Kloulubak, Historic Preservation Specialist, Ms. Filly Carabit,

Public Education Staff, and Mr. Errolflyn T. Kloulechad, Historic Preservation Specialist accompanied Ms. Marsh to observe the presentation.

The students learned about the duties and responsibilities of the Oral History/Ethnography Section, the meaning of Intangible Cultural Heritage, and a Palauan Legend with a moral lesson.

This is part of the BAC's on-going effort to strengthen awareness and to educate the public about Palauan cultures and historical treasures.



BAC staff and Ebiil participants at Kukau el Bad, historical site in Ollei, Ngarchelong State

BAC Assisted in Ebiil Summer Camp Program

Each year the Ebiil Society operates a Summer Camp with participants ranging from the ages of 14 to 24 years old. This year, the Ebiil Society requested assistance from the Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC) in promoting the continuity of historical site education of Ngarchelong and Kayangel states. In response, BAC Historic Preservation Specialists—Mr. Calvin T. Emesiochel, Mr. Errolflyn T. Kloulechad, and Ms. Sylvia Kloulubak—assisted the Ebiil Summer Camp as tour guides for historical sites in both Ngarchelong and Kayangel states. **(continue on page 2: Ebiil Summer Camp)**

(continued from page 1: Ebiil Summer Camp)

BAC Presents at the Teachers Forum

Staff Historian Lynda Tellames and Public Education Officer Filly Carabit had the opportunity in 2010 to provide two powerpoint presentations entitled, "BAC Overview/Our Land, Our Heritage," and "Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH): Orekuul er a Ibetel me a Ngesechel a Cherechar (Oral History & Ethnography Section, BAC)" to



(front) Ms. Lynda Tellames, BAC Staff Historian delivering her presentation

teachers during their annual orientation. The orientation occurs prior to the beginning of a new school year. Also present was BAC Historic Preservation Specialist Sylvia Kloulubak who accompanied the two BAC staff to observe and visually document the presentation.

The presentation was an important one to provide as the Bureau desires to pass on its message of 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 organization overview and history, and explained many of the services the Bureau can provide to teachers and students.

BAC staff had a rewarding experience and they look forward to presenting again at the next year's MOE teachers orientation/forum.

BAC Presentation at Palau Pacific Resort



(front standing) Ms. Lynda Tellames, Staff Historian delivering the presentation



(front l-r) BAC Staff Ms. Filly Carabit, Ms. Lynda Tellames, and Ms. Kelly Marsh posing with PPR Employees

Palau Pacific Resort Hotel, in an effort to improve the skills of its employees in providing accurate information regarding Palau and its unique cultures, once again requested the Bureau to provide a presentation, this time on Traditional Customary Practices in regards to the Palauan "Marriage Ceremony."

On July 22, 2010 the BAC Anthropologist/Ethnographer, Ms. Kelly Marsh and Staff Historian Ms. Lynda Tellames prepared and delivered the presentation. Ms. Filly Carabit, Public Education Officer, accompanied Ms. Marsh and Ms. Tellames to facilitate and observe the presentation.

This is part of the BAC on-going effort to educate the public about Palauan cultures and historical treasures.

On June 21, the first historical site visited was *Kukau el Bad* located in Ollei, Ngarchelong State.

The participants got to see and experience the site first-hand and learn the oral history of *Kukau el Bad* shared to them by the BAC staff.

On June 24, Mr. Kloulechad again assisted the Ebiil Summer Camp participants as a tour guide to four bathing pools that are registered historical sites in Kayangel State these include: Diong er a Orukei, Diong er a Olekang, Diong er a Doko, and Diong er a Ermang.

BAC staff are very pleased to have been part of the Ebiil Summer Camp Program. They look forward to assisting the camp again regarding the education and awareness of Palau historical and cultural sites in next year's summer camp.

"Ollachitnger el Cheldechuch:" Latest Published Booklet



"Ollachitnger el Cheldechuch"

The 2008 booklet that was compiled by the Society of Historians, along with Oral History and Ethnography staff is now published. Copies will be distributed to all elementary schools and high schools of Palau, Palau Libraries, related government offices, and select off-island libraries (MARC, Micronesian Seminar & UH). This booklet is number 14 in the

Palau Traditional Customary Practices series.

Each year, the Society of Historians, along with Oral History and Ethnography staff, work to compile information about a selected aspect of Palauan culture. This annual project is meant to collect traditional aspects of Palauan life-ways which are then to be reviewed and shared for education purposes and to preserve Palauan Culture.

