

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY 2014

Website: www.huilimakoua.com. HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY!!!

Next Meeting. (a) The next potluck meeting will take place at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church (3175 Telegraph Road, Ventura 93003) on May 10 (Saturday) starting at 2 pm. The picnic that was initially scheduled has been pushed back to June in order that members who made the trip to Welburn Farm can start to "work" on the gourds at the meeting on May 10. For those who do not have gourds to work on, there will also be a kanikapila so bring your musical instruments so we can "jam." (b) Be ready for a Spring Picnic to be held on June 14 at the Camino Real Park in Ventura. More information will be provided in next month's newsletter.

Past Meeting. The last meeting was a trip to the Welburn Gourd Farm located in Fallbrook, California. Members bought gourds in order to make ipus or other things. Actually, as I am writing this newsletter the trip to Welburn has not taken place yet (it is scheduled for April 26). More information on this trip will be reported in next month's newsletter.

Miscellaneous. (a) The 31st annual California Strawberry Festival will run on Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18 at Strawberry Meadows, 3250 S. Rose Ave., Oxnard (near Oxnard College). Admission is \$5 to \$12. A free express shuttle service runs from different locations, limited on-site parking is \$10. (b) Lei Day Las Vegas 2014 – 17th annual Polynesian Festival to be held at the California Hotel & Casino on May 3 and 4th. (c) **Michelle Wie**, 24, won her third LPGA Tour title and her first in over three and a half years with a victory in the Lotte Championship at the Ko Olina Golf Club in Kapolei, Hawaii on April 19. She graduated from Punahou and Stanford. At age 10, she was the youngest player to qualify for the USGA amateur championship.

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

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

Mothers are also 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.

Mike's Rambling Corner

Here is an incredible story that just came in from Hawaii. A 16 year old boy had run away from home after an argument with his family in San Jose. He stowed away in the wheel well of a Hawaiian Airlines plane and survived a 5 ½ hour trip to Maui, surviving cold temperature at 38,000 feet and lack of oxygen. The kid was taken to a hospital in Maui and found to be unharmed.

There is a bill in the Hawaii state legislature to make it illegal for police officers to have sex with prostitutes. Huh? Am I missing something here?

Kauai is the fastest-growing county in Hawaii, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The island's population rose to 69,512 residents between July 1, 2012 and July 2013. Kauai is the fourth largest of the Hawaiian islands at 562 square miles (Hawaii is the largest followed by Maui and Oahu). All of the towns on Kauai are located around the rim of the island since the interior is pretty much uninhabitable. Mount Waialeale, which is over 5,000 feet high is located in the middle of the island and averages about 400 inches of rain a year. Gee, 400 inches of rain as compared to Ventura County's 4 inches of rain last year! But Kauai is the most beautiful island in the world.

Cinco de Mayo ("fifth of May") is a holiday celebrating Mexican heritage and pride, and is held on May 5. It is celebrated in the United States and in some parts of Mexico, mostly in the state of Puebla. Cinco de Mayo is not Mexico's Independence Day, the most important national holiday in Mexico. In the Mexican state of Puebla, Cinco de Mayo is celebrated because the Mexican army won the Battle of Puebla from the French army on May 5, 1862. In the US, Cinco de Mayo is more important than in Mexico. It is a day to celebrate the culture and experiences of Americans of Mexican ancestry. This is in the same as other holidays like St. Patrick's Day, Oktoberfest, and the Chinese New Year are used to celebrate those of Irish, German, and Chinese ancestry.

Paying for parking in Honolulu costs an average of \$42 a day and \$230 a month, making it the sixth worst in the nation, according to NerdWallet.com. Five markets were listed above Honolulu for being the worst U.S. cities for parking. In order, they are, Chicago, Ill., Oakland, Ca., San Francisco, Ca., New York City, and Boston, Mass. On the subject of parking, I found out that parking at the Pali Lookout (on Oahu) for visitors is \$3 per vehicle. I wonder if we, as former residents, are considered visitors. Taking this one step further, are we Kamaainas or malihinis?