

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2009

**Website:** [www.huilimakokua.com](http://www.huilimakokua.com).

**Next Meeting.** (a) Our next meeting will be our installation luncheon to be held at City Buffet located at 1600 Ives Ave., Oxnard, 93033, on September 12 from 1:30 – 3:30 pm. This luncheon will be free to all adult members. Guests will be charged the going rate (\$8). This luncheon is **NOT A POTLUCK**. We will vote and install the officers for the next fiscal year. (b) Our annual club mini-luau will be held on October 17 starting at noon at the Assumption Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church. **Juanita** will again be chairing this event. This luau is for members, family and friends only. Tickets will not be made available to the general public. Tickets are priced reasonably at \$10/\$15 for members/guests and \$5 for children under 12. Tickets will be limited to the first 100 so be prepared to reserve tickets for yourselves, family and friends. We sold out last year's 100 tickets. We will have Hawaiian food, entertainment, and good fellowship. Get your tickets early, it is first come first serve. We will have drawings for gifts at the luau so if you have any donations (crack seed, macadamia nuts, restaurant/store certificates, etc.) please bring them at the next meeting. In addition, members are asked to donate dessert for the luau. Mahalo for your kokua.

**Past Meeting.** Our potluck picnic held at Camino Real Park in Ventura was a lot of fun with a lot of ono kau kau. Thanks to **Darrin** for cooking the tri tip steak and to everyone else for their potluck dishes. Some enjoyed the kanikapila session while others enjoyed the hot card game. We couldn't have asked for a better day. If someone left a red-white-blue quad chair at the picnic please contact me (Mike) at my below listed phone number or email.

**Membership News.** (a) Welcome to the following new members of our club: **Steve & Judy Hall, Estelle Ichino and John Connor**. Say hello to them at the next meeting. (b) **Laurie Gregory** won an honorable mention for her T-Shirt entry in the Ventura County Fair. Her daughter **Emily** won one first place, two second place, and two third place ribbons for her artistic entries in the children division. Congratulations to both. (c) Now that we will start the new fiscal year on October 1, **Ron Wong** will be collecting dues -\$15/\$20 for single/couple. Past officers and chairpersons of major events pay half price. Give or send dues to **Ron** at 392 Tulane Avenue, Ventura, CA 93003.

**Hawaii Tidbits.** (a) On August 21 Hawaii observed its 50 year anniversary since becoming the 50<sup>th</sup> state. In 1959 over 90% of the voters in Hawaii voted to become a state. The voting choice at that time was to become a state or remain a territory of the U.S. How many of you remember the days when our return addresses showed "T.H." in Hawaii? (b) The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual E Hula Mau Hula & Chant Competition will be held at the Terrace Theater, Long Beach Performing Arts Center from September 4 - 6. Besides hula (solo, group, kahiko, auana, and oli) and chanting, there will be Hawaiian arts and crafts, workshops, island food court, entertainment, lei making contest, mahalo bash, etc. Paid admission. (c) The Aloha Series at Whittier College will feature Hawaiian entertainments on August 29, **George Kuo, Bobby Ingano, Aaron Mahi, and Martin Pahinui**; on September 26, **Jerry Santos**; and on November 7, **Cyril Pahinui and Peter Moon, Jr.** There will be two performances per day - the first at 3 pm and the second at 8 pm. Paid admission.

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## TRUE WARRIORS

Charlie Brown was a B-17 Flying Fortress pilot with the 379th Bomber Group at Kimbolton, England. His B-17 was called 'Ye Old Pub' and was in a terrible state, having been hit by flak and fighters. The compass was damaged and they were flying deeper over enemy territory instead of heading home to Kimbolton.

After flying the B-17 over an enemy airfield, a German pilot named Franz Steigler was ordered to take off and shoot down the B-17. When he got near the B-17, he could not believe his eyes. In his words, he 'had never seen a plane in such a bad state'. The tail and rear section was severely damaged, and the tail gunner wounded. The top gunner was all over the top of the fuselage. The nose was smashed and there were holes everywhere.

Despite having ammunition, Franz flew to the side of the B-17 and looked at Charlie Brown, the pilot. Brown was scared and struggling to control his damaged and blood-stained plane.

Aware that they had no idea where they were going, Franz waved at Charlie to turn 180 degrees. Franz escorted and guided the stricken plane to, and slightly over, the North Sea towards England. He then saluted Charlie Brown and turned away, back to Europe. When Franz landed he told the CO that the plane had been shot down over the sea, and never told the truth to anybody. Charlie Brown and the remains of his crew told all at their briefing, but were ordered never to talk about it.

More than 40 years later, Charlie Brown wanted to find the Luftwaffe pilot who saved the crew. After years of research, Franz was found. He had never talked about the incident, not even at post-war reunions.

They met in the USA at a 379th Bomber Group reunion, together with 25 people who are alive now - all because Franz never fired his guns that day.

When asked why he didn't shoot them down, Stigler later said, "I didn't have the heart to finish those brave men. I flew beside them for a long time. They were trying desperately to get home and I was going to let them do that. I could not have shot at them. It would have been the same as shooting at a man in a parachute."

Both men died in 2008.

THIS WAS BACK IN THE DAYS WHEN THERE WAS HONOR IN BEING A WARRIOR...THEY PROUDLY WORE UNIFORMS, AND THEY DIDN'T HIDE IN AMBUSH INSIDE A MOSQUE, OR BEHIND WOMEN AND CHILDREN, NOR DID THEY USE MENTALLY RETARDED WOMEN AS SUICIDE BOMBERS TO TARGET AND KILL INNOCENT CIVILIANS...HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED.....