

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Club Activity. There will be no club activity in May. However, we plan on having a picnic in June so read next month's newsletter for details.

Past Meeting. It was a nice group of Hui members who took advantage of the club's subsidized trip to the Chumash Casino Resort on April 9th, our regular monthly meeting day. Upon arrival at the facility, the group enjoyed a Las Vegas style lunch buffet, mostly financed by the trip's food allowance. Members then used the \$30.00 free slot pulls provided by the bus company, and, for new casino visitors, another \$50.00 more in free pulls from the casino. With 1 cent and 5 cent slot machines available, that meant a lot of free action. By the end of the day, there were those in the group who were able to convert the free pulls into an equal amount of hard cash . . . meaning over \$80.00 winnings without using one's own money! There's talk of doing the trip again sometime in the future. Kay and I earned \$48 from our free "pulls."

Membership News. Just want to say "Aloha" to our former club president **Gerry Wong**. **Gerry**, a long time member of our club, moved to Fremont (Northern California) after his wife, **Gwen**, passed away. Even though he has not been able to attend meetings, he is still a dues-paying member and always looks forward to reading the club's monthly newsletters to keep up with the news. I first met **Gerry** when I moved to Camarillo in 1968 and we both worked for the Oxnard Air Force Base. After the Base closed in 1969, **Gerry** went to work for the Navy at Point Mugu and I went to work for the Navy at Port Hueneme. In 1987 I transferred to Point Mugu and got reunited with **Gerry**. That is when he convinced me to join the Hawaii Club. While at Point Mugu **Gerry** and I went to audit the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands in Kauai a few times. On one trip our wives joined us for a base-sponsored luau on a Friday and we toured the island on Saturday and Sunday. **Gerry** now resides with his son **Steven**, daughter-in-law **Cindy**, and their son, **Devin**. **Steven** and **Cindy** are also members of our club.

Tidbits. (a) The Oxnard Strawberry Festival will take place on May 21 and 22 at Strawberry Meadows, 3250 S. Rose Avenue, Oxnard, from 10 am to 6:30 pm both days. Daily performances will be held on two stages. In addition to music, the event features 50 food booths. Admission is \$5 - \$12. (b) The Honolulu Zoo lost its accreditation through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) primarily due to the unreliable funding from the City and County of Honolulu. The zoo's non-profit arm has not focused on fundraising and contributes only about 5% of the zoo's operating budget while the majority of funds comes from private fundraising (53%) at other AZA accredited zoos. No immediate impact on the zoo has been announced, but officials worry that the zoo could have to give up the 90 animals that are on loan from AZA. (c) Following a very successful UH Men and Women Basketball season, the Men Volleyball season ended with an overall 16-12 winning record. The baseball season is now underway and the UH conference's record so far is 6-3. The usually tough Wahine Volleyball season will start about the same time as the football season. I'm looking forward to UH football team under rookie **Coach Nick Rolovich**. (d) **The Brothers Cazimero** is scheduled to perform at Whittier College on Saturday, May 21. The first show will start at 2 and the second at 7:30. (e) The Aloha Festival at Northridge Park will be held on June 4-5, 2016 from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm at Northridge Park, 10058 Reseda Blvd , 91324, Northridge, CA.

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Mike's Rambling Corner.

1. Welcome to the month of May!

- a. May 8th is Mothers' Day, a day to pay respect to a very special person in your life.
- b. This month is also Lei Day (May 1) in Hawaii. I recall my elementary school days when we would pick flowers from the neighboring yards to make leis for this fun-day which included school programs, relay races and maypole dances. A King and Queen were selected for this special day.
- c. The U.S. Memorial Day is celebrated on May 30th. This day is a federal holiday in the U.S. to honor the people who died while serving in the armed forces. When I was in the Boys Scouts in Hawaii many years ago, we would hang leis on the crosses in the Punchbowl Cemetery on Memorial Day. We would have to get there early before the services started. In those days the grave sites were marked with white crosses, beautifully aligned to form straight lines from whatever angle you looked. The crosses were taken down later to simplify mowing.
- d. Here in California we help celebrate Cinco de Mayo Day. May 5th commemorates the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War (1861-1867). Cinco de Mayo Day is not that important in Mexico. Mexico's most important day is independence day celebrated on September 16th.

2. Ventura County Ukulele Club, under the direction of **Kaimana Pendergrass**:

- a. On April 24th the group participated in the Hayward California Northern Ukulele Festival.
- b. On May 7 the group will participate in the Santa Clarita Valley Pacific Islander Festival at the William S. Hart Park in Newhall, CA. This is the 3rd annual festival and is free and open to the public.
- c. On August 9, the group will perform at the Ventura County Fair. The group has performed at the Fair for about 20 years. Seniors will be admitted free on this day. The Fair will last from August 3 – 14.
- d. On August 12, the group will perform at the the Kumukahi Ukulele and Hula Festival at Sams Town, Las Vegas. This will be the group's 3rd trip to this festival.

3 One of the most popular attractions on Oahu, Hanauma Bay, is struggling to find the right balance between visitor satisfaction and protecting the environment. Approximately 384,000 people visited Hanauma Bay in 1975. That number grew to over three million in 1988 and the onslaught of visitors was damaging the reef, polluting the water, and creating unnatural fish behavior. Several rules have been put in place to help protect the bay's fragile ecosystem. In 1990, the city banned tour buses from dropping off beachgoers resulting in about 2 million fewer visitors. The ban, along with a ticket window, and requirement to watch a video that emphasizes the need to stay off the reef and not feed the fish has helped turn things around. Hanauma Bay helps limit the number of visitors in the park by allowing only 125 visitors to watch the video every 15 minutes. While this helps with crowds in the park, long lines regularly occur causing widespread frustration. Things have really changed. While with the Boys Scout we would camp there for days. During the day we would swim and fish and at night we would sleep in tents pitched on the sand. We cooked on camp fires and used the bathroom and shower at the pavilion.