



IBETELAKLEBELAU

Quarterly Newsletter

July - Sep. 2014 - Vol. 29, Issue 4

Micronesia Endowment for Historic Preservation and Consultation Meeting in Guam



From July 15 to 27, Director/HPO Sunny Ngirmang and Deputy HPO Calvin Emesiochel attended the 2014 Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation (MEHP) and Annual National Park Service (NPS) Consultation meeting in Guam. The annual meetings is an opportunity for all the HPO's from the Freely Associated States, namely Republic of Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Federated State of Micronesia along with Guam, CNMI, and American Samoa to meet and discuss achievements and challenges of the HPO in their respective countries. It is also an opportunity for the HPO offices to meet one-on-one with the National Park Service to discuss internal matters and other operational details of the HPF program.

The MEHP is a separate meeting, which the Historic Preservation Officer of each respective HPO is a member of the Board of Directors. This year was the MEHP Officers election for the next four years. The new officers are David Herdrich, American Samoa HPO, President, Francis Reg, YAP State HPO, Vice-President, Rejene Capitol, Grants Manager RMI HPO, Treasurer, and Sunny Ngirmang, Palau HPO, Secretary. The Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation is a private non-profit corporation dedicated to the research and preservation of the cultural and historic resources of Micronesia.

These two Annual meetings convene every year to report each HPO program status and learn from each other and work out ways for collective effort to improve the capacity and capabilities of each HPO Office.

Publication on the Traditional Wisdom of the Pacific Islands

Palau signed the UNESCO convention on Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2011; by doing so Palau is committed to protect and promote its intangible cultural heritage. Former Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs Faustina K. Rehuher-Marugg and Bureau of Arts and Culture staff Ms. Meked Besebes, Anthropologist/Ethnographer attended the second editorial meeting for the Publication on the Traditional Wisdom of the Pacific Islands in Jeonju, Republic of Korea from 19 to 21 August 2014. Former Minister Rehuher-Marugg attended in the capacity as an indigenous knowledge advisor to the project.

The project is funded by UNESCO and ICHCAP Korea. The purpose of the meeting was to review the final manuscripts of six countries (Fiji, FSM, Palau, Tonga, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu) and discuss practical agenda for editing the contents and publishing the book entitled Traditional Knowledge and Wisdom: Themes for the Pacific Islands. Palau will publish five Intangible Cultural Heritage topics which are: (1) Ulekieriul a Ngklel a Beluu: Preserving Palau Traditional Place Names; (2) Omengat: Traditional Childbirth Ceremony; (3) Mesei: Traditional Taro Cultivation; (4) Palau Knowledge of the Sea; and (5) Palauan Bai (Meeting House). Agencies involved in this project include Bureau of Arts and Culture, Palau Community College, Palau Resource Institute, and Ebiil Society Inc. The next step for this project is to make final editing of Intangible Cultural Heritage manuscripts and submit to ICHCAP for publication in November 2014. The book will be launched early 2015.



L-R: Lea Lani Kinikini-Kauvaka (University of the South Pacific); Faustina K. Rehuher-Marugg (Former Minister of MCCA); Unaisi Nabobo-Baba (University of Guam); Pulupaki Moala Ika (Tonga); and Francis X. Hezel (Founder of Micronesian Seminar);

Students in the WIA Summer Program Join BAC



BAC Staff posing with WIA Summer Students

Four (4) students from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) student Summer Program joined the BAC from June 9—July 18, 2014. 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. Annette Antero, a Palau High School student was placed in the Registrar Section. Ms. Ikela Jamila, a Palau Mission Academy student was placed in the Administration Section. Ms. Samantha O. Iyar, a Palau Mission Academy student was placed in the Oral History Section. Mr. Woodrow I. Remasech, a Palau High School student was placed in the Archaeology/Survey and Inventory 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.

The BAC goal was to teach the students both office tasks as well as awareness concerning the importance of preserving, protect-

BAC Awareness Poster at Palau International Airport



As part of the BAC on-going effort to strengthen awareness and to educate the public about Palauan cultures and historical treasures, BAC produced and placed an awareness and educational poster at the Palau International Airport arrival station. The poster is to publicize and for awareness on the looting prohibition of Palau's historical and cultural sites. BAC seek assistance from the public to help stop the looting of Palau's precious cultural and historical sites.

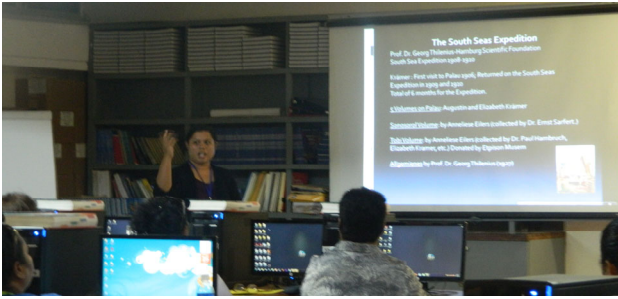
BAC Welcomes New Staff



On July 1, 2014 Ms. Marlene Theodore was hired as the Budget and Grant Manager of the Bureau of Arts and Culture under the Work Investment Program (WIA) for six months term. After the six months term probationary period Ms. Theodore will be then placed on a contract under the Historic Preservation Fund Grant from the National Park Service.

The BAC staff welcomes the new Budget and Grant Manager.

