

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Meeting. The next regular potluck meeting will be held on December 13 at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption (OLA) Church, commencing at 2 pm. We need a volunteer to buy and bake the ham. The club will reimburse the volunteer for the cost of the ham. If you are interested in volunteering, call **Darrin Ching** at 388-1544. Attendees should bring a dish to share. We will have a gift exchange (no more than \$15). So please bring a wrapped gift if you would like to participate in this optional gift exchange. We will also enjoy a sing-a-long, so please bring your guitar, ukulele, your singing voice, or whatever so we can enjoy the joyous afternoon.

Past Meeting. (a) Mahalo to **Harvard and Helen Horiuchi** who did an outstanding presentation of "Disaster Preparedness" at the last meeting. **Harvard** started the presentation by singing a song (and whistling). They are trained CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members. They provided an informative Power Point presentation with interesting personal photos and details on disaster preparedness. They had hand outs and gave out prizes to attendees. They even brought a 55 gallon barrel as part of their presentation. Their motto: "Be prepared." (b) Mahalo to **Darrin Ching** for roasting the Thanksgiving turkey we all enjoyed at the potluck. Mahalo also to **Kaimana Pendergrass** for decorating the tables.

Membership News. (a) **Ron Wong** is collecting dues for this fiscal year (October 2014 thru September 2015). Dues are \$20 for family including children under 19, and \$15 for single. New members are charged a one time \$10 initiation fee. You can pay your dues at the next meeting or mail your payment to **Ron** at 392 Tulane Ave, Ventura, CA 93003. (b) Welcome **Jaine Fahy**, who just joined our club. She is into massage and stress reduction techniques and simple exercises including stretches for health. She loves to cook and do crafts and beading (making jewelry). (c) **Sherry Vockel**, who lives in northern California, renewed her membership and with her sister **April Hahn**, donated \$50 to our club's treasury on behalf of her late mother, **Betty Day**. Thank you **Sherry** and **April**, I remember your mother well and her beautiful singing voice. With **Betty** leading the group, we performed at different senior living facilities, church functions, twice at the Point Mugu Navy Base for their Asian Pacific Islander Program, UCSB to support a Hula Halau program, etc. (d) Congratulations to **Noelani Gregory** for her outstanding report card – 4.0 grade point average from Cabrillo Middle School. Keep up the good grades and make mama and tutu proud! (e) It was nice seeing **Amy Takeshima** and **Daniel Andaya** attend the meeting after missing a few months.

Hawaii. (a) The UH football team has a 3-8 record, which is much better than I had expected. But how sad is the UH Men Basketball team? The Head Coach, an Assistant Coach, and a star player have all been removed from the team about three weeks before the season started for undisclosed reasons. But the Basketball team has a 2-1 record to open the season. And what about the Wahine Volleyball team? Well the team is not even ranked in the top 20 this year after many years of being one of the dominant teams in the nation. **Coach Dave Shoji** is in his 40th year as the coach and is probably close to retiring. **Shoji** won four National Championships at the UH. **Shoji's** two sons attended Stanford and were members of the U.S. Men's Volleyball team.

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Mike's Rambling Corner

Pidgin English is alive and well in Hawaii. A couple of months ago I went to a Walmart Store on Keeaumoku Street near the Ala Moana Shopping Center in Honolulu. I asked a salesclerk (I would guess her age to be about 40) where I could find kleenex. She replied: "You know where the toilet paper stay?" Whoa, that one statement took me back many years while growing up in Hawaii. Are we in 2014 or 1950? Many of us who grew up in Hawaii spoke pidgin because our parents or grandparents immigrated from the old country. The immigrants had to speak to other immigrants who came from other countries and thereby pidgin English was born. Many of us kids at that time carried forward that language when conversing with other local kids while at school or the playground. But why do younger people still speak Pidgin in this day and age? I must confess I still speak some pidgin but not as strong as it was while living in Hawaii. At least I hope not.

Night TV Shows. I usually fall asleep at night with my tv on one of the TV Night Shows (**Jimmy Kimmel, Jimmy Fallon, or Dave Letterman** depending on the guests appearances). I set my TV on 30 minutes "sleep" mode so I miss quite a bit of the show if I'm really tired. **Letterman** is retiring next year (he is currently 67 years old) and **Stephen Colbert** will replace him. Who is he? I don't think any of these late night hosts can beat my all time favorite – **Johnny Carson**. **Carson** was the king of the night shows. When he retired, **Carson** wanted Letterman to replace him but NBC picked **Jay Leno** instead. Good choice NBC! Anyway, I wish there is another **Carson** or even **Leno**. During the radio days in Hawaii, who can beat **J. Akuhead Pupule** and **Webley Edwards**? **Aku**, or **Hal Lewis**, was once the highest paid DJ in the U.S.

Lava Flow on the Big Island of Hawaii. The volcano lava that has been creeping along to Pahoia Town, Hawaii, has finally reached and destroyed some houses and displaced many residents. The population of Pahoia is about 1,000 and the lava flow from Mount Kilauea has kept residents on edge for months. The Kilauea volcano is the most active in the world and it discharges more lava than any other volcano. The lava constantly changes the dimension of the island. **Ruth Betts** brought some Big Island newspapers to the November meeting so that we could read about the lava flow. Volcano eruptions in other parts of the world often are more volatile and explodes like a big bomb and can instantly kill people. The island of Kauai is the oldest of the main Hawaiian islands and has not had an eruption in hundreds, if not thousands of years.

Old Hawaii. As we approach the holiday season, I can't help but reflect on how different it was growing up in Hawaii as compared to how things are in California today. In Hawaii we always celebrated New Years by playing with fire crackers. Of course there were a lot of injuries and property damages due to carelessness and stupidity. New Year's Eve is the one time of the year that many dog owners would allow their dogs to be kept in the house to keep them from being "spooked" by the fireworks. Most of the dog owners in Hawaii kept their dogs outside, normally in a doghouse. Dogs were not normally allowed in the house, I guess for sanitary reasons. People didn't want dogs to be walking in and out of the house since people were expected to take off their footwear before entering the house. In fact as kids, we were not allowed to bring friends into the house to play, we were expected to play outdoors. There was no TV to occupy us. On New Years Day we ate a lot of ono food, usually at a relative's house. Most of the families cooked their own food. Going to a restaurant was a luxury for most families. There were no McDonald's or other hamburger joints. Local saimin shops were selling saimin at about 15 cents a bowl. Shave ice was a nickel for a cone cup and a loaf of bread was 10 cent. Matinee movies for kids was 9 cents. Ahhh, good ole days.