




HUI LIMA KOKUA NEWSLETTER - Kekemapa 2023

Hawaii Club of Ventura County Newsletter - Kekemapa 2023

Calendar & Upcoming Events

Kekemapa | December

7 - Happy 1st Day of Hanukkah 
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

9 - Hui Lima Club Meeting -
Holiday Program

25 - Merry Christmas 

31 - New Year's Eve

[Hui Lima Meeting Location](#)

Club House of the Bonaventure
10949 Telegraph Road
Ventura, CA 93004

[Next Meeting: Saturday, December 9, 11a-1p](#)

The next Hui meeting is our holiday celebration. **Leandra & Mario Castroni** will be providing the ham, and the rest of us can bring accompanying sides or desserts.

We are also looking forward to our Holiday Sing-A-Long program to celebrate the season with the Bonaventure residents! **Jerry Matsukado** will take the main lead, and anyone is welcome to join with their instruments and even lead a song or two as well.

Our Schedule is as follows: **11a - 12:15p** — Potluck

12:15p - Cleanup

12:30p - 1p — Holiday Sing-along for Residents

Hope to see you there!



Hawaiian Air Acquired by Alaska Air



On December 3rd, Alaska Air announced that they acquired Hawaiian Air for \$1.9 billion. There are mixed reactions, of course - current customers of Hawaiian are concerned about how they will be affected, including their air travel routes

and loyalty benefits.

Job security is also a question among employees, but both airlines promise that there will only be growth even after the acquisition is complete, which Alaska CEO Ben Minicucci predicts will be another year or 18 months out.

Minicucci also assures the public that Hawaiian will retain its cultural "identity" and branding, as well as the current inter-island routes and Honolulu hub.

What are your thoughts on the merger?

Holiday Favorite Reaches #1 on the Billboard for the 1st Time

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" by Johnny Marks and famously sung by Brenda Lee has hit #1 on the Billboard Charts for the first time in its 65 year history.

Though released in 1958, its first peak was at #3 on the Billboard Charts in 1965. The song has been fairly popular over the years, even gaining a resurgence in 1990 from its use in *Home Alone*. But due to some algorithm changes in the past several years in how Billboard calculates the top hits, its spot on the charts has remained high in more recent years.

Interesting fact - Brenda Lee was only 13 when she recorded that song, even though she sounds much older. Now, at 78, she gets to enjoy her reign at Number 1 on the charts!

Commemorating the 82nd anniversary of the bombing at Pearl Harbor. Remembering and honoring the over 2,400 who passed that day, and the numerous lives affected, both American and Japanese-American in the years to follow.





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Ventura is “Poinsettia City by the Sea”

It was in the mid 1920s that Ventura went from being known as “Palm City” to “Poinsettia City by the Sea”. The previous namesake palm trees that flourished in the early 1900s were being outdone by a newer and larger crop, the poinsettia.

While Joel Roberts Poinsett brought the poinsettia from Mexico to the U.S. in the mid 1820s during his time as a U.S. Ambassador, Paul Ecke is credited with exploding the poinsettia into popularity, and its presence in Southern California. He discovered a technique to produce a fuller plant, and later began heavily promoting it to TV Studios around Christmas. It was a hit, especially with the seasonal scarcity of other flowers.

Southern California became saturated with poinsettia farms, including in Ventura County. Although there are not many poinsettia growers in the area today, Ventura still retains its moniker and the poinsettia as the city flower.



There is even a National Poinsettia Day, on December 12th, to honor Joel Poinsett’s death anniversary. Thanks to him and Paul Ecke, we get to enjoy these beautiful flowers seasonally and year-round!

REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE!

There is a phrase in Hawaiian called Mālama Honua, which means to take care of the Earth. Many of us are already doing our own part to be more eco-conscious, but we can make even more of a difference if we as a club do our collective part.



The Board has agreed to support an eco-conscious attitude going forward. One way we can do this is by bringing our own reusable items, such as:

- Utensils
- Beverage cup or water bottle
- Plates
- Cloth napkins
- Takeaway containers

Shout-out to **Deby Tygell** and **Amy Cherot** for spearheading this initiative. Amy, we appreciate your cloth napkins brought last time, and Deby your reusable containers.

This is not a requirement by the club, and the Hui will continue to provide utensils, plates, etc. as usual. We just kindly ask everyone to consider at least some of these ideas and help mālama honua.

HAU’OLI LĀ HĀNAU
to our Kekemapa birthday:

Tina Stowe



Hope you enjoy your day & your celebrations!

HAU’OLI LANUI & HAU’OLI MAKAHIKI HOU!



Happy Holidays & Happy New Year!
Wishing everyone the best for 2024.

A big **E KOMO MAI**
to our newest member

Joyce Matias



We look forward to getting to know you and are so happy you joined us!

Hope to see you at our next meeting, Saturday, December 9, 11a-1p!

Comments, Corrections, Questions, Suggestions? Feel free to reach out and let me know if you have suggestions for future newsletters, or corrections / comments on previous ones. Leah Kammeyer, LKammeyer@gmail.com, (805) 469-9230