

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## MARCH 2014

Website: [www.huilimakoua.com](http://www.huilimakoua.com).

**Next Meeting.** Our next monthly potluck meeting will be held at **Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church (3175 Telegraph Road, Ventura 93003) on March 8 (Saturday) starting at 2 pm.** The program will be presented by **Jim and Dorene Tsukida**, of Camarillo, who will talk about the years they spent in the Relocation Camp during World War II where many Japanese Americans were housed. They will speak about their recollection of the time they spent in the Camp (as youngsters) and the impact that experience had on their families' lives. This is a topic that many older Japanese-Americans did not talk about. I asked my uncle, who would be in the mid 90s now if he was alive, about his experience in Manzanar but he did not want to discuss this topic. This should be a very interesting program.

**Past Meeting** **Kristen Stiles** did an outstanding job in presenting the program on Genealogy. Her presentation showed how passionate she is on this subject matter and how deeply she is involved in genealogy. Mahalo for a job well done **Kristin**. I know our club is loaded with talent that our membership would like learn about. Please let a board member know if you are interested in sharing your talent with the rest of us.

**Membership News.** (a) The board approved a new member – **Les Matsuura**. **Les** attended the last meeting. He just retired from Point Mugu and was born and raised in Hilo, Hawaii. Welcome to the Hui! (b) Mahalo to **Amy Takeshima** for bringing the supplies to the meeting in the absence of **Daniel Andaya**. (c) **Lisa Zimmerman** will not be at our next meeting because she will be singing the National Anthem at **Ronald Reagan** Museum for the Seabee Ball. Wow, what an honor! Go get 'um **Lisa**!

**Miscellaneous.** (a) Las Vegas based Allegiant Air is expanding its service between Los Angeles and Honolulu to six days a week from June 4 to Aug 12. The discount carrier, which inaugurated the flight in October, currently flies twice a week between the two cities. Allegiant said it is offering a sale fare for as low as \$139 one way prior to the expanded service. Tickets are not available for all flights and must be purchased by April 15 for travel by May 11. (b) **Dirk Boon** brought up the topic of interested club members to visit the Welburn Gourd Farm located in Fallbrook, California. The Farm is 170 miles from Ventura and is about a 3 hour drive. If enough interest is shown, this visit may even take the place of a regular meeting. If not then this trip may be a separate event. Anyway, be prepared to discuss this at the next meeting so that we can prepare for the event to include car pooling or rental of vans, etc. (c) The ukulele could become Hawaii's official state musical instrument under a bill lawmakers are considering. The tiny, four-stringed guitar has been associated with Hawaii since the late 1800s. It was adopted by the Hawaii royal family, and became a symbol of patriotism as the island nation lost its independence to the U.S. (d) I read that "Honolulu **Mayor Kirk Caldwell** is proposing that Oahu residents be charged \$10 a month for garbage pickup, a service that historically has been free." What!?!? Have I been away from Hawaii that long that I don't remember that garbage pickups were free? It must be expensive to get rid of collected trash in Hawaii since much of it has to be transported to the mainland.

**Mike Nakamura**, Corresponding Secretary, 482-1740, [monakamura@aol.com](mailto:monakamura@aol.com)

## **Mike's Rambling Corner**

1. Many of my medicare-age friends are enrolled in fitness classes such as Yoga, Bone Builders, Tai Chi, etc. Trying to stay fit for seniors is an excellent idea. I was reading an article about older people who get hurt because of poor balance. Here is an interesting test to see how "balanced" you are. Try standing on your dominant leg without shoes and compare your time with the average listed below:

Average time with the eyes open:

20-39 years old: 110 seconds

40-49: 64 seconds

50-59: 36 seconds

60-69: 25 seconds

70+: 15 seconds

Average time with eyes closed:

20-39: 12 seconds

40-49: 7 seconds

50-59: 5 seconds

60-69: Less than 3 seconds

70+ Anything is good

2. My favorite Late Night TV Host, **Jay Leno**, has retired from the "Tonight Show." His place on NBC's 11:35 pm slot has been taken over by **Jimmy Fallon**. The show has moved from Burbank, California, to New York. I guess the network is trying to attract the younger set audience (**Leno** is 63 and **Fallon** is 39). But my favorite all time Tonight Show host is **Johnny Carson** who retired in 1992 and died in 2005. I couldn't watch too many shows hosted by **Carson** since my work shift at that time started at 6 am weekdays, too early for me to watch the late program. What did we do before we had TV? In my case I loved listening to **J Akuhead Pupule**, a popular Hawaiian morning radio DJ in the 1960s and 1970s. More than half the islanders would tune in to his morning shows. At one time he was the highest paid DJ in the U.S. (world?). Anyway, I missed him when I moved out of Hawaii in the 1960s just when many Hawaiians started to get TVs for their homes. **Akuhead** was originally from New York. And how many of you remember the small black and white TVs with round screens and rabbit ears? I only remember the basic 3 channels – ABC, CBS, and NBC. A few of my favorite shows were **Ed Sullivan**, **Red Skelton**, **Lassie**, **Bonanza**, **Gunsmoke**, **Candid Camera**, and **Lawrence Welk** (who can forget those adorable **Lennon Sisters**?).

3. The toy, kendama, has taken Hawaii by storm. Kendama is a Japanese toy which consists of three wooden cups of different sizes placed on the center of a wooden spike, with a smaller cup at the spike's base and a ball connected by a string to the center piece. It is similar to the Latin American world toy known as balero. The principle of these toys are the same: catching one object with another, where both are joined by a string. Many kids and adults in Hawaii are playing this toy. This toy is good to develop eye-hand coordination. Watch it on youtube and try playing it, it is fun but sometimes can be very frustrating.

“Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you will end up with the stars.” (*Les Brown*)