

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2015

Website: www.huilimakokua.com. **Hau'oli Makahiki Hou (Happy New Year)**

Next Meeting. The next regular potluck meeting will be held on January 10 at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption (OLA) Church, commencing at 2 pm. The program will a demonstration of making sushi to be conducted by **Kay Nakamura and Kim Nishimura**. These ladies will show their culinary skills and we all get to eat the sushi.

Past Meeting. (a) Mahalo to **Jaine Fahy** for baking and donating the ham at last month's meeting. It was ono! (b) Mahalo also to **Kaimna Pendergrass** for decorating the tables and leading a fun and different singing program. **Noelani Gregory** showed her artistic abilities by drawing pictures on placards used by **Kaimana** in the "12 Days of Christmas Song." Another thank you to **Ron Wong** for bringing prizes for all families, including five lotto scratch winners (**Kim Nishimura** was the big money winner). Each family took home prizes. Many participated in the gift exchange program. Finally, thank you all for bringing potluck food.

Membership News. (a) **Ron Wong** is collecting dues for this fiscal year (October 2014 thru September 2015). Dues are \$20 for family including children under 19, and \$15 for single. New members are charged a one time \$10 initiation fee. You can pay your dues at the next meeting or mail your payment to **Ron** at 392 Tulane Ave, Ventura, CA 93003. We want to prepare an updated roster ASAP. (b) There was a nice article in the Ventura Star regarding the donation our club made to the Bell Ringers (Salvation Army). The journalist interviewed **Ron Wong** for this article. Good job **Ron!** (c) There was no Pearl Harbor Program at the Ventura County Center on December 7 so we did not have to participate in providing coffee and drinks this year. (d) Our Lady of Assumption Church sponsors a "Many Meals" program every Wednesday to feed people in the community. The board has approved a \$100 donation to the Church to help fund this program. More information will be obtained by **Ron Wong** for any future donations that may considered. (e) I am sad to report that **Lisa Zimmerman's** father, **Rev. William "Bill" Lofbom**, passed away on November 22. Funeral services were held on December 6 at the Glendale Forest Lawn. Our deepest sympathies to **Lisa** and family. (f) If you have ideas on programs or if you have skills you want to share with your fellow members please contact a board member.

Hawaii Sports. (a) One of the biggest sports news concerning Hawaii was the announcement of University of Oregon **Marcus Mariota** overwhelmingly winning the coveted Heisman Trophy. This trophy goes to the best college football player in the U.S. **Mariota** received over 90% of the possible votes. He is the first Hawaii native to ever win this award. He played football at St Louis High School (yeah!) in Honolulu. Although he is a redshirt junior, he is expected to turn professional and forgo his final year of eligibility of college football. (b) University of Hawaii Athletic Director, **Ben Jay**, has submitted his resignation effective June 2015. **Jay** has been on the job less than 2 years and is making \$293,000 a year. The UH athletic department has been operating in the red for 11 of the last 13 years. The next AD should have a business background and skillful in raising funds. Perhaps we need rich philanthropists like many other schools. The UH Football team ended the season with a 4-9 record, the best of **Coach Norm Chow's** 3 year record. **Coach Chow** has 2 more years on his contract that is worth \$550,000 a year plus performance bonus. He is the highest paid public employee in the state.

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Fireside Chat with Helen & Harvard Horiuchi

I had the good fortune of meeting **Helen and Harvard Horiuchi** shortly after they moved to Camarillo less than a year ago. They are very active and interesting people who live life to the fullest and enjoy many hobbies and interests. Here is a glimpse of this friendly, happy couple.

Helen was born in Poston, Arizona, Relocation Camp. Following WWII, her family worked as farmers in Reedley, California growing hard stone fruits. As was typical of that period, all the children worked on the ranch daily after school and on weekends. She attended UCLA and received a Bachelor of Science and Master of Public Health in Medical Records. She worked at the UCLA Medical Center as a supervisor of Medical Coding until her retirement in 2001. Helen was one of the premier Medical Coding experts in the US. Companies who had produced complex computer programs to facilitate coding procedures always sought her opinion regarding coding interpretations. Medical Coding is the process whereby medical procedures performed in all medical facilities from private offices to clinics, to large medical centers such as UCLA, Stanford, Mass Gen, are assigned numbers (codes) for submission to insurance and Medicare Social Security payees. Before she retired, she was the supervisor of the Inpatient Medical Coding Department of the UCLA Medical Center. She had a MD boss above her who received all the flak and who also got all the credit. But, **Helen** ran the department and supervised the work of three teams of 4-6 coders.

Harvard was born and raised in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, California as a son of a gardener. In 1961 Harvard was drafted by the Army and was assigned to Tripler Hospital in Honolulu as a private. While in Honolulu he had a part time job at the Cannon Club in Ft. Ruger at Diamond Head. This is when he fell in love with Hawaii. After he got discharged from the Army, he used his GI Bill to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in Zoology and a Doctor of Dental Surgery. He attended Los Angeles City College and UCLA. Following an internship at the West LA Veterans Administration Hospital, he opened a private entrepreneurial practice in general restorative dentistry in Santa Monica and maintained it until retirement in 1999.

Harvard and **Helen** met at UCLA and married in 1968. They have a daughter who is an attorney in Washington DC and a son who is an attorney and a fleet auto insurance actuary. **Harvard and Helen** joined the Hawaii Club shortly after moving to Camarillo in 2014. They both love playing the ukulele and singing. **Helen** is the Treasurer of the Ventura Chapter of the California State Retirees Association.

After their retirement, they were posted to various military bases in the continental USA and in Europe. During the time of private practice, **Harvard** served in the US Army Reserve as a dental officer, and after closure of the office took advantage of the shortage of dentists in the military. He accepted assignments where needed and treated casualties in the Wounded Warrior Rehab Program. **Helen** was kept busy at all the posts by volunteering with the Red Cross or other activities on base.

When any of you have several free minutes, you might want to ask **Harvard** about the Veterans History Project. Many of us know that the Go For Broke National Education Center tapes and collects interviews of the members of the 442, 100th, MIS in their History Archive. **Ted Wakai** has 6 short interviews on file. However, the Veterans History Project is wider in scope and is archived in the Library of Congress so it does not depend on volunteers to perpetuate the files.