Hanaiakamalama, The Queen Emma Summer Palace in verdant Nuuanu Valley, was the site of this year’s annual meeting of Ahahui o na Kauka (Association of Native Hawaiian Physicians) on Sunday, November 16, 2003 from 3:00-8:00 pm. Many attendees took the opportunity to visit the museum, managed and maintained by the Daughters of Hawaii to view a collection of Queen Emma’s belongings, furnishings, artifacts and memorabilia.

2003 Officers, Martina L. Kamaka MD, President, S. Kalani Brady MD, MPH, Vice President, Dee-Ann Carpenter-Yoshino MD, Secretary, Gerald K. Akaka MD, Treasurer, and many on the Board of Directors joined other members and their ohana after the business meeting for mea ai & kukakuka (refreshments and socializing). Kauka haumana (medical students) were invited. Participants included kauka who had traveled not only from all parts of Oahu and the neighbor islands, but also from as far away as Samoa and Fiji. A delicious catered buffet dinner preceded the evening program.

Clayton D. K. Chong MD, Honolulu hematologist-oncologist and also Principal Investigator for Imi Hale (Native Hawaiian Cancer Awareness, Research and Training Network) presented an eloquent Tribute to Dr. Allen B. Richardson. Dr. Richardson was a pre-eminent native Hawaiian Orthopedics Sports Medicine specialist who died after a long illness earlier this year. A Punahou, Yale, and University of California at Los Angeles medical school graduate and nearly an Olympics swimming contender, he was Department Chair and Orthopedics Residency Training Director at the John A. Burns School of Medicine (JABSOM) of the University of Hawaii. He also had been a medical official for the international federation of aquatic sports for the Olympic games. Dr. Richardson shared directly with attendees through videotaped interviews his reflections on his life, career, and the meaning of being kanaka maoli.

Ty Kawika Tengan PhD, University of Hawaii anthropologist, rounded out the evening’s program with a presentation based on his doctoral thesis: Narrating Hawaiian Men: Life Stories, Place & Identity, supplemented with videotaped interviews of kanaka maoli embracing their heritage.

Discussion followed each presentation. Ahahui o na Kauka numbers 83 native Hawaiian physician members and 16 physician affiliate members.

Correction to:

We had inadvertently omitted mentioning “State Representative Galen Fox”, who was also honored as Legislator of the Year.
Clayton Chong MD, presenting his tribute to Dr. Richardson.

Dr. Richardson shares his reflections on videotape.

Dr. Tengan invites audience discussion after his presentation.

Kauka kapuna Kokoni Blaisdell MD (left), and Emmett Aluli MD enjoy the program.