

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

JUNE (IUNE) 2004

Next Meeting. (a) Our next meeting will be a dinner to be held on Saturday, June 12th, starting at 6:30 pm at the Oxnard American Legion Hall located at 2639 Wagon Wheel Road. That is the day the American Legion will have its Installation Luncheon but they will not need our assistance this year. For our program we are going to have a ukulele sing-a-long. Bring your ukulele. Song sheets will be provided and let's have an informal jam session. (b) Special outing planned for July, stay tuned.

Past Meeting. (a) The plant exchange potluck meeting was sure fun. There were a lot of plants for members and guests to take home. And the food was also great. Thanks to all who attended and made this a success. Guests who attended included **Ray/Terri Nakata** and **Ron's** lovely daughter, **Diane**. Prizes were awarded to attendees. **Mike** and **Leandra** were the winners in the scratchers winning \$10 and \$2 respectively.

Membership News. (a) Congratulations to **Michelle Tennant** who got married to **Michael Divenzio** last month. (b) Club shirts are available for \$12. See **Gerry Wong**. (c) **Richard Varde**, one of the founding fathers of the Hui Lima Kokua Hawaii Club in 1962, and former club president, died on May 8, 2004 at the age of 70. He was born in Honolulu but has resided in Oxnard until his untimely death. Our deepest condolences to the family.

Hawaiian Tidbits. (a) The Northridge Hoolaulea will be held on June 5 and 6 at Northridge Park, 10058 Reseda Blvd (one block south of Devonshire), with continuous Hawaiian entertainment, lots of Arts and Craft Booths, and plenty of ono-licious food (teriyaki beef/chicken, shave ice, laulau and poi, malasadas, plate lunch, curry stew, manapua, kalua pork, etc. Free admission. Bring blankets or **low** back lawn chairs if you plan to sit under the tarp. (b) On July 17 and 18, Hoolaulea at Alondra Park, Lawndale, California. Continuous entertainment and a lot of ono food available. On those same days, the Navy Base in Port Hueneme will have its Seabee Days celebration and the public is invited. Free admittance to both events. (c) June 11 is being celebrated as **King Kamehameha I Day** and is a state holiday. **Kamehameha the Great** was born somewhere between 1752 and 1761 in Kohala on the big island, and is credited for uniting the islands of Hawaii. (d) Did you hear that Hawaii is selling desalinated deep-sea water to Japan? Actually a private company on the Big Island is selling about 80,000 little bottles of sea water a day to Japan. The Japanese apparently believe that desalinated deep-sea water helps digestion, skin tone, weight loss and reduces stress. It sells for more than \$30 a bottle. There's no scientific proof that sea water has any health benefits, but it is becoming an economic market for Hawaii. (e) A movie, "Stand Up For Justice," opened up in selected theaters last month. It is a story about Mexican American 16 year old, **Ralph Lazo**, who, in 1942 saw his Japanese American friends evacuated from their homes to internment camps. **Lazo** joined them. He lived in Manzanar from 1942 to 1945 and graduated from Manzanar High School. This 30 minute flick was filmed at the Manzanar camp. **Lazo** is the only known non-Japanese without a Japanese spouse to stay voluntarily in an internment camp. It is a story of loyalty for one's self, honoring friendship, and acting upon one's convictions. (g) Consumers Digest magazine has ranked two Hawaii universities as offering some of the top academic value per dollar among the nation's 3,500 institutions of higher education. The magazine put Brigham Young University-Hawaii at the top of its list of 25 private schools for value and UH-Manoa fifth-highest among 50 public institutions. At BYUH, non-church member tuition is \$3,860 annually, while room and board is \$4,660. At UH-Manoa, nonresident tuition is \$10,060 annually, with room and board around \$7,000. (h) **Hookena** and **Raiatea Helm** will be performing at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, 1935 Manhattan Blvd., Redondo Beach, California on July 25, noon to 3:30 pm. Tickets: advance \$25, at door \$30. Call (562) 773-1525. (i) 34th Annual Ukulele Festival to be held at Kapiolani Bandstand, Waikiki, on July 25 from 10:30 am – 1 pm. Admission: free.

Good 'ole Hawaii! Let's stroll down memory lane and see what you remember. (Part I)

How about... Kent Bowman a.k.a. K. K. Kau Manua, or Lippy Espinda, da poh mans fren? OR, remember when Hilo Hattie was a performer, not a store??? How much of this can you remember? If plenny, you REALLY old, man.

When you could buy one big sack of See Moi for a nickel... and then you ate the whole thing and licked the bag... Gramma said, you go Chinese School, you say "NO!" she said, you go, I buy you see moi, you say OK.

Windward side... taro patches... rice paddies...water buffalo... When you mentioned Kaneohe, everyone knew you were talking about the pupule house... When the tallest building in Honolulu was the Aloha Tower... Radio personalities like... J. Aku Head Pupule on KGMB in the mornings saying "OK, all you SLOBS, it's time to GET UP!!!" Hey, no foget Lucky Luck's "Lucky you come Hawaii!" and remember Don Chamberlin and "Don in the fishbowl" from Fran's Drive Inn... When you lived in Honolulu, T.H.... Signs on vacant and private property that said KAPU... When the site of Ala Moana Shopping Center was a big swamp. Waiialae-Kahala was mostly pig farms... and the area next to the airport was a neighborhood called Damon Tract...

