

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST (AUKAKE) 2006

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Meeting. (a) Our next potluck meeting will be held at the Oxnard American Legion Hall located at 2639 Wagon Wheel Road starting at **6:00 pm (yes, 6:00)** on Saturday, August 12. Guests are welcome. **Ted Wakai** (Wizard of OX-nard) will lecture how **King Kamehameha**, the Lonely One, struggled to become chief and then to unite the islands to become King of the Hawaiian Islands. **Ted** will also magically demonstrate how the **Betsy Ross** of Hawaii created the Hawaiian flag. After **Ted's** presentation, **Ron Wong** will have bingo games. (b) We will have something special for September's meeting scheduled for September 9. Save that date and stay tuned for more exciting information.

Past Meeting. (a) For the program in July, we saw the **Jean-Michel Cousteau's** documentary film that swayed **President Bush** to designate the Northwest Hawaiian Island site as a national Monument. The documentary film was very interesting. Thanks to sister **Audrey** who taped the program in Hawaii for me. Once again, mahalo to **Darrin Ching** for providing the monitor and VHS player.

Membership News. (a) Elections of next year's officers are coming up next month. If you are interested in running for office contact **Len Peterson**, chair of the nominating committee, at 484-9079. (b) Good luck to **Kehau** on her move to Stockton.

Hawaii Sports. (a) Waipahu's 25 year-old boxer, **Brian Vilorio**, will defend his World Boxing Council light flyweight (108 pounds) championship against Mexico's **Omar Nino Romero** on August 11 in Las Vegas. **Vilorio** is undefeated as a professional. (b) Chances are you have not heard of **Mat McBriar**. Well he is currently in Oxnard training with the Dallas Cowboys. **Mat** is a punter from UH.

Hawaiian/Local Tidbits. (a) There is an L & L Hawaiian BBQ Restaurant that just opened up in the Oxnard's Esplanade Shopping Center next to Starbucks. Restaurant seating is limited but the food is still typical L & L, i.e., ono! And the staff is very friendly and they greeted me with an "Aloha" when I entered the restaurant and a "Mahalo" after I ordered. I asked the two girls behind the counter who looked like Hawaiians if they were from Hawaii. They were not but one of the girls is taking hula lessons. (b) Travel + Leisure magazine recognized Kauai as the second best island in the world. I couldn't agree more on this distinction, the island offers beautiful sceneries and friendly people. My haole friend **Ed** spends half his time there and the other half in Santa Barbara. I wonder why **Ed** would spend any time at Santa Barbara at all with its embattled newspaper. Bali, Indonesia, was voted number one while Maui was third and the Big Island was ranked seventh. Oahu was not in the top ten. (c) The Ventura County Fair runs from August 2 – 13. Come see the Ventura County Ukulele Club, under the direction of **Juanita**, perform on the Pepsi Stage on August 8 (Senior Day) starting at noon. The hula halau in which **Juanita** is a member performs right after the ukulele performance. That wahine is sure going to be busy that day. (d) I attended an "Aloha Friday" show at Camarillo's Tony Roma's Restaurant on July 21 featuring **Moana (Charley & Ilima)**. It was "standing room only" for this event. For the price of a dinner I got to listen to two hours (8-10 pm) of wonderful Hawaiian music and see some impromptu hula dancing. I also attended **Mango's (Carl and Joanie)** new CD release performance at Shores Restaurant in Oxnard on July 30 with hula dancing by **Kau'wela and Maile (not Vanyi)**. **Mango's** new CD is entitled "Hapa Haole Hulas." This event was also "standing room only." **Mango's** beautiful rendition of "Akaka Falls" gave me chicken-skin. It is fantastic that there so much interest in Hawaiian music/hula here in Ventura County.

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ATTITUDE

There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror and noticed she had only three hairs on her head. "Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today." So she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head. "Hmmm," she said, "I think I'll part my hair down the middle today." So she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head. "Well," she said, "Today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail." So she did and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair on her head. "YEAH!" she exclaimed, "I don't have to fix my hair today!"

Attitude is everything. Have a Good Day!

"Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle."

The Story Behind the Song "TAPS" (Provided by D. Paisley)

According to an unknown writer, "Taps" is the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually creates tears in our eyes. But do you know the story behind the song? If not I think you will be delighted to find out about its humble beginnings.

It all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay mortally wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention.

Crawling on his stomach through gunfire, the Captain reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, he enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his supervisor to give his son a full military burial despite his enemy status. His request was partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate but out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody we know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born.

Taps: The Song:

Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes, from the hills, from the sky, all is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Fading light, dims the sight, and a star gems the sky, gleaming bright, from afar, drawing nigh. Falls the night, thanks and praise.

For our days, neath the sun, neath the stars, neath the sky, as we go, this we know, God is nigh.