



# HUI LIMA KOKUA NEWSLETTER - 'Aukake & Kepakemapa 2025

## Hawaii Club of Ventura County - August & September 2025

### Calendar & Upcoming Events

#### 'Okakopa | October

- 11 - Hui Lima Kokua Meeting
- 13 - Indigenous Peoples' Day
- 31 - Halloween 

#### Hui Lima Meeting Location

The Club House at The Orchard  
*(formerly known as The Bonaventure)*  
 10949 Telegraph Rd.  
 Ventura, CA 93004

### Next Meet-Up: Saturday, October 11, 11a-1p

Our next meeting is potluck in the Club House. However, we are bringing back an old Hui Lima Kokua tradition for the Installation of the newly elected & appointed Board Members. **Board Members will each bring their own version/variation of Hawaiian Beef Stew, and we are asking club members to bring accompanying sides or desserts.**

Additionally, please bring your Hawaiian kine knowledge because club member **Lianne Frame** aka Alexis Trebek will be quizzing us with a game of Hawaiian Jeopardy. It will be a little bit Alexis and a whole lot of fun!

In August, we enjoyed the performances of Lorien Sanders and Da Band followed by Hālau Hula O Pualanina'auali'ioha. What a lovely day! Elections were held at our September meeting.

### 2025-2026 Elected and Appointed Board Members

Congratulations to our newly elected and appointed Board Members for the 2025-2026 year. We still have an open slot for President if anyone wants to volunteer!

#### Elected Positions:

- President** - open
- Treasurer** - Amy Cherot
- 1st Vice President** - Mike Nakamura
- 2nd Vice President** - Mario & Leandra Castroni
- Recording Secretary** - Maxwell Hannum
- Corresponding Secretary** - Leah Kammeyer

#### Appointed Positions:

- Advisor** - Paulette Peterson
- Aloha Chair** - Lynette Inouye
- Sergeant at Arms** - Jerry Matsukado

Reminder that the Hui Constitution and By-Laws have been updated and that the position of President is now open to any member.

**Membership fees** are due for the 2025-2026 fiscal year: \$30 per family, \$20 for individual members. Board Members pay half price. Please give your payment to our Treasurer Amy Cherot.

### September is Officially Hawaiian History Month

Upon the passing of Act 167 in June 2025, September was officially designated as Hawaiian History Month in the state of Hawai'i. This law was enacted to honor the history, culture, and contributions of Native Hawaiians, in addition to promoting an understanding and recognition of the aforementioned in schools, public institutions, and the public in general.



The month of September was chosen to honor the last reigning monarch, Queen Lili'uokalani, who was born on September 2, 1838. She is Hawai'i's symbol of sovereignty, culture, and resistance. There are many commemorative festivities for the Queen in this month, and this will tie in well with those existing events.



Photo: Bettmann/Getty Images

Several groups, including the Hawai'i Pono'i Coalition and the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs have been advocating for this designation for years. The intent was to encourage continued public awareness of all aspects of Hawaiian history, including traditional Hawaiian practices, the overthrow, western colonization of the islands, and present-day struggles and resilience of the kānaka maoli (native Hawaiians).



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### The Kumulipo Recited in its Entirety for the First Time in Over 25 Years

The Kumulipo is a sacred genealogy oli (chant) detailing the origins of the Hawaiian people, from the birth of the universe, their connection to the 'āina, and their lineage. On occasion, hālau (hula groups/schools) may chant a just a section of the Kumulipo for a performance or exhibition. In my personal experience, under the direction of Kumu Sylvia Edgar with Hula Hālau Puananiha'aohe, our hālau participated in a concert honoring Queen Lili'uokalani with numerous other hālau. Together, we recited maybe 12-14 lines of the Kumulipo (Liz Awa, Lianne Frame - were you there as well?)



However, on September 14th, 2025, the Kumulipo was chanted by five kumu and their haumāna (students) in its entirety for the first time since 1999. This is no easy feat as the oli is 2,102 lines long, and takes about 3 hours to complete!

The Kumulipo is divided into 16 wā, or eras/ time periods. The hālau divided the different wā amongst themselves to recite. They performed this endeavor at 'Iolani Palace in honor of Queen Lili'uokalani during the month of her birthday, September 2nd. While imprisoned at 'Iolani Palace, it was Queen Lili'uokalani who translated all 2,102 lines into English.

During this event, 'Iolani Palace was lit up in purple, the Queen's favorite color, and a spotlight shone at the top right window to feature the room in which she was imprisoned, and where she did her work (pictured left, from the *Honolulu Star Advertiser*).

You'll notice *Kumulipo* contains the word 'kumu', a word we commonly see used in reference to a leader of a hālau, i.e., Kumu Hula. Kumu actually means 'the source', or 'foundation', 'teacher'. Lipo refers to darkness, and in this context, the origins of existence. This darkness has no connotation for evil, but again, origins and also the spirit realm.

If you would like to see this incredible performance, you can view the nearly three hour presentation on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/8U8BnDYSLWw?si=Dh6ePecOpBePg8qe>

Even if you don't watch the entire thing, I highly recommend checking it out for at least a little bit!

### What's A-Buzz on Moloka'i?

Did you know a new bee species was discovered on Moloka'i last year? *Hylaeus paumoko* was found on the southeastern part of the island, on the slopes of Mākoelau, an ahupua'a or traditional land division. The area is marked to the right by the red dot inside the yellow circle.



This area is part of a conservation and wilderness area acquired in 2022 by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). Surveys of the area headed by Dr. Karl Magnacca with the DLNR's division of Forestry and Wildlife and the Moloka'i Plant Extinction Prevention Program (MoPEPP) led to this incredible find in 2024.



The discovery of *Hylaeus paumoko* is the first new native bee species found on this island in over a century. Its markings are also unique; the males are completely black, and the females are also dark. Other members of the genus *Hylaeus* typically have yellow or light facial markings, unlike this new species. The name *paumoko* comes from *paumākō*, meaning mourning or grief, and is in reference to the all-black coloring of the male bees.

*Hylaeus paumoko* gives hope that there are still species yet to be uncovered, and brings to light the importance of conservation and preservation efforts. There is still a lot we don't know about this new species, e.g., whether it is only found in the Mākoelau area, how big is the population and whether it's on an upward, downward, or stable trend, etc. There is not even a widely recognized common name for this bee yet. It will be exciting to learn more about this new species as more information is collected!

### HAU'OLI LĀ HĀNAU

to our August birthdays:

Arlene Fraser  
Deby Tygell

and our September birthdays:

Barbara Moore  
Connie Louie  
Lynette Inouye



Hope you had a beautiful day and enjoyed your celebrations!

**Hope to see you at our October meet-up, Saturday 10/11, 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](mailto:LKammeyer@gmail.com), (805) 469-9230