

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY (IULAI) 2004

Aloha,

Next Meeting. (a) Our next meeting will be a potluck picnic to be held on Saturday, July 10th, at the Ventura Pier, close to the Holiday Inn at FWY 101 and California. Bring chairs and your favorite picnic food to share with other members. The club will furnish rice, service and drinks. If you are interested in fishing or biking, be there at about 9 am. Bring your own bike or you can rent one at the pier. If you don't have fishing gear, **Ron Wong** will have some extras along with bait for all (no fishing license is required if fishing from the pier). All others should be there at 11:30 am. We will also play volleyball and ukulele. Free parking is available across the freeway (Thompson Blvd and Ash St) which has a connecting pedestrian bridge over the freeway. Pay parking is available closer to the pier, under the bridge. In lieu of paying for a day's parking, a lifetime "Golden Age Passport" is available for \$10 at the Channel Island National Park Visitor Center (open daily from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm) at the end of Spinnaker Drive at Ventura Harbor for senior citizens (62 and over). Golden Age Passport holders are entitled to park free at the Ventura Pier. (b) We will **NOT** be serving lunch to the homeless veterans on July 24th as tentatively scheduled. Another organization has volunteered to perform this task.

Past Meeting. (a) Mahalo to **Juanita Pendergrass** and **Celeste Lowe** for leading the Ukulele Sing-Along at our last meeting on June 12th. **Juanita** also provided the music. Ukulele players also included **Ted Wakai, Ollie Akau, Gerry Wong, Ken & Betty Reade, and Mike Nakamura**. Some had to dust off their old ukulele to share their musical talents with all of us. Mahalo to **Michelle Vivenzio, Darrin Ching, and Bill Pendergrass** for dancing the hula (this is not a misprint, **Darrin** and **Bill** danced the hula following the lead of the lovely and talented **Michelle**). The beautiful voices were provided by all the attendees and a fun time was had by all. (b) Thanks also to **Mike and Michelle Vivenzio** for pinch hitting for **Mario Castroni** by bringing the rice, hot water, and the other essentials for the meeting.

Membership News. (a) I'm sorry to pass on the news that our beloved **Johnny Delgado** died on June 20th. Our deepest sympathy to his wife, **Gerry**, and the rest of the family. Before **Johnny** died, he asked that no services be held. When he served as the Recording Secretary a few years ago, he would always share his stories and jokes at the board meetings. I remember a few years ago when **Johnny** was going to Washington DC for a Peace Corps Convention. I asked him about his experience in the Peace Corps and found out that he served in Peru in the early 1960's. I mentioned to him that my good friend from Newbury Park also was in Peru at about the same time and I was surprised to hear that they ran around together there and lost contact with each other for about 40 years. Well, **Johnny, Gerry, Kay** and I went to dinner at our mutual friend's house in Newbury Park and I was fascinated listening to their tales of the "good ole days" from **Johnny, Jim, and Jim's** Peruvian wife, **Leonor**. Adios good buddy, we will miss you. (b) We will be having elections for next year's officers (President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary) in September. Please consider volunteering.

Hawaiian Tidbits. (a) 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. (b) The 34th Annual Ukulele Festival with the finest ukulele players from around the world will be held at the Kapiolani Park Bandstand, Waikiki, on July 25th. Admission is free. (c) The International Market Place in Waikiki will be demolished and replaced with a \$100 million shopping complex. The 150-year old banyan tree that flourishes in the heart of the Market Place will remain. In addition, a hula mound, story telling amphitheater, lush greenery, and a river filled with fish will be a part of the new landscape. The project is expected for completion in late 2007. (d) **Raiatea Helm** and **Hookena** will perform at the

Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, 12 pm on July 24. \$25-\$30. (562) 715-0349. (e) In Anaheim, CA, Aloha Live 2004 with **Amy Hanaialii Gilliom & Willie K., Makana, Sean Naauao and Sistah Robi** in concert 8 pm on August 6. \$35. (714) 712-2700, www.thegroveofanaheim.com. (f) The University of Hawaii Board of Regents fired **President Evan Dobbelle** "for cause." **Dobbelle** served as the UH president for three years and got off on the wrong foot with **Governor Linda Lingle** when he endorsed her democratic opponent, **Mazie Hirono**, for the governorship in the 2002 election (the governor appoints the UH Board of Regents). He was very supportive of the UH Athletic Department and will be missed by the coaches. (g) Where do you find the best manapua in Ventura County? My pick is the Farmers' Market at Oxnard College on Saturday mornings. It sells for \$6 a pack of four. Chicken manapua is my favorite. A hui hou.