The 2009 and 2010 booklet project topics are "*Cheldebeche*" (Clubs) and "*Rubekul a Beluu*" (Traditional Chiefs), respectively. The booklets are still works in progress. Their availability will be announced later through this newsletter.

Completion Ceremony of FY'08 Site Restoration Project: Chelechol er a Orrak



(standing) Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg delivering her special remark during the completion ceremony



Cutting Ribbon for the completion of the site restoration at Chelechol er a Orrak

A completion ceremony for Chelechol er a Orrak site restoration project was held on July 29, 2010.

Chelechol er a Orrak, Airai State, is a historic site listed in the Palau National Register of Historic Places. The site occupies Chelechol ra Orrak which is along the west coast of the Rock Island at the south of Irrai traditional village (B:IR-1:1). This is an impressive site with classic examples of activities associated with quarrying of Yapese stone money (*balang*). Behind the beach are several caves that contain unfinished disk money, quarried areas,

living areas, a dock, rock alignments, and a burial cave. Scattered sherds and flakes were also noted throughout the site (*Olsudong and Emesiochel 2004: 57*).

The site was selected to be restored for Fiscal Year 2008 from among several restoration applications through a competitive process.

The site restoration grant is awarded annually to one state in order to enhance the protection and preservation of Palau's registered heritage sites. The project entailed clearing, cleaning, restoring, and interpreting aspects of the site.

The project was made possible through a grant from the US National Park Service, Department of Interior and the in-kind contributions from the Airai state government, including contributions from state traditional chiefs and people in the community.

BAC Staff Attends GIS Training on Underwater Cultural Heritage in Thailand



Classroom Training Session

From September 20 to 29, 2010, Calvin T. Emesiochel from the Survey and Inventory/Archaeology Section of the Bureau of Arts and Culture under the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs was nominated to participate in an "Advanced Training Course on the Application of GIS in the Management of Underwater Cultural Heritage." The training course was organized within the context of the UNESCO regional project, funded by the Royal Govern-

ment of Norway, entitled "Safeguarding the Underwater Cultural Heritage of Asia and the Pacific: Building Regional Capacities to Protect and Manage Underwater Archaeological Sites through the Establishment of a Regional 'Centre of Excellence' Field Training Facility and Programme of Instruction."

Through the Regional Field Training Centre established in Chanthaburi, Thailand, the project aims to build regional capacity in the protection and management of underwater heritage through professional training in field techniques underwater according to international standards. It also provides for effective networking among partner member states by encouraging close collaboration and dissemination of best practices, thereby promoting regional cooperation through exchange of information on the conservation and management of a shared heritage.

The Training was hosted by the Government of Thailand, specifically the Underwater Archaeology Division of the Fine Arts Department in Chanthaburi, Thailand. It was also attended by other country representatives from Cambodia, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Vietnam, the Philippines, Fiji, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Malaysia as well as Thailand.

BAC Presents at Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) Workshop



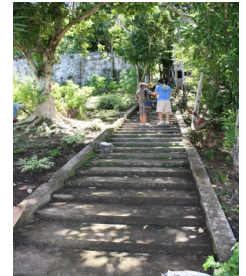
On November 19, 2010, upon the request of the Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) office, BAC staff namely Ms. Lynda Tellames, Staff Historian, and Ms. Filly Carabit, Historic Preservation Officer, provided a powerpoint presentation to the UBMS students during their workshop session at Palau Community College Meeting Hall. Ms. Carabit and Ms. Tellames shared the topics: BAC Overview and the Oral History/Ethnography Section respectively. The students got to learn the duties and responsibilities of the office of the Bureau of Arts and Culture and the importance of preserving and protecting Palau's precious cultural heritage.

BAC 6th Annual Historic Preservation Symposium

The Bureau of Arts and Culture/ Palau Historic Preservation Office held its 6th Annual Historic Preservation Symposium on November 11 & 12, 2010 at Ming's Hall, Palasia Hotel, Koror. The theme of the symposium was "*Omelisichel me a Omengelueluel a Klechib-elau*" (Strengthening and Protecting Our Palauan Heritage). The purpose of this symposium was to build a closer working relationship with concerned partners in protecting and preserving Palau's historical and cultural resources. The participants consisted of key collaborative partners in

the community, which included the Belau National Museum, Ministry of Education, Association of Governors, Palau Visitors Authority, Palauan Language Commission, PALARIS, State Governments Representatives, NGOs, Society of Historians, Palau Historical & Cultural Advisory Board, Palau High School students and teachers, Belau Modekngai High School students and teacher, Council of Chiefs, and Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs staff. The first day of the symposium consisted of presentations concerning the roles and responsibilities, as well as ac-

complishments and challenges, of the Bureau of Arts and Culture. These were followed by question and answer sessions including lively discussions. The next day was a field trip to visit historical sites in Ngarchelong State. The purpose of moving the symposium to another state was to provide participants the opportunity to visit historical sites located along the road of one of Palau's states. Recommendations and solutions that were presented will be used in the future Workplan of the BAC office.



