

# HUI LIMA KOKUA HAWAII CLUB NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

Happy holidays! Normally we would get together at a family members house for a pot luck dinner. Sometimes we would go to the ninth island (Las Vegas) for Thanksgiving. We'll have to wait for next year.

I grew up on Oahu, and graduated from Pearl City High School. I worked in the pineapple fields throughout summer vacations. I started pulling weeds in the "hoe hana" gang, then went to picking the pineapples behind a mechanized harvester. At the end, I drove the big pineapple trucks taking the fruit to the cannery. Back then, the 10 ton trucks were not automatic, they had 10 forward gears and 2 reverse. They didn't have synchromesh in the transmission either, we had to double-clutch to shift gears.

I attended the University of Hawaii at Manoa and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. I moved to California to find work as an engineer. I started to work for the base at Point Mugu, where I worked as an engineer, doing computer programing, and computer system administration. One of these days I'll retire. Maybe I'll move back home for good. I was married to Cindy who worked at Chester's restaurant. She passed away a few years ago. We did not have any children.

I like to do gardening and keeping the lawn weed free. Right now I have some narcissus ready to bloom. I still have some tomatoes on the vine. My favorite books to read are science fiction and fantasy.

I've been with the club soon after moving to California. Our biggest event then was the street fairs in Ventura. I've been the president for the last 14 years.

I have traveled the world a bit. I've been to China, Hong Kong, Japan, Italy, Switzerland, France, England, Jamaica, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Israel, Tanzania, Ethiopia, & Kenya. I have seen interesting people and places, taken a lot of pictures and collected a lot of souvenirs. I've always wanted to go on a world cruise. Maybe after I retire, the pandemic is over, and the travel industry gets back to normal.

Darrin Ching, President

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Thank you, Darrin, for sharing your biography with the club. As a new member, I knew very little about your life, so I appreciate your willingness to share. Next month it will be the vice-president's turn to share her biography, so Kaimana, start thinking about how to condense your life story in one page for January's newsletter.

I want to share briefly about something that happened recently to a mid - 70's year old woman. She got a cell phone call around mid-November from a friendly stranger who told her he was from Microsoft and he was refunding a \$400.00 charge since she had cancelled this safety alert program several months ago. This charge sounded familiar to her, so she continued to listen to him. He got her to get on her laptop and open up her bank account where he was going to refund her money. He had gotten her to have control of her cursor. He told her to type the \$400 as a deposit. Suddenly, another zero appeared making the deposit \$4,000. The woman thought she accidentally pressed another "0". The man said, "We're going to have to fix this situation." To make a long story short, this woman followed his directions which took her to CVS and Target buying gift cards worth \$3, 600 to make up for the \$4,000 minus the \$400 Microsoft owed her. It was a total scam and that woman lost most of her money in her checking and savings accounts. You may be thinking, "How naïve, even stupid of her to be so trusting of a stranger!" Well, that's what her husband said. She notified her bank immediately who told her to call the police since robbery was involved. A female investigator arrived within 10 minutes and took the caller's name and phone number which were probably fake. She tried calling him, but he didn't answer. The investigator said this kind of thing happens to people of all ages all the time. The woman's bank has been very supportive and said it happens often and put in a claim so that she can get her money back.

Moral of the story: Don't be so trusting of strangers.

**Mele Kalimaka meka Hauoli Makahiki Hou**

Lynette Inouye, Corresponding Secretary

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