

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Meeting. (a) We will **NOT** be having a monthly meeting in May. We had planned to have an escorted tour of the port at Port Hueneme on May 9th but we did not have enough interests by the members. **So the next potluck meeting will be held on June 13th starting at 2pm, at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church.** The program will be plant exchange so bring a plant (or two or three) at the meeting to exchange for other plants.

Past Meeting. The Easter picnic held on April 12 was fun with lots of ono food and good music. Mahalo especially to **Darrin Ching** for grilling the delicious tri-tip and bringing the rice, punch, tables, and service. Thanks also to **Ron Wong** for bringing the tarp and door prizes for all attendees. Thanks to **Kaimana Pendergrass** for leading the group singing and everybody else for their potluck dish. The weather was perfect for the picnic.

Membership News. Some of the members of the club had a chance to meet with **Gerry, Steven & Cindy Wong** who visited Ventura from Fremont, California. Many of you may remember that **Gerry** was the president of our club many years ago. Since his wife, **Gwen**, died almost 2 years ago, **Gerry** went to live with his son, **Steven** and his wife **Cindy**. All 3 of them are still members of our club and some of us had a chance to chat with them at Jessica's Café in Camarillo.

Hawaii News. (a) The construction of the \$1.4 billion Thirty-Meter Telescope on the summit of Mauna Kea has been the scene of protests by Native Hawaiian activists and their supporters. The Telescope will be the most advanced and powerful optical telescope on earth, capable of viewing galaxies at the edge of the observable universe, near the beginning of time. The protesters say the mountain is sacred and that the 180-foot-tall project is too massive, threatening sacred shrines and burials and the island's water supply. (b) The seventh annual Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index Community Rankings Report places Honolulu at No. 2 in the U.S., behind top-ranked North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton market in Florida. In addition to physical health, the study reviews Americans' feelings on topics spanning a person's sense of purpose, social relationships, financial security and relationship to one's community. Honolulu placed ahead of third-ranked Raleigh, N. Carolina, and **No. 4, Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura, Calif.**, while El Paso, Texas completed the top five. Did I say **Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura is in 4th place??**

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Mike's Ramblin' Corner

1. The 32nd annual California Strawberry Festival in Oxnard will be held on May 16 and 17 at 3250 S. Rose Avenue from 10 am to 6:30 pm. Admission is \$5 - \$12. Daily performances will be held on two stages. In addition to music, the event features 50 food booths.
2. Camarillo Community Center will host its annual Senior Expo on May 5th from 9:30 am to 1 pm. Free admission, 100+ Exhibits, Art Gallery, Health Screenings, Home Health Care Information, Entertainment, and lunch will be available for \$5. This Expo is designed for people over 50 years old.

3. Ventura County Gourd Artist will present the 13th annual “Wild About Gourds” spring festival from 10am to 4 pm, Saturday, May 2 at 11701 E. Las Posas Road (off of Santa Rosa Road), Camarillo. The free event will feature gourd art displays and sales, food, live music from 11 am to 1 pm, hourly prize giveaways, demonstrations and a children’s booth.
4. The Hawaii Tourism Authority estimated 161,000 tourists from China visited Hawaii in 2014 and is expecting (hoping?) for 180,000 this year.
5. Hawaii has the oldest population in the U.S. and the elderly are Hawaii’s fastest growing age demographic. The state of Hawaii hopes to learn from the University of Hawaii’s research in addressing the upcoming challenge of taking care of Hawaii’s elderly population.
6. Back in October 2014, students at Keonepoko Elementary School in Pahoia, Big Island, wrote dozens of letters to **Madam Pele** pleading with her to spare their beloved campus from the lava flow and hung the notes with red ribbons from the school’s chainlink fence before they were relocated to other schools. Red is the volcano goddess’ favorite color. The students prayers seem to have been answered because there are plans to reopen the school next school year.
7. There is going to be a attempt to set a world record for the most people riding a surf board in Huntington Beach, California, sometime this summer. The surfboard will be 42 feet long and 11 feet wide and will hold 62 people. Hey **Harvard**, how does one even start to build a surfboard of this gigantic size? Then it must take all 62 people to carry the surfboard into the ocean.
8. Haleakala Crater on the island of Maui is the world's largest dormant volcano.
9. The island of Lanai was once the home of the world's largest pineapple plantations. At one point, the island was producing 75 percent of the world's pineapples.
10. More people live on the island of Oahu than in the entire state of Alaska. Oahu's population was 953,307 (2010 Census), while Alaska's population was 710,231 (2010 Census). Oahu has a land area of 596.7 square miles compared to Alaska's land area of 663,268 square miles.
11. Honolulu is the “largest” city in the world. That’s because Hawaii’s state constitution states that any island not named as belonging to a county belongs to Honolulu. This makes the entire island of Oahu, where Honolulu is located, plus all the other small, uninhabited islands, known as the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (with the exception of Midway Atoll), part of Honolulu. Honolulu is about 1,500 miles (2,414 km) long. Or in other words, it spans the distance from Los Angeles, California, to Denver, Colorado.
12. More than 13 miles of Hawaii beaches have been lost to erosion in the past century, and lawmakers are tackling the problem by attempting to secure more money for beach restoration. Chronic erosion is affecting 70 percent of beaches on Oahu, Kauai and Maui, according to a study by the U.S. Geological Survey. "That's just the tip of the iceberg," said **Sam Lemmo**, administrator for Hawaii's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands. "Most of the beaches in the state are on an erosion basis now, and that's only going to increase in the future with sea level rise. It's going to double, it's going to possibly triple, by the end of the century." A study by the University of Hawaii released Monday indicated that coastal erosion of Hawaii's beaches could double by mid-century. Following current trends, the shoreline could recede by an average of 20 feet in 2050 or 40 feet by 2100, according to the report.