

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2014

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

**Next Meeting.** (a) The next meeting will take place at Chester's Asian Restaurant (2216 Pickwick Dr. Camarillo 93010) on September 13 starting at 2 pm. The Club will pick up the tab for members' lunch, but guests will be charged for their meals. We will install next year's officers at this meeting. We received no volunteers or nominations for any office but all the incumbent officers have agreed to serve another term except for **Daniel Andaya**, who is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. We need a volunteer for this position. If interested, please call **Darrin Ching** at 388-1544. Mahalo. (b) October's meeting will be our mini-luau on October 4 starting at noon at Mulcahy Center, Our Lady of Assumption Church. The prices of the tickets are \$10 for members, \$15 for friends, and \$5 for children 12 and under. There are limited number of tickets for members and friends so if you need tickets, call **Ron Wong** at 642-1328. We will need volunteers for this mini-luau. We need members to decorate and set up the chairs/tables before the luau starts. We are trying to set up the hall the night before the mini-luau if we can get permission from the church. Otherwise we have to set up the hall starting at 9 am on October 4. We also need people to serve food during the luau and to help clean up after the party. We welcome donated desserts for the luau along with door prizes.

**Past Meeting.** Last month's meeting was BINGO conducted by **Ron**. **Kristin Stiles** was the big winner at bingo. **Ron** also distributed mini-luau tickets to those members at the meeting.

**Membership News.** (a) **Ted Wakai** celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party at the Aegis of Ventura across from Ventura College on July 26. Approximately 150 of his friends and family were in attendance. It was a fun party but not all of his hired music band showed up from Orange County so **Kaimana & Bill Pendergrass**, along with **Lani Keener** came to the rescue and led the singing and dancing and **Noelani Gregory** did the "poi ball." **Gerry Wong** attended the function even though he suffered a mild heart attack a couple of weeks before the event. **Gerry** was escorted by son and daughter-in-law, **Steven and Cindy**. They drove down from Fremont, Ca. (b) **Ron** is collecting dues for next fiscal year. Dues are \$20 for couple or family with children under 19, and \$15 for single. You can mail your payment to **Ron** at 392 Tulane Ave, Ventura, CA 93003. (c) **Laurie Gregory** missed the last meeting because of a blood clot in her leg. Get well soon, **Laurie**.

**Hawaii.** One College Magazine picked University of Hawaii football team 106 out of 128 teams. It's going to be a long season for us Warrior fans. UCLA is ranked number 5 and USC is ranked 15. One bright spot for Hawaii football is **Marcus Mariota**, a St Louis High School graduate who now plays quarterback for Oregon and is a strong candidate for the Heisman Trophy. Oregon is ranked number 3 in the nation.

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### **Mike's Rambling Corner:**

August was a busy month for the Ukulele Club of Ventura County headed by **Kumu Kaimana Pendergrass**. First, on August 5, the group performed at the Ventura County Fair, carrying on a tradition that goes back 22 years. A group of 15 people, including Reporter **Tom Krisken** performed on the Seabreeze Stage while headliner **Tony Orlando**

performed on the Main stage at about the same time. We sang 22 songs during the one hour performance. The big surprise this year was **Krisken** who works for Ventura County Star newspaper as a reporter and wrote about his experience that appeared in the following day edition of the newspaper, along with a couple of pictures showing some of our members.

Two days after the performance at the Ventura County Fair, 14 members of the Ukulele group traveled to Sam's Town, Las Vegas, where we had a dress rehearsal that Thursday afternoon followed by the performance on Friday. We performed at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kumukahi Ukulele and Hula Festival. There were 4 Ukulele groups and about 18 Hula halaus performing. Under the outstanding leadership of **Kumu Kaimana** and the smooth translation of our Hawaiian meles into English by **Lisa Zimmerman**, we were proud of our performance. The festival started on Friday afternoon, through the evening. On Saturday the program started at 11 am through the afternoon. On Saturday evening we were treated to a concert including Na Hoku Hanohano winner **Mark Yamanaka**. Many of us had a chance to renew many friendships while making new ones at this festival. Hawaii Club members performing included **Kumu Kaimana, Laurie Gregory, Lisa, Leandra Castroni, Dirk Boon, Harvard & Helen Horiuchi, and Kay & Mike Nakamura**. All 4 Kumus from the Ukulele groups received a concert size Ohana ukulele. **Michele Vivenzio**, daughter of **Mario and Leandra** danced for a hula halau from Camarillo.

While in Vegas I suffered a back problem which was probably caused by sleeping in a strange bed. I had to stoop forward when walking. Anyway I told **Kay** I needed a cane so she walked to Wal-Mart in 100 degree temperature to get me one. I guess I owe her dinner at a fine restaurant now. While standing in line at a Buffet Restaurant, I was ushered to the handicap line where we had head-of-the line privilege. Later that night while standing in line waiting for the door to the concert to open, one of the ushers brought a chair for me. Then a few minutes later, another usher moved us up to the handicap line. My back got better with **Kay's** massage and the applying of "Deep Blue" that **Evelyne Boon** gave me. Mahalo **Evelyne!**

Another highlight for me personally during our trip to Las Vegas was visiting old friends **Stan and Annette Takahashi** who moved from Oxnard to North Las Vegas several months ago. **Stan** was a former president of the Hawaii Club. I first met **Stan** when I started working at the Naval Civil Engineering Laboratory in Port Hueneme in 1970. **Stan** and a few of us from work would meet after work at Miranda Park in Port Hueneme to play tennis. **Stan** had an unorthodox way of hitting the tennis ball. He had no backhand, he would switch the racket so that he would always hit a forehand with either his left or right hand. Later we played in the same Ukulele group starting with **Betty Day**, then with **Maile Vanyi**, and finally at the Oxnard Wilson Center under **Annette's** leadership. Visiting the **Takahashis** on August 10 were **Tyrus & Vivian Goo, Lani Keener, and Kay & Mike**. We talked about the good old days, ate, played the ukulele, and **Vivian** and **Kay** danced the hula. **Stan** and **Annette** are being cared for by **Annette's** sister, **Jean**, and her husband **Bob**. It was a relaxing and fun afternoon for all of us.