BAC Presents at MOE Convention



On July 16, 2014, Cultural Ethnographer/Anthropologist Ms. Meked Besebes provided a power point presentation to the annual Ministry of Education Convention. The topic of her presentation "How to use the translated Augustine Kramer's translated books" provided teachers an opportunity to learn about the 5 Volumes of Augustine Kramers books on Palau culture and where to obtain the free copies. The orientation occurs prior to the start of each school year.

The presentation was important since the BAC desires to impart the importance of preserving and maintaining Palauan culture and historic sites. This is part of the BAC's on-going effort to strengthen awareness and to educate the public about Palauan cultures and historical treasures.

Two BAC Staff Attended Workshop in CNMI



Two staff from the Bureau of Arts and Culture/Historic Preservation Office namely Errolflynn T. Kloulechad and Calvin T. Emesiochel from the Survey and Inventory and Project Review and Compliance Section

attended a National Park Service semi-annual preservation workshop on "Climate Change Conversations on Adaptation for Historic Properties". The workshop was held in CNMI Emergency Operation Center, Capitol Hill in Saipan on July 16 – 18, 2014. It was attended by staff from all Freely Associate State HPOs as well as CNMI and Guam HPO. The workshop was intended to help HPO staff to understand and integrate climate change adaptation into their management and preservation planning and decision making.

The outcome was to provide the staff from HPOs an awareness of climate change, its impacts, and adaptive management practices. It also

provide familiarity and access to cultural resource documentation tools and selecting appropriate tools for documentations as well as develop a plan for future management.



Mr. Emesiochel Attended Workshop in Taiwan



Calvin T. Emesiochel from the Survey and Inventory and Project Review and Compliance Section Staff of the Bureau of Arts and Culture/Historic Preservation Office attended a workshop on the Conservation and Promotion of Indigenous Culture spon-

sored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ROC Government and administered by Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF) that was held in Taipei from August 7th to 20th, 2014. It was attended by 17 individual representing 14 coun-

tries namely; Republic of Palau, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Malaysia, Colombia, Chile, El Salvador, Burkina Faso, Nicaragua, Honduras, St. Vincent and Grenadines, and Lithuania.

The workshop aimed to share with other countries what Taiwan has done toward its conservation and promotion of Indigenous Culture through development of the Indigenous Culture, Community Planning, Legislation, Cultivation of Human Resources, and the Marketing of the Culture. The exposure to this information will help provide ideas for participating country to better manage and utilize as well as preserve and promote their heritage through a sustainable development. It also provides different alternatives as well as incentives that elevate the spirit of the indigenous people to share and promote their own culture with pride and dignity.

BAC Assisted in EU-Palau Film Festival

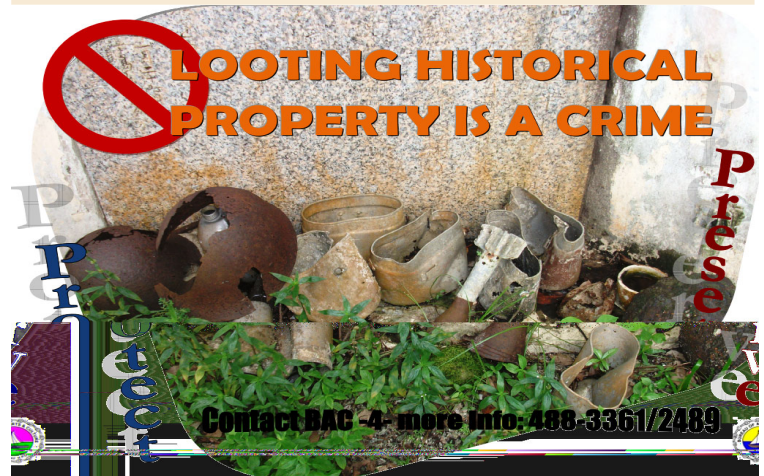


The Bureau of Arts and Culture under the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs; the Ministry of State of the Republic of Palau; Honorary Consul of Czech Republic; and the EU President in a collaborative effort hosted the 6th EU-Palau Film Festival in Palau from September 23-26, 2014 at the Palau Community College Assembly Hall.

The EU-Palau Film Festival showcased films from seven (7) countries, namely from the Czech Republic, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland. The films were shown each evening at 6:00pm for the first film and at 8:00pm for the second film. Entry was free and all were invited through advertisement via flyers inserted in a local newspaper, posters, and word of mouth.

BAC Assisted in the Pacific Island Forum

The Bureau of Arts and Culture Staff, Ms. Sunny Ngirmang, Director, Mr. Calvin Emesiochel, Deputy HPO, Mr. Temael Kloulechad, Historic Preservation Officer, Ms. Sylvia Kloulubak, Historic Preservation Officer, and Ms. Filly Carabit, Historic Preservation Officer assisted as a supporting staff in the Pacific Island Forum hosted by the Republic of Palau from July 29 - August 1, 2014.



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 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)

Ministry of Community & Cultural Affairs

P.O. Box 100, Koror, PW 96940

Telephone No.: (680) 488-2489/3361 Fax: (680) 488-3594

Email Addresses: hispres@palaunet.com / bac_reg@palaunet.com / bac_arch@palaunet.com

ACKNOWLEDMENT OF SUPPORT: This publication is published with support from the ROP Government and the National Park Service, Department of the Interior and the Palau Historic Preservation Office (Bureau of Arts and Culture).

DISCLAIMER: The contents, opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior.

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT:

This program received Federal funds from the U.S. National Park Service. Regulations of the U.S. Department of Interior strictly prohibit unlawful discrimination in national origin, age, sex, or handicap. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility operated by a recipient of Federal assistance should write to: Director, Equal Opportunity Program, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.