

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016

Website: www.huilimakoua.com HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!!!

Next Club Activity. (a) The next potluck activity will be held on July 9 starting at 2 pm at Hurley Hall, Our Lady of Assumption Church. For the program, **Laurie Gregory** will be teaching us about using Facebook. If you are interested in installing this program on your cell phone, **Laurie** will get you started so bring your smart phone and be one of over a billion people who use this program worldwide. (b) Tentative plans for future Hui gatherings: We will not be meeting in August because many of the club members will be attending an ukulele competition in Las Vegas. In September we will be having an election-installation luncheon at a yet to be determined place. **On October 8, we will have our annual Mini-Luau.** More details will be provided in future newsletters, so stay tuned.

Past Meeting. (a) We enjoyed a wonderful pre-summer potluck picnic held on June 11 at the Camino Real Park in Ventura. Once again **Darrin Ching** cooked the delicious tri-tip for us, mahalo Mr. President. Mahalo also to **Ron Wong** for bringing the canopies and the prizes given to attendees for the Easter egg hunt. Mahalo to **Kaimana Pendergrass** for leading the Ukulele sing-along. And thanks to all who attended and brought potlucks to share on this beautiful day. (b) **Ron** presented 3 board members (**Darrin Ching, Kaimana Pendergrass, and Mike Nakamura**) with a special Hui Lima Kokua glass mugs for their longevity and leadership. As an aside, we lost track of how long **Ron** has been the Club's Treasurer, but my best guess is close to 40 years. Wow, that is dedication.

Membership News. (a) Funeral services will be held for **Gerry Wong** on July 2, starting at 10 am at the United Methodist Church located at 291 Anacapa Drive in Camarillo. Music will be played by friends and club members, a couple of whom played ukulele with **Gerry** and his late wife **Gwen** many years ago. **Gerry** passed away in his sleep on May 18 in Fremont, California. (b) Another sad note to pass along, former member of our club, **Vince Arkangel**, passed away on June 4 in Oxnard. Rest in peace **Vince**. (c) On a positive note, we welcome **Ray and Connie Louie** from Pasadena as new members to the Hui. They gave out cute hand made knitted "zoris" (slippers) for those in attendance at the picnic. I got a green and white (UH colors) zori to hang on my ukulele case. Welcome to our Hui **Ray and Connie!** (d) Elections for next year officers is coming up soon. Please consider running for office and let **Darrin** know if you are interested.

Hawaii Sports. (a). Hawaii's failure to adequately upgrade or replace Aloha Stadium has resulted in the latest announcement in a string of sports related snubs. The National Football League (NFL) has announced that it has agreed to play the Pro Bowl in the new Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Florida, for the next several years. Maybe Hawaii will finally start acting on replacing the degraded facility with a more modest and modern stadium that better serves the University of Hawaii sports programs. Hawaii has hosted the NFL Pro Bowl 35 out of the last 37 years. Orlando will reportedly pay the NFL about \$2.5 million – half of Hawaii's \$5.15 million that Hawaii would have paid. The relocation of this game will undoubtedly hurt Hawaii's tourism industry. (b) The Rio 2016 Summer Olympics will be held on August 5 – 21 in Brazil. How many sporting events are held during the Olympics you ask? Well, there are 42 summer sport games versus 15 games for the Winter Olympics. The 2018 Winter Olympics will be held in Pyeongchang, South Korea and the Summer Games in 2020 will be held in Tokyo, Japan. I'm anxious to find out how many Hawaiians will be participating in this coming Summer Olympics.

Hawaiian Tidbits. (a) The Alondra Park Hoolaulea will be held on July 16 and 17 at Lawndale, California from 9:30 am to 5 pm. There will be continuous Polynesian entertainment, arts & crafts, games, island style foods, drawings, prizes and free health screening. Alondra Park is located close to El Camino Real College. (b) **Chelsea Keolani Hardin** is an American beauty pageant titleholder who was crowned Miss Hawaii USA 2016. In June she became the first runner-up to **Deshauna Barber** of District of Columbia at the Miss USA 2016 Pageant. **Hardin** was born on September 5, 1991 in Honolulu. She is of Native Hawaiian, Chinese, Indonesians, Filipino, Portuguese, Dutch, Irish, English, French, and Scandinavian descent. **Hardin** attended Iolani School in Honolulu, and later California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California. While a university student, she played NCAA division I women's volleyball. At about the time I was writing this article, I read that **Allison Chu** had just won the Miss Hawaii 2016 title. Then I realized that there is a Miss Hawaii USA 2016 (**Hardin**) and a Miss Hawaii 2016 (**Chu**). Very confusing. (c) **Roy Sakuma's** 46th Annual Ukulele Festival will be held on Sunday, July 17, from 10:30 am to 5 pm at the Kapiolani Park Bandstand in Waikiki, Honolulu. It has grown internationally and is by far the largest ukulele festival of its kind in the world, with crowds of thousands, guest artists from around the world and an ukulele orchestra of over 800 students, mostly children. This event is free. (d) Little Fire Ants (LFA) are causing problems in parts of Hawaii. They are pale orange in color and is long as a penny is thick. They sting people that can cause severe pain that last for days. Cats, dogs, livestock and wild animals are being blinded due to repeated stings by these pests. Fruit orchards and coffee farmers have lost employees because of these LFAs. They build nests in trees and can invade homes.

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Mike's Rambling Corner.

1. On May 20, 2016, **President Obama** signed a bill striking all references to "Oriental," which appears in Title 42 of the U.S. Code and replace the word with "Asian Americans." "Oriental" is a derogatory and antiquated term and the passage of the legislation has finally forced the U.S. government to finally stop using it. The bill was approved by the House of Representatives on February 29 by a vote of 376-0. Many Americans may not be ware that the word "Oriental" may be derogatory.

2. News regarding the Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation (HART) does not appear to be getting any better. The Federal Transit Administration estimates that the 20-mile elevated train project will cost up to \$8 billion (twice the original estimate) and take five years longer to complete than originally planned. The FTA estimates that the project will be completed in 2024, two years longer than HART's current estimates. The train system will eventually link up East Kapolei to Ala Moana Shopping Center, via Aloha Stadium.

3. The Hawaiian poke (pronounced Po-Kay) is getting very popular on the mainland. Westlake Village just opened up a Poke Salad Bar a few months ago. I recently saw a yet-to-be-opened Poke Land next to Q & Q Hawaiian BBQ on Victoria Ave. in Ventura. If you don't know what poke is, let me try to explain that usually it is cubed raw fish mixed with soy sauce, green onions, sesame oil, wasabi, etc. This dish is usually eaten with rice in the islands. But there are so many variations of poke. Well, I'm waiting for Poke Land to open. By the way, Q & Q Restaurant is just like L & L Restaurants that all Hawaiians are familiar with, i.e., 2 scoops of rice and macaroni salad with each entrée ordered.