

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## MAY 2013

Website: [www.huilimakokua.com](http://www.huilimakokua.com). Happy Mothers' Day!!!!

**Next Meeting.** (a) Our potluck meeting will be held at our normal meeting place, Our Lady of Assumption Church (3175 Telegraph Road, Ventura), starting at 2 pm on May 11. For the program **Dirk Boon** will be talking about his native country, Indonesia –custom, traditions, people, etc. . He will be assisted by his wife, **Evelyne**, and mother, **Elly**. They will be open to questions. (b) Our June program will be plant exchange so get your plants ready.

**Past Meeting** The annual Easter picnic was nice although a bit cold. But we all had a great time with Easter Egg hunt, Easter bonnet contest, and some kanikapila (music jamming). The winners in the Easter Bonnet contest are most original; **Laurie Gregory**; most Easter: **Noelani Gregory**; most prettiest: **Juanita Pendergrass**; most colorful: **Lisa Zimmerman**; and most Hawaiian: **Leandra Castroni**. The photos of the winning Easter bonnet contest are shown on our website. Mahalo to **Nancy Girvan** for doing an outstanding job as the judge with a colorful commentary. **Nancy** also entertained us with her pogo stick jumping attempts. The food was outstanding again. Thanks to **Darrin Ching** for cooking the tri-tip, **Daniel Andaya** for bringing all the supplies, including the rice and drinks, and to all the attendees for bringing ono potluck dishes. **Ron Wong** brought the prizes and conducted the Easter Egg Hunt. Mahalo to all.

**Membership News.** (a) Congratulations to **Len Peterson** on his recent retirement from Point Mugu as a civil service employee. About 10 years ago **Len** served as our club president. Congratulations **Len!** (b) If any member has a son or daughter graduating from high school this year please let **Ron Wong** know so that the club can provide him/her with a gift.

**Hawaiian Tidbits.** (a) “May Day is Lei Day in Hawaii.” I have fond remembrance of May Day while growing up in Hawaii. We all made leis to wear to school on the first day of May and participated in various activities. Most of the elementary schools elected a “King” and “Queen.” We danced the may pole dance and ran races, etc. One of the best parts of the day was taking a break from classroom studies. (b) Los Angeles is the most traffic-congested city in the nation according to a 2012 Congestion Index with travel times 33 percent longer than when traffic is flowing freely. Honolulu is in second place. Auwe! San Francisco was in third place. (c) The Oxnard Strawberry Festival will be held on May 18-19 this year. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62+), and \$5 for kids. (d) The town of Lihue on the island of Kauai has made the list of Smithsonian’s “20 Best Small Towns to Visit” for 2013. (e) California is the worse state for business according to the American Economic Development Institute (AEDI) and Polina Corporate Real Estate, Inc. The annual analysis examined 32 factors over which states have control, relative to becoming pro-business. Hawaii ranks at No. 41. The best states in which to do business are, No. 1 Utah, followed by Virginia, Wyoming, N. Dakota, and Indiana. (f) Celebrating some of the best of Hawaii’s Music, the 36th Annual Nā Hōkū Hanohano Awards will be held on Saturday May 25th. There will be winners in 27 categories of music including “Favorite Entertainer of the Year,” “Favorite Female Singer,” “Favorite Male Singer,” “Group of the Year,” etc. (g) Happy Mothers’ Day!!! Mothers’ day fall on May 12, the day after our monthly meeting. In honor of this special day, an excerpt from “Heart of a Mother” is printed below.

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**An excerpt from**  
**Heart of a Mother**  
**by Paula J. Fox**

Mothers are a lot LIKE flowers in many ways...each one has her own unique beauty and each is designed by God to bloom where she is planted. As the heart of a Mother grows and blossoms in beauty and grace, she spreads her fragrance of LOVE not only in her home, but throughout her world.

Walk with me now through this enchanting garden as we examine how the different qualities and characteristics of each of these flowers remind us of the BEAUTY of a Mother's love.

**Baby's Breath**

Our first flower reminds us of the very beginning of a woman's life as a Mother...the moment when she takes her first child into her arms and smells the fragrance of that sweet *Baby's Breath*. Her heart will never be the same again.

**Lilac**

The *Lilac* represents the fragrance of a Mother's sacrifice...the lovely scent of forgiveness that results when a flower is crushed and gives back to the very one that crushed it. It reminds us of the beauty that surrounds a Mother who is always willing to forgive her children's faults and offer them compassion, mercy and unconditional love.

**Hydrangea**

The *Hydrangea* has a wonderful quality of being able to change color from shades of pink to blue. Initially it was thought that this flower was like a chameleon, changing color to match its surroundings, but experiments proved that the color is actually determined by the *roots* of the plant and the kind of soil it is planted in. This illustrates the Mother who gives her children a rich foundation of love and deep roots of character and strength.