Kids chanting... Ching Chong Chinaman, Sitting on a fence, Trying to make a dollah, Out of fifteen cents... Red, White and Blue, Stahs ovah you, Mama say, Papa say, you pake... Grade school JPO's... Junior Police Officers in their white shirts, khaki pants, polished black shoes, red helmets and arm bands... 25 cents going Saturday Matinee, Queen's Theater...I remember 9 cents at Varsity Theater and 25 cents could get you movie, soda, and popcorn at Golden Wall Theatre....Wearing Band-Aids and a "limp" to get into the Saturday matinee without shoes... Flipping milk caps on the sidewalk during recess... and deciding who got to go first by playing Jung Ken Po... And when you did something dumb everybody yelled..."Bakatare You!" And when you did something naughty they shook their finger and said..." A hana koko lele!"

Moonlight swimming... Bonfires on the beach... Strumming ukuleles, singing and everyone knew the words to all the old Hawaiian songs... You were greeted with... Ei, bu!... Ei buggah, how you stay?... or Ei, blah-lah... Going to Maunakea Street to buy ginger leis... The old Pali road with the hairpin turns... and if it was really windy, the hood of the car blew open...

The bestest freshest poi at Ono's on Kapahulu Ave...Also bestest Laulau, Kalua Pig, Opihi, sticky rice, Lomi Salmon, Pipikaula, Na'au Puaa, Haupia...Broke da mout'! Dollar bills with HAWAII printed across them...I still got some... When the Honolulu Stadium was called the termite palace.

Guys getting their kicks sparking the wahines from under the stands... soggy bags of boiled peanuts sold by squatting sellers...and Football players smothered with leis and lipstick walking off the field... Harry Bridges, Teamsters Union leader, calling union dock strikes causing food shortages... Sad Sam Ichinose... Kau Kau Korner, the meeting place with the "Crossroads of the Pacific" sign out front, the most photographed sign in the world... The waitresses wearing short skirts, soda hats and skates bringing your order to the car on a window tray...How good those hamburgers smelled! "Aloha Oe... eat fish and poi"...

When those lucky people who lived in Waikiki sold their lots for \$5.00 a square foot and we all thought they were getting rich... Everyone discussing the "Mauka Arterial" and when it was finally completed we all got lost because we didn't know East from West... All I knew was Ewa side and Diamond Head side... Mauka and Makai. Holding the 49th State Fair year after year...and finally becoming the 50th state in 1959... Looking at Diamond Head... when all you could see from Waikiki was the Natatorium and the

Elk's Club... Hey, don't forget the Town & Country Club Riding Stables and the taro patches. Old Chinese ladies with bound feet shuffling along wearing dark grey tunics and trousers... Japanese men in Kimonos carrying a towel and a bar of soap walking to a stream in the evening... Filipino men from Waipahu on the bus with their game cocks in cages... Elderly Japanese squatting, waiting for the bus... Trying to find the coins wrapped in red paper and pieces of tissue (with holes in them that the evil spirits had to go through)...from Chinese funerals... Watching Duke Kahanamoku surfing at Waikiki and shaking hands with him

Beach boys with da kine, ho'omalimali and Hawaiian music under the palm trees at the Royal Hawaiian and the Moana... Surfers with 8 foot boards that weighed a ton... Waikiki sand always washing away and having to be replaced by sand from the windward side... Old Chinese men playing mah-jongg under the hau trees at Kuhio Beach... Saint Louis boys singing "We get ten thousand men steel yet, we gonna ween dees game you bet... " My friend wen go St. Louis but I no tink he remember this. Rubbing maunaloa seeds on the sidewalk until they got hot enough to burn somebody's arm... The excitement of the Lurline coming in... Lei sellers everywhere... "Carnation lei... fifty cents, plumieria.. three for dollah"... Local boys diving for coins... big beautiful jelly fish... a tangle of streamers from ship to shore...passengers tossing leis overboard as the ship pulls away... if they floated toward shore, they would return...

When KGMB and KGU were the only radio stations... Lots of Mynah birds on the sidewalks... mongoose living in a neighborhood tree... Going Pali lookout to "spahk da moon"... "I took my wahine holo holo kaa, I took her up the Pali, she say "too muchee faa." Pull down the shade, try to make the grade... Lei ana ika... black eye!" Going Diamond Head or Ala Moana to watch the submarine races... Swimming in the streams and whacking each other on the head with shampoo ginger... Never driving over the Pali with pork in your car...you going get stuck... No need test...I wen test for you and the car engine wen maki. Going to "First Vue" at the Waikiki theater! ...eating crackseed..the palm trees and flowers that looked so real.. .the usher who wore a feather cape and helmet and ever smiled...Every Friday night at 10:15 and you had to make reservations. Talking mynah birds...I had one dumb minah bird...never did speak to me. Lights out... clack, clack, clack... what's dat?...turn on lights... one BIG centipede! Alfred Apaka... Kalima Brothers... Gabby Pahinui...slack key...steel guitars... Don' forget Auntie Genoa Keawe.

Surfing at Waikiki and watching the outrigger canoes along side of you full of mainland tourists wearing bathing caps... Surfing Waikiki all day without eating, getting red eyes... going back again the next day... because when you caught those waves and rode them all the way in... it was worth it! Underwater... trying to catch a ride on the back of a turtle... Underwater... trying to look at fish and eels without a mask...

Swimming at Fort DeRussy... trying not to get stung by da Portuguese Man-o'-War...There was a pier behind the Moana Hotel There was a jungle between the Royal Hawaiian Hotel and Kalakaua. And you can go catch Samoan Crab, White Crab, Hawaiian Crab and dig for Oysters and Clams in West Loch. The big tidal wave from Japan that washed up over Kalakaua Avenue... Being able to tell what month it was by the color of Diamond Head... When inside Diamond Head was opened to the public again.. hiking inside and finding big cannons sticking out of concrete pukas... 1949... auwe!... a big underwater shelf broke off and shook the whole island!

This is the end of Part I, Let's Stroll Down Memory Lane. Part II will continue next month. Stay tuned.