

HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

Website: www.huilimakoua.com. Daylight Savings ends on November 5 – fall back.

Next Club Activity. (a) The next club function will be our Thanksgiving potluck **to be held on November 11, starting at 1:00 at Our Lady of Assumption (OLA) Church. (3175 Telegraph Road, Ventura, 93003).** Our newly elected 2nd Vice President, **Vince Cruz**, has volunteered to roast the turkey. The rest of us should bring potluck dishes to go with the turkey. As a brand new member **Vince** volunteered, in September, to become the long vacated 2nd Vice President and now volunteered to roast the turkey for this month's potluck. In planning for December's Christmas Potluck at the Board meeting, it was mentioned that we will ask for a volunteer to prepare the ham. **Maria Cruz** who was seated close by quickly volunteered to prepare the ham. Gee, who are **Vince and Maria Cruz?** They just joined the Club and quickly volunteered to take on tasks. Where did they come from? Who are they? We will find out these answers at the November potluck when both **Vince** and **Maria** will give us a brief history of themselves. Should be interesting so I won't divulge anything I already know about the **Cruz's**. (b) Tentative future club events:

November 11. Thanksgiving potluck with turkey at OLA Church. **Vince & Maria Cruz** on the program.

December 9. Tentative Christmas potluck with ham at OLA Church.

January 13. Tentative potluck at OLA Church.

Past Meetings. (a) Last month's annual Mini Luau held on October 14 was well attended and fun. All the tickets were sold. In fact some complimentary tickets had to be sold to accommodate the large demand. Thanks to all of you for all the hard work to ensure the success of this yearly event. So many people were involved in putting this Luau together that I will not try to include names knowing that I may unintentionally leave off someone. Let me just thank Chairperson **Kaimana Pendergrass** for chairing this event again. All the rest of you who helped, thank you, you know who you are. At this time I don't know how we did financially for the Luau until all the expenses are turned in to **Ron Wong**. If any of you have outstanding expenses or receipts send them to **Ron** so he can calculate the profit. Mahalo also to the "Ukulele Club of Ventura County" and "**Rona Koe's** Recreation Group from Camarillo" for providing the entertainment. There were many donations made for our door prizes, thanks primarily to **Bill Pendergrass** for hustling many of the commercial donors. They are listed below so please patronize the businesses that help support our Luau. (b) During the Luau, an "Appreciation Ceremony" was conducted by **Connie Louie** (Chairperson), **Lisa Zimmerman**, and **Laurie Gregory** to honor those officers who led the club for many years. Honored were **Darrin Ching**, **Kaimana Pendergrass**, **Arlene Fraser**, **Mike Nakamura**, and **Ron Wong**. Absent during the ceremony were **Mario and Leandra Castroni**. **Ron**, **Kaimana**, and the **Castronis** have been members for over 40 years. **Darrin** and **Mike** have been members for 30+ years while **Arlene** has been a member for 29 years. Tokens of appreciation (steak, salt, and a proclamation) were presented to each honoree. This Appreciation Ceremony was an excellent idea. (c) An exciting thing that happened the morning before the Luau when some of us were preparing the food. At 11:30 a police officer informed us that we were in a "lock down" mode and that we could not leave because an armed murder suspect was believed to be in the immediate area. Students at the adjoining Saint Bonaventure School were evacuated. From our locked building we could see many armed cops and swat team members searching for the suspect while 3 helicopters were buzzing overhead. Four hours later (3:30 pm) we were escorted to our cars,

two cars at a time so we could leave through the high school exit. A reporter from the Ventura County Star newspaper interviewed **Laurie Gregory** for the next day's paper. Good job **Laurie!**

Membership. (a) **Ron Wong** is collecting dues for this fiscal year – Oct thru Sept. Dues are \$20 for couple/family and \$15 for single. You can mail the dues to 392 Tulane Ave, Ventura, CA 93003. (b) **Connie Louie** attended the Luau using the walker. She fell on September 29 at home and fractured a small bone (pubic ramos) in her hip area. Doctor told her that she didn't need surgery but the pain and fracture would heal naturally in several weeks. She is still on pain medication but well on her way to recovery, thanks to prayers. (c) **Ted Wakai** was not at our Luau so I found out later that he could not walk so I sent him a "get Well Card" from the Hui. **Kay** and I visited him at Brookdale in Camarillo. He does not know exactly what is wrong with himself. Our thoughts and prayers to **Ted!**

Donors to the Mini-Luau held in October:

Aloha Steakhouse	Ventura	Gift Certificate
Art's Corner Café	Ventura	Gift Certificates
Island Packers	Ventura	Various Boat Rides
Margarita Villa	Ventura	Gift Certificate
Pizzaman	Ventura	Gift Certificate
Pizza Man	Ventura	Large pizza
Spencer MaKenzie's	Ventura	Gift Certificates
The Greek	Ventura	Gift Certificates
The Sportsman Restaurant	Ventura	Gift Certificate
Ventiki	Ventura	Gift Certificates
Ventura Firestone	Ventura	Multiple Oil Changes
Wahine Toa	Hawaii	Dress/Blouse
Kaimana Pendergrass	Ventura	Multiple items
Bill Pendergrass	Ventura	Multiple items
Connie Louie	Pasadena	Multiple items
Arlene Fraser	Port Hueneme	Cash
Vince & Maria Cruz	Ventura	Money Lei
Darrin Ching	Camarillo	Money Lei
Ray Louie	Pasadena	Multiple items
Lisa Zimmerman	Oxnard	Money Lei

Many others donated their time and labor to make this Luau a success, MAHALO!

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Mike's Rambling Corner

Spam. **Lisa Zimmerman** emailed me an article on the widespread thefts of spam, by the cases, from various markets in Hawaii. Brazen, bold, thieves are stealing these popular food items to sell to the public. Many retail stores are locking spam in secure cases and in some markets the customers would have to ask for spam and a worker will retrieve it. Per capita Hawaii is the number one consumer of spam in the country and Alaska is second. Who doesn't like spam musubi?

California is the Highest Poverty State in US. When the cost of living is factored in, California has the highest poverty rate in the country. More than 20 percent of its residents struggle to make ends meet according to the Census Bureau. Florida is second. Wonder where Hawaii is ranked???