

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2015

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

**Next Meeting.** (a) The next regular potluck meeting will be held on November 14 at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption (OLA) Church, commencing at 2 pm. This will be our Thanksgiving luncheon so we need a volunteer to roast a big 20+ pound turkey. Call **Darrin Ching** at 388-1544 if you would like to volunteer. The club will reimburse the volunteer for the cost of the turkey. For the potluck, we are suggesting that residents of Ventura bring salad, condiments, or cranberry sauce. Residents of Oxnard should bring stuffing, rolls, or yam and residents of Camarillo and other cities should bring dessert, mashed potatoes, or gravy. You may deviate from the suggested dishes by bringing your favorite potluck dishes. For the program, **Ron Wong** will conduct bingo games and award prizes to the winners.

**Past Meeting.** The previous meeting was the annual mini-luau held on October 3 at Our Lady of Assumption Church. It was a huge success thanks to **Kaimana Pendergrass** who chaired this event and the many volunteers, musicians and hula dancers. Mahalo to all of you!. Many attendees received door prizes at the mini-luau. A huge mahalo to the businesses/people who donated to the drawing, I hope to list the names of the businesses/people in next month's newsletter. Posted to the link that follows are photos taken by **Lloyd Nakatani** of the luau <https://www.flickr.com/gp/137074095@N04/341JN2>. Mahalo **Lloyd** but you forgot to take a selfie! We had a small profit from this event which we shared with Our Lady of Assumption Church (\$200) and the Bellringers (\$100).

**Membership News.** (a) **Ron Wong** is collecting dues for this fiscal year. Dues are \$20 for couple including children under 19, and \$15 for single. You can mail your payment to **Ron** at 392 Tulane Ave., Ventura, CA 93003. By renewing your membership you help perpetuate the "Aloha" spirit and Hawaiian culture in Ventura. Besides, members can get their money's worth of the dues by attending the Installation Luncheon when the club picks up the lunch tab for members. (b) In last month's newsletter I mentioned that **Stan Takahashi**, one of the founding members of the Hawaii Club in the early 60's and early president of the organization had died on August 18. **Kay** and I had the chance to visit his wife, **Annette**, in Las Vegas last month (October 2015). **Annette** is planning a funeral for **Stan** sometime in November, details are not known at this time.

**Hawaiian and Miscellaneous News.** (a) University of Hawaii UH Wahine Volleyball team is ranked number 8 in the U.S. with 18-1 record. But the UH football team has a 2-5 record. We lost the last game against New Mexico on October 17 by a close score of 28-27. It is a safe bet that we won't be participating in any bowl games this year. Head Coach **Norm Chow** is in his 4<sup>th</sup> season with UH football and has a win-loss record of 10-34 so far. Funding a division 1 college football team is very expensive. How many more losing seasons can we expect of UH football? (b) Take the "Ukulele Cruise" on Carnival Inspiration from Long Beach to Ensenada, Mexico from March 11-14, 2016 featuring **Daniel Ho** and **Jason Arimoto**. Ukulele and hula workshops with award-winning artists. A special evening of performances by: GRAMMY-winner, **Daniel Ho**, **Jason Arimoto**, & the award-winning, Hālau Keali`i O Nālani. **Daniel** is a graduate of St. Louis High School (Honolulu) and **Jason** is a graduate of Iolani. Both of them now reside in California. For information/reservation E-mail: [Cruises3@pacbell.net](mailto:Cruises3@pacbell.net) or Phone: **818-346-7003**

**Mike Nakamura**, Corresponding Secretary, 482-1740, [monakamura@aol.com](mailto:monakamura@aol.com)

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

Being born and raised in Hawaii, I naturally try to keep track of the news there. Here's some interesting information:

Oahu's median (average) sales price for single family homes set a new record of \$730,000 in September 2015 and for condos was \$366,000. Demand for both single family homes and condos remained robust while available inventory grew slowly.

Oahu's tourism industry received good news when the Waikiki Trade Center, a 22-story, mixed use building will be converted into a hotel. The conversion will add hotel rooms to a market that has seen the loss of more than 5,000 rooms since 2000 and address the lack of capacity in the Oahu's market.

Hawaii's median cost of renting a home is the highest in the nation and 55 percent higher than the nationwide average.

The recent heat wave that has hit Hawaii has caused a public outcry to air condition the school classrooms. It will cost a lot of money considering the electric bills in Hawaii are three times higher than most other states in the union. Hawaii customers currently pay 33.54 cents per kilowatt-hour. That is tops in the nation and twice as high as Alaska, which has the second highest rate (I pay about \$15.25 in Camarillo). Going solar power in Hawaii makes more sense than in other states. The hot weather is also causing the Hawaii's ocean's coral to slowly die (bleach). Bleaching makes coral more susceptible to disease and increases the risk that they will die. 30 to 40 percent of the world's reefs have died from bleaching events over the years.

There is so much controversy in the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea, Big Island. This telescope would be the largest in the world. It was reported that the protestors have caused a lot of damage recently in "protecting the mountain."

When growing up in Hawaii, mangoes were so plentiful that we always got the fruit from our backyards or from friends and neighbors. My favorite was Hayden mango. I am surprised to hear that now thousands of pounds of mangoes are imported every year to Hawaii from Mexico.

### **Pineapple Tidbits:**

- It takes a pineapple plant 20 months to produce the first fruit. After the first fruit is produced and cut, the plant will produce another 2 crops over approximately three years.
- The crown (the green spiky top of the pineapple) is planted to produce a pineapple plant.
- All pineapples are planted and harvested by hand.
- In an acre, you can grow approximately 28,000 pineapples plants.
- Pineapples grow so well in Hawaii because the soil is rich in iron. (That's also why the soil in most parts of Hawaii is red. The red color is produced by decomposed volcanic ash resulting in oxidized iron in the soil.)

**Island flowers and colors used to represent each island:** Niihau - Pupu Shell – White. **Kauai** - Mokihana (Green Berry) – Purple. **Oahu** - Ilima –Yellow. **Maui** - Lokelani (Pink Cottage Rose) – Pink. **Molokai** - White Kukui Blossom – Green. **Lanai** - Kaunaoa (Yellow and Orange Air Plant) – Orange. **Kahoolawe** - Hinahina (Beach Heliotrope) – Grey. **Big Island** - Lehua Ohia – Red.