

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2015

**Website:** [www.huilimakokua.com](http://www.huilimakokua.com). Happy Fathers' Day!!!

**Next Meeting.** (a) The next potluck meeting will be held on June 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 2 pm, 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 plants. Plants (vegetables, herbs, flowers, cuttings, etc.) should be small enough to be easily transported home. Come to the potluck event even if you don't have a plant to exchange – just come and enjoy the fellowship and ono kaukau.

**Past Meeting.** We had no meeting in May. So a belated Mothers' Day greetings to all.

**Membership News.** (a) A funeral service for the late **Ben Wright** will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup>. **Ben** was a founding member of our Hawaii Club and former President. The memorial service is a two part event. First at 11 am on June 7, there will be a Canoe Paddle Out at the Ventura Harbor. The second part of the program will be held on the same day at the Oxnard Elks Lodge (801 South "A" St, Oxnard, CA 93030). Doors open at Oxnard Elks Lodge at 1 pm; Celebration of Life Memorial Service starts at 1:30, Prayer & Luau (it is OK if you would like to bring a potluck side dish) at 2:00; and Hawaiian Music, Hula, & Kanikapila (bring guitar, ukulele, voice and join in) from 2:00 to 5:00; and sing Hawaii Aloha, clean up and pau at 5:00 pm. **Ben** has been a tremendous supporter of our club and was always available to help us. Rest in peace **Ben** and thanks for the memories. (b) **Kaimana Pendergrass** led her Ukulele Club of Ventura County at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Santa Clarita Valley Pacific Islander Festival on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The UCVC opened up the program at 10:15 am. It is nice to get in at the start of an annual festival and watch it grow.

**Hawaii News.** (a) Enjoy the beginning of summer with the return of the Aloha Festival at Northridge Park! Sample delicious foods of the islands and shop at traditional boutiques while enjoying the dances and music from the islands of Hawaii, Tahiti, and Samoa. The free event will feature children's entertainment, activities and crafts throughout the day. The event will be held from 10 am May 30 through 6 pm May 31 at the Northridge Park (10058 Reseda Blvd, Northridge). (b) **Kamehameha Day on June 11** is a public holiday in Hawaii. It honors **Kamehameha the Great**, the monarch who first established the unified Kingdom of Hawaii. While he was king, Hawaii was a center of the fur and sandalwood trade. Pineapples were brought to Hawaii from Spain in 1813 and coffee was first planted in 1818, a year before he died. In 1883 a statue of **King Kamehameha I** was dedicated in Honolulu by **King David Kalākaua** (this was a duplicate, because the original statue was temporarily lost at sea). There is another duplicate of this statue in Emancipation Hall at the Capitol Visitor Center in Washington, D.C.

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### **Mike's Ramblin' Corner**

(a) The latest Chief Executive magazine ranked all the states as the Best and Worst States for Business. The survey of the Chief Executive Officers around the country complete the survey ranking taxes and regulations, workforce quality, and living environment, the latter of which includes factors such as quality of education, cost of living, affordable housing, social amenities and crime rates. Hawaii was ranked 44th place. States worse than Hawaii, according to the magazine,

are Connecticut (45), Massachusetts (46), New Jersey (47), Illinois (48), New York (49), and in last place, **California!!!** For the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Texas won the top ranking. Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia followed Texas. Hawaii's business climate perennially ranks poorly on such lists created by general and specialty publications but California is worse.

**(b)** Hawaii has the largest percentage of multigenerational families living under one roof at 11.6% of Hawaiian households according to a report by the state Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. Part of the reason is economical: Hawaii has some of the highest housing prices and rents in the nation. Some of it is cultural: many Asian and Pacific Island cultures have a tradition of living with extended families.

**(c)** The Big Island's Mayor, **Billy Kenoi**, has found himself under criminal investigation for charging more than \$129,000 of personal spending on his government credit card. The charges have included trips to Honolulu hostess bars, luxury hotels, a surfboard, and his Hawaii Bar Association dues. The mayor has only reimbursed the county \$31,112.59. Many Big Island residents are understandably furious and have been demanding his resignation. Apparently, the Hawaii County Council does not consider the reckless spending a big deal since only one member has spoken up to address the issue. The remaining Council members had nothing but praise for the embattled mayor.

**(d)** Former UH assistant basketball coach, **Eran Ganot**, has been hired as the new men's basketball coach. Despite interim head coach, **Benjy Taylor's**, success this past season keeping together a team embroiled in controversy, UH decided that **Ganot** was the best candidate to take the team forward in the future.

**(e)** Pacific Business News published Hawaii's top ten golf courses as determined by a poll of Hawaii golfers that responded to a recent survey. The golf courses ranked from #1 through #10: Ko Olina Golf Club (Oahu), Waialae Country Club (Oahu), Manele Golf Course (Lanai), Ewa Beach Golf Club (Oahu), Hawaii Prince Golf Club (Oahu), Turtle Bay **Arnold Palmer** Course (Oahu), Mauna Lani Resort (Big Island), Kapolei Golf Course (Oahu), Koolau Golf Club (Oahu), Mid Pacific Country Club (Oahu).

**(f)** Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Fun Facts. The coral reefs in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands make up about 70 percent of all the reefs in the United States. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands are a National Monument since June 15, 2006, when **George W. Bush** issued a public proclamation that created the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument under the Antiquities Act of 1906. In 2007, it was renamed to Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The Monument encompasses 140,000 square miles (360,000 square km) of ocean waters, including ten islands and atolls of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, making it the largest marine wildlife reserve in the world. It's about the size of California.

**(g)** **Nā Lei Kāko'o O Piliālohaokalani Presents Na Hoku Hanohano Award Winner "Natalie Ai Kamaau" In Concert** on June 27, 2015 5:30 pm until June 27, 2015 9:00 pm at La Reina High School (106 W. Janss Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91360). Presale tickets: \$30 | At the door: \$40, Doors open 5pm/Concert 7pm. Opening Acts (**Nani Edgar, Josh Chang & Aloha Hula Dance Studio**) 5:30 p.m. FYI, **Nani Edgar** is **Ben Wright's** granddaughter.  
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**(h)** Where is the World's hottest place? Answer: Death Valley National Park – 134 degrees.