US National Park Service & Pacific Island Historic Preservation Offices 31st Annual Consultation Meeting



Consultation Meeting with NPS

Three Bureau of Arts and Culture (BAC) staff, consisting of Ms. Bridget Iyar, Budget and Grants Manager; Mr. Calvin Emesiochel, Historic Preservation Specialist II/Archaeology Surveyor II; and Mr. Errolflynn T. Kloulechad, Historic Preservation Specialist I/ Preservation Compliance Officer, attended two events: the US National Park Service & the Pacific Island Historic Preservation Offices Annual Consultation meeting and the 31st Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation (MEHP) meeting in Yap from July 20 to 24, 2010.

The Annual Consultation meeting between the US National Park Service (NPS) and the Freely Associated States of Micronesia (FAS) occurred so that each Historic Preservation Office in FAS could present accomplishments of last year, FY'2009 (PY'08), and this year, FY'10 (PY'09), and report on each Historic Preservation Program's plans and projects scheduled to commence the following year, 2011. During these two events, each office had an opportunity to discuss any issues or recommendations in implementing their programs with

NPS. In addition, the BAC staff attended a training on Section 106 of the US Historic Preservation Act.

Students in the WIA Students Summer Program Join BAC

This summer of 2010, five students joined the BAC through the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Student Summer Program. This program gives the students, at both the high school and college levels, the opportunity of working in the field of their interest. It is meant to be training that will help them prepare for their upcoming future careers.

Ms. Paige Blelas, 10th grade of Palau High School, and Mr. Dupree Marcus, 9th grade of Emmaus High School, were placed in the BAC Administration Section. Mr. Tulop Yoshino, 11th grade of Palau High School, and Ms. Easter Malchiyanged, 9th grade of Palau High School, were placed in the Oral History and Ethnography Section. Ms. Verlanie Setsuo, freshmen at Palau Community College, was placed in 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 14, 2010 and ended on July 23, 2010.

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

Written by:

Verlanie Setsuo (WIA Student Summer Program)

Edited by: BAC Staff



(front l-r) Dupree Marcus, Easter Malchiyanged, Minister Faustina Rehuher-Marugg, Verlanie Setsuo, Paige Blelas, (back l-r) Filly Carabit, Tulop Yoshino, Moline Smaserui, Kelly Marsh, and Lynda Tellames

BAC Assisted in the 2nd EU-Palau Film Festival

The Bureau of Arts and Culture under the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs; the Ministry of State of the Republic of Palau; and the Spanish Embassy (EU President) in a collaborative effort hosted a 2nd EU-Palau Film Festival held here in Palau from June 10-13, 2010 at the Koror State Capitol Assembly Hall. The theme was "*Dengemesiol*," meaning the building up of ties between nations through small connections.

The film festival was a collaborative effort to strengthen the relations of friendship and cooperation between European Union Countries and the Republic of Palau through the Spanish Embassy (EU President) who seeks to strengthen EU's ties with Pacific countries.

The EU-Palau Film Festival showcased films from 6 countries, namely from the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Austria.

The films were shown each evening at about 6:30 pm at the Koror State Capitol Assembly Hall. Two films were shown each night except for the first night (opening ceremony) during which only one film was shown.

Entry was free and all were invited through advertisement via flyers inserted in the three local newspapers and via radio and TV announcements, posters, and word of mouth.

Many viewers showed up during the four (4) day film festival which made it a success.

Ms. Sunny Ngirmang Attended Training in Japan

Ms. Sunny Ngirmang, Historic Preservation Specialist, attended a Training of Leaders in Cultural Heritage Protection in Asia and the Pacific in Nara, Japan from June 21 to July 1, 2010. Participants included Palau, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Korea, and Lao P.D.R.



(standing 3rd left) Ms. Ngirmang posing in a group photo with the other participants and trainers

The training and networking provided for effective exchange of methodologies or modalities in the protection of heritage sites which could be used here in Palau. These mechanisms will allow for the effective management, protection, and conservation of cultural sites while also fulfilling their economical potential.

Once networking has been established, representatives from this year's training will have an opportunity to network via email regarding the efforts being implemented in their countries. It is hoped that Palau will give greater consideration to the effective management and protection of heritage sites. Through such training and networking, Palau could adapt some of the ways in which other countries work together with the community, and apply similar methods to its work.