Mike Nakamura, Corresponding Secretary, 482-1740, monakamura@aol.com

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

This is a continuation of last month's newsletter (Thanks to **Ray & Terri Nakata** for providing this):

Webley Edwards with his mike walking along the beach and talking to the tourists... and taking the mike down to the ocean to let everyone listening on the mainland hear the sound of the waves at Waikiki... on Hawaii Calls... When all the tourists were mostly movie stars or rich and came on Matson ships and stayed at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel and wore furs in the evenings!... Walking down Waikiki Beach and sparking movie stars without their toupees, wigs and make-up... And sell them coconut hats for \$10 per hat. Trader Vic's... Don the Beachcomber's... the Zebra Room all painted with Zebra stripes outside... Seeing painfully sunburned and peeling tourists at Waikiki... Doing the Hula in the "May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii" celebration... Using the uli-uli's, ili ili's and pu'ili's... making our own hula skirts out of ti leaves... splitting the ti leaves with our thumb nails and having green hands for a week... 4 digit phone numbers? No, I remember 5 digits.

English standard schools...Japanese language lessons...

When nobody locked their houses or cars..."Right on the kinipopo"... When anything that said "Made in Japan" was junk... When everyone called Plumerias "Graveyard Flowers"... (MAKE' MAN!!) When restaurants were called either Cafes or Grills... Wooden sided station wagons filled with bananas... "Banana Wagon"... Buying Sushi cones on way home from school from the Sushi man and his cart on the corner... Sunday morning, December 7, 1941... masks... air raid drills... backyard bomb shelters... 442nd, "Go for Broke"... "bobbed wiah" on da beaches... KILROY WAS HERE... Eating lots of Spam...

Kaimuki red dirt...everything you bought white turned reddish brown... your sheets, your underwear... Surfing in your palaka bathing suit... Fitted Holokus with long trains with a loop for your wrist... Tita dress: cuffed up Levis, Aloha shirt with the sleeves rolled up twice, ear rings and slippahs... Wearing a white sailor hat... Wooden slippahs with two slats of wood across the bottoms...we called them "clop-clops"... when you could buy sox and tennis shoes that came in-between the big toe and the rest of your toes... Waking up with mo'os in your bed, sometime dead because you slept on them and sometime just their tails were left behind... Shave Ice on a hot day... Finding Japanese green, white and lavender glass fishing balls in various sizes floating in to the beaches on the North shore... "Calabash cousins"... Watching sea weed being harvested on a weekend... Torch fishing at night...

Example of a "dumb haole"... driving up Tantalus and Round Top Drive and haole says, "I bet these roads are really dangerous when it snows"... Listening to Hawaii Calls... Playing around the mouth of Blow-Hole... trying to guess when it would blow... so you could run... Playing on top of the Reservoir in Kaimuki... When there were so many palm trees that coconuts were falling on people's heads... and owners cutting them down for fear of getting sued... Arthur Godfrey playing his ukulele... Hale Loki... "Hawai-ya, Hawai-ya, Hawai-ya?" and Chesterfields... Listening to the Japanese radio station and hearing Japanese men grunting...The traffic cop in a little booth in the middle of the street with an umbrella over it... Uku-pile-a-roaches and FLIT GUNS... later to be replaced by...the SLIPPAH... Servicemen... complaining about "life on the rock", drinking, swearing, hitchhiking, making passes, driving too fast, and sometimes getting blown off the Pali on their motorcycles... Manoa Valley... swiping painted candles from the Chinese Cemetery...laying on the graves to see what it felt like to be dead... looking at all the photos on the gravestones and wondering about their lives... sliding down the ti leaf slide and going home covered with mud... going "mountain appleing"...hiking to the falls in the rain through the bamboo when there was no trail... "liquid sunshine" everyday about the same time... fire crackers and smoke filling the valley and the houses on Chinese New Year... When everyone had a pune'e and at least one old Koa table in their home... When Nu'uaniu Valley was a thick, lush, tropical rain forest... with many upside down falls... the monkeypod tree in the middle of the road at Nu'uaniu and Vineyard...

Kapiolani Drive-In... Fran's Drive In ...KC Drive In (for Waffle Hot Dogs & Orange Freeze) alongside the Ala Wai Canal...Kelly's Drive In... When Kalakaua Ave. was a two-way street... Admission to the Honolulu Zoo and the Aquarium was free... Waialua, Ewa, Kahuku and Waianae sugar plantations...working in the cane fields... cane trains... the irrigation system was up on wooden stilts... Honolulu Airport was on the Diamond Head side of the runway... Jumping into the water holding a Hau leaf in your mouth so the water wouldn't go up your nose... Working in the pineapple factory and the fields... Riding horses in Kapiolani Park... When the Natatorium was called the Tank... The Manapua Man...The Lunch Truck at Ala Moana Beach and their ONO chow fun. The Japanese neighborhood vegetable wagon. Lau Yee Chai was on Kuhio Ave. and set off firecrackers every Saturday evening at 6...

... AND THIS WAS THE OLD HAWAII !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

P.S. I received quite a few of their own, "Do you remember..." from members after last month's newsletter. Please forward to me, in writing, your recollections of the good ole days and I may publish them later. Or we may just take a walk down memory lane at one of our meetings to discuss those old days. Ahhhh, I can just hear **Ron and Gerry**.