

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2015

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Meeting. (a) The next potluck meeting will be held on August 15th starting at 2 pm, at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church. **Please note that this will be the third Saturday.** We will have a little different program – we will combine our meeting with **Kaimana Pendergrass'** Ukulele Club of Ventura County. The Ukulele Group will practice from about noon till about 2:15 when we will combine potluck dishes and enjoy the kau kau. After the potluck, we will have a combined sing-a-long. If interested, bring your ukulele and kanikapila (jam) with the uke club. (b) As a head up, we will have our annual Luau on October 3, Saturday. Stay tuned for more info on the Luau, we will need your kokua at that time.

Past Meeting. Our program at the last meeting was the sharing of travel experiences by **Ruth Betts** and **Darrin Ching**. Wow, what great presentations by both of them. **Ruth** started off by talking about her trip to Cuba in 1999 when travel to that Communist country was very rare. She brought mementos to show the members. **Darrin** talked about his visit to Spain earlier this year and had a slide presentations showing numerous pictures he had taken. Outstanding job by both of them, MAHALO!

Membership News. (a) Last month I sent out our membership roster to all members. Please make corrections to **Len & Paulette Peterson's** street address to read: "296 E. Calle La Sombra." **Mario & Leandra Castroni's** phone number should read, "205-9274." Are there any other changes or corrections? (b) We will have an election soon so please consider running for office. If interested, please contact **Darrin Ching** at 388-1544. Our installation luncheon will be held in September at a yet-to-be determined location. (c) Sometime in August, **Kim Nishimura** will move to Oregon. She attends all our meetings and will be sorely missed. Sayonara **Kim**. (c) The Ukulele Club of Ventura County will perform at the Ventura County Fair on August 11 at 12:30. The Uke Group also performs for different groups within Our Lady of Assumption Church in order to show our appreciation for the use of their facilities. Mahalo!

Hawaii News. (a) Several places in Hawaii reached record high temperatures in July. A few places had high temperatures of 93 degrees. And some places in Hawaii are in somewhat drought condition. Wow, what is going on in this world? There were record rainfalls in certain parts of the world while other places are facing drought conditions and severe heat. (b) The limited supply of single-family homes on Oahu pushed the median price to \$700,000 in June, tying the record set a year ago and placing homeownership out of reach for many first-time buyers. (c) **Michael Cord**, the musician and record producer whose restoration and reissue of vintage Hawaiian recordings made an unparalleled contribution to the preservation of 20th-century Hawaiian and hapa haole music, died on May 3, 2015 at his home in Ojai, Calif. He was 65. His memorial service was held on July 11 in Ojai and some of us from the Hui attended the service. At the past Hui Lima Kokua Luau's, **Cord** always contributed many CDs (through **Kaimana**) that were used for door prizes. Mahalo **Michael Cord** and rest in peace. (d) Hawaii Statehood day is observed on the third Friday in August and is a state holiday. The actual admission date is August 21, 1959. Celebration of this day is subdued since there are many independence activists who have disrupted celebrations in past years.

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Mike's Ramblin' Corner

(a) Maui has been named the best vacation destination in the U.S. according to U.S. News & World Report. The rest of the U.S. top-five destinations, in order, are Yellowstone; the Grand Canyon; San Francisco and Yosemite. London is the world's top destination, and St. Lucia is the best place to visit in the Caribbean. Following London on the international destinations top five are, Bora Bora, French Polynesia; Barcelona, Spain; Paris, France; and Sydney, Australia. On the expanded list of the top 25 destinations in the world, Maui ranked 7th, ahead of the Bahamas at No. 14 and the U.S. Virgin Islands, in 17th place. The rest of the winning Caribbean destinations are the British Virgin Islands; the Cayman Islands; the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Curaçao. The publication analyzed more than 350 destinations, using methodology combining expert analysis and user voting.

(b) For about a month period ending on July 5th, I was hooked on Women World Cup Soccer being played in Canada. This tournament is played every 4 years. There were 24 countries entered and my favorite team (U.S. of course) played in the championship game against Japan. This was a re-match from 4 years ago when Japan won in penalty kicks. But this time, U.S. won the game by a score of 5-2. I watched every U.S. game plus many other matches on TV. Japan was my second choice since I lived there for 5 years. This tournament was widely watched by millions of people all over the world and will undoubtedly influence many kids to pursue this sport. Soccer (or "football" to you European purists) is the most popular sport in the world. We did not have this sport in Hawaii where I grew up. My first exposure to soccer was when I moved to Camarillo and had both my sons play AYSO. Both of them played up through high school, and I even got to coach my younger son's (**Shawn's**) 5-6 year old team. After I watched my first son, **Dean**, play soccer I thought I knew enough of the game to coach **Shawn** and his 5-6 year old AYSO team. I knew the rules of the game but lacked the technical skills to show the kids how to kick, dribble, and pass the ball. I had to have **Dean** and his teammate show the younger kids the skills, and my job was reduced to taking attendance and ensuring all the kids played at least half the games. I lived in Japan where the 1964 Summer Olympics was held and Japan won the Women Volleyball Championship. I saw how that win influenced many young Japanese girls to pursue volleyball at that time. It is a good idea for kids to have sports figures as role models to get them (kids) involved in physical activities. Youngsters should live a more active lifestyle to avoid weight and health problems later in life. The 1964 Tokyo Olympics brings back a lot of memories. I had never owned a TV but I wanted to watch as many Olympic games so I bought a small black and white rabbit ear TV with only 3-4 channels. My, how technology keeps changing.

(c) The Dallas Cowboys National Football Team will start training in River Ridge, Oxnard starting at the end of July. Until Los Angeles gets an NFL team the Dallas Cowboys will remain a local favorite. Growing up in Hawaii, most of us were fans of the San Francisco 49ers.

(d) Disneyland (California) opened up in July 1955, 60 years ago. Admission was \$1 including tax for adults and 50 cents for children under 12. To take in all the rides and attractions, priced at 15 to 50 cents, it would cost an adult \$8.70 and a juvenile \$5.15; and it is doubtful that all the amusements could be covered on a single visit since it is necessary to walk nearly a mile and a half to take in all the "lands" of Disneyland. My first visit to Disneyland was in late 1960's or early 1970's when coupons (A thru E) were handed out with the admission price. "E" coupons were the most valuable and could be used for all the rides in the Park. "A" coupons could be used on a few cheapie rides. Today the price of daily admission is \$99 for ages 10 and above, and \$93 for ages 3 - 10. Wow, a family of 4 would need about a grand to cover admission, food, souvenirs, parking, etc.