



HUI LIMA KOKUA NEWSLETTER - Pepeluali & Malaki 2024

Hawaii Club of Ventura County - February & March 2024

Calendar & Upcoming Events

Malaki | March

- 3 - Girls' Day
- 9 - Hui Lima Club Meeting
- 10 - Daylight Savings - Spring Forward!
- 17 - St. Patrick's Day 🍀
- 31 - Easter 🐣

Hui Lima Meeting Location

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

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 9 - 11a-1p

We had a lovely February meeting with a Chinese New Year themed potluck, and also a celebration of **President Darrin Ching's** retirement from the Base! It was great to hear about and see some of the projects that he worked on, and his hobbies with computers and robotics.



Our next meeting is also potluck and our program will feature a presentation on Hōkūle'a by yours truly. We will most likely meet in the main building again. The Club House is finishing up renovations, and while they may be done by next month, I would like to make use of the TV for the presentation in the activity room of the main building.

Hope to see you then!

Super Bowl LVIII Honorary Coin Toss Captains from Lahainaluna

If you caught the Super Bowl, you witnessed members of the Lahainaluna High School football team perform the official coin toss!

The Lahainaluna team was chosen in particular because of the wildfires experienced last year. The NFL chose this team to honor the tragedy. This exposure will also bring more awareness to the loss and devastation that Lāhainā is still experiencing.



Former head coach of the Lunas, Bobby Watson performed the coin toss, with the other representatives standing by. Prior to the coin toss, a video tribute sharing images of Lāhainā and how the Lunas' resiliency is a source of hope and inspiration for the community.

The NFL Foundation provided grants to Lahainaluna football team, Lahaina Intermediate School, and Lahaina Chiefs Pop Warner team to fund their programs.

Chiefs' Cheerleader from O'ahu

There was another special connection to Hawai'i at Super Bowl, and her name is Ariane Lewis. She is a Kansas City Chiefs cheerleader and a native of O'ahu, graduating from Henry J. Kaiser High School.

Lewis performed a hula at her audition for the squad in 2022 and was an obvious success. Last year was her first Super Bowl, and what a treat to return this year!





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Lunar New Year 2024

Lunar New Year was on February 10th this year! Many Asian countries celebrate Lunar New Year, with the Chinese New Year being among the most well-known. The Chinese Zodiac follows a 12 year cycle, each year associated with an animal. Every year is also connected to one of the five elements (earth, fire, metal, water, and wood). 2024 then is the year of the Wood Dragon.



Years of the Dragon:

1904 - 1916 - 1928 - 1940 - 1952 - 1964 - 1976 - 1988 - 2000 - 2012 - 2024

Anyone born in the above years may be a dragon in the Chinese Zodiac. However, if you were born in January or February, you may be associated with a different animal, since the Lunar New Year typically falls in January or February.

Dragons are associated with strength, good luck, and health. Some say that this year may prove to have successes but also challenges. Since the dragon has strong qualities and are sometimes considered gifted, the year should have a positive turnout in the end. Which zodiac animal are you??

Leap Year 2024!



2024 is a 366 day year as we observe the Leap Year this time around the sun!

Adjustments in the calendar have been occurring for a couple millenia, when it was realized that the seasons and years were not aligning. After presented with this information from his scientific advisers, Julius Caesar declared in 45 B.C. an extra day be added every fourth year to adjust, and thus the creation of the Julian Calendar.

However, this also wasn't entirely accurate. The two variables are the 24 hour period in which the Earth rotates on its axis, and the other is the time the Earth takes to orbit the sun, which is 365.24 days. The extra day was meant to account for that .24, but the extra day every four years equates to .25, and therefore the Julian Calendar was still missing the mark.

It doesn't seem like much difference, but in 1582 Pope Gregory XIII was advised that the calendar was actually off about 10 days by that time. His astronomers came up with a formula to correct the calendar: Each year divisible by four would be a leap year, as well as every end of a century year divisible by 400. For example, the years 1600 and 2000 were leap years, but not 1700, 1800, or 1900. In addition, to make an immediate correction to the calendar, Pope Gregory XIII dropped 10 days from October that year! The calendar went from October 4 to October 15 in 1582. It took until the mid-1700s for non-Catholic countries to adopt the Gregorian calendar as well, but today, it is what Western countries mostly observe.

And what about Leap Year birthdays?! It is estimated that about 0.07% (1/1461) of the world's population has a leap year birthday. But guess what? Our Hui has one of them! 😊 Congrats to Mama Adele, who can truly celebrate her birthday this year!



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Girls' Day in Hawai'i

March 3rd is Girls' Day in Hawai'i, also known as Hinamatsuri. Celebrating Girls' Day in Hawai'i began when Japanese immigrants came to work on the plantations in the early 19th century. The Japanese families of course brought with them their traditions, much of which had a big influence on Hawaiian culture and food.

Part of the tradition is displaying dolls, or hina-ningyo, for the third day of the third month, but beginning around mid-February. The belief was that these dolls would ward off evil spirits. Additionally, the dolls must be put away immediately after March 3rd, or the daughters in the family would have trouble marrying.

Delicious treats are of course a part of the celebrations, including hishi mochi and other colorful rice cakes and goodies. Pink, green, and white are popular colors, with pink representing energy and the colors of spring, white being purity, and green new growth and fertility.

The timing also coincided with the blooming of the peach blossoms (momo) which, at a glance, resemble the beautiful cherry blossoms (sakura). The peach blossom festival, Momo no Sekku and Hinamatsuri (Doll Festival) evolved through the years into Girls' Day, which is why they are tied together. Over the years, Girls' Day came to honor both girls and women, for health and happiness.

Happy Girls' Day!



Wow, look at all our of birthdays!
Lots to celebrate!



HAU'OLI LĀ HĀNAU

to our Pepeluali & Malaki birthdays:

- Al Beridon (Feb)
- Adele Kammeyer (Feb)
- Lianne Frame (March)
- Mike Nakamura (March)
- Leandra Castroni (March)
- Amy Cherot (March)



Hope you enjoy your day and your celebrations!

Hope to see you at our March Meeting, Saturday, 3/9 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