Survey of World War II and Cultural Heritage in Peleliu State



Meeting with Peleliu State Governor, Kangichi Uchau and Peleliu State Legislature Speaker, Desengei Matsutaro



Survey Team Group Photo with Director Dwight Alexander

The archaeological work was initiated by the Peleliu Historical Society, which was awarded a grant from the US National Park Services (NPS) to conduct a World War II survey of the Bloody Nose Ridge. The NPS then advised the Bureau of Arts & Culture and provided funding to have a joint survey for both World War II and cultural sites.

The entire Team included Mr. Calvin Emesiochel, Dr. Rick Knecht, Mr. Errolflynn Kloulechad, Ms. Kelly Marsh, Mr. Steve Cypra, Ms. Sunny Ngirmang, Ms. Sylvia Kloulubak, Mr. Gener "Eigner" Moon Sangalang, Mr. Gavin Lindsay, and Mr. Nick Price. Dr. Knecht, Gavin, and Nick journeyed from Scotland to work for three weeks to complete this important survey for Palau and Peleliu State.

During the meeting with the Governor, Mr. Emesiochel informed the Governor and the Speaker that the project is two-fold. There is a separate World War II survey as required by the Peleliu Historical Society and then there is the cultural survey which will satisfy the requirements of the Bureau as the Historic Preservation Office.

The Governor and Speaker thanked the Director and the Team for their commitment to help Peleliu and its effort to document its history through archaeology and anthropology. They promised support and assistance to the project and wished them success.

On December 8, 2010, the two main sections of the Bureau of Arts & Culture, Palau's Historic Preservation Office, went to Peleliu State with an archaeology team to survey and document the state's heritage—its WWII heritage, especially at the Bloody Nose Ridge area, and its traditional cultural heritage of its five hamlets.

The archaeology part of the Team was led by Mr. Calvin Emesiochel and Dr. Rick Knecht, former Ethnographer for the Bureau of Arts & Culture and currently Senior Lecturer in the archeology department of the University of Aberdeen in Scotland. The oral history and ethnography part of the Team was led by Ms. Kelly Marsh. The Team had a meeting with the Governor of Peleliu, Honorable Kangichi Uchau and also the Speaker of the Peleliu State Legislature, Mr. Desengei Matsutaro, who also represented the Peleliu Historical Commission. The meeting was facilitated by the Director of the Bureau of Arts & Culture, Mr. Dwight Alexander.

176 Development Projects were Granted Historical Clearance Permits

During the period of July 2010 to December 2010, the Bureau reviewed one hundred and seventy-six (176) applications of development projects for Historic Clearance. These development projects included proposed construction of new access roads, improvement of existing access roads, building of new residences and apartments, clearing projects, renovation of existing buildings and residences, extension of homes, landfill projects, building of retaining walls, and earthmoving projects.

As mandated by law, the Bureau must review and determine the effects of any public and/or private development projects to ensure historic and cultural resources are protected and preserved. Before any development project begins, a Historic Clearance Permit must be obtained from the Bureau of Arts and Culture. Applications for Historic Clearance permits are available at the Bureau of Arts and Culture, please contact the Bureau for more information about this permit process.



BAC staff Mr. Errolflynn T. Kloulechad, Historic Preservation Specialist with EQPB staff surveying the compact road

Independence Day, World Food Day, UN Day, & OBF 2010



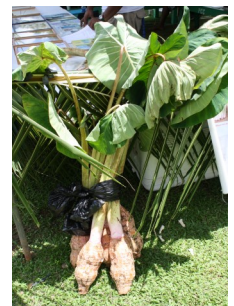
The Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs; the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism; and the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Industries and Commerce again joined in a cooperative effort and put together an annual combined celebration of the Republic of Palau's Independence Day, World Food Day, UN Day, and Olehotel Belau Fair. It was decided that the date of the Fair be October in order for the World Food Day and UN Day celebrations to coincide with Palau's Independence Day, October 1st. The theme was *Orremel a Kerruul*, Strengthening Our Economy.

The festivities ran for three days from October 1st to 3rd with all sixteen states participating in the various activities of the Fair. There were a total of fifty-one (51) booths that were erected at the vicinity of the event on October 1st and 2nd. These booths included the sixteen (16) state booths and thirty-five (35) booths for private sectors, NGOs, foreign countries, and other entities. Booths provided the display and sale of arts and crafts, farm produce, and plants. There was also a display of farm animals and marine resources as well as the sale of food and drinks. The main venue was at the former Olbiil Era Kelulau (OEK – National Congress) building vicinity from October 1st and 2nd while October 3rd consisted of water activities, including a boat race held at the Japan-Palau Friendship Bridge.

