

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2016

Website: www.huilimakoua.com.

Next Club Activity. (a) We will not be having our monthly potluck in August because many club members will be attending an ukulele competition in Las Vegas. The Ukulele Club of Ventura County, under the leadership of **Kaimana Pendergrass** will compete in the annual Kumukahi Ukulele and Hula Festival at Sam's Town on the second weekend in August. Prior to that competition, they will perform at the Ventura County Fair from 12:30 to 1:30 on August 9th, (Senior Day). Come and watch the performance at the Fair. (b) Tentative plans for future Hui gatherings: 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. Our last potluck gathering was held on July 9 but the originally planned program on "Facebook" was cancelled due to a conflict. However, **President Darrin Ching** conducted a presentation on his work as an Electrical Engineer. **Darrin** works at the Naval Satellite and Operations Center (NAVSOC) at Point Mugu. He presented a very interesting and informative program on satellites, how they orbit, and how countries cooperate with each other when they orbit their satellites. He made his presentation so that non-technical people could understand this complicated operation. Fascinating presentation and I hope **Darrin** can do it again for members who were not at the meeting. Big mahalo to **Darrin!**

Membership News. (a) Some members of the Club attended the funeral service for **Gerry Wong** held on July 2 at the United Methodist Church in Camarillo (a group picture is posted on the website, courtesy **Lisa Zimmerman**). The Club donated \$100 to the **Wongs**. Music was played by **Kaimana's** Ukulele Group during the reception. **Gerry's** body was cremated and the ashes were mixed with his wife **Gwen's** and scattered in the ocean. (b) **Vince Arkangel's** funeral was held on June 24 at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center. **Vince** was a former member of the Club. Six current Club members attended the service. (c) Elections for next year's officers is coming up soon. Please consider running for office and let **Darrin** know if you are interested. More detailed info on the election-installation luncheon will be published in next month's newsletter.

Hawaii Sports. (a) Former UH Basketball player **Stefan Jankovic** recently signed a contract with the Miami Heat. **Jankovic**, Player of the Year for the Big West Conference last season, decided to skip his senior year to test his skills at the professional level. Although he signed a contract with the Heat, he still has to be selected for the final 15 men roster. I watched him play this past season when UH played at Santa Barbara and at Northridge and was impressed with this 6'11" forward. (b) The Olympics will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from August 5 – 21, 2016. Three members of the Men Volleyball Team are from Hawaii, including 2 brothers. **Kawika** and **Eric Shoji**, sons of the UH Wahine Volleyball Coach **Dave Shoji** plus **Micah Christenson**. The U.S. team is ranked number 5 in the world while the U.S. Women team is ranked number 1. Radford High graduate **Akalaini "Bui" Baravilala** has been named to the U.S. Women's Eagles rugby team that will compete in Rio. Also going to the Olympics are Camarillo twins and tennis stars **Bob and Mike Bryan**.

Hawaiian Tidbits. (a) Ala Moana Center is ranked #10 mall in the country based on annual sales of \$1,400 per square foot of retail space. Ala Moana has over 340 shops and restaurants in 2.4 million square feet of space. The mall fell two spots from the 2015 rankings, in part due to the remodeling of the Ewa end of the mall. Time will tell of the impact Bloomingdales and the new west end will have on General Growth's profitability. Ala Moana's daily volume is boosted by the droves of shoppers from Asia that visit the mall to purchase luxury items to take home. The mall first opened in 1959 and is currently the largest open-air shopping center in the world. (b) Demolition has finally begun on Kauai's iconic Coco Palms resort after being severely damaged by Hurricane Iniki 24 years ago. Demolition is expected to be completed in six months and construction is expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2018. The hotel was featured in a 1961 film, "Blue Hawaii," starring **Elvis**. I stayed at the hotel with my family in 1972 because **Kay** loved the hotel after watching the movie. (c) The 22nd annual E Hula Mau Hula & Chant Competition is a celebration of Hawaiian culture and hosts Southern California's only Hula and Chant Competition. This Competition will be held at the "Long Beach Performing Arts Center" Labor Day Weekend, September 2, 3, & 4. E Hula Mau will feature live performances, arts and crafts, interactive workshops, and island foods. (d) August 21, 1959 (Friday) was the date that Hawaii officially became the 50th state. I was in the UH Library at the time that news was announced. The Library is usually quiet, as most libraries are, but the chatter and talking could be heard when the news spread quickly. My home mailing address soon changed from Honolulu, T.H. (Territory of Hawaii) to Honolulu, Hawaii. Cost for first class postage stamps in 1959 was 4 cents. In 1963, zip codes were added to U.S. addresses. Hawaii's first two U.S. Senators after statehood were **Hiram Fong** and **Oren E. Long**.

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Mike's Rambling Corner.

1. The viewers of the Olympic Games that start this month is expected to be over 3 billion people worldwide. I started thinking: what are the most popular sports in the world? After a brief research, the top 10 sports, as listed on the mostpopularsports.net website are listed below. The website author notes that this list is based on general surveys/discussions on the internet. This is the same sport order as several other lists found online. I was somewhat surprised that badminton and table tennis were listed but not American Football. Anyway, here is the list:

- 1). Soccer
- 2). Basketball
- 3). Cricket
- 4). Tennis
- 5). Baseball
- 6). Table Tennis
- 7). Golf
- 8). Volleyball
- 9). Badminton
- 10). Rugby

2. How many of you grew up in Honolulu during the fifties? How many high schools were there? Up to the mid 1950s when I was in high school, there were 4 public high schools – McKinley (established 1866), Farrington (1931), Roosevelt (1932), and Kaimuki (1949). Since then 4 more have been added – Radford (1957), Kalani (1958), Moanalua (1972), and Kaiser (1974).