



The protection and preservation of intangible and tangible cultural resources is a fundamental goal of the historic preservation program. Key historic preservation program items to be discussed include challenges with Federal agency compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, in the Freely Associated States of Micronesia, the development of a program review and technical assistance structure for HPO self-evaluation and approaches to effective training to build staff capacity.

Historians Community Outreach Program to Ngardmau State



The Palau Society of Historians of the Bureau of Arts and Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Program held a town hall meeting in Ngardmau state on June 11, 2015. The Historians discussed the Palauan traditional and customary practices namely “Traditional Chiefs” and other related Palauan customary practices. This is part of the Historians outreach program to promote Palau’s cultural practices and presents what the Historians have published into booklets series that are abstracted from *Rechuodel* with additional information provided.

Training on HPF Grant Programmatic and Financial Procedures



The staff of Bureau of Arts and Culture and the staff of Palau Community Action Agency participated in weeklong training on Historical Preservation Fund Grant Programmatic and Financial Procedures, which was held from May 25—29, 2015 at the Bureau of Arts and Culture Conference Room. Ms. Paula Falk-Creech, a Program Coordinator from the Pacific and Micronesia Historic Preservation Programs of the US National Park Service conducted the training. This was a very rewarding training, which enabled the preservations staff of both offices to understand the financial aspects of the programs and its requirements.

HISTORIANS CORNER

KLENGAR ER EOU EL RENG ME A OMELEKOI

A klengar er eou el reng a blechoel el obengkel a omengull, e sebechel el meues el oak a omerellel me a delelel a chad er a cheslel a beluu, e dirrek el sebechel el morenges el oak a omelkingel. A omengull me a klengar er eou el reng a uchetemel a ungil el klechad er a Belau er a rechuodel. Ng mla er ngii a ulterkokl el teletelel a okedecherul a rrengodel el blai el blil a delengchokl. A bai me ng dirrek el mle ua isei, el ua el omeklatk er a rengalek me a rebek el chad el kirel a omengull me a klengar er eou el reng. A imuul er a rrengodel el blai el blil a delengchokl me a didil a charm er ngii, a keldmokl el ngar er eou. A bai me ng ua isei el tungelel a ngar er eou. Alsekum a chad a milekiis e diak el ngar er a teletelel a omengull me a klengar er eou el reng, e ng tuchelii a imuul me a didil a charm er a blai me a lechub e ng bai. A oua itia el teletael a ochotii a chad el kmo ng diak el llechuul er a blil me a lechub e te kmo ng diak el olik er a delodau. Aikakid a uleklatk e keldmokl el llach el mo er a chad a lebo el siseb er a blai me a lechub e ng bai.

TEACHING HUMILITY AND VERBAL CONDUCT

Humility and respect were considered inseparable and shone through in a person's conduct amongst people and in the village (*beluu*), for instance in the way a person spoke. Humility and respect were considered a foundation of Palauan culture. Both family (*blai*) and community houses (*bai*) were built in a style known as *rrengodel el blai* or *rrengodel el bai*. To children and adults alike, this architectural design was a reminder of the socially required respect and humility because the crossbeams (*imuul me a didil a charm*) of any such traditional house (*rrengodel el blai*) as well as the crossbeams of a *bai* (*olik*) were placed to revoke these values. If anybody rising from a sitting position hit their head against a crossbeam (*imuul me a lechub e ng didil a charm*), or if, walking within the house, they bumped their head into a crossbeam because of an upright posture, this was considered shameful but in due consequence of their lack of respect and humility, for proper behavior called for a bowed posture within the house. This was one of the established means through which a person learned the basic values of Palauan culture.

BAC Present its Work to Airai State Leaders and Community



On April 23 2015 Bureau of Arts and Culture Director, Sunny Ngirmang and Deputy HPO, Calvin Emesiochel and staff travelled to Airai State for community meeting with Airai State leaders and community members. The community meeting was held to discuss and solicit comments/recommendations for the preservation and protection of Palau's cultural and historical heritage.

The BAC discussed ongoing projects such as (1) BAC 5 Year Historic Preservation Plan Phase I and II; and (2) Historic Properties Inventory System Assessment Phase I and II. In addition, the Archaeological Survey and Inventory of Airai State Interior.

The Bureau of Arts and Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office receives annually Historic Preservation Fund Grants from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, to implement activities related to the identification, evaluation, registration, treatment, and protection of historic and archaeological resources.

Bureau of Arts and Culture welcome public and stakeholder comments on the Historic Preservation Fund Annual Grant Program. Comments/recommendations can be submitted to Bureau of Arts and Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office located at Civic Center Building next to Asahi Baseball Field, Koror or Email to bac_reg@palaunet.com or bac_arch@palaunet.com or fax to 488-3594.



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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 Chapter 1 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 send an email to hispres@palaunet.com.

Bureau of Arts & Culture/Palau Historic Preservation Office (Obis er a lbetel a Cherechar)

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