The three day festivities kicked off with the Parade of Nations followed by an opening ceremony. Music entertainment was played throughout the Fair. Traditional sports and games, a jewelry contest, a weaving contest and exhibitions, and a music contest were held during the first day. State dance performances took place in the early evening of the first day, October 1st, while the performances by foreign countries took place in the afternoon of the second day, October 2nd.

A visual arts exhibition, pottery/clay exhibition, woodwork and carving demonstration, and traditional canoe exhibition were put together for public viewing on the first and second day.

There was no competition for the overall first place trophy at the Olehotel Belau Fair this year. States participated in various ways by: showcasing vibrant displays representing their states; selling arts and crafts and food and drinks; displaying and selling endemic, indigenous, and imported crops and plants; and performing and participating in activities for prizes and *sengk* (dollar bills given as a sign of appreciation for an activity).



HISTORIANS CORNER

A Story with Moral Lesson

*** TEBRUCHEL

Tia el Reaos el beluu a rengedel a ngermetong el beluu el mo er a Ngarchelong el le kilie er ngii a ta el rubak me a ta el mechas. Tirka a mle kaubuch e mechelii a ngelekir el ta el sechal me te mengekii el Tebruchel. Te kmal mle ungil el mangedmoki er ngii er a le kekere el mocha klou el chad. Me ng kmal mle ungil beserir e omerollel el mocha klou el mocha medengelii a rengul e ng mocha bechiil er a ta er a beluu er a ta er a blai. E a le bo e te kmal mlo ungil er ngii er a rokui el omerellel. Me ng di ulebult el lmo chemau a bechil, e mechudo er a demal me a delal, el rengul tia el le ngar er ngii a ungil el tekoi. Ng mlelemolem er a rengul e obeso er a mo oldingel er a demal me a delal. E tir a kmal mechtecheto me ng kmal mekngit a chelebulir er a delengchokl. Me a blirir a chemersa me te di olsiu a ulaol er a teliang, e di kiei er a telengodech el ulaol e a telia a mla mongkangk me ng kmal mekngit a chelebulir.

Ng kiliie ngii el Tebruchel e a bechil a dilla me ng kmal kosenga a rengul er a bechil me ng kmal di kea el letkii a mo oldingel er a bill a demal me a delal. E a ta er a klebesei e a bechil a kmal mesengsengchang e kmal klou a chei, e chederrich me ng tilobed el mo er a chei e kmal ngilmedii a ngikel. Ng dibus el ngar er a kereker e ngii a mechell a bechil el sechal a ngelekel. Me te obtii a ngalek e a bechil a mo er a chebiil. A le merema el mla er a chei e a delal a bechil a kmo, "Bom riso a bedengem e me mesa a ngelekem e ng mlechell el sechal." Me a le bo el nguu a ngelekel el me

e ng kmal di ulemes er ngii e longelang. Le ng mocha medenge el kmo ak mle ua ngika el ngelekek, el mle kekere e ongesang er a demak me a delak. Ng di dimlak el lolekoi e lmuut el nguu a chelasel el tuobed e mocha remei er a bill a demal me a delal. Me a lebo e ng kmal mlo mekngit a rengul er a lesa a chelebulel a demal me a delal. Ng kmal mo mekngit a rengul me ng mocha meluluuch er a delal me a demal e mocha mangedmoki er tir el mo er a ulebongel er a kodel-lir. Ngika el Tebruchel a ngiluu a llechul a rengul er a lesa a ngelekel er a le mechell e le kekerei. Ng mlo melechesuar a ringelel a ulekeroul me a beltik el reng er a chedam me a chedil el mo er a ngelekel.

[Note: A utebengall e suobel el mengai er tia el cheldechuduch a kmo, a Tebruchel a ngiluu a llechul a rengul er a lesa a ngelekel er a le mechell e le kekerei. Ng mlo melechesuar a ringelel a ulekeroul me a beltik el reng er a chedam me a chedil el mo er a ngelekel. A de ngalek e ng kmal kirel el mo betik a rengud er a delad me a demad e le te mesaul el omkeroul.]

Source: "Ollachitnger el Cheldechuduch" *Stories with Moral Lessons by the Palau Society of Historians Traditional Customary Practices, Palau Series* 14, 2008. English version also available in same booklet.

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.

Bureau of Arts & Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office (Obis Er A Ibetel A Cherechar)

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