

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2009

Website: www.huilimakokua.com.

Next Meeting. (a) Our next meeting will be held on October 10, 2009 starting at 2 pm at Our Lady of Assumption Church, Hurley Hall. The new board members will provide rice and stew. Members may bring a side dish (salad or dessert). **Ron Wong** will be conducting his bingo games for the program. (b) Our annual club **mini-luau will be held on October 17, 2009** starting at **noon** at the Assumption Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church, located at 3175 Telegraph, Ventura. **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. Please settle your ticket sale with **Ron** at the next meeting so that we have a handle on the status of the tickets. In addition, members are asked to donate grapes or melons (water melon, honey dew, or cantaloupe) and dessert for the luau. Fruits should be brought to the **Parish Center** (not the normal meeting room) on the morning of October 16 or be given to **Juanita** (or **Mike**) before then. We need volunteers on Friday, Oct 16 to help prepare the fruit cups for the luau, at the **Parish Center** between 9 am and noon, bring a knife and a cutting board. We also need volunteers to help set up tables and chairs on Saturday, Oct 17 from 9 am. Call **Juanita** at 652-1753 or **Mike** at 482-1740 if you can help. Desserts should be brought to the luau on October 17. If you have donations for the raffle, give them to **Juanita** or **Mike** and please identify the donor. Mahalo for your kokua.

Past Meeting. (a) Our meeting to elect officers held at City Buffet on September 12 was well attended and enjoyed by all. The following officers were elected and installed for the new fiscal year (Oct – Sep): President: **Darrin Ching**, 1VP: **Juanita Pendergrass**, 2VP: Vacant, Treasurer: **Ron Wong**, Recording Secretary: **Lita Eckhart**, Corresponding Secretary: **Mike Nakamura**, Advisor: **Mario Castroni**, and Aloha Chair: **Leandara Castroni**. Congratulations to the new officers and mahalo to the outgoing officers. All the incoming officers are carryover from last year. However, **Dirk Boon** will not be able to perform the duties of 2VP this new year. A job well done, **Dirk**. If anyone wants to volunteer to serve as the 2VP, please see **Darrin**. (b) If someone left a red-white-blue quad chair at the picnic on August 8 please contact me (**Mike**) at my below listed phone number or email.

Membership News. (a) Now that we will start the new fiscal year on October 1, **Ron** 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. (b) The board approved **Sheri Nichols** of Port Hueneme as a new member of the club. Welcome aboard, **Sheri**! (c) A generous donation of \$100 was made to our club by the family of the late **Betty Day**, former member. Mahalo, we miss her.

Hawaii Tidbits. (a) Molokai's **Father Damien** to become a Saint. **Father Damien**, born **Joseph de Veuster** in Tremelo, Belgium, in 1840, will officially become a saint on Oct. 11, 2009 in St. Peter's Square, Rome. The priest is known around the world for his service to Hansen's disease patients in Kalaupapa, Moloka'i, from 1873 to 1889, when he himself died from the disease. (b) The Aloha Series at Whittier College will feature Hawaiian entertainments 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. (c) The name of our organization is "Hui Lima Kokua." This means "The Helping Hand."

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

SOME INTERESTING GEOGRAPHY

Alaska

More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska.

Amazon

The Amazon rainforest produces more than 20% the world's oxygen supply. The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than one hundred miles at sea off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean. The volume of water in the Amazon River is greater than the next eight largest rivers in the world combined and three times the flow of all rivers in the United States.

Antarctica

Antarctica is the only land on our planet that is not owned by any country. Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents seventy % of all the fresh water in the world. As strange as it sounds, however, Antarctica is essentially a desert. The average yearly total precipitation is about two inches. Although covered with ice (all but 0.4% of it, that is), Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi desert.

Brazil

Brazil got its name from the nut, not the other way around.

Canada

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined. Canada is an Indian word meaning 'Big Village.'

Chicago

Next to Warsaw, Chicago has the largest Polish population in the world.

Detroit

Woodward Avenue in Detroit, Michigan carries the designation M-1, so named because it was the first paved road anywhere.

Damascus, Syria

Damascus, Syria, was flourishing a couple of thousand years before Rome was founded in 753 BC, making it the oldest continuously inhabited city in existence.

Istanbul, Turkey

Istanbul (aka Constantinople), Turkey, is the only city in the world located on two continents.

Los Angeles

Los Angeles' full name is El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los Angeles de Porciuncula -- and can be abbreviated to 3.63% of its size: L.A.

New York City

The term 'The Big Apple' was coined by touring jazz musicians of the 1930's who used the slang expression 'apple' for any town or city. Therefore, to play New York City is to play the big time - The Big Apple. There are more Irish in New York City than in Dublin, Ireland; more Italians in New York City than in Rome, Italy; and more Jews in New York City than in Tel Aviv, Israel.

Ohio

There are no natural lakes in the state of Ohio, every one is man made.

Pitcairn Island

The smallest island with country status is Pitcairn in Polynesia, at just 1.75 sq. miles.

Rome

The first city to reach a population of 1 million people was Rome, Italy in 133 B.C. There is a city called Rome on every continent.

Siberia

Siberia contains more than 25% of the world's forests.

S.M.O.M

The actual smallest sovereign entity in the world is the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (S.M.O.M.). It is located in the city of Rome, Italy, has an area of two tennis courts, and as of 2001 has a population of 80, 20 less people than the Vatican. It is a sovereign entity under international law, just as the Vatican is.

Sahara Desert

In the Sahara Desert, there is a town named Tidikelt, which did not receive a drop of rain for ten years. Technically though, the driest place on Earth is in the valleys of the Antarctic near Ross Island. There has been no rainfall there for two million years.

Spain

SPAIN literally means 'the land of rabbits.'

St. Paul, Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota, was originally called Pig's Eye after a man named Pierre 'Pig's Eye' Parrant who set up the first business there.

Roads

Chances that a road is unpaved in the U.S.A: 1%, in Canada: 75%.

Texas

The deepest hole ever made in the world is in Texas. It is as deep as 20 empire state buildings but only 3 inches wide.

United States

The Interstate System requires that one-mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable as airstrips in times of war or other emergencies.

Waterfalls

The water of Angel Falls (the World's highest) in Venezuela drops 3,212 feet. It is 15 times higher than Niagara Falls.

It has been said that one should learn something new every day. Unfortunately, many of us are at that age where what we learn today, we forget tomorrow. But, give it a shot anyway!